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Rethinking social reintegration in correctional systems: A scoping review of paradigm layering and conversion architecture

Dodik Afrianto[1]*, Reny Susilowati[2], Tauchid[3], Fajar Rachmad Dwi Miarsa[4]

[1 2 3 4] Universitas Maarif Hasyim Latif, Sidoarjo, Indonesia

*Corresponding Author: dodik_afrianto@student.umaha.ac.id

Abstract

Correctional systems combine punitive, security, rehabilitative, rights-based, restorative, and social-reintegration orientations that do not necessarily emerge in a linear sequence. This study examines the configuration of correctional paradigms, normative foundations, conversion mechanisms, and dimensions of social reintegration. It employs a law-informed scoping review guided by the frameworks of Arksey and O'Malley, JBI guidance, and PRISMA-ScR. The search identified 39 records and yielded a final corpus of 27 sources. The findings indicate that correctional paradigms are better understood as overlapping layers of institutional rationality than as successive stages. Reintegration is a multidimensional process encompassing *desistance*, material security and employment, family and social ties, health and well-being, community acceptance and dignity, and temporal continuity. This study proposes the *paradigm layering and conversion architecture* model to explain how normative orientations are translated into conditions that enable reintegration. The model connects responsive and progressive legal theories with correctional scholarship and distinguishes normative change from changes in institutional practice and social outcomes.

Keywords: Correctional system; Responsive law; Paradigm layering; Conversion architecture; Social reintegration.

Abstrak

Sistem pemasyarakatan mempertemukan orientasi penghukuman, keamanan, rehabilitasi, perlindungan hak, keadilan restoratif, dan reintegrasi sosial yang tidak selalu berjalan secara berurutan. Penelitian ini bertujuan menganalisis konfigurasi paradigma pemasyarakatan, landasan normatif, mekanisme konversi, serta dimensi reintegrasi sosial. Penelitian ini menggunakan *scoping review* berbasis teori hukum dengan mengacu pada kerangka Arksey dan O'Malley, panduan JBI, dan pedoman PRISMA-ScR. Penelusuran menghasilkan 39 rekod dan korpus akhir sebanyak 27 sumber. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa paradigma pemasyarakatan lebih tepat dipahami sebagai lapisan rasionalitas yang hadir secara bersamaan daripada sebagai tahapan linear. Reintegrasi merupakan proses multidimensional yang mencakup *desistance*, keamanan material dan pekerjaan, hubungan keluarga dan sosial, kesehatan dan kesejahteraan, penerimaan komunitas dan martabat, serta kesinambungan temporal. Penelitian ini mengajukan model *paradigm layering and conversion architecture* untuk menjelaskan bagaimana orientasi normatif diterjemahkan menjadi kondisi yang memungkinkan reintegrasi. Model ini mempertemukan teori hukum responsif dan progresif dengan literatur koreksional serta membedakan perubahan norma dari perubahan praktik kelembagaan dan hasil sosial.

Kata Kunci: Sistem pemasyarakatan; Hukum responsif; Paradigma berlapis; Arsitektur konversi; Reintegrasi sosial.

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Introduction

Prisons and correctional systems do not necessarily change their practices in tandem with shifts in penal policy. Using nationally representative data on state prisons in the United States, Phelps (2011) found that, from the late 1970s through the 1980s, no major changes occurred in investment in specialized facilities, funding for staff providing services to prisoners, or rates of program participation. A shift only became apparent in the 1990s, when academic programs were increasingly replaced by skills programs designed for *re-entry*. This pattern reveals a gap between the rhetoric of punishment and institutional practices. Hannah-Moffat (2005) further elucidates this complexity through a conceptual analysis of risk-and-needs assessment technologies. Risk categories, which were initially static, became dynamic, allowing the identification of needs to serve both as a means of managing risk and as an avenue for therapeutic intervention. Thus, control and rehabilitation are not necessarily mutually exclusive orientations; they can operate simultaneously within the same institution.

The problem of reintegration cannot be resolved solely through behavioral change or obtaining employment. Through a long-term follow-up study of women with histories of serious delinquency and men in comparable circumstances, Giordano et al. (2002) found that employment stability and marital ties were not strongly associated with *desistance*. They emphasized cognitive transformation, readiness for change, and the formation of new identities. Harding et al. (2014) followed former prisoners over a period of two to three years and found that employment alone was insufficient to ensure economic security. Greater stability was more likely when income or public assistance was accompanied by family support. Meanwhile, a meta-analysis by Visher et al. (2005), covering eight randomized experiments involving more than 6,000 participants, found that employment services had only a small or inconsistent overall effect on recidivism.

