

Contemporary Problems in Securing an Effective, Efficient, and Fair Administration of Criminal Justice and their Solutions

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It has been held that the efficient administration of criminal justice is one of the primary goals of any civilized society. However, along with the rapid development experienced by most countries today comes the creation of a wide array of crimes not imaginable in the past. This, together with the variations in the criminal system of each country, has triggered the need to provide for a more effective criminal justice system.

This Lecture delivered by the Author at the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute in Tokyo, Japan seeks to address this primary issue. He first defines criminal justice and its problems. Subsequently, he enumerates the key entities that compose the criminal justice system as a whole — the police, the prosecution, the courts, the corrections, and the community. The discussion of each involves a discourse regarding the problems experienced and the recommended solutions.

On the one hand, the lack of professional deference to the police, for instance, constitutes one of the major problems that block their effective participation in the criminal justice system. The wide latitude of discretionary power, on the other, characterizes the main problem with regard to the prosecution. Overwhelming caseloads and fragmentation are the main problems of the courts and the corrections, respectively.

In the end, the Author recommends solutions to the problems, which involve greater participation among the other members of the community.