

Setting the scene
**Restorative justice and
the prison's moral climate:
Some theoretical and empirical
observations**

Professor Alison Liebling
Cambridge Institute of Criminology

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Restorative justice, undominated speech and recognition

- ‘The closer we get to conditions of undominated speech, the more overwhelmingly it will turn out to be the case that evils such as violence will be near-universally condemned’ (Habermas 1996).
- ‘One of the things that makes a human life go well is the recognition by the person who lives it that he is fully human, and the social forms in which that recognition is expressed’ (Kraut 1999: 329).

Prison Quality Dimensions

(‘things that matter’)

- Relationships:

- Respect
- Humanity
- Relationships
- Trust
- Support

- Social Structure:

- Power/authority
- Social relations

- Regime:

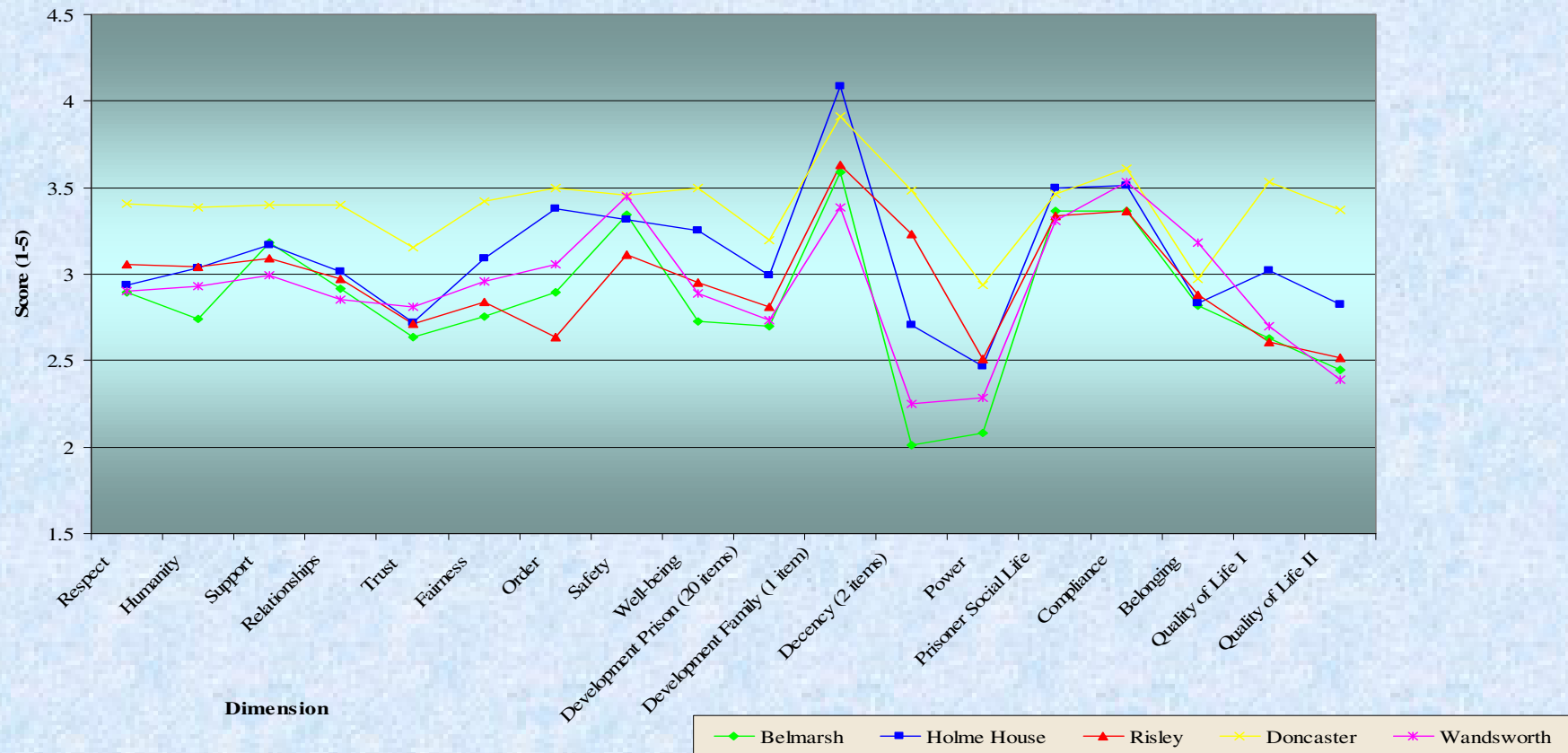
- Fairness
- Order
- Safety
- Well-being
- Personal Development
- Family Contact
- Decency

- Other:

- Meaning
- Quality of life

When I first came in, I had no pillow. I approached two officers – they were chatting, so I waited. Eventually, one of them asked me what I wanted. He said, ‘You’re not entitled to a pillow’ and carried on chatting. They were not concerned about me. That seems minor, but it’s crucial. *It can turn you into a different person (Prisoner).*

