AIMS OF PUNISHMENT

Theme E Religion, crime & punishment

- 1. Which of the following means to put people off committing crimes? [1 mark]
 - A) indifference B) deterrence C) deliberation D) degeneration
- 2. Give two other aims of punishment. [2 marks]

reformation/ retribution/ protection/ reparation

3. Explain two examples of punishments that aim to deter.

[4 marks]

The death penalty> people are fearful of death> given for murder A long prison sentence> people are fearful of being sent to prison for a long time> given for selling drugs

4. Explain two Christian beliefs about different aims of punishment. [5 marks]

Reformation – shows forgiveness "forgive them father they don't know what they're doing/ forgiveness at the heart of Christianity> makes society safer in the long run Retribution – shows justice "The Lord is a God of justice"> "an eye for an eye"> ensures fairness for the victim

Deterrence – shows the seriousness of sin and crime> "whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves." Romans 13:2> makes society safer

5. 'Christians should only support punishments that deter criminals.'

[12 marks]

Some Christians agree:

It shows the seriousness of sin and crime> The Bible says rulers were put there by God to keep order "whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves." Romans 13:2

Makes society safer> stops crimes from happening in the first place> e.g.

Singapore has the death penalty and low murder rate

Stops crimes from happening in the first place> proactive punishment plan> causes less harm to individuals, property and the state

Some Christians disagree:

They should favour reformation – shows forgiveness "forgive them father they don't know what they're doing/ forgiveness at the heart of Christianity> makes society safer in the long run> Prodigal Son> woman caught in adultery "go and sin no more"

They should favour retribution – shows justice "The Lord is a God of justice"> "an eye for an eye"> ensures fairness for the victim