

Mock Exam CSS-2026

Criminology - Part-II

Section A

Question NO. : 3

• Social Learning Theory:

Social Learning theory was developed by Albert Bandura which explains that criminality is a socially learned process and no one is born with criminal traits. Individuals learn such traits through gradual socialization and by imitating their fellows who are involved in criminal acts. Moreover, this theory is also pertinent with the evolution of criminal harassment trends in Pakistan. Cyber crimes are also a result of socialization and are shaped by digital environments and influence of peers.

• Key Ideas of Social Learning Theory:

① Differential Association:

Criminal behaviour is usually learned through interaction with others. As the concept is given by Edwin Sutherland that crime depends on following factors: ① Frequency ② Duration ③ Priority ④ Intensity. Hence Social Learning theory of Albert was primarily influenced by Sutherland's differential association theory.

② Societal Labelling:

The society labels the offenders as criminals which leads to rigidity in their behaviour and they keep on being more deviant in return. Eventually, they start learning crimes and get more inclined towards crimes.

③ Imitation and observational learning:

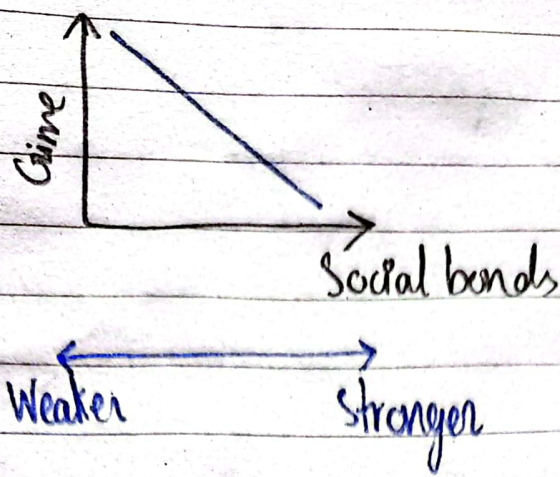
Individuals imitate the behaviours of their peers that are more inclined towards crime and offence. They get influenced towards such acts and observe them persistently. By birth, they are normal but gradually they adopt such behaviour and become criminals.

④ Neutralization of Crimes:

The first-time offenders start defending their deviant acts and later their crimes by justifying them with peers. They learn such justifications and get involved in more crimes which reduces their guilt and moral restraint.

⑤ Lack of Social bonds:

Often, lack of social bond and learning make people criminals too which can be demonstrated with this graph that when the bonds among people in a society are weak, there are more chances of crimes.



• Cyber Harassment in Pakistan:

Cyber harassment or crimes that are conducted through means of Internet and Social Media networking are also predominant in Pakistan. These include online stalking, breach of privacy, hate speech and cyberbullying, revenge pornography and online threats and blackmailing. Now, the trends are massively increasing with increase in socialization of criminals and offenders. Furthermore, these cases are becoming casual and normative with more and more influence of criminals on one another.

• Application of Social Learning Theory to Pakistan's Cyber Harassment:

① Peer Group Influence:

Individuals learn cyber harassment methods from their peers and it seems casual and normative to them. Also, peer group pressure is a reason of increasingly cyber cases where they influence each other.

② Social Media's Impacts:

Social media and learning through it is also a major case. With more access to private data, people commit cyber crimes and threaten people and blackmail them. This also influences criminals more and more because no strict action is being taken against it.

③ Cultural Reinforcement:

Silence and tolerance on part of victim also gives more dominance to such criminals and they tend to become more and more evil in their conduct.

④ Gendered Social Learning:

Also, the learned patriarchal norms also influence people to commit majority crimes against women considering them subjugated and

subservient to men. Individuals learn such masculine criminal traits and consider harassing women a normal act.

Implications: Resolving through Social Learning
Various digital learning programmes and social media regulation can also be ensured to spread the correction of offence through social learning. The same social learning patterns responsible for orchestrating crimes can be positively used to eradicate this evil from society. The online abuse should be condemned publicly instead of bullying the victim. Moreover, strict laws should be enforced to control the increasing spectrum of Cyber harassment in Pakistan.

