

## **Prison construction, 'lock-'em-up' mentality is no longer the case**

Rather than just opposing Propositions 57, 36 and 47, why aren't California's district attorneys or law enforcement leaders demanding more rehabilitation services at our prisons? ["Prop. 57 puts safety at risk," Nov. 17].

Presently, 60 percent or more of paroled prisoners return to prison because of a parole violation, often connected to alcohol or drug use and related crime. Yet not all prisons have substance abuse programs, including something as successful as AA. Nor do they all have literacy programs, and a person who cannot read is on the path to reoffending.

For decades California voters supported prison construction and a "lock-'em-up" mentality. It appears this is no longer the case. The public realizes that prison is expensive, isn't working, and they want a change.

- Eugene M. Hyman

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