

# Central Issues in Criminal Theory. 9781841130620. Hart Publishing, 2002. 2002. William Wilson. 380 pages

Retribution in Criminal Theory. Douglas n. husak\*. Table of contents. I scrutinize his defense of legal moralism as a theory of legislative aim. I express general misgivings about the extraordinarily central place Moore affords retribution in his account of the criminal law as it exists today. I want to stress at the outset, however, that I regard my commentary as friendly. Like Moore, I am overwhelmingly sympathetic to retributivism. Contemporary criminal theory is much exercised by the apparent contradictions and ambiguities characterizing criminal law doctrine. Is this an inevitable part of the territory leading us to the question the very possibility of criminal law delivering justice? Or, as the author prefers, is criminal justice an achievement in which one of the tasks of criminal theory is to set goals and identify deficiencies in a constant effort to improve the form and content of rules and procedures? Informed by this premise the book explores some of the key questions in criminal theory, addressing first the eth Contemporary criminal theory is much exercised by the apparent contradictions and ambiguities characterising criminal law doctrine. Is this an inevitable part of the territory leading us to question the very possibility of criminal law delivering justice? Informed by this premise the book explores some of the key questions in criminal theory, addressing first the ethics of criminalisation and punishment. It continues with an examination of the structure of criminal liability with its emphasis on separating consideration of the objective conditions of wrongdoing from the features which make a person responsible for it. Finally it examines attempts and accessoryship with a view to exploring the doctrinal tensions which may arise when competing justifications for criminalisation and punishment collide. Download now. SaveSave Central Issues in Criminal Theory For Later. 100%(2)100% found this document useful (2 votes). 741 views391 pages. Central Issues in Criminal Theory. Uploaded by. Criminal theory, in so far as it attempts to chart the philosophical foundations of criminal law, is not an easy subject to grasp or indeed to communicate. True understanding of any phenomenon demands that ideas concerning it are tempered in the re of argument and counter-argument. This book is dedicated to Melanie, Fred and Henry whose patience during the writing of this book has not been inexhaustible. Contents Introduction 1 Criminalising Wrongdoing Criminalising Wrongdoing The Harm Principle Ratcheting Up State Coercion Moral Wrongdoing Structuring Morality and Autonomy. Criminal Law Forum. Wilson has produced a book that is relatively small but that addresses the basic questions in a logical and coherent manner. Indeed, one of the author's considerable strengths is his ability to explain particularly intricate and often obscure points in simple, comprehensible language. The way in which each chapter begins with a general introduction to the topic, identifying the important issues, is helpful in this regard. Times Higher Education Supplement. Wilson's book is a thoughtful contribution to the developing field of theoretical writing about the criminal law.