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Understanding Social Control

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Understanding Social Control

Several themes are identified in the book when describing the changes in social ordering and mass media. First is the theme of discrimination which is identified in chapter four of social ordering and mass media. There is gender discrimination among women and men about social control where women have been imperiled to different forms of control than men. Moreover, how gender shapes and interacts with the experience of various modes of control has been relatively abandoned because conventionally women have been known to be committing fewer crimes than men (Innes, 2003). Nonetheless, when they are imperiled to social controls through the criminal justice process, women will be imposed on more tolerant or spartan sanctions than men. Another theme is crime. Both in chapters five and six of the book *Understanding social control*, the concept of policing is formulated to shape the community and bring social control and order. Similarly, people who have committed crimes are subjected to punishment including parole and probation and imprisonment to control their actions (Innes, 2003). The reading has helped in the understanding of deviance as an act of doing things or acting contrary to social norms. Every society or country has set standards and rules that should be followed and thus when someone acts opposite of how they are required to then they will be subjected to punishment. Policing and punishment ensure that social order and control are restored in society.

Social order plays a critical role in the development and unity of a society as it enables individuals to interact with each other well irrespective of their differences in ethnicity, gender, education or family. Moreover, the article has elaborated on the relationship between social control and social order. Social control and social order are closely linked and thus social ordering practices can easily be altered to make individuals not be involved in defiance behaviors such as racial discrimination and gender relations (Innes, 2003). Furthermore, every society

should have norms and principles that control individuals to live with respect and unity, however, to do this there must be social control strategies to enforce the rules as well as recognize those who do not follow. Policing plays a critical role in ensuring there is social order. Nonetheless, through community policing the police are required to enhance public relations to control criminal activities, serve society by responding to community wishes and desires and without the interest of police administrators. Similarly, through punishment individuals can change to better individuals and also restore other criminals in the society hence developing a well-controlled and ordered community.

Reference

Innes, M. (2003). *Understanding social control*. McGraw-Hill Education (UK).

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