

Sapers Condemns the Use of Inmate Segregation

SAPERS CONDEMNS THE USE OF INMATE SEGREGATION - Globe and Mail - 09/11/19

The Globe and Mail reporter Kirk MAKIN reports Correctional Investigator Howard SAPERS has found that the use of segregation in federal penitentiaries has spiralled out of control, threatening the rights and well-being of thousands of inmates.

Sapers has reportedly found that more than 7,600 inmates, including some that suffer from mental illness, were segregated last year.

Sapers' report claimed mentally ill inmates deprived of human company suffer from illogical thinking, delusions or paranoia.

The Canadian Civil Liberties Association (CCLA) and the Criminal Lawyers' Association said that they intend to use Sapers' findings to force a reduction in the use of solitary confinement and the creation of an independent oversight body.

CSC spokesperson Christa MCGREGOR said that the notion of segregation "can conjure up images that are not an accurate portrayal of what segregation is in our system," adding that, "We see it as a tool to help us ensure the safety of staff and inmates and security of the institution. We see it as a tool to maintain the security of the institution."

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