

lecture 3:
***Criminology, Deviance,
and the Hobbesian
Problem of Order***

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recap

- Basic definitions of deviance, norm, role, and subculture
- Kai Erikson’s classic on functions of deviance
- Deviance and morality
- Today:
 - 1. Positive deviance,
 - 2. criminology, and
 - 3. Hobbes, order, and control
- First, a bit more stigma

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**stigma & murder of sex
offenders 8/27/05**

- BELLINGHAM — Last Friday night, a man claiming to be an FBI agent dropped in on three Level 3 sex offenders living together, supposedly to warn them of an Internet "hit list" targeting sex offenders. The man was not an FBI agent, but he may have been enforcing a hit list of his own creation. Two of the roommates were found dead early Saturday of gunshot wounds, and Bellingham police are investigating a crime that authorities say may be one of the nation's most serious cases of vigilantism aimed at sex offenders. The killings also highlight a potential problem about Washington's 1990 law requiring sex offenders to register their addresses so the public can keep track of them.

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email after media appearance

Mr. Uggen:

I was convicted of a burglary in Minnesota in 1991(committed in 90). It has become increasingly difficult to find work. The state advocacy system up there is crazy. It hangs on to people for too long and does not allow them to start over. The longer you keep people down the greater the cost to the communities they attempt to live within. In other states, after a certain amount of time, you can "wash" the conviction away. Not Minnesota. In Minnesota it is obvious why these approaches remain in place. To keep bureaucrats employed. By not looking realistically at the data on recidivism they demonstrate their real goals: ie. simplification, stigmatization and distortion.

-S.
1/23/04

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- To Other Convicted Felons,
I am at the end of my rope. I have a non-violent, class D Felony for Burglary that was committed 2 yrs ago. I have a College Degree in Marketing Mgmt. & great work experience. I have endorsements from Probation for successfully meeting the terms & conditions of probation. I applied to Owens-Corning for a job in Construction Sales & I lied about my Felony. I passed all of their requirements (phone & interview screenings, drug test, online psychological test) and beat out 2 other candidates for consideration. They sent me to Toledo, OH for 1 week of training. I truly believed that they would do the background check first. When they didn't, I thought maybe God heard my prayers. Upon my first day of work, the Boss says a background check revealed my record. I pleaded with him to give me a shot as that was an isolated incident. I told him that the guy he interviewed & liked was the guy that I am. All to no avail. I left humiliated & ashamed. I see no worthwhile job opportunities & am contemplating suicide. Please don't say this is crazy, I already know that. I just can't face the future with this amount of Hopelessness. Please say a prayer for me, I just can't deal with this.*

-anonymous (9/02/06) Chris Uggen – Sociology 4111 5

does positive deviance exist?

- Clinard:** deviance is departure from norms that draw social disapproval and elicit, or are likely to elicit if detected, negative sanctions.
- Heckert:** positive deviance also violates norms and elicits reactions (ultramarathoners)- positively valued overconformity
 - Altruism (hero)
 - Charisma (dictator)
 - Innovation (artist)
 - Supra-Conformity (4.0)
 - Innate/Ascribed (beauty)
 - Ex-Deviant (saved)

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norms & deviance typologies

- Tittle and Paternoster's Middle Class norms (ed.s)

Norm/Deviance	Example
1) Group Loyalty/Apostasy	<i>rebel</i>
2) Privacy/Intrusion	<i>burglar</i>
3) Prudence/Indiscretion	<i>prostitute*</i>
4) Conventionality/Bizarreness	<i>freak (e.g., coprophilia)</i>
5) Responsibility/Irresponsibility	<i>deadbeat dad</i>
6) Participation/Alienation	<i>unabomber</i>
7) Moderation/Hedonist-Ascetic	<i>drunk/abstainer</i>
8) Honesty/Deceit	<i>scam artist</i>
9) Peacefulness/Disruption	<i>loudmouth</i>
10) <u>Courtesy</u>	<u><i>pig</i></u>

