ABSTRACT

The sourcebook is one of several supplementary materials for a 15-week newspaper course about crime and justice in America. Program ideas and sources of related resources compiled in the sourcebook are designed to help civic and group leaders and educators plan educational community programs based on the course topics. Section one describes ways in which the program can be used in community and academic programs. Section two, Resources and Suggestions for Educational Community Programs, suggests background reading in specific periodicals and books, discussion questions, and group research activities for each of the 15 course topics. Section three describes in detail the activities and publications of 34 national and private organizations concerned with crime, including the American Justice Institute, American Civil Liberties Union, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, and the National Association of Women in Criminal Justice. Also listed are names of contact persons of state humanities committees. Section four contains an annotated bibliography of over 100 films categorized according to each of the 15 course topics. (AV)
crime and justice in america

By Mary Hellman

A Project of Courses by Newspaper, University Extension, University of California, San Diego
Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities
CONTENTS

SECTION I
TOPICS
How to Use Courses by Newspaper Topics

SECTION II
PROGRAMS
Resources and Suggestions for Educational Community Programs

SECTION III
RESOURCES
Organizations to Contact for Speakers and Information

SECTION IV
FILMS
An Annotated List of Films Compiled by the Educational Film Library Association
INTRODUCTION

This Source Book was developed by Courses by Newspaper in an effort to broaden the impact of its Fall, 1977 program “Crime and Justice in America.” Specifically, the program ideas and resources compiled in this publication are designed to help civic and group leaders and educators plan timely community programs based on the course topics.

This project was generously funded and supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities and directed by Courses by Newspaper’s project director George A. Colburn and editorial director Jane L. Scheiber. The filmography was researched under the direction of Nadine Covert of the Educational Film Library Association.
What are the causes of America's criminal justice dilemma? Is it youthful criminals and corporate crooks who break the law again and again? Law enforcement officials who can't control crime in their own ranks? Laws that are outdated and unenforceable? Prisons that neither punish nor reform? Or a society that tolerates the injustice of discrimination and the poverty that breeds crime?

These questions about the pervasive crime and imperfect justice of twentieth-century America are ideal topics for community discussion. In the following pages is an outline of topics and program ideas designed to give concerned citizens information necessary to judge the system charged with preserving “domestic tranquility.” This topic outline and other materials developed by Courses by Newspaper, a national education program, make the planning of timely programs for civic, religious, educational, and community groups simple and inexpensive.
What are some possible topics for community education programs on crime and justice?

Based on Courses by Newspaper's Fall 1977 program, "Crime and Justice in America," the following is a list of topics that can be used for weekly or monthly meetings.

1. Crime: No Simple Solutions
   What are the contradictions in our culture between crime and justice?

2. White-Collar Crime
   What steps can be taken to combat crime in executive suites?

3. Organized Crime
   What are the functions of organized crime in America?

4. Urban Crime
   What is the scope of the urban crime problem, and who are the criminals and victims?

5. Sex and Crime
   To what extent are women involved in crime as victims and as criminals?

6. Race and Crime
   Why is such a large proportion of criminals and crime victims black?

7. The Philosophy of Criminal Law
   What are the sources of substantive criminal law?

8. Limits of Criminal Law
   To what extent should criminal law regulate so-called victimless crimes?

9. Civil Liberties and Criminal Law
   Does the law give equal protection to both the accused and the victims of crime?

10. Police: Law Enforcement in a Free Society
    How do the attitudes of police affect the criminal justice system?

11. Pretrial Detention: Bail or Jail
    How does the practice of pretrial detention affect the American tenet, "innocent until proven guilty"?

12. Plea Bargaining and Sentencing
    Are plea bargaining and discretionary sentencing affronts to justice?

13. Punishment: A Historical Perspective
    Should punishment fit the crime? Does it?

14. The Prison Community
    What have been the consequences of prison reforms in the past thirty years?

15. The Future of Punishment
    What are the limits of punishment as a means of social control?

How can I use the topics for "Crime and Justice" in planning programs for my organization?

Stimulating weekly or monthly programs for all types of organizations can be planned around these topics. Organizations that meet every week can examine each of the fifteen topics. Those meeting monthly can focus on a selection of the topics that reflect the group's interests and concerns.

Because each of the topics is rich with ideas and points of view, meeting formats can be varied to achieve maximum interest and participation. For example, one meeting might include a group discussion of the topic led by an instructor from a local community college, college, or university. Another could feature discussion by a panel whose members represent differing viewpoints. Another could feature a film, followed by a speaker who would comment on issues raised in a film shown at the beginning of the meeting.

To assist you in planning these meetings, a variety of program ideas for each of the course topics, as well as suggested discussion questions and books to review, is found in Section II of this book.

In Section III is a list of organizations that will provide resources such as speakers, films, or handouts to enrich your meetings.

And in Section IV is a filmography researched by the Educational Film Library Association that suggests several provocative and informative films for each weekly topic. Most of these films are available from community or educational film libraries for modest rental fees.
Are materials available to stimulate group interest in the “Crime and Justice” topics?

Articles on the fifteen “Crime and Justice” topics will begin appearing in newspapers throughout the country in September 1977. These concise, weekly articles provide historical perspectives, explore current thought and opinions, and raise questions about assumptions, traditions, interpretations, and proposals for the future. This series was written for Courses by Newspaper by prominent scholars of diverse disciplines who share an interest in the nation’s criminal justice system.

If a local or nearby newspaper is featuring this series, members can be asked to read the appropriate articles for background on topics scheduled for discussion. A participating newspaper will be happy to provide information about its schedule for publication of the articles and this information can be relayed to members in your newsletter or meeting announcement.

How can I find out if this series is to appear in my local newspaper?

A list of participating newspapers is available from Courses by Newspaper, University Extension, University of California, San Diego, Q056, La Jolla, CA 92093.

If your local newspaper is not carrying the free series, Courses by Newspaper will work with you to involve your newspaper. For assistance, phone collect (714) 452-3405 and ask to speak with the program’s newspaper liaison.

Are additional materials related to the “Crime and Justice” topics available?

Supplementary materials that expand on the “Crime and Justice” topics have been prepared by Courses by Newspaper. Included is a lively anthology, Crime and Justice in America, featuring thought-provoking readings that correspond to each topic; a Study Guide containing essays that relate the newspaper and anthology articles, bibliographies, factual review questions, and suggested essay and discussion questions; and a set of audio-cassettes, featuring programs that elaborate on the themes of the newspaper articles.

Selections in the anthology, an excellent source of additional points of view can be read by the entire group or by one, or more members who could summarize the readings for the rest of your group at your meetings.

The Study Guide is a convenient source of background information for discussion leaders to use in preparing for each meeting. The brief programs on each topic recorded on the audio-cassettes can be played at the beginning of your group meetings to stimulate interest and discussion on the topic.

All of these materials can be ordered by mail using the coupon printed in the back of this book or by writing Publisher’s Inc., 423 12th Street, Drawer P, Del Mar, CA 92014. Groups planning discussion sessions based on the “Crime and Justice” topics may order the books for their members at discount prices. All orders must be prepaid.

Are any resources for these “Crime and Justice” programs available locally?

The series of fifteen newspaper articles on the “Crime and Justice” topics is the basis of a course offered by participating colleges and universities throughout the nation. If a local educational institution is offering “Crime and Justice” for credit, it can provide a wealth of resources that will be useful in planning your group’s programs. As part of their educational program, many colleges and universities sponsor films and/or-lecture series on the course topics, and some are offering special sessions of the class that are open to members of the community who are not enrolled in the course for credit.

Members of your group who want to broaden their understanding of the “Crime and Justice” topics may want to enroll in the course for credit or noncredit or to attend events on campus related to your meeting topics. Information about these local programs can be relayed in your newsletter or meeting announcements.

Other organizations that may be a source of speakers or panelists for your discussion sessions are listed in Section III.

Are any local colleges planning community forums based on the “Crime and Justice” topics?

Community CbN Forums, demonstration community humanities programs based on Courses by Newspaper topics, will be conducted throughout the country during the 1977-1978 academic year. Designed to generate broad community participation, these forums are being developed under the auspices of the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges, with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Participating community colleges will work with humanities faculty and community groups to organize such events as lectures, panels, debates, town meetings, symposia, films, book reviews, and radio and television broadcasts. Each forum, free and open to the public, will feature a discussion period led by members of the community and the college faculty.

If your group is interested in participating in the Community College CbN Forum or if you would like to be a cosponsor, contact your local community college to determine whether it is participating in the program. If your local community college is involved, consider linking your program plans to those of the college. If the college is not involved, encourage them to contact the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges for information on the CbN Forums. For additional information, write Diane U. Eisenberg, Director, Community College CbN Forums, American Association of Community and Junior Colleges, One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410, Washington, DC 20036 or phone (202)293-7050.
How can I find out if my local college or university is involved in “Crime and Justice?”

A list of participating colleges and universities is available from Courses by Newspaper, University Extension, University of California, San Diego, Q-056, La Jolla, CA 92093 (phone: 714/452-3405).

As the course instructor, how can I enrich my Courses by Newspaper class for enrolled students?

Because it is an innovative program in continuing education that attracts many nontraditional students, Courses by Newspaper encourages instructors to enliven classroom meetings and to increase the number of meetings beyond the two required contact sessions, with students enrolled for credit. However, to maintain the flexibility of the course, it is suggested that these additional meetings be optional.

“Crime and Justice in America” provides many opportunities to invite guest speakers from other academic departments. These speakers should be selected not only for their expertise, but also for their ability to stimulate lively discussions. Speakers can also be drawn from among the numerous public and private organizations that are informed on one or more of the course topics. A sampling of these organizations can be found in Section III of this book.

Films selected from the filmography in Section IV also can be used to enrich class discussions. Many of the films listed are designed to spark discussions of the topics by presenting a variety of points of view as well as historical background and future forecasts. The program suggestions in Section II, which frequently combine a film showing with a guest speaker or panel discussion, lend themselves to implementation in the classroom.

How can I broaden the impact of my Courses by Newspaper program?

When you have completed planning your classroom sessions, consider inviting the general public to attend. Surveys conducted by Courses by Newspaper have shown that many newspaper readers regularly follow the series, but do not need college credit and therefore do not enroll in the course. However, many are likely to attend public forums on the course topics.

In planning your public sessions, try to achieve the broadest community involvement possible. Perhaps a local community group or an organization with a special interest in criminal justice can be invited to become cosponsors of the public sessions. Or a local high school teacher can be invited to involve his or her classes in the program and the public sessions. This type of community participation not only broadens the impact of the course but familiarizes the public with your institution and its programs.

To reach and involve Courses by Newspaper readers in your area, publicity is essential. The local newspaper carrying the Courses by Newspaper series, of course, will usually be happy to publicize events related to the series that offers a service to their readers. However, be certain also to contact local television and radio stations, provide them with a schedule of your programs, and encourage them to cover the sessions.

Students enrolled in the course for credit can be asked to come before or stay after the public programs to raise questions of special concern to them. If you prefer meeting with the enrolled students separately, consider scheduling an additional contact session for students only.

How can I use this Source Book to assist me in preparations for my Courses by Newspaper classes?

To aid those seeking background information and program ideas on specific topics, Section II of this book contains references to recent articles in popular periodicals; Section III lists program suggestions and resources for each topic; and Section IV is a filmography.
SECTION II

PROGRAMS

Resources and Suggestions for Educational Community Programs

Because of their rich, and sometimes controversial, nature each of the topics for “Crime and Justice” inevitably suggests an abundance of program ideas; thus, it has been impossible to provide more than a sampling of these ideas on the following pages. It should also be noted that none of the program suggestions included in this book is meant to reflect or support any one point of view; rather they are designed to provide a framework or a point of departure for group discussions. Individual community leaders and course instructors are strongly encouraged to adapt or modify these suggestions to suit the interest and concerns of his or her particular group.

Suggestions presented for each weekly topic include ideas for films, speakers, debates, surveys, and panel discussions. Also included are selections to read and books to review from the Courses by Newspaper Reader, Crime and Justice, selections from popular periodicals, and suggested discussion questions. Information on public and private organizations that can provide additional resources, such as films, speakers, and handouts on specific course topics, are listed in Section III. A complete filmography for the course, compiled by the Educational Film Library Association, can be found in Section IV.
1: Crime: No Simple Solutions

We Americans are upset about crime, but we don’t like to accept the fact that the conditions in our economy, in our culture and history generate crime. —Jerome H. Skolnick

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE

Section I for articles by Ramsey Clark, James Q. Wilson, and Jerome H. Skolnick on “Crime. No Simple Solutions.”

From Popular Periodicals

Although some of the statistics are dated, “Crime Wave” in the June 30, 1975 issue of Time (pp. 10-14+) touches on most of the issues to be discussed in this course.

A symposium featuring nationally recognized scholars and focusing on the criminal justice dilemma is found in Crime and Justice in America, 1876-1976 in the January 1976 issue of the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science (pp. 1-101).

Patrick V. Murphy, president of the Police Foundation, Richard L. Thornburgh, assistant attorney general, and Ralph W. England, professor of sociology and anthropology at the University of Rhode Island, are among the authors featured in the June 1976 issue of Current History (pp. 241-277).

Books to Review


Becoming Deviant by David Matza. In a scholarly and deeply personal style, the author traces the development of theories of deviance.

Suggested Discussion Questions

In light of all of our national problems, what importance do you place on solving the crime and justice dilemma? Explain your ranking.

Describe what in your opinion are the major causes of America’s pervasive crime problem. Review proposed solutions to crime problems in light of these suspected causes.

From a historical point of view, what role has criminal law played in the causes and responses to crime? What does this role of law imply about American society?

Why have past attempts at solving the criminal justice dilemma failed to achieve their goals? What responsibility do the following institutions have for these failures: the courts, law enforcement agencies, the penal system, other social institutions such as church, family, and government; American society?

In view of your answer to the question above, evaluate current proposals for improving crime control and the administration of justice in modern America.

Program Suggestions and Resources

In Your Backyard. What are the criminal justice dilemmas confronting your community? How do these concerns relate to the national dilemma? Invite a representative of your local criminal justice system—a police chief, prosecuting, or district attorney, a prominent judge—to review local concerns and relate them to national issues. Encourage a discussion between your audience and your speaker on the merits of proposals under consideration locally for meeting your community’s crime questions.

Crime and Society. Some students of crime and justice in America contend that our society has the crime problem it deserves—that is, that the very nature of our society is responsible for pervasive crime. Invite a sociologist or criminal justice instructor from your local community college, college, or university to discuss the often-mentioned social causes of crime. Conclude with a discussion of criminal justice programs that merit attention in light of the causes identified by your speaker.

In the City. Once hailed as the highest achievements of a civilization, cities today are branded as jungles teeming with crime and injustice. For a perspective on the problem of crime in the cities, begin by viewing In the Name of the Law, a chilling view of street crime and its causes in Boston. Following the film, hold a panel discussion of the social issues surrounding urban crime. Panelists could include a judge, law enforcement officer, city officials, and a sociologist from a local community college, college, or university.
2. White-Collar Crime

White-collar criminals, like most criminals, lack sympathy for their victims. They don't understand— or care—that they are hurting others who have a right to a fair dealing. — Gilbert Geis

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE

See Section II for articles by Edwin H. Sutherland, Michael Hirs, John Brooks, and others on "White-Collar Crime."

