

Q Explain the nature and importance of Criminology in detail

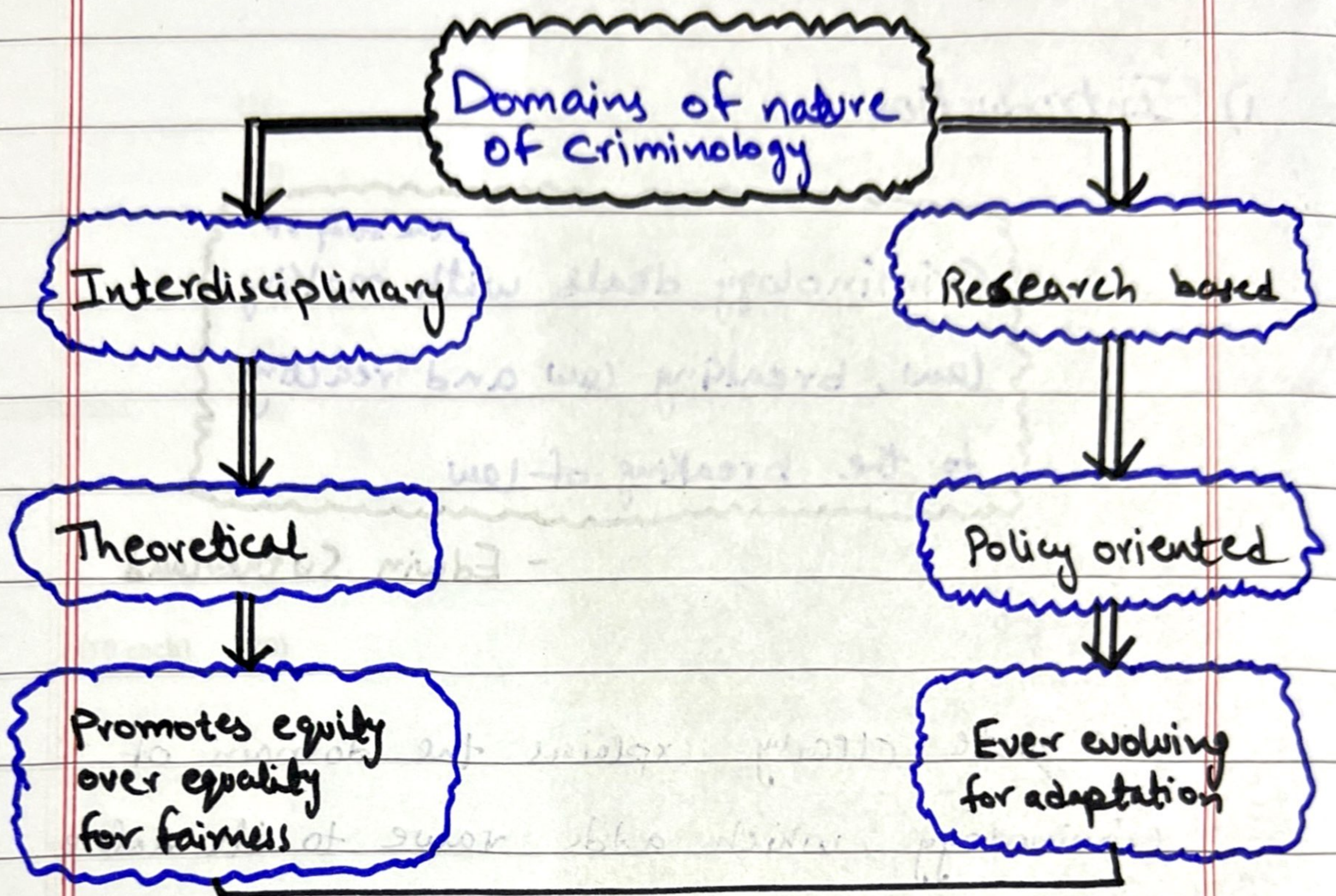
1) Introduction

^{the study of}
Criminology deals with making law, breaking law and reacting to the breaking of law

- Edwin Sutherland

This quote clearly explains the domain of criminology, which adds value to its nature and importance. To further add, the nature of criminology is interdisciplinary, research based, policy oriented etc. All of these contribute in providing it a holistic view of the prevalent problems in a society. On the other hand, it also ~~carries~~ carry's great importance. ~~for~~ such as to inform crime prevention, understanding crime pattern, spreading awareness etc. All of these converge to provide pragmatic measures for crime ~~prev~~ restriction.