Barriers to reintegration stem not only from individual capacities but also from the consequences of punishment that persist after release. Through a critical review, Kirk and Wakefield (2018) mapped the effects of criminal punishment on health, employment, housing, debt, civic participation, families, and communities. They emphasized the need to distinguish the effects of punishment from selection factors and to examine the causal mechanisms involved. Experimental evidence from Pager (2003) illustrates one such mechanism. In a field audit in Milwaukee, four male applicants, matched on race and other relevant characteristics, applied for entry-level jobs. White applicants without criminal records received interview callbacks at a rate of 34%, compared with 17% for white applicants with criminal records. Among Black applicants, having a criminal record reduced the likelihood of receiving a callback by approximately 64%. These findings demonstrate how formal punishment can become a long-term economic barrier.

Previous studies on employment discrimination and stigma indicate that reintegration is also shaped by the responses of the social environment. Through a field experiment involving hundreds of entry-level job vacancies in New York, Pager et al. (2009) found that Black applicants with equivalent qualifications were only about half as likely as white applicants to receive a callback or job offer. Moreover, Black and Latino applicants without criminal records did not fare better than white applicants who had recently been released from prison. Meanwhile, using three stigma scales administered to 229 respondents, LeBel (2012) found that perceived stigma was associated with parole violations, ties to groups of former prisoners, weaker relationships with family and friends, and race or ethnicity. However, neither study connects these social barriers to the configuration of paradigms and the normative foundations of correctional systems.

In response to this gap, this study aims to map the relationships among paradigms in legal and correctional theory, the normative foundations of correctional systems, and the mechanisms that connect normative change to social reintegration. Specifically, it examines whether the development of correctional systems is better understood as a linear paradigm shift or as *paradigm layering*, in which the logics of control, rehabilitation, restoration, and rights protection coexist. This study also develops a *conversion architecture* to explain how normative orientations are translated into institutional capacity, programs, assistance, and social support. The significance of this inquiry lies in the need to distinguish legal reform from changes in practice, particularly in the Indonesian context following the enactment of Law No. 22 of 2022. Without mapping the mechanisms and barriers involved in this conversion process, reintegration risks being assessed solely in terms of the existence of programs or recidivism rates, while its social and material dimensions remain overlooked.

Method

This study employed a theory-informed scoping review approach to map the paradigms, normative foundations, institutional mechanisms, and characteristics of the evidence concerning social reintegration in correctional systems. This approach was selected because the study did not aim to calculate estimates of specific effects, but rather to identify conceptual configurations and relationships among themes emerging in the literature. The research design drew on the framework developed by Arksey and O'Malley (2005), the recommendations of Levac et al. (2010), the guidance on review design selection provided by Munn et al. (2018), and JBI methodology as described by Peters et al. (2020). The reporting process was aligned with the PRISMA-ScR guidelines proposed by Tricco et al. (2018). The selection strategy followed the PCC framework (*Population/Participants, Concept, and Context*). The population included prisoners, incarcerated individuals, correctional clients, correctional officers, Probation and Community Counselors, and correctional institutions. The concepts

examined encompassed legal theory, punishment, rehabilitation, restorative justice, responsive law, progressive law, reintegration, *re-entry*, and *desistance*. The research context covered international correctional systems, with Indonesia serving as the primary legal focus. The sources considered included peer-reviewed articles, theoretical works, primary legal sources, review articles, and policy guidelines in both Indonesian and English. Classical theoretical works were not subject to publication-year restrictions because they were necessary to explain the historical development of ideas.

The literature search was conducted through the SciSpace academic search platform, searches of Indonesian scholarly publications, primary legal sources accessed through JDIH and BPK, and backward and forward citation chasing. The keywords included *correction, prison, pemasyarakatan, legal theory, jurisprudence, responsive law, progressive law, human rights, dignity, restorative justice, rehabilitation, reintegration, re-entry, desistance, social inclusion,* and *recidivism*. The identification process yielded 39 initial records. After five duplicates were removed, 34 unique records were screened based on their titles and abstracts. At this stage, seven records were excluded because they did not meet the relevance, source-type, or language criteria. A total of 27 full-text sources were retrieved and assessed against the eligibility criteria, of which seven were excluded because they did not meet the content requirements. Citation searching yielded nine additional candidate sources, two of which were duplicates. The remaining seven unique sources were included after being assessed against the same eligibility criteria. Thus, the final corpus consisted of 27 core sources: 20 from the initial search and seven from citation chasing. The identification, screening, eligibility assessment, and corpus selection process is presented in Figure 1.

