



PROFILE OF

KYLE D. DANIEL BEY

Full Name	KYLE D. DANIEL BEY
Prisoner Number	165805
D.O.B.	July 7, 1976
Crime(s) Convicted of	First Degree Murder Felony Firearm
Date of Crime	September 28, 1993
Conviction Date	May 24, 1995
Age at Time Crime was Committed	17-years-old
Age at Time Entered Prison	17-years-old

Brief description of offense and prisoner's role in it.

I've maintained my innocence since my incarceration began. With the exception of my commutation application, which required an admission of guilt. I had a problem making that statement but at this point, my guilt/innocence is less important than returning to my family. That said, on 9/28/93 a young man was killed by a single shot to the back of the head. Witnesses placed me at the scene with a gun and made statements revealing intent to kill him for unspecified threats to the gang which I was allegedly part of. The young man, a friend, was shot twice. I had an alibi defense but it was never presented at trial, on my lawyer's advice.

What difficulties have you experienced as a juvenile living among adult prisoners?

As a juvenile, I spent 19 1/2 months in the county jail. During that time, I fought repeatedly to establish my place and right to be left alone. This lasted for most of the time I was there. I also found, because of statements made linking the murder to gang activity, I was forced into a much deeper involvement with that gang than I actually had been. Admittedly, I took that step with little hesitation, after I saw what the prison environment was like. In prison I found that the people who had testified against me lied and said that I was the one who had done all the testifying. Essentially labeling me a rat/snitch. That caused a lot of trouble for me. It wasn't long before I managed to fight my way to Level 5, maximum security. I never worried about homosexuals, I was too busy protecting myself from those who chose to believe I was a rat.

How have your difficulties experienced as a juvenile living among adult prisoners negatively affected you?

I have trust issues. I also had a rage problem. I am less compassionate to others. I do have some authority issues also. If I am left alone, I leave others alone.

How have you resolved these difficulties or dealt with them?

I have done some programming to deal with my anger issues. For the most part, I have resolved to educate myself as thoroughly as possible, in as many disciplines as possible. I study my faith, although I don't allow it to get out of control. I isolate myself somewhat from others, only dealing with a select group of individuals. I stay as far from authority as I can. Staff have shown themselves to be less than trustworthy, so I treat them as they come.

How has a life of incarceration changed you?

I trust no authority. I depend upon myself for whatever I need if possible. I am more controlled now. I refuse to let my past control me to the detriment of my goals, and aspirations. I am a voracious reader, but I always have been. But my reading habits have changed. Now I read things of greater educational value than I did before. I trust others less, but conversely have developed a greater self-reliance and confidence in my own ability. I've developed a greater knowledge of how many African American men are over-represented inside prison. I feel the need to do something about that.

Have you remained in continual contact with family or friends since becoming incarcerated?

I have with family, at least my immediate family. My so-called friends have shown their true colors. I'm better off without them. It's lonelier, but less complicated.

What would you do if granted a second chance and released?

I would immediately try to find some way to mentor and counsel younger men in danger of following in my own path. I also look to start my own business(es). I can't adequately provide for myself and a family working for anyone else in this economy. I have a few ideas, and am attending college for more.

Accomplishments/Achievements since you've been incarcerated.

Besides my personal growth, mentally, physically, and spiritually. I have obtained my GED (11/95), a partial completion of Small Engine Repair (3/97), Vocational Food Technology (2002), NA & AA completion (2007), Cage Your Rage completion (2007), Computer Refurbishing (2008), Wayne County Community College, Introduction to Entrepreneurship (B) (2008), Inside/Out Prison Exchange Program, Sociology Class (University of Michigan) (A) (2008), Wayne County Community College, Operations Management/English 119/Math 105 (grades not yet known) (2009).

I have also participated in many organizations, programs and activities including:

1. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor P.C.A.P. program, Creative

- Writing
2. NAACP sponsored, Leadership, Creative Writing, Creative Drawing classes
 3. National Lifers of America, Inc. (prisoner lobbying/activism organization)
 4. U of M, Dearborn, Inside/Out Theory Group
 5. Active in religious activities, Moorish Science Temple of America, Inc.
 6. Donations to various charities

NOTE: Wayne County College classes were paid for personally, or by family.

Make any statement you'd like (100 words or less, please).

Prison's been a hard trial. It's also been an unparalleled blessing. I've had the ability to resolve and evolve who I was with who I want to be. I've been given the ability to look deep within and make fundamental changes to who I am. Unfortunately, I am not in a position to show society this transformation, nor to expiate the debt which I owe. The shortsightedness of the legislature and citizenry of Michigan is keeping me from being released. I say shortsighted because you can't find a single person in this state who was the exact same person they were at 17, five, ten or fifteen years later. Yet I'm continually viewed as I was. Most people would be highly offended at such a characterization, but they are more than willing to hypocritically do so to us. How can I properly atone for my misdeeds if the very people who fell victim to them cannot benefit from my change. I am not asking for forgiveness, I am just asking for the same chance everyone else is provided, a second one.