



Targamh
Art Of Translation

English ↔ Arabic ↔ French

Criminology Glossary

معتصم الحارث الضوي

A

age of reason

See **Enlightenment**.

alloplastic adaptation

that form of adjustment which results from changes in the environment surrounding an individual.

anomie

a social condition in which norms are uncertain or lacking.

antisocial

or **Asocial personality** , refers to individuals who are basically unsocialized and whose behaviour pattern brings them repeatedly into conflict with society.

applied research

scientific inquiry that is designed and carried out with practical application in mind.

asocial personality

See **Antisocial personality**.

asset forfeiture

the authorized seizure of money, negotiable instruments, securities, or other things of value. In federal anti-drug laws: the authorization of judicial representatives to seize all moneys, negotiable instruments, securities, or other things of value furnished or intended to be furnished by any person in exchange for a controlled substance, and all proceeds traceable to such an exchange.

atavism

a concept used by Cesare Lombroso to suggest that criminals are physiological throwbacks to earlier stages of human evolution. The term "atavism" is derived from the Latin term *atavus*, which means "ancestor".

audit trail

a sequential record of computer system activities that enables auditors to reconstruct, review, and examine the sequence of states and activities surrounding each event in one or more related transactions from inception to output of final results back to inception.

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B***behaviour theory***

an approach to understanding human activity which holds that behaviour is determined by consequences it produces for the individual.

biological theories

of criminology maintain that the basic determinants of human behaviour, including criminality, are constitutionally or physiologically based and often inherited.

born criminals

individuals who are born with a genetic predilection toward criminality.

bourgeoisie

in Marxian theory, the class of people which owns the means of production.

broken windows thesis

a perspective on crime causation which holds that physical deterioration in an area leads to increased concerns for personal safety among area residents, and to higher crime rates in that area.

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C***Chicago School***

See **ecological theory**.

capital punishment

the legal imposition of a sentence of death upon a convicted offender. Another term for the death penalty.

Classical School

a criminological perspective operative in the late 1700s and early 1800s which had its roots in the Enlightenment, and which held that men and

women are rational beings, that crime is the result of the exercise of free will, and that punishment can be effective in reducing the incidence of crime since it negates the pleasure to be derived from crime commission.

clearance rate

the proportion of reported or discovered crimes within a given offense category which are solved.

cohort

a group of individuals sharing certain significant social characteristics in common, such as sex, time, and place of birth.

cohort analysis

a social scientific technique which studies a population that shares common characteristics, over time. Cohort analysis usually begins at birth and traces the development of cohort members until they reach a certain age.

conditioning

a psychological principle which holds that the frequency of any behaviour can be increased or decreased through reward, punishment, and/or association with other stimuli.

conduct norms

the shared expectations of a social group relative to personal conduct.

conflict perspective

an analytical perspective on social organization which holds that conflict is a fundamental aspect of social life itself and can never be fully resolved.

confounding effects

rival explanations, also called competing hypotheses, which are threats to the internal or external validity of any research design.

consensus model

an analytical perspective on social organization which holds that most members of society agree as to what is right and what is wrong, and that the various elements of society work together in unison toward a common and shared vision of the greater good.

constitutional theories

those which explain criminality by reference to offenders' body types, inheritance, genetics, and/or external observable physical characteristics.

constitutive criminology

the study of the process by which human beings create an ideology of crime that sustains it (the notion of crime) as a concrete reality.

containment

those aspects of the social bond which act to prevent individuals from committing crimes and keep them from engaging in deviance.

containment theory

a form of control theory which suggests that a series of both internal and external factors contribute to law-abiding behaviour.

control group

a group of experimental subjects which, although the subject of measurement and observation, are not exposed to the experimental intervention.

control theory

see **social control theory**.

controlled experiments

those which attempt to hold conditions (other than the intentionally introduced experimental intervention) constant.

corporate crime

a violation of a criminal statute either by a corporate entity or by its executives, employees, or agents acting on behalf of and for the benefit of the corporation, partnership, or other form of business entity.

correctional psychology

that aspect of forensic psychology which is concerned with the diagnosis and classification of offenders, the treatment of correctional populations, and the rehabilitation of inmates and other law violators.

