

Sociology 4111 (Uggen): Deviant Behavior

2006 Midterm Review

PART I: BASIC CONCEPTS -- DEVIANCE, CONTROL, AND CAREERS

I. Social Facts and Social Constructions

II. Defining Deviance

- a. Clinard's Definitions of Deviance (Statistical, Absolutist, Reactivist, Normative)
- b. Adlers' definition's
 - i. Deviance as violation of social norms (Attitudes, Behaviors, Conditions, Prescriptive norms, Proscriptive norms)
 - ii. Role
 - iii. Subcultures
 - iv. Power
 - v. Moral entrepreneurs
- c. Kai Erikson (1966)

III. Differences between Criminology and Deviance

- a. Piece in *The Criminologist*:
- b. Heckert: positive deviance
 - i. Altruism (hero)
 - ii. Charisma (dictator)
 - iii. Innovation (artist)
 - iv. Supra-Conformity (4.0)
 - v. Innate/Ascribed (beauty)
 - vi. Ex-Deviant (saved)
- c. Tittle and Paternoster: Middle Class norms - Typology of Deviance

IV. Social Controls and the Hobbesian Problem of Order

- a. Thomas Hobbes
 - i. "Hobbesian problem of order"
 - ii. 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?
 - iii. 3 "solutions" to Hobbesian dilemma
 - 1. Normative
 - 2. Exchange
 - 3. Conflict
 - iv. Informal social controls
 - v. Formal social controls
- b. social controls and constructions
 - i. Clinard: Deviant Events in Context
 - ii. Joel Best: Social Constructionism
- c. Race and formal control
 - i. Anderson: police as social control
 - ii. Local perspective/Why focus on police?

V. Introduction to Deviant Careers (of people, firms, nations...)

- a. Becoming Deviant
- b. Phases of the Deviant Career

- VI. *Subcultures, Power, and "Unconventional Sentimentality" (5 min. video: The Wall)*
 - a. Chambliss: Saints and Roughnecks
 - b. Sanchez Jankowski: Joining a Gang
 - c. Fox: Real Punks and Pretenders

PART II: THEORIES OF DEVIANCE AND SOCIETAL REACTION

VII. *Individualistic versus Sociological Theories*

- a. Careers:
 - i. Entry, management, exit
- b. Subcultures
 - i. Counterculture
 - ii. Internal stratification
- c. Individualistic theories of deviance
 - i. Biology
 - ii. Psychiatry and Psychology
 - iii. Economics: rational choice
 - iv. Complements or substitutes for sociology
- d. Individualistic (?) examples
 - i. Adler & Adler on self-injurers
 - ii. Lowery & Wetli on sexual asphyxia
- e. Social Organization of Deviance

VIII. *Functionalism*

- a. Structural theories
 - i. Functionalism, Anomie, Conflict
- b. Functionalism
 - i. Emile Durkheim (*Rules*)
 - 1. Anomie, integration, and social change
 - ii. Functions
 - 1. Boundary maintenance
 - 2. Safety valve
 - 3. Conflict management
 - 4. Signaling
 - iii. Talcott Parsons (not in books)
 - iv. Critique of functionalism

IX. *Anomie*

- a. Background: Durkheim, Parsons
- b. Merton's anomie theory (1938)
- c. Assumptions
 - i. Variation in motivation for deviance
 - ii. Cultural imbalance produces "strain"
- d. Conceptual tools
 - i. Anomie
 - ii. Common success goals but not opportunity (why?)
 - iii. Reference groups and relative deprivation
 - iv. Typology of societies
 - v. Typology of individual adaptations
- e. Critique
- f. Extensions

X. *Conflict and Threat Theories*

- a. Assumptions
 - i. Conflict, not consensus on norms
 - ii. Powerful make rules in their own interests
 - b. Conflict theories/concepts
 - i. Culture conflict (Sellin 1938)
 - ii. Class conflict (Quinney 1975)
 - iii. Left Realism (1980s+)
 - iv. Social Threat (Liska 1992)
 - v. Africana Criminal Justice (today)
 - c. Critique (Clinard)
 - d. Power & rule-making: Behrens, Uggen, Manza on felon voting
 - i. US laws
 - ii. Racial Threat
 - iii. Group threat
 - iv. Labeling: Shift from "Jim Crow" to modern racism
 - v. Three measures of racial threat
 - vi. Other Controls
 - vii. Overall picture and Key Findings
 - e. Value and relevance
- XI. *Basic Concepts of Labeling Theory (4 min. video: Gattaca)*
- a. Joel Best and "Rise of Labeling" and societal reaction
 - i. Howard Becker's *Outsiders*
 - ii. Erving Goffman's *Stigma*
 - b. Assumptions
 - i. Societal reaction defines and creates deviance
 - ii. Labels affect identity and self-concept
 - iii. Conflict, not consensus on norms
 - c. Concepts
 - i. Primary and secondary deviance
 - ii. "Rule-breaking behavior" v. Deviance
 - iii. Moral entrepreneurs (example)
 - iv. Deviant Careers
 - d. Rule-breaking v. deviance
 - e. Moral entrepreneurs
 - i. *Tuggle and Holmes: smoking ban*
 - f. Critique
 - g. Lessons
 - i. Rules are not made automatically
 - ii. Labels have consequences
 - iii. Deviance as a process, sequence, or career (mental illness)
- XII. *Social Control Theory*
- a. Background: Hobbes, Durkheim
 - b. Assumptions
 - c. Conceptual tool – social bond
 - i. 4 elements: attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief
 - d. Critique
 - e. Extensions
 - f. Value
- XIII. *Differential Association and Learning*
- a. Differential association & learning

