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An Examination of the Relationship between Rehabilitation and Recidivism

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An Examination of the Relationship between Rehabilitation and Recidivism

By

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A Thesis

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of

St. Cloud State University

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Abstract

The relationship between rehabilitation and recidivism was a topic of concern due to increased criminal offenses despite the criminal justice system's effectiveness. Over the last decades, countries have registered a significant number of former prisoners being rearrested for similar offenses, questioning if rehabilitation programs are effective (Byrne, 2020). The enormous increase of people relapsing into criminality is a concern for society and the future generation because such developments challenge rehabilitation programs' feasibility and practicality. The increased rate of recidivism is caused by lifestyle, economic, sociological, and personal factors. To examine the relationship between rehabilitation and recidivism, the study utilized integrative research review as a methodology. The findings of the study indicate that rehabilitation programs aim at enhancing job-seeking skills, which equip the inmate with job search techniques and job readiness. Behavioral health support may not be of reasonable help if the inmate is going to lack a home immediately after they step out of prison. Being homeless is a barrier to finishing the required treatment. As a result, even the best result in behavioral health intervention can be of less value if the individual is not placed in stable housing. Failed programs offered in rehabilitation centers can also cause this. If the program is of no significant quality, the cases of recidivism remain high. Future studies are recommended to focus on the importance of incorporating the knowledge of rehabilitation programs of initiative into the mainstream private sector and public policy decision making.

Keywords: Rehabilitation, recidivism, criminal justice system, correctional facility, and restorative justice.

Table of Contents

Chapter	Page
I: Introduction	5
Recidivism (Penological and Criminological Views).....	5
Context of the Study	6
Significance and Rationale of the Study	7
Problem Statement.....	9
Research Aims and Objectives	10
Research Questions	10
Definition of Terms.....	11
II: Literature Review	12
III: Research Methodology	23
Research Design and Strategy	23
Data Collection	24
Data Analysis Plan.....	25
IV: Results and Discussion	27
RQ1: How Does Rehabilitation Impact The Recidivism Rate In The United States of America?.....	27
RQ2: What is the Purpose of Restorative Justice Programs?	29

	4
Chapter	Page
RQ3: What are the Primary Causes of Recidivism?.....	31
V:Conclusion	35
Limitations and Implication of the Study	41
Recommendations for Further Studies.....	42
References.....	44

Chapter I: Introduction

Over the years, correctional systems have been focusing on sensible alternatives for reducing criminal activities by allowing inmates to have a chance for change. As a result, the establishment of criminal rehabilitation has received tremendous support because it allows criminals to separate themselves from the environmental factors that made them offenders. Additionally, offenders are assisted in growing and changing while avoiding crime contributing factors and making them reformed individuals and better for society when released from prison or correctional facilities. Based on the report by Jarrett (2018), institutionalizing inmates often increase crimes because the conversion into the secluded environment creates a prison culture, making it a challenge to function in the outside world upon release. Since they become more familiar with how to survive in prison, released criminals tend to commit more crimes so they can go back to jail. Therefore, criminal rehabilitation was created to help inmates avoid environmental risk factors that lead to crime and readjust to society. However, over the last decades, countries have registered a significant number of former prisoners being rearrested for similar offenses, questioning if rehabilitation programs are effective (Byrne, 2020). Remarkably, rehabilitation can transform prisoners into good society members, while a combination of other factors and elements within the criminal justice system can make former offenders engage in criminal behaviors.

Recidivism (Penological and Criminological Views)

The increased rate of recidivism is caused by lifestyle, economic, sociological, and personal factors (Yukhnenko et al., 2019). The enormous increase of people relapsing into criminality is a concern for society and the future generation because such developments

challenge rehabilitation programs' feasibility and practicality. The field of behavioral science has attracted interest in explaining the need for human cooperation. However, there exists human cooperation that prompts individuals to act selfishly for personal gains. Consequently, individuals are punished for following their interests in life because they are against society's acceptable morals. When former criminals continually commit crimes, the world becomes a dangerous place, and therefore, there is a need to correct recidivism.

Various studies examined how rehabilitation can minimize recidivism rates by focusing on the punishment phase of the criminal justice system (Yukhnenko et al., 2019). However, recidivism can be encouraged in all phases of the criminal justice system, such as apprehending and adjudicating an offender. Crucially, the criminal justice system comprises distinct steps which can affect the offender, leading to recidivism. The phases of the criminal justice system include arrest, initial appearance, hearings, arraignment, pleas, jury selection, and trial, which have been considered to increase recidivism. All these phases are followed to ensure that justice is served and the right person is convicted of the alleged crime. Undeniably, the criminal justice system process can have mental and cognitive impacts on the offender which have been considered to increase recidivism, especially when wrongly convicted. As a result, there are high chances of repeating the crime after release.

Context of the Study

The study is critically important for understanding the impact of rehabilitation on recidivism because it is an essential factor shaping the overall criminology situation. Society needs to understand how to deal with a person who has been incarcerated recently through effective rehabilitation programs. Rehabilitation incorporates strategies, programs, and measures

applied during incarceration to prepare offenders for release (Gisler et al., 2018). The rehabilitation programs may be undertaken both within the prison and after the release of the offender. Rehabilitation is a compulsory thing for every person who has gone through the experience of incarceration. It is crucial to help a person to adapt to the realities of ordinary life, the life that they either have been excluded from for an extended period or the life that they have not been living on their own in the first place. Besides, the modern world changes at such an impressive pace that it is critically important for every person who has fallen out of society for any meaningful period to go through the procedure of rehabilitation to adapt to the new realities.

Moreover, the prison itself should not be a place where people are punished because it raises anti-social behavior in addition to increasing antagonism towards the community and society (Hodgkinson et al., 2020). It has to be a place where people are rehabilitated, where their behaviors and attitudes are corrected by completing need-specific rehabilitative programs required by law to maximize incentives and opportunities (Byrne, 2020). This is why it is critically important to explore rehabilitation programs to understand the nature of recidivism better. It is necessary to understand which of these two factors: sentence and rehabilitation, significantly influence recidivism and what balance ensures the least possible recidivism rate provided all other variables remain to be the same.

