

***Juvenile Delinquency The Core 6th edition Siegel  
Test Bank***

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# TRUE/FALSE

1 : Manslaughter and forcible rape are examples of Part II offenses.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

2 : Liquor law violations and drug trafficking are examples of Part II offenses.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

3 : Because many victims do not report their experiences to the police, the UCR has been adjusted to address the issue of nonreporting of crime.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

4 : Most self-report studies indicate that the number of children who break the law is far less than official statistics would lead us to believe.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

5 : The NCVS is a household survey of offenders that measures the nature of the crime and the characteristics of the offenders.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

6 : Because UCR arrest statistics are disaggregated (broken down) by the suspects age, they can be used to estimate trends in adolescent delinquency.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

7 : Less than half of all violent crime victimizations are reported to the police.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

8 : The largest weakness of self-report studies is they fail to provide relevant information on personal characteristics of offenders (such as attitudes or beliefs) that are available from other sources.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

9 : Most self-report studies have focused on juvenile delinquency and youth crime.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

10 : The crime patterns and trends that the UCR, NCVS, and self-report surveys record are often quite similar.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

11 : In 2013, juveniles accounted for less than 3 percent of all arrests for Part I offenses.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

12 : According to the latest NCVS data, criminal victimization has risen slightly over the last 10 years.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

13 : According to the text, during the last decade, the teen murder rate decreased by approximately 20 percent.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

14 : According to the text, girls are more likely than boys to be arrested as runaways.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

15 : Delinquents are disproportionately male, although female delinquency rates are rising faster than those for males.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

16 : Most delinquent acts occur during the warm summer months.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

17 : According to the text, kids who engage in the most serious forms of delinquency are more likely to be members of the upper class.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

18 : Research shows, contrary to media reports, that minority group members are less likely to be stopped and arrested than European American youths.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

19 : According to the structural bias model, if differences in the delinquency rate are valid, then their source can be traced to the discrimination that pervades American society, resulting in race-based economics and social disparity.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

20 : Delinquency rates decline with age.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

21 : In Wolfgang's Delinquency in a Birth Cohort, 6 percent of the total sample was responsible for 52 percent of all offenses.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

22 : A primary weakness of Wolfgang's cohort findings, the chronic 6 percent, is that the findings could not be replicated in subsequent research.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

23 : While chronic juvenile offenders account for a large percentage of the overall amount of juvenile crime, there is limited research to indicate that these chronic juvenile offenders continue offending into adulthood.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

24 : Although research has depicted that chronic offenders make up over 50 percent of all offending, arresting and charging chronic offenders had a significant impact on future deterrence.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

25 : Researchers have found that the severity of offending rather than frequency of criminal behavior had the greatest impact on later adult criminality.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

26 : Teens are less likely than their grandparents to become the victims of crimes.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

27 : Crime victimization tends to be interracial.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

28 : The likelihood of becoming a victim of property crime declines with age.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

29 : Researchers believe that juvenile offending and victimization may be so high because juveniles spend a significant amount of time in one of the countrys most dangerous places, local schools.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : A

30 : According to data in the text, 12- to 24- year-olds are most likely to become victims of violent crime. The highest age group after this is the 50- to 64- year-olds who often fall prey to juvenile violence crime perpetration.

A : true

B : false

Correct Answer : B

## MULTIPLE CHOICE

31 : Compiled by the \_\_\_\_\_, the UCR is the most widely used source of national crime and delinquency statistics.

- A : U.S. Census Bureau
- B : Bureau of Justice Statistics
- C : Federal Bureau of Investigation
- D : Bureau of Justice Affairs

Correct Answer : C

32 : Which of the following is a Part I offense?

- A : Arson
- B : Weapons possession
- C : Possession of cocaine
- D : Gang membership

Correct Answer : A

33 : Which of the following is a Part II offense?

- A : Robbery
- B : Forcible rape
- C : Vandalism
- D : Aggravated assault

Correct Answer : C

34 : When at least one person is arrested, charged, or turned over to the court for prosecution, a crime has been:

- A : solved
- B : recorded
- C : indexed
- D : cleared

Correct Answer : D

35 : The UCR uses three methods to express crime data. Which of the following is not one of these three methods?