A Comparison of Prisoners' Views of the Quality of Life in Five Prisons

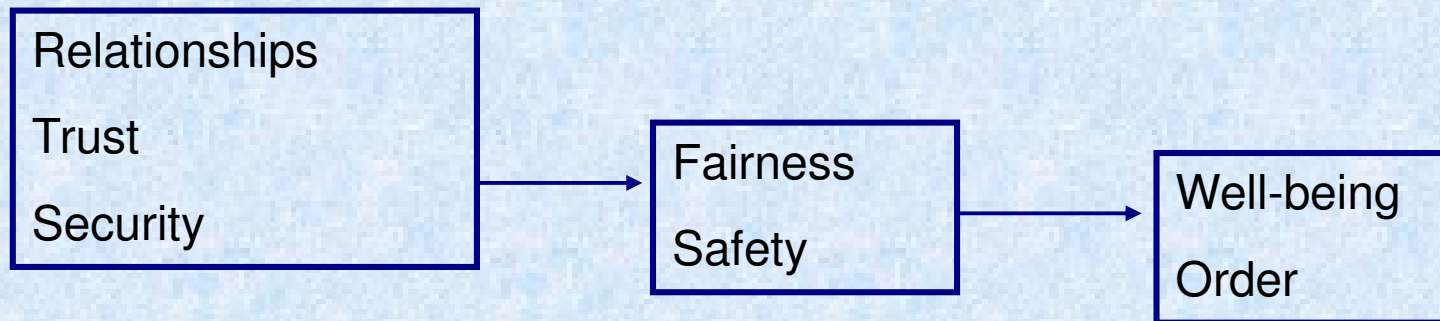


How punishing and painful is prison?

<i>Statement</i>	Belmarsh 'unresponsive'	Holme House 'controlled/ consistent'	Risley 'haphazard'	Doncaster 'relational'	Wandsworth 'clear/ consistent'
1. My time here seems very much like a punishment	83.1 ^b	46.8	53.4	49.1 ^a	61.7
2. My experience in this prison is painful	50.6 ^b	25.5	31.7	15.8 ^a	35.0
3. Some of the treatment I receive in this prison is degrading.	61.5 ^b	42.5	37.6	24.5 ^a	43.3
4. Staff here treat me with kindness.	30.1	28.8	27.8 ^b	36.9 ^a	30.0
5. I am not being treated as a human being in here.	38.6 ^b	22.3	20.8	8.8 ^a	28.3

A Simplified Model of Prison Quality

(from Liebling, 2004, *Prisons and their Moral Performance*,
Oxford: Clarendon Press)



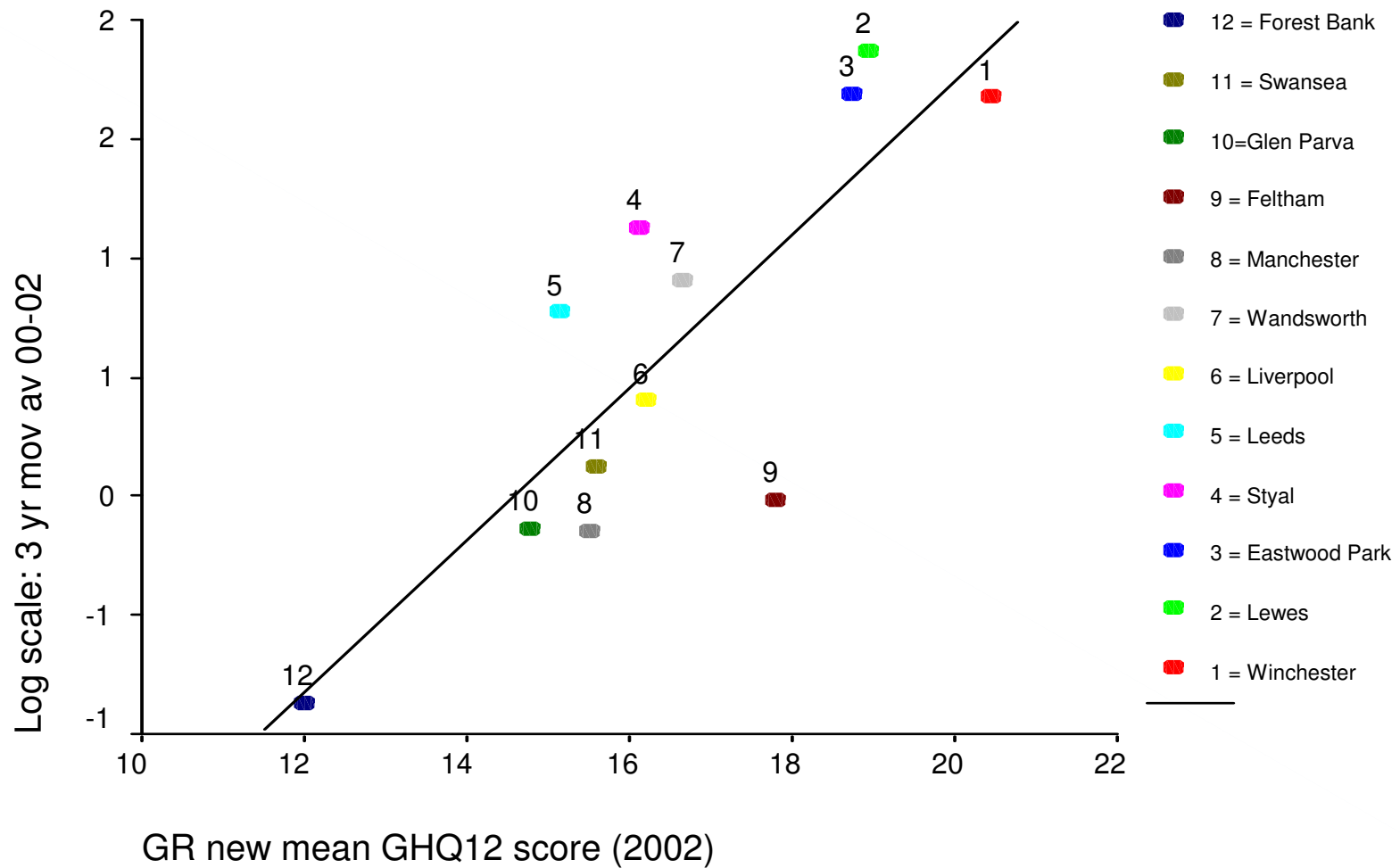
Prisoners as ‘moral dualists’

