
**Survey Comment
Report**



**Menard 2023
MQPL Survey
Comments**

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Open-Ended Survey Questions	3
Q12. What are the most positive things about life in this prison?	3
Q13. What are the most negative things about life in this prison?	25
Q14. What suggestions do you have for improvement?	55
Q15. Please write any other comments or feedback on this survey below.....	85
Marginalia Comments	132

Introduction

Menard Correctional Center is primarily a maximum-security male prison within the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC), which housed 1,859 people on March 27, 2023 between the maximum-security population and a medium-security unit (MSU, housing about 340 people). The John Howard Association of Illinois (JHA) conducted a modified short [Measuring the Quality of Prison Life](#) (MQPL) survey by providing enough survey packets (consisting of the [MQPL survey](#), an informed consent notice/instruction sheet, and a privileged mail prepaid business reply envelope addressed to JHA) so that every person incarcerated at Menard max and MSU had an opportunity to participate in the voluntary and anonymous survey if they chose to do so. Menard also operates the southern Reception & Classification Center (housing approximately 50 people), where people were not surveyed. JHA received 742 responses to the MQPL survey from people at Menard through the July 19, 2023, representing approximately 40% of the static population.

Below are the comments from the MQPL surveys for the open-ended survey questions followed by marginalia comments. Please note:

- All blank answers have been omitted
- Names and other personally identifying details have been redacted
- Spelling and grammar have been lightly edited for understanding and to account for possible transcriber typos

Open-Ended Survey Questions

Q12. What are the most positive things about life in this prison?

1. work, school
2. for me: spiritual growth! Improve my relationship with Allah. Earn my way into Janna (i.e., Heaven)
3. NONE
4. Rehabilitation is essential
5. none

6. Lif in this prison is sad, staff is wrost then inmates here. My life at Menard is not safe at all,
7. nothing its like a slow death
8. pretty laid back for the most part
9. The ONLY positive thing about this place is the MORE than ample opportunity to sit back and reflect on self + life decisions.
10. nothing
11. (nothing)
12. The good people (other inmates) here that do what they can to help one another when possible. Also the chapel services here have had a positive influence on my life
13. Only thing I can say is having a single man cell
14. There is nothing positive about life in Menard Correctional Center, Especially not in the east and west cell houses
15. N/A
16. Nothing at all
17. That incarcerated people are able to interact a little bit
18. outside of cell time, phone time, yard time
19. none there are no programs
20. Theres nothing positive in this facility! I've been there 90-days and I still haven't been able to go to yard everytime I ask they say I'm on Pink Tagg!
21. Nothing we only get yard once a week and no program opportunities
22. help from other inmates
23. There is none
24. none
25. none
26. I have been able to work [**almost all of the years of the decades**] I've been incarcerated. This has allowed me to stay out of trouble, and be a less of a burden for my family
27. The relationships that one can build with other prisoners. I've built potential life-long friendships since being in prison.
28. There is nothing positive about Menard they do what they want with us & get away with it
29. Nothing I can honestly think of at all
30. There is nothing to look forward to staff and Da higher up took everything away from us
31. Nothing in this "racist" prison
32. I know that you & other would like for me to have some thing positive to say but I do not after being on the run for [**20+**] years this is just as bad I have nothing I get nothing good here either so there is nothing good to say about this shit
33. in Menard nothing
34. there is nothing positive about life in this prison I'm a grown man and sometimes this shit make me wanna cry
35. They realize you're away from society, your love ones and that life don't even exist. When someone as in staff, control your every move, the system is so corrupted. Far as

- the schools getting you in school and the lies about? Getting in first if your a short term prisoner
36. there really isn't any were locked in our cell 24/7 besides one 4 hour yard a week
 37. time to reflect...
 38. I've only been here two months & honestly I can't think of any
 39. The job I have
 40. NONE!
 41. 1) dayroom 2x/day 2) yard 2x/day 3) \$150 spending at store 2x
 42. Nothing in my opinon. I get one yard a week, other than that I'm stuck in the cell. No rehabilitation programs or help
 43. The "single-man cells" some people get. Living in a single man cell greatly improves the quality of life. Reduces stress & violence. If the whole prison or state would adopt single man cell policies, you would see an increase in positive behavior
 44. NONE!
 45. there is nothing positive here
 46. That we are in our cells 5 days a week, and that give you a chance to think and work on yourself.
 47. Nothing really, visits, commissary, the phone
 48. You can make plan and have time to put every thing you want to do when you get out
 49. None! only psicological/mentally trauma from the torture by staff when In applying rules
 50. seg cells are one man
 51. There is always a chance for rehabilitation and appeals
 52. Gives me time to pray and depend on GOD lets me plan on what matters in my life when I am released
 53. It is allegedly a medium security unit. I have daily access to phone, shower, and time to walk around in a dayroom unless there is a storm with severe weather warning/watch; then it is cancelled.
 54. yard two times a day
 55. none
 56. Nothing at all, honest answer!
 57. As all prisons I must say No Bills Outside of that of All prisons Nothing. There are 0 programs its constant seg even in population.
 58. None No education, no good paying jobs food costs are high + food is bad
 59. You get to come out
 60. For the most part people are doing their own time and dont concern themselves with my problems
 61. I Reather being in here then out there doing the same thing because I would be die so I do think God For being here
 62. That hopefully I have been able to get through to some of the short timers & younger men that come through here. being that I have a natural life sentence... It also has given me the time to reflect on my failures in life & Given me the time to know the Lord
 63. we have a TV. we have a tablet. we have a window
 64. Nothing to be honest & its sad to admit that.

65. If you mind your business for the most part you`ll be good
66. Nothing
67. Regular showers, fruit with meals on a regular basis, the ability to use either phone, text or provided postage paid envelopes and paper to correspond with family and loved ones, and enough exercise days to try and improve one`s physical health.
68. Some officers take the time to see how I am doing each day. I`m [60+] and have [30+] more years to serve.
69. Single-man cells for those on Front Street—assigned and older inmates requiring care.
70. N/A
71. Nothing! Chow!
72. Contact of outside world by phone when certain people let us use it.
73. Working. If you don`t work life here is miserable
74. If you been hear for a long time. You know what you got coming.
75. Hearing how laws are changing, and we have a chance to be released
76. Staying away from trouble and lifers
77. Nothing. There is absolute nothing to achieve or accomplish
78. ?
79. none
80. Prison has taught me about waiting, character, integrity
81. Most of the guards are fat and lazy so they never come out of the bubble to bother us. Mostly they are asleep or eating so there is little interaction. That is good, it is only positive when they leave us alone. You want to stay away from the guards because they believe themselves superior and that justify their misbehavior towards us.
82. People shower by their self`s if they want. They have tablets but the music is trash.
83. Your Alive
84. Depends which prison Youre in, in This one, In the particular cell house Im In (East House) There is None
85. Family & Friends on the outside.
86. I cant find one
87. Hard question. But my single man worker cell is the best thing, even though it is still too small For even one person. And the 2nd unused bunk is greatly in the way.
88. There is nothing positive here. This place is just a warehouse full of men waiting to die.
89. School, programs, work, Law library, etc.
90. Outside of making your own Individual Improvements It`s only yard and/or telephone. School, even though Menard is a max prison, all the meaningful programs are only for short time inmates.
91. Work assignments and they`re starting to Focus more on education
92. ppl are fighting to go home
93. Nothing
94. Absolutely nothing, I honestly can`t think of anything I would say talking to my mother but "c" grade doesn`t get the phone.
95. I get all the legal envelopes I need only due to me being indigent, it clean, the ADA system works if you already was approved before you got here, in West House I get to use the phone everyday on the Front street.

96. Knowing not to ever come back
97. The warden and asst. warden are usually walking around and are willing to answer questions that you ask them.
98. Not to many RATS, the animals I mean. Not the other.
99. nothing
100. none
101. Being in the worker`s building, It`s very clean, Quiet time is honored and respected (for the most part) And, there is an attempt to have the lights go dark in our building—which means better sleep—And the female staff is being slightly more Accomodating with that. (it doesn`t happen often)
102. MY out Date, TV. (new movies, etc.) Tablet, Video visit, & commissary
103. There arent many positive Things. This is Menard
104. When we cook together play basketball tournaments together and when we all always gamble together and when we all agree to watch the new music videos together at the same time. when we all love to get off lockdown together when we love to go to commissary together
105. To help you never to come back to prison ever again.
106. Time to change in positive ways
107. You have time to reflect on yourself. Reflect on God!
108. Being able to reach out to love ones.
109. The positive thing about Being in Prison is, you have time to self reflect & plan for a better future.
110. My fellow inmates some are helpful when they can look out we are all own our own. Staff don`t help us get things we need visiting list to see our family etc.
111. None
112. Nothing! This place is so degrading to human life. They do not offer you anything in the way of what is offered in other maximum security level prisons.
113. It make you never want to come back!
114. Encouragement from staff and inmates.
115. None
116. getting out going home
117. I am in a one man cell, so I feel more secure, also I'm in an area with some other men who are here on sex cases, which also makes me feel a little more secure
118. Since I've been here I have seen absolutely nothing positive about this prison.
119. Nothing
120. Not all rules are enforced that let people do what they do outside.
121. Weight loss. Other than that, it is prison. This place is devoid of anything positive.
122. None we don't even walk to chow, get 2 yards, or a gym back here in east house.
123. You get the chance to right your wrong with the way you value your self in life.
124. Nothing in this prison.
125. This is the perfect time to build yourself up into a better you
126. It's clean, it's not as racist (by staff) as it used to be
127. Overtime if you stay out of trouble you can get a job, go to school; later put in for a transfer

128. Nothing Menard need uncover FBI come in and see for they self
129. I'm still allowed to practice my personal spiritual belief and faith in the confinement of my cell
130. Some staff treat you like a human being.
131. Nothing
132. None
133. You learn how to face your problems and deal with them as they come. Instead of escaping them with drugs or alcohol.
134. Time to reflect on self/ life, forced to learn patience
135. Other than having a single-man cell, not much else
136. The phone N school if they let u!
137. The negative environment & attitudes from staff forces you to work on getting out & staying out
138. Is this a trick question? There's NOTHING positive about life here.
139. 1. The relationships/ community the inmates form with one another. 2.
140. Surviving another night. Maybe Yard. Church service (1) once a month
141. The one-man cells in Restrictive Housing are a blessing in disguise.
142. N/A
143. I'm still alive! and at times get to go to law library!
144. Nothing to look forward to. We are locked in cells all day every day
145. Nothing. Its a warehouse.
146. The TV channels, But it can be more! It can be better. And the netflix movies can be better. They should be a vote on what we wish to watch, not selected by staff.
147. Time alone
148. The video visits are nice to be able to see family without the extreme cost to come for in person visits, (hotel, gas, vending machine food) once the phone app is approved on the tablets that will be positive also. While we're shamed for it being able to have trans items is a positive step
149. Growth, maturing and learning to deal with problems and situations by yourself
150. There are none.
151. You can dig deep into yourself & actually try to work & fix on yourself
152. It's clean for the most part
153. I honestly can't think of one positive thing about this place. I'm not just sayin that to say it. This place is hell on
154. Don't have any
155. There are NO positive things about life in this jail "Menard" They use bein in the cell all day to get these inmates to fight each other then use the fights to say all us are like that "violent." When we not. I have not had a fight in almost 10 year's, still can't get in school, a job, or sent to a jail that I can better myself when I had the chance to do better and still was sent back to menard were black people go to die.
156. Nothing is positive about menard especially east House
157. That I am still alive and well
158. None. There is nothing positive whatsoever about Menard C.C. I.D.O.C.
159. You can pray to yourself and nothing or no one can stop it

160. There is no positive things about life in prison especially here at Menard because nothing here is helpful in any way you sit in the cell all day
161. You have plenty of time to think.
162. Nothing positive about this prison—Menard
163. A prayer that these people receive the legal representation, the type of judicial consideration, and fairness, that they give others, that they are denied as we are denied, are in constant needless pain & hopelessness are handcuffed behind their backs and beaten by prison staff as they do to us more than you know or want to believe. That they receive equal treatment by the criminal justice department as they provide to officers, that they die a painful, lonely, miserable and unjust death as they mete out, and then that they are forgiven anyway
164. In Menard Correctional Center the most positive thing when we come together when seeing something wrong been done to an inmate by staff
165. nothing
166. Nothing just teach you how to be a thug xx xx
167. Shit, and this whole prison should be closed and shut down.
168. Not much of anything because we not giving the opportunity.
169. There arent any positive attributes concerning menard except I havent died from filthy living conditions. Or went insane from lack of out of cell movement daily...
170. The cable is, ok. The mental health who try to help.
171. It's a lesson learned
172. Nothing.
173. N/A
174. Shit
175. Polite/helpful nurses They help and They deserve to be commended. They are lifesavers in here **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** said this
176. The continued programs that we can utilize.
177. We have the option to buy TV, tablet and food on commissary
178. It test your will, faith, mental capacity
179. You get a chance to reflect on what you did and yourself as a person and correct whatever needs to be corrected with yourself
180. Nothing, getting transfer.
181. Going home!
182. The jobs you work at.
183. Waking up!
184. nothing
185. nothing
186. Observing other prisoners find meaning in their day despite the bleakness
187. If you have a outdate its still light at the end of the tunnel
188. Can't say..
189. NOTHING
190. Reading the bible
191. none here they offer nothing

192. Building and grounds are kept clean however as a whole kept in very poor repair. Bugs, mice, and vermin are well controlled. Some staff can be reasonable/helpful but most are not-usually hateful
193. A roof over head, running water, and electricity
194. Being sober
195. Making out as a better person then before you come to prison.
196. Talking to my family
197. Work + opportunity
198. Nothing I have 10 yrs to possibly serve here
199. There is nothing positive or promising about menard. It's full of racism, negativity on all sides. The staff members are jerks, they dont care about my well being they dont even answer my sick call requests. There is no programming to give me any kind of productive desires.
200. You can say to your seft
201. NOTHING
202. Nothing but God help.
203. Being release immediately and staying alive
204. The inmates come together when important matters concerning how we're being treated in here...
205. Right now just the cable
206. You are alive and your outdate (if you have one).
207. There is nothing positive in this prison. No programs are available to people in East house Menard. Then it is hard as an inmate here to even leave east house being an inmate. I have nothing to look forward to.
208. There are none
209. Nothing
210. I look at things in a positive now
211. Nothing we stay in one cell, 24 hours a day except for the one yard we get every week! Also they feed us potatoes in every meal. Every day.
212. Nothing. Im alive
213. Im not dead yet or NONE.
214. There are no positive things about life in Menard Correctional Center
215. There is no positive thing about being locked in your cell all day six days a week with nothing to do in here in Menard East cell house check it out for yourself.
216. You get to reflect on your past and all the miss opportunity ive missed and mistakes ive made...
217. The individuals in custody whom despite the oppression + suppression they face, the trials and tribulation their families face. inside them burn a light of love **[ILLEGIBLE]** to be + live better than what society/the people of state of Illinois proscribed. The so called **[ILLEGIBLE]** blooded heartless ones. Are the ones who give you soap, clothes, shoes, food, pens, paper, writeouts when you need them and even staff abandon you. This proof there's still humanity in them. Hope for humanity!
218. Trying to keep my sanity. Other then that its nothings positive about this prison.
219. Single man cells

220. Absolutely nothing!
221. Nothing
222. There is nothing positive about this prison, everything is about being punished and know real incentive fore doing good
223. Teach me not to come back because this prison is not right
224. Day to day is okay and it's clean
225. For me is getting my GED
226. That I'm in school and get to go to yard twice a day everything else is poor
227. I am still waking up everyday
228. Visits, and schooling
229. Nothing
230. You can get an education if you ain't
231. Shower access
232. Nothing at all
233. You can stay in your cell all day and nobody would care or even notice whether you were dead or not
234. Nothing. I have [24+] months and I am not eligible to earn good time I'm eligible for at all in this facility
235. Certain officers treat you humanely. There are a few good assignments if you can get them. staff adheres to religious practices.
236. We get yard 6 times a week
237. Sleep, about all you get
238. N/A
239. Peace and quiet
240. I am close to home
241. none this is a horrible place to be, we get treated like animals
242. Nothing
243. I'm only allowed to leave my cell about 7-8 times a month. If we aren't on lockdown. This prison is not about positive. Only negative and discipline
244. Nothing
245. If people sign up & attend groups or school & take advantage of all the available opportunities & not the ones that doesn't exist rehabilitation would be swiftly & if the prison is provided more too.
246. There is nothing positive in Menard Correctional Center
247. ESPN
248. To be honest none, they have no groups to help you out and if they do it takes weeks or months to get in a program
249. Nothing
250. The chance we have to appeal our case
251. Nothing
252. Nothing
253. The C/O's are always fair with me, the C/Os staff is good. The medical staff is very bad. They yell and talk down to you and it take weeks to get answers from them.
254. Cable, commissary, yard, school

255. I can work and go to school
256. I have been able to obtain outside clearance & be involved in school
257. Nothing at all
258. Nothing, maybe school and work programs
259. Yard time/exercise
260. There is nothing positive here in MSU. There is barely any school or programs. Most jobs are took up by inmates with lengthy sentences who have 1 or more jobs not allowing inmates elligable for good time to get it because they have all the jobs because staff show favoritism towards them I strongly believe if lifers or longterm inmates all going to be in MSU they should not be allowed to have more than 1 job because it effects inmates who are eligible for good time
261. Nothing!!!
262. Nothing
263. Nothing
264. I guess the only thing positive is it's not as hot as hell, but then again, it's not summer yet.
265. You come across a nice/respectful staff member that treats you like a human being. For me it's Sgt **[REDACTED]**.
266. Time to reflect on your actions.
267. You are still alive. That's it That's all. This prison does not have anything positive to offer.
268. The only positive thing I can say about this prison it was so messed up, degrading, lonely. I ended up being closer in my relationship with god
269. none
270. that I can work on my bible study and really read my bible, puttin time in for biblical teaching
271. In Menard correctional center theres nothing positive about life in this prison. We are in our cell 24 hours 5 days a week. There is no rehabilitation here at Menard to help us inmates become better citizens
272. Nothing positive bout life in prison
273. Theres No type of positive things to say about this prison! I was almost dying for them to believe me to be rushed to the hospital I had Internal Bleeding!
274. talk to my family on the phone
275. The morale is so low, It can't get nothing but better
276. knowing ill get to go home eventually
277. breathing
278. The C/O's leave us alone unless you mess w/ them so time goes by good
279. I don't have to pay any bills I don't have to mow any grass at some point we all die
280. I quit smoking
281. It forces you to either grow mentally or go insane.
282. Absolutely nothing I can't grieve issues I have been writing mental health and health care for 2 weeks to not be seen at all I got a rash on my feet from showers in **[OTHER IDOC PRISON NAME REDACTED]** 2 and a half weeks ago I have seizures from smoking k2 for 3 months straight and I've expressed this they do not care I have no

- celly so I die I die I got urine and blood specks not mine can't clean it haven't been offered a shower in 2 weeks and I'm calm I feel sick and the staff do not care at all
283. seg cuts if you're SMI
 284. Nothing
 285. Nothing is positive about this prison at all just being honest
 286. Nothing!
 287. The jobs on front street
 288. The time they give you, to think and reflect.
 289. nothing
 290. It gives a person time to think about how to change there life for the better if the environment permits
 291. none
 292. nothing
 293. you not dead
 294. Theres a few things but the phone being able to talk to our loved ones & our yard, if we get that we are only getting (1) yard per week & then we aren't coming out of our cells for another week and we are going to yard if your name isn't on the list for law library, you'll never go & youve tried theres so much!
 295. None! We are locked in the cell six days to seven days a week! We have one day of yard from 9:30am to 1:30 pm. This place makes a person want to take their own life! All of the staff are racist towards Black people!!
 296. Nothing Inmates are treated poorly by staff.
 297. Getting home to my kids and family
 298. I dont know!!!!!!
 299. NOTHING
 300. When they haul meals here on a van doing 70 mph and you have banana pudding all over your burritos it makes them tropical
 301. The windows open
 302. Not really anything except for schooling, educational classes and very little room to enroll because everyone wants to go.
 303. The most positive things about life in this prison is most live day by day in this prison we live tray-by-tray. This prison isn't positive because all the lifers have all the jobs no-one else.
 304. no about intake experience
 305. Nothing positive here. Its all about punishment and loss of privileges.
 306. people have an opportunity to examine their past and make positive changes when possible.
 307. When I'm allowed to receive mail without mailroom staff's personal reasons for denials
 308. Having a job, being that theres more time out of the cell; that theres more yard because I have a job and am place in a "low aggressive" housing unit. I have a single-man cell, so I don't have to live with a celly. Few to no lockdowns being in a "low aggressive" housing unit
 309. Nothing
 310. good time from assignments

311. There is nothing positive about life in prison. There is only positivity in self-reflection, which is the building block to change. One could have learned this with proper early on education. Something that is lacking in our impecunious and impoverished communities.
312. nothing
313. We have cable
314. it crazy and here
315. There are no positive things about life in this prison.
316. If your in no gang, like myself, there is nothing positive, very violent
317. The illegal activity that the staff allows the individuals to do (sell drugs, & smoke drugs, & drink alcohol, & hold shanks in their cells, & run illegal stores on the unit.)
318. That I have a job assignment and movement other than that just a product on the shelf
319. Nothing, I was just out of segregation/restrictive housing for over a year while I had 1 disciplinary action that was non violent Ive been denied transfer and a job to work and schooling program. Im currently in restrictive housing for 2 weeks after not been for over a year for disobeying a direct order whereas I was singled out and strip searched and wasn't told the cause of why.
320. Nothing!
321. Theres nothing positive here!
322. There are no positive things about being in prison! You have to find your own positive thing about life in prison or you will lose yourself and get into more trouble then you would with positive things in your life.
323. They got good channels on tv
324. its nothing "positive" about this place only thing you can learn is how to be a better gang member/murderer
325. There is none
326. None
327. There aren't many positive things
328. The most positive things about life in this prison is that the result of being in a small cell 24 hours a day, everyday, is that I am given plenty of time to reflect on my life, and life choices.
329. having a tablet every day we Inmate should be able to have it once we get to are cells in segregation cells the day we get inside.
330. I love to cook and make [ILLEGIBLE]
331. It makes you think about hell & how this place couldnt possibly have anything on Hell. & Hell is forever. It makes you think about getting to a Better facility—But the methods Here are too inhumane.
332. Self education
333. Nonthing
334. The positive thing is that there are people who fight for change in our treatment during incarceration. Also that there are certain incentives to encourage good behavior.
335. none
336. If you are a gang member you are safe!
337. Nothing

338. Being able to go to Law library
339. Nothing!
340. Talking or messaging family
341. I am in need of surgery I have numbness in my **[ILLEGIBLE]**
342. Read your bible and stay to urself, Avoid getting sick, the best you can, Because, they will let you die
343. Nothing at all. If you are housed in the east House which is a gp house there is hardly ever 1 yard a week, no school, barely any groups, Maybe 2 or 3 showers a week if they decide to not scar us out of that.
344. Nothing is positive about being in prison especially when you`re innocent!!!
345. The harder things are in here... The more a person will consider their decisions to come to prison... if they ever get out...
346. That I`m in a one man cell.
347. If you keep your nose down and don`t "bother" staff or inmates you can usually stay under the radar and not be bothered yourself.
348. Access to law library
349. Some of the staff officers and nurses will do all they can to help you
350. Rehabilitation
351. There are opportunities to kill yourself to get out of this prison.
352. None
353. NA
354. I'm still alive
355. Nothing at all
356. You get chance to appreciate the little things you took for granted
357. I can use my time to better myself in my own way and the best way possible
358. The attempt at unity among inmates to effect change in this prison. The opportunity of upward status as an inmate if you break the stereotype that assigned to you. There are some positive good officers among a flawed culture.
359. Trying to find a way to be free, and minding your business
360. NONE, Im being completely honest
361. It gives you time to reflect at your errors and its a wake up call that you have to change yourself
362. None
363. The downtime has made me be able to focus on my case and find good issues.
364. None
365. It is no positive things in this prison
366. Go to yard twice a week, and walk to commissary
367. Go to yard twice a week
368. Im Alive
369. You get a cell a meal and a shower and yard
370. No
371. The food is a little better than in Lake County Jail and we can get a TV in our cells. That is all I can come up with that is positive.
372. Nothing. Menard sucks!

373. It gives you time to think about all your wrong doings and how I won't make the same mistakes again
374. Opens your eyes to reality
375. Guards rape people. Food is half raw. Guards beat people
376. Nothing
377. That I've learned how to read the Quran
378. Nothing
379. N/A
380. At the moment I have no hope...
381. There is nothing positive about being treated like shit or called n****s or being sprayed with mace while having an autoimmune disorder. The staff use their way to bring drugs in to have inmates beat up or forced onto PC. I go home in [150+] days and can't get one group or job skill
382. Matching up people to be in the same cell according to age
383. TV channels are hotel status. Staff on unit are generally very good guys
384. NONE
385. Gives you a chance to reflect on oneself
386. nothing!
387. N/A
388. Well, when everybody you love starts disappearing, you know who loves you
389. None
390. NOTHING
391. A. Forgiveness! B. Learn Ropes! C. People: Characteristic!
392. Only yourself! Prison has nothing to offer but pain. Physically, mentally, emotionally. It tears you apart!!
393. Time to reflect on bad decisions in the past that led you to prison.
394. Working in the law library, access to phones
395. That I want to live and go home
396. You have a lot of time to think about your future and have plenty of time to write letters.
397. Nothing!
398. Nothing
399. Nothing
400. There are absolutely NO positives about this prison except that this place encourages one to remain free if ever attained again!
401. Waking up the next morning means 1 less day
402. Focusing on what really matters to you and doing everything in your power to make it to what you care for most in life
403. NONE AT ALL!
404. Realizing this is the result of wrong doing and facing the fact you deserve it. But after breaking down if you choose to, you can build yourself up. Nobody here will help but it's on ME to change ME.
405. Waking up to say you've made it another day to try to tell your loved ones you love them
406. None!!!

407. There are no positives about this prison only negatives. No school, no gym, barley any recreation time, no visits, no phones, poor medical treatment, poor mental health treatment (they can care less if we try and kill ourselves), very aggressive and racist staff members, personal property steals and breaks our electronics and give our food to "their workers", poor dietary food (they do not go by menu and serve whatever they want), and all around unsafe health practices. It is bad enough we have to worry about other individuals in custody. We need help! We need real "HELP"!!!
408. I got a very good lawsuit pending against **[STAFF NAME REDACTED]** and mail room supervisor
409. None
410. Nothing is positive about life in prison
411. Im alive and talk to my people SOMETIMES
412. Theres nothing positive about this prison!!!
413. You have lots of time to think about life maybe religion and to be a better person
414. Nothing. Im being held against my will. I feel hopeless. I have been wrongfully convicted.
415. Im focused on getting my freedom back. Menard isnt a positive prison I have to think outside of here.
416. Nothing
417. 3 or 4 times out of the week this prison kitchen staff provides us with 1 piece of fruit
418. Nothing
419. I found God in prison, I quit smoking and drinking.
420. Depend on the persons willingness to change
421. Calling my man, and challenging my conviction and sentence talking to my dog is definetly rated #2!
422. That the conditions and treatment by staff are so poor that it deffinitely makes you think twice about coming back.
423. My job
424. In my situation, only positive for me in this prison is my job for industry. Have worked for industry for **[20+]** years and take my job very seriously. For the most part it is the only time I feel like I am of use and feel like a human being and not just a number!
425. Cant think of any thing I would call positive, not as bad as before. But after **[10+]** years we finnally got out cable fixed to where we can see what we are watching.
426. There are none
427. In a good prison or well ran prison—you not only recieve adequate mental health but also medical—down here in menard they will let you die rather from killing yourself or deliberate medical neglect...
428. Nothing, we are locked down 24/7 everyday.
429. Nothing really
430. There are some inmates who really want to help & see us do better in life
431. Mental health
432. None, Menard is terrible
433. Cable TV. Yard + Phone
434. Well one thing is they help the one's that need the help in school. Getting ther GED

435. Truly they've gotten rid of the good things here.
436. Hoping to go home someday
437. Religious freedom
438. There are some one man cells so you dont have to worry about fighting a cell mate or getting hit in your sleep. Thats if you are lucky enough to get one of those cells and if not taken from you for no reason. Staff use privilege as a weapon all the time.
439. Nothing
440. Is that I have family that still loves me and help's me when I need it
441. There really are none
442. When you have a job its more access to different things.
443. Hope of being free and an outdate!
444. The inmates do not have a lot of weapons.
445. School, church
446. You can make your on decisions
447. Nothing!
448. None
449. NOTHING
450. It shows to never come back
451. Being on front street. Thats where all the jobs are the quality of life is much better
452. Deffently get time to think about life
453. Nothing except being alive
454. Nothing—lifers and 85% get all the jobs and good time programs instead of us inmates that are eligable for good time
455. The chance to look at what choices you made, and to rethink and value all life, going forward.
456. Time to think about my previous life
457. NOTHING
458. Cant think of any at this time
459. Being alive, having a choice to change your life & situation...
460. To be honest Menard C.C. positive for certain people in certain cell houses
461. None
462. They make you appreciate freedom!
463. I don't think is positive thing about life in prison we spend too much time in the cells sometimes over 24 hours and little time of recreations.
464. I have an outdate
465. There has been zero
466. There 's nothing positive in this prison
467. You have a outdate and how it make you look at things with better value than before
468. A outdate you can live to see
469. Not a single thing!
470. Absolutely nothing
471. Menard/MSU. We now get a fresh fruit on a regular basis
472. While at Menard C.C. I have nothing positive to say
473. Islamic services

474. Nothing
475. You get time to observe the effect of your actions on the people around you and gain appreciation of the people who mean the most to you
476. That it is no where worse they can send me and from here it only gets better
477. Been able to get a visit thats if I'm not being punish for someone else mistake if a fight happen or something by some other people then my people will be turned around so no visit for me
478. There is not a single positive about life in this prison. Even while being involved in programs, they are only run once a week. They run yard twice a week, but we are locked in a cell for 24 hours a day every other day
479. Learning through adversity and when my mom sends me books to read
480. Nothing. We are treated like dogs and not people
481. I can't think of anything, this prison has no programs or schooling
482. You can find yourself and find your talent to be something when you are released
483. The hope in ending mass incarceration learning self help rehabilitation structuring and environment of prison reform and constitutional remedies or relief, reform
484. School
485. Waking up to another day to work on to get closer to home and family
486. That even though this prison has little to help me be positive, I can still spend my time reading, learning, and studying on my own
487. In person visits. Nothing else
488. Visits. Phone calls
489. Phone calls are one cent per minute, whenever I actually get the opportunity to make one
490. Nothing
491. None come to mind honestly
492. None
493. There is nothing positive about this prison
494. Nothing
495. Some of the officers are understanding of our situations but the mass of them make it difficult to trust them. I have been housed here for a year and I find it hard to write about any thing positive about this prison
496. Medical staff, try hard to help you
497. None at all
498. Nothing
499. Yard, commissary
500. Commissary. Contact w/family via phone, visitation apps, and visits. Out of cell time (Yard, gym, etc.)
501. Your alive, weights
502. In most cases you got to know who you are
503. The only positive here is that I can be alone if I choose. Yet I'm punished for it needlessly! I have no kinship with these convicts at all and I actively choose not to be a career criminal while everyone else I've met in Menard thus far admits they will do

- the same crimes when they leave. I'm NOT joking! It's really sad! I think it best to go my own way and keep to myself. Now if I didn't get punished for it that'd be nice!
504. Talking on the phone with friends and family sleeping
 505. You locked away from being harmed and mistreated by correctional officers
 506. This is a great time for God to speak to you!
 507. TV tablet and when JHA walk around so we get good food
 508. The food is okay. My MHP for transwoman here is amazing
 509. NOTHING
 510. Nothing
 511. I'm able to go to school
 512. School, work, exercise, food, commissary, money, psych, mental health
 513. If you are on Front Street you get to be in the cell by yourself and don't have to worry about being in the cell with nobody. So that keeps you from having to kill your cell mate or him killing you if you don't get along with each other and it's more peaceful in one man cells
 514. Church, reading bible
 515. Your still alive
 516. They feed you decent portions even though sometime is bad food or they refuse to feed you your still full enough to maintain til the next day
 517. Nothing
 518. Me waking up to another day to try and win my appeal and make it home to my kids.
 519. Nothing
 520. Because you is lock up 24 hours a day, it's easy to stay out of trouble.
 521. At some point in the very near future I will die of old age and then someone else will be targeted by the staff.
 522. Nothing is positive, This prison is one of the most Harshesht prisons, and you cant better yourself.
 523. None because its surrounded with nothing but violence and corruption.
 524. Nothing it all negative unless you get front street which is privileged
 525. Being in a cell all day is forsure here you don't [ILLEGIBLE] yourself out & so is like 'NOTHING'
 526. I have family here
 527. N/a
 528. There is none
 529. The TV/ Tablet thats IT.
 530. TV
 531. Nothing
 532. Since we in the cell all day I guess its safe/they match people well
 533. The christmas gifts from Willow Creek Community church + cable TV
 534. I cant think of any in Menard
 535. That some will go home & when a tour comes the will feed us good hot food only those times.
 536. Fuck dis prison & who ever made dis
 537. Nothing! This prison is designed to suck the life & hope out of individuals

538. There are none
539. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you prove what is that good and well-pleasing and perfect desire of Elohim.
540. There isnt nothing positive about life in this prison to be honest. Its hidden when Springfield or JHA walks through. Nothing positive here at Menard.
541. Incarceration means a lot of free time, which I use to think and learn. I watch the educational programs on PBS. I used to watch C-Span and C-SPan2 every day before the two channels were taken off air a few months ago.
542. Being alive
543. you can get visits
544. you get to meet some real smart older guys Ages 35 plus
545. LAW Library
546. Me working out thinking about family going home
547. Being locked up In this facility I have had the Opportunity To teach Myself everything I've learned being incarcerated [15+] years only Because there's no schooling for classes such as G.E.D., band class, art, ...There's nothing in the Easthouse to learn from.
548. Please Ask me a "Serious" Question! This facility has nothing positive until it be demolished/Torn down!
549. not shit. Men CC is a very badly prison to be at serving time!!! very racialism staff **[ILLEGIBLE]**
550. Nothing at all. I tell you why. This prison & staff here don't care or like Blacks and they treat us like shit here
551. N/A
552. Nothing this place is hell.
553. There is nothing positive. There are hardly any jobs available, and no educational opportunities.
554. just thinking positive about life and change
555. Nothing here is positive
556. There really isn't much besides visit, store, yard Your lock down 24/7 they barely give showers
557. I'll have to get back to you when I find some
558. Having a work assignment which gives me a chance to move around.
559. Nothing at all because many people have and will die here.
560. Nothing is positive about prison
561. Nothing is positive in Menard you are treated as less than by 90% of staff
562. If an individual has a talent or is highly skilled there is an emphasis made to put them in an area (job/housing unit) where there skill can be utilized and/or allowed to flourish.
563. Nothing
564. There are practically no positive things about this penitentiary. Picture "MAGA" card carrying Trumpers overseeing radical california liberals. Its a volatile situation that will ultimately erupt into a tragedy of epic proportions
565. Tv, tablet, collect phone calls, lifting weights, thats it

566. Seen how it never going to change
567. They let you go to yard & gym 6 days a week if they don't find a way to cancel it.
568. There is no positive things!
569. Im clean + sober
570. Using the phone talking to family and going to the yard or work.
571. Nothing
572. Knowing that one day I will leave prison
573. I'm from St. Louis, Missouri so I'm close to home. Only reason I be cool at times.
574. 1. Single man cells is the most positive thing. Time to yourself. 2. Some of upper staff majors, Lues, sgt. actually care about your situation others do not treat you like scum or something they stepped in 3. most guards are here to do their job and not add anymore stress others get off by causing "inmates" more problems than needed.
575. In menard C.C theres nothing positive
576. Nothing, maybe waking up the next day.
577. Getting out
578. I wish I could name 1 thing
579. It reminds you how people & life can be so cruel. How racism & slavery have spaced are jail system, so on the positive side it reminds you to make the right decisions once released.
580. Nothing at all.
581. Nothing, they don't offer nothing except G.E.D.
582. Being here in Menard Correctional center there is no positive things about life in here at all.
583. I'm close to home
584. At the M.S.U., the prisoners can get a shower twice a day, and get their state-issued clothing wash at least twice a week
585. Nothing Nothing Nothing
586. Nothing
587. I get to spend more time pursuing and knowing the Lord Jesus.
588. I dont know cause everyday is not tha same So!
589. I work and get movement which gives me some kind of structure that I have had all of my life. PAROLE ILLINOIS!!!
590. I have put god in my life for these **[20+]** years I've been here Amen!
591. There is not a-one.
592. You got a chance to know yourself and how strong or weak you maybe.
593. Not anything
594. Just sitting back thinking about bettering yourself
595. Taking a Shower everyday
596. We are able to go to work and school and earn good time
597. There isn't, the inmates run the phone
598. Nothing
599. None

600. Nothing everything is horrible in this prison please help as we pray to God everyday but things are getting worst people in hell get better treatment then we do please help us.
601. Work for almost no money
602. These are the Good things. Nothing, Food comes from the pit not the kitchen and is blended in the trucks its driven up in. There is no kitchen at MSU. Healthcare is terrible, people are dying every day. Officers are only good at taking everything for the prisoners.
603. Menard MSU there is none really
604. At Menard MSU there is no Healthcare and Dietary is shut down has been for over 5 months all food is cold.
605. It's hard to find a positive here in Menard but if I was to find any thing positive it would be the few staff members that do what they can to make life easy for "some people" even though I'm not included.
606. Getting locked up got me sober + clean with absolutely no help from any groups clean + sober **[5+]** years
607. Absolutely Nothing!
608. I have financial support to buy food and clothing when they have it at commissary that that's not given as state issue because of being held back for those favored by staff or state issue products are sold to us through commissary or on the black market by inmates.
609. Nothing
610. Nothin But the sun does shine over it daily
611. God is still with me!
612. Having an outdate that's less then most guys here! you can plan and set goals for yourself bcuz we have alot of time on our hands.
613. To me, it's the alone time when you get the opportunity to be housed in a cell by yourself. Watch TV eat, and mostly study your bible. I have natural life plus **[50+]** years without the possibility of no parole, and has been in this prison which housed single man cells in certain cell house and for the **[20+]** years I've manage to stay out of trouble. So Menard is pretty much what you make of it.
614. There is nothing positive in Menard but watching TV and thats sad
615. I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week. I have the opportunity to shower twice a day. I have the opportunity to call my friends and loved ones daily
616. That's the only way to go because everything is negative
617. Nothing!
618. Knowing when I get out i will never come back
619. Nothing at all
620. A bible, prays to my childrens
621. It depends on your Aggression Level & the housing unit that an individual in custody resides in
622. The Medical staff is very responsive. Receiving messages on the Tablet from family.
623. There Is No Positives.
624. work, yard, and my attitude about life

625. it is amazing that I am still Alive!!!
626. For the most part the staff is friendly and helpful. The location is scenic and historic.
627. There are not to many positive things about this prison
628. Not a god damn thing.
629. noting
630. Having a single-man cell, because I have a work assignment.
631. None, they dont do anything to better our lives especially in Menard correctional center, Easthouse where I`m currently housed in... We get treated very differently then the rest of the prison...
632. G.E.D.
633. Nothing
634. God and God alone
635. In society felons cannot hang with felons. In prison felons get to live with various felons in small cells because people are randomly moved from cell to cell like animals or slaves. Convicts get to congregate in prison which sharpens their felonious ways, to become better criminals.
636. If you geta job they treat you a lot better than if you don't. More fruit is now given to us.
637. Some of the staff try to treat us like human being. The rest its just a job to them
638. There is nothing positive about any prison
639. Between Menard Correctional Center, Statesville Correctional Center and the Northern Receiving Center (NRC) I have endured nothing in terms of an act to achieve the function of these facilities, i.e., to rehabilitate people for reentry into society, that can be viewed as a positive experience in over **[20+]** years of incarceration.
640. #nothing#
641. nothing
642. None
643. When you have family support!
644. Nothing
645. Staff jump on inmates in the healthcare unit building where there are no cameras.
646. None
647. That the might change one day and I get good time or porole home.
648. Can't think of any. I've been in Federal Prison and locked up all across this country. I've never heard of or experienced anything close to the inhumane treatment of inmates in this prison.
649. N/S
650. None other then wakin up to be alive another day.
651. Tablet to communicate with friends and loved ones
652. You wake up
653. Nothing! Locked down 24-7 except for 1 single yard day a week!
654. Nothing with the exception of being released or transferred
655. Nothing
656. None
657. Isolation so I could focus on my life's goals

658. Seeing a smile on every staff members face each day. Someday ill be home with my loved ones.
659. Nothing. I look at things from an unbiased perspective & there's nothing I can speak of positively about this facility!
660. Nothing I am about to be released soon! This nightmare is almost over!
661. Nothing

Q13. What are the most negative things about life in this prison?

