

New
Price
WHY PAY MORE
Used
Price
\$32.95

CRIMINOLOGY

PIERS BEIRNE

JAMES MESSERSCHMIDT

YEAR ROUND BOOK BUY BACK



**CAMPUS BOOK
& SUPPLY**

- S.C.S.U. Clothing & Gifts
- School Supplies
- Trade Books
- Special Order Books

***Your Used Book
Headquarters***

Located at 5th Avenue and Division
St. Cloud, MN 56301 • (612) 255-0851

CRIMINOLOGY

Cover: Copyright H. A. Roberts/American Stock Photography.

Copyright ©1991 by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher.

Requests for permission to make copies of any part of the work should be mailed to: Permissions Department, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc., 8th Floor, Orlando, Florida 32887.

ISBN: 0-15-516122-9

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 90-82907

Printed in the United States of America

Preface

The aim of *Criminology* is to introduce the basic aspects of modern criminology to undergraduate students. This is no easy task in such a diverse discipline as criminology. All textbooks have to make a number of hard choices. This book very much reflects our teaching experience in the undergraduate criminology program at the University of Southern Maine, where our course in criminology both surveys the major areas of the discipline and also provides an introduction to more specialized, upper-level courses in criminology. We have attempted to strike a balance between depth of analysis and breadth of coverage and to make the book comprehensive in its coverage of the sociological aspects of criminology. While we aim to survey all the major aspects of the field, we especially emphasize the importance of historical, feminist, and comparative perspectives on crime.

This book is divided into four parts. **Part One (Chapters 1–2)** focuses on two surprisingly difficult questions: What is crime? How can we measure crime? Chapter 1 outlines the two major ways in which popular discourse about crime is articulated—through the mass media and through the pronouncements of the moral entrepreneurs of social problems—and it summarizes the key elements of crime as a legal category. The chapter stresses the importance of sociological definitions of crime, and introduces the three key sociological concepts of criminology: crime, criminal law, and criminalization. Chapter 2 outlines the major sources of crime data. These include both official crime data (the F.B.I.'s *Uniform Crime Reports*, the *National Crime Surveys*, and records of various federal agencies) and unofficial crime data (self-report studies, participant observation, biographies, and comparative and historical data). We stress here that crime data can never represent criminal behavior neutrally because there are inherent biases in the way that all data are conceived and constructed. Data do not speak for themselves! How crime data are explained therefore depends both on criminologists' concepts of crime and on the assumptions underlying their theories of crime. The importance of this point will become clear as the contents of the book unfold.

Part Two (Chapters 3–8) provides an introduction to various types of crime. Typologies of crime can be constructed in an infinite variety of ways. We have chosen a sociological typology which combines (1) those crimes usually defined in the legal codes and (2) those outside the criminal law which have received much attention in the sociological literature. Because crime is found in every social institution, the chapters in Part Two offer a comprehensive understanding of the nature, extent, types, and costs of crime not only in the street, but also in the family, the workplace, and the state. In these chapters we rely heavily on research done in the U.S., but we also include material from other countries, such as Canada and Britain.

Part Three (Chapters 9–14) is a systematic guide to modern criminological theory. Theories about crime can be violently misunderstood by wrenching them from the context of the era in which they were conceived. The six chapters in Part Three therefore unfold chronologically, with respect both to the contents of each chapter and to the position of each chapter in relation to the other five. We believe that all theories, including those popular today, should at first be understood historically. One virtue of this belief is the humbling discovery that our understanding of crime has advanced only very little beyond that of theorists of a century ago, like Émile Durkheim, Adolphe Quetelet, and Karl Marx. In describing each theory we try to show why it arose when it did, what theories it modified or supplanted, how it was understood and criticized by its competitors, and how it contributes to our understanding of crime today.

No textbook in the social sciences has the license to assume that its contents are objective. Textbooks differ in their descriptions of theories and in the importance, or lack thereof, that they attribute to them. Any textbook must decide which theories should be included and which ignored. This textbook suffers from similar biases, so you should be aware of our rough perception of them. The contents of Chapters 9–14 were chosen only after we wrestled with two key questions. Is a given theory a fossilized museum-piece with little theoretical relevance to our understanding of crime and criminology today? If so, it will not be found here. Does the theory contribute to the development of sociological criminology? If it does, we have tried to include it here.

Part Four (Chapters 15–16) attempts to synthesize some of the main themes implicit in Part Two and Part Three. Here we offer a critical sociological perspective on the relationship between crime and structured social inequality. In Chapter 15 we examine the influence on patterns of crime and victimization in the U.S. of four major forms of social inequality: class, gender, race, and age. In Chapter 16 we try to show how the understanding of crime in the U.S. can be significantly enhanced by extending our examination to crime in other societies. We outline the key concepts and sources of data in comparative criminology, and assess the merits of various cross-national generalizations about crime and crime rates.