- Security values
- *Self-protection*
- *Rule of law*
- *Authority*
- *Competitiveness*
- *Tough law enforcement*
- Harmony values
- *Peaceful coexistence*
- *Mutual respect, human dignity*
- *Sharing of resources*
- *The development of individual potential*
- *Wealth redistribution*

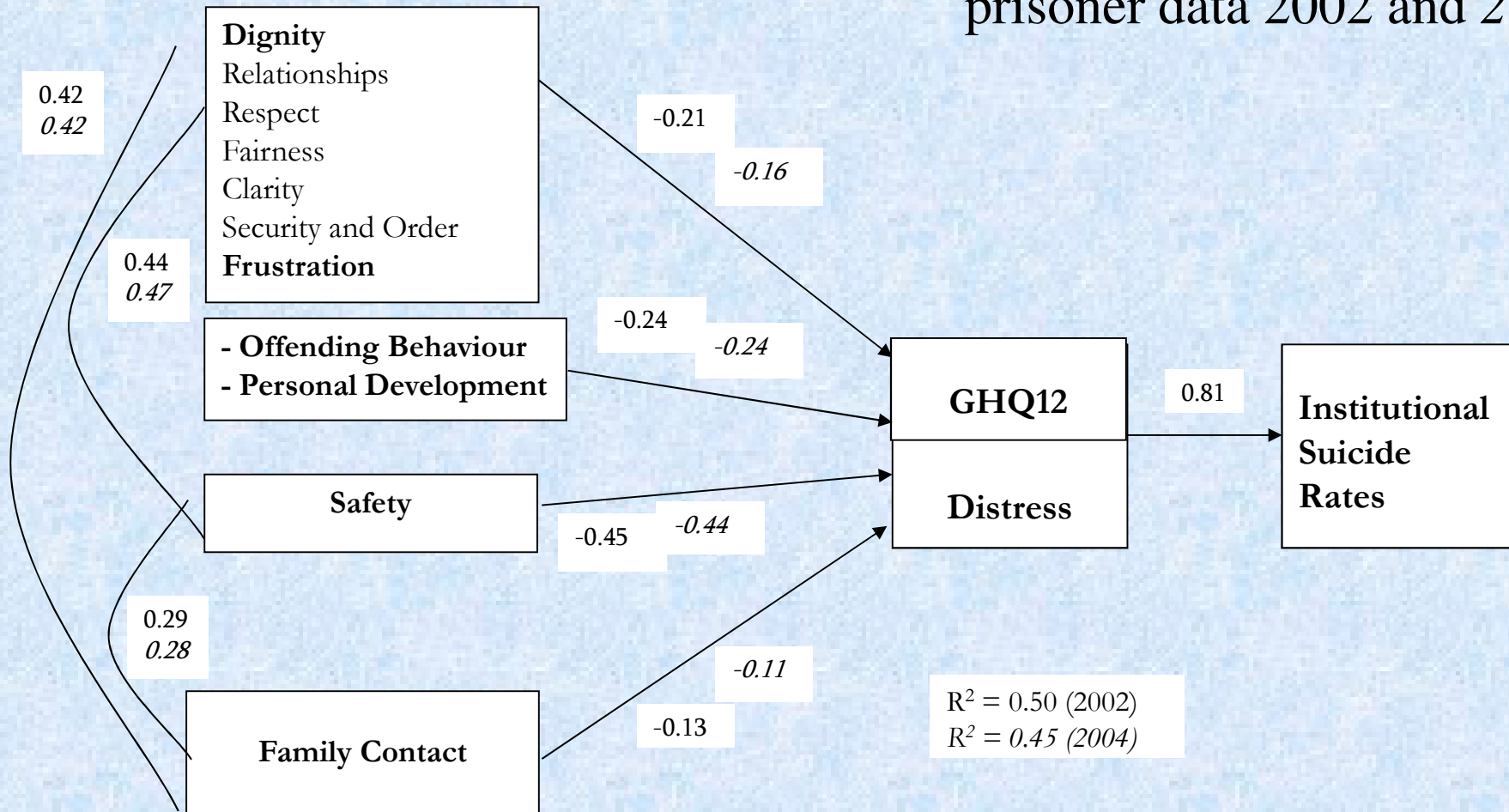
Value balance

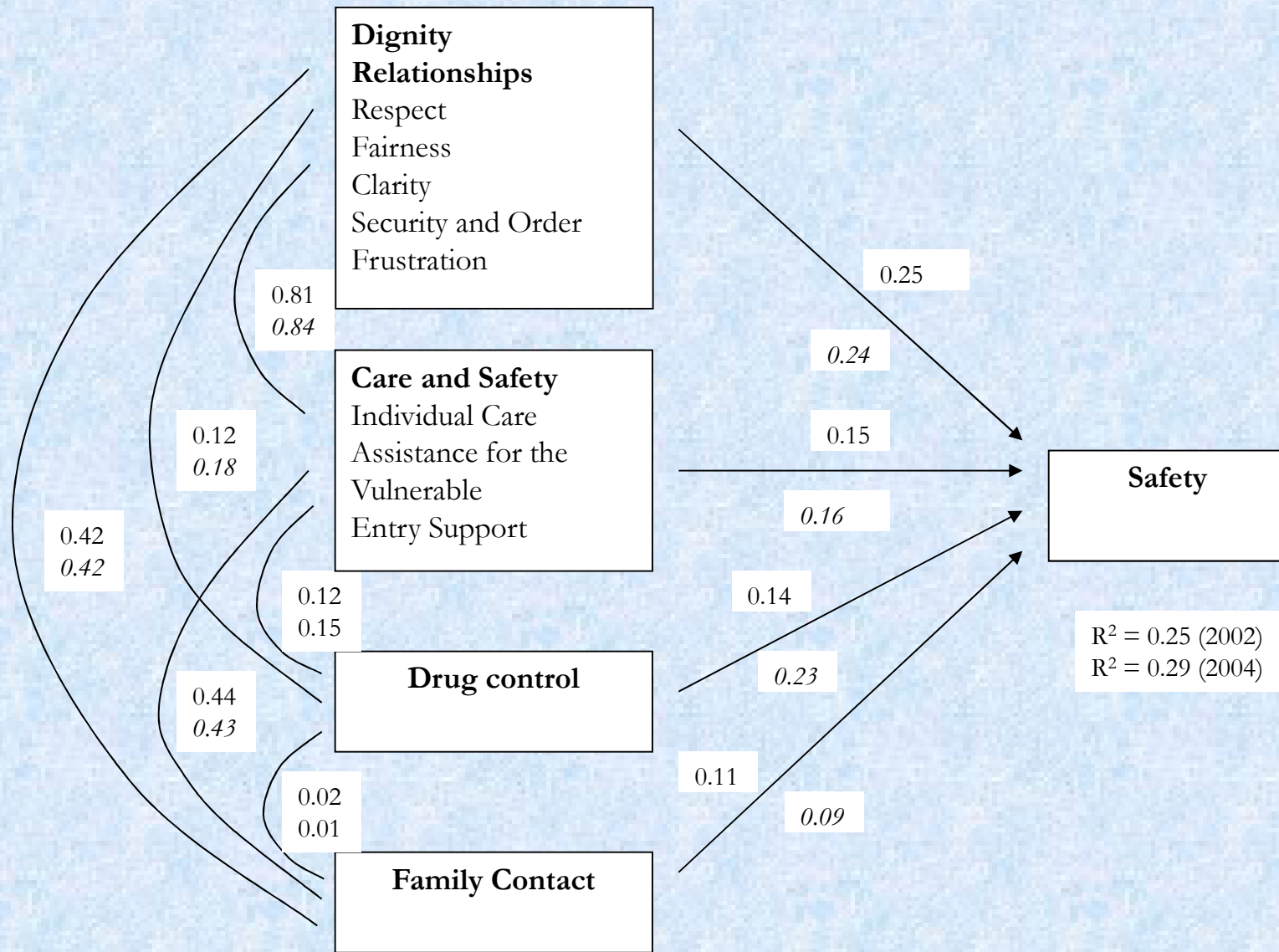
Prison	Security values	Harmony values	Basis of social order
Belmarsh	+++	-	Dangerous subject
Holme House	++	-	Malleable agent
Risley	-	+	Docile agent
Doncaster	- ?	++	Thinking, feeling agent
Wandsworth	+++	-	Dangerous agent

Relationship between moving average suicide rates and mean GHQ12 score (2002) [$r=0.83$]



Modelling overall distress and GHQ12: prisoner data 2002 and 2004





Revised dimensions measuring the moral quality of prison life

(Liebling, Crewe and Hulley 2011)

- **Harmony**
- Entry into custody
- Respect/courtesy
- Staff-Prisoner relationships
- Humanity
- Decency
- Care for the vulnerable
- Help and assistance
- **Professionalism**
- Staff professionalism
- Bureaucratic legitimacy
- Fairness
- Organisation and consistency
- **Security**
- Policing and security
- Prisoner safety
- [Prisoner adaptation]
- [Drugs and exploitation]
- **Conditions and Family Contact**
- Regime decency
- Family contact
- **Wellbeing and Development**
- Personal development
- Personal autonomy
- Wellbeing

Value Cultures in Four Prison Quality Clusters: Prison Quality Dimensions on which prisons score over three

