

# International Handbook of Contemporary Developments in Criminology

EUROPE, AFRICA,  
THE MIDDLE EAST,  
AND ASIA

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Edited by ELMER H. JOHNSON

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# PREFACE

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Comparative criminology has been handicapped by the insularity of attitudes, sometimes described as ethnocentricity—the tendency to be convinced without careful consideration that the beliefs of one's own ethnic group are superior to those of other groups. "Insularity" conveys a number of interrelated ideas: the isolation of a people from a broader social universe that has crucial impact on their lives; the separation of peoples that denies them the benefits of the joint actions characteristic of social relationships distinctive to human beings; excessively limited perspectives in trying to explain common human experiences; and a provinciality of customs and opinions that ignores promising solutions to those problems encountered in all societies.

The decades since the second World War have been ushered in by a renewal of contacts between peoples which some have heralded as an opportunity to extend the recognition that all of us share the world. Secular "evangelicalism" sometimes seizes on this development to argue that increased contacts are sufficient to impart a "moral purity" to relationships among peoples, but this oversimplistic view ignores the persistence of self-interests that have led to exploitation of one people by another possessing superior power and the tendency of people to cling to ingrained customs. It is necessary to examine the nature of the new contacts and the forces that impel them before we can conclude that they will be of ultimate benefit to all peoples. We must be prepared to find that greater familiarity among peoples will be a mixed blessing.

The caution is supported by the consequences of massive social, economic, and political changes in the decades since World War II. These changes have had the negative effect of increasing the magnitude of the crime problem but have also lent impetus to the development of international criminology. Since crime and reactions to it are symptomatic of broader developments within a given social system, the macro-changes of those decades have underscored the validity of the principle that both crime and criminology are international phenomena.

The economic interdependence and degree of communication among the world's peoples have greatly eroded the insularity of nations and of communities within nations. Both long-established and emergent nations have undertaken programs of economic development that have released the effects of industrialization; some of these societies were previously largely agrarian. Societies with a long history of industrialization are experiencing in new forms increased population mobility, greater scale of social organizations, heightened influence of subcultural divisions within a society, further decline of the viability of informal control institutions, and politicization of social issues.

A noteworthy paradox is found in many nations. In the face of the remarkably great need for public order in highly complex societies, urbanites are less capable of sustaining the moral consensus that traditionally has been seen as the foundation of the social order. Legalization is the process by which selected cultural norms are translated into the abstract language of laws and are made subject to official enforcement. This process is unlikely to capture fully the nuance of those norms, making the administration of legal norms less effective and more visible than informal controls. Yet, the urban paradox, mentioned above, has accelerated the growth of professionalized and bureaucratized systems of criminal justice.

The new possibility of an enriched criminology rests to an important extent on reducing the insularity separating and isolating the criminologists of various nations from one another. With the macro-forces decreasing the insularity of nations, criminologists should be able to take advantage of joint transnational efforts to understand the criminal phenomenon that crosses political boundaries. The provinciality of accepted but unsubstantiated beliefs and excessively narrow explanations can be exposed when criminologists are given greater opportunities to become familiar with the relevant knowledge and research findings of their foreign colleagues.

On several sojourns my search for criminological insights has taken me abroad for intellectually enriching experiences. Along with many criminologists here and abroad, I have become convinced that transnational investigations are especially promising for disabusing us of the consequences of insularity and giving researchers access to data controlling for different environments. The universality of scientific concepts can be tested to an unprecedented degree. The claims of comparative criminology, however, have been more an expression of hope for the future than a record of tangible and widespread accomplishments.

The years since World War II have underscored the interdependence of nations, the difficulties of socioeconomic development for well-established and emergent nations, and the spread of conditions that contribute to criminality. In upsetting traditional social and cultural systems, these major trends have generated increased crime and new crime patterns that extend beyond national boundaries. These international dimensions are further illustrated by certain patterns found around the world: the apparent rise of crime among females of urbanized-industrialized countries, the overrepresentation of minority and underprivileged



persons, the unprecedented recognition of the implications of white-collar offenses, and the growing involvement of the young.

Those considerations motivated me to undertake preparation of the *International Handbook of Contemporary Developments in Criminology*. There is a unique need for a review of the various "criminologies-in-societies." We cannot speak of a single model of criminology because in each country the work, status, and subject matter of the criminologists are determined by the peculiarities of political-legal history, the impact of recent developments, and the general institutional system. Since the patterns of crime, the reactions to crime, and the nature of criminology are creatures of the varying macro-sociocultural systems of nations, it is essential that we expect criminology to occur in a range of models.