1. hard to get a visit stay in touch w/ family
2. Racism. Prison can be dis-compassionate at times
3. Everything
4. The moral is low and not enough time out of cells
5. no school, different treatment from cellhouse to cellhouse
6. Every time you come out to somebody always getting hurt. I have to make me some to protect my life. Because the staff here do not care about your well being.
7. everything mostly the C/O & staff
8. being a minimum classification with a job and being housed with lifers
9. Everything else!!! Food is horrible + greatly lacks nutrition, we get one 5 hour yard per week, nowhere near enough phone time (1-2 20 min calls maybe per week), mental health AND health care NON EXISTENT, Grievances are ignored, favoritism is expressed in commissary availability, and many more things.
10. we lock in cells everyday the only time we come out is on tuesday and friday for yard and shower for just 15 minutes or so
11. (no programs)
12. The mail delivery here within the last year has deteriorated a lot. I just had two packages mailed to me by my family. They have never gotten to me and I have never recieved a refusal of mail slip. Where is my mail disappearing to? It is not just an issue with me. Its others as well.
13. Everything that exist
14. Drugs, gangs, gang violence, the staff as a whole, and the lack of programming
15. Nepotism, grievance process is poorly, the administration is stealing money; facts are the way they feed the inmates, its difficult to receive state clothing only once a year, no state boots to no inmates unless has a job
16. Staff don't respond, C/O's don't help, work orders don't get responses, 24 hour lockdown, no gym, 1 yard per week. It's not enough space for everything!
17. That we are locked up to much and staff treat us as we are not people
18. Some staff tend to bring home issues here and stress the incarcerated with their personal problems and make it hard on incarcerated.
19. no programs for the east house and it feel like we are wasting life

20. The most negative things about life in diss prison is theres nothing to look forward to, we never leave are cells! No phones! food sucks, showers are so dirty! Staff are so unprofessional. Someone need to seriously do a thorough investigation and see how we are treated.
21. only get one opportunity a wekk for yard, and no night yard allowed for the East House
22. the administration, food, health care, mental health, and the staff and the sanitation of all the cellhouses is horrible.
23. medical, mental health, the way staff treats you and the food, and the fabrication of disciplinary reports and the partial and unfair adjustment committee
24. The staff and that they show favoritism towards certain people. Not ADA accesible
25. you are in prison the treatment
26. Staff are mostly concerned about their paycheck than helping someone incarcerated!
27. The effect it has on your mental/emotional health, as well as the impact it has on relationships on the outside with family & loved ones
28. We are always in our cells. We can't contact our family. We are not given education they don't have programs to make us better people
29. There are no programs to help better ourselves No school available or programs to rehabilitate us for the world
30. Everything they took phones, yards, commissary, i been here a year now I never seen medical
31. white racist staff that run (I.A.) and everything here
32. The food the healthcare being locked in a cell all the time the TV the store we go to that raise the price on everything & only let us have \$100 to buy food with the wifi that does not work most of the time
33. there no mental health to help you no yard or gym only monday
34. They let the homo-sexuals and Trans people sexually harass people and no one is safe in this prison especially PC! They let people kill each other and staff will take you were there aren't cameras and BEAT you!
35. Someone controlling your movement telling you what you can't or won't do here. The threat of officers, and the **[ILLEGIBLE]** wait when you're grieving a staff worker
36. no programs for pc or level E's, dangerous, food
37. No EGC. I'm from this town chester/ Menard IL so no job. (Security issue) no school. No programs no positive groups. NOTHING
38. Its reputation of being a max. I am far from home I can't get a visit. I am made to feel insecure mentally + physically
39. Dealing with somebody else in the cell with you
40. the health care services, the grievance process, the lack of legal research via a tablet in your cell, the dietary standards, taking away indoor rec for covid and then not bringing it back, lack of visibility and access to majors/WARDENS, pathetic heating/cooling and ventilation ad no attempts to rectify the quality of new hires in the staff, the "new" commissary contact, allowance of sound projection devices for some individuals creates unhealthy environment.
41. That everyone acts as if they care but change is rare! we the people in prison suffer from it!

42. 1. officials very petty when trying to get help. 2) No medical, several month delays to see NP/MD 2. Other states have phones on tablet. Takes 3 days to get the phone here. 3. don't have institutional channels.
43. The fact that I get less than 8 hrs out my cell a week
44. The way it is so far behind in regards to program availability!! The lack of communication between the administration and inmates. The stigma put on it by the state, like nobody here wants to change. The way the administration constantly changes rules to add unnec, stress/hardship
45. Everything at Menard Correctional Center, Menard Illinois 62259
46. treatment of inmates
47. That there are no real programs to help us so when we get out, we can stay out
48. Everything, this just a hopeless place
49. everything
50. The trauma that causes us, and more negative, to our love-ones
51. to many to list
52. Not being able to have sex with your woman
53. No real help for individuals for recidivism
54. No daily movement outside of my cells/gallery no radio stations/free music/getting fat! Mostly bad food. Raw cabbage, nasty foods.
55. There are few to none as far as classes or higher education we have NO access to a full law library. No passes issued to go to the full library in the maximum security unit
56. All jobs not requiring outside clearance go to gang bangers and lifers. In the MSU they refuse to fix the cable so we have institutional channels and movie channels. The food comes in styrofoam that is broken and leaks out, as is it takes on water en route and isn't edible. No college or substance abuse prog.
57. everything
58. Everything!!!
59. No movement outside of cell No programs It's constant seg + negativity everywhere
60. above things
61. You can not work on your case The food is no good. And no Jobs
62. The treatment of inmates by staff
63. Missing Family + my kids + I miss home cook meals
64. Just the fact that staff looks down on you in such a way it kind of makes one feel hopeless to an extent. But I think that society in general looks down on a person in prison. Like we dont deserve 2nd chances. Whether 1 bad decision on ones life.
65. This is the most corrupt—unprofessional—wasteful—unorganized Business I have ever seen. Lies to the Public like crazy, example—they tell everyone they are out of money for copy paper yet they make 3 copies of one call pass to give to me.
66. We share similar experiences, but feel some reason we cant get along & would much rather take/recieve than to give.
67. Not up to date (no phones or law library on Tablets)
68. The C/Os
69. Most of the days, the meals out of dietary are disgusting and unhealthy, even from an institutional perspective and are below USDA & FDA standards if prepared and not

grown. Then even worse is the pairing up individuals in cells with those whom are severely Mentally Ill (SMI) and resisting those who try to remove themselves from that condition.

70. The healthcare, No Doctor here only nurse practitioners
71. Lack of programs/courses/classes; phones breaking frequently; Lack of H/C; Food lacks nutrition, variety, & often served cold sometimes hours after being prepared; The constant threat of losing the single man cell.
72. Filthy Meal trays, mold/mildew & old food
73. Everything!
74. Certain people have control and no one tells them anything. (gangs)
75. Healthcare. We havent had a doctor in here for a couple years now. You only get help if you have a pre-existing medical condition
76. Poor Health Care! Poor food! Poor living conditions, paint falling off walls, ceilings, bad plumbing. lead paint in living cells
77. Fights, drugs, and lockdowns.
78. Drugs & Gangs
79. No phone access, no programs or schooling
80. ?
81. You might get seriously hurt or have to seriously hurt somebody. You might not get ur tray. Workers be stealing trays Inmate workers. C/Os are very lazy. One minute they dont inforce the rules. Next they do. C/Os come in to work with attitude an **[ILLEGIBLE]** take it out on inmates.
82. Being alone, hard to get information on websites. Dependent on others to get things done.
83. No, communication, the times change on food, showers, yard and other activities. There is no warning but shouted orders which cant be understood. The default to any problem is to lock us down with no explanation or notice when we will be off lockdown. The Christian officers believe it is their duty to punish us for our supposed sins and feel justified in mistreating us because they are godly.
84. GTL visits is never done right here. The food is really bad if you don` t work in the kitchen. Staff still do their count on paper instead of using an updated system. The A/C don` t work on the unit but it does everywhere staff is. We might get underwear/shirts every year if they feel like doing that
85. I went 6 months without pain meds Medical treatment—no programs—no chapel But every 6 to 8 weeks—No inmate participation in any area! All grievances are denied—The agree with staff! The mail room is charging inmates up to 3x the amount By misclassifying packages.
86. I have nothing positive to say about this prison.
87. Being Stuck in the cells so much
88. Being treated like a animal
89. I will never be able to visit with my mom because she is unvaccinated. There is no in person visitation for unvaccinated people. Also There is no gym Any longer + weights on yard are in disrepair There is no ventilation in summertime + is too hot. Especially for older people.

90. Poor quality nourishment
91. There is not enough schooling or programs that a individual in custody has to choose from to further our education.
92. non-rehabilitated programs for every inmate
93. There's not enough programs and if your not envolved in any of the Few Thats available, your pretty much stuck in your cell.
94. The way we are treated.
95. Not getting things we by law saying we should get this and that
96. No phones, unfair tickets, Adjustment Committee hearing they conviction rate is higher than the FBI. Grievance procedure unfair, threats, mold, rust, no movement, fabricated tickets, Beating by C/Os, MH (Mental Health) do what the C/Os tell them.
97. It's too far for contact visits from my family, The food sucks, the people are mostly miserable. The average cellmate is long-term the cellmates are mostly petty, most cellmates have nobody by their side, too much negativity by the next man, too many long term prisoners in one prison
98. Being here
99. There is a lack of classes/programs made available that help Inmates grow & reform.
100. Healthcare, Food, Lack of just commen sense with staff.
101. Getting things done. Medical in here completely sucks. I have been trying to see a Doctor—or—nurse practitioner for almost 6 months! It`s also very dirty in Menard.
102. theres no programs and no time out the cells
103. Mostly racial tension—meaning certain staff will look at Latinos A certain way and African American—with dreads—a certain way
104. Fights, disrespect from officers, the unsanitary Trays & food served & made in an unsanitary kitchen. Being in a cell 24 hours, 5 days of the week.
105. A lot of predators and mental Illness is rampant in here. They Arent dealt with until they do something harmful.
106. the most negative thing about life in prison is that theirs gangbangers against each other instead of Being one prison of togetherness and one people their are many different clicks.
107. No Dayroom no **[ILLEGIBLE]** (Nothing)
108. The ease of the officers/Admin can circumvent the grievance process/other rules.
109. #1 Being in prison period! #2 Loneliness! #3 Having to Live with (cell with) Mental Patience!
110. Being in a cell all day.
111. The possibility of Dieing Here
112. Staff, food, no recreation, phone system c and b grade can only call home twice a month we have kids and family that need us and some may be sick.
113. Put in cell with someone you do not get along with
114. Trying to survive. I am a **[55+]** year old white guy who has never been in a gang—my life has been threatened several times—ive checked into P.C. (protective custody) but have been denied. They keep trying to send me back where they no I will be harmed.
115. Everything.
116. Healthcare (eye doctor)

117. No staff speak spanish. Latino's are at a major disadvantage if the don't speak fluent english. People burn milk cartons, cardboard to cook and the air is poisonous
118. Healthcare and the heat in the summertime is unbearable
119. Being treaed real bad
120. I'm judged by my case rather than who I am. I've been negatively treated by guards and other incarcerated alike. I've been turned down from getting a job because of my case.
121. For one, we only go to yard (recreational time) once a week. There is no school program to attend in the cell house I'm housed in. We don't have any productive pass time outside the cell. We are stuck in our cell 24/6 with no help in trying to rehabilitate
122. Everything
123. Most of the time we are locked up in cells. No educational programs are available. This prison is decrepit, no ventilation whatever, dusty & without proper heating. Also it is located Southernmost of Illinois and does not have air conditioning
124. Noise. Lack of grammar. Lack of enthusiasm in group session leadership. Very poor commissary for some houses.
125. There's way too much drugs + hooch and staff don't do a thing. Look out of a 10 cell area I'm the only cell that don't do stuff, been that way for **[15+]** yrs since I got locked up, that's the only thing I've been able to change is to stay sober because there's been nothing.
126. People that try to take you under when you're trying to go another way the right way.
127. Everything is negative in this prison.
128. No same privileges and amenities for every housing unit. poor communication between inmates & staff.
129. The way they treat the visitors, the bias stereotypes the mailroom exercises when evaluating pictures of African American families, the grievance process is pro staff no matter the complaint
130. The food is really bad! They nit pick over little things, things that don't mean anything. Also the way they are handling the grievance's no good!
131. Gangs and stuff help
132. The drugs, no school/college programs here, the aggressive nature or gang violence, dietary food is horrific
133. Some staff tries to think of as many things as possible to make prison life more miserable than it already can be.
134. No program, no internet for the people who've been locked up over 30 yrs, No medical check up for people with asthma or the elders, no library law library, no mental health program. No teacher who is trying to help people learn.
135. The officer's put incarcerated individuals in perdicterments they can't get out.
136. Everything
137. Not being able to be with family. Enjoying things you grew up doing. Being in a negative environment makes it harder to be positive.
138. Lack of education, rehabilitative opportunities, & mental stimulation. The little amount of time for recreation. The unhealthy diet (state food & commissary) All peoples (staff & inmates) attitude towards each other, selfish & indifferent. Medical care.

139. Too much time in the cell. Not enough personal growth opportunities for those with alot of time left to do.
140. erthing from bein N the cell alday 2 not talking 2 your family 2 the staff
141. we have no help with anything. It's hopeless here.
142. Lack of education. Lack of opportunities. Not enough hours spent outside of our cells. Dealing with lazy staff members. Living conditions are inhumane. Not enough opportunities to rehabilitate ourselves. Being treated as savage animals rather than human beings.
143. Poor dietary options, excessive lock down, lack of educational opportunity, not enough yards, sanitary issues, unfair housing system, the inmate is inferior to staff, not enough commissary days
144. Surviving another night. A lot of time in a cell with someone you can't get along with + officers wanting to see you fight and then punish you for it. They don't care to help the situation.
145. Individuals are punished for every little thing. No incentives for good behavior or transfer to another prison. No monetary incentives to reduce violence or increase productive behavior.
146. Treatment, no school, food
147. If only you(s) could spend 60 days here, a week in seg and the rest in GP. You(s) too would be where we are at mentaly- and that's if your mentally strong.
148. Staff assault inmates while inmates are in restraints
149. Poor living conditions. Staff not equipped to deal with individuals in custody. "Mental evaluations" staff simply not qualified.
150. Staff throw guys in seg./RH w/o nothing! No sheets, no hygiene, no legal material for a week or two. Staff assault us daily. 7-3pm shift, 3pm-11am shift (all 3 shifts) we have to yell and curse @ staff for them to understand @ times. The food is slop and horrible, There's no real school in East House @ all, they took the phones weekly from seg./RH and only allow A/B grade to use them, not C grade. We cant use the kiosk or have our tablets per Major [REDACTED]. Staff only respond to fights adequately, not medical or mental health emergencies. Staff dont follow their own rules. There's lead, mold, inadequate ventilation lighting and defective locking mechanism (that they have to beat and fight the locks and doors for 5-7 mins, that's a hazard) Yard and mental health group is always stripped from us every week, esp. seriously mentally ill guys as myself.
151. Conditions, welfare, health
152. Not being able to be housed with people with the same case. I feel they purposely put sex cases with murderers or gang members just to cause problems. Most feel that the sex case guys "deserve" to be treated harshly. Guilt or innocence aside. And if you're LGBTQ+ its even worse. The staff find out and spread the info to others just to cause chaos
153. They try their hardest to keep you out of contact with your support system
154. Nobody cares.
155. Being away from family. Having to depend on the outside world.
156. We are treated like slaves

157. Staff relations, from the top down. Food. Everything. This place need to be shut down.
158. Food, clothing, medical care, overall treatment
159. The police and the way they treat you not all them some are tryin to do the right but the job wont let them
160. That their are no programs
161. Some staff really don't care at all about us; even when we're doing well!
162. Everything. Food, sanitation, staff, recreation, programs, visits, phone time, etc. They literally only give us bread on Weds. breakfast trays.
163. Everything is negative and your life is always in jeopardy
164. You are away from family here. You have no chance to learn any life skills here at Menard. You sit around all day no relief
165. It's a waste of talent
166. Interaction with staff/housing
167. Medical treatment—to obtain just otc type medications is like going to a adversarial court hearing where your request is generally arbitrarily denied—canceled without even being seen—disabling conditions are often denied, your told your faking, complaining, or looking for attention. There are NO on call doctors available, medical permits are denied without being seen
168. The most negative what not negative its all bad in Menard everything is an negative
169. we locked in our cell 24/24. we go on locked down 2 much in East House. we go to yard once a week there's no female correctional officers around all men
170. In the cell to long, no female officers, bad food no school, its alot more
171. All of these sadist racist officer(s) down here in menard...
172. The staff members respecting gang members more than they respecting people as equal.
173. Every Aspect of this prison is punitive and degrading...
174. In the cell all day. Negative security staff, every cell house is not treated equally. Schooling only for chosen few. They interfere with mental health and override anything they suggest. This facility has the worst food. Restrictive housing is overused here. Programs only for chosen few. No chances to improve.
175. The way it's ran I promise I'll never come back
176. Where to start
177. Everything
178. Staff and just being in prison
179. No programs, no school college academic/vocational programs and they discriminate against letting east cell house + west cell house from getting to participate
180. Staff conduct & prison food
181. We only get yard time once a week. If were not locked down. Plus we dont get enough time on the phone. Only 2-3 times a week for 20 min
182. The whole corrections part of Department of Corrections. There is no sources, programs, available in Menard. Its like lock you up throw away the key. Its as if a lot of decisions are made to inconvenience family members to discourage/distance bonds.
183. Nothing to look forward to day to day. Being locked in the cell 24 hours a day except 1 yard a week is bogus. And I'm in general population. This is Menard C.C. east house.

184. Dont go nowhere in a cell all day Seen shit but a wall all day 24/7 7 days out a week
185. Everything.
186. Everything!
187. Time in cell
188. Negative people
189. everything
190. everything
191. Just about everything. The abuse of power by administration and staff. Neglect. The fact that all staff band together when a staff member commits a violation of their official professional duties.
192. If your aggression level is high or you are in the east house you can not get your education and it is a cycle of people that go to seg/RH for bogus tickets and the adjustment committee finds people guilty even if your not to keep people in seg/RH. The food is a big problem because its not enough on the portion/amount we are given. also its the same thing most of the time. They (staff) feed us food from days ago sometimes. Its been time's when my food tastes old. We are in the cell all day unless we have showers or a call pass unless its yard also c-grade I have been on c-grade for a long time and Im unable to do a lot of things even though I have been staying out of trouble for the most part.
193. Being locked inside a cell 24hrs per day. Dietary, mental health, medical treatment. Safety issues, staff misconduct and lack of communication with support.
194. EVERYTHING
195. Being sexually harrast by staff and inmates who pray on us Gay and Bisexual men in here, they mistreat us, spit in our food, and play with our mail and legal mail
196. staff, food, and no programing
197. There is no focus on self improvement, only bare minimum of education/programs/faith/growth are offered and all are poorly run. **[PERSONAL DETAILS REDACTED]** The majority of staff are incompetant/lazy/corrupted.
198. Lifers try to run this prison, the blacks & gangs control the phone, we have no kitchen food comes from pit to the hill cold & nasty
199. Not being around family
200. Dont get caught with contraband.
201. Programs
202. Menard C.C in its entirety
203. Everything is this place is negative. Its a toxic environment and very dangerous. There is mold poor ventilation. They dont pass out masks, give out hand sanitizer and there are vultures that fly over my head on the yard and to me its signs of death to me. I'm only getting one yard a week and the rest of the joint gets two yards.
204. You cant have a celly you got to talk to the walls
205. You're in your cell 24hrs a day one yard a week
206. Your **[ILLEGIBLE]**
207. Being mistreated by the staffs
208. Officers walk around with assault rifles (fully loaded) and life size mace containers, using them on inmates unlawfully, and even killing some inmates

209. The staff, mental health, food and the adjustment committee
210. Cruel and unjust punishment by the facility. Retaliation from officers for talking to visitors who want help living conditions, for filling out this form (they take our names down), no due process on tickets. Wrongful and senseless lockdowns, even when you or others had nothing to do with the issue.
211. The lockdowns, program availability, phone availability, depressing atmosphere. East house has little hope here.
212. Everything
213. Getting look down on like im nothing
214. Gangs, Medical services, C/O (staff)
215. no movement, programs, EDSC good time
216. Denial of life-saving medical care and treatment and staff fictitiously citing incarcerated persons for disciplinary charges and criminal cases.
217. The C/O inbreds taken your legal work and fabricating tickets to cover there tracks. When the staff feeds us horse feed on Monday and Friday morning. Fabricating the food and stealing from offenders. Hiding the horse feed when someone in Springfield give them the head up. Selling us donated items from Christmas or just State donated items and selling them.
218. There are two jails here in Menard. You have front street workers who get everything all the commissary, shoes, and everything else. Then you got the East cell house here in Menard, no programs, yard once a week, no school nothing left on the commissary for us to buy. But we still take it.
219. That you sit in your cell the majority of your time and they have no programs for you to better yourself.
220. The systemic racism, prejudice, biasness, oppression in general... The culture of corruption & cover ups, the excessive use of force by staff against inmates in custody leading to serious injuries and death. I witnessed both in general population and in segregation housing unit. The C/Os & medical staff relationship **[ILLEGIBLE]** so they cover up for each other turn blind eyes to staff mistreatment of individuals in custody.
221. Is the treatment we receive from staff. My first day here I was eating so chips and one of the staff snatch my chip because he said I was taking to long to eat while getting off the bus.
222. Everything else except the above
223. Everything!
224. Everything
225. The negative about life in prison is that IDOC doesn't care about helping people reach their rehabilitation potential and restoring them back into society as useful citizens
226. Not being treated like a human being, because we are in prison
227. The inmates
228. Missing friend and family
229. The staff doesn't respect you unless you have life, you can't get a job unless you have life

230. Staff, individuals in custody, gangs violence, drugs, alcohol, weapons, no programing no school segregated and no equal protection or opportunity. Horrible food, harassment and retaliation from staff and leadership. Poor healthcare
231. Contact with family or just outside of prison they take that any chance they get. They return mail for no reason, take visits take rec, phones, tablets, pictures always get returned to company and we can't get refund. Turn family around on visits or deny visits rights period. Staff don't help with nothing. All they do is write tickets to make our time more miserable
232. Everything
233. It's worse than a kennel for dogs
234. Gang members and rape
235. Gang activity
236. The staff
237. There is no type of shape of form of reform or rehabilitation. No programs jobs, schooling etc. If they don't like you. You don't get nothing coming but 3 meals (cold) and maybe 2 showers a week.
238. No programs or school, 1 yard per week. No gym, no out of cell time
239. No hope for people to change, they treat the east house any type of way and no education opportunities for guys who are in my situation
240. The food, the commissary, the limited entertainment we can purchase, limited time in the law library, front street has a lot more amenities than we do
241. The lifers have all the jobs mostley there is no programs
242. No programs, Menard MSU
243. The entire quality of life
244. Waking up in here
245. Not much dayroom for a medium
246. Being in cells to long, the food, no mental health, no education or trades to learn. Getting punished for others actions
247. The way Menard staff treats the inmate at this prison. The lack of support when dealing with mental health. We only go outside once a week. The overall staff conduct. Cutting off inmates water in seg as punishment not feeding inmates in seg as punishment
248. I'm stuck in my cell most times 6 days out the week. There are no programs for me. This place is depressing. Hopeless. All they are concerned with is lockdown discipline.
249. Everything
250. Not being able to excel at Life through school & educational programs in the back area of the facility cell houses & the Lack of social skill & communication skill building
251. We are not allow to go to the yard the East cell house get one yard a week for four hours, there are no school programs, we do not come out of our cells. There is no chance to rehabilitate yourself we stay on lockdown for nothing
252. The staff, the way the jail is ran
253. That they play favoritism towards people instead of treating us all the same or as equal
254. Only way you can get a "job" is to kiss ass and laugh to all they "Gay Jokes"

255. They don't go by rules that's inside the 504 administration code, they make up their own rules. Plus they use the punishment C-grade to give us all punishments in one
256. Everything
257. EVERYTHING
258. Medical care is poor, the nurse will tell people to shut the fuck up. It takes months sometimes to get our meds fulfilled, They don't pick you up for medical furloughs sometimes. and they don't answer a lot of our grievances I put in the same grievances for medical three times and it been over 100 days and still no answer and they are suppose to answer within 30 days
259. Food work opportunities no programs
260. Locked down too much and I'm a minimum status and in here with people doing life
261. I am a minimum security inmate housed with murderers & sex offenders
262. Poor health management No kitchen that is open to serve at MSU do to lack or maintenance to repair
263. C/O's are kinda shitty with attitude and would rather belittle you instead of help
264. The most negative things are the fact that this prison doesn't focus on reentry there are very few options available to promote a positive change most options come from outside source that the incarcerated person has to seek for themselves
265. No college classes, no jobs for everyone, not enough time in dayroom only 4 phones in dayroom and yard! Do not answer requests on time
266. Everything!!!
267. Time, physical and mental abuse
268. Drugs, gangs and violence
269. Too many too list but for starters they don't care about their own rule book, they will send your family members who traveled 5 hours to see you around at the door, I went in to B-grade on the **[DATE REDACTED]** and still as of **[A WEEK+ LATER]** don't have B-grade calls on my pin #.
270. The way staff treat you. They treat you like crap. I have been in the H.C.U. Health Care Unit for **[NUMBER REDACTED]** weeks do to **[MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED]** and I haven't been able to get out of my cell beside to shower nor has my roommate, which is **[MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED]**. I got in trouble by officer **[REDACTED]** for helping this young man.
271. You're treated as if because your criminal your dumb or stupid which is not the case for a lot of inmates. Makes it hard to request anything you need. Officers are either extremely rude (not meaning strict) or nice when you interact with them but there is no consistency no matter how kind you are they prefer you sit in your cell ask for nothing at all. Also I'm not allowed out of my cell except to shower and I've never been in trouble.
272. We are in our cells 24/7. We get yard 2 times a week that always get cut short do to fights.
273. Everything about this place generates negative energy
274. Everything
275. it is so loud and inmates here smoke drugs here. I hate it. Too many users here about 95% are smokers

276. everything especially in Menard
277. everything
278. Everything on this prison is negative! Sorry to say BUT theres NO positive THING to say about this facility
279. the staff c/o's, mental health, major everybody cus they never do they dutys instead they give us a HARD TIME
280. This Plantation is RACIST
281. the C/O workers
282. prison
283. not being out more we should have more dayroom/yard time
284. It caters to child molesters and tranny's, so I can buy decent makeup but I can't get decent toothpaste, deodorant, or soap. It is difficult for us visitors to visit as they have to schedule it 2 weeks prior
285. The lack of family and freinds. I am hundreds of miles from home. And my family members ar too old too pour to make 800 mile round trip from **[LOCATION REDACTED]** county down to Menard.
286. The Housing, they have people with life in here around people with not that much time
287. I am refused my **[MENTAL HEALTH MEDICATIONS REDACTED]** here Im diagnosed with **[MULTIPLE DIAGNOSES REDACTED]** the cell next to me had to hang himself for him to get the wrong medication and I can't fill out a prea at all I know Im not supposed to put my info on here but I know you deal with prea issues so Ill include it because I can't fill out one if I don't
288. Police ignore you no matter what and will kill you
289. being here, in staff
290. They are treating you wrong in population and restrictive housing forreal
291. Hell!
292. No real social time w/ outside support, the food, no real programs, nobody really cares the staff come to work & go home that's all they care about.
293. You're always in your cell and it doesn't matter how illegal that is. You will always be in your cell!
294. Death
295. You lose your support system, If your weak you lose yourself. You are treated as a number, you are fed like a dog in certain prisons, there is no opportunity to better yourself in certain prisons.
296. that they giving SMI people a year in seg
297. everything
298. the way staff treat us
299. well I kinda mentioned that above but the way you're perceived & pre judged treated & talked to! Down here they make it difficult to visit with your loved ones. You can't just do your time & fight your case they make it hard for you.
300. The level of racism, being locked in the cell 24hrs a day 6 to 7 days a week! The poor quality of food! Being so, so far away from family! Being treated like your dirt, garbage!
301. The staff here disrespect inmates and don't help when we need it
302. The C/O putting they hand's on people

303. Don't let me go to commissary every week and sell us old stuff.
304. EVERYTHING
305. Getting dehumanized, (treated like animals)
306. No A/C poor food, Poor beds/mats, state went with new commissary vendor (literally the cheapest of the cheap), food portions on lunch & dinner trays are very small, fans on commissary have decreased in size from a 10 inch to a 6 inch, transfers are moving @ a snails pace, can't no longer buy dick blick art supplies, only workers get new bed mats. only non-sex cases can get jobs
307. Just setting in your room doing nothing due to the lack of educational book (TEXT) books and the ones they have they don't let anyone read or check out to learn in the cell!
308. The staff have attitudes and the lifers have all the jobs hell some lifers have 5 to 6 different job details and getting good time for it they got life in prison thats awesome.
309. yes no the in negative
310. You aren't put in a situation to better yourself. No matter what you do good. One mistake and you're treated like trash.
311. Theres no parole system that would give long-term people an incentive to rehabilitate themselves.
312. The AFSCME (staff union) controlling (ie blocking) the sanctioned programs we're supposed to have. Staff abusing us physically & verbally at will without any accountability. Little to no medical care at an adequate level. The rampant racism the staff directs at inmates. No protocol for covid protection. Business office does not process the funding for the programs. They withhold funds so that they can achieve, receiving more money from springfield or federal government. It's a FACT! The kitchen does not prepare food correctly, withhold funding needed to make the food correctly, frequently do not honor diets religious or others, the officers/STAFF kitchen gets & uses ingredients inmates are supposed to have—in order to have meals prepared for staff that is denied to inmates. Whatever is on the menu listed on the website, does not get served to us! The cages we're in are infested with rust, jagged sharp broken metal, old lead paint exposed & peeling, barely functioning plumbing that requires constant repairs. There is no climate control & broken windows & hell in the summer. Commissary does not provide adequate over the counter skin/hair/dental/sinus allergy products, nor a healthy choice of food & snack products. I could go on but I don't have the stationery to do so. When JHA comes around you never speak with an inmate who has been here for a long time & has enough brain power, courage, & communication skills to accurately tell you what you NEED to know.
313. If you do not have a job and are in a "high aggressive" housing unit, not enough time out of the cell. Health Care staff is slow to answer sick calls and it can take months to see a nurse practitioner.
314. racism & staff misconduct
315. safety especially if your not in a gang your not allowed to touch the phone on the yard.
316. The lack of educational opportunities and movement, and the mental deterioration that comes with spending nearly 24 hrs a day in a cell. As well as the poor social skills by staff and prisoners that comes from this lack of education.

317. Having no programs and being restricted "C" and then "B" grade with limited everything. (No Hope)
318. literally everything!
319. Gang's and C/O
320. The wardens don't care about nobody—no individuals in custody. Mental health don't care. The staff don't care. the nurse & doctors don't care. this is living
321. Gangs, drugs, & the officers like it when gang members beat us non gang members, gang members get any thing they want. Violent here.
322. The staff giving their protective custody porters contraband ever day they come to work. The staff let the Black individuals do whatever they want cause the staff are scared, of them.
323. Not having more educational programs. Not having enough phones. Phones should be on our tablets.
324. I'm in segregation/restrictive housing 2 lights outside my cell never get turned off. There's no ventilation system. Mold is in showers & rust. Rust are on dust, bunk, and bars inside cells. The gallery is barely swept & cleaning supplies are passed only once a week. Its a safety hazard.
325. Everything!
326. We are in the cell 24/7
327. You have to find your own hope/motivation to service this hell, its hard! and its something that I know from my experience. You don't get to be in your family's life like you want to and life pass you by, each and every day.
328. again fuck staff and fuck staff
329. Gangs and violence
330. No programs. Few programs only to short timers. In our cells all day everyday. Extreme selective requirements for jobs. Disgusting food. Only 2 yard days/rec days a week. Staff intimidation practices. No spanish classes. Water contaminated.
331. Little to no programs, Hard to get a job, all day in a cell, staff unprofessional
332. Quality of food, inmate treatment
333. The food and treatment I recieve here is degrading.
334. Not getting help from no staff in this prison menard corr. ctr.
335. When people dont live me along and not give me, my money, they get fucked up.
336. No phone, gang promotion & infestation, no emergency buttons in the rooms, C/Os don` t walk & check on people like they`re supposed to. too much Hooch & drugs circulating. The C/Os enforce minor infractions that shouldn` t even be against the rules—like having a stinger to warm up their food. But they sell all types of microwavable food at commissary & they don` t enforce Hooch as a ticket. People dont need to be drunk & gangbangin in here
337. The administration.
338. Everything
339. mainly that not everyone who works in facilities like this strive to make our environment better. They treat us with disrespect, deny us civil rights, and somtimes, abuse us.
340. staff
341. Healthcare is terrible

342. You lockdown all day
343. We have no doctor at all. If you put in a sick-call they do not call you.
344. Time
345. No voice, not being treated like a Human Being
346. No programs + no rehabilitation. Nothing to do but be in your cell!
347. making you choose shower or yard, law library or yard. not enough time out of cell only max of 9 hrs of yard/week. mold in showers that dont get cleaned. Food thats served (serving quality food on days that Springfield visits) and a lot of Food inmates dont eat on others. not getting warranty items back after paying for it.
348. Treated like straight animals, not Human, look at the food, and no type of movements, school, programs, ect.
349. No school, poor groups, locked up 24-7, barely any showers, food is garbage "they trick people and make a good meal when there is visitors"
350. Being away from your loved ones
351. The people... This is a maximum security prison where most folks will give in to helplessness & not attempt to better themselves because they have so much time to do..
352. There aren't enough programs/schooling to help prepare you with a better life style upon release.
353. Even grievances that have been deemed "Emergency" Grievances by the CAO regarding medical issues still go un-responded to by Health Care Staff for MONTHS after being deemed an emergency and non-emergency medical grievances take over a year to be responded to by Health Care Unit!
354. not access to the law library
355. Getting the correct medical care needed
356. Getting stab or jump on by staff and getting lock in the cell and left for dead
357. They mix general population with mentally ill people, they deny transfers for people who need more mental Health controlled facilities like Dixon etc. for inmates. correctional staff are racist towards Blacks & mexican/people of color.
358. Never come out the cells
359. Drug's
360. Haveing my family drive over 200 mil to se me.
361. Everything about Menard corrupt
362. You are away from family and C/O treat you like less than a man
363. I think it is the health care assitance. It sucks. It took two years + to get my **[REDACTED]** surgery. I wasn't on any pain medication half the time and nothing is solved. Everything is decided by the security. Security is the only availability you have from the staff. Programs also suck.
364. Their are no vocation training program for all inmate
365. The phone access and system. The food that is prepared for the inmates. And the inadequate programs for rehabilitation. The culture of dehumanization on the grounds of being an inmate while purposely infusing a superior and inferior culture.
366. Being lock in this cage, this place they call a cell, in the lion of hell.

367. Staff conduct, dietary food, mental health, no contact to family I just literally went 2 months without talking to any outside contacts, aggressive apathetic C/Os, SEG, racist C/Os, Buddy buddy system amongst C/Os some C/Os are throwing away grievances. No school, no way to reform yourself, inhumane living conditions, everything about Menard is negative.
368. Being away from friends and family being locked away
369. A lot
370. Its very racist and a place that hides the negative things when audits come making it seem like things ran one way but once its not being seen go back to running things another way
371. No jobs available; excessive cell time, limited phone calls. No programs: limited visits, the plexiglass, not enough yard, no school. no dayroom
372. It is **[ILLEGILBE]** hot no air condition food frome the kitchen is really bad
373. Stuck in the cell 24hrs. a day on non yard days.
374. being locked in the cell every day and the food
375. You can't get in school, nor get a job if you dont know someone
376. inmates control to much
377. Medical
378. I cannot get the medications I need or any medical treatment for over a month of complaining about having **[MEDICAL CONDITION REDACTED]**—they have refused to see me about chest congestion even though I have **[MULTIPLE CHORNIC CONDITIONS REDACTED]** which add together to make it more dangerous to me, It is possible that the **[MEDICAL CONDITION REDACTED]** is actually legionnaires disease since so many people seem to also have it—about 20% of inmates have a heavy cough—and the water was just on a boil order but we had no water brought to us or any way to boil it.
379. Gangs, drugs, violence, Staff misconduct, ect.
380. The communication with family is limited
381. Makes you think about killing yourself often, and sometimes others
382. Gangs control stuff, commissary overcharges and lies on receipts
383. Everything
384. That the stuff don't play fair
385. I dont come out my cell, I cant get any goodtime, they dont have college courses, and I have to be around people with life, this prison is filthy, mold everywhere im scared down here
386. Gangs and racist staff
387. No rehabilitation or positive growth
388. You are judged by crimes even if you didnt do it
389. Being humiliated by strip searches, only getting out of your cell 3 times a week for a 10 min shower. only getting 1 shower every 10 days if cellhouse is under lockdown.
390. Always in cell. Only "program" is a JOB. Gangs hog the phones. Food, supplied and purchased, is not healthy

391. 1. Time between showers, 2. Time between phone calls, 3. Not having access to proper forms when needed. *Use of black box for transport inhumane way to keep someone for extended periods
392. Being treated as an kid not an adult
393. Staff don't come around for cell check's they will come near the end of there shift and check all the boxe's for threwout the day! Very unproffecionall
394. Staff being unprofessional
395. They have you waste your whole life in a 8 by 10 cell where they never let you out no school no programs no nothing
396. Staff/mental health/CCII
397. Food Education Rehabilitation Hygiene officers etc.
398. Tattle tale!!
399. being in Prison, you have no life. all you have is suffering. You have nothing left, you only hear your remaining family, friends. buy phone, or visit, letters, theres nothing possitive about prison, only negative. You must be strong to get yourself right.
400. The bond and communication it destroy with family and loved ones
401. Everything
402. Their is nothing positive happening.
403. You are in your cell everyday. You have nothing 2 make your life better..
404. Being locked in a cell period is negative. But being away from loved ones is the most negative aspect to being in prison and your life being on stand still.
405. Everything not enough yard, excessive cell time, no school, no jobs, no program, not enough contact with outside
406. everything
407. Being housed in the East cell house at 48 years old with the youngest, highest aggression level and most violent offenders places me in a volitile situation without good reason for placement.
408. Lockdown in cells all day, 1 5hr yard a week, programs (schooling)
409. Not being treated like a human (just because of your conviction you are considered a criminal "low ranking")
410. too much time in a cell (24/7 5 days of week), food, expensive commissary prices & unstocked items, too far from home
411. The food, the people, the foul things people do in the world knowing you cant do anything about it and dealing with the death of loved ones.
412. Theres nothing to do to be productive or get ready for home
413. The treatment by this whole institution
414. The disciplinary infractions, the security staff, the dietary, the property staff, the restrictive housing policies, the cell and living situations, the mental health department, the medical department, and all around functions of this prison are inhumane. We barely get showers, movement, or food, we do not get the phones. The staff beat on individuals in custody on a daily basis. We are not safe in Menard.
415. Locked in a cell 24-7 without water and you got to catch drips in a cup or die of thirst and toilet is shut off so you have to shit in cartons (milk) and piss down sink hole because you cant flush.