A – ‘Poor’		B – ‘Average’		C – ‘Good’		D – ‘Very Good’	
<i>Private Trainer</i>	<i>Private Trainer</i>	<i>Private Local</i>	<i>Public Local</i>	<i>Public Trainer</i>	<i>Private Trainer</i>	<i>Private Local</i>	
<i>Dovegate</i>	<i>Rye Hill</i>	<i>Forest Bank</i>	<i>Bullington</i>	<i>Garth</i>	<i>Lowdham Grange</i>	<i>Altcourse</i>	
Respect/ Courtesy. Prisoner Safety.	Respect/ Courtesy. Care for the Vulnerable. Prisoner Safety. Drugs and Exploitation.	Respect/Courtesy. Staff-Prisoner Relationships. Care for the Vulnerable. Staff Professionalism. Prisoner Safety	Respect/Courtesy. Staff-Prisoner Relationships. Care for the Vulnerable. Help and Assistance. Staff Professionalism. Policing and Security. Prisoner Safety.	Respect/Courtesy. Staff-Prisoner Relationships. Humanity. Care for the Vulnerable. Help and Assistance. Staff Professionalism. Policing and Security. Prisoner Safety. Personal Development. Personal Autonomy.	Entry into Custody. Respect/Courtesy. Staff-Prisoner Relationships. Humanity. Decency. Care for the Vulnerable. Help and Assistance. Staff Professionalism. Policing and Security. Prisoner Safety. Drugs and Exploitation. Personal Development. Personal Autonomy. Wellbeing.	Entry into Custody. Respect/Courtesy. Staff-Prisoner Relationships. Humanity. Decency. Care for the Vulnerable. Help and Assistance. Staff Professionalism. Fairness. Organisation and Consistency. Policing and Security. Prisoner Safety. Prisoner Adaptation. Personal Development. Personal Autonomy. Wellbeing.	

A – ‘Poor’		B – ‘Average’	C – ‘Good’		D – ‘Very Good’	
<i>Private Trainer</i>	<i>Private Trainer</i>	<i>Private Local</i>	<i>Public Local</i>	<i>Public Trainer</i>	<i>Private Trainer</i>	<i>Private Local</i>
<i>Dovegate</i>	<i>Rye Hill</i>	<i>Forest Bank</i>	<i>Bullington</i>	<i>Garth</i>	<i>Lowdham Grange</i>	<i>Altcourse</i>
Respect/ courtesy 3.01 Prisoner safety 3.24	Respect/ courtesy 3.07 Care for the vulnerable 3.01 Prisoner safety 3.32 Drugs and exploitation 3.02	Respect/ courtesy 3.18 Staff-prisoner relationships 3.10 Care for the vulnerable 3.10 Staff professionalism 3.18 Prisoner safety 3.32	Respect/ courtesy 3.24 Staff-prisoner relationships 3.15 Care for the vulnerable 3.27 Help and assistance 3.22 Staff professionalism 3.24 Policing and security 3.35 Prisoner safety 3.46	Respect/ courtesy 3.29 Staff-prisoner relationships 3.17 Humanity 3.08 Care for the vulnerable 3.15 Help and assistance 3.05 Staff professionalism 3.25 Policing and security 3.26 Prisoner safety 3.36 Personal development 3.04 Personal autonomy 3.04	Entry into custody 3.21 Respect/courtesy 3.47 Staff-prisoner relationships 3.27 Humanity 3.17 Decency 3.30 Care for the vulnerable 3.24 Help and assistance 3.20 Staff professionalism 3.27 Policing and security 3.22 Prisoner safety 3.57 Drugs and exploitation 3.22 Personal development 3.07 Personal autonomy 3.14	Entry into custody 3.10 Respect/courtesy 3.48 Staff-prisoner relationships 3.45 Humanity 3.27 Decency 3.38 Care for the vulnerable 3.44 Help and assistance 3.37 Staff professionalism 3.53 Fairness 3.15 Organisation and consistency 3.08 Policing and security 3.27 Prisoner safety 3.48 Personal development 3.28

Personal Development ($\alpha = .875$).

An environment that helps prisoners with offending behaviour, preparation for release and the development of their potential.

Item no	Item	Corr.
rq25	My needs are being addressed in this prison.	.690
rq87	I am encouraged to work towards goals/targets in this prison.	.689
rq17	I am being helped to lead a law-abiding life on release in the community.	.683
rq146	Every effort is made by this prison to stop offenders committing offences on release from custody.	.660
rq133	The regime in this prison is constructive.	.650
rq114	My time here seems like a chance to change.	.655
rq46	This regime encourages me to think about and plan for my release.	.592
qq65	On the whole I am doing time rather than using time. (removal $\alpha = .877$)	.477

MQPL Dimensions with the **most significant variation** between prisons

Staff professionalism (p)	2.62 - 3.53	.91
Organisation and consistency) (p)	2.23 - 3.08	.85
Staff-prisoner relationships (h)	2.74 - 3.45	.71
Fairness	2.46 - 3.15	.69
Decency	2.72 - 3.38	.66
Help and assistance (h)	2.74 - 3.37	.63
Bureaucratic legitimacy (p)	2.35 - 3.97	.62
Well being (w)	2.57 - 3.19	.62
Personal development (w)	2.69 - 3.28	.59

