

lecture 17:

*finish crime, begin
heteronormativity and sexual
norms*

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Economic/"Property" Crime

- Most crime is economic behavior
 - 90% of crime index offenses are economic
- New studies of illegal earnings
 - Levitt & Venkatesh (2000) - drug gang
 - Violence, but not wanton; leaders
 - McCarthy & Hagan (2001) - street youth
 - Competence, collaboration, criminal capital
 - Uggen & Thompson (2003) - ex-offenders
 - Drugs as "illegal earnings imperative"
- Clinard's distinction: occasional (almost everybody) v. career offenders

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Political Crimes

- Crimes against governments (all crime?)
 - Merton's "rebellion"
 - Campus activists and subcultures?
 - Militias
 - Benefits
- Crimes by governments
 - Political corruption - kickbacks, fraud, abuse of funds
 - Election crimes - denial of voting (FL), "push polling", illicit contributions
 - Violence - state monopoly on legitimate force
- Among refugees vs. Laotian soldiers (Stribune 3/6/04)
 - freedom fighters, terrorists, human rights victims?

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**mathews & kauzlarich 2000 –
ValuJet flight #529**

- **Facts** – scariest article in the reader?
 - May 1996, 110 people die in FL crash
 - Backdrop of deregulation
- **Methodology?**
 - Qualitative/historical case study
- **Theory**
 - Conflict - “state-corporate crime”
 - Mission of FAA? ValuJet?
- **Critique/alternatives**
- **Policy impact?**
 - FAA accepted NTSB mandate of \$350 million changes to cargo areas (had been rejected in 1993)

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organized crime

- **Clinard & Meier - Activities**
 - Illegal goods and services (loan sharking, gambling, drugs, sex)
 - Big-time theft/hijacked goods
 - Racketeering (systematic extortion)
 - Infiltrating legitimate businesses
 - Corrupting public officials

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**Godson & Olson (1995)
International Organized Crime**

- **What’s new? Global operations**
 - Transnational links to nonstate actors
 - Power to challenge states
- **Why growth?**
 - (Drug) markets
 - Declining government influence and control
 - Immigration and borders
 - Technology (wire transfers)
 - “disorganized” law enforcement

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"homosexuality"

- Elements of definition
 - Gender of sexual partners (behavior)
 - Identity and self-concept (orientation)
- Prevalence: Laumann's *National Health and Social Life Survey (1992)*
 - 3% of males, 2% of females report sex with someone of same gender in past year (too low? UK & FR similar)
 - 5-10% report experience since puberty, or same-sex attraction

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7

social construction of sexuality

- Creating and enforcing sexual norms
 - Recognition or creation of separate categories based on sexual orientation
 - Sexuality is learned, at least in part, in interaction with others
- RW Connell's "hegemonic masculinity"
 - a gender system privileging one vision of adult heterosexual masculinity over all femininities and alternative masculinities
- Video clip: Boys Don't Cry

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8



is homosexuality deviance?

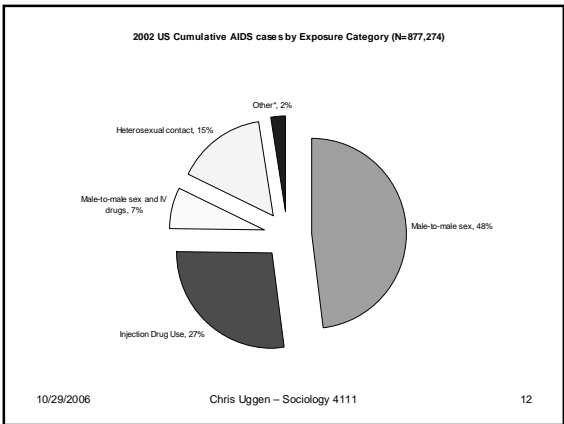
- Violation of norms that draws social disapproval and negative sanctions (also statistical, absolutist, reactivist)
- Norms are changing
 - Legalization - 32 of 50 states had repealed sodomy laws by 1999
 - Public Acceptance - Laumann 1992: 65 percent say "same-gender sex is always wrong"
 - 1998 Time poll, 52% agreed it was acceptable for others, but not for self (up from 35% in 1978)
 - De-Medicalization - American Psychiatric Association 1973: not a disorder

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homophobia

- Homophobia - prejudicial attitudes and feelings against homosexuals, often manifest in overt discrimination or hostility
- HIV/AIDS and Homophobia (CDC data)
 - 18.5 of 40 million AIDS cases now female
 - "The AIDS epidemic in women is overwhelmingly heterosexual - almost entirely so in Africa and South and South East Asia." - WHO 2004
 - 5 million new cases per year
 - 3 million deaths in 2003

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**homophobia and women's sport
(Blinde and Taub 1992)**

- **What sexual stereotypes** are applied to women athletes? **Why? Which sports?**
 - Linking masculinity to athleticism
 - A "courtesy stigma" (Goffman) for all
- **Method** - 24 intensive interviews
- **Findings**
 - Didn't want to talk about sexual orientation (internalized stereotypes)
 - Management techniques
- **Still true? Are female athletes a social threat** to hegemonic masculinity?

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**Gay male christian couples
Yip (1997)**

- **Sexual exclusivity**
 - Behavior vs. expectations
- **Christian ethics**
 - Adopting vs. challenging or substituting (e.g., ethic of common decency)
- **Method**: 30 intensive interviews in UK. **Sampling?**
- **Findings**: How did **non-exclusive** manage it?
 - Regulatory mechanisms: rules, concealment, disclosure, "flings" OK
- **Exclusivity correlated with relationship satisfaction, but not a necessary condition for stable partnership**

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ongoing issues

- **Same-sex marriages (MN poll)**
 - Civil marriage: legally protected relationship available to all
 - Religious marriage: church recognition of the union
- **Sexual orientation as a "protected class"**
- **Careers**
 - Individual (e.g., coming out)
 - Social Movement

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Next

- Working papers due 11/14
- Next: *Sexual Deviance*
 - *Catholic Priests*, pp. 277-288
 - *Clinard & Meier*, pp. 355-404
 - *Weinberg et al.*, pp. 236-246
 - *Lee & Craft, Disease*, pp. 293-303

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16