correlation

a causal, complementary, or reciprocal relationship between two measurable variables. See also **Statistical correlation**.

crime

human conduct in violation of the criminal laws of a state, the federal government, or a local jurisdiction which has the power to make such laws.

criminal anthropology

the scientific study of the relationship between human physical characteristics and criminality.

criminal justice

the scientific study of crime, the criminal law, and components of the criminal justice system, including the police, courts, and corrections.

criminal justice system

the various agencies of "justice," especially police, courts, and corrections, whose goal it is to apprehend, convict, punish, and rehabilitate law violators.

criminal law

that body of law which regulates those actions which have the potential to harm interests of the state or the federal government.

criminality

a behavioural predisposition that disproportionately favours criminal activity.

criminaloids

a term used by Cesare Lombroso to describe occasional criminals who were pulled into criminality primarily by environmental influences.

criminologist

one who is trained in the field of criminology. Also, one who studies crime, criminals, and criminal behaviour.

criminology

an interdisciplinary profession built around the scientific study of crime and criminal behaviour, including their form, causes, legal aspects and control.

criminology of place

See **environmental criminology**.

critical criminology

See **radical criminology**.

culture conflict

a sociological perspective on crime which suggests that the root cause of criminality can be found in a clash of values between variously socialized groups over what is acceptable or proper behaviour.

cycloid

a term developed by Ernst Kretschmer to describe a particular relationship between body build and personality type. The cycloid personality, which was associated with a heavy-set, soft type of body, was said to vacillate between normality and abnormality.

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D***DNA fingerprinting (or profiling)***

the use of biological residue found at the scene of a crime for genetic comparisons in aiding the identification of criminal suspects.

dangerous drugs

a term used by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to refer to "broad categories or classes of controlled substances other than cocaine, opiates, and cannabis products." Amphetamines, methamphetamines, PCP (phencyclidine), LSD, methcathinone, and "designer drugs" are all considered "dangerous drugs."

dangerousness

the likelihood that a given individual will later harm society or others. Dangerousness is often measured in terms of **recidivism** , or as the likelihood of additional crime commission within a five year period following arrest or release from confinement.

date rape

unlawful forced sexual intercourse with a female against her will which occurs within the context of a dating relationship.

Daubert standard

a test of scientific acceptability applicable to the gathering of evidence in criminal cases.

deconstructionist theories

emerging approaches which challenge existing criminological perspectives to debunk them, and which work toward replacing them with concepts more applicable to the postmodern era. Deconstructionist theories are generally postmodernist approaches, none of which have yet developed fully enough to actually deserve the name "theory."

decriminalization

(of drugs) reduces criminal penalties associated with the personal possession of a controlled substance.

defensible space

the range of mechanisms that combine to bring an environment under the control of its residents.

demography

the study of the characteristics of population groups (**demographics** the characteristics of such groups usually expressed in statistical fashion).

designer drugs

"new substances designed by slightly altering the chemical makeup of other illegal or tightly controlled drugs."

descriptive statistics

describe, summarize, or highlight the relationships within data which have been gathered.

deterrence

the prevention of crime. See also **general deterrence** and **specific deterrence**.

deterrence strategy

a crime control strategy which attempts "to diminish motivation for crime by increasing the perceived certainty, severity, or celerity of penalties."

deviance

behaviour which violates social norms or which is statistically different from the "average."

differential association

the sociological thesis that criminality, like any other form of behaviour, is learned through a process of association with others who communicate criminal values.

discrediting information

information which is inconsistent with the managed impressions being communicated in a given situation.

displacement

a shift of criminal activity from one spatial location to another.

dramaturgical perspective (also dramaturgy)

a theoretical point of view which depicts human behaviour as centred around the purposeful management of interpersonal impressions.

drug-defined crimes

violations of laws prohibiting or regulating the possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs.

drug-related crimes

crimes in which drugs contribute to the offense (excluding violations of drug laws).

drug trafficking

See **trafficking**.

