

What are the differences?

- attorney/ district attorney
- capital punishment/ corporal punishment
- civil case/ criminal case
- crime/ misdemeanor
- drug trafficking/ drug dealing
- graffiti/ vandalism/ arson
- libel/ slander
- mugging/ assault
- murder/ manslaughter
- pick pocketing/ bag snatching/ mugging
- piracy/ forgery
- plaintiff/ defendant
- reckless driving/ drunk driving/ joy riding
- shoplifting/ burglary
- smuggling/ drug trafficking
- solicitor/barrister

What punishments would you give?

- Adultery
- Advocating violence
- Arson
- Assisting in someone's suicide
- Attempted suicide
- Begging
- Being a conscientious objector
- Belonging to an organization that advocates terrorism
- Blasphemy
- Browsing a terrorist organization's site
- Bullying/ Cyber-bullying
- Crimes by your children
- Crimes committed on someone else's orders
- Crimes that happened more than a certain amount of time ago (Statute of Limitations)
- Crimes under a certain age
- Disrespecting the national flag/ national anthem
- Driving without a seatbelt
- Drunk and disorderly
- Failed attempt to immigrate illegally
- Holocaust denial
- Human Trafficking
- Illegal actions by a subordinate that you knew nothing about but should have done
- Indecency in artistic works
- Insider trading
- Jaywalking
- Keeping the confidentiality of a journalistic source, person confessing to a priest or patient who has committed a crime
- Leaking of government secrets that is in the public interest
- Libelous comment by another person on your blog or website
- Linking to sites with illegal content
- Murder
- Not stopping other people committing crimes
- Offering file-sharing software
- Persistent noise violations
- Polygamy
- Possession of small amounts of soft drugs for personal use
- Prostitution
- Public nudity
- Racist language/ Race hate
- Refusing to give evidence against a friend, relative or colleague
- Refusing to speak when questioned by police
- Refusing to uncover your face for religious reasons
- Shouting at, swearing at or insulting police officers
- Slander or offensive content in an anonymous comment online
- Stalking a celebrity
- Swearing on TV
- Trespassing
- Unauthorized protest or demonstration
- Underage sex
- Unlicensed selling on the street
- Violence against people or property in order to save animals from suffering

Possible punishments could include:

- "An eye for an eye"
- Apology
- Banishment/Loss of citizenship
- Banning publication
- Being banned from holding public office/jobs
- Being banned from using the internet
- Being forced to resign
- Blocking access to bank account(s)
- Capital punishment
- Community service
- Compulsory counselling/ drug therapy/ psychiatric treatment/ anger management
- Corporal punishment
- Curfew/ Electronic tagging
- Fine
- Hard labor
- Life sentence
- Loss of welfare benefits
- One night in jail
- Permanent criminal record
- Prison sentence
- Prison tour
- Public apology
- Public list
- Public naming and shaming
- Punishment of the parents/ guardians
- Reform/military school
- Restraining Order
- Restriction of movements, e.g. curfew and/ or electronic tagging
- Stripping someone of a qualification, license (e.g. teaching license)
- Suspended sentence
- Suspension from job or education
- Warning

Are there any justifications or mitigating circumstances for these crimes?

- Accepting a bribe
- Breaking the speed limit
- Carrying a concealed weapon
- Hacking
- Illegal demonstrations
- Illegal downloads
- Leaking government secrets
- Murder
- Possession of illegal drugs
- Vandalism
- Resisting arrest
- Rioting
- Shoplifting
- Swearing at police
- Publishing photos of people without their permission

What crimes would you be justified in committing in the situations below?

- A long period of peaceful demonstrations has no effect.
- The last election was "stolen" due to not following democratic procedures.
- The minority you belong to is discriminated against.
- You and your family have no other way of getting enough to eat.
- You are homeless.
- You know someone has committed a crime but they have never even been questioned by police.
- You know that the government is doing something illegal.
- You live in a non-democratic country.
- Your country is invaded.
- Your country is the only or one of the few in which that thing is a crime (e.g. chewing gum in Singapore).

Conversation Topics

- What crimes are increasing in your country? What are the main reasons for that?
- How does crime in this city compare to that in other cities and countries? Are there any areas of the city which are much better or worse?
- Are there any places (in this city, this country or the world) which you would avoid due to fear of crime?
- Are there any kinds of crimes which are more prevalent in your country than in other places? Why do you think that is so?
- Do you think the media or politicians unnecessarily increase the fear of crime? What are their reasons for doing so?
- What precautions have you taken/ do you take against crime? What is usual in your country?
- How do people generally feel about the police? Are there any groups that feel differently?
- What are the reasons for those various people's feelings?
- Should the police carry guns?
- Talk to your partner about a crime story that was in the news recently. What do you think about how the media deal with such cases?
- If minority groups turn to crime, is that generally the fault of discrimination or their own cultures?
- Do you think this country is generally too hard on crime or too soft on crime? Why do you feel that way? Are there any crimes which that is particularly true for?
- Are there any things which are crimes in this country but shouldn't be?