An Introduction to Crime and Criminology 5e

EDITED BY

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INTRODUCING CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Hennessey Hayes and Tim Prenzler

What is crime? How much crime is there in our community? Why do people offend? How do we prevent crime? *Introduction to Crime and Criminology*, 5th edition, is an updated edited collection of chapters written by leading Australian criminologists with the purpose of answering these questions. This book introduces university students and others interested in crime to the fields of criminology and criminal justice. Each chapter is written by one or more of Australia's most widely respected authorities on criminology, lending this collection legitimacy and currency.

While this book is particularly suited to first-year students enrolled in criminology and criminal justice courses in Australian universities, researchers, practitioners, policy-makers and general readers alike will find the book's content timely and relevant. The contributors to this volume guide readers through contemporary research on crime and criminality from Australia and overseas. The large majority of chapters do not simply summarise current knowledge but include data from the authors' original research, as well as offering distinctive insights and policy recommendations. Below, we summarise how the book is organised, as well as what each chapter contains.

The book is divided into four parts: facts and fallacies, dimensions of crime, explaining crime, and responding to crime. In Part 1, we first consider how we imagine crime and how it is portrayed in popular media (e.g. crime drama, as well as television and print news). We then consider how crime is conceptualised, defined and measured before turning to an examination of the extent of the 'crime problem' in Australia. Part 2 reviews various dimensions of crime. These include offender

characteristics (such as age, gender and ethnicity), violent offending, crimes 'in the streets', crimes 'in the suites' (i.e. white-collar and corporate offending) and crimes that cross national borders, as well as Internet and other online crimes. In Part 3 we consider how crime is explained. Some of these explanations (or theories) locate the causes of crime squarely within the individual, some within society and some within a complex of both individual and social factors. Finally, in Part 4 we examine various ways of responding to crime. This section includes an overall review of the Australian criminal justice system, followed by chapters focusing on the three 'arms' of criminal justice: police, the courts and corrections. Other chapters in this section examine how victims of crime feature in the system, the growth of alternative responses to crime, such as restorative justice, and various ways of preventing crime. The final chapter (only available online) was written to answer students' questions about working in criminal justice-related fields. Below we summarise what each chapter accomplishes.

Contents

Crime myths are largely influenced by how crime and criminals are portrayed in the media. Popular news shows and print media present stories about crime in dramatic and sensational ways. In Chapter 1, Tim Prenzler considers how crime and criminals feature in print and television media. Drawing on key contemporary empirical literature, he shows how media portrayals of crime relate to citizens' fear of crime and quality of life. He also considers what it is about crime that is so seductive (i.e. why crime and crime-related stories capture the public's attention and imagination).

'Crime' as a concept is very complex and incorporates a large range of behaviours (e.g. from petty shop theft to violent assault, large-scale corporate crimes and murder). Crime is also a social construction, and behaviours defined as criminal vary across time and place. In Chapter 2 Janet Ransley and Tim Prenzler explore the ways that 'crime' is conceptualised and understood in Australia and other western societies. A key aim is to show how our current understanding, tolerance and categorisation of some forms of behaviour (e.g. child abuse and neglect, rape and sexual assault, homosexuality, drug use) have changed over time.

In Chapter 3 Hennessey Hayes and Toni Makkai review the ways that criminologists and other criminal justice professionals attempt to observe and measure crime. Once researchers have settled on how crime should be defined, how do they go about observing this complex social phenomenon? Various sources of crime data are reviewed, along with summaries of associated advantages and known limitations. Sources include crime data from official agencies (e.g. police, courts and correctional institutions), known offenders (self-reported criminality) and victims of crime. The authors also examine various methodological approaches to the study of crime. These range from the use of large-scale quantitative surveys of crime victims in the community to smaller qualitative analyses of specific criminological phenomena (e.g. heroin addiction, target choice among active property offenders, the social process of criminality).

Is crime in Australia on the rise? In Chapter 4 Toni Makkai and Tim Prenzler dispel popular crime myths by evaluating what we currently know about the nature and prevalence of crime in Australia. Drawing on published reports from various agencies, such as the Australian Institute of Criminology, they present a time-series analysis of crime to show how various forms of crime have risen and/or fallen over the past several decades. In addition, they review in detail the estimated financial and social costs of various forms of crime (e.g. monetary costs associated with policing and preventing crime, as well as social costs to victims of crime, families of offenders and communities). Their key aim is to show how several forms of violence (e.g. murder and assault) have either remained stable, risen only slightly or decreased slightly during the past several years. They conclude that crime in Australia should be considered 'ordinary', rather than having any distinctive features from a global comparative perspective.

