### Crime and Punishment (c.500 – present day) – Crib Sheet

Glossary of Key Terms	
Blasphemy	Arguing with or insulting a religion
Bow Street Runners	Part-time paid constables who worked for Bow Street Magistrates Court
	A house of correction, or prison, for persistent beggars. Used mainly during the Tudor times and were
Bridewell	set up by JPs.
CCTV	Close circuit television used for surveillance
Corporal punishment	Physical punishment. Whipping in prisons, cane in schools. Abolished in 1962
Genetic fingerprinting	The method of matching DNA samples found at a crime scene with a suspect.
Flogging	Punishment by beating
Heresy	The crime of holding a different religion to the accepted religion in the country. Mary Tudor killed over 280 Protestants for the crime of heresy.
Highway robbery	Stopping people as they travel along a road, usually in a coach, and robbing them
Hooligan	A person who acts in a violent way and causes damage. Usually associated with football.
House of correction	A prison for beggars who refused to work
Hue and cry	Raising the alarm by shouting out when a cry is committed. Commonly used in the Saxon and Medieval times.
Hulks	Ships used as prisons
Petty Sessions	Local courts at which
1 city sessions	A wooden frame used as a public punishment with holes for the feet. Used in Medieval and part of the
Pillory	Tudor times.
Quarter Session	Courts held every three months
Robert Peel	Home Secretary who established the Metropolitan in 1829
Rookeries	Slum areas of terribly overcrowded and filthy housing
Rehabilitation	Teaching criminals new skills to prepare them for a return to society
Restitution	Restorative action like facing the person who has been wronged, repairing criminal damage to property or community service
Smuggling	The secret trade in goods to avoid paying custom duties
Tithe	A tax paid by farmers of one tenth of their income
Transportation	Sending of convicted criminals overseas for punishment.
Treason	Betraying one's country, monarch or government. 1605 Gunpowder plotters were accused of treasons and were hanged, drawn and quartered
Treadwheel	A revolving staircase in which prisoners walked for several hours
Turnpike roads	Roads that had gates (turnpikes) where travellers paid a toll to pass through
	The crime of being a wandering beggar. Increase in vagrants during the Tudor times; mainly during Elizabeth's reign.
Vagrancy	LIIZANEUI 3 TEIBII.

# Causes of crime (Chapter 1)

#### Saxon & Medieval 500-1500

**Poverty** – constant cause of crime throughout the period (up until Industrialisation). This caused the following crimes: **Theft of property, revolts** & **rebellions**. Poverty was also made worse by famine (The Great Famine 1315-17), disease (the Black Death 1348) & high taxation (the Poll Tax 1370s & paying for wars)

**Violent Crime** – became common as people had easy access to dangerous weapons & farming tools. 20% crimes were for murder of manslaughter.

#### Early modern era 1500 - 1750

**Poverty** – rose because population doubled which meant more of a demand for food, clothing, housing & work; rising inflation; bad harvests; change in farming methods and Henry VIII closing down the monasteries. This led to vagrancy – people who were forced into begging because they could not find work. Thy resorted to petty theft, stealing and fraud.

**Religion** – because of the Protestant Reformation there was an increase in the crime of heresy. During the Tudor period religion changed many times and this made criminals of the people who were worshipping as they always had done.

## Causes of crime continued.

**Dissatisfaction with the government-** Tudor &Stuart monarchs knew that people were becoming unhappy and were paranoid that they would plan to commit treason. Governments employed agents and spies to inform them of any dissatisfaction

#### The modern era - 18th/ 19th century

**Increase in customs and excise duty (tax)** – Smuggling was turned into a major crime during this period as the government needed the money from duties to pay for wars (with France)

**Increase in travel, improvements in trade & limited banking facilities-** This led to a rise in highway robbery as improvement in roads encouraged more people to travel for business and lack of banking facilities meant more money was being carried by road to pay for goods and services.

**Urbanisation** <u>–</u> this forced people to move to towns for work. Large numbers of people meant more opportunities to commit crime. Unemployment led people to commit petty crime. Poor living conditions led to protests.

#### The modern era - 20th century

Mass production of cars meant that cars were affordable to many and car crime started to increase.

Rise of the home computer has led to computer related crimes

**Terrorism** has led increase in violence to achieve political objectives

Football Hooliganism 1970s saw an increase in football hooliganism

**Drug related crime** the banning certain drugs has led to a rise in smuggling (trafficking). It's also led to an increase in burglaries, mugging & robbery

Gun & knife crime on the rise due to gang culture

# Nature of crime (Chapter 2)

#### Saxon & Medieval 500-1500

Criminal defined as someone who had 'disturbed the king's peace'. Most common crime was still theft. You could be hanged for stealing more than 12d worth of goods. Norman laws highlighted offences against authority such as treason, revolt, sheltering a criminal, blasphemy and heresy.

