

Unit 1 Changing awareness of Crime
AC1.2 Explain reason why certain crimes go unreported
AC1.5 Explain the impact of media representations on the public perception of crime
AC2.1 Campaigns for change
AC2.2 Evaluate the effectiveness of media used in campaigns for change

AC1.2 Explain the reasons that certain crimes are unreported

Explain two reasons why individual may not report being a victim of domestic abuse? 5 marks

One reason that victims may not report domestic abuse to the police is fear; there may be fear of further abuse if an abuser discovers that the victim has reported it. The abuser may be angry and retaliate with further abuse. They may also fear the consequences of what reporting might mean. They may be worried about that their children may be taken into care and that their relationship may be over. Another reason is a Lack of knowledge. The victim may not understand that this abuse is a crime, this is more likely to be true if the abuse takes the form of 'controlling' or 'coercive' behaviour. People do not always realise that things such as control of who we associate with, or our finances are crimes, and the offender may face up to 5 years in prison. This isn't surprising as they weren't recognised as crimes until 2015 when this type of behaviour was outlawed by the serious crime act. Fear and a lack of understanding are some of the reasons that domestic abuse is not reported but there many others including shame, a lack of public and media interest and a lack of knowledge of how to go about reporting.

Explain two reasons why individuals may not report being a victim of a technological crime? 5 marks

One reason why technological crime is sometimes under-reported is a lack of public concern. Some crime such as the downloading of music and films just don't register as crimes for large sections of the general public. Many people, particularly young people will have direct experience of this crime (as offenders) and so may be unwilling to report it to the authorities. Another reason that technological crimes may go unreported is shame. Many people have been the victims of crimes such as 'revenge porn', where people have had private images of themselves circulated online. Victims may feel shame about the original images and may be reluctant to go to the police with what they feel is an embarrassing story. The sharing of private, sexual photos or videos of another person without their consent and with the purpose of causing embarrassment or distress – was criminalised in England and Wales in 2015, but so far there have only been a handful of prosecutions as the perpetrators of this crime rely on feelings of shame on the part of the victim to let them commit this crime.

PEEL each
point you
make!

Point

Explain

Evidence

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