From Popular Periodicals

Writer Thomas Griffith probes the illegal and immoral business practices that have fueled the public's cynical view of the corporate world in "Payoff Is Not an Acceptable Practice" in the August 1975 issue of Fortune (pp. 122-125+).

A white-collar criminal and his apathetic victims are the subjects of a portrait by associate editor Jack Horn in "Portrait of an Arrogant Crook" in the April 1976 issue of Psychology Today (pp. 76+).

Crime paid for one white-collar criminal, a San Diego businessman who received only mild punishment for his years of fraud and theft, according to "Crime in the Suites" in the August 15, 1975 issue of Forbes (pp. 17-20).

Books to Review

In the Name of Profit by Robert Heilbroner. This collection of case studies documents instances of blatant law breaking and cover-up by corporate entities.


Suggested Discussion Questions

What are some of the reasons that Americans have failed to grasp the scope of white-collar crime? What does this explanation imply about our society?

Is it the nature of business and politics that leads to white-collar crime? What other explanations are possible?

What changes are necessary, in society generally and within law-enforcement circles specifically, to combat white-collar crime? What barriers exist to those changes?

Since many white-collar criminals are first-time offenders, should they receive light sentences? Are different criteria required for punishing white-collar criminals?

Program Suggestions and Resources

Crime in the Suites. Of all major types of crime, Americans generally are least concerned about white-collar offenses. Familiarize your group with this growing problem by screening White Collar Rip-Off, a survey of the petty and complex white-collar crimes that cost society vast sums of money each year. Following the film, convene a panel to discuss ways white-collar crime can be and is being discouraged. Panelists could include a representative from the local chamber of commerce, a local law enforcement official, a member of a political ethics committee for a major political party, and a representative of a local consumer group.

The Executive Criminal. What kind of person perpetrates crime from the executive suite? How does this criminal differ from others? Discuss these questions with a local psychiatrist, psychologist, or a sociologist from a local community college, college, or university. Encourage your speaker, if possible, to invite a former white-collar criminal to describe his or her experiences and motives, or to invite a counselor or social worker who has done extensive work with executive criminals.

Buyer Beware. One perpetrator of white-collar crime, the dishonest businessman, has become the target of actions by local and state consumer organizations. Explore actions to combat frauds against consumers in a discussion with representatives from your state or local consumer agency or a consumer activist group. Group members can be encouraged to relate any difficulties they have had as consumers and their views of this type of crime.

No More Watergates. In response to recent political scandals, Congress passed a stringent ethics bill governing the behavior of its members. Invite your United States Representative or Senator to discuss the provisions of this political reform measure and to tell what, if any, additional legislation will be needed to stem white-collar crime by politicians.
3. Organized Crime

Organized crime has become such an integral part of the politics and economics of American urban life that most Americans do not consider it a personal problem. — Francis A. J. Ianni

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE

See Section II for articles by Donald R. Cressey, Meyer Berger, Francis A. J. Ianni, and others on "Organized Crime."

From Popular Periodicals

In real Mafia families, two researchers argue, the Don’s grandchildren are giving up their criminal legacy for straight, affluent suburban living. See “Godfather Is Going Out of Business” by Francis A. J. Ianni and Elizabeth Reuss-Ianni in the December 1975 issue of Psichologiya Tolkin (pp. 86-89+).


Books to Review

The Crime Confederation: Coso Nostra and Allied Operations in Organized Crime by Ralph Salerno and John S. Tompkins. This account of organized crime in America chronicles its pervasive corruption of the justice system.

The Crime Society: Organized Crime and Corruption in America by Francis A. J. Ianni and Elizabeth Reuss-Ianni. This book of readings presents a wide variety of viewpoints on what constitutes organized crime, who is involved, what kinds of goods and services it provides, and its reliance on corruption for power.

Suggested Discussion Questions

To what extent is organized crime a part of the fabric of modern American life? To what extent is it condoned or accepted? Why?

Explain some of the romantic notions surrounding the participants in and the activities of organized crime. What are the origins of these notions?

Why, in your opinion, has organized crime proved highly resistant to efforts to combat it? What new approaches, if any, are needed to reduce its impact on American society?

Is organized crime a symptom of other major ills in American society? If so, what are these social problems? To what extent is the control of organized crime tied to these ills?

Program Suggestions and Resources

Mafioso as Cowboy. One popular view of organized crime is as a “romantic, yet deadly, ghetto Western.” To gain an understanding of this notion, begin by viewing The Godfather, an award-winning portrait of a Mafia family. Then discuss aspects of this film that give organized crime its public appeal and relate these aspects to other well-known views and stereotypes of organized crime. A sociologist or specialist in popular culture from a local community college or university can be asked to serve as discussion moderator.

Running the Rackets. Organized crime flourishes in poor city neighborhoods where it not only finds willing victims but new recruits for its ranks. Explore the effects of organized crime on urban life by inviting a local law enforcement official to address your group. Encourage your speaker to discuss both the economic and human impacts of the underworld on the inner city.

War on Crime. Because organized crime takes such a large human and economic toll, governments in recent years have focused their crime-fighting efforts in this area. Discuss this war on organized crime with a knowledgeable federal or state official. Ask the official to review past efforts against organized crime, and to outline the reasons for any successes and failures, and for the persistence of organized criminal activity.
4. Urban Crime

Crime has become a symbol of the city. No other problem so embodies the fears, and concerns of city people, or their apparent impotence to protect their persons and property, or to gain control over their lives. — James F. Short Jr.

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE
See Section III for articles by James Willwerth, Morton Hunt, David H. Bayly, and others on 'Urban Crime.'

From Popular Periodicals
Today's street gangs are armed and committing random crimes instead of fighting each other according to "Street Gangs: Turn from Ruftles to Wanton Crime" in the July 7, 1975 issue of U.S. News and World Report (pp. 15-18).

Writer Peter Kouler briefly describes a citizen action program designed to rid an inner city neighborhood of crime in "Harlem Marches Against Drugs" in the November 1976 issue of Progressive (pp. 8-39).

Books to Review
Criminal Victimization in Eight American Cities, by Michael J. Hendeland. This recent and detailed report examines the data on assault and common theft from individuals, households, and businesses.

Delinquency in a Birth Cohort by Marlon E. Wolfgang, Robert M. Figlio, and Thorsten Sellin. The police contacts by a group of boys born in 1945 and living in Philadelphia are reported in this on-going study.

Suggested Discussion Questions
What factors have contributed to the establishment of crime as a symbol of modern urban life?
What is the historical relationship of crime to urban life? What explanations can be given for this connection?
What generalizations can be made about the nature of urban crime? How do these characteristics correspond to those for other social ills such as poverty and unemployment?
What in your opinion are the essential components of an effort to combat urban crime? What are the barriers to such an undertaking?

Program Suggestions and Resources
Ganging Up. To a large extent, urban crime is the result of youths acting alone or in groups. For a close look at youthful criminal behavior, begin by viewing Violent Youth—The Unmet Challenge, a film that documents the rapidly rising criminality among youths living in cities and features an interview with two young men convicted of armed robbery. Following the film, discuss the issues raised with a local law-enforcement official and a sociologist from a local community college or university.

The Wherefore and the Why. Criminologists and law-enforcement officials generally agree that the causes of urban crime are complex and deeply rooted in the American way of life. Convene a panel to explore these causes with your group. Panelists could include an urban historian or sociologist, a law-enforcement official, a psychologist, a local judge, a representative of a minority-rights group, and a local city or school official.

Fear and Loathing. Residents of American cities and suburbs have felt the impact of soaring urban crime on their lifestyles and attitudes. For a look at urban crime from the victims point of view, begin by viewing The Besieged Minority, an NBC documentary on urban dwellers' reactions to crime. Following the film, invite a representative of a local citizens group dedicated to improving neighborhood safety or a local police-community relations officer to discuss steps that individuals can take to protect their personal safety.
5. Sex and Crime

Observers and victims of female crime were hesitant to take action against women since they felt women needed to be protected....

However, this paternalistic and preferential treatment had its costs. Throughout the criminal justice system "a fallen woman" often experienced discriminatory or more severe treatment. — Lois Defleut Nelson

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE
- See Section III for articles by Freda Adler, Susan Brownmiller, Rita J. Simon, and Paul W. Tappan on "Sex and Crime."

From Popular Periodicals
- Black activist and author Angela Davis draws parallels between racism, male chauvinism, and rape in "JoAnne Little: The Dialectics of Rape" in the June 1975 issue of MS (pp. 74-77 +).
- Changes in the roles of women have resulted in increased female participation in all types of crime throughout the world, according to "Crimes by Women Are on the Rise All Over the World" in the December 22, 1975 issue of U.S. News and World Report (pp. 49-51).

The relationship between the contemporary women's movement, the changing status of American women, and the role of women in crime is analyzed by Rita J. Simon, professor of sociology, law, and communications research at the University of Illinois in "American Women and Crime" in the January 1976 issue of The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science (pp. 31-46).

Books to Review
- Women and Crime by Rita James Simon. Drawing on data from national and international sources, this brief book explores the rising female crime rate, the treatment of women in the justice system, and the future of women in crime. (An excerpt can be found in the reader.)
- Against Our Will by Susan Brownmiller. The popular attitudes and myths surrounding rape are evaluated from a feminist point of view in this sociopolitical history. (An excerpt can be found in the reader.)

Suggested Discussion Questions

What explanations are possible for the rise of women as criminals? How do these explanations relate to the modern women's rights movement?

What, if any, are the unique characteristics of a woman who turns to crime? How do female and male criminals compare?

Does the popular image of women in the underworld reflect the rising crime rate among females? If not, what image prevails?

In what ways are male attitudes toward women evident in the treatment of female crime victims and criminals? When detrimental, how can these behaviors toward women be modified?

In your opinion, is a woman who is the victim of a crime ever justified in seeking revenge? Does a female criminal deserve leniency because she is female?

What do you predict the future holds for women in the criminal justice system both as victims and perpetrators?

Program Suggestions and Resources

Equally Guilty. Statistics point to an increase in criminal activities by women from all walks of life. Organize a panel to discuss female criminals. Panelists could include a female member of an ex-offender group, a probation officer who works with women, a social worker or counselor, and representatives of local groups dedicated to helping women in trouble with the law. Focus the discussion on explanations for the growing involvement of women in crime.

In the Thick of It. In addition to the increasing rate of their illegal activities, women are also expanding their roles within the criminal justice system. For an inside view of their jobs and the discrimination or support they encounter, invite several women to meet with your group. Participants could include a female law-enforcement official, judge, counselor, attorney, and probation officer.

Rape. Largely because of the urging of women's rights organizations, rape has received renewed attention from law-enforcement officials, the judiciary, and social service organizations. To learn more about this sexual crime, begin by viewing No-Lies, a film that explores one rape victim's experience and its aftermath. Then lead a discussion of the issues raised in the film—the myths surrounding this crime, attitudes prevalent in the criminal justice system, rape-victim counseling, and self-defense for women. A person who works with rape victims or a representative of a women's rights organization can be invited to serve as moderator.
6. Race and Crime

It would be nothing short of astounding if a group of people whose histories in the United States include centuries of slavery, calculated attempts at extermination, and other gross brutalities somehow managed to be more law abiding than their oppressors.
— Alphonso Pinkney

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE
See Section III for articles by John A. Davis, Gilbert Geis, and Armando Morales on "Race and Crime."

From Popular Periodicals

A case study of the juvenile justice system, which protects neither victims nor the rising number of violent youths, can be found in "They Think I Can Kill Because I'm 14" by Ted Morgan in the January 19, 1975 issue of The New York Times Magazine (pp. 9-11 +).

Books to Review
Race Relations and American Law by Jack Greenberg. An official of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) demonstrates how law can serve to change the mores of a society.

Soledad Brother The Prison Letters of George Jackson by George Jackson. In this collection of letters, a young black revolutionary comments movingly on the lawlessness of the American criminal justice system.

Suggested Discussion Questions

To what extent historically has crime been a function of race? A function of socioeconomic status?

To what extent is crime a function of racial discrimination? Is crime to be viewed as an act of revenge? An attempt to break out of a seemingly preordained lifestyle? An attempt to raise one's economic status?

Are racist attitudes perpetuated by the relationships between crime and race? Is it possible to break this link?

Do victims of discrimination deserve preferential treatment by the criminal justice system? How can the criminal justice system help victims of racial discrimination escape the ghetto and a life of repeated crime?

Is the criminal justice system itself guilty of perpetuating racism? If so, what steps can be taken to bring equality to this system?

Program Suggestions and Resources

Patterns. Throughout American history, different racial and ethnic groups have been linked to crime. Invite a historian from your local community college or university to trace this history for your group. Encourage your speaker to discuss connections between this link to crime and other social factors such as employment, opportunity, and education. Then lead a discussion on changes necessary to dissolve or weaken the link between race and crime.

Breaking Out. Why are many young people in racial and ethnic groups drawn into criminal activities? How can they be deterred from pursuing a life of crime? Convene a panel to explore these questions. Panelists could include a local school official, probation officer, juvenile court judge, family counselor, and representative of a minority-rights organization. Before the panel discussion, show Crime and the Courts, a documentary that focuses on juvenile crime and the treatment of delinquents.

Equal Protection Under the Law. Despite their supposedly equal status under the law, many minority group members argue that they are not treated fairly within the criminal justice system. To clarify this issue, arrange a debate between spokespersons for a local minority group and for your local police and court system. Following presentations by both speakers, invite your group to reach a verdict on the criminal justice system and to suggest steps for improvement and change.

Black Outlook. Despite recent advances in civil-rights legislation, blacks in our society continue to bear heavy burdens from discrimination. Not surprisingly, the number of blacks involved in criminal behavior is high. Bring together a number of representatives of the black community in your area to discuss with your group the topic "Blacks: Victims and Offenders." Focus the discussion on steps that can be taken locally to dispel myths and stereotypes about black crime and to create equality within society and the criminal justice system.
7. The Philosophy of Criminal Law

Criminal law, say some philosophers, contributes to the moral conscience of humanity... But, critics claim, criminal law has an opposite sort of effect. It sanctions feelings of vengeance, and, in places of imprisonment—outside of society—bilineality is at home. — Gertrude Ezorsky

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Readers: CRIME AND JUSTICE

See Section IV for articles by Edwin H. Sutherland and Donald R. Cressey, C. S. Lewis, Martin Luther King, and others on "The Philosophy of Criminal Law."

From Popular Periodicals

A proposed revision of the United States criminal code strongly reflects the politics of the era, according to Milton Viorst, a Washington-based writer, in "Nixon's Revenge: Criminal Justice Reform Act" in the February 1976 issue of Harper’s (pp. 17-18+).


Books to Review

Criminal Law and Punishment by P. J. Fitzgerald. This precise appraisal of the conceptions and principles of criminal law includes a detailed discussion of punishment.

The Philosophy of Law, Part II by Immanuel Kant. An eighteenth-century German philosopher defends the right of retributive punishment and explains the concept of a just penalty.

