

Chapter 01 - Crime and Criminal Justice

1. Which notorious outlaw was known for robbing banks and trains and was shot by Bob Ford in 1882?

- a. John Wesley Hardin.
- b. Billy the Kid.
- c. Pretty Boy Floyd.
- d. Jesse James.

ANSWER:

d

2. What does historical evidence suggest about crime rates in America compared to today?

- a. Crime rates were much lower 100 years ago than they are today.
- b. Crime rates only became a problem in the 1960s.
- c. Crime rates have remained constant throughout American history.
- d. Crime rates were much higher 100 years ago than they are today.

ANSWER:

d

3. Which lawman was famous for participating in the O.K. Corral gunfight in 1881?

- a. Wild Bill Hickok.
- b. Wyatt Earp.
- c. Pat Garrett.
- d. Bat Masterson.

ANSWER:

b

4. When was the first police agency, the London Metropolitan Police, created?

- a. 1829
- b. 1879
- c. 1849
- d. 1809

ANSWER:

a

5. What was the Wickersham Commission officially known as?

- a. The American Bar Foundation.
- b. The Chicago Crime Commission.
- c. The President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice.
- d. The National Commission of Law Observance and Enforcement.

ANSWER:

d

6. What significant contribution did the American Bar Foundation make to criminal justice in the 1950s?

- a. It established the first police academy.
- b. It developed the first crime statistics database.
- c. It created the first correctional rehabilitation programs.
- d. It discovered hidden procedures in the justice system and introduced the term "criminal justice system."

ANSWER:

d

7. Which federal act provided funding for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA)?

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- a. The Safe Streets and Crime Control Act of 1968.
- b. The Criminal Justice Reform Act of 1970.
- c. The Law Enforcement Act of 1969.
- d. The Crime Control Act of 1967.

ANSWER:

a

8. A police chief wants to implement a new community policing program but needs to demonstrate its effectiveness before securing long-term funding. Which principle of evidence-based justice should guide this decision?

- a. The program should focus primarily on cost reduction.
- b. The program should target low-risk offenders to ensure success.
- c. Randomized experiments should be conducted to test program effectiveness.
- d. Implementation should begin immediately without preliminary testing.

ANSWER:

c

9. What are the three main components of the contemporary criminal justice system?

- a. Investigation, prosecution, and punishment.
- b. Police, prosecutors, and defense attorneys.
- c. Federal, state, and local agencies.
- d. Law enforcement agencies, court system, and correctional system.

ANSWER:

d

10. Which branch of government is responsible for the day-to-day operation of justice agencies?

- a. Legislative branch.
- b. Administrative branch.
- c. Judicial branch.
- d. Executive branch.

ANSWER:

d

11. Approximately how much does the criminal justice system cost federal, state, and local governments per year?

- a. Almost \$200 billion per year.
- b. Almost \$300 billion per year.
- c. Almost \$400 billion per year.
- d. Almost \$500 billion per year.

ANSWER:

c

12. What is the in-presence requirement for police arrests?

- a. Police must have probable cause for all arrests.
- b. Police must read Miranda rights before making an arrest.
- c. Police must have a warrant to make any arrest.
- d. Police must witness a misdemeanor personally to make an arrest.

ANSWER:

d

13. What is the primary purpose of the Miranda warning?

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- a. To inform suspects of the charges against them.
- b. To determine if a suspect is competent to stand trial.
- c. To protect suspects from unconstitutional abuse during interrogation.
- d. To establish probable cause for arrest.

ANSWER:

c

14. What is a *nolle prosequi* in the criminal justice process?

- a. A court order to release a defendant on bail.
- b. An appeal filed by the defense attorney.
- c. A guilty plea entered by the defendant.
- d. A decision by a prosecutor to drop a case after a complaint has been made.

ANSWER:

d

15. A prosecutor has evidence that a suspect committed burglary, but the evidence was obtained through an illegal search. What ethical obligation does the prosecutor have?

- a. The prosecutor should negotiate a plea bargain to avoid trial.
- b. The prosecutor should use the evidence to ensure public safety.
- c. The prosecutor should take action to remedy the legal violation, even if it means rejecting the case.
- d. The prosecutor should let the judge decide whether to allow the evidence.