- A : The actual number of crimes reported to the police and arrests made
- B : The actual number of crimes for which the suspects were convicted
- C : The FBI computes crime rates per 100,000 people.
- D : The FBI computes changes in the number and rate of crime over time.

Correct Answer : B

36 : What does a UCR-reported murder rate of 4.8 mean?

- A : About five people were murdered.
- B : About five people in every 100,000 were murdered.
- C : About five people a day were murdered.
- D : About five people were arrested for murder per 10,000 arrests.

Correct Answer : B

37 : The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) collects victimization data on individuals aged \_\_\_\_\_ and older.

- A : 10
- B : 12
- C : 18
- D : 21

Correct Answer : B

38 : Which of the following statements about the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) is false?

- A : The survey provides information about victims, offenders, and crimes.
- B : The NCVS collects information on crimes suffered by individuals and households.
- C : The problem of underreporting of crime is completely eliminated when we use the NCVS.
- D : The NCVS is administered twice a year to respondents.

Correct Answer : C

39 : \_\_\_\_\_ are questionnaire or survey techniques that ask subjects to reveal their own participation in delinquent or criminal acts.

- A : Victim surveys
- B : Official records
- C : Self-reports
- D : Uniform Crime Reports

Correct Answer : C

40 : In 2010, juveniles were responsible for about \_\_\_\_ percent of the property crime arrests.

- A : 9
- B : 19
- C : 24
- D : 34

Correct Answer : B

41 : About \_\_\_\_\_ juvenile arrests are made each year for Part II offenses.

- A : 125,000
- B : 480,000
- C : 630,000
- D : 1.2 million

Correct Answer : C

42 : As of 2013, juveniles were responsible for about \_\_\_\_\_ percent of all arrests for Part I violent crimes.

- A : 11
- B : 17
- C : 29
- D : 50

Correct Answer : A

43 : A great deal of juvenile delinquency is unknown to the police; these unrecorded delinquent acts are referred to as \_\_\_\_\_.

- A : self-report data

- B : observational records
- C : dark figures of crime
- D : diversion cases

Correct Answer : C

44 : The annual national self-report survey of 8th-, 10th-, and 12th-graders conducted by the Institute for Social Research (ISR) is called \_\_\_\_\_.

- A : National Crime Victimization Survey
- B : Monitoring the Future
- C : National Survey on Drug Use and Health
- D : Safe Schools/Healthy Students

Correct Answer : B

45 : Among the factors that influence delinquency rate trends, which is false?

- A : The general crime rate follows the proportion of young males in the population.
- B : As the number of gun-carrying (toting seems too informal) students increases, so does the seriousness of violent delinquency.
- C : As the level of social problems increases, such as unwed mothers and racial conflict, so do delinquency rates.
- D : There is strong association between delinquency rates and the immigrant population.

Correct Answer : D

46 : Economist Steven Levitt believes that \_\_\_\_\_ may help control delinquency.

- A : stricter adoption policies
- B : punitive policies
- C : psychotherapy
- D : religious involvement

Correct Answer : B

47 : With regard to the relationship of the time and place of delinquency, which statement is false?

- A : Most delinquent acts occur during the warm summer months of July and August.
- B : Large urban areas have by far the highest juvenile violence rates.
- C : The frequency of some violent acts such as sexual assault increases as the temperature increases.
- D : The western and southern states have had consistently higher delinquency rates.

Correct Answer : C

48 : For which of the following acts are females more likely than males to be taken into custody?

- A : Robbery
- B : Forcible rape
- C : Truancy
- D : Running away

Correct Answer : D

49 : Males commit \_\_\_\_\_ property offenses for every 1 committed by females.

- A : 2
- B : 4
- C : 6
- D : 10

Correct Answer : A

50 : Males commit \_\_\_\_\_ serious violent offenses for every 1 committed by females.

- A : 2
- B : 4
- C : 6
- D : 10

Correct Answer : B

51 : In terms of race and delinquency, the official statistics show that:

- A : white juveniles composed about 30 percent of all juveniles arrested in 2008
- B : there is virtually no racial discrimination in the juvenile justice system
- C : African American youths are less likely to be formally arrested by the police, who treat them as first-time offenders
- D : minority youths are arrested for serious criminal behavior at a rate that is disproportionate to their representation in the population

Correct Answer : D

52 : Which of the following is one of the major criticisms of official crime data?

- A : It fails to control socioeconomic factors that contribute to criminality.
- B : It underrepresents the effect of violent delinquent crime.
- C : It is biased by police behavior and arrest practices.
- D : It negates the impact of chronic delinquent crime.

Correct Answer : C

53 : Which of the following privileges would not result in greater equality for minority children?

- A : Legal
- B : Educational
- C : Economic
- D : Social

Correct Answer : A

54 : \_\_\_\_\_ are responsible for the majority of serious delinquent acts.

- A : Lower-class youth
- B : Middle-class youth
- C : Upper-class, rebellious youth
- D : Social class is irrelevant to delinquency.

Correct Answer : A

55 : Which of the following statements about age and delinquency is false?

- A : With maturity comes the ability to resist the quick fix to one's problems.
- B : Life experience helps former delinquents seek out nondestructive solutions to their personal

problems.

C : As youths grow older, they take on new responsibilities that are inconsistent with criminality.

D : As juvenile delinquents mature, they become less aware of the risks that accompany crime.

Correct Answer : D

56 : \_\_\_\_\_ is the age at which youths begin their delinquent careers.

A : Desistance

B : Age of onset

C : Bias age

D : Chronicity

Correct Answer : B

57 : The aging-out process of criminal behavior is also referred to as:

A : persistent criminality

B : spontaneous remission

C : desistance remission

D : criminal desistance

Correct Answer : B

58 : Early and repeated delinquency is the best predictor of:

A : adult criminality

B : problem behavior syndrome

C : desistence

D : crime pathways

Correct Answer : A

59 : The idea that chronic juvenile offenders are likely to continue violating the law as adults is called:

A : persistance

B : continuity of crime

C : problem behavior syndrome

D : chronicity

Correct Answer : B

60 : Chronic recidivists made up about \_\_\_\_\_ percent of both Philadelphia cohorts in research conducted by Wolfgang and his associates.

A : 1

B : 3

C : 6

D : 18

Correct Answer : C

61 : Wolfgang reported that the \_\_\_\_\_ was/were responsible for 52 percent of all offenses.

A : adolescent-limiteds

B : chronic 6 percent

C : peripheral gang members

D : late bloomers

Correct Answer : B

62 : In the Pennsylvania birth cohort follow-up, it was found that chronic offenders had a(n)\_\_\_\_\_ percent chance of becoming adult offenders.

A : 30

B : 40

C : 100

D : 80

Correct Answer : D

63 : Which of the following statements is true?

A : Kids who engage in the most serious forms of delinquency are more likely to be members of the lower class.

B : Chronic offenders commit a significant portion of all delinquent acts.

C : Those who demonstrate antisocial tendencies at a very early age are more likely to commit more crimes for a longer duration.

D : All of the above are true.

Correct Answer : D

64 : According to the text, which of the following is not a childhood risk factor for persistent delinquency?

A : Parental psychopathology

B : Low intelligence

C : Small family size

D : Neighborhood disadvantage

Correct Answer : C

65 : Childhood risk factors for persistent delinquency include all of the following, except:

A : poor cognitive development

B : family violence

C : poor academic performance

D : interracial background

Correct Answer : D

66 : According to the National Crime Victimization Survey:

A : females are more often the victims of delinquency than males

B : older people are more often targets than younger people

C : crime victimization tends to be interracial

D : the chance of victimization declines with age

Correct Answer : D

67 : Which of the following statements about the victimization of teens is true?

A : Most teens are victimized by strangers.

B : Most teens are victimized at night.

C : Most teens are victimized by their peers.

D : Most teens are victimized by their parents.

