

Social adaptation of convicts in the urban planning and greening industry

*Alexandra Brovkina*¹, *Alexandr Rudenko*¹, *Sergey Korneev*^{1,*}, *Maksim Temirkhanov*², and *Ilya Tarakanov*³

¹Academy of the Federal penitentiary service of Russian Federation, 1 Sennaya str., Ryazan, 390000, Russian Federation

²St. Petersburg University of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia, Sapernaya str., 34, Pushkin, 196602, Russia

³Vladimir Law Institute of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia, Bolshaya Nizhegorodskaya str., 67e, Vladimir, 600020, Russia

Abstract. Institutions of civil society play an important role in the process of re-socialization of convicts and their social adaptation. In the process of joint activities of penitentiary system (hereinafter referred to as the PS) with representatives of the public, there are being addressed issues of social adaptation of persons after release from prison, assistance to convicts in the restoration, maintenance and development of socially useful ties, preparation for release, labor and household arrangements, medical and social security, as well as the organization of leisure, education for convicts, their moral, legal and cultural education and development. At the same time, the fulfillment of these post-penitentiary tasks satisfies a number of needs of modern state, in particular, in the urban planning industry. This study examines the experience of interaction between the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia and the Volnoe Delo Social Innovation Fund in the field of employment of convicts, incl. at construction sites. Based on the analysis of implementation of the program for social support of persons in difficult life situations, a conclusion is made about the need to individualize educational work and targeted assistance to convicts; stimulation to change motivational attitudes and moral values; wide demand for the labor of convicts in the urban planning industry.

1 Introduction

Inclusion of a former convict after his/her release in the usual conditions of society is an important criterion for determining the effectiveness of the work of institutions executing punishment, which makes it possible to accurately determine the significant public orientation of their activities.

Up to 300 thousand people are released from correctional institutions every year. They face following problems: loss of family ties and lack of permanent residence; loss of

*Corresponding author: kornei_lam@mail.ru

positive motivation for a normal lifestyle; lack of specialty and work skills; stereotypes of public consciousness: “they are socially dangerous”; complexity of interaction with government officials (employment services, social protection, internal affairs bodies, migration service) and dependence on them; lack of desire of potential employers to recruit former convicts; insufficient number and level of development of specialized rehabilitation centers in Russian Federation.

The inability to cope with emerging problems on their own leads to the fact that former convicts strive to return to their usual living conditions, where the rules are simple and known. This trend is also evidenced by official statistics (Diagram 1).

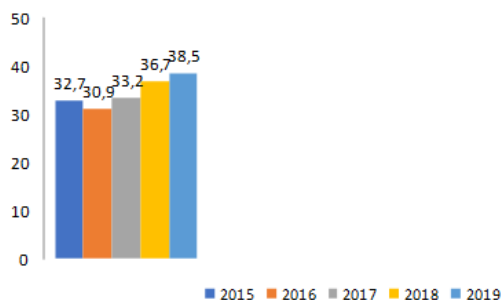


Fig. 1. The share of persons who were previously convicted of crimes in the total number of those convicted by court verdict.

The state's penitentiary system is unable to cope with such a wide range of tasks alone. It needs support from the public. At the present stage, the Federal Penitentiary Service has organized a constructive dialogue with various public institutions - religious confessions, public monitoring commissions, public organizations and associations. Such interaction of penitentiary system in modern society is expressed in the format of business cooperation and mutual assistance, is an element of socially responsible behavior of members of the public.

At present, institutions and bodies of the PS are assisted in the work of over 150 charitable foundations and public organizations. The main areas of cooperation of the penal system with civil society institutions are monitoring the practice of execution of sentences in the form of imprisonment; development of proposals on amendments to the current legislation; determination of priority areas of work; legal education of convicts and employees; providing them with legal, social, psychological, medical, material assistance, as well as assistance in ensuring the rights to freedom of conscience and religion. In addition, in the process of joint activities, the issues of social adaptation of persons after release from prison, assistance to convicts in the restoration, maintenance and development of socially useful ties, preparation for release, labor and household arrangements, medical and social security, as well as organization leisure, education by convicts, their moral, legal and cultural education and development.

Despite the fact that interaction of institutions of penal system with various institutions of civil society lasts for more than 20 years, it requires constant improvement. This explains the relevance of this study, which analyzes the interaction of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia for the Krasnodar Territory with the Volnoe Delo charitable foundation on the implementation of social programs among convicts.

The purpose of the study is to assess the conformity of professional training of convicts to the demands of modern labor market within the framework of program for social support of persons in difficult life situations, "Return". To achieve this goal, it is necessary to fulfill following tasks:

- to determine the range of problematic issues in the process of implementing additional professional programs among convicts;
- to study the experience of attracting the labor of convicts in the urban development sphere;
- to identify the most demanded specialties in the construction industry.

