

Public Order Crimes

“Victimless” Crimes

- Drug Use
- Drunkenness
- Prostitution
- Consensual (Aberrant) Sexual Practices
- Gambling

“Victimless” Crimes

- Who is the victim?
- Can someone choosing to engage in an action be considered a victim?
- How much “choice” is needed to make a distinction?

Drug Abuse and Crime

- Presence of narcotics and cocaine increased around turn of the 20th century
- First regulations after gain in knowledge about ADDICTIVE properties of morphine
- Harrison Act - 1914
 - 1st major regulatory legislation limiting use, sale, etc.

Drug Abuse and Crime

- Marijuana - popularity increased in 1930's
 - Became heavily legislated quickly because of its association with 'marginal' social groups
- By the 1980's America declared goal to become a drug-free nation
- Did it work?

Drug Abuse and Crime

- Heroin Abusers:
 - Poor health
 - Crime/arrests
 - Imprisonment
 - AIDS risk
- Concentrated more among minority groups in inner cities

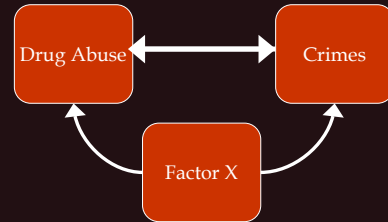
Drug Abuse and Crime

- Marijuana – more accepted
 - Associated with younger adults and non-traditional occupations
- Cocaine – became drug of choice for upper-class, celebrities and athletes
 - Crack derivative replaced heroine in inner cities



Drug Abuse and Crime

- What's the connection?



Drug Abuse and Crime

- Drug abuse shown to increase criminal behavior

Drug Abuse and Crime

- Crimes of Property
- Increase in crimes of violence
 - Suspected to arise from drug wars related to sale and distribution of crack

Drug Abuse and Crime

- Criminology in Drug Distribution:
 - Growers
 - Importers
 - Distributors
 - Sales
 - Users

Drug Abuse and Crime

- Treatment as Drug Control
 - Self-help groups
 - Residential therapy
 - Methadone clinics
- Drug Court
 - Send nonviolent drug offenders to treatment
 - High success rate and monetary savings

Drug Abuse and Crime

- Other options:
 - Education?
 - Legalization?



Alcohol and Crime

- Roughly 50% of the U.S. population over 12 consumes alcohol
- Crimes
 - Violence
 - Drunk Driving
 - Public Intoxication

Alcohol and Crime

- Violent Crimes:
 - 40% of incarcerated violent offenders used alcohol immediately before crime
 - Involved in 2/3 of homicides and over half of assault convictions and assaults on police
 - Increased incidence of domestic violence when husband drinks
- Why?
 - Situation, physiological effects, expectations?

Alcohol and Crime

- Drunk Driving Solutions:
 - Limit Happy Hours
 - Limit sales hours
 - Increase host/bartender liability
 - Increase penalties for offenders

Sexual Morality Crimes

- What used to be a crime?
 - Sex between unmarried persons
 - Consensual homosexual intercourse
 - Sex other than for procreation
 - "Unnatural" sexual acts



Sexual Morality Crimes

- 1962 Model Penal Code
 - Revised statutes
 - Sexual relations of consenting adults should not be regulated by the law but.....
- Sodomy laws not struck down until 2003 by S.C.
- Adultery still a crime in 24 states

Sexual Morality Crimes

- Today's laws focus on:
 - Prevention of force/coercion
 - Preventing the exploitation of minors
 - Offensiveness to innocent bystanders

Sexual Morality Crimes

- Statutory Rape
 - Consensual intercourse between a minor and an adult
 - Genarlow Wilson
 - Given 10 years for consensual oral sex with a minor
 - Late released after two years for "cruel and unusual punishment"

Sexual Morality Crimes

- Prostitution
 - Should prostitute, "john" or both be subject to criminal prosecution?
 - Is it a professional choice or a necessity because of circumstance?

Sexual Morality Crimes

- Pornography - What's the harm?
 - Violence - only increases when pornography is violent
 - Victimized women - are actors and/or women in general exploited by pornography?

Sexual Morality Crimes

- Pornography and the internet
 - What should the regulations be?
 - Who's responsibility is it?
 - Gov't, parents, ISPs?