Correct Answer : C

68 : A national newspaper reported on the juvenile crime statistics across the United States. The data, based on police records, demonstrated a decline in juvenile crime. In rebuttal, a renowned criminologist released his findings from a national victimization survey that shows an increase in juvenile crime occurred in the past year. In clarifying the differences in the findings, one may wish to point out issues between the two measures. Which of the following statements about official arrest data is false?

- A : Victim surveys show that less than half of all victims report the crime to police.
- B : The arrest data count only adolescents who have been caught.
- C : Arrest decision criteria are similar among police agencies.
- D : Victimless crimes, such as drug and alcohol use, are significantly undercounted using this measure.

Correct Answer : C

69 : A national newspaper reported on the juvenile crime statistics across the United States. The data, based on police records, demonstrated a decline in juvenile crime. In rebuttal, a renowned criminologist released his findings from a national victimization survey that shows an increase in juvenile crime occurred in the past year. In clarifying the differences in the findings, one may wish to point out issues between the two measures. While victimization surveys may capture crimes victims did not report to the police, such surveys are still not without issues. Among those issues are:

- A : the misinterpretation of events that result in overreporting of crimes
- B : embarrassment and fear that prevent victims from reporting a crime
- C : juveniles not comprehending questions
- D : all of the above are potential issues with victimization surveys

Correct Answer : D

70 : Robert is a 13-year-old African American male living in a deteriorated neighborhood that lacks the economic and educational resources needed to succeed. He was arrested for physically assaulting another adolescent. Due to a previous record, Robert was charged and detained until trial, where ultimately he was sentenced to 6 months in a juvenile detention facility. James is a white 13-year-old male from a middle-class family, who was involved in a physical altercation. He was diverted from the formal juvenile justice system, given 50 hours of community service, and released to his parents. Which statement is false when attempting to explain this disproportionate minority group involvement in serious crime and contact with the juvenile justice system?

- A : African American youth who develop a police record are more likely to be severely punished if they are picked up again and sent back to juvenile court.
- B : Juvenile court judges may see the offenses committed by African American youths as more serious than those committed by white offenders.
- C : White juveniles are less likely to receive lenient sentences and thus get an official record.
- D : Institutional racism impacts the decision-making process found in the juvenile justice system.

Correct Answer : C

71 : Robert is a 13-year-old African American male living in a deteriorated neighborhood that lacks the economic and educational resources needed to succeed. He was arrested for physically assaulting another adolescent. Due to a previous record, Robert was charged and detained until trial, where ultimately he was sentenced to 6 months in a juvenile detention

facility. James is a white 13-year-old male from a middle-class family, who was involved in a physical altercation. He was diverted from the formal juvenile justice system, given 50 hours of community service, and released to his parents. Given Robert and James backgrounds, what is the connection between their social class and delinquency?

A : Poverty causes delinquency.

B : Middle-class youth are responsible for the majority of serious delinquent acts.

C : Serious crime is more prevalent in socially disorganized lower-class areas.

D : Social class has no impact on delinquency.

Correct Answer : C

72 : Robert is a 13-year-old African American male living in a deteriorated neighborhood that lacks the economic and educational resources needed to succeed. He was arrested for physically assaulting another adolescent. Due to a previous record, Robert was charged and detained until trial, where ultimately he was sentenced to 6 months in a juvenile detention facility. James is a white 13-year-old male from a middle-class family, who was involved in a physical altercation. He was diverted from the formal juvenile justice system, given 50 hours of community service, and released to his parents. As Robert and James mature, what can be expected?

A : Regardless of their race, sex, or social class, they will commit less crime as they age.

B : Due to his one prior arrest, Robert will be a chronic offender.

C : James will co-offend with peers more.

D : Both James and Robert will continue to commit more crimes due to their early start at a very young age.

Correct Answer : A

73 : Clare is a 14-year-old female who lives with her 29-year-old mother and three younger siblings in a two-bedroom apartment in a housing project. At school, Clare has acted out in class and has twice been held back a grade-level. Clare has been arrested for truancy, running away, and alcohol and drug use. Which of the following risk factors for persistent delinquency is not present in the scenario provided?

