

**PONTEFRACT**

ACADEMIES TRUST

# **OUT OF LESSON BOOKLET**

## **TERM 1**

## **SOCIOLOGY**

## **YEAR 11**



**PONTEFRACT**

ACADEMIES TRUST



## Year 11 – Sociology Component 2: Crime and Deviance



Lesson 1 – Crime as a Social Construct

Lesson 2 – Crime as a Social Construct

Lesson 3 – Social Control

Lesson 4 – Social Control

Lesson 5 – Factors affecting crime (overview)

Lesson 6 – Gender and Crime

Lesson 7 – Ethnicity and Crime

Lesson 8 – Class and Crime (Poverty)

Lesson 9 – Gangs and Criminal Subcultures

Lesson 10 – Prison Systems



## Year 11 – Sociology Component 2: Crime and Deviance

- Lesson 11 – Functionalist View of Crime
- Lesson 12 – Feminist View of Crime
- Lesson 13 – Marxist View of Crime
- Lesson 14 – Essential Research into Crime
- Lesson 15 – Essential Research into Crime
- Lesson 16 – Crime Data
- Lesson 17 – Media Representations
- Lesson 18 – Media Representations
- Lesson 19 – Deviance learning videos
- Lesson 20 – Deviance learning videos / revision



# Crime as a Social Construct 1

## Key Information:

- Actions and behaviours that go against norms of behaviour are called 'deviance'
- Behaviours become crimes through a process of social construction; the same behaviour may be considered criminal in one society and an act of honour in another society, or at a different time.
- The legal status of behaviour - whether it is defined as a crime - lies not in the content of the behaviour but in the social response to the behaviour or to the persons who engage in it.
- Most crimes are forms of deviance, but not all deviance is criminal.

## Task

1. Explain the difference between an act of crime, and an act of deviance

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

2. Can you think of any examples of behaviour that was criminal behaviour previously in the UK but no longer is?

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

3. How about behaviour which is honourable in other cultures, but not in the UK?

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Key information:**

An action is a crime if it breaks the law, but laws are constructed by societies. Different countries have different laws: a person might act in a way that makes them a criminal in one country but not another. The definition of crime changes with time: homosexuality was a crime in the UK until 1976, and between 1919 and 1933 alcohol consumption was illegal in the USA. Laws are not fixed, even the most common laws (e.g. about murder) aren't universal. Killing a human being is legal if it is in a war or otherwise sanctioned by the state (e.g. an executioner).

The term 'deviance' describes actions which go against what is normal in society: it goes against the conventional norms and values of it. The opposite of deviance is conformity: conforming to norms.

Formal deviance includes criminal violation of laws. Examples of formal deviance include robbery, theft, rape, murder, and assault.

Informal deviance refers to violations of informal social norms, which are norms that have not been codified into law. Examples of informal deviance include picking one's nose, belching loudly, or standing unnecessarily close to another person.

**Task:** Using the information above to help, explain example of conformist behaviour, and examples of deviant behaviour in each situation.

<u>Conventional norm or value</u>	<u>Example of conformist behaviour</u>	<u>Example of deviant behaviour</u>
Table manners	<i>Using a knife and fork to eat</i>	
Lifestyle	<i>Getting married, getting a mortgage and working in a full time job</i>	
Sexuality	<i>Heterosexual monogamy</i>	
Appearance		
Choice of career		
Student behaviour in school		
Teacher behaviour in school		
Gender roles (expected behaviour of males and females.		



**Key Information:**

Historical deviance: deviance is *defined in relation to particular norms, and norms change over time*. Smoking was once socially acceptable, fashionable and popular but is increasingly seen as deviant behaviour: smokers are unwelcome in many places. Moral attitudes to divorce, promiscuity, abortion, and homosexuality have changed a lot over the past century.

Cultural deviance: different *things are seen as deviant in different cultures*. Wearing a hijab or burka is normal in Saudi Arabia but deviant behaviour in Western Europe, Britain or

America; wearing a mini-skirt in a British nightclub is fairly normal for British women, but deviant behaviour in more conservative cultures.

Situational deviance: the same action can be *deemed as conformist/normal or deviant depending on the situation*. Wearing a mask to a fancy-dress party would be normal, wearing a mask on the London underground whilst commuting to work is deviant. Wearing a nice dress is normal for women, deviant for men.

