



Forensic Psychology

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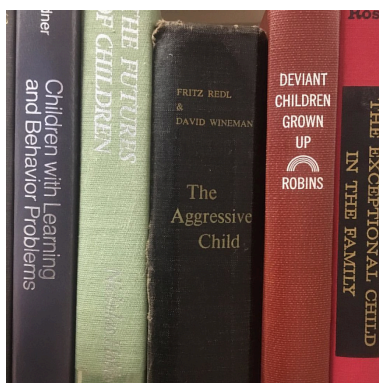
Disclaimer

Before continuing through the text, please know there is mature content, including potential triggers, in this content.

Chapter 1: History of Deviancy

The APA Dictionary of Psychology defines **deviance** as “any behavior that differs significantly from what is considered appropriate or typical for a social group” (APA, 2023). Deviant behavior is easily described as behavior or actions that go against against social norms as well as acceptable social behavior. Not all deviancy is considered an criminal offense.

This means that different areas, states, and even countries have their own view of deviancy. For now, we will look at deviant behaviors within the United States and later in this book, we will look at deviancy outside of the United States.



“Deviance, exception and more at Penrose Library.” by the pain of fleeting joy is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0.

History of Deviancy

The earliest documentation of expected and acceptable code of behavior could be found in what was known as Mesopotamia (now

Iraq). This intolerance of deviant behavior amongst several different reigns of power, the king in power determined rules or laws his subjects must abide by. Laws and deviant behaviors were determined by the palace as was handing down punishment ranging from fines to death. Fines may not have necessarily been money, more so, it may be crops, livestock, or textiles.

Review the following timeline, starting more recently with the well-known Code of Hammurabi and moving back in history.



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Deviancy in the United States

In the U.S., some deviancy is minor, where other forms negatively impact those around and/or violate state and federal laws. For example, each state can create its own laws of deviant behavior, such as minor consuming of alcohol. In Oregon and Nebraska, it is legal for minors to consume alcohol with their parents so long as it is for a family event referred to as a “family exception”. In Hawaii and South Carolina, it is legal for minors to possess alcohol. In Texas and Missouri, it is legal for parents to purchase alcohol for their minor children. Where, in Indiana, minors drinking would be a misdemeanor offense of “minor consuming” and parents purchasing alcohol for their children would be a misdemeanor offense of “contributing to the delinquency of a minor”.

In all U.S. states, violent crime like rape and murder are considered crimes of deviant behavior which have far extended damage to not only the victim(s), but also violates the expectation of a civilized society.

In 1791, American political activist, Thomas Paine (1737-1809) wrote a book called “The Rights of Man” in which he

discussed expectations and successes of a civilized society without deviant behaviors in the United States:



Violent Crime Hot Spots in 2020

“To understand the nature and quantity of government proper for man, it is necessary to attend to his character. As Nature created him for social life, she fitted him for the station she intended. In all cases she made his natural wants greater than his individual powers. No one man is capable, without the aid of society, of supplying his own wants, and those wants, acting upon every individual, impel the whole of them into society, as naturally as gravitation acts to a centre. But she has gone further. She has not only forced man into society by a diversity of wants which the reciprocal aid of each other can supply, but she has implanted in him a system of social affections, which, though not necessary to his existence, are essential to his happiness. There is no period in life when this love for society ceases to act. It begins and ends with our being.”



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In early America, The Salem Witch Trials were punishing men and women who were considered deviant by allegedly practicing witchcraft determined by religious zealots who felt themselves the judge, jury and executioner. The Boston Tea Party was considered deviant as it went against the government's laws.



"Girl in Front of Beatles Mural" by James Jardine is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

Fast forward to 1964 in Liverpool, England where the world met a new rock band called The Beatles. The Beatles were considered as deviant in that their music pushed against acceptable social norms and because they were different, eccentric, had long hair, and preformed their music loudly. The youth of that time were gunning to push against the system of repression, embraced The Beatles and what they represented. To conclude, deviancy has always existed in some way in the United States—some of it minor and other criminal. However, as we proceed forward, the focus on criminality of deviancy, social/biological/psychological origins of deviancy, and the subsequent violence that comes with it.

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thomas-paine](https://www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/thomas-paine)

Chapter 2: Origins of Criminal Behavior – Biological and Psychological

As mentioned in Chapter 1, deviancy and deviant behavior violates society's expectations, rules, and laws that govern it. Again, not all deviancy is criminal. Some is just bizarre or unacceptable behavior in that environment.

