Crime and Civil Wrongs

An Analysis

Some observations

- The penal law of ancient communities is not the Law of Crimes, it is the Law of Wrongs(Law of Torts).
- All civilized societies agree in drawing a distinction between offences against the State or Community and offences against the Individual.
- Wrongs are divisible into two sorts or species, Private Wrongs and Public Wrongs.
- The distinction between Crimes and Civil Wrongs is roughly that crimes are public wrongs and civil wrongs are private wrongs.
- A crime is an act deemed by law to be harmful to society in general, even though its immediate victim is an individual.
- Practically all other than crime is civil.

Some Questions

- What are the reasons for erecting certain wrongs as offences?
- What is the difference in the legal consequences of crimes and civil wrongs?
- What is the outcome of civil and criminal proceedings?
- What is the object of civil justice?
- What is the object of criminal justice?
- What is the purpose of punishment?
- What is the Victim Compensation Scheme?

Some problems

- Demand for decriminalization
- Rationale of capital punishment
- Inadequacy of punishment in certain cases
- Disappointment as to the rate of conviction
- White collar criminality
- Cyber crimes