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Resetting the 'crime' scene: Criminology in the last decade



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25th April 2017




OUTLINE

-  **What is Criminology?**
-  **The process of change**
-  **Criminology in the last decade**
-  **The Making of Contemporary Criminological Enquiries**
-  **Key Contemporary Research Topics in Criminology**
-  **Concluding Remarks**





What is Criminology all about?

Two scriptural beginnings

-  Each making out a somewhat different fate for the study of crime and its control
-  The immaculate-conception account of the birth of classicism
-  Positivism separating the study of crime from the contemplation of the State

The Holy Grail: why do people commit crime?

-  Criminology like a parasite attached to its host subjects
-  At the same time, like a colonial power, Criminology landing on new territories descended on the fascinating subjects of crime and punishment and claimed them as its own



**Crime is a
behaviour, but it
is a behaviour
that the state is
organized to
punish**

**Criminology is
busy either
describing,
classifying and
explaining crime
or else analyzing,
evaluating and
advocating policy**

**Criminology is a
subject with a
complicated past
and polemical
present**



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Internationalisation

Setting new
tasks for old
problems

Constructing
new criminals

Globalisation

Symbols of
trouble(s)

Borderless
education

Students as
producers

GLOBALISATION

- 
- A cartoon illustration showing several men in business suits running across a globe. The word 'GLOBALISATION' is written in large, bold, red letters across the globe. The men are running in a line, with the one in the front looking back over his shoulder. The globe is tilted, and the background is a purple and white cloudy sky.
- **Subtle differences between globalisation and internationalisation.**
 - **Internationalisation = political, social and cultural domain.**
 - **Globalisation = more closely associated with modern economic and technological trends.**

GLOBALISATION





Globalisation is an opportunity to look at the threat of social and political conflicts, human rights violations, trafficking, transnational and organised crime, international police studies.



Relevance of cross-border economic, political and socio-cultural relations.



‘Borderless’ Education

-  Defined as educational developments that cut across (or have the potential to cross) traditional conceptual or geographical boundaries.
-  One of the struggles: the growth of corporate and virtual universities.



The process of change

Patterns of
participations
have changed

- **Wider access to Higher Education**
- **Universities have to retain fair access despite option to charge higher fees**

Technological
environment
has changed

- **New media available to learners**
- **New media in the classroom**
- **New crimes linked to the use of new technologies**
- **Information exchange made easier**

Social
expectations
have changed

- **Employment prospects for new graduates have changed**

Criminology in the last decade

Epidemiological Criminology

Counter-colonial Criminology

Criminology dealing with social harms

Criminology tackling moral and academic silence about human rights violations

Contrology

Green Criminology

Victimology

Cyber Crimes

Crimes of the Powerful

THE MAKING OF CONTEMPORARY CRIMINOLOGICAL ENQUIRES

- ⚠️ The impact of global division on knowledge production (Connell, 2007)
- ⚠️ Growing fragmentation to the field of criminology (Bosworth and Hoyle, 2011)
- ⚠️ Ways of reading crime(s) uncritically imported from the centre to the periphery



KEY CONTEMPORARY RESEARCH TOPICS IN CRIMINOLOGY

- ⚠️ The many worlds of violence
- ⚠️ Gendered crime and victimization
- ⚠️ Penalty and punishment: penal present and penal trends
- ⚠️ Implications of borderless and transnational crimes
- ⚠️ The construction of the migrant as terrorist



THE STRANGERS ARE COMING



-  **Deconstructing security**
-  **Migration and trafficking**
-  **The criminalisation of the stranger**
-  **State sexual control intersection with migration control**

CONCLUDING REMARKS



Criminology characterised by three factors, a discontent for the present and possibly the past; a desire for improvement in the future; and a (self)questioning in the face of struggle.

Criminology embracing the vision of a liberatory education that connects the will to know with the will to become

