



Justice Action: Submission to the Royal  
Commission into the Protection and  
Detention of Children in the Northern  
Territory

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## Executive Summary

In 2016, ABCTV's Four Corners investigation revealed the brutal mistreatment of young males in the Northern Territory's juvenile justice system. It aired graphic footage and images of injustices committed between 2010 and 2015 in Darwin's Don Dale Detention Centre. It showed detainees as young as thirteen repeatedly stripped naked and physically abused. They were forcefully restrained, placed in solitary confinement for extended periods of time and tear-gassed in confined spaces. This treatment constitutes torture and violates Australia's obligations under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT) treaty. This endemic violence is directly attributable to insufficient transparency of the criminal justice system. In order to comply with our international obligations under OPCAT, these contraventions must be rectified.

At the Human Rights Commission Seminar on the adoption of the OPCAT treaty on 25 November 2009, Justice Action represented all detainees, including youth, and proposed the following recommendations, supported by world-leading expert on torture, Silvia Casale.

- The use of Inmate Development Committees (IDCs)
- The use of existing technology, such as video cameras, to facilitate communication to the OPCAT National Preventative Mechanism (NPM)
- Providing detainees with secure communication to NPN through computers in cells
- Strengthening NGOs to become independent of government funding.

A copy of our recommendations has been included as Appendix B. None of these have been implemented and could have potentially prevented the abuse at Don Dale.

Technological access in prisons would allow of community engagement and accountability for the development of prisoner education, mental health services, empowerment and self-management. Justice Action once again proposes the implementation of computers in cells, to safely and securely maximise time spent during incarceration. Justice Action's submission to the Royal Commission proposes three approaches to empower, educate and counsel youth detainees in the Northern Territory Criminal Justice System.

In sections one and two we will provide a brief history of our organisation and the current state of the justice system. This will be centred on our proposals to reform the system by increasing detainee engagement, the provision of computers in cells, and mentoring.

Section three contends that community engagement is essential to the effective rehabilitation of young offenders. Involvement in a community fosters understanding and support, provides an opportunity for personal expression and enables young offenders to draw upon the experiences of others. This platform is integral to the process of rehabilitation as it empowers young offenders to be vocal about their concerns and to be actively involved in their development.

Section four outlines our proposal for computers in cells. Despite consensus across all Australian jurisdictions that education is of paramount importance for youth detainees, and despite adult offenders in some Australian jurisdictions having access to computers in cells for many years, a framework for the provision of computers in cells has not been implemented in the Northern Territory Juvenile Justice system. This service is indispensable on communication and education. Without it young offenders struggle to effectively access the resources required to further their self-development and rehabilitation. Computers in cells would enable detainees to access to trusted counsellors through external providers capable of providing support that continues throughout an individual's sentence and after release. Computers would also empower detainees to develop the self-management skills necessary for further educational and personal development.

Finally, in section five we contend that a restorative justice approach is needed to rehabilitate and empower young offenders. We suggest peer mentoring would provide the much needed opportunity for young offenders to interact with positive role models who understand their points of view and can relate to their experiences. Ultimately, this will lead to improved detainee mental health and strengthened communities ties, with benefits flowing across the youth justice network.

# 1. Justice Action: Our Beliefs and Work

Justice Action (JA) represents individuals locked in Australian prisons and hospitals, defending human rights in the hardest places. Our supporters include prisoners, victims, families, students, lawyers, judges, members of Parliament, the media and many others, all contributing our skills, knowledge, talents and support to redress the injustices of our judicial system.

We work at local, national, and international levels with organisations including the Community Justice Coalition, and the International Conference on Penal Abolition (ICPA), as we work against human rights abuses within Australia's criminal justice system. In order for us to be independent from the government and consumer controlled, our work is funded through social enterprise '*Breakout Media Communications.*'

JA defends the rights of detainees against abuses of authority and gives a voice to vulnerable individuals who are marginalised within the criminal justice system. We believe that in order to facilitate positive change in Australia's criminal justice and mental health systems, the voices of incarcerated individuals must be respected, and embraced as part of the solution.

