REENTRY ESSENTIALS DVD COLLECTION



REENTRY ISSUES



A HARD STRAIGHT Item # REV031

Starting with the day they are released from California state prisons, A HARD STRAIGHT follows three former prisoners as they enjoy their newly regained freedom while negotiating the difficulties of returning to an unsympathetic - and often hostile - society. The film interweaves the stories of Regina Allen, Richard "Smiley" Martinez, and Aaron Shepard in their attempts to construct new lives: from the ecstatic moment of their first taste of freedom to the inevitable frustrations, joys, and banality of life on the outside. A HARD STRAIGHT reveals what parolees must do in order to survive after leaving the prison gates with little money and even less outside support, how an extended stay in an environment marked by racism, violence, severe regimentation, and subjugation affects their ability to reintegrate into "outside life," and what sorts of resources are necessary for them to make a successful transition.

A HARD STRAIGHT was shot in San Francisco and Los Angeles over a two-year period. From the hard streets of gangland San Fernando Valley to a drug rehabilitation center teetering on the edge of survival, the film covers ground rarely featured in the debate over our country's soaring recidivism rates. Director Goro Toshima shot extensive footage with each of the three parolees, gaining entry into their private lives and documenting their successes as well as their almost inescapable mistakes. Portraying the reentry process with a clear and direct eye, A HARD STRAIGHT offers multidimensional portraits of people with personal histories, observations, remembrances, hopes, and fears, providing a realistic understanding about the profound experience of doing time and trying to go straight.



BEYOND THE WALL Item # REV032

This film revolves around one central figure, a former prisoner name Louie Diaz, as he works to guide five formerly incarcerated men safely through the minefield of life outside of jail. Too often, prisoner reentry becomes a setup for failure and eventual re-incarceration. For Louie, helping others keeps him grounded, helps him maintain his own sobriety and preserve his freedom. But, for the others, with little to no support from the criminal justice system, how will they find hope?



DOING TIME: LIFE INSIDE THE BIG HOUSE Item # REV033

Academy Award-nominated DOING TIME: LIFE INSIDE THE BIG HOUSE takes a hard-edged look at life inside the walls of Lewisburg, a maximum-security federal penitentiary where the notion of rehabilitation and parole have all but been abandoned.

Called "riveting and beautifully made" by The New York Times, this Academy Award-nominated film offers an eye-opening glimpse of corrections in

After gaining unprecedented permission from the U.S. Department of Justice, Emmy Award-winner Alan Raymond spent five weeks inside Lewisburg. With access to the entire prison, the Raymonds captured the stories of corrections officers as well as inmates, including drug lords, "lifers" with no

possibility of parole, and prisoners convicted of leading prison riots. Detailing a world where prisoners carry "shanks" and officers respond to violence in full riot gear, this candid documentary reveals what life inside "the big house" is really like. A rare, unprecedented look at the prison subculture, DOING TIME: LIFE INSIDE THE BIG HOUSE will challenge the way you look at incarceration in America.



IT'S CRIMINAL Item # REV035

Two worlds collide when Dartmouth College students meet with incarcerated women at a local jail in this transformational documentary about privilege, poverty, and injustice. IT'S CRIMINAL highlights the wide economic and social inequality that divides the United States and offers a unique window into how two groups of women break down barriers and learn to speak to each other.

When twenty-four women come together to create a play based on the experiences of the jailed women, it starts with a clash of personalities and a level of distrust. From there, walls are broken down as the two groups communicate with each other, and the ivy league students learn to look beyond their preconceived notions of the prisoners and gain an empathetic insight into the injustices of the criminal justice system. Likewise, the women of the correctional facility open up about their painful pasts and give voice to fragile - yet still hopeful - visions for their futures.



OMAR & PETE Item # REV036

A "vivid, sobering portrait" that "packs considerable cumulative punch" (Variety). OMAR & PETE is a compelling and highly personal film that examines the social, economic, and personal barriers two ex-offenders face as they try to reintegrate into their communities and families. In and out of prison for more than 30 years, Omar and Pete are determined to change their lives. Upon release, both participate in the Maryland Reentry Program, which is designed to help long-term repeat offenders stay out of prison.

