

CRIMINOLOGY

By Malik Huzaifa Saleem
Attorney at Law



Lecture Handouts for CSS

Module 2

Recommended Books¹:

1. Criminology by Larry J. Siegel. (Primary Book)
2. Oxford Handbook for Criminology.
3. Criminology by Tim New Burn.
4. 21st Century Criminology: A reference handbook by J. Mitchell Miller.
5. Criminology: Explaining Crime and Its Context by Stephen E. Brown.
6. Further Readings at the end of module.

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¹ These books are recommended for aspirant's preparation, please read the relevant topic you have studied in the lecture in these books. Reading these books completely is not a compulsion just read the topics included in syllabus and handouts.

Crime

- Human conduct in violation of the criminal laws of a jurisdiction that has the power to make such laws, and for which there is some form of authorized sanction.
- An intentional act or omission that violates criminal statutory law.
- Crime is defined as a behaviour which is prohibited by the law and for which some punishment or penalty or sanction is prescribed.
- A crime is an act or an omission prohibited by law, the violation of which is prosecuted by the state in a judicial proceeding in its own name. It is a public wrong as distinguished from a private wrong.

Criminal Behaviour

- In the words of Edwin Sutherland;

“Criminal behaviour is behaviour in violation of the criminal law. . . it is not a crime unless it is prohibited by the criminal law [which] is defined conventionally as a body of specific rules regarding human conduct which have been promulgated by political authority, which apply uniformly to all members of the classes to which the rules refer, and which are enforced by punishment administered by the state.”

Interactionist View of Crime

- George Herbert Mead, a sociologist, proposed Symbolic Interaction Theory. The main postulates of theory are:
 - People act according to their own interpretations of reality, through which they assign meaning to things.
 - They observe the way others react, either positively or negatively;
 - They re-evaluate and interpret their own behaviour according to the meaning and symbols they have learned from others.
- People, institutions, and events are viewed subjectively and labelled either good or evil according to the interpretation of the evaluator.
- The content of the criminal law and consequently the definition of crime often depend on human interaction and perceptions. For instance, in few states of USA Alcohol is legal, while marijuana is not. It could easily be the other way around. Gay marriage is legal in some state jurisdictions, illegal in others.
- According to the interactionist view, the definition of crime reflects the **preferences and opinions** of people who hold social power in a particular legal jurisdiction.
- Even the definition of serious violent offenses, such as rape and murder depends on the prevailing moral values of those who shape the content of the criminal law.
- In the USA, fifty years ago, a man could not be prosecuted for raping his wife; today, every state criminalizes marital rape.
- In sum, the definition of crime is more reflective of prevailing moral values than of any objective standard of right and wrong.

Relativity of Deviance, Crime and Criminality

- **Relative in Time**
 - Within the same society, what is considered deviant in one time period may not be considered deviant in a later period, and vice versa.
 - Example: The use of cocaine and opium was very common (and legal) in the United States in the late nineteenth century, even though both drugs are illegal today.
- **Relative in Society**
 - What is considered deviant in one society may be acceptable in another. Another way of saying this is that deviance is relative in society.
 - Example: Anthropologists have found that sexual acts condemned in some societies are often practiced in others.

Nature of Crimes

- Two major natures of crime:

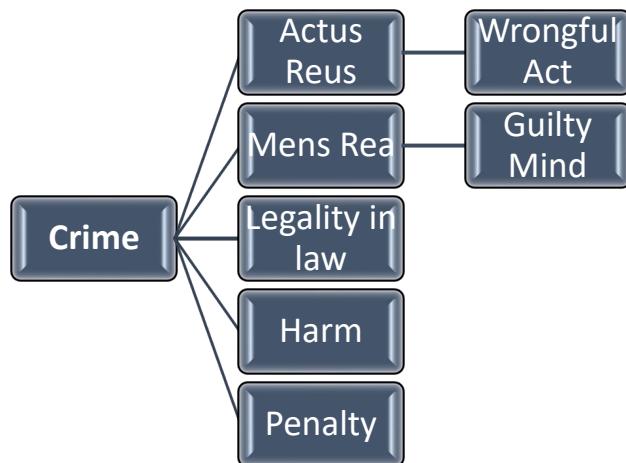
Mala in Se

- Crimes wrong and evil within themselves, in their intrinsic nature.
- These are actions that are deemed evil because of the nature of the action and are well recognized as crimes even if a person has not read the law.
- For example, murder, robbery, injuring, drug use, etc.

Mala Prohibita

- Crimes that are not inherently evil in themselves, but rather are crimes because they violate a law instituted in a particular society.
- A person may be unaware that he is committing a crime *mala prohibita* because those actions are not obviously wrong. For instance, someone unaware of certain traffic rules in a region might violate those rules without meaning to do so.
- For example, public drinking, loitering, smoking, etc. may not be even illegal in different jurisdictions

Elements of Crime



- Every crime must consist of the **voluntary physical bodily movement** and the **mental thoughts that caused that particular movement**.
- Bad thoughts alone cannot constitute a crime, with some exceptions like perjury – false statement on oath, a fraud.

Crime as a social problem

- “It is often defined as a condition which many people consider undesirable and wish to correct.” ~ Horton and Leslie
- Characteristics of social problem:
 - Affects large section of society
 - Generally regarded harmful for society
 - People become fed up with it and discuss its solutions
 - It’s always product of the vested interests of organized group that wants to achieve its ends at the expense of society.
- Crimes become social problems as they disrupt the social fabric of a society.

Difference between Crime and Deviance

Crime	Deviance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime refers to violation of law. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deviance refers to violation of social rule, norms or conventions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Usually crimes are universal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deviance varies from society to society

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime is always punishable by criminal law. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deviance results in social stigma and sanctions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agents of control are police and judiciary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Society is the agent of control

Difference between Crime and Sin

Crime	Sin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime is a legal preposition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concept of sin has roots in religion/religious philosophy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime is due to breach of law. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sin is due to violation of religious rule.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criminal is punished by state. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sinner is punished by God.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remedy of crime is either penal or monetary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remedy for sin is penance and apology.