2) Nature of criminology



Description:-

The following flow-chart highlights the nature of criminology.

2.1) Interdisciplinary in nature incorporating different subjects to ensure practicality

Criminology is interdisciplinary in nature.

It incorporates different subjects such as, economics, anthropology, sociology, law etc. This provides it a holistic approach to tackle ~~such~~ crime in a society.

Day: _____

Date: _____

Criminology incorporates insights from sociology, psychology, law in explaining crime and criminal behaviour.

- Edwin Sutherland

2.2) Research based nature negating mere assumptions.

During the Pre-Classical era, people were judged on speculations and assumptions. But now with criminology world has shifted its trajectory towards research in understanding crime.

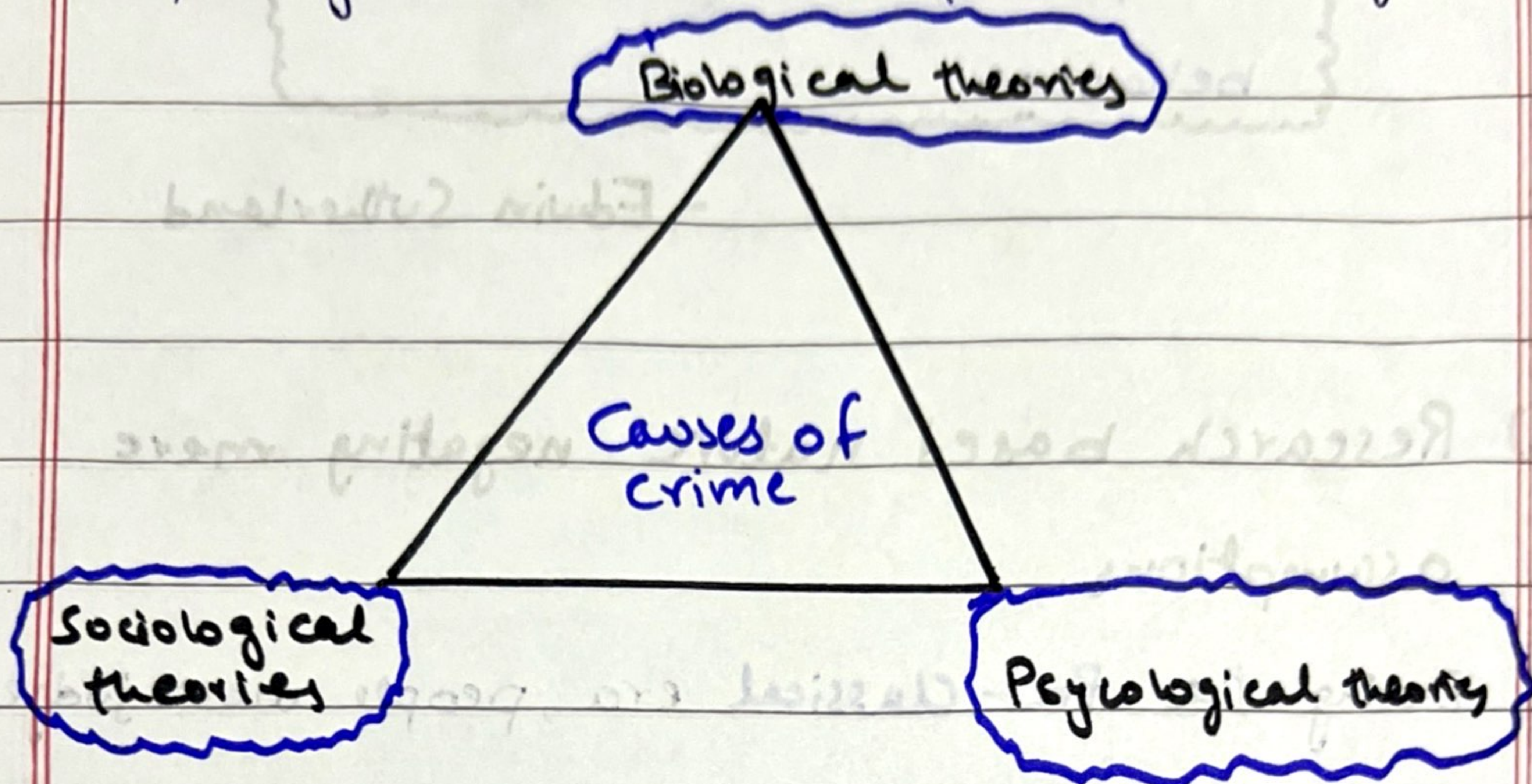
65% of petty crimes committed due to economic strain, showing research based analysis to identify cause of crime

- World Bank, 2023

2.3) Based on theoretical foundation explaining the causes of crime

Criminology is based upon theoretical foundations to explain the causes of crime. Biological theories explaining lack of free will due to biological influence.

Sociological theories explaining societal influence in making a person prone to crime. Psychological theories explaining different mental capabilities causing crime.



Description:-

The above diagram shows convergence of these theories which ultimately causes crime.

2.4) Policy oriented focus incorporating restoration over punishment

Criminology has a policy oriented focus. This helps in impacting development and give birth to reforms. Eventually shifting the tide from punishment of offender to restoration.

Penchuan rehabilitation center
in KPK shifts focus from

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Date: _____

Punishment to restoration ^{led to} reducing
recidivism. It ~~had~~ a 28% decrease
in recidivism in the year 2021

- Pehchan rehabilitation

center report 2022

2.5) Promotes equity over equality to maintain fairness

Criminology helped in the development of juvenile justice systems. This helped in the prevention of exploitation of young ~~and~~ naive offenders, who have not yet reached the legal age of criminal liability. This promotes equity.

Example:-

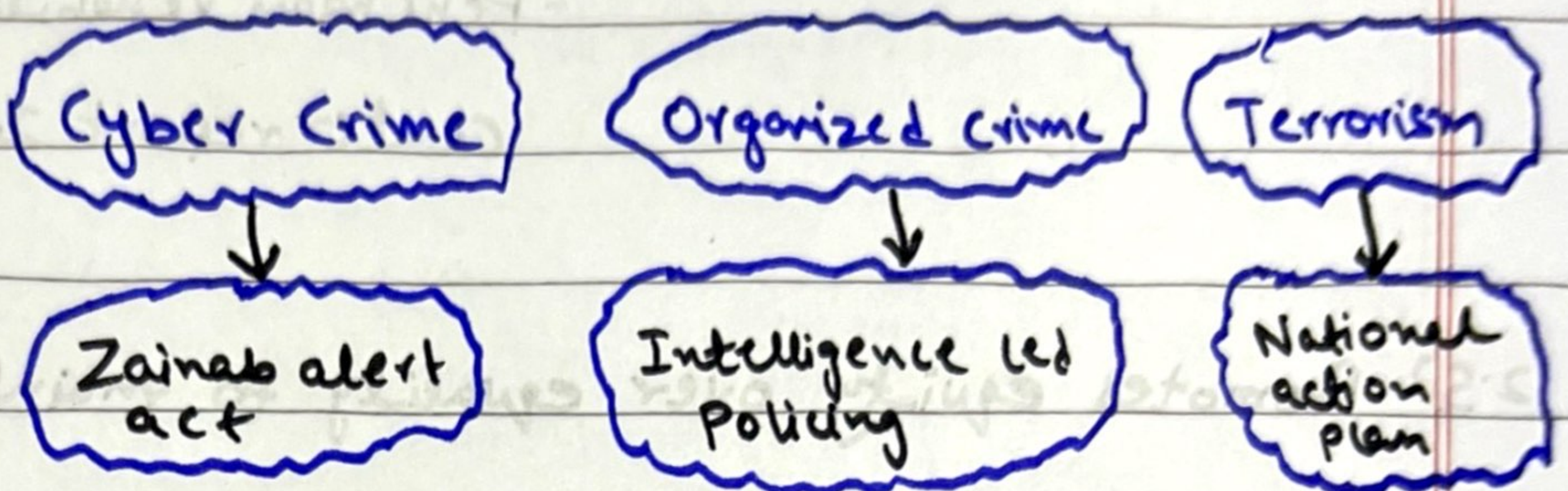
Labelling theory states if a person is labelled as a criminal he would be prone to crime as a result of **secondary deviance**. Juvenile justice system, made through criminology efforts, prevents such label for restoration of the child