**Task:** Provide examples of each type of deviance in the boxes below - use the definitions on the board to help.

<u>Historical Deviance</u>	<u>Cultural Deviance</u>	<u>Situational Deviance</u>

## Crime as a Social Construct 2

### Independent recall task:

1. Identify one type of socialisation.

[1 mark]

.....  
.....

2. Describe what sociologists mean by cultural deprivation

[2 marks]

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

3. Explain what is meant by the term nuclear family

[4 marks]

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

4. Explain, using examples, the difference between an act of crime and an act of deviance

[5 marks]

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Key Information:**

Writing from an interactionist perspective Becker argued that an act only becomes deviant when others define it as such. Whether the 'label' of deviancy is applied depends on who commits the act, when and where it is committed, who observes the act, and the negotiations that take place between the various actors involved in the interaction.

If, for example, the actions of young people are defined as delinquent and they are convicted for breaking the law, those young people have been labelled. The agents of social control, for example the police and the courts, have the power to make the label stick.

The label applied to the individual becomes a master status; the young people have become criminals and this label will affect how others see them and respond to them. Assumptions will be made that the individuals concerned have the negative characteristics normally associated with the label. As a consequence, the individuals will begin to see themselves in terms of the label, producing a self-fulfilling prophecy.

**Task:**

<p>1. How can labelling sometimes lead to someone committing a crime?</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>2. Create a memory icon(s) to represent Becker's Theory.</p>

### Key Information:

Writing from a functionalist perspective Merton argued that deviance results from the culture and structure of society. He starts from the standard functionalist position of value consensus - all members of society hold the same values. However, because members of society have different positions in the social structure, for example in terms of social class, Merton believed that they did not have the same opportunity to realise their shared goals. He also believed that American society was unbalanced because greater importance was attached to success, than to the ways in which that success was achieved.

He described five possible ways in which individuals could respond to success goals in American society.

1. **Conformity** - This describes individuals who work towards achieving success by conventionally accepted means, e.g. by gaining educational qualifications which in turn give them access to secure, well paid employment. Other conventional routes to success include talent, hard work and ambition.
2. **Innovation** - This describes individuals who are unable to succeed using conventionally accepted routes and turn to deviant means, usually crime. Merton believed that this route was most likely to be taken by individuals who came from the lower levels of society and who are denied the usual routes to success because they are, for example, less likely to gain the necessary educational qualifications.
3. **Ritualism** - This describes middle class individuals who are deviant because they abandon conventional success goals. They are unable to innovate because they have been strongly socialised to conform, but they have little opportunity for advancement and remain stuck in low paid, low status 'respectable' jobs where they may exhibit an enthusiasm for rules and petty bureaucracy.
4. **Retreatism** - This describes individuals from any social class position who are deviant because they abandon both success goals and any means of achieving them. They 'drop out' of society; this response can be applied to explain the behaviour of social outcasts of all kinds including vagrants and drug addicts.
5. **Rebellion** - This describes those individuals who reject success goals and the usual means of achieving them, but then replace those that they have rejected with different goals and means. They are deviant because they wish to create a new society, in Merton's view they are typically members of a 'rising' social class who may well attempt to organise a revolution.

**Task:**

1. Summarise what Merton said about each type of response to success goals \*(norms and values of society)
2. Create a memory icon to help you remember what each one means.

<u>Reaction</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Memory Icon</u>
Conformity		
Innovation		
Ritualism		
Retreatism		
Rebellion		

# Social Control 1

## Key Information:

Social control is the way an entire society makes sure that people follow the norms, values, written rules of where they live. It is divided into two types; Formal Social Control and Informal Social Control.

### Formal Social Control:

Parts of society which are designed for the punishment of individuals who break formal rules.

### Informal Social Control:

The reactions of society which make sure people follow social rules.

### Sanctions (punishments):

Sanctions are ways of enforcing obedience with social norms of the society. This can be done in two ways - formally, or informally.

#### Formal sanctions:

Punishments given when people commit a crime or break a written rule

E.g. Prison for murdering someone

#### Informal sanctions:

The reactions of people or groups when someone doesn't follow a social norm.

E.g. Not giving up your seat for an elderly person on the bus will leave people thinking you are not a nice person.

## Task:

Colour code the types of Formal Social Control and Informal Social Control.

