CRIME & DEVIANCE KEY TERMS

Agents/agencies of social control	Institutions that influence the process of social control e.g. family, media
Agenda setting (and the media)	The ability of the media to focus public attention on particular topics (eg immigration) and therefore direct debate and discussion around these topics
Alienation	Marxists - under capitalism many workers are cut off from their work as they have no control over production and they never use the product. You feel disconnected with the end result.
Anomie	A society which has a breakdown of society's norms
Antisocial behaviour	Actions that harm or lack consideration for the well-being of others.
Chivalry thesis	The idea that a male dominated police force and criminal justice system treats female offenders more lenient because of their gender.
Community service	Work done to benefit the community eg litter picking used as a form of legal punishment for lesser crimes
Computer crime	Behaviour that goes against the written laws of a country which involves the use of technology.
Conformity	Adhering to the norms and values of a society, following the conventional means and goals.
Corporate crime	Criminal behaviour committed by employees on behalf of a business or organisation to further their gain. Not about the individual but the corporation.
Control theory	An approach that focuses on why most people conform. There are rewards for conforming and you are seen as behaving rationally. Human beings are neither naturally good nor bad but will make rational decisions to turn to crime when the advantages out weigh the negatives.
Crime	Behaviour that goes against the formal law system of a country. It is punishable by law.
Crime rate	A measure of crime in terms of the number of crimes committed and the level of criminal activity in society based on crimes recorded by the police
Criminal justice system	The various agencies involved in law enforcement such as the police and courts.
Criminal subculture	A social group whose members values and behaviour involves breaking the law
Dark figure of crime	The unknown amount of criminal activity that isn't reported or recorded by the police
Data protection	Legal control over access to and use of data.
Deviance	Behaviour that goes against the dominant norms and values of society.

Delinquency	Crime committed by young people/antisocial crime
Deviancy amplification	The exaggeration of a particular social issue as a consequence of media coverage
Deviant career	Becker. A process that developed over time as the individual progresses through various stages of deviant behaviour, accepting and adopting external social labels
Folk devils	A group in society that's villainised by the media. They are at the centre of the moral panics.
Formal and informal social control	Formal - When our behaviour is controlled through organisations that exist to enforce order Informal - constraints on people behaviour based on social processes such as approval and disapproval. It is based on social pressure and encourages conformity.
Gender and criminality	Men are more likely to commit crime according to official statistics
Identity theft	Using the identity of another to obtain credit loans etc
Indictable offence	A serious criminal offence such as murder is tried in the Crown Court.
Institutional racism	Organisational procedures, practices and attitudes that either intentionally or unintentionally discriminate against a minority ethnic group.
Judiciary	The system of courts that interprets and applies the law in a country.
Labelling theory	A label as applied to an individual influences both their behaviour and the way that others respond to them
Master status	A label has become the most important thing about the person, they become known for this status
Magistrate	A form of judge/court which deals with minor offences.
Media amplification	Media exaggeration of the significance of a social issue by over-reporting it.
Miscarriage of justice	When a failure occurs within the criminal justice system, especially one which results in the conviction of an innocent person
Moral panic	Heightened public concern created by media coverage at an event
Non-indictable offence	Less serious crimes such as damage to property that is tried in a Magistrates Court
Occupational Crime	Crime carried out by individuals in work and ranges from minor theft of an organisation's property (type of fraud)
Official crime statistics	Existing sources of qualitative data on crime compiled by the governmental departments
Police caution	A formal warning given by the police to anyone aged 10yrs or over who has admitted that they are guilty of a minor crime
Pluralism	An approach that argues that rage of views,

	interest and opinions exist in society and no one group dominates the political process.
Probation	The suspension of a prison sentence; convicted prisoners are allowed to leave prison and enter the wider community under supervision, provided that they follow certain conditions set by the court
Poverty (linked to crime)	Poorer people are more likely to commit crime as they do not have everything they want so they might turn to crime.
Prison system	The system that holds those that are sentenced to prison. In the UK, this varies from low level security to high security. Custodial
Probation service	The Probation Service for England and Wales is a statutory criminal justice service, mainly responsible for the supervision of offenders
Recorded crime	The crime that is reported to and then recorded by the police. It makes the official statistics.
Relative deprivation	The lack of resources to sustain the diet, lifestyle and activities that an individual or group are accustomed to or that they are widely encourage or approved of in the society to which they belong
Sanctions	The outcome / punishment for a behaviour. Negative sanctions for any form of non-socially accepted behaviour and positive sanctions (or rewards) are applied for good behaviour
Scapegoat	An individual, or their community, who is blamed unfairly for a negative event
Self-report studies	A survey that asks respondents to identify crimes they have committed, but for which they haven't been caught
Social control	The process by which the members of a society are persuaded to conform to the rules of that society
Social construct	Patterns of behaviour based on the norms and expectations of a society
Socially defined behaviour	Behaviour decided by society as right and wrong.
Social order	How society is constructed and maintained
Status frustration	Cohen. A sense of frustration arising in individuals or groups because they are denied status in society.
Stereotype	An unfavourable simplistic image of a group based on a behaviour of a small number of individuals from within that group
Subculture	A group with a distinctive set of values and behaviours who set themselves apart from the wider society
Surveillance	The monitoring of behaviour.
Terrorism	The unlawful use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians, in the pursuit of political aims.

Victim surveys	A survey that asks respondents about their experience of crime, regardless of whether or not those crimes have been reported. What have you been a victim of.
Welfare scrounger / benefit cheat	Illegally using state welfare systems by knowingly withholding or giving information to obtain more funds than would otherwise be allocated.
White collar crime	Criminal acts committed by members of the middle class and linked to their employment e.g: fraud
Urban	A built up area with a high population
Youth crime	Crimes committed by individuals who are too young to be sent to an adult prison; in Britain, children aged 10 and above can be held accountable for their actions