JA aims to improve the social and mental health of prisoners and involuntary patients by providing prisoner advocacy, mental health, and court support. We also engage in policy development, initiate campaigns, build networks among prisoners and the wider community, and liaise with stakeholders. JA empowers incarcerated individuals by facilitating their access to the tools and information required to defend their rights and development.

Our work in Juvenile Justice is informed by the voices, perspectives, and lived experiences of juvenile detainees. We have a longstanding and ongoing commitment to the needs of juvenile offenders and to our work with the NSW Youth Justice Coalition. This is demonstrated by co-hosting of the Juvenile Justice forum on Justice Reinvestment in 2011, by representing juvenile detainees at the national 2017 Juvenile Justice Summit, and representing offenders including young detainees at the Human Rights Commission 2009 Seminar on the negotiations for the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT).<sup>1</sup> JA was

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<sup>1</sup> Justice Action, *OPCAT Seminar 25, 2009* (2009)  
<<http://www.justiceaction.org.au/images/OPCATpaprJA251109.pdf>>.

also the keynote speaker at a 2016 forum in Darwin discussing the management and protection of juvenile offenders following the Don Dale exposure.

## 2. The Failure of the Juvenile Justice System

Juvenile justice is an area of immense failure and national concern. The rate of reoffending is twice as high as adult offenders.<sup>2</sup> Nationally, 794 young people are in detention on average per day.

The overrepresentation of minority groups further demonstrates the inadequacy of the current system; for example, Indigenous youths are 25 times more likely to face detention than non-Indigenous youths.<sup>3</sup> In the Northern Territory, these issues are particularly pronounced. In 2014, it was reported that 96% of juvenile offenders were Indigenous Australians.<sup>4</sup> Between 2015 and 2016, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare reported that the rate of Indigenous young people aged 10 to 17, under supervision on an average day, was 120 per 10,000 compared to 5 per 10,000 for non-Indigenous young people.<sup>5</sup>

The current failures of the juvenile justice system are unacceptable and place an immense burden on Australian taxpayers. It costs an average of \$1,391 per child per day nationally, equating to over \$500,000 per year.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 'Youth Justice in Australia 2015-16' (media release, March 2017) <<http://www.aihw.gov.au/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=60129559053>>.

<sup>4</sup> Pippa Rudd, *State of imprisonment: if locking 'em up is the goal, NT's a success* (2015) <<http://theconversation.com/state-of-imprisonment-if-locking-em-up-is-the-goal-nts-a-success-39185>>.

<sup>5</sup> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 'Northern Territory: youth justice supervision in 2015-16' (Media Release, March 2017) <<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail/?id=60129559091>>.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

### 3. Detainee Engagement

To improve community understandings of the issue of child protection we must acknowledge the vulnerability of young offenders and include their voices in the conversation regarding the injustices they face. A high proportion of incarcerated youths are affected by poor education, abusive and traumatic homes, and substance abuse. Yet, the existing institutions fail to focus on their successful rehabilitation.<sup>7</sup> Recognition that individuals living in custody are a community in their own right is essential. Youth in detention have a common experience and common background.

JA has repeatedly called attention to problems regarding the lack of involvement of detainees in discussions concerning the justice system. We note that the recent National Juvenile Justice Summit included no speakers with the experiences and authority to advocate directly on behalf of juvenile offenders and maintain that it is exactly this attitude that allowed the Don Dale abuse to become part of the Northern Territory juvenile justice culture. It is easier to take control, to dictate terms for change, and to blame the individual child for failure. However, motivation to change theory says it clearly: no change happens without the process of engagement and adoption of the ideas by those involved. The juvenile justice system must substantially increase dialogue with young offenders if it is to face and resolve the issues the issues currently affecting it. We include our statement concerning the Juvenile Justice Summit as appendix C and urge the commission to take action to correct the ongoing exclusion of young offenders from discussions about how we can reform a justice system that has repeatedly failed to protect them from harm.

