

# Review of: "The Effectiveness of Prison Education in Reducing Criminal Recidivism: A Systematic Review"

Lori Brusman Lovins<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Bowling Green State University

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

Nice job to the author for tackling an area in need of attention. While this is not a new area of study, it is an area that deserves periodic reviews as we continue to search for improved methods for reintegrating individuals from prison to the community. The paper is generally well-written and organized in a systematic and logical way.

I offer the following suggestions:

I'm not sure what citation style is being used; the fields of psychology and criminology in the U.S. (among others) use APA 7—parenthetical citations in this paper are a bit distracting but may be appropriate to the citation style being used. If not, this should be corrected.

While the paper is generally well-written, proofread as there are areas in need of grammatical correction.

Based on the title, my assumption was that this was going to be a meta-analysis. Instead, it was more a summary of the final 10/11 studies included in the review. While you did summarize what the quantitative studies found, little was said about the qualitative or mixed methods studies (in terms of the results), such as common themes related to reintegration or recidivism or other themes that may help to address barriers to accessing or improving education and vocation in prisons. More about these results might be helpful in tying in some of your discussion points.

Just ensure that your results section ties together with your discussion/conclusion. Nicely written conclusion section.