



Crosslines: Money, Values & Justice

Intervention using immersive technology by Sage Godrei 27/06/2023

Creative Producer & Writer at On the Cusp Productions

Meeting Global

Humanitarian Standards

The Australian youth justice system is in need of urgent reform. The current system is inhumane and under international standards, and it fails to meet the needs of young people who have come into conflict with the law.

One of the most serious problems with the current system is that children as young as 10 can be incarcerated. This is in violation of international law, which prohibits the imprisonment of children under the age of 14. In addition, children who are incarcerated in Australia are often held in solitary confinement, which can have a devastating impact on their mental health.

Another problem with the current system is that it does not focus on rehabilitation. Instead, it focuses on punishment. This means that young people who are incarcerated are more likely to reoffend after they are released.

"In 2020, 499 children aged between 10 and 13 were imprisoned. At least 65% of them are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children. 68% of all children in detention were on remand, meaning they were yet to be convicted."

From the Guardian Newspaper

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2021/jul/27/jailing-of-nearly-500-children-under-13-a-failure-by-australias-top-legal-officers-advocates-say#:~:text=In%202020%2C%20499%20children%20aged,be%20convicted%20of%20any%20crime.>

Startling statistics

Although the states of VIC and QLD are reporting increasing rates of juvenile delinquents. The following figures are a clear indication that Indigenous children are disproportionately represented in the Australian youth justice system:

- In the Northern Territory, Indigenous children make up 96% of all children in detention who are under the age of 14.
- In Western Australia, Indigenous children make up 70% of all children in detention who are under the age of 14.
- In Queensland, Indigenous children make up 50% of all children in detention who are under the age of 14.

The major factors that contribute to this overrepresentation, including:

- The disproportionate impact of poverty and disadvantage on Indigenous communities.
- The over-policing of Indigenous communities.
- The lack of culturally appropriate services for Indigenous children who have come into conflict with the law.

The overrepresentation of Indigenous children in the Australian youth justice system is a serious problem that needs to be addressed.



Environmental Impacts of Policy

Reforming the youth justice system is essential to protecting the rights of young people and ensuring that they have the opportunity to succeed in life. It is also important for the environment. By making these reforms, Australia can send a message that it is committed to protecting the rights of young people and the planet preventing mistakes made from a myopic outlook.

The Importance of Environmental Sustainability

In addition to reforming its youth justice system, Australia also needs to do more to address the environmental impact of its government policies. Australia is currently ranked 55th out of 63 countries in the Climate Change Index 2023. This means that Australia is not doing enough to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the effects of climate change. The youth are the future, and they are the ones who will be most affected by climate change. If Australia wants to give its youth a reason to live, it needs to show more concern for the future of the world and the environmental impact of its policies.

There are a number of things that Australia can do to improve its environmental sustainability. First, it needs to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels. Second, it needs to invest in renewable energy sources. Third, it needs to improve its energy efficiency. Finally, it needs to protect its forests and oceans.

By taking these steps, Australia can show the world that it is committed to protecting the environment and the future of its youth.

A Call For Reform

If the Australian government is serious about giving young people a reason to live, it must reform its youth justice system and improve its environmental record. This means:

- Ending the incarceration of children under the age of 14.
- Prohibiting the use of solitary confinement for children.
- Investing in early intervention and diversion programs to prevent young people from entering the justice system in the first place.
- Implementing a comprehensive environmental plan that will reduce Australia's carbon emissions and help the country adapt to the effects of climate change.

The current system is inhumane and under international standards, and it does nothing to help young people rehabilitate or reintegrate into society. The government must take action to reform the system and give young people a better future.

- The government should provide adequate funding for the implementation of the reform plan.
- The government should monitor the implementation of the reform plan and make adjustments as needed.
- Reforming the police to ensure that they are not disproportionately targeting Indigenous communities.



Youth Crime in Lower Income Brackets

There is a clear link between youth crime and lower income brackets. Children and young people who grow up in poverty are more likely to engage in criminal activity than those who grow up in more affluent circumstances.

