

Chapter 1 : How to Save Money on Prison and Jail Phone Calls | PrisonPro

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BreakPoint , The Church May 25, Yesterday, I discussed how society, by way of our criminal justice system, has unintentionally waged a war on children of prisonersâ€”children without a voice and with little hope of escaping the intergenerational cycle of crime. Did you know that 2. Did you know that the United States incarcerates more individuals per capita than any other industrialized country in the world? Nearly two-thirds of the , men and women released from prison this year will be rearrested within three years. I believed only that they deserved their time and merited none of my sympathy. Today, I realize that, while we must uphold justice and the rule of law, we must also see prisoners as God sees themâ€”valuable, purposeful, and loved. Remarkably, God has reserved a special place in His kingdom for prisonersâ€”the ones we have locked away and forgotten. He even equates visiting the prisoner with visiting the sick. It could mean taking a few minutes each week to write a letter to a prisoner. It could mean sacrificing an afternoon to visit an inmate without a family. It could mean praying with a prisoner who is struggling with loneliness. It could mean discipling prisoners behind bars and walking with them when they come out of prison. Throughout history, God has raised up the vilest of criminalsâ€”men like the Apostle Paul, a co-conspirator in murder, and Moses, a murderer and a fugitiveâ€”to serve His kingdom, to be vessels of noble use. I think of a man I have met and now count as a brother in Christ: Ron Gruber, an ex-leader of a notorious biker gang and a convicted murderer. Ron had enemies inside prison and out, including a warden he had attacked years before. He has reconciled with the warden and others whom he had terrorized. And Ron now devotes his fifty-year prison sentence to preaching Christ and making disciples of other prisoners. What a stunning transformation! Yes, we do need prisons to protect our communities from violent, dangerous criminals. As a former attorney general of Virginia, I know that. But we can never forget that we must see prisoners as God sees them: He was transformed by the grace of Christ: I think you and I have heard that name somewhere before. Commenters are welcome to argue all points of view, but they are asked to do it civilly and respectfully. Comments that call names, insult other people or groups, use profanity or obscenity, repeat the same points over and over, or make personal remarks about other commenters will be deleted. After multiple infractions, commenters may be banned.

Chapter 2 : Shafee: Anwar not a prisoner without a voice

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Sending out an S. We are currently forming a network agency within D. We are asking all prisoners within the Department of Corrections to take a stand by laying down starting January 15, , until the injustice we see facing prisoners within the Florida system is resolved. We are calling on all organized groups as well as religious systems to come together on the same page. We will be taking a stand for: Payment for our labor, rather than the current slave arrangement 2. Ending outrageous canteen prices 3. Reintroducing parole incentives to lifers and those with Buck Rogers dates Along with these primary demands, we are also expressing our support for the following goals: Every Institution must prepare to lay down for at least one month or longer: No prisoners will go to their job assignments. Our goal is to make the Governor realize that it will cost the state of Florida millions of dollars daily to contract outside companies to come and cook, clean, and handle the maintenance. In order to become very effective we must use everything we have to show that we mean business. A voice locked up is not a voice unheard! Slave labor- We are encouraging prisoners throughout the DOC to band together in an effort to demand payment for work performances. With even a modest amount of payment we will be able to save up something to survive outside with; for those with lengthy sentences, they would be able to support themselves inside. While this will be the strongest "Push," our next concern will be on price-gouging us with items we buy out of canteen. All prisoners and their family members are getting pimped with these outrageous canteen prices. We want regular market value. This is highway robbery without a gun. We got to put a stop to this! Parole- The federal government has given every state in the country a choice as to how they wish to use incentives to reward their prisoners. We are now demanding that the State of Florida bring back parole and come up with a payment for prisoners work performances, as the law required. Let us demonstrate why these two issues are so important. Take for example someone who has done a ten year bid. In the process he loses all family support and money stops, the letters stop. He finds himself supporting himself the best way he can. In short, the system robbed him of ten years of labor. This is enough to drive you off the edge and try your hand at stealing, robbing, or selling drugs to make a dollar. This is not a joke! This is not the case for the over-all majority, and this is the cause of high recidivism rates. The way to strike back is not with violence as this is what they want! If we show them violence they will have a legitimate excuse to use brute force against us and explain to the public that they had to use brute force in order to contain the situation. However, their weakness is their wallet. By sitting down and doing nothing, each institution will have the responsibility of feeding, cleaning, and all the maintenance. The more institutions that have to employ outside contractors, the sooner we will see results.