HEAVY/LIGHT,
ABSENT-PRESENT

Oppressive

Heavy

Garth

Bullington

Whitemoor late 90s

Absent

Present

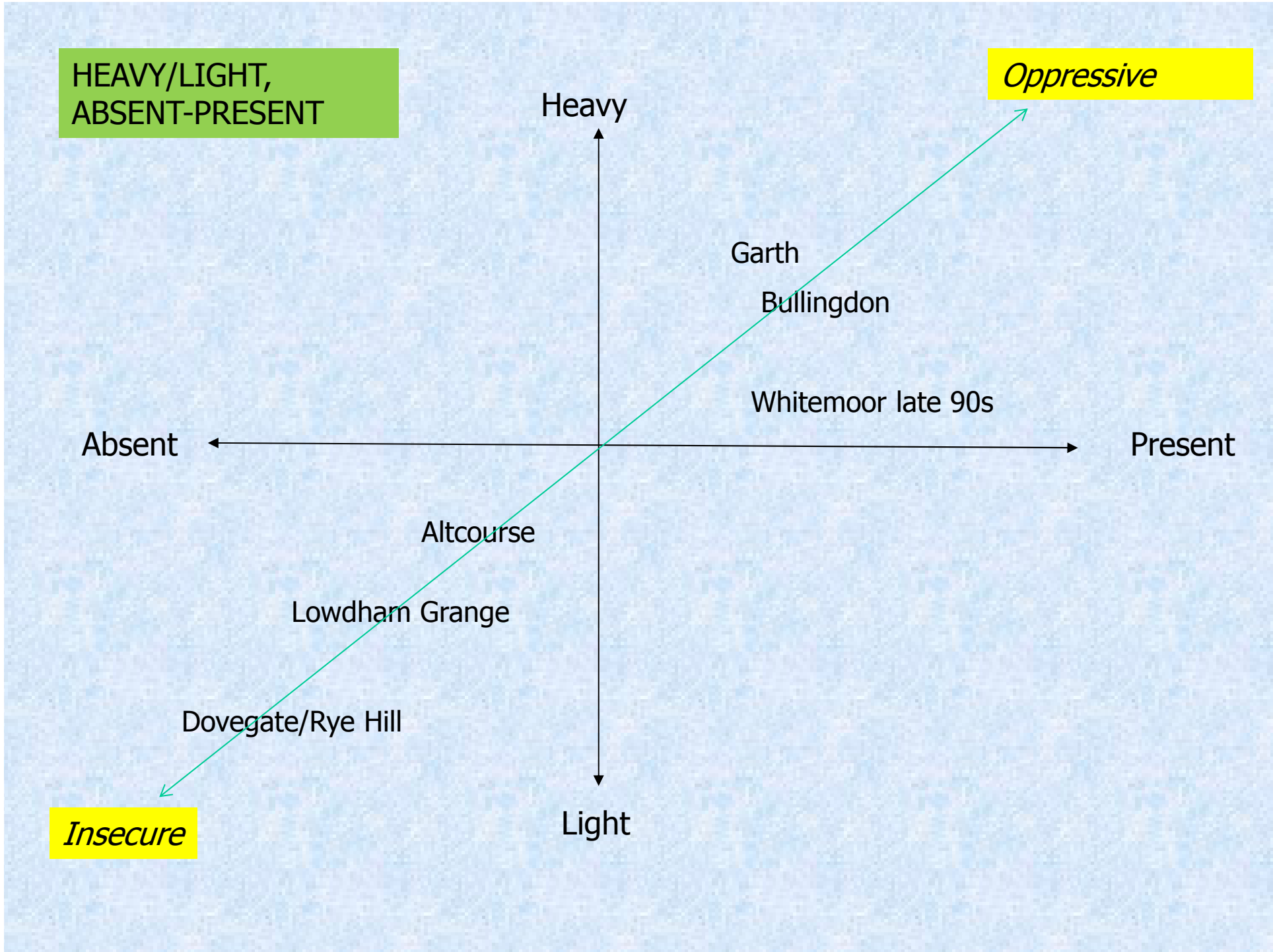
Altcourse

Lowdham Grange