We have avoided the conventional division in criminology textbooks between “crime” and “corrections” by altogether omitting the usual lengthy descriptions of the criminal justice system. Our focus in this book is not criminal justice but crime, and we have tried to discuss the complexity of the latter in the depth we believe it warrants. Accordingly, various aspects of social control (criminalization, labeling, police practices, comparative penal policies, and so on) naturally press their claims for attention, and we explore them here especially when they affect the links between crime and structured social inequality.

Chapter Previews and Chapter Reviews

Each chapter begins with a **chapter preview** of the main themes which follow. Included in the preview is a list of **key terms** that you should be especially aware of as you read through the chapter. These terms are highlighted in the text and then immediately followed by a definition to help you understand them more easily. At the end of each chapter a **chapter review** outlines the major points that have been discussed.

Questions for Class Discussion and Recommended Readings

Each chapter review is followed by several **questions for classroom discussion**. These are followed by an annotated list of **recommended readings** that will be helpful for essays or term papers.

References

After Chapter 16 there is a comprehensive, alphabetical list of **references** cited in the book. In the body of the text you will find the references cited in the following way: (Smith, 1989:21). This example begins with the last name of the author ("Smith"), then gives the year the material was published or written ("1989"), and the page number of the citation ("21"). We also make extensive use of "*ibid.*" when we refer to the same work cited in the immediately preceding citation.

A Note on Chauvinist Language

In writing this textbook we have been especially sensitive to chauvinist language which creates the impression that one particular group—gender, race, country, and so on—is superior to another. For example, we do not use "he," "his," or "him" when referring to people in general because these terms effectively exclude women. Similarly, we do not refer to the United States as "America" because the latter term should properly be reserved to signify the entire Western hemisphere—North, Central, and South America.

Acknowledgements

A book such as this inevitably incurs many debts. First and foremost, we thank our students, many of whom forced us to clarify our ideas and who provided us with critical (at times, very critical!) comments during our classroom presentations of the material in the book. Bob Goan, Cara Leary, Tony Pezet, Mindy Smith, Annie Wall and, especially, Michele I. Hartford gave enormously of their time and energy.

Several of our colleagues in the Department of Sociology and Criminology have been very generous with their time—Donald Anspach, David Fullam, and Peter Lehman provided constant encouragement and constructive suggestions for improving the text, and we are greatly in their debt. Thanks, too, to Jill Kendall and Rosy Miller, without whose help, in a great variety of ways, this book would never have been completed so smoothly. The University of Southern Maine's College of Arts and Sciences has also been very generous with the two indispensable commodities of time and financial assistance.

Many colleagues and friends at other institutions were kind enough to read portions of the manuscript. Their comments have undoubtedly turned it into a far better book than it otherwise would have been. In this regard we are indebted to Tom Bernard (Pennsylvania State University), Alan Block (Pennsylvania State University), Bill Chambliss (George Washington University), Meda Chesney-Lind (University of Hawaii, Manoa), Albert Cohen (University of Connecticut), Nanette Davis (Portland State University), Colin Goff (University of New Brunswick), Casey Groves (University of Wisconsin, Green Bay), Stuart Henry (Eastern Michigan University), Eileen Leonard (Vassar College), Eleanor Miller (University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee), and Steve Spitzer (Suffolk University). Needless to say, we blame them entirely for any errors in this book! For additional help with certain aspects of the book, we wish to acknowledge the generosity of Stephan Bunker (Maine Uniform Crime Reporting Program), Jean-Ri Cojuc (University of Southern Maine), Paul Cromwell (University of Texas at Permian Basin), Drew Humphries (Rutgers University), Ciaran McCullagh (University College, Cork), and Paul Knepper (Northern Kentucky University).

This book could not have been written without the constant support of the staff of the Interlibrary Loan Services at U.S.M.'s Luther Bonney Library; James Brady, Cassandra Fitzherbert, and Kathryn Gatchall have our heartfelt thanks for their unfailing understanding and good humor. We were also always made to feel welcome by the staff of the Hawthorne-Longfellow Library at Bowdoin College.

Finally, for their great enthusiasm and their sensitivity we wish to thank the staff at Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, especially Marc Boggs, Kay Faust, Robert Miller, Sarah Randall, Paulette Russo, and Katherine Watson.

