Chapter 02: Ideological and Theoretical Underpinnings to Corrections

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. Which of the following is not a philosophical underpinning in corrections?
   a. Rehabilitation
   b. Retribution
   c. Deterrence
   d. Incarceration

   ANS: D   PTS: 1   DIF: Hard
   REF: Philosophical Underpinnings   OBJ: 2.1   COG: Application

2. Which philosophical underpinning in corrections focuses on the offender?
   a. Rehabilitation
   b. General deterrence
   c. Retribution
   d. Incapacitation

   ANS: A   PTS: 1   DIF: Easy
   REF: Philosophical Underpinnings   OBJ: 2.1   COG: Knowledge

3. Which philosophical underpinning in corrections implies that offenders committing a crime should be punished in a like fashion or in a manner that is commensurate with the severity of the crime that they have committed?
   a. Deterrence
   b. Incapacitation
   c. Retribution
   d. Treatment

   ANS: C   PTS: 1   DIF: Easy
   REF: Retribution
   OBJ: 2.1   COG: Knowledge

4. This process identifies those inmates who are of particular concern to public safety and provides them with much longer sentences than would be given to other inmates.
   a. General incapacitation
   b. General deterrence
   c. Selective deterrence
   d. Selective incapacitation

   ANS: D   PTS: 1   DIF: Medium
   REF: Selective Incapacitation
   OBJ: 2.2   COG: Comprehension

5. Which philosophical underpinning in corrections derives offenders of their liberty and removes them from society.
   a. Incapacitation
   b. Reintegration
   c. Restorative justice
   d. Deterrence

   ANS: A   PTS: 1   DIF: Easy
   REF: Incapacitation
6. Which philosophical underpinning in corrections is intended to cause vicarious learning whereby observers see that offenders are punished for a given crime and themselves are discouraged from committing a like-mannered crime due to fear of punishment?
   a. General deterrence
   b. Specific deterrence
   c. Treatment
   d. Restorative justice

   ANS: A  PTS: 1  DIF: Easy  REF: Deterrence

OBJ: 2.1  COG: Knowledge

7. The primary purpose of this philosophical underpinning in corrections focuses on providing offenders with worthwhile stakes in legitimate society.
   a. Incarceration
   b. Rehabilitation
   c. Reintegration
   d. Deterrence

   ANS: B  PTS: 1  DIF: Medium  REF: Rehabilitation

OBJ: 2.1  COG: Comprehension

8. There are many reasons for a variety of sanctions. Which is not a chief reason?
   a. The desire to have punishments as proportionate to the crime as can be arranged.
   b. The desire to save beds in prisons.
   c. The desire to ensure that offenders not find their punishment beneficial.
   d. The desire for incentives to exist so that offenders will change their behavior.

   ANS: D  PTS: 1  DIF: Hard  REF: The Continuum of Sanctions

OBJ: 2.3  COG: Application

9. Most offenders convicted of a criminal offense are assessed _____ as a punishment for committing the offense.
   a. a fine
   b. probation
   c. an intermediate sanction
   d. incarceration

   ANS: B  PTS: 1  DIF: Medium  REF: Monetary

OBJ: 2.1  COG: Comprehension

10. What is the judge’s most important factor in deciding upon a sanction for a convicted offender?
    a. Injury to the victim
    b. Fulfill the demand of retribution
    c. Seriousness of the crime
    d. The need to protect society

    ANS: C  PTS: 1  DIF: Easy  REF: Sentencing Models

OBJ: 2.3  COG: Knowledge

11. These factors make one’s commission of the crime more understandable. a. Mitigating factors
b. Aggravating factors  
c. Negative factors  
d. Positive factors  

ANS: A  PTS: 1  DIF: Easy  REF: Sentencing Models  
OBJ: 2.3  COG: Knowledge  

12. Which philosophical underpinning in corrections is determinate sentencing NOT grounded in?  
a. Retribution  
b. Just desserts  
c. Incapacitation  
d. Rehabilitation  

ANS: D  PTS: 1  DIF: Easy  REF: Determinate Sentences  
OBJ: 2.1  COG: Knowledge  

13. According to Neubauer (2002), the most commonly cited forms of disparity in sentencing involve __________ and __________.  
a. Geography; Judicial attitudes  
b. Defendants’ race; Victims’ race  
c. Defendants’ race; Judicial attitudes  
d. Victims’ race; Geography  

ANS: A  PTS: 1  DIF: Medium  REF: Sentencing Disparities  
OBJ: 2.3  COG: Comprehension  

14. Which geographical region imposes more harsh sentences than other areas of the nation?  
a. East  
b. West  
c. Midwest  
d. South  

ANS: D  PTS: 1  DIF: Easy  REF: Sentencing Disparities  
OBJ: 2.3  COG: Knowledge  

15. Which correctional theory contends that punishment must be proportional, purposeful, and reasonable?  
a. Classical criminology  
b. Behavioral psychology  
c. Conflict theory  
d. Strain theory  

ANS: A  PTS: 1  DIF: Easy  REF: Classical Theory and Behavioral Psychology Knowledge  
OBJ: 2.4  COG:  

16. A __________ is one where a stimulus is applied to the offender when the offender commits an undesired behavior.  
a. negative reinforcer  
b. positive reinforcer  
c. negative punishment
d. positive punishment
17. Which correctional theory contends that offenders learn to engage in crime through exposure to and the adoption of definitions that are favorable to the commission of crime?
   a. Behavioral psychology
   b. Strain theory
   c. Social learning theory
   d. Conflict theory

   ANS: C
   PTS: 1
   DIF: Easy
   REF: Social Learning
   OBJ: 2.4
   COG: Knowledge