Significance and Rationale of the Study

Rehabilitation programs are crucial for decreasing the recidivism rate and also reintegrate offenders back into the community. Different scholars have analyzed people in rehabilitation centers to improve their skills, social functioning, and access to employment, education, mental health, and behaviors. Various factors like age, education, and work are considered in the

analysis. Individuals who have participated in multiple rehabilitation programs were found to commit fewer offenses than individuals who have experienced only one. As such, it seems that continuous rehabilitation programs are critical for reducing recidivism. Through positive reinforcement in rehabilitation, criminal behaviors decrease (Baggio et al., 2020). An example of positive reinforcement is helping an individual manage their anger by modeling the proper response. The importance of repair is to recover the offender's sensory, physical, lost mental capabilities.

In examining the effectiveness of rehabilitation, there were two insights: first, that treatment should primarily deal with factors strongly associated with recidivism, such as peer association, antisocial control, or low self-esteem (Ganapathy, 2018). Second, rehabilitation that focuses on reducing recidivism should have standard features, such as risks–needs–responsivity’ model. Ganapathy (2018) realized that rehabilitation programs that obeyed the "principle of effective intervention," recidivism was lower than a control group. To reduce recidivism and reintegrate offenders into the community, the institution had to consider main criminology drivers or factors and their effects on criminal behavior (Ganapathy, 2018). Research has also found that there are many barriers for reentry into society for people involved in the criminal justice system. Many of these are behavioral factors. Behavioral health is essential for individuals with a criminal history. Behavioral health needs to be effectively addressed to positively affect recidivism and crime rate for individuals with a criminal record. Individuals with unaddressed mental health issues often try to self-medicate with alcohol and drugs. When offenders are released back into society with untreated behavior or mental health issues, many will go back to crime, use drugs, and commit more crimes (Ganapathy, 2018). Crucially, individuals with mental

disorders who receive appropriate treatment reduced recidivism rates when compared to offenders who do not receive mental health treatment.

Problem Statement

This research focuses on the question: How does rehabilitation impact the recidivism rate in the United States of America? As indicated in the introduction, rehabilitation may have varying influences on the overall rate of recidivism. Therefore, it is reasonable to focus on just one national jurisdiction and the situation with recidivism in just one country. In addition, according to Yukhnenko et al. (2019), the effectiveness of criminal justice differs across the world, and studies show inconsistency in reporting recidivism rates. As such, it is necessary to focus on only one country. Cross-national studies, however, may be subject to further researchers in the field. Despite having rehabilitation programs in place, the rate of recidivism is still high in the United States. For that reason, it is fundamental to investigate the effectiveness of rehabilitation programs in the US criminal justice system in the quest to curb and reduce criminal recidivism in the United States.

Although various schools of thought argue that correctional facilities suppress criminal behaviors, nonviolent offenders are exposed to an environment with higher risk inmates that can instill antisocial characters and cause deep psychological freeze. Various prisoners are adversely affected, making it necessary to implement comprehensive assessments of offenders' values, behaviors, and attitudes while imprisoned. This study was driven by the increasing crime rates epidemic in the United States caused by standard criminal procedures that have escalated the problem.

Additionally, most of the rehabilitation programs have not been effective because they do not meet the specific needs of each inmate. Such challenges are caused by the scope of imprisonment, poor prison management, and conditions and a lack of the culture that supports the social reintegration of offenders. Although rehabilitation programs have been implemented in all prisons across the United States, recidivism rates continue to increase. As a result, this study seeks to evaluate the impact of criminal rehabilitation on recidivism prevention. In doing so, the study identified critical areas that the prison system should improve to enhance the rehabilitation process. These vital areas include education, vocational training, and mental health while focusing on the actions of administrators and inmates.

Research Aims and Objectives

The focus of this study was to examine the relationship between rehabilitation and recidivism in the United States. Due to increased rates of recidivism caused by criminal justice procedures, the research aimed to review how restorative justice programs can be essential in reducing criminal behaviors. The study focused on the following objectives to achieve its aim.

1. Determine the impact of rehabilitation on recidivism in the United States.
2. Investigate the primary causes of recidivism.
3. Find out the purpose of restorative justice programs.

Research Questions

The study's central research question is: what is the relationship between rehabilitation and recidivism in the United States? The question was divided into the following sub-questions to facilitate the process of data collection.

1. How does rehabilitation impact the recidivism rate in the United States of America?

2. What are the primary causes of recidivism?
3. What is the purpose of restorative justice programs?

Definition of Terms

Rehabilitation: The set of interventions undertaken to help a criminal their criminal behavioral patterns.

Recidivism: The recurrent crimes committed by the same individuals after release from prison.

Criminal justice system: It is a law enforcement system directly involved in arresting, prosecuting, sentencing, and punishing individuals convicted of criminal offenses.

Correctional facility: Entails any place designated by law to keep and punish individuals convicted of criminal offenses.

Restorative justice: The concept entails addressing the harm caused by a criminal behavior while holding the offender responsible for the actions.

Chapter II: Literature Review

The literature section is essential in providing background knowledge of the topic and avoiding duplication from other researchers. This section helps in identifying inconsistencies from the previous studies, research gaps, and questions left for further studies essential in offering justification for the study. Providing the need for additional research was crucial in finding the contribution of other studies to the topic in context and notes the relationship between the previous works. As a result, the literature review played a significant role in placing this research within the context of existing studies for justification purposes. While sharpening the focus of the research, previous studies on recidivism and rehabilitation provided the historical context of the study. Undeniably, if rehabilitation served towards reducing the factors that increase the risk of recidivism, ex-convicts would work towards building better lives for themselves. Rehabilitation speaks to improving the prison culture and providing positive opportunities to inmates, such as education. Furthermore, providing mass education to the society and families of convicts on having a positive view on ex-convicts and supporting them may reduce the risk of recidivism. Thus, there is a direct relation between rehabilitation and recidivism. Effective rehabilitation in prison may result in a reduced relapse into criminal activities by inmates.

Research literature focusing on rehabilitation programs as factors that influence the rate of recidivism is minimal. The majority of literature that has been discovered covers either one or the other but not often both. According to Mack (2020), the goal of rehabilitation should be rehabilitation. Most prisons include programs that focus on employment outcomes after being released because the ability to get employed is vital to post-release success. In Australia,

correctional programs focus on vocational training and education as an approach to rehabilitation because they are essential in successful reintegration for many ex-offenders. Likewise, Cunnington (2020) indicates that education and employment programs are the gateways to successful economic and social flexibility. The author noted that vocational training and education reduce recidivism rates by teaching the offender vital skillsets for successful reentry (Cunnington, 2020). As a result, the motivation to change on the offender's part is successfully promoted when they have the skills to earn a livelihood.

