

The following text will inform readers about penological basics. The work describes the problems of penitentiary and postpenitentiary care and it puts to its goal to inform about the necessity to fulfill the reforming function of a punishment and the need to enhance the Czech penitentiary system. It draws attention to possible psychological and social traumas, which prisoners who are arrested or prisoners who are sentenced to imprisonment are exposed to. It deals with the critical aspects of punishment and sentencing which affect the future life of the convicted person after his or her discharge. It shows the way how the penitentiary system should look like in order to minimize the risks of recidivism and to be considerate to the psychic of the prisoner.

The attention is devoted to the education of the prisoner, his or her resocialization and the effort to his or her redress above all, so that he or she could return to the society without greater problems and it would not come to culpitting of offences any more.

The main motto of this work could be grasped with the Latin phrase *Primum non nocere* - first not to harm.