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PETITION CONCERNING LEGAL MATERIALS

file: Disne PRISONERS

We are signing this petition to protest the legal material, of rather, the lack of legal material available for the use of prisoners in the South and West Wing libraries! The same probably applies to women prisoners as well!

For example, in the West Wing there is one Criminal Code dated 1975. It is somewhat out of date to say the least! It is our understanding that a P.O. (Guard) in the South Wing evidently has legal material in his office, but prisoners do not have access to this.

According to the Rules and Regulations as formulated by the Attorney-General's Department of B.C. it states in Section 5.c.: "that inmates be afforded so far as practicable such reasonable facilities, including the use of a telephone, to enable him to obtain legal advice or bail, conduct correspondence and prepare notes for his defense...". Surely supplying sufficient legal material with easy access is practicable!

How does a person conduct correspondence and prepare notes for his or her defense without easy access to sufficient and up to date legal material in the prison libraries?

During a recent hunger strike, this need was agreed to, but the administration for some reason has chosen not to fulfill their half of the agreement.

On this point, we the undersigned <u>DEMAND</u> that the Attorney-General's Department of B.C. undertake to rectify this situation forthwith by supplying sufficient and up to date legal materials in Oakalla Prison libraries for our use in the following areas of the institution: West Wing and South Wing.

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