

## Final Exam Preview

The Final Exam is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15 from 2-4 pm. The exam will have two parts. I think that each part should take about forty minutes to complete. I generally allow two hours or about one and a half times as long as I think you need.

In the first part you will be asked to choose *two* out of four passages. For these two passages, you will be asked to identify the author of the passage (the names will not be given), describe what the author is saying, and evaluate the passage's significance by showing how it is related to the broader theory or argument that the author advanced. The passages will be drawn from the readings we have done *since* the Short Test, that is, everything from Hart on separating law and morality (February 18) through Lewis on punishing attempted crimes (May 6).

In the second part, you will be asked to write an essay on one of the following topics. Please do not use notes.

1. Warren, Brandeis, and Douglas all make the case for thinking that there is a moral right to privacy about personal information; they claim to find protections of this right in various places in the law. Thomson and Posner disagree about the significance of the right to privacy: Thomson thinks it is derivative from other rights and Posner casts doubt on its value. Give the best case for thinking that there is an independent, valuable right of privacy. Then give the best case for the other side. What do you think: is there a significant right to privacy or not?
2. We have considered four accounts of the purpose that punishment serves: utilitarian, retributive, expressive, and respect. Take one of these and describe its chief advantages and disadvantages. Then describe your own opinion: is this account basically correct or not? If you think it is correct, explain why the disadvantage you considered is not compelling. If you think it is incorrect, describe what you see as a superior alternative.
3. Our society punishes attempted crimes as well as successful ones, though typically less often and with less severity. Describe an important question

about, or problem with, our practices of punishing attempts. Then explain how you think the question or problem ought to be handled.