

Imagining Community Justice Values in Probation Practice

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Address to the 3rd World Congress on Probation

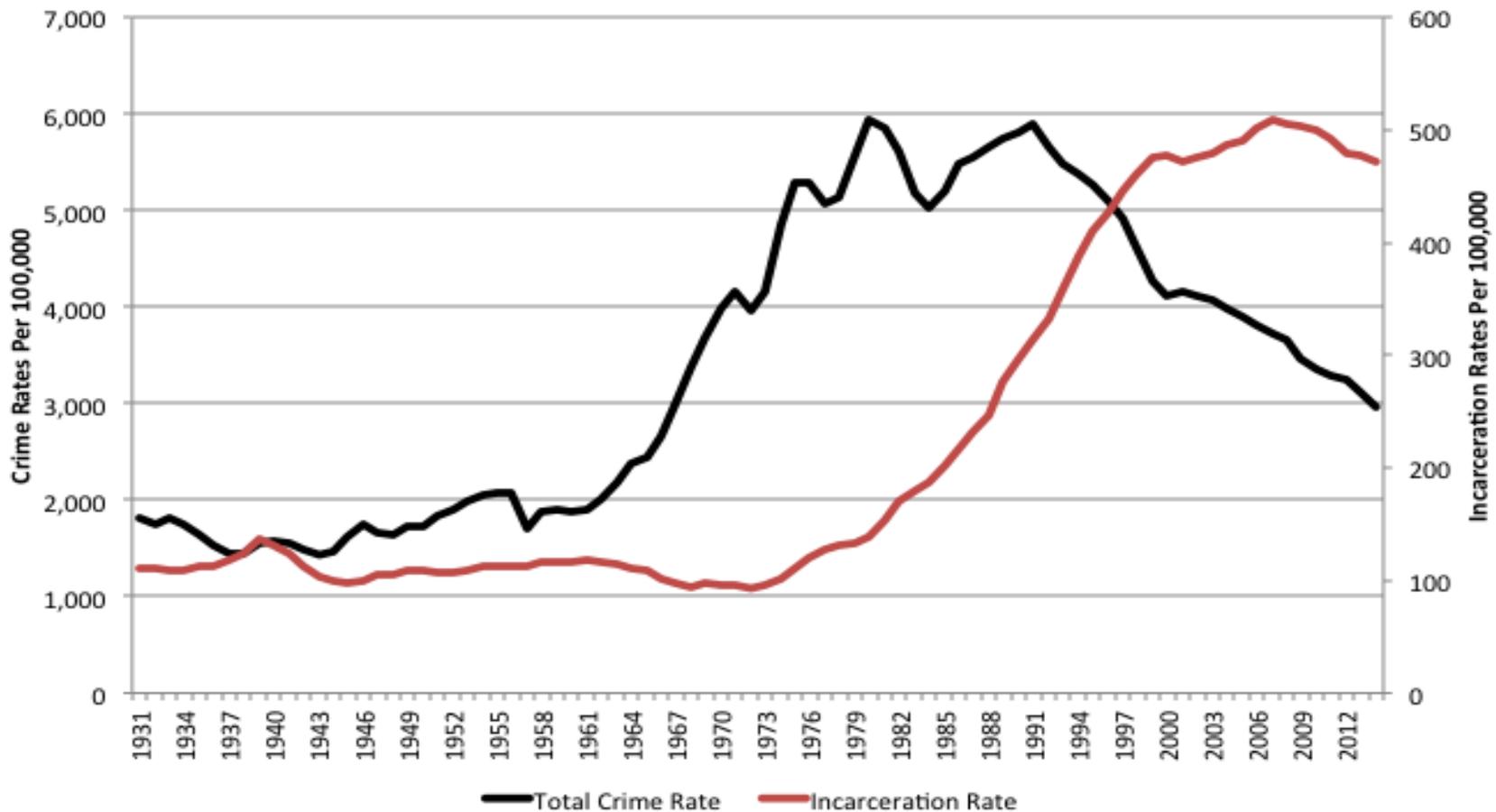
Tokyo, Japan

September 13, 2017

Community Corrections 1970s to 2000s

- The 1971 Attica Revolt
- Two Presidential Crime Commissions
- The War on Crime
- Prioritizing “tough on crime”
- Non-partisan state and federal reforms

