

Retribution is the only way to achieve justice; forgiveness merely comes to terms with a loss.

A thirst for justice[, a thirst to fill a hole in ones' selves,] is as ingrained to human nature as is greed; indeed, they are essentially the same. All pain is felt as a loss - loss of security, loss of contentment, loss of material wealth, et cetera - and these losses can leave metaphorical holes in one's self. Justice is simply those holes being filled in one way or another. Now that justice has been defined, it's clear that retribution is the only way to actually achieve justice, because a hole must be filled with the same type of thing that was removed; if contentment was lost, contentment must be replaced, and if material wealth was lost, material wealth must be replaced. What is forgiveness? Can forgiveness replace something it is not? Forgiveness does not fill holes, and thus cannot achieve justice. All forgiveness does is allow someone to accept a loss and move on.

- Religion:

Christianity

- consequences not vengeance
- in the religion of christianity searching through the scriptures it does not accept vengeance “Exodus 21:23-25, But if there is any further injury then you shall appoint as a penalty life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth etc.” because of mens fallen nature and their harden of hearts god established a law given to men that if someone takes someone's life then the appointed judge may see fit to take the life of the murderer.
- “Matthew 5:38-45, in quoting the previous passage jesus is not so much correcting but perfecting thee meaning of eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth and I quote, “ You have heard that it was said, “AN EYE FOR AN EYE, AND A TOOTH FOR A TOOTH, (Exodus 21:23-25), “But I say to you, do not resist an evil person but who ever slaps you on your right cheek turn the other to him also...” in my conclusion on the religion of Christianity revenge was for those who were guilty
- self control is in the will not the emotion

Islam

- infidel of those that do not want to convert to being muslim
- violence is only intended in self defense

- Human Nature:

- revenge can also put out a message across to be seen as equal, La riots, Holocaust....
- in hierarchy of creation plants , animals, and human beings, the plants are living creatures but possess no intelligence, the animals are a higher intelligence species than plants but they only go off their instincts humans, although are also instinctual beings also possess a soul which gives them a will and through that they can choose not to act on those impulses but there are times where human

beings do not act on impulse and simply take revenge on those that have hurt them such as

- is the they automatic thing to do when you want to be heard or seen equal
- reputation, forgiveness is a sign of weakness
- revenge can be used to make a point, building up a tough reputation
- therefore because it changes it becomes subjected and unless you can prove to me that forgiveness is subjective...
- taking revenge is in most cases against those who have harmed you, so there for the amount of pain/harm that is taking place on the victim is fair because they did the exact same damage as they did to you
- In order for you to survive in society you can not let people step on you because forgiveness can be seen as a sign of weakness. For example, when one is placed in prison they are more inclined to be picked on if they are not in shape which will increase the amount of danger that that person may receive. Whereas, an individual who appears strong or has a bad reputation will have a lower chance of being harassed. So, not only does this prove that it may help others with their confidence level but it also somewhat provides assuredness and safety for that person.
- "I'm not out for revenge, I just want to make sure this doesn't happen to someone else", clearly spoken by our own President George W. Bush through this we can see that even our countries` leader shared the same beliefs as others in our world. Some choose revenge to get back at those who have caused them pain, however, there are others that take revenge because either a loved one or another of their kind has been negatively affected for example, the LA riots there was a reason why the african americans reacted in such a grave manner they did it out of protection and defending their own honor, to not be seen as less but to be seen as equal
- "Ours is a nation that does not seek revenge, but we do seek justice." *Justice is revenge.*

- Sometimes when people take revenge, they do so to get back at another person, and pass the line of justice (or fairness). **When they pass the line of justice they sink down to the level of the offender.** However when revenge is used for justice, which means applying the same pain to the offender, the victim is standing their ground (standing up for themselves). When revenge is used correctly for justice, it usually teaches the offender not to do that wrongdoing again to someone else.
- forgiveness is selfish, meaning we do it for ourselves rather than to benefit the wrongdoer; although sometimes it allows closure for the wrongdoer.
- An example of revenge used for justice is when the Navy SEALs assassinated Osama Bin Laden, as it was used to create a reputation for America of today, and also avenge the deaths he had caused.
- “If anything, “an eye for an eye” is a check on excess. It demands exactness and has no tolerance for recklessness. The wrongdoer who causes someone to lose an eye will have to forfeit one of his own—no more, no less.”
- “We all want reciprocity.”
- **The Tempest**
 - “batter his skull, or paunch him with a stake, or cut his weasand with thy knife.” Here Caliban is talking about torturing Prospero and as you can also clearly see Prospero has really affected Caliban's life treating him as if he is worthless and a slave. Do you believe that it is “fair” to treat an individual in this manner? No, it is not correct which brings me back to the point of revenge there is always a cause and effect to everything in life, Prospero took the land of Caliban's mother as if it was something okay to do. As an audience we know that Prospero does whatever he wants he has power but, that doesn't mean Caliban does not have the right to stand up for himself and take back what belongs to him.
 - Prospero is thrown to death with his baby girl so that others could overthrow him, an innocently perfect king. Prospero survives to taunt them and watch them as they suffer a bit by trying to survive for a very brief time. The innocent are left safe, so Prospero is not crossing any boundaries

