Finding the Main Idea and Creating a Response

Week 1 Assignment 2

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The criminals or suspects suffering from mental illnesses must be subjected to forced treatment rather than keeping them in jail. The primary focus of the prisons should be reforming the inmates rather than punishing them for achieving the reforming goal; the inmates must receive the treatment first to enable them to live with other inmates peacefully. Besides, it is increasingly challenging for inmates with mental disorders to make sound decisions, and for this reason, they may end up in other unethical or illegal acts like suicide (Olfson, 2016). Consequently, these individuals cannot make sound decisions regarding their health issues because some are ever detesting virtually everything. At no point will the patients living with mental illness be in a position to make the best decision regarding their welfare, and this presents the need for subjecting them to mental treatment without their approval. Mental illness is not something to bargain about in this case because it may aggravate something worst. After a critical evaluation of the issue presented in this case, Edwards (2015) reported that although forcing treatment on mental illness inmates infringes the civil rights, it is increasingly costly to incarcerate individuals with mental illness. Furthermore, the population living with mental illness is on the rise in the criminal justice system. Moreover, these persons are likely to commit crimes or be a victim of crimes. This article supports the topic or the argument, and it argues on the basis of the cost of detaining these individuals.

Reference

Edwards, H. S. (2015, February 20). Should mentally ill people be forced into treatment? Retrieved October 15, 2020, from <https://time.com/3716426/mental-illness-treatment-cost/>

Olfson, M. (2016). Building the mental health workforce capacity needed to treat adults with serious mental illnesses. *Health Affairs*, *35*(6), 983-990.