

CRIMINAL JUSTICE **ETHICS**

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Chapter 7: Ethics in Corrections:
The Nature of Corrections

4 EDITION

Theory
and
Practice

The Prison Explosion

- From about 1982 there has been explosion in incarceration and supervision in U.S.
- By yearend 2013, state and federal prison inmates totaled 1,574,700 (Carson, 2014)
 - Rate of 478 per 100,000 residents in U.S.
- Collectively about 6.8 million persons under adult supervision of some form at yearend 2013
- Cost of corrections has also increased greatly
 - Federal government increased expenditure on corrections between 1980 and 2013 to more than \$6.7 billion
- Between 2007 and 2013 number of states changed penal policies in order to contain prison growth and reduce costs

The Prison Explosion

- Researchers unable to identify every incident, factor, or policy playing a role in prison explosion
- Mauer (2006)
 - Since 2007 new dialogue turned attention to incarceration explosion
- One outcome of mass incarceration is prison overcrowding
 - Results in litigation