The prison system is in place for punishing those who break the law.	The media shows disapproval for certain types of behaviour by publishing articles about how to behave.
A friendship group stopping talking to someone because they don't fit in.	The courts may issue out sanctions for people who do not follow the way which society expect you to behave.
Students are given consequences if they do not follow the rules laid out by the school.	A boss may hold a meeting to discuss the recent negative behaviour of workers with all employees.

## Key information - Theories on Social Control

### **Functionalist views -**

Functionalism is the theory that all aspects of a society serve a function and are necessary for the survival of that society. Functionalists see social control as essential for society to function. They would say that social control is a 'functional prerequisite' for any society and that social control has a 'functionally important role' in maintaining a healthy society. Functionalist sociologists claim that society is impossible without social control. They view society as a body and the agents of informal and formal social control as essential organs.

### **Marxist views -**

All means of social control are, ultimately, focussed on socialising a working-class workforce that is willing and able to be exploited by the ruling-class (the bourgeoisies). Social control is necessary in capitalist societies to prevent revolution and working-class revolt. The working and ruling classes are not subject to the same formal or informal social controls and Marxists believe that some social control is purely for the working classes.

### **Feminist views -**

Feminist sociologists focus on how society controls women in different ways to men and believe that women are subject to much greater informal social control than men, which is why women commit less crime than men: informal social control has socialised women to be less deviant than men, so they are less prone to breaking the rules. This is called 'control theory' (Hirschi, 1969). Feminists are also interested in how 'gender roles' control our behaviour: men and women are subject to different expectations. For example: promiscuity is seen as deviant behaviour for women but less so for men. Feminists, therefore, claim society is "patriarchal" and that power given to men and denied to women.

### **Interactionist -**

Interactionists are interested in how social control is constructed through individual communications between agents (individual people in society). Interactionists are less interested in large scale theories about social pressures and social process because they are more interested in the influence we have on one another as individuals. For interactionists social control operates through implicit and explicit communications, often through complex symbols of power and authority.

**Task:**

1. Explain why Functionalists think social control is important in society

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

2. Marxists believe that Agents of Social Control target the working classes more frequently. Why do Marxist believe this to be the case?

.....

.....

.....

.....

3. Women seemingly commit less crime than men. Explain why feminists believe that is.

.....

.....

.....

.....

4. Describe how the labelling can be used as a tool of social control.

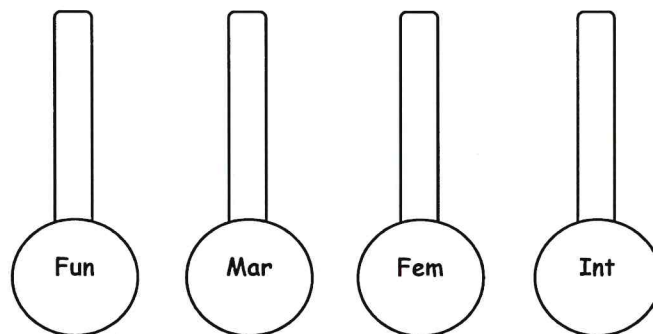
.....

.....

.....

.....

Challenge: Shade in the thermometer depending on how much do you agree with each theory?







### Key information:

Feminist sociologists might argue that society is patriarchal: it is based around male power and denying power to women. Traditional gender roles restrict the behaviours of women to motherhood and taking care of the private sphere (the home). Male gender roles allow for greater freedom of choice: men are the breadwinners and work in the public sphere.

In terms of sexual behaviour: men and women are subject to different expectations and moral norms. This is referred to as informal social control and included the following:

- Women who engage in promiscuity are shamed more than men. Men are freer to engage in practices that would be deemed 'deviance' for women.
- Some feminists argue that men are obsessed with controlling the sexuality (and reproductive power) of women: they call this "sexual objectification" - when an individual (subject) is treated like an object.
- It has also been suggested that women use informal social control the shame one another about sexual promiscuity more than men.

Women are at higher risk of violence from men than men are from women. This is true in the domestic and public sphere. The threat of violence is a type of informal social control.

Metropolitan Police statistics show that male violence against women made up 85% of reported domestic violence incidents. Only 5% of domestic violence incidents were perpetrated by women in heterosexual relationships. Surprisingly, there is some evidence to suggest that lesbian relationships have higher rates of domestic violence than heterosexual ones or male homosexual ones.

However, men (generally) are more likely to be the victim of violence (i.e. mainly from other men). According to the 2014 Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) 3.2% of males experienced violent crime in comparison to 1.9% of females. Roughly 2/3 of victims of murder in the UK were male.