Dovegate/Rye Hill

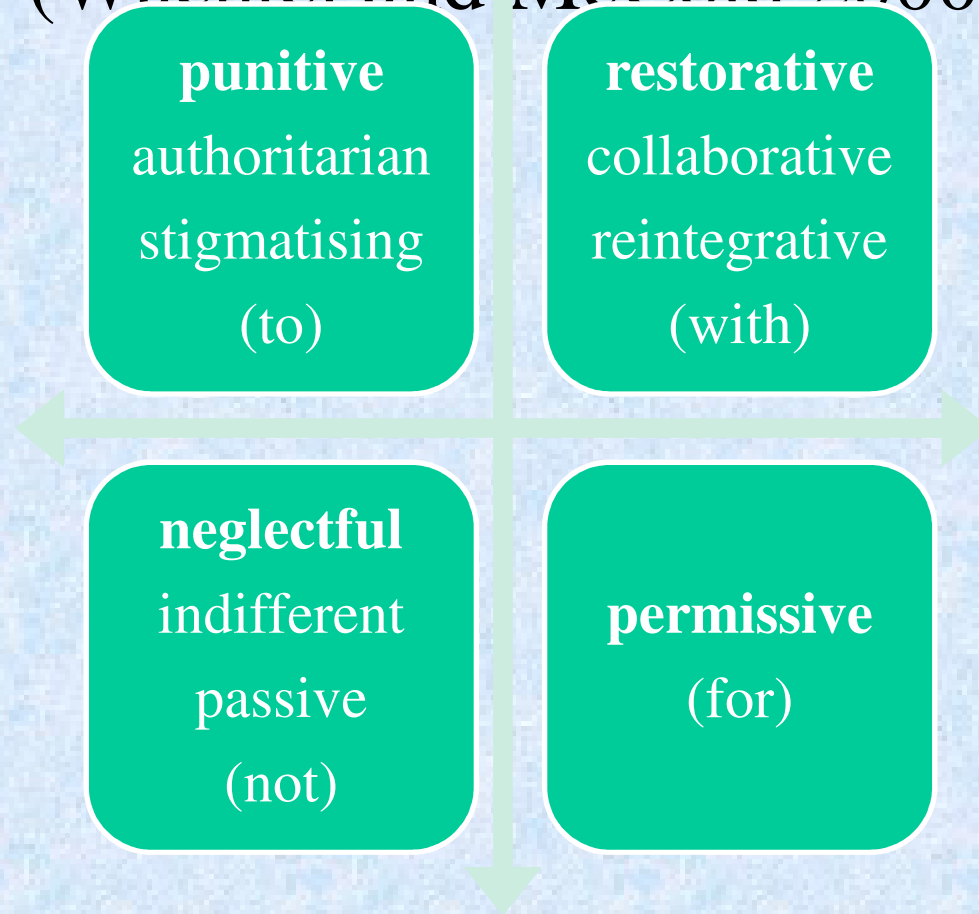
Insecure

Light



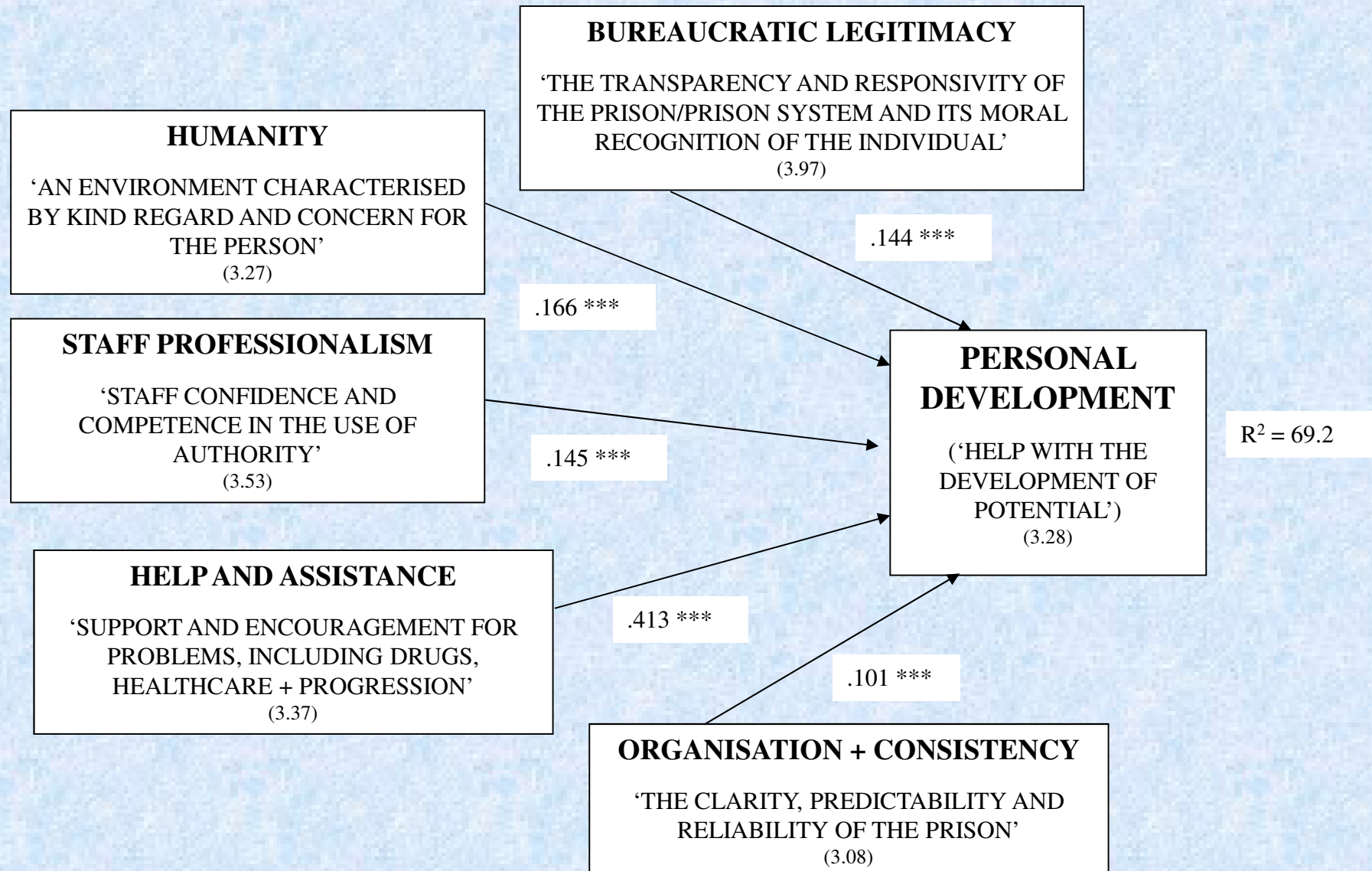
Social discipline window (Wachtel and McCold 2000)