ANSWER:

c

16. What is the primary function of a grand jury in the criminal justice process?

- a. To determine guilt or innocence at trial.
- b. To provide legal representation to defendants.
- c. To evaluate accusations and determine if evidence warrants further legal action.
- d. To sentence convicted offenders.

ANSWER:

c

17. What does Herbert Packer's assembly-line metaphor suggest about the criminal justice process?

- a. The system focuses primarily on rehabilitation rather than punishment.
- b. Cases move through routinized operations designed to process them efficiently.
- c. Each case receives individualized attention and care.
- d. All cases follow exactly the same procedures regardless of circumstances.

ANSWER:

b

18. What is the courtroom work group?

- a. A team of investigators who work together on complex cases.
- b. A jury selection panel for high-profile cases.
- c. A committee that oversees court administration and budgets.
- d. A group made up of prosecutor, defense attorney, judge, and other court personnel who cooperate to streamline justice.

ANSWER:

d

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19. Why might the informal justice system be considered both beneficial and problematic for defendants?

- a. It reduces costs but increases conviction rates.
- b. It provides faster resolution but may limit constitutional rights.
- c. It improves accuracy but decreases efficiency.
- d. It ensures equal treatment but increases processing time.

ANSWER:

b

20. In Samuel Walker's wedding cake model, what types of cases are found in Level I?

- a. Serious felonies committed by experienced offenders.
- b. Misdemeanors handled in assembly-line fashion.
- c. Celebrated cases involving famous people or particularly heinous crimes.
- d. Less serious offenses committed by first-time offenders.

ANSWER:

c

21. What is the primary goal of the crime control perspective?

- a. To ensure fair treatment and due process for all defendants.
- b. To prevent crime through the judicious use of criminal sanctions.
- c. To rehabilitate offenders and address the root causes of crime.
- d. To minimize government intervention in people's lives.

ANSWER:

b

22. According to the rehabilitation perspective, what is the primary cause of criminal behavior?

- a. Inadequate law enforcement and weak punishment.
- b. Social inequality, poverty, and blocked opportunities.
- c. Genetic predisposition and biological factors.
- d. Individual moral failings and poor choices.

ANSWER:

b

23. What is the main concern of the due process perspective?

- a. Ensuring efficient crime control and public safety.
- b. Promoting community healing and offender reintegration.
- c. Reducing the stigma associated with criminal labels.
- d. Treating fairly all those accused of crimes and protecting constitutional rights.

ANSWER:

d

24. A community wants to establish a program where victims and offenders meet to discuss the harm caused by crime and develop plans for making amends. Which perspective on justice does this approach most closely align with?

- a. Crime control perspective.
- b. Restorative justice perspective.
- c. Due process perspective.
- d. Nonintervention perspective.

ANSWER:

b

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25. What does the racial animus model suggest about American perceptions of crime?

- a. Americans believe crime is equally distributed across all racial groups.
- b. White America has developed a mental image of the typical offender as a young, inner-city Black male.
- c. Public perceptions of crime are based solely on statistical evidence.
- d. Americans view crime as primarily a problem of the wealthy.

ANSWER:

b

26. How do the nonintervention and crime control perspectives fundamentally differ in their approach to criminal justice?

- a. Nonintervention focuses on victim rights while crime control focuses on offender rights.
- b. Nonintervention seeks to minimize system contact while crime control seeks to maximize punishment.
- c. Nonintervention emphasizes federal control while crime control emphasizes local control.
- d. Nonintervention supports longer sentences while crime control supports shorter sentences.

ANSWER:

b

27. What makes ethical decision-making particularly important in criminal justice?

- a. Criminal justice professionals work in high-paying positions.
- b. The system has the power to deny people their personal liberty and use force.
- c. Criminal justice agencies receive significant media attention.
- d. The field requires extensive educational credentials.

ANSWER:

b

28. A police officer discovers that their partner is accepting bribes from local criminals. According to ethical principles in law enforcement, what should the officer do?

- a. Request a transfer to avoid being involved in the situation.
- b. File a complaint and report the misconduct despite potential consequences.
- c. Ignore the situation since gambling and prostitution are victimless crimes.
- d. Confront the partner privately but take no official action.

ANSWER:

b

29. What ethical dilemma does a prosecutor face when evidence was obtained illegally but could convict a dangerous offender?

