

The need for more than justice by Annete Baier

What I expect to learn:

I expect to learn the principles behind the article written by the author.

Quote:

“Let me say quite clearly at this early point that there is little disagreement that justice is a social value of very great importance, and injustice an evil.”

Book review:

In this article, the author, Annete Baier, points out the importance justice towards attaining peace and harmony in society. So how important is justice really? How can the power of justice bring peace and harmony in society? Is justice fairness? To answer all these questions, let me first discuss what justice is and its principles. The definition given by *socyberty.com* of justice is as follows “Justice, in a functional form, is the idea that, within the same value scope (e.g. moral, ethical, etc) of the infringement, those who commit a wrong in a value system are entitled to receive a similar or related amount of action within the same system/means, and that receipt is except from being considered wrong. Based on the definition given, it is safe to assume that justice is indeed fairness. It is in the concept of justice that a person convicted of a crime may receive a similar or related amount of action which is predetermined by the law. We can understand justice as being a form of societal defense mechanism, allowing a society to purge itself of elements it does not accept without running into problems of the legitimacy of the purge. Justice brings forth an authoritative element to society that sets standards for the people to follow. These standards set by the law are what help in bringing forth equality and fairness into the table because any defiance with the law will result into just consequences. All in all, justice is meant more for the society because it is designed to prove constantly that people are safe within their society. Victims will be given proper justice for the damages or losses they have suffered because criminals will be caught, trialled and punished. In general, we may conclude that justice is what keeps the world safe.

What I have learned:

I have learned that in the world we live in, fairness or equality is very important. Justice is something we and the state need to persevere on.

Integrative questions:

- 1) How important is justice?
- 2) How can we attain justice?
- 3) What are the things that hinder justice?
- 4) Is justice only for the wealthy?
- 5) Is justice fairness?