This is referred to as goodness-of-fit. Essentially, deviancy depends on the environment in which it occurs.

There are also societal expectations placed on members of our society. However, deviancy can depend on the group with which you are in the presence of. This can differ culturally between the United States and outside of the U.S. will be discussed in later chapters.



Deviant behavior is prevalent in popular culture, such as the television show: Dexter. “Shepard Fairey does Dexter” by Joe Pemberton is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

Deviancy, or what is considered to be deviant behavior can take many forms. For example, certain religions can be considered deviant. An example of this may be practicing religion that are not wholly Christian-based. Take the religion of Wicca. The group of practicing Wiccans is considered a coven. This religion is polytheistic in that, both Mother Earth and Father Sky are worshipped. A pentagram is used as the predominant symbol of their religion, comparable to Christians using a cross. To many, a pentagram is considered satanic and evil. So, someone outside of Wicca looking in, may think that this religion is demonic and the practitioners of it are summoning evil. When in fact, the coven is merely worshiping different deities while using a different symbol to define their religion. Taking this into account, someone paying

homage to a deity or deities outside of the aforementioned religious groups could be considered deviant behavior. According to Pew Research (2023) Christianity is the most prominent religion in the United States, followed by Evangelical Protestant, Catholic, and 'Unaffiliated. See their interactive data via this link: [Pew Research: Religious Landscape Study](#).

Another example is sexual preferences. Sexual proclivities or sexual preference that one person supports could be deviant to another. This could include fetish behavior, asexuality, homosexuality, pansexuality, bisexuality, etc. in lieu of heterosexuality. Individuals may find that anyone who does not follow the specific sexual expectation of 'union between male/female' as deviant.

A final example to share is related to eating disorders. Sufferers from anorexia nervosa (AN) and bulimia nervosa (BN) is considered deviant behavior. Both of these types of disorders are usually focused on anxious and/or depressive symptoms. Individuals suffering from this will restrict food intake (anorexia). This disorder is fraught with fear of weight gain and obsessive fear of being 'fat'. Bulimics will practice bingeing and purging. Where the suffer consumes copious amounts of unhealthy food, feels the guilt of this, and attempts to diminish the caloric intake by expelling the food via vomiting, laxative abuse, or both. "Individuals with AN and BN are consistently characterized by perfectionism, obsessive-compulsiveness, and dysphoric mood. Individuals with AN tend to have high constraint, constriction of affect and emotional expressiveness, anhedonia and asceticism, whereas individuals with BN tend to be more impulsive and sensation seeking. Such symptoms often begin in childhood" (Kaye, 2008). The AN and BN suffers attempt to please and/or are deluded in thought believing that society, family, friends, or peers demand the expectation of being visually and physically perfect.

Origins of deviant behavior

Human biology is the study of—well humans. This includes human development, our evolution, genetics, anthropology, and anatomy and physiology. This is a broad topic with multiple avenues we could travel. So, let's narrow things down a bit and focus on psychological biology of adults and how it connects to deviant behaviors.



"Lego Family" by the great 8 is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

When babies enter this world, they are not born with personality disorders that may befall them as they grow up. Newborn babies still have their innocence and have not been scarred emotionally or mentally by their caregivers or other negative happenings of life. But they are biological products of

their mother and father. Have you ever been told that "you act just like your mother" or "you have your father's personality"—of course, this could be good, bad, or indifferent. Especially, if there are genetic components that can impede normal development and/or potentially lead to deviance.

It Begins Young

For infants and children who have a positive and healthy relationship with their maternal figure, he/she will learn to give and receive love. A child who grows up and turns to criminal deviancy, potentially had no mother figure or a mother who was angry, distant, absentee, negligent, and/or abusive. On the other side of the coin, children lacking paternal support, love, and affection may offer similar undesirable behaviors as they would with a maternal

figure regardless of the child residing in a 2-parent household or a 1-parent where the father is the primary and mother is absentee.

In fact, a child being raised in this situation as young as 2-years old may start showing aggression. By 3-years old, aggression may become the common reaction when provoked. This aggression will continue to increase unless appropriate intervention occurs.

Without appropriate intervention, the child will not know what behavior socially acceptable and what society's requirements for civilized interaction is. By school age, the child will realize he is different from the other children and may use aggression to compensate for feelings of ostracization and diminished self-worth. By ages 8-12, a child will form strong feelings for those loved and those hated in their life. Children who are raised in chaotic families, broken homes, dysfunctional families, and lower income families are at risk for deviant behaviors.

