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Define the term crime and criminals. Explain the types of criminals in details.

## Introduction:-

Crime is a pervasive phenomenon that has plagued societies throughout history, threatening the very fabric of social order and stability. It is a complex and multifaceted issue, influenced by a myriad of factors including economic, social, cultural, and psychological elements. At its core, crime represents a violation of the laws and norms that govern human behavior, causing harm to individuals, communities and societies as a whole. Understanding the nature of crime and the individuals who commit it is crucial for developing effective strategies

for prevention, punishment and rehabilitation.

## Crime

Different criminologists and philosophers defined crime differently as described below:

- **Adwin H. Sutherland and Donald R. Cressey:**

"Crime is an act of conduct, forbidden by the criminal law, committed without defense, or justification, and sanctioned by the state as a felony or misdemeanor."

- **Michael R. Gottfredson and Travis Hirschi:**

"Crime is a violation of law for which an individual can be punished by society"

- **Karl Marx:**

"Crime is a result of

economic and class struggles  
and it is a symptoms  
of a larger social problem."

## - Criminals -

Criminals are defined as:

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

- West's Encyclopedia  
of American Law -

"Society prepares the crime;  
the criminal commit it."

- H. T. Buckle -

## - Classification Of Criminals -

Enrico Ferri, the first criminolo-  
gist who attempt to classify

criminals, but not valid due to overlapping. Then Cesare Lombroso classified criminals that are more valid than other criminologist.

## Lombroso's Classification

↓  
Born Criminals  
↳ Who born with any fault.

↓  
Insane Criminals  
↳ psycho-pathetic killers or Serial killers

↓  
Man made Criminals  
↳ Can blend with society easily

## ~ Types Of Criminals ~

Criminals are further divided into different types according to their properties.

### ~ Occasional Criminal ~

Occasional criminals contains following properties:  
↳ They are not regular, professional, or normal criminal.  
↳ They comet crime when

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opportunity occur.

↳ They are unskilled and unplanned having no specific group.

↳ Normally, they show remorse.

For Example: Stealing pen from stationary shop, shoplifting etc.

### ~ Habitual Criminals ~

Habitual criminals have following properties.

↳ Occasional criminals can turn into habitual one when a habit is made.

↳ They commit crime through proper planning and show very little remorse.

↳ They are also known as repeat offenders / recidivist.

For Example: Drug dealing, violence, Driving under influence.

### ~ Professional Criminals ~

↳ Professional criminals are the sub-category of habitual criminal. They have permanent

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occupation, status and recognition skills.  
↳ They opt crime as a life style. For Example; Snipers

## White Collar Criminals

White collar criminals are firstly documented in Carrier's case in 1473. This term was first coined by Edwin Sutherland in 1939. He said:

"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, Money laundering, insurance fraud and copy right etc.

## Blue Collar Crime

Blue collar crimes are committed by individual lower social class. These are more sensational in nature. These are also called crimes in streets. They are easier to detect and people are more afraid from such type of criminal.

For example: Murder, Gun point robbery etc.

## Pink Collar Criminals

Pink collar criminals usually focus on several crimes involving stealing property or money.

For Example: Burglary, Fraud, and Robbery.

## Green Collar Criminals

A green collar criminals are those who commit crime against the environment to gain profit. For Example improper disposals of pollutants into water.

Sources can be considered green collar crime.

~ (UNODC) ~

~ ~~of~~ Organized Crime ~

Organized crime is 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 ~

~ ~~of~~ Characteristics of Organized Crime ~

Organized criminals contains following characteristics.

↳ Team work, Hierarchy, Planning, violence, effective controls on members, No limit to illicit service



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For Example: Narcotics distribution,  
gambling, prostitution, extortion,  
black mailing, human trafficking etc.

### ~ Conclusion ~

In conclusion, the concept of crime is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon that has been defined and interpreted in various ways by scholars across different disciplines.

Each perspective of scholars offer a unique lense through which to understand the nature of crime.

While these definitions may differ, they collectively underscore the importance of considering the social, cultural, and political contexts in which crime occurs. This informed perspectives facilitates the development of effective responses to crime, addressing its root causes, and promoting a safer, more just society.

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