

Activity: Media

Does prison work?

Learning objective

At the end of this activity you should be able to:

- evaluate the use of prison as a punishment for crime.

A. Using the link below, answer the questions that follow.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yg6VCGEtdS0>

1. How did Kenneth Clarke aim to bring down the prison population?
2. When was Wandsworth Prison built?
3. What is the maximum number of prisoners that Wandsworth can hold?
4. What is considered to be a short-term sentence?
5. What percentage of those serving a short-term sentence are likely to reoffend?
6. What are the four aims of the green paper mentioned in the clip?
7. What did David Cameron claim was needed when campaigning for election in 2008 to 2010?
8. How did the view of government change after the campaign and why?
9. According to Michael Howard's 'traditional Tory' view, how do we know that prison works?
10. What do prisoners learn in the Kawasaki workshop?
11. IN what way is Wandsworth Prison unique?
12. What is the problem of short-term sentences for the 'rehabilitation revolution'?
13. According to Jude Streeks, what should prison be like?
14. What percentage of crimes result in someone going to prison?
15. How many people were not sent prison, despite their previous convictions?
16. According to Philip Davies, what is the public's view about prison?
17. What are the two reasons why the government might want to reduce the number of prisoners?

B. Summarise the arguments from the clip for and against the use of prison to reduce crime.

Are there any other arguments you would add?

On balance, do you think prison is an effective way of reducing crime? Give your reasons.