



Worksheet 9: Applying theory through examples answers

1 Marxist ideas about crime

The crimes of the rich often go undetected.

Tax evasion or business fraud.

Material deprivation/poverty causes crime.

People in absolute poverty steal food or things they can sell to survive.

Capitalist values encourage greed which leads to crime.

Capitalists like American Bernie Madoff – stole billions even though he was rich to begin with which illustrates that even the rich can never have enough wealth and status.

The crimes of the rich and powerful are often unpunished or punished less harshly than working-class crimes.

Corporate crimes that involve loss of life often do not bring prison sentences, e.g. Bhopal disaster in India or the Deepwater Horizon oil explosion.

2 Feminist ideas about crime

The justice system punishes women harshly for 'double deviance'.

Women who commit crimes against children are demonised in a way that men are not, because they have offended against the expectations of 'femininity' as well as their crime, e.g. Myra Hindley in the UK.

Female socialisation and social control mean women commit less crime.

Women are more conformist and less prone to violence due to cultural expectations. They have less opportunity to commit crimes in many cultures due to their domestic role.

The culture of masculinity leads to crime.

Men commit more violent crime than women, e.g. assault, murder, armed robbery.

Crimes against women often go unreported and unrecorded.

Rape is massively unreported. Many women do not report domestic violence for fear of retribution or shame.