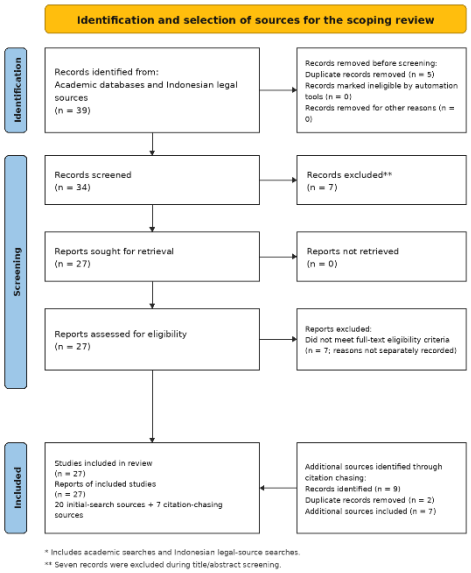


Figure 1. Flow diagram of source identification and selection in the scoping review based on PRISMA-ScR

Source: Prepared by the authors.

Data from each source in the corpus were recorded according to publication year, jurisdiction, source type, research design, theory, normative foundations, paradigm, definition of reintegration, institutional mechanisms, outcome indicators, the norm–practice gap, and findings indicating divergent or contradictory conditions (*negative cases*). The analysis employed both deductive and inductive coding. Deductive coding covered the categories of *punitive/control, rehabilitative, Good Lives/therapeutic, restorative, responsive/progressive,* and *reintegrative*, as well as the dimensions of *legality, rights/dignity, public safety/common good, institutional reform, programs/treatment, case management, family-community linkage, education/employment, health/well-being, recidivism/desistance, material security, social ties, dignity/community acceptance,* and *temporal continuity*. Inductive coding was used to capture patterns that emerged beyond the initial categories. The synthesis combined code-frequency mapping across the corpus with *thematic configuration analysis* to compare the *succession* model with *paradigm layering*. The frequencies describe patterns within the 27 sources and do not represent the prevalence of these patterns in the global literature. No meta-analysis was conducted because the diversity of source types, outcomes, and units of analysis did not permit quantitative pooling of the findings. This study also makes no claim of a causal relationship between the enactment of Law No. 22 of 2022 and correctional outcomes at the national level.

Results and Discussion

Mapping the corpus and paradigm configurations in correctional systems

The corpus of this review comprises 27 journal articles addressing institutional control, rehabilitation, rights protection, and social reintegration. To illustrate the relationships among the findings without discussing each article individually, the sources were classified into six thematic clusters, as presented in Table 1. This classification was based on the primary focus and contribution of each article rather than on rigid distinctions, as a single source may inform more than one theme. The corpus combines conceptual and normative studies, empirical research, and review articles; therefore, the strength of evidence varies across sources. Conceptual articles help explain how paradigms operate, while empirical studies show how programs and social support function in practice. This arrangement allows the discussion to move from institutional control within correctional facilities to the challenges of life after release. The table also illustrates the distribution of research focuses and provides the basis for the thematic synthesis that follows.

Table 1. Synthesis of findings from 27 articles on correctional systems and social reintegration

Cluster and sources	**Main findings and contributions to the review**
Institutional control: Feeley and Simon (1992); Crewe (2011).	Risk management, surveillance, and psychological control remain integral to prison life.
Rehabilitation: Andrews et al. (1990, 2011); Birgden (2002); Cullen (2005); Lipsey and Cullen (2007); McNeill (2012); Ward (2002); Ward and Gannon (2006); Ward et al. (2007).	Rehabilitation encompasses various approaches, ranging from risk reduction to capacity development and the pursuit of meaningful lives.
Rights, dignity, and restorative justice: Dhami et al. (2009); Rahardjo (2005); Ward and Birgden (2007); Ward (2009).	Rights protection and human dignity provide foundations for correctional practice, while restorative practices remain relatively limited.
International re-entry and reintegration: Berg and Huebner (2011); Nahra et al. (2025); Negi et al. (2026); Shinkfield and Graffam (2009); Visher and Travis (2003); Western et al. (2015).	Reintegration is shaped by employment, family, housing, health, material security, and social support.
Law and institutions in Indonesia: Alfaroq et al. (2025); Nopriansyah and Rahayu (2023); Soge and Sitorus (2022).	The expansion of correctional functions and the strengthening of BAPAS are important components of a reintegration-oriented approach.
Reintegration practices in Indonesia: Burhanuddin et al. (2026); Napitupulu et al. (2025); Zebua et al. (2025).	Family support, community acceptance, supervision, and the implementation of reintegration rights influence readiness to return to society.