Difference between Crime and Vice

Crime	Vice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All crimes are against the law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All vices aren't against the law.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm is inflicted on a third party or someone else. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harm is inflicted on ones ownself. For example, drinking, smoking, taking drugs etc
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tried under criminal law of state 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assesed on the grounds of morality by people around the person.

Who is Criminal?

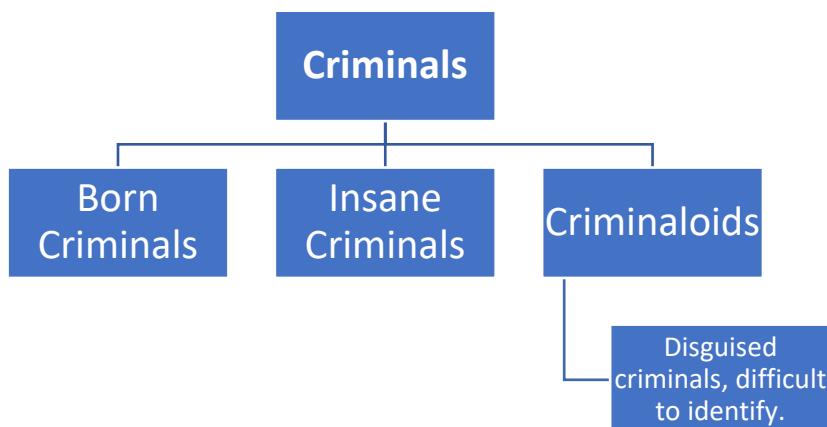
An individual who has been found guilty of the commission of conduct that causes social harm and that is punishable by law.

~ West's Encyclopedia of American Law.

Classifying Criminals

- Enrico Ferri was one of the earliest criminologists who attempted to classify criminals during 19th century.
 - Born Criminals
 - Criminal Madman
 - Criminals by contracted habit
 - Occassional criminals
 - Criminals by passion

Cesare Lombroso's Classification



Other Types of Criminals

• Occasional Criminals

- The occasional criminal only performs the act if the opportunity or necessity occurs in his/her routine of daily life.
- Occasional criminals are amateurs whose acts are unskilled, and unplanned, Occasional crime occurs when there is a situational inducement Frequency of occasional crime varies according to age, race, gender etc
- Normally an occasional criminal shows remorse.
- This type of criminal is a normal person with a slight moral weakness.
- Example: Shoplifting, stealing pen from stationary shop or a mug from aeroplane.

• Habitual Criminals

- A habitual criminal is a person convicted of a new crime who was previously convicted of a crime. A person who frequently has been convicted of criminal behaviour and is presumed to be a danger to society.
- This category includes Criminals who commit crime due to pure evilness, addiction, psychopathic mindset or simply they feel pleasures in it.
- In theory, identifying and incapacitating such offenders early in their criminal careers should prevent a large number of serious crimes. In practice, however, it is difficult to devise such laws that identify not only habitual offenders but also all those who are likely to commit serious crimes.
- They are also called repeat offenders recidivists.
- They exhibit little remorse; hence, penal law is applied strictly on them.

- **Professional criminals**

- Those who earn a considerable portion of their livelihood in criminal pursuits.
- Crime is their sole livelihood.
- They have a crime record.
- Criminal career is highly developed.
- Considerable skill is involved and is developed.
- High status in the criminal world.
- Overall success at avoiding detection.

Crime Typology

- **White Collar Crimes**

- First documented in Carrier's case 1473.
- Term was first coined by Edwin Sutherland in 1939.
- "A crime committed by a person of respect and high social status in the course of his occupation." ~Edwin Sutherland
- A financially motivated non-violent crime committed by business and government professionals. ~ FBI
- For example: Fraud, Bribery, Ponzi Schemes, Insider trading, Cyber crime, Copyright infringement, Money laundering, Insurance fraud etc
- Also known as crimes in suits.
- Less violence; more public harm.

- **Corporate Crime**

- It is also called organizational crime, type of white-collar crime committed by individuals within their legitimate occupations, for the benefit of their employing organization. Such individuals generally do not think of themselves as criminals, nor do they consider their activities criminal.
- Examples: Fraudulent Financial Statements, Employee Fraud, Vendor Fraud, Customer Fraud, Investment Scams, Bankruptcy Fraud.

- **Blue Color Crimes**

- Committed by individuals of lower social class.

- These are easier to detect and people are more afraid of such crimes.
- These are more sensational in nature.
- These are also called crimes in the streets.
- For example: murder, car lifting, gunpoint robbery etc

- **Pink Collar Crimes**

- Pink-collar criminals usually focus on several crimes involving stealing property or money.
- For instance, burglary, embezzlement, fraud, larceny and robbery.

- **Green Collar Crimes**

- A green-collar crime is a crime that is committed against the environment to gain profit.
- For instance, deforestation and illegal logging, both of which harm trees and the surrounding environment, including the wildlife. The illegal logging and deforestation in Central Africa are threatening the survival of gorillas.

- **Organized Crime**

- “Organized crime is a continuing criminal enterprise that rationally works to profit from illicit activities that are often in great public demand. Its continuing existence is maintained through corruption of public officials and the use of intimidation, threats or force to protect its operations.”

~ UNODC

- A structure group of three or more people usually randomly formed.
- It acts and operates with the aim of committing at least one type of crime.
- It tends to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit.
- Characteristics of Organized Crime:
 - a. Teamwork
 - b. Hierarchy
 - c. Planning
 - d. Violence
 - e. Effective control on members
 - f. Not limited to illicit service.

- Types of Organized Crime:

- Narcotics distribution, Gambling, Prostitution, Kidnapping for ransom, Blackmailing, Extortion, Human Trafficking.

Crime and Criminality: Theoretical Perspectives of Crime

Nature versus Nurture Debate

- **Nature Debate**

- Crime is an individual responsibility, human have criminal behaviour naturally and they commit crime by their own complete will. This is also called social responsibility perspective.

