

Lombroso: Born Criminals

1	Key idea	Criminals are physically different from non-criminals.
2	Study	Measured many criminals' heads and faces.
3	Findings	Criminals more likely to have large jaws, long arms, aquiline noses.
4	Atavism	Criminals are throwbacks to primitive stage of evolution – pre-social, impulsive, reduced sensitivity to pain.
5	Further work	Insane criminals, epileptic criminals. Criminaloids – product of environment.

Evaluating Lombroso

1	Strength	First person to study crime scientifically.
2	Strength	Shows importance of clinical and historical records of criminals.
3	Strength	Helps to focus on how prevention not punishment.
4	Limitation	No further evidence to link facial features and criminality.
5	Limitation	Did not compare with control group of non-criminals.
6	Limitation	Racist. Equates criminals with savages/ non-western society.

Sheldon: Somatypes Theory

1	Key idea	Somatype (body type) is related to criminality.
2	Study	Looked at body types and compared with likelihood of criminality.
3	Findings	Mesomorphic somatype most likely to be criminal.
4	Reason?	Attracted by risk-taking and their physique and assertiveness are important assets in crime.

Evaluating Sheldon

1	Strength	Other studies replicate findings.
2	Strength	Most serious delinquents had most mesomorphic bodies.
3	Limitation	Criminality likely to be a combination of biology and environment.
4	Limitation	Mesomorphic build may be result of criminality.
5	Limitation	Social class might be true cause of offending and mesomorphy.
6	Limitation	Mesomorphs more likely to be labelled.

Key Vocabulary

1	Atavism	The idea that criminals are 'throwbacks' to more primitive stage of evolution.
2	Endomorph	Rounded, soft bodied, lacking muscle. Sociable, relaxed, outgoing.
3	Ectomorph	Thin, fragile, lacking fat and muscle. Flat chested, narrow hips and shoulders, thin face. Self conscious, emotionally restrained, thoughtful.
4	Mesomorph	Muscular, hard-bodied, little fat, strong limbs, broad shoulder, narrow waist. Adventurous, sensation-seeking, assertive, domineering.
5	Physiological theories	These biological theories claim that the physical features of criminals differ from non-criminals.
6	Biological theories	Criminals are biologically different from non-criminals and this difference causes them to commit crime.

Other Biological Theories: Genetic Theories; Brain Injuries and Disorders; Biochemical Explanations

Twin and Adoption Studies

1	Key idea: Twins	If crime is genetic – identical (Mz) twins should have identical criminality
2	Twin study findings	Christiansen: Concordance in criminality Mz = 52% vs Dz = 22%
3	Key idea: Adoption	Adoptees share environment of adoptive parents/genes of biological parents. If genetic, criminality will match biological parents more.
4	Adoption Study findings	Mednick et al: birth parent concordance = 20% vs. adopted parent concordance = 14.7%

Evaluating Twin and Adoption Studies

1	Strength	Twin & adoption studies give some support to genetic explanations
2	Strength	Adoption studies overcome the problem of isolating genes and environment
3	Strength	Research design of Adoption studies is logical (nature vs nurture)
4	Limitation	If criminality was only genetic MZ twins would have 100% concordance.
5	Limitation	It is impossible to isolate genetic effects fully from environmental ones.
6	Limitation	Adopted children often placed with similar families to their birth family

Jacob's XYY Study

1	Key idea	XYY syndrome in males makes them genetically predisposed to criminality.
2	Study	Compared rate of XYY in imprisoned criminals with general population.
3	Findings	Higher than average proportion of inmates had XYY
4	Features of XYY	Very tall, well-built, low intelligence, high aggression, violent.

Evaluating Jacob's XYY Study

1	Strength	Jacob et al found association with XYY and violent prisoners
2	Strength	Price & Watmore found links with XYY and property crime
3	Limitation	Having the syndrome doesn't mean that is the cause of crime
4	Limitation	XYY men fit stereotype of violent offenders – labelling theory
5	Limitation	Low intelligence of XYY may give higher chance of being caught
6	Limitation	Syndrome is too rare to explain much crime

Key Vocabulary

1	Genetic explanation	Criminality is the result of genes inherited from biological parents
2	Monozygotic	Identical twins that share 100% of the same genes
3	Dizygotic	Non-identical twins that share only 50% of the same genes (like ordinary siblings)
4	Environmental explanation	Criminality is the result of the surroundings a child grows up in
5	Chromosome	Made from DNA and protein. Carry genetic information we inherit from our parents. Most people have 23 pairs.
6	Super-male	Another term for XYY syndrome. Those affected carry an extra Y (male) chromosome on one of their 23 pairs.

