Name:

Law 12

Criminal Code of Canada

References:

* Criminal Code of Canada: <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-46/>
* Lesson power point: Criminal Law – <http://www.campbellswebsoup.weebly.com>
* Canadian Media

Textbook(s):

* Murphy, Terry G. et al. (2010) *All About Law: Exploring the Canadian Legal System*. (p. 112-134; p. 216-260)
* Blair, Annice et al. (2009) *Law in Action: Understanding Canadian Law* (p. 158-177; p. 220-249)

The Criminal Code of Canada (CCC) outlines most of the criminal offences and procedures in Canada. Maintaining and amending the Code is the responsibility of the federal government. The Criminal Code is a lengthy and at times complex document. Throughout the Code there are a number of sections with which you may be familiar or think you know and understand. There are also many unexpected and interesting sections defining unusual types of criminal activity.

Go to The Criminal Code of Canada (or Google Criminal Code of Canada).

Scan through Part I (Sections 3.1 – 45)

* Select five sections which you were unaware of or found interesting
* Part Number and Numerical section(s)
* Written title of section and sub-sections
* Description of crime

Section Number & Name:

Description of Crime:

Section Number & Name:

Description of Crime:

Section Number & Name:

Description of Crime:

Section Number & Name:

Description of Crime:

Section Number & Name:

Description of Crime:

Scan Parts II – XIII of the Criminal Code

* Select any five sections you find interesting.
* Identify the section by number and name.
* Record the section.
* Make sure you understand the language used in the section.
* If explanations are extremely long, you may shorten or paraphrase them.
* For each section identify the *actus reus* and *mens rea* for the offence.
* Identify the sentence(s) (minimum and maximum) for the offence.

Section Number and Name:

Description:

Actus Reus:

Mens Rea:

Punishment:

Section Number and Name:

Description:

Actus Reus:

Mens Rea:

Punishment:

Section Number and Name:

Description:

Actus Reus:

Mens Rea:

Punishment:

Section Number and Name:

Description:

Actus Reus:

Mens Rea:

Punishment:

Section Number and Name:

Description:

Actus Reus:

Mens Rea:

Punishment:

**Questions:**

Identify and explain three differences between indictable and summary conviction offences.

Name three types of culpable homicide and briefly explain each.

If one function of the law is to protect the most vulnerable in society, then why does infanticide carry a lighter sentence than murder? Explain why you agree or disagree with the maximum penalty for infanticide?

The *Criminal Code* specifies a number of offences that are often referred to as ‘crimes without victims.’ They include communicating for the purpose of prostitution, obscenity, and keeping a bawdyhouse (brothel). Should the police control such activities, or should people be allowed to decide for themselves whether or not to engage in them? Explain. Also, explain how there can be victims to these offences.

**Debatable Laws**

**Intro:**

As you are now aware*, Canada’s Criminal Code*, which identifies hundreds of acts that are considered criminal, is in a constant state of flux. Current offences can be modified; outdated offences can be removed and new offences can be added. Changes to the Criminal Code reflect changes in society and social values.

There are currently a number of issues being debated in Canada (or in a couple of cases – have been), which revolve around the criminal or non-criminal nature of specific actions. These issues include:

* **Euthanasia**
* **Decriminalization of Marijuana**
* **Spanking**
* **Prostitution**

**Instructions:**

You are required to investigate the legality of one of the above issues.

Your report must include:

* A brief introduction to your issue.
* Point form notes for both sides of the debate (For or Against)
* A persuasive argument for your side of the debate (aprrox. one page)
  + You MUST do research to support your argument. Look at what the experts are saying. You should look for internet sites as well as newspaper articles.
  + A good argument will consider the counter argument and address it up front.
* A **bibliography** must also be included which references any texts or websites you used in your research. You **must** have reviewed a minimum of three news articles form print or online sources.

**Assessment**

* Criminal Code
  + Part I /5
  + Parts II-XIII /10
* Questions /10
* Debatable Laws
  + Introduction /5
  + Point Form Notes /5
  + One pager /10
  + Bibliography /5