Source: Authors' mapping.

At the institutional level, the literature indicates that correctional systems have not moved exclusively toward rehabilitation. Feeley and Simon (1992) describe *new penology* as an orientation that emphasizes risk classification, surveillance, and group management rather than merely assessing individual wrongdoing. Through a study of the experience of imprisonment, Crewe (2011) shows that control also operates through psychological pressure, uncertainty, and the regulation of everyday life. Together, these two articles demonstrate that security-oriented logic can persist even as correctional and rehabilitation programs are developed. In other words, changes in formal objectives do not necessarily transform all aspects of institutional practice. Security measures remain in place, while rehabilitation and preparation for return to society are also developed. Therefore, correctional systems are better understood as configurations comprising several orientations simultaneously. These configurations may generate tensions, but they can also allow different functions to complement one another.

Within this configuration, rehabilitation does not constitute a single, uniform approach. Andrews et al. (1990) formulated the risk-need-responsivity (RNR) principles, according to which intervention intensity corresponds to an individual's risk level, programs target criminogenic needs, and methods are tailored to participants' responsivity. Andrews et al. (2011) compared RNR with the *Good Lives Model* (GLM), while also questioning whether GLM provides measurable additional effectiveness in preventing reoffending. Ward (2002) argues that every program presupposes a particular conception of the good life it seeks to promote. Ward and Gannon (2006) and Ward et al. (2007) translate GLM into assessment and treatment practices. Birgden (2002) connects rehabilitation with the therapeutic implications of legal processes. Cullen (2005) explains the revival of evidence-based rehabilitation, while Lipsey and Cullen (2007) find that treatment has a positive average effect, although its magnitude varies. McNeill (2012) distinguishes among psychological, legal, moral, and social forms of rehabilitation.

However, behavioral change is insufficient if correctional processes disregard individual rights and dignity. Rahardjo (2005) places human beings at the center of legal reasoning and criticizes formalism that turns rules into ends in themselves. Ward and Birgden (2007) discuss the application of human rights in correctional practice, while Ward (2009) emphasizes dignity as an ethical principle in the treatment of individuals undergoing punishment. In the field of restorative justice, Dhami et al. (2009) identify practices such as raising awareness of victims' experiences, mediation, and community service in prisons. However, their implementation remains limited and is often confined to specific programs. These findings indicate that rights protection must extend across different approaches, while the existence of restorative programs alone does not demonstrate comprehensive institutional change. Accordingly, rights and dignity must underpin every stage of the correctional process. This principle applies from beginning to end.

The discussion then shifts from processes within correctional institutions to life after release. Visher and Travis (2003) explain that the transition is shaped by individual circumstances, families, communities, and policy. Berg and Huebner (2011) examine the relationship among social ties, employment, and recidivism, while Shinkfield and Graffam (2009) followed 79 individuals before and after their release. They found changes in health assessments and several indicators of drug use, but relatively little change in employment, housing, financial circumstances, and social support. Western et al. (2015), in a study of 122 recently released individuals, identified substantial material hardship: more than half of the respondents were unemployed, and approximately two-thirds received public assistance. Nahra et al. (2025) emphasize the importance of family, housing, health, income, and *desistance*. Through a review of 34 studies, Negi et al. (2026) found that psychosocial and health interventions reduced recidivism, whereas the findings on vocational programs were more varied.

This international overview demonstrates that reintegration is determined not only by individual readiness but also by the rules and institutional capacities that support individuals throughout the process. In Indonesia, Soge and Sitorus (2022) interpret the proposed reform of correctional law as an expansion of the system's orientation from rehabilitation toward service provision, guidance, care, security, and observation. Nopriansyah and Rahayu (2023) argue that Law No. 22 of 2022 reflects a more human-centered legal orientation and expands the functions of the correctional system. Alfaroq et al. (2025) identify BAPAS as an institution connecting legal processes with reintegration, but also find obstacles, including heavy caseloads among Probation and Community Counselors and the lack of clarity regarding BAPAS's authority in litigation. These studies explain the normative direction of reform and institutional requirements, but they do not establish that the changes have been implemented uniformly. Therefore, claims about effectiveness must be distinguished from assessments of the normative direction of a regulation.