Brain Injuries and disorders

1	Injuries: Key idea	Brain injury can change personality and are more common in prisoners
2	Case study	Phineas Gage- metal rod through the brain. Survived but personality changed.
3	Disorders: Key idea	Some brain diseases have been linked with criminal or anti-social behaviour. Dementia, Encephalitis Lethargica, brain tumours, Huntington's chorea.
4	EEG readings	Some studies show abnormal EEG readings in psychopathic criminals

Evaluating Brain Injuries and disorders

1	Strength	A few extreme cases do show brain injury leads to changes in behaviour including criminality.
2	Strength	Some correlation between abnormal EEG readings and psychopathy
3	Strength	Prisoners are more likely than non-prisoners to have a brain injury.
4	Limitation	Crimes caused by brain injury or disease are rare. Original personality more important.
5	Limitation	Abnormal EEG not necessarily the cause and not found in all psychopaths
6	Limitation	Prisoner's higher likelihood of brain injury may be effect of criminality not cause – e.g. getting into fights.

Biochemical Explanations

1	Key idea	Biochemical substances and processes linked to criminality
2	Sex Hormones: Males	Ellis and Coontz: testosterone peaks puberty to early 20s – same as criminality.
3	Sex Hormones: Females	PMT, PND, Lactation all used as defence in court – affected mood/self-control.
4	Blood sugar	Hypoglycaemia linked to aggression
5	Substance abuse	Prescription and illegal drugs and alcohol linked to crime. Can lead to increased aggression.
6	Other substances	Lead, tartrazine linked to hyperactivity. Vit B deficiency linked to erratic behaviour.

Evaluating Biochemical Explanations

1	Strength	Biochemical factors recognised by the courts
2	Strength	Sex hormones, alcohol, drugs all known to affect mood/behaviour
3	Limitation	Biochemical processes may need an environmental trigger too
4	Limitation	Some studies find testosterone not linked to physical aggression
5	Limitation	Infanticide may be caused by isolation rather than hormones

Key Vocabulary

1	EEG	Electroencephalogram – measures brain activity
2	Testosterone	Male sex hormone linked to aggression, murder and rape
3	PMT	Pre-menstrual tension – fluctuation in female sex hormones
4	PND	Post-natal depression – used as defence in infanticide
5	Lactation	Breast-feeding. Used as defence in female crimes.
6	Hypoglycaemia	Low blood-sugar. Linked to aggression and alcohol abuse

General criticisms of biological theories

1	Environmental factors	Biology may give potentially criminal characteristics but need environmental trigger too.
2	Sample bias	Only studying criminals means we don't know about those who got away – can't generalise
3	Gender bias	Most biological research only tells us about male criminality
4	Crime is a social construct	Biological theories look for universal explanations, but crime varies over time, place and culture

Other Biological theories: Genetic Theories; Physiological Theories.

Freud: Psychoanalysis

1	Key idea	Our early childhood experiences determine our personality and future behaviour including criminality
2	Personality	3 conflicting elements of unconscious mind – id, ego and superego
3	Link to crime	Anti-social behaviour caused by abnormal relationship with parents (neglect or excessively harsh or lax parenting). Conflicts between id, ego, and superego are unresolved., which leads a to weak, over-harsh or deviant superego.

Bowlby: Maternal Deprivation Theory

1	Key idea	There is a link between maternal deprivation and deviant or anti-social behaviour
2	Attachment	A child needs a close, continuous relationship with a primary carer from birth to 5 to develop normally.
3	Separation	If attachment is broken, even for a short time, it can lead to affectionless psychopathy and criminal behaviour
4	Evidence	Study of 44 juvenile thieves referred to child guidance clinic. 39% suffered maternal deprivation before the age of 5 compared with 5% of control group of non-delinquents

Evaluating Freud

1	Strength	Points to importance of socialisation and early family relationships in understanding criminal behaviour
2	Strength	Some influence on policies for dealing with crime and deviance.
3	Strength	Critics doubt the existence of the unconscious mind
4	Limitation	Unscientific and subjective – relies on accepting claims of a psychoanalyst about the unconscious mind of someone else. No way to tell if they're correct!

