

Inmates' Perceptions and Use of Space Inside Manila City Jail

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Abstract

This research looks at how inmates inside the Manila City Jail use and perceive space using the interrelated concepts of personal space, territoriality and crowding. Little crowding have been seen inside the MCJ. This is brought about by the policies and measures implemented both by the management and the inmates as well. The construction of walls between each pangkat have lessened the friction and the relaxed implementation of visitation rights are also seen as a big factor for contentment of the inmates. Facilities such as basketball courts, videoke and pool serves as diversion to give an inmate more thing to do. Still, facilities that cater to the well-being and development of inmates are not effective and its usage are limited. Problems about loss of contact and power to change the outside world are seen as the most serious ones, which is similar to studies conducted with American and British prisoners.

Keywords: Prison, personal space, territoriality, crowding, Manila City Jail, Pangkat