

## Criminological Theory

## Who are the criminals?

If you were living in Georgia, in mid 1970s,  
calculate how much time you owed the  
state of Georgia for your criminal conduct?

### Classroom Uses of a Criminal Activities Checklist

Philip L. Reichel

*Teaching Sociology*, Vol. 3, No. 1. (Oct., 1975), pp. 81-86.

- Numbers: Reference to GA state code, circa 1975
- Sentence, in Years
- How many years do you owe the state of Georgia?


## Organization of the course

- The book approach: what it is and why







Who you will be reading

 Temple University  
Department of Criminal Justice

## Taking 2 exams



 Temple University  
Department of Criminal Justice

## Seminar Approach



 Temple University  
Department of Criminal Justice

## Talking & Listening norms



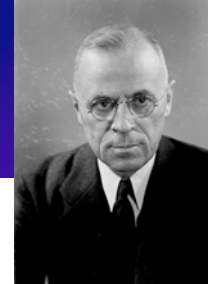
 Temple University  
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Why are we starting with white collar crime?



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Long & Distinguished history:  
Sutherland's 1939 Presidential  
address to the Am. Soc. Assoc.



*American*  
**SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW**

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WHITE-COLLAR CRIMINALITY

EDWIN H. SUTHERLAND  
*Indiana University*

### Sutherland's main points

- Lots of it
- It is costing all of us
- Article (and others) available on Bb



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- Impacts on
  - Individuals
  - Organizations
  - Society
  - Taxpayers
- Example: Mid 1980s bailout of Savings & Loans:
  - \$500 BILLION (1990 dollars)
  - Costs continued through 80s and 90s

Manchester & McKibbin (1994) *Rev. Econ. & Stat.*



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## Background in economic sociology



## Example of a short position on commodities futures



**2001 Chateau de Beaucastel  
Chateaufeuf du Pape**

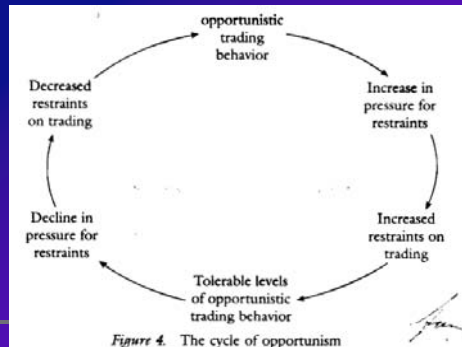


Dr. Ratcliffe currently owns 100 bottles of the above highly valued wine, stashed in his basement

Current value: \$80 / bottle

## Markets: self interest vs. regulation

- Inherent dynamic
- Balance shifts over time



Shover, N., & Cullen, F. T. (2008).

Issue	Populist	Patrician
Basis of definition of white-collar crime	Focus on the status of the criminal	Focus on the nature of the crime
Keen focus on hierarchy and power	Yes	No
Make moral/legal distinction between white-collar crime and street crime	No—see both types of offenses as serious	Yes—depress the seriousness of white-collar crimes
Include regulatory offenses as white-collar "crimes"	Yes—the acts are seen as illegal and criminal	No—the acts are seen as illegal but not criminal
Moral condemnation of white-collar offenders	Strong	Weak
Focus on costs of white-collar crime to victims	Strong—emphasize case studies showing large and damaging effects of white-collar crime to victims	Weak
Criminalization	Many harms of white-collar offenders are not criminalized whereas those of the poor are	Little interest in criminalizing white-collar harms; tend to prefer civil and regulatory penalties to criminal sanctions
Explanation of criminal decision-making	See criminal decision-making of white-collar and street offenders as similar (although unequally applied)	Do not compare the decision-making of white-collar and street criminals
Critical perspective on causes of white-collar crime	Yes—emphasize on structural roots of white-collar crime	No
Academic/intellectual roots	Sociology and criminal justice	Business and elite institutions

## Also to think about...

- After reading Shover and Cohen (JCJE, 2008), would you describe McLean/Elkind's viewpoint as populist or patrician?