- a. The choice between federal and state prosecution.
- b. The conflict between seeking convictions and upholding constitutional standards.
- c. The decision between jury trial and bench trial.
- d. The balance between public and private legal representation.

ANSWER:

b

30. According to research on sexual violence in correctional facilities, what percentage of incidents involved staff misconduct?

- a. More than 50 percent.
- b. More than 30 percent.
- c. More than 20 percent.
- d. More than 40 percent.

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ANSWER: d

31. Which Depression-era outlaw was known as a folk hero among sharecroppers in eastern Oklahoma?

- a. Ma Barker.
- b. Clyde Barrow.
- c. Charles "Pretty Boy" Floyd.
- d. John Dillinger.

ANSWER: c

32. What does the historical evidence suggest about public perceptions of crime trends?

- a. Historical crime was limited to the Western frontier.
- b. People's memories may be colored by wishful thinking about past safety.
- c. Public perceptions accurately reflect actual crime statistics.
- d. In the past, urban areas were safer than rural areas.

ANSWER: b

33. When did the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) cease to exist?

- a. April 15, 1989
- b. April 15, 1980
- c. April 15, 1987
- d. April 15, 1982

ANSWER: d

34. What principle guides evidence-based justice in determining program effectiveness?

- a. Public opinion should be the primary factor in program evaluation.
- b. Empirical evidence must be collected using scientific methods to determine if programs work.
- c. Program success should be measured primarily by cost reduction.
- d. Programs should focus on political goals rather than scientific data.

ANSWER: b

35. Approximately how many law enforcement agencies exist in the United States?

- a. Almost 15,000 agencies.
- b. Almost 24,000 agencies.
- c. Almost 18,000 agencies.
- d. Almost 21,000 agencies.

ANSWER: c

36. What role does the legislative branch play in the criminal justice system?

- a. It interprets existing laws and determines constitutional compliance.
- b. It defines the law by determining prohibited conduct and establishing criminal penalties.
- c. It oversees the day-to-day operation of justice agencies.
- d. It provides direct law enforcement services to communities.

ANSWER: b

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37. What are the three conditions that must exist for a legal arrest?

- a. In-presence requirement, handcuffs, and transportation to station.
- b. Probable cause, deprivation of freedom, and suspect's belief they are in custody.
- c. Witness testimony, physical evidence, and confession.
- d. Warrant, probable cause, and *Miranda* warning.

ANSWER:

b

38. A defense attorney's client confides that they are planning to commit another crime. What is the attorney's primary ethical responsibility?

- a. The attorney must immediately report the planned crime to police.
- b. The attorney should ignore the confession due to attorney-client privilege.
- c. The attorney must withdraw from representing the client.
- d. The attorney should counsel the client to obey the law.

ANSWER:

d

39. What is the purpose of bail in the criminal justice process?

- a. To punish defendants before trial.
- b. To ensure the return of a criminal defendant for trial.
- c. To provide funding for court operations.
- d. To determine guilt or innocence.

ANSWER:

b

40. Approximately what percentage of all criminal cases are settled without trial?

- a. More than 60 percent.
- b. More than 95 percent.
- c. More than 90 percent.
- d. More than 75 percent.

ANSWER:

c

41. What characterizes Level II cases in the wedding cake model?

- a. Misdemeanors handled quickly with small fines.
- b. Less serious offenses committed by young or first-time offenders.
- c. Serious felonies like rapes, robberies, and burglaries committed by experienced offenders.
- d. Celebrated cases involving famous people or heinous crimes.

ANSWER:

c

42. How does the wedding cake model explain the public's distorted impression of the justice system?

- a. Level II and III cases receive disproportionate media coverage.
- b. The media focuses on Level I cases, which are atypical of how the system normally operates.
- c. The public only sees Level IV cases, which represent the majority of criminal activity.
- d. The model shows that all cases are treated equally regardless of their nature.

ANSWER:

b

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43. What do crime control advocates want to abolish to improve system effectiveness?

- a. The grand jury system.
- b. The exclusionary rule.
- c. The bail system.
- d. The appeals process.

ANSWER: b

44. How does the rehabilitation perspective view the relationship between legitimate opportunities and crime?

- a. Legitimate opportunities only matter for white-collar crimes.
- b. Legitimate opportunities have no impact on criminal behavior.
- c. As legitimate opportunities decline, people are more likely to turn to criminal behaviors.
- d. Criminal behavior increases when legitimate opportunities are too abundant.