This normative picture needs to be examined alongside research on the implementation of reintegration in practice. Through empirical research at Class I Makassar Correctional Institution, Burhanuddin et al. (2026) found that personality development, self-reliance, and reintegration programs encouraged behavioral change and social readiness. However, recidivism continued to fluctuate due to limited personnel and facilities, family support, community acceptance, and access to employment. Through a case study at the Class I Medan Probation and Community Corrections Office (BAPAS), Napitupulu et al. (2025) found that families primarily provided emotional and instrumental support, Probation and Community Counselors supplied information, and community recognition and appreciation were constrained by stigma. Zebua et al. (2025) showed that parole and remission have legal foundations, but their implementation faces a norm–practice gap, weak supervision, and limited community involvement. Taken together, these findings demonstrate that a reintegration-oriented approach requires sustained social and institutional support.

Normative foundations, conversion mechanisms, and implementation gaps in social reintegration

Law No. 22 of 2022 concerning Corrections places rehabilitation, guidance, service provision, care, security, and monitoring within a unified framework oriented toward both social reintegration and public protection. However, the existence of normative objectives does not guarantee that rights are fulfilled in practice. Rahardjo (2005) emphasizes a conception of law oriented toward human beings, while Ward and Birgden (2007) and Ward (2009) regard dignity and human rights as standards for correctional practice rather than merely declarative principles. Nopriansyah and Rahayu (2023) and Soge and Sitorus (2022) interpret the expansion of correctional functions as a direction toward more humanistic reform. Nevertheless, Supardi et al.

(2025) found that the implementation of rehabilitation programs at Sragen Correctional Institution remained constrained by facilities, qualified personnel, overcrowding, community support, and administrative procedures. Afnisal and Prayuti (2026) likewise found that healthcare services at the Class IIB Raha Detention Center remained suboptimal due to shortages of medical personnel and inadequate facilities.

This gap indicates that normative change requires mechanisms that connect legal mandates with practice and social outcomes. This article refers to this relationship as *conversion architecture*, namely, a series of processes through which correctional objectives are translated into institutional capacity, interventions, assistance, and social support. The corpus synthesis identifies six interconnected mechanisms: institutional reform; *treatment* programs; *case management* and supervision; family and community linkages; access to education and employment; and health and *well-being*. Visher and Travis (2003) demonstrate that the transition from prison is influenced by individual, family, community, and policy factors. Berg and Huebner (2011) establish a connection between social ties, employment, and recidivism. Through a systematic review of 38 studies, Mourão et al. (2025) classify reintegration factors into intrapersonal, interpersonal, institutional, and community domains. The six mechanisms, together with their normative foundations and implementation gaps, are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Six mechanisms for converting norms into social reintegration practices and addressing implementation gaps

Normative foundations	**Conversion mechanisms**	**Implementation gaps**
Correctional systems must respect human rights, human dignity, legal certainty, and public protection.	Institutional reform: division of authority, strengthening of human resources, provision of facilities and budgets, and interinstitutional coordination.	Workloads, shortages of qualified personnel, inadequate facilities, unclear authority, and coordination problems continue to constrain the implementation of the mandate.
Rehabilitation and guidance are directed toward behavioral change and the development of self-reliance.	Individual interventions: needs assessment, rehabilitation programs tailored to risk and needs, and skills development.	Program suitability to individual needs and the quality of implementation are not always optimal.
Reintegration requires continuity of guidance and supervision before and after release.	Case management and supervision: assessment, *case management*, assistance, monitoring, and ongoing supervision.	High workloads among Probation and Community Counselors, limited authority, fragmented coordination, and administrative approaches to supervision undermine continuity.

Social reintegration requires the restoration of social relationships and community acceptance.	Family and community support: strengthening family relationships, community involvement, and community partnerships.	Stigma, uneven family support, and low levels of community acceptance constrain social adjustment.
Rehabilitation and self-reliance include opportunities to access education, skills training, and employment.	Access to education and employment: education, vocational training, job placement, and economic empowerment.	Limited employment opportunities, restricted access to economic empowerment, and insufficient cross-sectoral support hinder self-reliance.
Rights protection includes the fulfillment of individuals' health and well-being needs.	Health and *well-being*: continuous physical, mental, and psychosocial healthcare services.	Shortages of medical personnel, inadequate facilities, and discontinuity of services constrain the fulfillment of healthcare needs.