To say that lower income families are at risk for producing a deviant child is for two (2) reasons:

1. The residential area that they reside is generally low income and unfortunately low-income areas is generally where criminals live.
2. The second reason is the child is being raised by a single mother who has to work to support her family. Thus, the child is left to his/her own devices and essentially raises themselves or the neighborhood raises them.

Most teenagers are impulsive as their brain has not matured enough to realize actions have consequences. Incidents of violence in the family home witnessed by a child can desensitize them and cause belief that this behavior is acceptable outside of the home.

Adults

There were several theorists who felt that deviancy and/or those who would potentially commit same could be identified externally—by merely observing their body shape and/or facial shape. Let's focus on two of the more prominent theorists: Cesare Lombroso and William H. Sheldon.

Cesare Lombroso



Cesare Lombroso (1835-1909) focused on several aspects of criminality as well as psychiatry. He was a proponent of eugenics and the founding father of the Italian school of criminology. APA calls this **criminal anthropology**. He believed that there was a correlation between hereditary and criminal deviancy. Lombroso believed that deviant behaviors could be attributed to misshapen skulls, facial structure, and genetic makeup. In fact, taking the theory of eugenics deemed people could

be born criminal specifically based on how they looked (e.g. head and facial structure) and claimed that these individuals could be easily identified by their 'atavistic' or primitive facial features.

According to Simply Psychology, the following were examples of atavistic features to look for:

- Features of a thief: expressive face, manual dexterity, and small darting eyes
- Features of a murder: cold glassy stare, bloodshot eyes, large pronounced nose comparable to that of a bird of prey
- Features of a sex offender: thick lips and protruding ears
- Features of female offenders: short, wrinkled skin, dark hair, lustful, immodest, microcephalic or possessing a smaller than normal skull. Women with a large protruding lower jaw were more vicious than males with the same features.



"I precursori di C. Lombroso..." by Biblioteca Rector Machado y Nuñez is marked with Public Domain Mark 1.0.

Learn more about current research on Lombroso ideas here: Cultural Expertise in Italian Criminal Justice: From Criminal Anthropology to Anthropological Expert Witnessing (Ziliotto, 2019)

In taking atavistic features into consideration, Lombroso stated those who were born criminals could be classified as criminals by passion, criminal epileptics, occasional criminals, and moral imbeciles.

"Thus were explained anatomically the enormous jaws, high cheek bones, prominent superciliary arches, solitary lines in the palms, extreme size of the orbits, handle shaped or sessile ears found in criminals, savages and apes, insensibility to pain, extremely acute sight, tattooing, excessive idleness, love of orgies and the irresistible craving for evil for its own sake, the desire not only to extinguish life in the victim, but to mutilate the corpse, tear its flesh, and drink its blood." (History Extra, 2023)



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William H. Sheldon

William H. Sheldon (1898-1977) was an American psychologist who followed some of Lombardo's theories that deviancy can be noticed by merely looking at someone. He developed a somatotype to determine personality based on an individual's body type. According to Britannica, there were three body types:

- Mesomorphs were fit, athletically built with an aggressive, no inhibitions, assertive personality, active and energetic lifestyle. The head was large, broad shoulders, prominent chest, muscular arms and legs, low body fat.
- Endomorphs were overweight with a soft, round build had a 'viscerotonic' personality meaning there were extroverts, relaxed, and comfortable around others. The head of this



Charles "Carl" Panzram (June 28, 1891 – September 5, 1930) was an American serial killer, spree killer, mass murderer, rapist, child molester, arsonist, robber, thief, and burglar. Also a classic mesomorph.

individual was perfectly round with a bulbus body, protruding abdomen, short arms, short legs. However, these individuals possessed thin wrists and ankles.

- Ectomorphs were lacking muscle, underweight or a thin build, possessed an introverted, thoughtful, or sensitive personality with inhibitions. Features included a thin face, large forehead, small weak chin, small chest, thin extremities.



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Brain

Select each of the hot spots below to learn more about each lobe of the brain and their respective functioning.



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Our brain controls near every aspect of our being and is the most complex of our organs. It not only controls the movement of our bodies, but it also controls our mood, behavior, motor skills, emotions, thoughts, memory, touch, sight, and much more. When our bodies are irregular our brains can be impacted in a bad way. Our feelings such as empathy, sympathy, fears, anger, happiness,

frustration, loneliness, etc. can be impacted. Should there be something wrong with our monoamine neurotransmitters (ex. Serotonin, Dopamine) can lead to deviant behaviors.



