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STRATEGIES FOR REDUCING THE CRIMINAL POPULATION OF IRANIAN CENTRAL PRISONERS (CASE STUDY: EVIN PRISON, YEAR 2019)

Meysam ROSHANI

PhD Student in Criminal Law and Criminology, Islamic Azad University, Bushehr Branch, Bushehr, Iran.

ABSTRACT

The complex and intertwined factors greatly influence the quality of the population, based on the systematic view of social phenomena, which is now one of the most important and widely accepted views in expression. Man is relating to it, is involved in all phenomena and everything that has happened in a society and shaped the present state of society. Thus in a human society all issues affect all of them and all social factors are linked together like chains, and if there is a change or defect in one of those sectors, whether they affect one another or not. And then the whole system, which is the community, is affected. The research method in this research is a survey method using a questionnaire and is considered as an applied research. The reliability of the instrument according to Cronbach's alpha test for macro strategies is 0.78 and for micro strategies is 0.73. The statistical population of this study is the personnel of the Prisons, Justice and Judicial Offices in Tehran. The sampling method in this study is available and equal to 100 persons due to the limitation of the researcher's access to all personnel and judges. Data analysis was performed based on the nature of the data and the way the hypotheses were expressed in one-sample t-test using SPSS software.

Keywords: Prison Criminal Population, Prison Criminal Population Reduction Strategies, Macro Solutions, Micro Solutions

INTRODUCTION

Discussing alternative ways of incarceration is one of the topics that is rampant around the world today. It is natural that this will be important with the presence of 8 million women, men and children in world prisons. The existence of a criminal population of about 165,000 people makes this one of the main concerns of our penal system. Adding to this concern, in addition to the increasing costs of inmate detention, is the detrimental impact on prisoners' mental and physical health. Also, the detrimental effect of imprisonment on the family of prisoners, which sometimes disintegrates and distorts family members, should not be overlooked. Prison sentences are therefore not appropriate for perpetrators of unintentional offenses and minor offenses. In the implementation of the basic policies of the judiciary and since the presidency of the judiciary in the criminal policy of prison Islam is not regarded as a punishment, and only in the case of certain limited offenses to prevent harm that may be inflicted on the individual offender, To be used, detention is one of the most important programs of the judiciary. In Islam, prison is a law of education. Throughout history, the tendency to impose imprisonment has been a method for the rebels. In Islam there is no institution called jail, and the term "imprisonment" is not meant in jail. Therefore, the revision of the laws of the land is one of the essential tools for the implementation of the imprisonment permit scheme. In this regard, a Planning and Policy Council has been set up to reduce the use of prison sentences, which is responsible for implementing this strategic policy. The Executive Committee on the Reduction of Imprisonment

is composed of executive officers and experts who meet on average twice a month. The committee has so far taken effective steps in national policy and organized and implemented activities such as non-stringent penalties, the use of alternative prison sentences, the introduction of litigation to the dispute resolution councils. And noted the postponement of penalties. In this way, prisons can also implement their best educational and training programs for professionals. The Holy Quran has more emphasis on deceit and humanization than punishment for dealing with criminals. In many verses, God has advised reconciliation and pardon. (Assyria, 2003: 36)

Today, prisons have become a crisis because of the unnecessary increase in prisoners or the influx of criminal populations in the criminal justice system. The function of prisons is not evaluated as a place of positive punishment. Admittedly, this place only alienates the offender from the social environment for only a short time and may in turn have negative social, psychological and physical consequences on the prisoner. Because internal and external situations do not allow the prison to carry out its criminal and correctional duty as it deserves. Although precise statistics on the percentage of population growth in the country are not available, a study of some available statistics clearly indicates an increase in the number of prisoners in recent years. The most important reason in Iran today is that the prison population has become densely populated with the law being locked up. It is unavoidable to get out of the current situation and reduce the prison population and reform criminal laws as well as remand-in-law (by removing prison sentences and replacing other sentences or reducing prison sentences). In Iranian criminal law, imprisonment is the predominant punishment provided for most criminal acts, and imprisonment and emphasis on imprisonment have gone so far as to penalize minor offenses that do not in any way penalize the public conscience. Is considered. (Fatemi, 2003: 60)

The average criminal population in the country is above or below the global average, and our goal is to minimize this. This issue should be considered as a disability and sought to identify the causes and factors behind it. After this stage, the factors causing the crime must be eliminated so that the effect, which is the increase in the criminal population, is controlled and eliminated. Without identifying and eliminating the causes of crime and crime, it is not possible to control and reduce the disability. The complex and interdependent factors influence the quality of the population. According to the systematic view of social phenomena, which is now one of the most important and accepted views in the expression and explanation of societal issues, all factors, institutions and organizations and everything that exists in human society and human beings, in all phenomena and in any What has happened in a society and shapes the current state of society is involved. Thus in a human society all issues and issues do not affect all of them and all social factors are linked together like chains, and if there is a change or defect in one of those sectors, whether they affect one another or not. And then the whole system, which is the community, is affected. It is therefore inevitable to understand the prison population's strategies.