Brief Table of Contents

PREFACE vii

PART ONE INTRODUCTION 1

- 1 What Is Crime? 2
- 2 The Measurement of Crime 29

PART TWO TYPES OF CRIME 59

- 3 Interpersonal Violence 60
- 4 Property Crime 96
- 5 Public-Order Crime 130
- 6 White-Collar Crime 171
- 7 Syndicated Crime 204
- 8 Political Crime 239

PART THREE CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY 281

- 9 The Origins of Criminological Theory 282
- 10 The Emergence of Sociological
Criminology 319

11	The Emergence of Criminology in the United States	354
12	Delinquent Subcultures and Subcultures of Delinquency	396
13	Theoretical Diversity	425
14	New Directions in Criminological Theory	473

PART	FOUR	SYNTHESIS	531
------	-------------	------------------	-----

15	Crime and Social Inequality	532
16	Comparative Criminology	579
	References	
	Index	

Table of Contents

PREFACE vii

PART ONE	INTRODUCTION	1
1	What Is Crime?	2
1.1	IMAGES OF CRIME	3
	Crime as a Social Problem	
	Crime in the Mass Media	
1.2	DEFINITIONS OF CRIME	9
	Crime as a Legal Category	
	Sociological Definitions of Crime	
	Toward an Eclectic Definition of Crime	
1.3	CRIME, CRIMINAL LAW, AND CRIMINALIZATION	22
	State, Law, and Social Control	
	Law and Criminalization	
2	The Measurement of Crime	29
2.1	OFFICIAL CRIME DATA	30
	Police Data: <i>Uniform Crime Reports</i>	
	Victimization Data: <i>National Crime Survey</i>	
	Federal Agencies and Corporate Crime	

2.2	UNOFFICIAL CRIME DATA	47
	Self-Report Data	
	Participant Observation	
	Biographical Data	
	Comparative and Historical Data	
2.3	ASSESSMENT	53

PART TWO	TYPES OF CRIME	59
-----------------	-----------------------	-----------

3	Interpersonal Violence	60
3.1	MURDER, ASSAULT, AND RAPE	62
	Murder and Assault	
	Rape	
3.2	INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE IN THE FAMILY	78
	Wife Rape	
	Wife Beating	
	Child Abuse, Incestuous Assault, and Neglect	
3.3	SEXUAL HARASSMENT	89
	What Is Sexual Harassment?	
	Sexual Harassment at Work	
4	Property Crime	96
4.1	STEALING AND DEALING	97
	Robbery	
	Burglary	
	Larceny	
	Motor Vehicle Theft	
	Fencing	
4.2	DAMAGE AND DECEPTION	115
	Arson	
	Fraud	
4.3	THE DEBATE ON PROFESSIONAL PROPERTY CRIME	124
	The Decline of Professional Property Crime	

The Changing Nature of Professional Property
Crime

5	Public-Order Crime	130
5.1	VAGRANCY, PUBLIC DRUNKENNESS, AND HOMELESSNESS	132
	Vagrancy and Public Drunkenness	
	Homelessness	
5.2	GAMBLING AND DRUG USE/ABUSE	134
	Gambling	
	Drug Use/Abuse	
5.3	ABORTION, PROSTITUTION, AND PORNOGRAPHY	146
	Abortion	
	Prostitution and Pornography	
6	White-Collar Crime	171
6.1	OCCUPATIONAL CRIME	173
	Occupational Theft	
	Occupational Fraud	
6.2	CORPORATE CRIME	184
	Corporate Violence	
	Corporate Theft	
	Transnational Corporate Crime	
6.3	CRIMINAL CORPORATIONS	199
	From Legitimate to Criminal Corporation	
	Long-Firm Fraud	
	Laundries and Conduits	
7	Syndicated Crime	204
7.1	A HISTORY OF SYNDICATED CRIME	205
	"Mafia" in Sicily	
	Syndicated Crime in the United States, 1800-1930	
	A National Crime Syndicate?	

7.2	SYNDICATED CRIME TODAY	215
	Patron-Client Relations	
	Crime Networks	
7.3	PRINCIPAL FORMS OF SYNDICATED CRIME	217
	Syndicates and Illegal Goods and Services	
	Syndicates and Legitimate Business	
	Syndicates and the State	
8	Political Crime	239
8.1	POLITICAL CRIMES AGAINST THE STATE	241
	Violent Political Crimes against the State	
	Nonviolent Political Crimes against the State	
8.2	DOMESTIC POLITICAL CRIMES BY THE STATE	246
	State Corruption	
	State Political Repression	
8.3	INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL CRIMES BY THE STATE	257
	International Crimes by the CIA	
	The Iran- <i>Contra</i> Scandal	
<hr/> PART THREE CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY		281
9	The Origins of Criminological Theory	282
9.1	THE ENLIGHTENMENT AND CLASSICAL CRIMINOLOGY	283
	Beccaria: <i>On Crimes and Punishments</i> (1764)	
	Bentham: Punishment and the Panopticon	
9.2	THE EMERGENCE OF POSITIVIST CRIMINOLOGY	295
	The Crisis of Classicism: The Dangerous Classes	
	The Social Mechanics of Crime: Quetelet	