**Task:**

Put the above information into the correct box - think about whether the information agrees, or disagrees with the statement.

<b>"Women commit less crime than men because they are subject to greater levels of social control than men."</b>	
<b><u>Agree</u></b>	<b><u>Disagree</u></b>

# Factors Affecting Crime (overview)

## Task:

1. Bullet point your ideas to the boxes below to the following questions:

- How are the following factors linked with criminal behaviour?
- Who is more likely to commit a crime? Why are they more likely to commit a crime?
- How does the media represent these factors?

Age	
Gender	
Ethnicity	
Class	

2. Overall, which factor do you think has the strongest link? Why do you think this?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

**Challenge:** What other factors do you think are also linked with criminality?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

**Key Information:**

There are a number of different theories about the cause of crime which includes:

- Strain theory (Merton) - This suggests people (especially the poor) commit crime due to the stress they feel as a result of not being able to meet socially constructed definitions of success.
- Social learning theory - This suggest people commit crime because of poor role-model, peer-pressure, and deviant socialisation processes.
- Control theory - This suggests that some people are more likely to commit crime if there is less social control over them: lower expectations and informal social control pressures. This, some argue, explains why women commit less crime than men.
- Labelling theory - This theory argues that stereotypes and labels cause some people to be arrested more than others and punished in different ways, or that labels and expectations cause people to behave with less regard for the law.

**Task:**

1. Write out a brief description of each of the theories above.
2. Create memory icons to represent each of the theories above.

Think about: What do the theories say is the cause of criminality and how do this affect each individual, as well as society as a whole?

Theory	Strain Theory	Social Learning Theory	Control Theory	Labelling Theory
Your description				
Memory icon				

## Key Information:

### Gender -

- There are 84,731 people in prison in Britain and according to the latest figures, 80,915 of them are men. (ONS, 2015)
- Less than five per cent of this country's prison population is female, and the trend is similar elsewhere in the western world.
- Around 85-90% of convicted murderers are men, a majority of the reported domestic abusers and pretty much all of those committing sexual attacks. (ONS, 2015)
- Men make up over two-thirds of murder victims, 68% and are more likely to be the victim of violent crime than women.

### Age -

- 74,000 children aged 10 to 17 were found guilty of, or cautioned for, indictable offences in 2010. Numbers have fallen sharply in each year since 2007, when the number was 126,000. The net result is that the number in 2010 is lower than at any time since the data first became available in the mid-1990s.
- Both the fall in the latest three years and the rises in the years immediately before that are largely accounted for by changes in the number of cautions, with the numbers found guilty having remained stable throughout.
- Almost half of the 74,000 offences were committed by children aged 15 or under.
- Nearly half of all the offences committed in 2010 by children involved theft, with drug offences and violence against the person being the other two big groups.

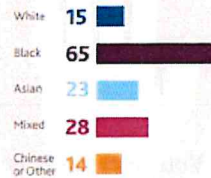
### (Socio-Economic) Class -

- Statistics show that countries that more unequal have higher murder rates and prison populations. This suggests that capitalist countries, such as the UK and America, are more likely to experience crime committed by the working class.
- Edinburgh Study of Youth Transitions and Crime (2016) suggested that poverty had a significant and direct effect on young people's likelihood to engage in violence at age 15, even after controlling for
- the effects of a range of other factors known to influence violent behaviour (e.g. drug and alcohol abuse).
- After studying 1,389 young people on probation schemes, the researchers (Association of Chief Officers of Probation, 2016) concluded that there was a 'real link between poverty and crime'.
- 72% of those in the study were recorded to be in poverty, and more than two-thirds of the 17-year-olds surveyed had 'no reliable source of income whatsoever'.

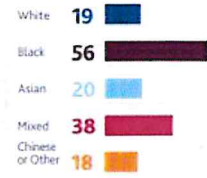
## Ethnicity -

Read through the infographics which gives statistics and real life data on the links between ethnicity and crime in the UK.