Unfortunately, it was not possible for me to visit a great number of nations to experience directly the ideas, work settings, and products of foreign colleagues. As an alternative to such direct experiences, insights may be provided by reports from experts from an array of countries. Readers from many nations would benefit from such a rough equivalent of a sample of the differing versions of criminology.

As for an international conference, there is a need for a scheme to coordinate the reports into a conceptual whole. To that end, each contributor was asked to focus on those elements that characterize criminology as an occupational system. The authors were asked to answer a number of general questions: What is criminology? How are specialists in criminology recruited and educated? How do criminologists see themselves within the division of labor among the disciplines—law, biology, and the social and behavioral sciences—that are relevant to criminology? What are the regularized channels of communication among those persons who see themselves as criminologists? Is criminological research carried out regularly? If so, within what organizational setting is it typically carried out? What are the general parameters of the social, cultural, economic, and political setting within which criminology emerged in your country and is now practiced? What are the dimensions and nature of crime as the subject of criminological study in your country?

The answers make each chapter unique; yet, what also emerges in this book is the awareness of certain similarities that have excited the curiosity of comparative criminologists. In those respects, we are obliged to the contributors who agreed to undertake the assignment and to complete the challenging tasks of preparing their chapters. As editor, I have served as intermediary in assembling a cohort of authors, providing a platform through which each author could present the particular "criminology-in-society" in its own terms. As an additional resource, the authors were asked to prepare representative bibliographies on the criminological literature of the respective nations. Almost all authors compiled bibliographies, many of them annotated.

The decades since World War II have been marked by transnational developments of particular significance for criminology. Part I of the *International Handbook of Contemporary Criminology: General Issues and the Americas* deals

specifically with these trends in some of the developing nations, the feminist movement, and radical criminology. Also singled out for special attention are those international organizations devoted to criminological activities on an international plane, especially the United Nations and the International Society for Criminology. The chapters on the two Americas comprise Part II of the volume, although the varieties of "criminology-in-society" are not limited to a particular continent. The chapters on other nations are presented in the *International Handbook of Contemporary Criminology: Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia*.

This handbook represents a major contribution to the literature. The dedicated efforts of the contributors support this claim in a fashion that frees me of the charge of excessive audacity. My primary obligation is to those authors. Scarcely secondary is my obligation to Greenwood Press for originating the idea for a book of this kind.

Many of my fellow criminologists provided an indispensable service in suggesting persons who would be appropriate contributors. The Center for the Study of Crime, Delinquency, and Corrections, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, has made it possible for me to carry out the time-consuming tasks of editing. A great volume of correspondence and other detailed tasks were accomplished through the support of Jacqueline Goepfert, Sandra Martin, Mary Joiner, and Terry O'Boyle. Dr. Virgil L. Williams and Cyril Robinson served me well in specific professional ways. Marilyn Brownstein, Cynthia Harris, and Arlene Belzer, members of the Greenwood Press staff, generously contributed their respective specialized competencies.

ELMER H. JOHNSON

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# ABBREVIATIONS

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ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACPS	Australian Crime Prevention Council
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AFP	Australian Federal Police
AIC	Australian Institute of Criminology
ANZ	Australian and New Zealand Society
ANZAAS	Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science
ASC	American Society of Criminology
CCRC	Coordination Committee for Criminological Research
CEMS	Center for the Studies of Social Movements
CFR-ES	Centre de Formation et de recherche de l'éducation surveillée
CNERP	Centre national d'étude et de recherche pénitentiaire
CTN	Centre technique national de l'enfance et de l'adolescence inadapté
DRGST	Délégation générale à la recherche scientifique et technique
GRA	Government Reservation Area
GRIJ	Groupe de Recherche sur l'Adaptation Juvenile
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
INED	Institut national d'études démographiques
INSERM	Institut national de la santé et de la recherche médicales
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
ISC	International Society for Criminology
NICRO	National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders
NISER	Nigerian Institute for Social and Economic Research
NRC	National Redemption Council
NSW	New South Wales
ONSER	Organisme national de sécurité routière
PLA	People's Liberation Army

**xx     ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>SANCA</b>	<b>South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence</b>
<b>SEPC</b>	<b>Service d'études pénales et criminologiques</b>
<b>SDCR</b>	<b>Social Demographic and Criminological Research</b>
<b>SMC</b>	<b>Supreme Military Council</b>
<b>SUL</b>	<b>Special Unnumbered License</b>
<b>TRC</b>	<b>Terrorism Research Center</b>
<b>UNAFEI</b>	<b>United Nations Asia and Far East Institute</b>
<b>UNISA</b>	<b>University of South Africa</b>
<b>UNSDRI</b>	<b>United Nations Social Defense Research Institute</b>

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