

CRIMINAL JUSTICE and **COLLEGE STUDENTS**



CLUB FED OR CLUB DREAD?

It is commonly suggested that some prisons are “too lenient” on offenders or “too nice” for prisons. One prison in South Dakota, the Mike Durfee State Prison, was a former college campus that was converted to a state prison. The prison maintained the college’s open environment, but make no mistake about it, the prison was truly a prison and not a college campus after the transition.

Think of a college campus that you are familiar with. Could that campus be converted into a prison? List three aspects of the campus that would make it similar to a prison. Next, consider whether you would want to be confined to that campus for a year or more, with limited contact with the outside world. Would you feel as if you were spending time in a country club or a prison? Explain. Share your answers with a small group of classmates.