

Prisons are obsolete because we believe that prisons exist to keep us safe, but in reality the job we think they perform can be performed in more humane ways. It is convenient for us to believe that once a person commits a crime and goes to jail, they have willingly forfeit their humanity and rights. However, people who commit crimes do in fact remain people, and people can be rehabilitated and given the resources to avoid a life of crime. In fact, many crimes are committed out of desperation, not malice; someone might rob a grocery store because they're starving and too poor to avoid to eat. This is a social problem that cannot be fixed by prisons.