A : Family violence

B : Poor academic performance

C : Family structure and large size

D : Neighborhood disadvantage

Correct Answer : A

74 : Clare is a 14-year-old female who lives with her 29-year-old mother and three younger siblings in a two-bedroom apartment in a housing project. At school, Clare has acted out in class and has twice been held back a grade-level. Clare has been arrested for truancy, running away, and alcohol and drug use. While the vast majority of delinquency is committed by males, which one of Clare's offenses is most common for girls?

A : Truancy

B : Running away

C : Alcohol use

D : Disorderly conduct

Correct Answer : B

75 : Clare is a 14-year-old female who lives with her 29-year-old mother and three younger siblings in a two-bedroom apartment in a housing project. At school, Clare has acted out in

class and has twice been held back a grade-level. Clare has been arrested for truancy, running away, and alcohol and drug use. What percent of physically assaulted or abused adolescents reported lifetime substance abuse or dependence?

- A : 6 percent
- B : 17 percent
- C : 25 percent
- D : 46 percent

Correct Answer : C

76 : Tim is a white, 17-year-old, National Honor Society student who was physically assaulted in the hallway between classes by John, a white, 16-year-old, high school football player because of an alleged personal insult. Both students have mutual friends and attended social events as friends in the past. Which of the following is false with regard to this case of juvenile victimization?

- A : Teens tend to be victimized by their peers.
- B : Victimization is interracial.
- C : Many teenage victimizations occur at school.
- D : Students involved in academic extracurricular activities are more likely to be selected as suitable targets for violent victimization.

Correct Answer : B

77 : Tim is a white, 17-year-old, National Honor Society student who was physically assaulted in the hallway between classes by John, a white, 16-year-old, high school football player because of an alleged personal insult. Both students have mutual friends and attended social events as friends in the past. In comparison to his grandparents, Tim's likelihood of being a victim of a crime is:

- A : 5 times less likely than his grandparents
- B : as likely as his grandparents
- C : 10 times more likely than his grandparents
- D : None of the above

Correct Answer : C

## FILL IN THE BLANK

78 : Compiled by the FBI, the \_\_\_\_\_ is the most widely used source of national crime and delinquency statistics reporting crimes known to the police and the number of persons arrested.

Correct Answer : Uniform Crime Report

79 : Part I offenses include homicide and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, \_\_\_\_\_, and aggravated assault.

Correct Answer : robbery

80 : Part I property-related crimes includes burglary, \_\_\_\_\_, arson, and motor vehicle theft.

Correct Answer : larceny

81 : \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the selection of a limited number of people for study as representative of a larger group.

Correct Answer : Sampling

82 : A crime is said to have been \_\_\_\_\_ by exceptional means when some element beyond police control precludes the physical arrest of an offender.

Correct Answer : cleared

83 : Because the UCR arrest statistics are \_\_\_\_\_ by suspects age, they can be used to estimate adolescent delinquency.

Correct Answer : disaggregated

84 : \_\_\_\_\_ studies are designed to obtain information from youthful subjects about their violations of the law.

Correct Answer : Self-report

85 : Conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), the \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the largest and most comprehensive nationwide survey of victims of crime.

Correct Answer : NCVS or National Crime Victimization Survey

86 : In regard to research, \_\_\_\_\_ refers to all people who share a particular characteristic, such as all high school students or all police officers.

Correct Answer : population

87 : The UCR is used to measure crime rates and is considered an official data source because statistics are derived entirely from \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct Answer : police records

88 : Begun in 1931, the \_\_\_\_\_ is responsible for compiling information gathered by police departments on the number of criminal acts reported by citizens and the number of persons arrested.

Correct Answer : FBI

89 : Researchers at the University of Michigans Institute for Social Research conducted an annual national self-report survey, called \_\_\_\_\_, which involved a sample of about 3,000 thousand youths.

Correct Answer : Monitoring the Future

90 : Self-report studies are a valuable source of information on the activities of youths who have had contact with the juvenile justice system as well as on the \_\_\_\_\_ of crimethat is, those who have escaped official notice.