* T&P classify homosexuality here, but Uggem disagrees

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criminology

- **Piece in *The Criminologist*:**
 - Talk prepared for sociologists, written for criminologists
 - Crime as violation of criminal law
 - Deviance as violation of social norms
 - **3 Propositions**
 - Stigma determines individual life chances and institutional outcomes
 - Durkheim and community notification
 - Sociology of deviance is heavy metal

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Thomas Hobbes

- **17th Century English Philosopher**
 - Non-sociological conception of life as "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short" and a "war of all against all"
 - "Leviathan" as Hobbes' solution
- "Hobbesian problem of order"
 - How can we create a society in which self-interested people don't use force and fraud to satisfy their (criminal, sexual, substance-abusing ...) wants? Or...

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Q: why isn't there more deviance?

- **A: Social Controls**
 - *We would if we dared...*
- **3 "solutions" to Hobbesian dilemma**
 1. **Normative** - socialization and internalization of shared norms and values (Durkheim, Parsons: coordination between means and ends)
 2. **Exchange** - desire to maintain mutually beneficial relationships in interdependent society (rational choice: amoral)
 3. **Conflict** - coercive power of legitimate social control agents (Hobbes)

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three solutions as lenses

- **Appeal** to morality, reason, or fear using social controls (coach/boss/prof)
- **Clinard on Social Control**
 - Learn self-control through socialization
 - **Informal social controls** - unofficial, private, often face-to-face sanctions
 - Sampson and Laub vs. Clinard
 - **Formal social controls** - official sanctions, especially law (e.g., Leviathan)
 - Table 2.2 - examples of institutions (U of M), agents (Prof), deviance (cheat), and sanction
 - Do we "legislate morality"? Should we?
 - Law based on harm, morality, and enforceability

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social controls and constructions

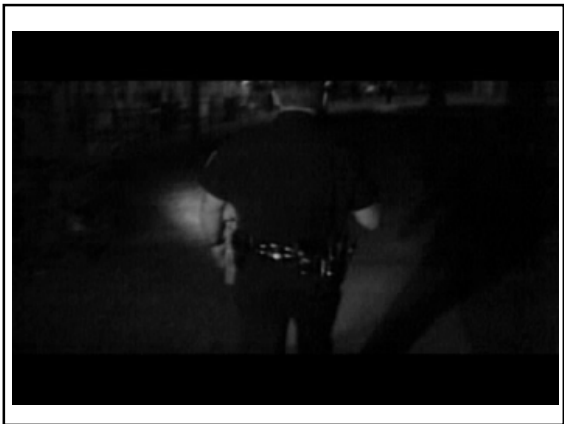
- **Clinard: Deviant Events in Context**
 - Roles, places, times, acts, and careers (e.g., public exhibitionism)
 - **Ironies** of social control - secondary deviance and deviance amplification
- **Joel Best: Social Constructionism**
 - How concerns about particular forms of deviance emerge and evolve
 - How social control agents construct particular acts as deviance and persons as deviants

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race and formal control

- We learn social facts of deviance through agents of formal social control
- **Anderson on police as social control**
 - Race, gender, age, and class (and "attitude") effects
 - Does Anderson describe normative, exchange, or coercive relations between police and young men?
 - *Who* demands tough law enforcement and social control?
- **Local perspective/Why focus on police?**
 - Scott, a young African American probationer: "I grew up where the police, you know, the police beat up people... [The police,] that's the *immediate government* right there." (Uggen interview, 2002)

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next

- **SERVICE LEARNING + POLICING**
- **Lecture: *Introduction to Deviant Careers (of people, firms, nations...)***
 - Read Clinard and Meier: 3. *Becoming Deviant* pp. 51-67
 - Read Adler & Adler: 18. *Anderson, The Police and the Black Male* pp. 185-196
 - Read Adler & Adler: 10. *Best, The Constructionist Stance* pp. 92-95
 - Read Adler & Adler: X. *Phases of the Deviant Career* pp. 455-457

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