Name:

PBS Frontline: The New Asylums and The Released

Video Guide

Please answer the following questions in complete sentences:

* Why do you think there are so many mentally ill people in the criminal justice system? Why do you think so many offenders in the criminal justice system are mentally ill?
* How would you define a "successful" release from prison?
* According to those who work with the prison population, what factors should exist to ensure a "successful" release from prison?
* Why do you think there is such a high rate of *recidivism* (repetition of criminal behavior) for offenders with mental illnesses?
* What were the *deinstitutionalization* policies of the 1970s?
* Identify at least two arguments in favor of deinstitutionalization.
* Identify at least two arguments against deinstitutionalization.
* Why do you think that so many mentally ill offenders find themselves homeless after their release from prison?
* How does being homeless impact their mental health care?
* What factors account for William Stokes having stayed out of jail for seven months while Jerry Tharp, Lynn Moore, Keith Williams and Bennie Anthony were all re-arrested within a few months of their release from prison?