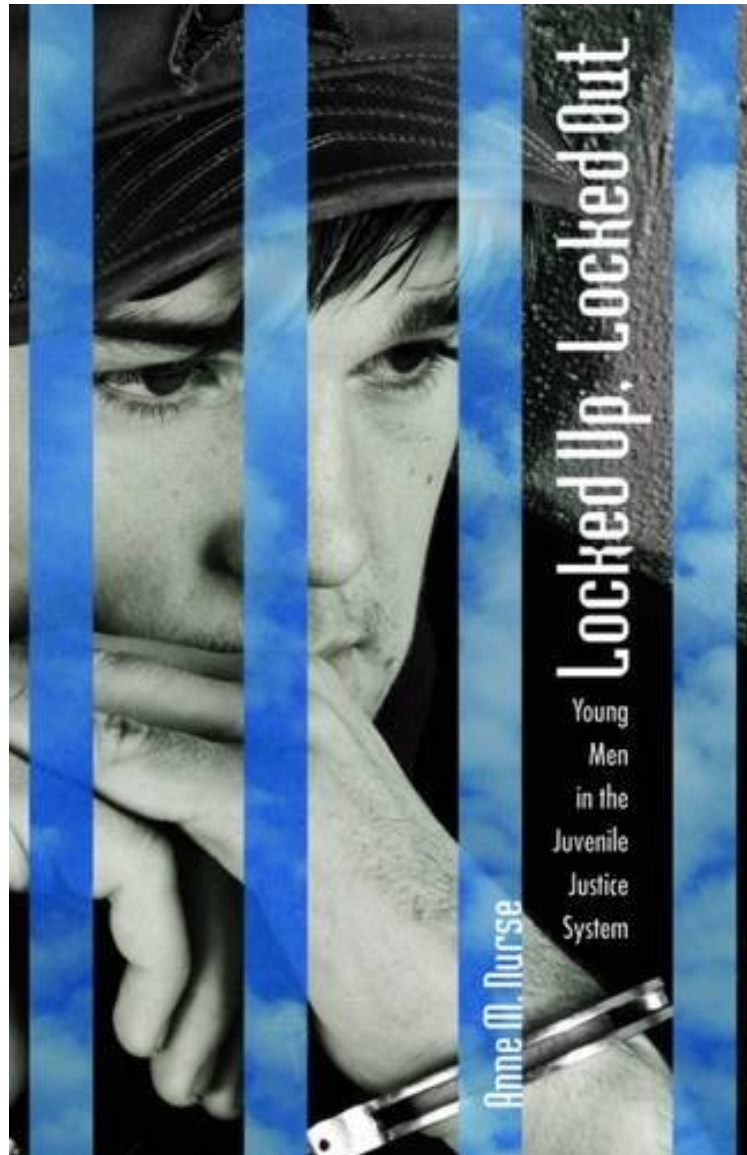


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Locked Up, Locked Out: Young Men in the Juvenile Justice System

Anne M. Nurse

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#1705129 in Books 2010-07-16Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 8.96 x .64 x 6.46l, .73 #File Name: 0826517129232 pages | File size: 41.Mb

Anne M. Nurse : Locked Up, Locked Out: Young Men in the Juvenile Justice System before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Locked Up, Locked Out: Young Men in the Juvenile Justice System:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Book ReviewBy kelslatimerLocked Up, Locked Out was a very interesting book. I learned a lot about the juvenile justice system. This is a great book to learn about what youths go through in a juvenile prison and how they feel. I would recommend this book to anyone who is interested in learning

about juvenile prisons.

Locked Up, Locked Out follows forty juvenile male offenders, from their first-time admissions to the Ohio system through their incarceration and reentry into the community. The author conducted three lengthy interviews with each of these youth over a period of two and a half years. These interviews bring alive their attitudes and day-to-day prison experiences, as well as the intricate connections between life on the inside and life on the outside. Status is key to everyday life in prison, and it is often played out in demonstrations of masculinity, misogyny, and violence. Some gangs and some "area codes" (as the old neighborhoods are called) are seen as tougher than others and are given more respect. Even letters from family members and girlfriends are important signs of whether a prisoner matters: one young man says, "I'd write letters every day to people to beg 'em to write me back." Another reports, "There would be people in there writing girls, saying, hey, write me this nasty letter of things we're going to do and things we did. And they'd write back with these letters. And now he'll get to walk around with his letter bragging, like, hey, check this out. These are the kind of girls I got." Incarcerated youth also work hard at impression management. Coping with prison requires a young man to present one face to fellow prisoners and another to the authorities who will decide his release date. The author pays substantial attention to the programs youth are offered, including those focusing on education, anger management, job training, and parenting skills. Another section looks at contact between incarcerated youth and the outside world, including a discussion of the impact of incarceration on families. Based on her extensive knowledge of policies in other states, the author also provides a broad overview of the juvenile justice system nationally, describing how the system is organized, administered, and funded. Readers are taken through the juvenile justice process from conviction through parole with special attention paid to new state initiatives and sentencing structures.

"Recommended." Choice "A unique window into the struggles of forty young men as they grapple with the complexities of the system that incarcerates our young people today. The author skillfully intertwines the unvarnished words of these young men with a well-documented analysis of a juvenile justice system in flux. The impact of incarceration on these young men, their families, and their futures is painfully clear, compelling a reexamination of the goals of incarceration." Lori Pompa, Founder and National Director, Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program "A timely and lucid account of juvenile corrections based on extensive fieldwork. Despite frequent media accounts of youth crime, juvenile offenders are often forgotten in the academic and policy literature. While we know that many adults in prison were incarcerated as children, few attempts have been made to interview young people about their experiences in the juvenile justice system. Mapping the experiences of forty young men over two and a half years, Anne Nurse fills this gap in the literature. Her study reveals areas of grave concern, particularly in race relations and education in corrections, while also suggesting more positive ways forward." Mary Bosworth, University of Oxford About the Author Anne M. Nurse, Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at the College of Wooster in Ohio, is the author of *Fatherhood Arrested: Parenting from within the Juvenile Justice System*, also published by Vanderbilt.