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Assignment

Question 1

What motivates the just desert principle of punishment? Discuss

Answer

First of all what is the just desert principle in crime, The philosophy behind the just deserts model of justice. The phrase represents the idea of a fair and appropriate punishment related to the severity of the crime that was committed. Just deserts is sometimes referred to as the retribution type of sentencing. In other words, one should be punished simply because one committed a crime. Throughout history the idea of retribution for the commission of a crime can best be explained in the Old testament quote “ an eye for an eye , a tooth for a tooth”

The behind the just deserts philosophy, those who commit crimes deserve to be punished. Moreover, the severity of the punishment should be commensurate with the severity of the crime. In the words as stated at the outset, the punishment should fit the crime. In addition, according to just deserts, the punishment of the offender must be fairly and equally apportioned to all individuals who commit the same crimes. This can sometimes be a controversial area of the theory, as the circumstances surrounding the commission of crimes vary; therefore, the equality of the punishment can be a tricky area.

Question

As a criminology student, what do you think is the most effective way of punishing and treating capital offenders. Give reasons for your answer

Answer

There are different ways and forms of treating capital offenders, a capital offender is one who has committed crimes such as murder or crimes which are punished by death, methods such as rehabilitation can be used in the tackling such cases the executions being made however tends to have no effect an d such crimes are still committed. Rehabilitation is the idea that the purpose of the punishment is to apply treatment and training to the offender so that he is made capable of returning to society and functioning as a law abiding member of the community, ther is also no credible evidence that the death penalty deters crime more effectively than long terms of imprisonment. The death penalty has no deterrent effect.

Other ways of punishing and treating capital offenders are deterrence, retribution, incapacitation.

Question 2B

Yes my answer would still remain the same