Suggested Discussion Questions

What are the differences between civil and criminal law?
What are the unique characteristics of American criminal law?
To what extent does criminal law reflect the prevailing norms of a society? In your opinion, should morality be enforced by criminal law?
What are the arguments for and against criminal law sanctions that are designed to coerce individuals for their own good? What does the public attitude on this issue reveal about American society?
What are the philosophical arguments supporting the purpose of punishment in our society? To which position do you adhere? Why?
In your opinion, do the sanctions of criminal law succeed either in punishing offenders or deterring crime? Explain your answer.

Program Suggestions and Resources

Toward a New Criminal Code. Over the last five years, several attempts have been made to revise the United States criminal code. To learn more about these proposals and the philosophy that supports them, invite your Congressional representative to meet with your group. If your local representative is not available, invite a judge or lawyer with knowledge in this area. Following the speaker, have your group indicate their opinions of some of the suggested reforms.

To Punish, To Deter. For centuries, the purpose of criminal sanctions has been vigorously debated among proponents of punishment and of deterrence. Bring this debate to life in a panel discussion. Panelists could include area judges and lawyers, a representative of a citizen's group concerned with effective law enforcement, a member of an ex-offender group, a law professor from a nearby law school, and a warden or jail administrator. Following the panel discussion, poll your group to determine their positions on this issue.

Changed with Time. To what extent does criminal law reflect changing views about humanity, crime, and morality? Explore this question with a professor of criminal law from a local law school. Encourage your speaker to compare the United States code of criminal law to the codes of other countries, both democratic and nondemocratic.
8. Limits of Criminal Law

The consensus crimes that give us trouble are those where human weakness, economic incentives toward criminality, and offer a basic ambivalence toward an activity among a sizable number of people all interact. As a result, attempts to suppress these activities have been notoriously ineffectual. —John Kaplan

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE

See, Section IV for articles by John Kaplan, Herbert L. Packer, and others on “Limits of Criminal Law.”

From Popular Periodicals

The arguments for and against decriminalization of such “victimless crimes” as prostitution, gambling, and marijuana use are reported in “Behind the Trend to Go Easy on Victimless Crimes” in the November 15, 1976 issue of U.S. News and World Report (pp. 80-82).

The removal of criminal penalties did not result in increased marijuana use, according to a study summarized by Robert P. Carr, a senior program officer for the Drug Abuse Council, in “Oregon’s Marijuana Decriminalization: One Year Later” in the December 1975 issue of Intellect (pp. 235-236).

Writers Elizabeth and James Vorenberg compare the prevailing approaches to prostitution in American cities with decriminalization practiced in several European cities in “The Biggest Pimp of All: Prostitution and Some Facts of Life” in the January 1977 issue of Atlantic (pp. 27-38).

Books to Review

Prostitution and Morality by Henry Benjamin and R. E. L. Masters. This comprehensive work on contemporary prostitution looks at the legal response to this so-called victimless crime.

Legal High. In many states, the decriminalization of marijuana use has been enacted into law or is under consideration by the state legislature. If this “victimless” crime is an issue in your state legislature, invite your local representative or the author of the proposed legislation to address your group. Encourage your speaker to explain the rationale for the proposed legislation and to relate the experiences of other states and their law-enforcement agencies that have enacted similar laws. To stimulate discussion, view Mary Jane Grows Up—Marijuana in the 70's, a summary of evidence on the effects of this commonly used drug.

Streetwalkers. Of all of the so-called victimless crimes, prostitution is frequently cited as revealing the most social hypocrisy. For insights into this issue, invite a representative of a group calling for the legalization of prostitution to discuss the issue with your group. If such a group is not active locally, invite a representative of a women’s rights organization or a sociologist from a local community college or university. If this issue has generated local controversy, consider arranging a debate between both proponents and opponents of legalization.

Program Suggestions and Resources

Enforcement—Victimless Crimes. Proponents of decriminalizing certain illegal activities often point to the difficulties law-enforcement officials face in suppressing them as a prime reason for decriminalization. Explore this issue, from the point of view of several local and state law-enforcement officials. Invite the chief of your local police department, the head of the state police, and the state attorney general or assistant attorney general to summarize the costs of policing “victimless” crimes and the position of each agency on decriminalization.

Suggested Discussion Questions

In your opinion, are any crimes “victimless”? How would you define a “victimless” crime?

What explanations can be given for the shifting public view on particular crimes? What specific historical examples can be cited?

What are the arguments for and against decriminalization of such illegal activities as prostitution, gambling, and marijuana use?

What are the barriers to decriminalization of the illegal activities referred to above? Are these barriers likely to be overcome? How?

To what extent should the effectiveness of law enforcement be considered in defining and decriminalizing “victimless” crimes? Explain your answer.
9. Civil Liberties and Criminal Law

The Bill of Rights was included in our Constitution to protect the citizens of the then newly created republic against abuses of power by the new government.... We extend these safeguards to the defendant not because we sympathize with what he may have done, but because in upholding his rights, we protect our own. — The Honorable Damon J. Keith

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE:

See Section IV for articles by Livingston Hall, Kenneth Culp Davis, and others on “Civil Liberties and Criminal Law.”

From Popular Periodicals:

Recent Supreme Court decisions have altered the right of police to search and thus violate civil rights argues attorney Stephen Arons in “Rise of Police Logic” in the April 5, 1975 issue of Saturday Review (pp. 12-13+).


Books to Review:

The Self-Infllicted Wound by Fred Graham. A noted legal journalist explores the due-process revolution in criminal law wrought by the Supreme Court under Chief Justice Earl Warren.

Ideology and Crime by Leon Radzinowicz. The way in which political ideology affects perception of the causes of crime is the topic of this collection of essays.

Suggested Discussion Questions

What specific rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights are concerned with the conduct of criminal justice? What concerns about criminal proceedings are reflected in these guarantees?

How are the needs of law-enforcement agencies reconciled with these rights? In your opinion, is there an adequate balance between the need to allow the police to enforce the laws and the need to safeguard individual rights?

Explain the role of the Supreme Court in establishing criminal justice procedures. Do these rulings indicate a consistent legal philosophy, or do they reflect changing public opinion?

Is there any relief of the tension between the rights of individuals and law-enforcement procedures in a free society? If not, how is a balance best maintained or achieved?

Program Suggestions and Resources

The Press as Judge and Jury. When does press coverage of a crime affect the right of an alleged criminal to a fair trial? Examine the balance between the rights of a free press and the rights of the accused in a discussion with the publisher of a local newspaper, the manager of a radio or television station, and a local judge. To stimulate the discussion, consider asking both speakers to comment on press coverage of such recent, highly visible cases as the Patty Hearst trials and the Watergate investigations.

Chipping Away. The Miranda ruling, perhaps one of the most controversial Supreme Court opinions, has been the subject of recent refinements by the Court. Invite a law professor from a nearby law school to discuss this ruling, its recent interpretations, and its effect on the criminal justice system. Urge your speaker to suggest possible alternative procedures to those prescribed by Miranda.

You’re Under Arrest. In recent years, the tension between the rights of alleged criminals and the right of society to protection from crime has created a great deal of controversy within the criminal justice system. Convene a panel to review the current status of the law as it pertains to suspected criminals and the general public. Panelists could include local judges and lawyers, a local police chief, a district attorney or county prosecutor, a minority-group leader, and a representative of a civil-liberties group.
10. Police: Law Enforcement in a Free Society

Television programs to the contrary notwithstanding, the United States Constitution does not envision police as cowboy sheriffs, riding hard on crime and disorder in the central cities. They are government officials, armed by law, whose monopoly on force is a public trust in a free and democratic society. — Jerome H. Skolnick

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE.

See Section V for articles by Jerome H. Skolnick, David H. Bayley, Frederick O'R. Hayes, and others on "Police: Law Enforcement in a Free Society."

From Popular Periodicals

An adversary relationship exists between the police and other parts of the criminal justice system, reports Alan F. Arcuri, professor of political science at Stockton State College, in "Police, Lawyers and Judges: Implacable Allies" in the April 1976 issue of Justice (pp. 517-519).

Reporters Alan K. Fearn captures the conflicting loyalties of ethnic Boston policemen charged with enforcing court-ordered bussing in "The Men in-the-Middle" in the September 12, 1976 issue of The New York Times Magazine (pp. 36-37+)

Professor of psychology Morton Bard and clinical psychologist Joseph Zacker examine new techniques that allow police to settle arguments without force in "How Police Handle Explosive Squabbles" in the November 1976 issue of Psychology Today (pp. 71+

Influenced by the Supreme Court's shift to the right, police television shows sanction violence and soften public attitudes toward it according to attorneys Stephen Aron and Ethan Katz in "How TV-Cops Flout the Law" in the March 19, 1977 issue of Saturday Review (pp. 10-14+).

Books to Review

City Police by Jonathan Rubinstein. In a clear, forceful, easy-to-read style, the author details his observations and analysis of the police patrolman.

The Police: Six Sociological Essays, edited by David J. Bordua. In this series of essays, six leading scholars focus on the police and their functions.

Suggested Discussion Questions

What in your opinion are the functions of the police in democratic society? How have these functions evolved or changed during our history?

What are the dangers police pose to a democratic society? Are there safeguards against these dangers? If not, can safeguards be instituted?

What are some possible explanations for the rise of a "police culture" among law-enforcement officials? What are the likely effects of this "culture" on the criminal justice system?

How can law enforcement in America be upgraded to insure equal protection for all? What are the barriers to these changes?

As government officials, what rights and responsibilities rest with the police? Are they capable of policing their own ranks? If not, who should be in charge?

What is the future of law enforcement in America? What role will the courts play in determining this future course?

Program Suggestions and Resources

Local Beat. Recent studies have shown that many police spend the majority of their time on peace keeping rather than crime fighting. For a clear, informed picture of the activities of your local law-enforcement officials, invite a representative to speak with your group. The speaker could be the local chief of police or community-relations officer. Or consider inviting police officers who specialize in such areas as juvenile crime, traffic control, domestic disturbances, or vice control. Encourage your speakers to discuss their role and their perception of public attitudes toward their efforts.

Whose Law, Whose Order?

Throughout United States history, police have been accused of violating public trust and abusing their authority in their treatment of suspects, racial minorities, women, and juvenile delinquents. Explore this problem and some possible solutions in a panel discussion. Panels could include representatives of your local police department, members of black and Spanish-speaking rights organizations, a spokesperson for a civil-liberties organization, a member of a women's rights organization, and a local attorney or judge.

In Search of Support. How much public support do police enjoy? Has this support or the lack of it, affected the formation of a "police culture"? And how has this support and the "police culture" affected law enforcement? Explore these questions with a sociologist or police-community relations instructor from a local community college or university.
Before and after the discussion consider conducting a survey of attitudes toward law enforcement among group members. *What’s a Cop?,* a film that explores public attitudes toward police, might serve as a discussion starter.

**Women in Law Enforcement.** The roles of women in law enforcement range from those on patrol to those who work in the crime labs to those who wait at home for the return of a father, husband, or son. Invite several women involved with law enforcement to meet with your group for informal discussions of the affect this involvement has on their lives. If the issue of police women is controversial in your area, consider arranging a debate between proponents and opponents. Before the discussion or debate, view *Mrs. Cop,* a documentary of a day in the life of a Washington, D.C. female police sergeant.

**Background**

*From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE*

- See Section V for articles by Ronald Goldfarb, Paul B. Wice, Fred C. Shapiro, and others on “Pretrial Detention: Bail or Jail.”

*From Popular Periodicals*

Too often prosecutors are concerned with advancing their careers, rather than fighting crime, according to law professors Herman Schwartz and Bruce Jackson of the State University of New York at Buffalo in “Prosecutor as Public Enemy” in the February 1976 issue of *Harper's* (pp. 24-26+).

Prosecution of victimless crimes is only a small part of America’s massive problem of court congestion explains staff writer Jerrold K. Footlik in “Too Much Law?” in the January 10, 1977 issue of *Newsweek* (pp. 42-47).

*Books to Review*

- Ransom by Ronald Goldfarb. This thorough study recounts the history of bail, how it functions, and the efforts of bail reformers in the early 1960s.
- *Bail Reform in America* by Wayne H. Thomas Jr. The checkered history of the bail reform movement is brought up to date in this book.

*Suggested Discussion Questions*

Compare the notions of “innocent until proven guilty” and “guilty until proven innocent.” What are the implications of these beliefs for those accused of a crime? For a democratic society?

What are the advantages and disadvantages of the system of bail in the American criminal justice system? To what extent are the disadvantages related to larger social problems?

What are possible alternatives to bail or detention before a trial? How do the advantages and disadvantages of these alternatives compare to those of the present system?

What steps can be taken to eliminate the problems connected with bail and pretrial detention? From what source must these changes come?

What in your opinion are the dangers connected with the “release on own recognition” reform? Do its benefits make this a procedure worth continuing?

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11. Pretrial Detention: Bail or Jail

To an accused person spending many weeks or even months in jail awaiting trial, the doctrine that an accused is innocent until proven guilty seems a farce. For he is, in effect, being punished before he has been convicted. — Caleb Foote
Program Suggestions and Resources

Cold Storage. The local jails in which suspects await trial have been severely criticized for their overcrowding, lack of sanitary facilities, and lack of social services. To find out how your local facility compares, arrange for a tour with a warden or police official. After the tour, have your guide explain any changes that have been made or any new programs that are under way or are being contemplated. Encourage your group to raise questions based on their observations of jail conditions.

Your Own Recognition. As an alternative to bail or pretrial detention, many communities have instituted pretrial release procedures, like "release on own recognizance," that require little or no financial security. If such a program exists or has been tried in your area, invite the person in charge to discuss its history and its success or failure. If the program is controversial, consider inviting opponents to present their point of view.

Due Process, Equal Protection. What to do with the accused until his trial is a dilemma that imperils the citizen's guarantees of due process and equal protection under the law. Explore this dilemma, by first viewing Justice Delayed, Justice Denied, a documentary on the effects of trial delays resulting largely from court congestion. Following the film, convene a panel to discuss the issues raised and the reforms suggested. Panelists could include a court administrator, a local judge, a warden, a minority-group representative, and a member of a civil-liberties group.

Clogged Courts. Many of the problems with lengthy pretrial detention can be traced to congested courts that force delayed trials. Invite a court administrator to discuss conditions in your local courts and reforms being considered or undertaken to end delays. A local judge and representative of the local bar association can also be invited to comment on court congestion and its cures.

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, Crime and Justice

See Section V for articles by Marvin E. Frankel, James Steele and Donald Barlett, Alan M. Dershowitz, and others on "Plea Bargaining and Sentencing."

From Popular Periodicals

Harvard Law Professor Alan M. Dershowitz argues that indeterminate sentencing, once viewed as a major reform, has fallen into disrepute among both liberals and conservatives in "Let the Punishment Fit the Crime" in the December 28, 1975 issue of The New York Times Magazine (pp. 7+).

Arguments for mandatory sentencing of repeatedly convicted felons are made by former President Gerald R. Ford in "To Insure Domestic Tranquility" in the May 15, 1975 issue of Vital Speeches (pp. 450-452).

A new study by economists shows that certainty of punishment and expanded economic opportunities do deter crime, according to "Crime: A Case For More Punishment" in the September 15, 1975 issue of Business Week (pp. 92+).

Books to Review

Justiced by Consent by Arthur Rosett and D. R. Cressey. A sociologist and a law professor describe the workings of the plea-bargaining system.