Evaluating Bowlby

1	Strength	Backed up with evidence from the 44 thieves study
2	Strength	Shows the importance of parent-child relationships in criminality
3	Limitation	Retrospective studies rely on memory
4	Limitation	Doesn't explain why 61% were not delinquent
5	Limitation	No evidence of affectionless psychopathy in further studies
6	Limitation	Overestimates how far early childhood affects later behaviour
7	Limitation	Sammons and Putwain: maternal deprivation not linked to criminality

Key Vocabulary

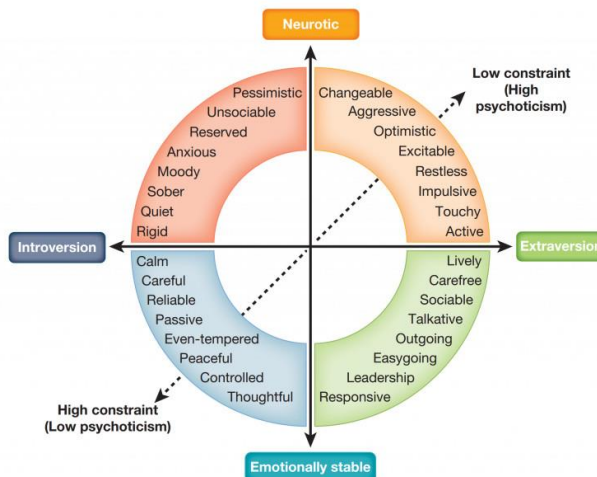
1	Id	Instinctive 'animal' part of mind – selfish, pleasure-seeking.
2	Superego	Conscience or moral part of mind – acting against it leads to guilt and anxiety
3	Ego	Referees the urges of id and superego. Tries to satisfy the id's urges in a socially acceptable way
4	Weak superego	Less guilt feelings and more likely to act on id's urges
5	Harsh superego	Craves punishment to release guilt feelings
6	Deviant superego	Successful socialisation but into deviant moral code
7	Primary Carer	The main person who looks after the child.
8	Attachment	Describes the relationship between child and primary carer
9	Affectionless psychopathy	Inability to form meaningful relationships as a result of broken attachment before the age of 5
10	Socialisation	Process of learning norms and values

Eysenck's Personality theory

1	Key idea	Criminality is the result of a highly neurotic and highly extroverted personality type.
2	Personality dimensions	Extraversion vs introversions (E) Neuroticism vs emotional stability (N) and later added psychoticism (P)
3	Link to crime: Extraverts	Have a nervous system with a high need for stimulation so constantly seek excitement through rule-breaking and impulsive behaviour
4	Link to crime: Neurotics	Are harder to condition into following society's rules because high anxiety levels prevent them from learning from punishment
5	Link to crime: Psychotics	People with high P score tend to be solitary misfits who are more likely to be criminal and may have serious mental illness e.g. schizophrenia

Evaluating Eysenck: Strengths

1	Strength	Describes how some measurable tendencies may lead to criminality
2	Strength	Studies suggest that offenders tend towards high E, P and N scores.



Evaluating Eysenck: Limitations

1	Limitation: Farrington	Studies show that prisoners are not often extroverted
2	Limitation	E measures two separate things – impulsiveness and sociability. These things don't always correspond
3	Limitation	Personality type and criminality are correlated, but this doesn't prove personality types causes criminality
4	Limitation	Convicted offenders may not be typical of offenders on the whole.
5	Limitation	Eysenck used self-report questionnaires – people may lie making the results invalid.

Key Vocabulary

1	Extraversion	An outgoing, sociable, excitement-seeking. Impulsive, aggressive personality
2	Introvert	A reserved, inward-looking, serious, pessimistic, self-controlled personality
3	Neurotic	Anxious, moody, depressed, prone to over-reacting.
4	Emotionally stable	Calm, even-tempered, controlled, unworried.
5	Conditioning	Learning through experience to seek pleasure (rewards) and avoid pain (punishments).
6	Genetic Inheritance	Some individuals are born with a nervous system that causes them to develop a criminal personality
7	Psychoticism	Having a personality that is cruel, insensitive, aggressive and lacking in empathy
8	Correlation	Relationship between two variables – not cause and effect
9	Validity	How true a test is – does it actually measure what it sets out to measure?

