

7) The reason behind why people commit crime has been widely debated for centuries. There are numerous schools of thought ~~and~~ and theories, most of which are somewhat convincing and logical. Criminal behaviour is a vast and complex topic and so to pin the reason for ~~someone's~~ deviance onto one theory would be largely inaccurate.

Theories ~~includes~~ includes biological theories, sociological, psychological and ~~physiological~~ however there are also theories supported by Marxists and Left Realists which relate to poverty and its strong connection to crime. ~~There~~ Therefore it can be argued that a singular theory cannot be the only ~~and~~ explanation for criminal behaviour.

Scholars such as Lombroso and Mednick have long argued for the biological influence in deviancy. Although both theories are historic, the theories are ~~well~~ well known as an attempt at explaining crime. Lombroso was a 17<sup>th</sup> century ~~young~~ doctor and studied physical attributes of criminals. He identified what ~~he~~ he saw as a trend with violent criminals mostly having

features including large jaws, big ears and extra nipples. He argued that convicts were more backward to a more primitive version of human beings and so people with such characteristics could be identified as criminals. However the validity of such findings can be considered lacking as Lombroso only studied prisoners and had no control option in his ~~biological~~ findings. Nevertheless, the theory spurred on theorists such as Mednick who had more convincing findings. He researched <sup>adopted</sup> boys in ~~an~~ Finland and found that half of those who went on to a life of crime, also had biological fathers who were convicts despite ~~not~~ never having contact with them. This suggests that criminal behaviour could be hereditary however both Lombroso and Mednick failed to take into account other factors including the psychological impact of being adopted itself. More recent evidence has found that there could be some truth to the biological reasons behind crime with the discovery of the MAOA gene or the "Warrior gene". This is a gene variant which has shown signs of ~~causing~~ altering chemicals in the brain which controls aggression.

and ability to socialise. The gene is believed to be passed from mother to son and men possessing this gene have been found to have possessed erratic and anti-social behaviour. A study in Finland of 900 prisoners found that after categorising offenders into violent and non-violent, the majority of those who possessed the gene fit the extremely-violent category. This group consisted of 78 men ~~and~~ who had collectively committed 1,583 homicides, murders and batteries. This is evidence that criminal behaviour could possibly be down to our genetic makeup however, biological theories do not provide explanations for non-violent crime with deeper motivations. The Finnish study itself concluded that despite 5-10% of the country's crime possibly being attributed to this gene, those in possession of this variant are never inevitably condemned to a life of crime. Dr Jim Fallon added to the theory as he studied psychopaths and found that all of them possessed damage to their brain and most of which also had the warrior gene. He argues that ~~proves~~ ~~more~~ the vast

Majority of people who have the gene live normal lives and are not pushed down a life of crime. The pingat possesses the gene and argues that ~~the~~ the gene must be triggered by a sociological factor. There has to be an extremely traumatic event before puberty in order for the biological factor to have serious implications. Even so, the sociological factors themselves could have a psychological impact and this could be a more prominent cause of crime. The Warrior gene is dependent on other factors and so it is inaccurate to single it out as a primary cause of crime due to its dependency on external events.

Crime behaviour within societies could be the cause of society itself. Scholars such as Durkheim and Merton argue that the structure of society breeds criminal behaviour. Durkheim in particular believes that crime is a natural and healthy part of society. It belongs and is needed in order to further solidify societal morals that crime is wrong. He argues that crime must be punished but not removed and periodic

