

6. The criminal justice system is a method in which criminals are incarcerated in order to provide justice and safety to society.

The criminal justice system is an ineffective method of dealing with crime and disorder to an extent. In this essay I will analyse and evaluate whether or not the current criminal justice system is failing within Scotland.

The criminal justice system within Scotland is dealt through a number of different courts according to the severity of the crime. The highest court in Scotland which deals with the most severe of crimes is called the High court. Beneath this is the Sheriff court which would deal with crimes of assault for example. Then follows the ~~justice of the peace~~ appeal court and the justice of peace court which deal with less severe crimes, and finally the court of session which would deal with other things such as divorces. Due to the high number of courts within Scotland this would mean

that the criminal justice system is an effective way of dealing with crime as there is a high variety of courts meaning more chance of fair justice within Scotland. This also shows that it is not failing within Scotland as crime is being dealt with on a much higher scale and there would be no hesitation on the issue of deciding on which court for which person it solely relies on the severity of the crime. Similarly, in Ireland the courts ~~name~~ depend on the severity of the crime. The highest court in Ireland is the ~~same~~ Supreme court dealing with issues such as murder and rape, and then follows the High court with less serious crimes. The courts which deal with the most severity of crimes are the circuit court and the district courts. This again shows effectiveness as there is a vast number of courts leading to a quicker response to justice. In Scotland, there are two types of court cases: solemn and summary. Solemn cases are usually the cases with the highest severity for example murder and would require a judge and jury. These cases are commonly carried out in the higher courts such

as the high court or the sheriff court. Summary court cases are less serious crimes often petty theft or crimes of dishonesty. These are carried out by only a judge or sheriff and accounted for 96% of crimes in 2010/11.

This shows that the criminal justice system is not failing within Scotland as the majority was less serious crimes proving it is an effective system.

The criminal justice system is a devolved power in Scotland, which means it has been passed to Scotland's full control by Westminster. As it is a devolved power this shows that the Government has more faith and trust in the Scottish Government to fully manage crime and disorder. Due to it being a devolved power, the criminal justice system has developed many new agencies in order to help them become a more effective system. For example, they have been able to crack down on fine defaulters since 2013. This has allowed them to have access to much more information ~~and~~ within the Government so they can continuously try to improve the

System. This evidently shows that the criminal justice system is effective within Scotland and is not failing. However, in 2015 there was speculation that there was to be court closures within Scotland in order to move all courts under one roof. This may prove a disadvantage for individuals who do not have sufficient money to afford the expenses of transport as more than likely the court closures will be in the rural and areas moved in inner city areas. This may show ~~great~~ failings in the criminal justice system as people may miss court dates due to lack of money and then be incarcerated. This shows that recent the criminal justice system actions are failing. Similarly, the Garda in Ireland have slight set backs with their justice system as it has been proven that if the Garda ~~ever~~ catch an individual for a road traffic offence and the individual gives them insufficient or inaccurate details the Garda has no way to prosecute. This shows failings within Ireland's criminal justice system as individuals are regularly getting away with crimes. This overall shows the insufficiency of the recent criminal justice system.

The Police Scotland is Scotland's authority over crime. The main aim of the Police Scotland is ~~to~~ to protect and serve the public creating a more peaceful and safe community.

The Police Scotland has had a lot of success in the management of crime over the recent years, decreasing crime by almost 5% annually. This shows that the criminal justice system is effectively dealing with crime and disorder and that recent methods prove to be working due to the reduction in crime.

Similarly, the Garda's annual statistics from their official website show a decrease of crime by 8%. This again shows that crime is sufficiently being managed within the Ireland. However, audit Scotland's recent calculations show Scotland being in £85 million debt by 2018/19 due to all new renovations for example Peterhead Prison and methods they use for example money to buy in equipment. This shows that as the years pass on the Police Scotland may not be as efficient with their crime rates due to a lack of funding.

Similarly, the Garda has had to cancel or postpone many domestic violence courses due to a severe lack of

funding. This shows recent criminal justice system issues show that aspects of the current system are failing due to a lack of funding and inability to maintain standards.

The Scottish prison system is a method of incarceration which aims to prevent reoffending, encourage rehabilitation and have an overall sense of deterrence for the future.

In Scottish prisons there is a SMART programme scheme currently in place to help rehabilitate offenders and help them once out of prison to secure a job by working closely with them during this scheme to encourage reading and writing and even sit qualifications all in order to secure a steady job. However, there are ~~any~~ major drawbacks to this scheme as 80% of inmates within prison are proficiently illiterate. The rehabilitation commonly works more on long-term inmates as they have more time to reflect and change. This scheme prevents reoffending rates in Scotland as they have fallen 7% from 1997 to 2013. However, in the USA the reoffending rates are high.

Approximately 3 years after release 67% of Americans are likely to reoffend compared to 76% after 5 years of release. This ultimately shows that current systems within the criminal justice system are working as there is a decrease of crime or reoffending crimes showing the Scottish Prison system works.