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E

ecological theory

also commonly called the "Chicago School" of criminology, is a type of sociological approach which emphasizes demographics (the characteristics of population groups) and geographics (the mapped location of such groups relative to one another) and sees the social disorganization which characterizes delinquency areas as a major cause of criminality and victimization.

ego

the reality-testing part of the personality; also referred to as the reality principle. More formally, the personality component that is conscious, most immediately controls behaviour, and is most in touch with external reality.

enlightenment (the)

also known as the Age of Reason. A social movement which arose during the 18th century, and built upon ideas such as empiricism, rationality, free will, humanism, and natural law.

environmental crimes

violations of the criminal law which, although typically committed by businesses or by business officials, may also be committed by other persons or organizational entities, and which damage some protected or otherwise significant aspect of the natural environment.

environmental criminology

an emerging perspective which emphasizes the importance of geographic location and architectural features as they are associated with the prevalence of criminal victimization. (Note: as the term has been understood to date, environmental criminology is *not* the study of environmental crime, but rather a perspective which stresses how crime varies from place to place.)

environmental scanning

"a systematic effort to identify in an elemental way future developments (trends or events) that could plausibly occur over the time horizon of interest," and that might impact one's area of concern.

ethnic succession

the continuing process whereby one immigrant or ethnic group succeeds another through assumption of a particular position in society.

eugenics

the study of hereditary improvement by genetic control.

evolutionary ecology

an approach to understanding crime that draws attention to the ways people develop over the course of their lives.

experiment

See **controlled experiments** or **quasi-experimental design** .

external validity

the ability to generalize research findings to other settings.

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F***feminist criminology***

a developing intellectual approach which emphasizes gender issues in the subject matter of criminology.

first degree murder

criminal homicide which is planned or involves premeditation.

focal concerns

the key values of any culture, and especially the key values of a delinquent subculture.

forensic psychiatry

that branch of psychiatry having to do with the study of crime and criminality.

forfeiture

See **Asset forfeiture**.

frustration-aggression theory

holds that frustration, which is a natural consequence of living, is a root cause of crime. Criminal behaviour can be a form of adaptation when it results in stress reduction.

future criminology

the study of likely futures as they impinge on crime and its control.

futures research

"a multidisciplinary branch of operations research" whose principle aim "is to facilitate long-range planning based on 1. forecasting from the past supported by mathematical models; 2. cross-disciplinary treatment of its subject matter; 3. systematic use of expert judgment, and; 4. a systems-analytical approach to its problems."

futurist

one who studies the future.

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G

general deterrence

a goal of criminal sentencing which seeks to prevent others from committing crimes similar to the one for which a particular offender is being sentenced.

general theory

one which attempts to explain all (or at least most) forms of criminal conduct through a single, overarching approach.

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H

habitual offender statutes

laws intended to keep repeat criminal offenders behind bars. These laws sometimes come under the rubric of "three strikes and you're out."

hedonistic calculus or utilitarianism

the belief, first proposed by Jeremy Bentham, that behaviour holds value to any individual undertaking it according to the amount of pleasure or pain that it can be expected to produce for that person.

heroin signature program

a DEA program that identifies the geographic source area of a heroin sample through the detection of specific chemical characteristics in the sample peculiar to the source area.

hypothesis

1. [a]n explanation that accounts for a set of facts and that can be tested by further investigation... , 2. [s]omething that is taken to be true for the purpose of argument or investigation.

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I

id

the aspect of the personality from which drives, wishes, urges, and desires emanate. More formally, the division of the psyche associated with instinctual impulses and demands for immediate satisfaction of primitive needs.

illegitimate opportunity structures

subcultural pathways to success which are disapproved of by the wider society.

impression management

the intentional enactment of practiced behaviour which is intended to convey to others one's desirable personal characteristics and social qualities.

incapacitation

the use of imprisonment or other means to reduce the likelihood that an offender will be capable of committing future offenses.

infrastructure

The basic facilities, services, and installations needed for the functioning of a community or society, such as transportation and communications systems, water and power lines, and public institutions including schools, post offices, and prisons.

inferential statistics

specify how likely findings are to be true for other populations, or in other locales.

informed consent

an ethical requirement of social scientific research which specifies that research subjects will be informed as to the nature of the research about to be conducted, their anticipated role in it, and the uses to which the data they provide will be put.

integrated theory

an explanatory perspective that merges (or attempts to merge) concepts drawn from different sources.

interactionist perspectives

See **social process theories**.

interdiction

an international drug control policy which aims to stop drugs from entering the country illegally.

internal validity

the certainty that experimental interventions did indeed cause the changes observed in the study group; also the control over confounding factors which tend to invalidate the results of an experiment.

intersubjectivity

a scientific principle which requires that independent observers see the same thing under the same circumstances for observations to be regarded as valid.

