

Probation officers in Turkey

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Propositions accompanying the PhD thesis

Probation officers in Turkey: The relevance of attitudes toward offenders

by Ayşe Esra Ersayan

1. Attitudes toward juvenile probationers play a role in juvenile probation officers' recidivism risk perceptions (*Chapter 4, this thesis*)
2. Gender role attitudes among the public appear to be more relevant to punitive attitudes toward offenders than offender gender (*Chapter 5, this thesis*).
3. Punitive (and rehabilitative) attitudes could be a target in dealing with, and possibly preventing, job burnout in probation officers (*Chapter 3, this thesis*).
4. Punitive and rehabilitative attitudes of juvenile probation officers should not be viewed as two ends of the same continuum, but rather as two separate dimensions (*Chapters 4 and 6, this thesis*).
5. A brief training program based on the Risk-Need-Responsivity model is promising in terms of decreasing punitive attitudes toward probationers in juvenile probation officers in the short term (*Chapter 6, this thesis*).
6. Implementation of an evidence-based risk assessment tool is an urgent and important need of the Turkish probation system.
7. Youth do not belong in prisons; juvenile offender rehabilitation in the community should be prioritized.
8. It is the responsibility of every individual and organization to take an active role in the re-integration into the community of juveniles who have been in contact with the law.
9. Conducting research on the effectiveness of probation interventions without the availability of recidivism data is like commanding a ship in the ocean without a compass.

10. Writing a PhD thesis may cause permanent loss of speculation capability! (*this PhD candidate*)