

A CRITICAL REVIEW ON SOCIO-LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE DEATH PENALTY AS AN EFFECTIVE MODE OF PUNISHMENT.

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Abstract

The death penalty is one of the most contentious issues in the criminal justice system. It has been a subject of controversy in various countries over many years and their positions vary within a single political ideology or cultural region. Sri Lanka is not an exception to this phenomenon. This paper evaluates the socio-legal aspects of the death penalty as a punishment. In order to achieve this goal, the study mainly focuses on the following: is the death penalty a better mode of punishment in reducing the crime rate, international and religious perspectives relating to capital punishment. As a matter of policy, taking a life should never be justified. Therefore, the research arrives at the conclusion that there is no practical utility in re-implementing the death penalty or retaining it in the penal law in any country, including Sri Lanka.