

# THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY

Title \_\_\_\_\_

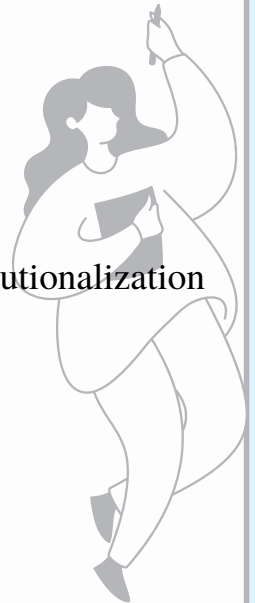
Author \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

**When reading a story, it is important to understand the bigger story behind it. Read pages 186 to 189 and focus on the following tasks.**

**Task 1: Summarize the key aspects of the paragraph. If you need help, take a look at the rear side of the worksheet.**

- mentally ill people: often in prison and treated inhumanely in the nineteenth century
- late nineteenth century: campaign to get them out of prison and to provide care in public and private mental health facilities
- twentieth century: problems of mental health institutions became obvious
  - involuntary confinement
  - overuse of drugs such as Thorazine
  - aggressive and violent treatment protocols
- 1960s and 1970s: new campaign to get them out of those institutions -> deinstitutionalization
- consequences:
  - many did not receive the care they needed
  - at the same time: mass imprisonment
  - therefore: mentally ill people often ended up in prison for minor offenses
  - lack of treatment in prisons
  - they are not properly taken care of
  - they are victims of wrongful convictions and lengthier prison terms
  - they are more likely to be imprisoned again



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**Task 2: Describe your personal thoughts on the topic. If you need help, consider the questions on the rear side of the worksheet.**

- There is no right or wrong in this task as it is concerned with the students' personal thoughts.
- However, the assumption is that the information is mainly new and contradicts what the students expected when hearing the term 'mitigation'.

**Task 3: What does the term *deinstitutionalization* mean? Explain the term to the person next to you and take notes.**

- problem: abuses within mental institutions, involuntary confinement of people, misuse of drugs, violent treatment protocols
- goal: to get people out of those institutions
- solution: community programs instead of mental institutions
- residents should be transferred to those community programs
- it should become easier for mentally disabled people to refuse treatment/ involuntary commitment should become much more difficult
- 1990s: high deinstitutionalization rate



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**Task 4: In groups of four, discuss the advantages and disadvantages of *deinstitutionalization*. Use the provided placemat.**

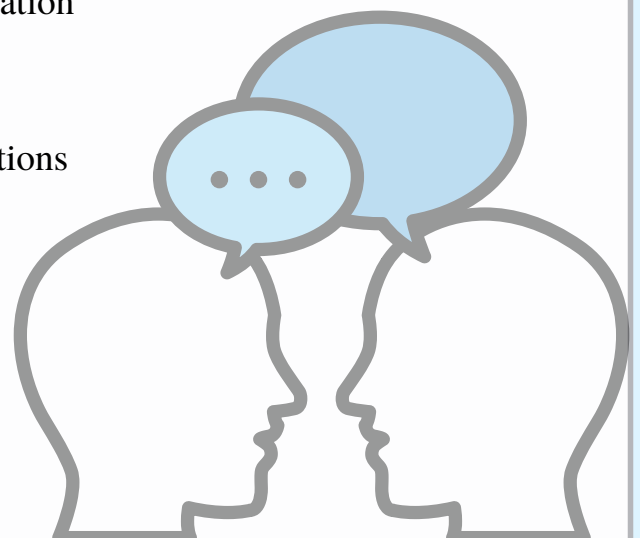
1. First think about the advantages and disadvantages of *deinstitutionalization* on your own.
2. Then - without speaking - write down at least three advantages and three disadvantages of *deinstitutionalization* in your selection of the placemat.
3. Turn the piece of paper clockwise and read your classmate's sections. Again do this without speaking.
4. Discuss your ideas in your group. If you need help, use your discussion tickets.
5. Write your results in the group section in the middle of the placemat.
6. Be prepared to present your results in class.
7. Use the blank space below to note the most important aspects.

- Advantages

- avoiding involuntary commitment
- avoiding misuse of drugs
- avoiding abuses and violent treatment
- community facilities are less isolated
- rights for the mentally disabled were created: they were given a voice
- assumption: people are treated humanely
- "free world"
- ...

- Disadvantages

- patients were discharged with no place to go -> they were left alone
- lack of actual care
- inability for many to receive treatment or medication
- homelessness and increase of criminal behavior
- increased likelihood of imprisonment
- prisons and jails instead of mental health institutions
- discrimination
- ...



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