A) Theoretical Foundations

1. The concept of criminal number

The term "criminal population" refers to a group of persons who commit a punishable offense and are subject to imprisonment, conditional release, suspended custody and temporary detention or other penalties. But the "inmate population" is said to be serving a temporary



detention while in prison. (Assyria, 2003: 15) Some criminal scholars also refer to the "correctional population" and apply it to people who are under one form of correctional care, whether short or long term, with suspended care and probation. Therefore, the criminal population will be varied and varied depending on the type of crime committed and the specific criminal circumstances and how the criminal activity is used. In the meantime, the term criminal population mainly includes persons who have been sentenced to prison after committing the crime. Due to the widespread use of jail terms by lawmakers and criminal justice practitioners, the term is also used more in this regard, and every issue of the criminal population is referred to as the prison population. (Bullock, 2006)

2. Typology of the prison population

The pathological examination of the offender population and providing appropriate solutions to reduce the number of prisoners entering and leaving the prison requires a sufficient knowledge and understanding of the different types of prisoners in prison. The key question is, who are the current prison population? Are all prisoners sentenced to prison or defendants awaiting trial? Is the current prison population composed of deliberate and unintentional offenders? Do people without any crime also contribute to the growth of this criminal population?

In response to the above questions, it should be noted that the typology of the prison population does not produce satisfactory results .even it reflects a type of excess, heterogeneity, and deterrence in prison-based criminal policy. In general, different types of people are held in current Iranian prisons, including:

1-Defendants: The majority of the detainees are currently detained or awaiting trial on charges of imprisonment or failure to pay bail.

2-Convicts: Imprisoned or Real Prisoners: These include persons who have committed deliberate or unintentional offenses and are sentenced to imprisonment after being sentenced and sentenced to imprisonment.

3-Financial Convicts: These convicts are not considered guilty at all, but rather individuals who have been detained for non-payment of blood money, dowry and financial compensation, or on the claimant's request. he financial offenders are subject to Article 696 of the Islamic Penal Code and Article 2 of the Law on the Implementation of Financial Sentences (Bullock, 2006).

4-Convicts in Execution of Non-Prison Sentences: Some of the current population of prisons include those who are sentenced to serve sentences such as beatings, deportation, and the like, serving unjustified imprisonment until their sentences are executed.

5-Imprisonment for Cash Penalty: A group of inmates who are convicted of conspiracy to serve cash in lieu of cash penalties in accordance with Article 1 of the Penal Code, 77/8, for non-payment of a fine. (Silent, 2006: 42)

3. Criminal population reduction strategies

A crime-free and prison-free society is the cause of educated people and the rulers of justice. But achieving such a community is only possible in dreams. There have always been a number of people in the community who have committed crimes for various reasons and to control some of these criminals, prison seems to be the only cross-sectional and possible solution. Prison has a long history of human societies. However, there are questions about the functioning of the prison, such as: Has the prison achieved its intended objectives? At what stage should jail be



used? And how long should the prison sentence be use? Today, the ability of prisons to reform inmates and achieve the intended goals of the legislature has been in doubt. Experience in recent years has also shown that sending many people to prison is scientifically and reasonably traumatic. However, prison sentences are still widely used to deal with more criminals. At present, the prison population in Iran is three times larger than its capacity, and the capacity of prisons to reform prisoners has been severely compromised due to overcrowding. Sending drug addicts to jails is costly, and authorities need to halt this process quickly and prevent problems from escalating by sending them to treatment and addiction treatment centers. Unfortunately, the same thing happens with debtors. There is no acceptable reason to send people to jail for non-payment of debts, dues, alimony and debt resulting from traffic accidents. Because, in this case, not only the injured person does not get his or her right, but in most cases, More injuries to him as well as to the incarcerated person and to social and personal problems are compounded. There are obviously other ways to do this. Rationally, the prison is that can detain the offender and prevent further damage to society and others without harming the offender. Prisons can be divided into efficient and profitable prisons. In a profitable prison, in addition to keeping a person in prison, they are prepared to begin a successful, normal life after prison and release. Such a prison is also considered a profitable social institution. Unfortunately, most prisons now have a significant distance from the profitable prisons in terms of density, quality of buildings, and human resources, and only a few of the prisons in Iran have achieved a favorable status. Lack of space in some prisons is very worrying. The human resources are also very far from the desirable situation in terms of quantity and quality. The provision of specialized services such as psychiatry, psychology, legal, health, medical and care services is facing many shortcomings, and current staff are facing many pressures in prisons despite the lack of productivity. On the other hand, the credits allocated to the detention and exploitation of existing prisons are insufficient. (Goodarzi, 2004: 87)

