

# ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

## CRIME AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

### EXAM STUDY GUIDE

1. Crime is a socially produced problem.
2. In order to have a violation:
  - There must be an agreement among citizens that certain behaviors warrant suppression by society.
  - Lawmakers need to discuss what constitutes the undesired behavior.
  - Lawmakers must enact a law, and determine the penalty (ies).
  - Law enforcement officers must become aware of the behavior, and determine the behavior violates statutory law.
3. When other institutions fail to deliver on their promises and expectations the criminal justice system becomes the institution that must eventually be employed.
4. People feel the criminal justice system is too lenient on criminals.
5. They perceive the justice system as a revolving door where offenders serve only a fraction of their sentences.
6. Other people see the criminal justice system as being overly oppressive and discriminatory against minorities and people without economic means.
7. The disparities in sentencing between the rich and poor are viewed as evidence that the criminal justice system is simply a tool of the wealthy to preserve their privileged status in society.
8. In defining a crime, one theme provides a set of laws that deal with property.
  - Burglary, theft, and motor vehicle theft are crimes that do not result in the same type of social harm as crimes against the person. The amount of property stolen does not carry as much weight in determining the penalty as the manner in which it was taken.
9. In defining a crime, another theme provides for the laws that do not directly relate to crimes against the person or their property but has to do with behaviors that are considered undesirable.
  - Laws pertaining to prostitution, gambling, alcohol and drug use all involve the moral order of society.
10. Violent crimes receive the most attention from the media and politicians
11. The category of crime that refers to theft without the use of force is Property Crimes
  - Examples: Burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson are examples of these crimes.
12. Property crimes are not considered as serious as violent crime.
13. Victimless crime: Drug use, prostitution, and gambling are examples of victimless crime.
14. Some people argue that there are no victims to such acts as prostitution and drugs this philosophy would hold that a prostitute is an adult and if a person pays the agreed-upon price, the transaction becomes be a private matter and not the concern of the criminal justice system.
15. White-collar crime occurs when a business takes unfair advantage of consumers and competitors.
16. White-collar crime is not treated as severely by the criminal justice system as other types of crime.
17. Political crime is of relatively low visibility similar to that of white-collar crime.
18. Efforts to lessen the influence of money on the outcome of elections have been unsuccessful.
19. Some politicians put their own finances and power before the public welfare.
20. Trying to influence pending legislation to favor one's own view becomes a crime under the most serious and flagrant violations of the law.
21. The juvenile justice system was established as an alternative to the adult criminal justice system so children would not be punished as severely as adult offenders.
22. Teenagers have additional laws they are accountable for because of their status as minors.
23. The purpose of the juvenile justice system is to give youthful offenders a second chance and provide assistance to children in need whose parents will not or can not provide for those needs.
24. Some laws pertaining to alcohol, mandatory school attendance, obeying parents, and curfews only apply to juveniles.
25. The purpose of the juvenile justice system is to give youthful offenders a second chance and provide assistance to children in need whose parents will not or can not provide for those needs.
26. Two issues make the juvenile justice system difficult to manage.
  - The first concern is the issue of status offenses. Due to their age, juveniles have laws that are specific to them and do not apply to adults.
  - The second concern is the reduced due process available to the juvenile offender.
27. The purpose of the juvenile justice system is to help or treat the youthful offender rather than to punish. Many procedural safeguards provided by the Constitution do not pertain to juveniles
28. The juvenile justice system acts as parentis parens, or in place of the parent, in deciding what is in the best interest of the child when a parent is incapable or unwilling to do so.
29. In cases of very serious crimes the juvenile court may transfer the case to the adult court where: due process rights are rigidly enforced and more severe penalties are given.
30. The variety of behaviors that are considered crimes and how they impact our society makes it difficult to discuss: the crime rate in the United States.

31. Many crimes go unreported because:
  - The victim may be afraid to report the crime.
  - Common in cases of domestic assault or child abuse.
  - The victim may be embarrassed to report the crime.
  - Some victims feel the criminal justice system can not solve the crime.
32. In order to effectively gauge crime in the United States three measures of crime must be considered. Uniform Crime Reports, Victimization Studies, and Self-Reported Crime
33. The only official measure of crime is the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) published by the U.S. Government Printing Office
34. The report divides crime into two main categories, Part I offenses and Part II. Part I offenses are considered to be the more serious and are usually reported to the police more often. Examples of crimes included in Part I offenses:

Murder and non-negligent manslaughter		Forcible rape
Robbery	Aggravated assault	Burglary
Larceny-theft	Motor vehicle theft	Arson

35. The Uniform Crime Reports crime rate gives a more accurate picture of the true level of crime in the United States however, it is only an approximation of the figure of crime.
36. Victimization studies attempt to gather information about crime by: asking people if they have been a victim of crime.
37. Many individuals are unaware they have been victims of white-collar crimes such as embezzlement or forgery.
38. Self-Report studies ask individuals what unlawful behaviors they have committed.
39. One limitation the Self-Report studies method is the problem of people lying.
40. Many individuals are hesitant to admit unlawful behavior even if they are confident they will not have to answer for it.
41. Most people are too embarrassed and ashamed to: confess to committing violations of the law.
42. Criminologists have been developing studies where youthful offenders have provided data concerning their criminal activities.
43. People are less likely to report serious offenses and more likely to: admit to minor offenses.
44. The impression most people have of crime comes from two sources: their own experience and the media.
45. Victims of crime, especially a violent crime, will have a relationship or association: with crime that makes them extremely fearful.
46. The media distorts the level and severity of crime as a matter of policy to: attract readers and viewers.
47. The media has a tendency to concentrate on the most sensational crimes and to report the story numerous times until: a new shocking story replaces it as "news".
48. Media overexposure of violent crime has two negative effects.
  - It tends to make people unreasonably: fearful for their safety.
  - Second is the effect media crime coverage has in presenting: violent crime as typical.
49. Crime is a social issue involving overstatements, myth, and: inaccurate perceptions.