Sutherland: Differential Association Theory

1	Key idea	Criminality is the result of imitation and learned attitudes in groups that favour law-breaking
2	Study	Group attitudes in the workplace often normalised behaviour. Members able to justify their crimes – everyone else is doing it.

Skinner: Operant Learning Theory

1	Key idea	If a behaviour results in a reward it will be repeated. If it results in an undesirable outcome it will not.
2	Link to crime	Jeffrey's differential reinforcement theory (DRT) suggests that crime must therefore have more rewards for criminals than punishments

Evaluating Skinner

1	Strength	If a behaviour results in a reward it will be repeated. If it results in an undesirable outcome it will not.
2	Strength: Jeffrey	DRT suggests that crime must therefore have more rewards for criminals than punishments
3	Limitation	Animals are not the same as humans
4	Limitation	Theory ignores mental processes such as thinking, attitudes and values
5	Limitation	Ignores free will of humans - Deterministic

Evaluating Sutherland

1	Strength	Crime often runs in families
2	Strength: Matthews	Juvenile delinquents are more likely to have friends who commit anti-social acts – they learn from peer groups.
3	Limitation	Not everyone exposed to criminal influences becomes criminal.

Bandura: Social Learning Theory

1	Key idea	Much of our behaviour is learned from imitating others (models)
2	Imitation	We are more likely to imitate people of higher status than us, and if we see them being rewarded
3	Evidence	Bobo doll study. Children most likely to imitate violent adult model when they saw them rewarded.

Evaluating Bandura

1	Strength	Takes account of our social nature – we learn from others' experiences.
2	Strength	Bandura's study shows importance of role models in learning deviance
3	Limitation	Based on lab studies so lacks validity
4	Limitation	Not all observed behaviour is easily imitated – we may see criminals rewarded but lack the skills to copy.
5	Limitation	Ignores free will of humans - Deterministic

Key Vocabulary

1	Imitation	We acquire criminal skills through observing those around us.
2	Learned attitudes	Socialisation within a group teaches them attitudes and values about the law.
3	Behaviourism	The idea that rewards and punishments shape our behaviour – even criminality
4	Positive reinforcement	Behaviour is strengthened by a positive outcome (reward)
5	Negative reinforcement	Behaviour is strengthened by removing an undesirable outcome
6	Punishment	Behaviour is stopped by an undesirable outcome.
7	Determinism	The idea that our behaviour is caused by an external force outside of our control – we have no free will.
8	Models	People whose behaviour we imitate.
9	Validity	How true a test is – does it actually measure what it sets out to measure?

Other Individualistic Theories: Psychodynamic Theories, Eysenck's Personality Theory, Cognitive Theories.

Yochelson and Samenow: Criminal Personality Theory

1	Key idea	Criminals are prone to faulty thinking and this makes them more likely to commit crime
2	Study	240 male offenders, most of whom had been committed to a psychiatric unit.
3	Thinking errors: Link to crime	Criminals show a range of biases and errors in their thinking and decision-making which may lead to crime e.g. lying, secretiveness, the need for power and control, super-optimism, lack of trust, lack of empathy, uniqueness and a victim stance.

Evaluating Yochelson and Samenow

1	Strength	This has led to other research e.g. PICTS
2	Strength:	Successful treatments e.g. CBT have been developed from these ideas.
3	Limitation	Yochelson and Samenow didn't use a control group of non-criminals to compare thinking errors with.
4	Limitation	Their sample was unrepresentative – only males, and mostly in psychiatric hospitals. Can't account for all criminals.
5	Limitation	High sample attrition rate – only 30 left in study by the end.

Kohlberg's Moral Development Theory

1	Key idea	Our ideas of right and wrong develop through a series of levels and stages from childhood to adulthood.
2	Link to crime	Criminals are stuck at a less mature level of moral development and likely to think only of reward and punishment, not about how their behaviour will affect others.
4	CBT	Cognitive theories have led to the development of CBT as a possible treatment for criminal behaviour.

