

Course Learning Outcomes for Unit V

Upon completion of this unit, students should be able to:

2. Evaluate criminal justice strategies, policies, and procedures to determine best practices.
3. Analyze research methodologies, training, and development techniques that result in effective management of criminal justice programs.
 - 3.1 Identify the technical facets of cybercrime for identification and management of crime.
 - 3.2 Identify the history and identification methods of cybercriminals for identification and management of crime.
4. Examine causes, methods, and criminal justice agency counteractions to terrorism.

Reading Assignment

Chapter 8: Sex Crimes, Victimization, and Obscenity on the World Wide Web

Chapter 9: Anarchy and Hate on the World Wide Web

Unit Lesson

As you have learned thus far, with the vast amount of knowledge and information available in this new cyber world we live in comes increased opportunity for crime. These crimes are not just crimes against banks, media, and identity, but they also involve probably the most devious and most reprehensible crimes: crimes against children and individual victims. Crimes of obscenity, hate, and exploitation are given a whole new petri dish with which to grow. This is not to say any crime is more or less reprehensible; the criminal organizations that rip off banks and identities are reprehensible to the n^{th} degree. However, there is a definite level of creepy that surrounds those who troll the Internet for the purpose of targeting children.

Criminal Profiling

For this criminal, you might be inclined to picture some creepy guy sitting in a smoky room in his dirty underwear or ill-fitting polyester pants and beer belly with a sad old desk top computer under the oppressive yellow glow of a desk lamp. However, these criminals are not so easily identifiable. As with the hacker in the basement, criminals who commit these crimes range in ages, socioeconomic status, race, and education. As creepy as it sounds, they walk among us. Sure, all criminals walk among us, but criminals of this type are scary for the same reasons the BTK killer and Ted Bundy are scary. They tend to appear to be ordinary friends and neighbors.

Let us dispel one myth right here. Many people have a hard time distinguishing between racial profiling and criminal profiling. Racial profiling does happen, and it can be a useful law enforcement tool when used legitimately. For example, if you as a police officer get a call that a person of a certain race and gender just robbed someone, then that is what you are going to be looking for. That is not an issue here. Here, for these types of criminals, the tools of criminal profiling are invaluable. Law enforcement agencies have spent years and millions of dollars profiling the types of crimes people commit and classifying certain data to better assist them in narrowing down suspects. This is the profiling law enforcement officers are interested in to assist in catching an online pedophile.

A Rise in Crime Due to the Internet

Click on the following link to view an interactive presentation about the acts of obscenity:

<http://www.pearsoncustom.com/mct-enterprise/asset.php?isbn=1256689785&id=14730>

The main types of crimes that have escalated due to the ease of access to potential victims worldwide include: sex crimes, victimization, obscenity, anarchy, and hate crimes. The irony is that the Internet gives the illusion of anonymity, but makes those that use it more vulnerable unless certain precautions are taken to protect one's identity on the Internet.

Unfortunately, not only has the Internet made it easy for undesirables to troll for victims, it has likely expanded the sex crimes and hate crimes exponentially. Now there is a very easy way to actually see victims, stalk victims, and reach victims. People who might have just had a dark notion in their head, have virtually unlimited access to a world of things we cannot even imagine.

Another area where the average person needs to be especially vigilant is on social media. Do not tell people where you are going every five minutes on Facebook. Do not tweet pictures of yourself in a bikini making a fishy face. Even a cute picture of your kids playing in the tub has raised problems for people. Without knowing it, millions of people live their life in an open window to the world where any creepy weirdo can crawl in. As citizens, you have to do your part and remain vigilant. As parents, we have to properly teach our children what is and is not safe. As law enforcement personnel, it is important to use the tools of detection to systematically apprehend and prosecute these criminals.

Suggested Reading

Chapter 8 PowerPoint: Sex Crimes, Victimization and Obscenity on the World Wide Web

Click [here](#) for a PDF version of the Chapter 8 Presentation.

Chapter 9 PowerPoint: Anarchy and Hate on the World Wide Web

Click [here](#) for a PDF version of the Chapter 9 Presentation.