

# entries and exits: contrasting pathways to community reentry

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# research?

- community research capacity
  - *jeht audit and policy agenda*
- *contexts*
  - *outreach and public agenda*
- clients
  - *supplements and guilt-driven agenda*
- collaborations
  - *MEEP training and public research agenda*





## april 9, 2008 second chance act

- *"America is the land of second chance." 2004*
  - *a few public stories of spectacular mobility*
- *Florida clemency files and everyday successes*
  - *from lot runner to service manager*
  - *entrepreneurs, community leaders, clergy*
- *the costs of closeting*
  - *despair, models*
  - *stakes and suicide notes*
- *authorization v. appropriation*

# “chef jeff” henderson



Preferred PR

- conspiracy and attempt to sell cocaine
- 1988
- 10 years prison
- learned to cook in prison; started as a dishwasher upon release
- now: executive chef @ Bellagio; book: *Cooked*

# charles dutton



- manslaughter
- 1967
- 7.5 years prison
- became an actor while incarcerated
- Yale grad
- now: actor and director

# tim allen



- delivery of a controlled substance
- 1978
- 2.5 years in prison
- now: comedian and actor

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# martha stewart

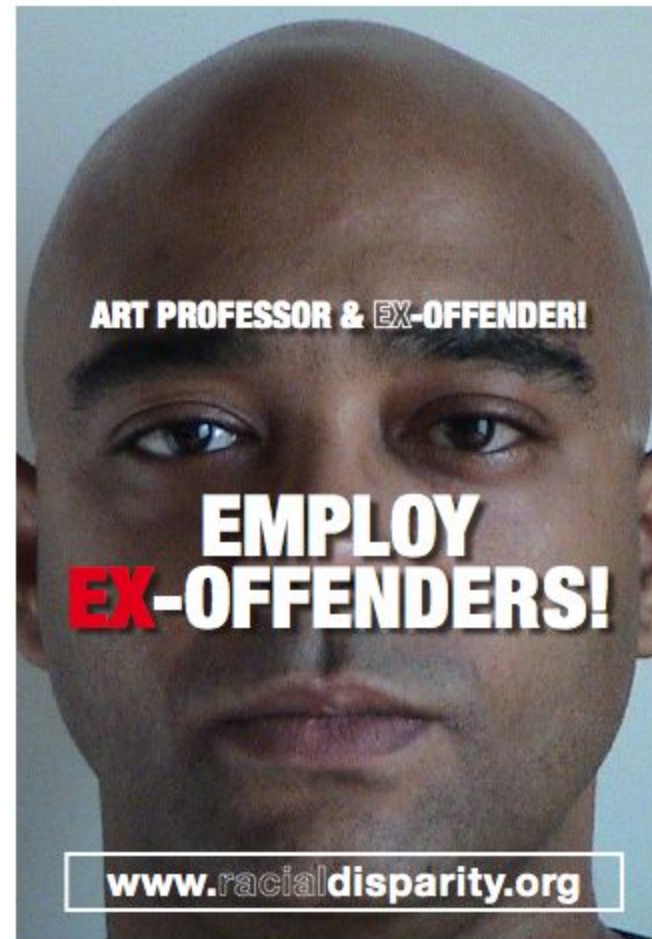


- conspiracy, obstruction of justice, making false statements
- 2004
- 5 month prison, 5 months house arrest
- still: homemaking goddess, TV shows

