

# Crime

\*

## Introduction :-

The sociology of crime (Criminology) is the study of the making, breaking and enforcing of criminal laws. Its aim is to understand empirically criminal behaviour, the formation and enforcement of laws and the operation of the criminal justice system. Crime has traditionally been studied as a behaviour that violates official law and is punishable through formal sanctions. Crime refers to a 'violation of law' or an act punishable by law.

\*

## Meaning :-

Crime is associated with actions that cause harm and violate social norms. Crime is a type of social construct, and societal attitudes determine what is considered crime. A crime is a deliberate act that causes physical or psychological harm, damage to or loss of property and is against the law.

The English word 'crime' is derived from the Latin term 'Crimen' which means 'Charge', 'Charge', 'Charge' or 'offence', 'offence'. Thus, the word

Crime means 'an attack on norms on the law'. It also means 'violation of norms & law'.

## \* Definitions of Crime :-

- ① According to Samuel Koenig, "Crime may be defined as any act forbidden by law which society expects its authorised officials to enforce".
- ② According to Mowder, "Crime may be defined as an anti-social act".
- ③ According to Elliot and Merrill, "Crime may be defined as anti-social behavior which the group rejects and to which it attacks penalties".  
∴ Crime is believed that anti-social elements are responsible for increase in crime rate.
- ④ According to F.R. Scarpitti and M.L. Andersen, "Crime can be defined as in term of the body of law that codifies a society's rules about proper and ~~in~~ improper behaviours."
- ⑤ According to Hall Jerone, "Crime may be defined as legally forbidden and international action which has a harmful impact on social ~~interest~~ interests; which

has a <sup>criminal</sup> ~~beneficial~~ interest, and which has  
loyalty prescribed punishments for it.

\*

### Characteristics :-

The criminal law defines different kinds of crimes, Murder, robbery, kidnap etc. legal scholars have extracted a no. of principles from the definition which apply ideally to all crimes. These principles are being used as criteria in determining any particular behaviour is crime or not.

\*

### Causes of Crime :-

① Poverty :- Poverty is one of the main reasons for crime. Countries with the high rates of economic deprivation tend to have higher crimes than other countries. They can't fulfil their basic needs they use illegal methods to fulfil it. For example, In India, theft is one of the most common crime which is done by poor people for their living.

② Peer Pressure :- It is an established fact that peer pressure plays a significant role in the lives of all teenagers and youngsters. That is a phase of life where people

tried to look up to their friends and believe what they do is the right or ~~so~~ happening thing to do, As a result many individuals in their youth sub-consciously get drawn to vice life, glacial consumption and smoking just by looking at their peers.

③ Drugs :- Crime and drug abuse are closely related. A person under the influence tends to indulge in criminal activities that may have not indulged in otherwise. The main problem arises when they get addicted to the drugs and believe they require it to sustain themselves. In such a situation, drug addicts are ready to go to any extent to ~~perce~~ procure these illegal substances.

④ Politics :- The inter-relation between politics and crime is overlooked many times. This is a problematic as many people has engaged in criminal activities while dealing with political issues. There are some politicians with a criminal ~~to~~ records. There are many politicians in developing countries who have also been associated with violent crime and, political dispute, however insignificant, usually leads to rampant violence involving mobs. This not only

11

expose youth to criminal activities but also puts the lives of various citizens at risk. An unstable political situation in a country leads to exponential increase in the crimes that take place there.

⑤ Religion :- Even today, unfortunately, various divides and issues of society can be attributed to religion. Despite it being a basic human right, many people are deprived of practicing their own religion. There are no. of crimes committed by religious practices while they try to further their cause. by propagating their religion or at times try to establish their religion ~~at~~ ~~time~~ ~~try~~ ~~to~~ ~~establi~~ superiority over others failure by resorting to destruction and Vandalism.

⑥ Background :- Often times background and family consist of a criminal can be attributed to the reason behind their crimes. When people believe that they are unable to provide for their family, like lack of opportunities, lack of education or other issues that handicap them, they resort to crime.

⑦ Society :- In today's time, money is one of the most important

aspect of everyone's life. The meaning of money is not restricted to the amount of wealth in a person's bank account but is instead also attributed to their social status, worth and even values. As a result of this, people value money more than their relationships and happiness. As a result, people earning less feel unworthy and are compelled to indulge in a life of crime so as to make more money and feel more wealthy.

⑧ Unemployment :- The lack of opportunities is an issue faced by developing and developed countries. A huge portion of youth of today are unemployed which leads them to do illegal activities and they indulge into crime.

⑨ Unequal rights :- When people don't get equal rights they indulge themselves into illegal activities and make themselves criminals.

⑩ Unfair Justice System :- The justice system is another major contributor to crime. When people believe that they are not given their due and are unfairly treated by system, they harbour feelings of resentment towards

it and state to rebel. This involves them engaging in criminal activities.

\*

## Types of Crime :-

① Crime Against Persons :- Crimes against persons, also called personal crimes, include murder, aggravated assault, rape and robbery. Personal crimes are unevenly distributed in the United States, with young, urban, poor and racial minorities committing these crimes more than others.