Where crime is extremely high or unusually low is dysfunctional and means something is wrong with society. By Durkheim arguing that crime is a fundamental part of society, it could be argued that crime is functional and exists because it has to. When a crime is committed and condemned by others it works as reaffirming the idea that their act was wrong. However there are criticisms to this as the definition of crime changes over time, for example being gay was an offence only a few decades ago. Something that is considered a crime by society doesn't always mean it's wrong. Today's terrorists could be considered tomorrow's revolutionaries like Nelson Mandela or Gandhi. This could link to Becker's theory of labelling which argues that crime happens due to labels condemning people to do so. It is a self-fulfilling prophecy and leads to a vicious cycle. For example, youths living in impoverished areas could be labelled as intimidating and troublemakers, society gives them no choice to be otherwise and so they do as they're expected to do so. Alternatively Richard Merton would also

agree that society is the cause of crime however put it down to strain ~~that~~ as detailed in his "strain theory". Merton argued that <sup>there</sup> ~~there~~ are two aspects of society; social structure and culture. Culture has been adapted to suit social structure and includes aims widely accepted by society such as security, happiness and money. He argues that social structure which includes <sup>social</sup> opportunities should provide the means for people to achieve the goals of society. However this is not commonly the case, it is in these circumstances that strain occurs. When faced with the inability to achieve the goals, people can react in 5 different ways including retreatism and rebellion. Rebellion includes ~~rejecting society's goals~~ holding alternative methods of achieving goals which could include crime. ~~It~~ Despite this being an explanation behind some crime, it does not explain all criminal behaviour such as white collar crime, and so must be further supported by other theories. This shows that a singular theory cannot explain all criminal behaviour. There are gaps in all theory theories.

In agreement to this, theories such as Bowlby support the idea that other factors must be involved in explaining crime including poor parenting. Bowlby argued that criminals are the result of ~~absence~~ <sup>concluding from</sup> absent parents ~~from~~ his research ~~to the effect that the large majority of prisoners~~ ~~is~~ ~~born~~ ~~with~~ ~~an~~ ~~absence~~ ~~of~~ ~~a~~ ~~loving~~ ~~maternal~~ ~~relationships~~ ~~from~~ ~~the~~ ~~first~~ ~~7~~ ~~years~~ ~~of~~ ~~a~~ ~~child's~~ ~~life~~ ~~is~~ ~~vital~~ ~~to~~ ~~their~~ ~~development~~ ~~and~~ ~~the~~ ~~absence~~ ~~of~~ ~~which~~ ~~could~~ ~~result~~ ~~in~~ ~~psychotic~~ ~~behaviour~~ ~~later~~ ~~on~~. Bowlby found that of the 1,432 prisoners he questioned, 52% came from a single parent household and 36% had a family member also convicted of crime. This is evidence that absence of parents could lead to criminal behaviour. However, it could also be argued that many of single parent households have single incomes or live on benefits. In Switzerland, the divorce rate is 50% and however they are renowned for having the lowest crime levels in the world. Therefore it can be argued that the theory that ~~poor parenting~~ <sup>absent parents</sup> is

A vital part in creating a criminal is not entirely true and as a theory and other factors must also contribute.

Theories of crime also include gender as some scholars view as different from

Power is widely acknowledged as a vital factor behind criminal behaviour. It can be argued that crime is more obvious in impoverished areas and connections to other factors such as poor education and boredom could push it to the forefront of importance when it comes to youths. The culture in low power areas breeds crime as seen in Eastwood in Glasgow where there are 14 gangs in the space of 6 square miles. Young people are brought up in the area and it could be in connection to a multitude of other factors also that they are ~~at~~ exposed to crime like the streets today. A study from Sweden of children born from 1989-93 found that those in

The bottom fifth of household income were 70% more likely to commit a violent crime and twice as likely to misuse drugs. ~~Therefore~~ It can be argued that poverty is a factor affecting criminal behaviour however it is a multitude of ~~the~~ other theories which also contribute to criminal behaviour. Poverty can also explain white collar crime as it calls on the idea of relative poverty. White collar crime ~~is the~~ product of greed and comparison to their peers but is more deeply explained by Marxist theories that white collar crime is more ~~more~~ impactful on society than other crimes. Criminal behaviour cannot be explained by one single theory.