- **Nurture Debate**

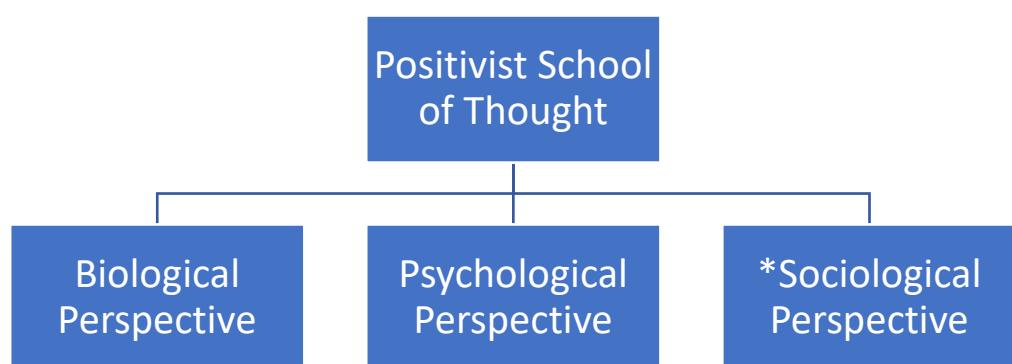
- Crime is a manifestation of social problems that induce a person to commit crime. Human nature is not intrinsically criminal and he doesn't commit crime by his own free will.

Theories of Crime



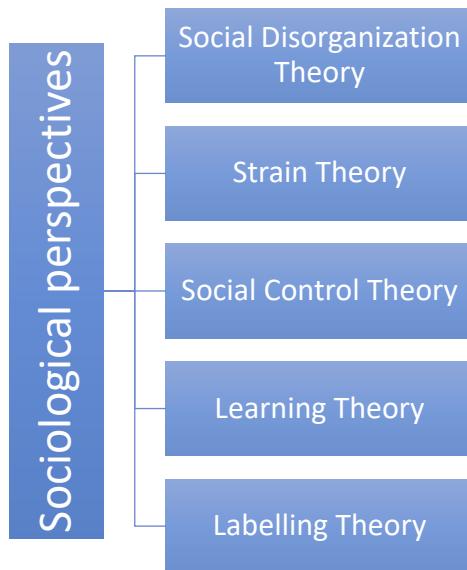
* Positivist School is further sub-divided in three categories

Positivist School of Thought



* Sociological Perspective is widely accepted perspective in 21st century. All the theories mentioned in syllabus are sociological theories.

Sociological Theories



Early Explanation of Criminal Behaviour – Preclassical School of Thought

- Demonology – one of the earliest behaviour.
- The pre-classical school is also known as demonological school.
- During the 17th century, the demonological theory flourished in Europe with the dominance of the church and religion.
- This epoch lacked scientific explanations for the causation of crime and the concept of crime was vague and obscure.
- The explanations for criminal behaviour were sought through spirits, demons, wendigo and unknown powers.
- It was believed that a person didn't commit crimes of his own free will but under the influence of evils.
- Not irrelevant even today.

Classical School of Thought

- A criminological perspective of the late 1700s and early 1800s that had its roots in the Enlightenment and that held that:
 - Humans are rational beings.
 - Crime is the result of the exercise of free will.
 - Punishment can be effective in reducing the incidence of crime, as it negates the pleasure to be derived from the commission of crime.
 - Notables work done by Cesare Beccaria and Jeremy Bentham.
 - Cesare Beccaria published an essay “On Crimes and Punishment” published in 1764.
 - Jeremy Bentham designed circular prison called “Panopticon”.
 - Previously punishments were too severe and torturous.
 - Human's do not act according to God's will or under the influence of any other supernatural power.
 - Man is a calculating animal (**Hedonistic Calculus**) and commits crime out of choice.
 - Individuals are guided by a pain and pleasure principle by which they calculated the risks and rewards in their action.

- Punishment should act as a deterrent for crime.
- Punishment must be prompt and proportional to the crime.
- Above mentioned two points are even valid today.
- Classical School is also called Rational Choice theorists.

Cesare Beccaria in his essay on Crimes and Punishments 1764 maintained that:

- Accused be presumed innocent.
- Offences and Punishments must be codified.
- Guilty must be held accountable and punished.
- Legitimate purpose of punishment is creating special deterrence.

Rational Choice Theory in Classical School

- A perspective that holds that criminality is the result of conscious choice and that predicts that individuals choose to commit crime when the benefits outweigh the costs of disobeying the law.
- Routine Activities Theory (RAT) – a brand of rational choice theory that suggests that lifestyles contribute significantly to both the volume and the type of crime found in any society.
- Situational Choice Theory – a brand of rational choice theory that views behaviour “as a function of choices and decisions made within a context of situational constraints and opportunities”.
- Soft Determinism – the belief that human behaviour is the result of choices and decisions made within a context of situational constraints and opportunities.

Positivist School of Thought

- This school of thought came into being during the second half of the 19th century. Founder was Cesare Lombroso.
- He believed that empirical or scientific study of crime, criminals and criminal behaviour was essential.
- His emphasis was on determinism against free will. Hard Determinism is an approach that human doesn't commit crime only by free will but other factors are also involved.
- This theory also suggests that the environment could be a causal factor behind criminal behaviour.
- Empirically studying crime could provide important insights into its causes which can help at planning effective prevention strategies.
- It played fundamental role in development of modern criminology.
- On its credit, Positivist school transformed criminology into a science.

Biological Perspective – A Theory of Crime

- Biological theory of crime can be traced back to the nineteen-century work of **Cesare Lombroso** (father of modern criminology).
- C. Lombroso wrote famous book “Criminal Man” in 1880
- This approach highlighted some physiological difference between the criminal and the non-criminals.
- Focused on anatomical, physiological or genetic abnormalities within an individual.

- It noted factors like racial heritance, nutrition, learning disabilities to be possible explanation behind criminal behavior.
- First perspective to challenge the classical “**free will**” approach.
- In this regard, the biological theories were considered more credible than many of previous theories.
- Theory began when Lombroso advocating Atavism, which stated criminals were primitive savages who were evolutionarily backward compared to normal citizens.