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Juvenile Delinquency



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Chapter 3: Theoretical Origins of Criminal Behavior

Robert K. Merton (1910-2003) theorized the sociological and consequently a criminological view, causes of deviancy when he wrote the Strain Theory. This theory posited that deviancy was a normal behavior within a civilized society regardless of country with the caveat that an individual's goals and ability to meet same determine whether he/she will deviate or conform to accomplish their goals. Below are the five (5) Strain Theories:



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As a college student, you can diverge from acceptable scholastic behavior in class that involves academic honesty and enter the deviant territory of cheating to pass college. But why would one do this? It is because not everyone had the same upbringing, the same childhood, the same religious or cultural values, etc. Taking the example in an earlier paragraph, if someone is potentially going to cheat in college, it would most likely be the wealthy, but emotionally neglected male child. It may seem strange that the wealthier child who has the financial means to succeed would lower himself to cheat. Let's look at the scenario—wealthy male's childhood as compared to the poor male child. The wealthy male was neglected emotionally by his parents yet given everything—he never had to *earn* it (innovation). The lower income male child did receive love and support from his parent and knew that education must be earned (conformity).

Formal Deviance

Formal deviance is an explicit violation of established social norms, laws, and rules within a given society. The actions and/or behaviors of the individual are met with consequences in the form of criminal prosecution, legal sanctions, or removal from society.

Criminal deviant behavior that negatively impact victims and society: sexual assault, battery, homicide, robbery, burglary, theft, shoplifting, rape, child pornography, fraud, embezzling, child abuse, making/selling drugs or narcotics, animal abuse/neglect, driving while intoxicated, assault.

Informal Deviance

Informal deviance is a violation of society's informal expectations of appropriate behavior.

Interrupting when someone is speaking, lying, burping out loud after drinking/eating, ignoring personal space when near a stranger, flatulence in public, cutting in line, using foul language, gossiping, picking your nose.



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Chapter 4: Diagnosis & Prediction: Deviant and Criminal Behavior

Anxiety disorders are very prevalent and in fact the most common disorder for someone to have. It can occur before someone does something outside of their comfort zone and or enter a life-changing event. For most people, this anxiety is temporary, but for others, it is a permanent fixture in life. This can encompass physical symptoms, subjective distress, avoidant behavior, and negative cognition. Women are most likely to suffer from an anxiety disorder.



"Young child in the embrace of her grandfather, sunny day at garden" by shixart1985 is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

Children can suffer from anxiety which can be expressed in their behavior as they may not have the verbal ability to speak about it, also called meta-cognition. However, they may express this outwardly by behaviors such as: bed wetting, crying, fear, hiding, nightmares, poor school performance (if applicable), aggression toward others, temper tantrums, disobedience, faking illness, or running away from home. The age of the child determines what fears they have. For most

young people, this is outgrown, but for others it will follow them into adulthood. Adults may exhibit some of these as well. One's sociodemographic factor may participate in anxiety. For example, race, socioeconomic status, and religion may feed into anxiety.

Types of anxiety are (Those suffering from more than one (1) anxiety disorder is called **comorbidity**):

- **Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)**

- **Panic attacks**
- **Social phobias**
- **Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)**
- **Separation anxiety** (mostly in children)
- **Specific phobias.**

When an individual is in the throes of their anxiety disorder after triggering can lead to indirect deviant behavior such as substance abuse, gambling, or other self-abusive addictive behaviors. Direct deviant behaviors may be stealing or robbing a bank to feed addictive behavior.



"Day 002 – Life Is Just Gamble" by marcandreларiviere is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

Anxiety disorder can be a cause-and-effect reaction, learned behavior, coping mechanism to stress, brain chemical and/or structural abnormalities, or genetic.



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“Stress-depression is the same disorder, 8 such types create panic, know the symptoms of all” by quickspice is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

Mood disorders can also lead to deviant behaviors. Mood disorders encompass:

- **major depressive disorder**
- **post-partum depression**
- **bipolar I & II**
- **manic disorders**
- **Suicide tendencies**

More women are apt to be diagnosed with depression. This disorder usually remains in the indirect deviant behaviors category as self-harm is more prevalent, except for innocents being victimized during the episode. Mood disorders can also be genetic, due to brain chemical and/or structural abnormalities.



