

Yr 9 Crime & Punishment

Knowledge Organiser



Keywords:

Addiction	Compulsion to engage in activity regardless of its bad effects .
Capital Punishment	The death penalty for a crime
Conscience	The inner voice of rightness or wrongness.
Crime	An act against the law
Deterrence	Punishment should put people off (deter) committing crime.
Forgiveness	To pardon someone for their wrong doings
Free Will	To act on your own behalf
Human Rights	The rights and freedoms to which everyone is entitled
Judgement	The act of judging people and their actions
Justice	The maintenance of what is right
Law	Rules made by parliament and enforced by the courts
Mental Illness	Disorders that affect your mood, thinking and behaviour.
Poverty	Being extremely poor.
Protection	To be kept safe from something
Reform	To change criminals so that they do not commit crimes again
Rehabilitation	Restore to normal life
Responsibility	having a duty to deal with something or someone
Retribution	Punishment should make criminals pay for what they have done wrong
Sanctity of Life	Life is sacred and given by God
Sin	An act against the will of God

Key Knowledge:

Justice, Crime & Sin:

Crime and punishment is about acknowledging justice and how to preserve it. For Christians justice is not only about punishing criminals but about treating people fairly. Organisations such as CAFOD and Christian Aid work in areas of poverty around the world helping those in need and campaign against injustice and oppression of the poor. A large part of crime and punishment for Christians is forgiveness as it was central to the life and teaching of Jesus.

Those that commit crime are breaking the law of that country, some laws are also sins and in some countries the laws and punishments are based on religious teachings



Aims of Punishment:

Punishments for breaking the law are put in place to try to keep order in society. The main aim of punishment is to try to make sure everyone obeys the law and to ensure those that don't are punished accordingly.

There are four aims of punishment which are deterrence, retribution, reform and protection. Each aim comes with positive and negatives and many people disagree on which should be the main aim of punishment.

Capital Punishment:

This is the execution of a prisoner who has committed a serious crime e.g. murder. They will usually be executed by hanging, lethal injection or electric chair. Capital punishment was abolished in the UK in 1965. Capital punishment acts as a deterrent, a form of retribution and protection. There is much debate about its effectiveness as countries like the US who have the death penalty still have high crime rates, two wrongs don't make a right, also many question whether we have the right to take a life as it goes against the sanctity of life argument.

However others argue and say that it is "an eye for an eye", and that it is the highest form of deterrent and even the Bible uses Capital punishment.

Key Quotes:

"So God made man in his own image, in the image of God he created them" Genesis 2:27

"Thou shall not kill" Deuteronomy

"Judge not, and you will not be judged.... Forgive and you will be forgiven" Luke 6:37