② Crimes Against Property :- Property crimes involve theft of property without bodily harm, such as burglary, larceny, auto theft and arson. Like personal crimes, young, poor and racial minorities ~~committing these crimes more than~~ ~~others~~ generally commit these crimes more than others.

③ Crimes Against Morality :- Crime against morality are also called victimless crimes because there is not complainant or victim. Prostitution, illegal gambling, and illegal drug use are all examples of victimless crimes.

④ White - Collar Crime :- White - Collar crimes are crimes that committed by people of high social status who commit their crimes in the context of their occupation. This includes embezzling (stealing money from one's employer), insider trading and tax evasion and other violations of income tax laws.

⑤ Public Order Crime :- In criminology public order crime is defined by Siegel as, "Crime which involves acts that interfere with the operations of society and the ability of people to function efficiently."

⑥ Political Crime :- In criminology, a political crime is an offence involving overt act, which prejudice the interests of state, its government or the political system. It is to be distinguished from state crime when it is the states that break both their own criminal laws or public international law.

⑦ Religious Crime :- The various religious laws around the world are all sacred and teach that



\_/\_/\_

society members and individuals should treat each other with respect. "Religious Crimes" or "Religious Offense" refer to any behaviour that may offend members of a particular religion or harm their religious practice.

⑧ White-collar Crime :- Crimes committed by people who have a respectable position in society and are economically and socially well placed in the course of their occupation are called White-collar Crime. Some examples include embezzling, tax evasions, insider trading, violating tax laws.

⑨ Organised Crime :- Organised crimes that involve the sale of goods and services which are unlawful by a structured group like a mafia. This would include drug cartels, smuggling of weapons, prostitution, etc.

\* Forms of Crimes :- Crime can involve violence, sex or drugs but also discrimination and undeclared work etc. Crime is any behaviour and any act, activity or event that is punished by law.

## Examples of Crime :-

- ① Cybercrime
- ② Youth crime
- ③ Human Smuggling & Human Trafficking.
- ④ Cannabis Cultivation.
- ⑤ fraud.
- ⑥ Red Estate
- ⑦ Evasion of social influence payments.
- ⑧ Illegal workers.
- ⑨ Undeclared workers.
- ⑩ Criminal traveller's site.
- ⑪ Theft.
- ⑫ Benefit fraud.

\* Measures that can be taken to curb criminal activities :- (control)

In today's world crime isn't restricted to something poverty - 2 striper people engage in but is something people of all backgrounds do, it is important to formulate techniques and ~~er~~ curb (control) crime ~~also~~ altogether before it gets out of hand. The government plays a significant role here. They ought to execute effective and efficient crime prevention techniques in their capacity as a leader of the people so as to ensure there is harmony in society.

Some measures that can be taken to curb criminal activities are mentioned below :-

- ① Education :- Education is a tool that can guide anyone

11

On the right path. If proper education is given, a person will not go on the wrong path. People should be educated as much as possible so that people can be encouraged to follow the right path. Education tells a person what behaviour is according to the norms of the society. This is also seen. People commit crimes. Finally, ~~time~~ crimes can be reduced with the help of education.

② To Remove social evil :- Many types of evils are found in all societies. For example in, our India, caste system, intermarriage, incest, etc. There are many such evils which cause crime. If these evils are reduced, then these crimes can be reduced to a considerable extent. So these evils should be removed.

③ Good behaviour :- Until someone with criminals is punished, the criminal is considered innocent, but only after the punishments, he is declared a criminal. It has been seen that the criminal, it has been seen that the criminal is not treated well in the jail. Even after serving the punishments, the society ~~the~~ does not think

well of him. It is wrong. He might have committed that crime in the same compulsion. So we should think well of the criminal because may be with our good thought he will be a better one than the criminal to become a citizen.

(4) Control of family :- It has also been observed that the desire to commit crime is more among the youth. This is because the family does not have control over the child. Family breakup, girl fights in the family etc. due to which the child can go on the wrong path. These families should fulfill all the needs of the children, please be right for them, in the same way, the children can be prevented from going on the wrong path.

(5) To give good weapons to police :- Nowadays the number of criminals is increasing. They commit crimes in new ways and with new weapons. Therefore, it is necessary to give more powers and new weapons to the police and courts so that they can eradicate crime from the society.

111

⑥ Improvement in Jails :- Prisons should be reformed to reduced crime. The environment in the jails should be good. There should be hospitals, trainings centers so that criminals can get facilities and technical education. Efforts should be made to reform the criminals.

⑦ Poverty and Unemployment :- As long as there is poverty and unemployment in the society, crime cannot be reduced. Poverty and unemployment are the biggest causes of crime. If poverty and unemployment are removed then crime can be reduced to a great extent. Industrial families should come forward for this work so that this evil can be removed from the society.

⑧ To encourage people :- People should be encouraged by the government to not commit crimes by social service organization. Conferences should be prevented from becoming criminals. People should also be informed about the harm

caused by crime so that they  
can be alert in advance.

\* Conclusion :- Crimes in India,  
can be it property  
crimes, violent crimes or even  
cyber crimes are one the rise  
in India. They have various causes  
that range from biological factors  
to even political and sociological  
factors. The government plays an  
~~important~~ important role in curbing  
the crime. Two important things  
that would help in crime  
prevention are education and  
instilling morals in people from  
their childhood.