416. 1. Staff disrespect. 2. Procedures that set in place to protect people incarcerated or make aware are being compromised by staff such as grievance process + counselors.
3. Not enough time out cell daily. Treating electronic emails + video visits as a privilege
417. Everyone including staff are negative. We are treated as cattle instead of human beings.
418. The way staff treats you like trash. The fact we get one phone call a month (no video visits in restrictive housing. The food is non-edible mental health sees you once every 3 months even when your SMI... No yard or other out cell activities.
419. Everything!!!
420. It is stressful, always watching your back! To not getting hit by others
421. I am being treated like a caged animal.
422. Gangs
423. They don't give u the chance to show ur changed or changing. They reward the negative!
424. The water is contaminated. There are birds living in the ceiling of the prison kitchen. Also a \$50.00 TV is being sold to us for over \$200.00 per TV set
425. The correctional officers, health care, mental health
426. Medical treatment takes too long to get.
427. Staff and their blatant disrespect
428. We are in our cells too much. For too long. The hot food is never even warm. Its always ice cold. The commissary is too expensive and we don't have name brand hygiene items.
429. Food in the chow hall are nowhere near eatable. No dayrooms, no time out of our cells. B & C grade is too excessive and keeps us from communicating with our families for long periods of time. For one ticket, one offense, we have to go to seg, C-grade as well as B-grade all for one ticket.
430. Dietary—health, medical
431. Degrading having to use toilet in cell or wash up while staff and other offenders walk by, especially female staff. Courtesy curtains of some type should be mandatory. Not enough quality visits with family.
432. Too hot in the summer and how small 6" fans sold do not move hardly any air. Someone is going to die because of it. Apps on the tablet cost too much. We need securus Jay Pay and the tablets they provide.
433. 2 people in 1 cell living together
434. Time that's lost
435. You are alone—and being different menard staff will rape you—and abuse you.
436. Everything, we have nothing to look forward to that will make everyone want to do better and be better.
437. No programs, no drug treatment, no school
438. We get treated less than abandoned animals. There's a dude on our gallery who tore his ACL in a fight, he's been crying and yelling for a med tech ALL NIGHT and the C/Os just ignored him. They treat us in seg the worst we got yard maybe 1 time a week and phones 1 a month. Our trays have half of what GP gets. You have to gang bang to do or get anything!

- 439. Being ignored and denied medical attention
- 440. Everything
- 441. Zero opportunity for higher learning. Staff having attitudes towards us spreading falsities just for laughs. Their is zero efforts to serve well prepaired hot meals. Havent had a washed and peeled potato in [10+] years. The staff have their own kitchen and eat very well.
- 442. Not helping them to not come back
- 443. You dont get the items the state are allowed for you to have!
- 444. Negative prisoners' and hard to work with staff
- 445. Gangs
- 446. 1. Health care/dental, 2. Treatment, 3. Food, 4. Tools to better yourself in here and for release. No equal opportunity and racism from some staff not all. Some staff create problems! 5. Commissary
- 447. They beat us and kill us slowly and cut water off ten days. Empty food trays look good for camera
- 448. If you are incarcerated for life Menard C.C. will not allow you to go to school, or to get a job
- 449. Staff does not supervise food being delivered to cells
- 450. It doesn't have any college courses to help you rehabilitate to get ready for society. It doesn't have much to help you get released on parole if we could see the board. Not many phones on the yard where its difficult for everyone to use them.
- 451. Its racism. The racist staff, the entire dietary food supervisors is all white at Menard thats why food is so bad intentionally as retaliation.
- 452. They treat hispanic inmates like shit! Hispanics are not afforded the same job or education opportunities as white and/or black inmates. Hispanics are not permitted to work in the north one, north two, the hospital, and other areas.
- 453. Not being able to see the parole board, a chance for work release, a second chance
- 454. When they go on lockdown they take my state pay for some one else disciplinary
- 455. The bad water. The lack of Ice in the summer time. The racism with the officer's. The lack of Jobs and schooling. Programs to help better ourselves. Menard have their own rules and regulations that they go by. Instead of the IDOC. The lack of mental health. Bullying of the staff. The adjustment committee that find you guilty for everything. The officer always right.
- 456. Staff encourages bullshit
- 457. EVERYTHING
- 458. 1. It sucks and you can die! 2. No movement locked down 24/7
- 459. Being in the west & east house
- 460. No classes for people going home in year less no jobs, people with life have 2 and 3 jobs short people cant work
- 461. The correctional officers
- 462. Everything, we are in our cells 22 hours a day and cant get into any programs to cut some time off
- 463. Not able to fine help in areas, do to not have those programs or none. To see people who don't want change.

464. Gangs, drugs, alcohol
465. EVERYTHING
466. Food, air quality, fan size in our cells, healthcare not having a doctor. FOOD is horrible
467. Lack of caring for others, lack of help, schooling, just the bare things that need to be provided to use.
468. Everything we get treated unfairly & we get punished for the smallest things
469. Everything
470. Not enough time out of the cell
471. Always is the same routine. We used to have 2 yard days and gym now we only got 1 yard day... period and nothing else to do but been stock in the cells we can't even buy art supplies because that go on you monthly shop so you decide if you want to eat or buy art supplies to relax your days
472. We get 1 yard a week and there are no college course classes and there no rehabilitation classes, it's very depressing and a lot of things don't work sinks, toilets, phones mold and we're in a cell all day
473. On a real note it doesn't even matter
474. There are no programs and we have to wait years to join school the food is terrible we are always on lockdown. We get punish for thing that other people do. There's a lot of injustice and corruption
475. The way they retaliate against you and how hostile it makes you and changes you into a person that has to always be on guard
476. Everything
477. Every single thing!
478. Everything. From the guards, food, way of living, privileges, yard
479. Menard/MSU. I have **[MEDICAL INFORMATION REDACTED]**. I have bad bouts of diarrhea on a regular basics. The health case unit refuses to prescribe me **[MEDICATION REDACTED]** or anything other than **[MEDICATION REDACTED]** because they say it costs too much. I can't get proper treatment for this. No Doctor!
480. Degradation, Physical harm, threat of physical abuse, mental abuse constant noise/loud noise, not enough phone time, dirty/old surroundings air quality, poor/no temperature control
481. No programs, no extra jobs, poor mental health support
482. You are in your room 5 day out of the week for 24hr
483. Everything
484. You can't be with the people you love. You miss significant moments and opportunities
485. That it has no post secondary education and is nearly impossible to get into programs. That every effort is made to cut us off from society & ar loved ones
486. If you get here for life there is no schooling for you, if one of the staff don't like you then they all will not like you, you don't get enough movement like yard, not enough time to use the phone the food, here is nothing to do to help you to really grow as a person and the way they keep raising the price up every time we go to shop on all the items
487. 1. If you are not involved in a gang it is very hard to live. 2. Locked in a cell 24 hours a day. 3. Very little opportunity to get involved in school or any programming. 4. Staff

- treat you poorly and do not care about what you ask for or need. 5. Not enough re-entry programming. Surrounding around lots of negativity
488. The vindictiveness by staff the beatings by staff, and the unclean environment, the fearfulness, that the building will collapse, and crush me in death
 489. Everything. You are punished for the frivolous things and lied on constantly. Just to write disciplinary reports but never helped with anything you really need, from hygiene, to plumbing issues, to mental health, etc.
 490. Everything
 491. You can't control when this place go on lockdown
 492. The only option mostly, having structured long term of incarceration majority affording your outcome of your future, & structuring (yourself) some type of avoiding repeat recidivism
 493. know programs
 494. The treatment all around as if we're nothing. Look down on by decision makers
 495. Menard is a warehouse. Inmates are treated like cattle. Rarely let out of our cells, the food is usually not worthy of hog slop. There are not post-G.E.D classes. Only certain people can get jobs. Jobs that don't pay much. They have no job training, mental health is poor, I haven't seen a real doctor in years.
 496. Everything. Food to the smell of black mold coming from the tunnels. No ventilation. Always hot
 497. Healthcare, lack of time outside cell, inconsistent application of rules, poor food, quality of cells, apathetic/indifferent guards, arbitrarily enforced mail room policies, discrimination by guards
 498. "Pass the buck" attitude when C/Os make mistakes, such as denying me a meal—twice in one month—or a water boiling order—"someone else will bring you potable water." Poor intrafacility communication
 499. The staff act like they don't care at Menard and mental health, is the most shits here and it no hot water here for week at a time
 500. Locked down all day no programs no movement
 501. Religious volunteers are not available to all houses even when a person has not been deemed violent or under discipline status
 502. Some of the meals need improving
 503. No help or positive way of handling things
 504. Gang members control the telephones. It's impossible to use them without their permission.
 505. I.A. and the C/Os put tickets on people they do not commit and individuals in custody are put in seg. for long periods of time for it the justice committee is also terrible
 506. We are locked in our cells 5 days a week 24hrs a day. The gangs dictate who uses the phones. This prison is infested with drugs. The institution only offers programs to the individuals housed in north one, north 2 and west house. We're served cold food daily They pile us in the showers without enough shower spouts for everyone forcing us to share shower heads or go without a shower
 507. Lockdowns and shake downs. Rit transfer in box and chain, it a mid-evil torture device

508. Drugs, C/O misleading, telling inmate's case, informing inmates who snitch to change. C/O forcing tickets, forcing staff assault, taking inmates food tray, break inmate property far as TV tablets and ignoring inmates who needs help far as crisis, medical
509. Being in the cell 24/7 just wasting away
510. Abuse, negating peoples problems, mental health abuses, PREA abuses, grievance abuse
511. Dietary food/meals. Not enough exercise equipment on yards to share (weights, weight lifting machines, etc.) Inadequate Healthcare. Inadequate cable movie channel selections
512. Staff, living situation, administration
513. Life in prison will also make you forget who you are
514. Several things: Gang culture, unchecked sexual harassment (LGBTQ=frequent target), kitchen serving us all MOLDY bread!, personally being forced to live in a cell with a leaking toilet, the prison having a rule about not lighting fires and letting the inmates do so all the time simply because it's too inconvenient to stop then!! I'm not even joking here either! This is pathetic!!
515. Lockdowns, fights with celly or other
516. Correctional officers
517. The staff and the inmates are very negative at certain times!
518. Everything but what was stated about
519. Gangs bully us transwomen staff are careless there's no chance for me to get into school I get out in **[2+ YEARS]** and I'm stuck in a max prison in PC because they don't want to transfer me
520. The way the C/Os talk to you, the medical staff, the 24hr lockdown, using the phone every three days if all hard negative and uncaused for
521. Untrained staff
522. "Everything" outside of me going to school
523. Gangs, fights, unsupervised, lack of phone use, racism, harassment
524. Not being able to see your family if you are real far away. Not having real good food, no programs, no privacy, sharing a cell with another man, not enough time on the visits, not having enough phones to call your family, which causes a lot of fights. The grievance system is not fair. IA/intel is not fair. Officers don't know how treat people. Tablets are not up to date, Commissary prices too high. The medical care is poor and mental health as well
525. No school or job
526. You want to die
527. The staff is abusive physically mentally emotionally they abuse you verbally but more than verbally they like to assault inmates. I can't talk to my support system. the living conditions are inhumane they are quick to give inmates the severest punishment. They don't take mental illness serious no matter the high number of suicide. The officers have killed people and I have witnessed it. The staff treats all inmates like punching bags and get away with all the harm they cause us. The rest of the staff turns a blind

eye to it. They throw mail away then when you write grievances they throw those away. There's a lot more

- 528. Everything
- 529. The fact that you have to be a rat to get a job, no school no programs nothing to wake up better, Staff don't care, The lack of Communication with family
- 530. Condemned cells we live in. Phones, treatment, healthcare, food, living conditions
- 531. no freedom. communication with outside friends/families. How they run the prison. neglect of law library, yard, education, and programs to help better yourself. living conditions
- 532. The staff spend more time away from their posts than they do at them. The Health Care unit is not going to keep me healthy and is at best a complete joke. Management from the top (Warden, Asst Warden, Majors) is non-existent. Terrible food, commissary is almost non-existent, and the staff is composed of people that are lazy and incompetent
- 533. The living conditions, not being able to hear from your loved ones everyday because you don't have access to the phones everyday.
- 534. corruption, corruption, and more corruption.
- 535. Staff and poor mental health treatment, poor medical treatment, The way they make sure you're disciplined to the max & make sure you have little to no contact with your loved ones via phone calls & visits, Audio Visual etc. No educational programs provided to certain individuals & mostly anytime out cell, better grievance process.
- 536. 'Everything' Yes but I'm a person is like **[ILLEGIBLE]** I'm in here cause I was young & dumb.. **[ILLEGIBLE]** & I have to better myself!
- 537. 1. It's a possibility you can die or get killed, 2. staff are racist, 3. staff are corrupt, 4. living conditions are horrible, 5. There is no schooling or programs, 6. staff do not care about individuals in custody, 7. no movement, 8. They do not turn in grievances and also play with mail, 9. we have to do 95% of our segregation time. 10. They are not allowing guys a chance to get the time back they've lost or could have earned.
- 538. Everything
- 539. We are locked up 24/7 5 days a week
- 540. The treatment from staff. (mental health do what the C/Os say) can't get crisis teams when requested. The adjustment Committee is corrupt. And gang Intel/Internal Affairs fabricate tickets that aren't accurate. The living conditions. showers and the food. racist staff.
- 541. Always locked in cell
- 542. I ask for things I need for my diabetic shoes for my feet I don't get
- 543. everything just come in se
- 544. takes too long to be seen in medical took me a year to be seen for a **[REDACTED]** issue and they still got my request wrong needed MRI no Exray so I said forget it.
- 545. Physical and mental abuse inflicted by the staff unjustly
- 546. How we are being treated not getting enough time out the cell. Not enough phones not enough services mental health school, drug programs for good conduct credit
- 547. The treatment and there is not parole board to talk too so we may go home early due to judgements of behavior

548. The administration allows staff to do whatever they want to, period!
549. constant isolation, dietary, mental health.
550. Not having the able to go to school and learn.
551. They dont do laundry, no uniform changes, Im SMI and I have to suffer in seg (months and months) without help and resources. They eat our food and give us potatoes and vegetables that are old. I didnt get fed my first day here. no phone to communicate with outside. grievances get thrown away. a major told me that him and his fellow officers will kill my Black N****r ass (while I was cuffed). This feels like torture and starvation.
552. The most negative thing about incarceration for me is being coerced, threatened and attacked by a cellmate. I suffered serious injuries as a result of an attack by a cellmate in [DATE REDACTED].
553. Being locked in your cell all day and not getting the phone programs that guyz should get 2 make a better change for there self that they do not get at all
554. you are treated badly, This place is falling apart litterly, no ventilation This prison is like a Third world country Honestly
555. Most correctional officers be picky and
556. Segregation. Lockdowns
557. The staff. food
558. When the staff doesn't do they job and they put guys in the hole for things that they haven't done
559. everything..
560. The administration Personell (Warden, AWP, Healthcare Unit Administrator, Medical site director, commander of cellhouse (major), clinical services supv. and mental health professionals) NEVER has answered any of my numerous requests and concerns
561. every damn thing they don't care about us prisoners periodly!!! if they had there way they would kill every one of us and get away with it!
562. Not being able to contact my family on C-grade back here in seg
563. lockdowns, we're stuck in cells
564. The staff the food and the treatment
565. There is a lack of medical staff (no doctor, and only two nurse practitioners) for a facility of this size. The administration is completly disconnected from the overall day to day operations
566. Menard
567. How the staff treat the incarcerated people
568. the environment, the C/O are very lazy. And you have to beg all day to get simple things ex. toilet etc.
569. There is nothing to do for self-improvement, and no reward. only [ILLEGIBLE] if you try to find something—especially if it might cause them some work
570. The staff on the 2nd shift leaving our food outside in the cold for an hour. Then in the summer leave it outside by the trash and flies, birds, and other bugs be on top of the trays or in it. They don't wash the trays right, all types of food or mold be left on the trays. No doctor in a year an half.

571. Locked in the cell 24/6 with only one yard a week pure hell.
572. being behind bars.
573. The way you're treated, the food, the lack of schooling, not to much time out of cell
574. Too much interaction with untrained and uncaring staff and not enough peer education/development
575. The staff—TACT Team how they miss treat you and beat on you throw away your property
576. Racism, violence, immaturity, lack of professionalism, no accountability, and collusion
577. Being locked in a cell 22 hours a day, people with life or a lot time have all the jobs at MSU Menard
578. the bullshit yall let go on in here
579. The job discrimination, the commissary MSU selling outdated food, or food that has a couple of days before best/\$ by date, and price gouging, I really think they're stealing
580. Very poor medical treatment
581. Im locked up + cut off from my family
582. Being treated and not looked at as human being.
583. Everything
584. Healthcare, safety, food, law library, educational programs or lack thereof, sanitation, mental health, and the phones.
585. Everything. Hell, we locked in a cell 24 hours a day 6 days a week.
586. 1. Guards and individuals in custody relationships/Trust police lie (or "spin") you all the time. 2. can't even get a REAL answer. 3. Double standards—GANGS treated BETTER cuz police are scared of them. 4. No real access to phones unless in a gang = put phones on tablets!
587. They won't let us call or get visits while in seg, they won't let us go to yard they won't give you your seg property for at least 2 months so no hygiene or clothes, the contaminated water they only gave us 1 cup of water a day
588. That the C/O can kill me at any time
589. Serving Time
590. food handling, cell time.
591. You feel less as a man or human. It reminds me of the history of this country, with the lynching, & degrade, & the abomination of my people.
592. Inhumane living condition, staff conduct and the safety and security of how security officials treat individual in custody and violate our human rights and as well as constitutional rights
593. Inadequate healthcare, they don't award good behavior, cannot get to law library, they block all access to the courts and disciplinary appeals. Without fund on my books, no legal mail, or anything is sent out, they make us pay for postage to appeal to springfield grievances
594. The living, the food, the treatment, ohh and the medical care is horrible as ever.
595. There are no ways to better yourself. All the classes are given to life-term inmates
596. For the most part, most of the officers assigned to the MSU at the Menard Prison are lazy and not very receptive towards prisoners asking for help or assistance. Also the

- phone system is set up to cause conflict and strife among prisoners. Not enough phones to made available for over 100 inmates per wing at the MSU.
597. No change. No chance at redemption. No help if you want to change. No hope. They do nothing for veterans
 598. Everything
 599. There is a lot of men becoming transgenders and offering themselves as women to men
 600. gangs, staff's, etc.
 601. No programs/Education for rehabilitation! The state of Illinois just warehouses people for life. PAROLE ILLINOIS!!!
 602. I've taking the "Negative" things about my life, now it is the Positive things and I love myself
 603. Being treated less than a man
 604. Being around people who has given up on life
 605. Bad food and not in a good way. Its always cold just like ice. poor schooling—poor jobs assignment.
 606. dieing in jail
 607. One doesn't seem to have a voice to be heard, by staff. Lack of communication between individuals in custody on the staff's side. Staff doesn't care to hear one's voice for any reason when it comes to running everyday operation, healthcare and over all administration
 608. To far from home family
 609. Hard to get a phone, they need to put the phone on the Tablet, or put in more phones on the wing.
 610. Healthcare and I think all outside jobs should give same amount of good time
 611. The staff are racist but thats life
 612. Being mistreated. If you have a cell-mate that you don't get along with, the C/O's will tell you if you want to move, then fight.
 613. Staff conduc
 614. We can't get into any programs, we can't get any jobs, we can't get any good hygiene products from commissary, and if your fat and black the C/Os pick on you and call you names like it hurt our feelings please help save us we need help
 615. Food healthcare no hot food
 616. The unsanitary condition of the toilets on the yard which are not ADA accessible. The food, The medical, mental health treatment, The draconian sentences they uphold and abuse.
 617. C/Os on 2nd shift sexually assaulting inmates or C/O [REDACTED] C/O [REDACTED] Sergeant [REDACTED] all on 2nd shift touch me and fucked me.
 618. No help, No good time and all the C/Os on 3-10 shift sexual pray on inmates and Sg. [REDACTED] allows it.
 619. Everyone is not afforded the same opportunities here. like job's some of us have been here 10+ years and never been approved to work. While others been hired, fired, and re-hired. The fact is, some of us would never do the things to loose the job to begin with. but because of charges or things like that we are pre judged.

620. Due to my race, offense, and non affiliations. Ive not been permitted any job. I am forced to live [BY] PC inmates that scream all day long about fucking each other or who's sucking the most cock (their own words) and the staff don't do shit. They refuse mail/pictures/magazines of nude obscene inappropriate just to incite inmates
621. No college courses for those who have an High School diploma or GED. No trades available, Stuck in cells all day. every day. Very bad living conditions, rats in the kitchen and Big roaches in the cell houses.
622. Menard have the most deplorable conditions in all of I.D.O.C. The worst healthcare with the Sr. Med techs bullying other Sr techs as well as newer who try to show professionalism. No Dr. on the staff none. Nurse practitioners give false hope to inmates by not being truthful to inmates along with passive aggressive tactics. Med techs not refering you to be seen as they promise to do. I've seen the paperwork more than once.
623. Don't give us school, don't got programs, we don't get no job's because they judge us from Backround of tickets Is difficult to transfer
624. Healthcare access, Water/Food, Phone access, Law Library access, commissary, cellmate compatibility, commissary, cell size, staff/convict interaction poor
625. We locked-down al day everyday besides the 1 hr on Tuesday an Friday.
626. Always feeling threatened prisoners get hurt and officers don't do nothing. Prisoners have controll on the houses and not the officers. Prisoners in gangs have controll on phones and dont let anyone use it unless join in a gang. Sometimes they give the phone 2 times a week sometimes just 1 and unless you pay them you dont use it.
627. Be away from loved ones and loss of freedom!
628. The conditions, lazy staff members, and being in a cell 24 hours a day with a cell mate struggling with mental issues. That can be stressful a lot of times. I've been here [20+] yrs, and I've went through 50 cellies and now I just want to be by myself. Lefted alone. There's no programs or school for Lifers, and it's stressful.
629. The staff cause they mistreat us and they abuse us and in seg the beat people severly
630. Unfairness
631. It is operated like a maximum security prison instead of a medium
632. I don't feel safe from being injured, bullied, or threatened by other inmates or staff. They dont have enough phones on the yards or living unit.
633. Everything
634. Not leaving the cell not having more then one yard we dont go to chow we cant have school, not getting the phones enough
635. if you have a DUI charge you get put in with druggies and gang's
636. yard, education, food everything
637. Food, people, Beds, Bad noises
638. Prison life isn` t positive here in Menard especially if you are a member of the LGBTQ community
639. Not Allowed to access kiosk weekly. No Immediate and constant access to the Law Library or Law Library App (FastCase) available on the Tablet for those of us who been wrongfully convicted and fighting for their release. No cleaning supplies sent to cells... ever... such as bleach, disinfect, mop, broom, etc...

640. No education programs other than GED and TABE. should have college courses and more jobs available
641. 1 yard/week if we are lucky, Food is so bad most of the time I dont even eat even w/o commissary. No respect from alot of C/Os. Locked in cell 24/7. Level Es Barley have opportunities for Anything, classes, mvmt, yard sucks, cant leave East House.
642. 24 hr lockdown unless: pass, yard, or work detail; and when an incident occurs (once every other week) lockdown with no yard or passes
643. I am a white, straight, male that has a medium security rating with no write ups for [5+] years and I can't get out of Maximum Housing or Prison. The C/Os let these prisoners start fires and will not open the window so I can breathe. There is soot all over the ceiling, wall, and my clothes.
644. Pretty much everything else... but its a prison, So I dont imagine the idea is getting people to want to stay or to come back.
645. Being locked in the cell 24hrs day
646. We are locked in these cells like dogs no school or classes, groups, programsTo better yourself for when you are release
647. Energy—survaliancing, Staff—Lie's, tricks by their paperwork.
648. Away from family
649. Lack of meaningful access to the Law Libraries Lexis Nexis software (currently 10 mins/week) second hand smoke from inmates smoking synthetic cannabis
650. We only get 1 yard a week and that`s the only time we get out of our cells unless we have a call pass which is rare, therefore were subject to harsh living conditions, no education is offered to us at all in this house (Easthouse) Menard Correctional Center. They need to be reviewed by someone with rank to make a change here.
651. Lack of consistency with certain things, commissary, essential items, art supplies, fans, bedding, extra pillows ect, quality deo, toothpaste. Healthcare consistency as well.
652. No college—put in for medical many times till I get response—tap water is inhumane!—Bad food
653. Treatment from staff, staff being disrespectful to our love one. Not being able to hug our love ones while taking a photo on visit. The way phones are ran. Not being able to get medical treatment. The way mail is ran an so much more.
654. You get sick or need any medical help. You'll get worst or did. I've been on medical hold for over 3 yrs and is still waiting.
655. The same problems with slavery. Prisons are costly, break family structures down, perpetuate poverty and violence also become revolving doors because adequate skills are not taught to releases... Parole does not provide and ensure meaningful employment.
656. If you have life, you have zero chance at programs or schooling. You have to file grievances in order to get medical attention. visits are so restrictive and confined. Its hard to get meaningful time talking to family without breaking rules. The prices at store keep rising that it gets hard to buy healthy. It takes 8 weeks to get mail. Its hard to get law library time/enough time over there.

657. That staff use their positions to bully individuals incarcerated and if you don't comply they use other individuals in custody to do their bidding.
658. Gang's Staff getting other inmates to hurt you. Gang's willing to hurt you to get something from staff
659. 1. The overall treatment of prisoners by staff. 2. Staff eat State food meant for prisoners while serving prisoners mess. 3. Over priced merchandise at commissary even though commissary is stocked by the Inmate Benefit Fund. 4. Prisoners have no input in how the inmate benefit fund is spent. (THE LIST GOES ON!)
660. Death
661. #everything# About Menard
662. everything
663. To many 2 list
664. Mistreatment by the staff!
665. Not being able to get education
666. They give you a grievance # but never give your grievances back with a response.
667. The officer do not treat people like humans.
668. Everything everyday is the same nothing positive to look for
669. We are fed dog food, we are locked up in cells 24 hours a day 6-7 days a week. Staff are disrespectful and racist. East house inmates are antagonized and abused just so the prison can swindle more funds from the state for "security"
670. Staff abuse. Staff punishing inmates when staff don't do what they're supposed to do and inmates use peaceful demonstrations. staff use violence on inmates that demonstrate peacefully.
671. everything staff have a history of being racist and mistreatment on people in this prison.
672. No resources, no resolution to current harms affecting me, no response from admin, faculty & staff to grievances field. Conditions of confinement and medical denial deprive inmates of necessities.
673. everything
674. Stuck in the cell with nothing to do!
675. Being confined within a cell for 72hours at a time with no movement.
676. Don't get the right amount of food. Getting disrespect by staff. No contact with family, etc. No phone calls. No visit
677. Staff assault inmates, We only get half as much food as we are suppose to get, Staff dont like to give us medical treatment
678. Scrutiny from staff
679. Being so far away from the people I love. How rough the tissue is on my behind.
680. Disrespect & the lack of empathy from staff. Treating all inmates the same due to behavior from the bad apples & disconnect from family non-communication with support on the outside
681. The aggressive violence!
682. This institution does not run enough yard, no gym, no chow-lines, phones are once every 4-5 days, no proper ventilation, no proper cleaning, we can go 2 months without commissary. No sick call (Doctor)

Q14. What suggestions do you have for improvement?

1. More school/college classes, good time opportunities
2. Increase the workers pay. They carry the load or do 90% of the officer's duties
3. Tear it down
4. More opportunities for incarcerated people to get jobs and take classes
5. destroy it, make another
6. To make cellhouses for people who is trying to go home and stay out of trouble. And keep all the ones who like getting in trouble in they own cell houses.
7. Better everything from the ground up. From food & programs & living conditions all the way up to I.D.O.C. Top!
8. More schooling, trade schools, rehabilitation programs, house the outside clearance workers seperate from lifers
9. CLOSE IT!!! Treat all within it equally + like human beings. We receive (possibly) one 5 hour yad a week + are warehoused in our cells the rest of the time. Its hard for someone to focus on self improvement + staying out of negative mindframes when they're stuck in a box for weeks on end.
10. (Programs) (food)
11. A better screening process for hiring officers that abuse their position of power calling inmates names in an unprofessional manner.
12. More out of cell time, more schooling, yard time, education programs, better food, staff treatment
13. Shut It Down!!!!
14. Purge the administration!!!
15. Out of cell time. Having request on the tablet instead of paper because they don't respond. It can be documented on the tablets as proof. More gym and yard. More schooling and programs. Better reentry help.
16. That it makes school AVAILABLE for all prisoners, and that we recive fair treatment by staff. Also be able to get out these cells at least 5 days a week, and proper medical treatment.
17. Proper training for staff when dealing with people that struggle with mental health. To be treated like humans not punching bags to beat on verbally with taunts, jokes, and teasing.
18. give programs to all (east house) we have no school, nothing positive
19. Let us recieve are tablets and tv, have somebody from the outside monitor the C/Os to be shure were being treated fair and getting what were suppost to be given such as yard. Make the food better!
20. treat every individual equal and allow for more time out the cell
21. civil oversight and control the entire IDOC and abolishment of the officer's union. A new environmental system (air conditioning and heating systems)

22. Better medical and mental health and the way staff treat the individuals in custody and the food they serve here
23. Entire staff change and better help for people like myself who are wheelchair dependant.
24. First and foremost hire "correctional officers" and not plantation owners!
25. I suggest there be more investment in the food, as well as opportunities to build with family & loved ones. Also, educational opportunities are lacking big time.
26. to give new mattress every 2 year. I had to wait [5+] years. throw out all the old shit instead of giving it to the next guy
27. They not outside people in to see the conditions of this place along with the treatment we receive. Let latinos & blacks work here
28. Shut it down send us all to another prison hire people who don't have ego problems. Give us conjugal visits school program anything
29. This place need to be closed down cause if you improve you will have to get new worker to work here and I'm not talking about C/Os Im talking about da higher ups who over all this cause they think they know what going on down here, they dont care
30. That they close down this prison and get these racist I.A. out then stop giving all this seg time.
31. Get a doctor. Rase how much we have to buy food, get better TV. Get better wify. Give us more time out of our cells, get better stuff for us to buy in the store, let people send us things they never ever have.
32. give us out of time out of cell, more help down here
33. Have people come here that actually care and want to help!
34. Just give us what we have coming, if we put in requests, please make sure these counselor answer them and come on the wing at least once a week, and give us more dayroom, at least 2 hours dayroom in afternoon
35. Programs for ALL individuals and more access to a phone so we can stay in contact with loved ones
36. Programs—Drug/clinical services/reentry/school/better counselors
37. condemn it + emplode it
38. Every cell should be one man cell
39. Stop the rationing of healthcare; change and automate the grievance process; improve dietary, realize the "cost" of long term incarceration, involves humane healthcare and good diet, these two issues are related. Get legal research tablets as is done in county jails and some prisons in other areas; address cell house HVAC issues, and inspect for black MOLD; take away or disable all sound projection devices, noise pollution; dim the "night lights" they are way too bright and disrupt sleep patterns.
40. Allow the individuals in prison with more input in what goes on in prisons & how they are ran! We are the ones who live & operate these prison's.
41. 1. phone on tablets, 2. Netflix, 3. exceed 5 permits, 4. Increase dayroom from 1hr a shift to 2-3 hrs, 5. more doctors, 6. stop taking audio/visuals when in C-grade, 7. put weights on all yards, including gym, 8. Board games like scrabble/monopoly
42. turn the entire prison into protective custody

43. Add the phones to the tablets! Add a real college curriculum allow inmates to pursue real degrees! Stop punishing the whole for the behavior of a few. Discontinue unethical practice by IA!
44. School, more yard, less bullshit, phones more available!
45. close it down
46. Better programs, better treatment...
47. More phone time with loved ones. More time out your cell. More classes to help improve your wellbeing.
48. At least 8 hrs yard weekly. Phone calls home once daily. More education, programs
49. get better program, help staff get experience, change the time spent in our cell, change the food
50. To end segregation/restrictive housing/but most importantly allow us/[ILLEGILBE] more communication with our loves
51. close it down, barring that, better commissary, make east + west house's single cells. Better food at chew. Open the gym back up. more time outside our cells, more a chance to use phones, stop making our family/friends sign up for visits weeks in advance. More time or chances to go to law library. Run chew-not feed in cells. Schooling. Put the phone on tablets. Allow people in seg to use phone more then once a month (then only if your on A+B grade)
52. Conjugal visits and more phone and yard opportunities
53. Need life skills training trades education programs
54. Upgrade people w/low aggression levels to allow them to be more active. Run the heat more often. Its cold in here
55. Allow for passes to the full law library as they do for Bureau of Identification, Healthcare unit—Eye doctor, Dentist, X-ray, nurse practitioner, etcetera, clothing room for Furloughs, video court appearances. Also to have a nurse staffed at the MSU at all times. If someone has a medical emergency and a nurse is not here they have to be taken to the max unit or someone has to drive up here. By the time this is done... he could be dead or too far gone to save.
56. Make substance abuse counseling a priority. Fix our movie channels, every other facility has them. Fix the kitchen so, our food is edible.
57. more yard time, more law library access, more church service, open up chow hall (food too cold), commissary weekly
58. Stop trying to always discipline us, instead give us productive things to do. Take away "C/B grade" that limits our outside contact
59. More movement, Netflix/Roku TV, Bigger fans, E-cigarrets, programs, Better Food Not Pig Slop week old food.
60. Freedom
61. Jobs law work and good food
62. That mental health improves. They dont offer much help when Im having a Crisis
63. Anything that will show staff that all men & women are human and need to be looked at in a different light

64. Fix kitchen at MSU along with all the Appliances (ovens, steam pots, grill, fryer, etc) Open up more access to: 1. mental health, 2. art supplies and sending artwork out (allowing)!
65. Phones/ law library on Tablets
66. Close Menard
67. Disciplinary procedures for the C/O. that break the rules especially siding with or affiliating with the gangs, nominally, the C/Os with the Vice Lords, and the ability to affect unscheduled, unannounced Springfield inspections and visits. More oversight!
68. Better healthcare and better food
69. Opportunities to learn—programs, classes &/or courses that will be applicable to life beyond the walls; phones on tablets; better quality food of meaningful nutrition and variety, and served hot. Meaningful healthcare—preventative & responsive.
70. Vastly improved commissary, healthy items, meat based proteins like jerky, too many carbohydrates & that causes obesity and detrimental to diabetes
71. Close It!
72. Does not matter
73. We need a permanent Doctor A.S.A.P.
74. Staff/Employee—Do there jobs, not sleep when doing overtime.
75. Get more programs and mental health classes. And better items for us to get at the store.
76. All workers should be housed together so another inmate can't ruin our good time that isn't able to work
77. For more focus on rehabilitation, work assignments & programming.
78. ?
79. Close this prison down, its to much that needs to be done in this prison. This was built in the 1800s, no new modern up dates. Give it to the FED`s.
80. Emergency call push buttons in infirmary and mental crisis area
81. Education! This place hates books, magazines, legal papers or any attempt to use your time effectively. Legal mail and regular mail is always late or sent back to the sender. Books are confiscated. They think we're dumb and want to keep us that way, so they interrupt any attempt to educate ourselves.
82. We should get the phones on our tablets so we can stay in contact with family more often. They should allow everyone an opportunity to go to school if they seek it no matter how much time they have. They counselor should have to prove that they`re spoken to people in their unit in a timely manner.
83. Burn it down—start over
84. Literally any programs or schooling. Treating everybody the same.
85. More school programs and recreation.
86. More yard time and more programs/school
87. Open visits back up for anyone who's approved. Vaccinated or not. open/ repair gym + equipment. Repair + Add weights on yards. Single cell whole joint + remove second bunks. Remove solid Doors from unventilated segregation cells. It's the worst torture I've ever experienced. Once, about **[3+]** years ago while in seg on 4 gallery in N2. I witnessed an older black Man be denied Medical Treatment. He died that night + got

counted while dead for 2 more days before someone figured out he was dead. That`s because we were behind the solid seg door. If there would`ve only been bars they would`ve been able to see he was dead.

88. Have someone come in here and check the food coming out of the inmate kitchen.
89. To have the phones on our tablets (so that there will be less fighting + arguments). For more people to be eligible for EPSC or Earned Program('s) Sentence Credit
90. Rehabilitated programs for all inmates regardless of time or crime. Edible food, more time out the cell.
91. More programs, Better and more access to the Law Library, a more healthier diet of Fruits, Veggi's etc. and better Healthcare I can`t stress that enough if your not on your death bed its hard to get access I haven`t had a physical in 5 yrs.
92. Better treatment by staff and more programs
93. Better Food less soy, Hot Pots, Yard twice a week, and our gym
94. For staff especially the C/Os to understand blacks & latinos & treat us equally. Cleaniness, new staff, 80% of staff here never grew up around blacks & only stereotype us. Stop beating and threatening us.
95. Better food, better mailing which needs to be on time, more groups, Better transfer decisions by Staff, more time out the cell, more law library days, kiosks on the wing. Free tablets to those who can`t afford them with Free musik.
96. Better food & more time out of the cell.
97. 1. expand G.E.D. program so more people can attend, 2. start serving the food that is posted on the menu that they say we`re getting on the internet.
98. Don`t Matter, these people are all about the money Do the least, grab the most. You Know
99. They need to implement more ways for people in menard to actually develope skills that will transfer with them when they re-enter society. Like vocational trade programs, or college courses.
100. Get organized. Nothing in here is consistent. The food is horrible, the food trays have black mold growing on the white lids. There is NOT enough food on the trays
101. programs, phone on our tablets, and recreational time
102. 1. Allow pictures and the 30 second video message on our tablets as well as phone calls to include Attorney Phone calls, and 2. Allow the Latinos to have their telemundo and/or univision like they once had and/or more TV channels, 3. More updates with video games, podcast, movies and music on our tablets
103. Better trained staff at handling people (inmates) with mental health issues, investigating issues that individuals bring to the officers attention. ALOT MORE programs & jobs for all individuals in custody. Better cleaning products to clean the cells, phones, showers, etc.
104. Some more time out of our cells. We sometimes go weeks without any movement. Education opportunities. They offer no schooling here. Separate the predators!!!
105. Super good behavior and togetherness and we all get as much education as possible for the near future
106. Shut this prison down
107. An honest accounting of items removed during shakedowns.

108. Have more Black C/Os and staff members. This is a highly racist prison, Dominated by White C/Os and Staff members.
109. Let incarcerated people have more access to there family.
110. They should start having rehaiti rehabilitation
111. Make the negative things listed above better for us.
112. Max prison, non violent people should be moved that don't do violent things
113. Shut it down. It is so old. Discolored water. Mold on serving trays. Paint falling off walls
114. Yard 4x a week and more phones or phones on tablet, better food
115. Health care (eye doctor)
116. Rebuild prison & restaff. Get staff that can speak some basic Spanish
117. More programs, better healthcare
118. run it right get fair staff
119. The list is long, but for me personally would be to have job options for those w/ sex cases. It's more the guards than anyone who have an issue with it.
120. Give us a reasonable amount of time out of our cells daily, come up with better mental health solutions & access to mental health programs, bring school/ vocational programs to East cell house & give us a oppportunity to show that we want to rehabilitate & stop looking at us as a whole & judge us by our individual character & actions
121. More movement, better food, most important better ways of communicating with our family and loved ones.
122. Build new priason since this one over 100 years old without any major improvement
123. Better pay for staff, if it comes with a better vetting process. Add a legal library app on the tablets.
124. Close it please, theres nothing to be done that can help its in every staff member, the walls, everything.
125. To me it's not the prison that need the improvement it's us as people. It have nothing to do with the staff but it on us.
126. Better contact with family members.
127. Shut the place down
128. The judgement of the female staff members working in the visiting room and mail room. The same visiting room privileges afforded to incarcerated individuals in other prison should be the same here at Menard.
129. Fix all the above, just don't say you are going fix the problem fix the problems. I've been locked up a very long time and nothing really gets done.
130. Inmate & staff talk more to get a better understanding of each other
131. Bring school programs/college courses, better food, make officers wear body cameras!
132. Staff needs to be trained on how to empathize. They need to have better direction, so as not to deny rights or privileges for arbitrary reasons.
133. Bring in program in all prison, mental health program, all check up medical and mental health etc. Have enough phone in the prison and quit using the phone to cause riots. Updated technologies to help up relate with the outside world, education is the key
134. No comment

135. I have been in several houses and each one the cells needs fresh paint. The bunks get rust on you and your clothes. Better food- meaning less starches and carbs.
136. A change of the administrations perspective from punishment to correction. More recreation, better food, real rehabilitation programs, education (post-secondary), counseling. Better/up-to-date audio/visual.
137. Need more programs. Need to get over to the law library. Haven't been in 3 months! I have no lawyer and can't do the research I need to file my petitions.
138. take mental health serious b/c they failin bad! the phone more! this place wit a lot of IDOC prison should B shut down!!!
139. supervision of staff & inmates. I dont think the higher ups know how this specific cell house is being ran. (East House)
140. Personally, the overall improvement(s) in this prison that NEEDS to happen is that staff members should stop labeling individuals in custody based on our security level, aggression level and offense we're serving time for and focus more on ways to assist us in actually rehabilitating and bettering ourselves for our release date. Another improvement will be more time spent OUTSIDE of our cells.
141. The focus needs to shift from punishment to restorative justice, which benefits the inmate rather than just the penal institutions. The rehabilitation of the human being needs to valued more than his/her punishment.
142. For one, if a person is having problems with the person they are in a cell with, and that other person is threatening the other and the C/Os are being told they should put the 2 non aggressive people together + let the 2 aggressive work things out. Not say nothing we can do and let them fight it out and send them both to seg. If 2 people say they were cellies before and get along great, they should allow them to be together it 2 less people to worry about. If people want to be aggressive let them together.
143. Monetary incentives as rewards for good behavior, reduced violence, and transfer to another prison. Increase workers pay (individuals in custody) and increase individuals in custody stipend from \$10 a mth to \$30 a mth. Allow individuals to transfer to another prison every 6 mths.
144. Better programs to help with becoming free
145. Change everything. And not just staff, it's us incarcerated people who also need to seek change! But we need help. Mental health, better quality of education. Any vocational classes, any Group classes that improve, health, critical thinking, substance abuse
146. More time out of the cell. School, programs, daily communication with friends and family on the outside
147. This prison is outdated. Its a abandoned building, prison should be shut down. New staff.
148. They need to allow certain qualified inmates to make positive suggestions and improvements. Hire inmates as a vocational training (more inmates) to fix this prison, instead of hiring contractors (they can save money and this will be an experience for the guys locked up). I'll like to speak up for us. I'll like to have an opportunity to help w/ my thoughts. And, we need conjugal visits and communal interludes w/ our significant others.