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Personality disorders can cause deviant behaviors. Disorders that fall into this category are:

- **borderline personality**
- **narcissistic personality**
- **antisocial personality**
- **conduct disorder**
- **paranoid personality**
- **schizoid personality**
- **histrionic personality**

- **schizotypal personality**



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Chapter 5: Investigation and Prosecution: Deviant and Criminal Behavior

There are many reasons that individuals commit deviant behavior. As mentioned earlier it can be caused by many different sociological, environmental, situational catalysts and/or biological and psychological components.

Sociological

Based upon a criminology theory, such as the Broken Windows theory written by George L. Kelling and James Q. Wilson “the broken windows theory states that visible signs of disorder and misbehavior in an environment encourage further disorder and misbehavior, leading to serious crimes. The principle was developed to explain the decay of neighborhoods, but it is often applied to work and educational environments” (Psychology Today). Financial strife coupled with lower income neighborhoods, can potentially lead to deviant behavior based on socioeconomical status.

We had previously discussed in an earlier chapter, Social Strain Typology, Conflict Theory, and Labeling Theory to explain deviance. Travis Hirschi’s Social Bond Theory focused more on juvenile delinquency, which of course can lead to deviancy as an adult. Hirschi believed that deviance in young people had to do with attachment (or lack thereof) to their parents, school, and peers. Juveniles with proper and healthy attachments or bond to society, their job, family, and school are less likely to offend against society in a deviant manner. Hirschi theorized that “individuals conform to societal norms when they are “bonded to society...when ties are weakened or broken, then the individual is free to be a criminal” (U.S. DOJ, 1993). Those with bonds to society that incorporate involvement belief, attachment, and commitment to society’s

expectations and requirements. A child learned this from their parents at a young age. However, should a parent or parents not afford their children this information, then the child will form his/her own. Children are naturally hedonistic until they are properly socialized by their parents. When this information is not taught or appropriately taught to the child, the child will form their own rules, forgo moral rules and lack of a conscience when violating another individual. While this chapter will not go down the road of the necessity of parent/child bonding as that will be discussed in child/adolescent psychology, it does need to be stated here that we are products of our environment. If we do not have appropriate parental love, support, and societal teachings, then we will live to only serve ourselves. We will forgo right from wrong and merely pursue our own happiness regardless of who we hurt in the process.

As you read on, the diagnosis and prediction of deviant and criminal behavior will be discussed. This chapter will close out with several YouTube videos for you to view. These videos will help you with your Assignment in actually profiling your offender. Good luck!

Chapter 6: Rehabilitation for Deviant and Criminal Behavior

Sometimes offenders of deviancy end up in the court system, specifically those with addictions and/or mental illness. Depending on the offense, a judge may court order counseling or therapeutic intervention in lieu of confinement. Usually upon completion of this, criminal charges against the individual are dismissed. Sometimes, the individual is so profoundly mentally ill that they cannot be held responsible for their actions and instead are sent to residential facilities who are better prepared to care for them.

Unfortunately, many unmedicated or improperly medicated individuals with mental illness end up in the court system. In the State of Indiana, individuals must understand the court proceedings as well as assist in their own defense. Should they not be mentally able to stand trial, then the court can enter a plea of 'not guilty by reason of insanity.' As per Indiana's Family and Social Services Administration:

Indiana requires that any individual charged with a criminal offense MUST: possess the ability to understand the proceedings AND possess the ability to assist their attorney in the preparation of defense" (IC 35-36-3-(1-4)). Should a court believe that an individual not possess these abilities, evaluations from two or three psychiatrists/psychologists can be ordered and the court will order a defendant competent or incompetent, considering the evaluations and all collateral information of the case.

Not guilty by reason of insanity is a plea entered by a defendant in a criminal trial, where the defendant claims that they were so mentally disturbed or incapacitated at the time of the offense that they did not have the required intention to commit the crime and are therefore not guilty. (IC 35-36-2-(1-5)).

When the defendant in a criminal case intends to interpose the defense of insanity, the defense lawyer must file a notice of that intent with the trial court no later than:

- Twenty days if the defendant is charged with a felony; or
- Ten days if the defendant is charged only with one or more misdemeanors;
- Before the omnibus date, a scheduling deadline whereby the defense attorney needs to file certain motions and defenses.

