GCSE RE REVISION - CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

Keywords

**Crime:** an offence which is punishable by law

**Punishment:** something legally done to somebody as a result of being found guilty of breaking the law

**Intention:** the plan that someone has before they act

**Shari’ah law:** Islamic law based on the Qur’an, Hadith and Sunnah

**Poverty:** being without money, food or other basic needs of life

**Mental illness:** a medical condition that affects a person’s feelings, emotions or moods and perhaps their ability to relate to others

**Addiction:** a physical or mental dependency on a substance or activity that is very difficult to overcome

**Greed:** selfish desire for something

**Free will:** the belief that God gives people the opportunity to make decisions for themselves

**Principle of utility:** idea that an action is right if it promotes maximum happiness for the maximum number of people affected by it
Revision notes

Christians & Muslims are against people committing crime. Laws are there to protect the rights and security of all citizens. When a crime is committed it causes suffering to others. Whatever your religion is you need to respect the laws.

A Crime is when state law is broken. Below are some of the different types:

- Hate crime – often violence involved targeting a person because of their race, religion, sexuality disability or gender.
- Theft – when property is stolen
- Murder – unlawful and deliberate killing of a fellow human being

People commit crimes for 3 types of reason:

- Poverty
- Upbringing
- Mental Illness
- Addiction
- Greed
- Hate
- Opposition to an unjust law

Crimes are punished in different ways. There are 3 aims of punishment are:

- Retribution – Revenge, i4i (Death Penalty)
- Deterrence – Scare others (Cutting hand of for theft)
- Reformation – Change the criminal (Rehab, Speeding Course)

Treatment of criminals

- Prison – offenders are kept for a period of time set by a judge
- Community service - way of punishing offenders by making them do unpaid work in the community
- Corporal punishment – punishment of an offender by causing them physical pain – now illegal in the UK
Forgiveness – showing grace and mercy and pardoning someone for what they have done wrong

Muslims and Christians believe in forgiveness however if someone breaks the law and set punishment is carried out.

There are two religious elements of punishment:
- Forgiveness from God
- Forgiveness from humans

Young Offenders

- Criminally responsible from age 10.
- Don’t put them with older criminals.
Use Secure Training Center or Young Offenders Institute.

DEATH PENALTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For</th>
<th>Against</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deterrent – Scares people</td>
<td>Mistaken Sentences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protection – Won’t reoffend!</td>
<td>Makes you as bad as them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cheaper than Prison</td>
<td>No chance of reformation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Principle of utility</td>
<td>Sanctity of life</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>God has given life</td>
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PRISON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For</th>
<th>Against</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chance to reform criminals</td>
<td>Expensive – 30k per year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protects public</td>
<td>Schools of Crime</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deters others.</td>
<td>Labeling – can’t get job</td>
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Religious views

❖ - “Obey the authorities because God has put them there” (Bible)
❖ - “Thou shalt not Kill” (10 Commandments)
❖ - “Thou shalt not Steal” (10 Commandments)
❖ - “Love your Enemy” (Jesus)
❖ - “Forgive others” (Jesus) Repentance needed though!
❖ - “An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth” (Bible)
❖ - An eye for an eye (Qu’ran)
❖ - Allah gives life, only Allah can take it away (Qu’ran)
❖ - Cut off hand as punishment for theft (Qu’ran)
❖ - Those who do not judge according to what God has revealed are doing grave wrong (Qu’ran)
❖ - Go commands justice... prohibits wrongdoing and injustice (Qu’ran)
❖ - You are tested through you possessions and person (Qu’ran)
❖ - Be compassionate towards the destitute (Qu’ran)
❖ - Do you not wish that God should forgive you? God is most forgiving and merciful (Qu’ran)
❖ - Pardon each other’s faults and God will grant you honour (Qu’ran)
❖ - Anyone who murders will be subject to judgment
❖ - There is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus
❖ - Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath
❖ - Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing