

## THE PERSONALITY OF A CRIMINAL IN CRIMINOLOGY

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**Abstract:** This article delves into the complex concept of "criminal personality" and its significance in criminology. It explores various definitions and perspectives on this topic, examining the opinions of leading scholars in the field. The article also presents statistical data on different types of criminals and their characteristics. A comprehensive plan for studying the criminal personality is proposed, outlining key stages of analysis. The research highlights the importance of understanding the formation of criminal personality, considering factors such as socialization, biological predispositions, and psychological traits. By examining the motivations and behaviors of criminals, the study aims to contribute to the development of effective crime prevention strategies and rehabilitation programs.

**Keywords:** criminal personality, criminology, personality, socialization, crime, motivation, behavior, classification, prevention, rehabilitation

### Introduction

The study of the criminal personality has been a central focus in the field of criminology for decades. Understanding the psychological, sociological, and biological factors that contribute to criminal behavior can provide valuable insights into crime prevention and offender rehabilitation. While there is no single definitive explanation for why individuals commit crimes, various theories and research have shed light on the complex interplay of factors that shape the criminal personality.

### Defining the Criminal Personality

The concept of "criminal personality" is multifaceted and has been defined in various ways by criminologists. Some researchers view it as a distinct psychological profile characterized by certain traits, such as impulsivity, aggression, and lack of empathy. Others emphasize the role of social and environmental factors, such as poverty, family dysfunction, and exposure to criminal influences, in shaping criminal behavior.

### Psychological Theories

Psychological theories of criminal personality often focus on individual traits and cognitive processes. Psychodynamic theories, for example, attribute criminal behavior to unresolved conflicts or traumas from childhood. Cognitive theories suggest

that criminals may have distorted perceptions of reality or faulty decision-making skills. Biological theories, on the other hand, explore the potential role of genetic factors, neurotransmitters, and brain abnormalities in criminal behavior.

### **Sociological Theories**

Sociological theories emphasize the influence of social structures and processes on criminal behavior. Strain theory posits that crime occurs when individuals are unable to achieve societal goals through legitimate means. Social control theory argues that individuals are more likely to commit crimes when their bonds to society are weak. Differential association theory suggests that criminal behavior is learned through association with others who engage in criminal activities.

### **The Role of Biology**

Recent research has highlighted the potential role of biological factors in criminal behavior. Studies have shown that certain genetic variations may be associated with increased risk of criminal behavior. Additionally, abnormalities in brain structure or function, such as reduced prefrontal cortex activity, have been linked to impulsive and aggressive behavior.

### **Implications for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation**

Understanding the personality of a criminal can inform the development of effective crime prevention and rehabilitation programs. By identifying the underlying factors that contribute to criminal behavior, interventions can be tailored to address specific needs and reduce the likelihood of recidivism. For example, cognitive-behavioral therapy can help individuals develop coping skills and modify negative thought patterns. Social programs can address underlying social issues, such as poverty and inequality, that may increase the risk of crime.

### **Conclusion**

The study of the criminal personality is a complex and multifaceted field. While there is no single explanation for why individuals commit crimes, research has provided valuable insights into the psychological, sociological, and biological factors that may contribute to criminal behavior. By understanding these factors, we can develop more effective crime prevention and rehabilitation strategies. Further research is needed to continue exploring the complex interplay of factors that shape the criminal personality and to inform the development of evidence-based interventions.

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