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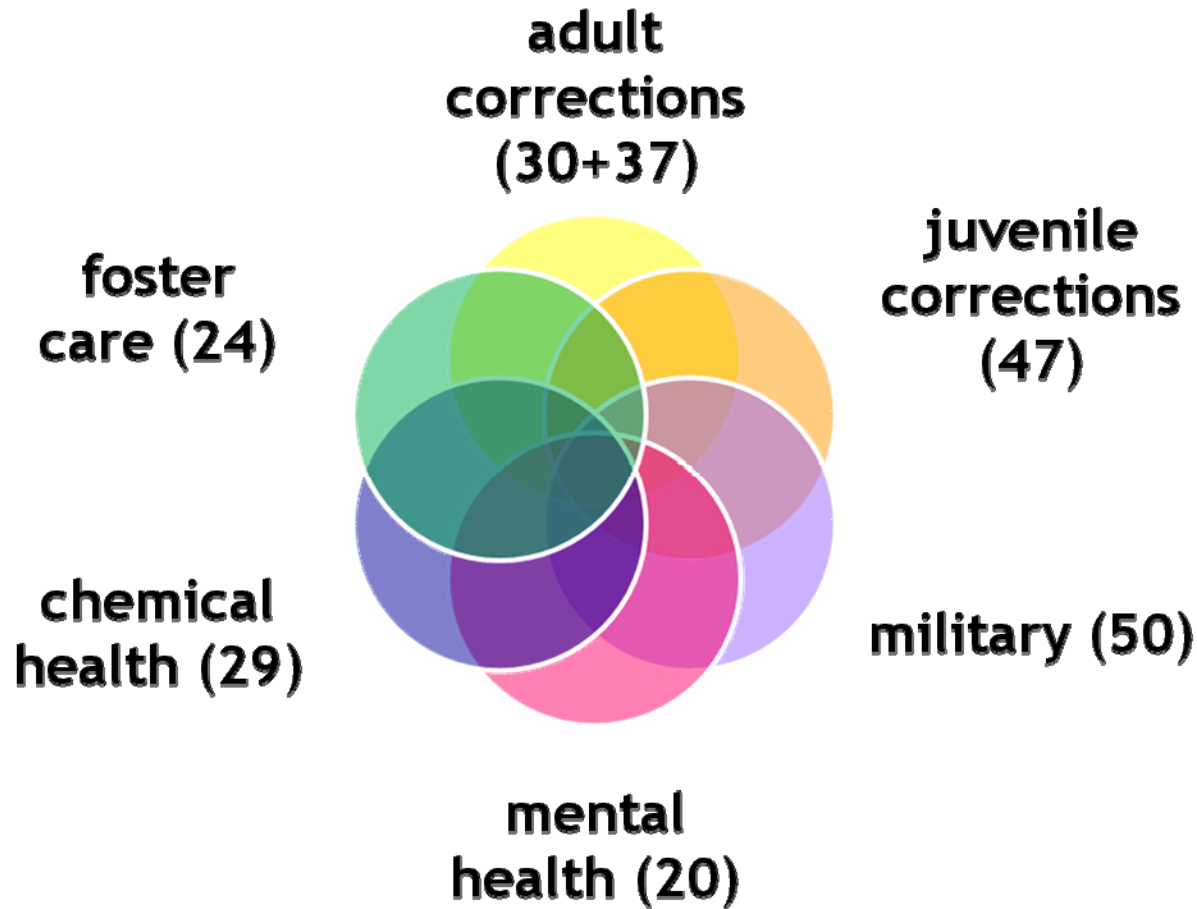
faces: [www.employexoffenders.org](http://www.employexoffenders.org)



# minnesota exits & entries project

- listen to people leaving institutions
  - *18-25 year old emerging adults*
  - *in institution for 60 days or more*
  - *40 Pre- and Post-interviews per domain*
- social theory and community context
  - *social psych: Maruna's redemption scripts*
  - *structure: 3-legged stool (Visher & Travis)*
  - *what is success? who are the models?*
- a common reentry phenomenon?
  - *variation in status dishonor*

# cross-cutting domains (n)



# today's goals

- introduce project
  - *comprehensive and comparative*
  - *student-driven*
  - *caveats – a first cut at pre-interviews only*
- how do clients understand the disciplinary logics of reentry?
  - *how are they supposed to change?*
- organized around two issues
  - *what is the **problem** of reentry?*
  - *what **solution** is proposed?*

# adult corrections

going legit

[jeanette hussemann]



# adult corrections

- Problem: Recidivism
- Proposed solution: Becoming “legit”
  - *Securing employment*
  - *Severing ties to (negative) **social** relationships*
  - *Reconnecting or building family relationships*