ANSWER: c

45. A city council is debating whether to implement mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses to ensure equal treatment. Which perspective on justice would most strongly support this approach?

- a. Restorative justice perspective.
- b. Rehabilitation perspective.
- c. Social justice perspective.
- d. Nonintervention perspective.

ANSWER: c

46. What does the nonintervention perspective believe about the effects of official labeling?

- a. Official labels disrupt personal and family life and may lead people to view themselves negatively.
- b. Official labels help offenders understand the seriousness of their crimes.
- c. Labels like “rapist” or “child abuser” promote rehabilitation and reintegration.
- d. Labeling has no significant impact on future criminal behavior.

ANSWER: a

47. How do the due process and crime control perspectives differ in their approach to constitutional protections?

- a. Due process ignores constitutional rights in favor of efficiency.
- b. Crime control supports stronger constitutional protections than due process.
- c. Both perspectives equally value constitutional protections.
- d. Due process emphasizes constitutional rights while crime control views them as obstacles to effectiveness.

ANSWER: d

48. What law movement began in New Jersey in 1994 after the murder of 7-year-old Megan Kanka?

- a. Victim rights legislation.
- b. Three strikes laws.
- c. Megan’s Law movement.
- d. Truth-in-sentencing laws.

ANSWER: c

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49. A correctional officer witnesses another staff member sexually harassing an inmate. What ethical principle should guide the officer's response?

- a. The officer should ignore the situation to maintain staff solidarity.
- b. The officer should report the misconduct to prevent abuse of power over powerless inmates.
- c. The officer should wait for the inmate to file a complaint before taking action.
- d. The officer should handle the situation informally without involving supervisors.

ANSWER:

b

50. What ethical dilemma arises when police departments implement profit-generating activities like paid details or ticket-writing campaigns?

- a. The problem of maintaining adequate staffing levels during regular shifts.
- b. The difficulty of coordinating with other law enforcement agencies.
- c. The conflict between public service and financial gain potentially compromising law enforcement priorities.
- d. The challenge of recruiting qualified officers for specialized assignments.

ANSWER:

c

51. What historical event prompted widespread business crime involving the railroads, land deals, and mining and mineral rights?

- a. The Great Depression.
- b. The Gold Rush.
- c. Prohibition.
- d. The Civil War.

ANSWER:

d

52. What does the historical pattern of crime in America suggest about the relationship between social conditions and criminal activity?

- a. Crime has provided a mechanism for various groups to express frustration and pursue economic opportunities.
- b. Crime only occurs in modern urban environments.
- c. Criminal activity was limited to the frontier period of American history.
- d. Social conditions have no impact on crime rates throughout history.

ANSWER:

a

53. What was the National Institute of Justice originally called when it was first established?

- a. The Institute for Law Enforcement Studies.
- b. The Federal Bureau of Criminal Justice Research.
- c. The National Criminal Justice Research Center.
- d. The National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

ANSWER:

d

54. A community wants to evaluate whether their new drug treatment program actually reduces recidivism. According to evidence-based justice principles, what factor should they prioritize in their evaluation?

- a. The program should focus on low-risk offenders to ensure high success rates.

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- b. The evaluation should prioritize cost reduction over effectiveness measures.
- c. The program should avoid randomized testing to ensure all participants receive treatment.
- d. The program should target high-risk offenders with the greatest probability of recidivating.

ANSWER:

d

55. How many people are employed by the criminal justice system in the United States?

- a. More than 2 million people.
- b. More than 1 million people.
- c. More than 3 million people.
- d. More than 4 million people.

ANSWER:

a

56. What is the primary function of the judicial branch in the criminal justice system?

- a. To provide funding for criminal justice agencies.
- b. To interpret existing laws and determine whether they meet constitutional requirements.
- c. To create and enforce criminal laws.
- d. To operate law enforcement agencies on a daily basis.

ANSWER:

b

57. What happens when a grand jury issues a true bill of indictment?

- a. The case is dismissed due to insufficient evidence.
- b. The case is transferred to a different jurisdiction.
- c. The accused must stand trial on the specified charges.
- d. The defendant is immediately sentenced.

