

# CRIMINOLOGY

A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH

SIXTH EDITION

*Piers Beirne*

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE

*James W. Messerschmidt*

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE

NEW YORK OXFORD  
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

# CONTENTS

LIST OF BOXES, FIGURES, AND TABLES *xv*

PREFACE *xvii*

ABOUT THE AUTHORS *xxiii*

## **PART I INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY 1**

### **CHAPTER 1 The Problem of Crime 3**

Preview 3

Key Terms 3

#### **1.1 Images of Crime 4**

Crime as a Social Problem 4

Crime and the Culture of Fear 5

Crime in the Mass Media 9

Going Public: Newsmaking Criminology and Public Criminology 13

#### **1.2 Crime, Criminal Law, and Criminalization 14**

Crime as a Legal Category 15

Law and State 17

Law and Criminalization 19

#### **1.3 Crime as a Sociological Problem 19**

Crime as a Violation of Conduct Norms 20

Crime as Social Harm and Analogous Social Injury 20

Crime as a Violation of Rights 22

Crime and Deviance 23

Crime, Globalization, and Global Conduct Norms 24

Assessment	26
Review	27
Questions for Class Discussion	28
For Further Study	30

## **CHAPTER 2 The Measurement of Crime 31**

Preview	31
Key Terms	31
2.1 Caution: Data Do Not Speak for Themselves!	32
2.2 Official Sources of Crime Data	33
Police-Based Data: Uniform Crime Reports (UCR)	33
Police-Based Data: National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)	35
Evaluation of the UCR	36
Victimization Data: National Crime Victimization Surveys (NCVS)	41
Evaluation of the NCVS	43
Federal Data on White-Collar Crime, Corporate Crime, and Internet Crime	44
2.3 Unofficial Sources of Crime Data	45
Self-Report Data	45
Life-Course Data	46
Life-History Data	47
Criminal Biographies	48
Observation Research and Participant Observation Research	48
Comparative and Historical Research	50
Assessment	51
Review	51
Official Crime Data	52
Unofficial Crime Data	52
Questions for Class Discussion	53
Web Exercises	53
For Further Study	53

## **PART II CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY 55**

### **CHAPTER 3 Inventing Criminology: Classicism, Positivism, and Beyond 57**

Preview	57
Key Terms	57

3.1	The Enlightenment and Classical Criminology	58
	Beccaria: <i>Of Crimes and Punishments</i> (1764)	59
	Bentham: Punishment and the Panopticon	62
	Toward the Disciplinary Society	65
3.2	The Emergence of Positivist Criminology	65
	The Crisis of Classicism: The Dangerous Classes	66
	Quetelet's Social Mechanics of Crime	67
3.3	Criminal Anthropology: Lombroso's "Born Criminal"	69
	Lombroso's <i>Criminal Man</i> (1876)	69
	Goring's <i>The English Convict</i> (1913)	70
3.4	Neoclassical Criminology	72
	Penal Dilemmas	72
	Neoclassical Compromises	73
	Assessment: Classicism and Positivism Today	74
	Review	76
	Questions for Class Discussion	77
	For Further Study	79
<b>CHAPTER 4</b>	<b>Social Structure, Anomie, and Crime</b>	<b>81</b>
	Preview	81
	Key Terms	81
4.1	Durkheim's Sociology of Law and Crime	82
	Law and Social Solidarity	83
	The Nature of Crime	84
	Anomie, Egoism, and Crime	86
	The Evolution of Punishment	87
	Evaluation of Durkheim	89
4.2	Social Structure, Anomie, and Deviance	90
	Merton's Typology of Modes of Individual Adaptation	91
	Evaluation of Merton	93
4.3	Revised Strain Theory	94
	Agnew's General Strain Theory	94
	Evaluation of General Strain Theory	96
	Messner and Rosenfeld's Institutional Anomie Theory	96
	Evaluation of Institutional Anomie Theory	98
	Review	99
	Questions for Class Discussion	100
	For Further Study	100

