

Pardoned

By Stan Friedman, p.36

How a life sentence in prison became the place of call for Smiley Parham

1. What part of Smiley Parham's story was most troubling to you?
2. Do you think Smiley should have pled guilty in order to get a lighter sentence?
3. Does your state have discretionary parole? What do you think about that?
4. Smiley says he is "representing" guys who are still incarcerated at Stateville. What do you think that means? What could we learn from his perspective?
5. The partnership between Stateville Correctional Center and North Park Theological Seminary is called the School of Restorative Arts. What is the significance of the name of the program?