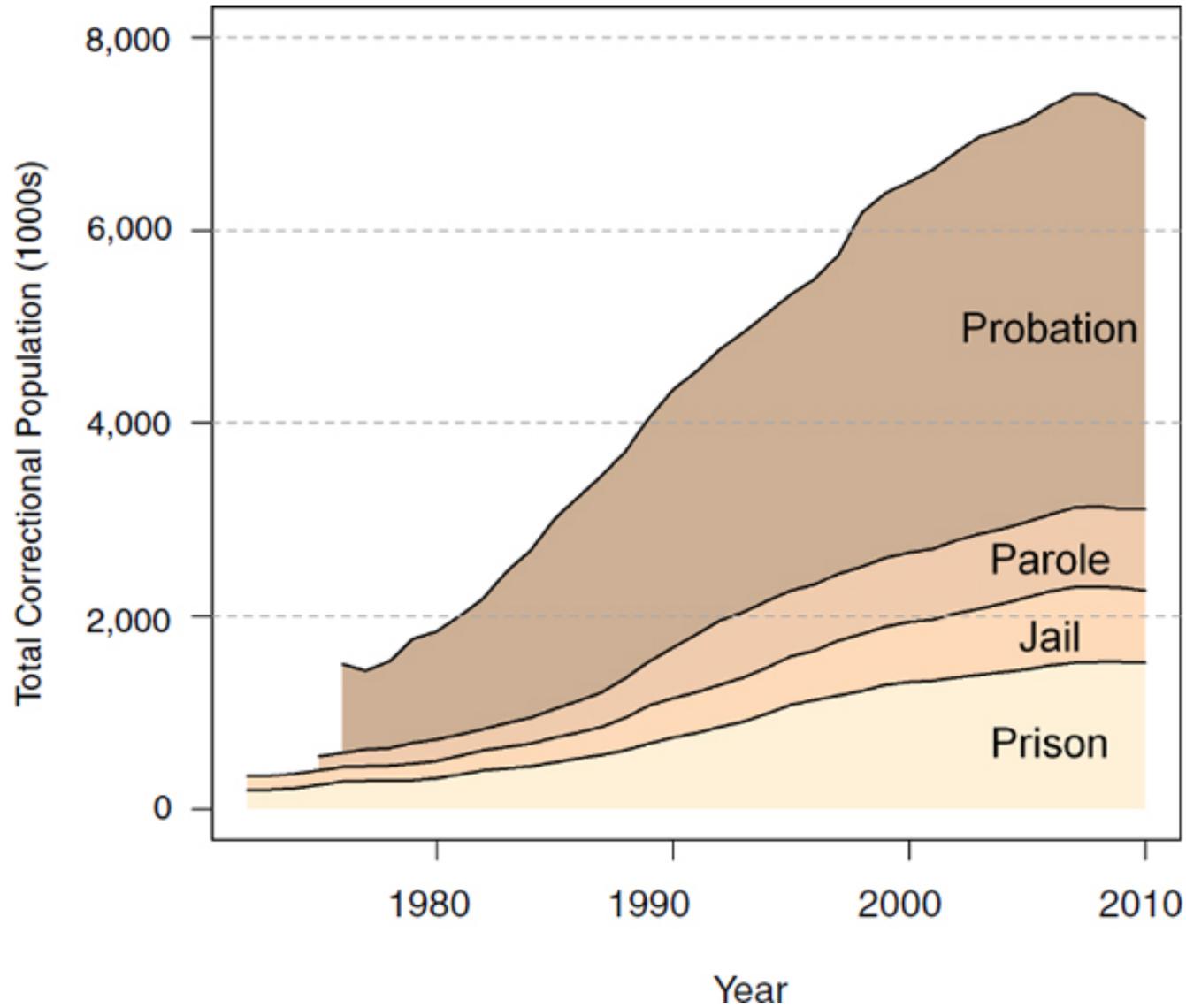
U.S. Crime and Incarceration Rates 1930-2014



“Toughness” in Community Corrections

- The theory of “control”
- Intensive supervision
- Home incarceration
- Fines and fees
- Shame
- Case Management Systems

Growth in System: 1970-2010



The 40-year Goal of US Probation:

*To turn community corrections into
community incarceration*

A Probation Address for 2017

- Focus on our values
- Identify how values translate into action
- Lay out implications for leadership
- National and international applications
- **CORE IDEA**: Belief in human ability to change

Harvard Executive Session on Community Corrections

- Leaders in a variety of fields
- Series of positions papers
- Final report: a consensus report on community corrections in the 21st Century
- They did my work for me!

My name for this orientation:
Community Justice

Three Underlying Values

- Well-being principle: The fundamental mission is to *pursue the well-being and safety of American communities*.
- Harm-avoidance principle: State power to be used *parsimoniously*.
- Human dignity principle: Treat people under supervision *as citizens* who deserve to be free of disrespect and abuses of power.

Community Corrections--

“...is not guided simply by the goals of harm reduction, maintenance of order, or minimizing the size of the system and the numbers of Americans processed through it...[but rather] to infuse justice and fairness into a broader criminal justice system...[and] to help people [caught up in the system to] become better parents and siblings, neighbors, and citizens than when they entered the penal realm.”

Values into Action: Standard

- *From delayed/arbitrary to swift/certain.*
- *From mass supervision to focused supervision.*
- *From isolated to integrated.*
- *From low-profile to high-profile.*
- *From caseload-driven funding to performance-based funding.*
- *From “gut-based” to evidence-based.*
- *From low-tech to high-tech.*

Values into Action: Radical

- *From punishing failure to promoting success.*
- *From time-based to goal-based.*
- *From deficit-based to strengths-based.*
- *From offender-focused to victim-centered.*
- *From individual-focused to family-inclusive.*
- *From fortress to community-based.*

Concluding Comment

- *Community Justice*, not probation or community corrections.
- Values of community, humanity, social justice.
- Core assumption: *it is natural person to want to live a better life, to be a positive influence on others, and to be respected by peers.*
- *We succeed when we promote this.*