

A True Story from South Africa

I am grateful to the students of The Gryphon School, Sherborne for the following responses.

Student A

1. One punishment that I would use on Mr Van Der Broek would be to send him to jail for 5 years then I would tie him to a car and have an electric motor to drive straight into a brick wall. And then shoot him in the stomach then burn him and put his ashes far away. (for example in Antarctica). He deserves such a horrific death because he's just killed an old lady's son and husband in such a horrible way so he deserves an even worse one. He was racist and very selfish. He deserved something far worse. Racism shouldn't be allowed then at all. I would get some one to spit on his ashes. Mr Van Der Broek should have never been a policeman. And with my punishment I don't think he would ever again.

2. I think She would have forgiven him and said something like 'Jesus Christ forgives you for what you've done so I guess I have to respect that' Then Mr Van Der Broek would go out side and kill her. Then he would get put in jail for life.

3. Poor Points

1. He could have shot her later on.
2. He could have raped her.
3. He could of kept on killing black people
4. She could have regretted it and killed him.
5. She could have got bullied about he Christianity.

Good points

1. She has a good heart and has made that known.
2. She has made her point about Jesus
3. Mr Der Van Broek didn't attack her afterwards.
4. She forgived him
5. He's happy to visit her.

4. The old lady's decision was kind but wrong because she should have punished him somehow to let him know he would never do it again. But it's mainly good reason because she probably got loads of white people like black people. She made her point in court and she did as her husband would have wanted her to do so.

Student b

1. My punishment for Mr Van Der Broeck would be to ask him to apologise to the murdered man's wife as this would be a punishment enough for a blatant racist such as Van Der Broeck after that punishment I would sentence him to life imprisonment with no review for probation. I would give him this sentence as South Africa could not be rebuilt with racists like him, and his ways don't need to be on public display ever again.

2. If this woman created a sentence I think that the story of the Pharisee who asks Jesus what to do if someone wrongs you and he replies "Turn the other cheek", I believe those immortal words of forgiveness would resonate through her mind. I expect her sentence would be similar to mine as I don't believe in murder be it execution or homicide, she would probably ask for life imprisonment.

3 Good

Bad

1. She forgives
2. She doesn't forget

1. She is still in a very vulnerable position
2. She is twice a month meeting with convicted murderer.

The consequences related to her choice I think are just as simple as the message of Jesus "Turn the other cheek" she forgives and will never forget such an amazing choice as she displayed then in such a maliciously advantageous position.

4. Her decision I think was perfect, the closest she will get to her son is through the murderer her family members, a devout Christian such as herself would always try to forgive, just think of Ned Flanders he always forgives Homer of his wrong doings towards him just as this old lady has. As with every religion it is difficult to follow religious laws in our day and age so for a petty crime such as robbery it is hard to forgive, but for murder it must be much, much harder.

Student c

1. I think he should go to prison for life and be banned from seeing his family, just like the women wasn't aloud to see to see her family again.
2. I think she would ask for a short sentence, maybe 5 years or six because Christians believe in forgiveness so in that time she probably would of managed to forgive him.
3. A good point is that she wants her husband's ashes which shows devotion to him also that she will get company for Mr Van der Broek. A bad point is that she has more or less forgotten what he did to her husband and son also she hasn't given him any punishment so he has got away with murdering.
4. I think what the old lady asked for is stupid because he murdered her only family and she has just forgiven him, but because of her beliefs she kind of had to.