

RESEARCH ON LEGITIMACY IN SLOVENIAN PRISONS AND A CORRECTIONAL HOME

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR PRISON STAFF

We invite you to participate in a study on the prisoners' perceptions of legitimacy and self-legitimacy of the prison staff in Slovenian prisons. The study is part of a basic research project Legitimacy and legality of policing, criminal justice and execution of penal sanctions (no. of the project J5-5548, ARRS, 2013-2016). If you decide to participate in the study, please fully fill in the questionnaire below. Completing the questionnaire will take about 15 minutes of your time.

The results of the study will be used solely for research purposes with regard to research ethics. Whilst respecting the provisions of the Law on Protection of Personal Data (Official Gazette of RS, no. 94/2007) and other regulations governing the protection of personal data, the participation of experts and other individuals in the study is voluntary. The results of the survey will be published in a doctoral thesis and scientific journals, but the information from which it would be possible to determine who was involved in this study will not be included. Completed questionnaires will be solely owned by the researcher so that prison leadership or anyone else will not be able to see your answers.

The aim of this survey is to identify factors that affect prisoners' perception of legitimacy and self-legitimacy of the prison staff. We will respond to all questions that you have about the study or your participation in the study (Researcher: Rok Hacin; e-mail address: rok.hacin@fvv.uni-mb.si; project leader: prof. Gorazd Meško PhD.; e-mail address: gorazd.mesko@fvv.uni-mb.si).

For your participation in the study and completion of the questionnaire, we sincerely thank you.

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On a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 means »Strongly Disagree«, 2 »Disagree«, 3 »Neither«, 4 »Agree« and 5 »Strongly Agree« highlight how each of the following statements reflects your views on the legitimacy of your workplace. Please **circle ONE number** at each statement.

		Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither agree or disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Q1	The powers I have as a prison worker are morally right.	1	2	3	4	5,
Q2	I am sure I can give a good reason to prisoners as to why my powers as a prison worker are morally proper.	1	2	3	4	5
Q3	I am sure that I have enough authority to do my job.	1	2	3	4	5
Q4	I believe it is right for me as a prison worker to have special powers over prisoners (room inspections, urine tests etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Q5	I sometimes worry that I am not really up to the job.	1	2	3	4	5
Q6	I believe I occupy a special position in society.	1	2	3	4	5
Q7	I believe I am good at my job (resocialization of prisoners).	1	2	3	4	5
Q8	I believe my role as a prison worker is necessary to maintain safety in prison.	1	2	3	4	5
Q9	I believe I am psychologically strong enough to do my job.	1	2	3	4	5
Q10	I believe I am physically strong enough to do my job.	1	2	3	4	5
Q11	I believe I have enough knowledge to do my job.	1	2	3	4	5
Q12	I believe I am capable enough to do my job.	1	2	3	4	5
Q13	I have a good working relationship with my colleagues.	1	2	3	4	5
Q14	My colleagues treat me with respect.	1	2	3	4	5
Q15	I feel that my colleagues trust me.	1	2	3	4	5
Q16	I feel supported by my colleagues.	1	2	3	4	5
Q17	I have a good working relationship with my colleagues.	1	2	3	4	5
Q18	I find it hard to trust my colleagues.	1	2	3	4	5
Q19	My views about what is wrong and right in prison work are very similar to the views of my colleagues.	1	2	3	4	5
Q20	I socialize with my colleagues outside of working hours.	1	2	3	4	5
Q21	The decisions of my supervisor are equally fair to every prison worker.	1	2	3	4	5
Q22	I feel that my supervisor treats me with respect and dignity.	1	2	3	4	5
Q23	My supervisor usually gives me an explanation for the decisions that affect me.	1	2	3	4	5
Q24	My supervisor takes account of my needs when making decisions that affect me.	1	2	3	4	5

