

24-10-18

To the Queensland Productivity Commission,

My name is Edward John Pearce. I am submitting the following information in response to the request for submissions for your *Inquiry into Imprisonment and Recidivism*.

I have been a Correctional Officer at the Lotus Glen Correctional Facility since July, 2012. During my time at Lotus Glen, one of my roles has been as an acting Activities officer. Through my personal and professional experience with incarceration I've had the opportunity to experience and evaluate a number of reintegration strategies. Through these experiences I was introduced to a unique curriculum called Lifeblood created in America specifically for the purpose of encouraging life-transformation in incarcerated or formerly incarcerated offenders. In addition to my C.O. role, I now represent this curriculum as Coordinator for Lifeblood Australia.

The Lifeblood curriculum was inspired by the life and transformation of John Turnipseed, a former pimp, drug-dealer and gang leader in the state of Minnesota in the U.S. Turnipseed's criminal organization became the largest gang in Minneapolis history. Mr. Turnipseed is now one of the most respected pioneers of community restoration in the U.S. and holds positions of positions as Campus Pastor and Executive Vice President at Urban Ventures a faith-based organization in one of the most under-resourced neighborhoods of Minneapolis with the mission of educating children, strengthening their families, and building a healthy community.

John Turnipseed assisted Five Stone Media in the development of the Lifeblood curriculum, a 12-part, cognitive-behavioral curriculum created to help bring life transformation to people who have taken wrong turns in life.

At the 14th *National Reintegration Puzzle Conference* in Hobart, it was identified that individuals with "lived experience" with incarceration need to be a part of the solution to the rehabilitation and reintegration of individuals who are seeking successful reintegration.

The Lifeblood Men and Lifeblood Women are curriculum that is ground-breaking in the world of reintegration programming because it is presented exclusively through interviews with former offenders who have "lived experience" and who have demonstrated successful reintegration and transformation. Lifeblood is having significant and measurable results in prisons around the United States, where it is being facilitated in correctional institutions and community-based reintegration programs such as private reintegration housing centers, Gospel Missions, and

Salvation Army recovery and reintegration.

It is our belief that Lifeblood is an effective programming tool in the efforts to provide rehabilitation for offenders. Lifeblood is able through video and guided discussion to help prepare offenders for success when offered inside correctional facilities. Lifeblood will also be highly effective as post-release management programming when offered through cooperative efforts of (volunteer) community reintegration partners and through CREST referral.

Additional information about Lifeblood can be found at; www.fivestonemedia.com/life-blood/

I look forward to the results of this inquiry and to being of further assistance,

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