

# STOCKTON DAY REPORTING CENTER REDUCES CRIMINAL THINKING



<b>FACILITY</b> Stockton Day Reporting Center (DRC)	<b>POPULATION</b> Parolees	<b>CUSTOMER</b> California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation (CDCR)	<b>PROGRAM LENGTH</b> 180 days
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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 Treatment (CBT), substance abuse treatment, life skills training, anger management skills, family relationship reconciliation, employment readiness, and job placement. Programming is delivered through group and individual sessions.

## WHY IS A REDUCTION IN CRIMINAL THINKING IMPORTANT?

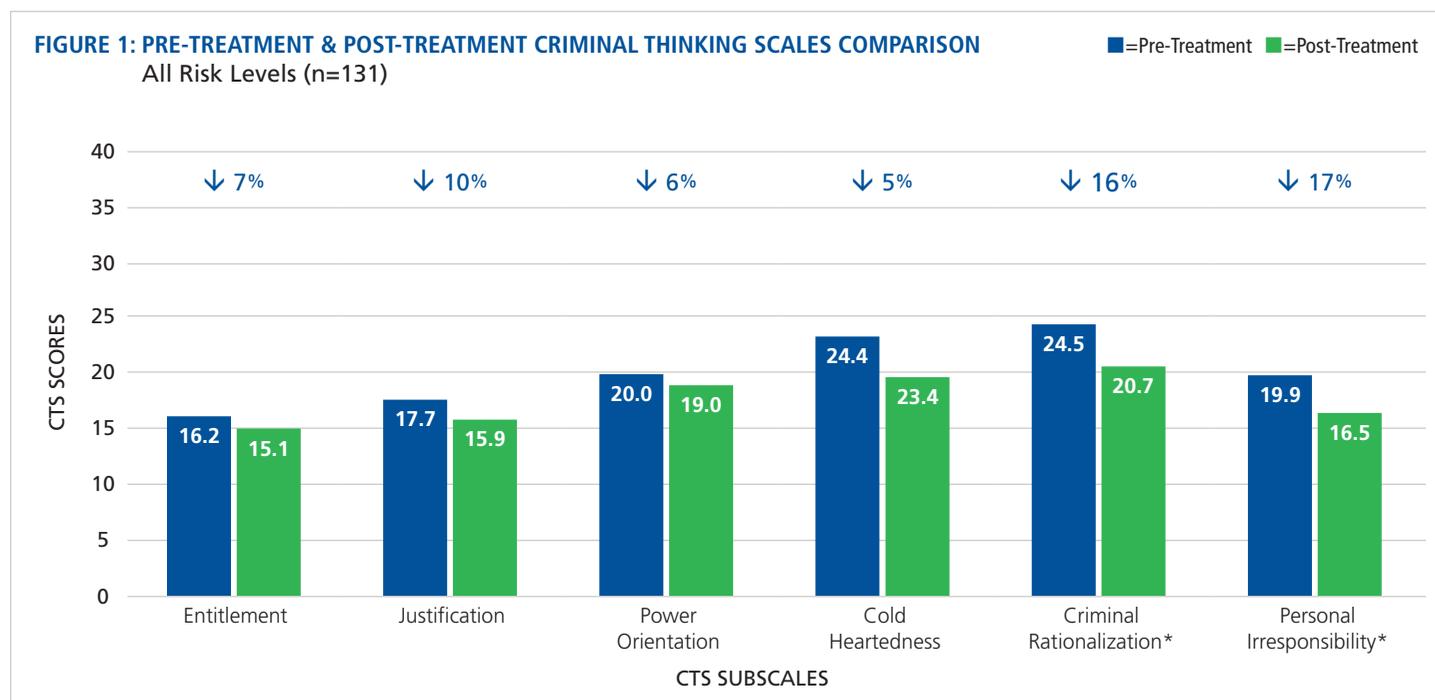
Criminal thinking domains, such as antisocial cognitions and antisocial attitudes, are frequent targets for change in correctional treatment, and are described in current theories of criminal behavior.<sup>1</sup> The research on “What Works” to reduce recidivism indicates that antisocial cognition and 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’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 131 participants from the Stockton DRC. The participants were treated during 2018, and an average treatment episode for the participants was approximately 180 days. The figures below illustrate the risk reduction. Two significant findings include:

