Year 11

Sociology

Key Words

Crime and Deviance Key words

Crime	Behaviour that breaks the **law**, e.g. speeding, murder etc... Not all crimes are **deviant** and frowned upon, e.g. not wearing a seat belt. Crimes can sometimes change when the law does, it is a **social construct**
Deviance	Deviance is behaviour that goes against the **norm**, e.g. a man wearing a dress ;)
Conformity	This means sticking to the **norms and values** and not being deviant. You might **conform** because you're scared of being laughed at by people or punished by the police (these are examples of informal and formal social control)
Delinquency	**Criminal and deviant** behaviour by teenagers. This word isn't used often.
Anti-social behaviour	Behaviour on the streets that causes a nuisance. This can be drinking on the street, hanging around in large group making a noise, harassing people, causing damage to property on a regular basis.
Official crime statistics	Crimes that are reported to the police and then recorded by them as a crime. Not all reported crimes get recorded by the police, e.g. if they think it is too small or wasn't actually breaking the law.
Self-report study	A survey of the public which asks them to say which crimes they have committed but not been caught for. This is an attempt to find the **dark figure of crime** and they try to ask a **representative sample** of the population.
Victim survey	A **survey** of the public which asks them to say which crimes they have been a victim of, whether or not they reported it to the police. This is an attempt to find the **dark figure of crime** and they try to ask a representative sample of the population.
Dark figure of crime	Crimes that don't appear in the official crime statistics recorded by the police. Many crimes are part of the dark figure crime, e.g. **domestic violence** against men, women and children (for different reasons)

British crime survey	This is the most famous **victim survey** in Great Britain
Inadequate socialisation	This means parents have not properly **socialised** their children in to societies correct norms and values. **The New Right** believe this is the main reason for an increase in crime over the 40 years.
Peer group pressure	When teenagers are pressured to be **criminal/deviant** by their friends/**peers**
Subculture	A group of people who go against the norm. A criminal subculture is a group of people who go against the law
Labelling	When a person or group of people, e.g. the police, make an assumption about a person or group of people based on a **stereotype**
Institutional racism	This is when the police are, or allow, **racism** within their organisation. This might be one reason why some minority ethnic groups are more likely to be in prison than white people.
Chivalry factor	The belief that the police and courts treat females more kind. This might be because the police is dominated by men and they have been **socialised** to treat women well because they are **feminine**
Self-fulfilling prophecy	Living up to a **label**, e.g. if the police keep stopping a person and treating them as a criminal they may do some **criminal** behaviour as they feel they've got nothing to lose as the police think they're criminal anyway
Formal social control	This is when behaviour is controlled/restricted by organisations that exist to make us **conform**, e.g. police, law, courts etc…
Informal social control	This is when behaviour is controlled/restricted by people around us, e.g. family, friends, teachers, media etc…. They make us **conform** because we are afraid of upsetting them, being excluded by them or because they show us how **deviant** people are treated (media).
Ladette	A modern day woman who has some **masculine** behaviour. This might be one reason why female crime has increased in recent years.

Master status (mashed potatoes)	This is when a **label** becomes the most important thing about a person and they struggle to get rid of it. This type of label is usually given by the police. Having a **master status** can lead to a **deviant/criminal career**.
Deviant career/criminal career	This phrase means a person who has committed crime finds it hard to find work because of their **criminal record** so they are likely to keep committing crime as a way of getting more money than their benefits
Opportunity structure	The explanation that some people lack **legal opportunities** and the area they live in has plenty of **illegal opportunities**
ASBO	An order made by the courts against a person who has committed anti-social behaviour, e.g. drinking on the streets. The order might say they have to be in at a certain time or that they're not allowed in a certain area
CCTV	**Closed circuit television**. These are cameras put in certain places to watch criminals and hopefully stop it from happening.
Deviancy amplification	This means a story is reported by the media and exaggerated. The public then become frightened of the problem being out of control. The police look for the problem more and then catch more people doing it. This then makes the problem seem bigger and therefore out of control.
Relative deprivation	When someone lacks something/money. People who experience this may then turn to crime to get these things that the media are always advertising. Some social groups (**CAGE)** are more likely to suffer from this because of **language deprivation, educational underachievement etc….**
Marxist approach	This approach blames **capitalism**. It says the rich at the top of society make sure rich people can get away from being punished by the police and **white collar crime** isn't treated as seriously as **working class** crime. They also say **consumerism** forces people to want things the rich are trying to sell.

White collar crime	This is crimes committed by people with **status and power (middle and upper class).** These tend not to be in the **official crime statistics.**

Mass Media Key Words

Hypodermic syringe approach	This model believes that there is a direct link between behaviour/beliefs and what the media shows us.
Decoding approach	The content of any particular programme has several different meanings and one section of the audience may see it differently to another section depending on **CAGE**
Uses and gratifications approach	This view suggests the audience use the media to fulfil certain needs. The audience are not used by the media. The audience use the media, e.g. the audience may use the media for information, style or for topics of conversation the following day.
Media/cultural imperialism	This is the idea that Western culture (USA and Europe) now dominates the world because the media has spread the **norms, values**, music and fashion
Conform	Sticking to the **norms and values** of society. Some believe the media helps to make people do this as it is an agent of **informal social control**

