

Criminal law

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Introduction

This assignment will break down criminal law and men's rea and the fundamental basics of what it is. Men's rea in Latin stands for guilty mind the state of mind of the defendant before and after the crime was committed. Statutes will always come into place with the government will need to prove that the crime was committed beyond reasonable doubt. So, for instance if the defendant has committed the crime knowingly with purpose and recklessly, they are liable to be persecuted.

[www.practicallaw.thomsonreuters.com/w-0029006?transitiontype=default&contextdata=\(sc.default\)](http://www.practicallaw.thomsonreuters.com/w-0029006?transitiontype=default&contextdata=(sc.default))

Mens rea is the mental element of crime, it can also be known as malice aforethought. When a crime is committed on without any proof of men's rea is called "absolute liability" another element is called actus reus. Actus reus is the act of which the defendant has taken to do the crime in hand.

www.iclr.co.uk/knowledge/glossary/mens-rea-and-actus-reus

Actus reus is more of the physical side of the crime. In certain cases, it depends on what the defendant does and how the defendant reacts to the situation. What will determine the outcome of the situation? The defendant must acknowledge what he or she has done or has failed to do if the defendant has no control over their actions, then they cannot be guilty of and actus reus act.

www.collegelaw.co.uk/criminal-law/actus_reus/index.html

what is direct intent

The men's rea is based on the state of mind of the individual where one must hold all accountability for one's actions. Direct intent requires the highest level of fault in every aspect of men's rea. It changes from motive or desire. In some cases, it can be explained easily and others not so easily. Direct intent is where the defendant wants to conduct a result of their actions upon and certain thing or person, where also have oblique intent, this is a more complicated form of intent this is where the defendant wants to conduct a certain result on something knowing the consequences of their actions

www.e-lawresources.co.uk/mens-rea-intention.php

A famous case of men's rea and direct intent was the Woolin (1998). This case law was about a man who lost control of his emotions and threw his 3-month-old son into a solid surface causing major injuries which resulted in the baby losing its life. Woolin was charged with murder and the judge directed to jury to go by the Nedrick test law where it find out if it was direct intent. The House of Lords accepted the defendant's appeal of oblique intention.

www.lawbook.org/post/r-v-woolin