Fair and Certain Punishment, a report of the Twentieth Century Fund Task Force on Criminal Sentencing. This proposal recommends the adoption of "presumptive sentencing" as the compromise between indeterminate and fixed sentencing.
Suggested Discussion Questions

What are the arguments that supported the establishment of discretionary sentencing by judges? Are these arguments consistent with American legal philosophy? With the tenets of a democratic society?

What are the causes of the current dissatisfaction with discretionary sentencing? Are these causes imbedded in larger social problems?

What reforms in the sentencing have been proposed? Which one, in your opinion, has the most merit? Why?

To what extent should sentencing be separated from the parole board review? From judges? From legislatures?

Is there a just method for selecting a punishment to fit the crime? Is consistency of sentencing a worthwhile goal? Please explain.

What standard can you suggest for determining appropriate punishment for crime?

Program Suggestions and Resources

How Long, How Much? What criteria are used by judges when imposing a sentence? Examine this difficult issue with the help of local judges from the criminal and juvenile courts. To gain an appreciation of the complexity of sentencing, ask each judge to present a case and its options for punishment for group members to vote on. Then ask each judge to explain his sentence and the criteria generally used in making these decisions. Conclude with questions and answers about possible reforms.

No Longer a Choice. The unfairness and uncertainty of our present sentencing system have sparked a debate among those favoring discretionary and those favoring mandatory sentencing. Convene a panel to probe this issue and some likely compromise solutions. Panelists could include local judges with opposing views, a member of the local bar association, a representative of a civil-liberties organization, a sociologist or criminologist who specializes in this area from a local community college or university, and your representative in the state legislature.

Getting Out Early. One criticism of indeterminate sentencing is the unchecked discretion that rests with parole boards or adult authorities. Invite a member or representative of a local parole board or adult authority to discuss the process of determining the length of sentences and granting parole. Encourage your speaker to discuss some of the proposed controls on this discretionary power and their likely consequences.
13. Punishment: A Historical Perspective

Beginning in the mid-1900s, a new generation of reformers began to question the very idea of incarceration. Armed with so few answers and suspicions of inherited truths, they contended that punishment should aim not to do good, but to reduce harm; that a system of sanctions should abandon grander goals and try to avoid mischief. —David J. Rothman

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE

See Section VI for articles by Gustave de Beaumont and Alexis de Tocqueville, David J. Rothman, Thorsten Sellin, and others on ‘Punishment: A Historical Perspective.”

From Popular Periodicals

Admitting that they can’t really reform criminals in prison, penal experts now focus on punishment, according to “Big Change in Prisons: Punish—Not Reform” in the August 25, 1975 issue of U.S. News and World Report (pp. 21 -25).

Life on “The Rock,” once the home of such notorious criminals as Al Capone and Machine Gun Kelly, is recalled by writer Joyce Johnson in “Grim Corridors of Alcatraz as Tourist Attraction” in the October 1975 issue of the small (pp. 1-4).


Two hundred years of dealing with crime have humbled America’s expectations of reforming offenders, according to Harvard Professor James Q. Wilson in “Crime and Punishment,” a bicentennial essay in the April 26, 1970 issue of Time (pp. 82-84).

Books to Review

The Discovery of the Asylum by David J. Rothman. This award-winning book traces the history of institutionalized punishment in America from colonial times to the present.

The Offender in His Relation to the Law by Burdette Lewis. A Progressive era reformer proposes changes in parole and indeterminate sentencing.

Suggested Discussion Questions

How were criminals punished before the establishment of penitentiaries? What do these forms of punishment imply about early American society?

What changes led to the development of prisons as we know them today?

To what extent does the modern prison reflect the attitudes and ambitions of its founders? What were the philosophical, social, and legal sources of these ideas about punishment?

Why has the system of incarceration persisted despite numerous, serious failures? Have any of its supports been weakened or discredited in the past twenty-five years?

Explain the reasons for the current emphasis on punishment, rather than reform, as the goal of prisons. What are the arguments in support of and against this position? What other alternatives are available in light of the history of incarceration in America?

Program Suggestions and Resources

Cruel and Unusual Punishment. Until the early 1800s, prisons as we know them today did not exist in America. Instead, colonists relied on different and often-harsh methods of punishment. Invite a historian, sociologist, or criminologist from a local community college or university to discuss the early forms of punishment in America. Encourage your speaker to explain the relationship of these forms to the social, religious, and political life of colonial society and to examine their connections to the British system of sanctions.

A Progressive Legacy. The concern for rehabilitating convicted criminals can be traced to the Jacksonian and Progressive reformers. Examine these philosophies and their impact on the modern penal institution with a historian, sociologist, or criminologist from a local community college or university. As a prelude to the discussion, consider having your group indicate their agreement or disagreement with those tenets of these philosophies pertaining to punishment and rehabilitation.

Punishment, Not Reform. During the turmoil of the 1960s, a new generation of reformers began to question the functions of prisons in light of failures to understand crime or the criminal. This questioning continues today in the debate on whether prisons should focus on punishment or rehabilitation. Arrange a debate on this issue for your group. Participants could include a local warden, an administrator of a prisoner rehabilitation program, a law and order law-enforcement official, and a representative of a minority-rights or civil-liberties organization.
14. The Prison Community

- Prisons punish people. But heaping punishment upon the few sent to prison embitters and damages them. They perceive that they are carrying the entire punishment burden and break or rebel under the strain. — John Irwin

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE

See Section VI for articles by John Irwin, Richard McCleery, Edward Bunker, and others on "The Prison Community."

From Popular Periodicals

Interviews with prisoners confined at "the new Alcatraz," a Federal prison in Marion, Illinois, raise serious questions for student Tom Miller about the isolation, brutality, and deprivations of modern prison life. See "Behind Bars" in the January 1977 issue of Progressive (pp. 13-24).

New York Times columnist Tom Wicker describes his harrowing experience as a negotiator in one of the worst prison riots of this decade in "Men in Yard" in the March 1975 issue of Esquire (pp. 59-69+).

O. R. T. Smith, a pseudonym for a prison inmate describes the poor health care prisoners receive in Health Hazards Behind Bars in the February 1976 issue of America (pp. 146-147).

Books to Review

Soul on Ice by Eldridge Cleaver. This autobiography traces the changes in black prisoners' perception of and position in the prison community.

Half, Blacks, and Cops by Leo Carroll. The new type of prison community formed by intense racial divisions is described in this study.

Suggested Discussion Questions

To what extent should a prison community aim to be a model community? To reflect the world outside?

What rights are guaranteed to prisoners? What forms of redress should be provided if those rights are threatened or denied?

What, in your opinion, should be the effect of the prison experience on inmates? How should prison life be organized to provide this experience?

What can be done to alleviate racial tensions behind bars? To end violence? To eliminate sexual attacks?

To what extent is the prison system responsible for easing inmates' return to society? How can this easing be accomplished?

Program Suggestions and Resources

Life Behind Bars. Some critics contend that life in a modern prison duplicates the social conditions of the world outside that are frequently linked to the causes of crime. For a close-up of prison life, view Dead Man Coming, a film that depicts the hostility and frustrations of both prisoners and staff. Following the film, invite an ex-inmate or a representative of an ex-inmates group to lead a discussion on the film's conclusions. Encourage group members to compare their notions of life behind bars with that shown in the film.

Trying to Reform. Although there is much controversy surrounding the merit of rehabilitation programs, they are still much a part of prison life. For a look at some of these programs and their goals, invite several program administrators or staff members to meet with your group. Encourage each speaker to evaluate the effects of his or her particular program on the inmates and its usefulness to prisoners when they are released.

A Racial Battlefield. One of the social tensions magnified inside the walls of modern prisons is racism. Explore this problem with a panel discussion. Panelists could include a warden or jail administrator, a representative of an ex-inmate organization, a member of a minority-rights or civil-liberties organization, a psychologist or social worker who has counseled prisoners, and a local minister, priest, or rabbi.
15. The Future of Punishment

In any event, the future of punishment will certainly be a "problem" for which there is no "solution" in the ordinary sense of that term. At best there are more and less satisfactory ways of reducing the tensions produced by various and often conflicting punishment objectives: to reduce crime by deterring potential offenders or repeaters, to express disapproval of law violating activities, to be just and fair, and not too costly. — Sheldon L. Messinger

Background

From the Courses by Newspaper Reader, CRIME AND JUSTICE

See Section VI for articles by Robert Martinson, David J. Rothman, Wesley T. Wilkins, and others on "The Future of Punishment."

From Popular Periodicals

Harvard professor James Q. Wilson points out that prison populations change in response to the crime rate in "Who's in Prison?" in the November 1976 issue of Commentary (pp. 55-58).

Recent Supreme Court decisions on the death penalty question are surveyed by Tufts professor of philosophy Hugo A. Bedau in "New tile for the Death Penalty" in the August 28, 1976 issue of Nations (pp. 144-148).

Associate professor Howard B. Tolley Jr., looks at prison problems in three institutions and the public's inability to choose between punishment or reform in "Political and Prison Reform: Three Test Cases" in the September 1976 issue of Inmate (pp. 93-96).

David Rothenberg, executive director of the Fortune Society, argues that the prison system hardens rather than rehabilitates inmates in "In Disgrace with Fortune: Prison Reform Today" in the February 19, 1977 issue of America (pp. 141-144).

Books to Review


Decarceration: Community Treatment and the Deviant by Andrew T. Scull. The recent tendency to rely less on institutions for the care of prisoners and mental patients is probed in this study.

Suggested Discussion Questions

What characteristics of modern prisons and modern prison reform have led to a call for additional changes in the penal system? How do these characteristics compare to problems of prisons of the past?

In your opinion, would society be better served by modernized or new prisons or by "community" rehabilitation programs? On what have you based your opinion?

What does the increasing number of criminals portend for the punishment system in the United States? Are these changes desirable?

In light of our past experience with punishment, to what extent can we rely on prisons and other sanctions such as capital punishment to deter crime? What alternatives are possible?

What are the limits to punishment in a democratic society? In a modern, industrialized society? What do these limits portend for the future of the criminal justice system?
Program Suggestions and Resources

Out from Behind Bars. Dissatisfaction with the current prison system has led to the development of innovative, minimum-security facilities for offenders. For insight into these programs and their philosophy, begin by viewing *No Gun Tower...No Fences*, a documentary on a Virginia youth center that concentrates on education and psychological help. Following the film, invite the head of your state's corrections system to discuss similar projects underway or being considered.

A Life for a Life. The harshest sanction of America's criminal justice system, the death penalty, has been the subject of great debate within the legal community. Examining, through a panel discussion, the arguments for and against the use of death as punishment. Panelists could include a local judge, a priest, minister, or rabbi, a member of a civil liberties organization, a law professor from a nearby law school, and a high-ranking law enforcement official.

Just Deserts. The current emphasis among penal experts on punishment rather than reform is bound to have impact on the prison system. Invite a warden from a local jail or prison, or a corrections specialist from a local community college or university to evaluate this trend and its likely consequences. Encourage your speaker to compare this trend to past reforms of the penal system and its likelihood for success.
Because crime is viewed as one of our nation's major problems, numerous organizations have focused their efforts on various aspects of America's criminal justice system. Below is a sampling of the organizations that can provide resources useful in planning and enriching community programs or class meetings. Other resources, too numerous to list completely, include local police departments, state police, district attorneys, state attorneys general, United States attorneys, criminal court, state, and federal judges, court administrators, wardens and other prison officials. Other organizations useful in program planning are local libraries, unions, churches and synagogues, and ad hoc organizations formed around a specific issue.
American Bar Association
1155 East 60th Street
Chicago, IL 60637

A national association of attorneys, the American Bar Association (ABA) concerns itself with a broad range of issues related to the criminal justice system. Local and state chapters of the ABA can be contacted as a source of speakers on such "Crime and Justice" topics as the philosophy of criminal law, the limits of law, civil liberties and criminal law, pretrial detention, and criminal sentencing. In addition, the ABA's Special Committee on Youth Education for Citizenship publishes a number of books and booklets on law-related education. Below is a selection of these materials.

- Bibliography of Law-Related Curriculum Materials, Annotated ($1.00). Included in this guide are descriptions of more than 1,000 books and pamphlets for use in K-12 classrooms.
- Medla. An Annotated Catalogue of Law-Related Audio-Visual Materials ($1.00). More than 400 films, filmstrips, and tapes are described in this publication.
- Gaming: An Annotated Catalogue of Law-Related Games and Simulations ($1.00). More than 130 games and simulations are included in this catalog.

To order these publications (all three are available for $2.00) or to request a complete publications list, write to the ABA at the above address.

American Civil Liberties Union
22 East 40th Street
New York, NY 10016

Dedicated to preserving individual rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) has chapters in every state that could be a source of speakers to discuss such issues as the rights of prisoners and suspects, institutional racism, and capital punishment. To contact your state or local chapter, check your local phone directory or request an affiliate list from the national office listed above.

The ACLU also makes available publications that can provide background on several "Crime and Justice" topics. Below is a sampling.

- The Rights of Suspects ($1.25). The Rights of the Poor ($1.25). The Rights of Gay People ($1.75). These three publications are from the ACLU's series of "rights" paperback handbooks designed with a convenient question-and-answer format.
- The Case Against the Death Penalty by Hugo A. Bedau ($10). One of the foremost authorities on the death penalty analyzes the constitutional, moral, and political questions surrounding discretionary and mandatory death penalty statutes.
- Preventive Detention ($0.05). This brief publication summarizes the major objections to the erosion of presumptive innocence by preventive detention.
- Marijuana ($2.00). This pamphlet describes the legal sanctions against marijuana, how they are unjustly applied, and the growing sentiment for decriminalization.

To order these publications or to request a publications list, contact the ACLU's Literature Department at the address above.

American Correctional Association
4321 Hartwick Road, Suite L-208
College Park, MD 20740

Founded more than a century ago, the American Correctional Association (ACA) focuses on a diversity of interests including adult and juvenile services, institutional, transitional, and community programs; and academic programs for correctional personnel. The approximately 10,000 ACA members are drawn from all areas of corrections work in the United States. The following ACA publications may provide background information on some "Crime and Justice" topics.


To order these publications or to obtain a complete publications list, write to ACA at the above address. Payment must accompany all orders.

American Judicature Society
200 West Monroe Street, Suite 1606
Chicago, IL 60606

The American Judicature Society (AJS) seeks to improve judicial administration. Members of the Board of Directors, located in all fifty states, can be contacted to serve as speakers on the goals and programs of the society. For a list of board members inyour state, contact the society at the above address.

The society also publishes numerous books, reports, and pamphlets on such topics as judicial selection, tenure and discipline, court administration, and the jury system. Below is a sampling.

- Selected Readings on Judicial Discipline and Removal edited by Glen R. Winters (222, $1.75). This reader features descriptions of various discipline and removal mechanisms now being used and reports on the movement to improve them.
- Selected Readings on Court Congestion and Delay edited by Glenn R. Winters (199, $2.25). Current thought on the causes of and possible cures for court congestion are found in this book.
- Sentencing Patterns and Problems: An Annotated Bibliography by Walter S. Carr and Vincent J. Connelly (128, $2.20). Topics covered in this bibliography include plea bargaining, probation, indeterminate sentencing, and parole.

American Courts and Justice edited by Glenn R. Winters and Edward J. Schoenbaum (8553, $8.95). The past, present, and...
future of the American justice system are the focus of this collection of essays.