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J***just deserts***

the notion that criminal offenders deserve the punishment they receive at the hands of the law, and that punishments should be appropriate to the type and severity of crime committed.

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K***kriminalpolitik***

the political handling of crime, or a criminology-based social policy.

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L

labeling

an interactionist perspective which sees continued crime as a consequence of limited opportunities for acceptable behaviour which follow from the negative responses of society to those defined as offenders.

learning theory

the general notion that crime is an acquired form of behaviour.

legalization

(of drugs) eliminates the laws and associated criminal penalties that prohibit the production, sale, distribution, and possession of a controlled substance.

life course theories

explanations for criminality that recognize that criminogenic influences have their greatest impact during the early stages of life, and which hold that experiences which children have shape them for the rest of their lives.

life-style theory

See **routine activities theory**.

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M

mala in se

acts which are thought to be wrong in and of themselves.

mala prohibita

acts which are wrong only because society says they are.

marxist criminology

See **radical criminology**.

meta-analysis

a study of other studies about a particular topic of interest.

money laundering

the process of converting illegally earned assets, originating as cash, to one or more alternative forms to conceal such incriminating factors as illegal origin and true ownership.

moral enterprise

a term which encompasses all the efforts a particular interest group makes to have its sense of propriety enacted into law.

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N

natural law

the philosophical perspective that certain immutable laws are fundamental to human nature and can be readily ascertained through reason. Man-made laws, in contrast, are said to derive from human experience and history—both of which are subject to continual change.

natural rights

the rights which, according to natural law theorists, individuals retain in the face of government action and interests.

neoclassical criminology

a contemporary version of Classical criminology which emphasizes deterrence and retribution with reduced emphasis on rehabilitation.

neurosis

functional disorders of the mind or of the emotions involving anxiety, phobia, or other abnormal behaviour.

nurturant strategy

a crime control strategy which attempts "to forestall development of criminality by improving early life experiences and channelling child and adolescent development" into desirable directions.

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O

occupational crime

any act punishable by law which is committed through opportunity created in the course of an occupation that is legal.

omerta

the informal, unwritten code of organized crime which demands silence and loyalty, among other things, of family members.

operant behaviour

behaviour which affects the environment in such a way as to produce responses or further behavioural cues.

operationalization

the process by which concepts are made measurable.

opportunity structure

a path to success. Opportunity structures may be of two types: legitimate and illegitimate.

organized crime

the unlawful activities of the members of a highly organized, disciplined association engaged in supplying illegal goods and services, including but not limited to gambling, prostitution, loansharking, narcotics, labour racketeering, and other unlawful activities of members of such organizations.

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P***panopticon***

a prison designed by Jeremy Bentham which was to be a circular building with cells along the circumference, each clearly visible from a central location staffed by guards.

paradigm

an example, model, or theory.

paranoid schizophrenics

schizophrenic individuals who suffer from delusions and hallucinations.

participant observation

a variety of strategies in data gathering in which the researcher observes a group by participating, to varying degrees, in the activities of the group.

participatory justice

a relatively informal type of criminal justice case processing which makes use of local community resources rather than requiring traditional forms of official intervention.

peace model

an approach to crime control which focuses on effective ways for developing a shared consensus on critical issues which have the potential to seriously affect the quality of life.

peacemaking criminology

a perspective which holds that crime-control agencies and the citizens they serve should work together to alleviate social problems and human suffering and thus reduce crime.

penal couple

a term which describes the relationship between victim and criminal. Also, the two individuals most involved in the criminal act—the offender and the victim.

pharmaceutical diversion

the process by which legitimately-manufactured controlled substances are diverted for illicit use.

phenomenological criminology

the study of crime as a social phenomenon that is created through a process of social interaction.