- King Alonso is depressed that his son is presumed dead. Prospero would have killed himself if Miranda had not survived (MUST QUOTE TEXT)... same?
- Pearl Harbor:
 - December 7, 1941 the Empire of Japan attacked without warning the U.S. Pacific fleet in Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i killing many U.S. service men, sinking and destroying most of the Pacific fleet. Bringing the U.S. into the second world war. The attack was a strategic failure for the Japanese(although they killed and injured many U.S servicemen.) but many U.S. citizens were surprised at the attack.
- L.A. Riots:
 - Reginald Denny became an unintentional central figure in the 1992 Los Angeles riots when he was pulled from his truck at the intersection of Florence and Normandie and beaten nearly to death. Four rioters, who came to be known as the LA-4, repeatedly pounded Denny. One of them hurled a brick at his head. The images of Denny staggering on his knees drenched in his own blood were broadcast live, but Denny was then saved by four Good Samaritans who drove him to the hospital. Denny has since lived a private life -- rarely seen in public over the last two decades. NBC conducted one of the last known interviews with Denny in 2002. The quotes in the remainder of this article come from that interview and reflect Denny's candor on a wide range of subjects, including race and the accountability of law enforcement and public officials. During the hour-long conversation, Denny was generally upbeat and talkative. At only one point was he at a loss for words -- when struggling to express his appreciation for 27,000 get-well cards he received while recovering from the beating.
 - "So much kindness, I couldn't believe it," Denny said of the cards. Denny had saved each and every card, and vowed to carry them to his grave.
 - "Someone else is going to have to throw them away," he said. "Because I will not."

- Though racial tension in Los Angeles was a recurring theme in the coverage of the riots, Denny said that the people who sent him the letters were not concerned with race.
- “They didn’t care. I didn’t care. And what was really cool is when I got blood in the hospital,” Denny said. “Did anyone check to see what color that blood was? Probably red.”
- Seven years after the riots, Denny moved from California. He enjoys living near the water, and at the time of the 2002 interview was working as a boat mechanic. He now works for an industrial supply store.
- Denny said he still thought of the riots every day, and was grateful to be alive.
- “Every day usually starts out as a cool deal,” he said. “I am going, 'Yahoo, I am here.’”
- Throughout the interview, Denny was upbeat, repeatedly noting that many people suffer hardship.
- Denny’s hardships include permanent nerve damage, impaired vision and a constant ringing in his ears.
- Dachau Reprisals:
 - In the Dachau Reprisals, the American soldiers were clearly the ones exacting retribution against the German SS guards. One might argue that this was not justice because the murdered Jews were the ones hurt, not the American soldiers, but the truth is that the Americans were hurt as well, and there was a loss in both injuries. The Jews’ loss is obvious: they lost their lives. The Americans’ loss was slightly more subtle. They were hurt because they empathized with the Jews, and perhaps because they were ashamed of being part of a species that was capable of such atrocity. The American soldiers lost their humanity that day. Now, as far as justice was concerned in that act, could forgiveness have really replaced a sense of humanity? No. Forgiveness could only allow them to accept what they had seen and move on with their lives feeling a little less human. For justice to happen, balance would have been

necessary; they would have had to regain their sense of humanity. And they did, by destroying the source of the inhuman atrocity; justice was done, and could only be done by retaliation. Whether the retaliation was sufficient, insufficient, or too much is a matter for opinion, but the fact remains that only retaliation can achieve justice.

Revenge is not just an action, it is a human characteristic. It is used in many ways financially, physically, or criminally which is all a result of how the other individual affected you. When someone breaks the laws of our society, the people that actually follow these laws automatically want retribution/vengeance for the violation of those who step outside of the law. When we feel we have been wronged somehow in life the revenge that is inherent in us wants to let others know how we've been wronged we tend to raise our voices. For example in an argument normally you do not just talk calmly and listen to each other, your instinct is to try and talk over them, to raise your voice higher than theirs because we automatically feel that is the only way for the other individual to hear us out. Another example is when a toddler is hungry or wants something their instinct is to whine or throw a tantrum because they feel that is the only way they can get their parents attention and make them realize how mad they are for not receiving what they were asking for. As an adult we have protests something to draw attention to how we were wronged, marching protests in the streets, stopping traffic on major roads, and sit ins sitting in offices to prevent public access by others these are all ways to be heard, to fulfill the inherent revenge aspect that we have in our lives. Revenge can be measured at different levels but it fills that hole we have inside forgiveness on the other hand may be way of forcing us to move on but that does not mean the victim will forget what has happened to them.

- [*NYT Revenge Article \(Marshall\)*](#)

“Justice requires that no less than an eye can be taken in retaliation for a lost eye, but no more than an eye either”. This is simply a good statement. However it is not a very useful counter argument, it is a little irrelevant to the counter arguments we'll be getting.

“Vengeance, it’s as natural to the human species as love and sex”. This relates to our opening statement, the paragraph just under our claim.

“Foreman is saying that he doesn’t believe that the debt Mr. Woodmansee owes to society, and to him personally, has been satisfied. The wrongdoer has grossly underpaid for his crime and the score remains unsettled”. Although arguably incorrect, he is in agreement to the fact that pain received should equal the pain caused, not in a stagnant rate of punishment per crime.

- [*NYT Justice and Forgiveness*](#)