149. Schooling, more activity, more second chances
150. To have more programs that are open to "all" to have groups for sex offenders so if they are guilty they can get the help they need. To have a safe place to talk about sex offenses without non sex offenders there to spread gossip.
151. Close it down, rebuild
152. More education.
153. More rec time. more programs and jobs. better living conditions as of the drinking water and things
154. Get rid of the truth-in sentencing & give incarcerated people with life sentences or de facto life sentences a chance to earn their freedom
155. Programs that everyone has the opportunity to participate in not just a few. school, better food, programs
156. Need a word processor and about 500 pages of blank paper to answer this
157. School, movement stop the gang's and to be honest the gangs aint on shit at all they just run the phone into the police get mad and just dont give them to us
158. Give programs to rehabilitate
159. It should be ran federally!
160. Shut this prison down, this prison is not designed for any type of positive change and or rehabilitation. The staff purposely do things to cause problems among individuals in custody.
161. Shut it down and destroy it
162. To shut Menard down as a whole. Condim this whole place.
163. School + medical help
164. Better housing/programs/better food
165. Become careing, productive human beings—both inmates and staff. With true honor and respects for everyone rights! To stop making an invorment that breeds remorselessness, hate, and a desire for more continuing inhumanity and evil.
166. I don't really have suggestions my suggestions is getting out of prison getting home to my family.
167. We need programs school classes better food we need 2 get out these cells and take these b-grade and c-grade restrictions off
168. more female officer working the cell houses, more yard, more school
169. Close this whole place all the way down before it be another pontiac 17 situation down here soon.
170. The people here who's gang member's, only receives a phone call once a day to be able to talk with love ones, in the normal guys which's myself, has to suffer, in not be able to call their family everyday, like the others, do to us not being gang related. so we need more expections here.
171. Shut it down completely or allow the federal govt to take control of operations.
172. Allow mental health to do there job to the full extent described in Adm. Dir. & 504's. More out of cell time, school for all cell houses as well as programs. Better dietary food like other prisoners. More access to our family out there. Commissary items are equal for all cellhouses. More opportunity to improve your situation all cell houses.
173. CLOSE IT DOWN

174. Harsher disciplinary sanctions for gang assaults
175. transfer me
176. Give married individual conugal visits and also allow all inmates or individuals in custody to get to school and college and get industry jobs (they only let the ones they select)
177. More privilege for everyone (fair treatment). Way better food. More communications to keep contact w/ loved ones. More outsider presence (to monitor staff conduct). Maximum incarcerated people should get penetration pictures and books & conugal visits.
178. They need to give us more time out + more phone time. Figure out a more efficient way to classify our security levels.
179. More schooling opportunity; more excess time with family rather ON visits via phone, etc. We should be allowed phones everyday. 4 hour visits minimum in max security. Our family drive 6 hours to visit only 2 1/2 hours and they dont even get that with these scheduled visits.
180. Shut it down completely! Or start giving all of us our 20 hours a week out the cell. Not just front street. Again this menard C.C.
181. Try to beat my case you can't improvement in Menard Correctional Center
182. Independent, research and development.
183. Anything positive!
184. Being out of cell more.
185. Let people experience a sense of freedom, mentally
186. better food, more phone time, out the cell more, bring school to this prison for everybody and alot more
187. more program'z, school for everyone, more food portion.
188. SHUT IT DOWN! The cells are small, deteriorated, plumbing system is archaic and conditions will always be the worst with no solutions for optimizing.
189. Give people the chance to get a education. Take away C&B grade or at least c-grade or put everyone on A-grade and if they do something to get on c-grade then that on that person. Give us better food/more food. People that are trying to get good time to get home let them get into programs to help them out. Let us out of our cells more. A big thing would be "respect" if people respect each other on both sides it would be peaceful.
190. Everything that has anything & everything to do with this prison.
191. We need adequate time out of our cells. We need programs (e.q. education, life skill training, etc) we need to be given a reasonable opportunity for rehabilitation. Not locked in our cells and left there.
192. Treat everybody equally like you shouldn't have to be in a gang or straight just to have a job around here. You guys dont get it or understand what we go threw in here.
193. A working kitchen, programs any, drug counseling
194. The only change here can come from a complete change of leadership at the top and retraining of staff. Most staff make it clear they are collecting union wages/benefits/retirement

195. More good time opportunities, a working kitchen, put lifers in separate wings then minimums & short timers
196. Giving more out time
197. Don't really have no suggestions, sorry.
198. Hope in the truth in sentencing and better programs for all inmates
199. Offer more school and work assignment as well as movement gym and yard
200. This place needs to be reconstructed all around the board. There needs to be fair opportunities for all prisoners equally but it don't work that way. They need more movement and programs for positive growth in this life. They need more staff that will treat us with the respect we deserve.
201. no good
202. To many to even write one terrible
203. To stay out of here
204. To get rid of all of the lazy staffs here in menard CC.
205. Take the officers assault rifles (for inmates safety) give the inmates more time out there cells, update the life culture, and create more programs and recreational things for inmates to do...
206. More female working staff makes the environment better more smooth and less chaos
207. End truth-in-sentencing. More school and programs, more yard, more phone time, adequate healthcare, third party who collects grievances (because they protect each other).
208. Offer programs and higher education to everyone! People who could never dream of going to school, can here, in the future.
209. Shutting it down
210. To talk to my love ones more, Phone on the tablet
211. Open it up like before or more movement less lockdowns
212. Electronic submission of medical requests and grievance form that can be verified to substantiate complaints about staff misconduct. A better classification system that does not house **[NAME REDACTED]** in a maximum security prison with two years left to serve when he has court ordered drug treatment and no programs around
213. Close Menard Correctional Center down...
214. To give the east cell house some school and programs and more time outside of these cells and maybe this will become a better prison because once you give inmates something to do with their time then positive things start to happen.
215. To provide better educations + programs for at this prison there is no programs + the education only goes up to a G.E.D. you can't help yourself here...
216. Necesitamos mas programas/escuela y ayuda medica. Telefono en nuestra tablets.
[TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH: We need more programs/school and medical help. Phone on our tablets.]
217. There has to be a complete change of personnel top to bottom to change the culture in Menard C.C. This place is a pool of corruption. The codes of silence among officers/nurses must be broken individuals in custody must be seen and treated fairly as human beings. First **[ILLEGIBLE]** human rights. A meaningful education must be provided. My earlier training **[ILLEGIBLE]** to restoration and useful citizenship must be

established here in M.C.C. as it is in other facilities like Stateville C.C. To give hope in despair and create a more humane **[ILLEGIBLE]** Individuals in custody supplies with proper cleaning equipment & supplies...

218. To close it down because these staff has no crass and do as they please because they don't get penalized for their action even when we write grievances on them. Fire **[NAME REDACTED]** (the director)
219. Close it!!! Now!!!
220. Let us go and shutdown!
221. More programs out of cell time
222. This facility can utilize the east and west chow hall for space to offer more programs or some sort of educational schooling or programs
223. Letting people have more time outta of there cells and having programs and schooling for people other than front street
224. If me and three other guy have the same charge one shouldn't get the job out of the three of us just cause of the color of they skin, and everyone should be treated the same in equal
225. I would suggest to give more guys opportunity to attend school or programs, adequate health care treatment. More out of cell time. Mental health services. Adequate staff training in mental health and violence prevention drugs class/AA class offered. Better communication between staff/individuals in custody.
226. Better overall everything. Everything is horrible. Communication with family. Phone and electronic mail availability. Food horrible. Staff conduct is horrible. No assistants in rehabilitation. Living conditions horrible. Healthcare, doesn't care
227. No
228. A new paint job, stricter code enforcement, groups, programs, etc...
229. More school opportunity, more jobs and programs
230. Officers who believe and care and want to improve the system they work for as well as empathize with the human condition
231. New staff, with all types of races not just (white)
232. They should have a JHA member at every prison to sit and monitor these staff IDOC members and enforce the prison reform bill act when it comes to jobs, school and other programs and enforce rehabilitation!
233. Educational programs, more recreation/out of cell time, better living conditions
234. Give more yard/gym time, expand the education programs for people
235. I suggest having someone from your offices here daily to keep them honest
236. More dayroom more programs and give the jobs to people that can get good time
237. Most programs
238. Close it down
239. More dayroom/more programs
240. Its to focused on punishment and not rehabilitation. Give us a chance to better ourselves and earn good time credit for good behavior and schooling
241. Body cam for all C/O really Menard needs to be shut down, they have 20 plus inmates trying to take a shower with only 10 showers working and only three get hot

242. Communication. Understanding that most of us just want just want to do our time and be treated as a human being, and be given opportunities to do better
243. Better food and more opportunities to rehabilitate
244. If the prison provided more educational programs for the facilities back cell houses & other groups social skill & communication skill building so that all prisoners won't know is aggression
245. There are too many inmates who are under five years of their release they are not a maximum security inmates they should be in a minimum security prison where they could enroll in positive programs to rehabilitate themselves and get the proper skills they need to be a productive citizen in the free world
246. More jobs and free time schooling and food
247. I feel we need more time out the cell and we need more opportunities to sign up for programs
248. For Springfield to come or send someone undercover to see how they really do things
249. More time out our cell, to get rid of the punishment C-grade and only give us 1 or two punishments Not all punishments in one
250. Get people the proper treatment, education, and life skills
251. Shut Menard down
252. Offer more jobs, make better food, drug programs
253. Get a drug program, and do not keep max lifers with short time minimums
254. division of offense
255. More programs substance and mental health, better health management, & a better out of cell time & commissary
256. C/Os need to be more serious
257. An actual focus on reducing recidivism, and help with re-entry
258. All the above in question #13
259. Get more jobs, programs and schooling and transfer medium security inmates to other prisons who have them
260. Close it!!!
261. Close it!
262. Close the prison
263. Numerous staff members being replaced. The nurses over here are very rude and listen to nothing you say and treat you very much disrespect and talk to you like you a child.
264. The medical staff needs severe training on how to work/treat some one with a disability I understand inmates act needy but even when asking or trying to explain issues health your made out to be stupid like ex. I'm **[REDACTED]** so I told them I need a handicap toilet. I was asked why when explaining the guards and nurse started talking over me to each other then told me no. no reasoning behind it. I never am rude or misbehave.
265. Shut it down!
266. More supervision from outside sources regarding staff conduct, funding distribution, food and cleaning supply distribution.
267. close it down

268. that they separate the users and the non users on different units. Smokers on one side and non-smokers users on the other side.
269. groups, education, better mental health system
270. N/A
271. medical staff! This prison's so bad that even medical staff quit and don't want to work here! So that should say A lot! I say this cause Im having mental health issue']s
272. Give us a better mental health treatment and help us get our education
273. TEAR IT DOWN NOW!
274. the counselor needs to do his job
275. more movement
276. Let us out more at least 6 hours a day like we're supposed to prior COVID.
277. Visits and phone time less limited. Currently contact visits require a window on the table for no reason. Visits are limited to 2 1/2 hours, they used to be 4 hrs. But apparently if you are around your family/loved ones for 2 hours and 31 minutes everyone will die of covid
278. Bull Douse it down. It is too old and in dis repara to fix
279. Seperate the serious offenders from the offenders with short time and focus more on schooling for the inmates than they do
280. More groups, new staff, regular cleaning and showers, pass out envelopes so we can do legal mail and contact family, more yard and gym, chances to cut c-grade and seg time, more cameras and they should just regularly pass out grievances. COVID-Test all not just some. they should make a system so if your stuck behind the door 24/0 that you can do something inside your cell that a color or symbol is clearly visible on camera because I know for a fact if I fall out I'll die there isnt even an emergency button to push, more food, they should come around with books in seg legal and regular once or twice a week
281. Shut it Down
282. better treatment
283. We need some time to reach out to our love ones even if we are in restrictive housing
284. Shut it Down!
285. Other than close it down for good, give us freedom, opportunities, food & other positive things like other prisons, Menard is the only prison serving the nasty food they serve.
286. Give us more time out of the cell. Give us more programs to become better/more capable
287. phones on the tablet is a start, school, education, visits
288. Put people on staff that actually care about incarcerated individuals revamp the dietary completely we get good meals only when important people come. Make education available for everyone and programs. Stop punishing everybody for things that the staff/IA allow to happen. Stop letting IA run the prison and actually have a warden that works for us.
289. close it.
290. close it down/dayroom time

291. That either they follow rules & regulations before them or shut this place down. Allow mental health perform their duties the correct way their license consist of! That staff are trained properly in a correct manner.
292. Close this place down! Do not give these people the opportunity to treat anyone like their less than human because of the color of their skin!
293. Shut this prison down
294. Telling the staff to keep they hand's off people
295. Let us do our time in peace!!
296. Retrain the staff
297. I suggest getting someone at the top of the chain of authority that can handle the job and do it well
298. Get people who might actually care about other people in prison, allow anyone get a job not base if off of their case. Allow in custody people to order commissary/art supplies from other vendors like they do in other states. ALLOW A/C IN INMATE DORM AREAS NOT JUST FOR COPS.
299. More textbooks, more educational school, rehab classes, more in the cell studies more prisoners to seek in the cell studies.
300. Provide job to the general population not the lifers only. More correccular actives for short timers rather than lifers. Equally balanced
301. this no yes experience
302. Video visit and phone restriction shouldn't be punishments. People need family and friends to stay humane.
303. Get parole back and provide college, along with vocational training for residents
304. Demolish it. Never let any of the current staff ever work at any DOC nor any part of the legal system
305. Faster medical care + refills for medication get filled on time. Create more jobs for inmates, which would give inmates incentive to behave.
306. 1. close it down, 2. elected officials come visit here, 3. place law library service on gtl tablet & video phone service need to be on the gtl tablet.
307. Since 80% of all problems between inmates is the phone put the phone on the tablet. As for anything else more programs and movement so we're not just locked in our cells
308. More educational programs funded by the state. Bring back the self-sufficient structure of the prison system. Open up the prisons to much more movement. Marijuana edibles to be sold on commissary to any person on A grade.
309. More programs for everyone not just short timers in a max prison, people with more time have to wait to get on a program list, because short timers are first.
310. more time outside the cell. Phone usage daily. Provided things instead of everything sold to us through commissary. Better food! Programs & schooling (other than G.E.D.). Rehabilitation efforts. And possibility of parole.
311. getting out
312. 1st & foremost, hire a bunch of new people to run this prison who really care about people. 2nd, bring sum helpful programs, bring work release. the muslims need a Imam. We need better food, a real school, college classes
313. Have guards who are not crooked, get guards that at least try to protect us

314. Let the feds take over all state prisons especially the max facilities. Investigate all staff members I'm a witness interview me in person I'll tell you everything
315. Put phones on our tablets, that is 80% to 90% of the problems throughout these yall. Have more variety of commissary, shoes, cosmetics, food, etc.
316. Stay practice/learn communication skills. Staff are hired who aren't prejudice or racist. Staff are hired who don't kill inmates. All staff wear body cameras and are held accountable for senseless/illegal beatings & killings. All staff here are fired. Nurses and C/Os, & warden the whole administration
317. A whole 360
318. More programs & Mental Health treatment
319. Education! the prison I am in now and like many other's, if you don't have less time then about 1 year or 2 you are not a big priority to get an education. A lot of my education has been through then mail.
320. for staff to kill themselves
321. This prison needs to be shut down!
322. Improve all of the above
323. Improve above
324. Raise quality of food, treat inmates better
325. Burn it down then build a new one.
326. a professional train administration and internal affairs then everybody else will be professional.
327. Let people that's in PC go to school or transfer to a correctional center where they can go to school.
328. Put phones on the tablet. offer programs! and Jobs! Heterosexual showers and homosexual showers for those in PC. Netflix on the tablet. Sell us reasonably priced headphones that don't break after 3 days & don't feed these men this negative rap, gangster murderous music that only stirs up & lets meditate on evil. PUT MORE PHONES IN THE YARD. the heat and humidity is literally beyond sweltering it's lethal & definitely cruel & unusual punishment.
329. Educational programs and outside volunteer
330. Close Prison Down
331. I think that people of higher status should be looking closer in on what goes on in our everyday situations esuring that we are treated with respect and dignity.
332. Better Healthcare acess
333. shut it down
334. Get a competent Medical Staff. There is no 0 Doctor on site for over 2,000 Inmates. We are wards of the State, the State should Have a doctor & honor our medical requests
335. Sentencing
336. Better training for staff and security excuses for being able to treat inmate a certain way. we are guilty before giving the benefit of Doubt.
337. Need to send in Federal Employees undercover as staff inmate(s) or civilian(s) to show the world or public what atrocities go on in here at Menard!

338. C/Os need to be trained on rules. If you ask different people you get different answers. Sometimes they try to enforce things that they think are right that's not.
339. More programs, Improve the Food, served here, improve, Nurse, Doctors and the filthiness
340. Being locked in a cell 24-7 with maybe 1 yard a week and If your lucky 2-3 showers a week is not humane. I wouldn't wish Menard on my worst enemy.
341. more educational program I.E. college courses
342. Consistency (sp)? Prisons are necessary... Yet everyone needs to know that you get the same things every time good or bad.
343. Mail handling, there needs to be a outsourced company or whoever works with the mail needs to be over seen by camera because there is plenty of mail disappearing with no explanations and no separation of power.
344. Appoint a warden with the balls to run the prison how it should be run and not bow down to officer intimidation and how they want it to be run that is most convenient for them to just sit on their asses for 8 hours all-day, every day! Things might get accomplished!
345. access to the law library more than once a month!
346. Get good healthcare here get a better commissary
347. Menard need schooling in the EAST HOUSE and programs to help short timers and mental health
348. Allow mental health more power and say so; do not allow SMI to be housed with regular population. A gang-free living area for those who are not in a gang. Phone access no matter the grade; tablets in seg no matter the seg time or offense. due to its should be considered mail due to emails. SMI should be allowed TV ASAP who can prove/show psych documents from any hospital and placed on IDs
349. allow more movement and communication with Family. More yards
350. If you been good. you should get sex visit.
351. Bild a new prison with out laid paint and windows you can see out of
352. More time out the cell, such as school, group
353. They need to put staff thru social training how to treat people and cope with mental health. and bring programs for people to be able to improve them selfs
354. Better healthcare. Better food. More programs. Staff that care and want to help us rehabilitate.
355. Bring in training program, welling, construction class, computer repairment training
356. A legit correspondence between inmate and executive staff. Putting phones on the tablet. Raising the standard of quality of service of food. Create a staff and environment that's geared toward rehabilitation, as opposed to brute punishment.
357. Over all every damn things.
358. SHUT it down, hire minorities, phones be given at least weekly in SEG, how food be given. Shut Menard down
359. Extend more programs for people to enrich their lives to improve their self-worth
360. School, school school?
361. Open mindedness to allowing growth and programs for max prisoners, who can show and learn tools that help give them a trade on substantial showing of rehabilitation

362. Create all of the above Q13
363. get air condition, better food, more movement
364. Better food, more yard time, more state pay, more schooling options
365. more yard time and better state pay and better paying jobs
366. Give those that want school the change, give those that want a job the change
367. Bulldozer! Its out dated Just warehousing people here. Jobs
368. Transferring
369. They claim to be understaffed in medical, dental, and mental health but they have still recieved all thier money to run the prison. Hire the staff that is needed or else stop bringing more inmates into this prison when these core staff are missing.
370. Elevated security & training for staff.
371. For the staff to make decisions about my life as if I am humane and not criminal
372. Close them and open up mental health and treatment center's
373. Phones on tablets would make 100% improvement and cut violence
374. Nothing
375. Close it so I can move to a prison where there is more movement
376. for it to be closed its inhumane
377. Shut it down
378. School. eaiser contact with love one's, more phone time to call family & friends
379. To close it down they cant even pay a real medical doctor. And the staff have sex with the nurse to controll their mind an make them brake the rule
380. Open the Southhouse back up so people of older age dont have to walk 1/4 mile everywhere you go. I am disabled but am still expected to walk 1/4 mile to healthcare or commissary etc, anywhere on front sheet
381. Isolate the problem makers, reward good behavior with more than "what we got coming". Make guards Work, let us out more
382. Have C/Os work more sitting around 45 minutes per hour, house people with some kind of similaritys—age together. Especially those who been here many years with no disciplinary issue, to maybe choose who they live with
383. Stop using rules and regs. as a weapon against us
384. More rule manigement for staff, more out-side rec than once a week, more phone calls than twice a week, more cell check's for safety reasons
385. Menard is unsafe and offers nothing, you never leave the cell and if you do its dangerous
386. Shut down menard!
387. Knock it down
388. Shut it down
389. Paint crew/sanitation crew!
390. More education classes
391. All prisons should be deemed unconstitutional. NO man on earth should hold any authority to sentence a human being to confinement for the rest of hers or his life. It's cruel and unusual punishment. No matter how you look at it you cannot improve prison or its conditions!

392. Open more lines for communication through modern technology (e.g. phones on tablets) and more educational, self help, trade programs
393. More programs, change the 100% law, bring back parole board.
394. Make programs that help everybody not just 100 people out of the 1,400 people. let people have more yard because if you stay in a cage all the time your mind never grows unless you have a very attentive support system
395. Give us back our gym... They took it and never gave it back.
396. Close it down would be the only improvement!
397. More time out of cell, more yard, school, jobs, programs, more contact to outside
398. shut it down
399. The enforcement of Rasha v. Baldwin, Holmes v. Baldwin and educational opportunities, law library research via wifi enabled tablets as originally promised 4 years ago!
400. EVERYTHING!!!...
401. Programs/schools to better self, a chance to rehabilitate, "rehabilitation was the whole purpose I thought"
402. Close it down, close it down. close it down
403. More yard time. The C/Os cool, they not gone help you but for the most part they don't bother you unless you bother them. MEDICAL is terrible and mental health is awful.
404. Treat all the same and give people the opportunity to be humans again
405. Shutting it down
406. The security staff need audio recording devices on their person as well as video recording cameras 24 hrs a day so that we can assure our safety as well as theirs. We need programs to help us get real rehabilitation while incarcerated. We need better dietary options, better staff, better medical staff, better mental health staff, better living conditions, more time out the cells, and most important would be better ways to communicate with our loved ones. I think that being able to have conjicall visits would help the aggression of individuals in custody. Facts are we have nothing better to do but think about ways to hurt someone else or ourselves. We need thinks to keep us from fighting among ourselves. Staff aint helping they love when we fight against each other.
407. Shut the mother fucker down. It needs to be condemned.
408. Stop depriving liberties! Stop the inhumane intimidation tactics + procedures instilled by this prison administration. Stop causing the atypical hardships they cause our family by denying us electronic emails, phones, video visits to communicate with our families! Especially in restricted housing
409. I would suggest that individuals in custody be treated as humans first and foremost and things would be better.
410. Make these officers/staff look at us as humans and not a number. Give us opportunities for school/other programs.
411. Treat us like human and not like animals!!!
412. Mailroom takes up to a month and a half to deliver mail and if you ask to many times about it they return back your mail and dont give it to you. Also alot of legal mail doesnt get sent.

413. Transfer me now. Destroy this place.
414. Menard is old and need to be closed... I hate it here
415. More education programs for all!
416. Have monthly and/or weekly kitchen and food checks by official food inspectors. Also have an official and/or authorities to please investigate the water supply for lead and other cancers causing contaminants.
417. Shut this mf down
418. More staff training in mental health programs for offenders
419. More time out of our cells, warmer food, getting name brand hygiene items on commissary, cheaper prices on commissary—we need Aramark to take over!
420. Schooling and proگرامing for all houses. More time out our cells. Give us gym. Better food. More accountability for staff conduct. Cleaner conditions.
421. Better dietary—vitamins, vegetables, (medical) terrible
422. Phone needs to be put on tablets. Currently phones are filthy and are the main reason for covid outbreaks, flu, etc. Even if phones are cleaned prior to each use, phones are still not clean because same dirty rag is used over & over again if rags are used at all. Need hot pots, stingers so we can at least have hot meals. Food trays here are never hot!
423. Vocational classes, as stated before new tablets with phone app, new 10" fans that move air, maybe even bladeless fans. Maybe even air conditioners or something to cool the air in the summer time. Better pay on our jobs. A better quality TV to buy.
424. Education programs and law library on the GTL Tablet
425. Need new staff who want to do right
426. Shut menard down and end all the unjust murder \$\$ Rape—beatings and neglect
427. Give everyone something to do jobs, school, groups, etc. Give everyone more time out their cells at menard.
428. Provide programs, drug alcohol treatment, provide schooling vocational and GED or ABE
429. Video games. Would give individuals in custody a chance to focus on something entertaining instead of the negative around them! Video games are made of the same components as our TV's and are now smaller. Video games are no more dangerous than TV's a simple contract with a company could make this happen and already have happened. Most states. the prison system in IL can only benefit especially financially.
430. Im not sure... Its my first time EVER in prison Ive only been here 5 months. Someone needs to come fix this place. When Springfield comes down here the facility knows like a week or so ahead of time so they can "clean it up" Power wash mold off our wall and stuff like that. So them coming down here isnt worth it because its a facade. The facility only takes whoever comes down here & To where the privileged/good unit is.
431. Shut it down
432. Close it down
433. Build more opportunity for higher learning. Create culanary classes. Create more gardens + train us to raise food that can be served out of our kitchen. Put the phones on our tablets as they said they would. Tell these people to quit being so scared and overly dramatic. Leave the attitudes at home.

434. More movement yard. Help the one's going home. Work release we need money so we can get started
435. Rebuild it, or close it down! Its to old!! (need more schooling with trades!)
436. Give us our [ILLEGIBLE] phones, cells and jobs/programs
437. Better separation of gangs.
438. More classes and education to give guys things to do that are positive. Incentives to want to do better. Put phone time on the tablets so everyone can use and not fight over phones. Staff stop playing with blacks and latinos mail. Example pictures of kids doing peace sign is considered gang signs and returned not the same for white people. More yard time for everyone. Equal opportunity.
439. Shut it dwn! They all need to were boddy camera (Body cameras)
440. Get better food, allow everyone to go to school no matter what their incarcerated time is for
441. More out of cell time—better access to rehabilitation—tradeschooling, etc.
442. Put more phones out on the yard for individuals or just put them on tablets. Put legal information that you can have access when you go to law library when you look at kiosk... to have the access to study that on your tablet. College courses or trades to help you have reason to want to do better but ways to help you get released on parole.
443. We need parole for all who are rehabilitated! Also all one man cells honest opportunities to become financially stable
444. Federal oversight. All the top administrators need to be replaced.
445. More schooling
446. Stop take the state pay from people that not envole. Need more programs. They need to take the glasse down in the visiting room.
447. To be reform
448. Talking
449. More out of cell time. More phone time. More programs available. More yard. More video visit terminals.
450. Better movement, better staff, better everything!
451. More mental health programs and getting out of these cells cause we are in them all day unless you're on front street
452. Classes for person going home let us learn do classes. If we want let us work if we want more time out cell for this being a min-med on hill
453. Better commissary and tabaccoo
454. Stop giving lifers and 85% sentences all the jobs, and let some of us that can earn good time earn it.
455. To give programs to address people issues that their in prison for, the root of people problems.
456. Try to stop gang violence
457. Close the doors
458. Trays without mold on them, bigger fans for our cells. Better ventilation in the house, bigger portions of food. Food that doesn't look like cat vomit.
459. Close it.

460. We need more time out the cell cause we locked up 24 hours unless we have a call pass, we only get one yard a week for a few hours, we need school programs for ALL cell houses
461. Change of chain of command, new policies, better staff training, outside sources overlooking staff conduct, give me what I got coming
462. More yard time. More schooling
463. They got to work on a lot of things, from the food we receive to the recreation, Also we need programs to keep us doing something good and not just be thinking about bad stuff to do
464. Close this motherfucker down and ship everyone out!
465. Just close it
466. To have more programs, and to let us join the programs, treat us like humans, give us better food, better mattress, more yard at least two times a week. They give us a way different food that the one they show in the menu
467. Let the federal government take over
468. Abolish it
469. Shut it down!!
470. Educational programs, law library, better living quarters, better food, better conduct by all staff members, new tablets. Equal treatment for all individuals in Menard not certain parts of Menard
471. At Menard C.C./MSU on two of the four wings the roof ventilation fans have not worked at all or a few years now. That makes it a lot hotter in the summer. The fan's need to be fixed now! At Menard C.C./MSU the law library is entirely inadequate. Person's have to request law books from Menard max. Security unit to see case law which takes a lot of time
472. More calories and higher grade food, separation between gang members and non gang members, more supervision/cameras, more/easier access to mental health, single man cells for those who chose to be less social, more/easier access to phones, air filtration, actual temperature control, air quality testing, "noise danger" testing
473. I know it's maximum security prison so time out is limited but single person cells for those that would prefer to be alone would make time a little more bearable
474. Let us come out of our cell and give us school, jobs and more free time and better Muslim services and Ramadan feast
475. Tear it down/destroy it
476. More recreation. More phones or phones on tablet. Better dietary. Daily showers. Removal of plexiglass partitions for contact visits. More programs and schooling
477. To put phones on tablets. Allow messages to come in faster rather than days to a week to take away the classification system in Menard East, North II, North II, South, & West house.
478. Being able to let us connect more with family and love ones by letting us have the phone on our tablets and videos and were they could send care packages, to be able to get schooling and jobs, more law library time to work up on our cases, more time out of the cells & to sale us better item name brand as **[ILLEGIBLE]** are charging name brand prices now

479. 1. More out of cell time, 2. Run class/programs at least 3 times a week, 3. Offer college classes, 4. Make more opportunities to get involved in works or programs, 5. Treat inmates with common human respect
480. By closing Menard C.C.
481. Train staff to treat us like normal everyday human beings and not like incarcerated animals. To actually acknowledge peoples problems and not ignore them. Feed us enough and give us more than 2 days out the cell.
482. More programs, school, and more yard time
483. Better food, less lockdowns, more phone calls to talk to love ones, more time out the cells, help us get in school and get a job in here
484. Only those who need a security enclosed environment, afforded incentive (trade) (skills) programming (trading) time, for (trades) Adding (family) community structured support on grounds, earning community (passes) & saving accounts like (work-release) hiking trails, family nights
485. More programs
486. Schooling for all and betterment as on opportunity
487. Mental health services need to be available at least weekly. They need a dayroom for general population. Jobs for anyone who has been here for a year and hasn't caused trouble. Better food options, more state pay for legal services and hygiene products.
488. New warden and new food supervisors. or tear this place down and start over.
489. More yard/phone time, better access to jobs, education, LTS, improved healthcare, better access to books and information through tablet, better food, better access to law library
490. Introduce a computer communications system; everything is done via paper. Hold C/Os accountable for making actual rounds not simply "pencil-pushing" times. A better water filtration and infrastructure.
491. To be shut down.
492. More movement, more programs, more yard
493. They need to allow everyone the ability to attend religious services despite which house a person lives in. Services with volunteer should not depend on housing unless a person has proved to be a violent person.
494. Change of meals
495. Less disciplinary action as well restrictive housing and transfers more often. Better treatment of prisoners
496. Better mental health treatment
497. more programs, more things to do then just sit around the cell. Better food, lower commissary items, water system changes
498. We need more independent oversight of this institution. We need the shower heads fixed in the showers. and we need to get the programs to the ones who truly need them
499. More work assignments, and school programs, better food
500. To shut it down. Nothing can help or change, more life's are in danger and at risks, turn it in to a program like Stateville

501. More out of cell time, access to school and trade programs, and more access to loved ones
502. Shut it down, blanket clemency
503. Install Air conditioning units in all Southern prisons. Improve food/meal qualities & nutrition values. Improve/overhaul DOC Health care system by discontinue contracting w/ private healthcare services such as Wexford, Inc. Use Inmate Benefit Fund to purchase new weight lifting equipment. Make available, thru commissary, healthy foods. Better cable movie channels
504. new administration
505. Food and if everyone went by their rules
506. Honestly, I can only speak for myself in this regard. I don't really care what these people do. I've given up my own wicked ways and simply want to be left alone. The punishment I receive for this ought to stop RIGHT NOW! It should be considered a good thing I choose not to interact with any other convicts!!
507. Need to speak with in person
508. Change in staff
509. More movement, more programs, more yard and gym the pit!
510. Schooling, easy access to jobs, out the cell more, no cell house different from any other, more yards and excess to the phone and relax on picture, and better food, given an opportunity to be a better man
511. School, programming, better healthcare offered to all of us to better prepare us for real life upon release. Better commissary. Better chances for transfers for schooling and programming
512. School, jobs, programs, religious services, more yard days not just one yard day, being able to use the phone daily to talk to our family. If a incident happen pertaining one or two people we shouldn't all get punish.
513. none
514. Better all around staff conduct, better food, more programs
515. I don't have any
516. More programs that really being about real change and rehabilitation. Jobs trade inside prison, conjugal visits, one man cells, phones on the tablets, more jobs, and school for all no matter how much time you have, low commissary prices. Make the racial/factor or even in Menard. Get real nurses that take care not
517. Give jobs
518. More programs and more time out of cells
519. Have people come in and see for themselves whats going on. They need to reform the staff. In all actuality harder to improve this prison, shut it down, condemn it, transfer all of us because no matter what improvements can be made they won't be made
520. To transfer me to Stateville Re-entry Program for which I was approved for on **[6+ months prior]** and still waiting to go.
521. To give all staff a class to lean How to Treat us as Humans & people and to Give us Better Opportunity & The food Need to be Fed to animals
522. Fix all in Q13

523. More programs and education for the prison as a whole not just part of it. More freedom for the inmates, as in not being locked up 24 hours a day. More phones usage or being able to use the tablet to place calls and video visits. Better dietary food. Some of the things they don't allow, such as: hot pots, powder deodorant, spoon/forks bowls
524. Get rid of Wexford Health, bring in the feds, fire the warden, asst warden and the majors. Get rid of the union. Get rid of the Prison Litigation Reform Act, stop hiring right wingers. Have the staff all wear body cameras, put in more cameras, store all audio visuals for 5 years. Film all adjustment committees and store film for 5 years.
525. New warden to improve better living, food, & schooling.
526. Need more programs to give us in here. Some what chance to better ourselves and prepare for society.
527. New staff with better treatment & better Mental Health providers & medical treatment. New ways to discipline individuals in custody instead of taking what little they have especially the only piece of peace & freedom we have which is talking to our family & communication with them. Better opportunities to rehabilitate ourselves such as programs like education and vocational training. Church services and more time outside our cells. Better grievance process & more Law Library time & opportunities.
528. No groups & LGBTQ groups No yard for some free **[ILLEGIBLE]** time Air time like **[ILLEGIBLE]** school! **[ILLEGIBLE]**
529. C/O to stop rape me
530. 1. Get staff that are not racist and actually does there job. 2. start school programs and other programs. 3. Have more movement. 4. Make this a livable place or shut it down all together. 5. stop administrative detention. 6. stop long term segregation. 7. better grievance procedures.
531. Oversight and accountability for the C/Os and places for people to learn who wish to. And more time out of cells.
532. yard every day, better food, phones every day, need school, more jobs
533. Break up the chain of command. They are all related!
534. More time out of cell, better commissary
535. Get to go to the gym 2 times a week!
536. get everybody out of herer
537. activities, gym, food
538. more cameras and cameras worn by staff, and conjugal visits. More chaplin visits.
539. more time out of the cell, more services mental health, school, more phones & opportunity talk to our family
540. Parole board to come back to lessin the percentage from 100% to lower than %85
541. Shutting it down! or at the very least, overhaul the Administration & staff, from top to bottom...
542. Demolition
543. nothing
544. The only improvement can be made: Federal Take-over! Without that, this prison will be Inhumane and unfair until a higher chairperson with power make changes/ Improvement.

545. 1. provide single-man cells for vulnerable inmates (like me), 2. Provide teaching opportunities for inmates with advanced degrees (like me).
546. keeping from getting stab and getting good time taken again
547. more yard, they only give us yard once a week, more school opportunities
548. More school and activities for "EVERYONE"
549. More schooling
550. Better staff, food, more programs
551. I improvement on control my temper and keep my self positive on make myself a better person
552. My suggestions is: instead of having officers this facility should have more (MENTAL HEALTH Professionals). People who is incarcerated IS mentally ILL and C/Os are not eligible to deal with ppl here.
553. #1. to tour (walked the gallery) the cellhouse at least twice per month by the individuals mentioned in Q13 to address inmates concerns with a face-to-face (eye-to-eye) communication. #2 do a thorough/legit investigation of an "expedited emergency grievance"
554. to close it down ASAP/now!!! its too old now shut it down ASAP NOW!!! menard CC its all parts of toilets sink wall in cell crumbling
555. This prison needs to allow inmates in the Easthouse to be able to go to school & allow inmates to use the law library more then just one time a week. And put video in all the bullpin where inmates be sitting here in N2 waiting on sick call.
556. Mental health services programs, groups, adequate phone usage, more incentives, seg cuts, more time at of our cells
557. Staff to do their job
558. Build a new prison. A new prison would be cheaper in the long term. As opposed to the half assed repairs and liability of keeping the facility open
559. Just to see good people from the outside come and that made the change to change for the good
560. To close it down right now
561. I understand the C/Os can have stressful days but don't take it out on us. Menard is a super-max you got the worse of worse here if an inmate breaks the phone cord Always have extra they make us wait weeks to months sucks
562. Every since these prisons were "taken back" by the staff back in the 1990's they have gone downhill - primarily due to the Speck tapes and jealous people on the street complaining that inmates had too much, you still had fools. But, self-respect and self-improvement were the goals of so many back then. Its contagious. They (staff + politicians) cut the feet out from under everyone.
563. Putting the phones on the tablets it would stop the problems on the yard and the cellhouses. It seems like they love the chaos with the incarcerated people thats the reason for not putting more phones on the yard or put on the tablets. Get better trays for our food and keep the food separated on the trays. We've not had a doctor in Menard CC in a year and five months
564. Close down Menard try to improve prison life for all
565. give us game systems or games to play

566. Treat us as a human being, give us schooling, food us better, respect. More time out of cell
567. Less focus on security when it allows for subpar medical, commissary, peer development, communication with family, and loved ones by creating unnecessary hurdles, drawbacks, + greater separations when viewed in comparison to other facilities dealing with similar issues.
568. None—close it.
569. Cultural changes are needed. That requires programs for incarcerated people that can help them improve and gain back their hope. Sentences that don't leave men hopeless incentivise good behavior instead of treating all inmates like deplorables. Penalize officers for prejudices and incentivize whistle blowing.
570. Upgrade technology on tablet, and commissary food
571. jobs school
572. Stop job discrimination, base on felony charge, and skin color, get rid of this chaplain, because he discriminates against any religion not christian or jewish
573. Tear it down and rebuild it, prison + personnel!
574. Less cell time, more classes, better food, more LTS services
575. Cameras and more accountability for staff.
576. better food, jobs, school, conjugal visits, human treatment, stop weaponizing food and family contact. I can make a million suggestions, provide real wages to support a prison economy and incentivise rehabilitation. Voting rights.
577. I believe that an independant commission made up of civilians to conduct oversight of prison operations.
578. Shut it down. Put video everywhere so the outside world can see.
579. Put the phones on the TABLETS—most fights/arguements arrise from phone availability. Everyone wants to talk to their loved ones. More phone calls with loved ones = More positive behavior!!
580. close it
581. just look at people as humans!
582. Professionalism
583. proper food portion handling and more recreation, also a mulligan for over punishment
584. close it shit it down, This is not a prison this is a plantation
585. for system to be ran fair, according to A.D. 504 rules and regulation policy.
586. Offer something to access the courts, Stateville have free legal mail outgoing, Pontiac offer free copies, this place offers nothing. I've been having chest pains, since **[DATE REDACTED]**, and still to this day nobody has come to see me, **[two weeks later]**, Crazy. My name is **[REDACTED]**.
587. Tear it down and don't rebuild
588. Be fair on education and employment placement. Let others have a chance instead of giving a select few all the jobs and school.
589. I've been at Menard over **[15+]** years, I have yet to see any type of physical improvements. This prison system only offer more ways to get money from prisoners and their family, to benefits the state prison system.