In conclusion, the multitude of theories explaining crime are all interdependent to one another. ~~The~~ Some theories even as the outdated biological theories fail to identify or acknowledge ~~the~~ other

respond for crime & contributing to why people commit crime. However, sociological theories and ideas ideas of poverty and peer pressure are ~~more~~ strongly related and so re label the theory as the primary explanation for crime is largely inaccurate

8) The penal system has had very little significant impact on ~~reducing~~ tackling the issue of recidivism. Problems within prison have stagnated and prevented progress. ~~Issues of drugs~~ Issues of drugs and overcrowding have meant that the goals of the prison service to rehabilitate and deter deter offenders has been a huge failure. Alternatives to prison have found greater success with ~~lessening~~ lessening reoffending and have shed light on the weaknesses of custodial sentencing. It can therefore be argued that the penal system has done little to ease the situation of reoffending.

The inability of prisons to tackle the deeply buried issue of drugs has contributed towards the rate of recidivism as offenders are not getting rehabilitated. The system can be considered too lax and negligent of the drug trade activity. The Head of Drug Treatment policy resigned his position just weeks after starting due to the chronic

nature of the prison system. He said there were significant gaps in government attempts to ease the issue and that little could be done to stop the "illicit and little reported trade". The widespread availability of drugs in prison makes reidivism even more likely as there is little deterrence or consequences for actions. The corruption within the system greatly eases drug smuggling with 1,000 of the 35,000 prison officers in the UK being corrupt. Prisoners get assistance with smuggling in phones in order to arrange drug collections and even despite some prison officers not being corrupt, the lack of attentiveness will also allow for the drug smuggling to take place. Drugs are thrown over prison walls in socks and collected by the prisoners whilst the officers are distracted. The system is highly developed and similar in other countries with a Boko group of prisoners in Brazil training a mouse to smuggle drugs into the prison. By this means, the prison system is failing to have a significant impact on reoffending as it is not

accessing in rehabilitation. Offenders are being let out, usually earlier than their sentence, with almost always with a drug abuse issue. 55-1. of offenders already have a drug misuse issue before prison however the issue is often exacerbated within prison with many being introduced to drugs or harder drugs whilst inside. In some cases in Cornton Vale, 100% of prisoners have been drug dependent ~~to~~ with similar numbers across other Scottish prisons. The inability to control drug activities is apparent with evidence that 36 major drug dealers carry on with their drug distribution networks from the corridors of their cells. The main issue is the ~~the~~ lack of success with rehabilitation. Drug screenings are predictable and many offenders are prepared for the test by limiting their drug use to heroin and not marijuana, or dropping urine samples. This impacts ~~the~~ reoffending rates greatly as prisoners are released ~~with~~ with no means to support themselves or their drug habits and risk

no crime again. Therefore it can be considered true that the penal system has no significant impact on lessening reoffending rates.

The Scottish Prison Service also aims to rehabilitate offenders which could be partly helped by providing assistance for prisoners with their employability. Purposeful activity would also assist offenders to work within the prison and help towards in a variety of ways. Programmes include helping sort glasses for impoverished areas in India or online training for prisoners to get training in that field. Purposeful Activity is extremely useful and effective however very few prisoners get the opportunity to do so. Only 1 out of 46 prisons in the UK were achieving their quota of 24 hours of purposeful activity a week. It was found that 36% of Glen Parva inmates were locked in their cell for over 24 hours at a time. Although, in some ways the conditions

could act as a deterrent, inmates are not being rehabilitated and prepared for release. <sup>50% of</sup> Many cases of reoffending occur within a year of release, this is due to the offenders not being able to go back into a situation where they can start to improve their lives. Many end up homeless or are surrounded by the same people who had helped them or been involved in the crime also. This largely impacts the likelihood of reoffending as inmates do see the prison as a safe shelter where they are provided with the means to live. The lack of purposeful activity means there is little chance of improvement in terms of employment and education. Offenders are left with the same chance of getting their lives together as they did when entering prison. Many are often released for worse than when they entered and so see crime as the only option. Prisons lack of effective work to help offenders is necessary to help them contribute towards reoffending rate.

