

The relevance of state censure, blame, and harms in sentencing

Abstract

Censure, blame, and harms are central concepts in sentencing that have evolved over the years to take into account social context and experiential knowledge. This flexibility, however, remains limited as the current analysis of censure and blame in both Canada and England and Wales focuses on the offender. This detracts from a more nuanced account that examines the state's contribution in creating wrongs and harms. The following presentation proposes a complementary framework within sentencing theory and practice that builds on a responsive understanding of censure as well as a relational account of responsibility in order to analyze and account for state blame and harms in sentencing.

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From 11:45am to 12:30 pm

[Registration required via ZOOM](#)