## **CHAPTER 5 Delinquent Subcultures, Subcultures of Delinquency, and the Labeling Perspective 103**

Preview 103

Key Terms 104

### **5.1 The Chicago School of Criminology: Social Disorganization and Delinquency 104**

Shaw and McKay's *Juvenile Delinquency and Urban Areas* (1942) 106

Evaluation of the Chicago School 111

### **5.2 Delinquent Subcultures 113**

A. K. Cohen's *Delinquent Boys* (1955) 113

Delinquency and Lower-Class Culture 116

Delinquency and Opportunity 118

Evaluation of Subcultural Theory 120

### **5.3 Matza's *Delinquency and Drift* (1964) 121**

The Positive Delinquent 121

The Subculture of Delinquency 122

*Delinquency and Drift* 123

Evaluation of *Delinquency and Drift* 125

### **5.4 The Labeling Perspective 127**

The Social Meaning of Deviance 128

Societal Reaction 129

Primary and Secondary Deviance 129

Deviance Amplification 130

Stigmatization 131

Evaluation of Labeling Theory 134

Review 135

Questions for Class Discussion 137

For Further Study 138

## **CHAPTER 6 Social Learning Theory and Social Control Theory 141**

Preview 141

Key Terms 141

### **6.1 Differential Association 142**

Evaluation of Differential Association 144

### **6.2 Social Learning Theory 144**

Differential Reinforcement 145

Evaluation of Social Learning Theory 149

### **6.3 Social Control Theory 150**

Evaluation of Social Control Theory 153

6.4 Self-Control Theory	153
Gottfredson and Hirschi's Theory of Self-Control	153
Evaluation of Self-Control Theory	154
6.5 Control Balance Theory	156
Evaluation of Control Balance Theory	158
Review	159
Questions for Class Discussion	160
For Further Study	161

## **CHAPTER 7 The Conflict Tradition 163**

Preview	163
Key Terms	163
7.1 Marxism, Law, and Crime	164
Key Concepts of Marxism	164
State and Law	166
Criminalization as a Violation of Rights	167
Crime and Demoralization	167
Evaluation of Marxism	169
7.2 Conflict Theory	169
Crime and Criminalization	170
Criminal Law and Crime	173
Toward an Integrated Conflict Theory	175
Evaluation of Conflict Theory	176
7.3 Radical Criminology	177
Left Realism	180
Evaluation of Radical Criminology	180
Review	181
Questions for Class Discussion	182
For Further Study	183

## **CHAPTER 8 Feminist and Critical Criminologies 185**

Preview	185
Key Terms	185
8.1 Feminist Criminologies	186
The First Phase	186
The Second Phase	191
Evaluation of Feminist Criminologies	194
8.2 Critical Criminologies	195
Constitutive Criminology	195

Cultural Criminology	196
Critical Humanist Criminologies	201
Green Criminology	203
Evaluation of Critical Criminologies	208

