

FURTHER 16 EPISODES
AVAILABLE IN JANUARY 2012

ZDF.enterprises

HARD TIME



zdf.factual

Factual Series

6 x 50' HD

- Facts for your success:**
- »» First show ever to tackle maximum-security prisons on this scale
 - »» Long filming span allows for multi-faceted portrayals
 - »» Gripping insights into the daily life of a complex, brutal world

HARD TIME

You're off to jail! We're putting you in a maximum-security prison with hardened criminals, some of the most violent people in society. They're locked away, but they're still so terrifying and dangerous that you won't want to leave the relative safety of your 2 x 3 meter cell.

"Hard Time" is an exclusive, groundbreaking factual series that moves in with the prisoners, guards, wardens and families whose lives revolve around a massive, forbidding fortress. Their stories - of despair and hope, truth and consequence - immerse viewers into the brutal reality of life inside.

Despite the omnipresence of death and violence, "Hard Time" is about life: serving it, living it, losing it, transforming it. We follow new inmates and young prison-officer cadets as they enter the treacherous world of a maximum-security prison. We meet a drug hustler trying to run his game behind bars;

a jailhouse lawyer subverting the system; a young inmate ready for parole; an old-timer in his 40th year behind bars; a family man turned female, and two inmates who escape. The fugitives must now be captured before they wreak more mayhem. A paramilitary ethos dictates every aspect of the inmates' behavior. Yet they've also got to learn the ropes of the convict code, a world of respect and retribution that separates the wolves from the sheep. Gangs look for fresh recruits while gang leaders continue to run their empires from their cells. Supervisors struggle to find the balance between punishment and rehabilitation. Drugs and sex are rampant throughout the system. And race is the line that divides. With violence always in the air, how do prisoners navigate the minefield of unwritten codes of behavior, and how do guards maintain order in this hostile world?

Some prisoners obey the rules, others break them. But no matter how inmates choose to do their time, no one will leave these gates the same way he came in.



Factual Series

Address

Contact

Producer: Eric Strauss
Directors: Eric Strauss, Gregory Henry, David Shadrack Smith
Produced by: part2 pictures for National Geographic Channel
www.zdf-enterprises.de/hardtime



Sales, Merchandising and Coproductions
Erich-Dombrowski-Str. 1
D-55127 Mainz

programinfo@zdf-enterprises.de
www.sales.zdf-enterprises.de
Phone: +49 (0) 6131 - 991 1601
Fax: +49 (0) 6131 - 991 2601