

Question 24 (6 marks)

With reference to ONE contemporary human rights issue, explain the role of state sovereignty in enforcing human rights.

6

Throughout the world numerous circumstances of human rights violations are occurring as the result of contemporary human rights issues. These issues include slavery and human trafficking. Despite slavery being made illegal in numerous nation states, slavery and human trafficking still exists in the world today. The role of state sovereignty is increasingly important in enforcing human rights. State sovereignty is a recognised nation state with the power to enact legislation and govern citizens within its borders. Human trafficking is a transnational crime that can be difficult to prosecute because of different domestic laws within nation states. However the offence will be prosecuted under domestic law of the particular country and may also face the International Criminal Court. Human Rights laws however are often hard to prosecute as prosecution requires the nation state to have ratified and incorporated human rights treaties into domestic law.