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Discuss scope of criminology and its significance in Pakistani society.

1) Introduction:-

Criminology is a broad field that finds its application in the fields of defining crime (criminal law and policy formulation), breaking of laws (law enforcement, investigation and research), prevention of crime (correctional psychologist and urban policy consultants) and control of crime (victim counselors and mediation facilitators).

In Pakistan, we find the scope of criminology in counter-terrorism policy formulation, dealing with cybercrimes in a digital landscape, navigating the dual legal system of Pakistan and socioeconomic inequality that promote crime.

2) Scope of Criminology in Professional Sense :-

When it comes to the scope of criminology, we find its scope divided into two broad categories

a) Academic Scope

b) Practical Scope

a) Academic Scope :

The academic scope of the subject refers to study, research and teaching of the subject.

In this sector we have positions like university lecturers, criminology researchers and policy consultants available.

Example :-

i) Criminology department of University of Karachi and Punjab University

ii) Research on crime

b) Practical Scope:

We find several areas where criminology is applied practically.

i) Law Enforcement & Investigation

Here prominent roles are that of crime analysts, investigators (within police and private practitioners), forensic experts and criminal profilers.

Example:

Investigator's positions in NAB's for white collar crime case.

ii) Criminal Justice System & Courts :-

Here criminologist can find positions like court criminologists, expert witness and probation officers.

Example:-

An expert witness who can help the court correctly interpret the evidence in sensitive terrorism cases.

iii) Correction and Rehabilitation

Here criminologists assume positions like parole officers, correctional psychologists and rehab program coordinators.

Example:-

Correctional psychologist working in De-radicalization centers in Syria.

iv) Policy Development & Crime Prevention

Here criminologists find positions like that of advisors for governmental legislative bodies where they make policy recommendations and similar posts.

are also available for NGOs working for law enforcement and criminal justice.

Example:-

National Action Plan
policy advisors.

v) Forensic Science and Technology

Here roles like forensic experts and digital evidence experts available.

vi) Victim Advocacy & Restorative Justice

In this area, criminologists can assume role of victim counselors, legal aid officers and mediation facilitators.

Example:-

NGO's like AGHS are providing legal aid to victims via its Legal Aid Cell.

3) Significance of Criminology in Pakistani Society:-

In Pakistani society, the subject of criminology holds a high ~~significant~~ relevance. It applies itself to the making of laws, breaking of laws, reacting to the breaking of laws, control and prevention. Let's see a few examples.

i) Reacting to Rising Cybercrime

Owing to rising cybercrime cases stringent laws under PECA (2015) were developed by criminologists.

ii) Reacting to Public Reaction to Hudood Laws.

In response to public outcry on Hudood ordinance, criminal analysts amended these laws.

iii) Reacting to Poor Law Implementation in Domestic Violence Cases

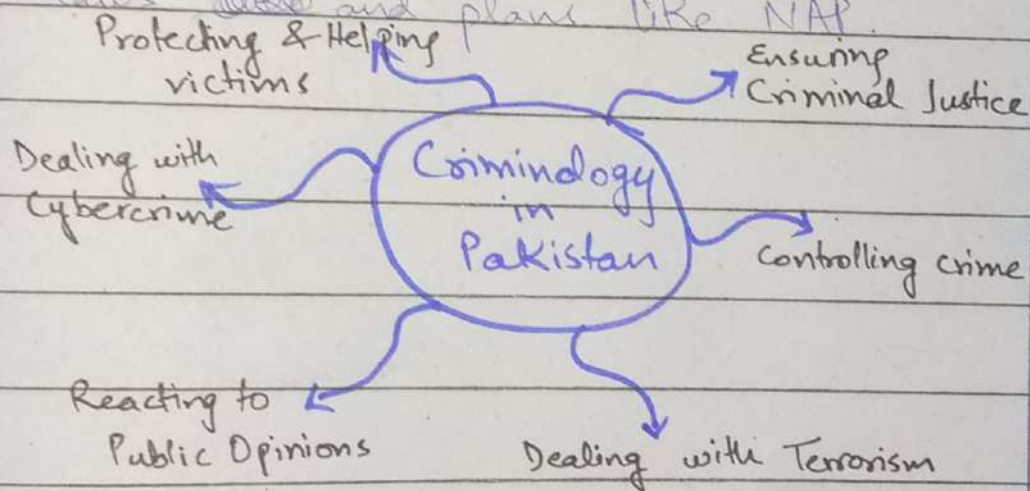
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In view of poor implementation of laws on domestic violence, strict laws like Punjab Protection of Women Against Violence (2016) were passed.

iv) Dealing with Waves of Terrorism and Extremism

Here again, we find criminology leading the fight with comprehensive

laws ~~to~~ and plans like NAP.



4) Conclusion:-

Criminology is a broad subject that has a scope encompassing all fields of law formulation, enforcement, crime prevention and control. In Pakistan, the subject is playing a crucial role in maintaining peace, justice and security.