IELTS Writing Task 2 Model Essay

By punishing murderer with the death penalty, society is also guilty of committing murder. Therefore, life in prison is a better punishment for murderers. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Essay:

There is a certain discourse arguing that capital punishment is akin to societal murder; as such, imprisonment for life serves as a more appropriate punishment for those convicted of such crimes. I fundamentally disagree with this sentiment and will elucidate my position in this essay.

One main objection towards life sentences pertains to the substantial cost to taxpayers. Essentially, maintaining the livelihood of prison inmates is financed from the government's coffers, funded primarily by taxpayer money. Thus, applying capital punishment could result in considerable savings, allowing for a redirection of funds towards initiatives aimed at societal improvement such as refurbishing ageing infrastructure. Furthermore, capital punishment can serve as a potent deterrent to repeat offences. For instance, in countries like Korea, there are numerous cases of individuals repeating offences while incarcerated, potentially worsening the prison situation.

Despite these points, some argue that lifetime imprisonment effectively secludes offenders from society. They also assert that it offers an opportunity for rehabilitation, with prisons providing diverse educational programmes centered around moral education. However, the real potential for meaningful rehabilitation is debatable amidst a harsh prison environment.

In conclusion, while there is validity to the argument that lifetime imprisonment can benefit society by removing dangerous elements and providing rehabilitation opportunities, I maintain that capital punishment's benefits outweigh the drawbacks. Specifically, it offers financial benefits and contributes to reducing further criminality.

Word count: 262

Essay translated in Korean:

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Good expressions:

- 1. akin to societal murder -
- 2. elucidate my position -
- 3. substantial cost to taxpayers -
- 4. potent deterrent to repeat offences -
- 5. meaningful rehabilitation is debatable 가 가
- 6. benefits outweigh the drawbacks -