Critical Analysis:

Social learning theory effectively explains how individuals learn deviant acts and tend to commit cyber crimes, but it does not fully explain other traits that also contribute. Apart from socialization, it is believed that psychological traits, socio-economic factors and lack of legal deterrence also play pivotal role in increasing cyber crime rates in Pakistan. It does not provide a holistic framework for the reasoning of origin and organisation of crimes. However, no doubt, Social learning does play its part in increasing cybercrime rates in Pakistan.

Conclusion:

Social learning theory has a direct impact on cyber harassment cases in Pakistan. It influences people to commit crimes when they learn deviance from their criminal counterparts. It reflects upon the idea that offenders are not born, but they become one through socialization and peer influence. Then, they tend to justify their acts by normalising them with peer pressure and spreading the evil. Cyber harassment cases are also a result of social learning theory where the society engraves such vicious acts in them and they imitate them.

Section B

Question : 5

→ Criminal Courts in Pakistan:

• Introduction:

Pakistan criminal system and courts are established on well-defined and structured procedures but unfortunately they lack the functional and operational capacity. It is built upon well-defined laws that guarantee free and fair trial and legal safeguards such as Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) and Criminal Procedure Code (CrPc).

• Procedural Soundness of Criminal Courts:

① Strong Legal Framework:

PPC is the substantial law that provides exhaustive classification of all offences and punishments as well. Then, CrPc is the procedural law that defines the code of punishments including arrest, investigation, trial and appeal procedures. Moreover, Qanun-e-Shahadat lays all evidential standards for offences.

② Constitutional Guarantees for Courts:

With articles such as 4, 10-A and 25, right to legal methods, free trial and process, and equality before law is ensured, in the constitution.

③ Court Hierarchy and Structured Procedures:

There is a hierarchical system of judiciary in Pakistan that deals with all levels of crimes. The criminal courts are generally dealt in High courts and Supreme courts and are considered as offence against the state. For victims too, there is right to appeal before higher courts and their rights are preserved.

Operational Weaknesses of Criminal Courts:

① Case Backlog and delayed justice:

"Justice hurried is justice buried;
Justice delayed is justice denied."

There are various cases pending in courts which hinders efficient operational conduct of courts. Moreover, focus on criminal cases is also reduced with other cases inceptions and the major criminals are delayed their prosecution and victims suffers and wait for years for justice.

② Weak Investigation and Prosecution:

One more hindrance in the functioning of courts is abysmal investigation processes with weak evidences. There is also lack of coordination between police and prosecutors. Moreover, low conviction rates and intransparency

and unaccountability of police is also a factor for this issue. The prosecution is also not as much effective, transparent and efficient.

③ Corruption and External Pressure:

Political interference as external pressure to the police and courts also is a major setback for court's operability. Internal constraints such as corruption and specifically biased decisions of judges is also one of major causes. The influence of few political elites restricts the free and fair trial of judiciary and true justice is undermined.

④ Witness Protection Failure:

There is witness protection in constitution and procedural laws but on ground, it is severely absent. There is an environment of hostility and ~~and~~ intimidation for the witnesses that also plays a pivotal role in non-functionality of courts. Also, the displacement and loss of evidence is must prevalent even during the trials.

→ Impacts of Operational Weaknesses:

It leads to loss of judicial trust and powers in the sight of public and leaves the society more vulnerable to crimes. The criminals get encouraged and more empowered instead of convicted due to abysmal nature of courts.

Serious offences are not punished and the criminals tend to recidivism and re-commit those crimes.

Victims lose faith in justice system and often take law into their hands and take revenge from offenders through illegal means causing disruption in society.

Critical Analysis:

There is ~~indeed~~ indeed effective justice system but on papers and symbolically. Practically, it lacks effective implementation. Courts often become victims of systemic failures through political or military intervention.

"Procedural soundness without operational strength results in legal paralysis."

Conclusion:

Pakistan's criminal courts are procedurally sound but operationally weak. Unless implementation gaps are addressed through institutional reforms, capacity building and political will, procedural capacity will keep on increasing but it would not enhance the overall effectiveness and efficiency of its operational means. The courts will continue to be in a backlog of cases and justice would be undermined if the focus would not be done on its proper functionality.

Section C

Question NO. : 7

INTERPOL : Sovereignty and Political Victimisation

INTERPOL (International Criminal Police Organization) is world's largest international policing network, established in 1923 to facilitate cross-border law enforcement. It assist member countries to control transnational crimes like cybercrime, human and drug trafficking and cross-border terrorism.