Chapter 3 : Prison Standoff in South Sudan's Blue House

"His voice was heard, his statement was read criticising the judiciary all around so to say he's a person who cannot answer is to put him down to the levels of the rest of the prisoners who have got no such facilities," Muhammad Shafee said.

Share via Email Seyoum Tsehaye, who was imprisoned during a government crackdown in Inside Eritrea Read more Those writers who remain face stringent censorship in a media climate characterised by the monotonous recycling of official information put out by a paranoid government. President of the organisation, Ghirmai Negash, describes it as: In , soon after independence from Ethiopia was finally won after a year war ,the number of independent newspapers boomed, many founded by students or graduates of the University of Asmara and catering for a wide range of views. For this they were quickly jailed. Eleven of the men, who have become known as the G , remain incarcerated, incommunicado, without trial. On the same day, 18 September , Afwerki cracked down on all dissent, banning private newspapers. Eleven journalists were taken into custody that day, and remain in undisclosed locations. Only state owned media remains, and communication with outside world has become nearly impossible. Now, citizens must go to public spaces to share information amongst themselves, while young people are stuck watching European football, or dubbed Arabic-Turkish soap operas on TV. The following six writers have been held in undisclosed locations since September , without trial. Amanuel Asrat Zemen editor-in-chief and award-winning poet Amanuel Asrat, former editor-in-chief of the newspaper Zemen. The paper was known amongst readers for its special interest in arts and literature, and Asrat " himself a leading poet as well as a songwriter " was the most popular art critic of his time. But his role was not limited to critique: Soon after, similar clubs were established in all major Eritrean towns. Eventually, Zemen became the leading literary newspaper in the country, run by a circle of critics who helped shape the cultural landscape of the country. Above all, Asrat was a talented poet. In his writing, he explored subjects ranging from the daily life of the underprivileged, to war and peace. Unlike much popular Eritrean wartime poetry, he portrayed the ugly side of conflict. Where two brothers pass each other Where two brothers meet each other Where two brothers conjoin In the piazza of life and death In the gulf of calamity and cultivation In the valley of fear and peace Something resounded. The ugliness of the thing of war When its spring comes When its ravaging echoes knock at your door It is then that the scourge of war brews doom But Unwillingly you keep it company Still, for it to mute how hard you pray! Prior to his arrest, he was preparing to go to South Africa to continue his higher education. From the limited information available, Asrat is still detained in the maximum security prison, Eiraeiro, north of Asmara. PEN Eritrea A former freedom fighter, the first director of the state-owned national TV channel, Eri-TV and a freelance photographer and journalist, Seyoum Tsehaye was arrested in his home after repeatedly publishing critical articles in the independent newspaper, Setit. Tsehaye, still reportedly alive in Eiraeiro prison camp according to the latest limited information, was 49 at the time of his arrest. As many dreams for the country started to dissolve after independence, Tsehaye started to write regularly for Setit. Tsehaye always wanted to speak on behalf of the voiceless, Berhane recalls, who remembers that the journalists used to repeat the line: Medhanie Haile Medhanie Haile. PEN Eritrea A former sports columnist, and a lawyer by profession, Haile was working at the Ministry of Justice at the time of his arrest. Today, Haile remains best known for his critical articles calling for the rule of law to be firmly established in the country post-independence. Most importantly he was concerned about the implementation of the new constitution In one piece, he underlined the importance of a free press in building a vibrant and accountable society. Praising some of the steps taken towards opening up the press and democratisation, Haile called for a culture of tolerance. Despite constant hostility from the government in the form of frequent arrests and intimidation, Haile was convinced that the rule of law would prevail. But this proved to be wishful thinking. After all independent newspapers were banned in , the editors joined together to write a letter to the Ministry of Information, asking for an explanation. On hearing how other editors were fleeing the country, Haile said: We cannot flee in fear. Medhanie is reported to have died in detention, according to a former prison guard. His death was attributed to harsh conditions and a lack of