In Chapter 5 the focus shifts to offenders. Hennessey Hayes and Tim Prenzler summarise the complex multiple demographics of offenders and their victims. This includes key variables such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, social status and place. They pay particular attention to the 'age curve' in crime—with onset of offending in adolescence, persistence and desistance. Another major focus is the predominance of offending by men. These aspects are compared with those of victims, with particular attention to shifting dimensions of victimisation, such as the way males make up the majority of crime victims but females make up the majority of victims of sexual offences. Some implications for theoretical explanations of crime and for crime prevention are discussed.

The focus of Chapter 6 is on violent and street crimes. Jenny Cartwright and Lorraine Mazerolle look mainly at statistical aspects of violent crimes such as murder, assault, sexual assault, stalking and abduction. Who commits these crimes and who are the victims are examined in more detail following the framework set out in Chapter 5. Case studies of linking research to practice and murder for hire are included, and attention is given to examining the subcategories of violence such as domestic violence and child abuse. The chapter also includes an examination of hot spots of street crimes. Offender and victim characteristics are again studied in depth, along with estimates of the costs of these crimes to the community and to government. Other dimensions examined include long-term trends in the volume of these crimes, as well as spatial–temporal dimensions.

In Chapter 7, Janet Ransley and Tim Prenzler shift the focus from violence and street crimes to 'crimes in the suites'. Their focus is on the major areas of fraud and associated 'white-collar' crimes such as corruption, professional malpractice, pollution, and safety violations. They summarise the history of growing concern about these types of crimes and different ways of defining and researching white-collar crime. Attention is also given to the different types of harm caused by these crimes and the rise of specialist regulatory agencies designed to combat them.

In Chapter 8, Jacqueline Drew and Majid Yar explore the rapid growth of Internet crimes. They focus their analysis on crimes that fall under the two major categories of cybercrime. First, they discuss those crimes that are perpetrated on the Internet which are

primarily directed at computer systems and networks—these include computer hacking, malware and denial of service attacks. The second major category of cybercrimes discussed involves those that are facilitated or enhanced by the Internet, including cyber fraud and scams, cyber bullying and image-based abuse, and online child exploitation.

In Chapter 9, Tim Prenzler considers a range of international crimes such as smuggling, money laundering, human rights abuses, war crimes and environmental crime. He examines the opportunity structures in which these crimes operate, as well as considering how such crimes can be prevented.

The preceding chapters review various dimensions of crime (i.e. what offenders and victims do and what they look like). In Chapter 10, Paul Mazerolle discusses the role of theory in the criminological enterprise. He first explores what a theory is and how theory relates to research in criminology and criminal justice. Next, he highlights the ways that crime theories inform empirical criminological research and how theories help guide our expectations (i.e. predictions) about criminal phenomena. He concludes by demonstrating how various criminological theories have assisted in the development of effective crime prevention strategies (e.g. the link between routine activities theory and situational crime prevention approaches).

In Chapter 11, Nadine McKillop, Stephen Smallbone and Larissa Christensen review some of the ways that criminal behaviour is explained from a psychological perspective. They apply a person–situation model to describe how human behaviour, including criminal behaviour, is best understood as an interaction between individual characteristics and the immediate circumstances in which behaviour occurs. They propose that while some people are more predisposed than others to criminal behaviour (e.g. because of certain genetic or psychological characteristics), some situations are more likely than others to enable or precipitate criminal behaviour. The chapter includes case studies to illustrate how aspects of each psychological approach can be applied to help explain different kinds of criminal behaviour.

The focus shifts from the individual to society in Chapter 12. Melissa Bull examines theories of crime that locate the causes of crime outside the individual. Social explanations of crime examine the ways that various social structures (e.g. education, employment, economy, marriage and family, age, gender) bear on criminality. Social theorists assert, among other things, that criminals are not inherently bad, but that society constructs criminality such that certain members are more likely to be categorised in criminal ways. These theorists also attempt to show how criminal opportunities and pressures are unequally distributed such that some members of society are more likely to engage in crime.

In Chapter 13, the final chapter of Part 3, Hennessey Hayes reviews criminological theories that locate the causes of crime neither within the individual nor in larger social structures. Rather, interactionist theories of crime examine how the process of social interaction affects the development and maintenance of criminal behaviour. These theories attempt to show how criminal attitudes and definitions develop through participation in intimate social groups (e.g. peer friendship groups) and how criminal

behaviours endure and dissipate throughout the life course. Interactionist theories also examine the ways that contact with criminal justice agencies and officials (e.g. arrest by police, adjudication by magistrates and judges, incarceration and supervision by correctional staff) affect conceptions of the self and others. Some theories suggest that the 'criminal self' develops out of recurring negative interactions with criminal justice system professionals. The chapter concludes with an examination of several integrated theoretical models to explain the development and maintenance of criminal behaviour.

