

Bill 6

The Prison Abolishment Act

WHEREAS "they (prisons) are instruments of social control"¹ and

WHEREAS ""More than one in ten men and nearly one in three women held in federal prisons have mental-health problems "² and

WHEREAS "The "us" versus "them" machinery is stopped cold by the image of murderers playing board games."³

THEREFORE HER MAJESTY, BY AND WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE YOUTH PARLIAMENT OF MANITOBA, ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1) As of 01 January 2014, the Government of Canada shall establish Safe Indictment Maintaining People's right to Lenity and Enterprise [**SIMPLE**] in place of Canada's current prison system.
 - a) **SIMPLE** shall consist of communal rehabilitation facilities divided into four categories:
 - i) Deviant Behaviour – Low Security
 - (1) Employees trained in safe restraint.
 - ii) Youth Deviant Behaviour – Low Security
 - (1) For individuals under the age of Majority
 - (2) Employees trained in safe restraint.
 - iii) High-Risk Deviant Behaviour – High Security
 - (1) Employees specialize in security and have additional training to monitor **SIMPLE** grounds.
 - iv) Mental Illness – Low Security
 - (1) Employees trained in safe restraint.
- 2) **SIMPLE** facilities shall exist within municipal, town and city limits.
 - a) No barriers may be erected around **SIMPLE** facilities.
- 3) Criminal records will only be accessible to judiciary bodies, medical professionals, authorized **SIMPLE** personnel, and the indicted.
 - a) Names criminals will be considered confidential information and will not be released to the public.

¹ Kurshan, Nancy. "Behind the Walls: The History and Current Reality of Women's Imprisonment" *Women's Lives: Multicultural Perspectives*. 5ed. edited by Gwen Kirk and Margo-Ozakawa-Rey. McGraw-Hill 2010.

² Mackrael, Kim. "Canada's prisons becoming warehouses for the mentally ill" *The Globe and Mail*. Dec 6, 2011. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/canadas-prisons-becoming-warehouses-for-the-mentally-ill/article4236899/>.

³ Mentor, Kenneth W. "Humanizing Criminal Justice Education: Alternatives to "Us" Versus "Them" *Professing Humanist Sociology* Glenn Goodwin and Martin Schwartz, eds. Washington DC: American Sociological Association, 2000. http://critcrim.org/critpapers/mentor_humanist.htm.

- 4) All Low Security **SIMPLE** inmates will be allowed the right to seek employment in the community where the facility is located or within the **SIMPLE** facility.
 - a) High Security Inmates will be limited to the **SIMPLE** facility.
 - b) All employed inmates will receive full market value wages outside the facility and the provincial minimum wage within the facility.
 - c) In addition to the standard Income Tax, a progressive facility and program-upkeep tax, to be determined by the government of Canada, will be added to inmates' incomes to offset the cost of the prison system.
 - d) All inmates held at **SIMPLE** institutions will be subject to evaluation by a medical professional to determine whether their place of employment poses a risk to recovery.
 - i) If the workplace environment is determined to be harmful to patient recovery then employment will be terminated and the inmate will be compensated at 50% former wage rate until more suitable employment can be found.
 - (1) The 50% wage rate compensation may not fall below minimum wage.
- 5) Criminal sentences shall be limited to a maximum of 10 years after the first day of incarceration.
 - a) If an inmate is deemed rehabilitated by a parole board before their sentence has elapsed, then a judge may reduce their sentence.
 - b) Mental Illness patients are exempted from this stipulation.
 - i) Mental patients may be held indefinitely or until a medical professional assesses them as fit to re-join society.
- 6) **SIMPLE** facilities will provide secondary and post-secondary education to all inmates and patients based on community availability.
- 7) All Canadian citizens over the age of fifteen are required to complete 40 hours of volunteer service at a **SIMPLE** institution of their choice per year.
 - a) **SIMPLE** facility staff will be responsible for organizing tasks for volunteers.