2.6) Ever evolving in nature for enhance adaptability

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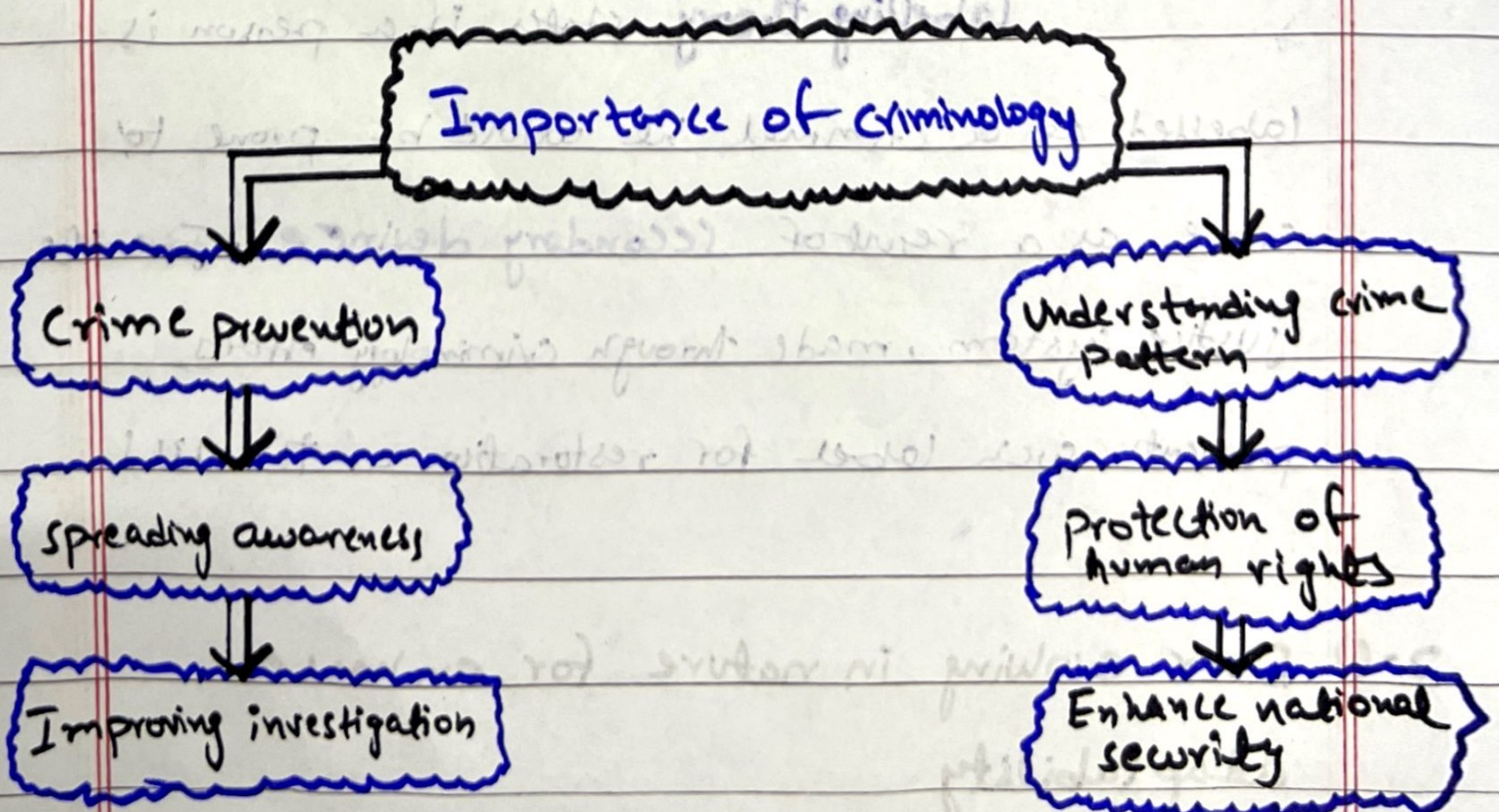
Criminology is ever evolving in nature. It adapts itself to the evolving world as crime trends and societal responses change over time.



Description:-

The above mentioned crimes are new in the evolving world. Due to criminology preventive measures have been adopted by the state to counter them.

3) Importance of criminology



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Date: _____

3.1) Research based crime prevention by understanding the root causes of crime

Criminology goes beyond the surface identifying the root causes of crime. Such as poverty, social disorganization, lack of education etc. Hence devising strategies keeping all the factors in mind for crime prevention.