590. Its set in its ways for a hundred year, you cannot improve it, only uphold the rules already on the books which are not upheld
591. More time out of cell
592. This prison should not be open.
593. Air conditioning, stop giving men those hormone shots to give the breasts to be trans and more correction in behavior.
594. All new A.D. need to be updated now & be way better to sign in and get in PC!
595. Programs, Education for Rehabilitation, PAROLE ILLINOIS!!!
596. if I do what I need to too and I know what I need to do; pray & Jesus is the answer to all of your needs; learn of him, live for him Amen
597. give people a second chance, with earned reentry Bill S-B-2333, get rid of truth in sentence
598. Stop locking innocent people up
599. training more staff members how to be perfection.
600. can't get to school to be able to better my self, I'm lock up for a sex case and there's no way I can better myself no sex program's
601. Better communication. More yard time. Give us our gym time back that was taken from us during Covid 19. Put phones on the tablets. More programs (educational) etc... Better fruits, vegetable over all healthier food. Should have healthier options.
602. more staff on the wings, they spend more time playing cards then watching inmates.
603. All outside clearance jobs should give 90 for 90 days good time
604. The homeboy mentality is embraced, staff protect staff
605. Non
606. send someone to talk with a prisoner not a trustee.
607. upgrade commissary, upgrade technology, give people jobs, put us in school, make counselors talk to us and feed us better food, also the C/Os need to treat us better, please help us
608. make this prison it's own instead of being a part of the pit/max unit
609. Get jobs for ADA individuals. Give people hope. Stop abuse.
610. To fire the C/Os that are doing wrong and abusing their job
611. Open dietary back up get good time for us. Investigate 2nd shift C/Os for sexual harassment! C/O [REDACTED] C/O [REDACTED] (redacted) Sg. [REDACTED] have all made me touch there penis and put there fingers in my butt
612. First off, give the opportunities to those who has exemplified good behavior. The only way to continue moving towards positive change is to be giving a chance to show progress. Dont continue to punish us. The judge gave us our punishment. Some of us may be falsely accused.
613. Give the inmates that Deserve them jobs. Not the trouble makers so they wont assault more staff
614. Better living conditions, Better education, more programs to better ourself, more time out of the cells. Better food, less restrictions on our visitors/visits. Treat us more humane.
615. Theres too many people on the same page of corruption. Other staff have quit because they refuse to be bullied into doing wrong. Others go along or get reassigned

- to crap jobs and tattled about to other staff, and to favored inmates Generation line is to long. Staff need to be state wide instead of just regional. There's a code with Southern Illinois. They protect each other wrong or not
616. Close it down and take us to a place that will treat us fairly & give us what we supposed to get, we got rights we humans not slaves
 617. Close prison down, close down, close down, close down
 618. Wish i could change the hearts on these people that work here to stop being so evil.
 619. To give the food we eat as soon as it comes into the houses because it comes to the houses but they let it sit there up to 2 hours workers are doing first their business rather than work.
 620. Classes and jobs for us to receive good time! More time out our cell. Phones on tablets.
 621. More movement!!! We always feed inside cell, 2 days (5) hours on the yard. No rec, the weights old, torn up benches old wooded and out of order. Better pay for jobs, programs and need some sort of parole system, something cause we are dying off in here and when our families travel from the city (Chicago) they don't get harass, sent back home, and lower the prices on commissary. Stop price hiking. Better Healthcare.
 622. Close this place cause they run this place with nobody being accountable for all the inhumane treatment and abuse this place is a joke for corrections
 623. To much time in the cell, we should have more movement, we should be able to get our GED or college classes to pick up on some trades, we should be able to work also, and everyone should be treated fairly only if they have did something wrong should they get some type of punishment
 624. More programs and more job opportunities
 625. Put more phones on the yards and in the MSU dayrooms, feed us whats on the IDOC website menu. Put in place more over site, so that the prison won't continue to play the system.
 626. Give people something to look forward to, that's why so much negative things happen
 627. We need to have more time out the cell been able to go to the gym having school, work shops, more things to do on are tablets been able to go to yard more then one time a week we dont have a day room
 628. for the guards to inforce rules
 629. Tear the building down
 630. fix the kitchen at MSU, Ant's
 631. Close it down!! tear it down!!
 632. Update Tablet to include FastCase (Law App) for daily access. Supply cells with cleaning supplies daily.. bleach, disinfectant, mop, broom. Add phone app to tablet... for daily personal use...unlimited. Allow weekly store call and increase max spending beyond \$100
 633. Have college courses, better food, have jobs available for who ever wants to work and not have 1 person work 4 jobs.
 634. Yard Time. Time out of cell. Food needs improvements. program opportunities for EVERYONE (you know how to weed out the trouble makers from people who want to do better so why isolate an entire house and punish everyone?)

635. educational opportunity, dayroom hours, more yard, structured mental health care/classes, better healthcare including better dental (always wants to just pull teeth) and I have been on the list for a year to see a doctor about a rash all over my face.
636. Shut down any prison that has Menard In It's title
637. Close the doors and tear it down!!!
638. I would improve medical and dental care. Right now its hit or miss on how soon or if you get seen. More staff would help.
639. more programs and out of cell time, more schooling. Better food and commissary
640. Give the inmates something to do that is positive
641. Good time applies to all individuals in custody, work, school, lockdown work or all crime 50% day for day, And in custody.
642. This prison need better administration and better medical treatment is very poor
643. Lexis Nexis software added to the inmate tablets, as it is in county jails.
644. They need to stop treating everyone in the Easthouse here in Menard C.C. like the rest of the prison and let us rehabilitate because one day we might get released and we need to be ready to be productive citizens in this society. They don't offer us no school, 1 yard a week, limited access to law library, and they punish us all for 1 or 2 peoples action's which is unjust. They need to be further reviewed by someone with power to make a positive change for us.
645. Overall access to the vast amount of technology the outside world has to offer. Within reason of course, but monitored internet access, phones on the tablets, access to pay for real world apps, videogame consoles, the list is really endless. All of these things can be very profitable to the I.D.O.C. as well if made available. Once again this is all within reason. I mention these things specifically because other states prison systems have done it so I know it is possible.
646. Offer more courses
647. Holding staff accountable or shutting it down.
648. The Feds taking over or somebody undercover coming in or just talk face to face with the guys.
649. Transparency must trump wrongdoings by staff which are hidden under the guise of security first/priority rules. Increase funding for police & prisons then route most of the money to aid both by investing in schools!! Children holding books cannot pick up weapons. They live to become assets to society.
650. Let everyone take class. Bring college here. Give guys something to look forward to if we make enough money from work than we're less of a burden to everyone. Allow the phone, law library, and pictures to be done on the tablet. They have the capability and would stop so much drama and fights that happen. Have special events for people to stay out of trouble like family picnics, extra yards or maybe more visits. Also use all available kiosks for video visits so we can get more. Allow us to hug our family for pictures. thicker mats to sleep on. Give us law updates on the tablet.
651. No matter what suggestion I write for Improvement of this prison want matter because I am an individual in custody and hat all anybody in IDOC see's
652. be fair and equal to all prisoners specially with hispanic people That can't not see or whatch TV channel on Spanish

653. More phones in the yard, tablet/cellhouse, more law library, more time out the cell
654. 1. Staff abide by the list of TREATMENT OF INMATES provided to me from the Illinois Attorney General's Office; am willing to provide you a copy if you want. 2. Give prisoners input on the use of the Inmate Benefit Funds and stop raising commissary prices weekly. 3. Serve prisoners the same meals provided staff (THE LIST GOES ON!)
655. #Close it down# meaning the kitchen
656. Hire C/Os that have more than High School education. Expand educational, vocational, rehabilitative opportunities. Add phone jacks in West/East cellhouse—or inable phones on tablets. Stop C/Os from working as counselors/law library/educators/ or any supervisor
657. They need to close down Menard C.C. because it is over 200 years old and is not up to date with liveing conditions and cant be upgraded to meet up to date standards of our liveing conditions.
658. More black, hispanics, asians and no family ties to be abused and covered up by the staff!
659. To do an whole 360 need schooling and vocational and jobs for short timer
660. Instead of only letting Easthouse out of the cell once a week on Mondays only for 5 hours and not 10 hours yard, let us out for dayroom instead of having to be in a cell 24 hours a day.
661. More time out your cell, more programs. and schooling and conjugal visits.
662. programs, show us how to become better people by education
663. Close it.
664. Staff reprimanded when they're abusive and intentionally cause problems for and or frustrate inmates.
665. More programs schooling trade etc.
- 666.** Education for all not just those in specific cell houses. Don't discriminate on the East cell house treat all inmates the same regardless of cell location. Classification procedure isn't followed (see my file) oversight is needed in the Southern District of Illinois because no one is watching they are violating rights. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
667. shut it down
668. More yard, access to school, gym, more phone time, better food.
669. School programs, rehabilitation programs, learning trades
670. C/O need to ware body camera. All C/O need mental health training
671. Replace all staff
672. Inmate/staff committee
673. Can use more time for prayer at church. More trips to the barbershop
674. A real overhaul. & re**[ILLEGIBLE]** of policies & rules pertaining to mental health & discipline needs to be implemented pertaining inmates. There is no real connection or quality or humanity extended to individuals in custody. Staff has no care for inmates!
675. There needs to be panic alarm buttons in the cell for only if physical harm is evident or has transpired & your physical well being is in danger. I know I'm not supposed to submit our names but: I'm **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**

676. This facility needs to be assigned a watchdog because they move with no accountability.

Q15. Please write any other comments or feedback on this survey below.

1. classify better I'm a minimum security in a maximum prison
2. The above is sufficient,
3. Menard only puts Band-Aid's on gunshot wounds and never treat the real problems. There is no-one for prisoners to turn to, or trust to help with many problems/situations.
4. Rehabilitation is essential and key to moving up to the next step in the process
5. please do something
6. I just been sexual assaulted by staff at Menard C. Center I will like to speak to John Howard Association personally. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** (Emergency please help me)
7. Allow us to put my name & ID # so yall who we are, so when we send letter & grievances to yall you can have a history of all report to in lock with what's happening & pro and whats needed to be done to make a change. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** Thank you & God bless
8. I've been lucky here having a job with outside clearance but thats only at the most 40 people out of 370 the rest spend alot of time in there cells
9. I appreciate the JHA for always being an advocate for prisoners and trying to better things for us all around.
10. PLEASE HELP
11. See enclosed letter!
12. This prison
13. This is a positive questionare if its act on as it such be. Because I do believe we places to reframe from the negative behaviors we find ourselves in when we are learning to be man. But it has to be a place that teaches rehabilitation and not punish for the sake of punishment. **[NAME, ID, AND CELL LOCATION REDACTED]**
14. Though this may fall on deaf ears... I appreciate being able to vent if even just for a minute.
15. East house get the worst and last of everything. We need to be treated the same as the rest of the prison.
16. I really hope someone intervienas as to be shir are well bein is being took seriouise! Being treat the way we do being locked in are cells 24-hours a day. No yard, no family contact is how people comit suicide then its like NO ONE CARES! Please have someone check on us thanks!
17. give every house **[ILLEGIBLE]** yards a week at least and night yard. Fix the damn cable and give Level E inmates contact visits. There is no logic in denying level E

inmates contact visits because both visiting parties are searched and the visit occurs still inside the prison walls.

18. Do more surveys and inquire of more institutions.
19. Menard staff is extremely racist and corrupt there need to be body cameras worn by all staff member who step on these grounds to protect what they say to be proved as true or to be proved as false. The racism should not be tolerated at Menard prison grounds.
20. The food that we're feed ain't fit for an animal to eat let alone a human being
21. You ask me to fill this out now you need to use in to make changes
22. If I'm being honest I've been incarcerated here in Menard since **[10+ years]** and I personally haven't felt the impact of your support. For instance, why don't we have access to the law library on our tablets? Most of us feel like you don't really have our best interest at heart.
23. I hope you receive this survey cause I think they are going to throw this away. I hope this survey has a affect on people so things can change around here. Thank you for doing this survey on our behalf. This is important & should be done more.
24. There are only white male staff from a country type of living working here hire more women and men from cities and urban environments who we can talk and relate to because these farmers treat us like cattle or livestock and not people
25. the reason the I.D.O.C. is not changing to better its self is due to the fact that they can give us all this seg time and being u stuck in there cell for months years without providing anything for you to better ourself.
26. If you wish to help get them to fix thing & get us thing that are better than the shit they sell or give to us nothing here is good & if they do not like it they can put it in their ass they know its shit & they keep it up.
27. You all need to fix this camp, Menard is wrong & need to be close down
28. This is the worst place and experience of my life. I feel like a child lost in a third world country who just want help from his Mom! Staff and mental health doesn't do anything to help at all! Everyday I wake up and fear what I might do to someone
29. Its a good concern of survey. But if you can't do nothing about these cruel behavior or degrading ways thats being at out here in prison by some of these officers that think its their call at judgement for are crimes that we committed it won't be to bad of a place if you've committed crime, everyone accountable for their action. But the judge sentence us not the prison, its going to errupted one day big time.
30. We never walk to any meals, we don't get the phone very often, no programs for level E's "Escape risk individuals" or protective custody. Also in restrictive housing they leave us back here without any access to messages or calls to our loved ones. Also they don't give us our necessities such as hygiene, sheets, etc. I understand Menard is a maximum security facility but, were not being treated as humans. I been here a year and am only in jail for a class one **[drug]** delivery case and only have **[12+]** months left and am court ordered for substance abuse treatment and haven't been put in any programs.
31. Menard is a work camp unless you live in Randolph county which I do, so the only thing positive for me here is out the window. Very discouraging

32. I am scared for my wellbeing here at Menard due to many aspects that are difficult to put into words.
33. In order to see things with a clear view it has to be somebody that's been in this prison to help when it comes times to make rules. Some things haven't been looked at from this point of view.
34. please follow through on this survey your help is much needed and may be only more so in the future
35. When are the questions going to turn into a solution? We are tired of people asking of our living without solution. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
36. Where is all this "Covid" relief money the prisons got going? We don't have any new stuff, no new weights, uniforms, linens, just trying to understand where the "billions" given to each state to help during the pandemic is going, cause I don't see no difference.
37. Adding the phone to the tablet (giving everyone their own) would decrease stress & more importantly violence. We have the tech. The rest of the country already does it! Why not Illinois? Give us college courses. Give us something to work towards!
38. I knew that in every other prison, the mental health staff can get things done, but not in this prison, and the healthcare overall is very, very, very poor...
39. We need for this jail to be investigated by OPR, DOJ The Feds. See where they're putting all that money appropriately
40. I have not used the phone since I've been in Restrictive housing. These C/Os make people want to harm themselves on how they treat us
41. The food is not for human consumption. Day this survey was passed out, we had chicken, fried for the first time in over 5 years. The next day I was given the same unappetizing food as always. We also were put on lockdown. you don't help us, but make them punish us more. Can't even contact my family. Please make this place better. Help Us!
42. FREE ME! I'm ready to go home!
43. need to stop racism officers/staff need to be professional
44. Clean all wall fans to work better when hot. Need more cool air when warm outside. Need heat in winter. Allow us to have a hotpot/warm food + water. Most food trays are dirty and don't cover food! More communication about classes separate Bi galleries from seg galleries. Need real psychiatrists to speak with. More PM yard time/nights. Offer low calorie high protein foods. Less carbs, more meat + fresh cooked veggies.
45. A complaint about JHA! If we write to you as the supposed IDOC Watchdog... DON'T send the same generic printout, I have received it 3 times now. It makes your organization look like a joke to many of us, and is why several men I heard from will not do your survey, they see it as a waste of time.
46. Have surprise inspections so they don't have time to clean things up, or make a special meal for one day to impress the inspectors.
47. we are in our cells too much, food is always cold, we need to go to commissary weekly and have a more variety of food to purchase. Gangs run the phones and we need more phone time. I have kids and the visits need to be improved.
48. Start treating us like humans instead of "inmates or convicts"

49. Show up unannounced. Walk every Gallery in every cell house. Speak to and with Each Individual in custody Face to Face Take notes see how cold it truly is + **[ILLEGIBLE]**. Anytime Any important people show up Trays are loaded down good Food to "hush up" Inmates. Please Come Help. Some People have only your help. With thanks + love
50. Nothing will get done!
51. If only the public truly new what prison life was all about. We are put in prison as punishment... not to be continually punished.
52. I have been an Aide/Attendant (unofficial) for **[NUMBER REDACTED]** people (over the past **[NUMBER REDACTED]** years) Not paid, Not asked, Just put these people in my cell and expect me to take care of Their needs. (these are people with alot of needs) medical—psych—even reading and writing. At least pay me for this!
53. We have most of our problems from the phone. It would improve so much to have the phone on our tablet. Its hard gaining access to the law library. It would be much easier on the staff & security to get the **[ILLEGIBLE]** (Law Access) on our Tablet. Our ventilation system is not in the West House, so most times when one person gets sick it spreads throughout the entire cell house. Our food trays are not always properly clean. Its small things that Affects us All. We Really Appreciate All of yal at "JHA" we need our voice to continue to be heard. Our mail dont always make it or grievances... Please continue to be our voice so that vicariously we live on
54. Come check the Cells, Food, C.O.s, water, Commissary, Nothing good at Menard, walk these galleries, not 1 But some
55. When passing this survey out, Menard Corrections staff (2), tracked who took the survey packets and those who didn't. One C.O. passed them out, the other had a clipboard with a list of everyone names and asked which person took the packet and checked off their names. They work constantly to defeat safety measures to protect individuals in custody. They also do this in "Grievance Procedures,"
56. There are 3 officers who treat me like a person the rest do not on first shift. On 2nd shift there are 4 who treat me kind and with respect. I have had 4 nurses treat me like a dog, cuss and be very disrespectful. I have only been in prison for a total of **[less than a year]** and at this prison for **[6+]** months. My first time I was every arrested and Jailed was on **[DATE REDACTED]** for drinking + driving and killing 2 people.
57. Last week, the facility was on a water boil order for four days. To compensate for the lack of water. the cellhouse provided only 1 cup (approx. 10oz) of water on first shift and an extra 4oz juice on second shift. We would probably die in IL prisons if it was not going to affect the financial security of so many people/industries.
58. I believe that this survey will change nothing. Administration is unresponsive and contrary. Our mail is rejected for no actual reason, five weeks is too long and mailroom uses arbitrary and personal reason to reject magazines etc.
59. Example: I went in for hearing test. The screening was too loud. The worker said I passed the test but I know the test was falsely done. This is what the State is paying. People not doing their job because They don't want the hassle. The worker also said time to fail another one!

60. The only real thing wrong with this place is the medical staff, or lack of one should I say. You have to file grievances to be seen by someone. And that shouldn't be. The security staff do their jobs well. Its just the Medical that needs to be addressed.
61. How is it anonymous if they check your name when they give you this papers. They had a list of everybody on the gallery and marked who had taken a form. When the people come to visit JHA, or any other outside people you make a date to visit. That gives them time to put everything out as it looks good! Then as soon as the people leave they go back to the way it was. They show you what you want to see! Not the real picture! Some cell are painted really nice. Then you can't go to see the rest, because, they look like a dump! Put blinders on the people that visit. Only show the good or which the people want to see. I heard of JHA, but what have you done? You been around for 120 years. I have been locked up over 20 years. Things don't get fixed. Maybe the people in Springfield need to spend a week in a cell when it is 115 degrees in the summer, and all you get is one small 10" fan or 6" fan and two cup of ice a day. As staff sit in AC! We live in a world that should matter.
62. This is good, so you and every one else can get a chance to get every point of view on a jail and world side.
63. The ones who work should be able to use phones and showers/Dayrooms when not at work or during counts. Also commissary should be offered once a week to workers.
64. There needs to be more in person tours Every 3 or 6 months to Monitor prisons and speak to individuals in custody.
65. ?
66. Please help this place is inhumane.
67. Offer/start feeding inmates and staff the same dining choice. French Fry/shredded pork, Pizza/grilled cheese, salad @ Menard MSU, Illinois Department of Corrections, America
68. This facility has used the restrictions of the Covis pandemic to systematically add further layers of bureaucratic restrictions and not return to a regular schedule or ways of running this facility. The staff got use to having us locked-down during the pandemic and restricting services, food, recreation and limiting what was provided. The guards talk about "going back" to the lockdown because very little was required of them and it shows when there are any problems—their solution is to lock us down and not provide any services.
69. I like the fact that more questions were added to the survey. You should ask if people video visits were ever shut down by staff or are staff late letting people out for the visits causing it to be short.
70. Let just be a whistle Blower- If you truly want to know, contact me! **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** Menard MSU, P.O. Box 1000, Menard ILL 62259. I Don't Give a Rats behind about ananimty, that went out the window **[15+]** years ago when I was framed for a murder and watch my county let both murderers go free. Even went to him (1) To give him a deal! His freedom For my wrongful incarceration! No concern for my family or me so I vowed to God and myself to help make a difference in lives, 1 man at a time! You wanna know? Just Ask. Sincerely **[NAME REDACTED]**

71. This place has no programs, they keep us in da cells all day everyday, its hard to use the phones, the food is always cold and not worth eating, staff talk to you like your a Dog or Kid. We're not learning anything, just stuck in cells, its hard to get pain meds or healthcare when u need it. takes years to get anything done medical.
72. I have lived both worlds in this prison. As an inmate unassigned + treated like scum, + as a worker in many jobs + treated a bit more fairly. There is definately a strong bias between the two. Mostly staff hate us. This is in every prison I've ever been to. Few exceptions. I am a neutron (unaffiliated) And can walk with + be around any gang + feel mostly comfortable + safe. If Ive ever had a problem with a gang it was my fault. But I have been mistreated, harassed, over charged, thrown in seg with no fan, sheet, pillow, or change of clothes more times than I can count by the people who are supposed to be in charge or protecting me.
73. Our food trays are covered in black mold every meal.
74. A lot of the new laws that are coming down from the Illinois General Assembly! Are not "retroactive"... and for people like myself + other individuals in custody, who 100+ years to do on there/our sentence, we have nothing to look forward to or for that... even to stay out of trouble. So, if this + the "equal protection" of which, can be looked into? It will go a long way... in keeping the tension amongst both staff and individuals in custody alike.
75. Approve or deny inmates opportunities for programs based upon their behavior, not their time or crime. Which shows a person's willingness to improve.
76. Thank's for the opportunity to be heard...
77. Menard needs to be closed down it's condemned **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
78. Everyone here going to protect each other. They all related or had/have relations and protect each other. Menard make their own rules & don't follow the Administrative Directory or 504's. the Adjustment Committee never contact witness nor view exonerating evidence. The G.O. uphold it. Menard need to be closed this is modern slavery Menard is a plantation.
79. Close Menard down, And Transfer us all out to a different prison.
80. It needs to be some type oversight on the ticket writing process, Officers are allowed to write bogus tickets and send people to seg. with no scrutiny. This needs to change.
81. I appreciate all the people who put there time, energy, and resources in to helping make change in places like this thank you, and God bless.
82. The only thing consistent in here is the inconsistencies. The staff just pass blame instead of just doing something about the Issue. The staff are generally VERY lazy. Every building in here is Very dirty even the kitchen.
83. This facility is trying things like a Basketball tournament from the Different cell houses— but, were still under Covid protocols—since we cant all be in the gym to watch it, can it be put on our tablets. 2. allow calendars and day planners back.
84. None...
85. This place is a warehouse—there is no rehabilitation here. People get stabbed and raped here.
86. More educational services will really help the out comes of peoples lives in prison

87. This prison **[ILLEGIBLE]** programs. Programs **[ILLEGIBLE]** Bullying. Just need **[ILLEGIBLE]** programs + help people deal with **[ILLEGIBLE]** issues. I have **[ILLEGIBLE]**
88. S.O.R.T./other shake-down remove legit items then write that "nothing was confiscated as contraband"; This prevents Grievance/Grievance Officer/A.R.B. reviews and lawsuit ability to compensate the inmate.
89. "Thank you"! Hello my Name is **[REDACTED]**, I have been incarcerated for **[10+]** straight, it have been a tremendous eye opening experience. I have grown so much via intelligence & Age
90. Help us please... **[ILLEGIBLE]**
91. this prison do not help people get ready for the free world.
92. Please Help Me. I recall doing this survey several years ago while here in Menard, if anything, the living conditions here are worse! There is a housing unit called East house, its terrifying. Totally ran by gang's - All black. A white man like myself doesnt have a chance in hell living there. Ive had to attempt suicide just to be removed from there. My life was being constantly threatened—I could not leave my cell for fear. Begged officers & staff to place me out of harms way. I've checked into protective custody, but have been denied, grieved the deniel, which goes to the A.R.B. in Springfield, which was again denied. Then they try to put me right back to the madness in East house. You have to then go on a crisis watch, saying you feel suicidal, they take you to North 2 housing unit, strip you naked, give you a suicide blanket, make you stay in a cell that has human feces smeared on the walls—infested with bugs—just totally disgusting—dehumanizing. I've caught ringworm, and some other type of skin infections while there. After 24 hours, you check back into PC. And the same process goes on—denied—grieve—appeal—This has gone on since **[DATE REDACTED]**—Mental health is a joke. They make fun of my situation. Cant get any help.
93. Nothing
94. Thank you.
95. This inmate had to have an interprutter to fill out this form (another inmate). No communications are made in Espanol for this individual. This individual speaks little english with fluency and therefore staff feel he ignores them when he does not comprehend them.
96. you got peoples get little time still here. messing up peoples outdates record office not felling court oder on outdates. everytime springfield come down they lock you up why you caint talk to them at all peoples that don't have no time they do them worry. Peoples of power come around they run you off so you can not talk to them they not doing they job at all thats real. We in here we know it
97. The healthcare here at Menard is bad. There is usually at least once a week when they don't have the staff to hand out our meds, I rely on my mental health meds to keep me grounded. When I dont get them I get more anxious. It also creates a waiting game. Morning meds come anytime between 1:30AM- 4:00AM. Never know when it will be here and even if its coming as this seems to be the shift they have staffing issues. *Also, the facility was keeping track of who took or refused this questionnaire.

98. There was one question that I checked two boxes (strongly agree & strongly disagree) the reason why is because being in this prison environment definitely makes me think about & plan for my release, but its a conflicting process. I say that because I know that I must change for the better before I am released, but being in this environment make it easy to change for the worse, because there is no positive energy or chances to do better things. I'm just blessed to have a support system that help me get books & pay for my outside schooling since I'm not allowed to attend school of get a job here. Unfortunately everyone don't have support to help them do that so they are stuck in their cells with nothing to do.
99. In restrictive housing they're making us write the counselor if we're on A or B grade for the phone. Then we don't get it until the last Saturday of the month. C grade dont even get the phone.
100. Becose of not proper ventilation installed, dust, and temperature rapid drops overnight I was sick 5 times with respiratory disease for over few month. My grievance form have not been processed at all. This is my first offence I haven't had any tickets since incarceration, not phisicly fit for violence, was employed for my entire life still was sent to the worse, most dengerous, max security prison in state of Illinois.
101. Menard should look into dog training. Rehabilitation could work for both inmate and animal.
102. Thank you for your help and this place is so anti inmate I hope Im alive to see you close this hell.
103. I feel that the prison is the best thing for people. It can help you when you need it most but you happen to be willing to let them help you. If you can't get in school right a way. The same way we ask are people to send us money. We can have then seen us work book's and thing. right.
104. I haven't had a hot meal since I've been here.
105. N/A
106. Incarcerated individuals should be able to hug their families and love ones in pictures on visits, just as it is allowed in other prisons. Gang activity shouldn't be a factor in everything in how staff handle every incarcerated individual and visiting family members and love ones.
107. It's all talk just like we are going to change the laws and nothing really happens, I'm just telling like I see it. Its the truth! That comes from me **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
108. Springfield need to do a batter job with staff and inmate relaship
109. I just really hope & pray that you all take these surveys seriously because these are real issues for individuals in custody. Even though I'm headed home soon, I feel sorry for guys that have to live here permanantly! Please help out, somehow!
110. Illinois prisons need to have it where staff treats individuals how they would want to be treated. Yes, there should be rules & regulations but staff & individuals in custody should be encouraged to communicate & build platonic rapport.
111. If you bring back trade school and educational programs it will help a lot, all of the program the Kewanee have will help alot, and have the medical check up available for all. And stop creating mass riots. By not having enough phone on the gallery and allow

- us to transfer to prison we choose and stop sending us to prison that you know we will have to kill to leave because you know we will not improve ourself
112. I think that when you are moved they need to show you where you go for certain things. Sick call etc. We need better ways to clean our cells.
 113. I've seen several surveys but never seen any positive effects from them. The Menard Corr. Cen. Administration is very dishonest & crooked in every aspect, they make things look good when you or others visit, they make sure everything's clean, feed us good, etc etc to decieve whoever visits but everything is done unprofessionally with personal feelings & agendas. And any real look into any part of this administration will reveal truth so please don't just take what this administration says as truth without looking in it yourself.—They served us fried chicken & mac & cheese on this day, we haven't seen fried chicken in 2-3 years.
 114. Too many fights and arguments over the phone. Put them on the tablets + put some legal research on the tablets too like those machines they have in the law library. We need our typewriters back (everywhere else they can have one) because there are legal petitions that concern our freedom that won't be accepted unless they are typed. Only 6 typewriters are available only during law library time (1 hour and 30 mins.) between 30 people
 115. do all this really matter like we fillin this out for what, aint nothing gone change at all N yall know it. All this shit is for show!! from **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
 116. Is something going to be done about how this prison is being ran? East House is Hell on the mental as well as physical. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** I havent seen a Dr. in the year I've been here. Ive seen a mental health person once in a year.
 117. To be perfectly honest, I strongly believe that Menard Correctional Center (this inhumane facility) should be temporarily shut down and rebuilt into a better facility that can actually help and improve us inmates on a mental basis. We're literally in our cells 24/6 due to access of ONE yard a week. Such living conditions can and will be harmful to an individual's mental capacity.
 118. In Menard Correctional Center staff are actually trained poorly and most do not know whats actually going on, Menard need to find a better way of informing individuals in custody of new rules which I understand why its so hard—because now rules are coming out every other day—new schedules and let alone individuals in custody nor staff is being informed.
 119. I appreciate this survey. We individuals need more help in addressing and resolving our needs. We also need more groups like you to bring attention to criminal justice reform in Illinois. Do keep up the good fight...
 120. Thank you I think this would be helpful.
 121. We need a complete overhaul here at Menard C.C. Staff & Inmates! Or just shut Menard down! Close Menard C.C. like it should have. but because it supports the life & lives this warehouse brings. Meaning the economical impact it has on this county & surrounding counties & political backing by corrupt politicians. Where do I stand in the grand scheme of things in this system, I'm just here, we are herd/cattle, I'm in Menard, I only get one (1) yard a week, store once a week, Commissary prices are constantly

- going up. I would send you my commissary receipts to show proof. Who is overseeing the Adm?! Respectfully a incarcerated person here at Menard C.C.
122. I don't know if JHA is aware but most prisoners feel like you "JHA" sold us out, dont have prisoners best interest at heart. You claim to be a liason between prison & prisoner how does that work? Only people being messed over is the prisoners. A agreement is nothing if both parties are not honoring it. The rules are not being followed by Menard C.C.
 123. We need conjugal visits and communal interludes with our significant others. We need to be able to be one with our spouse. They have \$ money to build little houses. They send out contractor, everyday to work and fix on things daily. Building gates and locks everywhere! They have \$ money—Esp. off kickbacks! This'll be a form of rehabilitation as well.
 124. I've been in this for **[10+]** years It's gotten progressively worst. I've spent the better part of the past 3 years in Restrictive Housing. So, I've gotten worse.
 125. It would be great to have a whole wing, unit, or even prison that only houses sex offenders and/or LGBTQ where there wouldn't be as much judgement and shaming. Where we could work on ourselves so if and when, were released, there is a greater chance to not reoffend and change the way we think. I hope you actually get this. I'm putting a :) so that my family can confirm if you did.
 126. Im being deprived of my mental health treatment due to security over ruling mental health and their work detail...
 127. This place is a scam. All the staff care about is how much money they can make and much more they can rob from us
 128. People like myself who were serving de facto life sentences (**[40+]** years) at the age of 19 deserve a second chance at life. Some people not all. We need John Howard to invest sometime & resources into helping get rid of truth in sentencing which makes our sentences 100% meaning we have to serve every second of our sentence Do you believe in second chances my name is **[REDACTED]** I'm from **[REDACTED]** IL. I was 19 when I received **[40+]** years for a murder I did not commit. I wish you all could see the inside of this prison or the food we eat. I say this because all the food, clothes etc is paid for by tax payers you! They feed us garbage we wear used clothes & so much more, now you might not care you might say you're in prison you deserve the worst of the worst rightfully so everybody is entitled to their own opinion, if they (government) is taking money out of your check & tell you they using it for buildings, highways, prisons etc but it's not really used for that then where is your money really going? This system is crazy if you read about it or do your research.
 129. There isn't any fair treatment at all here, nothing to work towards, no programs, only for a chosen few. the food is the worst. no school. Staff make rules as they go.
 130. I would talk to someone personally about what Ive experienced and changes that could benefit all
 131. every cell house has black mood. everyone cough all day were Im at and no one give no fuck.
 132. Make Menard better

133. If you all really care about what's going on, please give us some help. Thank you. God Bless!
134. I started off in the Northern Receiving with **[10+]** years to serve on my prison sentence. I was classified as medium security level. In **[DATE REDACTED]** I was classified as maximum security, please not that I've never been in a physical altercation. Now that I was moved to maximum security section of **[PRISON NAME REDACTED]** C.C. I was involved in a physical altercation & disciplinary transferred to Menard C.C. My whole thing is in **[DATE REDACTED]** I only had **[5+]** years left in my sentence. How is it that when I was first classified in IDOC as medium never been in any fight only petty tickets. How do I score maximum security? System needs change. Prison is designed to rehabilitate not punishment, harsh one at that. I've never thought of suicide until I became max.
135. The staff members here aid in causing this to be a chaotic dangerous environment due to their unprofessional actions and behaviors They are worse than the convicts and gang members who are causing mayhem in this prison.
136. This survey is okay if somethings will be done to improve the living situations here at Menard, or for you guys to help suit this place & close it down for good.
137. Please get some laws changed!! Thank you
138. On the website this prison site several programs offered to individuals however the only program here is mental health groups—not unless you are within 6 months of an outdate
139. The situation that exists in American Society has less to do with crime, punishment, or rehabilitation and more to do an overall lessening of individual morality, and spiritual disorder and corruption. Rather than mental defect. Everything I've said herein applies to the writer first—then anyone else if may apply to. Jesus Christ was found worthy by god and he is head over heels in love with you? Follow him—he'll cure all the worlds ills! Let's forgive each other when need and not kill each other especially little school children "Whats really going on America?" "I guess I messed up your survey, but if I made you smile at all... good!!!" But what I've said is true! Jesus lives. This is prison and it sucks. Surprise!!! I think not.
140. Fix dis shit in this joint
141. help!!!
142. Since being back down here in menard I have nothing but homicide thoughts towards these C/Os for how they are constantly keep treating us baddly and wrong and no one doing shit about there actions. Some times I even feel like just saying fuck it and killing myself cause no one doing shit about these C/Os down here in menard. And my name is **[REDACTED]** which I don't even suppose to be down here I only got under two years left to do.
143. Every other county has now better improvements for their county jails to prevent conflict, and for equal opportunities. prison has yet, not created better opportunities to prevent conflict in gang violence. I'm scared to ask for the phone because of me not being part of the gangs, which who controls the phones. I receives the phone every other week, in doing these times, I doesnt receives my full time of 20 minutes. The warden, doesnt do any expectations. The healthcare unit doesnt help you, when you

request for medications or treatment. I've been having [REDACTED] problems, for about five months now, in has wrote grievances, on the healthcare department, in still hasn't been seen, in still are in pain. I thank god you all just sent us letters for a question because I just wrote to Springfield about my issues here but yet hasnt got any response, for example, today i heard that there were some important people here today, so they served us good. But any other day we are giving food that we cant pronounce, which is not right. everything that were positive done today by the staff members, isn't done everyday. no good food, no check up to see if need anything for as hygiene product, or no healthcare services. Its sad that I have [20+] years to do, and i cant be able to talk with my family in friends without having to have to be involve, in gang activities. You guys need to watch the video camera that placed in prison, so that staff could do their job. In you all need to do more expectation, so that they could keep up with they staff protocol. In word of advice, people are getting severely beaten, over the prison phones. Thank you all for letting me be able to use my voice. I wish you all could come in check the prison for expectations, every week, so that we could be treated as human being. because the staff pretend to be working when important people arrive here. we have no education classes here as well, or anything that could better us, in our release.

144. Im an involuntary interstate transfer from [STATE REDACTED] that has been subjected to several constitutional violations since being sent over and need desperate help getting back to my family and convicting state. [ID REDACTED]
145. This is a good survey, with a good variety of questions. This facility really needs to remove these anti-individual in custody mindframes. Stateville was a max & gave more opportunities to improve. Lawrence is also doing this. This place only believes in punishment and keeping us locked in our cells almost all day everyday. Please bring some change. THANKS
146. yall know what's going on down here. We don't get a chance to walk around. Dogs have more freedom People are dying and being killed.
147. Why Menard CC don't have school for inmates in the East and West cellhouses?
148. N/A
149. Change Menard Correctional Centers warden and also limit the Internal Affairs units authority. They are overly abusive in their authority
150. Better privileges for maximum offenders. More legal help for max offenders. Better living conditions.
151. We spend way too much time in a cell with no air conditioning. Non aggressive people are together with highly aggressive people. To get a problem solved by staff or a question answered is difficult if not impossible at times.
152. The only way to help better the situation is to help get the truth and sentencing Bill Reversed be with that law standing every one is served Death Sentence! No chance to correct/redeem one's self by the power that Gods grace has instilled in the matured humbling corrected side of what it means to be a human being. Respectfully submitted.
153. Menard if your in the east house wont let you go to school. If youre in the east or west house we cant get any night yard. In the east house Menard is only giving us 1 yard a

week. Were stuck in these cells 24 hours a day except on our 1 yard day. They are bogus as hell down here. And they discriminating against us if were in the east or west house. If youre in the east house you only get 1 yard a week. West house gets 2 yards a week. And neither house get any night yard. Only front street. Thats not right. It's showing favoritism & it's discrimination. And they use security as they'er reasoning. SMHO! They'er **[ILLEGIBLE]**!