Furthermore, correctional facilities have therapeutic programs that cannot be applied to all inmates making it difficult to have all offenders reformed after serving their sentence and before reintegrating back into society. An increase in the recidivism rate is an issue that the criminal justice system needs to be consistent in the conviction process to ensure that inmates are aided based on mental, cognitive, and physical problems. Rehabilitation and restorative programs should prepare inmates to fit into society after release while ensuring that they have the necessary skills and knowledge to help them adjust back to life in regular society. Therefore, many factors should be considered when addressing the issue of recidivism because many rehabilitation programs have proven to minimize the increasing rate of recidivism (Yukhnenko et al., 2019). As a result, there is a need to focus on both criminological and penological viewpoints to understand and mitigate recidivism, making society a better place.

There are commonly raised questions related to the effectiveness of corrective interventions. Increasing recidivism rates exert pressure on state and national resources to house and feed the incarcerated (Cunnington, 2020). People who return to prison have less likelihood of getting the necessary assistance to address the issues that caused the criminal behavior, and

while in prison, the condition can get worse. For instance, offenders who receive longer sentences and do not receive proper treatment or programming are more likely to become criminalized in prison (Cunnington, 2020). Past incarceration likewise interferes with a person's capacity to gain and maintain employment, which is vital for successful reentry into society. In addition, being put in prison, being fully isolated from family, and having minimal means for socialization and only with particular social groups increase anti-social behavior and further increases antagonism towards society (Hodgkinson et al., 2020). It is critically essential to widely inform the audience about possible implications of strict punishment in general and lengthy incarceration terms, particularly for the likelihood of recidivism.

Lengthy incarcerations are seen as a prerequisite of successful security measures. Nevertheless, modern researchers and policymakers consider several risks that have not been recognized before. Once a person is incarcerated, they find themselves in a particular sort of environment and this environment can lead to further traumatization (Hodgkinson et al., 2020). A prison environment is different from regular society beyond the walls of the prison. Furthermore, this is the environment within which the newly incarcerated person learns to live. They learn to survive among criminals and live in strict adherence to the prison's specific laws. When they leave the prison, it turns out that they have no skills of living in a normal society.

Hodgkinson et al. (2020) showed that individual interventions are relatively effective in reducing recidivism as they have a psychological focus. Therefore, psychological changes due to intervention ensure an improved recognition of emotion, a greater sense of coherence, reduced defiance, and more optimistic decision-making. This, in turn, contributes to lower rates of recidivism. On the other hand, Mack (2020) showed that incarceration is effective in deterring

criminal behavior, but it cannot lower recidivism. Prerelease and reentry programs are vital in guaranteeing the successful reintegration of offenders into the community. The programs help them to transition to being a productive citizen from an inmate. Therefore, the two studies indicate that rehabilitation programs are crucial in reducing recidivism.

As per Gisler et al. (2018), the community agencies within the reintegration measures and rehabilitation programs are essential within the correctional settings, and punishment is a viable means of rehabilitation to reduce recidivism. The finding by the authors also indicated that U.S. rehabilitation programs are effective in lowering the risk of recidivism by some forms of vocational education programs within prisons and cognitive behavioral therapy. The programs train the offenders in vital labor-market skills. Additionally, Hodgkinson et al. (2020) reported that increasing psychological resources improved positive affect and coping in addition to decreasing the adverse effect and aggression, thereby reducing reoffending. As a result, rehabilitation programs are vital in reducing the rates of recidivism.

Aside from the length of the prison sentence and the type of rehabilitation experienced in prison, the offenders' mental health has also been shown to influence recidivism. Peirson (2016) in general, incarceration is a significant challenge for any person's mental health. Incarceration is always a trauma. Some people are more capable of coping with such a trauma, while other people's mental health may not be as good. The state of mental health of a person who has just been released from prison is among the most critical factors that influence our society's overall security level and the level of security of each individual in particular. As such, mental health factors should be used to help that determine the rehabilitation needed of prisoners. Mental health is also an objective, a goal that needs to be achieved by the rehabilitation effort both

within and after the incarceration period. It is also critically important that the focus of rehabilitation measures should be on the client's incarceration experience, taking into account their age, gender, and several other factors that are critical for determining the help that such a person may need to receive. There is a need to tailor rehabilitation activities to ensure the adopted interventions effectively lessen the seriousness of reoffending, which then lowers the rate of recidivism.

Robinson (2005) takes a fresh look at parole as an alternative method to avoid unnecessary imprisonment. The thing is that a person who is willing to return to normal life will do their best in order not to violate the conditions of parole. Besides, according to Gisler et al. (2018), parole and probation are forms of community involvement that increase the general community awareness regarding correctional and reintegration matters, which contributes to a good transition into society from the institutional prison life. According to Robinson (2005), parole entails conditionally releasing an offender from prison before their sentence expires. This contingent opportunity is conceded by a paroling organization to an offender as long as the individual meets certain behavioral conditions while detained, contributing to decreased recidivism. This indicates that conditionally released programs under the parole and probation program ensure strict adherence with the correctional plan that can reduce recidivism. Even though Robinson (2005) indicates that the problem of recidivism has not had any significant change and nor has it decreased. However, Byrne (2020) disagreed with the conclusion by stating that there is an effective BOP program that is a recidivism reduction strategy. There is a substantial recidivism reduction effect related to participation in such evidence-based programs.

Research has demonstrated that there is a direct link between the rehabilitation of inmates and recidivism (Ganapathy, 2018). Recidivism is the tendency of an ex-convict to relapse into criminal behavior or acts after being convicted of a prior offense, sentenced, and presumably corrected (Mbatha et al., 2019). Increased recidivism rates may indicate that prisons have not adequately prepared inmates for life out of prison. A 2017 report done by the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) listed several factors that influence recidivism rates or the temptation of individuals to recommit crimes (Taylor, 2017). Some of these factors include substance abuse, criminal thinking, school and work status, as well as in prison rehabilitation programs. Behaviors like substance abuse which a majority of the inmates engaged in, could be addictive. The inmates upon discharge do not have access to post-release services, which can help reduce recidivism risk to support their transition and integration into the community.

Examining the relationship between rehabilitation and recidivism is relatively significant in society. In recent years, research shows that prison is not the best place to rehabilitate offenders into functioning individuals in a community (Ganapathy, 2018). After prison, the reformed person faces social stigma, lack of personal skills, unemployment, and lack of a home. For instance, a released individual who lived in a high crime area and returned to his or her home is more likely to commit another crime. In this case, the person is expected to return to prison. Therefore, recidivism is a burden in the criminal justice system (Ganapathy, 2018). The introduction of rehabilitation centers for the released inmates aims to lower future criminal behaviors, and include regular drug testing, training in personal life skills, peer support, and help for the individual to secure job opportunities.

