

Success Goals
Legal Means

ANOMIE STRUCTURAL STRAIN

- open up opportunity structures & ...
- Reduce structural strain

BLOCKED OPPORTUNITIES to achieve culturally approved goals

~~***~~ GAP between goals & legitimate means

SHARED frustration & strain

ANOMIE

DEVIANT BEHAVIOR

Defined as situation of Normlessness

Pressure to engage in crime & deviance operates unevenly in society

= Rules/Norms have become ineffective, unclear, conflicting

Hi rates anomie → Hi rates dev. & crime

= cause of failure - systematic fault - personal flaws/inadequacies

= - distn meritocratic ideology - Collective Solution / Subcultural Adaptation / Develop new norms, standards & criteria for success

group NOT ind'l likelihood

Aim is to explain group rates eg. - soc'l class - race - Crime - only one adaptation (eg. retreatism)

Feelings of unfairness - frustration from feeling equally capable, qualified etc as those who do have opportunities

- "wrong side of tracks" - "dealt crooked hand" - "deck stacked against them"

- feel strain or pressure to use illegitimate means to achieve success + less willing to play by rules of the game

"attribution of the cause of failure to ..."

loss of confidence in system, "rules of the game" ...

- Unequal opportunities to achieve success in our society

- success: monetary / political / occupational / academic / domestic / athletic / artistic / relational

Ex: 2 sections of required course. Assigned randomly. High failure rate in one section. Awareness of unjust situation "Perception of 'deck stacked against me.'"

Am. Dream of money/wealth upward mobility Full citizenship

focus in Merton material objects, consumerism

full citizenship

Sustained Discontent Cumulative "Lived Humiliation"

Social Disorganization (SD) to Collective Efficacy (CE)

@ Collective efficacy introduced as a measure of collective control

Sampson & Bandura (group efficacy vs self-efficacy)

- independent of networks ties
- CE is an aggregate “trait” of spatial unit (perhaps group)

@ Collective Efficacy

- Shared Expectations for Control . . . Social Cohesion/Trust
- By-Product = willingness to intervene on behalf of community (and belief in effectiveness of intervening – will be effective or have “efficacy”)

@ Social Control is a collective challenge, not attributable to individuals alone (similar to SD)

@ Social Control is a key source of variation in crime rates and neighborhood well-being (similar to SD)

@ But it is not necessary to have dense, intimate, strong neighborhood ties such as friendships and kin (unlike SD)

-- Social ties can be personalistic and isolated from public resources and mainstream culture
(William Julius Wilson)