

A Different Perspective

Victim's rights is a euphemism
For state-sanctioned vengeance,
Where the first priority is
Making sure the victim
Gets her pound of flesh at
The expense of the convict.

In the land of unintended
Consequences, this skewed
Emphasis on sating the thirst
For retribution, the nicer the
Person you wrong,
The better off you are.

I'd like to advocate for victim's
Responsibilities, where the more
Loving the victim, the harsher
The punishment.
Give the vindictive ones
A lecture on forgiveness
And let the criminal off
With a slap on the wrist.

Ridiculous, you say? Maybe so.
But is it any more ridiculous
Than the current system?

Harlan Richards