Summer Examinations 2015

LAW301715N

Module Title: Sentencing and Prisons
Level: Six
Time Allowed: Two hours

Instructions to students:

- Enter your student number **not** your name on all answer books.
- Answer **three** questions: at least **one** question from **Section A** and at least **one** question from **Section B**.
- All questions are equally weighted.

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You must answer three questions, at least one question from Section A and at least one question from Section B.

**Section A**

Answer at least one question from Section A.

1. ‘There is no good reason why guilty people should be rewarded for pleading guilty. The longstanding tradition of awarding a sentence discount for a guilty plea should be abolished.’

   To what extent do you agree with the above statement?

2. Imprisonment for Public Protection (IPP) has been described by the Prison Reform Trust as “…a stain on our justice system” and the abolition of the sentence in 2012 was widely applauded. The Criminal Justice and Courts Bill 2014 proposes to end automatic release for those sentenced to the new Extended Determinate Sentences, requiring the parole board to once again determine eligibility for release.

   With reference to the problems faced by those sentenced to Imprisonment for Public Protection, critically analyse the new proposed law for Extended Determinate Sentences.

3. “The Victim Personal Statement is a well-intentioned policy but its application has not been good enough”.

   Critically evaluate the above statement with reference to current sentencing practice and procedure.

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Section B

Answer at least one question from Section B.

4. To what extent, if any, have prison conditions for male prisoners improved since the Woolf Report 1991?

5. Prison Service Order Number 4800 deals with women prisoners and states the desired outcome as:

“Women prisoners are held in conditions and within regimes that meet their gender specific needs and which facilitate their successful resettlement.” (PSO 4800 28/04/08)

To what extent is the Prison Service currently achieving this aim?

6. The Criminal Justice and Courts Bill currently before Parliament includes provision to build a 300 place secure college holding boys and girls ages 12-17. Once built it will be the largest child prison in Europe.

Outline and critically review the current government proposals to introduce “Secure Colleges”.

End of Section B
End of Paper