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Topic 1 DQ 1

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Why did the Founding Fathers feel compelled to include criminal procedure provisions in the Bill of Rights?

In the U.S constitution, the first ten amendments make up the Bill of Rights, which guarantees essential rights and liberties to every citizen (Lewis, 2002) To maintain peace and ensure that justice is delivered to all U.S citizens, the founding fathers included the criminal procedure provisions into the Bill of Rights. The criminal procedure includes rules, amendments, and guidelines that regulate how the justice system delivers justice. Without the inclusion of the criminal procedure provisions in the Bill of Rights, the justice system would rule in any manner. For example, without the criminal procedure, the justice system could have denied some citizens a speedy and fair trial. However, the inclusion of the criminal procedure provisions, for example, the 6th Amendment, guarantees a citizen the right to a speedy and fair trial by jury (Shea, 2011).

What were the historical factors that informed those decisions?

The first ten amendments, which were proposed in 1789 by the congress, are the historical factors that informed the decisions to include criminal procedures in the Bill of Rights. Ultimately, the main aim was to ensure that each citizen's liberties were well protected.

How might a Christian worldview have influenced their formulation of these provisions in the Bill of Rights?

A Christian worldview is based on the word of God or the Bible. The bible offers various directives such as the good values one should adopt in life and what one should not do. For example, the fifth commandment is that one should not kill. The Christian worldview influenced the provisions to be incorporated in the Bill of Rights to ensure that human dignity is upheld by

not depriving any citizen of life, property, or liberty. Human dignity is based on the Christian belief that we are all created in the image of God, and as a result, we should all be treated equally.

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References

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