Born or grown a criminal

How does someone become a criminal? One might suggest that there is an argument to be made for genetics, even though it has been disputed many times. Is it even possible to determine whether genetics or the environment is to blame?

The idea that criminal behaviour is genetically determined has been called utterly absurd several times in recent years. Meanwhile the idea that the environment of criminals shaped them into what they are is left undisputed. However, I believe that to get a full picture we need to look at this question from all angles, this includes genetics. Meaning that scientists should not only be looking at this from the environmental angle but also take genetics into account.

Others argue that it is difficult if not impossible to determine whether genetics or the environment is to blame. While children get their parents’ DNA, parents also provide their children with an environment to grown in. So which factor is to blame? This may seem like an impossible question because for a solid study you need test subjects that were exposed to the same environment with different DNA or have the same DNA but were exposed to a different environment. I believe that such circumstances can be found for example in group homes or amongst adopted children, preferably twins with criminal parents.

To summarize, genetics although disputed should not be left out of the research about the creation of criminals. This research might be difficult but it is not impossible to consider genetics and the environment on the same ratio.