18. An individual indicates that he has been unemployed for months and has been unable to obtain legitimate work. Due to this frustration he began committing burglaries and selling the stolen items for money. Which correctional theory would explain this individual’s behavior?
   a. Behavioral psychology
   b. Strain theory
   c. Social learning theory
   d. Labeling theory

   ANS: B
   PTS: 1
   DIF: Hard
   REF: Anomie/Strain
   OBJ: 2.5
   COG: Application

19. An individual is released from prison and struggles to find legitimate work and is excluded from public housing due to her prior drug conviction. Which correctional theory would argue why she is struggling to reintegrate back into society?
   a. Behavioral psychology
   b. Classical criminology
   c. Social learning theory
   d. Labeling theory

   ANS: D
   PTS: 1
   DIF: Hard
   REF: Social Reaction
   OBJ: 2.5
   COG: Application

**TRUE/FALSE**

20. Incapacitation argues that offenders should be given the punishment that they justly deserve; those who commit minor crimes deserve minor sentences, and those who commit serious crimes deserve more severe punishments.

   ANS: F
   PTS: 1
   DIF: Easy
   REF: Retribution
   OBJ: 2.1
   COG: Knowledge

21. Retribution equates revenge. There are few distinctions between the two terms.

   ANS: F
   PTS: 1
   DIF: Medium
   REF: Retribution
   OBJ: 2.1
   COG: Comprehension

22. Reintegration focuses on empowering victims in their search for closure.
ANS: F
PTS: 1
DIF: Easy
REF: Restorative Justice
23. Sentencing schemes under a rehabilitation orientation would be indeterminate.
   ANS: T    PTS: 1    DIF: Medium    REF: Rehabilitation
   OBJ: 2.1   COG: Comprehension

24. United States v. Booker (2005) held that federal judges are required to follow sentencing guidelines.
   ANS: F    PTS: 1    DIF: Easy    REF: Types of Sanctions
   OBJ: 2.2   COG: Knowledge

25. Most offenders convicted of a criminal offense are assessed a period of incarceration.
   ANS: F    PTS: 1    DIF: Easy    REF: Types of Sanctions
   OBJ: 2.2   COG: Knowledge

26. Inmates in supermax facilities are the least likely of all inmates to care about the consequences of their actions and/or their ability to bond with other people.
   ANS: T    PTS: 1    DIF: Easy    REF: Incarceration Options
   OBJ: 2.2   COG: Knowledge

27. Determinate sentencing is sentencing that includes a range of years that will be potentially served by the offender.
   ANS: F    PTS: 1    DIF: Easy    REF: Determinate Sentences
   OBJ: 2.2   COG: Knowledge

28. One type of mandatory minimum sentence is the “three strikes and you’re out” law.
   ANS: T    PTS: 1    DIF: Medium
   REF: Mandatory Minimum Sentences
   OBJ: 2.2   COG: Comprehension

ESSAY

29. Identify and define two of the four generally recognized philosophical underpinnings in corrections. Provide an example of a punishment that supports each philosophical underpinning.
   ANS:
The four generally recognized goals are retribution, deterrence, incapacitation, and rehabilitation. Retribution is defined as punishments that are proportionate to the seriousness of the crime committed. An example of punishment that fits this goal is capital punishment for someone who commits murder. Incapacitation is defined as punishment that deprives offenders of their liberty and removes them from society with the intent of ensuring that society cannot be further victimized by these offenders during their term of incarceration. An example of incapacitation is a period of incarceration within a correctional facility. Deterrence is defined as the prevention of crime by the threat of punishment. An example of a punishment that fits this goal is three-strikes laws. A would-be offender is hopefully deterred from committing future offenses due to a threat of a second or third strike, which results in enhanced penalties. Rehabilitation is defined as practices that are aimed solely at the recovery of the offender, regardless of the crime that was committed. An example of punishment that supports this goal is probation with intensive drug therapy, employment assistance, and counseling.

30. The continuum of sanctions refers to a broad array of sentencing and punishment options that range from simple fines to incarceration and ultimately end with the death penalty. The reason for this variety of sanctions is manifold. Identify and define the top three reasons for the variety of sanctions.

ANS:
Perhaps chief among the reasons is the desire to calibrate the sanction in a manner that is commensurate with the type of criminal behavior. This means that sanctions should be selected in such a manner that allows us to, through an additive process, weight the seriousness of the sanction, as well as the number of sanctions that are given, so that the punishment effect is as proportional to the crime as can be arranged. In addition to the desire for proportionality, there is another reason for the use of varied sanctions: the desire to save beds in prisons. The reason for this has to do with a shift in ideologies and, more specifically, the rising costs of imprisonment. Another rationale for this continuum is associated with treatment purposes. The purpose of treatment is to provide lesser sanctions to offenders who show progress in treatment, and more serious sanctions can be administered to offenders who prove to be dangerous or a nuisance to a given facility.

31. Define indeterminate and determinate sentences. What are the main differences between determinate and indeterminate sentencing?

ANS:
Indeterminate sentencing is sentencing that includes a range of years that will be potentially served by the offender. The offender is released during some point in the range of years that are assigned by a sentencing judge. Both the minimum and maximum times can be modified by a number of factors. This type of sentence is typically associated with treatment-based programming and community supervision objectives. Determinate sentencing consists of fixed periods of incarceration with no later flexibility in the term that is served. This type of sentencing is grounded in notions of retribution, just desserts, and incapacitation. When offenders are given a determinate sentence, they are imprisoned for a specific period of time. Once the time has expired, the inmate is released from prison.

PTS: 1  DIF: Medium
REF: Indeterminate Sentences and Determinate Sentences
OBJ: 2.2  COG: Analysis