At the Human Rights Commission (HRC) Seminar on the adoption of the OPCAT treaty on 25 November 2009, Justice Action represented the detainees of the Don Dale Detention Centre and proposed the following recommendations, which were supported by world-leading expert on torture Silvia Casale.

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<sup>7</sup> Chris Cuneen, Barry Goldson and Sophie Russell, 'Juvenile Justice, Young People and Human Rights in Australia' (2016) 28(2) *Current Issues in Criminal Justice* 173.

(1) Prisoner committees continue to monitor conditions, provide training and present collective concerns.

(2) Video surveillance in high security cells be used as communication devices to allow complaints.

The adoption of these recommendations would have prevented the atrocities that have occurred in Northern Territory.

Regular engagement with young offenders as part of the solution is the first step in reform. Allowing them to express themselves will enable them to take control of their lives and personal development. Surveys, videos and music conducted by the youth are all part of their entitlement to expression and must be encouraged. Channels of communication to the wider community and the media must be established to ensure young offenders have the ability to maintain relationships, community and cultural connections, and alert the media or regulatory authorities to abuse committed against them. Through the provision of resources such as computers in cells young offenders would gain an invaluable tool for self-expression, thus improving understanding of their circumstances. Significant and fundamental reform is hence required to achieve lasting, generational improvements to the lives of these children, as well as their families and wider communities.

Current systems intended to protect detainees from abuse have failed. Young detainees are often reluctant to file complaints due to the - realistic or assumed - possibility of reprisals from guards. It is vital that detainees are provided with communication with the wider community and the media to ensure that never again can crimes committed against them remain hidden and unnoticed behind prison walls. JA also contends that the Children's Commissioner should attend and inspect detention centres regularly to proactively identify issues rather than waiting for complaints to arise.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

## 4. Computers in Cells: Reforms & Future Directions

Justice Action proposes access to computers in cells for juvenile offenders in order to address the failure of the justice system to empower, educate and counsel youth offenders. We submit that computers in cells would significantly increase opportunities for education and minimise social isolation of the detainees. Ultimately, this would contribute to the rehabilitation of young offenders.

The destructive consequences of a lack of engagement were evident in the abuse of young boys in the Don Dale Detention Centre. There, detainees as young as thirteen were repeatedly stripped naked, thrown against walls, forcefully restrained, placed in solitary confinement for extended periods and sprayed with tear gas in a confined space.<sup>9</sup> The actions constituted torture and a blatant violation of Australia's obligations under the UN Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture. Yet these violations only came to light due to ABC's Four Corners Program's investigation. The Royal Commission's measures and inquiry have come too late.

All jurisdictions maintain the importance of education for youth offenders in detention. In a technological age, where teenagers are digital natives, access to computers would greatly enhance opportunities for education. In 2017, Corrective Services New South Wales (CSNSW) confirmed "the importance of giving inmates access to computers for education and rehabilitation was recognised".<sup>10</sup>

The fundamental aim of juvenile detention is rehabilitation.<sup>11</sup> Education plays a key role in achieving this aim,<sup>12</sup> and it can be facilitated by the provision of computers in cells. Higher quality education for youth offenders can also reduce recidivism rates.<sup>13</sup> It is now

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<sup>9</sup> Caro Meldrum-Hanna and Elise Worthington, 'Evidence of 'torture' of children held in Don Dale detention centre uncovered by Four Corners', *ABC News* (online) 26 July 2016 <<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-07-25/four-corners-evidence-of-kids-tear-gas-in-don-dale-prison/7656128>>.

