

Given the stigma attached to sexual offences and the treatment sexual offenders regularly receive from fellow inmates, this is cruel and unjust punishment indeed.

Professor Cyril Greenland, in his study on 'dangerous sexual offenders', makes the following observations on prison experience:

Marcus, a psychiatrist who has studied dangerous sexual offenders in the British Columbia Penitentiary, writes:

"The dangerous sexual offender in the prison community is a pariah. He is not only isolated and spurned by the larger prison population but he is subject to considerable personal humiliation and verbal and physical abuse."

Next, in his own words, is an inmate's description of his plight:

"If you live long enough in one of these institutions, you come to the realization that what really makes things tick here is hate. The inmates hate the guards, the guards hate the inmates, and together they hate the sex offenders. The sex offender is considered the lowest form of life and is treated as such almost universally. He is beaten, spat upon, his possessions are fair game for theft or destruction, and he is usually accorded some semblance of the silent treatment. The life of the sex offender in this institution is one of a constant state of siege, never allowing him to relax his guard completely in any manner."

Finally, here are a few lines from a Toronto newspaper (The Globe and Mail, July 7, 1971)