medical attention. He leaves behind four brothers. The team was soon strengthened when Dawit Issac – a Swedish-Eritrean journalist also detained incommunicado since – and Fessaheye Yohannes joined too. Starting out as a bi-monthly publication with a circulation of 5,, the print run was soon increased to twice a week with a circulation of 40,, according to Aaron Berhane, the former editor-in-chief. He had a great ability working in a very tight schedule. He is thought to have died in or , due to poor health and mistreatment in prison. In a February issue, he wrote: But the writer was soon blacklisted for his ideas by the increasingly nervous government, and was arrested at his home in October after openly denouncing the arrest of the G group. He remains in prison. The newspaper started life in a tiny office, equipped with one desktop computer, an old printer and a telephone, which served as their base right up until the ban on independent media, according to fellow exiled journalist Yebio Ghebremedhin. In addition to editing, Habtemichael also wrote critical articles: Dawit was not arrested in the first dawn round-up of journalists in . However, wrongly assuming that they would probably arrest him and release him shortly afterwards – as was common practice at the time – he went to work as usual. However, security police arrived at the Asmara comprehensive secondary school the next day, and detained him.

Chapter 4 : Proverbs Open your mouth for those with no voice, for the justice of all the dispossessed.

1 free the VOTE without a vote i am a ghost inhabiting a citizen's space. a voice UNLOCKING DEMOCRACY IN THE CELLS AND ON THE STREETS Joe Loya, disfranchised former prisoner.

Continue to article content On April 22, Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe issued a sweeping executive order that changed the lives of , ex-felons in Virginia, instantly restoring their right to vote. This order leaves only Kentucky, Florida and Iowa with blanket lifetime disenfranchisement policies for ex-felons. In these three states, no citizens convicted of a felony are allowed to vote, regardless of the crime committed, absent government-granted exceptions to the policy. Ex-felons should be able to vote, yes. But so should prisoners themselves. Story Continued Below To some, the idea may seem risky, unnecessary or even unconscionable. But in fact, there are good reasons to embrace it. For one, our constitutional ideals support the right of prisoners to vote, and denying it violates the concept of self-government that the founders cherished. Granting this right also makes sense for the country in terms of politics and policy. As prisons have grappled with the explosion in their populations in the past 20 years, allegations of prisoner maltreatment multiply, and criminal justice reform moves to the fore of our political debate, we should consider that one of the best ways to solve these intractable and expensive problems would be to listen to those currently incarcerated—and to allow them to represent themselves in our national political conversation. In the United States, the debate about prison voting rights is virtually nonexistent. Only two states, Maine and Vermont, allow the practice. If anything, the movement has gone backward: Massachusetts and Utah both revoked this right in the past two decades. And indeed that was once true of prisoners in this country. But the federal government has made strides away from the notion of civic death over the past century. In recent years, the Supreme Court and Congress have affirmed a variety of constitutional rights for prisoners. They have rights of religious freedom under a federal law. Prisoners also retain some First Amendment free speech rights to hold and express political opinions. Most important, the Supreme Court decided that prisoners cannot have their citizenship stripped as a punishment for a crime. As Justice Earl Warren wrote in the case *Trop v. If prisoners remain citizens and retain their civic status throughout their sentences, then it follows that prisoners should enjoy the most basic of their civil rights, the right to cast a ballot. In some states, prisoners are counted in their home districts, which evens out the representation. But still, those prisoners are not voting for those representatives. Other advanced democracies are now recognizing the right of prisoners to vote. The court reasoned that the government could punish citizens by revoking their liberty—but could not uniformly revoke the most central right of that citizenship, the vote. Perhaps the most important reason to allow prisoner voting is that prisons, not just prisoners, would benefit. But in defending their own interests, prisoners could substantially improve the prison system itself. We can start with the issue of prisoner abuse. We already know that prisoners are subject to abusive and inhumane conditions. Under the current system, ending abusive practices requires years of expensive litigation as prisoners sue over maltreatment and prisons adjust to the rulings. We could improve prisons much more quickly and cheaply by creating a political constituency of prison voters. How would that work? A prison and jail constituency, numbering roughly 2 million across 50 states, would make it routine for politicians to hold town halls and seek ways to improve prison and jail conditions from those who are subjected to them. This is not coddling prisoners. More and more politicians are looking to reform our criminal justice system, and this would be a common sense way to help them identify needed changes. Of course, granting the right to vote is not enough to create a robust prison constituency. Prisoners will also need to be granted the right to speak freely and receive information, both of which are rights that are often limited for prisoners currently. Superstar litigator and former Solicitor General Paul Clement has already filed a lawsuit defending the right of prisoners to gain access to news about public life. Indeed, government can be held accountable only when citizens have information about the actions of their representatives. Many will resist the idea of a prison constituency. The point of prisons, they say, is to inflict punishment, not to allow organizing. But this is shortsighted. Prison is itself already severe punishment. One can be punished without being subjected to civic exile. Some will argue that it is enough to allow prisoners to regain their right to vote*