Source: Authors' mapping.

The first and second mechanisms involve institutional reform and individual interventions. Alfaroq et al. (2025) identify BAPAS as an important link in the reintegration process, but report heavy workloads among Probation and Community Counselors and a lack of clarity regarding BAPAS's authority in litigation. Nopriansyah and Rahayu (2023) and Soge and Sitorus (2022) indicate that the expansion of correctional functions requires institutional adjustments rather than merely changes in legal formulations. At the intervention level, Andrews et al. (1990) emphasize that program intensity should correspond to risk, criminogenic needs, and individual responsivity. Lipsey and Cullen (2007) show that rehabilitative interventions generally have positive effects on reducing recidivism, although outcomes vary according to program type and implementation quality. Supardi et al. (2025) and Burhanuddin et al. (2026) reveal similar challenges in Indonesia: rehabilitation programs can improve social readiness, but limitations in personnel, facilities, and community support constrain their outcomes.

The third mechanism involves case management and supervision to ensure continuity of assistance before and after release. Alfaroq et al. (2025) show that BAPAS faces heavy workloads and limitations in its authority. Through a case study at the Class I Medan Probation and Community Corrections Office (BAPAS), Napitupulu et al. (2025) found that Probation and Community Counselors served as the primary source of informational support, while families mainly provided emotional and instrumental support. Zebua et al. (2025) identify a gap between the legal foundations for parole and remission and their implementation, particularly in relation to weak supervision and the suboptimal involvement of communities. Moeis (2026) identifies disparities in regional capacity, fragmented cross-sectoral coordination, and an overly administrative approach to supervision. In a review of 66 studies covering 49 *peer support* programs, Treitler et al. (2025) demonstrate that intensive involvement and

service collaboration support implementation, whereas staff shortages and limited participant reach remain significant obstacles.

The fourth and fifth mechanisms position families, communities, education, and employment as core components of reintegration rather than supplementary support provided after programs have ended. Berg and Huebner (2011) found that social ties are associated with employment and recidivism. Meanwhile, Western et al. (2015), in a study of 122 recently released individuals, reported that more than half of the respondents were unemployed and approximately two-thirds received public assistance. Nahra et al. (2025) emphasize the connections among family, housing, health, employment, and economic stability. Napitupulu et al. (2025) found that stigma constrains appraisal support from the community. In contrast, Prasojo et al. (2026) show that community-based empowerment at the Purwokerto BAPAS can improve clients' work skills and self-confidence, although stigma and budget constraints remain obstacles. Mourão et al. (2025) identify education, employment, social support, and financial stability as protective factors.

The sixth mechanism involves healthcare and *well-being* services, which also determine the sustainability of change after release. Ward (2009) regards dignity and rights as the ethical foundations of correctional interventions. In a longitudinal study of 79 individuals, Shinkfield and Graffam (2009) found changes in health and several indicators of drug use, but not in employment, housing, financial circumstances, or social support. Afnisal and Prayuti (2026) found that healthcare services at the Class IIB Raha Detention Center remained suboptimal due to shortages of medical personnel, inadequate facilities, and overcrowding. Treitler et al. (2025) show that *peer support* can improve connections with healthcare services, although the findings are mixed and causal evidence remains limited. Meanwhile, the review by Negi et al. (2026), which examined 34 studies selected from 2,333 articles, found that psychosocial and health interventions reduced recidivism. Vocational training had positive effects on behavior, but its results concerning recidivism and reintegration were mixed.

In the Indonesian context, the main gap lies in institutional capacity to connect all these mechanisms rather than simply in the completeness of normative provisions. Supardi et al. (2025) identified constraints involving facilities, human resources, overcrowding, community support, and administrative procedures at Sragen Correctional Institution. Burhanuddin et al. (2026) showed that rehabilitation programs at Makassar Correctional Institution encouraged behavioral change and social readiness, but fluctuations in recidivism in their study were associated with limited personnel and facilities, family support, community acceptance, and employment opportunities. Napitupulu et al. (2025) demonstrate the significant role of families and the barriers posed by stigma, while Zebua et al. (2025) highlight weaknesses in the supervision of reintegration rights. Moeis (2026) and Prasojo et al. (2026) further emphasize the

importance of cross-sectoral coordination and community-based empowerment. Because this evidence comes from limited contexts, these findings do not establish the national effectiveness of Law No. 22 of 2022. Rather, they identify critical points in the conversion process that require strengthening.