## adult corrections – going legit

- “I want to go ahead, I want to try to excel ...the right way, the legit way. All my life I’ve always had the nice cars, the cribs, all that type of stuff, but that was all illegally. Now I want to prove to myself that I can do it legally, with a job...  
**(Phil, 22)**
- “My biggest concern or fear I guess is seeing somebody that I know that uses and they know how to get me to go with them and I really don’t want to see anybody that I used to get high with cause if I see them and they see me they would come up and talk to me...I’m gonna say no....”  
**(Samantha, 26)**



# chemical dependency

what sober people do

[sarah shannon, social work]



# chemical dependency

- Problem: maintaining sobriety, avoiding relapse
- Proposed solution: Become a “normal” (sober) person
  - *Via cognitive change and identity shift*
  - *Realigning social relationships*



## chemical health – what sober people do

- *“...every night before I go to bed, I don’t know why this is so important to my recovery, but I’ve been on this kick where I drink Sleepy Time tea and I just feel like, I don’t know, it just seems like something sober people might do, drink tea before they go to bed. So, I’m trying it and I don’t take any meds or anything and it’s just kind of part of my ritual and I’m trying really hard to have a routine. I don’t know that it does me any justice, but I pretend that it does.” (Cindy, 25)*
- *“I have the life of an adult from 18 and the coping skills of a child and so now I’m ready to get rid of my truck, I already got rid of my apartment, and kind of just live with my parents again for a while and go back to being 18-19 and not have so many responsibilities on me, all these bills ... sometimes I’d get a paycheck for \$3,000, but I owe \$2200 in bills that week for everything, and it’s like there’s only \$800 left and I’m like, oh whatever, let’s take 100 now, go get high and deal with it later ... it will be nice to go back to my parents and the only thing I have to worry about is going to school and doing my homework...” (Will, 25)*

# mental health

growing up, becoming ill

[tom walton, anthro]



# mental health

- Problem: Managing illness
- Proposed solution: Know and monitor
  - *Therapy promotes knowledge of diagnostic categories and “mood hygiene.”*
  - *Self-monitoring*



# mental health – managing illness

- “It’s not the end of my life just because I get diagnosed with a disorder... I *have* a disorder, I’m *not* the disorder and that’s the biggest lesson that needed to be learned when I was diagnosed... If I understand my illness I feel that I can better explain my illness to somebody else; explain why I acted weird when I acted weird and why, that not all of the time I spent with my old friends, um, was necessarily me in a manic stage, but I would fluctuate and so you enjoyed a good portion of me and the stuff that you didn’t like that was mainly my manic stage.”
- “With me understanding it, it’s a confidence thing as well as an understanding ... I need to understand my own illness so that I can recognize, okay, you know I’m kind of feeling this, this way. I feel like I’m maybe talking too much or in a rapid rate, or my brain is just flying through thoughts; or maybe on the other side, it’s like I feel really slow, I feel disconnected, I feel, you know, backed in a corner watching myself out in the middle of the room ... those are the highs and the lows, and I think that by actually getting a document that pretty much describes what bipolar type whatever it is, um, it will tell, it’ll help me understand it to where I’m more comfortable saying you know what, I have to tell you, tell you something pretty big about me, and this is it.”  
**(Wes, 21)**



# juvenile corrections

raising the stakes

[shelly schaefer]



# juvenile corrections

- Problem: Bad decision making
- Proposed solution: Raise the stakes
  - *1994 Extended Juvenile Jurisdiction (E.J.J.) blended sentencing*
    - Procedural and substantive convergence of juvenile and adult court.
    - In MN, stayed adult sentence, with probation until 21



# juvenile corrections – raising stakes

- Criminal vehicular homicide at 16 (**Jessica, 19**)
- “I think EJJ is a good thing. Honestly it’s a good thing, but I don’t like it because I have to go through it. But it’s a good thing though in disguise, it’s keeping you on track and it’s giving you skills ... You know if you do get in trouble, you know what your consequence is. That’s why they say it’s over your head. So literally that’s how you feel, you feel that weight on you.” (**Montrel, 18**)
- “Yeah, people say it’s a bad thing, but I actually think it’s a good thing in a way. Besides helping you with the apartments and help you get your life together-but it’s like a motivation-if you mess up you go away for twelve years, you be good-you straight... He’s going to be positive, yeah, in a way ‘cause he’s on EJJ too (**Charles, 18**)