Phrenology

- Lombroso also used phrenology to predict and identify criminal tendencies.
- Phrenology is the study of the conformation of the skull as indicative of mental faculties and traits.
- He measured the distance of the toes of criminals and non criminals, noting that criminals have gap of 3mm more than no criminals.
- Argued that criminals could be identified by physical characteristics.
- He called this group “**Atavistic man**”
- He first argued that criminals were a throwback to a more primitive type of brain structure and behaviour.
- He argued that the physical shape of the head and face determined the "born criminal".
- He never claimed that the born criminals make up more than 40% of the total criminal population.
- Lombroso studied and measured the bodies of executed and deceased offenders as well as examining living inmates to locate physical differences or abnormalities.
- Claimed to have found a variety of bodily features predictive of criminal behavior i.e. Long arms, large teeth, ears lacking lobes, lots of body hair, etc.
- Also identified characteristics of particular types of offenders.

Physiognomy

- Lombroso also studied facial features and linked them with criminal identity.

Racist Stereotypes

- Oblique eyelids – a mongolian characteristic. The projection of lower face and Jaws – found in Negroes

Physical Characteristics of Atavistic Man

- Asymmetry of the face
- Eye defects and abnormalities
- Excessive dimensions of jaw and cheek bones
- Ears of unusual size, or very small, or ears that stuck out
- Lips fleshy, swollen & protruding
- Excessive length of arms
- Supernumerary fingers and toes
- Nose twisted, upturned, or flattened, or aquiline or beaklike
- Receding chin, or excessive long, or short and flat

- Abnormal dentition

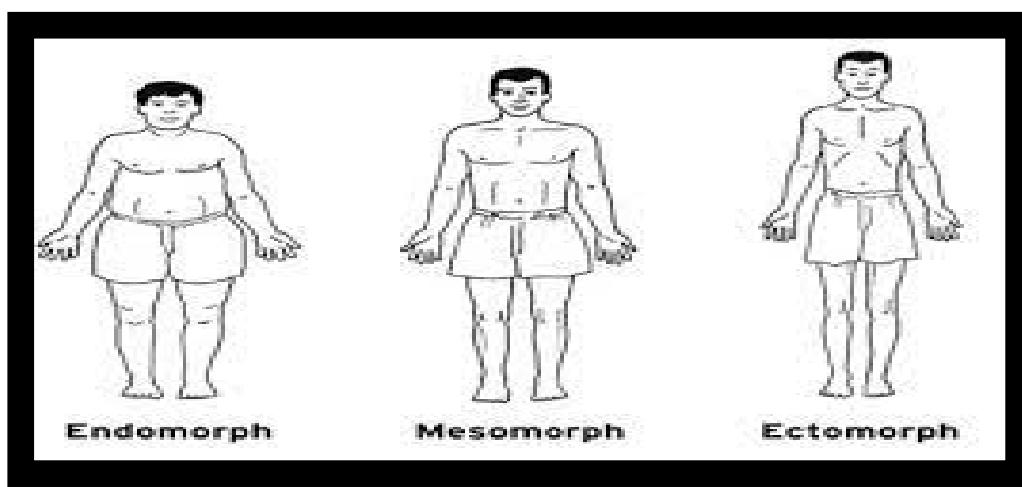
Lombroso on Female Offenders

Lombroso also looked at the female offenders and argued that:

- Most women are not criminal.
- Those that are, are usually occasional criminals.
- But some women are atavistic criminals.
- They are harder to detect than men.
- They are more cunning and more vicious.

William Sheldon's Somatotyping

- The body build or somatype school, developed more than 50 years ago by William Sheldon, held that criminals manifest distinct physiques that make them susceptible to particular types of antisocial behaviour. Three types of body builds were identified.



- **Mesomorphs** have well-developed muscles and an athletic appearance. They are active, aggressive, sometimes violent, and the most likely to become criminals.
- **Endomorphs** have heavy builds and are slow moving. They are known for lethargic behaviour, rendering them unlikely to commit violent crime and more willing to engage in less strenuous criminal activities such as fencing stolen property.
- **Ectomorphs** are tall, thin, and less social and more intellectual than the other types. These types are the least likely to commit crime.

Modern Biological theories

- Genetics and Crime: XYY Supermale
- Humans have 23 pairs of chromosomes. The last pair determines gender
 - Males: XY pair
 - Females: XX pair
- A study of Scottish prisoners found that a small number had an XYY chromosome. These were identified as potentially violent and labelled “supermale”.

Psychological Perspective on Crime

- Psychological theories of crime have a long history. In The English Convict, **Charles Goring** (1870–1919) studied the mental characteristics of 3,000 English convicts.
- He found little difference in the physical characteristics of criminals and non-criminals, but he uncovered a significant relationship between crime and a condition he referred to as **defective intelligence**, which involves such traits as feeble-mindedness, epilepsy, insanity, and defective social instinct.

Psychodynamic Perspective

- Originated from the work of Viennese psychiatrist Sigmund Freud (1856-1939).
- Freud believed that we all carry with us residue of the most significant emotional attachments of our childhood, which then guide future interpersonal relationships.
- According to the classic version of the theory, the human personality contains a three-part structure: Id, Ego, and Superego.

Freud's Personality Structure

Freud's Model of the Personality Structure

Personality Structure	Guiding Principle	Description
Id	Pleasure principle	Unconscious biological drives; requires instant gratification
Ego	Reality principle	Helps the personality refine the demands of the id; helps person adapt to conventions
Superego	The conscience	The moral aspect of the personality

Freud's Psychodynamic Theory

- The psychodynamic model of the criminal offender depicts an aggressive, frustrated person dominated by events that occurred early in childhood.
- Criminal offenders may have suffered unhappy experiences in childhood or had families that could not provide proper love and care, criminals suffer from weak or damaged egos that make them unable to cope with conventional society. Weak egos

are associated with immaturity, poor social skills, and excessive dependence on others.

- People with weak egos may be easily led into crime by antisocial peers and drug abuse.

