People with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities in the Criminal Justice System

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People with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD), just like other people, sometimes engage in behaviours that attract the attention of the police. If they then go on to be interviewed in the police station, they have a range of undisputed vulnerabilities and many countries have tried to build in protections for them, both at this police station stage and at later stages in the CJS, such as in courts and in prisons. What is known about the numbers of people with IDD in parts of the CJS, and their experiences, will be reviewed, and the success or otherwise of the supportive strategies that exist to protect their rights to justice will be considered. After police interviews, in many countries, various processes in the CJS also allow for diversion from custody and these possibilities will be examined. Opportunities for rehabilitation and /or therapy also exist in a number of parts of the CJS and in some community provisions, and the success of these will be considered.