2 Methods

The range of issues related to the social adaptation of convicts remains relevant for a long time. Studies, including those of a fundamental nature, have repeatedly considered general and particular issues of resocialization of those sentenced to imprisonment and those released from this punishment [1]; re-socialization of convicted juveniles [2]; professional education of a person sentenced to imprisonment in a correctional institution as a means of his re-socialization [3]; re-socialization of convicts in the educational space of higher education [4]; theories and methods of social and pedagogical support of convicts in the process of their re-socialization [5]; organizational and pedagogical conditions for the re-socialization of convicted juveniles in an institution for execution of criminal punishment [6]; training of employees of the penitentiary system for the activity of re-socialization of convicts [7]. Despite the significant contribution to the study of direction of re-socialization of convicts, at present there are little studied issues related to the assessment of the conformity of professional training of convicts to the needs of modern labor market.

In the course of this study, various general scientific and private scientific methods of cognition were consistently applied.

3 Results

The study shows that joint activities of the penitentiary administration with representatives of the public, in particular, with the Volnoe Delo Social Innovation Fund, helps to individualize educational work and provide targeted assistance to the convicts. The attention of society and concern for the fate of persons who find themselves in difficult life situations stimulates convicts to change their motivational attitudes, moral values, leads to an awareness of their guilt and repentance.

One of the goals proclaimed by the Concept for Development of the Penitentiary System of Russian Federation is social adaptation of released convicts with the participation of civil society by means of expanding the forms and methods of cooperation. In a speech at an expanded meeting of the board of Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia, the Deputy Director of Federal Penitentiary Service, highlighting the results of department's activities, noted that "work in all areas is necessary in close cooperation with civil society institutions" [8]. Cooperation of administration of institutions and bodies executing criminal sentences with civil society institutions is built in accordance with the provisions enshrined in the Criminal Executive Code of Russian Federation and Federal Law No. 76-FZ dated 10.06.2008 "On public control over ensuring human rights in places of forced content and assistance to persons in places of detention".

Article 23 of the Penal Code and Article 22 of Federal Law No. 10.06.2008 No. 76-FZ determine the forms and procedure for participation of public associations in the work of institutions and bodies executing punishment. Penal-executive legislation provides for three main types of participation of public associations: 1) assistance in the work of institutions and bodies executing criminal penalties; 2) participation in the correction of convicts; 3) control over the activities of these institutions.

Civil society institutions within the framework of penitentiary and post-penitentiary re-socialization can provide assistance in fulfilling following tasks: raising general educational level of convicts, vocational training or professional development, health protection, neutralizing negative social and psychological phenomena, excessive addiction to conditions of isolation from society, providing assistance in the restoration of socially useful ties, assistance in employment after the release of convicts from prison, provision of housing, assistance in the restoration and obtaining documents.

At present, practice shows that the provision of assistance by public associations can take place in a variety of forms. In many ways, the success of public interaction with the penitentiary system depends on the regional departments of Federal Penitentiary Service, their interest in helping and providing support to convicts and persons who have served a criminal sentence.

In the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia for the Krasnodar Territory, fruitful cooperation with the Volnoe Delo charitable foundation of Oleg Deripaska has been conducted since 2013. The management of the department signed an agreement on implementation of the "Return" project, which promotes the re-socialization and adaptation of convicts by providing psychological assistance to persons serving a criminal sentence, maintaining socially useful ties, teaching entrepreneurship and computer literacy, providing methodological assistance in preparing for successful socialization in society, employment after release, creation of own business. Also, the goal of the project is to change the stereotypes of public consciousness in relation to convicts, by informing society and the media about the successful experience of social adaptation of persons who have served a sentence of imprisonment.

Achievement of the set goals presupposes, among other things, an increase in professional skills and formation of competencies of employees of Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia in the Krasnodar Territory; training them in effective methods of organizing service for successful re-socialization of convicts and preparing them for release.

4 Discussion

The Volnoe Delo Charitable Foundation implements in the Ust-Labinsky District of Krasnodar Territory, where 40% of all correctional institutions of the Territory are located, the "Return" program, created to provide targeted assistance to people in difficult life situations [9].

In the city of Ust-Labinsk, a Rehabilitation Center for the Promotion of Small Businesses for former convicts and people in difficult life situations is working on a permanent basis, created within the framework of the project. The center's activities are aimed at assisting in the psychological and social rehabilitation of persons preparing for release, as well as assistance in social adaptation of citizens after release from correctional institutions. The study groups include freed citizens and residents of the region who are in a difficult life situation. Psychologists conduct classes and trainings of tolerance, goal setting, career guidance.