Consequently, the United States of America focuses on better preparing the inmates for life after prison (Haviv & Hasisi, 2019). For this reason, the introduction of rehabilitation programs and homes, such as Rebecca's House, offers services for willing offenders who want to be reformed. For example, to secure jobs, improve skills to help them cope with life without substance use, and how to maintain goals that help in reducing criminal activity. Rehabilitation programs run by prisons help to change the inmate's behaviors so they can become a responsible member of society. Therefore, there is a need for structured plans that will address all the inmates' needs adequately to ensure the effectiveness of the programs. Mainly, psychological studies indicate that environment impacts the behavior patterns of an individual (Haviv & Hasisi, 2019). For this reason, rehabilitation programs in prison should help inmates with ways of coping with harsh prison environments. Additionally, programs will increase social and responsible characters' chances rather than a hardened surface that will later lead to a crime again after release.

The nature of critical thinking speaks to the attitude of those people surrounding the ex-convict. It includes family members, prospective employers, friends, and even parole officers (Taylor, 2017). Research conducted by Chamberlain posits that the perception of the parole officer is essential with regard to offender outcomes (Chamberlain et al., 2017). A parolee who has established a supportive rapport with the officer may be more open about their needs adjusting to society than a parolee who experiences a hostile and cold relationship with the officer (Chamberlain et al., 2017). Poor relationship with the family as a result of incarceration and their choice not to support the ex-convicts may drive these individuals into associating with

other criminal actors (Taylor, 2017). Frequent contact with a parole officer promotes lower rates of recidivism.

In the current society, education is deemed as very vital and eventually influences the job one gets. With little education and low literacy levels after prison release, chances of getting a well-paying job are scarce. There exists a direct link between rehabilitation and recidivism. Accordingly, rehabilitation programs are essential in reducing recidivism. Some of these programs include academic education, career technical education, cognitive behavioral therapy, employment preparation, substance use disorder treatment, and arts in correction. These programs serve towards making the inmate a better person. Eventually, upon release, the positive impact of these programs alongside other factors lowers the risk of recidivism for the individual. Since all these factors overlap each other, they can actively influence the risk of recidivism for an individual. High recidivism rates may imply that the rehabilitation process is ineffective. However, if all parties involved act their part without prior judgment or prejudice towards ex-convicts, perhaps the rates of recidivism would be exceptionally low.

In another analysis, Nenn (2019) indicated that court-ordered rehabilitation programs are directed by the mission to facilitate the road to recovery for convicted individuals other than putting them on the prisoner's row. The program has been effective in the drug court, but a small percentage of the offenders were likely to relapse because they are forced to recovery against their will. Most significantly, offenders can commit their previous crimes because they struggle with low self-consciousness, leading to pride and confidence about crime life. Since the road to recovery does not incorporate educational training and job preparation, released offenders will experience challenges of adjusting to the ethical labor market. Therefore, willing offenders can

take the right path to recovery and reform to become better people in society than those who are forced to undergo court-ordered rehabilitation.

Equally important, Blkhoyan (2018) posits that rehabilitation programs have facilitated recovery and resurgence among the inmates. However, most prisoners fail to embrace change and strive for the better because their commitment is the most vital part of rehabilitation. Based upon research conducted, many prisons for punitive measures as rehabilitation process through effective cultivation that will meet the needs of every inmate. As a result, Sanchez and Khanmalek (2019) identified critical areas that the prison system should improve to enhance rehabilitation. These vital areas include education, vocational training, and mental health while focusing on the actions of administrators and inmates. In doing so, the needs specific to each inmate can be met, leading to a successful recovery and decreasing recidivism rates.

Research has found that people in jails and prisons are more distressed than the general population (Haviv& Hasisi, 2019). Several reentry programs aim to reduce recidivism, by beginning treatment with individuals immediately upon release from jails. Using need/risk assessment to direct resources on key criminology issues, many use cognitive behavior therapy, and are mentor-based, which help in reducing recidivism (Haviv& Hasisi, 2019). Another major focus of rehabilitation programs is employment. Employment is a driver of criminal disorder. Employers hesitate to hire people with a criminal history. When the employers are unwilling to hire an ex-offender, the individual may decide to continue with crime, leading to an increase in recidivism. Programs that help individuals with criminal backgrounds search for a job can reduce recidivism and often these programs also help the individuals gain secure housing, stability, and ways to support themselves.

Education is another driver of recidivism. Vocational training reduces the recidivism rate compared with high school (Sanchez & Khanmalek, 2019). The more the individual acquires education, the lower the recidivism rate. There is continuing effort to help those with criminal history pursue education and realize that it is possible to find opportunity or success for upward mobility and reducing recidivism. The age that offenders commit the crime is high in adolescence and reduces during adulthood (Sanchez & Khanmalek, 2019). Young offenders may experience both social and mental problems that lead to higher recidivism.

When practical approaches such as rehabilitation programs are applied, there is an increase in public safety and reduction in recidivism (Pealer, 2017). In the effort to achieve long-term success and sustainability in rehabilitative efforts, various initiatives are suggested: fund exemplary programs, set goals, reflect on metrics of success, and understanding that programs work with individuals and not machines, so no program will be 100% effective. To increase public safety, jails have to shift from mainly a custodian sentence to the delivery of rehabilitative services assisting offenders to address the criminal behavior that got them placed in prison and help them reintegrate back into the community upon release. Psychologists have linked social and psychological factors that criminals face that lead to recidivism (Pealer, 2017). The inability to respond to problems results in criminals leaving prison without any change and skills to seek employment and deal with harsh situations. Providing a wide array of rehabilitation programs helps lower recidivism rates and allows offenders to reintegrate into the community. It is not clear that offenders who participate into multiple rehabilitation programs have a lower rate to recidivism compared to those who have experienced to a single rehabilitation program.

It is uncertain the correlation between the multiple rehabilitation programs and recidivism. However, employment, age, and education have been consistently shown to influences recidivism rates, and as such, these factors must be considered as they can inhibit or aid reentry. Relating the variables of education, employment, and age to recidivism has developed opportunities for criminal justice professionals to stress these variables when creating rehabilitation services. There is a gap in the study of disciplinary between multiple rehabilitation programs, recidivism, and sociological variables of education, age, and employment that need to be addressed.