after release. But we cannot expect prisoners to be deprived of all rights and then emerge from prison ready to use them well. A prison constituency with rights to vote and related rights of free speech can engage in civic activism that will continue after release. Although voters in Massachusetts saw prisoner political participation as a kind of insurrection, it is nothing like the violent insurrections that marked prisons of the s. Our whole point now is to make prisoners understand that we can make changes by using the vote. We have the ability to move prisons in a new direction. They show that even temporary gaps in voting will have a long-term impact on participation. An additional counterargument might come from the left rather than the right wing of the political spectrum. Those on the left might charge that the creation of a prison constituency might take focus off the problems with mass incarceration itself, including the racial and other injustices of our current criminal justice system. But arguments for empowering a prison constituency are a structural way of addressing the concern that we imprison too many people. A prison constituency will not revoke unjust laws overnight, but it can allow those who are most affected by them and their sometimes unjust application to speak out against them. The impact of prisoner voting is potentially transformative. Over 2 million Americans are in prison or jail, more than the population of Rhode Island. A sensible approach would be to count prisoners as part of their home districts and to allow them to vote there. This would respect the appropriate democratic parity between the right to vote and the weight of representation. The creation of a prison constituency is not yet on the national agenda. But the increasing end to post-felony disenfranchisement makes this a good time to think about deeper changes to the way we treat the incarcerated. In the meantime, alternative measures could move things in the right direction: We should affirm nationally and, if need be, litigate for the right of prisoners to form PACs on the model of the Massachusetts group. We can no longer grant that right to non-incarcerated citizens as a matter of free speech and deny it to prisoners, who are, according to the Supreme Court, citizens no less. But today, citizens from both political parties are mobilizing against the harsh prison policies of the s. Giving prisoners the right to free political speech is a sensible corrective to our misguided practice of mass incarceration. In the end, restoring these basic rights is not only the right thing to do constitutionally; it could also present positive solutions to a major national political problem. The prison system would be more effective if it were accountable to its constituents. Prisoners have often committed heinous crimes. But they remain a part of our democratic polity, and we can learn from what they have to say. Corey Brettschneider is professor of Political Science at Brown University, where he teaches courses in political theory and constitutional law. This article tagged under:

Chapter 5 : Why Prisoners Are Calling for a Strike After Grisly Tragedy in SC - It's Going Down

The number issued to you by Google Voice will be the number you or the inmate will list on their approved call list, and this will be the number they will dial each time they want to call you. The Google Voice number is also the number you will use to setup an account through the inmate telephone provider (Securus, Global Tel Link, IC Solutions or similar company).