Review 209

Questions for Class Discussion 210

For Further Study 211

### **PART III INEQUALITIES AND CRIME 213**

#### **CHAPTER 9 Inequality, Crime, and Victimization 215**

Preview 215

Key Terms 215

##### **9.1 Class and Crime 216**

Patterns of Crime and Victimization 216

Class and Varieties of Crime 218

##### **9.2 Gender and Crime 222**

Patterns of Crime and Victimization 222

Gender and Varieties of Crime 223

##### **9.3 Race and Crime 228**

Patterns of Crime and Victimization 228

Race and Varieties of Crime 229

##### **9.4 Age and Crime 232**

Patterns of Crime and Victimization 232

Age and Varieties of Crime 232

Review 235

Questions for Class Discussion 237

For Further Study 238

#### **CHAPTER 10 Property Crime 239**

Preview 239

Key Terms 239

##### **10.1 Robbery and Burglary 240**

Robbery 240

Typologies of Robbery 241

Robbery as Transaction 242

Robbers on Robbery 243

Burglary 245

Burglars on Burglary 246

**10.2 Varieties of Larceny 248**

Shoplifting 248

Motor Vehicle Theft 250

Fraud 252

**10.3 Dealing and Damage 255**

Fencing 255

Arson 257

Review 259

Questions for Class Discussion 260

For Further Study 261

**CHAPTER 11 Interpersonal Violence 263**

Preview 263

Key Terms 263

**11.1 Murder, Assault, Hate Crimes, and Rape 264**

Murder and Aggravated Assault 264

Hate Crimes 269

Rape 271

**11.2 Interpersonal Violence in the Family 275**

Heterosexual Wife Rape and Battering 276

Gay and Lesbian Partner Battering 279

Child and Elder Abuse 282

Animal Abuse 285

**11.3 Interpersonal Violence in the Workplace 286**

Murder and Assault 287

Sexual Harassment 288

Review 289

Questions for Class Discussion 291

For Further Study 291

**CHAPTER 12 White-Collar Crime 293**

Preview 293

Key Terms 293

**12.1 Occupational Crime 295**

Occupational Theft 295

Occupational Fraud 300

**12.2 Corporate Crime 303**

Corporate Violence 303

Corporate Theft 307



	<b>12.3 Transnational Corporate Crime</b>	<b>309</b>
	Bribery	310
	Dumping	311
	Dangerous Working Conditions	314
	<b>Review</b>	<b>314</b>
	<b>Questions for Class Discussion</b>	<b>315</b>
	<b>For Further Study</b>	<b>315</b>
<b>CHAPTER 13</b>	<b>Political Crime</b>	<b>317</b>
	<b>Preview</b>	<b>317</b>
	<b>Key Terms</b>	<b>317</b>
	<b>13.1 Political Crimes Against the State</b>	<b>318</b>
	Violent Political Crimes Against the State	318
	Nonviolent Political Crimes Against the State	322
	<b>13.2 Domestic Political Crimes by the State</b>	<b>325</b>
	State Corruption	325
	State Political Repression	328
	State-Corporate Crime	334
	<b>13.3 Transnational Political Crimes by the State</b>	<b>336</b>
	State Terrorism	336
	The State, Terrorism, and Globalization	349
	<b>Review</b>	<b>351</b>
	<b>Questions for Class Discussion</b>	<b>352</b>
	<b>For Further Study</b>	<b>352</b>
<b>CHAPTER 14</b>	<b>Comparative Criminology and Globalization</b>	<b>353</b>
	<b>Preview</b>	<b>353</b>
	<b>Key Terms</b>	<b>354</b>
	<b>14.1 Approaching Comparative Criminology</b>	<b>354</b>
	The Goal(s) of Comparative Criminology	354
	Transnational Crime	356
	Cultural Relativism	357
	A Case Study of Comparative Sexual Deviance	358
	Toward Uniform Cross-National Crime Data?	361
	Evaluation of Comparative Criminology	363
	<b>14.2 Comparative Crime and Victimization Data</b>	<b>363</b>
	Cross-National Crime Data	363
	Cross-National Victimization Data	365

<b>14.3 Cross-National Generalizations Regarding Crime</b>	<b>367</b>
Countries with Low Crime Rates	367
Modernization and Crime	371
Globalization and Crime	373
American Exceptionalism: Crime and Incarceration in Comparative Perspective	374
<b>Review</b>	<b>376</b>
<b>Questions for Class Discussion</b>	<b>378</b>
<b>For Further Study</b>	<b>378</b>
<b>GLOSSARY</b>	<b>381</b>
<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>391</b>
<b>AUTHOR INDEX</b>	<b>429</b>
<b>SUBJECT INDEX</b>	<b>439</b>