9.3	CRIMINAL ANTHROPOLOGY: LOMBROSO'S "BORN CRIMINAL" The Offensive against Lombrosianism Tarde's Criticisms of the "Born Criminal"	303
9.4	HEREDITY V. ENVIRONMENT: GORING'S <i>THE ENGLISH CONVICT</i> (1913) Eugenics Testing Lombrosianism Toward Mental Deficiency	307
9.5	NEOCLASSICAL CRIMINOLOGY Penal Dilemmas Neoclassical Compromises	311
9.6	ASSESSMENT	
10	The Emergence of Sociological Criminology	319
10.1	TOWARD A SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY OF CRIME: GABRIEL TARDE Criticisms of "Social Mechanics" Imitation and Crime Collective Behavior and Crime Assessment	320
10.2	TOWARD A SOCIOLOGY OF LAW AND CRIME: ÉMILE DURKHEIM Law and Social Solidarity The Nature of Crime Anomie, Egoism, and Crime The Evolution of Punishment Assessment	324
10.3	CLASSICAL MARXISM: MARX AND ENGELS ON STATE, LAW, AND CRIME Key Concepts of Marxism State and Law Crime and Capitalism	337

	Crime and Communism Assessment	
11	The Emergence of Criminology in the United States	354
11.1	THE EARLY HISTORY OF CRIMINOLOGY IN THE U.S., 1895–1915	355
11.2	CRIME AND SOCIAL ECOLOGY Introduction to the Chicago School of Criminology Shaw and McKay's <i>Juvenile Delinquency and Urban Areas</i> (1942) Assessment	360
11.3	SOCIAL STRUCTURE, ANOMIE, AND DEVIANCE Merton's Typology of Modes of Individual Adaptation Assessment	376
11.4	THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF EDWIN SUTHERLAND Differential Association Differential Social (Dis)Organization <i>The Professional Thief</i> (1937) <i>White Collar Crime</i> (1949) Assessment	381
12	Delinquent Subcultures and Subcultures of Delinquency	396
12.1	DELINQUENT SUBCULTURES Cohen's <i>Delinquent Boys</i> (1955) Delinquency, Lower-Class Culture, and Opportunity Assessment	397
12.2	THE SUBCULTURE OF VIOLENCE Assessment	407

12.3	MATZA'S <i>DELINQUENCY AND DRIFT</i> (1964)	413
	The Positive Delinquent	
	The Subculture of Delinquency	
	<i>Delinquency and Drift</i>	
	Assessment	
13	Theoretical Diversity	425
13.1	CONTROL THEORY	426
	Containment	
	Control	
	Assessment	
13.2	SOCIAL LEARNING THEORY	434
	Differential Reinforcement	
	Assessment	
13.3	THE LABELING PERSPECTIVE	440
	The Social Meaning of Deviance	
	Societal Reaction	
	Stigma	
	Assessment	
13.4	CONFLICT THEORY	455
	Crime and Criminalization	
	Criminal Law	
	Assessment	
14	New Directions in Criminological Theory	473
14.1	BIOCRIMINOLOGY AND CRIME	474
	Body Types and Crime	
	Genes and Crime	
	Biochemical Imbalances and Crime	
	Assessment	
14.2	RADICAL CRIMINOLOGY	490
	The Political Economy of Crime	
	Left Idealism and Left Realism	
	Radical Perspectives on Social Control	
	Assessment	

14.3	FEMINIST CRIMINOLOGY	507
	Feminist Criticisms of Criminological Theory	
	Varieties of Feminist Criminology	
	Feminist Perspectives on Social Control	
	Assessment	

PART FOUR	SYNTHESIS	531
-----------	-----------	-----

15	Crime and Social Inequality	532
15.1	CLASS AND CRIME	534
	Patterns of Crime and Victimization	
	Theory and Research on Class and Crime	
15.2	GENDER AND CRIME	547
	Patterns of Crime and Victimization	
	Theory and Research on Gender and Crime	
15.3	RACE AND CRIME	558
	Patterns of Crime and Victimization	
	Theory and Research on Race and Crime	
15.4	AGE AND CRIME	566
	Patterns of Crime and Victimization	
	Theory and Research on Age and Crime	
16	Comparative Criminology	579
16.1	COMPARATIVE CRIMINOLOGY: AN INTRODUCTION	580
16.2	CONCEPTS AND DATA IN COMPARATIVE CRIMINOLOGY	582
	The Development of Systematic Comparative Criminology	
	Constructing Cross-National Generalizations about Crime	
	Cross-National Crime Data	
16.3	CULTURAL RELATIVISM AND COMPARATIVE CRIMINOLOGY	590