

week 3:

A. *Subcultures, Power, and "Unconventional Sentimentality"*

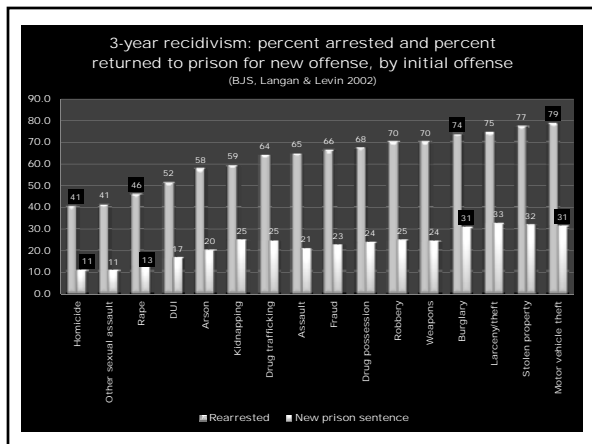
B. *Individualistic v. sociological theories*
Talcott Parsons & functionalism

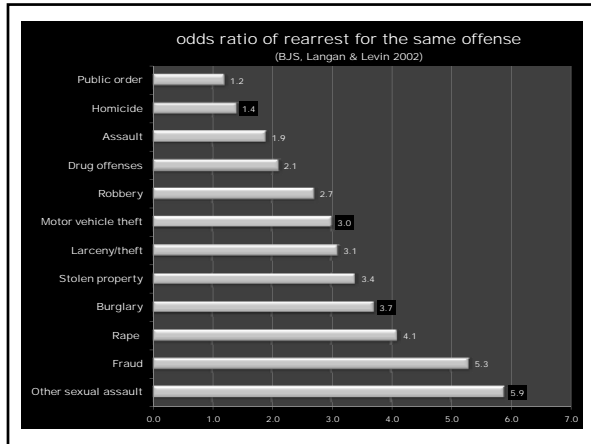
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recap

- Core concepts (part I)
 - Week 2: Social Controls and Deviant Careers
 - Crime, Deviance
 - Hobbesian order
 - Deviant careers
 - Marijuana, burglary
 - Illegal earnings
- Some activities look more like "careers" than others

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social organization of deviance

- Rough continuum
 - Individuals (asphyxiation, cutting?)
 - Cliques
 - Subcultures (Jenkot/meth; scenes)
 - Gangs (Miller)
 - Formal organizations (Rothe)
 - Corporations
 - States
- Learning, opportunities, and control all vary with organization

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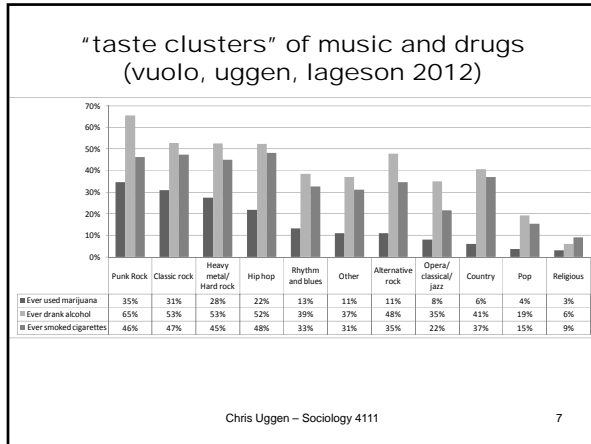
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music scenes and genres (Fox 1987;
Lena 2012)

- “subculture” and “counterculture”
 - Subculture – group with norms, values, and beliefs *distinct from* those of dominant culture
 - Scene – musical community (e.g., MSP hip hop)
 - Idiom – particular style (e.g. “black metal”)
- Internal stratification – core and periphery based on commitment to (life)style
 - Hardcore (lifestyle + ideology, values, beliefs...)
 - Softcore (lifestyle only)
 - Preppies (style)
 - Spectators (none)
- Twin cities-based scene?