Judacitut ($7.00 annually). This monthly AJS journal serves as a forum on all aspects of the administration of justice and its improvement. Subscriptions are included in the $25 membership fee for AJS.

To order these publications or request a complete publications list, write to AJS at the above address. No postage is charged if payment is enclosed with your order.

American Justice Institute
1007 Suyenth Street, Fourth Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Since its founding in 1959, the nonprofit American Justice Institute (AJI) has been involved in a broad range of planning, research, evaluation, and training activities in criminal and juvenile justice. Reports on recent projects, focused on nontraditional approaches to corrections, could provide background on the "Crime and Justice" topic, the future of corrections. Of specific interest are Model Community Corrational Program Seminar Report ($2.50) and The Non-Private A Rohner Corrational Program ($4.50). To order these publications or request a complete publications list, contact AJI at the above address.

Americans for Effective Law Enforcement, Inc.
960 State National Bank-Plaza
Evanston, IL 60201

Nonprofit and nonpartisan, Americans for Effective Law Enforcement, Inc. (AELE) seeks to assist the police, the prosecution, and the courts in promoting fair and effective criminal-law administration and to inform the public of the needs and requirements for effective law enforcement. Since its founding in 1969, AELE has been active in research and assistance for the defense of police conduct challenged in court. Below is a brief description of the five periodicals published by AELE.

The Law Enforcement Legal Liability Reporter ($36 annually). This monthly publication describes current cases of civil liability and police misconduct litigation.

The Law Enforcement Legal Defense Manual ($48 annually). Included in this bimonthly series are briefs designed to assist the defense of police misconduct litigation.

The Jail Administrators Law Bulletin ($24 annually). This bimonthly publication reports cases involving civil liability of sheriffs, wardens, and other law-enforcement officials who work with prisoners.

The Police Plaintiff ($18 annually). Issued quarterly, this periodical digests recent suits by police officers in connection with their on-the-job actions.

The Police Employment Litigation Digest ($18 annually). Current cases concerned with the employment rights of police officers are published in this quarterly periodical.

If copies of these publications are not available in local libraries or from local law-enforcement officials, they can be ordered by writing AELE at the above address.

The Battelle Law and Justice Study Center
Human Affairs Research Centers
4000 N.E. 41st Street
P.O. Box 5395
Seattle, WA 98105

Affiliated with the Battelle Memorial Institute, an independent, international research organization, the Law and Justice Study Center conducts research projects on the problems of crime and justice in contemporary societies. Specific program areas include crime prevention, law enforcement, and crime victimization. The interdisciplinary staff at the center can be contacted to serve as speakers on current research projects. Requests should be sent to the center at the above address.

Center for Criminal Justice
Harvard Law School
Cambridge, MA 02138

In operation for seven years, the Center for Criminal Justice conducts numerous research projects on specific criminal justice topics. Long-term projects include studies of reform within the Massachusetts Department of Youth Services, of Massachusetts gun laws, and of prison riots. Brief descriptions of the findings of these projects and of other short-term projects are included in the center's 1976 annual report. Available free of charge by writing the center at the above address, the annual report also contains a bibliography of center reports printed in other publications and anthologies.

The Center for Studies in Criminal Justice
University of Chicago Law School
1111 E. 60th Street
Chicago, IL 60637

Research and specialized training in criminal law are the primary aims of the Center for Studies in Criminal Justice. Since its beginning in 1965, the center's research program has focused on institutional and community-based corrections, the social capacity to control violence, deterrence, on the role of police in the criminal justice system, on the social capacity to control violence, on deterrence, on the role of police in the criminal justice system, on the social capacity to control violence, on deterrence, on the role of police in the criminal justice system, on the social capacity to control violence, on deterrence, on the role of police in the criminal justice system, on the social capacity to control violence, on deterrence, on the role of police in the criminal justice system, on the social capacity to control violence, on deterrence, on the role of police in the criminal justice system, on the social capacity to control violence, on deterrence, on the role of police in the criminal justice system, on the social capacity to control violence, on deterrence, on the role of police in the 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ing and treating antisocial behaviors of juveniles and adults before such behaviors result in serious acts of delinquency and crime. Activities of the center include: research on sources and patterns of crime and delinquency-related behaviors, testing and evaluating programs designed to deal with these types of behaviors, special studies on the relationship between law and, mental health, and providing consultations and assistance to local jurisdictions. Specific research programs have included the development of community-based treatment programs for juveniles; studies in female crime, individual violent behavior, and intrafamily violence, and longitudinal studies of delinquent behavior. A complete listing of active research projects is available from the center at the above address. Below is a listing of some center publications useul in the discussion of "Crime and Justice" topics.

Not the Law's Business: An Examination of Homosexuality, Abortion, Prostitution, Narcotics, and Gambling in the United States by Gilbert Geis (SN 1724-0237, $1.85). Included in this analysis of social issues related to "victimless" crimes is a historical overview and multi-disciplinary perspective.

Correctional Treatment in Community Settings: A Report of Current Research by Marquisee Q. Warren (SN 1724-0247, $7.75). This report on issues pertaining to various community-based treatment programs includes information on treatment methods, training and characteristics of personnel, and size of caseloads.

Crime and Justice: American Style by Clarence Schrag (SN 1724-0142, $1.85). This overview of the criminal justice system considers theoretical foundations, procedures presently in use, and prospects for change.

Diversion From the Criminal Justice System by Eleanor Harlow, J. Robert Weber, and Fred Cohen (SN 1724-0106, $2.25). Informal methods used to divert drug addicts, alcoholics, and misdemeanants and noncriminal juveniles from overloaded courts are the subject of this report.

Perspectives on Deterrence by Franklin E. Zimring (SN 1724-0102, $5.55). The relationship of moral and legal deterrents to crime prevention and the social, ethical, and practical issues involved in the use of punishment as a deterrent are discussed in this report.

The Rehabilitation Game ($2.50). This game is designed to acquaint students with the major sentencing alternatives that judges use for adult offenders.

Preventing Crime and Violence ($0.95). Included in this future-planning game are simulations and gaming activities dealing with the causes of crime, crime and the future, juvenile rights, and neighborhood crime. One copy is recommended for each student for best results.

The Sounds of Prison ($10.00). This cassette presents the views of inmates, guards, and administrators in the prison environment.

Opposing Viewpoints Pamphlets ($0.98 each). Collected in these series of pamphlets are the often conflicting opinions of prominent Americans on such topics as the causes of crime, dealing "with white-collar crime, capital punishment," and gun "control. For example, the pamphlets in the series on gun control were authored by Jonathan B. Bingham, Senator Strom Thurmond, Walter E. Fauntroy, and the National Rifle Association.


To order any of the items described above or to request a complete list of educational materials, contact the correctional service.

Chamber of Commerce of the United States
1615 "H" Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

The Chamber of Commerce of the United States, as well as local chambers across the United States, are concerned with the impact of white-collar, consumer, and urban crime on business and on the community. In addition to serving as a source of speakers, the Chamber of Commerce makes available the following materials to the general public that would be useful in a discussion of "Crime and Justice" topics.

Modernizing Corrections (2734, $2.25). This color filmstrip and accompanying tape recording explain the state that business has in rehabilitating offenders and in modernizing jails and prisons and suggests ways for citizens to get directly involved.

White-Collar Crime: Everybody's Problem, Everybody's Loss (3212, $2.50). This ninety-six-page book alerts readers to major categories of white-collar crime and suggests countermeasures and collective action for combatting the white-collar criminal.

Marshaling Citizen Power Against Crime (2237, $2.50). Included in this description of the problems of the criminal justice system is an inventory of local citizen-action programs.

Deskbook On Organized Crime (1824, $2.00). This handbook surveys the problems businesses face in competing and fighting against organized crime.

To order these materials or to request a complete publications and film list, write the Chamber of Commerce at the above address. Bulk prices for any publication are available upon request.

Correctional Service of Minnesota
1427 Washington Avenue, South Minneapolis, MN 55454

As part of its educational program, the Correctional Service of Minnesota has collected numerous teaching aids for use in classes on criminal justice topics. Below is a list of some of these aids that could be used to stimulate discussion on "Crime and Justice" topics.

The Rehabilitation Game ($2.50). This game is designed to acquaint students with the major sentencing alternatives that judges use for adult offenders.

Preventing Crime and Violence ($0.95). Included in this future-planning game are simulations and gaming activities dealing with the causes of crime, crime and the future, juvenile rights, and neighborhood crime. One copy is recommended for each student for best results.

The Sounds of Prison ($10.00). This cassette presents the views of inmates, guards, and administrators in the prison environment.

Opposing Viewpoints Pamphlets ($0.98 each). Collected in these series of pamphlets are the often conflicting opinions of prominent Americans on such topics as the causes of crime, dealing "with white-collar crime, capital punishment," and gun "control. For example, the pamphlets in the series on gun control were authored by Jonathan B. Bingham, Senator Strom Thurmond, Walter E. Fauntroy, and the National Rifle Association.


To order any of the items described above or to request a complete list of educational materials, contact the correctional service.
Dedicated to developing an understanding of issues affecting the administration of justice, the Crime and Justice Foundation focuses on educational and citizen-action programs, primarily in the state of Massachusetts. In addition, the foundation makes available at no-charge a number of films on the criminal justice process. Below are brief descriptions of two films that could be used to stimulate group discussions, discussions.

*Mei In Cases* (55 min.) This documentary by CBS reporter Roger Mudd surveys prison systems, including rehabilitation programs, throughout the country.

*The Odds Against* (25 min.) This dramatic film questions whether a youthful offender can return to a crime-free life.

**Crime and Justice Foundation**
31 Saint James Avenue, Suite 348
Boston, MA 02116

**Criminal Justice Center**
John Jay College of Criminal Justice
444 West 56th Street
New York, NY 10019

Education, training, and research are the primary goals of the Criminal Justice Center, an independent part of John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Some current projects include an anti-corruption management program, seminars on the infiltration of corporations by organized crime, a study of juvenile prostitution, and a study of residential crime-control programs. The center also sponsors annually a criminal justice speakers consortium, a lecture tour throughout the United States by criminal justice specialists from foreign countries. Below is a brief list of center publications useful as background for several "Crime and Justice" topics.

**Criminal Justice Center Monographs.** This series features six reports on aspects of police corruption. Included are "A Functional Approach to Police Corruption" by Dorothy Heid Bracey (Number 1, $1.25); "The Psychosocial Costs of Police Corruption" by Charles Bahn (Number 2, $1.00); "The Role of the Media in Controlling Corruption" by David Burnham (Number 3, $1.75); "Police Integrity: The Role of Psychological Screening of Applicants" by Allen E. Shealy (Number 4, $1.00); "A Police Administrator Looks at Police Corruption" by William McCarthy (Number 5, $1.50); and "Developing a Police Anti-Corruption Capability" by Mitchell Ware (Number 6, $1.25).

**Law Enforcement News** ($8.00 annually). This semimonthly newspaper features interviews with national and international law-enforcement leaders as well as updates on research, publications, and conferences.

To order these publications or to request a complete publications list, write the John Jay Press, 444 West 56th Street, New York, NY 10019. For information about this year's criminal justice speakers consortium, contact the center at the above address.

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**
United States Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20537

Since its creation in 1908 as the investigative arm of the Department of Justice, the responsibilities of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) have been expanded to meet changing criminal justice needs. Today FBI agents, headquartered in fifty-nine major cities across the nation, investigate such crimes as bank fraud and embezzlement, kidnapping, computer fraud, airplane hijacking, and racketeering. In addition, the FBI works closely with a variety of law-enforcement agencies to battle organized crime and terrorism. To request speakers or further information about the FBI, check the phone book for the nearest field office. A complete list of offices as well as a summary of FBI activities can be found in *Know Your FBI*. A free copy is available upon request from the FBI at the above address.

**Federal Bureau of Prisons**
United States Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20534

When the Federal Bureau of Prisons was established in 1929, penal philosophy recognized that the chief mission of prisons was to protect the public, but that protection could best be achieved by rehabilitating inmates. This philosophy still prevails in the fifty corrections institutions, ranging from penitentiaries to halfway houses, that make up the federal prison system. As a result of a recent reorganization, regional offices for the bureau are located in Atlanta, Georgia; Burlingame, California; Dallas, Texas; Kansas City, Missouri; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Personnel at these offices can provide information about penitentiaries, reformatories, correctional institutions; metropolitan correctional centers, youth and juvenile institutions, and prison camps in each region. For background on the bureau, write to the above address or contact the nearest regional office to request a copy of *Federal Bureau of Prisons, 1975*, an annual report that highlights new programs in the federal penal system, and *Federal Bureau of Prisons Statistical Reports, Fiscal Year, 1974*, a collection of tables on the trend for the past
ten years of the federal offender population, and on the activities of the United States Parole-Board.

The Fortune Society
29 East 22nd Street
New York, NY 10010

A nonprofit organization of ex-offenders and other interested persons, the Fortune Society strives to promote greater public awareness of the prison system and of the problems faced by inmates. Toward these ends, the society sends teams of speakers to talk to community and school groups, and works with released prisoners to help them adjust to life outside of prison.

The society also publishes eleven times a year Fortune News, a newspaper featuring articles on prison reform and the prison experience, interviews with former prisoners, and a summary of nationwide news on criminal justice trends. Each issue also features a listing of hardcover and paperback books, including some written by ex-offenders, that can be ordered from the society. Subscriptions are free to inmates, $2 for students, and from $5 to $25 for others.

For additional information about the society or its speaker’s bureau, contact the society at the above address.

Institute of Contemporary Corrections and the Behavioral Sciences
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX 77340

Working closely with the Texas Department of Corrections, the Institute of Contemporary Corrections and the Behavioral Sciences is involved in a broad variety of educational and research programs. Reports on research conducted by the institute’s distinguished faculty and by graduate students are published regularly in Criminal Justice Monographs, the institute’s official journal. Recent titles include “Police—Community Relations,” “Laws Against Homosexuality,” and “An Analysis of Organized Crime’s Infiltration of Legitimate Business.” Check your local library for current issues of this publication.

Institute of Judicial Administration
One Washington Square Village
New York, NY 10012

A nonprofit corporation founded in 1952, the Institute of Judicial Administration (IJA) is dedicated to the study and improvement of the operation of court systems. Toward this end, the IJA conducts research on the administration of justice and on court management, sponsors educational programs for judges and court administrators, and serves as a national clearinghouse for all organizations interested in the courts. Below is a sampling of IJA publications that provide background information on court administration and the judicial process.

Federal and State Court Systems: A Guide by Fannie J. Klein ($15.00). Included in this comprehensive guide are details of developments in the administration of civil and criminal justice, detailed discussions of court systems in nine states, and chapters on the grand jury, petit jury, and legal research.

Available from Ballinger Publishing Company, 17 Dunster St., Cambridge, MA 02138.

The Administration of Justice in the Courts by Fannie J. Klein ($75.00). This two-volume bibliography contains annotated references to literature on the courts and court administration. Available from Ocean Publications, Inc., 75 Main St., Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522.

How Bar Associations Evaluate Sitting Judges by Cynthia Owen Philip ($25.00). This review of thirteen programs currently being conducted by bar associations to evaluate sitting judges criticizes information gathering and dissemination, and proposes a set-of guidelines. Available from IJA.

