E11   Rehabilitating Juvenile Delinquents — The Texas Youth Commission Resocialization© Program

Kaci S. Singer, JD*, Texas Youth Commission, 4900 North Lamar Blvd., PO Box 4260, Austin, TX 78765

After attending this presentation, attendees will understand the principles and processes of rehabilitation used by the Texas Youth Commission (TYC) in treating delinquent juveniles and preparing them to reenter society as productive citizens.

This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by enhancing public and professional awareness of the TYC Resocialization© program, a rehabilitation program that is used in several states and countries in an effort to change juvenile behavioral patterns.

In the adult system, those convicted of a crime are required to serve their sentence before being released. Texas has developed a system for juveniles that require them to complete a rehabilitation program in which they focus on their negative behaviors and learn skills to avoid those behaviors in the future. The program requires youths to focus on their offenses and the ways they have victimized other people. They learn to identify thinking errors commonly used to justify behavior. They are able to identify barriers to their success and learn skills for coping with those barriers.

The presentation will provide an overview of the TYC Resocialization© program. Those attending will learn common thinking errors all persons use. The presentation will include information about other countries that currently use the TYC Resocialization© program in their juvenile justice system. Anecdotal stories will be used to demonstrate the effectiveness of the program.

This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by enhancing public and professional awareness of the TYC Resocialization© program, a rehabilitation program that is used in several states and countries in an effort to change juvenile behavioral patterns.

Juvenile, Rehabilitation, Delinquency