

at other times, whistle-blowers themselves are p...
Probation and parole raise some similar ethical concerns to those in corrections, especially in relation to the tension between treatment and punishment. Increasingly, probation is less directed toward treatment and more focused on enforcement and punishment, and probation officers appear to have moved closer to a policing role, which has included carrying weapons and collaborating with law enforcement officers in various activities. Parole officers have always been regarded as enforcement agents, and they have become even more law enforcement-oriented, resulting in a situation where the ethical issues that affect parole may in fact be similar to those relevant to the policing function.

Discussion Questions

1. There have been dramatic increases in the number of persons imprisoned in the United States over the last 20 years and a trend toward constructing supermax prisons. Discuss at least three ethical concerns that these two developments have given rise to in relation to inmates.
2. Explain the relationship between the different styles of prison management and how ethical issues might differ under each style of management.
3. In an ethical correctional system, all prisoners would be treated with humanity. Explain how prisoner humanity would be respected in the use of force and in the conditions of confinement.

4. What are some of the issues faced by prison guards in their interactions with inmates, and how do they cope with these issues? pg 170
5. What models explain guards' power? How can guard authority be corrupted?
6. We know that guards often overlook minor rule violations because they need inmate cooperation. Is this ethical?
7. Does the guard subculture provide answers to ethical issues and dilemmas? If so, evaluate those solutions in terms of ethical standards.
- *8. How do guards justify the use of force against inmates? Are there any ethical implications in their justifications?
9. Explain why guards are ethically responsible for protecting the safety of prisoners. What situations might arise where this responsibility should be exercised?
10. What ethical issues do probation and parole officers face in carrying out their duties? Given the recent emphasis on law enforcement in probation and parole practice as well as on policies of zero tolerance, explain how this change from treatment to enforcement affects ethical issues and standards for the professions.

Web Resources

American Civil Liberties Union National Prison Project. <http://www.aclu.org/issues/prisons>

Amnesty International Women in Prison. <http://www.amnestyusa.org/women/womeninprison.html>

Amnesty International