

# CALIFORNIA DAY REPORTING CENTERS

## REDUCE CRIMINAL THINKING



<b>FACILITIES</b> California Day Reporting Centers (DRCs): Antelope Valley, Compton, Contra Costa, Monterey, Pomona, San Diego, Santa Ana, Santa Clara, Solano, Stockton	<b>POPULATION</b> Parolees	<b>CUSTOMER</b> California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)	<b>PROGRAM LENGTH</b> 9-12 Months
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### PROGRAM SUMMARY

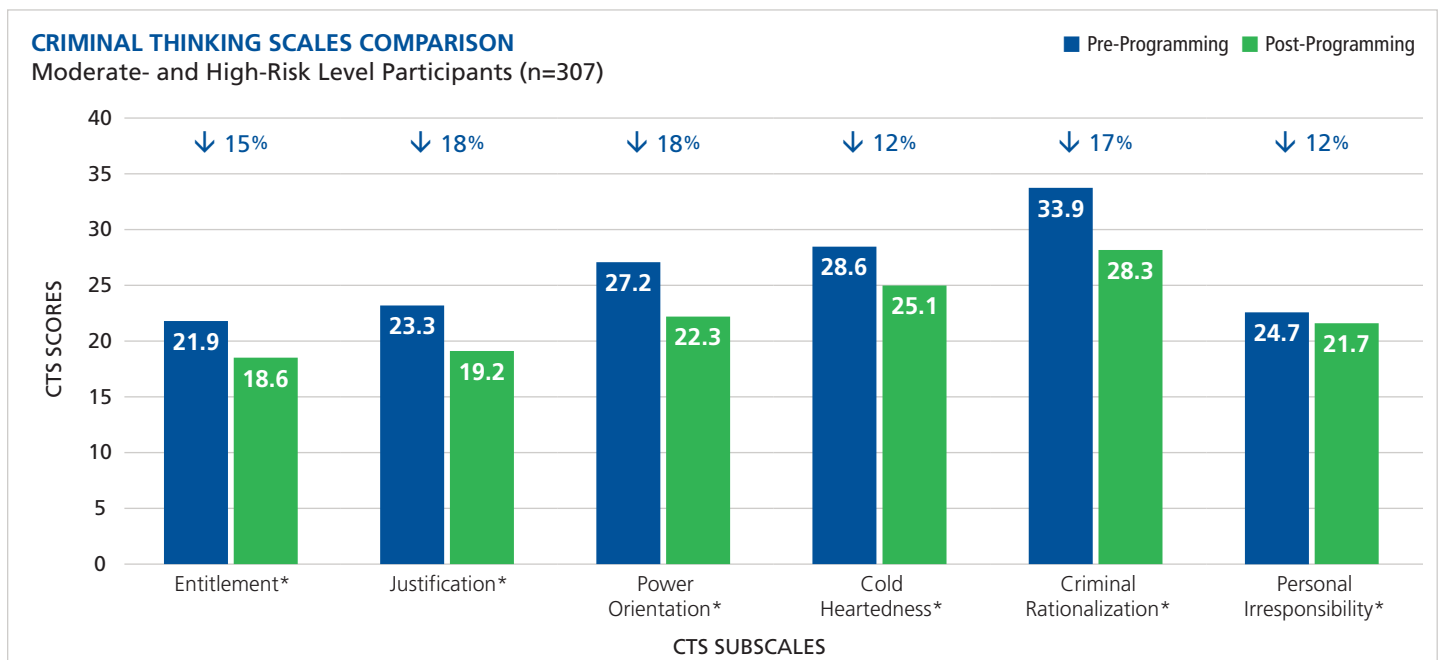
Throughout California, GEO Reentry Services provides comprehensive programming tailored to meet individual offender’s risk and needs. At the foundation of our programs is evidence-based programming designed to address criminogenic needs as identified through the assessment process. The program model at the DRCs include Cognitive Behavioral Treatment (CBT), Moral Reconciliation Therapy® (MRT), alcohol and drug testing, substance abuse counseling, anger management, domestic violence prevention classes, parenting/family reintegration, employment readiness and assistance, life skills and cognitive restructuring, education and GED preparation, housing assistance, relapse prevention aftercare, and Sober Living Housing. Programming is delivered through group and individual sessions. The DRCs are designed to be part of the solution in changing behavior and reducing recidivism in California.

### CRIMINAL THINKING OUTCOMES

Criminal thinking domains, such as antisocial cognitions and antisocial attitudes, are frequent targets for change in correctional treatment and are described in current theories of criminal behavior.<sup>1</sup> The research on “What Works” to reduce recidivism indicates that antisocial cognition and antisocial attitudes (criminal thinking) are among the top three risk factors as drivers of recidivism. The Texas Christian University Criminal Thinking Scales (CTS), a reliable and validated instrument, measures the effect of GEO Reentry’s programming on antisocial cognition and attitudes. The results in this report indicate that the California DRCs reduce criminal thinking patterns as measured by the CTS, and therefore lowers the potential for future recidivism.

### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Research evaluators analyzed the pre- and post-programming CTS scores for 307 individuals with moderate- to high-risk scores in at least one domain at intake between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021. Participant risk level is determined by the recommended score ranges outlined by research.<sup>2</sup> The results indicate the DRC programming reduced criminal thinking as evidenced by the reduction in the participants’ CTS scores. The figure below illustrates a clinically significant decrease, averaging 15% (4.1 points) across all six scales.



\*A clinically significant reduction in scores is defined as a two point or greater decrease from the pre- to post-programming score.

<sup>1</sup> Knight, K., Garner, B.R., Simpson D.W. Morey, J.T., & Flynn, P.M. (2006). “An assessment for criminal thinking” *Crime & Delinquency*, Vol. 52, No. 1, 159-17

<sup>2</sup> Knight, K., Ekelund, B., Barbour, P. (2015) “Simplifying Assessment in Criminal Justice and Treatment Settings: Using TCU Tools to Ensure Effective Services”. <https://docplayer.net/45907693-Simplifying-assessment-in-criminal-justice-and-treatment-settings-using-tcu-tools-to-ensure-effective-services.html>

**CRIMINAL THINKING SCALES****RECOMMENDED RISK SCORE RANGES<sup>2</sup>**

ELEMENTS	DESCRIPTION	LOW	MODERATE	HIGH
ENTITLEMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focuses on a sense of ownership and privilege.</li> <li>• High scores are associated with the offender's belief that the world "owes them" and they deserve special consideration.</li> </ul>	10-17	18-20	21-40
JUSTIFICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refers to patterns of thought that minimize the seriousness of antisocial acts and by justifying actions based on external circumstances.</li> <li>• High scores may be associated with perceived social injustice.</li> </ul>	10-18	19-22	23-40
POWER ORIENTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measures the need of power and control.</li> <li>• High scores are associated with higher levels of aggression and controlling behaviors.</li> </ul>	10-22	23-27	28-40
COLD HEARTEDNESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High scores reflect a lack of emotional involvement.</li> </ul>	10-20	21-23	24-40
CRIMINAL RATIONALIZATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High scores on this scale are associated with negative attitude towards the law and authority figures.</li> </ul>	10-28	29-35	36-40
PERSONAL IRRESPONSIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assesses the degree to which an offender is willing to accept ownership for criminal actions.</li> <li>• Therefore, high scores are associated with non-acceptance of criminal actions and often blaming others.</li> </ul>	10-18	19-24	25-40

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

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