

23. Christian approaches to law, order and Justice

1. *The role of Christians in the transforming the political life of the society*
 - i. *Offer civic education*
 - ii. *Participate in law-reform processes/ constitution review process*
 - iii. *Condemn evil in society*
 - iv. *Participate in state function/ public holiday e.g. offer prayers*
 - v. *Reconcile marrying parties*
 - vi. *Preach love, peace and unity*
 - vii. *Obey laws of the country*
 - viii. *Rule in national elections*
2. *Christian can contribute to the maintenance of law and order*
 - *Obey the authorities*
 - *Observe all the laws.*
 - *Pay taxes.*
 - *Report errant members of society to law enforcement /agents/authority.*
 - *Take part in decision making of the right representatives in parliament.*
 - *Working hard.*
 - *Not bribing people or receiving bribes.*
 - *Practice love and charity.*
3. *a) Some causes of crime in the society today*
 - i. *Poverty - Most people live below the poverty line. In order to get their needs they resolve to unlawful means like robbery e.t.c.*
 - ii. *Public mistrust for law enforces: where they are not entrusted by the public in handling those who have committed crime hence resolve into mob justice*
 - iii. *Migration and urbanization and the effects that accompany it i.e. break of African kinship ties where virtues were taught by virtually all the adults in society*
 - iv. *Lack of parental care and guidance. Most parents have abdicated their responsibility of imparting necessary virtues to their children*
 - v. *Greed which leads to temptation to commit crime*
 - vi. *Drug and substance abuse which leads to many criminal activities*

(Any 9 points x 1 mark total 9 marks)

b) Reasons why some Christians are opposed to the use of capital punishment
 - i. *It is against the human rights to take away an individuals life*
 - ii. *God's law forbids human beings from killing/ committing murder (You shall not kill)*
 - iii. *Capital punishment does not serve/ fulfill the purpose for which punishment is intended i.e. retribution/ warning/ reform/ discouragement from repeating the offence*
 - iv. *It is an attack on the human dignity of an individual*
 - v. *Human beings are made in the image of God. So capital punishment is destroying the image of God in human beings*
 - vi. *It is a criminal attack on another person in the eyes of Christians*
 - vii. *It is God who gives life and only god has the right to take it*

- viii. *The judge who pronounces capital punishment on an accused person may be prejudiced/ unjust/ might take the wrong judgement*
- ix. *It kills the element of forgiveness which must dominate in crime and punishment*
- x. *Human beings are perfect/ they cannot assess the responsibility of the offender with absolute accuracy (God alone is accurate) how much evil is done*

4 *Reasons why Christians should participate in the law reform process*

- i. *To exercise their democratic rights/ citizenship*
- ii. *To ensure that just and laws are enacted/ formulated*
- iii. *To ensure that quality leadership is achieved*
- iv. *It is service to humanity*
- v. *To improve quality of life of the people*
- vi. *It is a sign of accountability*
- vii. *It shows a sense of unity in nation building/ collective responsibility*
- viii. *It leads/ helps to develop a whole person*
- ix. *It is an opportunity to infuse Christian principles in the law e.g. freedom of worship*

5. (a) *Christian can contribute to the maintenance of law, order and justice.*

- (i) *Obey and respect authorities.*
- (ii) *Observe all laws.*
- (iii) *Pay taxes.*
- (iv) *Report errant members of society to law enforcement agents or authorities.*
- (v) *Take part in decision making of the nation.*
- (vi) *Respect and protect people's property and lives.*
- (vii) *Refuse to be bribed.*
- (viii) *Practice love and charity.*

(b) *five reasons why rape is rampant in Kenya today.*

- (i) *Lack of concern for other peoples welfare.*
- (ii) *Selfishness and lack of self control.*
- (iii) *Psychological illness/madness.*
- (iv) *Alcoholism and drug abuse.*
- (v) *Beliefs that having sex with young girls cures HIV/AIDS.*
- (vi) *Loose morals among the youth.*
- (vii) *Improper dressing by girls/women.*
- (viii) *Frustration and anger in society due to social problems i.e. poverty, unemployment.*
- (ix) *Mass media/phonograph.*
- (x) *No set government policies on punishment of rapists i.e. minor fines.*
- (xi) *Victims fear stigmatization so they don't report the rape to police.*
- (xii) *Police are ineffective in dealing with rape.*
- (xiii) *Legal system in place is weak.*
- (xiv) *Poverty and development of slums.*

- (c) *five areas of conflict between the Church and state.*
- (i) *The state fails to execute justice punish offender while the church expects justice to be done.*
- (ii) *The government advocate for artificial family planning methods i.e. use of condoms while church.*
- (iii) *advocates natural.*
- (iv) *The state legalized abortion while the church does not/ condemns it.*
- (v) *When politicians use their power to buy votes.*
- (vi) *State denies the church media permits.*
- (vii) *State refuses to give church title deeds.*

When the state takes criticism negatively and retaliates.