

Dear Sir

12/30/74

I am a former correctional officer at Mountainview State School for Boys.

Your recent decision to abolish the Wadesville and Mountainview system in favor of regional facilities has been bouncing around in my mind for a while.

For some youth this might be fine but for others nothing less than maximum security and firm but fair treatment will ~~be~~ suffice.

The dilution of discipline by "bleeding hearts" was quite a problem at Mountainview. I firmly believe this was a ~~major~~ major factor in the riots of the summer of 1973. I "saw" it coming beforehand.

I was astonished at how hardened and cold a youth of only 15 or 16 could be. Maybe society is a lot to blame but easing discipline and eliminating institutions is certainly not the answer.

I wish the people that make regulations and pass judgments would try the "pits" like I did. I learned a lot and I think they would also. Of course they would (ON BACK)

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have to participate incognito to get the effect.

Sincerely,

Joe Paul Stovall  
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(ON BACK)