SCHIZOPHRENIA IS A PSYCHOLOGICAL DISORDER THAT PRODUCES SYMPTOMS COMMONLY OF HALLUCINATIONS, DELUSIONS, MOVEMENT DISORDERS, AND CONFUSED THOUGHT OR SPEECH. AMERICANS DIAGNOSED WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA ARE THREE TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE IMPRISONED THAN HOSPITALIZED FOR THEIR SYMPTOMS, THEREFORE, NECESSITATING PRISON REFORM TO TREAT INDIVIDUALS AND REDUCE REPEAT OFFENSES.

IN ORDER TO CONDUCT THE RESEARCH, SURVEYS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO IWS IN 100 PRISONS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES. CHANGES IN SYMPTOMS WILL BE ANALYZED OVER THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD TO OBSERVE HOW MEDICATIONS AND OTHER FORMS OF TREATMENT AFFECT SYMPTOMS OF IWS.

FEDERAL PRISONS FAIL TO CLASSIFY SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESSES IN PRISONERS AND ONLY REQUIRE TREATMENT IN 3% OF INMATES. IN COMPARISON, CALIFORNIA PRISONS CLASSIFIED 30% OF INMATES IN NEED OF REGULAR TREATMENT FOR SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS.

LACK OF TREATMENT CAUSES MANY IWS TO EXPERIENCE HEIGHTENED NEGATIVE SYMPTOMS WHICH, WITHOUT TREATMENT, DROVE SOME INMATES TO ATTEMPT SUICIDE. ADMINISTERING ANTI-PYSCHOTIC DRUGS TO PEOPLE WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA REDUCES THEIR NEGATIVE SYMPTOMS, WHICH WOULD HELP CURRENT INMATES, AND KEEP NON-INCARCERATED PEOPLE WITH SCHIZOPHRENIA OUT OF PRISON.

THE UNITED STATES, COMPARED TO OTHER COUNTRIES, LACKS TREATING IWS, THUS REFORM IS NEEDED TO FIX THIS PROBLEM.

THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION SHOWS THAT 2.8 MILLION AMERICANS HAVE SCHIZOPHRENIA AND 383,000 INMATES IN THE US HAVE BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH IT.

FEDERAL PRISONS ONLY FOUND TO REQUIRE SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS TREATMENT FOR 3% OF INMATES WHEREAS CA PRISONS CLASSIFIED 30% OF INMATES IN NEED OF TREATMENT.

THUS, REFORM IS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT PRISONERS EXPERIENCING SCHIZOPHRENIA RECEIVE APPROPRIATE CARE.

THE METHODS USED IN THIS RESEARCH INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

1. SURVEYS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO IWS IN 100 PRISONS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES.
2. CHANGES IN SYMPTOMS WILL BE ANALYZED OVER THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD TO OBSERVE HOW MEDICATIONS AND OTHER FORMS OF TREATMENT AFFECT SYMPTOMS OF IWS.
3. DATA WILL BE GATHERED FROM SURVEYS DISTRIBUTED IN IWS.

THE REFERENCE MATERIALS USED IN THIS RESEARCH INCLUDE: