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English 12

Private Prisons

Private prisons how were they started?, private prisons were started because prison population increased during the “war on drugs”, and with prison overcrowding there also came the rise of costs and that became a contentious political issue. Than private businesses came in and offered a solution, that was how private prisons were first established. When private prisons were started they were promised increase, and business-efficiency , and that would also result into cost savings and an overall decrease in the amount, that the government would have to spend on these prisons, so if I had to be with or against private prisons this would be one of the reasons why I would be against the private prisons; because yea sure they are saving our government from spending so much money on the prisons; but private prisons are not subject to the same constitutional constraints that state-run prisons are.

When private prisons were first started they had theorized that private prisons would be more accountable, the reason for this is because private prisons were not like regular prisons a private prison could be fined, and the people that worked there could also be fired as well, this is another reason why I would be against a private prison ,because if a prison gets fined isn’t that spending more money towards our government, and not only that but the businesses that were also promised an increase; would also be damaged by the fine, this would bring the businesses down, and if businesses came down then there would also be less job opportunities for the people that had already been working for those businesses especially if the fine was a big one.

Private prisons are really big businesses; they have annual budgets that are in the billions. And there are also several large players in the private prisons businesses, one of them is corrections corporation of America (CCA), there is also the (GEO) and they are formerly known as the Wackenhut securities, and there is also Cornell companies. Just alone Corrections Corporation of America owns 65 correctional facilities in the U.S; and has over 100,000 inmates. Another one of my main reasons to be against these private prisons, they make billions of dollars annually and yet there are still many people that are struggling in life there are many things that, that money could go towards to like creating a facility where we could help veterans that are having a difficult time going back to their normal lives after all that they went through in the war. Where is all the money that these private prisons are making going towards I think that they should be going towards rehabilitation towards the inmates the billions of dollars that these private prisons are making should be going towards something good, it should not just be going towards saving the government money.

One of the bad signs that I see about private prisons is that, when there are not enough occupants in the prisons then that harms the private prisons business and that could also as well harm our government, not only that but there are also seems to be some dangers about private prisons, because if they don’t have many prisoners then they don’t get paid too much money and that could also be a bad thing; because it could turn into, them just putting people into prison for the smallest things because they don’t want to be losing money, so here’s another good reason why I would be against private prisons because if the businesses were to panic because of their money lost, then they would end up accusing them of things just so that they didn’t have to put up with losing money if it ever came to them not getting enough prisoners in the private prisons.

And last but not least my main big reason for being against private prisons, is because there has been some stuff that has just not been right, according to my research I found out that although they say that private prisons is helping the government so that they could spend less money, it actually turns out that private prisons could actually be more expensive than state run prisons. Private prisons have also been linked to many violence cases and atrocious conditions. I also found out that when there are private prisons and the beds are not being used in those private prisons are not being used then there are taxpayers that have to pay for those empty beds, that is another reason why I am against private prisons because although they try to make it seem like private prisons are only helping our economy in reality they are only making things worse for the taxpayers because they have to pay for the empty beds of the prisons.