### Stop and search rates per 1,000 members of the population

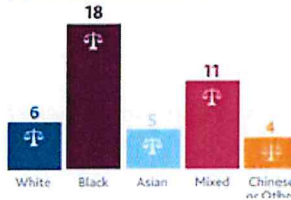


### Arrest rates per 1,000 members of the population



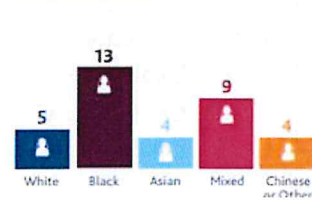
### Prosecutions

Black and Mixed defendants had the highest number of prosecutions per 1,000 members of the population, for indictable offences



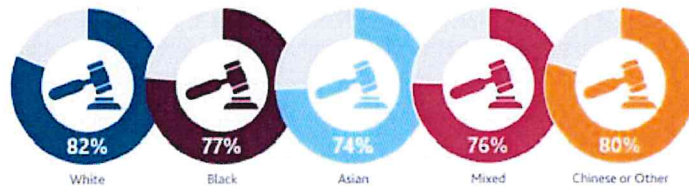
### Sentencing

Black and Mixed defendants were more likely to be sentenced per 1,000 members of the population, for indictable offences



### Conviction ratio

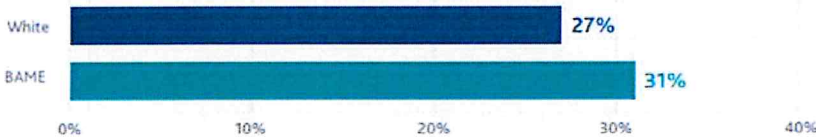
White offenders had the highest conviction ratio, for indictable offences



	White	Black	Asian	Mixed	Chinese or other	Not stated/unknown
Population aged 10 and over (2009)	88.6%	2.7%	5.6%	1.4%	1.6%	0.0%
Stops and searches under Police and Criminal Evidence Act	67.2%	14.6%	9.6%	3.0%	1.2%	4.4%
Arrests 2009/10	79.6%	8.0%	5.6%	2.9%	1.5%	2.4%
Prison population (including foreign nationals)	72.0%	13.7%	7.1%	3.5%	1.4%	2.2%

### Custody rate

BAME defendants are slightly more likely to receive a custodial sentence, possibly associated with variations in offence types between ethnicities



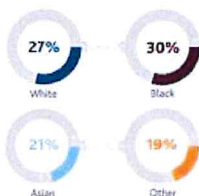
### Average custodial sentence length

Asian and Black defendants received the longest average custodial sentence lengths, possibly associated with variations in offence types between ethnicities



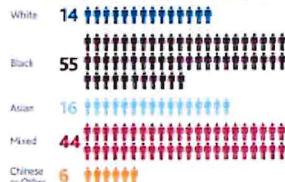
### Re-offending

Re-offending rates are just over 1% overall, and slightly higher for Black offenders



### Prisons

There were more Black and Mixed individuals in prison compared to other ethnicities, per 10,000 members of the population aged 15 or over