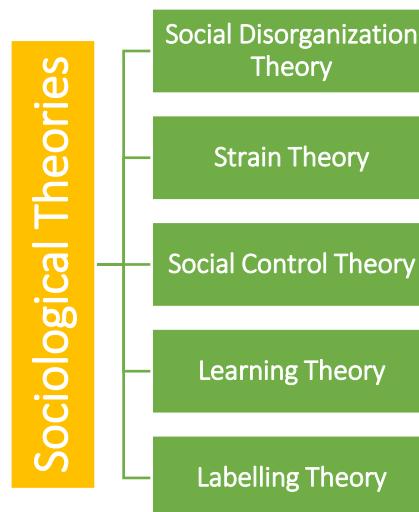
Cognitive Theory

- Cognitive theory is a sub theory in psychological school of criminology.
- It is based on the idea that cognitive processes are at the heart of behaviors, thoughts, and emotions.
- Theorists like William James (1842–1920) argue that offenders have failed to develop their moral judgement capacity beyond a pre-conventional level (early childhood).

Sociological Perspective of Crime

- Sociological Theories generally assert that crime is the normal response of a biologically and psychologically normal individual to social conditions that are abnormal and criminogenic.
- It focuses either on the structural factors (e.g poverty and social disorganization) believed to generate such behaviours or on arenas (e.g family, school and peer groups) in which one can develop criminal tendencies.

Five Theories of Sociological School



Sociological Perspectives on Crime

Chicago School in Criminology

- A group of criminologists worked on the ecological factors of crime in 1920s, they are famously known as Chicago School theorists.
- Chicago school attempted to uncover relationship between neighbourhoods' crime rate and its characteristics.
- The most significant contribution of the Chicago School is the idea of Social Ecology. It holds that crime is a response to unstable environment and abnormal living conditions.

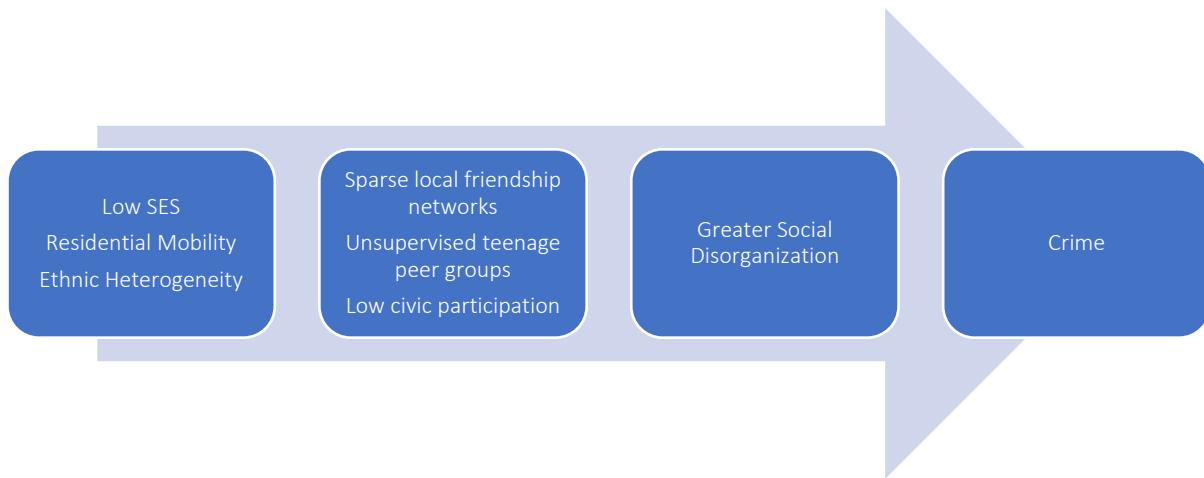
- Studies found that neighbourhoods that experienced more social disorganization also had high delinquency rates.

Social Disorganization Theory

- The condition in which the usual controls over delinquents are largely absent, delinquent behaviour is often approved by parents and neighbours there are many opportunities for delinquent behaviour, and there is little encouragement, training, or opportunity for legitimate employment.
- Social disorganization is a theoretical perspective that explains ecological differences in levels of crime based on structural and cultural factors shaping the nature of the social order across communities.
- According to the social disorganization framework, such phenomena are triggered by the weakened social integration of neighbourhoods because of the **absence of self-regulatory mechanisms**, which in turn are due to the impact of structural factors on social interactions or the presence of delinquent subcultures.

Shaw & McKay on Social Disorganization Theory

- Delinquency emerges because of the absence of effective parental supervision, lack of resources, and weak community attachment and involvement in local institutions.
- In the 1942, researchers from the “**Chicago School of Criminology**”, Clifford Shaw and Henry D. McKay developed social disorganization theory.
- Shaw and McKay claimed that delinquency was not caused at the individual level, but is a normal response by normal individuals to abnormal conditions.
- Social disorganization theory is widely used as an important predictor of youth violence and crime.
- Following three factors can provoke criminal behaviour:
 - A. Low Socio Economic Status.**
 - B. Ethnic Heterogeneity.**
 - C. Residential Mobility.**
- More disorganized society is more prone to criminal behaviour:
 - Low socio economic status means there is more poverty, low GDP, low PPP, and low Gini coefficient. This manifests that living class enjoys least respect in social fabric. According to this theory, greater socio-economic disparity means greater crime ratio in the society.
 - If society is more heterogeneous, greater are the risks of crime.
 - More residential mobility; more crime rate.



Strain Theory

- Originated from works of Emile Durkheim.
- Advanced by Merton and Cohen.
- Also called as Anomie Theory.
- Economically or socially deprived class rests at the heart of focus in strain theories. Masses deprived as such can't always get what they want, they begin to feel frustrated and angry, a condition that is referred to as strain.
- Strain is related to criminal motivation. People who feel economically and socially humiliated may perceive the right to humiliate others in return.
- People under strain become deviant as their generalized feelings of relative deprivation are precursors to their high deviance.
- The effect of inequality may be greatest when the impoverished population believes they are becoming less able to compete in a society where the balance of economic and social power is shifting further toward the already affluent.