There are a number of factors that contribute to this link. First, children who grow up in poverty are more likely to experience stressors such as family instability, violence, and neglect. These stressors can lead to emotional and behavioral problems, which can increase the risk of criminal behavior. Second, children who grow up in poverty are less likely to have access to resources that can help them succeed in school and in life. These resources include quality education, safe neighborhoods, and positive role models. As a result, they are more likely to drop out of school and become unemployed, which can also increase the risk of criminal behavior.

The Strain of Capitalist Values

Preventing youth crime in lower income brackets is essential to creating a more just and equitable society. By addressing the root causes of crime, we can help to ensure that all children have the opportunity to succeed in life.

The Importance of Belonging

Feeling like they belong to a community and have a sense of purpose can help to reduce the risk of criminal behaviour. The youth need to be shown that although money is required for survival there is more to life than the accumulation of wealth and the importance of making a contribution to society.

Preventing Youth Crime

There are a number of things that can be done to prevent youth crime in lower income brackets. These include:

- **Early intervention:** Providing early intervention services to children who are at risk of engaging in criminal activity can help to prevent them from going down the wrong path. These services can include parenting programs, mentoring programs, and after-school programs.
- **Improving education:** Providing quality education to all children, regardless of their income level, can help to reduce the risk of criminal behavior. This includes ensuring that all children have access to safe and well-funded schools.
- **Creating safe neighborhoods:** Creating safe neighborhoods where children can feel safe and supported can help to reduce the risk of criminal behavior. This includes providing affordable housing, access to parks and recreation, and community-based organizations.
- **Promoting positive role models:** Exposing children to positive role models can help to reduce the risk of criminal behavior. This includes providing opportunities for children to interact with positive adults, such as teachers, coaches, and mentors.



Youth Crime in Lower Income Brackets

Children and young people who live in poverty are more likely to engage in criminal activity than those who do not. This is due to a number of factors, including:

- **Lack of opportunity:** Children and young people who live in poverty often have fewer opportunities to succeed in life. They may not have access to quality education, healthcare, or employment. This can lead to feelings of frustration and hopelessness, which can make them more likely to turn to crime.
- **Exposure to violence:** Children and young people who live in poverty are more likely to be exposed to violence. This can include witnessing violence in their homes, schools, or neighbourhoods. This exposure to violence can desensitise them to violence and make them more likely to engage in it themselves.
- **Negative peer pressure:** Children and young people who live in poverty are more likely to be influenced by negative peer pressure. They may be surrounded by friends and family members who are involved in crime. This can make it more difficult for them to resist the temptation to engage in criminal activity themselves.
- **Social disorganisation:** Communities with high levels of poverty and social disorganisation are more likely to have high rates of crime. This is because these communities often lack the resources and support necessary to prevent crime and to help young people who are at risk of offending.

Outreach Pathways

Building Community

One way to prevent youth crime is to help children feel like they belong to a community. This means providing them with opportunities to get involved in community activities and to connect with positive role models. It also means creating a sense of belonging and shared purpose in the community.

Teaching Values

Another way to prevent youth crime is to teach children values and ways to contribute to the community. This means teaching them about the importance of hard work, honesty, and respect. Using reverse psychology in the attempt to harness their strengths, asking the offenders to counsel each other in groups and create role play workshops.

Traditional Ways of Life

In addition to teaching children values, it is also important to show them traditional ways of life that build character and self-respect. This means teaching them about the importance of hard work, discipline, and respect for elders. It also means teaching them about the importance of community and helping others.

Accomplishments Other Than Money

Finally, it is important to show children that there are other accomplishments besides the accumulation of copious amounts of money that create a good life. This means teaching them about the importance of family, friends, health, and happiness. It also means teaching them about the importance of making a difference in the world.



Innovation and Technology

Intervention to Prevent Youth Crime with Training Parents Who Have Difficult Children on How to Talk to Them

There is a growing body of evidence that suggests that intervention to prevent youth crime with training parents who have difficult children on how to talk to them could be effective. This type of intervention, known as parent management training (PMT), teaches parents how to set clear expectations, use positive reinforcement, and manage their children's behavior effectively.

PMT has been shown to be effective in reducing problem behaviors in children, such as aggression, defiance, and noncompliance. It has also been shown to reduce the risk of youth crime. A study published in the *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology* found that PMT was effective in reducing the risk of juvenile delinquency by 50%.

