How Crime Happens

Crime & Criminal Justice w/ Ellis Godard @ CSUN

- Micro/Macro vs Structure/Process
- Labeling as critical
- Conflict Theory (esp. Marxism)
- Other Conflict Theories

Critical Background

- Origins of Department
- 1960s re-interest
  - Civil Rights Movement
  - Anti-War Movement
- 1990s etc
  - The “New” Sociology & “Turns”

Outline

- Micro/Macro vs Structure/Process
- Labeling as critical
- Conflict Theory (esp. Marxism)
- Other Conflict Theories

Marx: Industrialization & Communism

- Focus: Pre-industrial to Industrial
- Means of Production
  - Importance of Class
    - Proletariat & bourgeoisie
  - Base & Superstructure
  - False consciousness
- Internal contradictions of Capitalism
  - Financial as well as political
  - “Sows the seeds of its own destruction”
  - Communist revolution(s?)

2 Key Ideas, integrated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Interaction</th>
<th>Micro</th>
<th>Macro</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>people acting towards or responding to one another</td>
<td>Transmits culture person to person</td>
<td>Patterns &amp; repetition generate macro culture</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Structure</th>
<th>Micro</th>
<th>Macro</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organization of people into patterned relationships</td>
<td>Statuses &amp; Roles</td>
<td>Epochs &amp; Change (today)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Conflict Theory & Crime

- Justice
  - Rejected Four
    - Conciliatory: Rehab, Restitutive
    - Punitive: Punishment, Restitution
  - Asserted need
    - Class consciousness (not false)
    - Revolution
- Crime
  - What causes it?
  - What is it?
  - “Solve” it?
Marxist Theory & Crime

- Capitalism produces crime
- State defines crime, controls CJ
- Ideology/false consciousness justify SQ
- Powerful commit most serious crimes
- Social justice before Criminal justice
- Summary

Feminist Theory

- Society shaped by patriarchal relations
- Women must (?) be included
- Gender-sensitive explanations
- Unfair treatment of women in CJS
- Summary

Meaning of Society

- Text definition:
  - "people living within defined territorial borders, sharing a common culture"
  - Alt uses: American society, scholarly societies
- "works" for pre-industrial societies
- Modern "societies" interconnected
  - Political, economic, military, cultural, tech.
  - "global society" & "globalization"
  - But how did we get to that?

Others

- Race/Ethnic Studies
- Inequality Studies
- Social Geometry?

Beyond industrial

- Post-industrial
  - Information society, service economy
  - See Bell, Haviland
- Postmodern
  - Consumerism, media-driven, mass culture