

## Practice Multiple Choice/True-False Questions

1. The doctrine of *parens patriae* states that the juvenile court can legally decide and act on what it believes to be in the child's best interests.

- a. true
- b. false

2. Which of the following statements best describes the federal district court judge's response to the juvenile court judge's actions in the Kent v. U.S. (1966) case:

- a. the district court judge subpoenaed the juvenile court judge to testify
- b. the district court judge conducted a detailed examination of the juvenile court judge's rulings on motions presented by Kent
- c. the district court judge took the juvenile court judge's statements at face value
- d. the district court judge criticized the work of the juvenile court judge

3. The Crouse and O'Connell cases (1800's Pennsylvania and Illinois cases) were noteworthy because both cases involved the commitment of children to the House of Refuge because of serious crimes they had committed.

- a. true
- b. false

4. Considering the legal concepts of *actus reus* and *mens rea*, which is more relevant for the argument that children should be treated differently from adults?

- a. *actus reus*
- b. *mens rea*

5. The modern juvenile court was founded on the belief that children are:

- a. intrinsically self-serving
- b. able to appreciate the long-term consequences of their actions
- c. capable of being treated and rehabilitated
- d. willing to make amends for their harmful actions

6. What was the most important consideration for the Supreme Court in ruling that the juvenile death penalty was unconstitutional (Roper v. Simmons, 2005)?

- a. the time to execution takes too long.
- b. courts don't have the resources to handle more death penalty cases.
- c. kids are not capable of committing the kind of harm that would merit the death penalty
- d. a national consensus has emerged that the execution of juveniles can no longer be defended.
- e. both c and d are correct

7. Indeterminate dispositions such as those handed down in In re Gault (1967) have historically been \_\_\_\_\_ common than determinate dispositions in juvenile cases.

- a. more
- b. less
- c. neither a nor b; about the same

#### Practice Short Answer Questions

1. Explain the two major rationales for why we have separate "justice" systems for juveniles and adults.

2. Based on the Supreme Court's ruling in the Roper v. Simmons (2005) death penalty case, is it fair to say that the Court still recognizes the validity of the ideas on which the juvenile court was originally based? Why or why not?

3. According to the U.S. Supreme Court, what should the juvenile court judge in the Supreme Court's first major juvenile justice case -- Kent v. U.S. (1966) -- have done differently?