

College for Convicts FAQs

Q. What is the purpose of *College for Convicts*?

A. The purpose of *College for Convicts: The Case for Higher Education in American Prisons* (McFarland & Co., 2014) is to present the research on the cost-effectiveness of correctional education. The idea was to explore prison education as an alternative solution to crime control and compare its effectiveness with other forms of crime control. As the book shows, education provided to prison inmates is the most cost-effective, proven method of reducing recidivism that we currently know of.

Q. Is this book for prisoners or lawmakers and the American public?

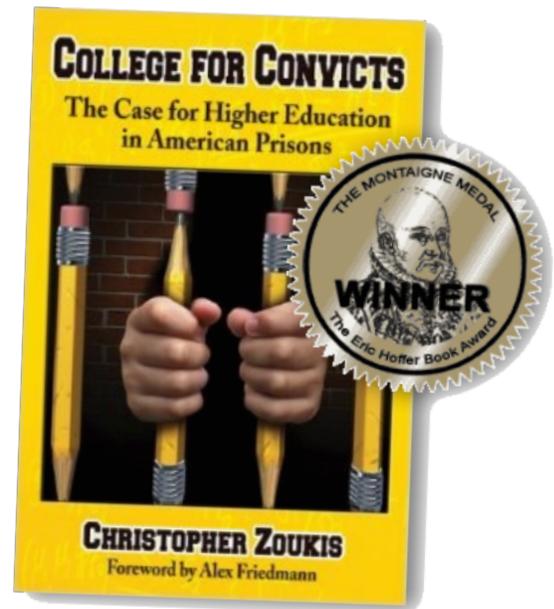
A. While reading *College for Convicts* could help prisoners understand why education is an important avenue for them to pursue, the target market for this book consists of lawmakers, policy makers, and the American public. This book is about presenting the research behind prison education in the hopes greater support can be garnered, and through this greater awareness it is hoped that funding for such programs will be expanded.

Q. What is the research foundation of this book?

A. *College for Convicts* is based off of an in-depth review and analysis of 242 sources, which include private and government sponsored studies, articles, books and a plethora of other research forms. One of the strengths of this book is that while it is based off research, the research is validated through the first hand experiences of the author as an incarcerated student and prison educator.

Q. What message does this book convey?

A. The message is simple. Prison education programs, particularly those at the academic college level, are the best option for enhancing public safety and reducing sky high recidivism rates. While it might not feel great to provide an education to the seemingly undeserving, research clearly shows education will result in reduced correctional expenditures, enhanced public safety and a substantially lower rate of recidivism.



Q. Are there other books of this nature currently available?

A. No, *College for Convicts* is the only public interest book on prison education published in recent years. With this being said, there have been several studies -- most notably from the [Rand Corporation](#), which explore various prison education topics, but nothing meant for the general public.

Q. External of this book, where can readers learn more about the research behind prison education and educational programs currently in existence in the United States' prisons?

A. [PrisonEducation.com](#) offers a wealth of information concerning correctional education. The research papers and media factsheets are of particular interest.

Q. How can readers receive periodic updates on Christopher Zoukis or PrisonEducation.com's projects?

A. Readers can sign up for PrisonEducation.com's monthly Newsletter by submitting their email address through the contact form embedded in the sidebar of every website page.

Q. Are there other books by Christopher Zoukis that focus on prison education topics?

A. Yes. In March 2016, Prison Legal News Publishing released Mr. Zoukis' latest book, the *[Prison Education Guide](#)*. This book profiles 160 different correspondence programs that prisoners can complete all from their prison cell. Profiled offerings include collegiate religious studies, graduate and undergraduate programs, vocational programs, high school diploma programs, fee-based Bible study courses, free Bible study courses and even personal enrichment courses.

Q. Is Christopher Zoukis on social media?

A. Yes, the PrisonEducation.com team is on Twitter [@PrisonEduc](#) and on Facebook at [facebook.com/PrisonerEducation](#).

Q. Is the author available for interview?

A. Yes, Christopher Zoukis is available for interview via telephone and email. To schedule an interview, please email media@prisoneducation.com. Chris is also available to contribute articles concerning prison education and prisoners' rights for other publications.