

My thesis discusses the importance of having mentors work with individuals released from prison as a means to prepare them for re-entry into society. First, I present a theoretical framework that enables better insight into the issue. I conclude by comparing the mentor system in the Czech Republic to that of the United States, with a focus on the role and importance of mentors in working with individuals released from prison. I approached this from my own perspective, as I served as a mentor for over three years. I have seen firsthand the struggles of some when it comes to re-integration in society, and I have also seen programs that work, all from the perspective of an on-the-ground mentor. The work also describes the training mentors receive and testimonials from clients who were released from prison and received help from the mentoring program, both in the Czech Republic and in other country.

Mentors' importance lies mainly in the fact that the mentor helps to solve problems of these people and at the earliest possible time after their release. Mentoring has its reach into the communities where it is applied. For clients is very important experiences that their situation can be resolved the way that it does not violate the law and that there is someone you trust and who is accompanied in this way.