154. I been in Menard C.C. **[10+ YEARS]**. Only hope I have is the Judge do what Right so I can have a life with my Son, I'm just dieing in this cell, I understand how a dog feel
155. I believe their should be a independent investigation by the D.O.J. (Dept. of Justice) to the gang influence & illegal activity on the facility, where dept. capitalizes on this.
156. This prison sucks
157. IDOC did a horrible job during Covid-19 pandemic. C/Os are inconsiderate, about our family! Some of us have family
158. I hope you guys take this serious.
159. Dont just send this survey if there is no interest, desire, and above all, execution for change. This experience has been hell in the year I've been down here.
160. I have a year & **[6+]** months until I go home. Im trying to stay out of trouble. I have been assaulted on 2 different time's by C/Os at this correctional center. I feel like this place is more of a strong hold for a group of people that want to show all individuals in custody that it's their way or no way. its multiple people that have taken their life because of this place & staff members also mental health and other staff members look the other way when they see things going on. This place needs to be cleaned more proper. overall this place needs to be investigated
161. This prison needs to be completely closed down.
162. The administration needs to be compelled to follow IDOC rules and regulations and prohibited from just doing what it wants. This prison is KNOWN for creating, enforcing, and implementing its own rules which CLEARLY violate our constitutional rights. (e.g. being prohibited from partaking in any EDSC programing, being kept locked in our cells for 24 hours a day 6 days out the week. East house is limited to one yard a week. per sides. Even (i.e. 2-10) side of the building goes to yard Mon and the odd (1-9) side goes on Thur. So although the East house has 2 yard days only 1/2 the building is ran on those days. Things which JHA and IDOC are aware of about this prison as Menard is known for doing "what it wants" in regards to how we are treated.
163. The staff will open up these surveys and mark our names and cell location down, and, strong & bad things will start happening to us. Especially if your transgender, gay, or bisexual or even have a sex offense case, the staff and the inmates will put you on blast to get beat up assaulted and it even when these cameras get installed things will get erased or the staff will put us in a blind spot just to have there way with us inmates. This is a warning for you guys to really look out and everytime use reach out to you guys, our stuff dissapears and we get thrown in seg on bogus charges or staff member **[REDACTED]** will ask us to suck his dick in order to get what we actually need.
164. This place needs shut down. Has no working food service. No programs, no movement, always locked down.

165. This items marked with "*" are a reflection of my decision to be more than "just an inmate." There is almost no support to be anything better than when I came in, use of my own **[ILLEGIBLE]** and resources are what keep me sane and willing/allowed to improve. This prison uses "safety and security" as a crutch very disproportionately. Rules/explanations/procedures/treatment is based on a "bare minimum effort" approach by majority of staff. Any right/privilege/reward of inmates is regularly (at least every week) cancelled/suspended so that staff can avoid work/responsibilities. Staff are only interested in making the environment worse than necessary. I am an inmate with a dozen awards/certificates/programs and not disciplinary actions with honest opinions
166. I go home Friday. I've waited **[2+]** years to get into dentist, eye doctor, still havent gotten HIV test, They wouldnt allow me to purchase a outfit/shoes to wear home because Im on B grade. Because Im on B grade havent been able to call home in a month 2 phone calls a month.
167. Would be good to be out in yard more
168. No kind of feedback
169. Hope in the truth in sentencing and better healthcare from nurses and NP and staff. We have no doctor's here at all.
170. N/A
171. I believe that its bigger than Menard. This is an IDOC thing in general and many changes need to transpire. For example, there needs to be a way that grievances, sick call requests, crisis calls, and request slips to be electronically done so that it provides sufficient court access just in case they dont do their job. So many more things need to be done but there needs to be more people and staff that are not contracted by IDOC in order for the positive changes to take place. Until then all these questions and concerns will never be solved.
172. They need to barin to movie back in the prison and the movie to need to come out of are cells all daily. Thank-you sir
173. I'm pre-dietbetic an I get served rice, potatos, and pasta every day. I'm in my cell 24hrs everyday unless I have a call pass which every blue moon, one yard a week, staff have a bully, gang mentality. The C/O that work my gallery threw my survey on the floor because we had words about him taking mirrors and this was done on second shift on odd side **[REDACTED]** cell house I wish I can truly talk to someone (I will not lie I will tell the truth this is a plantation thats up an running in so called woke America Facts! this is the new death row without the execution)
174. Black in White America
175. They are which is the staffs is holding me against my will on my release from the department of corrections here in menard cc and that is bogus and unprofessional and also unfair to me please me in this matter immediatly thank you please respond immediatly. **[NAME, ID, AND LOCATION REDACTED]** Menard CC. and they are which is the staffs here in menard CC. and they are absolutely holding me against my will because the supreme court of the state of Illinois absolutely granted my motion that I file They motion of the supreme court of the state of Illinois and my motion granted on **[DATE REDACTED]** and my case no of the supreme court **[REDACTED]**

and the status code added is [REDACTED] of leave of appeal. And appellate court case no is [REDACTED] that was denied on [DATE REDACTED] of leave of appeal. In the supreme court of Illinois and the status code no is [REDACTED] and the disposition no is [REDACTED] on first degree murder. And I appreciate if you could help me in this matter immediately thank you.

176. All the check marks on neutral are things I havent seen or experienced, I answered these questions truthfully to my knowledge and experience, they play with our mail also, throwing them away, or just not giving us our incoming mail at all, or not sending it out at all, but I have ya'll phone number so I'll give ya'll a call soon to see if ya'll gotten my survey.... Thanks... [NAME REDACTED]
177. We need better staff period who actually goes off the DR 504 instead off making up rules
178. Can you please help legislation come up with & sign a bill that ends truth-in-sentencing Act. Truth-In-Sentencing does not promote rehabilitation and was only adopted for federal funding and industrial prison complex purposes. If a individual has displayed good behavior and rehabilitation (EPSC for example) he/she should be awarded good time. Especially those who were arrested before the age of 21, first conviction. A new system should be put in place. I was sentences to [30+] years at 85% for my first conviction at the age of 16. Not being able to earn sentencing credit that allows me to earn freedom and serve less than 85%, denies hope. I've displayed maturity and rehabilitation, but due to Truth-In-Sentence it doesn't matter. Juveniles are different, they have room to grow (like I have). Each case is different but Truth-In-Sentencing is not the answer and is cruel and unjust punishment.
179. Offer the programs, and opportunities to everyone over here. People would do good.
180. Have an outside agency that the state cant or don't controll, monitor the prisons, by taking walk arounds and more survey's about prison/prison conditions.
181. We need better food, more movement, programs
182. Take action against staff that retaliate against incarcerated persons for making complaints about staff misconduct that result in mental disorders. Make thorough investigations about staff misconduct including but not limited to voice stress analysis, polygraph examinations, reviewing video recording, interviewing witnesses requested by incarcerated persons in disciplinary hearings and grievances. Provide prescribed medication and diets and overall better healthcare by outside physicians when complaints about denial of medical care is made against the only available physicians
183. As stated, when i was a barber i cutted the C/Os head when i wasnt suppose too. If i didn't i would've gotten fired and a fabricated ticket would be written on me. When the officers/staff have sex in the prison/gym/parking lot/abandon parts of the prison. We get items like shampoo, soap, chips, food. They sell the items to use on commissary. They sold are blue hats and gloves to us on commissary instead of putting them in are Christmas bags. They feed all the offenders on Monday & Friday morning pancakes and horse feed. It say's on the box in the kitchen not for human consumption. When the state police come to investigate they hide this from them. What i was going to do was write you John Howard staff and put a sample in the letter. It would be dry but

you'll can send it to a lab for testing for one how can I get a hold to something like that when there's no farm!

184. I pray that you and your staff help change how Menard is treating the Inmates here in the East and West cell houses. Thanks for your time.
185. There is no in house doctor—medical staff here treat you like you're always lying and do not want to help you. The officers all treat you like you are not a person! They are slow to help and quick to punish you...
186. Son muchas los problemas y muy pocas soluciones. Si ponen el telefono en las tablets abra un cambio muy grande en violencia, el 75% del las peleas es por el telefono. **[TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH: There are many problems and very few solutions. If they put the phone on the tablets, there will be a very big change in violence, 75% of fights are over the phone.]**
187. M.C.C must end practice of placing individuals in custody in E-H **[ILLEGIBLE]** high aggression unit but give them no way of getting a education no movement & expect them to stay spiritually, mentally, emotionally, physically, & **[ILLEGIBLE]** healthy. Menard C.C. has to stop expecting people in **[ILLEGIBLE]** keep their members in check but when they do charge everyone with STGs for doing what **[ILLEGIBLE]** to do... The grievance sys is a **[ILLEGIBLE]**. C/Os are in **[ILLEGIBLE]** Yr grievances comes up missing **[ILLEGIBLE]** staff against inmates. **[ILLEGIBLE]** disciplinary actions against individuals in custody must cease. + damage and theft of individual in custody property by M.C.C. staff must cease as well. M.C.C puts on its good face when they know Springfield or Uptown Peoples Law Center or John Howard shows up they then want the house cleaned as if they is the **[ILLEGIBLE]** stage cells for judges, give fried chicken/macaroni/greens as they do when J.H.A **[ILLEGIBLE]** this survey but I been here **[10+]** yrs they **[ILLEGIBLE...]**
188. If y'all are really for the inmates y'all need to do a participation observation y'all self because I have done many survey and I haven't seen any improvement during my incarceration. I feel as y'all ask us inmates to fill out these survey to help the prison staff. I have personally witness staff member treat the sane and mentally insane inmates very unfair and I have wrote numerous grievances about the staff and all my grievances always seem to get lost or the administration and Springfield always cover up the injustice that goes on inside of these prison. The inmates are helpless and our rights are continually violated. Prison ain't nothing but an cess-pool to house inmate. My name is **[REDACTED]** and I want my voice to be heard because I'm an egalitarian person. A lot of the things that goes on inside of these venal prison system y'all would have to see it to believe it, these prison are good at using the hawthorn effect because anytime Springfield or someone important comes to visit the prisons they give us a good meal. out of every total institution I've been in during my incarceration they have the same correlation of treating inmates unfairly. I am an medium security inmate with **[6+]** mos left to go home but they transferred me to an max prison Menard CC.
189. They don't let us use phone
190. Whenever they have a walk through by Springfield or an organization they feed us well, any other time we get bullshit. Intel designs situation so that inmates fight with each other, these officers orchestrate chaos. They, Menard, goes out of their way to

- keep us away from our loved ones. They write meatless or false DR 504's to keep us on C-grade so we can not keep in contact with our loved ones.
191. This survey is written about Menard Correctional Center!
 192. Why is it that Menard East housing unit don't offer nothing for us as individuals in custody!
 193. My feedback is to help the people here that want help instead of ignoring people who want to help themselves, such as schooling, programs, mental health and to help better us a people & not a IDOC number
 194. This prison need more school programs and work skill programs, so individuals can learn a trade to better themselves when they get out of prison
 195. I feel like anyone who has life shouldn't be around short timers, or people with short time, I think lifers should be around lifers and short timers should be around short timers
 196. Menard C.C. is more focused on security than in acheiving their goal in the mission statement which states "Restoring each individual to useful citizenship or rehabilitative potential." I think they need to gain better control of the gang and violence problem and quit adding to the problem by continously harassing and retaliating against guys in custody. End all arbitrary rules they have in effect here, because they aint following any clear/direct guidance from Springfield.
 197. Menard is not a place that should have inmates they treat us unhumane Feed us **[ILLEGIBLE]**
 198. Please transfer me
 199. This place is a joke!!! We need help. This is the worst way to incarcerate people. IDOC just makes people worse, and imprisons them inhumanely. We want Illinois to be blessed with a many successful turnarounds as possible. Not just given weights, riled up, and kicked back out into the world. Please and thank you!!
 200. Thank you for giving me the opportunity and chance to share my piece. Thank you so much & God bless.
 201. I was transferred down here for a intimidation and threat BEFORE I was found guilty, also there are individuals down here who should be in mental institutions and are treated harshly by staff because of a lack of resources.
 202. We need doctors here that we can be seen by. We need to have nurses in each cellhouse 24 hours a day. It takes them too long to come see a person in pain. I also understand prison isn't supposed to be a vacation, but if there are standards humans have to meet to care for animals, why shouldn't they be held to the same standards for us.
 203. This survey is good thanks
 204. It was alright I guess
 205. Its good
 206. Overall prison could be better if we was able to get better food, more rec, education, trades. And if we were able to recieve good time credit for schooling and good behavior for everyone not just certain individuals. Help us get better so we can get out and do good things in life .

207. This prison is racist they treat inmate not as humans just look at the incident from **[DATE REDACTED]** 2023 when menard c/o beat on inmate for having to use the restroom during a major shakedown and sprayed multiple inmates with oc spray including myself who were sitting down in the chapel cuffed behind our backs nothing was done but everything was done to try and cover up the incident menard warden doesn't care what goes on in the prison
208. In this prison, no matter how good you do, you will still only be judged by your case and past mistakes. We should all be given opportunities to be better people. All they care about is discipline. I made a mistake in life. I should be allow to make that right. Pay my debt to society. That's impossible here.
209. I do believe that the more programs that are instituted like in other maximum facilities like Lawrence, Stateville, Joliet, Dixon, Mount Sterling, & Pinckneyville that the less violence the prisoners would be involved in. But in the begining it would be difficult for Menard but afterwhile the facility would be able to sustain. I believe that staff need to build better relationships amongst prisoners so that tension wouldn't automatically be amongst them.
210. It would have been better to come in person and speak to every inmate in the East cellhouse
211. Please help us with better opportunities Please
212. This is my first time being locked up and it's very hard for me to even get a job to earn good time. But they give jobs to lifers people that's not able to earn good time which isn't fair.
213. We need help
214. We need our phone back located in restrictive housing. They made a new rule saying people on C-grade in restricted housing unit don't get the phone at all. but inside the 504 administration codes it says people on C-grade is allowed 2 phone calls a month. I get out of seg **[in 2+ years]** I'm on C-grade till **[about a year]** I'll never be able to talk to my family.
215. This prison is like a slave plantation they treat us like wild animals and I don't the me fill out this survey will change anything cause I think yall working together for the worst not the better!!!!
216. They are killing us slowly here!!!
217. You should ask more about the medical staff here.
218. Keep us better updated
219. Inprove programs to help people from coming back. Better job options for All. Mental heath & health care. No working kitchen at Menard MSU. Better diet trays for one's that is needed. Better care for diabetics & underline health
220. N/A
221. I purposly left Q12 blank in order to explain that there are only small group who experience anything positive in this prison. I happen to be in that group so I'm not speaking as a bitter individual but the reality is the lack of staff and resources trickles down to the inmates. When people visit they don't see the things that truly go on here, because staff pretend that the way they move is the norm. Education, jobs, re-entry help is one of the last things this prison focuses on.

222. They need to open this prison up with more dayroom, phones, jobs, and counselors that will come and talk with you and do their jobs.
223. Inmates in MSU struggle to get jobs, schooling, or programming due to inmates who have been here for 15 plus years being favored by staff which effects them to get good time. I strongly believe anyone under 10 year sentences should not be placed in MSU. You have people here who only have months to do and put around people with life & puts them in danger because they have nothing to lose while short time offender are at risk.
224. Help us!!!
225. Menard needs to be investigated, staff here are committing crimes & violating civil rights regularly, an secret investigation should be done on the staff here at Menard, all staff from top to bottom security & none security & it should be filmed & recorded secretly to expose the entire crimes + civil rights violations!
226. The cell are nasty and **[ILLEGIBLE]**. We get potatoes all the time. Drugs are every were
227. On the **[DATE REDACTED]** I only received a breakfast tray at approx. 2:30a.m for the entire day during fast (Ramadan). I was told my Ramadan dinner tray was thrown in the trash while officers were shaking down other cells on my unit. I was never given a tray at all.
228. I feel very unsafe in prison right now in life, I am currently **[MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED]** and they ignored what I said and I went without **[MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED]**, I will be having my wife to contact you to make sure you received this and to communicate with someone over it she is also contact in Springfield over it as well. Thank you for your time & God Bless.
229. I have a drug charge and shouldn't be done this way do to addiction and mental health when I have never received rehab or treatment outside of prison. on parole violation now for possession of drugs & needle. Never gotten help just prison.
230. Being **[MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED]** I need extra help I've been denied any help. When I ask for help they make it seem like I've done something wrong and will try and start an argument if I stand up for myself. It's been over a month and I'm being made to **[DETAILS REDACTED]** still. They refuse to give me a **[MEDICAL DEVICE]** I because security issues, even tho 3 other **[DETAILS REDACTED]** people have them in there cells. I've asked for **[DETAILS REDACTED]** and I'm denied that also. If an inmate trys to help me with anything they are punished as well. This is not humane and I've only got a small time to serve, a couple years, hope this helps, thanks.
231. Menard is not a safe environment for any inmate. Staff don't care about us neither do other inmates. They have people with life sentences around people that got 1 month. Not good at all—please help change this prison
232. If its in your power to do so please get us out these cells more often I've been here **[10+]** months in the same cell. only times them doors open are for 1 five hour yard a week, one hour for chapel a week, commissary twice a month and sick calls. im locked up 164 hours a week. Please get our second yard back!—Thank you
233. That the commissary department sell snacks, like cup cakes, any chocolate snacks, hard candy and different kind of variety of ramen noodles and the prices are to steep

here for what they do sell at commissary Dept. This is so outrageous and high priced facility. this is a major facility problem, and they need to adjust and make drastic changes and lower all prices on all commissary food, snack, and pop, Koolaid, candy, candy bars, and sell some cookies, cup cakes, nutty bars, chocolate drinks or any chocolate candy bars, this is a must! "period".

234. N/A

235. Since I've been back from the Hospital NOT once have I've been seen for a follow up! All they have done is **[MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED]** and YET still haven't seen By any doctor here to inform me about ANYTHING. But they put me on **[3+]** different medications without talking to me or letting me know WHY I was put on them! So they are being so Unprofessional! So By reading this will tell you HOW they go about things here. My HEALTH IS My PRIORITY but this prison don't make me part or let me make decisions regarding my Own Health. All I know is what the Doctor on the outside Hospital told me other then that I ain't posted on anything here! thats why I want to transfer to another facility to get more and better medical care and also have access to education and work, here I can't do none of those things because being Protective Custody things are limited all the way around! So hopefully your office can help with turning this all around! Thank you for your time very much appreciate it!

236. Pleas help us we really appreciate it

237. Luke chapter 11 verse 46 "woe unto you also lawyers! For ye lade men with burdens greivous to be borne and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers." (The whole State of Illinois Department of Corrections comes out they cell everyday Except Menard CC, we spend 160 hours in the cell a week, this is cruel + unusual punishment.

238. I love you!

239. more dayroom or yard time.

240. I don't know who funds JHA. But they ought to get a damn refund, y'all are wasting paper, and somehow even wasting my time and my time is not very valuable. The only thing to do to fix the prison system in Illinois is to make it self sustaining so workers are valuable, and the prison doesn't cost millions of \$ to taxpayers each year. Also annexing Chicago from Illinois would help.

241. You had a question about mental health. But nothing about healthcare, and hir at Menard, it is at meny times non existent. We only have 2 N.P.S and no doctors for maybe 28 hundred inmates. If you poat in to see a doctor thay tell you it will be a four month wait. And then you see a N.P. not a doctor. This is a fact and that is not exseptabel. And then thay try to down play your illness or simptoms. When I finaly saw a **[SPECIALIST]** a few years ago I was told that "I was lucky that I was stil alive" And that it was the werst case of **[MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED]** that he has ever seen. He has also stated that every doctor should have known what was rong with by just **[DETAILS REDACTED]**. He told me that it was ergent to have **[DETAILS REDACTED]** surgery within the next 2 weeks. Menard sent me **[3+]** months later, the doctor asked me wer have you ben, I told them I have ben telling them but I have no controle. He told me that I was lucky to stil be alive. Menard new the facts. So I think

- they wanted me dead. I was told later by Menard staff. That I was coaxing them to much money.
242. This Menard IL Correct Facility is the worst place literally I have ever experienced ever in my life & I would rather spend life in prison in a different joint than do 10 years here.
243. I was court ordered to go to a drug facility and put in by NRC Stateville NRC they sent me to go to **[PRISON REDACTED, NOT A DRUG TREATMENT FACILITY]** anyway I got raped by **[INDIVIDUAL IN CUSTODY NAME AND LOCATION REDACTED]** in **[5+ YEARS AGO]** there and staff assaulted me, I reported it, it was denied because there were no cameras there, when I went there this time I was on A grade for **[6+]** months no tickets, denied any help any transfer and I am suing for several assaults the staff did to me, I already grieved it waiting on lawyers, I just got charged with a staff assault I did not do I got witnesses and it's on camera and an assault on a Porter who got my father's letter I wrote and read it to me on camera that is why they bogusly sent me to Menard which is obviously much much worse. Also this Porter **[NAME REDACTED]** as it said in my ticket I grieved I was writing Internal Affairs and denied a PREA line there and here it shows on camera between **[DATE REDACTED]** to 7 days after right after I flooded the cell on water strike he cleaned it up **[PREA SEXUAL HARASSMENT DETAILS REDACTED]** I told **[MULTIPLE STAFF NAMES REDACTED]**, all mental health, and I've been trying to write these people here now and write IA everyday two weeks here and I'm denied it I put a grievance in the box in **[PRISON NAME REDACTED]** myself too, from: **[NAME, ID, AND LOCATION REDACTED]**
244. Give us our TV and tablet as soon as we get to seg to cope with seg
245. Whenever you get this survey back this is not going to change how Menard runs there prison, it's like Hell in this place
246. Will this survey even be effective in the future because I've done a survey like this before & nothing changed things just kept getting worse, will change & improvements ever come about? I feel it never will honestly.
247. I'm always in my cell. This is causing me to deteriorate physically and mentally. Please Help!
248. The answers to these surveys should be taken seriously! This prison does not care about anything besides how much money they can make off of us. They sell us things that we are supposed to be provided free by law. We are not fed properly on a regular basis; the tray has 5 slots that are supposed to be filled we are lucky to get three filled. No one listens to us when we talk to them about the problems we have including this Association. This prison puts on a front when people come to visit and when they leave it goes back to normal. Bad food, bad treatment, no reason to want to do better and 24 hours in a cell. Thank you. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
249. None
250. Menard is Racist
251. This facility I'm currently in are doing things their way when & how they want to do them whatever "them" consist of! They don't care about rules & policies here at Menard C.C. there's nothing positive here nothing period. Everything is meant to deprive you of

feeling human, to basically punish you in the worse way possible & make you conform to they way of thinking by sending you to seg/restrictive housing because they can not the right to!

252. I feel like this is a waste of time, Nothing will change! Menard governs itself! This is like (2) prisons North 1 is all single man cells they get 3 to 4 yards a week and never go on lockdown! The west-house never goes on lockdown and recieves 2 yards a week and they go to commissary twice a month like clockwork! The East House is where I'm housed and its treated like a different prison than the rest of the buildings! We do not walk to chow, were locked in cells 24 hrs a day 6 days a week! My health is failing from being confined in a cell 6 days a week! I cannot exercise properly or ran, I got here in **[6+ MONTHS AGO]** & I've been prescribed **[MEDICATION AND MEDICAL CONDITION REDACTED]**. I cannot get corrective surgery or an MRI! My quality of life is very, very! Poor!
253. They not giving us the phone at all NO visit and no out time of the cell. This Prison will make me Kill myself like Kill myself
254. I wish that they free us better and stop holding our mail so very long and let me buy a radio which they stop selling to us.
255. Prison should not be pleasurable but should also not be unsafe, unsanitary, and inhumane.
256. In the visitors room, admin, kitchen, property/the bubble all these areas have A/C. The air is so cold in the summer time. That the staff wear jackets while in the inmate living quarters it gets so hot in your cell that you can't sleep this makes inmates more aggressive & causes more fights. More shakedowns needed. C/Os need to stay in/on their wings during their shift this would slow down the illegal activity with drugs & alcohol. Allow inmates to move closer to home to be closer to loved ones. Make the prison serve the same food thats on the master menu. Not what they want like they do here at Menard Correctional Center (MSU & THE PIT).
257. The kitchen needs better food as well as quantity. More in the cell courses to seek a brighter future and good time. More text books that can be checked out to study etc. More educational classes + better communications with field services for halfway houses.
258. Springfield needs unannounced undercover rookie employees to monitor the ins + outs of the entire Menard Correctional Center. Menard MSU Unit needs it own segregation unit and clothing house so it can stand on its own. No ties with the max unit below the hill.
259. Do you no like prison
260. Menard has the potential to be considered a good max prison. But need people in authority who been around and know its not wrong to be empathetic towards an inmate
261. Answer below: On 2/10/23 Sen. Rachel Ventura Introduced bills 2023 and 2024 to the 103rd general assembly, State of Illinois to be voted on. The bills will give long-term individuals a chance at parole. I pray and hope that John Howard Association give your support for the bills. (See attached Copy) Thank you!

262. The water is not safe for long term consumption. Every staff in a position of power has no accountability & they do not do their jobs. They only make it appear that they are when an outside source comes around. There should be no two man cages. Radios with speakers are outlawed but there still around & allowed to be played at noise level. The contracts established for our tablets are insufficient. We're supposed to be able to make phone calls, receive voice mail, receive photos from family & businesses, receive 30 second videos from businesses, receive rated R & TV MA movies/series, receive R-Rated/Mature Audience Music/speeches/audio, & have a few designated kiosk machines to use when something goes wrong with the tablet. We're supposed to get a legitimate company with grown up apps & repair service. The culture here is antebellum/plantation/kennel.
263. The staff is corrupt. You can't get adequate medical treatment or mental health treatment. stuck in cell everyday.
264. Hope these surveys not a waste a time and they'll contribute to change cause nothing else seems to.
265. The marijuana edibles will bring down the rate of un-regulated drugs harming people. Also, understand that any time I marked an "X" in the neutral box, I did so to say that few inmates are left alone or respected due to the violence they may cause, the rank they may have, or the information they may be giving up to the staff. But most prisoners are mistreated.
266. This are suppose to be a prison for prisoners with alot of time not short timers. It feel like no hope here, like you want to give up everything, nothing on the tablet we suppose to have only things they want to control like law library, pictures, videos, and so much more out ragest prices for movies and music, like old move they have on TV and music they put on and take off for nothing when we paying these high prices that they ain't charging in the world, and they are independent, people in the world compared to prisoner who are dependent on our love one. Be so advise.
267. need to put the phone on table
268. People always say they gone help but they don't. They never do, don't be 1 of them.
269. Get new officers. get rid of the drugs.
270. Please send copy of this form to: Inmate Issues In Springfield, IL and to Intelligents unit at Menard C.C. Please E. mail them both a copy. Thank you! **[NAME REDACTED]** Signature!
271. The phones & the commissary is the main concern throughout every prison, The prices of everything is ridiculous. Shouldn't have no limits, should be able to buy more phone minutes For our phone time. shouldn't be counted toward our \$100 limit. A lot of small changes need to be made for these jail can have same kinda normalcy.
272. JHA and others who claim to care should visit this prison often bring cameras if possible so they can examine the walls in restrictive housing that has filth on them the bars, desk, doors, and bunks. See that theres no ventilation system. There's days when I don't come out cell at all because food/trays are brung to the cell all 3 shifts. During video visits im handcuffed by one arm and 1 arm is free but if a inmate is coming to his video visit and wanted to attack me I'd be defenseless.
273. Just fix the whole prison system inside out!

274. Menard is the worse prison in the state of Illinois. Racism is at a all time high here. Staff don't help inmates.
275. I am thankful for this survey because there are a lot of things that the outside people should know about from someone that they will believe and not just go off of the internet or whats shown on TV/news because its not always the true story about what is happening behind these walls & gates.
276. I am feeling alot more violent towards human beings. I fucking hate staff especially mental health. Tell them a great job.
277. Try to shut Menard C.C. down immediately! PLEASE HELP!!!
278. Shut down Menard C.C.
279. I hope this helps improve D.O.C.
280. I need investigation unit to PLEASE do a around with wardens and majors on every gallery I'm having major problems my life in danger nobody is helping me out I'm super serious.
281. forget the checkmarks & let us write next to the questions, provide more space please to write as well. thank you for coming to save us & help us. truly. Be blessed.
282. Menard Correctional Center has been around since the 1800's. The level of oppression has been around since the beginning of time. To date still no camera system installed in the West House or Segregation area.
283. This prison need To be closed.
284. There are lots of prisons that have issues. some people are beaten, raped, discriminated against and targeted. And I believe that when these things are made aware to people on the outside with the neccessary power, we can start to look deeper on these things and really get to the bottom of it.
285. put phone on the tablet/shut prison down
286. I am someone who has developed occasional heart pains since I got Covid 3x. Ive put in to healthcare & they Never even responded. When we get sick & request sick-call help they do not answer our requests. They dont have an on-site Doctor, none, zero, for over 2000 inmates. If some people do go to Healthcare they only see a doctor on FaceTime on a screen. Most of the time the inadequately trained med-techs will make decisions A Doctor is supposed to make. How is this legal or acceptable. Should I wait until my heart stops? I mean what do I do? I don` t know what is wrong with my heart & they dont even answer the request?
287. Help!!!
288. Please, do some Real changes. A lot of us are lost in here with no real help. Without real help, these people are able to do and pull anything they want and able to on us. Institutional Record means nothing. Our word means nothing, we have no real voice for us.
289. Everyone here in Illinois Prisons Need help! In every way. Because there are no positive help here. The food is unfit for a dog to eat. No educational programs. No good mental health/ medical here at Menard. These people don` t care, they're lazy, and they are very disrespectful. The only time we might get something good to eat is when out of town visitors or Springfield come down to the place. Menard is a "Sham!" don` t be fooled by these people at Menard!

290. Treat us like human beings, not animals All we can do here is look at bricks, school, programs is only when they feel like it. People goin home, are stuck with life sentence inmates, mattresses nasty, sheets, nasty. People with less than 2 years to go home are put with inmates who careless bout life, and is never going home. Drugs, Alcohol everywhere, gangs do what they want, when they want!! No chapel, no school, no programs. No doctors, nurses just laugh at any sickness, tylenol good bye. Die of heat, coldness, Fans so tiny ect. God Bless America!
291. They blame security issues for anything. There is 500 people in the East house if 5 people fight "1%" they punish the other 99% for it when we are good and had nothing to do with it, we are suppose to get 3 showers a week which is still Bad but they find reasons to scar us out of that to. Mental health people should be housed separate from others. Staff is unfair.
292. These are different times & men aren't being men in my opinion so alot of people are fearful of filling this out thinking they will be wasting their time or they will get in trouble... Discipline is not supposed to be fun... So this prison is serving it's purpose... Thanks for asking.
293. The mail room here is bad with handling people mail and I've grieved them numerous of times. I have evidence of them lying about not sending mail back to senders for no apparent reason. Its like a conflict of interest to challenge them because the same people you grievance will still be in control of handling your mail incoming and outgoing. I've gotten certain pieces of mail and not everything that was in the package. Ex my family mailed me a book and pics together, I only got the book and no pics. The supervisor of the mailroom said that if the pics were not appropriate then I wouldn't have gotten the book but still couldnt tell me where my pics were.
294. Not only do the gangs control every aspect of how other neutral inmates are allowed to function in this prison, especially with the phones, but the Administration encourages and promotes it because less issues they have to deal with!
295. More access to Law Library at least twice a week!!
296. We need good doctors we have none we need a better commissary and items they used to sell brought back. The health care here is the worst I have ever seen in the state. Better food like we use to have.
297. This survey is true and correct to my best knowledge
298. Im scared for my life between the correctional staff who are racist and the gangs who run the prison. my mental health has suffered due to being in Menard C.C. I'm threatened with sexual acts by the restrictive housing C/Os. I filled out a prea and ever since I have not gotten mail, yard, and phone access. They do not comply with restrictive housing rules. They make us go 60 days for a TV and 90 days for a tablet. The mental health building housing has been closed for 3 years, but they will not allow smi transfers. Im strongly considering killing myself everyday or killing a guard. I struggle daily with this and only place me in stressful situations and housing and tell me to take meds. I tell them I need to go to Dixon STC max housing.
299. They treat Muslims with no respect and go out they way to punish you for your faith and antaganize and provoke you.

300. You didn't ask about healthcare at all. I think this place has the worst healthcare in Illinois. People are injured done here in so many ways. All they give you is Ibuprofen or tylenol for everything. And you can go months w/o seeing someone after you put in a sick call slip. The food is horrible. We get potatoes every day and slop. The staff don't care about nothing. At least most don't.
301. They need to find a way to improve their dental care hear. They no we've cavity and they want fill the teeth, they let our teeth waste away, then they want to pull them out.
302. Thank you for you authentic interest and I pray that my answers are not fallen on deaf ears. If we could really get more access (via phones) to our family and true rehabilitative measures for true change... not only will the inmates grow and change—so will the culture here at Menard.
303. The health care here is so bad lying about things that didn't happen. We had no doctor haven't had one in a while.
304. Shut Menard Down
305. We need help menard not giving us that?
306. Thank you. I hope that change happens for Menard. 1. How we spend our contact visits, the time and requirements need to extend longer. 2. We should be able to take pictures with our family when they come that allows us to hug and show a good time it would make the long drive for a visit worth coming to menard, we dont really get that in menard.
307. More state pay is required when they keep raising prices of things on commissary and we are able to spend the same amount every time we shop.
308. more schooling options
309. Jobs for PC inmates! Change commissary providers! they aren't providing enuff and are short every store day! quickest way to a mans heart! Put gang chiefs back in another prison!
310. CLOSE
311. We send request after request and rarely recieve any response to any issue. I have been in IDOC custody since **[4+ MONTHS]** and have requested nearly every week to have access to the law library to prepare for deadlines that I had and have not been allowed to have access even 1 time, not once, they should put the law library onto the tablets to take the strain off of the physical law library. (today is **[DATE REDACTED]**)
312. Try to get an inspector or something to check & see if Menard is improving.
313. The prison trys to discourage your family from showing support by making visits stressful in person or video. They don't encourage good behavior. I cant get a job even though Ive been out of trouble for five years. They say my case they don't want to be around me. Punished twice!
314. Why continue asking us to fill out these questionnaires about prison life when we're still being treated the same way every year? And even when the courts tell them to act/treat us like humans, even order them to they don't. It's like giving us false hope that things will change
315. It sucks to fill these out and we know you or anyone reading this is not for real going to help us!

316. This survey is bull shit cause it never does shit to change shit everytime you do it and JHA is full of shit. They never check shit out as people ask like mold black mold in the showers on N2 I gallery showers mold in North lowers sub basement and vents have not worked in years in North lowers cells.
317. Make the best out of everything everyday, Salam!
318. Help me get from down here! Please and thank you. Respectfully, **[NAME REDACTED]**
319. Shut Menard C.C. down for good & forever
320. We need the chance to show & or work towards rehabilitation...
321. Their should be a out side line that inmates can call that has nothing to do with IDOC. And it go right threw on their pen list in and out of grade. Their need to be a line in which the people that work here should be held accountable. If the staff have tatoo's they should not be gang or races in every prison. They have sex with the officers in the open cells, hall ways and other places.
322. I feel it is a great survey if the feedback is truly used to better inmates and their needs. The **[30+]** years I was employed before being arrested and ending up at Menard I have filled out many surveys to see no action taken. I have never spoken with anyone here who is happy or thinks this is a humane prison. Thank you for the chance to fill out this survey.
323. Prison life has improved dramatically since my first incarceration 20+ years ago, Its way more humane but still has a long way to go! Living in a cell 24hrs, 5 days a week (or more) should be reserved for those who misbehave in jail. 5-7 days a week, 52 weeks a year, how can you be offended that when we get a little time out, we act like animals. If you want us to act like men, treat us like men!
324. Move reclassified inmates into different environment. A lot of older-health issue people at medium security classification housed with younger max level inmates
325. everybody's human, everybody's grown, everybody wants to go home on both sides of the field
326. We need programs for everyone, Idol hands are the devil's playground, you can't just keep us in the cell for months at a time.
327. Menard is not safe for anyone being housed here. Help us!! **[ID REDACTED]**
328. You are what you do & make in friendship!!!
329. This survey is a great way for Inmates or trash as we are called here, to tell the truth about this prison. Its violent, aggressive, forceful, loud, rude. forsaken by staff. Healthcare. the most worse in the state of Illinois prisons. The kitchens are unfit to cook food in. Vermon, mold, dirt. the food shipped here in boxes do say, not fit for human consumption. its mainly dog food, cat food, or horse feed. Im not kidding! I used to work in the kitchen. I know. Prisons will beat you down. I've seen many here that committed suicide. After losing family, wives, kids, prison takes a strong toll on your whole being, depression, guilt, you become soulless, nothing left. You beat yourself up even through your a good person, you just made a mistake. You lost everything. Your outside job. Your home, your wife, your kids. Your entire life of freedom. It's not prisons that are unjust. It's your courts the judges and states attornies

- your system thats destroyed!!! Even the innocent people. are sent to prison. I know Im one who is actually innocent. of this crime. It's sad of what we become.
330. Create more programs and policies that would help those with long sentences an opportunity to earn good time and rehabilitate to be released to useful citizenship back into society.
 331. Some of the questions are confusing to answer because they can be two sided
 332. The food needs 2 be better, and we need 2 have gym back & guys need some type of education.. bc GP has none of that..
 333. A lot of these questions require explanation to fully understand. but overall it should be sufficient to see that this prison is not conducive to rehabilitation or humane treatment on a regular basis! That's why it needs to be shut down.
 334. Come here and see it for yourselfes not from street but the Back e house & w house the envirmnt come and talk to us not in the Back walk the gallery talk to everyone. See everything come see how this prison is ran not Front Street but the Back.
 335. Menard commissary sells the lowest grade products including soft shoes not fit for winter weather, soft tooth brushes, cheap electronics and off brand food products at a price point of that of much better products—needs to change. The grievance system is horrible with the introduction of the lock-box pilot program, grievances still go missing and unanswered. There needs to be a grievance system on tablets with electronic footprint or some immediate receipt system the moment the grievance is relinquished and not at the discretion of whomever collects the grievances. But of course, these changes will NEVER happen.
 336. Menard C.C. Is blocking and shutting people incarcerated from life outside of prison; not helping us better ourself (locking us in a lockdown cell without any education or opportunity to get ready for a second chance, people in restrictive housing are not being allowed their electronic mail/tablets to communicate with familys, children, or attorneys. RH is only getting the phone once a month. Not being allowed visits when on B or C grade. Giving us excessive time in seg and writting bogus tickets therefore not giving us the chance to ever be on A grade which is blocking us from the outside world.
 337. It makes zero sense to ask the inmates to complete this survey if changes aren't going to come, so please do something!!!!
 338. I watch TV and I saw a dude that did 20 yrs, he killed someone for no reason after his release. And in my mind I'm thinking how can you incarcerate someone for 20 years and think locking them in a box will help. People really need help. Also, they love to glorify people that get out of prison and commit crimes but they never speak about success stories. Those can help.
 339. Shut the place down
 340. Can you please start doing more of these surveys because it shines light on the treatment down here for real!
 341. Take heed to my words! Do not disregard them. We seriously need help in this place. My name is **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**. We are trying our best to find solutions to our problems in this place. Staff truly does not care about our safety, our lives, or our problems. Not to mention, these surveys were not even offered to everyone in this

facility. So it is up to me to speak and speak out for each and every individual in custody in this prison. We are all being treated poorly even most the workers. The way this place is ran is not right and this prison is considered to be the "worst" in Illinois by far. We absolutely cannot continue to live life like this. All the rights that we still have are being violated on a day to day basis. Something needs to be done ASAP. Thank you for sending us these surveys. I am sure you will hear the same things from other individuals in custody.

342. Grievance system never grants relief for any meritorious grievances. All grievances are denied in order to cover up what ever the problem is being grieved. They also shut the venting system in seg cells off during summer to make it so unbearable hot and even dangerously sweltering hot behind doors in seg cells.
343. I hope that you all are able to implement change through out IDOC! But "we" who are in Menard CC (maximum security) it is us who are TREATED inhumane, it is us who are barley mentally and physically surviving within Menard CC. Im willing to sit down to speak with you + this organization because I dont have a story to tell but I have a TRUTH to speak! Im not afraid to give my name because I want change. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** P.O. Box 1000, Menard IL, 62259 **[DATE REDACTED]**
344. None to share
345. I have been in restrictive housing since **[9+ MONTHS]** and no tickets since **[6+ MONTHS]** but still dont have my tablet and the only seg cut I got was five days. I dont know how much more I can do to show positive change. I just want to be treated as a person who needs the ability to talk to my family. My father has cancer and I have only been able to talk to him three times this year. All I want is access to my electronic mail like Im supposed to have. Thank you. My name is **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
Please help!
346. Really take the time to help instead of asking questions from a far. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** P.O. Box 1000, Menard IL, 62259
347. I was denied food some days and had several other problems that damaged me mentally.
348. Im seeking a transfer now either negative or postive its not the same here. I dont trust the C/Os.
349. They need to stop cellying up mentally ill incarcerated people with others!
350. Upon arrival in this prison I should not have to wait at least 1 year to obtain a job. Every inmate receives \$13.00 per month. This should be increased due to: (A) every 6 months prices on the food and other items increase in America and in here. The items are not affordable. (B) we inmates have to pay for every item requested and received from the law library. These items should be freely available to us.
351. Please actually strive to make change.
352. Illinois prisons isnt about reform or rehabilitation its all about lock and key. Illinois prisons are about making money and not providing good and warm food. They keep us in our cells for too long and too much. And they allow the gang bangers to dictate who uses the phones on the yard and in the buildings. If you not in a gang you have to pay to use the phone or you cant use it at all to call your family. And the tiny fans they sell on commissary are way too small and dont provide enough air in these extremely hot

cells. Even two of these fans are not enough. It gets extremely hot in these cells especially on the higher galleries due to heat rising. But the director for IDOC would rather we suffer because we have written him and asked for bigger and better fans to no avail.—Please Help. Thank you!

