

TYPES OF PUNISHMENT

Theme E

Religion, crime & punishment

1. Which of the following means the state or quality of being worthy of honour or respect? [1 mark]

A) euthanasia B) suffering C) freedom D) **dignity**

2. Give two types of punishment. [2 marks]

Prison/ ASBO/ community service/ curfew/ electronic tagging/ fines/ probation

3. Explain two examples of punishment that aim to reform criminals [4 marks]

Prison> the criminal can reflect on what they have done and get help to change> e.g. get help with a drug addiction or learn a trade to make money legally

Community service> criminal does something positive, helps them to change> they undo some of the damage they have done and realise the consequence of their actions

4. Explain two Christian responses to community service. [5 marks]

Good because it allows retribution – shows justice “The Lord is a God of justice”> “an eye for an eye”> ensures fairness for the victim

Encourages 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

Bad because it is not serious> won’t deter> not justice for victims “love your neighbour”

5. 'Corporal punishment should be used to punish violent criminals.'

[12 marks]

Some Christians agree:

It is sanctioned in the Bible "Whoever spares the rod hates their children, but the one who loves their children is careful to discipline them." Proverbs 13:24

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

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

Deterrence – punishments should make criminals suffer> Makes society safer> stops crimes from happening in the first place> e.g. Singapore has corporal punishment and a low crime rate

Could lead to reformation

Some Christians disagree:

Causing suffering is not loving, regardless of the offense. Two wrongs don't make a right.

Suffering unlikely to lead to reformation. Instead show love and 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"