### Population ethnic diversity

Census 2011 population aged 10+\*



Images courtesy of The Ministry of Justice

Images courtesy of The Ministry of Justice



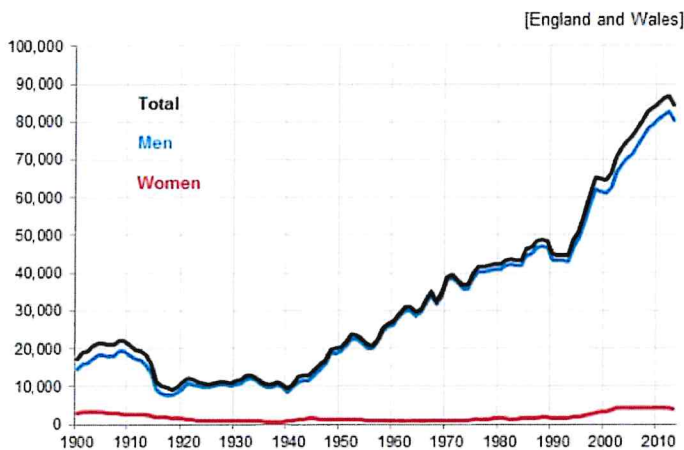
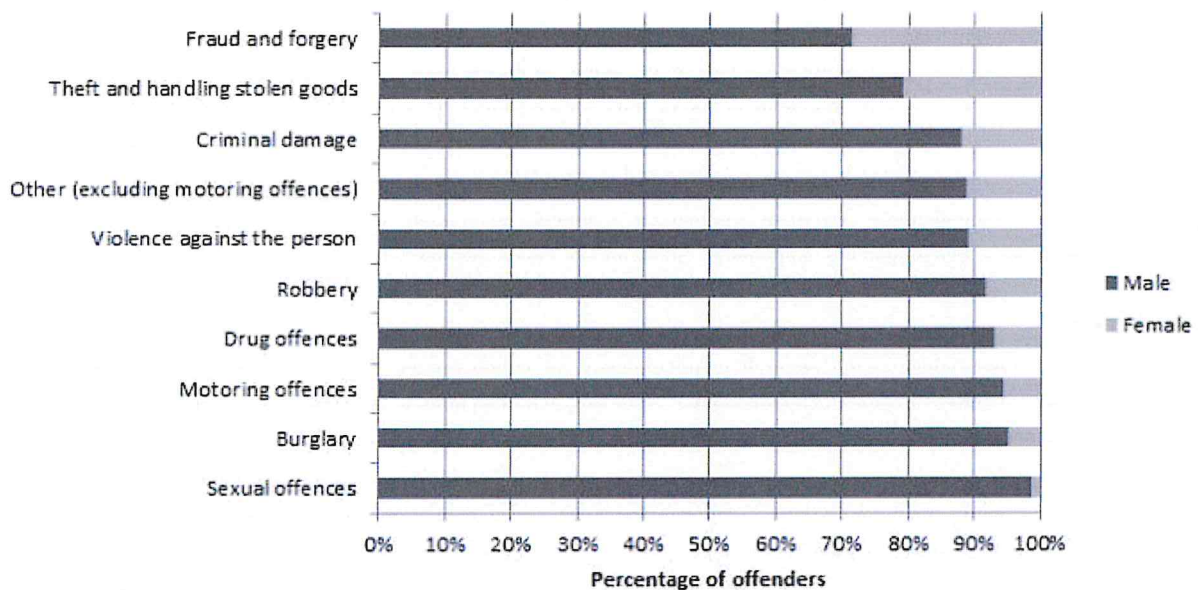


# Gender and Crime

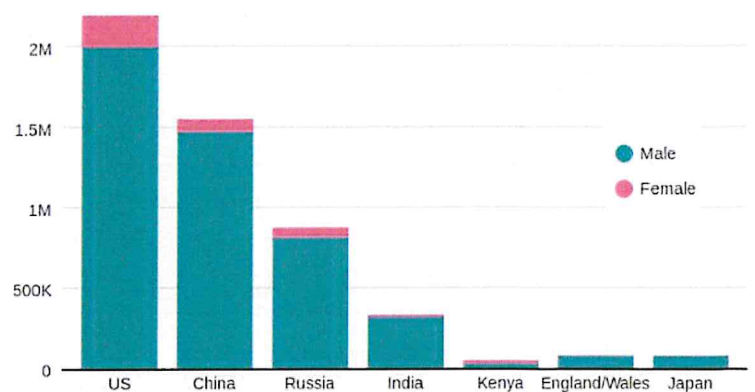
## Key Information:

- Men commit more crime than women.
- Roughly 95% of prisoners in the UK are male
- Men are more likely to commit violent crime, but are also more likely to be the victim of violent crime and murder.
- Male and female criminals tend to commit different crimes: a higher portion of female perpetrated crime consists of theft and fraud than male perpetrated crime.
- There are competing theories about why this is: "The nature vs nurture debate" - is the behaviour inherent or learnt?

**Gender of offenders**  
(England and Wales, September 2011-12)



Prison Population male vs female



**Task:**

1. Summarise the bullet points about into 4 sentences.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

2. Look at the graphs above and explain what conclusions we can draw from them?

Graph 1 -

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Graph 2 -

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Graph 3 -

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

3. Complete the gap fill exercise, using the key words from the bottom of the page.

Roughly 80% of all indictable \_\_\_\_\_ in the UK are committed by men. Men make up roughly 95% of the UK prison population.

There are competing theories that explain why men commit so much more crime than women:

1. Socio-biologists claim that there are genetic and \_\_\_\_\_ factors which make men more prone to violence and crime: e.g. the hormone \_\_\_\_\_, men having different instincts to women.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ claims that male-dominated societies (\_\_\_\_\_) impose stricter controls and expectations on female behaviour making women more likely to conform and less likely to deviate and commit crime. This is called \_\_\_\_\_ theory.
3. Strain Theorists might argue that men are subject to greater strain than women because they are put in the role of "\_\_\_\_\_" and the pressure to achieve social \_\_\_\_\_ (through wealth and material goods) thus falls more on men than women. Traditionally women aspired to marry a high social status male: but the man's role was to actually achieve the material wealth that symbolised status.
4. Others have argued that men and women are \_\_\_\_\_ differently. Perhaps the mass-media, with it's many violent male role models, encourages criminal behaviour?