Deviance	Going against the **norms and values** of society. Some believe the media can encourage this by showing **deviance** and violence on a regular basis.
Informal social control	The way in which people are controlled/restrained. The media might help to do this by showing people who are **deviant** in a negative light and criticise them.
Deviancy amplification	The way the public's reaction to an incident/crime can be exaggerated by the media. This can sometimes lead to the problem actually becoming a bigger problem, e.g. **mods and rockers**
'Going viral'	
Stereotyping	A distorted or exaggerated image of a person or social group. The media tends to reinforce these **stereotypes**, e.g. women are usuallY the **housewife**
Folk devils	A group of people who are seen as a threat to society, e.g. hoodies, immigrants etc…
Moral panic	An overreaction by the public about an issue in society. This is usually created by the media, e.g. the media might say that all hoodies are thugs and the public think they are out of control.
Mass media	Types of communication that goes out to large numbers of people, e.g. tv, radio, films, newspapers, magazines, internet, mobile phones etc…
Old media	Media that is based on traditional technology, e.g. newspapers, terrestrial television
New media	Media that is based on new technology, e.g. internet, broadband, digital tv
Convergence	This is when two types of media are used together, e.g. you can access your **social networking site** on your **mobile phone**
Norm referencing	The ability of the media to present some behaviour/people negatively or positively and therefore creating a norm, e.g.

	people think it is a **norm** for hoodies to be criminals as they are often shown like this in the media
Agenda setting	The ability of the media to focus people's attention on one particular story/issue. This means some issues can be hidden from public view.
Gatekeepers	People who decide what is put in to the media
Desensitisation	People begin to see some behaviour as 'normal' and they are **socialised** into accepting **deviant** behaviour. They are no longer shocked by it.
Drip drip effect	When something gradually happens. If they are constantly seeing negative images they gradually see it as normal.
Substitute hearth	When the t.v. is the centre of family life, in the past the hearth/fireplace used to be the centre of family life.
Spin	When a news story is carefully managed by the people involved to make sure it is presented in a positive way in the media.
Conglomerate	A huge company that owns lots of different types of media, e.g. magazines, newspapers, t.v. companies and movie production companies
Press Baron	A person who owns lots of press. They are usually in charge of a large conglomerate (see above).
Propaganda	The selection of information to influence the opinions of other people
Hyperreality	An alternative reality based on a person's experience of the media. What people see in the media is reality to them. This has happened because of the **internet** and tv
Pluralist approach	The belief that there is more than one message in the media. This approach suggests the media doesn't directly affect us and is a healthy part of a **democracy**
Conflict approach	The belief that the rich own the media and use it to make others agree with them. The rich put out their own

	propaganda
Democracy	When everybody can get involved in the way the government is run. Some say the **media** stops this from happening because they can decide to not show some people's views.
Political socialisation	The process by which we pick up our political views and beliefs. This might be from the media, friends, family etc…
Digital divide	A division between those who do have access to **digital media** and those who do not. Young people do and sometimes the old don't. The rich do and sometimes the poor don't.
Social networking sites	A virtual community that enables members to establish a user profile and communicate and share information with other users
Scapegoats	A group of people who get the blame for something that is not their fault, e.g. the young get blamed for the riots
Blog	An **internet** based comment about the world or a social issue of importance

Research Methods Key words

Quantitative data	Information that is presented in **numbers or statistics**. These can be easily looked at and analysed to find patterns or trends (increases or decreases)
Qualitative data	Information that is text/written down in **words** or even images. This can often give us more information that quantitative data (see above)
Social survey	A collection of information about the population. This can be done on the street, at home, over the phone etc… This can be very **large scale** and provide useful information
Questionnaire	A set of questions. The questions can be either **open or closed.** Closed questions give us quantitative data whereas open questions give us qualitative data that is more detailed.
Respondent	A person who completes a survey or questionnaire
Sample	The group of people who have been selected for the study
Sampling frame	The complete list from which the sample has been chosen from
Representative	This means the sample is **not biased** and the sample is typical of the larger group you are studying, e.g. if you are studying teenager's views on school you ask a variety of teens. If your sample is **representative** then you can make **generalisations** about the views of the whole group.
Primary data	Data collected for the first time by the researcher for a particular piece of **research**
Secondary data	Data that already exists and has been gathered by someone other than the researcher. For example, **crime stats** are collected by the police and the sociologist might use them
Official statistics	A set of statistics gathered by the government, e.g. the census, or other official organisations, e.g. the police, schools
Reliability	This means the data can be repeated and constantly comes up with the same results as the first time
Validity	This means the results are getting **close to the truth**
Pilot study	A **small scale** study before doing the larger one. This tests methods
Anonymity/confidentiality	Making sure no names are used when giving results and that personal details are not passed on to somebody else

Informed consent	Making sure the *sample* know what you are doing and have agreed to be involved in the study
Ethical issues	Making sure that your research is not offending or harming anyone – that you are doing the right
Ethnography	Looking at the whole way of life of a group by using a variety of *methods*
Participant observations	Watching the behaviour of a group of people and actually *getting involved* in the behaviour yourself. This can help to get a true understanding of the groups behaviour/views
Non-participant observations	Watching the behaviour of a group of people but not getting involved in the behaviour yourself. This is easier than getting involved but may not give you a true insight so the results may not be as *valid*
Structured interviews	*Interviewing* a person and sticking to a set list of questions at all times
Unstructured interviews	This is like having a casual chat about a topic with a person. This can be better than *structured* as it relaxes people and they can give more information
Longitudinal studies	A study carried out over a long period of time, e.g. *Sue Sharpe* studied teenage girls in the 70's and repeated it in the 90's to see if attitudes towards education had changed
Group interviews	Interviewing a group of people rather than an individual
Leading questions	This is when an interviewer asks a particular question but encourages the *interviewer* to give a certain answer that they want them to give
Content analysis	This is the study of newspapers, magazines or t.v. programmes. This can give the researcher a lot rich data but is time consuming and might already be influenced by the person who has produced the information. This is *secondary data*.