- b. Background
 - c. Assumptions
 - i. Normative conflict
 - ii. Change in human behavior
 - iii. Deviance is learned
 - iv. Deviance is group behavior
 - d. Concepts
 - i. Culture and subculture
 - ii. Differential association process
 - iii. Differential social organization
 - e. Extensions
 - i. Ron Akers- differential association/reinforcement theory (e.g., drugs)
 - f. Critique
 - g. Value
 - i. Best explains peers and subcultural deviance
- XIV. Joel Best – labeling under attack
- a. conflict critique
 - b. feminist critique
 - c. identity politics critique
 - d. mainstream sociology critique

PART III: LEARNING THE “SOCIAL FACTS” OF DEVIANCE

- I. *Government/Official Statistics (example: EEOC and sexual harassment)*
 - a. Bias, validity (internal and external) and reliability.
 - b. Official statistics viewpoints
 - i. Adlers’
 - ii. Uggen’s
 - c. Child abuse reporting
 - d. Besharov and Laumann 1996
- II. *Surveys*
 - a. Surveys on deviance
 - b. Sampling
 - c. Response bias and internal validity
 - d. “Operationalization”
 - e. Causality: Adlers v. Uggen (p. 97)
 - f. Substance use - Michigan’s “Monitoring the Future” survey
 - g. Critique
 - h. Value
 - i. External validity/generalizability
 - ii. Independent of social control
 - iii. How else would we know?
- III. *Qualitative Approaches*
 - a. Participant observation, intensive interviews, archival work ...
 - b. Adlers – research on drug dealers
 - c. Miller – female gang research
- IV. *Summary and Exercise:*
 - a. brainstorming, selecting appropriate data and methods
 - b. managing bias and enhancing validity and reliability

SAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. While Hank is just as deviant as Frank, Hank appears more apologetic for his actions. Because of this, he rarely gets into trouble. Chambliss attributes this to differences in their _____.
 - a. Demeanor
 - b. Awareness
 - c. Level of societal conformity
 - d. Visibility

2. In the article "The Police and the Black Male", what do black men carry with them in order to gain a certain level of status and fair treatment by police officers?

3. Identifications: Identify the following authors or concepts and their importance for the sociology of deviance in a sentence or two:
 - a. Subculture
 - b. Informal controls
 - c. Kai Erikson
 - d. Thomas Hobbes
 - e. Social facts
 - f. Social constructionism
 - g. Role
 - h. Retreatism
 - i. Howard Becker
 - j. Secret deviance
 - k. Power
 - l. Positive deviance
 - m. Edwin Sutherland
 - n. Deviant career
 - o. Anomie
 - p. Travis Hirschi
 - q. National Health and Social Life Survey
 - r. Stigma
 - s. Joel Best
 - t. Culture conflict

ESSAYS

1. Using the example of binge drinking on campus, compare and contrast the statistical, absolutist, reactionist, and normative definitions of deviance. (1-2 paragraphs)
2. Using the example of cutting or self-injury, give examples of negative, positive, formal, and informal sanctions that might be used to intensify or stop the behavior. (1-2 paragraphs)
3. Using the example of domestic violence, explain how the application of formal social controls may unintentionally intensify or reinforce deviant activity. (1-2 paragraphs)
4. Explain at least 3 deviance management techniques that an embezzler might use. (1 paragraph)
5. Discuss the social threat hypothesis as it relates to felon voting and the overrepresentation of African Americans in the criminal justice system. Critique this hypothesis from a functionalist perspective (1-2 paragraphs)

6. Based on lecture and Erikson's notion of boundary maintenance, provide a functionalist interpretation of the recent Janet Jackson/Justin Timberlake controversy in the 2004 Super Bowl. Critique your answer from the perspective of a conflict theorist. (2-3 paragraphs)
7. What sort of methodologies would you use to advance knowledge about the following research questions? Explain the sort of official statistics, surveys, or qualitative approaches you would use to reduce bias for each question (1 paragraph each)
 - a. How do people exit drunk driving in rural Minnesota?
 - b. How many repeat methamphetamine offenders are there in the U.S.?
 - c. Are their subcultural norms supporting gang rape in some St. Paul gangs?
 - d. Are wrestlers more likely to sexually harass women than other athletes?
 - e. Have homicide rates always varied by race in the US? Do US patterns hold in other countries?
8. Subcultures and organization (3 paragraphs total)
 - a. Apply Fox's model of the internal stratification of the Punk subculture to a deviant group that interests you.
 - b. Apply Sanchez-Jankowski's idea of "supply side" and "demand side" factors to recruitment into this group.
 - c. Do you think the group meets the definition of a subculture? Explain.
9. According to Best, what accounts for the "rise of labeling" theory in the 1960s and 1970s (1 paragraph)? Explain in a paragraph four sources of the "attack on labeling theory." Describe two examples of primary deviance and two examples of secondary deviance.
10. According to the Adlers, what are the strengths and weaknesses of using official data, survey data, and qualitative approaches to studying deviance? How did Uggen's presentation in lecture differ from the Adlers' view? Use specific examples or studies to explain your answer. (2-3 paragraphs)
11. One of Uggen's students recently began selling working as an escort to support himself. (4 paragraphs total)
 - a. Explain how Hirschi's social control theory might explain his entry into this form of deviant work.
 - b. Explain how Sutherland's differential association theory might explain his entry into this form of deviant work.
 - c. Explain how the individual-level version of Merton's anomie theory might explain his entry into this form of deviant work.
 - d. Which account do you find most convincing? Explain.
12. Anomie theory viewed Al Capone as the "triumph of amoral intelligence over morally prescribed failure when the channels of vertical mobility are closed or narrowed in a society which places a high premium on economic affluence and social ascent for *all* its members." Write two paragraphs comparing and contrasting how differential association theory and social control theory would make sense of Al Capone.