Strain theories come in two distinct formulations:

- **Structural Strain**
 - Using a sociological lens, structural strain suggests that economic and social sources of strain shape collective human behaviour.
- **Individual Strain**
 - Using a psychological reference, individual strain theories suggest that individual life experiences cause some people to suffer pain and misery, feelings that are then translated into antisocial behaviours.

Concept of Anomie in Strain Theory

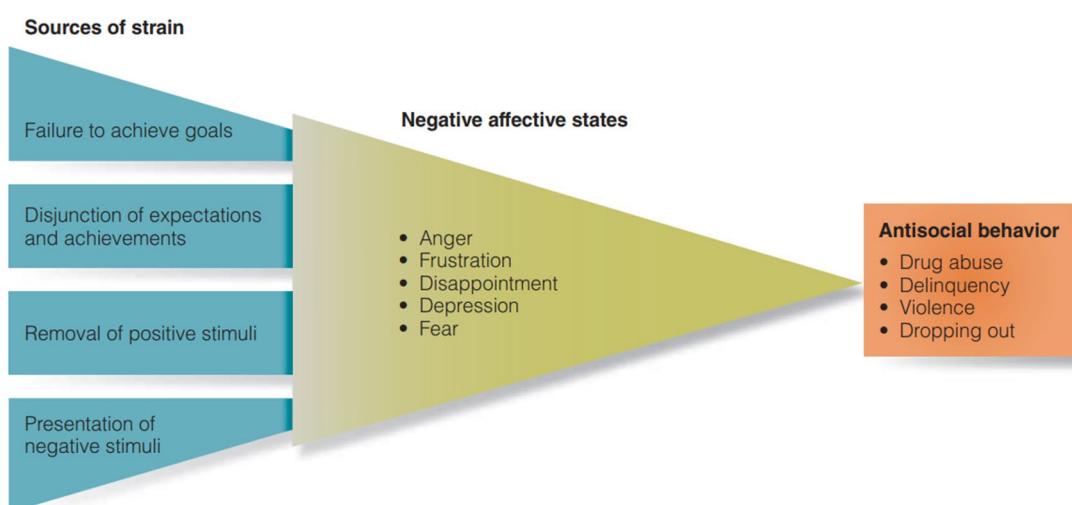
- The roots of strain theories can be traced to Emile Durkheim's notion of anomie. Anomie emerged from Greek word '**a nomos**' which means "without norms".
- According to Durkheim, in anomic society values, customs, and norms have broken down or become inoperative during periods of rapid social change or social crisis such as war or famine.

- Anomie undermines society's social control function. Every society works to limit people's goals and desires. If a society becomes anomic, it can no longer establish and maintain control over its population's wants and desires.

Versions of Strain Theories

Strain Theories			
Theory	Major Premise	Strengths	Research Focus
Anomie theory	People who adopt the goals of society but lack the means to attain them seek alternatives, such as crime.	Points out how competition for success creates conflict and crime. Suggests that social conditions and not personality can account for crime. Explains high lower-class crime rates.	Frustration; anomie; effects of failure to achieve goals.
Institutional anomie theory	The desire to accumulate wealth and material goods pervades all aspects of American life.	Explains why crime rates are so high in American culture.	Frustration; effects of materialism.
General strain theory	Strain has a variety of sources. Strain causes crime in the absence of adequate coping mechanisms.	Identifies the complexities of strain in modern society. Expands on anomie theory. Shows the influence of social events on behavior over the life course. Explains middle-class crimes.	Strain; inequality; negative affective states; influence of negative and positive stimuli.

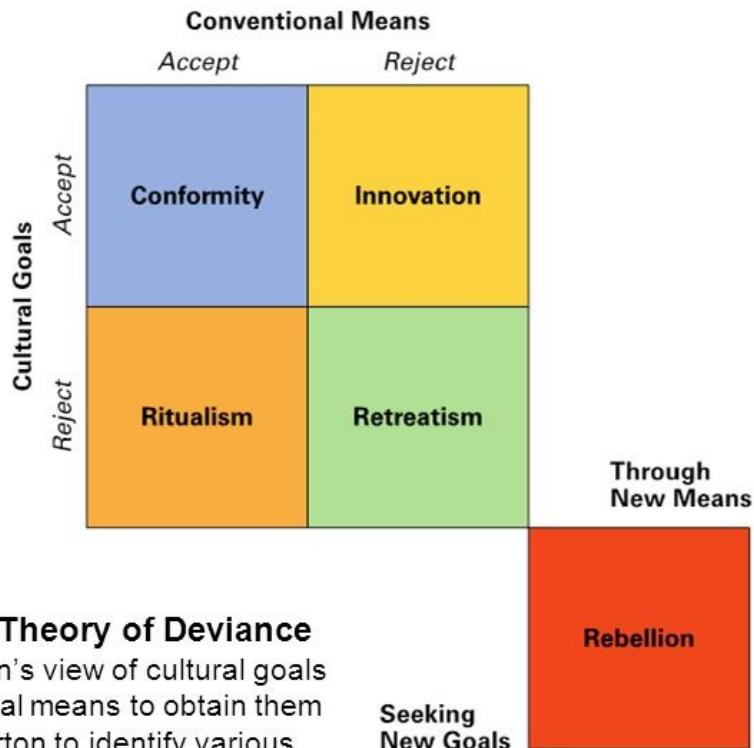
Sources of Strain in Society



Robert K Merton's Deviance Typology

- Robert Merton calls deviance a means by which some people adopt to a dominant culture in a society.
- Robert Merton proposed five adaptations:
 1. Conformity: Most common response
 2. Innovation: Typical criminal response
 3. Ritualism: Habitual response
 4. Retreatism: Typical of drug use

5. Rebellion: Seeking radical change



Merton's Strain Theory of Deviance

Combining a person's view of cultural goals and the conventional means to obtain them allowed Robert Merton to identify various types of deviance.

Source: Merton (1968).

