

TOPIC: Some people think that the best way to reduce crime is to give longer prison sentences. Others, however, believe there are better alternative ways of reducing crime.

Discuss both views and give your opinion.

Criminality is one of the major issues which needs to be addressed in today's rapidly-evolving world. Some argue that placing offenders in jail for longer sentences is the most effective method to curb crime rates. However, I personally believe that there are also other efficient solutions ~~apart from the above one.~~

On the one hand, lengthening prison terms for offenders can bring about definite benefits. First, the punishment is generally regarded ~~considered~~ as the principle deterring factor ~~that an effective method to prevent~~s residents from committing a crime. For instance, Singapore is one of the most developed countries which with one of ~~have~~ the lowest crime rates in the world. The citizens ~~can face a sentence~~s of 1-2 years in jail if they intentionally throw away garbage in public places; ~~even and~~ the length of imprisonment can be up to 5 years if they ~~robber properties from others~~ commit robbery. In light of these harsh sentences, Singaporeans are highly conscious of their behaviors and which this helps minimize the crime level in the nation ~~crime~~. Secondly, spending a large amount of time in prison can provide prisoners with the opportunity to be rehabilitated. In other words, prisoners have more time to improve their character in order that they so they will not re-offend and can become useful citizens ~~inreintegrated into~~ society after being released from jail.

On the other hand, rather than being locked up in prison with other inmates in for a longer period of time, ~~guilty people~~ the guilty can be of the service to the community during their imprisonment ~~period~~. They can carry out meaningful activities such as planting trees and delivering meals to senior and homeless citizens. Participating in these activities gives them the a chance to be aware that they are improving someone's life ~~the lives of others~~ and making their community better. Besides, some youngsters, nowadays, commit offences due to their low awareness as a result of insufficient education. Therefore, more school-based prevention programs should be held ~~implemented~~ to teach adolescents about positive social skills, conflict resolution and moral lessons so as to keep the ~~m young~~ away from misconduct. At the same time, parents play a crucial role in shaping their children's attitudes. They should set aside as much time as possible to understand and educate their children about how to escape from dangerous offences in society ~~a life of criminality~~.

Comment [G1]: This is very general and it is not just an issue today – it is less of an issue today than it was at any point in the past. Better to say: 'Governments are always in search of ways to reduce crime.'

Comment [G2]: Redundant - hurts your CC

Comment [G3]: This is not an opinion – yet. Just saying there are others ways is not the point of the questions. No one would argue that there are many ways. The Q is about THE BEST way. You can alter it to say 'there are more efficient solutions' then it is perfect.

Comment [G4]: I think they can get fines, not jail time for that – it is unrealistic

Comment [G5]: Similar problems to before: too many linking phrases and more than one main idea – why 2 main ideas for this paragraph if it only hurts your TA?

Comment [G6]: This is a little unclear to me already. So they are not in prison while this is happening? What if they commit a violent crime, they just have to do community service and live at home?

Comment [G7]: This is very general nonsense. Crime among is lower than at any point in human history – what awareness? What education? Stay away from broad sweeping generalisations like this

Comment [G8]: This isn't very concrete or clear – just say to their kids 'Don't be criminals'? They hear that message everywhere anyway

In conclusion, in addition to awarding a longer sentence to criminals, serving the community, organizing programs in school, and ~~supervising more supervision from adults of adults~~ are also feasible measures which should be taken in account. These not only aim to lessen crime rates ~~of people~~ but also help them recognize the value of life.

Word count: 400

MARKING CRITERIAS FOR THE ABOVE ESSAY

Task achievement : 5

Coherence and cohesion : 6

Lexical resource : 6

Grammatical range and accuracy : 5

OVERALL SCORE : 5.5

Comment [G9]: No opinion = automatic band 5 for TA!

Comment [G10]: Good last sentence!

Comment [G11]: Way too long! How long did it take to write it? You don't get extra points for extra words.

Comment [G12]: This could be up to band 7 even if there was an opinion in it

Comment [G13]: Very solid but try to reduce the wordiness and number of linking phrases

Comment [G14]: Very good, close to a 7

Comment [G15]: Better but still a few too many mistakes for band 6.