Evaluating Kohlberg

1	Strength	Some studies support delinquents having less mature stage of moral development.
2	Strength: Thornton and Reid	Found the theory to be truer for planned crimes such as theft and robbery than impulsive crimes like violence
3	Limitation	Focuses on moral thinking rather than moral behaviour. Someone may be perfectly capable of thinking morally, while acting immorally.

Key Vocabulary

1	Cognition	Thinking /mental processes such as attitudes, beliefs, reasoning, decision-making, self-concept and how we interpret the world around us.
2	Cognitive theory	The idea that how we think, interpret a situation will affect how we respond
3	CBT	Cognitive Behavioural Therapy – treatment to 'correct' faulty thinking patterns.
4	PICTS	Psychological Inventory of Criminal Thinking Styles – a questionnaire aimed at revealing criminal thought patterns
5	Representative	If the results of a study can be generalised to the whole population.
6	Attrition rate	The number of participants who drop out of a study.

General criticisms of individualistic theories

1	Artificiality	Behaviour in lab experiments is often not the same as in real-life situations
2	Sample bias	Studies are often only on convicted criminals who may differ from those who don't get caught
3	Neglect of social factors	They ignore social factors which may cause criminality e.g. poverty and discrimination

Other Individualistic Theories: Psychodynamic Theories, Eysenck's Personality Theory, Learning Theories.

Durkheim's Functionalist Theory

1	Key idea	Crime is the inevitable result of inadequate socialisation/anomie
Crime performs four important functions:		
3	Boundary maintenance	Crime unites society's members against wrongdoers, reinforcing the boundary between right and wrong
4	Social change	For society to progress, individuals with new ideas must challenge existing norms and values – this is deviance at first
5	Safety Valve: Davis	For example prostitution acts to release men's sexual frustrations without threatening the nuclear family.
6	Warning light	Deviance indicates that a society isn't functioning properly so action can be taken to fix it.

Evaluating Durkheim

1	Strength	First to recognise that crime can have positive functions for society
4	Limitation	Does not suggest what the right amount of crime is for society to function properly
5	Limitation	Crime is not functional for all – e.g. victims



Merton's Strain Theory

1	Key idea	Crime is the result of unequal access to society's goal of wealth
2	Blocked opportunities	Not all have equal chance to achieve wealth – this creates strain for working class people who cannot access wealth legitimately
Four deviant adaptations to the strain:		
3	Innovation	Accept the goal but find illegal ways to achieve it - utilitarian crimes
4	Ritualism	Give up striving for success. Plod along in dead-end job
5	Retreatism	Reject goal and means to achieve. Drop-outs e.g. drunks, vagrants
6	Rebellion	Reject goal and means, replacing them with new ones in order to change society – political radicals and alternative cultures e.g. hippies

Evaluating Merton

1	Strength	Shows how normal and deviant behaviour arise from the same goals
2	Strength	Explains why most crime in statistics is property crime and why working class crime rates are higher.
3	Limitation	Ignores crimes of wealthy
4	Limitation	Only sees deviance as an individual response
5	Limitation	Focuses on utilitarian crime only

Key Vocabulary

1	Function	Functionalists argue that everything has a positive role to play in helping society to run smoothly
2	Structural theory	An explanation that focuses on the way in which society is organised
3	Socialisation	Process of learning norms and values
4	Social solidarity / integration	All members of society feel like they belong to the same harmonious unit and most do not deviate from it's shared norms.
5	Anomie	'Normlessness' Society has multiple sets of norms and values that are often conflicting.
6	Strain	Conflict between the pressure to conform to society's norms in but still achieve it's main goals of monetary success
7	Utilitarian crime	Crimes committed for financial gain

Cohen: Status Frustration

1	Key idea	Crime is a group response to unequal access to society's goal of wealth.
3	Status frustration	Working class boys end up at the bottom of school's official status hierarchy and feel frustrated and worthless
4	Subcultures	Subcultures offer a solution by providing an alternate status hierarchy in which society's values are inverted – they gain status by being deviant

Cloward and Ohlin: 3 Subcultures

1	Key idea	Different neighbourhoods give rise to different types of deviant subcultures
3	Criminal subcultures	Arise in areas where there is a longstanding professional criminal network. They select youths for an 'apprenticeship' in utilitarian crime and future criminal career
4	Conflict subcultures	Arise where the only criminal opportunities are within street gangs. Violence is a release for frustration and a source of status earned by winning territory from rival gangs.
5	Retreatist subcultures	Made up of dropouts who have failed in both the legitimate and illegitimate opportunity structures. Often based on drug use.