phenomenology

the study of the contents of human consciousness without regard to external conventions nor prior assumptions.

phrenology

the study of the shape of the head to determine anatomical correlates of human behaviour.

pluralistic perspective

an analytical approach to social organization which holds that a multiplicity of values and beliefs exist in any complex society, but that most social actors agree on the usefulness of law as a formal means of dispute resolution.

positivism

the application of scientific techniques to the study of crime and criminals.

post-crime victimization or secondary victimization

refers to problems in living which tend to follow from initial victimization.

postmodern criminology

a brand of criminology which developed following World War II, and which builds upon the tenants inherent in postmodern social thought.

power-control theory

a perspective which holds that the distribution of crime and delinquency within society is to some degree founded upon the consequences which power relationships within the wider society hold for domestic settings, and for the everyday relationships between men, women, and children within the context of family life.

primary deviance

initial deviance often undertaken to deal with transient problems in living.

primary research

research characterized by original and direct investigation.

proletariat

in Marxian theory, the working class.

protection/avoidance strategy

a crime control strategy which attempts to reduce criminal opportunities by changing people's routine activities, increasing guardianship, or by incapacitating convicted offenders.

psychiatric criminology

See **forensic psychiatry**.

psychiatric theories

those derived from the medical sciences, including neurology, and which, like other psychological theories, focus on the individual as the unit of analysis.

psychoactive substances

those which affect the mind, mental processes, or emotions.

psychoanalysis

the theory of human psychology founded by Freud on the concepts of the unconscious, resistance, repression, sexuality, and the Oedipus complex.

psychoanalytic criminology

is a psychiatric approach developed by the Austrian psychiatrist Sigmund Freud which emphasizes the role of personality in human behaviour, and which sees deviant behaviour as the result of dysfunctional personalities.

psychological profiling

the attempt to categorize, understand, and predict, the behaviour of certain types of offenders based upon behavioural clues they provide.

psychological theories

those derived from the behavioural sciences and which focus on the individual as the unit of analysis. Psychological theories place the locus of crime causation within the personality of the individual offender.

psychopath or sociopath

a person with a personality disorder, especially one manifested in aggressively antisocial behaviour, which is often said to be the result of a poorly developed superego.

psychopathology

the study of pathological mental conditions, that is, mental illness.

psychosis

a form of mental illness in which sufferers are said to be out of touch with reality.

psychotherapy

a form of psychiatric treatment based upon psychoanalytical principles and techniques.

public policy

a course of action that government takes in an effort to solve a problem or to achieve an end.

punishment

undesirable behavioural consequences likely to decrease the frequency of occurrence of that behaviour.

pure research

research undertaken simply for the sake of advancing scientific knowledge.

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Q***qualitative methods***

research techniques which produce results which are difficult to quantify.

quantitative methods

research techniques which produce measurable results.

quasi-experimental

designs approaches to research which, although less powerful than experimental designs, are deemed worthy of use where better designs are not feasible.

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R***radical criminology***

a perspective which holds that the causes of crime are rooted in social conditions which empower the wealthy and the politically well organized, but disenfranchise those less fortunate. Also called **Marxist** or **critical criminology**.

randomization

the process whereby individuals are assigned to study groups without biases or differences resulting from selection.

rational choice theory

a perspective which holds that criminality is the result of conscious choice, and which predicts that individuals choose to commit crime when the benefits outweigh the costs of disobeying the law.

reaction formation

the process in which a person openly rejects that which he or she wants, or aspires to, but cannot obtain or achieve.

realist criminology

an emerging perspective which insists upon a pragmatic assessment of crime and associated problems.

recidivism

the repetition of criminal behaviour.

recidivism rate

the percentage of convicted offenders who have been released from prison and who are later rearrested for a new crime, generally within five years following release.

reintegrative shaming

that form of shaming, imposed as a sanction by the criminal justice system, that is thought to strengthen the moral bond between the offender and the community.

replicability

(experimental) a scientific principle which holds that the same observations made at one time can be had again at a later time if all other conditions are the same.

research

the use of standardized, systematic procedures in the search for knowledge.

research design

the logic and structure inherent in an approach to data-gathering.

restitution

a criminal sanction, in particular the payment of compensation by the offender to the victim.

restorative justice

a postmodern perspective which stresses "remedies and restoration rather than prison, punishment and victim neglect."

retribution

the act of taking revenge upon a criminal perpetrator.

reward

desirable behavioural consequences likely to increase the frequency of occurrence of that behaviour.

routine activities theory or life-style theory

a brand of rational choice theory which suggests that life-styles contribute significantly to both the volume and type of crime found in any society.

