

Who is the typical criminal?

Which theories would support Police Recorded Statistics and therefore explain 'The Typical Criminal'

Functionalism

Durkheim:

Merton:

Functionalist exam questions

- Assess subcultural explanations of crime and deviance (40)
- Assess the view that crime serves as boundary maintenance into the value consensus (40)
- Assess the view that postmodern society has created subcultures that take risks (40)
- In what ways might crime be functional? (10)
- In what ways might crime be seductive? (10)
- In what ways might crime be linked to subcultures (10)

Derived from the earlier functionalist explanations (DURKHEIM and MERTON). H/E argue that deviance is not only the product of an individual's position within the social structure but they have a distinctive set of norms and values - a *subculture*.

Subcultural theorists (Functionalist)

Cohen:

Cloward and Ohlin

Miller (Subcultural theorist, but different)

Cultural Criminologist

Agree with traditional theories of crime, but instead applies subcultural theories within a postmodern society- it has a POMO twist!

Marxism

Neo- Marxism

These Marxists provide a more up to date application of crime deviance, remember crime is a social construct and relative so it has changed

Social Action

Interactionism

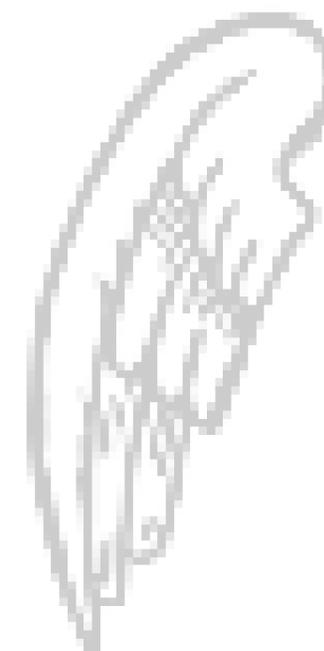
'The Radical Theory of Crime'- Taylor, Walton and Young



Remember- this is the combination of Marxism and Interactionism

If you got an interactionist or Marxist question- this would make the best final PEEEL

Left Wing



Right Wing



Example question plan for traditional theories

Asses Marxist contributions to crime and deviance (40)

1. Gordon
2. Box

However crime and deviance can arguably be functional for society

3. Durkheim- Boundary maintenance

Crime actual occurs because of strain between goals

4. Merton- Strain theory

Neo-Marxists would suggest contemporary crime still is influenced by inequalities due to capitalism

5. Hall et al- Policing the crisis

Marxism on its own is not a full explanation- need to combine macro and micro

6. Taylor Walton and Young- Radical Criminology I would drop the mic here!
Boom!

Realism

Left

Right

Remember- your realists are a new theory, so are more up to date than your tradition theories.

Their aim to offer a solution- other theories don't do this- they just romanticise criminals