ANSWER:

c

58. What is the primary difference between a grand jury and a preliminary hearing?

- a. Grand juries are federal while preliminary hearings are state procedures.
- b. Grand juries meet in closed session while preliminary hearings are open with defendant representation.
- c. Grand juries determine guilt while preliminary hearings determine sentences.
- d. Grand juries are used for felonies while preliminary hearings are used for misdemeanors.

ANSWER:

b

59. A police officer conducts an investigation that takes several years and involves hundreds of law enforcement agents. This scenario most closely resembles which type of criminal investigation mentioned in the chapter?

- a. A routine traffic stop leading to immediate arrest.
- b. The Golden State Killer investigation that lasted more than 40 years.
- c. A domestic violence call requiring immediate response.
- d. A shoplifting incident resolved within hours.

ANSWER:

b

60. According to the typical outcome data, what happens to most felony defendants in the criminal justice system?

- a. Most are dismissed or diverted before prosecution.

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- b. Most go to trial and are convicted by juries.
- c. Most are sentenced to prison terms.
- d. Most are released on probation without conviction.

ANSWER:

a

61. What characterizes Level III cases in the wedding cake model?

- a. They are less serious felonies often involving people who knew each other or first-time offenders.
- b. They are misdemeanors handled in assembly-line fashion.
- c. They involve famous defendants and receive extensive media coverage.
- d. They are serious violent crimes committed by career criminals.

ANSWER:

a

62. What does the nonintervention perspective advocate for regarding nonviolent offenders?

- a. Deinstitutionalization and removal from the correctional system.
- b. Longer prison sentences to deter future crime.
- c. Mandatory treatment programs in secure facilities.
- d. Enhanced surveillance and monitoring in the community.

ANSWER:

a

63. How does the restorative justice perspective view the state's efforts to punish and control crime?

- a. As necessary deterrents that effectively reduce criminal behavior.
- b. As insufficient measures that need to be strengthened and expanded.
- c. As appropriate responses that should focus more on incapacitation.
- d. As "crime encouraging" rather than "crime discouraging" because violent state actions mirror individual violence.

ANSWER:

d

64. A judge is considering whether to sentence two defendants who committed identical robberies to different terms based on their personal circumstances. Which perspective would most strongly oppose this approach?

- a. Restorative justice perspective.
- b. Social justice perspective.
- c. Due process perspective.
- d. Rehabilitation perspective.

ANSWER:

b

65. What does Megan's Law typically require law enforcement officials to do?

- a. Conduct mandatory background checks for all employment.
- b. Establish special courts for handling sex offense cases.
- c. Provide victim counseling services in all communities.
- d. Maintain a registry of convicted sex offenders and make it available to the public.

ANSWER:

d

66. A prosecutor discovers that key evidence in a high-profile murder case was obtained through an illegal wiretap. What

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ethical principle should guide the prosecutor's decision?

- a. The prosecutor should use the evidence but negotiate a reduced sentence.
- b. The prosecutor should exclude the evidence and potentially drop the case to uphold constitutional standards.
- c. The prosecutor should use the evidence because the crime is serious and the public demands justice.
- d. The prosecutor should let the defense attorney decide whether to challenge the evidence.

ANSWER:

b

67. What ethical concern arises from the privatization of correctional services?

- a. Private companies may prioritize profit over proper treatment and care of incarcerated individuals.
- b. Private companies lack the technical expertise to run correctional facilities.
- c. Privatization always results in higher costs for taxpayers.
- d. Private companies cannot legally house convicted offenders.

ANSWER:

a

68. What percentage of cases are generally accepted to end in plea bargains rather than criminal trials?

- a. Almost 80 percent.
- b. Almost 90 percent.
- c. Almost 95 percent.
- d. Almost 70 percent.

ANSWER:

b

69. What does the criminal justice funnel concept reveal about case processing in the system?

- a. Serious crimes are more likely to be dismissed than minor offenses.
- b. The system processes cases more efficiently at higher levels.
- c. Most people who commit crimes escape detection, and few who are caught are ultimately imprisoned.
- d. All cases receive equal treatment regardless of their severity.

ANSWER:

c

70. What is the fundamental assumption underlying truth-in-sentencing laws from a social justice perspective?

- a. Offenders should receive treatment rather than punishment.
- b. Community-based alternatives are more effective than incarceration.
- c. Sentences should be individualized based on offender characteristics.
- d. Offenders should serve a substantial portion of their sentence to ensure equal treatment.