<sup>10</sup> Sky News, 'Ex judge pushes for computers in jail cells' (Media Release, 21 April 2017) <<http://www.skynews.com.au/news/national/nsw/2017/04/21/ex-judge-pushes-for-computers-in-jail-cells.html>>.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>12</sup> Report for the Minister for Juvenile Justice, *Review of Effective Practice in Juvenile Justice* (2010) <<http://www.juvenile.justice.nsw.gov.au/Documents/Juvenile%20Justice%20Effective%20Practice%20Review%20FINAL.pdf>>.

<sup>13</sup> NDTAC, *Fact Sheet: Juvenile Justice Education* (2011) <<http://www.neglected-delinquent.org/sites/default/files/NDFactSheet.pdf>>.

commonplace that most educational courses require access to a computer and the lack of access in cells is a significant barrier to education for detainees.<sup>14</sup>

Despite this, no jurisdiction has effectively implemented computers in cells. The lack of access to technology for juveniles in detention centres has been said to be a “significant shortfall” in relation to prisoner education.<sup>15</sup> In addition, “more use needs to be made of diagnostically detailed individual learning plans linked to rehabilitation plans.”<sup>16</sup>

The importance of computer in cells goes beyond education. Implementing technology would lessen the social isolation that juvenile offenders face.<sup>17</sup> Computers would provide access to family, peers, external authorities and counselling in a safe and efficient way.

In addition to these advantages of computers in cells, a study conducted by Wagner et al highlighted that online cognitive behavioural therapy can be more successful in facilitating rehabilitation efforts than face-to-face therapy.<sup>18</sup> The study surveyed 62 patients, who participated in either online or face-to-face forms of therapy for an 8-week treatment course. The results taken from a 3-month follow-up of the study were in favour of online services. They remained at a stable level, which is contrasted to the face-to-face group showing a declining level of depressive symptoms. Considering how the physical and emotional vulnerabilities of children are heightened compared to adult inmates, the effect of detention can be even more traumatic for children.<sup>19</sup> Opportunities that assist in mental health

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<sup>14</sup> Justice Action, *Computers in Cells* (2012)  
<<http://www.justiceaction.org.au/images/JusticeReformPapers/computers%20in%20cells%20pdf.pdf>>, 2.

<sup>15</sup> Jim Dellit and Jillian Dellit, *Development of an Effective Services Delivery Model for Victoria’s Youth Justice Custodial Clients* (15 July 2011)  
<<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programs/pathways/youthpartnerships/Development%20of%20an%20Effective%20Services%20Delivery%20Model%20for%20Victoria’s%20Youth%20Justice%20Custodial%20Clients.pdf>>, 4.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> Justice Action, *Computers in Juvenile cells* (2016)  
<[http://www.justiceaction.org.au/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=886&Itemid=1487](http://www.justiceaction.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=886&Itemid=1487)>.

<sup>18</sup> Birgit W. Wagner et al., “Internet-based versus face-to-face cognitive behavioural intervention for depression: a randomized controlled non-inferiority trial” (2013) *Journal of Affective Disorders*.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

development and support are paramount to rehabilitation and without help, the risk of future social and developmental consequences are substantially high.<sup>20</sup>

Using computers in cells also enables youth offenders to act and interact, rather than partaking in passive activities, such as watching the television. With access to resources available on computers detainees could thus use the 18 hours of time they spend in isolation more productively to achieve empowerment and self-management.

The ACT adult system has had computers in cells with access to the internet through a safe server for the past 9 years. The Alexander Maconochie Centre in ACT has a high standard of computer security measures to minimise abuse.<sup>21</sup> Due to this measure and other developments, the Alexander Maconochie Centre is recognised as Australia's first human rights prison.<sup>22</sup> University of Southern Queensland's Connecting4Success program received a national award at the Australian Awards for University teaching in 2016, for its profound contribution to the higher education of prisoners.<sup>23</sup> Its projects used interactive course materials and activities on digital technologies without the need for internet access.

