

Assignment 1 : Summary and Personal Response

Text : In Lieu of Prison, Bring Back the Lash

Summary:

In Lieu of Prison, Bring Back the Lash

Peter Moskos ,in his article “ In Lieu of Prison, Bring Back the Las”(2001) ,introduces flogging as a cheaper and more efficient alternative to deal with prisoners , since the overcrowding prisons are only burdening the governments’ budgets without treating the prisoners .But Moskos limits the ability to choose between the two punishments , jail and flogging , to specific kind of criminals ,minor ones .Moreover, the writer is willing to accept other solutions , yet, in his opinion , flogging is the best one for now.

Personal Response :

In Lieu of Prison, Bring Back the Lash

Peter Moskos have triggered a very important issue , the deficiency of prisons. Prisons ,long ago, have been used as punishment that would give criminals time to look back at what have they done . well , prisons now a days are turning into institutions that give a minor criminal enough experience to move up to a higher level , this prisoner now would go out of jail ready to practice the new criminal skills learnt . That was exactly the case of my friend’s brother, Ahmad, who entered jail for picking up a fight with an officer , then when he was released started committing several crimes that professional criminals taught him to do . In the article ,“ In Lieu of Prison, Bring Back the Lash” (2001) , Peter Moskos offers flogging as a much better solution than the overcrowded ,expensive and non efficient prisons . And the writers pinion happens to be supporting to the one I had when I knew about what happened with Ahmad.

The writer was very reasonable and did not have an extreme opinion . Moskos limited the choice between being imprisoned or hit for the minor criminals , who might have a better life if they did not go to jail . I really think this idea , if practiced by experts , who will determine which criminals have the right to choose , would help some minor criminals from the life they would have to live if they went to prison . After being released , a person won't be able to find a decent job and would be offended by many members of the society , this situation might trigger criminal thoughts such as stealing , to satisfy the basic materialistic needs . Also , I liked how Peter Moskos is willing to accept other opinions which makes the suggestion offered supported by many readers. Since if the writer limited the solutions to the ones mentioned in the text , this would make the article more likely to be criticized .

In addition , the purpose of the preceding article is to criticize jails and to highlight the fact that it is making both the prisoners' lives and their families' more difficult instead of treating their problems . Peter Moskos presents many statistics that prove the deficiency of prisons , some of which are very interesting "Today 2.3million are incarcerated .We have more prisoners than soldiers "