Dimensions of social reintegration and the paradigm layering and conversion architecture conceptual model

Social reintegration needs to be distinguished from rehabilitation because the two refer to processes and outcomes that are not identical. Rehabilitation primarily concerns changes in individual capacities, behavior, and needs, whereas reintegration encompasses the ability to resume participation in social and institutional life. McNeill (2012) identifies four forms of rehabilitation: psychological, legal-judicial, moral, and social. Together, these forms demonstrate that individual change alone is insufficient. Visher and Travis (2003) and Petersilia (2003) likewise view the post-prison transition as a process involving family, employment, housing, and community. In line with this perspective, Siennick and Porter (2026) emphasize that post-incarceration success is a multidimensional construct connecting several areas of life. Therefore, reintegration should not be reduced to the successful completion of rehabilitation programs or the absence of reoffending. This distinction also prevents an overly narrow assessment of correctional system performance.

The first dimension concerns *desistance* and recidivism, while the second encompasses material security and employment. The absence of new offenses is an important indicator, but it does not establish that an individual has secured stable housing, income, or opportunities for independent participation in society. Maruna (2001) shows that the process of desisting from crime also involves the development of a prosocial identity and the reinterpretation of life experiences. Through an analysis of social relationships, employment, and recidivism, Berg and Huebner (2011) found that strong social ties were associated with better employment prospects and a lower risk of recidivism. Based on 14 interviews, Wilson et al. (2024) identified stable housing, employment that supports self-sufficiency, self-efficacy, and social capital as components of quality of life. Accordingly, reintegration must be assessed beyond criminal records. Material conditions are prerequisites for meaningful social participation.

The third dimension positions family and social networks as sources of tangible support rather than merely symbols of acceptance. Visher and Travis (2003) identify relationships with family and friends as important components of the post-prison transition, while Napitupulu et al. (2025) found that families provided emotional and instrumental support and Probation and Community Counselors provided informational support in the context of the Medan BAPAS. Using four waves of data from the *Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative*, Mowen et al. (2019) distinguish

among interactional, emotional, and instrumental support. Their findings indicate that instrumental support, such as the provision of housing and transportation, is associated with lower likelihoods of *reincarceration*, substance use, and criminal behavior; the other two forms of support did not exhibit the same pattern. These findings underscore that the quality of support matters more than its mere availability. Accordingly, evaluations need to examine the function and continuity of such assistance.

The fourth dimension concerns community acceptance and the restoration of dignity, both of which are often constrained by stigma after release. Napitupulu et al. (2025) found that appraisal support from the community was the weakest form of support because clients continued to face stigma. Through a survey of 129 formerly incarcerated individuals, Brehmer et al. (2024) found that the harm component of self-stigma was negatively associated with mental health ($\beta = -0.279$), while mental health was positively associated with community integration ($\beta = 0.413$). Their model explained 21.3% of the variance in community integration. Through four experiments involving seven samples and 2,091 participants in the United States and the United Kingdom, Peitz et al. (2025) demonstrated that perceived shared transformative experiences were associated with stronger attachment to formerly incarcerated job applicants and a greater willingness to hire them. Therefore, social acceptance is a core component of reintegration.

The fifth dimension encompasses health and well-being, while the sixth emphasizes temporal continuity before and after release. In a longitudinal study of 79 individuals, Shinkfield and Graffam (2009) found changes in several indicators of health and substance use, but employment, housing, financial circumstances, and social support did not change to a comparable extent. Based on interviews with 475 men shortly before release and approximately one month afterward, Fahmy et al. (2026) found that family visits during incarceration were associated with better physical (OR = 1.88) and mental health (OR = 1.64) after release. McNeill et al. (2022) emphasize the temporal dimension and enduring uncertainty in experiences of imprisonment and *re-entry*. Thus, reintegration must be assessed as a continuum of support rather than a one-time event. Discontinuities in services can undermine the benefits developed during rehabilitation and make adjustment after release more difficult.

