

Explain the nature and importance of Criminology.

Nature of Criminology:

Fundamentally speaking the task of Criminology is a scientific systematic, statistical, structural and functional in depth study of crime. Criminology is concerned with the scientific and systematic study of crime. It is essentially a multi-disciplinary study. It shouldn't be confused with the science of criminal detection or forensic science and forensic pathology. There is no connection between the detection of crime and the study of crimes and criminal behaviour carried out by criminologists. A criminologist is concerned more with how and why crimes come to be committed rather than who

did it and providing proof of guilt. Criminology is best ^{seen} ~~scene~~ as a social science concerned with those aspect of human behavior regarded as criminal because they are prohibited by the criminal law. Together with such aspect of socially deviant behaviour as are closely related to crime and may usefully be studied in the connection. Besides having a theoretical understanding of crime, criminal and his behaviour, the object of criminology is also to devise effective tools to minimize the incidence of crime, to reform and rehabilitate the criminal. Lastly, criminology also tries to suggest reform in penal code and its enforcement in order to make ~~the~~ these rational and humanitarian

Importance of Criminology.

- 1) Helps in understanding Causes of Crimes

As we know that Crime pose a serious threat to Social Order and human life.

It is necessary for the State and Society to find out the factors which lead to committing of crimes by individuals. Once the causes have been identified strategies can be formulated.

- 2) Control of Crime

Criminology can help the policy maker to formulate effective policies for control of crime in society.

- 3) Provide theoretical base.

It is criminology which can provide theoretical base for enactment of laws. For example if kite flying leads to casualties in large numbers, its causes can

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be studied and law can be framed to ban it.

4) Rehabilitation of Offenders
One of the primary objects of Criminal Justice System is to rehabilitate the criminals so that they can re-integrate in the society as healthy individuals. Criminology can provide intellectual and empirical input in devising such strategies which can be effective in reforming the criminals.

5) Planning, operation, Evaluation and Revamping Criminal Justice System.

Criminal Justice System is responsible to control crimes in the society. A criminologist helps the authority in policy formulation with regards to operation, evaluation and reformation of Criminal Justice System.

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6) Study Socio-economic factors-
Criminologists Study the Socio economic factors which promotes Crimes. For example unemployment may be one of the reasons for which the youth resort to Crimes for earning livelihood. A Criminologist identifies such factors so that the policy makers can address these issues.

7) Helps in Study of Juvenile delinquency.

Juvenile delinquency is another challenge to society. If a child go astray, the future of the society is in perils. It's a

job of Criminologist to identify the causes of Juvenile delinquency and then suggest measures for addressing those causes.