PMT is a relatively short-term intervention, typically lasting 12-14 weeks. It is delivered in a group format, with parents meeting with a therapist or other trained professional. During the sessions, parents learn how to use the PMT techniques in their own homes.

PMT is a promising intervention for preventing youth crime. It is a relatively short-term intervention that can be effective in reducing problem behaviors in children and reducing the risk of juvenile delinquency.

Benefits of VR Exposure Therapy

Virtual reality (VR) exposure therapy is a type of therapy that uses VR to help people with PTSD overcome their fear of traumatic memories. VR exposure therapy works by recreating the traumatic event in a safe and controlled environment. This allows the person to gradually confront their fear and learn to cope with it.

VR exposure therapy has been shown to be effective in reducing symptoms of PTSD. A study published in the journal *Behavior Therapy* found that VR exposure therapy was effective in reducing PTSD symptoms in veterans by 50%.

VR exposure therapy is a promising new treatment for PTSD. It is a safe and effective way to help people with PTSD overcome their fear of traumatic memories and live a more normal life.

Examples of VR Therapy Healing Mental Illness

VR therapy is also being used to treat other mental illnesses, such as anxiety disorders, phobias, and eating disorders. For example, VR therapy has been used to help people with social anxiety disorder overcome their fear of public speaking.

In one study, people with social anxiety disorder were asked to give a speech in front of a group of people. Some of the people gave the speech in a real-world setting, while others gave the speech in a VR environment. The people who gave the speech in the VR environment reported feeling less anxious than the people who gave the speech in the real-world setting.

VR therapy is a promising new treatment for a variety of mental illnesses. It is a safe and effective way to help people with mental illnesses overcome their fears and live a more normal life.



Innovation and Technology

Neurogenerative Therapy such as Sound Healing Meditations

Neurogenerative therapy is a type of therapy that aims to improve the function of the brain. This can be done through a variety of methods, including sound healing meditations.

Sound healing meditations use sound waves to create a calming and relaxing effect. This can help to reduce stress, improve sleep, and boost mood. In addition, sound healing meditations can also help to improve cognitive function and memory.

One study published in the journal *Frontiers in Psychology* found that sound healing meditations can improve cognitive function in people with Alzheimer's disease. The study found that people who participated in sound healing meditations showed improvements in memory, attention, and processing speed.

Neurogenerative therapy is a promising new approach to treating a variety of neurological conditions. It is a safe and effective way to improve brain function and promote healing. I hope this answers your questions.

Community Media Programs

As a community media practitioner my responsibility is to help break harmful stereotypes, encourage positive thought & stimulate discussion. I'm developing a community media video strategy to engage the local business community by promoting the local identities in regional areas. Through the use of short videos giving insight and examples on how to talk to children and parenting tips we hope to create a more inclusive society encouraging cohesive relationships for all racial groups and socio-economic levels.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my perspectives on this subject. I'm developing a web-series that uses VR therapy to heal phobias and video games to optimise mental cognition and heal ADHD. From my unique experience having access to computers and technical learning aids during my formative years, although they were borrowed from my cousins, has left a lasting imprint on who I am today. I'd want to see all in the justice system, including remand centre workers, police, parents of delinquents and the offenders have access to VR therapy, for exposure to violence and transformative healing through meditation.

Mental Health, Cohesion & Inclusion

Animal therapy has been shown to be effective in reducing stress, anxiety, and aggression in children and adolescents. It can also help to improve self-esteem, social skills, and empathy. When coupled with other types of therapy, such as cognitive-behavioural therapy, animal therapy can be a powerful tool for helping juveniles who are conflicting with the law to find their moral compass.

Specifically, working with animals in zoos, vets and farms can teach juveniles the importance of responsibility, compassion, and respect for others. It can also help them to develop a sense of purpose and belonging. Additionally, the physical activity involved in working with animals can help to improve juveniles' physical and mental health.

Fruit picking, restoration after storm damage, and military training can also be effective in helping juveniles to develop a strong moral compass. These activities teach juveniles the importance of hard work, discipline, and teamwork. They can also help juveniles to develop a sense of pride and accomplishment improving self-esteem.