In Part 4, the final chapters of this book deal with the various ways we respond to crime. In Chapter 14 Tim Prenzler and Rick Sarre first examine our criminal justice system. All countries have a set of institutions consisting primarily of police, courts and corrections that are intended to work independently but interactively to deter and punish crime. This embodies the primary official government response to the crime problem and it is generally extremely expensive and cumbersome. The authors describe the main functions of the criminal justice system elements and evaluate their effectiveness in crime prevention and in bringing offenders to justice. They explain the theory of the separation of functions, and review theories of punishment, models of sentencing and rehabilitation programs, and contrast adversarial and inquisitorial systems. They lay the foundation for the more detailed presentations of the roles and functions of police, the courts and corrections that follow.

Chapters 15–17 consider the history and development of the three arms of the criminal justice system in Australia: police, the courts and corrections. In Chapter 15, Tim Prenzler, Rick Sarre and Larissa Christensen describe the functions of policing agencies, as well as the growth and development of several innovations such as 'community policing', 'problem-oriented policing' and 'intelligence-led policing'. Michael O'Connell and Sarah Fletcher examine the role of the criminal courts in Australia in Chapter 16. They also explain the adversarial process and review developments in specialist courts and diversionary practices. Finally, in Chapter 17, Lacey Schaefer and John Rynne examine the development of the Australian correctional system. This includes a description of community corrections and the growth of the private prison industry.

In Chapter 18 Michael O'Connell and Hennessey Hayes describe how victims of crime feature in the criminal justice system. The traditional criminal justice system has tended to relegate victims of crime to the role of witnesses. In this chapter the authors focus on a 'return' to pre-modern justice systems that emphasise victim reparation and reconciling offenders and victims. They begin by elaborating on the destructive personal effects of crime, the further negative effects on victims of many traditional practices of crime investigations and court processes, and the need for a more holistic response to healing the victim. They conclude by examining the growth of restorative justice interventions in Australia and their impact on offenders and victims.

Several chapters in this book emphasise the enormous scale of crime in modern societies, its diverse harmful effects and the limited penetration of crime by the standard criminal justice system. The diverse causes of crime mean that there are a variety of ways

in which crime reduction can be achieved. The focus of Chapter 19, the penultimate chapter of this book, therefore is on the need for diverse methods of crime prevention, and also on 'what works' in terms of demonstrated successful strategies. In Chapter 19, Ross Homel focuses on: targeting 'dispositional' factors that address the motivations of offenders—through behaviour modification programs, training and employment schemes, or similar initiatives; and 'situational' aspects aimed at reducing opportunities for crime in the physical environment.

An additional chapter is available to download from the Pearson catalogue page <www.pearson.com.au/9781488615771> to help students answer perhaps one of the most difficult questions they face as university graduates: 'What do I do now?' In Chapter 20 Lyndel Bates, Merrelyn Bates and Tim Prenzler review the broad range of careers and occupations in criminology and criminal justice. They also include several strategies to assist students in preparing for employment, such as searching for jobs in criminal justice and related fields, preparing applications and gaining generic skills. A key aim of the chapter is to help students successfully make the transition from student to criminal justice professional.

Introduction to Crime and Criminology is one of only a very small number of university texts that bring together some of Australia's leading criminologists to describe and explain the exciting and growing fields of criminology and criminal justice. University students and other interested readers will find the information contained in this collection interesting and timely. As such, this volume demystifies the nature of crime and criminality in a readily accessible way, and students reading the chapters will come away with a sound foundation in basic criminological concepts and principles to support further study.

RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

A suite of resources are provided to assist with delivery of the text, as well as to support teaching and learning. These resources are downloadable from the Pearson website <www.pearson.com.au/9781488615771>.

Test Bank

Available in Word format, the Test Bank provides educators with a wealth of accuracy-verified testing material for homework and quizzing. Revised to match the 5th edition, each Test Bank chapter offers a wide variety of multiple-choice and short-answer questions, ordered by key topics.

Digital Image PowerPoint Slides

All of the diagrams and tables from the course content are available for lecturer use.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

- **Hennessey Hayes** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University. He teaches an advanced undergraduate course in restorative justice practices. He is also engaged in a program of research on restorative justice, language, emotion and reoffending.

