Expressive / Public Order?

- No clear victim
  - Most crime implies victim wronged
  - Here, offender often only “injured” party (DUI)
  - Moral offenses, vice/“victimless” crimes
- Behavior is typically private
  - Minimal harm, difficult to detect, not oft reported
- Public good in regulation (?)
  - Establish/preserve moral standard(s)
  - Protect/defend against tangential crimes

Administrative Issues

- Schedule
  - Final paper due in 4 weeks
  - Draft feedback OTW ASAP
- Extra Credit
  - Recommended Links – 5 to go
  - Glossary terms – # to go
- Quizzes
  - Still 3 unclaimed
  - Drop lowest 3, but some of you have none 😊

Standards of Morality

- Many topics subject to
  - Sexual behavior, abortion, obscenity
  - Purchase, use, and production of pornography
- No national (or other) standard
  - Vary by religion, ethnicity, education
  - Fluctuate with social and political trends
  - Vary over time, societally, & individually
- Norms & Deviance
  - Contingent upon each other
  - Contingent upon time/location
  - Contingent upon situation/circumstances

Lecture Outline

- Nature & Meaning
  - Standards of Morality
- Offenders & Incidence
- Victims & Consequences
  - Of crimes
  - Of prohibitions
- Examples & Arguments
  - Drugs & Alcohol
  - Sexual & Gambling
  - Regulation & Decriminalization

Extent of Transgressions

- Tracked by arrests, not reports
  - UCR Part II but “notoriously underdetected”
  - Usually no complainant (insurance, expectation, etc)
  - Few reports, & difficult to detect
- Extent of Incidence Unknowable
  - Arrests reflect community pressures & trends in enforcement practices
  - Societal harms (?) also unknowable
  - Alcohol abuse: productivity to domestic violence
Offenders
- Most are young, white men
  - Often mid-class, employed, committed to home/family, etc. – “normal”
- Racial inequality
  - Black men = 14% users, to 90% of arrests
  - 50g coke = 18 months; 50g crack = 10 years
  - Would need $500K in coke to get 10 years!

Other Victims
- Families & friends
  - But indirect (bad judgment) not of the crime
- Sometimes more discernable
  - 41% of car crashes in 1994
- Tangential/complementary crimes
  - Theft to support habit, b/c cost of drugs, not addicts being violent or arbitrary

Offenders, cont’d
- Gender inequity: prostitution 60/40
  - But more males buying than women selling
- Focus on drugs
  - Typically young, black, low SES
  - Follows from enforcement strategies
    - Eradication, interdiction, street-level
    - Target visible, apprehendable street-sellers

Illegal Drug Use – Trends
- Drug Use in History
  - Almost everywhere, @ everytime
  - Illegal trade, too, is ancient & everywhere
- Contemporary US Drug Use
  - “nation of drug users”
    - 20% smoke, 66% drink, 80% coffee
    - 47% have used illegal at least once
  - Crisis? – low (and declining) other than pot
    - Though 2.7M monthly cocaine users!
    - Self-report surveys exclude those most likely to be hard drug users

Victims: Society/Community?
- Arbitrariness may weaken standards
  - Alcohol linked causally to violence
  - Rape, murder, assault, domestic violence
  - Legal drugs kill more than illegal
    - 400K tobacco, 10K+ legal, 7500 illegal
    - No deaths attributed to marijuana
  - Efficacy of law weakened by crime
    - Corruption, bribes, etc. impair justice, respect for law

Illegal Drug Use – Explaining
- Users
  - Highest for 18-25; but still mostly alc (61%), tob (42%)
  - Mostly male, though women for depression, abuse (vs males, for excitement/thrill-seeking)
- Use Patterns
  - “Vicious cycle”, inc. inter-generational (use & sale)
  - Systemic social inequality lying at the heart
    - Esp. urban, “blighted neighborhoods”
Illegal Drug Use & Crime

- Clear correlation, but...
  - Data problems
    - corr other way? Or spurious (inequality)?
  - Because of effects on users?
    - But most is experimental and recreational
  - No good evidence, except on alcohol (legal)
  - Commit other crimes to pay for?
    - Delinquency typically precedes
      - Follows from laws, not drugs
    - Crime between dealers/gangs – turf wars etc.
      - Again, from laws – not drugs themselves!

Gambling

- Growth of Gambling
  - Ancient
  - Growth of reactions
  - Enclaves – e.g. MS, ships
  - Re-engagement – casinos, tribes

- Gambling Debate
  - Addictive (lots is)
  - Control? Regulate?

Alcohol kills

- "According to a 2002 study commissioned by the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Task Force on College Drinking, among college students ages 18 to 24, drinking contributes to an estimated 1,400 deaths, 500,000 injuries, and 70,000 sexual assaults or date rape each year."
  (Chronicle of Higher Ed, 6/16/06, p.A34)
  [http://www.saferchoice.org/about.html](http://www.saferchoice.org/about.html)

Sexual Offenses (non-violent)

- Prostitution
  - Oldest profession
  - Moral crusade, inc. c.1910
    - save middle-class girls from depravation
  - Most arrests are female (males if serving males)
  - Pimps rarely, male customers hardly at all
  - Variations – level/castes, geographic (street/nation)
    - Research on sex workers – issues, circumstances

- Pornography
  - Act itself harmless?
  - Industry concerns – performer choice? STDs! $$!