Chapter III: Research Methodology

In the study, data was collected from secondary sources through a bibliographic search from the relevant journal articles and based on the researcher's experience when carrying out an integrative review. The integrative research review is the most comprehensive approach to carrying out a critical analysis of empirical, methodological, and theoretical literature (Toronto & Remington, 2020). The method is vital in examining both non-experimental and experimental studies and being able to review the evidence and analyze the emerging patterns to comprehend the topic under investigation fully. According to Cooper (1984), integrative review creates a vital meta-analysis link between the primary research and the knowledge base of relevant field studies, such as criminology and psychology. By combining empirical and theoretical literature, integrative review broadens the understanding of existing literature while allowing the researcher to have comprehensive background information. Therefore, the completion of this study helped determine further perspective fields of the research, particularly in criminology.

Research Design and Strategy

To examine the relationship between rehabilitation and recidivism, multiple research resources were examined in the quest to extract pertinent research findings. Crucially, a research strategy is essential to allow the researcher to follow a systematic framework. As a result, this study utilized a content analysis research strategy in a descriptive way to collect information from multiple sources with credible and reliable resources, breaking them down into relevant categories or factors.

Data Collection

A bibliographical survey was the most suitable way of initiating the study because it helps to search for differences and similarities among the chosen journal articles for review. A review of the past, current and relevant literature was crucial in gathering knowledge about the research topic to aid in setting foundations for significant study on the association between rehabilitation programs and recidivism. To survey journal articles in the literature, Google Scholar, EBSCO, and the university databases were used along with the sci-hub database. Descriptors or keywords and their combinations in English were employed to searching for relevant articles. Selection criteria included the main keywords and phrases such as rehabilitation, recidivism, rehabilitation programs, and impact of rehabilitation on recidivism. Open coding allowed for additional keywords and phrases to be added to the selection criteria as they are identified. These keywords include:

1. Rehabilitation Impetus.

- (a) Court Ordered
- (b) Professional Ordered (medical doctors, psychiatrists, social workers, et al.)
- (c) Voluntary (Inmate requested)

2. Rehabilitation Nature.

- (a) Restorative
- (b) Enhancement.

3. Rehabilitation Timing.

- (a) Intake (in prison shortly after intake)
- (b) Initial (in prison during the first few years after intake)

(c) Pre-release (in prison shortly before release)

(d) Re-entry (at a halfway home immediately after release)

4. Rehabilitation Type.

Physical or occupational therapy, psychological counseling and training (e.g., anger management), substance abuse and addiction recovery, vocational education and job preparation, social skills training

5. Rehabilitation Provider.

(a) Prison Staff

(b) Professional outside staff

Data Analysis Plan

The researcher utilized the integrative review research method, which involved collecting secondary information from journals and electronic libraries. Online journals, books, reports, and other publications were the secondary data collection tools used by the researcher. The authenticity and publication of research materials were done using the inclusion criterion. Journal articles included in this research were all published in English within the past five years (2017-2021) and addressed rehabilitation and recidivism. Content analysis and thematic analysis were used to analyze the selected studies in terms of the research design. The compilation of this research study involved materials from the field of psychology and criminology and all articles were peer reviewed. With respect to the research questions, data were analyzed using major themes and manual thematic analysis, falling in line with the study's objectives. Additionally, the analysis and the synthesis of the data extracted from the articles were conducted descriptively. Therefore, a description of research designs was adopted to allow the researcher to observe,

describe, and classify the data into themes while gathering knowledge on the impact of, or association between, rehabilitation programs and recidivism. Therefore, the report is the researcher's original work and determination as there were no forms of collusion.

Evaluating the quality of this research depends on its validity and reliability, which entail the accuracy and consistency of measures, respectively. The researcher examined peer reviewed articles that are valid and reliable because they used recommendable assessments with methodologies that allow replication of the study findings. With respect to the integrative review research method, reliability entails the degree to which the methodology used can be replicated at another point in time. For this reason, the researcher established reliability by providing justifications for all the methods and techniques used in this study. The explanations and justifications imply that other researchers can replicate the methodology used in this study using the provided details because the author remained unbiased to avoid contaminating the results. Therefore, the researcher assumed that there was a reasonable degree of reliability and validity in the findings and conclusion of this study. The outcomes from the examined articles were valid and reliable because the forms of assessment applied were accurate and trustworthy.

Chapter IV: Results and Discussion

This chapter provides the results of the integrative review research methodology study conducted to answer the following research questions:

RQ1: How does rehabilitation impact the recidivism rate in the United States of America?

RQ2: What is the purpose of restorative justice programs?

RQ3: What are the primary causes of recidivism?

While focusing on the relationship between rehabilitation and recidivism, this chapter includes a discussion of how analysis conducted was consistent with the integrative review process and how the analysis ties back to the research questions and the purpose of the study. It is fundamental to understand that integrative review was essential in facilitating the study to expand the volume of the completed research in the pursuit to maintain the current knowledge base in the field of criminology. The process of reintegrating released inmates into society is one of the goals of the criminal justice system. Further, the prison population is increasing due to high rates of recidivism. Therefore, this indicates that the law offenders have not adequately been equipped with skills for life after prison sentences. As a result, such justifications provided the need to explore the effects of rehabilitation programs in reducing recidivism based on previous studies while ensuring that sensible measures can be recommended to minimize the growing rate of crimes.

RQ1: How Does Rehabilitation Impact The Recidivism Rate In The United States of America?

Recidivism is the tendency of an ex-inmate to repeat or returning to criminal behaviors that lead to punishment by the criminal justice systems (Cram, 2018). Rehabilitation is a program

implemented to restore individuals to everyday life through training new skills, using medications, and counseling after substance abuse, imprisonment, or sickness. Over the last decades, the United States of America battles recidivism rates due to severe punishments. For this reason, United States is the leading country with the highest rate of incarceration in the world (Cram, 2018). The statistic is evidenced by the swelling prison population and the popularity of longer sentences in the sentencing policies, namely “three strikes law” (Cram, 2018). Mainly, incarceration occurs due to rough prison environments, racial inequalities, and releasing inmates into society without introducing rehabilitation programs during their sentence time in the prison. As a result, the ex-offenders return to the community ill-equipped to live a crime-free life because of the hostile environment in prison.

