

POMONA DAY REPORTING CENTER REDUCES CRIMINAL THINKING



FACILITY Pomona Day Reporting Center (DRC)	POPULATION Parolees	CUSTOMER California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation (CDCR)	PROGRAM LENGTH 8 months
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PROGRAM SUMMARY

GEO Reentry Services provides comprehensive treatment programs tailored to meet individual offender’s risks and needs. At the foundation of our treatment is evidence-based programming designed to address criminogenic needs as identified through the assessment process. The model includes the following: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), substance abuse treatment, life skills training, anger management skills, and family relationship reconciliation. Programming is delivered through group and individual sessions.

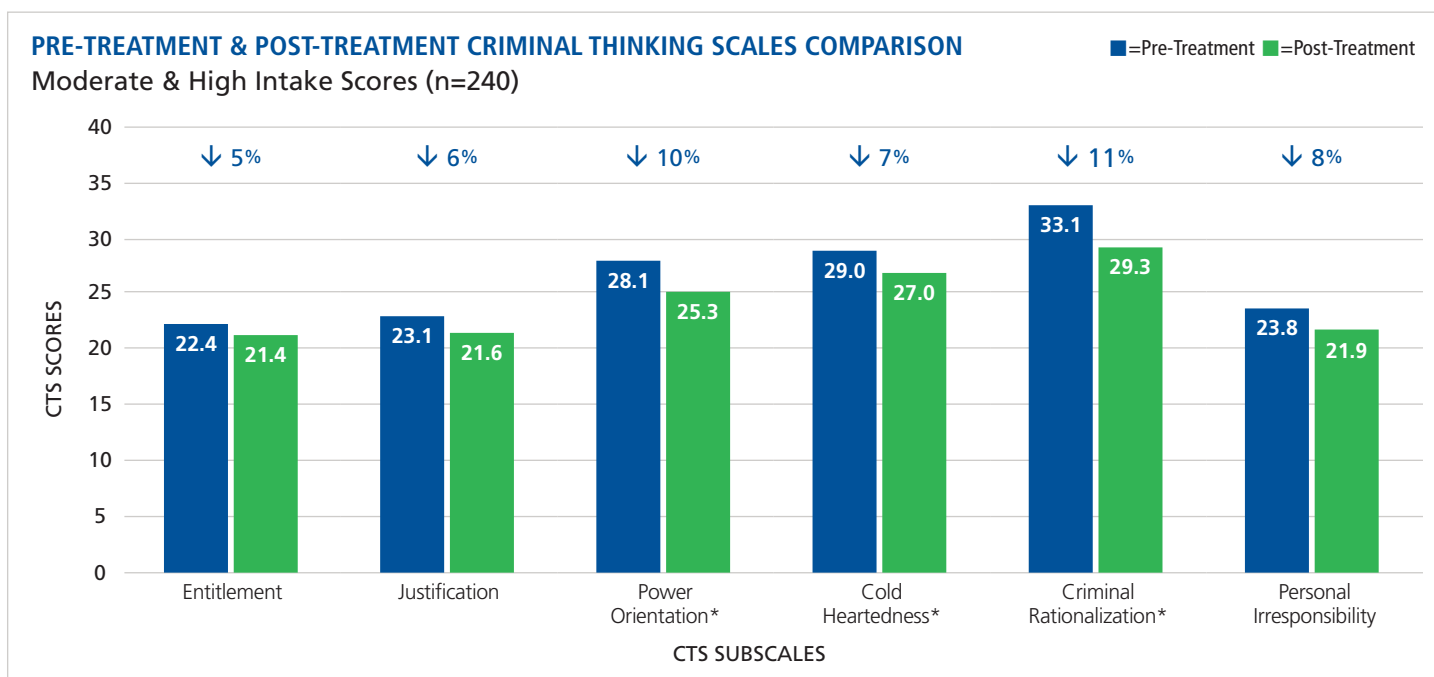
WHY IS A REDUCTION IN CRIMINAL THINKING IMPORTANT?

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.¹ 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’s programming on antisocial cognition and attitudes. The results of this report indicate that GEO’s programs reduce criminal thinking patterns as measured by the CTS, and therefore lower the potential for future recidivism.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The evaluators analyzed the pre-treatment and post-treatment CTS scores for 240 participants from the Pomona DRC. The participants were treated at the DRC between 2015 and 2018. The average treatment episode for the participants was approximately eight months. The graph below illustrates the risk reduction for participants who were moderate or high in criminal thinking at intake (i.e., those with elevated levels). The participants had a significant decrease, both clinically and statistically, averaging an 8% reduction (2 points) across the six scales.

The results indicated that the programming at the Pomona DRC significantly reduced criminal thinking for participants in the moderate to high-risk sample as evidenced by the changes in their CTS scores from pre-test to post-test.



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

¹Knight, 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, 159-177

CRIMINAL THINKING SCALES

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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