Correct Answer : dark figure

91 : Police routinely search, question, and detain all African American males in an area if a violent criminal has been described as or sounding Black. This phenomenon is called \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct Answer : racial profiling

92 : \_\_\_\_\_ theory suggests that as the size of the African American population increases, the amount of social control imposed against African American by police grows proportionately.

Correct Answer : Racial threat

93 : The \_\_\_\_\_ refers to the age at which youths begin their delinquent careers.

Correct Answer : age of onset

94 : The aging-out process is sometimes called desistance from crime or \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct Answer : spontaneous remission

95 : Those who demonstrate antisocial tendencies at a very early age are more likely to commit more crimes for a longer period of time. This is referred to as the \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct Answer : developmental view of delinquency

96 : The concept of the chronic career offender is most closely associated with the research efforts of \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct Answer : Marvin Wolfgang

97 : \_\_\_\_\_ refers to chronic offenders who have been arrested five times or more before the age of 18.

Correct Answer : Chronic recidivists

98 : In Wolfgang's birth cohort study, the \_\_\_\_\_ were responsible for 52 percent of all offenses.

Correct Answer : chronic 6 percent

99 : The idea that chronic juvenile offenders are likely to continue violating the law as adults is referred to as the \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct Answer : continuity of crime

100 : The \_\_\_\_\_ rate refers to the number of people who are victims of criminal acts.

Correct Answer : victimization

101 : NCVS data indicate that people in almost all age groups who were victimized by groups of offenders identified their attackers as \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct Answer : teenagers

102 : Most teens are victimized by people with whom they are \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct Answer : acquainted/acquaintances

## ESSAY

103 : Identify and define the two categories of offenses compiled by the FBI in the Uniform Crime Report. Provide examples of each.

Correct Answer : Part I offenses Offenses including homicide and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, arson, and motor vehicle theft. Recorded by local law enforcement officers, these crimes are tallied quarterly and sent to the FBI for inclusion in the UCR. Part II offenses All crimes other than Part I offenses. Recorded by local law enforcement officers, arrests for these crimes are tallied quarterly and sent to the FBI for inclusion in the UCR, and include vandalism, liquor law violations, and drug trafficking.

104 : Describe the three methods used by the UCR to express crime data. Give examples of each.

Correct Answer : Answers will vary

105 : Compare and contrast the UCR and NCVS. In your answer provide the purpose of each measure and validity issues with both measures.

Correct Answer : Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Compiled by the FBI, the UCR compiles information gathered by police departments on the number of criminal acts reported by citizens and the number of persons arrested and is the most widely used source of national crime and delinquency statistics. Weaknesses: • Data are derived entirely from police records, we can assume that a significant number of crimes are not accounted. • Concerns that police departments make systematic errors in recording crime data or manipulate the data in order to give the public the impression that they are highly effective crime fighters • Victim surveys show that less than half of all victims report the crime to police. • The arrest data count only adolescents who have been caught, and these youths may be different from those who evade capture. • Victimless crimes, such as drug and alcohol use, are significantly undercounted using this measure. • Arrest decision criteria vary among police agencies. National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) is a comprehensive, nationwide survey of victimization in the United States conducted annually by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The greatest advantage of the NCVS over official data sources such as the UCR is that it can estimate the total amount of annual crimes, not just those that are reported to police. In addition, the NCVS helps us understand why crimes are not reported to police and whether the type and nature of the criminal event influences whether the police will ever know it occurred. Weaknesses: • Overreporting due to victims' misinterpretation of events. A lost wallet may be reported as stolen or an open door may be viewed as a burglary attempt. • Underreporting due to the embarrassment of reporting crime to interviewers, fear of

getting in trouble, or simply forgetting an incident. Inability to record the personal criminal activity of those interviewed, such as drug use or gambling; murder is also not included, for obvious reasons. • Sampling errors, which produce a group of respondents who do not represent the nation as a whole • Inadequate question format that invalidates responses. Some groups, such as adolescents, may be particularly susceptible to error because of question format.

