

The background of the book cover is a photograph of a prison cell door. The door is made of dark, weathered metal with several horizontal bars visible at the top. A large, rectangular metal handle is centered on the door. The lighting is somewhat dim, with a brighter area at the top where the bars are.

MARY K. STOHR  
ANTHONY WALSH

# CORRECTIONS

THE

ESSENTIALS





# CORRECTIONS

## THE ESSENTIALS

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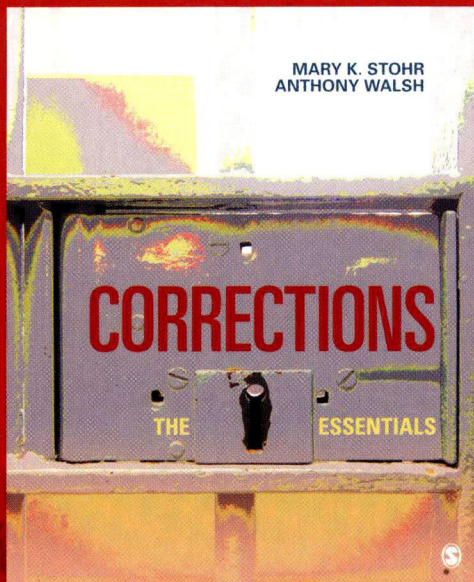
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# CORRECTIONS



## Dedication

*Mary K. Stobr: To my dad and mom, Robert (Stanley) Stobr and the late Elizabeth (Betty) Stobr. They were so skilled and loving when "correcting" and guiding their own eight children (I was third) that much of what I know about love, forgiveness, and life comes from them. I will be forever grateful for the gift they were, and are, as parents. I would also like to acknowledge my husband, Craig Hemmens, and our daughter, Emily Rose Stobr-Gillmore, for their love and support; I could do nothing well without them.*

*Anthony Walsb: To all my family near and far, and especially to my drop-dead gorgeous wife, Grace, a.k.a. "the face." I also want to dedicate it to Mary and her husband, Craig. We have been colleagues, friends, and coauthors for so many years that I don't know what I'll do without them now that they have moved to Missouri and greener pastures.*



# Preface

There are plenty of excellent corrections books available for use, but we think this particular book fills a niche for professors and students in that it is comprehensive and relatively inexpensive. These twin ideas became our goals and guided our development and writing of this textbook. We wanted to cover the most interesting and compelling information currently available on all aspects of corrections, while also keeping the page limit within reason and the book published as a paperback. We hope that readers will find this work both informative and accessible.

The information in this textbook is what you might expect from major texts. However, beyond the facts, figures, and concepts commonly contained in textbooks, this book also showcases the history and research on a number of aspects of corrections. We chose, despite the relative brevity of the book, to include two chapters on history, rather than one, as a historical perspective provides the framework for all that follows, in corrections as in so many other social, political, and cultural initiatives and enterprises. We also believe the presentation of research findings from academic, government, and journalistic sources will provide the context for understanding policy decisions and their consequences, both past and present.

Other special features of the book, which are designed to develop “perspective,” include brief “comparative” corrections sections that highlight what other countries are doing in terms of correctional operation. This glimpse of corrections internationally is meant to provide readers with another way of viewing correctional practice in the United States, while also giving them some insight into how alternative practices might work.

This book can serve as a primary text for an undergraduate course in corrections, or as a supplemental text for a graduate course. The topical areas covered are comparable to other major texts, with the exceptions noted in the above regarding the inclusion of enhanced history, research, and the comparative perspectives. Undergraduates, we hope, will find it informative and enlivening. Graduate students might use it as an introduction, overview, and backdrop for other more topically specialized books or articles. Discussion questions appear at the end of each chapter and might be used by both types of students to spur thought about, and critique of, corrections.

## ❖ Structure of the Book

The structure of the book is much like that found in other textbooks on corrections. We begin with an overview of corrections and some key concepts. We do include two chapters



on history, though many textbooks have only one. We then follow the flow of the corrections system, from sentencing, to jails, to probation, to prisons. We then stop and examine the correctional experience for staff as we did the experience for inmates and probationers in the preceding chapters. We finish the system description with a discussion of parole and reentry. In the three chapters that follow, we address the reality for women, minorities, and juveniles in corrections. We then focus attention on legal issues and correctional programming in corrections. We end with a look to the future of corrections and what developments we might expect in the coming years.

## ❖ Ancillaries

To enhance the use of this book, we have developed high-quality ancillaries for instructors and students.

***Instructor Teaching Site.*** A password-protected site, available at [www.sagepub.com/stohressentials](http://www.sagepub.com/stohressentials), features resources that have been designed to help instructors plan and teach their course. These resources include test banks, PowerPoint slides, lecture outlines, class activities, links to SAGE journal articles, Web resources, video links, and figures and tables from the text.

***Student Study Site.*** A Web-based study site is available at [www.sagepub.com/stohressentials](http://www.sagepub.com/stohressentials). This comprehensive site features Web quizzes, flashcards, video clips, links to SAGE journal articles, Web resources, audio resources, section summaries, corrections state rankings, and Department of Corrections websites for all 50 states.



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We would like to thank executive editor Jerry Westby. Jerry's faith, hard work, and incredible patience made this book both possible and fun to write. We also would like to thank Jerry's developmental editors, Denise Simon and Erim Sarbuland, who helped shepherd the book through the review process and whose gentle prodding ensured the deadlines would be met. Our copy editor, Teresa Herlinger, ensured that the sentences were clean and the spelling correct.

We would also like to acknowledge each other. We were colleagues at Boise State University for many years, the last several (before Mary moved to Missouri State in the summer of 2011) with offices right next door to each other. We have come to appreciate the work and perspectives of the other. This work was a true collaboration between us and reflects our shared belief in the possibilities for decency and justice as that is elaborated upon by social institutions and their workers, and by individuals willing to change.

We are also grateful to the reviewers who took the time to review early drafts of our work and who provided us with helpful suggestions for improving the chapters and the book as a whole. There is no doubt that their comments made the book much better than it would have otherwise been. Heartfelt thanks to the following experts: Deborah Baskin, California State University, Los Angeles; Stephen Costanza, Central Connecticut State; Marie Griffin, Arizona State University; Kate Hanrahan, Indiana University of Pennsylvania; Laura Hansen, University of Massachusetts, Boston; Robert Hormant, University of Detroit; Jessie Krienert, Illinois State University; Cathy Levey, Goodwin College; Michael Montgomery, Tennessee State University; Sheree Morgan, St. Cloud State University; Mario Paparozzi, University of North Carolina, Pembroke; Danielle Rudes, George Mason University; Bill Sexson, Northwestern State University, Louisiana; Brenda Vose, University of North Florida; Charles E. Wilson, University of Detroit Mercy; and Vanessa Woodward, University of Southern Mississippi.



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