There is also a link between gender and \_\_\_\_\_, according to the ONS (2016): when it comes to violent crime men are almost twice as likely to be a victim than women and almost 4 times as likely to be violently attacked by a \_\_\_\_\_. Women are twice as likely as men to be the victim of \_\_\_\_\_ violence and four times more likely to be the victim of sexual assault.

There is some evidence that courts sentence men more harshly (Gelsthorpe and Louck, 1997)

biological offences domestic patriarchies breadwinner Heidensohn  
socialised status control victimhood testosterone stranger

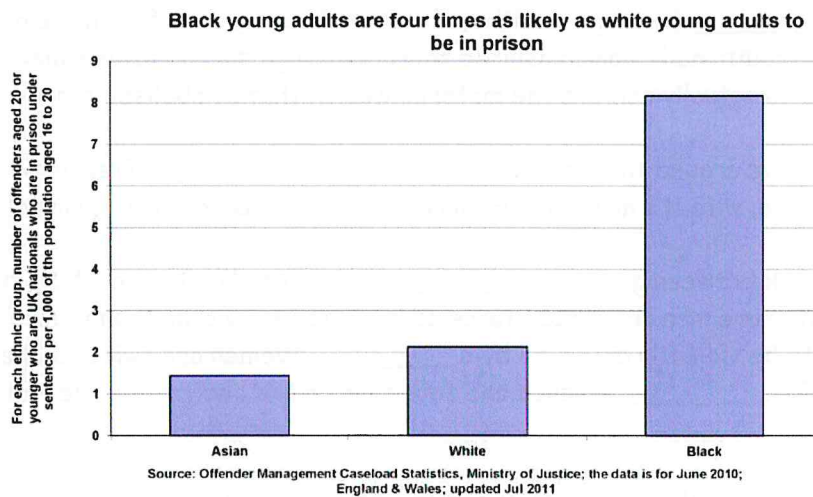
# Ethnicity and Crime

## Key information:

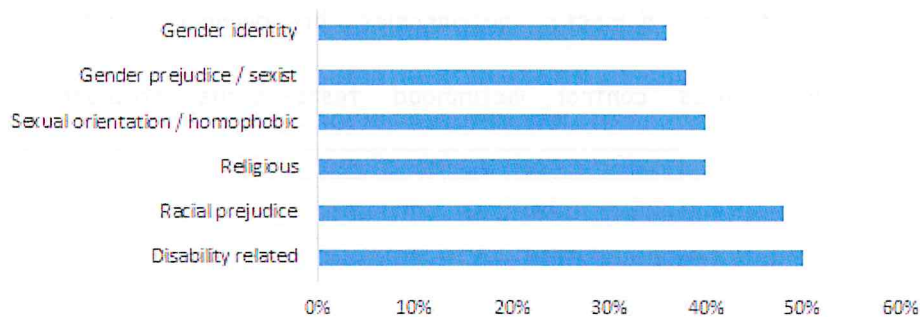
An ethnicity is a social group that has a common national or cultural tradition. Race is based on biology, while ethnicity is based on culture. In Britain there is a correlation between ethnicity and crime: some ethnicities are arrested and incarcerated for crime more than others.

Sociologists debate whether this is down to:

- Differences in culture
- Failures to integrate ethnic minorities into wider society
- Poverty often correlating with ethnic minorities
- Institutional racism and discrimination (within the police and judiciary)
- Statistically, ethnic minority groups (especially young black males) are more likely to be 'stopped and searched' by police, suggesting they are met with prejudicial and discriminatory expectations.



## The proportion of hate crime victims by the type of crime



**Task:**

1. Match the key word with its definition.

Ethnicity	A widely held but fixed and oversimplified image or idea of a particular type of person or thing, created or perpetuated by the mass media
Social Stigma	A social group that has a common national or cultural tradition
Media Stereotype	Extreme disapproval of (or discontent with) a person or group on socially characteristic grounds that are perceived, and serve to distinguish them, from other members of a society.
Ethnic Minority	A group of people of a particular race, culture or nationality living in a country or area where most people are from a different race, culture or nationality
Institutional Racism	The idea that ethnic groups are given certain labels that cause them to be treated differently or encourage certain behaviours.
Labelling	Racial prejudice and discrimination within public institutions such as the police force and judiciary.

