

Lysias (10/18)

Topics

- Defended charges of entrapment rather than murder
 - Seemed to be entrapment
- Punishment seemed based on effects of the act, not the act - 5-5
- Woman's responsibility...?
- The maid: women are liars and weak – 5-4 second column
- Opening vs. closing arguments
- Handout vs. law today
- The importance of rhetoric in Athenian society
- Punishment for rape: then vs. now

Discussion

- Defending charges of entrapment
 - Didn't plot
 - Was not crime of passion
 - Was premeditated
 - Was he enraged or not?
- Punishment based on effect
 - Today, would be based more on effect
 - Apparently not so in ancient Greece
 - Women attached to family
 - Crime was against family, not the individual
- Women's responsibility

- Husband expected courtly love
- Women not mentioned as criminal
 - For sake of argument?
 - Because women are mindless ie not responsible for actions
- Eratosthenes was responsible for corrupting wife – his fault
 - Disgraced kids, husband
- Woman belongs to man, and family
 - Is she punished
 - Later by husband maybe?
 - Not mentioned
- Which is worse: rape or adultery?
 - Adultery destroys family
 - Rape is worse for victim
- People inherently bad
 - Do people naturally cheat
 - Was the wife really persuaded?
- Opening vs. closing
 - Opens emotional, body is rational, closes emotional
 - Used betterment of society to spin the argument
 - Guilty or not?
 - Was he really just defending against entrapment?
 - Seems to be arguing about the murder too...