Deviance and social Control

Social control

I. Definition of Deviance

Behavior that violates significant social norms



II. The Nature of Deviance

- A. Violation of norms is inevitable
- B. Depends on the situation (example: a police officer who kills someone in the line of duty is not deviant)



c. Depends on society (example: divorce is not deviant in the U.S., but it is in the Philippines)



D. Labeling

- 1. A repeat offender—someone who constantly speeds
- 2. An act with serious negative effects on society—robbery
- 3. Must have a detectable act linked to a stigma (a mark of social disgrace—*The Scarlet Letter*)
- Visual signs for today:







III. The Social Functions of Deviance

- A. Clarify Norms—defines boundaries
- в. Unify the Group—identify the outsider
- c. Diffusing Tension—only if a minor act; demonstrations

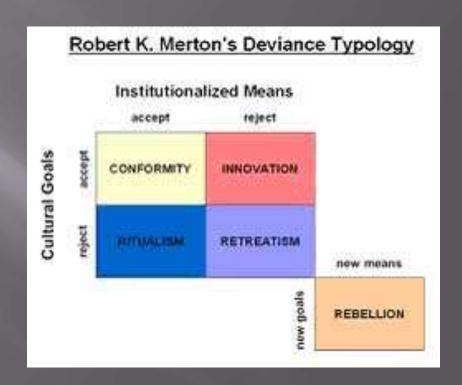


- D. Promoting Social Change—if a lot of people violate a norm, maybe it shouldn't exist any longer; department bans on tattoos
- E. Providing Jobs—judges, lawyers, police, prison personnel, parole officers, crime reporters, criminologists



IV. Explaining Deviance

- A. Functionalist
 Perspective—Strain
 Theory
 - Developed by Robert Merton
 - 2. Society says certain goals are important (economic gain), but some people cannot reach these goals; this strain causes deviant activity
 - 3. 5 Modes of Adaptation: give an example for each



в. Conflict Perspective

- 1. A struggle between those with power and those without
- 2. Richard Quinney: any act that threatens the haves' power are deviant



c. Interactionist Perspective

- 1. Control Theory: a natural occurrence when people are not connected to society; Travis Hirschi—social bonds develop in four ways
 - a. Form attachments
 - b. Believe in the moral codes of society
 - c. Are committed to traditional values (like getting a job)
 - d. Full involvement in non-deviant activities



- 2. Cultural Transmission Theory—deviance is learned behavior from interaction with individuals engaging in deviant acts
 - Edwin Sutherland proposed the theory of differential association—whomever you associate with dictates what you'll act like





- Labeling Theory—everyone commits deviant acts with varying degrees of deviance; studied by Edwin Lemert and Howard Becker
 - a. Primary Deviance: undetected by authority
 - b. Secondary Deviance: a person is labeled a deviant in a public setting, like a trial

Section One Review

- 1. Answer the two questions under *Finding the Main Idea* (#4) on page 185
- 2. Tattoos were once considered deviant—and people with visible tattoos were looked down on. How has this view changed? In what ways does it still exist?
- Read the Case Study on page 178. Answer the two questions under *Think About It*. Do you think gangs *are* a problem in America?

I. Introduction

- A. Crime is labeled by those in authority, prohibited by law, and punishable by the government.
- B. Affects everyone as victims, criminals, or bystanders (even through the media)



Most criminals are white males, aged 18 24





II. Crime Statistics

A. Publication: The Uniform
Crime Reports (UCR)—
published yearly by the FBI



B. Not all crimes are reported

III. Types of Crimes

A. Violent Crime

- 1. Murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault
- 2. Occurs every 22 seconds in the U.S.



- 1. Burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson
- 2. Occurs every 3 seconds in the U.S.



c. Victimless Crime: prostitution, illegal cambling, illegal drug use, and vagrancy

D. White-collar Crime

- 1. Term was coined by Edwin Sutherland
- 2. Crimes are committed by those with high social status in the course of their professional lives
- 3. Costs the U.S. more than \$300 billion each year
- 4. Crimes include fraud,
 misrepresentations, tax evasion,
 embezzlement, price fixing,
 toxic pollution, insider trading, and
 political corruption



E. Organized Crime

- 1. Large scale group of professional criminals
- 2. Use legal businesses as fronts for criminal activity
- Make huge profits through drug trafficking, unfair labor practices, illegal gambling, and loan sharking



IV. The Criminal Justice System

A. Police: decide who is / isn't arrested

- 1. Consider the seriousness of the crime, victim's wishes suspect's attitude, presence of witnesses, and race of suspect
- 2. Racial profiling: the assumption that non-whites commit more crimes

B. Courts

- 1. Determine a person's guilt or innocence and assign punishment when guilty
- 2. More than 90% of criminal cases are settled through plea bargaining (plead guilty to a lesser charge to save the courts time and money)

c. Corrections

- 1. Basic Functions
 - a. Retribution: revenge for victims and society
 - b. Deterrence: to discourage others
 - c. Rehabilitation: so released are law-abiding citizens
 - d. Social Protection: to prevent repeat crime
- 2. 62% of released prisoners are charged with new crimes; 41% will return to prison within 3 years



V. Juvenile Justice System

- A. Those under 18 make up the 3rd largest group of criminals
- в. Had few rights until the 1960s
- c. Are now guaranteed the same rights and privileges as adults

