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0521613868 - Prisoner Reentry and Crime in America
Edited by Jeremy Travis and Christy Visser
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Prisoner Reentry and Crime in America

Prisoner Reentry and Crime in America is intended to shed light on a critical question that fuels the public's concern about the large number of returning prisoners, shapes the policies of elected officials, and remains largely unaddressed in the research literature: What are the public safety consequences of the fourfold increase in the number of individuals entering and leaving the nation's prisons each year? Many have speculated about the nexus between prisoner reentry and public safety. Journalistic accounts of the reentry phenomenon have painted a picture of a tidal wave of hardened criminals coming back home to resume their destructive lifestyles. Law enforcement officials have attributed increases in violence in their communities to the influx of returning prisoners. Politicians have recommended policies that keep former prisoners out of high-crime neighborhoods in the belief that crime would be reduced. The chapters in this book address these issues and suggest policies that will keep released prisoners from committing new crimes.

Jeremy Travis is President of John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York. He has written and published extensively on constitutional law, criminal law, and criminal justice policy.

Christy Visser is Principal Research Associate at the Urban Institute, in Washington, D.C. Dr. Visser has published widely on crime and justice topics, including prisoner reentry, crime prevention strategies, criminal careers, the arrest process, youthful offending, incapacitation, and use of drug testing in the criminal justice system.

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Contents

<i>List of Contributors</i>	<i>page</i>	ix
1. INTRODUCTION: VIEWING PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH THE REENTRY LENS Jeremy Travis and Christy Visser		1
2. FROM CELL TO SOCIETY: WHO IS RETURNING HOME? Joan Petersilia		15
3. REENTRY AS A TRANSIENT STATE BETWEEN LIBERTY AND RECOMMITMENT Alfred Blumstein and Allen J. Beck		50
4. THE CONTRIBUTION OF EX-PRISONERS TO CRIME RATES Richard Rosenfeld, Joel Wallman, and Robert Fornango		80
5. DOES SUPERVISION MATTER? Anne Morrison Piehl and Stefan F. LoBuglio		105
6. THE IMPACT OF IMPRISONMENT ON THE DESISTANCE PROCESS Shadd Maruna and Hans Toch		139
7. COMMUNITIES AND REENTRY: CONCENTRATED REENTRY CYCLING Todd R. Clear, Elin Waring, and Kristen Scully		179
		vii

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Contents

8.	WORK AND FAMILY PERSPECTIVES ON REENTRY Christopher Uggen, Sara Wakefield, and Bruce Western	209
9.	CONSIDERING THE POLICY IMPLICATIONS Jeremy Travis and Christy Visser	244
	<i>Index</i>	261

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