During the period of work of the Center, 196 people have passed the entrepreneurship training course. The project participants, in addition to training, receive professional assistance from a lawyer, psychologist, economist, social worker. 52 people became winners of the competition of business projects, received technical means for business development as a gift (heaters for greenhouses, submersible pumps for watering plants, beehives, honey extractors, compressors, etc.) After completing the courses, participants turn to teachers and receive advice business organization, legal and psychological issues.

In the penitentiary institutions of the region, within the framework of the project, a training course "Fundamentals of Entrepreneurship" is being implemented. For three months, the inmates study computer literacy, basics of marketing, accounting, taxation and business psychology. They receive basic knowledge on legal support for individual entrepreneurship. Upon completion of the training, convicts submit their original business projects to a qualified jury, which includes teachers of vocational schools, representatives of small businesses, the Public Council at the Federal Penitentiary Service of the region, employees of the administration of correctional institution, members of the public supervisory commission. Projects differ in scale and scope of their implementation: from retailing vegetables or creating a car tuning service to production of paving slabs, organizing a recording studio or opening a tea boutique. Based on the results of the final certification of students, the best business projects receive grants. At the expense of the fund, the necessary equipment is purchased for the convicts for development of small business.

Mandatory involvement of convicts in socially useful work is one of the measures for implementing the state's criminal executive policy, contributes to their correction, re-socialization and law-abiding behavior during the period of serving their sentence, creates the preconditions for successful adaptation in society after release. According to article 103 of the Criminal Executive Code of Russian Federation, each convict is obliged to work in places of serving his/her sentence at work determined by the administration of correctional institution. The high level of non-working convicts creates great difficulties for the executive authorities of constituent entities of Russian Federation in solving the problems of finding jobs for persons released after serving sentences. A significant break in work activity and a lack of professional skills among this category of citizens make it difficult for them to find a job, create social tension in the regions and lead to an increase in recidivism. Therefore, the main activity of the charitable foundation is focused on providing opportunities for convicts to receive vocational training. As part of the "Return" program, correctional institutions are introducing training programs for professions in demand in the labor market, expanding production ties between businesses and enterprises in the region's penal system, creating optimal conditions for more effective use of convicts' creative, organizational and entrepreneurial skills. As a result of activities of representatives of the fund, aimed at attracting small business to cooperation with the penitentiary system of the region in 2014 in five divisions, equipment for the manufacture of products was placed on the territory of correctional institutions, and 20 jobs vacancies were created for convicts serving sentences in the form of imprisonment.

It seems that the modern labor market is in need of specialists in urban planning. In this regard, a new construction profession was introduced in the strict regime colony of the village of Dvubratsky in the educational institution No. 194 of PKU IK-2: "Master of general construction works", which includes the specialties: "Plasterer", "Painter", "Cladder-tiler", "Bricklayer", "Concrete worker", "Stove worker". By profession "Master of general construction works", the training period is 10 months, from 01.09.2015. until 01.09.2018 93 convicts received education and skills using modern technologies (diagram 2).

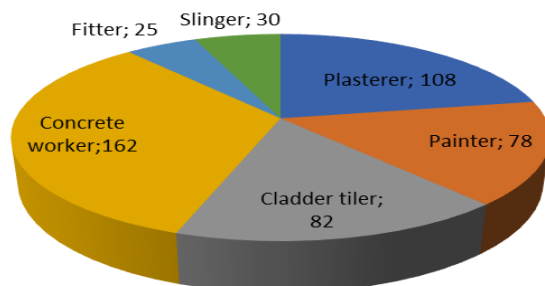


Fig. 2. The number of convicts who received a specialty in a correctional institution.

In February 2019, a similar project was launched at IK-6. With the support of the Volnoe Delo Foundation, an educational and material base was prepared - the premises of the classroom and workshop were repaired, modern educational equipment, visual aids and methodological literature were purchased. In September 2019, the convicts began training in specialties that are in demand in the regional labor market - bricklayer and plasterer. The convicts will receive construction professions, which will help them find work faster and adapt to society after their release.

The main thing is that in the course of training, students of the courses gain confidence in the future, new life prospects arise, responsibility for their own decisions and actions increases, they begin to clearly see themselves as successful law-abiding citizens.

Women's crime is an integral part of general crime, but it has characteristic quantitative and qualitative differences. The recidivism rate among women is over 40%. This indicates that the re-socialization of these individuals is a more difficult task than re-socialization of men. The lack of family, relatives, means of livelihood, loneliness pushes women to repeat crime. For convicted women, more often than for men, families break up during the period of serving their sentences. Divorce, lack of prospects for marriage and support from family members lead to negative personality changes. The behavior of a woman in places of imprisonment changes radically: she treats work unfairly, refuses to study. Convicted women have such mental states as increased anxiety, stress, depression, and disappointment. Deprivation of liberty is an emotional blow to them. Such a state, close to apathy, does not imply active actions on the part of the convicted person. In this case, it is important who will be near during the period of adaptation to new living conditions - criminally infected convicts or persons with positive value attitudes, together with employees of correctional institutions. When personal changes are manifested, the staff of penitentiary institutions must appropriately individualize the execution of punishment, help with adaptation, both to the living conditions inside the correctional institution, and subsequently to inclusion in society. Civil society institutions play a special role in this process.