ANSWER:

d

71. A community organization wants to establish a mediation program to resolve conflicts between offenders and victims outside the traditional court system. Which perspective on justice would most strongly support this initiative?

- a. Restorative justice perspective.
- b. Social justice perspective.
- c. Due process perspective.
- d. Crime control perspective.

ANSWER:

a

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72. Why are issues of privacy and confidentiality more critical than ever in the modern criminal justice system?
- The media provides more coverage of criminal cases than before.
 - Criminal penalties have become more severe in recent years.
 - More people are being arrested than in previous decades.
 - Criminal justice agencies now have immediate access to personal information through cyber-age advances.

ANSWER: d

73. A parole board must decide whether to grant early release to an offender who has completed rehabilitation programs but committed a violent crime. What ethical considerations should guide their decision?
- The media attention the case might generate.
 - The potential cost savings to the correctional system.
 - The political implications of the decision for board members' careers.
 - Whether the offender can persuade the board they have been rehabilitated regardless of their communication skills.

ANSWER: d

74. How does the separation of powers among the legislative, judicial, and executive branches create both strengths and potential conflicts in the criminal justice system?
- It eliminates all potential for abuse but makes the system less efficient.
 - It creates identical functions across all branches to ensure consistency.
 - It concentrates power in one branch while limiting the others' effectiveness.
 - It ensures checks and balances but may create coordination challenges between agencies with different constitutional roles.

ANSWER: d

75. How do the various stages of the formal criminal justice process balance the need for public safety with protection of individual rights?
- Each stage includes built-in protections like *Miranda* warnings, grand juries, and appeals while allowing law enforcement to investigate and prosecute crimes.
 - Individual rights are only protected during the trial phase of the process.
 - The process treats all defendants identically regardless of the nature of their alleged crimes.
 - The process prioritizes public safety over individual rights at every stage.

ANSWER: a

76. What evidence from American history demonstrates that crime and violence have existed since the nation's formation?

ANSWER: Crime and violence have existed in America since its formation, as evidenced by guerilla activity during and after the Revolutionary War, notorious outlaws in the Old West like Jesse James and Billy the Kid, violent gang battles in East Coast cities with groups like the Plug Uglies and Bowery Boys, and Depression-era criminals like John Dillinger and Bonnie and Clyde.

77. What are the three main components of the contemporary criminal justice system and their primary functions?

ANSWER: The three main components are: (1) law enforcement agencies, which investigate crimes and

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apprehend suspects; (2) the court system, which charges, indicts, tries, and sentences offenders; and (3) the correctional system, which incapacitates convicted offenders and attempts to aid in their treatment and rehabilitation.

78. Why must police officers follow proper procedures during criminal investigations, and what happens if they fail to do so?

ANSWER: Police must follow proper procedures because they may have to testify at trial under strict rules of evidence. If they fail to follow proper procedures, the “chain of evidence” may be broken, tainting the evidence and making it inadmissible in court. Additionally, if police overstep constitutional boundaries while interviewing or searching suspects, relevant information may be excluded from trial.

79. How does the courtroom work group function differently from the traditional adversarial model of criminal justice?

ANSWER: The courtroom work group, consisting of prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, and court personnel, functions cooperatively rather than in an adversarial fashion to streamline the justice process through extensive plea bargaining and trial alternatives. Instead of providing spirited prosecution or defense, these legal agents work together to process cases efficiently, assuming most defendants are guilty and focusing on removing delays rather than seeking justice through formal trials.

80. A prosecutor discovers that a defendant charged with armed robbery has a prior conviction for a similar offense and the victim was an elderly person. Using the wedding cake model, which level would this case likely fall into and why?

ANSWER: This case would likely fall into Level II of the wedding cake model because it involves a serious felony (armed robbery) committed by an experienced offender with a prior record, and it involves a vulnerable victim. Level II cases are serious crimes that demand the full attention of the justice system, and offenders typically receive a full jury trial and prison sentences if convicted.

