Unit 3- Introduction to Law and Criminal Justice Study Guide

1. Describe the American experience with crime in the past half century. What noteworthy criminal incidents or activities can you identify during that time?

2. What is justice?

3. Why is public order necessary? Do we have enough public order or too little? How can we tell? What might a large, complex society like ours be like without laws and without a system of criminal justice? Would you want to live in such a society? Why or why not?

4. What must we, as individuals, sacrifice to facilitate public order? Do we ever give up too much in the interest of public order? If so, when?

5. How do the two models of the criminal justice system differ? Which model do you think is most useful? Which one is more accurate?

6. Define the following:
   a. Civil Action
   b. Human Rights
   c. Law
   d. Value
   e. Jurisprudence
   f. Criminal law
   g. Felony
   h. Misdemeanor
   i. Defendant
   j. Plaintiff
   k. Prosecutor

7. Come up with six examples of a felony

8. Come up with six examples of a misdemeanor

9. List 5 laws that relate to a moral value

10. List 5 laws that relate to an economic value

11. List 5 laws that relate to a political value

12. List 5 laws that relate to a social value.

13. Briefly explain how laws have been present in history.

14. Has the US ratified all of the Human Rights treaties? If not, which one have not been ratified?

15. What is a law?

16. Explain the different burdens of proof in civil and criminal cases. Which is easier to prove?

17. What is the relationship between laws and values?

18. Write a paragraph imagining what our society would be like if we did not have any laws.