Considering that internet access is widely prohibited in Australian prisons, and in light of the success of this program, a similar program should be implemented within the juvenile justice system. Such a program would increase employment prospects, reduce recidivism rates and further the education and personal development of young offenders if tailored to their needs.

Our proposal is that providing detainees with computers in their cells would allow them easy access to education, counselling, legal resources and communication with family members, and will decrease rates of recidivism.<sup>24</sup> A safe-server system costs \$230,000 for installation

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<sup>20</sup> Australian Law Reform Commission, *Seen and Heard: Priority for Children in the Legal Process* (1997) Report 84, [20.22].

<sup>21</sup> Justice Action, *Online Counselling in Prison Cells* (1 July 2014) Justice Action, 10 <<http://www.justiceaction.org.au/cms/images/stories/CmpgnPDFs/onlineconsellng310714.pdf>>.

<sup>22</sup> The Alexander Maconochie Centre: Australia's first human rights prison (Directed by Dr John Paget and Dr Helen Watchirs, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, 2010).

<sup>23</sup> University of Southern Queensland, *National recognition for USQ program educating prisoners* (2016) <<https://www.usq.edu.au/news-events/news/2016/12/connecting4success-national-award-2016>>.

<sup>24</sup> Australian Law Reform Commission, *Seen and Heard: Priority for Children in the Legal Process* (1997) Report 84, [20.22].

in a large prison.<sup>25</sup> The relatively small cost of this is acceptable because access to computers is the “natural tool in relation to expanding access to various educational options outside prisons.”<sup>26</sup>

## 5. Peer Mentoring: A Restorative Justice Approach

JA contends that the restorative justice approach, focusing on empowering youth offenders, is essential. Restorative justice approaches such as peer mentoring between ‘at risk’ young people and their ‘pro-social’ peers allows offenders to develop a beneficial relationship with someone who has similar background and experiences to them.<sup>27</sup> Providing young offenders with role models who understand their situation can enable youth offenders to envision a positive future, as there is substantial evidence that mentor programs can result in improvements in young offenders’ risk behaviour and psychosocial development.<sup>28</sup> JA proposes a greater focus on mentoring that builds ‘a relationship of mutual trust, friendship and support’.<sup>29</sup>

The Women’s Justice Network mentoring scheme has a success rate of 93% for women not returning to prison.<sup>30</sup> Internationally, there are similar successful programs taking off in the United Kingdom (UK), United States (US), Ireland and Sweden.<sup>31</sup> A report found that an

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<sup>25</sup> Community Justice Coalition, ‘NSW Needs Computers In Cells’ (Media Release, 20 April 2017) <<http://www.communityjusticecoalition.org/archive/domestic-violence-prevention-online-services-for-prisoners>>.

<sup>26</sup> NCVER, *Vocational Education and Training for Adult Prisoners and Offenders in Australia: Research Readings* (2007), 20.

<sup>27</sup> Justice Action, *Investing in Youth* (2011) <<http://www.justiceaction.org.au/images/Youth/JJForumMtoringJReinvest.pdf>>, 7.

<sup>28</sup> Noetic, *Review of Effective Practice in Juvenile Justice* (2010) <<http://www.juvenile.justice.nsw.gov.au/Documents/Juvenile%20Justice%20Effective%20Practice%20Review%20FINAL.pdf>>, 36

<sup>29</sup> Justice Action, *Investing in Youth* (2011) <<http://www.justiceaction.org.au/images/Youth/JJForumMtoringJReinvest.pdf>>, 7.

<sup>30</sup> ABC News, *Women prisoners avoid reoffending with help of mentoring program* (2017) <<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-03-03/women-prisoners-avoid-reoffending-mentoring-program/8320156>>

<sup>31</sup> Josie Taylor, Reformed offenders ‘missing link’ to slashing prisoner numbers, research suggests’, *ABC News* (online) 24 August 2016 <<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-08-24/reformed-offenders-missing-link-to-slashing-prisoner-numbers/7772478>>.