IJA Report (free). This quarterly newsletter about IJA activities also contains up-to-date news in the field of judicial administration. Available from IJA.

To order the publications available from IJA or to request a complete publications list, write to IJA at the above address.

John Howard Association
67 East Madison Street, Suite 1216
Chicago, IL 60603

Founded in 1901, the John Howard Association is a private, nonprofit service agency dedicated to changing inequitable practices and policies in the crime and delinquency fields, primarily corrections. The association’s six-point program for corrections reform is outlined in its pamphlet, Seventy-Five Years of Leadership in Criminal Justice. For copies of this publication or additional information, contact the association.

The Law and Society Association
University of Denver College of Law
200 West 14th Avenue
Denver, CO 80204

The Law and Society Association, was formed in 1964 to bring lawyers and social scientists together in a variety of interdisciplinary inquiries into the legal process. Toward this end, the association has sponsored joint panels and symposia, training institutes for sociological research, and other educational programs. It also publishes Law & Society Review, which serves as a forum for law and society studies, including how the law is used to prescribe behavior. Check your local library for current issues of this publication.

Law Enforcement Assistance Administration
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20531

Charged with providing a variety of services to local and state law-enforcement agencies, the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) regularly awards grants for special projects and research. Information about these grants is included in the data held by the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, described below.

LEAA also has compiled an extensive annotated list of films published in its Criminal Justice and Violent Materials Directory, October, 1976. Topics include the courts, crime prevention, corrections, and public information. For a free copy of the directory, write to LEAA at the above address.
National Alliance for Safer Cities
165 East 56th Street
New York, NY 10022

A coalition of national and regional organizations including the National Urban League, the AFL-CIO Urban Affairs Department, and the Vera Institute of Justice, the National Alliance for Safer Cities attempts to "depolarize" the crime issue, encourage community crime-prevention programs, and promote good police-community relations. It also assists local alliances in many major cities with their volunteer neighborhood safety programs. A copy of the alliance's pamphlet Twenty-Two Steps to Safe Neighborhoods will be provided free on request by writing to the above address.

Reproduction by interested groups is permitted by the alliance.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
1790 Broadway
New York, NY 10019

Chapters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a nationwide organization formed to combat the effects of racial discrimination, are a fine source of speakers on urban crime and on the problems created by racism within the criminal justice system. Check your local phone directory or contact the national headquarters at the address above for the location of the chapter nearest you.

The NAACP also publishes a bibliography that lists books and articles on the black experience in America. Copies are available free of charge on request from their national headquarters and from many local chapters.

National Association of Women in Criminal Justice
c/o Severa Austin, Chief of Adult Services
Wisconsin Council on Criminal Justice
122 West Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53703

Women as offenders, victims, and working professionals in the criminal justice field are the primary concerns of the newly formed National Association of Women in Criminal Justice. Members of the association, estimated at 1,000 nationwide, can be contacted to serve as speakers on a variety of criminal justice topics. In addition to the speaker's bureau, the association publishes Update, a newsletter featuring information on women in criminal justice. A subscription is included in the association's $10 membership fee. For information on the association or the speaker's bureau, contact Ms. Austin, association chairperson, at the above address.

National Council on Crime and Delinquency
Continental Plaza,
411 Hackensack Avenue
Hackensack, NJ 07601

Established in 1907 to provide services to promote rehabilita-
The National Crime Prevention Institute (NCPI) is dedicated to training law-enforcement representatives in crime prevention techniques and assisting local police departments nationwide in establishing crime prevention bureaus. Since its founding in 1971, law-enforcement officers from all fifty states have participated in NCPI programs, and more than a hundred new crime prevention units have been established. For information on crime prevention or to obtain a speaker who has participated in NCPI programs, contact your local police department. If there is no NCPI graduate on the force and you would like to obtain additional information about crime prevention, contact NCPI at the above address.

National Criminal Justice Reference Service
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration
United States Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20531

Established by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration to meet the information needs of professionals and concerned citizens, the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCIRS) collects and disseminates information on a multitude of criminal justice topics. Based on their individual interests, NCIRS users can obtain bimonthly announcements of additions to the computerized data base through the Selective Notification of Information program or they can request specific literature searches from the NCIRS Reference and Information Service. User interests are selected from a list of seventy topics ranging from alcoholism to terrorism to victimless crimes. There is no charge for NCIRS services.

To obtain a registration form, write to National Criminal Justice Reference Service, P.O. Box 24036, S.W. Post Office, Washington, DC 20024.

National District Attorneys Association
211 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 1513
Chicago, IL 60611

One of the projects of the National District Attorneys Association, an organization of district attorneys in the United States, focuses on the economic crimes that total an estimated $40 billion annually. Designed to improve and coordinate investigations and prosecutions, the Economic Crime Project currently involves more than forty-one district attorney offices across the United States. Participants in this project list the project's annual report, are likely resources for the "Crime and Justice" topic, white-collar crime. For a copy of the annual report and the pamphlet, Don't Be Stung, a listing of common-fraud schemes, contact the organization's Washington office, 1900 L Street, N.W., Suite 607, Washington, DC 20036.

The National Prison Project
American Civil Liberties Union Foundation
1340 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

The National Prison Project, a tax-exempt project of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, seeks to broaden prisoners' rights, improve prison conditions, and develop alternatives to incarceration. For an information packet about the project that includes a position statement on reforms in sentencing and prison life, contact the project at the above address.

National Urban League
Equal Opportunity Building
500 East 62nd Street
New York, NY 10021

One of the concerns of the National Urban League since its founding at the turn of the century has been the criminal justice system. Leaders of local leagues, located in more than 140 American cities, could serve as speakers and panelists on such subjects as community crime prevention, the role of blacks in the criminal justice system, and job opportunities for ex-offenders. To contact the nearest league, check your local phone directory or contact the National Urban League regional offices in New York City, Atlanta, Chicago, or Los Angeles.

For a perspective on the impact of crime on the black community, the Urban League's publication When the Music Stops: An Analysis of Black Inmates in the 70's might be useful. Developed from a symposium attended by 12 distinguished scholars and social scientists, this paperback book includes a section on crime within the black community. Copies at $1.95 each can be ordered from the Communications Department at the above address. Make checks payable to the National Urban League and add $0.50 for handling.

Police Foundation
1909 "K" Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

Privately funded, the Police Foundation is dedicated to supporting innovation and improvement in police services. Toward this end, the foundation has initiated several projects that test traditional police assumptions and new methods of policing. A listing of these undertakings can be found in the foundation's 1974 progress report, Toward A New Potential, available free of charge by writing to the above address. Below is a listing of some other foundation reports that would serve as background information.

Kansas City Preventive Patrol Experiment: A Summary Report ($2.50). Included in this report are the results of experiments in patrol strategy and deployment of police resources conducted in Kansas City, Missouri.

Women in Policing ($3.00). This summary of a study conducted in Washington, D.C., concludes that the sex of a patrol officer does not significantly affect performance.

Police Corruption ($2.50). This publication provides a perspective on the nature and control of crime within the ranks of law-enforcement officials.

The order these publications or to request a complete publications list, write the Foundation at the above address. Payment must accompany orders.
Every five years since 1950, the United Nations has sponsored an international Crime Congress concerned with national and transnational aspects of the criminal justice system. The most recent Crime Congress, held in Geneva, Switzerland in 1975, focused on "changes in the forms of criminality, the prevention of crime, the emerging roles of the police and other law-enforcement agencies, the treatment of offenders, and the economic and social consequences of crime. The report of this congress titled Fifth United Nations Congress of Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders Report (Sales No. 76.IV.2) can be ordered at $5.00 per copy from United Nations Publications, Room LX<3,00, New York, NY 10017. Payment, including a 10 percent charge for shipping and postage, must accompany your order.

The state-based humanities committees, funded by the national Endowment for the Humanities, were formed to stimulate dialogue between humanists and the public on matters of social concern. Community programs based on the courses by Newspaper series may qualify for funding. For additional information on opportunities for financial assistance and funding guidelines, consult your state committee. Below are the names of executive directors and addresses and phone numbers of the states humanities committees.

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SECTION IV

FILMS
An Annotated List

This list of films correlates with Courses by Newspaper's Fall 1977 program, "Crime and Justice in America."

The following films can serve to stimulate discussion and reflection on a wide variety of issues relating to crime and punishment in our society.

For example, for those on the outside, films offer insight into the prison experience—a chance to see and hear what it's like inside a prison. For prisoners, making a film or being interviewed for a film may be their first opportunity to talk to outsiders about their experiences.

The primary sales source of each film is given. Many of these films also will be available from your local public library film department on a free-loan basis or from a university film rental library at a modest rental fee.

For additional information about films or programming advice, contact the Educational Film Library Association (EFLA), 43 West 61st Street, New York, NY 10023. Telephone: (212) 246-4533.

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Compiled by Esme J. Dick, media specialist, The Brunswick School, Greenwich, Connecticut, and an elected member of the Greenwich Representative Town Meeting. She is a volunteer sponsor for the Connecticut Prison Association, a citizen's group that tries, through friendly intervention and one-to-one counseling, to help prisoners and their families during incarceration and especially at the time of release. She is also a member of the Oak Glen Community Committee of the Stamford-Greenwich Society of Friends. Previously, she was Administrative Director of the Educational Film Library Association and Director of the American Film Festival. She contributes reviews and articles to various film publications and has served as Editor of Sightlines and Managing Editor of Film Library Quarterly.
1. Crime: No Simple Solutions


Illustrates three common con games and suggests how to avoid being trapped into them. The acting is a little stilted, but the information is quite valuable. Emphasis is on avoiding the three “G’s”: gullibility, goodness, and greed.


A condensation of the feature film, which tells the story of a savage and senseless murder of four members of a Kansas family by two men who broke into their home. Through flashbacks we learn something of the early life and the motivations that brought Perry, one of the killers, to his crime. Ends with Perry’s execution by hanging. A good short discussion film for questions about the real causes of criminal actions. There are several other films in the same series that might be of use in studying other aspects of criminality.

Conscience in Conflict, Power and Corruption, Authority and Rebellion, Trouble with the Law.


Designed as a public information documentary. Shows the various ways criminals are able to get into houses to commit crimes. Gives advice on how to burglar-proof a home and what to do if attacked.


Based on an actual case involving a very inept would-be bank robber. Sonny, played by Al Pacino, takes the staff of a bank hostage and holds them for long hours while attempting to arrange for a large ransom. During the standoff, the robber emerges as a tortured, often sympathetic psychotic, torn between his two “wives,” one male and one female, dominated by his mother, and terribly in debt.

Firebugs, 40 min., color, 1975. Director/Writer/Editor: Mike Lloyd Ross. Distributor: Film Communicators.

Designed primarily to acquaint fire-fighters with ways of identifying arson. Eight people from varying backgrounds explain the motivations and behavioral patterns that led them to set fires.


Overview of hunting in the U.S. emphasizing its commercial and contest aspects and examining the attitudes and motivations of America’s 20 million hunters. Focuses on recent innovations that have taken most of the “sport” out of hunting, particularly in the “hunting preserves” in which animals are harvested (i.e., a kill is guaranteed) for a price. Although the film gives some perfunctory time to the view that hunts are really in the business of conservation, and are responsible for increasing numbers of some species, particularly ducks, it is obvious that the filmmaker regards hunting as a barbaric pastime. Would be useful in a discussion of the entire gun problem in America, the deep roots of the right to bear arms in this country, and the difficulty of achieving responsible gun controls.


Made with the cooperation of the California Locksmith Association and the Los Angeles Police Department. An informative film designed to alert people to the dangers of the intruder including the burglar, rapist, and armed robber. Gives advice on how to protect a house against this type of crime and what to do if confronted with it.


An animated tale of a pistol that runs the world, making people do whatever it chooses. All who come in contact with the gun are eventually destroyed by it. A comment on the love of guns raises issues for a discussion of weapons control.


A report on the 1972 Senate hearings on television violence. Are crimes in fact encouraged and initiated by constant exposure to scenes enacted on TV? Although there does not seem to be any clear-cut answer to this question, a consideration is essential in contemporary studies of criminality.


After being involved in the murder of a fellow dock worker, Terry becomes troubled about whether he should tell the police what he knows about the crime. Eventually his decision to appear as a witness alienates him from his friends and community, but he feels that his decision was responsible and right.

2. White-Collar Crime


Based on the book by Washington Post reporters Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward, this outstanding production chronicles their investigation of the Watergate incident and the hidden circumstances leading to it. Dustin Hoffman and Robert Redford play the leading roles.
An expose of the practices of banks in their dealings with the poor. Many of these practices are technically within the law, although they are clearly discriminatory and in many cases racially based. Shows how a poor person seeking a loan is often required to produce collateral or pay higher interest than the middleclass person: Unable to obtain money from the legitimate banking system, the poor must turn to the loan companies who charge exorbitant interest, thus trapping the poor in an endless cycle of poverty with all its potential for criminality and violence.


An inquiry into the workings of the Phillips Petroleum Corporation, a multi-national conglomerate, to document the ethics and attitudes of the corporate mind. The management is shown as shaping the behaviors and loyalties of all the workers, from the top to the bottom of the company. Although this film is not directly about criminal activity, it is a fine illustration of the ways in which the corporate power structure leads people to blind loyalties to a system that is more interested in preserving its own prestige and image than in how such goals are reached. Former board chairman William Keezer, who acts as spokesman for the company throughout much of this film, is shown in a postscript to the main documentary after he was convicted for making an illegal $100,000 contribution to the 1972 election campaign of Richard Nixon.


Three executives are kidnapped in different situations. Each of the victims and their families and business associates react in different ways. Two of the crimes result in death and injury. The third is handled according to a carefully organized plan and the man and his family are safely rescued in the end. It illustrates why it is important for people in executive and other power positions to be prepared for such kidnap situations.


During the 1952 Presidential campaign, Richard Nixon, Eisenhower's running mate, was accused of unethically using special campaign funds. He then went on nationwide television to tell the details of his financial life, including the story of his dog Checkers, given to him by an admirer. This historical speech is considered one of the best political successes in American history. It is also an indication of the power of the television medium.


An investigation of the assassination of John F. Kennedy and the subsequent Warren Commission Report. Illustrates what the filmmaker feels are the errors, omissions, and deliberate distortions of that report.


A dress manufacturer must commit a felony to keep his business from failing. Colliding with his own moral values, Harry Stoner (Jack Lemmon) is trapped between the daydreams of his past and the ugly materialist realities of contemporary society. The bewildered middle-aged man finds himself pimping for his customers, juggling books, and scheming to burn down his factory for the insurance money. A savage satire that indict's a high-pressure society as it examines the life of one man whose world is collapsing around him.


Some important discussion questions are raised in this typical TV documentary. Covers the petty and occasionally more complex crimes that affect all of us: shoplifting, employee theft, insurance fraud, embezzlement, computer thefts, bribery, and kickbacks. Also attempts to analyze why this type of crime is on the rise and the difficulties of eliminating it.

3. Organized Crime


Filmed on location in New York City and in Sicily, this drama movingly portrays the generational conflict between old and new Mafia leaders, a conflict that ultimately turns brother against brother. Also highlights the paradox of Mafia members who are devoted family men and bloodthirsty killers. Stars Kirk Douglas, Alex Cord, Irene Papas, and Luther Adler.

