



Steeps, The Urban Tea House
11116 - 82nd (Whyte) Avenue
Edmonton

Winter Theme: Does Imprisonment Fit the Crime?

Our society uses imprisonment as its chief way of handling persons convicted of serious crimes. Current legislation before parliament would further expand the role of prisons. And yet cases like that of Ashley Smith where the prison system obviously goes badly wrong are familiar. Our winter series of cafés asks some basic questions: What do we want incarceration to accomplish? Does it in fact fulfill whatever purposes we think it has? Or does it sometimes make matters worse? Are there alternatives to imprisonment, at least for some cases, that might “restore” the broken relationship between the convicted and society? What happens after the person leaves prison?

Do prisons actually accomplish what we expect them to?

Animateur: Farzad Bawani (Board Director, John Howard Society)
26 January, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Can our justice system be genuinely “restorative”?

Animateur: Janet-Sue Hamilton (Retired Warden, Edmonton Institution for Women)
9 February, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Is a meaningful life possible for those in prison?

Animateur: Teresa Kellendonk (Assoc. Director of Pastoral Care, Archdiocese of Edmonton)
23 February, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Is spirituality in prisons really meaningful?

Animateur: Ron Nikkel (President, Prison Fellowship International)
9 March, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Is insanity a demeaning defense?

Animateur: Annalise Acorn (Lawlor Professor of Law and Ethics, Faculty of Law, University of Alberta)
23 March, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

Is there life after prison?

Animateur: Jonathan Nicolai-de Koning (Community Corrections Chaplain, Mustard Seed)
6 April, 1:00-3:30 p.m.

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