This intimate and penetrating film follows the two long-time friends for several years after what they hope will be their final prison release. In that time, their lives take divergent paths as one wrestles with addiction and fear while the other finds success and freedom through helping others.

Their story boldly exposes the many barriers to successful reintegration and the complex, often frustrating challenges that men who were formerly incarcerated face when reentering society.

Written, produced, and directed by Academy Award nominated and Emmy award-winning filmmaker Tod Lending, OMAR & PETE provides an honest and unflinching portrait of how challenging life on the outside can be for men who have lived much of their lives behind bars.



FRONTLINE: LIFE ON PAROLE Item # REV034

With unique access, go inside an effort in Connecticut to change the way parole works and reduce the number of people returning to prison. In collaboration with The New York Times, this film follows four former prisoners as they navigate the challenges of their first year on parole.



RELEASED Item # REV037

Two-thirds of convicts released from prison return behind bars within three years. RELEASED presents the hopeful stories of four parolees who prove that the tide of recidivism can be reversed, if former prisoners are given the support they need to reenter society.

The four - Vilma Ortiz Donovan, Kenneth Karrigan, Casimiro Torres and Angel Ramos - spent over 70 years in prison combined. Released with no homes to go to or jobs for support, they ended up in a prisoner reentry facility in New York City known as "The Castle", run by former convicts and established by The Fortune Society. With the help of The Castle, all four overcome their traumatic personal histories and chronic criminal behavior to become exemplary citizens.

As part of their rehabilitation, they worked developing their life stories into a spoken word play that ran Off-Broadway for 14 months. In the play, each of them bares their souls in a painfully honest retelling of their personal stories - from childhood and their crimes, to life in prison and the forces that helped them change.

All four speak about how what ought to be a final redemptive chapter - release from prison - is often the hardest challenge of all. Dropped back into society with little or no preparation and support virtually insures a high failure rate. Having spent 30 years in prison, Angel Ramos asks: "How do I live like a normal human being when I have no idea what normal is?"



THE RELEASED Item # REV038

This film provides a rare and intimate look into the lives of mentally ill offenders struggling to make it on the outside. This year alone, hundreds of thousands of prisoners with serious mental illness will be released into communities across the United States. Within 18 months, nearly two thirds will be re-arrested.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE ISSUES



REAL SOBRIETY Item # REV051

This film is for the alcoholic or addict who is white knuckling it, rocking in their seat, and sweating through their bed sheets with the anxiety of a new day in recovery. REAL SOBRIETY features real people sharing remarkable stories of what it used to be like when they were out there, and what life is like today, clean, sober, productive and happy. These are relatable people - sober biker, prison chaplain, coffee shop manager, nurse, military veteran, waitress, even a sober doctor - men and woman who have walked the walk, and now, in REAL SOBRIETY, they talk the talk. REAL SOBRIETY takes viewers from the darkness of alcoholism and addiction to the light of recover as remarkable people share their stories of recovery and hope.



THE ANONYMOUS PEOPLE Item # REV052

THE ANONYMOUS PEOPLE is a feature documentary film about the 23.5 million Americans living in long-term recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction. Deeply entrenched social stigma and mass participation in widely successful anonymous 12-step groups have kept recovery voices silent and faces hidden for decades. The vacuum created by this silence has been filled by sensational mass media depictions of addiction that continue to perpetuate a lurid public fascination with the dysfunctional side of what is often a preventable and treatable health condition. Just like women with breast cancer, or people with HIV/AIDS, courageous addiction recovery advocates are starting to come out of the shadows to tell their true stories. This moving story of THE ANONYMOUS PEOPLE is told through the faces and voices of the leaders, volunteers, corporate executives, and celebrities who are laying it all on the line to save the lives of others just like them. This passionate new public recovery movement is fueling a changing conversation that aims to transform public opinion, and finally shift problematic policy toward lasting recovery solutions.