Documents the many ways in which organized crime affects our lives. Covers such areas as “protection money,” illegal gambling, stock manipulation, and bribery. States that many public officials and police officers are aware of these criminals, but are either unwilling, unable, or too involved to expose or stop their activities.


Engrossing portrait of a Mafia family. The patriarch is a Sicilian whose crime organization has worldwide connections. His sons work for him and battle among themselves for position and control of the Mafia network. Although there is much violence, many of the characters are sympathetic and believable; a fine illustration of the strange mixture of family loyalty, brutality, and violence that make up the big crime fraternity. Includes a remarkable performance by Al Pacino as the son Michael, who eventually takes over on the death of his father, played by Marlon Brando.

4. Urban Crime


One of every five crimes committed is an auto theft; but only 17 out of every 100 result in an arrest. Most car thieves are juveniles who often start as joy riders and frequently become involved with car-theft rings. Intended as a training film for police officers but of informational value to persons studying this aspect of crime and to car-owners.


Designed as a police training film but of general interest to crime and punishment students. It illustrates the vulnerability of businesses to breaking and entering. Points out the need for good locks, steel rather than hollow core doors, good exterior lighting, and burglar alarm systems.


An examination of the rise of crime in a middle-class neighborhood of Philadelphia. Victims and relatives of victims talk about the effects the crimes have had on their lives and their anger that so often the criminals are returned to the streets unpunished. A judge comments on his recommendations of parole rather than incarceration, and a district attorney discusses the court congestion caused by increased arrests.


Explores the increasing number of bomb threats and actual bombings of public buildings. Shows the types of weapons used, then outlines, through a simulated bomb threat, a plan for dealing with such a situation. A slightly melodramatic tone somewhat reduces the overall quality.


An animated film about a man planning to commit suicide by jumping from a roof. A large crowd gathers round encouraging him to jump. The scene soon resembles a big street party. Good for use for a discussion of the indifference and callousness to violence of contemporary life.


Documents the rise and fall of a radical anarchist group at American College. Illustrates the intensive government-investigation such groups receive. Was filmed at the scenes of disorders and demonstrations in and around Washington, D.C.


Shows how various con men use the public's gullibility to enter office buildings and commit both petty and serious crimes. A uniformed man enters an office by claiming to be a repairman picking up a typewriter for repair. A girl selling sandwiches from a basket steals purses and other items. A rapist lies in wait for a woman who is always in the office early. Shows how an alert staff can prevent these crimes in office buildings.


A consumer protection film that shows some of the common consumer fraud schemes. Depicted are television sales, used car deals, home freezer plans, and furniture bait-and-switch schemes.


Exposes the fraudulent retail practices foisted upon ghetto consumers, as documented in New York and San Francisco. Shows the results of investigations of furniture dealers, food chains, finance companies, and door-to-door con men.


Designed to help old people avoid becoming the victims of crime. Includes information on how to foil purse snatchers, and prevent armed robbery, home burglary, and nuisance phone calls. Of interest and help to general audiences in all age groups.


Discusses the rapidly rising crime rates among youths, parti-
5. Sex and Crime


A retelling of the true story of the bank robbers Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker. Starting in a fairly modest way, the two gradually become more violent and ruthless in their crimes. Eventually they are gunned down in one of the bloodiest sequences ever filmed. Good for discussing the motivations for and attractions of this type of crime.


Experts discuss the problem of child molestation, the criminals, the victims, and the situations. Explores likely police actions and reactions, to persons arrested for such crimes. Unexciting as cinema, but raises important discussion issues.


A classic chilling tale of the psychopathic mind. The police are searching a city for a child molester and murderer. Eventually, members of the underworld capture the man and decide to try him by a "jury of his peers," rather than turn him over to the authorities. The police finally break in and get their man in the middle of the kangaroo-court proceedings.


Shows Mary Ellen Abrecht, a sergeant on the Washington D.C. police force, in various professional functions: leading Janus Films.


A number of recent court cases and studies have dramatized cases of rape and the degradation of women that would have formerly gone unpunished. Documents the physical oppression of women and penalties faced by women who respond to violent attacks with violence.


Convicted rapists, rape victims, rape-crisis-center workers, and others talk about their experiences and analyze their actions and motivations. Examines the mass media view of rape and reveals that although rape is illegal, the rape ethic is glorified in films, books, and magazines.


Illuminates the special problems of women ex-offenders. After four years in prison, a woman is shown living for a while in a halfway house. Here she learns to live on the outside, and strengthens her ability to stay off drugs. Eventually she returns to life with her three children.


Interviews with members of the Weather Underground (Billy Ayers, Kathy Boudin, Bernardine Dohrn, Jeff Jones, Cathy Wilkerson) were filmed in secret locations with the faces of the subjects obscured because they are still fugitives from justice. As the members of the Weather Underground discuss revolution as well as social and economic change in the United States, the film intercuts with footage of the turbulent sixties. The women also discuss their growing involvement in the movement, from performing domestic chores for their men to assuming major responsibilities and carrying out dangerous missions. The subjects reveal that they believe their choice to engage in terrorist activities was a moral decision in light of their political beliefs.


Shows some programs attempting to help victims of wife beating, a very common crime affecting all strata of society. Many victims of wife beating are killed by their husbands, especially if they complain to police or a doctor. In some areas, more policemen are killed intervening in this kind of crime than from any other single cause. For many reasons, often financial, women are unable to leave their brutal husbands and must continue to live in constant fear. Children who witness this type of parental behavior are likely to grow up to repeat the pattern.


A moving television documentary that visits three prisons...
for women in Los Angeles, West Virginia, and Ohio. Despite varying physical conditions, all emphasize isolation, indignity, and dehumanization in their treatment of offenders. Interviews with inmates and staff point out the fact that neither side feels that "prisons work," either in rehabilitating or in providing skills to help reduce recidivism.

6. Race and Crime

A La Brava: Prison and Beyond, 54 min., b&w, 1972. Producer: Ricardo DeSoto. Distributor: University of California Extension Media Center. Explores the special problems that Chicanos face when dealing with the criminal justice system. Two prisoners in Soledad Prison talk about their effort to raise their standard of living by education and political action. They also discuss the special problems they face when returning to the Spanish-speaking community.

Born Innocent, 99 min., color, 1975. Producer Tomorrow Entertainment. Distributor: Learning Corporation of America. Made-for-TV feature film tells the story of a young runaway who is sent to a juvenile detention center where she is treated exactly as the other young women, many of whom are criminals. Brutalized by the indifferent and cruel system, Christy (played by Linda Blair) gradually deteriorates until she is involved in an incident that sets off a riot in which the house mother is killed and the home vandalized. A little melodramatic, but a good discussion starter.


Juvenile Court, 44 min., b&w, 1973. Director: Frederick Wiseman. Distributor: Zipposah Films. An unblinking look at the workings of the Juvenile Court of Memphis and Shelby Counties in Tennessee. Confused, generally hostile young offenders are processed through a system that has no understanding of the causes of their crimes for juvenile delinquency. At present, some 50 percent of all crimes are committed by juveniles, and of that group the vast majority are fifteen years old. The crimes by these juvenile offenders, many constant repeaters, range from shoplifting to vandalism to car theft.

...More Than Just a Place to Come To, 20 min., color, 1976. Producer: Mitchell-Gebhardt Film Company. Distributor: Motorola Teleprograms. Opening at the scene of a school fire set by a student, this film explores the rising problem of school vandalism. Teachers, students, parents, and community members speculate on the reasons for student crimes. Community programs that have had students participate in decorating or beautifying their schools illustrate ways of involving students in the system. A "talking head" film that none-the-less raises some good discussion points.

Requiem for Tina Sanchez, 25 min., color, 1976. Producer: NBC-TV. Distributor: Films Incorporated. A television report on the young girls who run away to New York City from small mid-western towns. For many the road to survival will be to work as a prostitute for the professional pimps, who promise protection and housing in return for the major share of the girls' earnings. Eventually, many of these girls are subjected to violence, either by clients or pimps. Central to the film is the story of Tina Sanchez who ran away from her suburban home at 11, became a prostitute by the age of 13, and was murdered at 15.


This Child Is Rated X, 53 min., color, 1971. Producer: Martin Carr for NBC-TV News. Distributor: Films Incorporated. A study of the abuse of children's rights and the inequities of the juvenile justice system. "Filmed in Chicago, Pennsylvania, and Texas, it illustrates how a child guilty of truancy or running away from home is treated in the same manner and sent to the same institutions as those convicted of serious offenses such as mugging and armed robbery."

The Tunnel, 29 min., color, 1974. Director: Donald Mac-Donald. Distributor: The Little Red Filmhouse. Explores the story of a Chicano student involved with a gang attack and shows how this affects his daily contacts with other students. By talking with students about the problems of such incidents, before they occur, it may be possible for schools to prevent them.

7. The Philosophy of Criminal Law


Described as an orientation film for prospective jurors in state and federal courts, it follows the initiation of a group of jurors. Much of the information is conveyed by a woman who has served before as a juror.


Although designed for school use, this may be useful for adult groups unfamiliar with the terms commonly used in law. Explains the origins and uses of such terms as civil law, criminal law, torts, and contracts. Includes an enactment of an arrest and explains the basic rights in such a situation.


A former narcotics officer, an attorney, a social psychiatrist, and two physicians discuss marijuana laws and a number of related questions including the propriety of government efforts to regulate private morality.


This monumental documentary reviews the Nuremberg trials and their meaning today. Part One, "Nuremberg and the Germans," explores the contention that the Nuremberg trials represented nothing more than "victor's justice" since the Allies themselves were not blameless in their conduct of the war. Part Two, "Nuremberg and Other Places," raises another question: if the trials were valid, did they not set a precedent for dealing with war crimes that ought to form the basis for trying any and all war crimes? A richly complex melange of interviews with German, French, English, and American prosecutors, defendants, and victims; newsreel footage from the trial and the war years; and current scenes.

8. Limits of Criminal Law


After the riots at the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago, the leaders of several pacifist, leftist, student, and black organizations were charged with conspiracy to incite a riot. This carefully researched reenactment based on actual court records of the trial of the "Chicago 7" features a distinguished cast of actors led by Morris Carnovsky, Al Freeman Jr., and Cliff Gorman. A powerful, thought-provoking presentation, with some rough language, of one of the major political-judicial confrontations of our times.


Featuring the lawyer and others involved in the actual case, recreates the eleventh day of the trial of Dr. Edelin on a charge of homicide in an abortion operation. Includes a discussion of the trial practices involved. Designed as a teaching film for lawyers, this is of general interest to any group studying the legal process. The first in a series of films on different trials. A full descriptive film list is available from the Harvard Law School.


A cinéma vérité documentary about a woman prostitute and her pimp. Both explore the motivations for their lifestyles and the problems they encounter. Although the woman wishes for a different life, she doubts that she will find an alternative.


Doctors, lawyers, policemen, the clergy, and psychologists discuss homosexuality in the United States. Homosexuals talk about themselves, their relation to the law, and fear of discovery and imprisonment. Within the limits of the TV documentary format, raises many questions of privacy and individual freedom.


Interviews with four women from widely differing backgrounds who have had abortions. Presents facts and figures on legal abortions and birth-control methods. A very valuable discussion vehicle for all aspects of the abortion question.

States that since an estimated 13 million Americans smoke “pot,” it is time to reexamine existing laws against its use. Includes information from various studies on the effects of marijuana use. Interviews both users and nonusers about their attitudes toward the drug and possible decriminalization.


Twenty-five thousand persons commit suicide each year in this country; authorities estimate that an equal number go unreported. Examines the types of persons who attempt suicide and their motivations. Shows police response to a suicide attempt and interviews workers from various agencies who try to help suicide cases. Closes with a conversation with the four children and husband of a woman who committed suicide.


A Kentuckian explains why he chose moonshining as a vocation. IRS agents discuss the methods they use to catch persons engaged in this traditional, but illegal, activity. Raises questions about the relationship between poverty and crime and about what happens when the law opposes folkways. Illustrates the effect on the individual of living outside the law.

9. Civil Liberties and Criminal Law


A series that explains the different rights each citizen is assured of under The Bill of Rights. Each film deals with one aspect of the law and illustrates how it operates. Titles in the series include: Capital Punishment (1976), De Facto Segregation (1972), Due Process of Law (1971), Equal Opportunity (1970), Freedom of the Press (1973), Right to Privacy (1970), Story of a Trial (1970), and Women’s Rights (1974). In addition to this series, there are others on this same subject available from Encyclopaedia Britannica, Churchill Films, and Indiana University Audio-Visual Center.


Examines the legal principles and applications of the Miranda vs. Arizona case with emphasis on when the “Miranda Admonition” and the subsequent considerations must be given. Designed for use in law-enforcement training and criminal justice education programs. Recent Miranda Decisions (29 min., color, 1976), also distributed by AIMS, is a series of four dramatized vignettes explaining situations in which Miranda admonitions are and are not required in light of recent court rulings.

Frame Up! The Imprisonment of Martin Sostre, 30 min., color, 1974. Producer/Distributor: Pacific Street Film Collective.

Martin Sostre, arrested for the sale and possession of drugs and for assaulting the arresting police officers, was sentenced to thirty to forty-one years in prison. Once incarcerated, Mr. Sostre continued to insist upon his innocence, charged that he was framed because of his militant political beliefs, and waged various court battles to win his release. Among the cases he won was one establishing the right of prisoners in New York prisons to obtain “revolutionary literature.” He also won fights against review by all white parole boards, censorship of private mail, and the cruel and common prison practices of rectal searches and long periods of solitary confinement. A frankly partisan political film of considerable impact. Since the film was completed, Martin Sostre has been released from prison by a governor’s pardon and is working actively toward changing the court and prison system.


Jane Kennedy, a nurse concerned with social injustice and antiwar activities, became active in civil rights protests. Eventually she was arrested and sent to prison. Jane relates her experiences in prison, her conviction that it fosters only violence and more crime, and discusses the need for individual citizens to take a stand. A good discussion film for those interested in the ways the system deals with those who are involved in radical or unpopular political activities.


Is an accused person who cannot afford a lawyer entitled to the right of counsel? Clarence Gideon was convicted of a felony in a Florida court after the judge refused to appoint a lawyer for his defense. Gideon believed the judge’s refusal violated his Constitutional right of due process. The U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in the case of Gideon vs. Wainwright (1963) was a judicial landmark.


A documentary of the civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s. Covers the confrontations between the movement and the law, and the impact that the movement had both upon the laws and the actions of the government. Very good for discussion of the freedom of the citizen to bring about changes in society and whether this freedom includes civil disobedience.


Depicts one man’s act of civil disobedience and the subsequent legal actions and reactions. In 1974, Samuel Holden Lovejoy...
toppled the 500-foot steel weather tower of a projected nuclear power plant to bring public attention to the dangers of nuclear power. Examines the political and social implications of Lovejoy's action, and discusses the moral, social, and ethical implications of the nuclear dilemma.


Recently retired, William O. Douglas served on the Supreme Court for longer than anyone else. This interview of Douglas by Eric Severeid ranges from conservation, to his colorful public and private lives to the many Court decisions in which he took part. He expresses his great concern for the erosion of public and private rights and the hope that the average citizen will keep careful watch over the government and the law-enforcement machinery.