The worrying point is that if prison is not useful and effective, it will be very devastating; That is to say, lack of adequate physical space and overcrowding of prisoners, causes widespread communicable diseases, creates psychological problems for prisoners and promotes crime in prisons and after release in society. Among the effects of inefficient and unproductive prisons are the spread of dangerous diseases such as AIDS, hepatitis and tuberculosis. In addition, the establishment of criminal gangs and the spread of crime within prisons and its association with crime in the community will be facilitated. However, if we run prisons with scientific and acceptable productivity, we will certainly guarantee the reduction of future potential crime and criminal populations and reduce material and social costs. In particular, the productivity of correction centers is very important in this regard. Criminal children and adolescents will act as future criminals if they are not reformed. Offender children and adolescents who are not properly trained in the correctional center will serve as future criminal centers. Given the importance of the learning period in such individuals, careful planning for their rehabilitation should be undertaken, with the space and expertise and credibility needed to improve them. (Wally, 1985: 30) Because, if unreformed, delinquent children and adolescents will act as future criminal centers Given the importance of the learning period in such individuals, careful planning for their rehabilitation should be undertaken, with the space and expertise and credibility needed to improve them. (Wally, 1985: 30) A look at the stats can better picture the current situation. Since the victory of the Islamic Republic of Iran so far, about eight million



people have been imprisoned, that is, about 30,000 people each year. During these years, the number of prisoners has been increasing more rapidly as the population has grown steadily. The population growth rate has not exceeded 3% in these years (currently 1.2%). However, the average growth rate of the prison population was about 9% and the growth rate of the prison population was about 7%. A statistical comparison between the country's population and the prison population shows that there are now 200 inmates per 100,000. This ratio is average compared to other countries. Less than 5% of the Iranian prison population is made up of women and less than 4% of the population is children and adolescents (12-18 years old). Unfortunately, the growth rate of female prisoners is slightly higher than that of male prisoners, which is a worrying trend, but this shows that women have expanded their social activities. In terms of age, the largest percentage of inmates are young people (19 to 25 years old). About 28 percent of the prison population belongs to this age group. More than 50% of the prison population is between 19 and 32 years old. More than 65% of the prison population is under 40 years of age. This indicates that the country's active population (working age) is more at risk of social and crime. The average age of prisoners is 30 years for men and 32 years for women. (Assuri, 1997: 63)

In terms of education, 80 percent of inmates are less than high school graduates. Eighty percent of these individuals are illiterate and studies show a significant relationship between literacy and crime. The important thing about education and crime is that the crime rate among teenagers who are expelled from school is very high. Education officials need to prevent them from being expelled from school in any way, and try to fix the problem, and after-school expenses should be spent inside the school maintaining and correcting the person. The relationship between work and crime can also be examined in various respects. The relationship between unemployment and crime is very significant. If we pay enough attention to providing social services, especially unemployment insurance, vocational training, and changing the education system to make graduates more effective, we will see lower social costs, especially the devastating costs of prisons. The highest crime rates are for drug offenders and drug addicts. Illegal drugs and drug addiction together account for 30% of prisoners' crimes. Crimes against individuals are about 18% and thefts about 12% are in the next ranks respectively. About 19 percent of the prison's entry is made up of people with criminal records. This index is considered one of the most important indicators of prison performance control and the lower this figure, the higher the level of prison capacity. It should be noted, however, that the proportion of people with a criminal record is approximately 37% of the total number of prisons. The results show that increasing the productivity of prisons can greatly affect this percentage; As a result, in prisons using proper prison practices, the rate has been reduced to 2%. Given the link between prison performance and the decline in the criminal population, it can be said that prisons by production methods can reduce the return of people to prison from 7% to 2%. In general, prisons can be economically harmful or productive and profitable, depending on macro-management policies. Proper management of prisons not only reduces social harm, but can also reduce material costs. The use of prisoners' labor force, in addition to the educational and rehabilitation effects for prisoners, also reduces the material costs of prisons and enhances the economic capacity of the prisoner and his family. (Najafi, 2004: 69)