- **Figure 1** shows all program participants regardless of risk level at intake averaged a 10% reduction (2 points) across all scales.
- **Figure 2** illustrates the results of 65 individuals, a subset of the total 131 participant sample, with moderate- to high-risk scores on intake. Following the Risk Principle, this population had a clinically and statistically significant reduction at 17% (5 points) from intake to exit across all six scales.\*

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



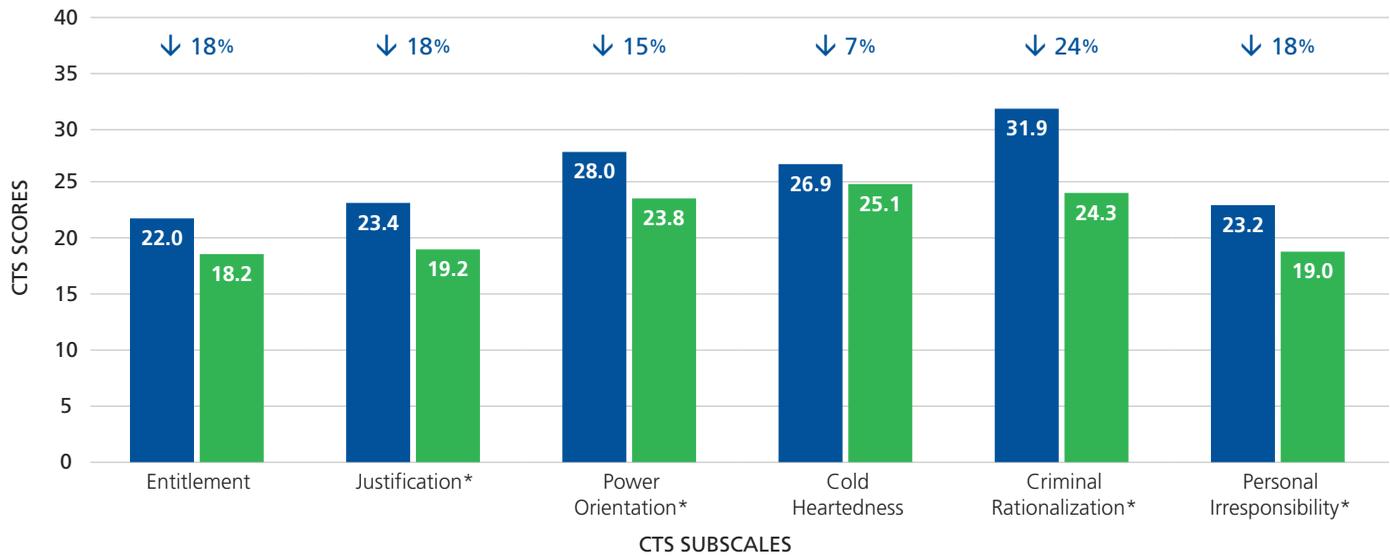
\*A clinically significant reduction in scores is defined as a two point or greater decrease from the pre-treatment score to post-treatment.

<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, 159-177

**FIGURE 2: PRE-TREATMENT & POST-TREATMENT CRIMINAL THINKING SCALES COMPARISON**

High- and Medium-Risk Levels (n = 65)

■ =Pre-Treatment ■ =Post-Treatment



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

## CRIMINAL THINKING SCALES

ELEMENTS	DESCRIPTION
<b>ENTITLEMENT</b>	<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>
<b>JUSTIFICATION</b>	<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>
<b>POWER ORIENTATION</b>	<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>
<b>COLD HEARTEDNESS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High scores reflect a lack of emotional involvement.</li> </ul>
<b>CRIMINAL RATIONALIZATION</b>	<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>
<b>PERSONAL IRRESPONSIBILITY</b>	<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>

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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