

Cjus 410 db1



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Criminal Justice System The criminal justice system is established to ensure that people do not break the law, it also offers the consequences that result from breaking the law. The primary focus in this scenario is the institution as the mode of delivering justice. It involves governments and institutions that ensures that social control is adhered to while ensuring that all criminal activities are dealt with accordingly. In addition, they have the capacity of sanctioning the lawbreakers as well as providing a mechanism of rehabilitation. The law provides rights that should be upheld; the criminal justice system ensures that the provisions of the law are met.

Restorative justice is a mode of delivering justice that focusses more on the individuals engaged in the criminal activity; that is, the offender and the victim of the crime. In this case, the institution does not feature in the picture. The restorative justice approach views crime primarily as an offense against human relationships and on the secondary perspective it is viewed as a violation of the principles of the law. This means that the approach endeavors to find solutions more to human relationships at the expense of the violation of the law, which is given lesser weight. This form of justice advocates for cooperative justice instead of coercion. A good example is where an individual wrongs another, mediation or negotiation can be a good strategy of bringing the offender to justice.

Criminal rights focus on the privileges that are accorded convicted offenders. Just like other people, the constitution protects the rights of criminals at all times, unless the same constitution provides another alternative. For example, the right to life can be curtailed through a sentence that requires one to be hanged. However, their rights exist. The law provides that a criminal has a right to be represented by an attorney, it also provides that

once they have been convicted of the charges, they have the leeway to go ahead and appeal. Irrespective of the magnitude of the crime, the criminal laws protects them against any violation of their human rights.

All these perspectives can be harmonized to come up with a common system of delivering justice. This is important because the ultimate effect of any dispute should be to deliver justice. In the book of Zechariah 7: 9-10, the bible states that “ Thus says the Lord of hosts, render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another, do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner, or the poor, and let none of you devise evil against another in your heart.” This indicates that irrespective of the justice system that has been applied, fairness should be the most dominant factor. It also calls for the criminal justice systems to make judgments that are based the truth about a given matter. Integration of the justice systems enhances the capacity of countries and as well as international criminal combating systems in dealing with crime.

References

Bible, Zechariah 7: 9-10

US Department of Justice, 2000. Creating a new criminal justice system for the 21st Century. Retrieved from <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/bja/178936.pdf>