The criminal justice system in Scotland is funded by the Scottish Government. This allows a large amount of money to strategically be used in order to improve the justice system as a whole. The idea that they wish to constantly improve the system shows that it is trying to be an effective system in dealing with crime and disorder. The money received by the Government has been used to target community disposal orders with the system for example the commission of woman offenders and robust items with prisons. It has also been used significantly in voluntary sectors towards the system for example the rehabilitation schemes. This shows that the criminal justice systems recent actions are proving

to be of use to the system making it better. Similarly, in Ireland there has recently been a £10 million sterling boost to the economy allowing the government to overall donate £645 million to the criminal justice system of Ireland. This backs up the idea of the governments being at huge praise in order to maintain standards. However, although the Government wishes to give money with the intention of being strategic, they lack direction and that therefore results in money being spent in areas where it is not needed. This overall shows that the justice system may be failing due to lack of direction and consequential lack of funding.

Overall, recent criminal justice issues show that aspects of the current system are not failing within Scotland as there has been a decrease of crime and also a decrease of reoffending crime. Also all the courts and the number of mental cases show the criminal justice system is effectively. Also, the work within the Scottish Prison system and the help from the government show that Scotland's criminal justice system is effective with

dealing with crime and disorder.

7. Crime is the breach of the law which is a punishable offence. Crime may be influenced by a number of different factors within Scotland. In this essay I will assertation if criminal behaviour can or cannot be explained by one single theory of crime.

It can be seen that crime is wholly influenced by society. This is due to societies level of unemployment and poverty within Scotland. From oxfam statistics it can be seen that 1 in 5 people in Scotland are either in absolute poverty or relative poverty. This shows the extent of people living in poverty in Scotland. Crime may be brought on by poverty as individuals are striving to make a better life for themselves and this might result in petty crimes such as theft. Poverty also leads to unemployment and this may be due to lack of skill or lack of qualifications and therefore they result to crime. Many young people offenders during the ages of 10^{to} 17 within Scotland in order to cure a sense of boredom placed on them

by society. Approximately 56% of house break-ins are employed by young people as they have nothing better to do in their towns. This shows that society may influence crimes as ~~are~~ due to a lack of activities. Also, within Scotland in approximately 6 months there was 700 crimes of dishonesty with Scotland and this may be due to people being unemployed or living in poverty. A high number of people in the unemployed category result in turning to crime, this may be something as simple as stealing bread from a shop in order to feed their starving family. In the USA, 53% of inmates earned ~~less~~ less than \$10,000 a year before being incarcerated. This shows how ~~the~~ society may be the main theory for crime within ~~in~~ Scotland due to the high level of unemployment and poverty.

Another main theory which suggests the individual is at fault is William Sheldon's theory of somatotyping. This is a theory centralised around the physical physique of the offender. William Sheldon categorised the body types into three main

physiques: endomorph, mesomorph and ectomorph. These by definition agree the three main body types. Endomorph refers to the more rounder body type, the mesomorph refers to the more muscular built and the ectomorph is the thinner region of people. Sheldon had scientifically proven that those with the body type of mesomorph are more aggressive and therefore more likely to end up incarcerated. This explains criminal behaviours as a physical aspect rather than a mental aspect. This shows that this theory depends on the body type of the individual. There was a few criticisms to this theory raised by scientists ~~more~~ Wilson and Herberts where they further developed this theory to prove that not all people in prison are of the muscular region and come in all different physiques. They proved ~~to~~ this through looking at the different crimes and physiques and concluded everyone is different and some of the more violent and aggressive crimes come from that of the endomorphs and the ectomorphs. Also, it can be seen that there are 250,000 crimes per year in Scotland and each crime is committed by a different individual and therefore

not all individuals are the same. This shows that this theory has major flaws. Similarly, in the USA, there is approximately 16,000 murders per year which equates to 44 murders per day all committed by different individuals. This therefore shows criminal behaviour cannot be explained by one single theory as there are many other more rational theories which may better explain it.

There is evidence to prove that again society is at fault of crime within Scotland. The idea of the labelling theory is generated by society without them even knowing they are doing it. This theory suggests that if society labels you a deviant you are likely to be a deviant. In order for society to come to this conclusion they may judge an individual on their level of income, their clothes or their appearance. Once labelled a deviant by society, the individual is viewed as an outsider and society may never include them in the functions of society; this may include leaving the unemployed or in poverty ~~on~~ with

no chance of aid or rehabilitation out of their lives in order to become a better ~~person~~ person and have an improved quality of life. Due to this the individual may consequentially become a deviant and ~~begin~~ begin to commit crime. The severity of the crime may depend of the level of rejection from society. For example a small rejection may result in petty theft and a large rejection may result in homicide. ~~Approximately~~ currently Glasgow holds rank for the most violent area in the country with 2.6 homicides per 100,000 according to the daily record compared to 1.67 per 100,000 in England. This statistics show this theory as Glasgow is more deprived than that of England and therefore more people are likely to be labelled a deviant. This shows that society may be an explanation for crime in Scotland as it allows individuals to feel like outcasts leading to crime.