Table 3. Dimensions, indicators, and interpretive limits of social reintegration

Dimension	Illustrative indicators	Interpretive limits
Desistance and recidivism	Absence of new offenses, changes in behavioral patterns, and the ability to sustain a life without involvement in crime.	The absence of recidivism is important, but it is not the sole measure of successful reintegration.

Material security and employment	Employment, income, housing, economic security, education, and work-related skills.	These outcomes are influenced by labor market conditions, social policies, discrimination, and economic opportunities, not solely by individual behavior.
Family and social relationships	Quality of family relationships; emotional, instrumental, and interactional support; and social networks.	Social relationships can be sources of support, but they can also involve conflict or exert negative influence.
Health and *well-being*	Physical and mental health, access to services, continuity of care, and psychosocial well-being.	Improvements in health do not automatically indicate successful social integration.
Community acceptance and dignity	Stigma, discrimination, community acceptance, prosocial identity, and social participation.	The formal protection of rights does not automatically eliminate stigma and discrimination.
Temporal continuity	Preparation before release, post-release planning, continuity of services, assistance, and stability after release.	Reintegration is an ongoing process, not a single event occurring after release.

Source: Authors' synthesis based on the literature on rehabilitation, reintegration, and *re-entry*.

These six dimensions demonstrate that correctional paradigms cannot be understood as a sequence in which one paradigm simply replaces another. The *punitive/control* logic continues to govern restrictions on liberty, security, and risk management; the rehabilitative approach emphasizes behavioral change and capacity development; and the restorative approach focuses on accountability and the restoration of relationships. Nonet and Selznick (2001) explain that repressive, autonomous, and responsive orientations can emerge as competing tendencies within the same institution. Rahardjo (2005, 2006) grounds progressive law in a human-centered orientation, while Braithwaite (1989, 2002) emphasizes the restoration of relationships without permanent stigmatization. In line with Feeley and Simon (1992) and Crewe (2011), this configuration is better described as layered than linear: a single institution can combine control, rehabilitation, rights protection, and reintegration. Such overlaps are not always harmonious and may generate tensions in practice.

Based on this synthesis, this article proposes the *paradigm layering and conversion architecture* model to connect legal orientations with reintegration outcomes. The normative architecture establishes legality, rights, dignity, legal certainty, and public safety; the paradigm layer represents the rationalities operating alongside one another; and the *conversion architecture* translates these orientations through the six mechanisms identified above: institutional reform, *treatment*, *case management* and supervision, family and community support, education and employment, and healthcare services. The outcomes of this conversion are then assessed through the six dimensions of

reintegration presented in Table 3. These relationships are not automatic, nor can they be assumed to be causal merely because norms or programs exist. Institutional capacity, staff competence, continuity of services, resources, family circumstances, labor market conditions, and stigma can strengthen or hinder each link in the process. The model conceptualizes reintegration as both a process and a multidimensional outcome. It can be used to assess the quality of reintegration processes.

Conclusion

The findings of this review indicate that changes in correctional systems do not occur through linear paradigm shifts, but rather through layered configurations in which the logics of punishment and security, rehabilitation, restorative justice, rights protection, and reintegration coexist. This pattern emerges because each paradigm addresses different needs and does not necessarily replace the others. However, the presence of humanistic normative orientations does not automatically produce successful reintegration. Change can occur only when norms are translated into practice through institutional capacity, individual interventions, case management and supervision, family and community support, access to education and employment, and healthcare services. These mechanisms establish the conditions for multidimensional reintegration, encompassing *desistance*, material security, social relationships, health, community acceptance, and continuity after release. Accordingly, success in rehabilitation in one particular dimension cannot be treated as evidence of successful reintegration as a whole.

The main contribution of this review is the development of the *paradigm layering and conversion architecture* model, which connects normative orientations, paradigm configurations, conversion mechanisms, and reintegration outcomes. This model extends the application of *responsive law* and progressive law by bringing them into dialogue with the literature on rehabilitation and *re-entry*, while distinguishing changes in legal norms from changes in practice. However, the findings should be interpreted in light of several limitations, including the relatively small corpus of 27 sources, the absence of searches in Scopus, Web of Science, HeinOnline, and ProQuest, and the predominance of normative studies and small-scale empirical research conducted in local Indonesian contexts. Future research should expand the database coverage, conduct multi-site and longitudinal studies, and test the model's indicators across different correctional institutions and BAPAS offices. Evaluations should also measure all six dimensions of reintegration rather than focusing solely on recidivism. Such testing is necessary to assess the model's explanatory power and practical utility.

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