

Spring Keosoupha
University of California Berkeley
LD 178

Over the last 4 years my husband and I have corresponded with Stephen Clark, who currently resides in Maine State Prison. Stephen has made an extreme impact on our lives. He has encouraged me to go back to college to pursue a degree in Social Work from the University of California Berkeley, and my husband has started a 5-year program with the Electrical Apprenticeship Union. We have gained hope and positivity through our participation in the online group that Stephen runs, called the Awaken Exchange. The group is held monthly to promote healing, connection, and spirituality. These connections have enabled us to persevere through challenging times. Stephen has provided counsel by spreading the powerful message of God. I truly believe that he is a changed man. I pray that Maine institutes LD 178 so that people like Stephen can have a second chance after serving many years in prison. I believe that people who are making a positive contribution to society should be given the chance for parole. I strongly support LD 178.