Evaluating Subcultural Theories

1	Strength	These theories show how subcultures perform a function for their members by offering solutions to the problem of failing to achieve goals legitimately
2	Strength	Cloward and Ohlin show how different types of neighbourhood give rise to different illegitimate opportunities and subcultures
3	Limitation	Ignore crimes of wealthy and over-predicts working class crime
4	Limitation	Assume everyone starts with mainstream goals and turns to a subculture when they fail to achieve them, but some people don't share those goals in the first place and may be attracted to crime for other reasons.
5	Limitation	Actual subcultures are not a clear-cut as Cloward and Ohlin claim. Some show characteristics of all three types.



Key Vocabulary

1	Subculture	A group within society that has it's own set of norms and values that differ from the mainstream
2	Status hierarchy	System of stratification based on social prestige. This can be linked to occupation, lifestyle etc.
3	Inverted values	Turning society's values upside down so what is bad becomes good and vice versa
4	Non-utilitarian crime	Crimes committed without financial gain
5	Legitimate opportunity structure	A way to work your way up in society while staying within the confines of the law.
6	Illegitimate opportunity structure	A way to work your way up in society within a criminal or deviant network

Interactionism and Labelling Theory

1	Interactionism	Sees our interactions with each other as based on meanings or labels. Crime and criminals are social constructions.
3	Labelling theory	No act is deviant or criminal in itself – it only becomes so when others label it as such
4	Differential enforcement	Social control agencies use typifications to label some groups as criminal more than others
5	Primary and secondary deviance	Lemert argues that labelling is a cause of crime. He explains this by distinguishing between primary and secondary deviance
6	Self-fulfilling prophecy	When an offender is labelled, society's reaction pushes them into further deviance. They have lived up to their label.
7	The deviance amplification spiral	An attempt to control deviance through a crackdown leads to it increasing rather than decreasing. This leads to greater attempts to control and even more deviance
8	Interactionism and crime statistics	Interactionists reject the use of statistics compiled by the police because they believe they only measure what the police do (who they arrest) rather than what criminals do (how much crime there actually is).
9	Young: The Hippies	A study in which police attention and labelling led hippies to retreat into closed groups where drug use took over

Cohen: The Mods and Rockers

1	The study	Cohen uses the Mods and Rockers study to explain the amplification spiral
2	Media exaggeration	Media exaggeration caused growing public concern
3	Moral entrepreneurs	Moral entrepreneurs called for a crackdown leading to more arrests, and more concern
4	Negative labelling	Negative labelling of mods and rockers as folk devils

Evaluating Interactionism and Labelling Theory

1	Strength	Shows that the law is not a fixed set of rules but socially constructed
2	Strength	Shifts focus onto how police create crime by applying labels – may explain why some groups are overrepresented in crime statistics
3	Strength	Shows how attempts to control can create more deviance
4	Limitation	Deterministic – assumes we have no choice but to live up to labels
5	Limitation	Gives offenders a victim status
6	Limitation	Fails to explain primary deviance
7	Limitation	Doesn't say where power to apply a label comes from
8	Limitation	Fails to explain why labels are applied to some groups but not others

Key Vocabulary

1	Label	A name, meaning, or definition attached to a person or act
2	Primary deviance	Acts that have not been publicly labelled – usually trivial and uncaught. Offenders don't see themselves as criminal
3	Secondary deviance	Results from labelling – people treat the offender solely in terms of their label – this becomes their master status
4	SFP	The individual lives up to the label they have been given
5	Media exaggeration	The media make the story about a crime seem worse than it is
6	Moral entrepreneur	Someone of high status who publicly calls for a crackdown on crime.
7	Folk devils	A group or individual who is labelled negatively by society
8	Typifications	Ideas (usually held by the police) about what a typical criminal is like.
9	Social construction	Something that has been made or defined by society rather than occurring naturally.
10	Determinism	The idea that our behaviour is caused by an external force outside of our control – we have no free will.