Q25	Decisions by my supervisor are always based on facts, not personal biases.	1	2	3	4	5
Q26	I am treated fairly in the prison, where I work.	1	2	3	4	5
Q27	My supervisor can be rough with prison workers when he is trying to get them to do what he/she wants.	1	2	3	4	5
Q28	My supervisor gives me support to do my job.	1	2	3	4	5
Q29	I can always approach my supervisor when I have a problem.	1	2	3	4	5
Q30	I have confidence in the abilities of my supervisor.	1	2	3	4	5
Q31	My supervisor rarely gives me commendations for a job well done.	1	2	3	4	5
Q32	My supervisor takes my opinions into account, in decision-making.	1	2	3	4	5
Q33	Most of the prisoners with whom I work feel that they are treated fairly in prison.	1	2	3	4	5
Q34	Most of the prisoners with whom I work feel that prison workers take time to explain their decisions.	1	2	3	4	5
Q35	Most of the prisoners with whom I work feel that prison workers always comply with the laws.	1	2	3	4	5
Q36	Most of the prisoners with whom I work feel that prison workers are people whom they can trust.	1	2	3	4	5
Q37	Most of the prisoners with whom I work feel that prison workers treat them fairly.	1	2	3	4	5
Q38	Most of the prisoners with whom I work think that I am doing a good job and are satisfied with me.	1	2	3	4	5
Q39	Most of the prisoners with whom I am dealing behave respectfully toward prison workers.	1	2	3	4	5
Q40	Prison workers have a duty to treat all prisoners fairly, regardless of gender, ethnicity or sexual orientation.	1	2	3	4	5
Q41	I feel a sense of duty to help prisoners.	1	2	3	4	5
Q42	I feel a sense of duty to act lawfully toward prisoners.	1	2	3	4	5
Q43	I encourage prisoners to show their emotions.	1	2	3	4	5
Q44	Prison workers consider prisoners' proposals.	1	2	3	4	5
Q45	Prisoners may tell their criticism into my face.	1	2	3	4	5
Q46	Prison workers consider prisoners' reviews.	1	2	3	4	5
Q47	Prison workers encourage prisoners to learn something new.	1	2	3	4	5

Q48	Prisoners are careful about what they are saying around prison workers.	1	2	3	4	5
Q49	I feel uncomfortable when I talk to prisoners.	1	2	3	4	5
Q50	I was a victim of a physical attack from a prisoner.	1	2	3	4	5
Q51	I was a victim of a psychological attack from a prisoner.	1	2	3	4	5
Q52	Prisoners may call prison workers by their first names.	1	2	3	4	5
Q53	Prison workers encourage prisoners to make their own decisions.	1	2	3	4	5
Q54	I have a relaxed relationship with most of the prisoners.	1	2	3	4	5
Q55	Prison workers are interested in prisoners' feelings.	1	2	3	4	5
Q56	If you are good to prisoners, they will start to exploit you.	1	2	3	4	5
Q57	Prison workers frequently ask prisoners about their personal problems.	1	2	3	4	5
Q58	It is important that you have compassion toward prisoners.	1	2	3	4	5
Q59	Most of the prisoners are decent people.	1	2	3	4	5
Q60	Prison workers do not order prisoners around without a reason.	1	2	3	4	5
Q61	I believe that public warning to the prisoner is an acceptable form of use of force.	1	2	3	4	5
Q62	I believe that the threat of use of force against prisoners is an acceptable form of use of force.	1	2	3	4	5
Q63	I believe that the use of physical force against prisoners is an acceptable form of use of force.	1	2	3	4	5
Q64	I use public warnings in my work with prisoners.	1	2	3	4	5
Q65	I use the threat of use of force in my work with prisoners.	1	2	3	4	5
Q66	I use physical force in my work with prisoners.	1	2	3	4	5
Q67	At work, I am subjected to stress.	1	2	3	4	5
Q68	I feel that I get assigned a lot more duties in comparison to my colleagues.	1	2	3	4	5
Q69	The stress that I am experiencing at my job affects my personal life.	1	2	3	4	5
Q70	I am satisfied with my present pay.	1	2	3	4	5
Q71	Considering how much I work, I am satisfied with my pay.	1	2	3	4	5
Q72	I am well paid considering the conditions of work.	1	2	3	4	5
Q73	Performance of duties that are required for my workplace, exhausts me.	1	2	3	4	5
Q74	I have enough time to perform my duties.	1	2	3	4	5

