

Four Corners Activity: Statements

The point of the criminal justice system is to punish criminals.

Our correctional system should have opportunities for education, therapy, and other types of rehabilitation.

Someone who commits a crime deserves a second chance if they apologize for their actions.

Offenders should be punished harshly to deter others from committing crimes.

Criminal offenders should have the opportunity to work with victims and do things to atone for their actions.

Rehabilitation programs make it possible for people who have committed crimes to become good citizens in the future.

It is important to separate criminals from the rest of society to protect the public.

Successful sentencing involves offenders recognizing how their actions have harmed the victim or community.

Definitions for Students

Punishment: penalties imposed as a result of a criminal offense (i.e., incarceration). The goal to penalize the offender and to deter others from committing criminal offenses.

Rehabilitation: actions and programs designed to change the behaviour of an offender or help them with specific issues. The goal is for offenders to successfully re-enter society as productive citizens.

Restorative Justice: specific approaches (such as mediation and sentencing circles) that focus on the offender understanding and addressing their actions harmed the victim and community. The goal is reconciliation and healing for all parties involved.