Introduction to Criminal Justice 3/e CRITICAL THINKING ANSWER KEY

Chapter 10

10.1 Critical Thinking: Do you think that any of the early forerunners to modern corrections (such as banishment, etc.) could be used today? Why or why not?

Punishments like banishment or transportation would cause a problem in today's highly populated world, and the likely question would be, "Banishment to where?" Some people advocate a return to shaming punishments that make a public example of offenders.

10.2 Critical Thinking: Do you think that shock incarceration has any merit? Why or why not?

Many people will feel that it serves the short-term political purpose of appeasing the public, but does not do much to reduce recidivism. If anything, shock incarceration can give inmates the feeling that after such incarceration, they will be prepared for anything.

10.3 Critical Thinking: What do the characteristics of prison inmates say about American society as a whole?

They could be interpreted as saying that the United States has a large amount of violent and drug offenders, and that state courts incarcerate a large amount of black men for various offenses.

10.4 Critical Thinking:

1. What, if any, impact does a jail's architectural design have on inmates?

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Preliminary analyses of new-generation jails shows that these facilities may provide a less stressful environment for inmates and also provide better supervision.

2. Do you agree that one of jail's functions is to manage marginal members of society? Why or why not?

You may feel that jail's function is to keep criminals stationary until trial. On the other hand, you may feel that the inhabitants of jails come disproportionately from the lower classes. On top of that, poorer members of society will find it more difficult to make bail than others and, therefore, may spend more time in jail.

10.5 Critical Thinking:

 Do you think inmate rehabilitation programs can truly make a difference? Why or why not? Answers vary depending on people's opinions about rehabilitation, the personality and motivation of the offender, and the offender's criminal record.

2. Do you think inmates should earn money for the work they do while in prison? Why or why not?

While your opinion may vary, be aware of the difficult policy decisions that prison officials must make. Some people feel that criminals should not be allowed to earn money while they are incarcerated. However, unpaid labor could be challenged under the cruel and unusual punishment clause of the Bill of Rights. Furthermore, giving inmates jobs may prepare them for employment after their incarceration.

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