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Preface

The eighth edition maintains the purpose of the original text: to serve the needs of instructors in criminology who wish to avoid the excessively legal and crime-control orientation of many recent textbooks. Certainly, some familiarity with the legal and crime-control orientation is both necessary and desirable, but in emphasizing these elements, some introductory texts give short shrift to the real and vital core of criminology—theory, method, and criminal behavior. To overstate detailed analyses of social-control agencies while neglecting to provide adequate descriptions of criminal activity produces a text that would more accurately be called an introduction to criminal justice systems. An introduction to criminology, by contrast, should offer thorough descriptions and explanations of criminal behavior, because that is the basis on which effective social policy and social agencies must be developed. Many recent texts have also become increasingly encyclopedic, attempting to cover everything ever written in the field in one introductory class. This text views itself as an introductory one that will hopefully whet students’ appetite for the field without overwhelming them.

This book is intended for the introductory criminology class typically offered in the sophomore or junior year. It is written for both the college/university as well as community college markets. Professors are welcome to alter the order in which they present the chapters in their classes. Chapter 1 offers a general introduction to the field, while Chapter 2 examines the area of research methods. General patterns and variations in crime are the focus of Chapter 3, while Chapter 4 features a new chapter on victims and victimology by Dr. Leah Daigle of Georgia State University. Chapters 5–8 explore the subject of theory beginning with early and classical theories (Chapter 5), progressing to biological and psychological theories (Chapter 6) and sociological mainstream theories (Chapter 7), and ending with critical and integrated theories (Chapter 8). Chapters 9–14 examine specific types of criminal behavior. Violent crime in Chapter 9 is followed by property crime in Chapter 10. Chapter 11 details the world of white-collar crime, Chapter 12 undertakes to explain the world of political crime, and organized crime is analyzed in Chapter 13. Chapter 14 discusses public order crime. A chapter on computer crime is featured in Chapter 15, while the future of crime is discussed in the Chapter 16 Epilogue.

Some enhancements and additions to this edition include discussion of Crimesolutions.gov, the latest addition to the “what works” in criminal justice movement. Also discussed are the Guatemala Syphilis Study and the Belfast Project that have raised major questions in the area of ethics in research. The crime dip controversy was informed by recent research that raised questions regarding the systematic underreporting of crime. A new chapter authored by Leah Daigle on victims and victimology has been added to this edition. Also, as far as possible, all statistics, tables, and figures have been updated, as have the photographs, supplements, and audio and video packages. Other new items include discussions of the Flynn effect and IQ, David Kennedy’s “Don’t Shoot” program, casino cheating, insurance fraud, transnational organized crime, and the Danny Greene mob.

A password-protected instructor teaching site is available to qualified instructors at www.sagepub.com/haganintrocrim8e. Materials on the site include an extensive test bank, PowerPoint presentations, class activities, lecture notes, sample syllabi web exercises, and teaching tips as well as links to the audio, video, reference and journal article resources noted in the margins of this text.

An open-access companion student study site is also available with the text at www.sagepub.com/haganintrocrim8e. The site features resources such as eFlashcards, chapter quizzes, SAGE Journal articles, author-created podcasts, and much more.

Acknowledgments

Eight editions of a book require much help along the way. I would like to thank the many people who assisted in this endeavor. Along with all those who helped with the previous editions, I wish to thank the reviewers for the current edition. They are Kim Macinnis (Bridgewater State University), Robert Keeteo (University of Tennessee), Melissa Mauck (Sam Houston State University), Susann Kimmelman (St. Joseph’s University), David Montague (University of Arkansas), Arina Gertseva (Washington State University), Alan Thompson...
INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY

(University of Southern Mississippi), Jaso Leiker (Utah State University), Robert Lombardo (Loyola University, Chicago), Robert Wonser (Pierce College), and Todd Krohn (University of Georgia).

I would also like to acknowledge my debt to my first criminology professor, the late Dan Koenig (University of Victoria). My appreciation is also extended to the SAGE Publications team led by Senior Editor Jerry Westby. Others included Megan Krattli, Associate Editor; MaryAnn Vail, Publisher Associate; Terra Schultz, Senior Marketing Manager; and Rachael Leblond, Assistant Editor. I also acknowledge the assistance of Production Editor Brittany Bauhaus and the very hard work and patience of Copy Editor Teresa Herlinger. I would like to express a special thanks to Joe Caruso of Hudson Valley Community College. The battle for academic freedom I would like to dedicate this book to my granddaughter, Lily Alise Glennon. Finally, I would like to thank my wife MaryAnn Hagan for her support.