

Promoting Professional Prison Practice



**European Organisation of Prison
and Correctional Services**

Group 1 Security V Normalisation

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Current Approaches

- Security imperatives

Rec 33 To ensure child protection and well-being, every effort shall be made to enhance mutual respect and tolerance and prevent potentially harmful behaviour between prisoners, their children and families, prison staff or other persons working in or visiting the prison. Good order, safety and security, in particular dynamic security, underpin all efforts to maintain a friendly and positive atmosphere in prison.

- Importance of visits , Ireland Family Links an example

Challenges

- Attitudes of all actors to hearing the voice of the child
- Child Safety. Is access safe?
- Security incidents

Implementation Suggestions

- Raise awareness
- Training of staff
- Whole of prison approach (Invisible Walls Wales)
- Prisoner Journey and the voice of the child.

Children at the centre of decision making.

The rights and needs of children must be considered and protected at each stage of the criminal justice process.

Thus, this recommendation also involves police, the judiciary and other criminal justice agents as well as imprisoned parents themselves.

Security must aim to be dynamic and child centred. Normalisation of contact is the key goal.

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