

Letter to My Friends V

Easter 2011

Dear Friends,

In response on Shane's recent letter concerning the presentation of his case on my site and because I'd love to denote it as another public Letter to My Friends for the following considerations in chronological order:

Phase 1

After I've published the initial case in my after retirement job, notorious [OR trial case of Diane Downs](#), known from previous Letters and publications, being my own web-site designer, a second case from an Idaho inmate was produced following the documents received and given info and corrections made by inmate. Then, after some years, this inmate arrived last year telling me I should take his case off my website. However, because the case was significant to what I subsumed under 'manipulated trial' I only took off the full name and left the initials. Anyhow I was asked to delete the information in its entirety. Therefore I thought of substituting this Idaho case with another case.

Phase 2

Years before NYC inmate [Chas Ransome](#) had me upload his presentation which included some pictures and then last year with an annexation: He was satisfied and I was contending.

Phase 3

Besides [Shane](#) I was asked by another inmate to publish his story about innocence. Already in earlier Letters I discussed the actual percentage of innocent persons imprisoned in "Incarceration Nation" (James Ridgeway/Linn Washington, Jr.). Only in the last few days I was reminded of this by the following mail:

The Right to Counsel in Criminal Cases, A National Crisis
Paul Marcus - William & Mary Law School
Mary Sue Backus - University of Oklahoma College of Law
Hastings Law Journal, Vol. 57, No. 6, p. 1031, 2005-2006
William & Mary Law School Research Paper No. 09-92

Abstract: Poor people account for more than 80% of individuals prosecuted. These criminal defendants plead guilty approximately 90% of the time. In those cases, many lawyers entered pleas for their clients without spending any significant time on the cases, without interviewing witnesses or filing motions, and with hardly a word to their clients. But the first rule of the American Bar Association's Model Rules of Professional Conduct indicates that "competent representation" requires "the legal knowledge, skill, thoroughness and preparation reasonably necessary for the representation." This article chronicles the Supreme Court's doctrine regarding the constitutional right to counsel of indigent defendants. The article also describes recent research conducted by the National Committee on the Right to Counsel, which reveals common problems facing state and local governments in meeting their constitutional obligations. Finally, this article offers recommendations that governments should implement to protect the right to counsel and suggests ways in which groups or individuals may generate these reforms.

http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=1797783

So I assume 'Poor and Innocent Convicted' belong to the same coin. [Glenn Greenwald](#) wrote

"All of that stands in the starkest possible contrast to how ordinary Americans -- especially the poor and racial and ethnic minorities -- are treated by this same "justice system": with incomparably harsh and merciless punishment. From [The New York Times, April 23, 2008](#)"

What wonder when I was told earlier that more than 10% are believed innocent imprisoned in the U.S.A.; in real figures as many if not significantly more as we count inmates in Germany.

Phase 4

2011/4/1 Thank you Franz.

My husband James Harmon has been in a Florida prison for almost 30 years having been convicted at the age of 17. We have approached various lawyers (pro bono) and Professor Batey of Stanford University but no one is willing to help. He is a clever man Franz and has been litigating on his own behalf but with no success. He feels his only recourse now is to approach some organization similar to the European

Court of Human Right as he is quite convinced his sentence is illegal. So my reason for contacting you is to ask if you know of any USA organization that is similar to our ECoF HR. My apologies for not being able to write to you in your own language.

Regards
Charlotte.

In a follow up mail I learned,

“I should have said James was sentenced to a term of six consecutive one hundred year sentences retaining retention of jurisdiction over the first one third of each consecutive sentence.”

Apart from 6x100 craziness spiritual awareness provided the following idea: There should be something like a synopsis so every interested individual might get a view of this and every inmate's case.

C O N C L U S I O N

I propose a

Contest among inmates

Presentation of inmate's curriculum vitae

An application for the return to his/her community

Pre selection takes place at every facility up to county and state. Besides an elected inmate representative, a Jury Member should be from private supporting groups engaged in justice and prison work (The John Howard Association, CURE e.g., Social Sciences, Head Hunter, Media) and one representative from State.

In a literarily mail I addressed as follows (published on site) because I didn't know better to whom I should address -:

From: Franz Kurz <franz_kurz@web.de>
Date: 2010/12/31
Subject: The Awful Framed Americans
To: Thomas Jefferson [at] heaven.us.mem

If the present generation of citizens are disinterested, why not asking an outstanding leader from the US past? I'm quite sure he's looking down to earth interested in how his successors carry on nation's history. So everybody should feel free and create his very own presentation 'To Whom It May Concern'.

Proposing this you may understand that I do it because I'm in no way experienced in US mentality and human related questions; and feel unable to give advice to any inmate from abroad in the matter of presentation. I imagine in the end such a national campaign will also answer the recently published article by Celia Chazelle

March 30th, 2011 How to waste money and lives: the American prison system

<http://michaelmoore.com/words/mike-friends-blog/how-to-waste-money-and-lives>

Celia Chazelle is chair of the History Department at The College of New Jersey and co-founder of its Center for Prison Outreach and Education

Please discuss the idea of bio collection with your fellows and colleagues and let me have your approval even after uploading the article on my site. It might really be that we get cognition of what had been the system's priority in the past and shall be a contribution to Education and Rehabilitation.

Franz

[The Release Process in a Federal State of Germany](#) by Franz Kurz

I have always found that mercy bears richer fruits than strict justice.

- Abraham Lincoln