Marxism: Key Ideas

1	Inequality	Structural theory: the unequal structure of capitalist society shapes behaviour including criminality
2	Two classes	Society is divided into two main class groups – Bourgeoisie and Proletariat
3	Society's institutions	All institutions including the law and criminal justice system work to support capitalism and keep the working class in their place

Capitalism Causes Crime

1	Exploitation	Crime is often the only way to survive for the working class as they live in poverty
2	Consumerism	Advertising pressures people into utilitarian crimes to get goods
3	Alienation and frustration	Inequality causes people to lash out and commit non-utilitarian crimes
4	Greed and the profit motive	Capitalism is a dog-eat-dog system and encourages corporate crimes to gain an advantage

Making and Enforcing the Law

1	Chambliss	Laws are made to protect the private property of the rich
3	Selective law enforcement	White collar and corporate crimes of the rich are much less likely to be prosecuted than working class 'street crimes'.
4	Example: Carson	Out of 200 companies who had broken safety laws, only 3 were prosecuted

Ideological Functions of Crime and the Law

1	Ideas about crime and law	These are an ideology that conceal the inequality of capitalism
2	Selective enforcement	Divides working class by making them blame each other instead of capitalism for the problems they face in society
3	Diverts attention	Nobody focuses on the much more serious ruling class crimes.
4	A caring face	Laws which seem to benefit working class (e.g. H&S) actually benefit capitalism and make it seem caring

Evaluating Marxism

1	Strength	Shows how poverty can cause working class crime and how capitalism promotes greed and encourages ruling class crime too.
2	Strength	Shows how law making and enforcement are biased against the working class and in favour of the powerful
3	Limitation	Focuses on class and ignores the relationship between crime and other inequalities e.g. race or gender
4	Limitation	Over predicts the amount of working class crime – not all poor people turn to crime.
5	Limitation	Not all capitalist societies have high crime rates (however Marxists point out that in countries with little welfare provision, like the USA, the crime rates are higher).

Key Vocabulary

1	Structural theory	An explanation that focuses on the way in which society is organised
2	Capitalism	An economic system in which there are 2 classes. The ruling class exploit the working class for profit.
3	Bourgeoisie	The ruling class. They own the means of production. They exploit the working class for profit
4	Proletariat	The working class. They have to sell their labour in order to survive.
5	Institution	A complex, integrated set of social norms. E.g. the law, the education system, the family etc.
6	Consumerism	A society which values the buying or consuming of goods
7	Utilitarian crime	Crimes committed for financial gain.
8	Corporate crime	Crime committed by, or on behalf of, a company
9	Ideology	A set of ideas of beliefs
10	Criminogenic	Causes crime
11	White collar crime	Crime committed by an employee within the workplace
12	Selective enforcement	When the law is applied differently to different people

Left Realism and Crime: Lea & Young

1	Political outlook	Left wing, socialist. See inequality in capitalist society as root cause of crime. Crime reduction by making society fairer and more equal.
2	Cause: Relative deprivation	The media and growing inequality make people unable to afford the lifestyle that is promoted to them. Some turn to crime to gain what they think they should have.
3	Cause: Subculture	Criminal subcultures share society's materialistic goals – legitimate opportunities to achieve them are blocked so they turn to crime.
4	Cause: Marginalisation	Marginalised groups (e.g. unemployed youths) have no goals or organisations to represent their interests. Their frustration leads them into non-utilitarian crime

Evaluating Left Realism

1	Strength	Draws attention to importance of poverty, inequality and relative deprivation as causes of crime
2	Strength	Draws attention to reality of street crime especially effects on victims from deprived groups
3	Limitation	Henry & Milovanovic: Fails to explain crimes of the powerful
4	Limitation	Over-predicts working class crime. Not all poor people turn to crime.
5	Limitation	Focus on inner-city high-crime areas makes crime appear to be a greater problem than it is

