

Question 7.

Throughout History there have been many explanations for crime. Some of the initial psychologists regarded strain theory, conflict theory and ~~rational choice~~ as causes of criminal behaviour. However biological explanation for crime through the likes of Lombroso, Heidensohn, Pollak and XYX also challenged those and provided evidence based explanations. Often the biological theories were limiting and so criminal behaviour with societies being explained by one single theory of crime ~~was~~^{is} unlikely. There are many factors which can all relate which may affect an

individuals behaviour. They can be biological, sociological and psychological.

One theory of crime is Strain Theory. Strain theory is the strain put on individuals to achieve a socially accepted goal but often there is a lack of means to do so. For example ~~un~~ unemployed, low educational attainment which can lead people to commit crime instead. For example in the USA, there is a national accepted goal of having money, however drug dealers use unacceptable means in order to achieve that goal. Many successful individuals have strong upbringings with a good

education and therefore making money through work is the next naturally stage. Many people from deprived backgrounds share the same goal of success but feel strained on how to achieve it, and do so through other means such as crime. It is a conflict with what 'ought to be' and 'what is'. This theory illustrates why ~~within~~ our materialistic society and need for success could be a theory of crime.

In addition Karl Marx conflict theory argues that our society is in a constant perpetual conflict for resources. The powerful upper class make the lowerclass feel

mistreated, under-represented and can generate a lot of hate and rebellion within. The bourgeoisie are the upper class who are involved in the politics, positions of power and the proletariat are the working class. The feeling of isolation from society means the proletariat often turn to crime in order for their views and beliefs to be represented. This ~~is~~ conjunction with strain theory illustrates that society pressures and unrealistic desires can cause criminal behaviour.

On the other hand biology ~~is~~ is argued as the single theory of crime. The initial theory was

that of Lombroso - who was named the father of criminology. Lombroso believed that criminals had particular characteristics such as "jugular ears, protruding chin, thick hair and a beard". Individuals born with these characteristics were considered 'born criminals'. Therefore Lombroso believed in long and harsh imprisonment to prevent the offender passing on the genes and characteristics to the next generation. Despite this almost easy resolution, Lombroso theory was used in defence. Defence argued that if individuals were 'born criminals' it was not their fault and the individual therefore had

no responsibility of his crime. So although Lombroso's theory was outdated it was the building block of many more theories.

Otto Pollak was a biologist who believed the theory of crime was rooted in evidence. He believed women were naturally deceitful and deviant because of their ability to hide the pain and discomfort of menstruation and fake orgasms. The typical characteristics of females were only a disguise and females had built up resistance which is why they are naturally deviant. Pollak also believed that a "chivalrous" attitude was shown towards women. This

was the stance that because of their gender they were treated more leniently by the court system and could make officers and courts see their criminal actions in a certain light. 17% of female first time offenders were given a custodial sentence compared to a 29% of male first time offenders. This is only added to the deceitful and defiant nature which caused crime.

A further support of a biological theory for crime is the XY gene. The XY gene is only present in males and is known to heighten masculinity and testosterone. People who have the gene are

said to respond to provocation with aggression. This theory could explain the aggression within males. A Finnish study found that men are 13x more likely to be involved in violent crime if the gene is present. Despite all this biology, it does not explain why some people even with normal genetics also can commit crime. It also is still outdated because just like Lombroso, it removes the responsibility and rational choice element from the equation. It is thought the crime is also ^{to} do with environment, upbringing, rational choice as well as Biology.

An example which illustrates that

criminal behaviour with societies cannot be explained by one single theory is the London and Ferguson riots. On the 4th of August 2011, a young Black man called Mark Duggan was shot by a metropolitan police officer. What started off as a peaceful protest due to the officer been convicted of a lawful killing so spread through London and into Birmingham and Liverpool as riots. 42% of rioters were White and 47% Black. 89% were male and 48% were under 18. ⁽¹⁰⁻¹⁷⁾ Out of the under 18 40% were on school meals. Although initiated by the death of a young black man, quickly the riots escalated

and started becoming about opportunity theory as 50% of all crime were acquisitive such as robbery, theft and looting. This illustrates that opportunity and rational choice were involved by also many rioters were from deprived areas, 60% of those arrested identified from 20% of the most deprived areas in London.

The Ferguson riots started in a similar way with the death of a young Black man called Michael Brown. Michael Brown was shot by a white police officer called Darren Wilson on the 9th August 2014. An verdict from a jury made up of 9 white and 3 Black indicted

Wilson of the death. 9 votes were needed for an indictment to be made. The Ferguson riots despite being similar to the London riots was more political. It was about Black Lives Matter BLM movement as for so long they had been over policed and under represented. Racial profiling is the discrimination and alienation of certain groups because of race, religion, status etc. There was a lot of racial profiling in Ferguson with blacks making up 86% of all stops, 92% of searches and 93% of all arrests. The Ferguson riots was about "the language of the unheard" and demonstrates that there are many factors in crime.