Offender Mentoring program in the UK that used reformed offenders as mentors, had nearly a 90% success rate in participants completely stopped, or significantly reduced their offending.<sup>32</sup> The findings show that there is more respect and longevity to this style of mentoring, because there are comparable circumstances and a level of understanding that is void in assisted mentoring programs. The incredibly encouraging results are something to embrace and implement for our juveniles, as there could be drastic repercussions for the trajectory of their lives in keeping them out of the criminal justice system.

Peer mentors would provide juvenile justice detainees with support and guidance while they are both in and outside the system.<sup>33</sup> This support empowers the individual to take control of their own rehabilitation by providing a positive and realistic expectation of what they could achieve.

## 6. Conclusion

Evidently, there is a pressing need for fundamental reform of the youth criminal justice system in the Northern Territory. At JA, we stress the importance of giving juvenile offenders the opportunity to express themselves and interact with other people. In our technological age, it is particularly important to recognise the digital environment and the necessity of implementing computers in cells. To isolate and suppress youth offenders is to deny them the chance of rehabilitation.

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<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

<sup>33</sup> Ibid.

## Appendix A – Royal Commission Questions

*1. Question posed by the Royal Commission Issues Paper-Child Protection. This paper addresses the following questions in their enquiry:*

- 1. Does the current child protection system in the NT fully realise the best interests of the child principle?*
- 2. How does this operate in practice in the NT? Should there be further mechanisms/structures in place to ensure the best interest of the child remains a key consideration within the child protection system?*
- 3. Are the current oversight mechanisms, including the Northern Territory Children’s Commissioner, sufficient? If not, what additional mechanisms or structures are needed?*
- 4. What are the priority areas for reform in child protection?*
- 5. What specific reforms should be considered or proposed?*
- 6. What type of family support and early intervention services are needed in the Northern Territory to provide support to children and their families in order to prevent them from coming into contact with the child protection system? What changes to services, and service delivery, are needed to ensure they are culturally appropriate and reach those that need it most?*
- 7. Considering children within the child protection system are particularly vulnerable, is there enough emphasis on therapeutic service approaches within the current system?*
- 8. To what extent should government agencies and service providers work together to provide co-ordinated support and services to children and their families with multiple or complex needs?*

## Appendix B – JA Leaflet, 6<sup>th</sup> Juvenile Justice Summit



The failures of the current system can be directly attributed to the lack of the voice of juvenile offenders in discussions concerning their diversion, incarceration and rehabilitation. People talk about them and never with them. With the stated aim of the juvenile justice system being to rehabilitate offenders and with individual empowerment being linked to rehabilitation, this lack of consumer voice is dishonest. The money is spent for others in the industry and not for them.

### Failure

Juvenile justice is an area of immense failure, expense and national concern. The rate of reoffending is twice as high as adult offenders.<sup>1</sup> Nationally, 794 young people are in detention on average per day.<sup>2</sup> It costs an average of \$1,391 per child per day federally - over \$½million a year.

Considering that it costs taxpayers so much, the current failures of the juvenile justice system are unacceptable. The overrepresentation of minority groups further demonstrates the inadequacy of the current system, as Indigenous youths are 25 times more likely to end up in a detention centre.<sup>3</sup>

### Computers in cells.

While all jurisdictions officially mention the importance of education for youth offenders in detention, no jurisdiction has implemented computers in cells that would allow it to effectively happen. But it is much more than that. It lessens the social isolation using modern technology. Education is mandatory and teens are digital natives. It replaces passive TV watching. It gives them access to family, peers, external authorities, and counselling in a safe efficient way.

The lack of access to technology for juveniles in detention centres has been said to be a “significant shortfall” in relation to prisoner education.<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, “more use needs to be made of diagnostically detailed individual learning plans linked to rehabilitation plans.”<sup>5</sup>

Counselling using computers in cells allow the detainees to 1) properly use the up to eighteen hours a day they spend in bored isolation; 2) external providers of therapies generate greater trust and choice; 3) stability of service providers through the detention and after release; 4) some empowerment and self-management; 5) research indicates that online is actually more effective than face to face counselling; and it is 6) relatively cheap.

