

# Moral and ethical perspectives of juvenile life without parole

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## Moral and Ethical Perspectives of Juvenile Life without Parole

This article titled moral and ethical perspectives of juvenile life without parole talks about the act of sentencing of juveniles to life and having no parole which has become the norm in the United States (Justice4juveniles. wordpress, 2012). According to the article, 38 people who are under 18 years of age are facing such sentences under the federal system. There are seven states in US that guard against sentencing of children to life imprisonment without parole. It is disturbing that a quite a number of states lack consistency in regards to this policy; the issue even becomes more difficult and challenging after the policy has been analyzed on the basis of moral and ethical perspectives. An example, it is not easy to find a religion that has stated its position on the policy of children being sentenced to life imprisonment and not being given parole. Nevertheless, quite a number of faith-based organizations and churches support and assist in advocating initiatives to do away with this practice which makes the moral as well as ethical aspects of this argument on ending life imprisonment without being issued with parole clearer. This moral and ethical argument in this article is that minors' imprisoned for life without parole does not have any redemption purposes (Justice4juveniles. wordpress, 2012).

Ethical decision making is related to this article in that, most of the people including Mosques feel that this policy where children as well as young adults being imprisoned for life without being given parole should be scrapped. Reason being, it is not ethical; an ethical decision is that which is morally and legally acceptable to the entire community. It does seem morally upright the fact that young offenders are not given the chance to reform and

given a second chance to go back to the society as changed people simply because they were imprisoned for life.

According to the moral as well as ethical perspectives, these young offenders should be released under certain conditions. This would give them time to reflect on their life and make the right choices of never wanting to commit the crime again and lead positive lives; being imprisoned for their entire life does not guarantee that they will be better people. The society therefore has a moral responsibility in ensuring these children

Culture helps significantly when it comes to shaping individual's morality as well as responsibility feelings towards family, community the nation and the world at large. Culture by definition means the totality of the social environment where a human being was either born or lives. Where one was born helps in helping us know what is wrong and what is right in that people are first taught by their close family and this includes the parents who act as a moral guide to their children, and then the community comes in especially when we are interacting with people other than our family. The nation and world at large also come in as they help shape one's morals significantly. For instance the rules and regulations input by the government help people not to do wrong and thus be morally upright.

My culture has helped me shape my own sense of moral and ethical perspectives as well as responsibilities to others. Islam has always taught me to treat each other as my brother and sister. Therefore, my community and religion has played a great role in shaping my ethical and moral aspects, characters that determine an individual's future. For instance, my parents have warned me about drug and alcohol abuse since it will have grave

repercussions to my health as well as my social life. The community which includes the Mosques has also taught me to help others while they are in need since it is a moral responsibility to do so.

#### Work Cited

Justice4juveniles. wordpress. Moral and ethical perspectives of juvenile life without parole. (2012). <http://justice4juveniles.wordpress.com/2012/04/23/moral-and-ethical-perspectives-of-juvenile-life-without-parole/>