In conclusion the notes demonstrate that there are many factors which contribute to crime whether it political, racial, poverty, labelling theory, rational choice or opportunity. Strain Theory, Conflict Theory and all the biological explanations are only part of the bigger picture. Therefore criminal behaviour within societies cannot be explained by one single theory of crime.

Question 8 - Responses by society to crime

The penal system has 4 aims, Incapacitation - keeping the public safe, rehabilitation - reforming of the offender, Punishment - the loss of liberty and Deterrence - put^{ting} off new offenders and reoffenders. All of these aims try to reduce crime and prevent reoffending. However there are many issues with prisons such as overcrowding, mental health and short term sentencing which prevent these aims being met. If these aims are not being met reoffending is a high possibility. There are a variety of - some successful and unsuccessful solutions which aim to tackle

the issues can ultimately reduce reoffending. These include community payback orders (community sentencing), Restorative Justice and mental health programmes.

Overcrowding is described as the "cancer at the heart of the prison system." This is because overcrowding affects all parts of the prison system from its general operation to the facilities and rehabilitation provided. It was found in 2015 that 71 prisons (60% of the estate) were overcrowded. Overcrowding means prisons often go above the safety capacity which increases violence between inmates, and violence between guards and

animates. Without proper control, and enough officers and resources this can be extremely dangerous as subcultures and corrosive behaviour escapes within prison rapidly. Overcrowding also puts strain on resources, especially in terms of rehabilitation. Rehabilitation is essential in reducing reoffending but requires specialist knowledge, personal help, money and time, all of which are in limited supply. This means courses which equip offenders for life on the outside and psychologists have to work with many offenders at one time which is less effective.

A solution hoping to tackle overcrowding is the community sentence.

ing or community payback order. This involves a set number of hours of unpaid work in the community. Considering prison per person per year costs £37 500 it would reduce costs and alleviate prison population. If 8000 prisoners sentences were replaced with community payback orders it would save UK taxpayers £360 million pounds. Another advantage of CPO is that the offender is not removed from society as in prison 2/3 lose their jobs, 1/3 lose their homes and 40% lose contact with their families. CPO allows offenders to keep their house and continue to build relationship with families and friends which is essential in reducing

reoffending as it gives them status and conformity. Not wanting to reoffend in fear of disappointed loved ones. However ~~only~~ 8,500 offenders jailed in 2015, had 11 or more community sentences previously. This illustrates that CPO's may not be successful in reducing reoffending as it does not involve enough punishment or rehabilitation.

Mental Health has recently become a greater issues within prisons. Self Harm is at the highest ever recorded and has seen a 60% rise in the last two years. Typically the treatment of mental health has been regarded as "inhumane" and "shocking" with the use of solitary

confinement and medical treatment. However the situation only got worse with high rates of suicide, and without ~~that~~ adequate support in society offenders felt trapped. However there are many programmes including Theatre Nemo, pause for progress and the ~~gap between project in Atlanta~~ which aims to improve mental health and reduce reoffending.

Theatre Nemo is the concept in Berlinne of using the performing arts including drama, art and music to improve self worth and mental health. The use performance to change negative feelings and expression into something positive. There is a huge sense of achievement

and value which has improved mental health drastically. Paws for progress is another mental health programme which uses the training and caring of dogs to increase offenders responsibility and mental health. For some offenders it is the only positive relationship they have ever had and the fact an animal is relying on them spurs responsibility and the want to care and look after it properly. Paws for progress has seen a significant reduction in reoffending of up to 30%. These programmes by improving mental health are putting offenders in much better situation and mind frame to deal with the trials.

of finding a job, home and many more that society bring. If these are achieved reoffending is greatly reduced.

Short term sentencing is a massive problem as offenders are chucked in and out of prison with no access to through care which is help on the outside and no rehabilitation which is essential in reducing reoffending. 60% of offenders given a sentence of 6 months or less reconvict within two years. Often conditions inside prison are ^{hot} free ~~se~~ meals, a bed and showers and better facilities than on the outside. Therefore there is no deterrent factor. Kenneth Clarke said: ~~Prison~~ Prison should have aspects of firm

punishment and the reform of the offender to be effective." As a lot of short term sentences are for drug crime, their addictions are not being treated and so the cycle of recidivism and the revolving door continues. "Locking up large numbers of people for low risk crime seems to be causing more problems than it solves."