Social Control Theory

- Earliest form was proposed by **Edward A. Ross**.
- Advanced by **Albert Reiss** and **Jackson Toby**.
- The process of socialization strengthens social control.
- Absence of social control causes crime.
- Moral codes and socialization make people limit their deviant acts.
- Social control theory states that crime is committed by choice and not by an innate tendency.
- Unlike other theories studying crime causation, social control theories focus on what stops people from delinquent or criminal behaviours – it studies reasons of criminality.

Types of Social Control



Direct:

- Parents
- Family
- Relationships

Indirect

- Society
- Jobs
- Social Circle

Internal

- Religion
- Conscience

Need Satisfaction

- Economic Stability
- If needs are fulfilled, people tilt less towards criminal behaviour.

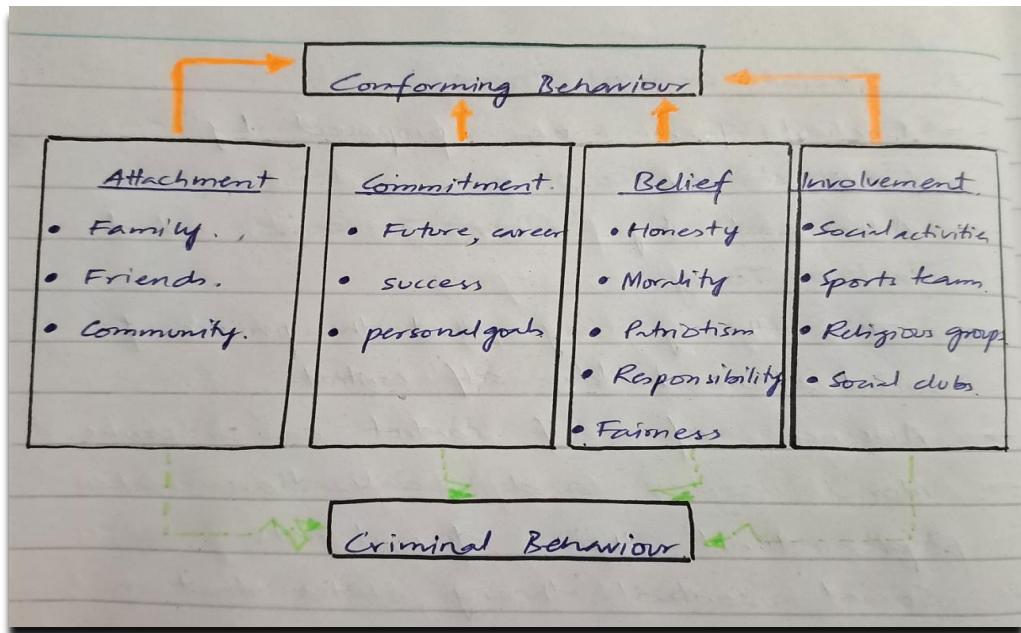
Major Sub-theories in Social Control Theory

1. **The Bond Theory by Travis Hirschi**
2. **Containment Theory by Walter Reckless**
3. **Neutralization Theory by David Matza**
4. **Power Control Theory by John Hagan**

The Bond Theory by Travis Hirschi

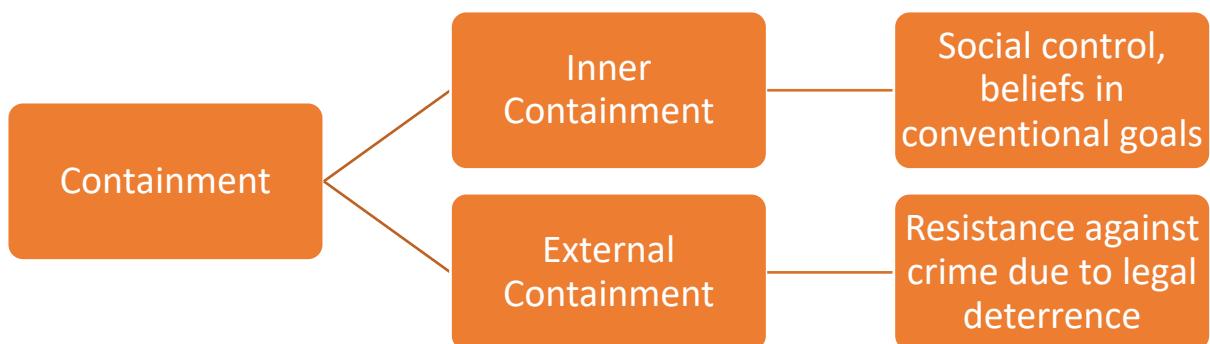
- Travis Hirschi wrote a book “Causes of Delinquency” in 1969.
- In his epitome, he argued that delinquency is expected in juveniles if they are not properly socialized by establishing a strong bond in a society.
- Four elements of Bond:
 1. Attachment
 2. Commitment
 3. Involvement
 4. Belief
- Lower the levels of these bonds, higher the likelihood of crime.
- Travis Hirschi held that poor parental controls and ineffective punishment lead to poor self control in youth.

Four elements of Bond



Containment Theory by Walter Reckless

- Containment theory is a form of social control theory proposed by Walter Reckless.
- Containment Theory contends that series of external social factors and internal qualities effectively insulate certain individuals from criminal involvement even when ecological factors induce others to engage in crime.



Neutralization Theory in Social Control

- Advanced by American criminologists David Cressey, Gresham Skyes and David Matza.
- Neutralization theory portrays the delinquent as an individual who subscribes generally to morals of society but who is able to justify his own delinquent behaviour through process on “neutralization”, whereby the behaviour is redefined to make it morally acceptable by few methods. These methods are also known as “Techniques of Neutralization”.

- David Matza argues that youth lose self control and engage in crime because they are able to self rationalize and justify their activities. However, the majority of these youth feel shame and remorse over their actions.
- Graham Skyes and David Cressy suggest that youth “drifts” between conformity and deviance because they can neutralize impacts of their crime.

Techniques of Neutralization:

- **Denial of Responsibility:**

Youth claims responsibility of his behaviour and blames other people and institutions.

- **Denial of Injury:**

Youth contends that no one was actually hurt by his actions.

