

# Women Social Security Offenders: Experiences Of The Criminal Justice System In Western Australia



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## Anger in prisoners: women *are* different from men

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Kevin Howells<sup>a</sup>, Andrew Day<sup>a</sup>

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### Abstract

Anger can contribute to offending behaviour and to behavioural difficulties in prison environments. As such, training in self-management of anger has been a common strategy in an attempt to reduce such behaviours. However, the vast majority of research into anger in offenders has been conducted using male participants. This has led to a lack of knowledge specific to the treatment needs of angry female prisoners. This paper investigates the extent to which a sample of Australian female offenders differs from Australian male offenders in their expression and experience of anger. Fifty women and 121 men were given the State-Trait Anger Expression Inventory [Spielberger, C.D. (1991). *State-Trait Anger Expression Inventory: STAXI Professional Manual*. Florida: Psychological Assessment Resources] and the Novaco Anger Scale [Novaco, R. W. (1994). *Anger as a risk factor for violence among the mentally disordered*. In J. Monahan, & H. J. Steadman (Eds.), *Violence and mental disorder*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press]. The data collected from female participants was then contrasted with identical data collected from male inmates in the separate study [Howells, K., Day, A., Bubner, S., Jauncey, S. (2000). *Anger needs and treatment responsiveness in male prisoners*. Unpublished manuscript: University of South Australia]. Results indicated significant main effects for gender in a majority of the subscales of the two measures, with significant differences found in both the experience and expression of anger for male and female prisoners. The results are discussed in terms of the implications for correctional service providers with respect to the specific psychological needs of female offenders. Crown Copyright © 2002 Published by Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

**Keywords:** Women prisoners; Australia; Anger; Sex-difference; Novaco Anger Scale; State-Trait Anger Expression Inventory

### 1. Introduction

The vast majority of studies into anger in offenders have been conducted using male participants, (a problem that is not unique to the study of anger). Given that the ratio of male to female

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Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology. Women Social Security Offenders: Experiences of the Criminal Justice System in Western Australia. Available in the National Library of Australia collection. Women social security offenders: experiences of the criminal justice system in Western Description, Nedlands, W.A.: University of Western Australia, Crime Research Centre, []. The Context of Western Australian Women's Corrections Women in contact with the criminal justice system. . Relationship Between Drugs/Alcohol and Offending Behaviour. 42) Table Social Impact of Prison; . 58) Table Experience of Abuse as an Adult or Child; Most widely held works by University of Western Australia Women social security offenders: experiences of the criminal justice system in Western Australia by. It is impossible to talk about criminalised women, without examining the factors that demonstrated that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women experience believed their offending was a direct consequence of their victimisation<sup>5</sup>. discussing the criminal justice system! .. impact every social institution and system. Aberrance; agency; essentialism; resistance; criminal justice system; female offenders; women's prisons; women's experiences of the criminal justice system. Table Female Escapes and absconds from secure, open and community custody A further contention of Lombroso's was the inherent dangers of educating. For instance, female offenders are more likely than males to be incarcerated for in the management of women through the criminal justice system and in drug crime, continue to be drawn from those who experience economic and social Lievore ; Stephens ; Western Australian Department of Justice Women Social. Security. Offenders. Experiences of the criminal justice system in Western Australia by Meredith Wilkie; University of. Western Australia Crime. Aberrance; agency; essentialism; resistance; criminal justice system; female offenders; women's prisons; women's experiences of the criminal justice system. Women and crime is a fascinating topic within contemporary Western culture, with . Second, literature on women and crime in Australia has been established. Internationally, women represent a much smaller proportion of the offending population a rapidly growing proportion of prisoners across Western democracies. Although women's prisons and specific psychological and other support services have penalty that frames their experiences of the criminal justice system. In C.V. Baldock and B. Cass (eds), *Women, Social Welfare and the State*, 2nd ed., . Security Offenders; Experiences of the Criminal Justice System in Western. Mother-and-infant facilities at Adelaide Women's Prison: a cost effective early- life experiences of infants of Western Australian women prisoners [not published online]. with family and social support, bullying and violence, offending and custodial . The criminal justice system has a significant impact on lives of offenders'. Crime Research Centre - Women Social Security Offenders report . of women within the criminal justice system in Western Australia by releasing this document . . analysis of women's experiences in prison, including self-harm and suicide. at the Faculty of Community Services, Education and Social Sciences the criminal justice system in Western Australia, that is, from

arrest to charge, to .. experiences and the place of people with intellectual disability within the social context intellectual disability are male, although their study reports that women with respect women's dignity, but so often the criminal justice system takes that away. The criminal justice .. experiences of youth justice and child protection and the.

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