Examples of where prison does act as a deterrent in the Black Eagle Prison in Russia. It is a situation 7 hours from the nearest city and plummets to -40° in the winter. It holds 360 inmates who are charged with murder and are often sentenced for life. Russia focuses

on the deterrent factor with prisoners being locked in their cell for 23 hours of the day and not allowed to sit on their bed during day light hours. Visitation are once every six months and due to the distance are very rarely attended by family. Russia use torture methods and fear to retain authority and has no rehabilitation. This could be seen as a good deterrent however with a recidivism rate of 40% the effectiveness is questionable.

This is compared to Norway's recidivism rate of 16-20%. Norway focus on rehabilitation and have Europe's lowest recidivism rate. They use best prison, Halden and

Bastays are fully equipped for cooking, prisoners have personal TV's, playstation and jobs within the prison and the only punishment is the loss of liberty. This can be seen to be effective as it instills self worth within the prisoners.

However one criticism is whether it acts as a deterrent or if it is too 'soft'. This argument is back by the case of Andres Brevirick who murder 27 people, initially 8 by a car bomb outside parliament and then open fired on a beach where^a young political camp was taking place.

Brevirick was sentenced to the maximum of 21 years imprisonment and as long as he is considered a danger to society he sentence can

be lengthened. Legal experts say he is likely to spend life behind bars. Despite this Breivick lives in a sense of luxury and people question whether the Norwegian prison are at all a deterrent considering Breivick is put behind bars for the less than 100 days for every life he took.

In conclusion the penal system still struggles in reducing reoffending and although good measures are in place including Paus for Progress and theatre Nemo. These are only just the start. The idea of Community payback order is essential in reducing factors that cause crime and keeping offenders in society but its effectiveness is still

slightly disappointing

Question 9.

Participant observation is where an individual goes and observe the behaviour and actions of groups which maybe political social or in the case a gang, in order to understand the motives, reason for behaviour and feelings. Covert participation is undercover and infiltrating the gang itself in order to fully understand the operation, procedure and motives.

covert participant observation would be a beneficial way of collecting qualitative data which is based

own opinion and experience in order to extend the understanding and reason for behaviour. It allows the researcher to explore ideas without the label of a uniform or the severity of an interview.

Another positive of covert participation is it allows the research to explore new leads in greater depth and detail depending on information the arises during the observation. Therefore more detailed and accurate conclusions can be drawn.

One disadvantage is that the observation can be extremely time consuming, especially when involved with gangs in the UK. Trust needs

to be built without breaking any laws or causing harm to themselves or other individuals.

Also there is the possibility of the Hawthorne effect. The Hawthorne effect is why the group alters its behaviour in the presence of the researcher. This could involve boasting or new ideas, such as dealing more drugs than usual or playing down the severity of their actions. For example gangs taking part in a robbery would usually be an armed robbery.

Another major disadvantage is if spending long periods of time personal relationships develop which can

jeopardise the investigation. For example an under cover police officer for 7 years fell in love with one of the group members. It is difficult to remain separated - almost during the times.

Despite this covert participant observations is one of the best ways to gather detailed, accurate and genuine behaviour of a group gang in the UK because a researcher is actually immersed in its activities, hopefully at the raw form which allows valid and accurate conclusions to be drawn.

Q10

Source B could be considered trust worthy due to the information attained being from the Integrated Business Register (IBR) which is maintained by the Office for National Statistics. The ONS is a government body so is considered accurate and trustworthy. A stratified sample which means a mixture of age, race, gender, religion and status is important to receive a representative view of the businesses.

~~Also~~ The Commercial Victimization Survey was conducted over two years as it started in 2012 and

~~finished at 2014~~. This is relatively up to date, however modern advancement with Brexit and Theresa May becoming Prime minister ~~in 2016~~ is important so repeating the survey as there is plans to do in 2015, 2016 and 2017 will help make it more accurate and trustworthy.

Estimates for 2014 are helpful but should not be relied upon as they are only estimations so could change drastically.

CVS being a telephone survey is an advantage because it is quick and can reach many people however, there is a disadvantage as people are more likely to die if not

face to face with a researcher. This means the results may be less reliable and trustworthy but a large sample was collected.

Despite the estimation for the 2014 CVS being based on 4,080 interviews having a response rate of 54%. There are taking it in accounted both non-response and the stratification of the original sample. This is beneficial as they are able to identify and try to counteract the weakness. This improves accuracy and validity.

In the graph there is discrepancies with types of crime as some such as crime rate is wholesale and retail break the crimes down to overall crime,

Shoplifting and theft whereas all the rest simply refer to overall crime. Similarly with dates the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing have data for 2013 and 2014 whereas the rest have data for 2012 and 2014. This makes the source less trust worthy as comparisons cannot be as easily made or trusted.

All the companies surveyed turnover taxable goods and services. This is only a selection of UK business, so in order to make it more diverse other companies should of been survey.

In conclusion this Source B could be consider accurate due to the large stratified sample with detailed information given and it is relatively up to date.