

program (e.g., safety, comfort, relative freedom) and the anticipation that completing the program will have positive consequences for release. On the other hand, the retention of clients in the 'halfway house' program during aftercare, i.e., following release from incarceration, is enhanced by making staying in the program a condition of parole or probation. Nonetheless, the more favorable the program is viewed by the inmates while incarcerated, and the greater the similarity of the community-based phase with the in-prison program's principles, guidelines and activities, the more likely they are to remain in (and derive benefit from) the community-based phase with or without coercion.

#### **F. Mandatory participation**

Success in programs rarely occurs when the treatment is imposed on offenders in an authoritarian fashion, but is enhanced when the offenders are involved in developing their own program of recovery. This appears to be true whatever the form of treatment utilized. The program's intention should be to help prisoners help themselves rather than to "overhaul" them, cure them of their "illness," or "brainwash" them, or otherwise coerce a change of attitude. Forcing or compelling unwilling offenders to participate in programs (no matter how potent the program and how needful the inmate) should be avoided, since it is unlikely to generate much more than resentment, resistance and minimal change, or worse, faked change indicating apparent compliance. Involving *non-amenable* offenders is likewise unlikely to generate more than a minimal change in behavior, but fortunately it is likely not to foster countereffects. The participants' amenability to treatment is sufficient but not necessary for treatment effects to occur. About 60 percent of *successful* program graduates admit that they entered a treatment program while in prison for other than therapeutic reasons (Wexler et al. 1988). That is, they entered because they wanted to make a favorable impression on the paroling authority, to be in a safer or a more comfortable environment, to receive better food, or because they thought they could "get over" easier or because they might get released or furloughed sooner. Programs that seek