

THE MODERNIZATION ISSUES AND CONCERN PROGRAMS OF QUEZON CITY JAIL: BASIS FOR POLICY ENHANCEMENT

ABSTRACT

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KEYWORDS

*quezon city jail; jail
programs; persons deprived of
liberty (pdl); modernization;
health and sanitation; custody
and welfare*

ARTICLE ID

AASGBCPJMRA-B16116

The Quezon City Jail has reached its maximum capacity, resulting in overcrowded conditions that severely affect inmate welfare. Inmates face significant health issues due to the lack of adequate medical assistance and preventive care. The large prison population, combined with cramped living conditions—where multiple inmates are confined in a single room—increases the risk of disease transmission. Furthermore, the overcrowding places additional strain on jail infrastructure, such as fences and room integrity, raising concerns about safety and facility deterioration. This study aimed to investigate the modernization issues and concerns within the Quezon City Jail and to propose a comprehensive framework for the improvement and enhancement of its facilities and services. This study employed a descriptive survey method to assess the modernization issues and concerns of the Quezon City Jail, which will serve as the basis for proposed enhancements. Descriptive research was chosen to systematically collect and analyze data regarding current conditions and challenges within the facility. The researchers used a purposive sampling technique to identify and select appropriate respondents who possess relevant knowledge and experience. A total of 30 respondents participated in the study, consisting of 15 Jail Commission Officers and 15 Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) from the Quezon City Jail. The study revealed that among the 30 respondents, the age groups 18–25, 26–30, and 41–50 were equally represented, each comprising 33.3% of the population. Gender distribution was also balanced, with 50% male and 50% female respondents. In terms of civil status, 40% were single, 33.3% married, 16.7% separated, and 10% widowed. Educational attainment varied, although the majority had attained at least a high school education. Respondents strongly agreed that programs focused on custody, welfare, and decongestion have a positive impact on Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs). They also agreed on the effectiveness of rehabilitation and governance initiatives. Overcrowding emerged as the most significant challenge, identified by 90% of participants. The most frequently recommended enhancement for modernization was the improvement of health and sanitation facilities within the jail. Improvement in a modernization program refers to the advancement and upgrading of systems, processes, infrastructure, or equipment to ensure they are more current, efficient, and effective in meeting present-day needs and standards.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

Espinosa, M. A., Narido, R. V., Nobleza, A. B., Pallega, C., & Sodela, E. (2025). The Modernization Issues and Concern Programs of Quezon City Jail: Basis for Policy Enhancement. *Ascendens Asia Singapore – Bestlink College of the Philippines Journal of Multidisciplinary Research Abstracts*, 7(5), 12.