Paradigm Shifts: Lessons from the 1960s

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Leprosy disappeared, the leper vanished, or almost, from memory; these structures remained. Often, in these same places, the formulas of exclusion would be repeated, strangely similar two or three centuries later. Poor vagabonds, criminals, and “deranged minds” would take the part played by the leper . . . . With an altogether new meaning and in a very different culture, the forms would remain—essentially that major form of a rigorous division which is social exclusion but spiritual reintegration.
Rates of Institutionalization in Mental Institutions and State and Federal Prisons (per 100,000 adults)
Rates of Institutionalization in the United States (including jail populations)
## Comparative rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2000 # beds in psych hospitals per 100,000</th>
<th>2006 prison rates per 100,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>188.5</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>161.6</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>119.9</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>102.9</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITALY</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>600+ (prison only/adults)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Psych bed numbers from Eurostat
Italy: Prison Population
Italy: Prison Rate per 100,000 persons
Psychiatric hospital beds in Italy (per 100,000 inhabitants)
Number of psychiatric hospital beds per 100,000 inhabitants
Different Rates of Institutionalization in Mental Institutions in the United States (per 100,000 adults)
First, the experience of WWII demonstrated efficacy of community and outpatient treatment. Second, shift in psychiatric thinking emphasizes socio-environmental factors. Third, belief in early intervention in the community. Fourth, introduction of biological therapies. Fifth, enhanced social welfare role for the federal government.
Biological: development of psychiatric medicines
- direct or indirect effects

Leadership:
- 1963 Community Mental Health Act
- 1965 Medicare and Medicaid

Changing perception of mental illness
- documentaries and films
- anti-psychiatry movement
The example of President John F. Kennedy: 1963 Community Mental Health Centers Act
The change in the general perception of the mental patient/inmate.
1965 Medicare and Medicaid: federal funding mechanisms as a way to move inmates back into the community.
Litigation against hospital conditions/prison conditions.
“If we launch a broad new mental health program now, it will be possible within a decade or two to reduce the number of patients now under custodial care by 50 percent or more. Many more mentally ill can be helped to remain in their homes without hardship to themselves or their families. Those who are hospitalized can be helped to return to their own communities...”
“... Central to a new mental health program is comprehensive community care. Merely pouring Federal funds into a continuation of the outmoded type of institutional care which now prevails would make little difference.”
The example of President John F. Kennedy:
1963 Community Mental Health Centers Act
The change in the general perception of the mental patient/inmate.
1965 Medicare and Medicaid: federal funding mechanisms as a way to move inmates back into the community.
Litigation against hospital conditions/prison conditions.
What to avoid...

- Increased racialization of institution
- Reinstitutionalization
State and Federal Prisons and Jail Population Ratios by Race

- **nonwhite**
- **white**
Total Institution Population by Race

- nonwhite
- white
What to avoid...

- Increased racialization of institution
- Transinstitutionalization
Rates of Institutionalization in Mental Institutions and State and Federal Prisons (per 100,000 adults)