The rehabilitation program is crucial for decreasing the recidivism rate and also reintegrates lawbreakers into the community. Different scholars have analyzed people in rehabilitation centers to improve their skills, social functioning, and access to employment, education, mental health, and behaviors. Various factors like age, education, and work are considered in the analysis. Individuals who have participated in multiple rehabilitation programs were found to commit fewer offenses than individuals who have experienced once. Numerous rehabilitation programs are critical at reducing recidivism. Through positive reinforcement in rehabilitation, criminal behaviors decrease. An example of positive reinforcement is helping an individual manage their anger by modeling the proper response. The importance of repair is to recover the offender's sensory, physical, lost mental capabilities.

RQ2: What is the Purpose of Restorative Justice Programs?

In the quest to address the increase rates of recidivism, there has been an increasing conflict between the goals and objectives of restorative justice programs and retributive type of justice. When a crime takes place in a society, how should people respond? The western culture has greatly adopted a retributive type of justice where the offenders pay for the mistakes committed by being fined, incarcerated, both, or death. In the current society, retributive justice is exercised through the interplay of persecutor and judge as well as a jury who determines whether an individual is guilty or not. Hermann (2017) asserts that the criminal justice system has greatly been dominated by retributive justice. This mode of justice stresses more on punishing the offender and has been associated with a rise in sentences as well as incarceration rates. With an increase in the literature about the negative effects of retributive justice, there is a growth in the interest of restorative one. Some individuals feel that retributive justice does not satisfactorily address the desires of the community, victims, and offenders (Hermann, 2017). This is because the process does not promote healing or peace, but deepens societal conflicts and wounds. This has led to the integration of both forms of justice to prevent crime and minimize recidivism rates. However, some feel that there is a conflict between the objectives of the two forms since one aims to condemn while another seeks to promote reconciliation.

Quite possibly, retributive justice is ineffective in producing sustainable social order and safety, which cannot minimize the rates of recidivism. Moreover, retributive justice burdens the state and federal governments as well as creates other social costs such as the development of families without moral guardians which leads to a cyclical problem of injustice and crime. The research recognizes that the U.S. justice system predominantly utilizes retributive justice.

Noticeably, restorative justice can be used with retributive justice to promote an effective functional justice system that produces positive outcomes among the victims of crime, wrongdoers, and the general population. Restorative justice instills the perception that only criminal sanctions can be used to promote justice by managing collective violence. The move has gained impetus by various phenomena which are giving victims prominence in the criminal justice system. There have been efforts to understand the outcome and process of justice from the perception of the victim. Some of the issues that the justice system needs to consider in minimizing recidivism are how it treats the victims in regard to the voice in the process of justice, provision of information, and respect.

With the aim to cure deficiencies which are present in the traditional system of justice that endorses retribution, restorative justice can play a significant role in addressing the issue of recidivism. Mechanisms such as mediation which are components of restorative justice give the victim voice in deciding the fit justice. This is because views of the case are not heard from the custodian of justice, but also the victim. During mediation, the victim is given an opportunity to decide the effective approach that should be taken. Such a process promotes de-victimization as well as enables the offender to be aware and responsible for his/her restoration and re-socialization to reestablish the interpersonal relationship impaired. It may not be enough to admit misconduct, ask for forgiveness, or express regret. It is thus important that the offender gives something to the victim that has some sense of spiritual or psychological value to both of them. This might be a gift or assurance from the wrongdoer not to err again and remain committed to moral change. The 'gift' must not be retrieved from the offender by a third party, but willingly given to the victim by the offender. In criminal proceedings, it is possible that after punishment

has been imposed, the offender may not be repentant, and the process might lead to defiance and resentment. Even worse, the victim might be aware of the unrepentant nature of the offender. Therefore, the purpose of restorative justice is cure deficiencies through victim-offender mediation and victim impact training which are essential in reducing recidivism and increasing trust and satisfaction among parties involved in crime.

RQ3: What are the Primary Causes of Recidivism?

Noticeably, it is the role of the government to ensure that it protects its citizens and deters crime. To achieve that objective, various forms of punishment are adopted. However, it is surprising if punishment which is a form of retributive justice prevents crime and if it does, to what measure. As a result, a few conclusions can be made about the effectiveness of convicting individuals in preventing crime. While prisons serve as an essential option to promote justice, punish, and incapacitate individuals who have committed a crime, such an approach does little in motivating people to stop injustice. The same evidence shows that to some extent when people are given fewer sentences, they are less likely to perpetuate injustice. It is significant to comprehend that about 50% or more of injustice acts are committed by approximately 2% to 5% of individuals (Department of Justice, 2018). What does that leave the rest of the people who just commit a crime once in their lifetime and get lengthy sentences? Noticeably, the severity of crime does not meaningfully deter crime. Some practitioners and policymakers hold that severe punishment has a chastening effect and that is why they probably support lengthy sentences. Nonetheless, empirical research has found no such effect; on the contrary, evidence has shown that incarceration promotes recidivism (Department of Justice, 2018). One issue that has been blamed for such an outcome is the fact that prisons may be learning schools for crime.

Consequently, family members of individuals who have inmates undergo great challenges that range from mental health problems, debts, divorce, risk of divorce, and financial debts. Children of such parents are likely to stop schooling, get into the labor market prematurely, or end up being criminals. With such possibilities, one might be forced to question how just the theory of just deserts is. Subsequently, looking at the fairness theory such an outcome is not fair at all to the offender or the family members. How is it fair that someone gets a jail term of two years end up losing a job, family, children, and prospect of getting a better job after the imprisonment term ends? What this research shows is that what is perceived as fair might be such to the extent of the word in definition and not in actual operation or practical application of the concept in a real-life situation. As a result, such social and economic impacts which are manifested in the form of poverty and unemployment may increase the rate of re-offending.

Labeling and false witness have been considered to contribute to the high rates of recidivism as criminals are stigmatized by society after their term imprisonment. Labeling by society and justice system is among the fertile grounds to enter into crime. Tegeng and Abadi assert that labeled criminals are stigmatized in every opportunity they engage due to their past records with a negative attitude that considers them incurable. Most prisons lack classification in terms of age, type, and seriousness of the crime since they are overcrowded, triggering the pressure of re-offending. Therefore, lack of classification will result in poor integration of rehabilitation programs which can only increase the rate of recidivism.

Restorative Justice

Restorative justice is deemed to be effective for cases in which individuals might escape justice because of insufficient evidence. For instance, a case study that was done in Brooklyn showed that 3 out of 4 cases that were directed to prosecution were not brought to justice while the use of restorative justice led to the success of about 56% of cases (Callender, 2020). What this shows is that restorative justice might provide an avenue that allows people who might escape criminal justice due to a lack of evidence to be accountable for their actions. For instance, there is evidence that rape cases among women have low conviction rates and the distressing fact is that some cases are dismissed on the grounds of lack of evidence (Callender, 2020). Notably, participants of restorative justice agree that the system results in decreased fear and anger toward the offender. Also, the individuals who opt for it have better outcomes as compared to those who use criminal trails. Restorative justice has some health benefits such low prevalence of stress symptoms. Subsequently, victims are less likely to seek revenge, feel helpless, distrustful, or blame themselves (Callender, 2020). This is because the victims have a high positive perception that the process results in fairness as compared to the criminal justice system.

Moreover, 83% of participants to the restorative justice felt that the process was fairer as opposed to 62% of respondents of retributive justice (Department of Justice, 2018). Subsequently, the same institution states that some beneficiaries of the programs in Minnesota also indicated that the process results in high satisfaction levels ranging from 93% to 95% (Department of Justice, 2018). Moreover, it is not only victims of these programs who approve of them, but also offenders. One study found that about 87% of offenders in restorative justice were satisfied with the process as compared to 78% of participants in retributive justice

(Department of Justice, 2018). The rationale behind that is because the process is geared toward fulfilling the justice needs of the affected parties.

Consequently, since restorative justice includes political players and policymakers, the process might lead to the development or creation of community protective factors (Maculan & Gil, 2020). Also, there is a possibility that restorative justice might lead to a decline in recidivism rates. Restorative justice showed that it leads to a reduction in recidivism in programs that were carried out in New Zealand, Queensland Community, U.S., and Manitoba (Department of Justice, 2018). Further, the data showed that offenders who were beneficiaries of restorative programs were more likely to commit a crime of less magnitude.

Chapter V: Conclusion

The relationship between rehabilitation and recidivism was a topic of concern due to increased criminal offenses despite the criminal justice system's effectiveness. The increase in recidivism rates encouraged the establishment of criminal rehabilitation programs, which have received tremendous support because they allow lawbreakers to separate themselves from environmental factors that made them offenders. Various studies examined how rehabilitation can minimize recidivism rates by focusing on the punishment phase of the criminal justice system. However, recidivism can be encouraged by all phases of the criminal justice system, such as apprehending and adjudicating an offender. Crucially, the criminal justice system comprises distinct steps which can affect the offender, leading to recidivism. The phases include arrest, initial appearance, hearings, arraignment, pleas, jury selection, and trial. All these phases are followed to ensure that justice is served and the right person is convicted of the alleged crime. Undeniably, the process can have mental and cognitive impacts on the offender, especially when wrongly convicted. As a result, there are high chances of repeating the crime after release.

The process of reintegrating released inmates into society is one of the goals of the criminal justice system. Further, the prison population is increasing due to high rates of recidivism. Therefore, this indicates that the law offenders have not adequately been equipped with skills for life after prison sentences. As a result, such justifications provided the need to explore the effects of rehabilitation programs in reducing recidivism based on previous studies while ensuring that sensible measures can be recommended to minimize the growing rate of crimes.

Recidivism is the tendency of an ex-inmate to repeat or returning to criminal behaviors that lead to punishment by the criminal justice systems (Cram, 2018). Rehabilitation is a program implemented to restore individuals to everyday life through training new skills, using medications, and counseling after substance abuse, imprisonment, or sickness. Over the last decades, the United States of America battles recidivism rates due to severe punishments. For this reason, United States is the leading country with the highest rate of incarceration in the world (Cram, 2018). The statistic is evidenced by the swelling prison population and the popularity of longer sentences in the sentencing policies, namely “three strikes law” (Cram, 2018). Mainly, incarceration occurs due to rough prison environments, racial inequalities, and releasing inmates into society without introducing rehabilitation programs during their sentence time in the prison. As a result, the ex-offenders return to the community ill-equipped to live a crime-free life because of the hostile environment in prison.

Consequently, criminal justice institutions and correctional agencies implement rehabilitation programs for inmates during imprisonment and aid upon release (Taylor, 2017). Examples include cognitive behavioral therapy sessions to help an inmate increase self-restraint, drug abuse disorder treatment, vocational programs, educational classes, and employment preparation. Additionally, vocational programs help inmates learn technical skills and competencies while in prison. In addition, the inmates become electricians, carpenters, welders, farmers, and cooks (Taylor, 2017). As a result, cognitive-behavioral programs aid in solving behavioral patterns of the inmates that led to criminal activity (Taylor, 2017). Specifically, this therapy addresses the anger management, rebellious behavior, and criminal thinking of the law offender.

Rehabilitation programs aim at enhancing job-seeking skills, which equip the inmate with job search techniques and job readiness. The employment programs should be six to seven months before releasing an inmate to increase an effective transition back to the community (Taylor, 2017). There are also drug abuse treatment programs that focus on aiding law offenders to treat drug abuse. The treatment is used to avoid relapse and therefore leading to successful reintegration into a community. Crucially, education classes include adult basic education programs. After the course, the inmate is issued a General Education Development certificate, high school certificate, and various college certificates (Taylor, 2017). The state law indicates that law offenders must low literacy scores to attend the education programs.

Low education qualification is a significant barrier to being employed, especially for released inmates. There are high chances of such people engaging in criminal activities once they return to their neighborhoods. This, however, cannot be the case if a prisoner undergoes a rehabilitation program. This may be in the form of education, which equips them with essential skills and knowledge to gain entry into the labor market. It also gives the reformed inmate a sense of self-satisfaction. In this case, rehabilitation centers help in reshaping the lives of criminals, providing relevance to it. However, this can only be attained if the institution offering the service values the outcome of the prisoner. According to Auty and Liebling (2020), the determination of a prison's culture determines the outcome of the released inmates. If the criminal is not in good shape by the moment he or she is released, there are higher chances of going back to their former acts, which may land back in prison.

On top of the skills acquired while in prison, rehabilitation also aims to teach morality and offer support. The program should be structured in such a way that the well-being of the

prisoners after serving a term in prison is considered to avoid relapse. Rehabilitation makes the inmates have a different perception of what they consider normal. These include drug and substance abuse-related offenses. Apart from fighting to curb the abuse and sale of such substances, the offenders can receive great help from rehabilitation programs to see that they do not go back to the old ways (Cheah et al., 2020). Drug abuse can lead an individual to commit several other crimes such as theft, especially when one is addicted and cannot manage to purchase them due to lack of funds, sexual harassment, or breaking of traffic laws. Rehabilitation of drug and substance abuse is the only key to this failure to which they would relapse and find themselves committing crimes again.

