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LD 178

I am a forensic psychologist with a PhD in Criminal Justice and teach Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice courses at Thomas College in Waterville. Prior to my teaching career, I worked as a psychologist in the North Carolina Department of Corrections with male, female and juvenile persons who were incarcerated. I saw firsthand how destructive incarceration can be as well as how ill-prepared many were to reintegrate into society following their sentence. I strongly urge you to reestablish a parole system for Maine, as it will not only provide support for those reentering society but also reduce harm and increase public safety by utilizing evidence-based practices to reduce recidivism. Thank you for your attention to this matter.