#### Early Modern era 1500-1750

**Vagrants** – increase in vagrancy during Elizabeth I's reign. They used specialist tricks to gain money. Tudor governments dealt with them by: flogging/branding them, making towns tackle the problem, making it the duty of each local parish to provide aid for its poor but also punish vagabonds

**Heresy** – rose during Tudor period due to the official religion switching from Roman Catholic to Protestant faiths. Of those who disagreed: some went into exile; others were willing to die and others learned to keep quiet. Mary I was renowned for burning Protestants at the stake.

**Treason** – Henry VIII issued a Treason Law (1534) which forbid anyone to: say or write anything against the king, support the Pope, said the beliefs of king went against the church. Elizabeth extends this law to include anyone who said she was not the rightful queen. Example: Gunpowder Plot 1605 one of the most serious act. Group of Catholics unhappy with how James I was treating. They plotted to blow up the Houses of Parliament.

#### The modern era 18th & 19th century

**Smuggling** – Gangs employed between 50-100 individuals to smuggle goods into the country and sell them on the black market much cheaper than was sold in the shops. Smuggling started to decline when the government reduced duties in order to make it less profitable.

**Highway robbery** – common in the C.18<sup>th</sup>. Robbers (often armed) who attacked pedestrians (footpads) & mounted highwaymen who held up coaches. HR started to decline because roads became much busier and horse patrols were set up to guard main roads 1805.

**Criminal activity in towns and cities** – thimble-screwers who stole pocket-watches; prop-nailers who stole pins from women; drag-sneaks who stole goods from coaches

**Protest-Luddism (1812-13)** attacks on factory machines by handloom weavers as machines were taking their jobs; **Swing Riots (1830-31)** farming labourers setting fire to hayricks and smashing machinery due to their anger about poverty; **Rebecca Riots (1839-43)** farmers dressed up as women and attacked toll gates. They were angry about increased rents and tolls.

#### The modern era 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Car crime** – new laws introduced to regulate motorised transport. Speed limits, the breathalyser (1967), banning of use of mobile phone (2003). Common crimes: dangerous &careless driving; parking violations; driving without a license; no car insurance; failing to stop at an accident; being over the legal limit for alcohol and not wearing a seatbelt.

**Computer Crimes –** Cyberbulling; Hacking; sexual crimes; phishing crimes and identity theft.

Terrorism –use a variety of different methods to push political demands. Examples: IRAs bombing of the Arndale Shopping Centre 1996, al-Qaeda's suicide bomb on London's underground.

**Hooliganism-** occurred in football particularly in the 1970s. Example: 1985 fighting between British and Italian fans caused a wall to collapse in the Heysel Stadium, killing 38 fans

#### **Enforcing** law and <u>order</u> (Chapter 3)

#### Saxon & Medieval 500-1500

Policing based on community action: tithings; 'hue and cry'; two chief constables appointed each year to supervise law and order in the area; constable made sure villagers responded to crime properly.

Courts: Manor courts judged petty crimes that affected the area: theft, land disputes, fights and debts. Each manor had its own local laws. Church courts – usually more lenient and never sentenced anyone to death. Criminals could claim sanctuary. They dealt with crimes such as adultery, drunkenness and failure to attend church. Royal courts for the most serious criminal cases.

#### Early Modern 1500-1750

Justices of the Peace: oversee local parish constables and watchmen, monitor and control beggars & enforce government and local government orders. Workload starts to grow during this period. Served the communities for many year so must have been successful.

Constables: Appointed by the JP, unpaid and held job for a year as well as doing their own job. Keep order in the area, had the power to arrest and could call upon others to assist.

Watchman: patrolled streets at night. Had the power to challenge strangers and arrest criminals. All men in the community were expected to carry out the duty on a voluntary basis and it was unpaid. No uniform, most carried a bell, a lantern and a weapon.

Charleys: 1663 Charles II passes a law which created a force of paid watchmen to patrol the streets of the growing city. Pay was low and the position was given to those who usually couldn't find work.

#### Modern era (18th & 19th century)

The idea that policing should be the responsibility of the government started to develop during this period.

Bow Street Runners (1763) - Fielding brothers introduced a paid force of officers - they developed the idea of 'preventative policing' by attempting to stop crime being committed rather than deal with it once it had been carried

Metropolitan Police (1829) – organised police force set up by Robert Peel, in London. 1835 Municipal Corporation Act allowed police forces to be set up in larger borough towns. 1839 The Rural Police Act enabled the police forces to be set up in more rural areas of the country. 1856 The County and Borough Police Act made it compulsory for a police force to be set up in every county.

Modern era (20th/21st century) - methods and resources start to change rapidly during this period.

The number of police forces – 1900 there were 200 separate police forces, 2000 this was reduced to 43.

Police training – National Police Training College set up in 1947

Women – 1973 women were allowed to become detectives

**Community** – Neighbourhood Watch schemes 1982, Community Support Officers 2002

Development in forensic science- Fingerprinting 1901 (national database set up). Forensic scientists carry tests on skin, hair etc... DNA and genetic fingerprinting have helped to solve past crimes- first used in the 1980s, database set up in 1995.