Prevention strategies based on sound research are crucial for sustainable crime reduction

-UNODC, 2022

3.2) Understanding crime pattern predicting vulnerable areas within the vicinity

Criminologist analyze crime hotspots through crime statistics to predict the crime hotspots. Saving time and resource and enhance productivity.

Intelligence led policing based on crime stats helped in reducing crime in Lahore by 25%.

-Pakistan journal of criminology
2023

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Date: _____

3.3) Spreading awareness of children as most vulnerable for parents to stay alert

With criminological study it is evident that children are most prone to crime. The

spreads awareness to parents to have a strong check on them.

Every child's mind is a blank sheet of paper whatever he learns is printed on his mind

- Gabriel Tarde, Law of Imitation

3.4) Promotes protection of human rights making punishment swift and proportional to crime

Criminology promotes human rights by incorporating punishments which are proportional to the criminal act committed.

Punishment should be swift, certain and proportional to crime, not cruel

- Cesare Baccaria

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3.5) Improving investigation incorporating new research methods of investigation

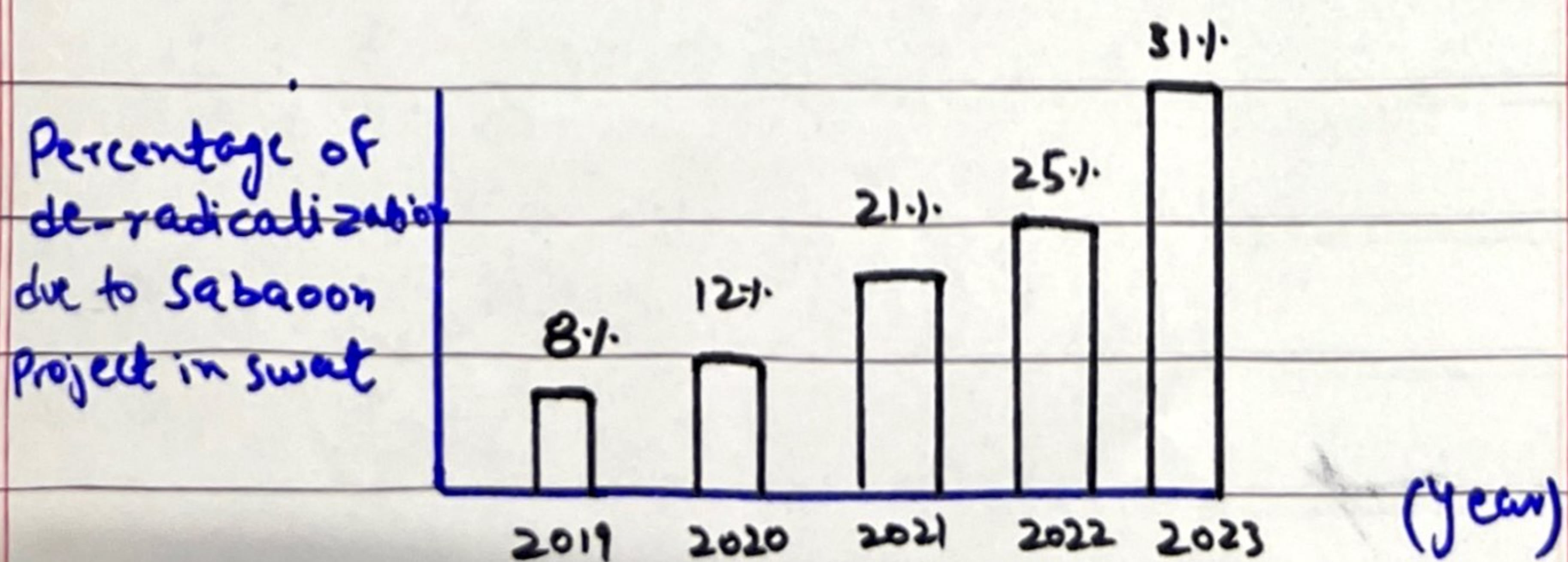
Criminology introduces new methods to improve investigation. Forensic, criminal mapping, geo-fencing are all methods that boost productivity of investigation.