- **Denial of the Victim:**

Youth argues that victim deserves it. Ref: Noor Mukadam case

- **Condemnation of Condemners:**

Youth tries to condemn the condemners by character assassination.

Power Control Theory

- Power control theory was proposed by John Hagan.
- Power control theory attempts to incorporate gender into social control theories of crime and deviance.
- Similar to other social control theories it assumes that delinquency and criminality are forms of “risk taking behaviours”.
- John Hagan argued that parental control and youth attitudes towards risk taking behaviour are affected by family relations.

Two ideal family types are explored in the ambit of Power control theories.

Patriarchal Family

- Male in position of authority and fathers are expected to control daughters.
- Traditional division of labour.
- Daughters dwell in domestic labour, while sons are involved in workforce.

Egalitarian Family

- Both spouses are in position of authority.
- More equal division of labour and more equal expectations of parenting controls.
- Sons as well as daughters prepared for participation in workforce.

Differential Association Theory

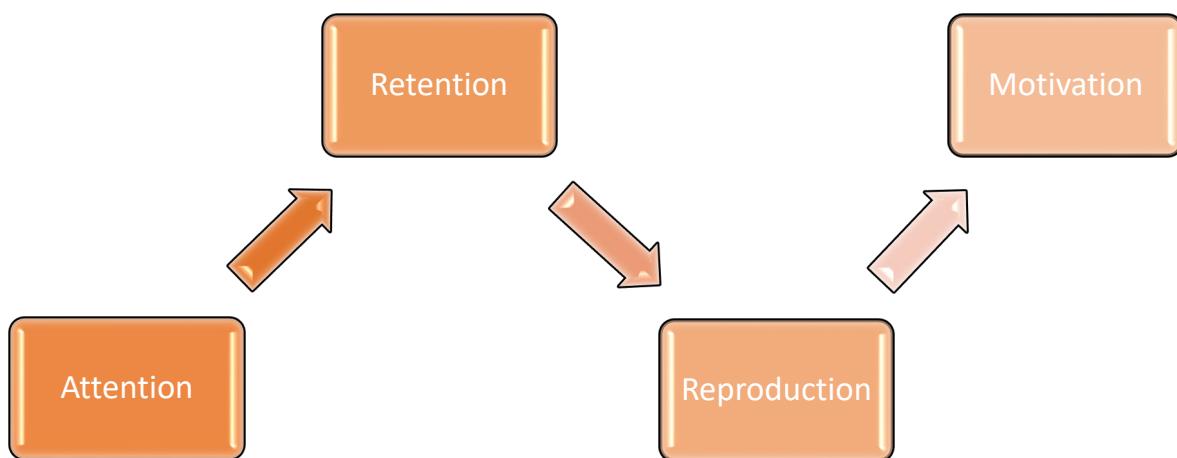
- It was given by Edwin Sutherland.
- Sutherland believed that criminal activity is learned by interactions with other members of society.

- Majority learning occurs in inmate groups. This perspective has been extremely influential in studying crime.
- Focus is on importance of following:
 1. Frequency: Number of times exposed to potential deviant ideas.
 2. Duration: Time period from which exposed.
 3. Priority: Extent to which people are exposed to deviant learning at early stages of development.
 4. Intensity: Potential of delinquent source.

Social Learning Theory

- Roots in Sutherland's Differential Association Theory and is associated with works of Albert Bandura.
- Properly dates back to Akers Social Learning theory.
- Learning is not purely behavioural, rather it is a cognitive process.
- Criminal Behaviour is learned in both social and non-social situations.
- Albert Bandura held that aggressive behaviour was learned from following factors:
 1. Family
 2. Social models and peers
 3. Symbolic modeling – television as model of aggressive behaviour
- Among policy implications of this theory is to punish criminal behaviour effectively.

Social Learning Theory– Learning Process



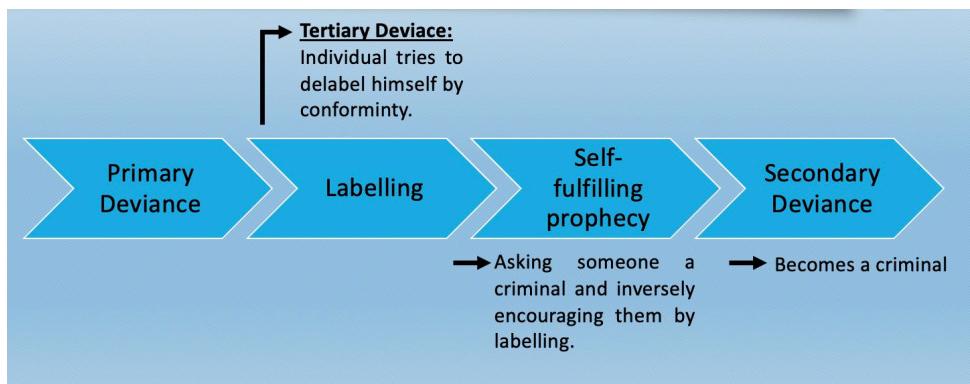
- This theory applies to Juveniles, Peer pressures, White collar crimes etc.

Labelling Theory

- Labelling theory focuses on criminalization process as cause of crime.
- This theory was prominent during the 1960s and 1970s.
- Major work is credited to Howard Becker. However, this theory is traced back to Emile Durkheim.
- Labelling theory states that people come to identify and behave in ways that reflect how others label them.

- This theory advocates that juveniles should not be sent to jail. Contrastingly, it promotes probation and parole. This way it supports rehabilitation of criminals.
- Labelling theory is very important while drafting effective policies of crime control.

Labelling process:



Further Readings

- <https://linktr.ee/malikhuzifa>
- Dear student please follow the aforementioned link and read the following sections for in depth understanding.
 - 6 The Impact of Crime on Community Development
 - 7 Nature and Nurture: The Origins of Violence
 - 8 Theories of Crime Causation
 - 9 The Future of Criminology by Brian Boutwell | TEDx Saint Louis University
 - 10 The Contribution of the Chicago School in Criminology
 - 11 Crime Rate by Country 2022 - World Population Review