Developments of specialist units – Detective branch (1842), Special Branch (1883), photography (1850s onwards) **Developments in Communication** –Telegraph and radio (1910), two way radios were used from 1930s onwards. Camera technology such as CCTV.

Computer technology – Police National Computer 1974; database of fingerprints, DNA records, motor vehicle records and missing persons

Specialisation of police services- CID (1878), Flying Squad (1919), Anti-Terrorist Branch (1971), Counter Terrorist Command (2006)

## <u>Methods</u>

#### Saxon & Medieval 500-1500

Deterrence - the only way to keep order was to make sure that people were scared of punishments - Retribution - a kind of revenge - Keeping order - the authorities were keen to maintain order and avoid unrest

<u>nt</u> (Chapter <u>4)</u>

Trial by ordeal – used when a jury could not decide if someone was guilty. People believed God would judge. Example: Trial by hot iron – the accused picked up a red-hot weight; if their hand festered they were guilty.

Wergild – compensation paid to the victim of crime or to their families

Corporal punishment - Flogging /whipping for refusing to attend church, stealing goods worth less than 5p; beggars could be flogged. Stocks and pillory used for minor crimes such as drunkenness, swearing and dishonest trading. Mutilation was punishment for regular offenders

#### **Early Modern 1500-1750**

Public execution – crimes punishable by execution included: murder, treason, counterfeiting and arson. During Tudor period often the punishment for political and religious crimes. Heretics were burned at the stake (Ridley and Latimer were burned by Mary I). Treason was punishable by death usually being hung, drawn and quartered. If person was from higher social class, they would be beheaded.

Prisons – House of correction (Bridewells) first used in this period to reform persistent beggars. Jails used to hold prisoners while being sentenced.

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#### Modern era (18th & 19th century)

**The Bloody Code** -225 capital crimes that were punishable by death. Even minor crimes like stealing sheep or rabbits were punishable by death. This meant that juries were reluctant to find people guilty.

Public execution – was still used in this period but the government started to realise that the large crowds it attracted started to see it as entertainment. In 1868 public executions were stopped.

**Transportation** – an alternative to the death penalty. It allowed convicts to be sent to North America, the West Indies at first and then Australia. Hulks were used as emergency prisons where conditions were terrible. 1788 – 736 convicts sent to Botany Bay. Between 1788 & 1868 165,000 were transported to Australia. Conditions were harsh. Early release offered as a motive for good behaviour. Growing resentment stopped the British sending convicts over. Transportation to Australia ended in 1868.

**Prisons** – Important individuals campaigned for reform during this period. **1776 John Howard** – carried out a survey of prisons. He believed prisons should reform criminals, clergymen should make regular visits to guide prisoners towards a better life, and prisoners should be kept in solitary confinement . **G.O. Paul** had a new type of jail designed for security (huge walls and designed so staff could see what was going on), health (checked prisoners for disease, provided exercise and good ventilation) and separation (male and females were separated). **1813 Elizabeth Fr**y visited Newgate prison and was horrified. She campaigned for schooling for women and their children and for work (needlework). She travelled around the country to carry reforms out in other prisons. **1823** Gaols Act, ordered for JPs to inspect prisons, for jailers to be paid, prisoners to follow a reform programme and to be kept in sanitary conditions.

**Separate system** – by 1850 onwards – prisoners were kept in individual cells, only left the cell for religious service or exercise. Aim was to give prisoners time to reflect.

**Silent system** – prison life was made as unpleasant as possible, prisoners could eat and exercise together, work was boring and pointless, like the crank and the treadwheel. Its aim was to make the prisoners hate the system so much that they would not reoffend.

Both systems failed to lower the reoffending rate. High suicide and insanity rates led to further (harsher) prison reform.

Modern era (20<sup>th/</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> century)-abolition of capital (1969) & corporal (prisons- 1962, schools-1986) led to changes to imprisonment. Modern attitudes have been more about rehabilitation and restitution.

**Borstals** – set up 1908 to punish 15-21 year olds. Strict rules designed to educate rather than punish. They were abolished in 1982.

**Young Offenders' institutions** – set up in 1988 to reform violent young offenders 18 to 21. Prevention of re-offending through education was key. Juvenile prisons are 15 to 18 year olds, focusing on reform.

**Open prisons** – started after WWII to house non-violent prisoners with low-risk of escaping. Aimed to resettle prisoners into the community.

## <u>Late 20<sup>th</sup> century governments have tried different ways to punish offenders without sending them to prison, these include:</u>

**Probation -1907** offenders keep in touch with their probation officer; from 1980s have to attend courses to discuss issues and get help

**Suspended prison sentences – introduced 1967**, the offenders to not go to prison unless they commit another offence during suspension period

Parole – 1967 allowed prisoners to be released before the end of their sentence after good behaviour in prison Community service – 1972 offenders do a number of hours unpaid work to benefit the community (removing graffiti, picking up rubbish etc.)

**Electronic tagging - 1990s** offenders given limits to where and when they can move; they must wear an electronic tag which allows police to monitor their exact movements.