# LIST OF BOXES, FIGURES, AND TABLES

## BOXES

- 1.1 Conditions Conducive to a Moral Panic
- 2.1 Sources of Corporate Crime Data
- 2.2 On the Development of Offending
- 2.3 Biographies of Crime
- 2.4 Participant Observation Studies
- 3.1 Animals on Trial
- 3.2 The Panopticon
- 3.3 The Science of Eugenics
- 4.1 Durkheim's Two Laws of Penal Evolution
- 5.1 The Rise of Sociology in the United States, 1890–1910
- 5.2 The Persistence of Neighborhood Crime
- 5.3 A. K. Cohen's Subculture of Delinquent Boys
- 5.4 Techniques of Neutralization
- 7.1 Richard Quinney's Conflict Theory of Crime
- 7.2 The Carrier's Case
- 8.1 Holding Your Square
- 8.2 The Aesthetics of Authority
- 8.3 Proposed Ecocide Act
- 8.4 Slaughterhouse Work
- 9.1 Getting Played
- 9.2 Whiteness and Crime
- 10.1 Persistent Property Offenders
- 10.2 Identity Theft
- 11.1 College Male Athlete Violence Against Women
- 11.2 Offline and Online Stalking
- 12.1 Collective Embezzlement
- 12.2 Ponzi Scheme
- 12.3 Bhopal—1984 and Beyond

- 13.1 October Surprise
- 13.2 The Case of Leonard Peltier
- 13.3 The Iran-Contra Scandal
- 13.4 Torture, U.S. Style

## FIGURES

- 1.1 We'll Be Watching You!
- 1.2 La Société du Spectacle
- 1.3 Guantanamo Bay Detention Facility
- 2.1 Uniform Crime Reports—Definitions of Eight Major Crimes
- 2.2 Murder by Relationship of Victim to Offender, 2007
- 2.3 Property Crimes 2012: An FBI Snapshot
- 2.4 Violent Victimization Reported and Not Reported to Police, 1993–2012
- 2.5 Total Property Victimization Rate and Prevalence Rate, 1993–2010
- 3.1 This engraving of "Justice" appeared at the beginning of the 1765 edition of Beccaria's *Of Crimes and Punishments*
- 3.2 Jeremy Bentham (1748–1832)
- 3.3 The Panopticon
- 3.4 Skulls of criminals, from Cesare Lombroso, *L'Uomo delinquente*, 1876
- 4.1 Public execution in Paris, May 1, 1871
- 4.2 A Social-Psychological Model of Animal Abuse
- 4.3 An Analytical Model of the Linkages Between Macrosocial Organization and Crime

5.1    Male Juvenile Delinquency Rates, Chicago, 1900–1933

5.2    The Amplification of Deviance

6.1    The SSSL Model: Social Structure and Social Learning in Crime

7.1    How is public order possible? A late-nineteenth-century industrial scene.

7.2    A Model of the Social Reality of Crime

7.3    Structural Contradictions Theory

8.1    Base jumping off the New River Gorge Bridge, West Virginia

11.1    Angie Zapata was beaten and killed in 2009 by Allen Andrade because she was transgender

13.1    Native American Land Within the United States

13.2    CIA–Meo Tribe Rice–Heroin Connection in the Golden Triangle

13.3    Probable CIA-Supported Arms–Heroin Pipeline in the Golden Crescent

14.1    Overall Victimization Rates for 10 Crimes in the Top 15 Countries

14.2    Overall Victimization Rates for 10 Crimes in the Bottom 15 Countries

14.3    Reporting of Crimes to the Police

**TABLES**

2.1    NIBRS: Group A Offense Categories

3.1    Classical and Positivist Criminology—A Comparison

3.2    The Constancy of Crime, France, 1826–1829

4.1    A Typology of Modes of Individual Adaptation

5.1    Cloward and Ohlin’s Classification of Lower-Class Youth

10.1    Robbery Statistics, United States, 2012

11.1    Individual Violent Behavior in Heterosexual Couples

14.1    Homicide: Average Raw Numbers and Rates in Selected Industrialized Countries, 2006–2011

14.2    Percentages of Societies Punishing Specific Sexual Practices

14.3    Mean Severity Values of Specific Punishments

14.4    Prison Populations in Selected Countries, 2010–2013