The ACT adult system has had computers in cells with access to the internet through a safe server for the past nine years.

The aim of the juvenile detention is supposed to be the rehabilitation of the juvenile offenders.<sup>6</sup> A key part of this rehabilitation is education,<sup>7</sup> which can be facilitated by the provision of computers into the cells of prisoners. Education of youth offenders also works to reduce rates of recidivism.<sup>8</sup> It is now commonplace that most educational courses require access to a computer and this provides a significant barrier to education for detainees.<sup>9</sup>

Our proposal is that providing detainees with computers in their cells would allow them easy access to education, counselling, legal resources and communication with family members and will decrease rates of recidivism.<sup>10</sup> Access to computers is the “natural tool in relation to expanding access to various educational options outside prisons.”<sup>11</sup> A safe server system costs only \$230,000 for installation in a large prison.

### Mentoring.

The restorative justice approach, which focuses on empowering youth offenders is essential. Linked to that is peer mentoring, which allows offenders to develop a beneficial relationship with someone who has a similar background and experiences to them.<sup>12</sup> Role models and employment of young people who have transcended their problems is key.

The [Women's Justice Network](#) mentoring scheme has a success rate of 93% of women not returning to prison. The mentors would provide juvenile justice detainees with support and guidance, working within the system and outside.<sup>13</sup> This support empowers the individual to take control of their own rehabilitation by providing them with a positive and realistic expectation of what they could achieve.



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<sup>1</sup> Australian Institute of Criminology, *Juvenile Offenders* (2007) < [http://www.aic.gov.au/files/13/for\\_minidocs/juvenilesthrp/](http://www.aic.gov.au/files/13/for_minidocs/juvenilesthrp/) >

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, *Youth Justice in Australia 2015-16* (March 2017) < <http://www.aihw.gov.au/WorkArea/download.aspx?id=6012958063> >

<sup>4</sup> Jim Doherty and Jillian Doherty, *Development of an Effective Services Delivery Model for Victoria's Youth Justice Custodial Clients* (15 July 2011)

< <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/Documents/about/programofcollaborativepartnerships/development%20of%20a%20effective%20services%20delivery%20model%20for%20custodial%20clients.pdf> >. 4

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> Australian Law Reform Commission, *Seen and Heard: Priority for Children in the Legal Process* (1997) Report 84, [2022].

<sup>7</sup> Report for the Minister for Juvenile Justice, *Review of Effective Practice in Juvenile Justice* (2010) < <http://www.juvenilejustice.nsw.gov.au/Documents/Review%20of%20Practice%20Review%20Final%20v>

<sup>8</sup> NDJAG Fact Sheet, *Juvenile Justice Education* (2011) < <http://www.ndjag.vic.gov.au/files/default.asp?fileid=333&ext=.pdf> >

<sup>9</sup> Justice Action, *Computers in Cells* (2012) < <http://www.justiceaction.org.au/images/juvenilesthrp/compil%20in%20cells%20final.pdf> >. 2

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>11</sup> NCJ 197, *Vocational Education and Training for Adult Prisoners and Offenders in Australia: Research Readings* (2007), 20.

<sup>12</sup> Justice Action, *Investing in Youth* (2011) < [http://www.justiceaction.org.au/images/youth\\_investing\\_in\\_youth.pdf](http://www.justiceaction.org.au/images/youth_investing_in_youth.pdf) >. 7

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, 8.

## Appendix C – OPCAT Leaflet 2009



community to be independent of government funding and coordinating information to assist the NPM.

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## B Treaties

*Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT)*, opened for signature on 18 December 2002, A/RES/57/199 (entered into force 22 June 2006)

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