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General Systems Theory and Structural Analysis of Correctional Institution Social Systems

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ABSTRACT In this article, general systems theory and structural analysis are utilized as a conceptual framework for investigating the effects of norms, roles, and status positions on the daily operations of the correctional institution community. Structural variables which influence the daily operations of the correctional institutions are discussed (for example, allocation, space, central mechanisms, scope, personality, consensus spheres, and structural distance). In addition to the above variables, twenty-one structural variables are identified for the analysis of the correctional institution and its subsystems.