

we lock people up, there should be an attempt, a genuine attempt, to rehabilitate those people. If they have educational deficiencies, meaning they cannot read, they cannot write and there are other problems which might encourage them to commit violations of the law, we should, to the extent possible, correct those kinds of problems. So, instead of building more prisons, throwing up Quonset huts when we know that they have no practical impact, we should be looking at programs. I want to tell you why I offered this article. It relates not to a theoretical situation but to an actual decision, an order handed down by a U.S. District Judge in Lincoln. Richard Kopf is his name, K-o-p-f for the transcriber's benefit, and to paraphrase and generalize what that order deals with, it deals with the placement of inmates in cells as cellmates when there is a likelihood that this placement is going to result in homosexual rapes and physical violence. The court found that under the system currently operating at the penitentiary what I mentioned to you is what is happening, and the opinion indicated that there was more concern for efficiently packing cells than for the prisoners and their safety. Mr. Clarke gave an interesting response. He said if there is so much...if the prison is so violent, why haven't we had a murder since 1978? Well, we don't want any murders and we don't want the violence to escalate to the point where we have murders. I'm sure if somebody got his teeth knocked out, his eye blacked, his nose bloody, his rectum stretched, that does not constitute a murder but I'm sure it's a sufficient violation of that individual and his rights to justify something being done to make sure it does not happen. Now what you all want to do is create a situation with these Quonset huts, which I call open-air because they're like barracks, where there will be more opportunities created for this type of misconduct, this type of violence, this type of sexual assault. The court, having given the order that it did in the case covered by the article that I shared with you, ought to let you know that when you authorized the building of these Quonset huts, and let's say they are built, and let's say that we have security problems, you do not have enough Corrections officers or guards to provide security and there are attacks against inmates or even guards. What will you say then? You will have no defense. You, again, as a Legislature, will be taking a political decision which is not designed to solve a problem, and we can look at this problem at two levels. I want to attack it at the most basic fundamental level, namely the causes of conduct of this kind that puts people in prison and