Currently, 727 first-time convicted women are being held in the women's correctional colony IK-3 of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia in the Krasnodar Territory. Correctional colony No. 3 has been functioning for over 80 years. More than 200 people are released from the institution every year. The most difficult category is represented by women serving long terms of imprisonment, who lose contact with family and friends, housekeeping skills, experience the inability to conduct an activity due to long isolation from society. Basically, it is for this category of convicts who need modern and effective programs for adaptation to life outside, and the rehabilitation center "Aurora", created in 2015, is designed. This is the first such center in the Southern Federal District, organized within the framework of the Presidential grant project "Territory of partnership" and implemented by the All-Russian public organization "Council of Public Supervisory Commissions" with the support of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia.

The rehabilitation center is a separate complex of premises intended for the living of convicts preparing for release. It is equipped with everything necessary for carrying out educational, psychological and social work with women who will soon leave the walls of the correctional institution. Up to 20 convicts can undergo rehabilitation at the same time. Living conditions and material support in the Center differ significantly from living conditions in the colony. It has all the necessary household supplies for training and restoring skills in housekeeping.

In the women's correctional colony No. 3 of the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia in the Krasnodar Territory, a project is being implemented: "Re-socialization of convicted women with young children." Convicted women study computer literacy, basics of marketing, taxation, commercial law and psychology of business for five months. At the end of the courses, convicts prepare video presentations in which they present various plans and interesting ideas for developing their own business. During the existence of the courses, such projects as the Losk laundry, the Maria & Anna wedding store, and the Athletika family fitness room were awarded by the examination committee. All authors of business projects receive certificates confirming the completion of the courses "Fundamentals of Entrepreneurship".

Thanks to the assistance of the charitable foundation, 13 premises were repaired in IK-3, the necessary building materials, technical equipment, stands, posters, and educational literature were purchased. The total amount spent on equipment was 2 859 096.00 rubles.

Courses in entrepreneurship and protection of business projects in IK-3 are held within the framework of the President's grant aimed at the development of civil society. This charitable project is carried out in the community of state and non-profit organizations: the Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia for the Krasnodar Territory, the Krasnodar regional charitable public organization Healthy Generation, the Volnoe Delo Foundation for the Support of Social Innovations, and the Vocational Guidance Center, a regional private educational institution of additional professional education.

The knowledge gained during training will help women realize themselves in society after liberation. By organizing their own business, they will be able to work honestly, lead a law-abiding life, and fully take care of their children.

With the support of a charitable foundation, convicts are trained in specialties that are in demand on the labor market. In the male colonies they teach construction professions, in the female colony - hairdressing, cooking and confectionery.

5 Conclusion

In correctional institution IK-3, where the Return program is being implemented, the number of violations of the sentence serving regime, conflict situations, manifestations of aggressive behavior, both in relation to the convicts themselves and to the employees of the institution, has decreased. Many convicts have restored family ties, and the number of those released on parole has increased. After serving their sentences, some of the project participants implemented their business plans. By opening additional jobs, convicts have the opportunity to pay off orders of execution, help their families and friends, and support children. In the period from 09.11.2015 to 30.08.2018, 125 convicted women underwent ten-month training and received specialties: "Cook", "Confectioner" in demand on the labor market. In turn, the educational level acts as an anti-criminogenic factor. The common difference between female criminals and men is greater emotional instability, emotional dependence on current situation, a more violent reaction to reality, a greater depth in their inner world and a consciousness of guilt. These qualities, although they make women more difficult to communicate, at the same time, contribute to their greater susceptibility to corrective action. Joint activities of penitentiary administration with representatives of the

public helps to individualize educational work and provide targeted assistance to a convicted woman. The attention of society and concern for the fate of persons who find themselves in difficult life situations stimulates convicts to change their motivational attitudes, moral values, leads to an awareness of their guilt and repentance.

The experience of interaction of Federal Penitentiary Service of Russia in the Krasnodar Territory on the example of IK-3 and IK-2 with the Volnoe Delo charitable foundation of Oleg Deripaska is a vivid example of productive cooperation with civil society institutions. It can serve as an example of building a dialogue between the penitentiary system and representatives of public organizations and involving business in the process of reforming and re-socializing convicts.

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