Operational Framework:

It has 195 member states and central databases with all criminal records. But it can issues red notices without arrest powers. It relies on national law enforcement agencies to carry out its functionality.

→ Limitations by Member States:

A) Sovereignty Concerns:

Member states do not allow INTERPOL to initiate arrest warrants or activities. It is the sovereignty of country that is secured only through national legal enforcement of laws. Thus, it limits the neutrality and operational authority of INTERPOL. Also, due to domestic-level political concerns, the powers of INTERPOL are reduced.

B) Political Neutrality Constraints:

It has limited means to verify political misuse before issuing red notices as some states tend to misuse these notices for political purposes. Article 3 of INTERPOL constitution prohibits "intervention or activities of political, military, religious, or racial character."

C) Legal Differences:

Laws vary from state to state that include various distinction in civil, criminal or common laws. So, red notices are treated differently with country's own legal enforcement agency. Hence, it restricts INTERPOL as it has to depend on national organisations.

D) Weak Oversight:

INTERPOL's review mechanism is slow and less responsive due to red-tapism and structural delays leading to inefficiencies.

There is no court way to stop the system if the country misuses it. Hence, member states can also limit it more by slowing down the oversight process.

• Impact of limitations

Opponents and activists can be unfairly targeted internationally causing political victimization.

It also exploits gaps by sovereignty limitations and reduced effective criminal procedures and also erodes citizens trust over it.

• Critical Analysis:

Sovereignty protections are necessary but they limit global law enforcement efficiency. Moreover, political misuse also remains a persistent issue, affecting journalists, refugees, and political leaders.

• Recommendations:

- Strengthen independent oversight for Red Notices.
- Introduce faster appeal mechanisms.
- Encourage members to follow human rights strictly.
- Publish annual reports of crimes and its politicisation to ensure transparency.
- Provide national agencies with specialised trainings.

• Conclusion:

INTERPOL plays a crucial role in combating all transnational crime. However, sovereignty and limitations on political victimization imposed by member states constrains its efficiency and effectiveness. It is important to balance INTERPOL's accountability and human rights efforts with national sovereignty of states and to make INTERPOL a truly impartial and functional global policing body.

Section-D

Question-8

• National Accountability Bureau (NAB):

NAB is Pakistan's premier anti-corruption and accountability institution which was established under 1999 Ordinance. Its primary purpose is to investigate, prevent and prosecute corruption and other high-profile organized crimes. It is indeed the primary anti-graft and watchdog body of the state but still it has some shortcomings.

• Objectives of NAB:

① Eliminate Corruption:

It investigates corruption and illegal conducts at all levels and target embezzlement, bribery and nepotism.

② Recover looted Wealth:

It traces the assets that are illegally acquired by politicians, bureaucrats and elite businessmen.

③ Promote Accountability:

It ensures good governance and accountability of all institutions by holding officials responsible of its misconduct.

④ Prevent Authoritative Misuse:

It monitors abuse of power in executive, administrative and corporate sectors, warning them with deterrence.

⑤ Legal and Institutional Capacity-Building:

NAB also enhances the capacity with investigation, prosecution and legal processes to combat financial crimes.

• Shortcomings and Criticisms on NAB:

A) Political Victimization:

NAB has been accused of targeting only the selective political opponents and is used as a mere political tool rather than an anti-graft agency.

B) Low Conviction Rate:

Despite thousands of trials and investigations, plea bargains reduce the conviction rate and reduce overall deterrence effect.

C) Lack of Transparency and Accountability:

Civil society struggle to access credible information and filing processes are not transparent.

D) Overreach and Arbitrary Powers:

NAB often clashes with other institutions and is alleged of public official harassment.

E) Weak Institutional Checks:

There is limited oversight on NAB from parliament and judiciary.

• Recommendations:

- Ensure political ~~int~~ independence for accountability.
- Review major cases of NABs by Parliament or Judiciary.
- Increase public reporting to ensure transparency.
- Target systemic corruption rather than just focusing on political mandates.

• Conclusion:

NAB is a vital anti-graft agency of Pakistan with the potential to curb corruption and enforce accountability but it has to become more independent, transparent with robust capacity for efficient functioning.