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Annotated Bibliography

Wilson, and Richard J Herrnstein. “Wilson, James Q., and Richard J. Herrnstein: Crime and Human Nature.” *Encyclopedia of Criminological Theory*, by Francis T. Cullen and Pamela Wilcox, SAGE, 2010, pp. 1015–1019. Accessed 15 Sep. 2020.

The Chapter that reviews “Crime and Human Nature” in the book by the authors Francis Cullen and Pamela Wilcox, there is much emphasis on the variations among individuals in terms of their involvement in antisocial behaviour by exploring genetic and biological predisposition to certain criminal tendencies, the economic theory of rational choice, and the effect of family members, social class, environmental factors and prior learning on the same. One of the authors is a Political Scientist and the other is a Psychologist, and the work “Crime and Human Nature” was therefore a breakthrough in criminology which primarily focused on Sociology. Deterministic viewpoints were overly rejected in the book, Criminal behaviour was attributed to both constitutional and environmental factors, that is, nature and nurture. The review covered the basic differences discussed in the book between individuals who refrain from committing criminal acts and the individuals who fail to do the same.

Aaltonen, Mikko, et al. “Social Determinants of Crime in a Welfare State: Do They Still Matter?” *Acta Sociologica*, vol. 54, no. 2, 2011, pp. 161–181. Accessed 15 Sep. 2020.

The three authors, Mikko Aaltonen, Janne Kivivuori and Pekka Martikainen, conclude that long term unemployment and having only a basic education are the factors that correlate most with criminal behaviour. This Nordic anecdote takes into account one of the oldest testimonies in criminology stating that poverty is the primary cause of crime. With violent offences, property offences and driving while intoxicated being three types of crimes explored in the study conducted in Finland, a welfare state, the authors propose a strong association between Socioeconomic factors such as unemployment, education, income and occupation and criminal behaviour. The positive effects of developed welfare states, such as the Nordic countries, suppressing variation in social risk factors by means of income transfers and active employment and housing policies is looked into. The paper also tests the strain accumulation hypothesis which suggests that an accumulation of multiple strains over time has a causational effect on urban crime. The hypothesis however turns out nullified in the study.