On the other hand, alternative penalties in lieu of imprisonment can drastically reduce the criminal population of prisons. Therefore, such penalties seem desirable. Another way of reducing the potential penal population in prisons is to reduce the density of inmates and to



create educational, vocational, employment in closed prisons, and the development of open and semi-open prisons. The use of modern methods of detention can greatly reduce the detrimental economic and social impact of ineffective prisons. Lawmakers need to pay close attention to these issues. These include methods such as the use of home imprisonment, electronic prisons, fence-free regional prisons, part-time day or night prisons, and part-time prisons, week-end or month-end prisons. Observing individuals' rights and separating defendants from convicts are among the things that should be closely followed by the development of existing spaces. Here, the obstacles and problems of rationalizing the criminal population of prisons are addressed. The first and foremost obstacle to the culture of prison use seems to be that. Unfortunately, nowadays, the courts bring people to jail for the least reason, and there is no other way to punish or control the judiciary and culture. One of the reasons for using imprisonment is the lack of social institutions necessary to deal properly with social phenomena. The social assistance agency does not exist in the police, judicial, or social sectors or lacks the capacity to address the problems of individuals and clients. Unemployment insurance, affordable housing and the protection of the helpless, crisis counselors and many other social institutions are an urgent need in today's industrial society. Existing institutions are also very traditional and unprofessional. The most important factor in this regard is the unprofessional behavior of large prison policymakers in relation to the barriers and problems associated with productive prisons. (Ali Abadi, 1990: 90)

According to jurisprudential views, prison is in most cases currently non-Islamic and should only be used for individuals whose freedom is dangerous to society and others. Prison should be used in a very short and cross-sectional way. In fact, prison is an exception and should be of limited use. Finally, reengineering is required in penal law and process reform will not be accountable. In some provinces there are significant differences with the image of the whole country. The number of open and semi-open prisons - workshops and workshops - and cultural and educational departments in many cities is low. Therefore, the aim of the Director General in the fourth development plan is as follows:

- 1- Providing a suitable environment for the detention of prisoners;
- 2- Creating employment and training spaces in all cities;
- 3- Establishing open and semi-open prisons in all cities;
- 4- Improving the quality and quantity of the human resources and making them fit;
- 5- Upgrading post-departure care services;
- 6- Improve work processes (reduce costs and improve productivity). (Amiri, 2003: 103)

B) Research method, statistical population, sample size and measurement method

This research is an applied research in terms of responsibility and solutions to a problem or social problem and in terms of data collection; it is a survey research to formulate theoretical foundations of documentary and library methods and to collect data from via questionnaire. The instrument used in this study is a researcher-made questionnaire whose reliability was reported by Cronbach's alpha for macroeconomic solutions of 0.78 and for micro strategies of 0.73. The statistical population of this study is the personnel of the Prisons and Justice Department and the Judges of the Central Prison of Iran. The sampling method in this study is available and equal to 100 persons due to the limitation of the researcher's access to all personnel and judges.

C) Research findings



1) Descriptive findings

Frequency of respondents by gender and position

Percent	Variables	
82	man	sexuality
18	woman	
23	Judicial Jobs	Respondents
77	Personnel of the Prisons	

The gender distribution of the respondents in this study shows: 82% of respondents were male and 18% were female. Distribution of respondents' positions in this study showed: 23% of respondents had judicial jobs and 77% had staff in Tehran Prisons Organization.

Central Distribution Statistics of Research Variables

Standard deviation	average	Variable
0/26	3/25	Great Solutions
0/12	4/15	Micro Solutions

According to the above statistics, the averages obtained in the research variables are all higher than the population average (3).

Inferential findings) 2

Kolmogorov-Smirnov test for checking the normality of the distribution of research variables

Significance level Smiranov test	
0/57	Great Solutions
0/20	Micro Solutions

This test compares the observed cumulative distribution function with the theoretical (expected) cumulative distribution function in a rank variable. In other words, in this test the distribution of a property in a sample is compared with the assumed distribution in the population. If the level of significance was greater than 0.5, it indicates a normal state. Parametric tests can be used in this study. Considering the above test and the significance level of all variables which is more than 0.05, it can be deduced that: All variables follow the normal distribution.

