

## Book Review

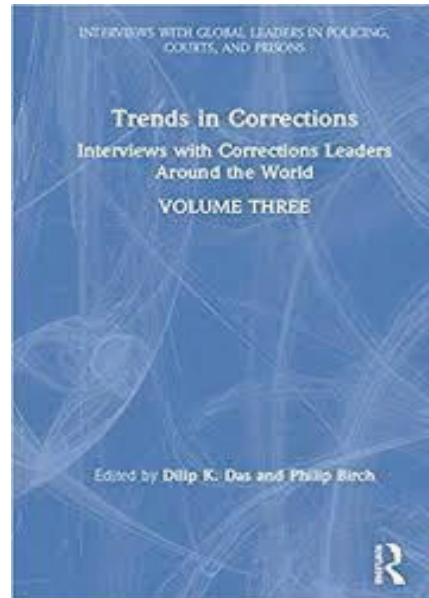
### *Trends in Corrections: Interviews with Corrections Leaders around the World*

Editors, Dilip Das and Philip Birch

Routledge

2019, 254 pages

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Reviewed by Emma Wintle

This third volume contains interviews with ten corrections leaders from Europe, North America, South America, Asia and South Africa, providing the reader with first-hand experiential accounts of correctional practices in these jurisdictions and the challenges faced due to the specific demands of their particular countries and its penal practices. Each of the ten interviewees currently leads, or has been a leader, of a correctional institution or a key department or agency related to the field of corrections. Each interview highlights issues in correctional programming and management styles in the eight countries around the world that are represented in the volume. The interviewees respond to questions about their own personal correctional philosophies and the role of corrections, as well how they incorporate theory and evidence-based practices into their work and balance the goals of corrective control and rehabilitation. There is a particular emphasis within these in-depth interviews on how the correctional leaders evaluate trends and developments and despite localised issues and their position on the trajectory of developments in correctional philosophy and practice, a

number of similarities have been identified, including the need for effective rehabilitation and reintegration services utilising individualised case management and throughcare.

Those conducting the interviews come from the fields of criminology, criminal justice, sociology, psychology, criminal law and law enforcement. The editors, Das and Birch, have years of experience in criminal justice practice, research, education and have published internationally. The concluding chapter written by Birch *et al.* successfully draws together the themes identified from examining the interview data presented in this edition and demonstrates a number of interrelated trends driving complexity and change at an unprecedented rate and affecting the future context of leadership within corrections. For example, shifting demographics including an ageing prison population, changes in community expectations and technological advances which can support the management of offenders. As the editors explain, there is a requirement for corrections to be up to date with innovative policy and contemporary practice and management decisions to be underpinned by relevant theory and an evidence base. This edition supports these principles by publishing ideas and theories based on decades of correctional administrative experience, furthermore, illustrates the need for enhancing and evolving skills and knowledge to face upcoming changes and challenges to leadership and management of correctional practice. This book is therefore a must read for correctional leaders and those that work, or intend to work, in the field of corrections.

#### ABOUT THE REVIEWER

**Emma Wintle** is a researcher of policing and law enforcement at Charles Sturt University, Australia. Emma has a Bachelor in Criminology and Criminal Justice (Hons) from the University of New South Wales, Australia, and is a PhD candidate. Prior to entering academia, Emma worked in Regulatory Affairs, analysing policy and lobbying governments for evidence based practices.