Right Realism and Crime

1	Political outlook	Right wing, conservative. See crime as a growing problem. Best way to reduce it is via control and punishment
2	Cause: Biological differences	Wilson and Hernstein: Some individuals have biological traits which make them more prone to criminality
3	Cause: Inadequate socialisation	The underclass is welfare dependent and does not have the right norms and values. Lone mothers mean boys lack a male role model and turn to gangs
4	Offending is a rational choice (RCT)	People weigh up the costs and benefits of committing a crime before deciding to do it. They have free will.
5	Felson: RAT	For a crime to occur there needs to be a motivated offender, a suitable target, and lack of a capable guardian

Evaluating Right Realism

1	Strength	RCT is supported by Rettig's study where students choice to commit crime was determined by severity of punishment
2	Strength	Feldman's study also found that people would commit crime if risks were low/rewards high
3	Strength	Bennet & Wright: Burglars said risk of being caught was important in deciding decision to commit the crime
4	Strength	May explain some opportunistic crimes such as petty theft
5	Limitation	Rettig & Feldman's studies were lab experiments – not like real life
6	Limitation	Bennett & Wright studied convicted burglars. May not be the same as successful ones!

Key Vocabulary

1	Right wing	The view that social inequality is inevitable, natural, normal, or desirable
2	Conservative	Averse to change or innovation and holding traditional values. Favours competition and meritocracy.
3	Socialisation	Process of learning norms and values
4	Capable guardian	Someone such as security guard or police officer who acts as a deterrent to crime
5	Left wing	Supports social equality and often in opposition to social hierarchy. Wants to support the disadvantaged and reduce inequality.
6	Socialist	Believes in cooperation and collective ownership. Favours equality and social welfare.
7	Relative deprivation	Feeling poor or disadvantaged in comparison to those around you
8	Subculture	A group within society that has its own set of norms and values that differ from the mainstream
9	Marginalisation	Being on the outside of society
10	RCT	<u>R</u> ational <u>C</u> hoice <u>T</u> heory
11	RAT	<u>R</u> outine <u>A</u> ctivity <u>T</u> heory

Foucault: The Panopticon

1	Key idea	In today's society people engage in self-surveillance. We are also under electronic surveillance. Surveillance has become an increasingly important form of crime control.
2	The panopticon	A prison designed so that guards could see all prisoners, but prisoners did not know if they were being watched or not.
3	Self-surveillance	Prisoners had to assume they were being watched and behave properly just in case.
4	Disciplinary power	Foucault argues this design is now everywhere in society and disciplinary power and self-surveillance now reaches every individual.

Mathieson: Synoptic Surveillance

1	Key idea: The Synopticon	As well as surveillance from above, we are now surveilled from below as well – everybody watches everybody.
2	Example	Motorists cyclists can monitor the behaviour of others with dashcams or helmet cameras. This may change the behaviour of others – they exercise self-discipline

Actuarial Justice and Profiling

1	Actuarial	Comes from the insurance industry – an actuary is someone who calculates the risk of certain events happening e.g. how likely it is for your house to be burgled
2	Feeley and Simon	Actuarial justice is a new form of surveillance. It aims to predict and prevent future offending. It uses statistical information to reduce crime by compiling profiles of likely offenders.

Evaluating Surveillance Theories

1	Strength	Foucault's work has led to more research into surveillance and disciplinary power – especially the idea of an electronic panopticon
2	Strength	Researchers have identified other forms of surveillance such as actuarial justice and profiling
3	Limitation	Foucault exaggerates the extent of control e.g Goffman shows how some inmates of prisons and mental hospitals resist controls
4	Limitation	Surveillance may not change people's behaviour as Foucault claims. E.g. studies show that CCTV may fail to prevent crime because offenders often take no notice of it.

Key Vocabulary

1	Surveillance	Close observation, especially of a suspected criminal or criminal target
2	Panopticon	'All-seeing'
3	CCTV	Closed Circuit Television – security cameras
4	Synopticon	Everybody watches everybody
5	Disciplinary power	Power that is exercised over people, to develop their capacity for self-control, or to encourage them to conform to society's norms and values
6	Self-surveillance	When people have to regulate their own behaviour because they know they could be being watched.

General Criticisms of Sociological Theories

1	The underlying causes	Sociologists disagree with each other about the causes of crime
2	Overprediction	Don't explain why not every disadvantaged person turns to crime
3	Biological and Psychological factors	Neglect factors that might explain why one person might turn to crime but another person in the same social position might not