

CONTEMPORARY PRISON - POSITION, ROLE, PROBLEMATIC

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Abstract

Prisons, as places of detention, there is the time immemorial. So the prisons are known today - where offenders, criminals are sent as punishment, where they work and change - are results of the industrial period. They are, historical, three utility, functions: custodial, coercive and punitive. Holding that punishment has been used since the medieval period, so the first legal basis was the custodial prison or coercive. For Foucault (1997) modern prison, with its mechanisms of surveillance, is a new form of knowledge and power, without taking into account the interests that a power serves. This article seeks to address some of the problems prison organization faces: purposes that it serves; prison subcultures that emerge; the theoretical models that have dominated research in this area.

Keywords: *prison, prison as total organisation, prison subculture, deprivation model, importation model*

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