

Just Mercy Argument

In a well-developed essay, take a position on one of the main arguments in the book *Just Mercy*, by Bryan Stevenson, that “*Each of us is more than the worst thing we’ve ever done (17-18)*”. Support your position with appropriate evidence from your reading, experience, and/or observations.

Just Mercy Argument

Carefully read the following passage from “Surely Doomed” in Bryan Stevenson’s book *Just Mercy*. Charlie, as a fourteen-year-old, was abused in an adult jail before Stevenson’s legal intervention resulted in Charlie transferring to a juvenile facility where he was eventually released. Mr. and Mrs. Jennings, an older couple inspired to be involved with Charlie, helped him with his release and recovery and became like family.

Then, in a well-developed essay, explain to what extent Mrs. Jennings’s claim is true. Support your position with your reading, experience, and/or observations.

At one point early on, I tried to caution [Mr. and Mrs. Jennings] against expecting too much from Charlie after his release. “You know, he’s been through a lot. I’m not sure he can just carry on as if nothing has ever happened. I want you to understand he may not be able to do everything you’d like him to do.”

They never accepted my warnings. Mrs. Jennings was rarely disagreeable or argumentative, but I had learned that she would grunt when someone said something she didn’t completely accept. She told me, “We’ve all been through a lot, Bryan, all of us. I know that some have been through more than others. But if we don’t expect more from each other, hope better for one another, and recover from the hurt we experience, we are surely doomed” (126).