The Holden Prison in Sweden is an example of an extremely positive prison. It provides a sense of normalcy as inmates work to earn luxuries such as TV's and games. The rooms are clean and relatively spacious and the theory of the prison is that the loss of liberation acts as the punishment. This has proved largely effective with the recidivism rate being just 20%.

Alternatives to prison have proved more effective in reducing reoffending in comparison to the penal system. DTIO's have a 37% reoffending rate which is significantly lower than that of prison. They aim at tackling the root of the issue and are far cheaper than prison which costs £32,000 annually per prisoner. It can be argued that DTIO's have had a more significant impact on recidivism rates. America also has a similar system of drug treatment houses for inmates. Individuals are separated from

their family and friends and put into a secure unit. This harsh and extreme method has negative implications as 80% of those who take part in the programme reoffend within a year of release. DTIO's in the UK are more ~~re~~ effective and ~~prove~~ evidence from America shows that taking an extreme ~~harsh~~ course to tackle the root of crime only leads to higher rates of recidivism. Alternatives must be tailored and well equipped to rehabilitate offenders.

In conclusion, the penal system has had no significant impact on reducing recidivism. The precautions being taken are minimal and often prison has the reverse effect, making individuals worse off than when they came in. ~~By~~ Alternatives to prison ~~would~~ would have a greater impact on rehabilitation and through this, reduce the reoffending rate ~~would~~ decrease. The UK penal system should look to

Scandinavian countries and especially Norway as a model for prisons. There must be a higher grip on a prison: activities and the aims of deterrence and rehabilitation must be achieved in order for the crime rate to go down.

9) Research methods must be both reliable and valid when finding our information. Reliability is when the study has been repeated and carried out multiple times to make the conclusion reached more trustworthy. Validity is when the ~~research~~ research collected can be considered as a valid representation of society. For the purpose of researching crimes committed by gangs, covert participant observation could be considered the most valuable method of research and most effective in gaining the most truthful response. This, in comparison with methods such as face-to-face interviews or phone surveys, could be considered a better method.

Covert participant observation involves the researcher going undercover and putting them in <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ situation alongside those who are being researched. A disadvantage is that there is a possibility of the researcher going "native" and adopting ~~their~~ their persona, taking it too far and causing harm to participants. It would

possibly ~~be easier to participate~~ be easier to participate in overt observation as the researcher can openly talk to them and ask questions. With covert, the researcher has to be believable in their role and this could be time consuming to train someone to do so. In comparison to methods such as phone surveys or postal questionnaires, covert observation is far more expensive and time consuming. For the purpose of researching gangs, there <sup>are</sup> indications and so it could take months for the researcher to join the crew of the gang. Covert observation is extremely time consuming whereas ~~phone surveys~~ <sup>phone</sup> surveys are quick and don't need many researchers involvement. Phone surveys could reach people across the UK and therefore achieve a more valid representation. Phone surveys also have a relatively high response rate and people are more likely to be honest about sensitive topics in comparison to face-to-face interviews or other methods. They are also very easily repeatable whereas covert observation would

be very difficult to repeat and with the same circumstances. Despite this, covert observation could be considered the best method due to the honesty in the responses and validity of the data gathered. Although it may not be representative of all gangs in the UK, covert participant observation could gauge a more level of honesty about such a sensitive topic or observe the crimes happening here and there. It allows a depth of information and the researcher is in the direction alongside the subjects. An example of this is "Rass Kemp on Gangs" who carried out very similar research. Other researchers such as Donald McIntyre and the Chelsea Headquarters could further support ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> validity of this method as there is other information out there to justify the conclusions reached from this ~~study~~ <sup>covert observation</sup>.