106 : List and discuss five factors that influence teen crime trends discussed in the text.

Correct Answer : Crime experts have identified a variety of social, economic, personal, and demographic factors that influence delinquency rate trends, and some of the most important influences: population make-up, economy and jobs, social problems, abortion, immigration, guns, gangs, drug use, media, and juvenile justice policies.

107 : Briefly discuss how the following correlates impact delinquency: gender, social class, and age.

Correct Answer : Gender With a few exceptions, males are significantly more delinquent than females. The teenage gender ratio for serious violent crime is approximately four to one and for property crime approximately two to one, male to female. The only exception to this pattern is arrests for being a runaway; girls are more likely than boys to be arrested as runaways. Today, there are more similarities than differences between male and female offenders, and the gender gap seems to be closing. Social class Middle-class kids may commit crime, but it is generally of the less serious nuisance variety, such as selling pot or committing vandalism, rather than serious felony offenses. It is lower-class youth who are responsible for the majority of serious delinquent acts. Lower class kids who live in socially disorganized areas believe that they can never compete socially or economically with adolescents being raised in more affluent areas. They may turn to criminal behavior for monetary gain and psychological satisfaction. In sum, poverty does not cause delinquency per se; many poor kids are not delinquent at all. However, poverty is linked to social problems—family disruption, poor educational opportunities, lack of resources—that are highly associated with youthful misbehaviors. Age It is generally believed that age is inversely related to criminality: as people age, the likelihood that they will commit crime declines (aging-out process).

108 : Racial minorities are disproportionately represented in the arrest statistics. Discuss the two views that attempt to explain this disparity.

Correct Answer : Racial Threat Theory As the size of the African American population increases, the amount of social control imposed against African Americans by police grows proportionately. Police will then routinely search, question, and detain all African American males in an area if a violent criminal has been described as “looking or sounding black”; this is called racial profiling. African American youth who develop a police record are more likely to be severely punished if they are picked up again and sent back to juvenile court. Consequently, the racial discrimination that is present at the early stages of the justice system ensures that minorities receive greater punishments at its conclusion. According to this view, then, the disproportionate number of minority youth who are arrested is less a function of their involvement in serious crime and more the result of the race-based decision making that is found in the juvenile justice system. An alternative view is that although evidence of racial bias does exist in the justice system, there is enough correspondence between official and self-report data to conclude that racial differences in the crime rate are real. According to this view, racial differentials are tied to the social and economic disparity suffered by African American youths. Even during times of economic growth, lower-class African Americans are left out of the economic mainstream, causing a growing sense of frustration and failure. As a result of being shut out of educational and economic opportunities enjoyed by the rest of society, African

American kids are vulnerable to the lure of illegitimate gain and criminality. Consequently, racial differences in the delinquency rate would evaporate if African American kids could enjoy the same social, economic, and educational privileges enjoyed by children of the white majority.

109 : Identify and discuss four factors that affect chronic delinquency.

Correct Answer : Individual Factors•Early antisocial behavior•Emotional factors, such as high behavioral activation and low behavioral inhibition•Poor cognitive development•Low intelligence•HyperactivitySchool and Community Factors•Failure to bond to school•Poor academic performance•Low academic aspirations•Living in a poor family•Neighborhood disadvantage•Disorganized neighborhoods•Concentration of delinquent peer groups•Access to weaponsFamily Factors•Parenting•Maltreatment•Family violence•Divorce•Parental psychopathology•Familial antisocial behaviors•Teenage parenthood•Family structure•Large family sizePeer Factors•Association with deviant peers•Peer rejection

110 : Identify and briefly discuss the factors that characterize teen victimization.

Correct Answer : •The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) samples estimate the total number of criminal incidents, including those not reported to police. •Males are more often the victims of delinquency than females. •Younger people are more often targets than older people. •African American rates of violent victimization are much higher than European American rates. Crime victimization tends to be intraracial. •Self-report data show that a significant number of adolescents become crime victims. The NCVS may underreport juvenile victimization.