- **Tim Prenzler** is a Professor of Criminology at the University of the Sunshine Coast and an Adjunct Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University, where he spent his formative years as a criminologist. His research interests include crime and corruption prevention, police and security officer safety, security industry regulation, and gender in policing. He has worked closely with numerous criminal justice agencies on applied research projects over three decades.

- **Lyndel Bates** is an Australian Research Council DECRA Research Fellow and Senior Lecturer with the Griffith Criminology Institute and the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University. Her research is focused on the overlap between the criminal justice and health spheres, with research projects on road policing and assault-related brain injuries. Prior to joining academia, Lyndel worked for a decade in senior research roles within the Queensland Parliamentary Service.

- **Merrelyn Bates** was a Senior Lecturer in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University for over 20 years. Her PhD investigated the determinants of effectiveness in a practicum program that focused on equipping novice professional practitioners for employment across a variety of organisations and agencies. Her secondment to Queensland Health as the Statewide Manager for the Social Work Clinical Education and Training program provided the opportunity to transfer her knowledge and experience into the Allied Health arena.

- **Melissa Bull** is a Professor in the School of Justice and the Director of the Crime Justice and Social Democracy Research Centre in the Faculty of Law at Queensland University of Technology. She teaches courses on criminological theory and qualitative research methods. Her research interests include social theory, drug control and criminal justice in communities, with recent work focused on responding to drug-related crime, policing and diversity, and long-term immigration detention.

- **Jenny Cartwright (formerly Mouzos)** is a Coordinator at the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in Canberra. She has managed teams in diverse areas at the AFP, including cybercrime prevention, missing persons, counter terrorism and diversion operations, and most currently prevention and early intervention within an integrity/professional standards framework. Prior to joining the AFP, Jenny was a senior research analyst and Manager of the Crime Monitoring Program at the Australian Institute of Criminology in Canberra. She was awarded her PhD in Criminology in 2003 from the University of Melbourne. She has specific interests in homicide, trends and patterns of victimisation/offending, and prevention (cybercrime, terrorism and police misconduct).

- **Larissa Christensen** is Program Coordinator of the Bachelor of Criminology and Justice at the University of the Sunshine Coast (USC). She is also a co-leader of the first university-led Sexual Violence Research and Prevention Unit (SVRPU) in Australia. Her research focuses on understanding, preventing and responding to sexual violence. Larissa has been recognised for her excellence in the provision of engaging learning for students, having been awarded a 2017 Vice Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Award at Griffith University, and a 2018 USC Advance Award in recognition of her 'outstanding practice in learning and teaching, and student support and engagement'. Larissa is also the Treasurer of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology.

- **Jacqueline Drew** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice and a member of the Griffith Criminology Institute at Griffith University. She is the Program Director of the undergraduate degree program in Criminology and Information Technology. Jacqueline holds a PhD in organisational psychology and has worked for more than 20 years as a practitioner and researcher with Australian police agencies. Her areas of expertise include cybercrime, white-collar crime (financial fraud and regulation) and the organisational psychology of police personnel and systems (police leadership, promotion systems, women in policing and employee wellbeing).

- **Sarah Fletcher** is the Assistant Commissioner for Victims' Rights, South Australia. She completed a Bachelor of Social Work at the University of South Australia in 2001, a Diploma in Project Management in 2011 and a Diploma in Victimology and Victim Assistance at Tokiwa University's International Victimology Institute, Japan in 2014. She has spoken at national and international conferences and seminars on victims' rights and victim assistance, and writes on these topics.

● **Ross Homel AO** is Foundation Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University. He is interested in the theoretical analysis of crime, violence and related social problems, and the prevention of these problems through the application of scientific method to problem analysis and the development, implementation and evaluation of interventions.

● **Toni Makkai** is an Emeritus Professor in the ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods, Chair of the Industry and International Board, Griffith Institute of Criminology, Deputy-President of the Ted Noffs Foundation and a board member of Survey Research Centre Pty Ltd. She has held positions as Dean of the ANU College of Arts and Social Sciences, Secretary to the Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (DASSH), and Director of the Australian Institute of Criminology. While Dean she played a significant role in the purchase of Survey Research Centre Pty Ltd by ANU Enterprise and the establishment of the ANU Centre for Social Research and Methods in 2015 to facilitate high-quality impactful social policy research at ANU. She has a strong focus on policy-relevant research including drugs and crime, crime statistics, drug courts, regulation and compliance, and social and political attitudes. She established the first national monitoring program on drug use and crime in Australia (DUMA), sits on the technical advisory group for the National Household Survey on Drugs, and led the operational review of the first Pill Testing Trial in Australia. She has published widely in these fields with more than 100 peer-reviewed journal articles, numerous chapters in books, and government reports and monographs.

