

Study Guide for Fundamentals of Ethics

Chapter 14: Legal Punishment

1. Discuss the nature of legal punishment.
2. Summarize the deterrence and retributive arguments for justifying punishment and discuss problems that exist for each approach.
3. List some problems involving the determination of responsibility as regards the retributivist view of legal punishment.
4. Present major arguments for and against the death penalty using both deterrence and retributivist considerations.
5. State some other concerns involving the morality of the death penalty.
6. Formulate your own opinion regarding the morality of the death penalty.

Key Terms

Punishment
Prevent
Retribution
Proportional
Mens Rea

Deterrence
Deter
Justice
Responsibility
Revenge

Sanctions
Rehabilitate
Lex Talionis
Insanity