However, covert participant-observation could put the researcher at risk or put them in situations where they have to do illegal acts in order to play the part. In

particular with the Chelsea Headhunting, the researcher when finished the process, was put at risk and received a multitude of threats from his ex-gang mates. The process of research was extremely long and he was pushed to do a ~~lot~~ numerous violent and illegal acts as well as receiving the initiation rite. Despite the quality ~~of the~~ and depth of the information gathered, ~~it is~~ covert observation could be considered as too far, other methods of research like focus groups could possibly also gain information on crimes committed by gangs in the UK however there is scope for a huge amount of ~~that~~ inaccurate information as participants may lie in order to not get in trouble or change their answers to suite the group and researcher. For this reason, covert participant observation is the best method for achieving trustworthy and reliable information.

However, there is an abundance of ethical ~~issues~~

When it comes to ~~non~~ covert observation as there is substantial scope for harm to participants and deception. By taking on a false personality, the researcher is committing fraud. Such operations could be carried out for years and so when the truth that is built will be broken. The participation aspect also means there could be a variety of illegal acts committed whilst in the gang. There is a huge amount of deception involved and harm to participants if the researcher goes active and adopts this alternative lifestyle. There is no way participants can be informed and so their is higher chance of harm. There is also ~~also~~ no form of consent and although pseudonyms may be used, ~~the~~ the research will still be published and may find out about which gangs are in question. Other ethical issues include standing in when illegal acts are being carried out and not informing the police in order to remain the trust of the gang. Other methods have far less ethical issues.

like phone and internet usage are to be done with the consent of the participant and they have the option to bail out at any point. Nevertheless, when researching the sensitive topic of crimes committed by gangs, covert participant observation would give the most truthful and in depth results. Other research similar to this has also taken place which allows a slightly higher level of reliability and by participating in the gang, the information is representative of what is actually going on and therefore valid.

10) Source B can be considered largely trustworthy as a source of information however the purpose of the to be trustworthy for the source is not stated and therefore ambiguous of what the source is trying to represent, it for the purpose of showing crime in the UK or more specifically <sup>business</sup> crime.

NP - The source is produced by the Home Office as there is the emblem in the corner of the image. However there are no links or specific authors and so the information can only be checked by looking into the home office. Nevertheless, the Home Office is a sector of the government so it can be assumed the research conducted was commissioned by the government making it more trustworthy.


The source, as it was conducted by the UK government, can be assumed as ~~then~~ largely thorough as it says the sample was drawn from a list of UK business (annex 997) of the UK Economic activity. Therefore it is a valid representation of society.

The source is also trustworthy as it has been repeated and plans to be further repeated in 2015, 2016 and 2017. This ensures the information is reliable and allows trends to be spotted and monitored. The survey is conducted through the phone or via from a sample which is representative of "business premises in England and Wales". Telephone surveys such are trustworthy as a form of interviewing as respondents are likely to be honest and it has a good response rate. It also allows people to be contacted all over the country. However the use of this method means those with ex-directory numbers are excluded making the source less valid.

The source is also trustworthy as the image provided is largely not ambiguous. It is easy to follow and the number of images set corresponds with the percentage of crime which better allows understanding. However, the source is ambiguous with the "accommodation and food" and

"Agriculture, Forestry and Food" sector remains as it does not detail what crimes are then involved in the percentage and just states the overall crime percentage, therefore it is less trustworthy.

The source draws on information based on 4,000 interviews in each of the sectors, this makes the source largely reliable as it was repeated multiple times. However, relatively speaking, that many interviews in comparison to how many businesses there are in the UK is very small and could possibly be far less valid however the information was weighed and non-responses were taken into account making the source more trustworthy. The information was also only collected from August to November of 2014 and so ~~doesn't~~ doesn't take into account crimes that occurred in December. This could have possibly changed the results as it is around the holidays and in the winter when crime rates usually spike. Therefore it is less trustworthy.



Overall, source B is largely trustworthy as it is commissioned and produced by a reputable source.

The information is both valid and reliable and despite no links to or specific author to gain further up information, hence the facts can be checked via the Home Office website.



The source is also less trustworthy as it includes a multitude of jargon like ID32 and the PATE scheme which is ambiguous and difficult to understand for the average reader.