81. What are the main beliefs of the crime control perspective on criminal justice?

ANSWER: The crime control perspective believes the proper role of the justice system is to prevent crime through judicious use of criminal sanctions, that effective law enforcement and tough mandatory punishment are keys to reducing crime rates, and that the system should operate efficiently to deter potential criminals. Advocates want to abolish legal restrictions that help guilty people go free and believe protecting society justifies the expense of an effective system.

82. How does the rehabilitation perspective view the causes of crime and the appropriate response to it?

ANSWER: The rehabilitation perspective views crime as an expression of frustration and anger created by social inequality, seeing criminals as victims of racism, poverty, blocked opportunities, and family disruption. It believes crime can be controlled by giving people means to improve their lifestyles through conventional endeavors, emphasizing treatment over punishment and supporting government programs that increase legitimate opportunities and provide educational services and counseling.

83. A judge is considering whether to sentence a first-time drug offender to prison or to a community-based

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treatment program. How would the nonintervention perspective influence this decision?

ANSWER: The nonintervention perspective would strongly favor the community-based treatment program because it believes that official intervention through agencies like prisons causes long-term harm by creating lasting negative labels and stigma. This perspective advocates for decriminalization, deinstitutionalization, and pretrial diversion for first-time, nonviolent offenders to avoid the harmful effects of stigma that can lead to higher recidivism rates.

84. How do the due process and social justice perspectives differ in their approach to ensuring fairness in the criminal justice system?

ANSWER: The due process perspective focuses on procedural fairness by ensuring impartial hearings, competent legal counsel, and constitutional protections for individual defendants, emphasizing that even apparently guilty offenders deserve full legal protection. The social justice perspective focuses on equal treatment by standardizing punishments and reducing discretion to ensure all people receive the same treatment for the same crimes, addressing systemic disparities based on race, class, or status.

85. Why is ethical behavior particularly important in law enforcement?

ANSWER: Ethical behavior is particularly important in law enforcement because police officers have the authority to deprive people of their liberty and the right to use physical and even deadly force. They also have considerable discretion in choosing whom to investigate, how far investigations should go, and serve as the interface between the power of the state and the citizens it governs, creating many ethical dilemmas.

86. What does the historical evidence about crime rates suggest about the common belief that “crime is getting worse every day”?

ANSWER: Historical evidence suggests this belief is incorrect, as crime and violence have existed in the United States for more than 200 years, and the crime rate was actually much higher 100 years ago than it is today. People’s memories may be colored by wishful thinking, and extensive media coverage of high-profile criminal events can create a distorted perception of current crime trends.

87. How did the Safe Streets and Crime Control Act of 1968 contribute to the development of criminal justice as a field of study?

ANSWER: The Safe Streets Act provided federal funding for state and local crime control efforts and created the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA), which granted hundreds of millions of dollars to justice agencies. It funded the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, encouraged research and development, and supported the development of numerous criminal justice departments in colleges and universities, helping establish criminal justice as an academic field.

88. Why does Herbert Packer’s assembly-line metaphor accurately describe the reality of criminal justice processing?

ANSWER: Packer’s assembly-line metaphor is accurate because the criminal justice process functions as a screening system where each successive stage involves routinized operations designed to move cases efficiently toward conclusion. Each stage is a decision point where cases either continue or are terminated, with success measured by the ability to process cases quickly rather than ensure perfect

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justice. Most cases are disposed of before trial through various decision points, creating a funnel effect.

89. What are the strengths and limitations of the restorative justice perspective in addressing crime?

ANSWER: Strengths include promoting healing for victims and communities, encouraging offender accountability and reintegration, and offering alternatives to purely punitive responses through mediation and restitution programs. The perspective addresses root causes of conflict and emphasizes community-based solutions. Limitations may include challenges in handling serious violent crimes, potential victim re-traumatization, difficulty ensuring consistent outcomes, and questions about whether it adequately deters future crime or satisfies public demands for punishment.

90. What ethical concerns arise from the use of technology to monitor offenders in the community, and how might these be balanced against public safety needs?

ANSWER: Ethical concerns include privacy violations, potential for constant surveillance creating psychological harm, questions about proportionality of monitoring to offense severity, and risks of technology malfunction leading to false violations. These must be balanced against public safety benefits of reduced recidivism, cost-effectiveness compared to incarceration, and ability to maintain family and employment connections. Ethical implementation requires clear guidelines, appropriate oversight, and consideration of individual circumstances and rehabilitation goals.