LOW -- **control** (limit-setting, discipline) → HIGH



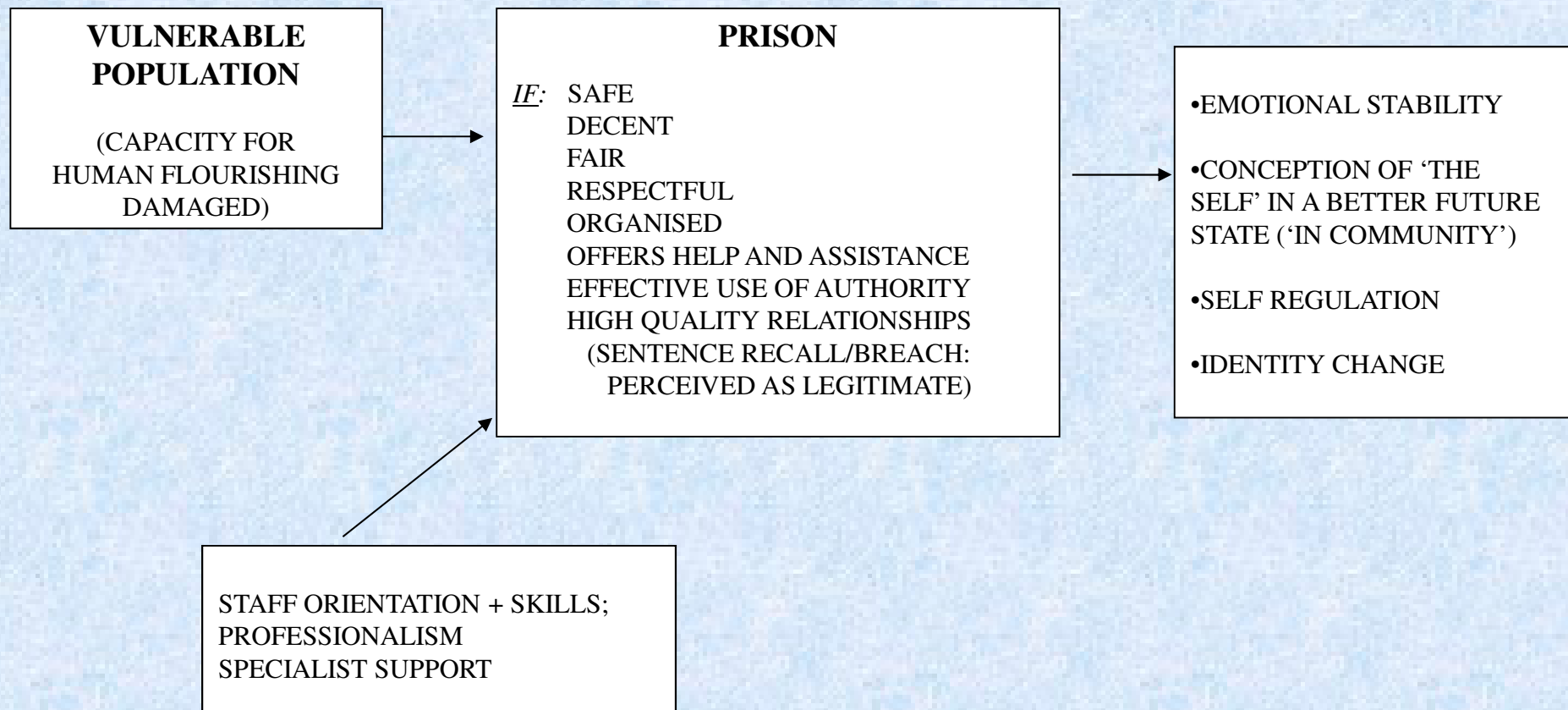
LOW -- **support** (encouragement, nurture) → HIGH

Figure 4. Personal Development: An in-prison model ¹



¹ Controlling for function, + public/private ownership/management

Figure 5. Values, Stability and Human Flourishing



Rapport, security and growth

- [Individuals need] a basic rapport with the world before proper growth can start (Allport 1955: 32).
- Security and affectional relationships are, according to Allport, 'the ground of becoming' (p. 75).

Further reading

- Liebling, A; assisted by Arnold, H (2004) *Prisons and their Moral Performance: A Study of Values, Quality and Prison Life* Oxford: Clarendon Press.
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- Crewe, B., Liebling, A. and Hulley, S. (2011) 'Staff culture, the use of authority, and prisoner outcomes in public and private prisons' *Australia and New Zealand Journal of Criminology* 44(1) 94–115
- Liebling, A Tait, S (2005) 'Revisiting prison suicide: the role of fairness and distress', in A Liebling and S Maruna (eds) *The Effects of Imprisonment* Willan
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- Liebling, A; Elliot, C and Price, D (1999) 'Appreciative Inquiry and Relationships in Prison', *Punishment and Society: The International Journal of Penology* 1(1) pp 71-98