

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

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Criminal justice reform was an urgent issue. It dealt with systemic problems in law enforcement, sentencing and prisons. In recent years, public awareness and activism about these issues. Reform surged in political and social discourse. This article explores the key aspects of criminal justice reform and why it matters. The need for reform stood out clearly. The current criminal justice system faced significant criticism in many countries, especially the United States. Problems included racial bias, harsh sentences and overcrowded prisons. Many felt that the system treated some people unfairly based on race or economic status. Also, statistics showed high incarceration rates without reducing crime effectively. In 2019 alone, over two million people were behind bars in the U.S., which raised questions about effectiveness versus punishment. Further, wrongful convictions highlighted flaws within the system itself. Many activists pushed for meaningful change through protests and campaigns. For instance, movements like Black Lives Matter brought attention to police brutality against marginalized communities starting around 2013 after several tragic incidents sparked outrage nationwide. More so, lawmakers began to listen to these concerns over time leading to various reforms across states aiming at reducing mandatory minimum sentences or ending cash bail practices seen as unjust. Yet challenges remained significant despite progress made by advocates pushing for equity within this complex landscape of laws and policies governing criminal behaviour, criminal justice reform aimed at creating a fairer system had long-term effects on society's view of justice itself while addressing deep-rooted inequalities present since its inception centuries ago during colonial times when laws often favoured certain groups over others leading to systemic oppression still felt today even though strides toward improvement continued being made through

Mass incarceration marked a significant issue in the U.S. Millions found themselves behind bars. This situation disproportionately impacted communities of colour and low-income groups. Racial disparities stood out clearly. Studies showed that racial minorities often stopped, arrests and longer sentences than white individuals. Systemic racism played a role in these outcomes. Over-policing emerged as another concern. Neighbourhoods with high poverty rates

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experienced police presence. Tensions escalated in these areas, leading to more arrests for minor offences. The cycle continued without resolution. In 2019, the Sentencing Project reported that Black Americans were incarcerated at five times the rate of white Americans. This statistic highlighted ongoing inequality within the justice system. Further analysis revealed that drug-related offences contributed significantly to these disparities. The impact of mass incarceration extended beyond prison walls. Families suffered due to lost income and emotional strain from separation. Communities felt the effects as well, facing stigmas associated with crime and imprisonment. Nevertheless, some reform efforts aimed to address these issues began gaining traction around 2010 onward. Advocacy groups pushed for changes in sentencing laws and policing practices to reduce racial bias. Long-term consequences remained evident even amid reforms though progress was slow and uneven across states. The legacy of mass incarceration continues to shape discussions about race, justice and equality in America today.

Prisons often lack rehabilitation. This led to high recidivism rates. Many individuals left prison without the support needed to reintegrate into society. It was a challenging situation. Sentencing Reform became a key area of reform. Reassessing mandatory minimum sentences and three-strikes laws helped reduce the number of individuals incarcerated for non-violent crimes. Advocating for alternative sentencing options also proved effective. Community service or rehabilitation programs offered better solutions. Decriminalization of Certain Offenses Legalizing or decriminalizing low-level offences like drug possession eased pressure on the criminal justice system. This reduced unnecessary incarcerations significantly. The focus shifted toward rehabilitation, yet challenges remained in implementation. The need for comprehensive support systems grew more urgent over time. In, addressing these issues had long-term impacts on society and the justice system itself. Reform efforts aimed at reducing recidivism rates and improving community safety were crucial steps forward.

Police accountability mattered. It implemented policies that promoted transparency within law enforcement agencies. Body cameras became essential tools. Independent oversight boards emerged as critical components. Reforms were necessary to tackle the excessive use of force. Restorative justice practices gained attention. The shifting of fostering of foster sealing rather than punitive measures. Victims found promoting reconciliation Offender senders faced accountability without harsh retribution. Mental Health and Substance Abuse Support also played a role. Substance abuse treatment provides alternatives to incarceration. Addressing the

root causes proved vital for reducing criminal behaviours. In, these approaches aimed to create a fairer system and foster community trust while promoting foster healing and understanding among all parties implementing the justice process.

Grassroots movements and advocacy organizations vital impacted criminal justice reform. Activists raise awareness, educate the public, and lobby for policy changes at various levels. Notable organizations played a key role. The Vera Institute of Justice provides research, resources, and support for reform efforts. Legislative changes. The First Step Act passed in 2018 in the U.S. aimed to change sentencing laws and improve prison conditions. This act demonstrates that reform is possible. Advocacy brought attention to mass incarceration and racial disparities in the system. Activists highlighted these problems through campaigns and protests. More so, they engaged communities to push for change. Yet not all efforts succeeded immediately. Some policies faced strong opposition from lawmakers or law enforcement agencies. Nevertheless, persistence led to progress over time. In, advocacy played a crucial part in shaping criminal justice policy changes over the years. The legacy of these movements continues today as discussions about reform remain relevant across America's landscape.

Ongoing to reform bail practices momentum for change. End cash bail became a hot topic. The goal was to ensure equitable treatment in the justice system. Many voices joined this cause. It felt urgent and necessary. Criminal justice reform stood as more than just a legal issue. It was a moral imperative too. Create a fair and just system for everyone involved. Addressing comprehensive and collaborative efforts. Policymakers, activists, and communities had to work together. Advocating for meaningful reforms paves the way for. An equitable and effective criminal justice system. This vision prioritizes justice, rehabilitation, and human dignity. Change was possible with collective effort and determination. In the end, these actions could reshape society's approach to justice over time. The impact of such reforms would be profound and lasting.

Reform is challenging. The road is often filled with obstacles. Yet, pursuing a just society matters. It requires striving and dedication. Change does not happen overnight. Many have fought for justice throughout history. In the 1960s, civil rights movements gained momentum in the United States. Activists like Martin Luther King Jr. led protests against racial discrimination. His famous "I Have a Dream" speech in 1963 inspired many to join