April 26, On April 15th, at the Lee Correctional Institution in South Carolina , prisoners were locked inside various units for hours as deadly fights broke out. An inmate that spoke to the Associated Press described the carnage: He explained that many cell door locks were already broken before the riot and that prisoners roamed around freely. Hours after violence broke out, no correctional officers or medical personnel attended to the dead or dying. Standard pig protocols is to abandon posts and lock all doors to the units. Pigs stood outside and listened to the screams of victims being killed inside. Inside and environment Scdc created pic. A quarter of all prison jobs in the state are unfilled. Ironically, this is being called the deadliest prison violence in a quarter century, since the Lucasville Uprising on April , Lucasville survivors on death row are currently on hunger strike. As the SF Bayview wrote: A quarrel over contraband having been blamed for sparking the rebellion, on April 18, 14 former guards, a nurse, a groundskeeper and service workers were indicted for taking bribes, wire fraud and smuggling cellphones and cocaine, methamphetamines, marijuana and alcohol into prisons from April to December But beyond just making money off of prisoners, a recent lawsuit also singles out several South Carolina officers, and also charges that they are in-fact gang members themselves, using their positions of authority to force prisoners to engage in sexual acts with them: Prisoners also claimed two correctional officers were affiliated with a gang and trafficked drugs into the institution, according to the lawsuit. The same officers are accused of engaging in sexual acts with inmates, which at times are not consensual. In the wake of the bloody massacre, prisoners inside have had enough, and called for a national prison strike to begin on August 21st until September 9th , the anniversary of the Attica Prison uprising. Many prisoners making the call remember the national prison strike, which began on September 9th, and grew to involve tens of thousands of prisoners across the US, Mexico, and Greece and shut down various facilities. All of our major PrisonStrike roundups and articles all on one easy to access page! Already, prisoners have put forward 10 demands: Immediate improvements to the conditions of prisons and prison policies that recognize the humanity of imprisoned men and women. An immediate end to prison slavery. All persons imprisoned in any place of detention under United States jurisdiction must be paid the prevailing wage in their state or territory for their labor. Rescission of the Prison Litigation Reform Act, allowing imprisoned humans a proper channel to address grievances and violations of their rights. Rescission of the Truth in Sentencing Act and the Sentencing Reform Act so that imprisoned humans have a possibility of rehabilitation and parole. No human shall be sentenced to death by incarceration or serve any sentence without the possibility of parole. An immediate end to the racial overcharging, over-sentencing and parole denials of Black and brown humans. Black humans shall no longer be denied parole because the victim of the crime was white, which is a particular problem in Southern states. An immediate end to racist gang enhancement laws targeting Black and Brown humans. No denial of access to rehabilitation programs for imprisoned humans at their place of detention because of their label as a violent offender. State prisons must be funded specifically to offer more rehabilitation services. Reinstatement of Pell grant eligibility to prisoners in all US states and territories. Towards this end, organizers have called for sit-ins, boycotts, strikes, and hunger strikes. The organizers have also asked those on the outside to help in getting the word out about the strike. So what all went down in South Carolina prisons a week ago? Our hearts go out to those killed and injured. The images were hard to look at. People want to know what could have caused such a thing to happen? No instant deaths initially, bleed out literally. What went down in South Carolina prisons is a tragedy beyond words. Its became a monstrous act when prison officials denied any responsibility, then spinned it to fit their own profiteer agenda goals. The same environment that caused the deaths at Lee prison consist through out SC prison system and its design continue to serve its purpose â€” SCCondemnVoices SCconvict April 22, To be brief without being specific,

