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Role of libraries and information in the empowerment of women prisoners in Uganda

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Abstract:

Libraries provide information that meets recreational, lifelong learning, and transitional needs of prisoners, preparing them to be successful ex-offenders. Prison libraries in Uganda were established by non-governmental organizations, as a way of rehabilitating inmates back into society as changed persons, ready to contribute towards development of the country. This paper explores the role that libraries play in transforming prisoners. A study was conducted to establish benefits from library services such as those provided by the African Prisons Project. Methodology: Twenty eight women prisoners from two prisons: 18 from Luzira Prison and 10 from Kigo Women's Prison were interviewed. Findings: Libraries meet women prisoners' needs for recreation and culture. Recommendations: More library collections on women empowerment and more sessions for women prisoners.

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