# **foster care**

pursuing independence

[arturo baiocchi]



# foster care

- Problem: Achieving “independence”
  - *“institutional dependence” and aging out of care without needed supports*
- Proposed solution: Life skills
  - *Transition to **independent and self-sufficient** adulthood*
  - *Education (e.g., balancing checkbooks) as proof against dependence*



## foster care - independence

- I'm in foster care because my mom was a drug user.....but I guess in a way it's a blessing though....for the simple fact that I feel I have to do good now...I have to prove everyone wrong...  
**(Bobby, 19)**
- My long term goal is basically to finish college, get a decent career where I can financially take care of myself and my family so my family won't have to go through what I went through, my kids won't have to deal with I had to...**(Mark, 18)**



# **national guard combat vets**

from warrior to civilian

[team]



# national guard

- Problem

- *Psychological -- adjusting warriors to the “new normal” when everything has changed*
- *Analogous to prison reentry?*

- Proposed solution:

- *PTSD awareness, counseling and coping*
- *Managing the warrior in a warrior-less world*



## national guard - change and coping

- “Two years people change a lot...you have to cope with the changes that everyone has made at home...and then everyday civilian life” (**Taylor 21**)
- “Everything changes in two years.... (in the Military everything is so clock work, you don't worry about the big things, it's the small things that help you out, It's kind of reversing the civilian side. Where the big things are our little things” (**Michael 24**)



# sum – what did we hear?

- adult corrections
  - *recidivism problem -> "legit" ties*
- chemical health
  - *sobriety problem -> cognitive change*
- mental health
  - *management problem -> "mood hygiene"*
- juvenile corrections
  - *bad choices -> raising the stakes*
- foster care
  - *dependency problem -> education and life skills*
- military
  - *warrior problem -> coping skills*



# conclude

- narratives framed along disciplinary lines
  - *psychology, social work, medicine, law...*
  - *personal agency and management*
- individualized framing
  - *self-control and self-regulation*
  - *threat of (further) exclusion*
  - *promise of return to (partial?) citizenship*
- problem of contexts
  - *relationships and institutional resources*
- how will they fare? will narratives change upon return to community?



# supplemental slides

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# faculty & students across domains

- **adult corrections:** Candace Kruttschnitt, Josh Page, Chris Uggen and Jeanette Hussemann
- **chemical health:** Chris Uggen and Sarah Shannon
- **mental health:** Carl Malmquist and Tom Walton
- **military:** Ross MacMillan and grad team
- **foster care:** Teresa Swartz and Arturo Baiocchi
- **juvenile corrections:** Josh Page and Shelly Schaefer
  
- grads: Dan Winchester, Meg Krausch, Heather Hlavka, Sarah Whetstone
- undergrads: Kezia Killion, Aaron Marquette, Sam Sater
- faculty: Jeylan Mortimer



## Overall Domain Descriptives

<u>Domains</u>	<u>Pre</u>	<u>Post</u>	<u>Percent</u>
National Guard	50	34	68%
Foster Care	24	14	58%
Chemical Health	29	15	52%
Mental Health	20	11	55%
Adult Jail	37	15	41%
Adult Prison	30	6	*
Juvenile Corrections	47	22	*
	237	113	*

# Background (not updated)

## Gender

Female	22%
Male	78%

## Education

Some high school	26%
HS diploma	28%
GED	17%
AA degree	2%
Some college	20%
BA or BS	4%
Graduate School	2%
Missing (-9)	1%

## Race/Ethnicity

White	52%
African American	31%
Native American	8%
Hispanic/Latino	4%
Asian	2%
Other	3%

## Prior Employment

Full-time	31%
Part-time	24%
Unemployed	31%
Student	6%
Self-Employed	1%
Missing (-9)	7%