Hannah Elmore

Release from Incarceration Assignment

I believe that people with criminal records should be priorities for work programs depending on the extent of the crime they have committed. I think offenders who are in the prison system for an offense such as a drug crime should be given the opportunity to take part in work programs once they are released because this will give them hope that they can make something of themselves and keep them away from drugs. When most individuals are released from prison they do not have anywhere to go and no money to start out on. This leaves a lot of offenders with no other option than to live on the streets, and some may even begin committing illegal acts in order to try and get money which will just lead to them reentering the prison system.

If Hector had not been given the opportunity to work for Action Carting he probably would have started doing drugs again and ended up back in prison. I feel there should be work programs designed specifically for offenders who are being released back into society. This would help minimize the problem of having to choose rather to give the job to someone with a criminal record and someone without. Many jobs will not hire offenders depending on what crime they have committed. If there were programs put in place that offenders could choose to work for after their sentence is completed this would help with their rehabilitation.

Some members of society may feel that implementing such work programs for offenders would be wrong because they have committed a crime and should have to find a job on their own, like ordinary members of society are taught to do. However, others may be more understanding and believe that such programs would keep offenders from recommitting crimes.