arguments broke out in a housing unit between prisoners. From there it quickly escalated to a fight, then stabbing. Other prisoners who were obligated to fight, jumped in. The pigs watched for a little while before locking everyone in. Everyone knew this was now a gladiator match. SCDC is known for this. From there, blood poured. Graphic video inside Lee County Prison. Once again, when they ask why prisoners are striking in the future, remind them of this. Pigs created these death traps, now we are saying enough is enough! Time 4 changes burntheprisons <https://www.burntheprisons.com>: Other units got word and started fighting to the death. This was once again hours later. I have to emphasize here, SCDC set the conditions for this to happen. Everyone knew this day was coming based on the living conditions being enforced by the prison and SCDC policies. Broadly speaking, what are conditions like in SC prisons? SC prisons are one of the most inhumane prison systems in the country. It houses prisoners with little to no rehabilitation programs, limited fresh air activities, recreation to any degree is becoming none existence at level 3 prisons, no meaningful way to address grievances, and eating diets that has prisoners malnourished. The majority of prisoners days are spent idly. Getting high, fighting, drinking, or trying to come up with food to eat. We often hear about overcrowding in in the media, is this the only reason that such things explode as they do? No, overcrowding is not the only reason prisons blow up. Prisons blow up because of conditions created by prison officials. This can be over food, housing, physical abuses, denial of basic human necessities repeatedly, not addressing prisoners grievances, and the list goes on. So lets just say, you handle or treat prisoners fucked up for too long, you can expect a major problem to eventually develop. What is the role of the guards in all of this? Those pigs are full of shit. Prisoners already know staff are as dangerous as the most dangerous prisoners. In the SC Lee tragedy, they refused to end it when it was stoppable. Or even when it calmed down. You see, it would calm down then crank right back up after everyone rested up. Lee staff will claim immunity. They maybe covered by a policy they have in which security can make an on the spot call to abandon their posts. The worst cases to be noted was at Lieber correctional in and Prisoners were left and locked in for 8 hours in gladiator matches. When prisoners complained for medical treatment, it was denied. These prisoners were threaten by prison officials with worst treatment if they filed complaints. It was all swept under the rug. I hear since this incident, those cases maybe being reopened by investigators. SC prisoners been rebelling against growing disaster in the state. Can you hear the south yet pic. Conditions that breeds anger, desperation, and violence. How does the prison authorities react when something like this happens on the inside? The usual routine is to lock us in cells, search everyone, investigate, place on lock up those involved, then back to routine in a few days or weeks in the same conditions or with further restrictions. This may play out different. Too many pictures and recordings taken by prisoners made public of dead humans that died brutally. What would a prisoner led movement against these hostilities and violence look like inside? We have to have clear lines of communications, know we are not each other enemies. Prisoners currently are more unified on reactionary activities than those actions that make a difference. We do have better communications with each other, but we will not stop each other from acts of criminal violence against each other. This has been a long standing problem in prisons. This is why we have to think beyond prisons. The Pelican Bay Hunger strike called for an end to hostilities across racial lines as a way of uniting the prisoner class against the institution. What do you think about such a call? Such calls are made at varying degrees in prisons across the country by prisoners. None of us want to live in slaughterhouses. Prisoners make pacts, but at times those pacts are violated. SC groups and races have understandings. But there is always a violation that action on is viewed as justified.

Chapter 6 : Cheap Prison Phone Calls | Affordable Inmate Calling Solutions | Pigeonly

Disempowering prisoners and ex-felons results in a class of citizens still subject to the laws of the United States but without a voice in the way they are governedâ€”not unlike taxation without.

Chapter 7 : America's Prisoners - Break Point

Even the most chronic or hardened inmates have basic rights that are protected by the U.S. blog.quintoapp.com you are

facing incarceration, or if you have a family member or friend who is in prison or jail, you should know about inmates' rights.

Chapter 8 : Why Prisoners Deserve the Right to Vote - POLITICO Magazine

a. Prison Voicemail enables you to leave voice messages for a specific prisoner in a prison that has approved our service. You can leave a message by dialling your unique Prison Voicemail number. The prisoner can receive the message by dialling the same number from the phone system in the prison. b.