Q75	I have a feeling of helplessness when prisoners ask me for my help.	1	2	3	4	5
Q76	I am satisfied with my job.	1	2	3	4	5
Q77	I am scared that prisoners would physically attack me.	1	2	3	4	5
Q78	I am scared that prisoners would psychologically attack me.	1	2	3	4	5
Q79	I agree with the instructions and procedures for the treatment of prisoners, which I get from my supervisors.	1	2	3	4	5
Q80	When I come home, I do not think about my work anymore.	1	2	3	4	5
Q81	The nature of my job requires that I am concentrated all the time.	1	2	3	4	5
Q82	If I would have the option, I would do a different work.	1	2	3	4	5
Q83	I feel a strong sense of belonging to my organisation.	1	2	3	4	5
Q84	My views about what is wrong and right in prison work are very similar to the views of my colleagues.	1	2	3	4	5
Q85	I discovered that my values are similar to the values of my organisation.	1	2	3	4	5
Q86	Prison workers should not bring prohibited substances to prisoners.	1	2	3	4	5
Q87	I always go to the aid of a prison worker in distress.	1	2	3	4	5
Q88	I would not rat on my colleagues, even if they would do something against the rules.	1	2	3	4	5
Q89	I always support my colleagues in front of prisoners.	1	2	3	4	5
Q90	I always support a prison worker in a dispute with a prisoner.	1	2	3	4	5
Q91	I always support my colleagues, when they impose sanctions upon prisoners (even if I do not agree with the sanction).	1	2	3	4	5
Q92	Prison workers should not develop informal relations with prisoners.	1	2	3	4	5
Q93	Prisoner workers stick together.	1	2	3	4	5

On a scale from 1 to 4, where 1 means »Never«, 2 »Once«, 3 »Twice« and 4 »Three times or more« highlight how each of the following statements reflects your actions in the last 12 months. Please circle **ONE** number at each statement.

Have you in the last 12 months...		Never	Once	Twice	Three times or more
Q94	...especially make an effort to do your job better than it is expected?	1	2	3	4
Q95	...help a prisoner even though he did not ask you for your help?	1	2	3	4
Q96	...voluntary carry out certain things, to help prison?	1	2	3	4

Highlight how you would react toward a prisoner in the following hypothetical situations in prison.

Q97. You spot a prisoner on the corridor, who is causing unrest and challenges fellow prisoners. When you approach him and order him to cease with such behaviour, he tells you that you are stupid and to leave him alone. How far would you go, in accordance with your authorities, to calm down the situation?

- 1) Command to the prisoner to cease with such a behaviour.
- 2) Warning to the prisoner that, if he does not cease with such behaviour, he will be removed from the common areas and placed in a separate room.
- 3) Warning to the prisoner that, if he does not cease with such behaviour, coercive means will be used upon him.
- 4) Use of coercive means or physical force.

Q98. You spot a prisoner in the corridor, who has verbally attacked one of your colleagues. When you approach him and warn him of the inappropriateness of his behaviour, he verbally attacks you and takes an aggressive stance (he is preparing to physically attack you and your colleague). How far would you go, in accordance with your authorities, to calm down the situation?

- 1) Command to the prisoner to cease with such a behaviour.
- 2) Warning to the prisoner that, if he does not cease with such behaviour, he will be removed from the common areas and placed in a separate room.
- 3) Warning to the prisoner that, if he does not cease with such behaviour, coercive means will be used upon him.
- 4) Use of coercive means or physical force.

Q99. When you inspect a prisoner's room, you find a prohibited object, which you confiscated. When the prisoner sees that you confiscated his possessions, he gets verbally abusive to you. How far would you go, in accordance with your authorities, to calm down the situation?

- 1) Command to the prisoner to cease with such a behaviour.
- 2) Warning to the prisoner that, if he does not cease with such behaviour, he will be removed from the common areas and placed in a separate room.
- 3) Warning to the prisoner that, if he does not cease with such behaviour, coercive means will be used upon him.
- 4) Use of coercive means or physical force.

Highlight which characteristics apply to you, as an employee of the prison.

Q100. Gender:

- 1) Male 2) Female

Q101. Age (years): _____

Q102. Your workplace:

- 1) Prison officer (judicial police)
- 2) Specialised worker (social pedagogues, teachers, social workers, psychologists, sociologists, working instructors and health workers)
- 3) Other: _____

Q103. How long have you been employed in the prison system (years)? _____

Q104. How long have you been employed in the prison (years)? _____

Q105. What level of education have you achieved?

- 1) Elementary school
- 2) Vocational school
- 3) High school
- 4) Vocational college
- 5) University
- 6) M. A.
- 7) Ph.D.

Q106. What is your current family status?

- 1) Single
- 2) In relationship
- 3) Married or non-marital partnership
- 4) Divorced
- 5) Widowed

Q107. Do you have children?

- 1) Yes 2) No

Q108. What is the distance from your residence to your workplace (in kilometres)? _____

Q109. Would you like to add anything?