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Jenkot: Cooks are like Gods (2008)

- in-depth surveys and interviews with 31 female inmates
- status hierarchy tied to function, productivity
 - Cook – top of hierarchy (skilled)
 - Gas Man/Juicer – procures anhydrous ammonia (risky); “scraper” role
 - Shopper – procures other supplies
 - “Dope Ho” – “baggage”; not productive
 - Simple User – outsiders; buyers (?)
- in-group mobility

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Chambliss: class, (sub)culture, & careers (1973)

- *Deviant Careers of 2 Groups - upper middle-class Saints & lower class Roughnecks*
 1. visibility
 2. demeanor
 3. “perceptual bias” of community and police: “Posture indicates devotion and commitment to deviance as a way of life”
- Who was more delinquent?
- Why/How does social class matter? Race?
- Career outcomes?
 - Self-perpetuating process that begins with class differences.
 - Do you buy it?

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socialization

- 5 min. video: The Wall
 - Schools as institutions of control - what does your degree really mean?
 - Learning, power, and control

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Week 3B. Individualistic Accounts

- Moving from basic concepts (Part I) to general theories or explanations (Part II)
- "reductionism"
 - Is *anything* a "solitary, loner practice?"
 - Shame and secrecy

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individualistic elements of deviance

- Biology
 - Interaction of biology and environment (drugs)
 - Societal reaction (e.g., to physical size)
 - Twin studies (MN)
- Psychiatry and Psychology
 - Personality (self-control plus social control)
 - ADHD, Anorexia, Psychopaths/APD, Paraphilias
- Economics: rational choice
 - When is deviance a choice?
 - Merton: choice among socially-structured alternatives
- Complements or substitutes for sociology?
 - Uggen's "probabilistic" view
 - Sociologist usually has *something* useful to add

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individual deviance: sexual asphyxia

- *PLEASE*: Don't try this at home
 - A dangerous form of masturbation
 - De Sade's *Justine* (1791)
 - Big question: is all deviance social?
- Lowery & Wetli (1982); Turvey (2009)
 - Myths (youth; men; nudity; transvestitism) and rumors (Michael Hutchence, INXS; David Carradine)
 - *Likely* Rare: deaths of 250-1000 annually
- Criteria for autoerotic fatality
 - Evidence of self-rescue mechanism; privacy; solo sexual activity; fantasy aids; history; (no) suicide
- No deviant subculture (or is there?)
 - Psychiatric disorder (paraphilia)
 - Supporters/partners: "breath control play"
 - Career entry, management, and exit

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Individuals in "Cyber Communities of Self-Injury"

- Adler & Adler on cutting
 - "convenience sample" (?) of 25 but 81 life histories
 - how can sociology add to psych research?
- Motivation?
- Why no subculture?
 - Loners and the "normative subculture" and "conventional value system"?
 - Career length and (online) social support
- Trend and survey data on cutting

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Pt II: soc theories (syllabus)

- Individual (think: people)
 - Labeling, Learning, and Control
- Structural (think: rates)
 - Anomie, Conflict
 - Functionalism
 - Durkheim, Parsons, Erikson
 - Deviance as virus or cure for social body [Matrix]?

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Functionalism

- Emile Durkheim (*Rules*)
 - Anomie, integration, and social change
 - Is ideal society free of deviance? "Imagine a society of saints..."
 - Deviance reinforces collective conscience
- Functions
 - Boundary maintenance (Erikson; Super Bowl)
 - Safety valve (CW Mills quote; Kingsley Davis on Prostitution)
 - Conflict management (gangs)
 - Signaling (change or breakdown- Socrates)

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talcoth parsons (not in books)

1951 The Social System (assumptions)

1. All parts are integrated and important
2. At core of system is set of values to which all are socialized
3. All parts are interdependent and reciprocally supporting (government, labor market, schools)
 - Function (+) or dysfunction (-) measured "objectively" based on values in social system
4. There is general equilibrium in system

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critique of functionalism

1. Some (individuals or groups) are isolated, not integrated
2. Downplays power differences
 - but some merge functional/conflict (Foucault)
3. Not falsifiable/testable
4. Insider's view: ignores deviant's perspective

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summary

- Criticized (unfairly?) as justifying and maintaining status quo
- Value
 - Deviance within larger system(s)
 - Positive functions are undeniable (like pain for individuals)
 - Latent v. manifest functions
 - Elements in every theory of deviance

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next

- *Lecture: Structural Theories*
 - *Functionalism & Anomie Theories (5 min. video: Bullworth)*
 - Durkheim
 - Merton
 - *Conflict, Threat, and Rulemaking*
 - Quinney
 - Chesney-Lind
 - Behrens et al; King et al. on Deportation

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