The first television broadcast of an actual courtroom trial. The defendant, Lauren R. Watson, a former police officer in Denver, is being tried for murder. The prosecution attorney believes that the racial composition of the jury is unimportant. The judge is Denver's only woman judge. At the end of each day of the trial, James Vorenberg, of Harvard University Law School, discusses the case. Because of its length and sometimes slow pacing, this series is probably best suited for professional audiences (lawyers, police, students of criminal justice).

10. Police: Law Enforcement in a Free Society


A documentary of the daily life of the police in Kansas City. Filmed over a six-week period, it covers many facets of police work, from looking for a lost child, to arresting and maltreating a prostitute, to mediating a marital dispute. What emerges is a social commentary on the diversity of human lifestyles and the different ways in which a variety of policemen respond to the needs of the community. A good illustration of the general boredom of cruising around in a squad car eight hours a day, punctuated with dramatic, sordid, and sad human moments.


Part of a multimedia package for training police department personnel that shows how a modern police department telephone communications system—hooked into squad cars, the fire department, and other emergency service units—can be operated by one man at the telephone to provide efficient emergency services.


This film was to have been the record of the daily life of Fred Hampton, the leader of the Illinois Black Panther Party. But during the filming in December 1969, the police raided Hampton's house and shot him to death. So the film became an expose of this killing and the actions of the police. Includes interviews with the police, state prosecutor, and other officials involved.


Shows the workings of two modern police departments, one in Kansas City, the other in Cincinnati, and how various training programs help these two forces deal with problems more effectively. In both cities, more than 60 percent of all policemen have, or are working toward, college degrees.


Policemen, dressed in plain clothes, are shown living in the skid-row section of the city to learn to be more sensitive to the needs of the people in this area. In the second part, the Family Crisis Intervention Unit of the Oakland, California police is shown. The members of this specially trained unit have more flexibility to deal with family disturbance calls than most officers. They are aware of local resources and make referrals. Simple but informative presentation of new police methods.


Examines the attitudes and opinions of members of the public about what policemen are, what they do and how they should do it. Also includes footage of policemen relating their feelings about their job and their perceptions of how the public regards them.


A portrait of a tough but kindly cop in a Toronto suburb. A local character in his precinct, he has the reputation of being very hard on criminals, many of whom leave his district after a talk from Smith. A good illustration of the daily grind of a policeman's life.

11. Pretrial Detention: Bail or Jail

An investigative report on the inefficiency, overloading, and indifference that have turned our courts into an unfunny farce for many—especially the poor. Concentrating on the courts of Washington, D.C. and Philadelphia, reporter Paul Altmeier interviews judges, lawyers, victims, and defendants, and studies the problem of crowded court calendars that result in "assembly line justice," plea bargaining, and lengthy pretrial detention.


United States law provides that all persons arrested have the right to be released on a reasonable bail until arraigned and tried. Unfortunately, for many poor people even a $100 bond is an impossible expense, so they go to jail, often for months or even years. In the Cuyahoga County Jail in Ohio, 674 men live in appalling conditions in a building meant to hold 340. No recreational, educational, or rehabilitation programs are offered. The conditions are worse than those in many prisons, where authorities dealing with convicted felons make some attempt to provide humane programs. A horrifying illustration of the stagnation of the court system and of the inequality of protection offered the poor.


An animated illustration of the poem by Maurice Ogden in which the citizens of an indifferent town are hung one by one because of their refusal to take a stand against injustice. Good discussion starter for many issues, including citizen responsibility for justice, capital punishment, and fair trials.


Court congestion impedes justice, because of it, individuals are imprisoned for long periods of time without a trial, and plea bargaining is encouraged. Suggestions for reform are explored and a thoughtful review of our system of justice is urged.

12. Plea Bargaining and Sentencing


Cruel and Unusual Punishment, as the title implies, presents the common myths used to support capital punishment. It explores the process of plea bargaining and describes the great difficulties and cruelty of capital punishment, especially in light of conflicting evidence that it is a deterrent to crime.


A study of capital punishment in the United States, England, and Norway. Presents the commonly used arguments on both sides of this vital issue. Includes interviews with murderers and their relatives, relatives and friends of victims of murder, police chiefs, church leaders, and a public hangman.


Since the Supreme Court ruled that the death penalty was illegal, many sit in death row awaiting decisions on their fate. The vast majority of the persons are poor, black, and undereducated, and most are in the southern states. Many have been kept in solitary confinement for many years with little outside contact with other inmates. These men are the forgotten victims of the penal system.


Although the counselor gives him advice about the need to be cool at the parole board hearing, Mylo loses his temper and his chance to be free. Illustrates the great difficulties many prisoners have in suppressing the rage and anger they feel even though this often leads to more punishment and longer incarceration.

13. Punishment: A Historical Perspective


A biography of a loser. Cool Hand Luke, superbly played by Paul Newman, is a typical hardened criminal doing time in a southern chain gang. There, like all the men, he is subjected to cruel, vengeful guards. But unlike most of the men, he does not take it lying down. His efforts to rebel against the system eventually win him grudging respect from his fellow convicts, but an intense hatred from the guards.


Surveys conditions and attempts at rehabilitation in several state and federal penitentiaries. Interviews with inmates raise questions about the efficacy of punishing men by caging. Although this is an older television documentary, the conditions in prisons remain essentially unchanged and the issues raised are still valid.


With recidivism rates running over 50 percent, the chronic offender has become the focus of prison reformers. This short dramatic film illustrates the experiences of one repeater and his response to the prison environment. Directed by Stacy Keach, who also stars.


14. The Prison Community


Carefully researched documentary of the events in Attica prison, before, during, and after the take-over by inmates in 1971. Includes newsreel footage of the events and interviews with inmates and members of the McKay Commission hearings that followed the rebellion. Powerful documentary that gives insights into the conditions in many large penal institutions.


Explores aspects of the prison experience peculiar to women through the lives of women in a New Jersey minimum-security prison. Places considerable emphasis on the problems caused by jailing women who have children.


Made with the help of a group of inmates in San Quentin prison, the film illustrates the hostility and frustration of prison life both from an inmate and staff point of view. Depicts the rage of prisoners on being released, often after many years of incarceration, into a world where they are totally unequipped to survive. Raises many questions and is best used after a fairly thorough exploration of the issues has been undertaken.


A drama by Rhozier T. "Roach" Brown Jr., a convicted murderer, performed by black inmates of the Loxtorn Reformatory in Washington, D.C. Provides a powerful indictment of the American penal system as seen by men in prison. Although the film is somewhat long, it has a strong emotional impact and is a discussion starter.


Filmed and narrated by a prisoner inside a Missouri Prison, tells of the constant hustling that both prisoners and guards pursue as a way of life, in a world where cigarette packs are the main form of currency. Reflects the hopelessness of most prisoners' lives as they spend their time inside discussing sex, drugs, and escape, or the crime they will commit as soon as they are released. Features a brief interview with an inmate on death row, who says he is afraid of execution but does not believe that capital punishment is a deterrent to crimes of violence. A cynical but realistic film with good discussion possibilities.


An interview in the visiting room of the San Francisco Jail with Bobby Seale, then chairman of the Black Panther Party. Seale discusses very frankly his impressions of the world inside the prison, his political beliefs, and his feelings about life in general. Includes a hilarious and poignant description of the meal he plans to cook for himself when he is finally released, a nice illustration of the deprivation of the prison scene.


Depicts the hopeless plight of two women currently serving twenty-five year sentences in a Missouri Penitentiary. Comments on the waste of human potential and the realities of isolation.


Filmed at the Utah State Penitentiary, using inmates and guards in many roles, this award-winning film is a searing indictment of the prison system. Three men arrive at the prison together, a college teacher convicted of manslaughter, a youth convicted for possession of marijuana, and a recently returned Vietnam veteran hired as a guard. All three immediately fall afoul of the hardened criminal gang who in reality run the system. Eventually all three men are destroyed by a system they are totally unequipped to deal with. One of the few feature films that deals honestly and humanely with the role of a prison guard.


First documentary shot inside the prisons of Massachusetts. Powerfully evokes the physical presence of the prison interior and shows the plight of the men incarcerated there, deprived of nearly all human and civil rights. A flashback to the Attica rebellion underscores the filmmakers' thesis that continuation of present conditions in prisons can only lead to more such events.

15. The Future of Punishment


Documents a prison self-help project, founded and run by prisoners, that attempts to foster independence and the possibility of a more constructive life after release. Includes
such programs as the Black Culture Group, Narcotics Anonymous, the 7th Step Foundation (a program for newly released men), encounter groups, and education projects.


Three prisoners in a rap session with a community group describe their background before prison and talk of their lives and fears inside. The three are fairly representative of prisoners in general. The first was involved in drugs; the second is a black ghetto youth who got into crime in the streets; the third, a lifetime offender who chose his life of crime. The three are a part of a group in California called Prison Preventers, a group that hopes to make people on the outside more sympathetic to the problems of prison and also wiser in avoiding victimization. Although largely a "talking head" film, it is useful for groups with no firsthand knowledge of prison life and conditions.


Many drug addicts eventually spend time in prison. This documentary shows a federal drug project in which ex-offenders work together to try to solve their problem. Although they admit that they are to blame for their addiction, they appeal for help and understanding from the community in their efforts to solve their problem.


The trend in corrections for some time has been to try to build fewer prisons of the old, grim fortress variety. Here we see the programs of the Robert F. Kennedy Youth Center in Morgantown, West Virginia. Inmates live in small cottage units, which they help run. An attempt is made to group inmates of similar interests, backgrounds, and problems, to create an atmosphere of support. All are encouraged to participate in the life of the community, to develop a framework for the exploration of matters of concern to a larger audience. The programs shown are prison related audio-visual materials.

Additional Resources

American Issues Forum Film List, EFLA, 43 W. 61st St., New York, NY 10023. 1975. $1.00 prepaid.

Annotated list of over 200 films covering the American Issues Forum calendar of nine monthly issues (36 weekly subtopics) that provide a framework for the exploration of matters of common concern to all citizens.

Davidson, Susan E. (ed.). Media: An Annotated Catalogue of Law-Related Audio-Visual Materials. Special committee on Youth Education for Citizenship, American Bar Association, 1155 East 60th Street, Chicago, IL 60637. 80 pp., $2.00 paper.

Describes over 400 films, filmstrips, audio cassettes, videotapes, and mixed media kits for use with elementary through high school students.


Includes recommended films and their distributors as well as suggestions for leading programs.

Distributors

AGI Mediat, Inc. 35 West 45th Street New York, NY 10036

AIMS Instructional Media Services Inc. 626 Justin Avenue Glendale, CA 91201

Altana Films 340 East 34th Street New York, NY 10016

Appalshop, Appalachian Film Workshop Box 743 Whitesburg, KY 41858


In 1973, the guards at the Walpole, Massachusetts State Prison went on strike for three months. During that period, the prisoners ran the prison. They ordered supplies, cooked meals, handled mail, and so forth. Eventually when the strike was settled, the men were able to win the right to greater control over their lives. An important film because it illustrates the growing prisoner movement for a greater voice in the running of the system.


Shows several programs of the Vera Institute, aimed at reforming police procedures to help bring about a more effective criminal justice system. The programs shown are in Cincinnati and New York. In one program, volunteers interview poor persons on arrest to determine whether they should be released on their own recognizance or be held in jail. A detoxification center attempts to help alcoholics on the road to sobriety. The Wildcat program employs poor offenders in city works projects, in such tasks as rehabilitating buildings and cleaning up parks, in an attempt to reduce crime by providing jobs and training.


Juxtaposes conditions inside a prison and the comments of the prisoners with the appearance of Dr. Karl Menninger as a speaker at a convention of law enforcement officials. The conditions in this prison are clearly appalling, with little or no sanitation facilities, poor food, rats, bad lighting, and no educational programs. Menninger emphasizes the waste of prisons, the cost of them, and the urgent need for rehabilitation programs.
Association Films
866 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Bandanna Media, Inc.
572 St. Clair
Grosse Pointe, MI 48230

BFA Educational Media
2111 Michigan Avenue
Santa Monica, CA 90406

Stephen Bosustow Productions
1649 Eleventh Street
Santa Monica, CA 90404

William Brose Productions, Inc.
10850 Riverside Drive
North Hollywood, CA 91602

Cambridge Documentary Films, Inc.
P.O. Box 383
Cambridge, MA 02139

Carousel Films, Inc.
1501 Broadway
Suite 1503
New York, NY 10036

CB Communicators
P.O. Box 7541
Oakland Station
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Churchill Films
652 North Robertson Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90069

Encyclopaedia Britannica
Educational Corp.
425 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

Film Communicators
Film Communicators Bldg.
11136 Wilmette Avenue
North Hollywood, CA 91601

Film Images
17 West 60th Street
New York, NY 10023

Films Incorporated
1144 Wilmette Avenue
Wilmette, IL 60091

Green Mountain Post Films
P.O. Box 177
Montague, MA 01351

Grove Press Film Collection
1144 Wilmette Avenue
Wilmette, IL 60091

Harvard Law School Evidence Film Project
12 Arrow Street #305
Cambridge, MA 02138

Impact Films, Inc.
144 Bleeker Street
New York, NY 10012

Indiana University Audio-Visual Center
Bloomington, IN 47401

Janus Films
745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Jason Films
2611 Palmade Avenue
Riverdale, NY 10463

Kinok Film Production Company
455 FDR Drive #706
New York, NY 10002

Learning Corporation of America
1350 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10019

The Little Red Filmhouse
119 South Kilkea Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90046

Macmillan Films, Inc
34 MacQuesten Parkway South
Mount Vernon, NY 10550

Arthur Mokin Productions
17 West 60th Street
New York, NY 10023

Motorola Teleprograms, Inc.
4825 N. Scott Street
Suite 23
Schiller Park, IL 60176

New Day Films
P.O. Box 315
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417

New Line Cinema
853 Broadway
New York, NY 10003

New Yorker Films
43 West 61st Street
New York, NY 10023

Odeon Films, Inc.
P.O. Box 315
Franklin Lakes, NJ 07417

Pacific Street Films
280 Clinton Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Paulist Productions
P.O. Box 1057
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Phoenix Films, Inc.
470 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016

Post-Script
Box P 1016
Birmingham, MI 48009

Pyramid Films
Box 1048
Santa Monica, CA 90406

rbc films
933 N. La Brea Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90038

Shana Corporation
464 Townsend
Birmingham, MI 48009

Texture Films, Inc.
1600 Broadway
New York, NY 10019

Third World Newsreel
160 Fifth Avenue
Room 911
New York, NY 10010

Time-Life Multimedia
100 Eisenhower Drive
Paramus, NJ 07654

Tomato Productions, Inc.
Box 1952
Evergreen, CO 80439

Tricontinental Film Center
335 Sixth Avenue
New York, NY 10014

Trikon Productions
P.O. Box 21
La Jolla, CA 92037

Twyman Films, Inc.
339 Salem Avenue
Box 605
Dayton, OH 45401

University of California Extension Media Center
2232 Fulton Street
Berkeley, CA 94720

Warner Brothers
Non-Theatrical Division
4000 Warner Boulevard
Burbank, CA 91505

Westinghouse Learning Corporation
100 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Wombat Productions, Inc.
Little Lake
Glendale Road
P.O. Box 70
Osining, NY 10562

Zipporah Films, Inc
54 Lewis Wharf
Boston, MA 02110
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