353. One thing that needs to be stressed is the exsesiveness of the disciplinary process. Having to be punished 3-4-5 times for one act is just to exsesive. Its breaking down our relationships we have with our loved ones and friends when we can barley talk to them. We should not have to be on c grade for 6 months, then B grade for 6 months, plus seg for 6 months for one tickit. Last year I caught 1 STG tickit and was given seg time, C grade, B-grade and 6 months contact visiting restriction. Do these people want to isolate me away from my family.
354. Commissary limits need to be raised. Most commissary items have gone up 30-50% over the years and yet, we still remain at \$100.00 limit. \$100.00 in today market buys you very little. Food from dietary is very poor! Trays are cracked, filthy, nasty and menu is rarely adhered to. Meals are never cooked served hot. Medical dept here is a joke. Cannot even get the proper eye care glasses for like **[5+]** years now. Grievances do nothing when it comes to medical staff needs here. Honestly, want to cut down on drug use in here then being back sales of tabacco. Sounds crazy, but, would help cut the drug problem in here.
355. Our money only buys half as much at the store we need the prices lowered. We also need hope in here that leads to freedom. Better healthcare, and our family's need to be able to visit without having to set a visit up in advance.
356. Strongly disagree with the healthcare service.
357. You all need to do something on how they are run this prison it's not right
358. Ima end up killing myself to get away from menard staff...
359. I wish you guys could really help us here at menard, because we dont have any real medical or freedom. we are being mistreated very bad and even harmed here at menard.
360. Ive been forced to protective custody and all my electronics either have been stolen or broken I sell my commissary shops to get by and when I filed a court of claims case I have miraculously been charged with a **[REDACTED]** offense and am in seg currently in segregation I feel I am being targeted and retaliated on I have a grievance **[NUMBER REDACTED]** thats never been responded to my name is **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
361. You guys say not to include our names but I realize that my finger prints are on these pages..... so Im **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**. Please do your best to make "Q14" happen! thank you for inquiring.
362. Come talk to all of us in seg/restrictive housing to all the guys in the East House. East House and seg isnt allowed ANY schooling or nothing like that even though they'll tell you they are but its a long list. Thats a lie. My neighbor has been looked up since **[1990s]** and doesnt have his GED because they keep telling him "your on the list just be patient" but I KNOW folks who only got a year or 2 and they're in the west house in school. People like me with time and that are young automatically get treated like were troublemakers. My cellie had drugs and they took both of us to seg even when a officer

told me "I know its your cellie's, where is it at?" I cant snitch! Im not in a gang and im white so I have it bad enough, snitching would put a bigger target on me. On many occassions my bed has been molded, chicken still bloody I even had a "boiled egg" that was still goeey. Its prison so I know its not 5 star food but some of this stuff is just people being lazy and careless.

363. We need more programs & schools
364. No matter what we say or do this prison wont change it does what it wants when it wants to and springfield accepts it.
365. Staff pick favorites. One inmate can blast his radio all night and another inmate will get a ticket or have their power shut off. Theirs no over sight in the kitchen, Inmates are allowed to put forth no effort in cooking or cleaning. Our tray lids were covered in black mold for moths grievances on this went unanswered. Healthcare is none existant. It took me [6+] months just to see a nurse for stomach issues I finally was diagnosed with H. Pylori. I dealt with that for [2+] years before getting a simple test. Now I have to go out for [MEDICAL PROCEDURE REDACTED] to survey the damge. This place sucks no one cares. They just get paid. And trust me im not a complainer. Its prison not a hilton. But a little effort could go a long ways in creating better humans.
366. The one's that get good time as in the EDSC. So is not geting what is there's. Im trying to make a change for the better. Jest needing someone to show me the way.
367. First off its good to hear someone care! But most of all Id be shocked if you even get this paper!
368. This prison is all bad, It's not 1# like-able thing about it here.
369. Better mailroom training, as the mailroom overtly censors our mail, photos, and books.
370. Not asking the right questions. We can get in trouble for telling on staff. Im filling out this survey but I also had to sign A paper letting them know I volunteered. So now Im worried about reproussions if something is said. You say its anonymous but everyone volunteering has to also sign a paper saying we filled it out or refused so they know exactly who filled it out. How is that anonymous
371. This prison is inhumane, no school we lock up for 24 hrs only one yard a week. It stays on lock dwn, they racists, they call us n****s & say we can get away with killing us! The water is dirty. Im not in a mental state of mind now! These mental health staff do not do they. Go in grievance box & still grievance or will not even bring it! It take months to go to or call to healthcare.. everythg bout this prison bogus
372. The medical in this prison suck's
373. On more than several occasions, I have not recieved a lunch or dinner tray because the staff do not supervise trays, milks, juices, being passed out
374. It should be ways that our behavior, our rehabilitation can play a major part of getting your life turned around for the best. Everyone should have a opportunity to show that they can be released and if their striving to their best should be able to have opportunity to be released to loved ones. The system should magnify growth.
375. As I endanger my life for this let me be an light in darkness saying this No one should suffer in prison, think they have nothing to loose because of a natural life sentence. False hope will kill the very soul. Everyone deserves a second chance in life. JHA join our caus: Parole Illinois.org

376. I have been incarcerated for [25+] years, straight. I am scheduled to be released in [5+] years, at the age of [60+]. This prison system has done nothing to prepare me to reenter society.
377. They need to let us take whole, full pictures with are family
378. Please look into what we checked, this is a serious matter. This facility does not follow proper procedures or give us what we have coming.
379. N/A
380. This prison needs to be closed!!
381. If we are a year odd short let us work get used to getting up in the morning and working a day—let us take every class that we not you think we can learn something
382. The officers in Menard are so mean! They pick favorites! The food in dietary is horrible for you! The commissary sucks!
383. Shut it down or come see for yourself nothing is right here.
384. There must be a push for changes, even up to court level, that tax payers taxes payoff towards the state and nation, building people to help the nation's future.
385. I work hard and recieve certain benefits for it. I am treated well but its because I ignore a lot of things that I see. You have to be known as a guy that minds his own or you will/can be treated very badly! The beating still happen! Punishments at night can be harsh. Gangs are still hurting us nongang members.
386. Thank you for doing these for the prison/research survey
387. Come on an unscheduled day.
388. I really pray this survey can help all us individuals in Menard C.C. we struggle everyday mentally, physically, and emotionally & the staffs treat us with no respect nor do they pay attention to our needs
389. We need congical visits
390. Thank you for caring!
391. We really need you guys to look into this facility because is a lot of thing going on that are not suppost to be happening from the food we recieve to the medical help individuals need. how is posible that if you need medical atention you got to wait sometime over a day when is an emergency... We need programs. Always the institution said we go em. But what they don't say is that we in the East house can't go because we are the high aggresive house. I been down here for over [3+] years. I been trying to transfer to a different prison but this staff just don't do it, I was out of seg for over a year and half and still don't transfer me to a different facility and people can't rehabilitate in here because is nothing to do in here but been in the cell for over 24 hours sometimes...
392. Yall need to get people from Menard!
393. There is no school nobody knows anything when asked. this whole system is long gone down the drain
394. All I know that this is the worse prison. This is the first time in my life that I have been in a prison and it is the worse experiece of my life. There is so much corruption and injustice in this place. They don't try to help people to get better instead they do everything possible so the person go deeper or to get in trouble and stay here forever

there's no hope in this place. They treat everybody the same, actually if you don't get in any trouble they treat you worse.

395. Shut down Menard
396. Finally do something about this!!!
397. Menard/MSU. There was no area to identify which prison I am in. Issues can't be resolved if the prison isn't identified. when the survey was passed out the guards wrote down which inmates accepted it. what is to keep guards from throwing away the surveys once we hand them back to be sent out?
398. I got punched in the face on **[DATE REDACTED]**, I did not fight back or antagonize, C/O did nothing at the time, I requested medical aid, I received **[MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED]**, this incident was a camera, I am a sole victim, it is now **[2+ WEEKS LATER]** and since **[DATE REDACTED]** my property and privileges have been taken away and restricted unit further notice, nobody has spoken to me regarding the incident nor this "discipline" post medical attention.
399. Most of the unanswered questions were not applicable or unencountered issues so far.
400. We just need more time out of our room and better muslim serveses and feast for us because we are the only religion that get treated bad.
401. Fuuuck!!! Oh, please God let me out, Let me out, Help me! Please! Let me the fuck out! I don't deserve this! I'll fucking kill myself! I want to go home
402. Since the pandemic when we were promised so much and a better environment for the future, we have not seen none of it. On the contrary, life has gotten worse. Still under restrictions for visits, recreation, the disciplinary system has stopped following due process & has been vindictively abusing power. Commissary is worse in quantity, quality, and price. And staff relations has been worsen
403. Further education should be a big priority. As well as trade school opportunities. Many inmates have very little hope to do anything legal when released and having the opportunity to actually see and experience a job opportunity will help greatly with individuals coming back to prison. Brining hope and positivity to a life in prison could help greatly bring the same energy to the world.
404. Menard C.C. is unsanitary beyond disinfecting. The foundation of the structure is literally crumbling beneath my feet, when I try to sleep at night you can literally hear the foundation shifting, and the wall cracking. Staff members I have experienced and witnessed individuals being starved, beaten bloody. We rarely ever come off lockdown even when we are off lockdown we only get out of cell once a week (1 yard, and nothing else.)
405. Stop giving out so much damn seg time for every damn thing. 1 week or 2 weeks is more than enough time. You try being locked in a 5"x9"x9"ft cell for 3 months-6 months or a year. Thats (torture) not punishment. Give levels contact visits because majority of the level E's shouldn't be level E's and (security need to stop being an excuse for everything.) Thats why all these C/Os get paid all that damn money to babysit.
406. Thanks for taking the time to see how I feel about this prison and how I feel about the staff and thanks for tryna help.
407. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** Please contact me on any meaningful in-sight on and during my journey in right In relief-remedy, toward reform structuring release. Feel free

in contacting me on insightful energy gearing toward positive outlets interjected! P.O. Box 1000, Menard, IL, 62259. Contact: (Info) Above or Forward – to structured referrals Home: Contact: **[ADDRESS REDACTED]**

408. More yard, more programs, no more 23 and 1
409. Betterment for us to be rehabilitated by given the opportunities
410. This survey is great, the biggest issue is the unfairness of truth in sentencing and defacto life sentencing, with little hope of ever going home, this place is soul crushing.
411. Menard Corr. Center is the worse place to live. Food is nasty unless your a C/O or worker. Can't get a job unless your in a gang. Cant use phones unless you in a gang. Drug use is off the charts, can't breathe most of the time cause of the smoke. We don't get correct cleaning supplies. No ventilation for correct air movement. Black mold in the tunnels. We haven't had gym in out 2 years now. Commissary items is a joke and getting too expensive. The list could go on! We need help down here!
412. More than anything, I personally desire better access to information for research, such as databases like arXiv and access higher education. I hope to go home one day and I have spent my time learning but it is meaningless as far as any potential employer is concerned without a degree. Moreover, the motivation of working towards on education would incentivise many to stay out of trouble
413. This prison is too old and out of date, issues were fixed with short-term "band aid" mentality. An entire housing unit goes on lockdown instead of punnishing the offending individuals. Loss of privileges occurs even with good behavior.—Not to mention I was wrongfully convicted and am treated less than human.
414. Menard need to be shut down. It not nothing suit for living. I been here **[7+]** years, in see over 15 die in they cell and staff take hour to come, the mail room, take 3-4 week to gave you mail. we go to store once every 2 month, and go yard ever other 2-3 week, the food is half way ok, I be want to kill myself sometime
415. There needs to be more opportunities here to better ourselves.
416. People should not be automatically restricted from services, religious services or programs when they first arrive and serving their first ever sentence in prison, nor have they ever had discipline issues in a jail or prison!
417. I wish it really matters to who reads it and do something about it everybody is not guilty also listen to the inmates and agree and be found not guilty
418. Since being housed in Menard I be constantly being subjected to false I.D.R.s I did not commit & which harms me in my release as well as my time in prison in which I am not able to work or anything. The food down here is terrible and they put everything good in the employee kitchen in which we are supposed to be served. The water system is constantly being **[ILLEGIBLE]** because the water is poisonus and only can be boiled to **[ILLEGIBLE]** which we are not able to due to not having hot pots so we are forced to drink contaminated water.
419. I'm not a gang member I'm actually a little white guy and I have had to deal with a lot of drama over the phones being here. In the yard I never was able to use it because the gangs run them in the cell I was only allowed one call every time the phones come around. I've seen people beat and stabbed by other inmates multiple times since I've

been here. All the staff know about these issues and the drug issues coming through the mail room but do very little to stop them

420. I hope it change something
421. I fear for my safty I fear everyday that my life will be taken from me by staff far as C/O and inmates the Drugs they let in are ruin our lives It will kill you it self or it will kill you cause you owe someone money Help us please, shut MENAD Down Allow us to go to a safer prison with more survilance
422. This Menard is the worst prison when it comes to staff and food. I'm in my cell 24/7 all day every day, except for yard twice a week if that.
423. I have broken ribs, scars from police abuse on head and forehead, missing teeth, and the prison enforcing medication to cover up their Abuses. I need help ASAP
424. We all know climate change is a real thing and if you are in any correctional facility South of Springfield, especially Menard, you feel the effects of extreme heat & humidity every summer. Menard and other Southern facilities do not have air conditioning and over the past decade, there have been many heat related deaths at Menard. We long term inmates dread the summer every year. For relief, DOC/Menard passes out one cup of ice once per day and allows us to buy one 8" fan. Now, as of last year, Menard is no longer selling us the 8" fan but a 4" or 5" fan that blows only a small portion of the air that the 8" fan does. To compensate for the dramatic differences of the two fans, Menard now allows us to purchase two 5" fans. Even with two 5" fan the two do not equil the 8" fan. During many summer nites, its so hot you can't even sleep because you're so hot & sticky. Something has to be done. Air conditioning has been a standard of living in this country for years. The air conditioning units could even be paid for by the Inmate Benefit Account as no cost to DOC. People feel better when they are cool in the summer so there would be less hostilities between inmates and staff. Please, advocate for Air Conditioning and 8" Fans. Thank you!
425. Help they are treating us back here. It's like we are not even real people. I hope and pray for help. Please help. Please walk thru seg units N2 It's really sad! Please help!!!
426. I hope it doesn't void this to give my name! **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**. I'd seriously like to request personal help from your organization if possible. As I said, I don't care what there people do anymore so long as they leave me out of it. We're supposed to have 50 square feet of unencumbered cell space for Individuals. They have NOTHING like that here. Also I'm a loner by I'm a loner by nature and I'm sick of meeting nothing but degenerate pricks here, excuse me for saying so. They CRAM us into cells with 2 people purely for convenience! And considering people get to set fires under their beds to cook with, I don't believe I'm asking for much to be left the hell alone! Please consider this!
427. When these survey was pass out our name and numbers were taken by the correctional officer.
428. Please help
429. I was just at MSU and they are only hiring people with a lot of time. the food is horrible the staff conduct is outrageous and someone should say some to them!
430. If this association is really out to improve an not to condemn neither C/O or inmates, really interview not through via survey but face to face, we are people who made

mistakes, not vicious dogs who bit the owners awaiting to be put to death. C/Os and those of authority clean up before JHA come sweeping dust under the rug and clever with speech. Those (inmates) who scream, trying to get their point across are incorrect communicators. Allow me **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** an opportunity along with those "I" choose to truly express conviction

431. I was raped in **[PRISON REDACTED]** on **[DATE REDACTED]** and rape kit was done then given a bogus staff assault and sent to Menard another max when I go home **[IN LESS THAN 2 YEARS]** still no schooling here for me, no programming to prepare for release just stuck going nowhere and it sucks.
432. And can't talk to our families our shut down our yard we need programs to learn new things and skills and be able to receive certificate to show our growth our change I hope I'm not saying these things for no reason and we actually get a change also Better Food
433. This place is basically a condemned prison! I have rust or blood leaking out of my walls in my cell and on the door. Since COVID, which is not over, staff continue to act like it is. Wow and now know phone calls for anyone I segregation
434. need help to start let people get a job. Go too school, they still punish people because of last tickets, they will not give me a job, because of a ticket against staff I am still being punish, because I am a black prisoner's!!!
435. I hope this survey is taken serious. I feel unsafe here I feel like I strongly believe before I'm released these staff and C/O members will actually kill me they tried once they will try again. Please make a difference before it's too late. I will be writing JHA real soon eliminating anonymity but for non-anonymous inmate in custody hopefully they don't throw this away
436. I am enclosing a letter begging for your help. I go home in **[LESS THAN 2 MONTHS]** of 2023. But I will need your help!
437. They need to take mental health more serious & give everybody a chance to get in school & other programs its not just at Menard But Its all these prison Ive Been to a Few. On this journey the way they treat mental health sucks.
438. Stop making others accountable for others actions, all around meds, medical treatment passing of meds
439. I feel even though everyone cases and situation are different everyone should still get an equal opportunities to do certain things. I feel that is crazy that the max prison are worst than the lower security level prison. Where at the max prison this is most of inmate homes for the next decade or better, where they have to be lock up 24 hours a day like cage animals and not do they time comfortable it's already bad that we are away from the rest of the world isolated from our family and friends. I'm a inmate that has done time in a three different level of security prison where by far this max prison Menard Correctional Center is the worse. Also it people or inmates like me that is eligible to get good time to help me get ready to reentry the world but this prison lack that ideal and would rather having people at a 100% who can't earn good time working or in school
440. The staff are lazy, incompetent, and so stupid that they don't even realize how lazy, incompetent and stupid they are. I had **[MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED]**. The doctor

told me "Gold Fish in a bowl get better healthcare than you guys do!" Every time the staff get "inspected" they get advance notice so they clean the place up. That does not include the filth or the mold.

441. Im under a year until MSR and im still not able to get into schooling to get my G.E.D. This prison makes a sane person goes insane, Being confined to a cell 24/7. This prison is not right. If anyone really care about the inmates Please make it right living in Menard C.C.
442. I appreciate this survey but to be honest I really feel like this is all for nothing because the first survey we did there was nothing done and honestly I believe with this one its still nothing going to be done to change this prison for us.
443. I really would like to start seeing these questionnaires & surveys being implemented and enforced because all this does is give individuals in custody false hope and continue to remind us how badly were treated each & every single day plus second minute & hour on the clock and guys like me with such lengthy sentences really would love to see some type of change in these prisons but this one in particular. Because this prison is very harsh Being an individual in custody & the environment is so miserable not saying prison is supposed to be fun but its not supposed to be this way either. Its as if my life has no meaning & theres no positivity to look forward to nothing but danger & corruption & hardship no real visions goals or achievements to look forward to. Theres good men here that wish they couldve did things different or still try & I speak for myself & others Respectfully!
444. I can say it can be better come to work [ILLEGIBLE] from 8am to 3:00 pm & lock up to count down early we live here at the end of the Day & you think we don't get job 4 Everyone! What's ok.. Even, 1# gats something to do everyday in this (town)! Hope we [ILLEGIBLE] can do good but let us out the cell (For Real) ok we [ILLEGIBLE] up but DAME!
445. I am being rape, the C/O an nurse are coming in my cell when I am aseelp by open my door. doing sexully stuff to me an my sleep [NAME AND ID REDACTED] PO Box 1000, Menard, Ill. 62259
446. If y'all can get the spotlight on Menard & how corrupt and racist they are, please do. Thank you.
447. Tear this prison down. The RHU building is condemned. The cell doors barely open. No fire protection water sprinklers in the cell.
448. More positive things to do...
449. I dont get medical when I need it.
450. none
451. Its dusty ass hell so we need proper tools for cleaning regularly, treys are cold on 2nd shift, phones are bad (parts)
452. Visit more without them knowing your coming even the DOJ they all have an inside source before they come thats why we get better food and the keep yall away from problem areas have you notice that?????????
453. Honestly, I feel this survey is a waste of time, As this version new version of the J.H.A appear to be in favor with I.D.O.C.

454. I have a request: I get out in **[4+]** months & days—I really need you guys to send me a list of Resources on Housing programs and jobs/resource programs/Just everything I'll need to get back on my feet. My info: **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** I dont have any resources and Im going to really need you guys to send me some list of helpful resources. Please consider—God Bless You All!
455. Your survey does not ask, understandably, about the education level of inmates. There are, however, highly educated individuals among the inmate population. For example, I have a **[DEGREE DETAILS REDACTED]**. I think IDOC should try to find ways to use the skills of inmates like me in its implementation of the post-secondary education policy for inmates.
456. there should be more guyz that get more time out the cell more programs and ways they can talk to there familys and staff should be more positive with Brothers in here me as religious Man that what I think and I go home in a few months
457. This prison needs to be condemned
458. MENARD CORRECTIONAL CENTER IS RAN LIKE A CONCENTRATION CAMP
459. No one honestly cares about us Everything gets covered up!
460. You all should come down into this facility and actually talk to Individuals "in carcerated" face to face while there's no officers standing right there. you all can do how (uptown) People's Law did it. C/Os would have to stand about 3 cells away. Also, The Drugs, to stop that All mail should be on the TABLETS & the phones should also be placed on our tablets! again, this APP is on there BUT they are not activated. This will stop a lot of fights and gang disputes.
461. Ive been 'suffering in silence' for quite some time now since being transferred here on **[DATE REDACTED, 3+ MONTHS AGO]** of being constantly ignored by multiple IDOC/Menard officials and Wexford Health medical professionals concerning my medical condition: **[REDACTED]** and I all I was/am asking for of relief is quicker response and medical assistance while I'm at Menard.
462. I was supposed to had been released **[ILLEGIBLE]** **[DATE REDATED, 1+ YEAR PRIOR]** I completed 2xs GCC contracts at **[REDACTED PRISON AND DATES]** mental health classes they didnt send my records of it down here **[DATE REDACTED]** Menard 4 special transfere Im the only one who came back down here to Menard CC by 3 Blk woman CCII who were bringin drugs & phones to inmates to us at **[PRISON REDACTED]** I help undercoverly with IA Lt. **[REDACTED]** to catch them in the act **[ILLEGIBLE]** true **[STAFF NAMES REDACTED]** Must fired them All ASAP! **[ILLEGIBLE]** E.O. R. **[ID REDACTED]** Inmate
463. Please help us down here in Menard. This is the worst prison I ever been to in the state and something needs to be do about this. You guys whoever maybe reading this just don't know this is a real hell hole ran by a black warden who just let his white staff do whatever to us.
464. Thank you for your help, time & services
465. The plumbing system and overall maintenance is deplorable and in need of repair. There is an overly expensive rental boiler heating the facility due to a maintenance issue with the boiler or structure it is in, however light switches are being installed outside of the segregation cells. More than half of the shower heads do not work, but

now you can turn on lights in some of the cells from the outside for the first time in 85 years. The administration is completely reactive as opposed to proactive. They know the problem exists but they ignore it. The commissary issue is ridiculous, there are constant shortages and lack of simple items. If the new supplier is the problem, then replace them. Administrative kickbacks be damned. The food has become unedible. Although it is the same food. No effort is put into preparation, and the staff just phones it in instead of assisting the inmate workers.

466. I been putting in for mental health for months now and still ain't been seen. Menard don't care about nothing but they staff when they love to take a people liberty away which is in our 14th amendment and the cruel and unusual which is in our Eighth Amendment of our U.S Constitution but Menard make they our rules and laws
467. I feel that you'll need to come back here more, just coming once a year not helping use. Once yall are gone then they are back to doing what they want!
468. The top-notch people need to come down—check the super-max because even do its super-max we should still be treated like humans were no different than them and not treat us like dogs in cages makes time so much harder for us. I hope this really makes a different for the future.
469. Our kitchen has been broke for over 6 months. All our food is brought upon Styrofoam trays which are normally cracked and leaking. They are seldom full and I'm still waiting for the first "hot" lunch. Sometimes the contents look like someone played catch with the tray before we got it. Also, you know that they recorded who accepted these envelopes, Anonymous...?
470. Here in Menard CC the need more phones on the yard or put the phone on the tablet. Need cleaner trays to eat out of. We need a doctor on hand at all times. A lot of people had caught cancer at a late stage here because they don't want to pay for their treatment.
471. Give positive skills back to people who have lot's of time help those who seek help or want change in life inside prison, "Menard sucks"
472. give us movement, more stuff to keep us busy.
473. Menard needs officers who respect us a human. Racism is a problem here also not as yrs ago But still a problem. school, better food, out the cell more (yard) Better commissary. Menard pick and choose what we can have on commissary and justify it as threat to security when say no we can't have. While other prison have these items. The living conditions here is horrible unhumane. Menard need more fans in every cell house. I'm suprised no one has died in the summer because of how hott it be in the cell houses in the summer. Steel & brick when they get hot its terrible it be so hot you almost wish you could just lose your mind not to even realize you're hot. Menard commissary is selling us palm (hand) size family. Unbelievable a true disgrace To prisoner to the to the 10th power a real joke if I ever heard in this case seen it.
474. Water/heating/cooling remains poor in meeting seasonal needs, due to outdated/outmoded design of prison that does not lend itself to upgrading. I would also like to see greater implementing of software on the GTL tablet (or switching to one that has a more integrated platform and similar price points with less restrictions) to include: phone calls, legal research, video visitation (or video message/pictures,

preferably both). I noticed a lot of concern for medical care, especially with an increasing aging/long-term incarcerated prison population and a worsening health care/wellness care.

475. Menard is the most corrupt prison in ILL's when our tobacco was taken from us. It became a state law No Tobacco on state property in which they Menard staff don't follow.
476. More frequent visits from programs like this would greatly reduce the day to day prejudices we face. We are harassed daily under the guise of joking. The officers are immature, prejudice, and they feel like they will never be held accountable for their bad behavior.
477. Somebody need to come talk to the inmates face to face (emergency) we are being mistreated
478. I am a minimum I shouldn't be with lifer. lifer run thing here. they got all jobs and school.
479. When it comes to Ramadan stop lying every year, they claim the Id feast will be after Ramadan, what ever they feed population for lunch that day, they claim that our feast, which is garbage by design. They don't season our food, so they can save condiments they brought out of inmate benefit fund at outrageous prices
480. Need to include don't know for answer
481. This place dont even have institutional TV channels.
482. Thank you all for doing this!
483. The US has the highest prison population in the world. Politicians refuse to change policys in Illinois with long sentences and no rehabilitation while price gouging and prisoner profeteering on a poor disinfranchised group of people is the norm. I've lost my mind and found it again while mental health made me worse and refused to help in my crisis.
484. Please bring back parole, and make all maximum prisons one man cells.
485. When you lock people in a cage with other gang members who was trying to kill each other and force them to cell with each other then treat them like shit. But these guys are so blind to the fact that its the people thats fucking them over. These guys rather beat the shit out of each other than make they situation better.
486. Prison is for "Rehabilitation for useful citizenship" Not for punishment. THIS should be made clear to ALL in the criminal justice system not just in prison but courts should be reminded, too.
487. Look into Menard C.C. people are dying over mental health denying to speak to them when they're begging for crisis watch, how poorly they treat us in segregation. Officers dont do nothing for us NO phone calls or video visits unless your on A-Grade B-Grade so if your on C-Grade in Seg you won't be able to use the phone or visit at all while in seg so your family won't be able to know your OK Then your in the cell with no property for more then 30 days so you can't write your family, Have to wait 60 days to get your TV in Seg/Restricted Housing with no mental health groups being ran we should automatically get our TVs
488. JHA stop playing like you here to help. If you going help, help us. You have the power to change things & this shit hole!

489. N/A
490. Prison is not suppose to be a walk in the park, however we do deserve humane treatment which we are not getting. Food, out of cell time and school are always shorted. Please Help!!!
491. Thank you all from the John Howard Association from the bottom of my heart. I guess when I complete this survey I feel a sense of hope. Whereas the whole world isn't as dark or cruel as the place Im confine.
492. can you guys business service, can please tour this institution facility, according to the living condition safety and security and Inhumane condition safety and security and Inhumane injustice of the treatment, Thats not being provided adequately.
493. I have been locked up since **[20+ YEARS]** in the system, I never been to segregation nor placed under investigation for nothing, but recently was because I refused to lie on a officer, and was sent here to Menard, since being here that ticket was esponged. Still I'm being refused jobs, moved to the medium section, etc.. I'm being punished for doing good. I have grievances on all of this.
494. We need better care from medical, we need better sleeping mats not old ones. We need better food, we need to be able to spend more at commissary. We need to be able to go outside 3 times a week. We need better cleaning supplies to clean our cells. We need to be treated like humans not animals
495. I'm not a big believer that the J.H.A. is making a real difference in the quality of life throughout the Illinois prison system. In the past years, I have written to your organization for help or assistance, and have not receive any type of response towards my requests
496. I'm from **[NORTHERN LOCATION REDACTED]** whats left of my family is there, they used to visit me at Stateville, to be vindictive they moved me to the Kentucky boarder. I have **[100+]** years because my government attacked my home. My daughter who was home when it happened is destroyed has nightmares mental **[ILLEGIBLE]** they will be gone soon, I am an 100% disabled on duty honorable discharged veteran, nothing on this paper means anything.
497. make it easy to get in, be approved to sign in right up to P.C. at any time of the day. In don't be told or said no not approved, only only approved!
498. Rehabilitate people in custody with programs and education. Stop the warehousing of the State of Illinois. Some people do deserve a second chance. Parole Illinois
499. I just want to say: Thank You!!! For giving me **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** an opportunity to help someone else if you give me my life back with my daughter + grandkids "Thank you sooo very very very much Amen I am truly grateful.
500. There is too many people locked up for bogus evidence or they couldn't afford a lawyer so they was appointed a public defender that isn't qualified to handle your case.
501. The healthcare down here in Menard a real joke, every year, down here in Menard you have almost a 100 inmate dying in this place a year of cancer. Myself I just had **[REDACTED]** cancer surgery in **[DATE REDACTED]** so I don't know what is my outcome is going to be. I already know no one is going to do anything about this place, all I know is that their trying to feed us shits and tell us its chocolate cake. I don't care who knows who I am. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**

502. I'm thankful for this survey. Just to let you know the things I'm going through
503. Overall better healthcare response. For months there hasn't been any doctors at this prison or longer. So it takes months to even get to speak to a doctor and it happens to be a video chat instead of a face to face in person visit. Also the delay in time of scheduling an individual in custody. If he needs or is going to have a testing or a surgical procedure done. At times it takes 2,3,4 months to get something done. Medical writs and procedures need a faster response.
504. **[ILLEGIBLE]**
505. They need to take down the dividers on the tables in the visiting room now.
506. This prison is not all that bad but need more time out of cells and they are putting too many inmates with violent crimes and a lot of time left with non violent inmates who only have a year or two
507. What the staff fail to realize, is that their a paycheck away from being in the same position as the people they babysit every day and resent. The truth is what it is, human nature. Today is the first time they ever served fried chicken!
508. My name is **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**, And right now I have a lot of medical issue that's being looked over. I had a **[REDACTED]** surgery and it was in **[DATE REDACTED]** and I'm still having problems. I can't get help. Yes I filed grievance but never heard anything back. Can you help?
509. Please don't wait your time nor ours what Half ass investigation talk with anyone that is willing to put their name on your survey
510. This prison doesn't offer any programs or jobs to help better the inmates, we can't receive any good time when we can but this prison won't allow us also the staff here is racist they call black inmates boy, blacky, n****r, n****a, cotton picker, african booty scratcher and the food here is horrible and we have no AC so in the summer people pass out from the heat but the staff don't care please help us I would rather die than stay in this prison and I only have **[4+]** years left please save us we are just waiting on God to save us from hell but JHA you can do the right thing and save us we really need it please help us God bless you all.
511. We have no Doctor and a lot of times sick call request are never answered. We have no kitchen and our food is delivered in a van from the pit kitchen in a van that smells of garbage
512. Keep in mind some individuals are actually innocent Police and State misconduct needs to be addressed not everyone is scum as they say people need to be represented properly, not just deals made for or against
513. They need to give us more help, open dietary, give us good time, more dayroom and yard.
514. Menard MSU is not giving us enough time out of cells It forces you to do sexual stuff against your will. There is no real mental health or reg. Health the C/Os on second shift cover up for each other on the sexual stuff. Plus they all sit in the control pod watch TV!!! There needs to be something done about the C/Os forcing inmates to do sexual stuff or protect us!
515. To continue a little on the topic. Officer's, staff, etc. go by the same code as gang members here. They allow them to run things, The hire and fire people based on that.

If you have cirton cases you are black balled off top in less somebody i.e. (staff/gang member) speeks up for you. Once you are hired you're in the "cycle" you can loose your job for anything and end up re hired before others get a chance to work that wont cause trouble.

516. In order to receive this survey I had to initial beside my name/number of cell designation. Now they'll block more mail, movement, or any transfer to another facility. Maybe the good guys need to assault others in order to get what we deserve.
517. Due to the fact that these buildings are so old and in-habitable and the mis-treatment of the incarcerated people here, I feel this prison needs to be closed down. In this prison it just feels like you are waiting to die!
518. During shake down, C/Os eat snack food from inmates boxes (property box) Officers have 'clicks.' You piss one off you're black balled from jobs privileges. Staff brag about buying new trucks and boats from workmans compensation after being off work for fights with inmates. When forced back to work on light duty they go to the mail room where they will return mail to sender rather than process it. Not always notifying inmate mail was sent back. No kitchen at Menard MSU. Now food it brought up from 'the pit' (MENARD max security) in dirty vans broken open trays and cold, just received "ICE COLD" hot cereal every morning in **[LOCATION REDACTED]**. Staff that try to be of service are removed from position and replaced with slow moving passive people especially the counselor staff. Grievances, money vouchers, visiting & phone list are very much on a limited bases. We are told there aren't any especially grievances.
519. The food sometimes look like someone eat it and throw it back up. I/A or, officer abused of they power, everytime people or lawyer's come to see how we live they hide the bad food & everything bad so the prison don't get closed down. the store we buy is now expensive and they don't got stuff or clothes for months we never get how we supposed the own C/Os bullying us inmates call us bitches or punk's They try us all the time I been here for **[6+]** month's I can't go to school, or get a job or transfer, medical, dentist all that is difficult for us to even get it we got Latina people that do not speak English we don't got no Spanish channel is only 2 & they Cristian or Catholic.
520. We've been dehumanized so were treated blow animals on a farm. Health won't answer request concerning covid-19. It was just a boil order & they only pass out water boiled from kitchen in a cooler. No bottle water. One hour law library once a week for 25 inmates out of 250 on each side of a cell house. law library should be on tablet also. The phone access should be on tablet. Cellmate compatibility is the worst and commissary price are very very price gouged high with only \$100 spending limit. Religious services not honored & disrespected. Relations between staff & convicts poor. Water makes long term stomach issues.
521. We feel insecure because there are no cameras in the galleries and theres no controll were we can feel safe. Also incoming Mail we dont get it until a month or month and halve.
522. If we had phones on our tablets a lot of issues + probls that they have in prison would stop. They take our tablets and TV when we get in trouble. But that only makes us more angry + act out negatively!

523. JHA, I've recently heard about you all, and I wanna say, "Thank You All" for the hard work you all do for us incarcerated individuals who society has forgotten about. May God Bless you all and I can't say it enough of the help you all do in improving our situations. You all are our last hope in getting any type of justice in prison. We can't grievance anything cause the prison won't give us any file on them. The mental health use to help us here, but over the years (I Don't know is its money or the Institute schooling them) they stop. You have JHA "ALOT" of guys down here in Menard with Mental problems and are afraid to decuss because the mental health are not helping us anymore. If it's suppose to be private, then why does the officer stands outside the door listening to you alls conversation? The Healthcare is poorly down here in Menard. Inmates have to get family to call down here for mail, medication refill, and basically everything we suppose to get. The showers are moldy the top of food trays are moldy, the time on taking showers start when the first inmate steps into the showers. There's almost a whole gallery (50) inmates on the shower with 15 to do needs and they talking about 10 minutes. I'm just about burnt out on prison period. The breathing condition is ruff by Menard being what 185 years old, it's hard to breathe. Theres No Doctors!!! I have stress problems I need someone to talk to, but you can't trust the Mental health folks cause they are gonna laugh at you. I feel the walls caving in on me at times. It's like no help coming towards us. True prison suppose to change you and punish you but man the treatment here is crazy.
524. I had to work through the Covid lockdown feeding 400 inmates, passing out ice, phone times where I had to log in times the inmates use, cleaning supply, scrub the showers on my knees. For 1st, 2nd, 3rd shift alone with another inmate and they only paid us for those 28 days **[ILLEGIBLE]**
525. I hope by writing you this you try to change some of these things I mention but I doubt it cause its just the way it is
526. We need more minority staff working here who better understands the needs and mental health of inmates of color. There is not one minority or person of color employee working in Menard MSU.
527. The counselor dont come around or respond to request on complaints, the officers don't give us full hours of dayroom. The food is served cold. The grievance process is slowed. The officers watch TV in the pods all day. We dont get adauquate healthcare and there is no actual medical doctor on call. It takes the healthcare months to really be seen by a practioner.
528. Really try to help us. It's much needed. Thank you very much
529. We need to do some about this staff its no reason of filling out a survey if the problem not gone change.
530. The guards would rather sleep in there bubble instead of making sure everyone is following the rules
531. Raise the limit of free medical records.
532. This survey needs to dig a whole lot deeper to really have an impact.
533. No cleaning supplies being given is inhumane. Weekly store call would ensure inmates aren't starving. Phone app would ensure contact with supporters. Law library App is

- essential in assisting wrongfully convicted inmates to have the necessary tool to fight the wrong done and get their release.
534. Be consistent with rules don't change them day to day. Have the mailroom stop making up rules that are not consistent.
535. Not everything everybody says is Bullshit so why do they Ignore everything Everybody says? They pick and choose what to hear and it never has Anything to do with the real problem. Instead of trying to Fix problems they Isolate everybody and punish people who don't deserve to be punished.
536. For the guys that have to do 100% of their sentence, there is no opportunity to receive credit while taking classes or working as others due with 85% and 50% prison terms. So if I try to do better for the community and apply myself to become a role model there isnt an incentive offered through IDOC. If I fought and did drugs and didnt try to rehabilitate myself, I am still doing the same amount of time at 100% that the guy, who applied him self, doing and being better has to serve. Doesn't make sense! Thank you.
537. This Survey is anonymous but MSU C/O [REDACTED] was writing down who was/was not taking them. Maybe you should come more often. Today was the first time we have ever had fried chicken. The inmate kitchen has been shut down since Sept 2022. Since then our food is delivered from general division inmate kitchen. Food is served on foam disposable trays most of the time is cracked/smashed/leaking. The trays are so small it is not possible to put the correct portion on it. Food is never served at proper serving temperature. I would settle it to be above room temp. For some reason they love to serve applesauce which is everywhere on the tray.
538. ADA coordinator for Hearing Impaired is grossly inept and lacks proper training.
539. I feel I've had a pretty fortunate experience so far in my short time here ([2+] mos). I know this is a dangerous place and violence happens everyday, but so far my time has been without incident or issue. Obviously I'd rather not be here and I definitely don't want to have to return, but it has not been as bad as I anticipated. Maybe I had low expectations or I'm just easily contented, but overall I can't really complain.
540. We need more schooling an programs or groups to help better everyones situation that's here in Menard
541. Investagate weaponized survaliancing By Attorney General's Office
542. I'm actually glad you all sent this survey because I have done everything that I can do to get these peoples attention through grievances but nothing comes out of it so hopefully you all can see that there is an issue in this facility that needs to get looked at and addressed when it comes to our treatment, we are humans regardless of our action's or reason's for being in this prison, they dont even offer tabe test or anything. I wanna get a college degree and show my loved ones that I'm changing and that I'm rehabilitating myself but I cant do that because they dont offer that to me here I'm serving [60+] years and I'm fighting my appeal but I got limited access to the law library it's sad honestly, thank you for letting me express myself and get this out of my chest. I just hope that you all can do something for me, God bless you all.
543. The other things is good time is impossible for anyone sentenced to 75% and up to earn, leaving no incentive for good behavior in a place where most inmates are sentenced to 100%. You get it automatically for doing nothing when you commit a

lesser offense but you CANT EARN IT on anything above 50%? makes no sense.
thanks for your time!

