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In some countries, some criminal trials in law courts are shown on television so the general public can watch them. Do the advantages outweigh the disadvantages?

In recent years, there has been a considerable rise in broadcasting court hearings on TV. Though there are a number of advantages to this trend, I believe that the drawbacks are just as significant.

Firstly, an advantage of filming criminal trials is so the public can see justice **being done**. Secondly, it can also raise awareness showing citizens that they will not **get away with** breaking the law and shows them the sentencing **tariffs**. As a result, crime rates can be reduced for the benefit of society. For example, in the United States there was a decline in youth crime which was attributed to the televising of the law courts. Consequently, the success of these televised trials has led other countries to consider allowing cameras into their own court rooms for the first time.

However, there are considerable **drawbacks** to allowing cameras into the courthouse. Clearly, one potential issue is the defendant may not get a **fair trial** if public and media pressure influences the outcome. Furthermore, the jury needs to be able to **weigh** the facts and decide the future of the offender independently of any media pressure to enable a fair trial. Additionally, criminals might want extensive media coverage turning them into celebrities thus creating a situation where people commit crime just for their **15 minutes of fame**. Therefore, I would argue for checks and balances in any future televised court trials.

In conclusion, filming criminal trials on television could help the public to understand how the justice system works, but it is also necessary to restrict such filming.

260 words

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Vocabulary

be done (idiom) To be finished or have completed something.

get away with (someone or something) (idiom) To avoid the consequences of one's action.

You'll never get away with cheating—one of your teachers is bound to figure it out.

You got lucky when you ran that red light. Next time you might not get away with it.

tariff (noun) any schedule of sentences, prices, fees, fares, etc

drawback (noun) A disadvantage or inconvenience.

fair trial: a human right or constitutional right to a trial that provides certain practical protections for the citizen.

weigh (something) (Idiom) To consider the positive and negative implications of something very carefully, especially when making a decision.

15 minutes of fame: A brief period of celebrity or notoriety. The term was coined by artist Andy Warhol.

Jane had her 15 minutes of fame when she appeared on the nightly news broadcast.

checks and balances (idiom) Checks and balances are a way of organizing a system or organization so that no part of it has too much influence over the others. There are a whole lot of checks and balances that make it obvious if people are dishonest. A military court has few of the checks and balances of a civil court.

范文解析:

这是一篇利弊类的雅思写作大作文，作者使用了双边类的写作结构。双边类的写作结构，如本篇文章，首先在首段作者通过改写题目的方法来引出主题，并且在首段就表达了自己的观点——认为 **filming criminal trials** 并且在电视上播放这件事是有许多不好的地方的。在主体段部分，作者使用两段分别论述了 **filming criminal trials** 的好处和坏处，整体的逻辑体现为虽然会有一些好处比如说减少犯罪几率，但是很大程度上是有弊端的，比如社会媒体的压力可能会影响评判的公正性等。首先第一个主体段，作者主要论述了 **filming criminal trials** 的好处，在这个主体段中作者使用了论点+解释+举例的结构，首先给出观点，并且用细节来进一步解释论点，最后通过举例来论证。这种写主体段的结构也是我们写作获得高分的技巧之一，他可以使你的逻辑关系更加清晰明了，并且可以在此基础上使用适当的连接词，对于文章更是锦上添花。最后结尾段，作者总结了上文并且重申了自己的观点。这篇文章中使用的写作结构和技巧在启德 2019 雅思写作新教材中有详细的讲解，其他类型的写作结构教科书中也会有详细的介绍，如果大家想要学习更多关于写作的知识，欢迎大家来启德上课。