● **Lorraine Mazerolle** is an Australian Research Council Laureate Fellow (2010–2015), a Professor of Criminology in the School of Social Science at the University of Queensland, and a Chief Investigator with the ARC Centre of Excellence for Children and Families over the Life Course (LCC). Her research interests are in experimental criminology, policing, drug law enforcement, regulatory crime control, and crime prevention. She is the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Experimental Criminology, past Chair of the American Society of Criminology's (ASC) Division of Experimental Criminology (2014–2015), an elected Fellow and past president of the Academy of Experimental Criminology (AEC), and an elected fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences, Australia, and the American Society of Criminology (ASC). Professor Mazerolle is the recipient of the 2018 ASC Thorsten Sellin & Sheldon and Eleanor Glueck Award, the 2016 ASC Division of Policing Distinguished Scholar Award, the 2013 AEC Joan McCord Award and the 2010 ASC Division of International Criminology Freda Adler Distinguished Scholar Award. She has won numerous US and Australian national competitive research grants on topics such as third-party policing, police engagement with high-risk people and disadvantaged communities, community regulation, problem-oriented policing, police technologies, civil remedies, street-level drug enforcement and policing public housing sites.

- **Paul Mazerolle** is President and Vice Chancellor of the University of New Brunswick. His research examines the processes that shape criminal offending across the life course, youthful offending including youth violence, intimate partner violence and homicide.

- **Nadine McKillop** is a psychologist, Criminology and Justice Lecturer and Co-Leader of the Sexual Violence Research and Prevention Unit at the University of the Sunshine Coast. Her research is concerned with understanding the onset of child sexual abuse across the lifespan, and evaluating assessment and treatment interventions for perpetrators, to reduce the extent and impacts of sexual violence and abuse in the community. Nadine is currently an adjunct Research Fellow with the Griffith Criminology Institute and Honorary Research Fellow with the Centre for Advances in Behavioural Sciences at Coventry University in the United Kingdom. She is also an Associate Editor for the *Journal of Sexual Aggression*.

- **Michael O'Connell AM APM**, Consulting Victimologist, is also the Victim Advocate (Prisoners' Children) for Second Chances (SA), a White Ribbon Ambassador and Patron of the Love Hope & Gratitude Foundation. He is also a former Commissioner for Victims' Rights (SA), is a member of the international guest faculty that teaches victimology, and volunteers on United Nations victims' rights projects. He is a life member and current Secretary-General of the World Society of Victimology, as well as a member of both the International Network Supporting Victims of Terrorism and Victim Support Asia.

- **Janet Ransley** is Professor and Director of the Griffith Criminology Institute at Griffith University. Her research focuses on the regulation and governance of policing, the development of criminal justice policy and operation of justice processes, and improving integrity in the public and corporate sectors.

- **John Rynne** is an Associate Professor and Director of the Griffith Youth Forensic Service, and since 2005 he has taught penology in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University. John is a full member of the Australian Psychology Society. Prior to joining academia, he worked in the Queensland criminal justice system for approximately 15 years in management and operational roles in custodial and community corrections.

- **Rick Sarre** is Professor and Dean at the School of Law, University of South Australia. His current research interests include policing, private security, and religion and law. He has degrees in law and criminology from Adelaide, Toronto and Canberra, and an honorary juris doctorate from Umeå University, Sweden. He is the immediate Past President of the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology, and in 2018 was made a Fellow of the Society.

- **Lacey Schaefer** is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University and a Research Associate with the Griffith Criminology

Institute. She holds research expertise in criminological theory and correctional ideologies and interventions. Lacey has worked for several years designing correctional interventions, providing training for correctional agencies, and developing and administering offender rehabilitation programs.

● **Stephen Smallbone** is a Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Griffith University and Director of the Griffith Youth Forensic Service. He worked as a prison psychologist for eight years before entering academia. His research is primarily concerned with understanding and preventing sexual violence and abuse.

● **Majid Yar** is Professor of Criminology at Lancaster University in the United Kingdom. His research interests include cybercrime, digital culture, cultural criminology, crime and media, and criminological and social theory. He is the co-author (with Kevin F. Steinmetz) of *Cybercrime and Society*, 3rd edition (2019), author of *The Cultural Imaginary of the Internet* (2015), *Crime and the Imaginary of Disaster* (2015) and *Crime Deviance and Doping* (2014), and co-editor (with Yvonne Jewkes) of *The Handbook of Internet Crime* (2010).

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