UNDERSTANDING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC Item # REV053

This documentary traces the causes behind the unprecedented growth in the use of prescription opioids and the devastating impact these drugs are having in virtually every part of America. This film captures the story of the opioid crisis through personal stories and interviews with experts and reveals the tragic impact of the overuse of prescription painkillers on individuals, families, and communities. The stories often begin with medical treatment for moderate to severe pain that evolves into drug addiction and death. In addition to the stories, UNDERSTANDING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC explores the dramatic increase in the use and acceptance of prescription painkillers and addresses possible solutions to the opioid epidemic including more non-drug treatment for pain, improved opioid prescribing, and reducing the amount of opioids produced and prescribed in America.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY ISSUES



A SENTENCE APART Item # REV011

The United States imprisons more people, per capita, than any other country in the world. Behind 2.4 million prisoners lies an infinite ripple effect of incarceration on the family and community. A SENTENCE APART weaves three intimate stories exploring how families cope and live with a loved one in prison.

Tanea is a high school senior, and her father has been in and out of jail her entire life. As a child of a prisoner, Tanea has a 70 percent chance of going to prison herself. This film chronicles Tanea's passion to avoid the generational curse of incarceration, and let the world know that she can be a successful woman.

Three Sundays a month, Linda Williams makes a 20-hour bus trip to visit her youngest daughter in prison. Her daughter Latasha was tried as an adult at the age of 17 and given 68 years in prison for involuntary attempted manslaughter. Linda comments on coping with the grief of a daughter in prison, keeping hope alive that Latasha will be released, and continuing to be the best mother she can.

Cheyanne is 16 years old and can remember only one birthday that her dad attended. Soon after her dad gets out of jail, Cheyanne confronts her father about the emotional toll his incarceration has taken on her.

These intimate and moving stories, told with striking images, start to scratch the surface of the complex toll incarceration takes on the world outside the prison walls.



DADDY DON'T GO Item # REV012

This film captures two years in the lives of four disadvantaged fathers in New York City as they fight to defy the odds against them. And the odds are real - men living in poverty are more than twice as likely to become absent fathers than their middle-class peers.

DADDY DON'T GO is a tough but tender journey that aims to illuminate the everyday struggles of disadvantaged fathers. Alex, Nelson, Roy and Omar shatter the deadbeat dad stereotype and redefine what it means to be a good father for all men.



THE BLACK FATHERHOOD PROJECT Item # REV013

In THE BLACK FATHERHOOD PROJECT, filmmaker Jordan Thierry leads viewers through an honest and essential exploration of fatherhood in Black America, providing historical context and conversation for an issue at the core of the Black experience today.

Nationwide, 67 percent of Black children live in single-parent families, predominantly with their mother, a ratio that has tripled since the 1960's.

In the first half of the film, Thierry begins by telling his own family story, then with the help of historians and others, traces the roots of the fatherless Black home, revealing a history much more complex and profound than is commonly known. The film digs deep to explore how Black families functioned in Africa before slavery, and how slavery, racism, and other recent challenges such as mass incarceration affect Black fatherhood. It looks beyond major historical events and discusses their psychological impacts, and calls into question traditional family roles and cultural adaptation.

In the second half of the film, Thierry puts that history into contemporary perspective in a candid dialogue among a diverse group of Black fathers. These dads talk openly about their experiences and the value systems they employ to raise their own families. Their stories serve as positive role models for inspiring other dads to help break the cycle of fatherless families. Thierry closes the film by sharing insights and solutions to ensure the power of a father's love is not lost on America's Black children.

A GRANDER VISION

Item # REV061



God has a Grander Vision for each of our lives - a unique opportunity to fully live out our faith in the sphere of influence in which we have been placed. In this film Burl Cain, former Warden of Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola, shares his Grander Vision for renewal and restoration in one of America's former most-violent prisons. His powerful story of hearing God and faithfully following has contributed to life change for some of the most broken and hurting men - the inmates of Louisiana State prison.

