

ABI CLARKE

Exploring Verbal Abuse, Threats and Assault on Prison Staff by Examining Incident Reports.

This research aims to further understand the exact relationship between verbal abuse and threats with subsequent physical violence to prevent future prison violence from prisoners towards staff. Prison violence remains a significant issue around the world because of the negative impact it has on correctional staff's mental and physical well-being. Prison officers commonly experience verbal abuse and threats. A threat is a verbal utterance that states the intent to cause harm by actualising the stated intentions (Geurts et al., 2016). Verbal abuse is an utterance used to insult or psychologically harm the listener (Johnson et al., 2006). These two different categories of verbal incidents can be used by prisoners to inflict harm or manipulate prison staff. Although prison staff often regard verbal abuse and threats as a normal part of managing prisoners, they may affect well-being, and predict prison staff burnout (Boudoukha et al., 2011). This research aims to better understand these different types of verbal altercations and examine whether they are also predictors for physical violence on staff members when covariates such as security level are controlled for.

Outputs: Full draft dissertation complete



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