However, in the interest of justice and upon a showing of good cause, the court may permit the filing to be made at any time before commencement of the trial.

Evaluations from two or three psychiatrists/psychologists will be ordered by the judge/court. In all cases in which the defense of insanity is interposed, the jury (or the court if tried by it) shall find whether the defendant is:

- Guilty;
- Not guilty;
- Not responsible by reason of insanity at the time of the crime; or
- Guilty but mentally ill at the time of the crime.

Whenever a defendant is found not responsible by reason of insanity at the time of the crime, the prosecuting attorney shall file a written petition with the court under IC 12-26-6-2(a)(3) or under IC 12-26-7. If a petition is filed under IC 12-26-6-2(a)(3), the court shall hold a commitment hearing under IC 12-26-6. If a petition is filed under IC 12-26-7, the court shall hold a commitment hearing under IC 12-26-7.

The defendant has all rights provided by the provisions under IC 12-26. If the commitment is to be to a State Psychiatric Hospital, there must be a determination by the Community Mental Health Center that the State Psychiatric Hospital is the least restrictive placement for the needs of the defendant.

The court must submit the following documents to the Division of Mental Health and Addiction's legal office, via the

Competency@fssa.in.gov email, in order for the defendant to be admitted to a State Psychiatric Hospital:

- Copies of the order finding the individual not guilty (responsible) by reason of insanity
- A copy of the commitment order
- A copy of the letter by the Community Mental Health Center stating the State Psychiatric Hospital is the least restrictive placement for the needs of the defendant
- Copies of two or three doctor's evaluations used in determination of insanity
- Charging information
- Probable cause affidavit

Once an individual is found incompetent to stand trial, they are placed in the custody of the Division of Mental Health and Addiction to receive restoration services, including mental health treatment and legal education.

For those who are mentally ill and/or addicted but able to stand trial, the judge may opt to allow the offender the option of pretrial diversion where their charges may be dropped after completing a diversion program. A diversion program can include counseling and other various interventions. The goal is to reform the offender in the hope that the offense will not be repeated.

Rehabilitation

- Providing an Alternative to Prison
- Comprehensive Rehabilitation of Minors with Deviant and Delinquent Behavior

Chapter 7: Deviant Behaviors Outside of U.S.: Diagnosis through Rehabilitation

According to the 2022 INTERPOL Global Crime Trend Summary Report Global Crime Trend Summary Report EN put together by INTERPOL, the following crimes were notated throughout the world and broken into the following categories based on severity:

- Illicit Trafficking : involves selling natural and synthetic drugs human/migrant trafficking, political instability, inflation, climate change causing migration of individuals, smuggling of items & people
- Organized Crime: Involving crime groups & criminal networks
- Financial Crime & Corruption: Financial fraud examples include: money laundering, social engineering to perpetrate financial fraud, knowingly enabling corruption, impersonation, and other scams
- Cyber crimes: Hacking, phishing, scams, ransomware, & sexual exploitation of children, and terrorism (specifically Jihadist and groups affiliated with the Islamic State, politically motivated

The global pandemic caused unique situations for deviance; learn more by reading this article: Crime and deviance during the COVID-19 pandemic (2022)

Review each of the hot spots below to learn more about deviancy on different continents and in different countries.



An interactive H5P element has been excluded from this version of the text. You can view it online here:

<https://pressbooks.palni.org/forensicpsychology/?p=98#h5p-14>

A Global Comparison of Norms and Deviant Behavior

The following list is a comprised of social norms accepted globally, but are illegal within the United States.

- Beheading wife and/or girlfriend due to dishonor
- Sexual assault
- Removal of clitoris
- Multiple wives
- Mob behavior
- Incest is not illegal
- Domestic battery
- Spousal sadism
- Killing couples marrying out of socioeconomic status
- Dress codes for women
- Ban on certain media (books, film, television, phone apps, etc.)



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This list is comprised of social norms accepted globally, which are legal within the United States but generally taboo.

- Child brides
- Arranged marriages
- Retribution (such as throwing acid on someone)
- Celebration of menses and womanhood
- Submissive wives
- Homosexuality and lesbianism considered shameful
- Celibacy
- Food restrictions including but not limited to refusal or acceptance of particular proteins based on religious or cultural norms
- Alcohol consumption for minors
- Abortion



“Alcohol Free Zone – Drinking alcohol in this area is prohibited by law – sign on Trindle Road, Dudley” by ell brown is licensed under CC BY 2.0.

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