A Defence of Pillories

Inside of the last two hundred years the public has increasingly had to cope with the growing complexity of social justice.

The notion of social justice has long differed in the English consciousness in that the English have dealt with their king under the assumption that the first English king was elected by the many leaders of the English people and their powers over law making, punishment, and national defense were transferred from their hands to his. The king’s powers, so they believed, did not allow him to tax, infringe on private property, or to punish those who had broken no laws, though as kings infringed upon their limitations their power was reclaimed by the people. Where the king had previously been sole judge the English enacted a jury system, and where the king had previously made laws the English enacted a system of responsible government. By today’s standards, the newly-formed system had anything but a rock solid foundation in that its founders thought up creative new ways to carve up power amongst themselves and crimes such as committing murder would be repaid in kind for over a century.

Through the looking glass of today’s society, this primitive, heavy-handed new form of government showed brutish behaviour no better than the kings of old, and to examine their modern day progeny one must admit that our current statesmen are considerably more modern in their forms of punishment. Modernity, however, has its failings in that the crimes committed today are in fact more inhumane than in previous times and have actually put society in much greater peril as a result. A recent example of such crimes can be found in the conduct of the Vancouver School Board trustees, for not only have they clearly perpetrated a bitter psychological attack on their governmental counterparts but they have in fact taken it upon themselves to jeopardize the very population they are elected to represent. While crime may have been brutal in the days of kings and early governments, nowhere in the annals of our great democracy has such deception and bitterness been witnessed against the people, such intricate political posturing to strike at the heart of all we hold dear. The reasons why

**Devices left:**

6. Elaboration

a. Question words as clause subordinators where, why, how, when, what, whose D

b. Causative verbs She made/had/let us do the test B

c. Verbs in passive aspect He had the mail delivered by horse D

d. Sarcasm in the negative expression He’s not the most intelligent of men. B

e. Conditional sentences If…, Suppose he were, I wish… A

f. Concurrent actions While, during our visit, since he had left D

g. Reported speech He said “I will be going home.” B

h. Simile like a rolling stone, hungry as a hippo E

i. Metaphor That man is a pig, you are my sunshine E