

INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY

SECOND EDITION

FRANK E. HAGAN



INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY

Theories, Methods, and Criminal Behavior

Second Edition

Frank E. Hagan

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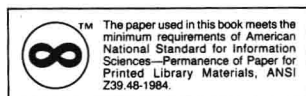
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PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION

This second edition maintains the original purpose of writing the text, and that is to serve the needs of instructors in criminology who wish to avoid the overly legal and crime-control orientation of many recent textbooks. While some familiarity with the legal and criminal justice systems is valuable, many introductory textbooks have so emphasized these elements that they have given short shrift to the vital core of criminological inquiry: theory, method, and criminal behavior. Such detailed analysis of social control agencies without adequate descriptions of criminal activity finds many works resembling an introduction to criminal justice systems rather than one dealing with basic criminology. More detailed descriptions and explanations of criminal behavior are a necessity for such agencies and social policies to be effective.

Although no social science inquiry can be entirely unbiased or value-free, the author has attempted to provide an eclectic theoretical view. If bias is to be acknowledged, the approach might best be described as liberal-conflict. In response to user and reviewer suggestions the order of chapters has been altered. It is my experience that instructors have their own chronology for chapter presentations and will organize their courses by their own preference for chapter order.

Chapter 1 begins with a general introduction to the study of criminology followed by an examination of research methods in Chapter 2. The latter involves an assessment of where the data on crime and criminals comes from. General patterns and variations in crime are then described in the third chapter. Throughout this second edition an attempt is made to

use more international comparisons. Chapters 4 and 5 look at various theoretical explanations of crime and criminality, while Chapters 6-13 provide a detailed look at various forms of criminal behavior. These examinations are originally based on Marshall Clinard and Richard Quinney's criminal behavior systems typology, but considerably expand and modify both the model and examples.

Chapter 6 studies violent criminal behavior: murder, assault, assassination, rape, robbery, domestic violence, and drunk driving. Not only do such crimes cause physical, psychological, and economic harm; they also threaten the very quality of life by imprisoning the population in a state of fear. Occasional and conventional property crime are contrasted in Chapter 7. While the former is committed on a sporadic, irregular basis, the latter (such as burglary and larceny) constitutes a considerable involvement in crime.

Professional crime is the subject of Chapter 8. Such crimes are more sophisticated and range from con artists to professional "cannons" (pickpockets) and "boosters" (shoplifters). Chapters 9 and 10 were formerly a lengthy chapter on "white collar" crime but have been divided into "occupational crime" and "organizational/corporate crime." Such crimes are both the most costly to society as well as the least strictly enforced. Political crime, crime committed by and against the government for ideological reasons, is covered in Chapter 11, while Chapter 12 probes the changing world of organized (syndicate) crime. Chapter 13 details the area of public order crime often referred to as "vice-related" or "crimes without victims." Finally, the last

chapter takes a speculative look at the future of crime and social policy.

While taking full responsibility for any shortcomings in the text, I would like to thank those who assisted in this endeavor. For their assistance with the first edition I once again thank Jonathan H. Turner, University of California, Riverside (Nelson-Hall Consulting Editor); Lawrence F. Travis III, University of Cincinnati; and George E. Evans, William Rainey Harper College (Illinois) for their critical reviews and suggestions. My gratitude is also extended to John Burian, Moraine Valley Community College, E. Ernest Wood, Edinboro University, and Sylvia Hill, University of the District of Columbia, who provided sug-

gestions for the second edition. To my early professors Dan Koenig and Pierre Lejins, as well as colleagues Jim Calder, Dave Kozak, Bob Rhodes, and Ernest Wood, I express my appreciation.

I am also indebted to my colleagues at Mercyhurst College, particularly Peter Benekos, Vernon Wherry, and Shirley Williams, for their support. Finally, I would like to give my greatest appreciation to my wife Mary Ann, whose tireless and patient efforts in typing and editing, and whose moral support made completion of this project possible. I dedicate this edition to Mary Ann and our daughter Shannon.

Frank E. Hagan

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"Imagine a society of saints, a perfect cloister of exemplary individuals. Crimes, properly so called, will there be unknown; but faults which appear venial to the layman will create there the same scandal that the ordinary offense does in ordinary consciousness."

—Emile Durkheim

The Rules of Sociological Method (1950 [1895]), pp. 68-69

Criminology

A woman jogging in North Central Park in New York City is attacked, raped, bludgeoned, and left for dead by a group of young thugs. Small children are gunned down by a distraught man with an AK-47 automatic rifle while playing in their California schoolyard. Terrorist bombs kill all aboard a civilian airliner; and Wall Street, Madison and Pennsylvania Avenues join the South Bronx and Cabrini Green Housing Project in Chicago as bad crime neighborhoods. Wealthy drug cartels rival governments in power while environmental criminals threaten to make our next century mankind's last.

What all of these events have in common is that they refer to various forms of criminal behavior; and as we enter the twilight of the twentieth century, we can only guess what new, unforeseen horrors await us. The field that addresses this issue of crime and criminal behavior and attempts to define, explain, and predict it is criminology.

While criminologists sometimes disagree regarding a proper definition of the field, *criminology* is generally defined as the science or discipline which studies crime and criminal behavior. Specifically, the field of criminology concentrates upon forms of criminal behavior, the causes of crime, the definition of criminality, and the societal reaction to criminal activity; related areas of inquiry may include juvenile delinquency and victimology or the study of victims. Applied criminology also claims what is labeled as the field of criminal justice: the police, the courts, and corrections. Criminological investigation may probe any or all of these areas. While there is considerable overlap between criminology and criminal justice, criminology shows a greater interest in the causal explanations of crime and criminal justice is more occupied with practical, applied concerns such as technical aspects of policing and corrections. In reality, the fields are highly complementary and interrelated, as indicated by overlapping membership in the two professional organizations representative of the fields: the American Society of Criminology and the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences.

If you were to tell your friends that you are taking a course in criminology, many will assume that you are a budding Sherlock Holmes, a master detective trained in investigating crime scenes. That describes the field of *criminalistics* (the scientific evaluation of physical evidence), which is sometimes confused in the media and public mind with criminology. Criminology