Criminal law recognizes defences of all three types. In some societies, one has no need to justify or excuse oneself. Although criminal law tends to be sparing in which defences it recognizes, most systems of law provide for 

The Perplexing Boundaries of Justification and Excuse

Justification and excuse. Though I sketch some of the broader implications of my comments on justification and excuse, I do not pursue in depth what they imply about the openness of 

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Both justification and excuse change crimes into noncrimes, but for fundamentally different reasons. Both form basic components in the overall criminal law defense, but their analysis problems vary much.

Justification and Excuse in the Criminal Law: Defences 

Moreover, the distinction becomes important in ensuring that the criminal law sends out an internally coherent set of moral messages to society. As attempted in J.S. Fletcher, Rethinking 

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Defences, Justification, Excuse and Provocation

School of Law Research Paper Series No 2018/02 Defences, Justification, Excuse and Provocation Chloë Kennedy Lecturer in Criminal Law University of Edinburgh, School of Law

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