What is your position on the nature vs nurture debate in criminology?

Introduction

Criminology is the study of science of crime including, what leades towards crime, how the crime being committed and the impact inflicted on society by crime. Nature vs nurture debate in criminology is supported by different biological and social organization theories. It aroses a question that whether crime is committed because of some natural aspects in criminal or it is resulted in sociological factors. Even though crime can not be committed solely by nature and by nurture. It posits that nature is nurtured to result in criminal activity.

A) **Description of nature**

Nature of criminal and crime is justified by criminal behaviour

theories. Classical school of criminology suggests that crime is a rational choice of individual. In contrast, biological and psychological theories highlighted the natural trigger for criminal behavior. Nature is individual's natural capacity identified by physic or hormonal or psychological factors. These factors are naturally present and can not be changed.

B) Description of Nurture

Nurture is the favouring circumstances and environment of an individual which allows them to commit crime. Nurture has no link with natural aspects. An individual can leads criminality by learning crime by labelling by society, socio-economic factor or by environment. Crime can not be resulted solely by single factor, the environment flourishes the

mind and personality and restrain from non-criminal behaviour.

c) **Support from Sociological theory**

Sociological theory truely blames the sociological factors for criminal conduct. They emphasized on nurture by environment and socio-economic factors. It include relation with family, peers, community and education as contributing factors in deadly crime. According to **Pakistan Journal of criminology**, the most of the juvenile delinquents have no education and drop out before primary education. Lack of education can nurture in criminality by lacks bringing poverty. For instance, in case of **Amir Qayyum**, **Saulat Mirza**, their environment including poverty and peers resulted in crime. Nature has no role there.

D) **Stance of psychological theory**

Psychological theory highlights

nature as responsible for crime. Some people have psychological issues, including brain damage which can cause fight between 'Id', 'Ego' and 'superego' as explained by **Sigmund Freud**. Such people can not create balance between 'Id' and 'superego', their lack of 'Ego' contributes in crime. Although, it can be nurtured by physical or emotional trauma. But, usually it is natural phenomenon.

E) Learning Theory favors 'Nurture'

Learning theory by **Edwin Sutherland** in his book **Principles of criminology**, supportes the idea of learning crime. He posits that crime needs learning, it can not be done by properly without some guide. That's why professional theieves join gangs and learn crime from them. Nurturing polishes

the ability to commit crime. Sotherland focused on setups which engineered the criminal activities. He analyzed that crime demands learning and natural ability to commit crime has no role in it. Crime is learned by any other skill. For instances, many militant groups train their special terrorists for special tasks, including, Lashkary Jhangwi, Haqqani Network etc.

F) Perspective of Biological theory

This theory by all aspect from gene to physiz, supported their perspective that crime is result of biological natually occuring factors. **Cesare Lombroso** activist form declares physicall characteristies of being a criminal. Lombroso shows that high check bones, sloping eyebraws, big ear, dark skin, prominent jaws etc are the physical characteristics

for criminal. William Shelton gave the concept of Somatotypes such as ectomorphic, mesomorphic and endomorphic. He posits that mesomorphies are more prone to be criminals.

However, genes like MAOA, CDH-13 contributes in aggressive behavior by releasing chemicals in mind. Harmones like testosterone in males and females before masturation realease harmone results in irrational or more aggressive behavior. These factors are natural and inclined a person towards crime. It is difficult to influence these by norture.

4) **Solution by 'Social Control Theory'**

Social control theory is given by Travis Harschi and he guided the social control can limit criminal behavior. He analyzes all factors that can lead to

crime and concludes that by controlling some factors, crime can be restricted. He advised to build good relations with family, friend and in society. He focuses that if a person has a lot to lose in result of crime, he will never prone to commit crime. The establishment of good social factors including employment can restrict crime as poverty is leading cause of crime specially thief. **Punjab university Department of Criminology** report in 2018 presents the data of prisons in punjab and explains that **41%** criminals committed thief because of poverty. Poverty can lead to murder, burglery etc.

Although, nature plays role in committing crime but it has very less part. From jail data, 25% of criminals in jail are psychopath, even though they are only 1% of whole population. So, they

must be treated. The environmental and socio-economic situation can restrict and contribute in criminality. A good society and economic situation can restrict a psychopath from crime. Also, check by law can hinders in crime. Hence, nature can be nurtured in positive way and restrict from criminality.

Recapitulation Conclusion

Nature is naturally occuring part of one's personality and it can lead them towards crime. Whereas, nurturing by environment can also contribute in criminality by turning a person as criminal. So, it must be treated by creating strict laws, good relations with family and friends and by treating those who born with natural ability to commit crime. So, nature can be change by soothing nurture.

make separate flow chart for nature theories and nurture theories
segregate the answer and add flow chart reduce the explanation add more headings write examples separately 8/20