

Beliefs about the Treatment of Juvenile Offenders



1. Juvenile offenders are sent to detention *as* punishment and not *for* punishment.
2. Detention workers have a *responsibility* to ensure that juvenile offenders are returned to the community no more angry or hostile than when they were committed.
3. Juvenile offenders are *entitled* to a safe and humane environment while in detention.
4. You must believe in a youth's *capacity* to change his/her behavior.
5. Normalize the environment to the extent possible by providing programs, amenities, and services. The denial of such must be related to maintaining order and security rather than punishment.
6. Most juvenile offenders will respond favorably to a clean and aesthetically pleasing physical environment and will not vandalize or destroy it.



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