Sample single-sample t-test results to investigate preventive strategies (macro and micro) in reducing prison population

result	Significance level	average	Amount T-test	number	Variables
Confirmation theory	0/04	3/25	3/11	100	Great Solutions
Confirmation theory	0/001	4/15	15/35	100	Micro Solutions

Given the results of the above test, since the great strategies are at the significance level in Table 0.04, And this value is smaller than the significance level of 0.05, And in other words, since the



t-statistic is equal to (3.11) and greater than (1.96), The above hypothesis is confirmed and it can be concluded that: great solutions are effective in reducing the prison population. The average achieved great solutions are 3.25 which are above the average of the community (3) with a difference of 0.25. Given the above test results, since the significance level of the micro strategies in the t-test table is 0.001 and this value is less than the significance level of 0.05, In other words, since the t-statistic is equal to (15.35) and greater than (1.96), the above hypothesis is confirmed and it can be concluded that: Micro solutions are effective in reducing the prison population. The average acquisition of micro solutions is 4.15, which is reported to be higher than the community average (3.15)

Friedman test to evaluate and rank effective strategies for reducing prison population

Average rating	Variables
3/30	macro Solutions
3/89	Micro Solutions
Friedman test	
100	number
1	Degrees of freedom
0/02	Significance level
Significance of rankings	Test result

According to the results of the Friedman test, the ranking of effective strategies for reducing the prison population are as follows: 1- Micro Solutions 2- Macro Solutions

RESULTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Result

This research was conducted in response to two hypotheses:

The result of the first hypothesis: Large-scale solutions are effective in reducing the prison population. This hypothesis has been confirmed. According to the one-sample t-test used to test this hypothesis, macro strategies are effective in reducing the prison population The above descriptive statistics table shows that the average sample acquisition is 3.25, which is reported to be 0.25 above the average of the community (3).

The result of the second hypothesis: Micro solutions are effective in reducing the prison population. This hypothesis has been confirmed. According to the sample t-test used to test this hypothesis, micro solutions are effective in reducing the prison population. The above descriptive statistics table shows that the average sample acquisition is 4.15, which is reported to be higher than the average of the community (3) with a difference of 1.15. Friedman Ranking Test Results: According to the Friedman Ranking Results, effective strategies to reduce the prison population are as follows: Micro Solutions macro Solutions.

Suggestions:

To offer a solution to reduce the criminal population with a comprehensive view, two categories of solution can be proposed:

Macro Solutions

These solutions are related to the foundation of a community. As stated, all the factors and institutions in a society are linked like chains, and any change, whether positive or negative in one of the institutions and segments of society, affects the other segments. For example, if society is educated at a high level, it will have a positive impact on other sectors of society, such as economics, health and technology. If the community's economic system takes advantage of the presence of experts in the field, this sector will be strengthened and will have a positive impact on the education system and other institutions in the future. Based on this view, in order to see the crime rate down and thus to reduce the criminal population, we must:

Have a robust and efficient education system to address the social aspects of the humanities in addition to courses in mathematics, physics, chemistry and other common sciences. And issues such as life skills, how to deal with problems (problem-solving), familiarity with the rules of social communication, introduction to philosophy and the need to regulate the community and develop a sense of responsibility in each and every citizen to be considered. Address the economic issues of society at the macro level and the livelihoods of citizens: This is because it covers one of the most important aspects of people's lives in the community and causes problems in this area, causing many problems. Therefore, it is essential for the community to enjoy relative prosperity. Imam Ali (PBUH) has said: "If poverty enters through one door, faith goes out of the door."

Establish strong and effective service, support and welfare organizations such as social and welfare, and operate a robust support system.

Encourage effective religious and ethical understanding training that is scientifically supported.

Micro Solutions

These guidelines relate to the country's judicial and law enforcement system and include changes that must be made to the judicial and law enforcement system, including:

- 1- Ensure efficient law enforcement and police with the presence of experts in crime discovery
- 2- Creation and use of local dispute resolution councils that are expanding in the country's judicial system.
- 3- Anticipation of Alternative Prison Sentences by Judicial Authorities and Training of Judges
- 4- Make changes to the judicial system so that cases are handled as accurately as possible and that the process is avoided.
- 5- Reducing the number of criminal offenses and minimizing their number and not using prison sentences for crimes such as financial convictions, alimony and accidents now account for more than 10 percent of inmates.
- 6- Out-of-court treatment of jailed cases
- 7- Establishment of assisting units in the courts
- 8- Familiarization of court judges with social work and staff duties, as well as working closely with social workers and using their expert opinions when necessary.
- 9- Emphasize the correctional and educational dimension of prisons by employing specific people in the field, such as social workers, therapists and psychologists, and providing adequate facilities so that each specialist can work closely with several clients.
- 10- Targeting acts of amnesty
- 11- Proportionality of orders issued by judicial authorities with charges pending investigation and attention to the principle of innocence



12- Accelerating the discount for convicts who qualify for various legal discounts; Such as the application of Article 22 of the Islamic Penal Code, the application of Article 277 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the application of Article 38 of the Islamic Penal Code, and the application of Article 6 of the Amended Law of the Judiciary.

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