"The whole idea was, if I could make them moral, I could heal the prison. We found the morality in religion because in our culture you find morality in religion quicker than anywhere else, and I'm desperate for morality real quick."

~ Burl Cain, former Warden of Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola

LIFE SKILLS FOR SUCCESS VIDEO SERIES

This four-part video series helps individuals identify essential life skills for their professional and personal success and implement techniques to improve those skills. Each program features an engaging mix of narration, scripted vignettes, and candid insight from real-world hiring professionals.

Educators and professionals showing the videos to students or clients have flexibility to show or assign the program in whichever order they prefer. Each program also includes an instructor's guide that provides critical-thinking questions, a quiz, and activities to reinforce video concepts.

Each of the four films in this series are available for purchase individually or as a complete set.



CAREER MANAGEMENT SKILLS

Item # REV021

This video addresses the most important strategies individuals can use to manage and build rewarding careers by planning for the future and excelling on-the-job, regardless of their profession. The program presents the skills that employers' value most and suggests ways individuals can leverage those skills to get ahead in the job market and achieve long-term success.



COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Item # REV022

This video provides individuals with strategies they can use to be more effective communicators, both on and off the job. Viewers will learn how to improve their verbal, nonverbal, and written communication skills.



STRESS AND ANGER MANAGEMENT

SKILLS Item # REV023

This video provides individuals with strategies they can use to cope with the stress of a job or career and to effectively deal with conflicts that arise in both professional and personal situations. Viewers will learn how to manage negative emotions, such as anger, that often come with adversity.



COMPLETE SET \$206.88

Item # REV025

TIME AND MONEY MANAGEMENT

SKILLS Item # REV024

This video provides individuals with key concepts and practical advice they can use to better manage time and money. Viewers will learn how to identify their responsibilities, prioritize, create and implement plans, and monitor their progress.

ECHOES OF INCARCERATION PROJECT

The Echoes of Incarceration Project is an award-winning documentary initiative produced by youth who are directly impacted by the criminal justice system. The project provides hands-on video production and advocacy training for young adults, and creates documentaries and video journalism pieces told from the life experiences of the filmmakers themselves.

The Echoes of Incarceration Project has created films for Sesame Street, UpWorthy, NowThis News, screened works at the White House, and was named a Robert Rauschenberg Artist-As-Activist Fellow in 2017.

The Echoes of Incarceration Project:

- Provides hands-on film training to youth age 16-23.
- Creates films for criminal justice stakeholders about the needs of young people.
- · Creates general-audience documentaries and video journalism about the intersection of the criminal justice system and youth.

The goal of the Echoes of Incarceration Project is to explore all the ways the criminal justice system interacts with, and misunderstands, young people, while harnessing the intelligence, energy, and creativity of youth to rethink our understanding of crime and punishment.

COMPLETE SET \$139.98 Item # REV076

ECHOES OF INCARCERATION Item # REV071 Price: \$29.98

This first film from the Echoes of Incarceration Project introduces viewers to the world of children with incarcerated parents in all their joy, pain, and resilience. Through the stories of four young people, as well as experts and advocates in the field, this film creates an emotional, compelling case for the importance of ongoing parental contact. The film has been shown thousands of times in prisons, universities, trainings around the country, and won the "Speaking Out" award at the Media That Matters Film Festival.

CARING THROUGH STRUGGLE Item # REV072 Price: \$29.98

Youth filmmakers explore the hidden issues faced by grandparents and caregivers raising children with incarcerated parents. Includes a 12-minute extra chapter for social workers. Created with help from the New York City Department of Aging, Grandparent Resource Center.

VISITING - THROUGH THE YOUTH LENS Item # REV073 Price: \$29.98

Created in collaboration with Sesame Street and UpWorthy, this film premiered at the White House, and focuses on the importance of maintaining contact while a parent is incarcerated. Research has shown that a sustained relationship with a parent in prison is one the strongest factors in both reducing a child's trauma, and also in reducing that parent's rate of recidivism. Yet children often face huge resistance to visiting a parent. This film digs into the challenges, sorrows, and incredible joys of visiting a parent in prison, and addresses one of the deepest misconceptions that children with incarcerated parents face.