FIA's DNA profiling in investigation leads to 40% faster conviction rate

- FIA, 2022

3.6) Enhancing national security by countering terrorism

Criminology based methods help in improving national security by countering terrorism. This is done by deradicalization projects, changing extremist narratives



Source: Pakistan Journal of criminology 2024

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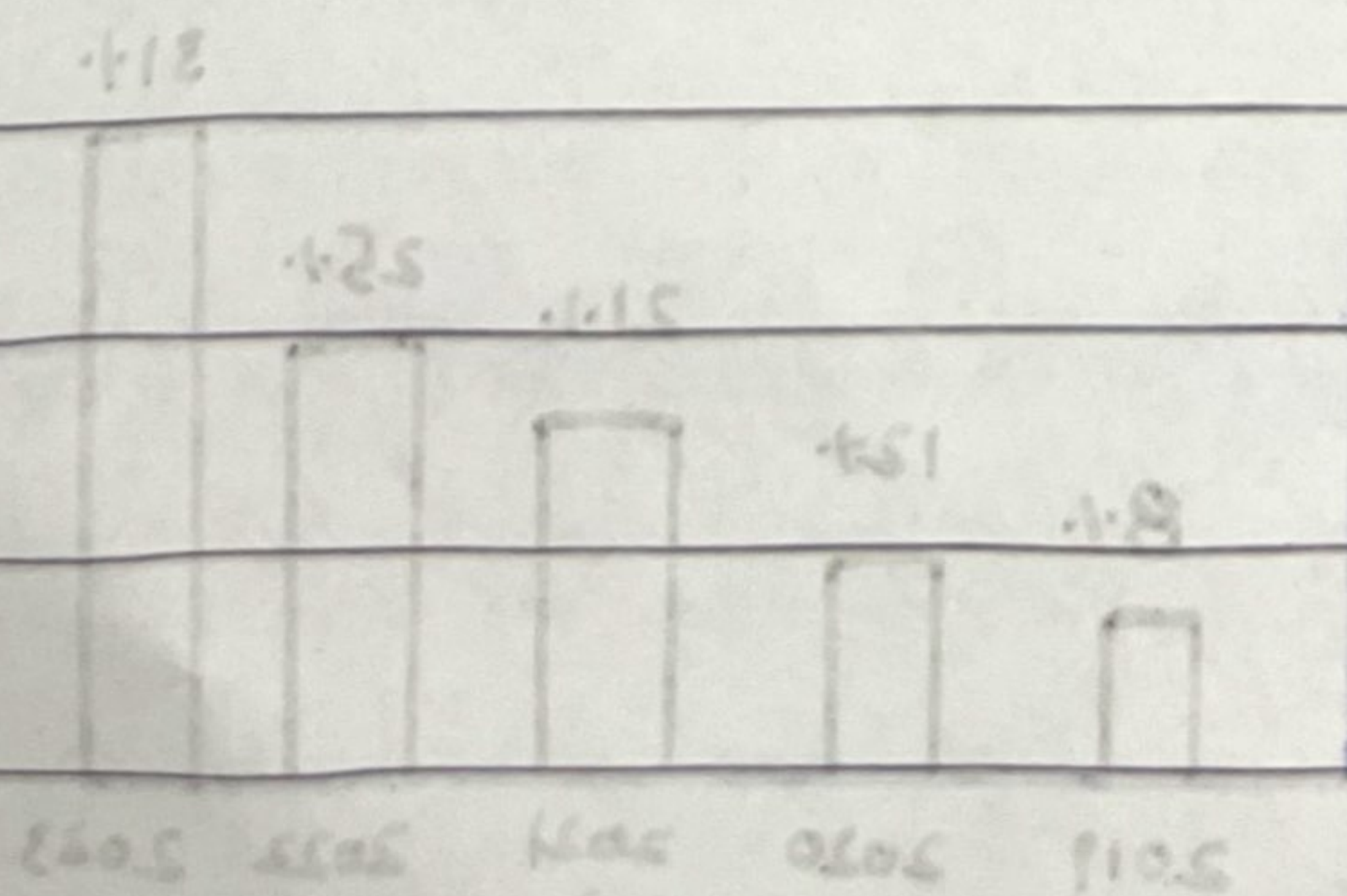
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Description:-

The chart shows increase in deradicalization over the past years due to Sabaoon project in Swat, countering terrorism threats.

4) Conclusion:-

To conclude, Criminology carries great significance, It incorporates research, policy orientedness, theoretical link and evolving domain in its nature. This makes it a high impact discipline. It is a need of time, as it holds ample amount of importance for crime prevention, spreading awareness, improving investigation and improving national security. All of these have positive impact at national and global level as well.



Percentage of
deradicalization
due to Sabaoon
project in Swat