

Chapter 7 Government & Law

Vocabulary

Crime

Incarceration

Community Policing

Substance Abuse

Drunk Driving

Driving While Intoxicated/ Under the Influence

Implied Consent

Recidivist

Restitution

PPT QUESTIONS:

1. What are some possible causes of crime in the US? (Give 3)
 2. What are some NCCD recommendations for reducing crime? Paraphrase them.
 3. What types of penalties do people receive for DWI's?
 4. What is the consequence of implied consent laws?
 5. What is a recidivist law?

6. How do Drug Courts work?

7. Why are sex-offender registries controversial?

PROBLEMS

7.1 Assume you are a member of a commission established to evaluate laws. Consider the following acts. In each case decide whether or not the act should be treated as a crime. Then rank the crimes from most serious to least serious using the following scale: VS [very serious], S [serious], U [undecided], LS [less serious], NS [not serious], or NAC [not a crime]. Explain

- a. Robert sells crack cocaine and uses the proceeds to support his mother, who receives public assistance.
- b. Marley is a passenger in a car she knows is stolen, although she did not participate in the theft of the car.
- c. A corporate executive gives a million dollars to a candidate for the U.S. Senate.
- d. A college student downloads music files for free, burns them onto a CD, and uses the CD at a party where she is a paid DJ.
- e. Paulina is caught with a pound of marijuana.
- f. Ella leaves a store with change for a \$10 bill, knowing that she gave the cashier a \$5 bill.
- g. Samantha approaches a man and offers sex in exchange for money.
- h. Ming refuses to wear a helmet while riding a motorcycle.
- i. A company pollutes a river with waste from its factory.
- j. Pat gets drunk and hits a child, injuring her severely, while speeding through a school zone.
- k. DeShawn observes his best friend shoplifting but does not turn him in.

7.2 Study the crime and arrest data in *Figure 7.1* p. 76. Then answer the following questions.

- a. According to the information in Figure 7.1, what was the most commonly reported index crime in 2006?
- b. What percentage of the total reported crimes resulted in an arrest?
- c. Of the index crimes reported, for which crimes were people most likely to be arrested? Why do you think this is so?
- d. How can citizens act to help police improve arrest rates?

7.3 Consider the frequency of crimes listed in *Figure 7.2* p. 78, and answer the following questions.

- a. Did crimes occur less or more frequently in 2006 than they did in 1996? Do you think these changes are significant in any single category of crime? What pattern is most evident among all the categories? Explain your reasons.
- b. What are the possible explanations for these changes? Are there any crimes that people might be reluctant to report?
- c. Do you think the data in the table accurately reflect the crime problem in your community? Explain your answers.

7.4

- b. What do you think are the three most important causes of crime in your community? Why did you select these causes? How could crime be reduced?
- c. What steps should the federal government take to reduce crime? What steps should your state government take? What steps should our local government take?

7.7 Gun Control

- A. Does D.C.'s Law violate 2nd Amendment?
- B. Stronger case in fighting ban rather than regulation
- C. Strongest argument for allowing bans?
- D. Strongest argument for prohibiting regulation?

7.8

- a. Which is a better way to reduce crime- more gun control or less gun control? Give your reasons.

- b. What restrictions, if any, should the government place on the manufacture of firearms? The sale of firearms? The possession of firearms? Explain

7.9 The Graduation Party *READ p 91*

- a. Should the parents of the friend who was assaulted be able to sue Alexis and Neil for monetary damages?
- b. Should the police charge Sandra's parents with a crime?
- c. How should Sandra and her parents have handled this party differently?

7.10

- a. Are there any controlled substances that should be legalized [still allowing some form of government regulation and even fines]?
- b. What are the most convincing arguments in favor of legalizing some controlled substances?
- c. What are the most convincing arguments against legalizing any controlled substances?
- d. How would society change if some controlled substance were legalized? Would these changes be good or bad? Explain

7.12 Study the data from *Figure 7.1 p. 96*. Then answer the following questions.

- a. Which age group is most frequently the victim of crime? Least frequently?
- b. What trend do you see in the data on victimization by age? Explain this trend.
- c. What trend do you see in the data on victimization by gender? Explain this trend.
- d. What trend do you see in the data on victimization by racial group? Explain.