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S***scenario writing***

a technique intended to predict future outcomes, and which builds upon environmental scanning by attempting to assess the likelihood of a variety of possible outcomes once important trends have been identified.

schizophrenics

mentally ill individuals who suffer from disjointed thinking and, possibly, delusions and hallucinations.

secondary analysis

the reanalysis of existing data.

secondary deviance

that which results from official labelling and from association with others who have been so labelled.

secondary research

new evaluations of existing information which has already been collected by other researchers.

selective incapacitation

a social policy which seeks to protect society by incarcerating those individuals deemed to be the most dangerous.

situational choice theory

a brand of rational choice theory which views criminal behaviour "as a function of choices and decisions made within a context of situational constraints and opportunities."

situational crime prevention

a social policy approach that looks to develop greater understanding of crime and more effective crime prevention strategies through concern with the physical, organizational, and social environments that make crime possible.

social bond

the rather intangible link between individuals and the society of which they are a part. The social bond is created through the process of socialization.

social capital

the degree of positive relationships with other persons and with social

institutions, that individuals build up over the course of their lives.

social class

distinctions made between individuals on the basis of important defining social characteristics.

social contract

the Enlightenment-era concept that human beings abandon their natural state of individual freedom to join together and form society. Although, in the process of forming a social contract, individuals surrender some freedoms to society as a whole, government, once formed, is obligated to assume responsibilities toward its citizens and to provide for their protection and welfare.

social control theory

a perspective which predicts that when social constraints on antisocial behaviour are weakened or absent, delinquent behaviour emerges. Rather than stressing causative factors in criminal behaviour, control theory asks why people actually obey rules instead of breaking them.

social disorganization

a condition said to exist when a group is faced with social change, uneven development of culture, maladaptiveness, disharmony, conflict, and lack of consensus.

social ecology

an approach to criminological theorizing that attempts to link the structure and organization of human community to interactions with its localized environment.

social epidemiology

the study of social epidemics and diseases of the social order.

social learning theory

a psychological perspective that says people learn how to behave by modelling themselves after others whom they have the opportunity to observe.

social pathology

a concept which compares society to a physical organism and sees criminality as an illness.

social policies

government initiatives, programs, and plans intended to address problems in society. The "War on Crime," for example, is a kind of generic (large-scale) social policy—one consisting of many smaller programs.

social problems perspective

the belief that crime is a manifestation of underlying social problems, such as poverty, discrimination, pervasive family violence, inadequate socialization

practices, and the breakdown of traditional social institutions.

social process theories

also known as **interactionist perspectives** , emphasize the give-and-take which occurs between offender, victim, and society—and specifically between the offender and agents of formal social control such as the police, courts, and correctional organizations.

social relativity

the notion that social events are differently interpreted according to the cultural experiences and personal interests of the initiator, the observer, or the recipient of that behaviour.

social responsibility perspective

a viewpoint which holds that individuals are fundamentally responsible for their own behaviour, and which maintains that they choose crime over other, more law-abiding, courses of action.

social-structural theories

explain crime by reference to various aspects of the social fabric. They emphasize relationships between social institutions, and describe the types of behaviour which tend to characterize *groups* of people as opposed to *individuals*.

social structure

the pattern of social organization and the interrelationships between institutions characteristic of a society.

socialization

the lifelong process of social experience whereby individuals acquire the cultural patterns of their society.

sociobiology

"the systematic study of the biological basis of all social behaviour."

sociopath

see **psychopath**.

somatotyping

the classification of human beings into types according to body build and other physical characteristics.

specific deterrence

a goal of criminal sentencing which seeks to prevent a particular offender from engaging in repeat criminality.

