

Unit 3 Topic 3.1 Page 78

Activity: Media

The Birmingham Six

Learning objective

At the end of this activity you should be able to:

- Describe the case of the Birmingham Six and the impact of miscarriage of justice.

Using the link below, complete questions 1 to 30 that follow.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mpEJiHmgoB4>

1. How long did the Birmingham Six spend in prison?
2. What had they originally been found guilty of?
3. How does Paddy Hill describe himself?
4. In the footage from their release, what do the Birmingham Six say the police had told them?
5. According to Hill, what are those who are victims of miscarriages of justice focused on?
6. What does he suggest about how he felt when he was released?
7. How does Hill describe life in a maximum-security prison?
8. What problems did he face on release from prison?
9. What explanation does he give for still being so angry twenty years after release?
10. Why is Hill so angry with the police?
11. After the bombings, when did he go to the police station?
12. What did the police do to Hill?
13. What was the purpose of the police actions?
14. According to Hill, what was the worst thing for him to live with?
15. According to Hill, how do guilty criminals treat prison?
16. Why is prison harder for those prisoners who claim they are innocent?
17. How long did Hill spend in solitary confinement and why?
18. Why was prison so much harder for the Birmingham Six? What threats did they face?
19. How were the Birmingham Six treated in prison?
20. What impact did prison have on Hill?
21. What would he have liked to see happen to the police who manufactured evidence against him?
22. Why was it ruled that the police would not get a fair trial? How does this compare to the treatment of the Birmingham Six?
23. What has been the impact of wrongful imprisonment on Hill's family life?
24. Why has Hill not seen the other members of the Birmingham Six?
25. Why does he not feel he can have truth and reconciliation like Nelson Mandela did?
26. Why does the presenter suggest that Hill should be able to understand the context of the wrongful conviction? What is Hill's response to this?
27. What are the parallels drawn between the treatment of the Irish in the 1970s and the treatment of Muslims today?
28. What does Hill claim breeds terrorism?
29. What did he mean by saying 'Now it's our turn' on his release?
30. Why does Hill say his conviction was overturned?