2. Look at the graphs above and explain what conclusions we can draw from them?

Graph 1 -

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Graph 2 -

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Key Information:**

- Black people were stopped and searched at almost 4 times the rate of white people across London in 2015/16, a slight increase on the previous year. Mixed people were searched at almost twice the rate of whites, Asians were searched at marginally higher rates than whites, and people from Chinese or Other backgrounds were searched at lower rates than whites.
- Offenders from ethnic minorities are more likely than their white counterparts to be sentenced to prison for certain categories of crimes, according to an analysis of more than one million court records. (Guardian, 2011).
- Only one in 20 judges is non-white and fewer than one in four is female, and this disparity is undermining the public's confidence in the courts.
- In 1998, 10.3% of judges were women, and 1.6% from black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds; by 2011 the figures had increased to 22.3% and 5.1% respectively.
- There is a known link between poverty and crime. There is also a known link between poverty and ethnicity. Therefore, the link between ethnicity and crime can be (At least partly) explained by poverty.
- Some argue that the mass media influences ethnic groups to commit more crime and make people more suspicious of ethnic minorities.

**Task:** Are the bullet points above agreeing, or disagreeing with the statement? Write them into the correct place on the table.

<b>"Apparent differences in crime rates are caused by racial prejudice and discrimination in the police force and judiciary."</b>	
<b><u>For</u></b>	<b><u>Against</u></b>

# Class and Crime (Poverty)

## Key Information:

Higher levels of income inequality within societies correlate with levels of crime and the size of the prison population. This correlation is stronger than the overall wealth or poverty of a given country: a poorer country can have lower rates of crime, so long as the wealth within that country is more equally distributed. This explain why the USA has very high levels of incarceration and crime: it is a very rich country, but there is a massive gap between the rich and the poor (it is one of the most unequal societies on the planet).

Poverty and belonging to a lower social class are associated with higher levels of crime, there are competing explanations for this:

- Necessity: poor people need to commit crime in order to survive
- Marxist: laws exist to oppress the working-class and protect the wealthy.
- Exposure to other factors: drugs, mental illness, disrupted family life, gang-culture, worse education, less employment opportunities etc.
- Anomie: lack of the usual social or ethical standards in an individual or group.

## Task:

1. Outline three reasons why people from poorer backgrounds are more likely to commit crime.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

2. Explain why the USA has more reported crime than other countries, such as Japan.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....





2. Complete the gap fill exercise, using the key words from the bottom of the page.

Within more \_\_\_\_\_ societies there tends to be higher rates of crime when compared with countries which are more equal (in terms of wealth and income). (Richard Wilkinson, 2013)

In all societies, the lower the social \_\_\_\_\_, the higher the likelihood of criminal behaviour. This link can be explained in different ways:

- Absolute poverty may drive \_\_\_\_\_ crimes out of necessity: if people cannot afford food, they will be pressured to steal it.
- According to \_\_\_\_\_ Theory, crime is driven by the strain put on people to achieve socially constructed goals and high social \_\_\_\_\_. It stands to reason that wealthier people have more opportunities to achieve these goals and are put under less strain than \_\_\_\_\_ ones.
- Poverty is often linked with other factors that are correlated with criminality: low \_\_\_\_\_ attainment, family history of criminality, difficult childhoods, fatherless homes, lack of \_\_\_\_\_ opportunities, homelessness, living in areas where there is urban \_\_\_\_\_, gang-culture, and/or high population turnover, \_\_\_\_\_ and drug use (and addiction), mental health issues etc. Poverty is linked to these factors, and they are linked to crime.
- \_\_\_\_\_ sociologists argue that the criminal justice system is a way of oppressing the working-classes. It is set up to protect the wealthy (those with capital) from the poor (those with less capital). The wealthy have better access to legal \_\_\_\_\_ than the poor. The crimes of the poor are punished more harshly than those of the rich: bank robbery might earn a person more time in prison than those working for a bank who are involved in much larger financial crimes (blue vs white-collar crime)

property unequal representation poorer class status Marxist  
deprivation educational homelessness alcohol strain