state-organized crime

acts defined by law as criminal and committed by state officials in the pursuit of their job as representatives of the state.

statistical correlation

the simultaneous increase or decrease in value of two numerically valued random variables.

statistical school

a criminological perspective with roots in the early 1800s which seeks to uncover correlations between crime rates and other types of demographic data.

statute

a formal written enactment of a legislative body.

statutory law

law in the form of statutes or formal written strictures, made by a legislature or governing body with the power to make law.

stigmatic shaming

that form of shaming, imposed as a sanction by the criminal justice system, that is thought to destroy the moral bond between the offender and the community.

strain theory or anomie theory

a sociological approach which posits a disjuncture between socially and subculturally sanctioned means and goals as the cause of criminal behaviour.

strategic assessment

a technique which assesses the risks and opportunities facing those who plan for the future.

subcultural theory

a sociological perspective which emphasizes the contribution made by variously socialized cultural groups to the phenomenon of crime.

subculture

a collection of values and preferences which is communicated to subcultural participants through a process of socialization.

sublimation

the psychological process whereby one aspect of consciousness comes to be symbolically substituted for another.

substantial capacity test

a standard for judging legal insanity which requires that a person lack "the mental capacity needed to understand the wrongfulness of his act, or to conform his behaviour to the requirements of the law."

superego

the moral aspect of the personality; much like the conscience. More formally, the division of the psyche that develops by the incorporation of the perceived

moral standards of the community, is mainly unconscious, and includes the conscience.

supermale

a human male displaying the XYY chromosome structure.

superpredators

a new generation of juveniles "who are coming of age in actual and 'moral poverty' without the benefits of parents, teachers, coaches and clergy to teach them right from wrong and show them 'unconditional love'." The term is often applied to those inner-city youths who meet the criteria it sets forth.

survey research

a social science data-gathering technique which involves the use of questionnaires.

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T***tagging***

like labelling, the process whereby an individual is negatively defined by agencies of justice.

target hardening

the reduction in criminal opportunity, generally through the use of physical barriers, architectural design, and enhanced security measures, of a particular location.

techniques of neutralization

culturally available justifications which can provide criminal offenders with the means to disavow responsibility for their behaviour.

terrorism

premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents, usually intended to influence an audience.

tests of significance

statistical techniques intended to provide researchers with confidence that their results are in fact true, and not the result of sampling error.

theory

a series of interrelated propositions that attempt to describe, explain, predict, and ultimately to control some class of events. A theory gains explanatory power from inherent logical consistency, and is "tested" by how well it describes and predicts reality.

threat analysis

or **risk analysis** , involves a complete and thorough assessment of the kinds of perils facing an organization.

total institutions

facilities from which individuals can rarely come and go, and in which communal life is intense and circumscribed. Individuals in total institutions tend to eat, sleep, play, learn, and worship (if at all) together.

trafficking

includes manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, importing, and exporting (or possession with intent to do the same) a controlled substance or a counterfeit substance.

trephination

a form of surgery, typically involving bone and especially the skull. Early instances of cranial trephination have been taken as evidence for primitive beliefs in spirit possession.

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U***uni-causal***

having one cause. Theories which are uni-causal posit only one source for all that they attempt to explain.

utilitarianism

See **hedonistic calculus**.

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V***variable***

a concept which can undergo measurable changes.

verstehen

the kind of subjective understanding that can be achieved by criminologists who immerse themselves into the everyday world of the criminals they study.

victim impact statement

a written document which describes the losses, suffering, and trauma experienced by the crime victim or by the victim's survivors. In jurisdictions where victim impact statements are used, judges are expected to consider

them in arriving at an appropriate sentence for the offender.

victim-proneness

the degree of an individual's likelihood of victimization.

victim-witness assistance programs

counsel victims, orient them to the justice process, and provide a variety of other services such as transportation to court, child care during court appearances, and referrals to social service agencies.

victimogenesis

the contributory background of a victim as a result of which he or she becomes prone to victimization.

victimology

the study of victims and their contributory role, if any, in crime causation. computer programs or data when it is executed.

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W***white-collar crime***

violations of the criminal law committed by a person of respectability and high social status in the course of his or her occupation.