544. Med equip. is ancient. Freeze in winter/inferno in summer. walls peeling (pos asbestos). Air dirty don't clean fans.
545. Close this prison down!!!
546. Getting medical help would be good and the lack of control of the gangs is bad. People like me don't get to use the phone as much to not at all if you go to yard. Even if you're on it, they'll make you get off and if you tell C/Os or staff they'll tell the gang members you told.
547. The Dread Scott decision proves the U.S. Supreme Court can be in clear error. The 13th Amend allows prison to impose slavery, tactics. Slavery is murder. Jail is slavery 2.0 by US Const.. No extended argument would be required to show the power to take from a person their thought, their will, their personality, is power of life & death; to enslave a person is to kill them. Slavery is Satan with a smile... Prison is America with its fingers crossed behind its back... as blacks are burdened with excessive years. S.O.S. Save our Souls.
548. We never cook as good as when you guys visit. Staff act different as well. Since you've started these surveys, I've seen a huge change in here.
549. If you dont star at the top then this survey is just a survey
550. I've completed several surveys like this and nothing seems to change, so it seems almost pointless.
551. Many people are wanted to work or to have school programs But due to the language and sometime their case they not allow to work or get some education. Also Many latino's or hispanic speaker can no longer watch TV in spanish and many of those are old and don't understand English at all so that will be a lot different to go Day by Day in the cell watching something on TV in Spanish
552. I have no problem sharing my name with you because, since staff is so fragrantly abusive, I do not see it any less harmful or dangerous for me by you or Menard knowing my feelings about this facility and the whole IDOC that I have experienced. Plus, I hope you will tell me that you want a copy of the list of TREATMENT OF INMATES mentioned above. Thus, my name is **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** And thank you for this opportunity to be heard.
553. One day it needs to be individualized & specified
554. Look the food coming out that kitchen Down here should **[ILLEGIBLE]** To giving To us. The Kitchen has rats in it but you guy's know that. I have my certificate of Completion in Servsafe. Food Protection Manager. Presented by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation. Feel free to get back at me. Thank You
555. Following the roll back of Covid restrictions, certain restrictive policies regarding visits and gym has still been in place. My experience over the past **[20+]** years, is one of retributive captivity at the hands of the ignorant, sloth, whose sadistic inclinations and lack of vocational skills, has attracted him/her to this occupation. They use their authority, tell themselves that they're better than you. And think that adding to your misery is part of the punishment.

556. CLOSE THIS PRISON DOWN!!!
557. Free them innocent bystanders out of seg.
558. I hope this survey is use to make a real change in this prison (Menard C.C) on how the officer treat inmates
559. We only get one yard here in East house the only time we come out the cell all week long. The phone twice a week two phone calls is not enough time to talk to my love ones. I'm too far from home six hours away I can't see my kids or family like I did when I was in **[PRISON REDACTED]** Please help us change this place we need more time out the cell. The paint is coming off the wall I sleep next to every paint chips. Every cell I've been in something is broke.
560. Administration made rule changes without consulting inmates. No one passed out a survey or asked inmates what they thought bogus rules and punishments.
561. I have been in this prison since **[8+ YEARS]** and never been able to get moved to "front street" where all the cell house get better treatment more yard time than "back street" East house is the worst.
562. Disregard to inmates needs and rights regularly happen here. No exhaust fan in the east house for yrs.
563. this place is truly fucked up all around.
564. Thank you for giving us this survey. I hope some major changes happen from this survey.
565. I have not talk to my family in a long time. This prison is holding our mail for months at a time. Mental health not doing their jobs when you need it. This prison holding SMI people in cell for long times They do not let you wash your cloth at all. When people say I feel like killing myself they say go on and do one less person to deal with.
566. I was assaulted by staff on **[DATE REDACTED, 6+ MONTHS PRIOR]**. As a result I received **[MEDICAL DETAILS REDACTED]**. I still can't get medical treatment. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
567. If you have any further questions please feel free to ask.
568. Menard exits on a subculture of rules & culture rooted systematically by its hierarchy of authority & they fear no repercussions or consequences for their conduct & behavior due to the power & fidelity cultivated in this facility. Their is none-no sense of empathy or real sincerity extended to individuals in custody on behalf of staff everyone is treated the same (inmates that is) & thats with a level of disrespect and inhumanity. Mental health is of no use and they do not care! They take SMI status of inmates without any reanalyzation from any certified clinical doctors. Grievances are ignored or come up missing. Protective custody gets treated so inhumanely & with such contempt its deplorable! Simply put a real in depth investigation needs to be done on the establishment & rogue culture that reigns within this facility because it continues to be pervasive & enforced without any fear of consequences because they are not monitored & investigated from an unbiased outside **[ILLEGIBLE]**
569. I know a lot on individuals in custody will abuse the opportunity to really fill this survey out consicely & not give it the severity of its application to prison but violence among inmates is prevalent & We have not had phones for 3 months now! At this time we have not has phones on the gallery because Major **[REDACTED]** is punishing all the

inmates for actions of one or a few who breaks the phone on the gallery! He said he doesn't care & if we keep complaining he'll bring the phone on the gallery & break it in front of our faces! We haven't been able to call our attorneys or families! This is not an exaggeration! Its been 3 months!

570. I desperately need medical assistance. I found a pea-sized lump on my testicle and I have written various kites to be seen by a doctor or nurse or even a med-tech to document this. Nothing has happened. I am undiagnosed and have not been treated or even seen. I may be dieing and have not been heard.

Marginalia Comments

Q2. Race or Ethnicity

1. [Black] Afro
2. [Other] Afro Carribean Puerto Rican
3. [Other] African-American
4. [Other] mix with all 3
5. [Hispanic or Latino] Mexican
6. [Other] African American
7. [White] Italian
8. [Other] Chinese

Q3. Are you within two years of release?

1. [Yes] Through appeal
2. [Yes] By faith Gods will.
3. [Yes and No] If it be will of God, if it dont be will of God MSR **[IN 20+ YEARS]**
4. [Yes] could be in court
5. [Yes] Only county time
6. [Blank] Questionable
7. [Yes] Should be

Q4. Were you first incarcerated prior to age 25?

1. [Yes] 16 yrs old charged as adult for **[ILLEGIBLE]** crack, placed in **[ILLEGIBLE]** then **[ILLEGIBLE]** house arrest, then home confinement, **[ILLEGIBLE]** probation messed my life up prior I was **[ILLEGIBLE]** Honor student...
2. [Yes] Not this bid
3. [No] earlier
4. [No] I was 25
5. [Yes] prior to this sentence
6. [No] Under
7. [Yes] (17yrs. old my 1st incarceration.)

Q5. What housing status are you currently on?

1. [Other] seg what's the difference from this n seg?
2. [General Population] Yet MCC EH was less than restrictive housing
3. [Other] Protective Custody
4. [Restrictive Housing] I get out Friday **[DATE REDACTED, LESS THAN A WEEK]**
5. [General Population & Other] In Between
6. [Other] P.C.
7. [General Population] Max
8. [Other] PC
9. [Other] Im housed in general population but are treated as restrictive housing
10. [Restrictive Housing] P.C.U.
11. [Other] P.C. Intake
12. [Restrictive Housing] Seg
13. [Restrictive Housing] Ought to be here [Other]
14. [Other] AD
15. [General Population & Other] Because we do not get any movement in this so call general population
16. [Other] Protective custody (i.e. P.C.)
17. [Other] Thats a name cover (restrictive housing) segregation.

Q6. Are you currently getting at least two hours a day out of your cell or sleeping area?

1. [No] 5 hours every Monday only
2. [No] Not everyday
3. [No] 24 hour lockdown
4. [Yes and No] Only for work
5. [Yes] Only cause I work
6. [No] My choice
7. [No] Not by choice
8. [No] But that cause I don't work to so I guess (yes)
9. [No] Hell no
10. [No] How?
11. [No] Sometimes locked down for a month
12. [No] 1 per wk for 5hrs. Law Library if lucky 1 every wks for 1hr-1 ½. Barbershop every two mos.... commissary 1-2 mo. if lucky thats all movement to get in MCC EH.
13. [No] Sometimes depends on how they feel
14. [No] Not at all we don't even go to chow hall or gym
15. [No] I have not even been offered a shower in 2 weeks or to clean cell or wash clothes and am refused grievances to grieve the issue and I can't get blank envelopes to write legal mail never offered yard either.
16. [No] Absolutely Not!
17. [No] I'm in Menard C.C. they keep us locked in our cells a couple days out the week

18. [Yes] Only b/c I'm a worker & in school
19. [No] Hell NO!
20. [No] Hell (No)
21. [No] Never
22. [No] (9hrs 2x a week...)
23. [No] only 3 seven minute showers per week
24. [No] No!!
25. [No] I only come out sat, sun, tue for a 10min shower and mon for a 4hr yard
26. [No] Menard CC No! Dixon CC YES
27. [No] I have been in the cell forcefully for 2 weeks
28. [No] Absolutely Not
29. [No] HELL NO
30. [Yes] only because Im working
31. [Yes] mostly
32. [No] Hell no!!!
33. [No] Absolutely
34. [Yes] Now

Q7. Do you have a work or school assignment?

1. [Neither] No, Menard chooses who get rehabilitated!!!
2. [Neither] No complaint I study the law
3. [Neither] No opportunity for a lifer!
4. [Neither] denied 3 times for both
5. [School] Not by IDOC
6. [Neither] I want a work assignment
7. [Neither] Not by choice
8. [Neither] haven't been here that long yet and I haven't put in yet.
9. [Neither] My kind is not allowed
10. [Neither] Not allowed to
11. [Neither] **[ILLEGIBLE]** no ticket stop to Job. **[ILLEGIBLE]** others got a lot of tickets get Jobs get hired and rehired
12. [School] Won't give a job
13. [Neither] Have to be white or snitch
14. [Neither] Reason is because I don't kiss they ass,
15. [Neither] Not allowed
16. [Neither] In the east-cell house we are locked-in the cell 6 days a week 24 hrs a day!
17. [Neither] Menard has extreme selective requirements
18. [Neither] Not an option @ Menard pl beg to Have a slave job.
19. [Neither] Not permitted
20. [Neither] no work for PC
21. [Neither] There is no school at Menard CC
22. [Work] Pause due to seg

23. [Neither] (Work) Have been trying but none available due to charges or non affiliation,
(School) None available
24. [Neither] I was told I have to much time
25. [Neither] Don't offer for 100% or M-class

Q8. Mark response that best describes how you feel (Strongly Agree = SA, Agree = A, Neutral = N, Disagree = D, Strongly Disagree = SD)

Relationships between staff and incarcerated people are good.

1. [N] average, mix
2. [SA] staff yes people no
3. [SD] in our cells except 1 a weak
4. [N] Because Im up Front Street
5. [SD] Hell No

I receive support from staff when I need it.

1. [D] This would not be menard
2. [A] Sometimes.
3. [D] Lies by staff.

Staff here treat incarcerated people fairly when applying the rules.

1. [D] one group fair other unfair
2. [D] No
3. [SD] Staff throw guys in seg w/ nothing, no sheets, no hygiene
4. [D] only when it comes to sending us to seg!
5. [SD] I turned in (A good deed) a weapon found on floor they put me in seg 1yr. Framed me!

I trust the officers.

1. [SD] Fuck No
2. [SD] This One
3. [SD] No
4. [N] Depends on if you have a job
5. [SD] they assault us
6. [D] please!
7. [N] some, others, NO!

I get along well with the officers on my unit.

1. [SD] Stay out their way!
2. [N] some
3. [SD] Most time I have to act crazy or get **[ILLEGIBLE]** to get things done
4. [A] not all but most

5. [A] More or less.
6. [N] Yes and no
7. [N] I hate 50%
8. [SD] No

The best way to get things done is to go through official channels

1. [SD] we cant get nothing done because they all working against us
2. [SD] Call our love ones
3. [D] yelling and cursing
4. [A] circumstance based
5. [N] Both
6. [SD] It's hard at Menard to [ILLEGIBLE] grievance is the only solution
7. [D] Not with medical

I have been helped significantly by a staff member with a particular problem.

1. [A] Before
2. [A] sometimes
3. [SA] circumstance based
4. [D] has not happened.
5. [N] 1 officer [ILLEGIBLE] helped me in 2020 when covid almost killed me other [ILLEGIBLE] No

Overall, I am treated fairly by staff.

1. [SD] I'm targeted
2. [A] only cause I make their food
3. [N] all are not the same
4. [D] Not all are ok
5. [D] I'm in Menard C.C. in the East House were treated like crap!

I am treated as a person of value.

1. [SD] How when I'm locked up 24 hrs!
2. [SD] Property 100% vs 50% inmates
3. [SD] Hell No
4. [SD] If your white & in no gang, your in trouble. By both staff & inmates. 100% truth
5. [SD] No and the reason why I don't kiss ass or let them talk to me any way... I am "man" like them
6. [N] depends on officer's temperment
7. [D] No! Just another body to fill the cell!
8. [SD] Just [ILLEGIBLE]

Q9. Mark response that best describes how you feel (Strongly Agree = SA, Agree = A, Neutral = N, Disagree = D, Strongly Disagree = SD)

Some of the treatment I receive is degrading

1. [A] E.g.; An officer called me a dip-shit
2. [SA] By some of officers treat me badly!
3. [SA] medical.
4. [SA] food no school in East House, took the phone, no work
5. [SA] by staff
6. [Blank] No I need medical attention bad and they say it take 6-8 months to be seen by a nurse.

I feel safe from being injured, bullied, or threatened by other incarcerated people.

1. [SA] I'm willing to fight back.
2. [SD] Negative things can happen on a daily basis
3. [A] workers run phone
4. [SD] Other way around
5. [SD] Not in this facility
6. [D] Only when I refusing housing.

To improve my situation, I have to meet impossible expectations.

1. [Blank] Improvement is impossible
2. [A] on like bettering myself first
3. [SA] Due to aggression level

Staff have enough experience and expertise to deal with issues that matter to me.

1. [SD] Most don't know what color of law is!
2. [A] Circumstance based, which depends on officer
3. [SD] a lot of Menard employees especially medical depart are not knowledgable of their detail, except for a few!
4. [A] but don't
5. [SD] All they know is lock down and send him to seg! or yard, not law library
6. [SD] Inexperienced short-staffed daily
7. [N] sometimes
8. [D] They don't even have a psych eval
9. [A-D] varies
10. [A] but they dont use the skills
11. [Blank] Fuck staff **[REPEATED ON SEVERAL OTHER QS]**

If you do something wrong, staff only use punishments if they have tried other options first.

1. [Blank] Don't understand
2. [Blank] They don't try other things only punishment if one person do some we all blamed and treated the same.
3. [N] circumstance based
4. [SD] they punish **[ILLEGIBLE]** for self defense **[ILLEGIBLE]**
5. [SA] They punish you no matter what your on investigation if you on there radar
6. [Blank] Trick Question
7. [SA] we called N*****s
8. [Blank] No they punish you in ways that are prohibited such as denying you showers, turning your water off, denying call passes to telephones and mental health etc.

Staff are augmentative towards incarcerated people.

1. [N] some not all
2. [SA] most of the time
3. [SA] They put there hands on people I've witnessed this
4. [A-D] varies good staff and bad staff.
5. [A] in the Back Hell yeah.
6. [A] Especially admin!
7. [A] if you say something they feel you don't respect authority

To get things done, you have to ask and ask and ask.

1. [SA] and ask
2. [SA] It will get you no where neither will request slips
3. [SA] Especially if your a white person incarcerated
4. [SA] Medical.
5. [SA] Many times that dont even work
6. [A] Yes
7. [N] sometime
8. [SA] Even then not enough usually!
9. [N] Sometimes
10. [SA] No Resolve.
11. [Blank] law library once month bogus
12. [A] to disagree cause all. are not the same
13. [A] still get nothing
14. [SA] Mental Health LGBTIQ Don't get NON

Supervision of incarcerated people is poor.

1. [SD] staff only can do so much
2. [SA] absolutely

The environment encourages me to think about and plan for my release.

1. [SA] Do to the way im treated as a person
2. [SA] not never coming back to this hell hole
3. [SA] This is my first and last time coming to prison
4. [SD] All I can think about is how to defend myself
5. [A] Only in the sense that I ought not to ever be here again!
6. [SD] No I'm in the cell studying on my own I want to learn but the 24hr lockdown I can't.
7. [SA] Do to the comprised procedures.
8. [SA] I do that anyway I am trying to get the books in to get help myself

Positive things only happen for a certain type of people.

1. [A] 50% vs 100%.
2. [N] Too hard to answer
3. [SA] Rich + Privileged
4. [SA] White
5. [SA] Only for (Black Individuals) in Menard C.C.
6. [SA] white
7. [Blank] this prison does nothing positive.
8. [SA] Kiss-asses!
9. [A] Sometimes

I can't improve my situation through good behavior.

1. [N] it get you so far in M.C.C. you before a **[ILLEGIBLE]**
2. [SA] I haven't caught a ticket since **[5+ YRS]** 9 months A grade got me nowhere.
3. [SA] Yes!
4. [Blank] not here
5. [SA] Salient issue!!
6. [A/N] Both

My experience of imprisonment in this particular prison has been stressful.

1. [SD] why can't I
2. [SA] Worst time I've ever had to do.
3. [SA] (Cause I am in Danger)
4. [SA] to the average man.
5. [SA] Been thru hell
6. [SA] Only because of medical issues,
7. [SA] difficult
8. [SA] yes
9. [SA] And compounded by, being ignored!
10. [SA] I'm on meds mental health.
11. [D] Intense at times
12. [SA] extremely!

I have to be careful about everything I do, or it can be used against me.

1. [N] what
2. [N] They just don't care.
3. [SA] At: Menard Corr Center. Because staff is in cahoots with the gang bangers

On the whole, I am just doing time rather than using my time.

1. [SA] No programs in Menard
2. [SA] Yes!
3. [SA] using my time to sue the fuck out of them
4. [SA] no classes nothing
5. [N] I send ideas home, that's about it.
6. [SA] There is no programs or nothing to utilize our time we just in the cell 24hr.
7. [D] Only due to Allah
8. [SA] no school no job
9. [SA] I'm productive but no thanks to the system.
10. [A] cause some are like that
11. [SA] its hard to get in programs
12. [SD] Everything I try to do they make it negative stigma
13. [A] I get the help with what I got at my own disposal

This prison is controlled by incarcerated people rather than staff.

1. [SA] Inmates do they job for them wish yal could see
2. [SA] By the Black individuals and gang-bangers
3. [SA] conflicting?
4. [SA] The officers let gangs to run this!
5. [A/N] Both
6. [N] Certain things staff cannot control
7. [A] to disagree cause staff can be everywhere at once but they tried to
8. [A] Sometimes

This prison is well organized.

1. [D] not yet
2. [SA] staff locks this place down
3. [SA/N] depends on the situation
4. [SA] By Blacks and Gang-Bangers
5. [Blank] We get to use the phone every three days this is hard & cruel.

I feel that I am treated with respect by staff.

1. [N] Officer based
2. [A] some not all
3. [N/D] sometimes
4. [N] by some
5. [N] Depends on who!

Staff respond promptly to incidents and alarms.

1. [Blank] only if and when it benefits them
2. [N] not medical
3. [N] Depends
4. [A] Unless it's someone sick!
5. [Blank] Only negative things not when we need help.
6. [A] now
7. [N] Depends
8. [SD] only fights not medical
9. [SA] To physically assault prisoners
10. [SD] People beat because of staff
11. [D] only if its one of them they like to hurt people

When I need to get something done, I can normally get it done by talking to someone face to face.

1. [A] But this don't mean staff all the time
2. [D] or on paper things take time
3. [Blank] who?
4. [N] that depends what am I asking?
5. [Blank] ? I have to write grievance
6. [N] sometimes
7. [SD] They're pretending to fear me!
8. [A] Sometimes

You never know the rules.

1. [N] They don't follow their own rules.
2. [Blank] It's hard to no rules all we no is lockdown.
3. [A] Cant get DR- 504's
4. [SA] can change per cop
5. [SA] They (staff) change them everyday
6. [D] staff dont know they own rules
7. [SA] Staff do as they please
8. [N] It change for some people
9. [SD] the staff don't follow them
10. [SA] They bend them to much for us to know
11. [Blank] Menard CC does not abide by the rules of ADs or IDs

My experience in this prison is painful.

1. [[A] Somewhat!
2. [N] Thats life period
3. [SA] Beyond painful
4. [A] cause sometime it can be
5. [SA] ova painful!
6. [A] its been more then on sitation when the staff members have assaulted me

There is a hierarchy among incarcerated people.

1. [Blank] ?
2. [A] Not above staff thankfully!
3. [SD] 20 years ago.
4. [SA] correctional officers
5. [Blank] don't understand
6. [D] Sorry I dont know what that word means (hierarchy)

The disciplinary system is fair.

1. [N] sometime
2. [SD] Always guilty never proof of evidence
3. [SD] Another salient issue! I'm being denied commissary just because I choose to be alone!!!

There are a few incarcerated people who run things on this unit.

1. [SA] Yes Yes Yes
2. [D] Not really but some get more privilege for some reason!!
3. [SA] 100%
4. [SA] Black Individuals in custody
5. [N] Many But its gets the job done Staff is lazy.

I have to buy and sell things in order to get by.

1. [N] unless I buy an extra tray of food
2. [SA] Food out your mouth or trade for hygiene or clothing,
3. [A] Sell my Food to write home
4. [SA] Sell trays & commissary
5. [SA] I cant even sell toilet paper, trays, anything, for envelope been trying for a week
6. [SA] Cause I'm being starved in here.
7. [Blank] thats against the rules trading & trafficking usually over looked.
8. [SA] Im indigent so I have to sell my trays and indigent hygiene to survive
9. [N] life

Decisions are dominated by concerns about security.

1. [SA] Staff will let you die in Menard C.C. if your white and incarcerated
2. [SA] YES
3. [Blank] Inmate safety is bad because they allow police to do shot to make them stronger then beat on us
4. [SD] that is the excuse for poor treatment
5. [N] ?
6. [Blank] don't understand
7. [SA] Menard is run as if its a 'supermax'
8. [SA] Tickets always get more time for "security"

My time here seems like a chance to make positive changes.

1. [SA] Spiritual reasons not secular opportunities
2. [SA] But there are no programs- my positiveness is from my own and I have to initiate Possite For inmates (bible) (Study) (Prayer) or we don't get it
3. [N] It's what you make of your time, it's still hard to obtain education when there is no classes here—especially for lifers
4. [D] Not in Menard maybe 100C
5. [SA] It seems that way but its no, no school, no trade classes Nothing that will keep you from comin back but to keep you comin back
6. [N] I'm really trying to if anything the hostile environment there makes me fear for my life and if I'll even make my outdate in **[2+ YRS]** I feel more hatred and anger because I feel strongly the environment has rubbed off on me
7. [SA] If I live to make my parole date
8. [Blank] Trick Question
9. [Blank] If you help yourself Menard is not helpful—self help—family support with good godly books. Menard will let someone rot. It's oppressive people beg for another facility but cant even access the phone. gang infestations is horrible.
10. [SD] no opportunities
11. [Blank] Yes if i find the tools myself
12. [SD] Bullshit!
13. [N] This WAS true, now redundant!
14. [SD] My mind is already positive and I already changed but this prison is stressful lockdown 24hr phone call every three days no programs no school just in cell it can really make a person say fuck life and change.
15. [SD] Theirs no school etc. here only watered down classes for the short timers only
16. [SA] (No) this place only makes you worse
17. [A] only at 50% time

Q10. Mark response that best describes how you feel (Strongly Agree = SA, Agree = A, Neutral = N, Disagree = D, Strongly Disagree = SD)

I am not being treated as a human being here.

1. [A] depends on the situation but yes 9x out of 10
2. [A] Food is horrible cell here Dirty Rusted Molded
3. [Blank] In the Back its really fucked up I made it out.
4. [A] Medical
5. [SA] Very Strong

You have to be in a group or gang in order to get by.

1. [D] Because staff **[ILLEGIBLE]** them too"
2. [SA] Menard rules!
3. [SA] 100%
4. [Blank] Not sure how to answer
5. [Blank] Thats usually the way it works but im unaffiliated
6. [SA/N] both

When important decisions are made about me, I am treated as an individual, not a number.

1. [D] m/100%
2. [D] Not when it comes to medical
3. [SD] I'm treated like the skum of the earth
4. [Blank] treated like animals
5. [Blank] WTF **[REPEATED ON SEVERAL OTHER QS]**

Drugs cause a lot of problems between incarcerated people.

1. [SA] One of them attacked me!
2. [A] Incarcerated or not
3. [SD] We need a break. Bring tobacco bk in prison or something
4. [SA] And being white

Bullying behavior by incarcerated people is not tolerated.

1. [SD] 100%
2. [SD] Staff allow Blacks to bully white's
3. [D] Sometimes it is by my observation
4. [A] They only step in if they absolutely have to
5. [SD] The officers have inmates attacked!!!
6. [D] unless LGBTQ

All they care about is my offense and security level, not the person I really am.

1. [SA] 2x
2. [SA] really
3. [D] Staff, they don't care about nothing
4. [Blank] Not sure how to answer
5. [Blank] They only care about making your time miserable
6. [SA] Salient issue!!
7. [SA] 100% True
8. [SA] Only joint ever to have an aggressive level and they use your charges against you
9. [SA] none violent gun charge"
10. [SA] !!!
11. [SA] fact!!

Anyone who harms themselves is considered by staff to be more of an attention seeker than someone who needs help.

1. [SA] 2x
2. [SA] big fact!
3. [SA] as myself whose SMI
4. [SA] Yes
5. [Blank] I can't answer for staff
6. [N] \$
7. [SA] By med staff, Guards.
8. [N] cause people do it cause they want thing they way.

I am able to maintain meaningful contact with my outside supports.

1. [Blank] dont have any I am still make it work for me
2. [SD] How? Phones only once a month for B/A not C
3. [SD] No phone for **[ILLEGIBLE]** No tablet MSGS slow
4. [SD] No way
5. [SD] Don't get to use phone cause I'm White
6. [D] Just letters, no phone
7. [N] We don't use the phone daily only every three days only real contact is email through our tablet.
8. [SD] NO Phone calls
9. [N] barely
10. [SD] C-grade over a year, never heard ticket in 16 days and I can't get a write out

This prison is poor at giving incarcerated people reasons for decisions.

1. [Blank] don't understand question
2. [SA] Yes
3. [Blank] vague
4. [Blank] What?
5. [Blank] false they make up reasons to suit them
6. [SA] 101

Staff help incarcerated people maintain contact with outside supports.

1. [SD] 2 numbers restricted for no reason
2. [A] with the phone and mail
3. [A] by letting us use the phone if they allow us
4. [SD] Take phone privileges. Never visits and mail also
5. [SD] No
6. [SD] Only if your Black or their porter on unit
7. [SD] They stopped phone use and video visits in seg and that was my only contact.

This is a humane prison.

1. [SD] Plantation Slave Boat
2. [D] Sex criminal.
3. [SD] Hell no
4. [Blank] Don't understand
5. [SA] lead mold ventilation **[ILLEGIBLE]**
6. [N/D] more so

Incarcerated people in this prison spend too long locked up in cells.

1. [SA] 23/1
2. [SD] Keep them lock up
3. [SA] 24 hrs
4. [Blank] 24hrs a day. Always locked up
5. [SA] Yes
6. [N] Compared to what
7. [SA] 24hrs 6 days a week!!
8. [SA] Unless your Black the staff spoil's them
9. [SA] We always in the cell
10. [SA] 100%
11. [A] I like to have me time though.
12. [SA]100% true
13. [SA] 22 hours a day
14. [SA] YES
15. [Blank] All depends on what recreation is implemented or dayroom
16. [A] but it's because of us not staff
17. [SA] damn right!

This prison is safe for incarcerated people.

1. [N] hard to answer, circumstance based
2. [N] but that on us as inmate on how we act
3. [SD] not if LGBTQ
4. [SD] Staff hate us. Hurt us take food
5. [Blank] trick Question
6. [SD] in the Back its fucked up
7. [Blank] Not safe from staff. They beat the shit out of inmates.

Mental health treatment is available.

1. [A] I guess. But is it meaningful?
2. [SD] They do nothing to help
3. [A] understaffed dramatically
4. [SD] All mental health people that want to do their job's are talk about by staff as inmates lover's and ran out the prison look into it
5. [D] not really how it needs to be

6. [D] Not really available
7. [D] I be trying to see someone for 6 months
8. [SD] No
9. [SD] They interview us but don't help us
10. [SD] I am sueing them for mental health care
11. [SD] I been trying to get treatment for a long time but am refused.
12. [D] Not really
13. [D] Hardly!
14. [N] Work?
15. [SD] Not adequate mental health treatment
16. [SD] Good for nothing

This prison is better now than it was last year.

1. [SD] every year it gets worse.
2. [SD] might be worse just got here. but same as 3-4 yrs ago
3. [N] I don't know
4. [D] same
5. [SD] worse!
6. [SD] it has worsened
7. [SD] COVID restrictions hurt inmates because staff get paid less now
8. [SD] worst
9. [SD] No
10. [N] ITS BEEN TERRIBLE SINCE COVID
11. [Blank] same

Every effort is made by this prison to help people stop committing offenses on release from custody.

1. [SD] If you are going home they leave you in your cell with no out time at all.
2. [SD] When Where What classes
3. [SD] Being in the cell 24hrs is hard so when we come out for our 1 day some people don't no how to act because the mental is messed up so it's hard to stay calm see if they were use to coming out it would be better.
4. [Blank] They keep you until your dead or incapacitated
5. [SD] Absolutely not
6. [SD] No Programs
7. [SD] If anything they're encouraged to commit more crimes not me!

I am satisfied with food from dietary.

1. [SD] Hell No!
2. [SD] diet is poorly maintain for diabetics
3. [D] no seasoning or condiments rarely get
4. [SD] Food here is beyond terrible.
5. [SD] Hell no!
6. [SD] All we get is slop and potatoes

7. [SD] No
8. [SD] Dietary/Staff would starve us if they could
9. [SD] 100%
10. [SD] dog food or worse
11. [SD] portions are lot smaller in seg and they refuse extra food
12. [SD] They only fix good food when outside people come in
13. [D] Slick meat ugle meat WHAT? Really..
14. [SD] Never
15. [SD] uncooked/cold food
16. [SD] Food is 100% horrible here
17. [SD] A small portion of gravy and 2 slices of bread and milk is not a wholesome breakfast and mold on food
18. [SD] Hell no!!
19. [Blank] Today we got fried chicken 1st time ever

I have the opportunity to go to yard at least twice a week.

1. [SD] Once a week! Menard C.C. E-house 2023
2. [SD] Hell 2 da no! Barely get 1 a wk
3. [A] though not in east house.
4. [SD] once a week if that
5. [N] on us not staff once again
6. [N] East House is once only!
7. [SD] never
8. [N] Inmates don't know how to act reasonably on yard
9. [SD] 1 yard if we are lucky per week
10. [SD] Hell 2 da no! Barley get 1 a wk
11. [SD] They take our yard or make us stay out the whole 5 hours
12. [N] Depends on how they feel
13. [SD] Not At All In '3' weeks
14. [SD] NO We are locked in the cell 6 days a week, sometimes 7days/24hrs a day no Movement!
15. [A] Yes but my life is always in danger why I am in Menard C.C.
16. [A/D] if you are on they black ban list they dont allow you to go
17. [N] sometimes
18. [A] For a hour HA"
19. [A] Most the time
20. [N] I do but chose not to! No need to socialize here!
21. [SD] Only once.
22. [N] some weeks.
23. [SD] not at all we get one yard a week
24. [SD] (We get 1 yard a week 5 hrs)
25. [SD] Too much lockdown

Q11. Overall, on a scale of 1 to 10, mark the box this prison deserves in terms of quality of life/general treatment of the people incarcerated here.

1. Zero, Menard is extremely horrible they only care about themselves due to they all being related or relations & will protect each other by any means!
2. [10] we have to let them help us as well if we don't how can they
3. [1] really a zero! #factz
4. [10] If you had a zero I'd check it
5. [4] Generous
6. [1] Lower than 1
7. [1] There food menu on this Menard IDOC website is not the food we get served
8. [1] NONE: maybe they are all trying to kill me before [DATE REDACTED] I can use help.
9. [Blank] it deserves a negative -1 because the only thing that I learned is too be in a cell 24 hours a day nothing more nothingless.
10. [1] 1 is the lowest for East House East House I Been thru hell and Back But I made it out now I'm straight
11. [1] Cruel & unusual punishment! Dog food, Health request, Never respond. You die here
12. [1] They dont care about us! All they see is your skin. It's crazy they closeing all the black prisons to force us in the land of the Klan. I am putting my name because I want my thing to be known, they have staff bringing drugs in for inmates [NAME AND ID REDACTED]
13. [4] Because we are living but their is no health service, mental or anything here to prepare you for freedom only excuses
14. [Blank] Negative 10
15. [3] Its really bad
16. [4 & 5] 4 or 5
17. [1] 0 or 1
18. [1] Really a zero
19. [3] Quality of life
20. [Blank] Is there an option Lower than Lowest? If there is, that is what it would be.
21. [Blank] -10

Miscellaneous Comments

1. Take this—we are suppose to have everything in our box when we leave the cell aside from two books and some hygiene. We are allowed to shop for 100 in food and whatever amount of clothes you can afford. So lets just say 10 bars of soap put with food it makes your food taste like soap) two sweat suits, 5 t-shirts, 12 socks, pictures (500), two bath towels, two sheets, pillow case, blues, shoes. Try to put all that in a box. [NAME AND ID REDACTED]
2. I'm not worried about staying anonymous. I did nearly [15+] years in seg, the hole, from [DATE REDACTED] until [DATE REDACTED], and I caught, got most of that

time here at Menard, and now I can't get a job or a transfer, I need help... my name is; **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** I've been in prison since I was 19 yrs old I'll be **[45+]** this year, and my health is not good... help!

3. MSU, there is a huge difference between Menard and Menard-MSU!
4. We need a Doctor
5. Many inmates have died, because of the heat in the summer. Because the cell houses don't have AC! The Healthcare has caused many deaths of inmates over the years, because of not helping inmates when needed. It cost money to help inmates and there time. They get paid every two weeks and the staff don't have to do anything. Inmates are held a countable for there crime! Whereas State of Illinois and DOC can get away with abuse, neglect, and the cause of inmate death, because of poor healthcare, poor living conditions and not moving with the times. Some people care when people die out in the World, but no body care if an inmate dies in prison!
6. The medical Dept. deprives inmates of proper medical treatment, consistent medications, denial of medications, proper medications, treatment. I am now 4 months waiting for medication approval- I was just recieveing meds for 1 yr No pain or minimal, 4 months w/o in constant pain!
7. No doctor on Menard grounds over two years.
8. No doctor over two years on Menard grounds no nurses at nite. No ministering medication at time because short on staff, ask the warden. Prayer if it was not for Christ we all be—?
9. P.S. Dear JHA we appreciates everything but please help us aint no school down here for people like me I got life so I cant go to school.
10. Please reach out to me at **[NAME AND HOME ADDRESS REDACTED]** Im sueing these people due to staff putting hands on inmates/myself, C/Os dating inmates, poor medical, etc.
11. Please help **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** I have testicular cancer and no medical care other than nurses at Menard.
12. I pray that they mail this to you instead of throwing them all away...
13. **[ILLEGIBLE]** Gives us nothing **[ILLEGIBLE]** need black hygiene products, grooming products, etc. **[ILLEGIBLE]** but they sell femine products in a male facility. Black lives dont matter in Menard to M.C.C. admins **[ILLEGIBLE]**
14. I included my prea only chance I will have!!!
15. They not letting us get on the phone's to talk to my family and kids
16. They say this aint IDOC, dis menard. the worst of the worst.
17. Please, make positive change!
18. Please, give us some Hope for change. Real change! I Hope you can read my writing! Thank you! I'm a Inmate that truly locked up for a crime I didn't commit. so, it's truly Hard on me. My AGR
19. Their is a lot more wrong an I want to be a part of the change. I was a juvenile when I came here and has never been offered a job skill or nothing. I have over 20 years in prison an never been given a job. Even when I am good. I will love to work with yall in order to change the rule in IDOC upon my outdate. In order to change something you have to have someone that been threw it. I dont care about my name being out their. Please google my name I have sue for everything I am saying **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** (will work for FREE to improve things)
20. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** please read everything
21. My name is **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** 5 people invaded my house shot me. I stabbed the gun man he die and I've been in jail ever since. Before that day I had no background. I need help.

22. We are incarcerated; imprisoned and/or enslaved (see 13th amendment US Constitution) that are very poor; indigent and unable to acquire U.S. currency thus things such as copying legal papers/legal documents from the law library should be free to us. Also the price for a 13" TV set that in most stores sold for around \$50.00 is prices here to us at over \$200.00 How is this even possible please have them lower the price for the TV. Tablet and shoes. They dont even provide us with shoes for summer nor boots for winter.
23. The only time this place feeds us good and make sure everything is ran right is when springfield or a tour comes through.
24. Tablets purchased by inmates have no phones yet, as promised via a memo by the director over 2 years ago. Healthcare, comm apps, & other apps on tablet are empty with no info and game old game apps have never changed and movie apps on tablet are all edited and all reruns that have been showed on TV over and over again. We should have the right to stream more channels/movies. Not be subject to movies only GTL provides. Use to have a great cable network, but adm. changed to a new satellite provider and we lost all the good movie channels. For pete sakes, at least give us 1 premium channel like most all other prison in Illinois have. Again, scared to use the phone do to germs, covid, so PLEASE, the phone app on the tablets need to be activated ASAP. That would also cut down all the fights on the yard. 90% of the fights in here are over the phone use. Its the same old game in here when, it comes to most everything in here. The only down time is in the cell and the cell is like a cage. Only outlet is tablet, TV, so PLEASE give us more variety on tablet and on television channels. They took the only Hispanic movie channel (Telemundo) off. Thank you!
25. Also, I suffered for 2 years trying to get medical treatment for a [REDACTED] and a [REDACTED]. When I was finally sent to outside physicians, doctors opinion that each of my ailments need surgery. I am currently still waiting for those surgeries.
26. Menard/ MSU (medium security unit)
27. Med. Sec. Unit (MSU)
28. In addition I get the COPD inhaler Albuterol. When the manufacturer went bankrupt and the price went through the roof a few months ago. They cut my usage from "1-2 puffs by mouth 4 times a day" with refills every month, to "as needed" with refills of one inhaler every 5 months. They have also done this with 3 other meds. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
29. 'Group' Health & Mental. Jobs Please! Don't Matter!! Whats the job. Out 'N' Town or **[ILLEGIBLE]** 'C' grade! Really so I cant talk 2 my family that OK Im away from cant even see but MAN I cant evan talk now. No FOOD Please we get Hungary & if you were goin out N the world & end up never **[ILLEGIBLE]** your young dont really what you want in life you want! & **[ILLEGIBLE]** Im from **[ILLEGIBLE]** (CA) & **[ILLEGIBLE]** from home C **[ILLEGIBLE]** really
30. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
31. **[REDACTED DATE]**
32. This is Menard MSU
33. When I was given this form I was told I was a snitch.
34. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]** Write back please
35. Please Help Us In Menard SOS
36. They Say the Worse prison in IL.
37. **[NAME AND ID REDACTED]**
38. These questions don` t work B/c the rules don` t work "No lines up" for instance, well how do we dry our clothes...
39. This prison is not letting us use phone to talk to family



This report was written by JHA staff. Media inquiries should be directed to JHA's Executive Director Jennifer Vollen-Katz at (312) 291-9183 or jvollen@thejha.org

Incarcerated individuals can send privileged mail to report concerns and issues to the John Howard Association, P.O. Box 10042, Chicago, IL 60610-0042. JHA staff read every letter and track this information to monitor what is occurring behind prison walls and to advocate for humane policies and practices. Family and friends can contact JHA via our website www.thejha.org or by leaving us a voicemail at (312) 291-9183.

Since 1901, JHA has provided public oversight of Illinois' juvenile and adult correctional facilities. Every year, JHA staff and trained volunteers inspect prisons, jails, and detention centers throughout the state. Based on these inspections, JHA regularly issues reports that are instrumental in improving prison conditions. JHA humbly thanks everyone who graciously shared their experiences and insights with us.