Recidivism can also result from homelessness. Formerly imprisoned people are likely to be homeless on their release, especially if it was a long sentence. Behavioral health support may not be of reasonable help if the inmate is going to lack a home immediately after they step out of prison. Being homeless is a barrier to finishing the required treatment. As a result, even the best result in behavioral health intervention can be of less value if the individual is not placed in stable housing. Failed programs offered in rehabilitation centers can also cause this. If the program is of no significant quality, the cases of recidivism remain high. This also partly depends on whether the inmate completes the program or not. Inmates who complete the programs are less likely to find themselves back behind bars than those who avoid entirely or do not complete the program.

Exposure to harmful or horrific experiences while in these centers can also result in recidivism. These may include violence which may be either physical or even sexual. These experiences traumatize the inmates even after release, and with no therapy, they more often than

not end up committing crimes again. The Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) among juvenile offenders may result in higher risks of subsequent arrests. In children, it may be caused by traumas that they went through even at a tender age (Wolff et al., 2017). This can be closely tied to the self-esteem of the young offender, high self-esteem may result in committing offenses, the pride within the individual compared to low self-esteem.

Offenders with high criminal records are very likely to be met on the wrong side of the law whenever they are out of prison. These can be a result of such various conditions, including lack of no place back in society. In such cases, the rehabilitation centers should check and apply for an appropriate rehabilitation program before their release. Decision-makers must be sure to cross-check the background of the recidivist. Recurrent criminal acts can result from stigma resulting from the wrong records and which are known to everyone back in their neighborhood. In such a case, the normal program or just a simple lock-up to serve as a lesson may not produce positive feedback or practical results. According to Denver et al. (2020), only appropriate rehabilitation can give an effective result.

Effective management of rehabilitation mitigates the acts of recidivism. Practical interventions in the program offering institutions reduce the risks of recidivism by significant percentages (Kishi et al., 2018). This, on the other hand, helps facilitate peaceful co-existence once they re-enter society. The resources available in society can sometimes cause a behavioral change in a former convict resulting in committing the offense and thus re-imprisonment. Community-based rehabilitation is highly recommended for such scenarios. They ensure that once an inmate is released from prison, he/she is carefully guided back in the societal ways.

An ex-criminal can backslide to doing his former acts from societal pressure. Not all reformed inmates from prison are accepted back and viewed normally in society. People will always see them as the criminals they were before they were rehabilitated. This may make them see no need to reform. They may end up settling for the criminals they are and become regulars to prison. Additionally, there is communal follow-up and sanitizing, education, and skills training. For instance, if an inmate arrives back in a society with masonry skills, plumbing, and so on, the entire community will view him positively. They will have the view of a hardworking person, a person that earns from work and not from robbing others. In such a case, the rehabilitation program helps in giving the person a place or position in society. Therapeutically education and care also make the inmate accept the changes that will occur once he re-enters society, which might be traumatic if not addressed.

Therefore, criminal and corrective institutions should incorporate rehabilitation programs in prisons to reduce the law offenders from recidivism. Ex-offenders find it challenges to return to society after release due to changes, leading to negative behavior that leads them back to prison. Designing and implementing innovative rehabilitation programs in correctional centers is challenging, therefore, adopting evidence-based rehabilitation programs supported by well-trained professionals and requisite drivers reduces recidivism. Moreover, effective rehabilitation programs help implements a goal plan for the inmate that aids in rebuilding their lives and coping with the harsh prison environments. However, the criminal justice system lacks appropriate funding of rehabilitation programs, and every state must ensure adequate funding of the programs to aid in reducing recidivism.

The increased rate of recidivism is caused by lifestyle, economic, sociological, and personal factors. The enormous increase of people relapsing into criminality is a concern for current society and the future generation because such developments challenge rehabilitation programs' feasibility and practicality. The field of behavioral science has attracted interest in explaining the need for human cooperation. However, there exists human cooperation that prompts individuals to act selfishly for personal gains. Consequently, individuals are punished for following their interests in life because they are against society's acceptable morals. When former criminals continually commit crimes, the world becomes a dangerous place, and therefore, there is a need to correct recidivism.

Limitations and Implication of the Study

The study was executed effectively by adopting an integrative review research methodology that encourages replication. However, focusing the analysis on the past study can help address the research questions, but the reliability of the findings can be questionable. Integrative review can be effective if past studies are reliable and can be used for research purposes. The researcher could have used a more comprehensive methodology, such as mixed research methods, to support integrative review while enhancing the credibility of the findings. The study will be beneficial to the criminal justice system in the pursuit of minimizing the rising rate of recidivism. Additionally, the findings of this study will help correctional institutions to understand the relationship between reoffending and prison social climate as morally intelligible correctional facilities produce better outcomes. Therefore, the research provides significant findings that can be applied in the criminal justice system to develop policies and programs that

foster systematic research to anticipate future crimes and transform the rehabilitation initiatives that will minimize recidivism rates.

Recommendations for Further Studies

The findings of this study can be generalized because the research was broad which focused on the criminal justice system across the United States with supporting information across the globe. However, the reliability of the findings can be questioned because of the large sample setting. Therefore, future studies are recommended to focus on a single variable while applying a randomized sampling to enhance the validity of the findings. For instance, future studies can focus on the impact of rehabilitation programs on drug offenses in the quest to minimize the increasing rate of recidivism. Moreover, empirical studies have regularly proved reliable as their findings have been adopted widely in different fields, such as health and social sciences. Therefore, future research researchers on the relationship between rehabilitation and recidivism should change the methodology and focus empirical research to bridge the gaps from the previous studies with concrete evidence that supports all the programs that aim to address the issue of recidivism.

Most significantly, in the pursuit to minimize the rate of recidivism, future studies are recommended to focus on the importance of incorporating the knowledge of rehabilitation programs of initiative into the mainstream private sector and public policy decision making. Understanding the future impact of the crime will facilitate the transformation of the restorative justice system to disrupt the trends and patterns of future crime. In doing so, funding will be directed in the right path to ensure rehabilitation initiatives goal-centered and guarantee quality results, especially to the inmates of drug offenders. As a result, effective rehabilitation initiatives

will require multi-sectoral working groups to carry out systematic research that will anticipate the chances of recidivism and develop policies that will help minimize such occurrences. These multi-sectoral working groups will include representation from the private sector, the government, and the academic fraternity.

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