RE-IMAGINE THE FUTURE Item # REV074 Price: \$29.98

Ten formerly incarcerated individuals tell inspiring stories of their journey from prison to college. This film was commissioned by the New York Department of Corrections, and is shown in facilities across the United States.

PASSPORT TO THE FUTURE: ACCESSING HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE ERA OF MASS INCARCERATION I Item # REV075 Price: \$29.98

This film, created with Soros Justice Fellow Nebay Rubenstein, explores the barriers to college admissions for applicants with criminal histories. Their stories become a window into our broken system of mass incarceration and reentry.



THE ROAD TO REENTRY VIDEO SERIES

When transitioning out of incarceration, individuals face many barriers to a successful reentry. This five-part video series guides individuals through the essential steps they'll need to take to overcome challenges and pursue long-term success and fulfillment after their incarceration.

Through a positive, encouraging approach, the program motivates individuals to become self-sufficient and make the right decisions to put themselves on track to a successful reentry. Viewers gain valuable tips and insight from experienced professionals working in reentry programs. The video series features formerly incarcerated individuals who describe their reentry experiences in candid, honest interviews that will resonate with viewers.

COMPLETE SET \$275.88

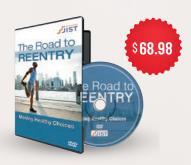
Each of the five films in this series are available for purchase individually or as a complete set.



FINDING EMPLOYMENT Item # REV041

This program helps viewers:

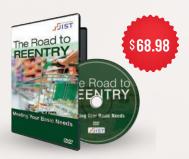
- Learn the most effective techniques for finding job leads and securing job offers.
- Discover best practices for completing job applications and creating resumes and cover letters.
- Understand how to present themselves professionally in interviews
- Know when and how to appropriately address their incarceration with employers



MAKING HEALTHY CHOICES Item # REV042

This program helps viewers:

- Understand the importance of managing their physical and mental health.
- Identify resources and programs that help formerly incarcerated individuals monitor and improve their health
- Discover techniques for dealing effectively with substance abuse and addiction.
- Learn about healthy coping methods for dealing with stress.



MEETING YOUR BASIC NEEDS Item # REV043

This program helps viewers:

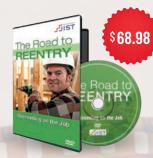
- Prepare for the barriers they may face transitioning back to society, particularly in the first few weeks or months of their release.
- Identify people, resources, and programs that can help them obtain their fundamental needs.
- Recognize situations where staying with family or others can be detrimental to their reentry success.
- Understand how to work towards short and long-term solutions to their fundamental needs.
- Avoid common pitfalls that formerly incarcerated individuals often experience after release.



RECONNECTING WITH FAMILY AND COMMUNITY Item # REV044

This program helps viewers:

- Understand the importance and advantages of reconnecting with family and others who may be positive influences.
- Prepare for the difficulties they may encounter when re-establishing relationships.
- Discover community-based organizations or programs that can support their reentry goals.

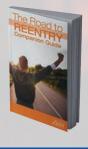


SUCCEEDING ON THE JOB

Item # REV045

This program helps viewers:

- Identify essential skills and personality traits required for retaining employment and career advancement.
- Understand employers' expectations.
- Learn about behaviors and attitudes that can be detrimental to their job security and reputation.
- Discover ways to work towards achieving better jobs and long-term career success.
- Recognize the advantage of pursuing additional education or training.



THE ROAD TO REENTRY COMPANION GUIDE



This 64-page booklet is designed to be used in conjunction with The Road to Reentry Video Series and helps returning citizens navigate the complex reentry process. It provides information, resources, worksheets, and activities to help individuals make a successful transition from incarceration to their community and employment. It also helps them develop a plan for the future and build skills for using a range of tools and techniques to decrease their risk of reincarceration and increase their chances of success. The booklet's five sections correspond with each video program in The Road to Reentry Video Series.

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