Another theory which is significant, when dealing with the explanations of criminal behaviour is Emile Durkheim's theory in the 1960's which still carries on to the present

day. The theory deals with the idea that crime must be present so that society may function ordinarily. The idea that crime must occur on a proportional scale in order to maintain normality with society and ensure that it functions properly. The theory deals with the idea of too much crime can cause chaos, for example the London riots 2011, and too little crime can cause individuals to suffer from not knowing right from wrong. Crime such as the civil rights movement in the USA are accepted under this theory due to it promoting a better quality life for people in the present day. This suggests that crimes with a purpose is accepted into today's society, whereas inappropriate and unnecessary crime such as violent crimes and sexual crimes would not be morally justified under this theory. The exposure of crime as a proportional act in order to maintain crime is the sole purpose of this theory.

Overall, criminal behaviour within societies cannot be explained by one single theory of crime as there are many

different theory which explain criminal behaviour well for example societies impacts on the individual both through the labelling theory and societies need to be functional but also societies acceptance of unemployment and poverty. Also, the theories which suggest the individual was at fault due to their own personal mindset. Overall, it cannot be explained by one theory.

9. Overt methods may be the best way of investigating crimes committed by gangs in the UK because the gangs wouldn't know that the questions being asked are for practical uses. The idea of observation may allow you to visually see body language differences of those of whom are in a gang and those who are not. It may allow the researcher to see the differences in sloughing and different body language and also how gang members walk compared to not. Also it allows the researcher to see gang members interaction with others without them knowing you are present. Allows the researcher to see the way in which gang members communicate differently. But also allows the researcher to see the truth in gangs how they commune and how they deal with situations normally. Also covert observation allows the researcher to see who the gang members leaders are or who has the dominant traits. Who is most likely to be the instigator of different situations. Allows the researcher to see if any weapons are used within

the formations of gangs and if so which ones.

Also allows the research to see the different types of gang members from the different areas within the UK.

There are other ways which also may be effective when investigating crimes committed by gangs in the UK such as government statistics. They would allow the researcher to see the extent of gang crimes within the UK and what they are most likely to commit offences for, for example violent crime or crimes of dishonesty. It may also allow the research insight of which areas are the worst for gang crime and whether gang crime is increasing or decreasing.

Another method may include face-to-face interviews allowing the researcher to ask the questions personally however, the interviewee may hide something or treat the interview as a joke.

Another method which may be sufficient is survey. Gang members can anonymously answer a survey and to allow the researcher to evaluate the extent of gang crime within

the UK. For example my survey for my dissertation I carried out on Survey monkey, allowed me to see people's thoughts in the form of a pie chart generated by the survey engine itself. This may allow easy and simple conclusions on gang crime however, gang members are more likely to be youths and may not take it seriously.

Overall, covert observation may be the best method for investigating the issue as it allows accurate information to the researcher, allowing the researcher to see which area ⁱⁿ of UK is the worst for gang crime but also allows the researcher to see interactions. However, other methods such as face-to-face interviews, surveys and statistics may be a better source of information as they provide in-depth information. However, gang members may not take this seriously. Overall, overt observation is the best method for investigating crimes committed by gangs in the UK.

10.	Source B can be considered a trustworthy source due to the certification of the survey used: "The 2014 Commercial Victimization Survey (CVS)". The fact that it entitled the name of the survey allows researchers to further back up any queries they may be having with the source. Allows them something concrete to follow up on. The use of the year in this suggests that it may be dated and therefore untrustworthy. More recent statistics may have been introduced from 3 years ago. Also, the fact that the source does not provide a link to any other sources in order to prove the information chosen may suggest the source is being biased
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The text itself may prove to be interesting as it adds a
small message at the bottom:

"data are weighed to take account of both non-response
and the stratification of the original sample"

This means for the research that all forms of data and responses
was taken into account before publishing any data. This shows
the research was severely thought out and put together. However,
The idea that this is not the original sample suggests untrustworthi-
ness as things may have been altered in order to receive
the response acquired.

The idea that "CVS is a telephone survey" again proves
accuracy as it allows the researcher to see that the respondents
of the survey would have been put on the spot and may answer
untruthfully or hide information. Although the telephone
survey can be recorded and therefore may prove trustworthy
as it can be referred back to and the researcher may go through
all the responses.

The fact they have given a graphic showing the proportion
of permines victimised allows the research to visualise the

difference between the different years, this may also be untrustworthy as the bar graphs may be inaccurate showing a larger difference than there is. However, from the corner of the graphic it has the logo for home office which may lead the researcher to believe the information may be screenshots from the website leading to this being accurate.

Overall, source B may be considered to be accurate as it is produced by official statistics and has a screenshot of websites to show certain information. It also, has been tested more than once with increased reliability and the survey was done over phone which increases the level of trustworthiness as phone calls can be recorded and referred back to. However, it may be inaccurate information as there is no way of proving the information by contacting the publisher and the information may be out of date. Overall, source B can be considered trustworthy.