

## Chapter 1 : Environmental crime: trafficking in wildlife and timber

*In partnership with several research institutes, civil society organizations, and municipalities, UNICRI has launched a process for consultation at the international level on the involvement of organized crime in environmental crime, with a view to identify a set of recommendations for more effective policies and actions at the national.*

What are the Environmental Factors of Crime Rohit Bura Environmental Factors of Crime The analysis of individual case histories of delinquents and criminals provides an insight in the causative environmental factors. But the causative factors are more readily discernible in the case of juvenile delinquents than in the case of adult offenders. Adults so face complicated situations, sequences and experiences that they obstruct a clear view of causation. When an individual fails to fit himself in this role, he develops a life organisation of his own in a milieu that gives him scope and opportunity for a criminal career. It is, therefore, more realistic to look for behaviour patterning processes in the search for the causative factors in crime. Most studies have shown that crime is caused because of social and economic environment. We will discuss here the role of a few selected social factors in criminality, namely, family, neighborhood, peer group, and movies. Family All sociologists are of the opinion that family exerts a deep influence in the life of an individual. However, family situations vary from individual to individual. Lowell Carr Delinquency Control Further, children are not rejected by parents, there is a minimum of sibling rivalry, and there is no effort to escape from reality. What is important is the level or degree of the presence of these characteristics. Retrospectively speaking, a large number of experimental studies were carried out in the s, the s, the s, the s, and the s on the families of juvenile delinquents and criminals. Later on, however, it was found that these studies had serious methodological and conceptual deficiencies which limited their validity. In spite of this criticism, it is worthwhile to go through these retrospective studies on the role of broken homes, insecure homes, immoral homes, etc. Broken Home The broken home is one in which one parent is absent due to death, divorce, desertion, separation or imprisonment. The absence of a parent may result in lack of affection, lack of control and supervision, development of bad habits like smoking, drinking, gambling, etc. A number of studies have been conducted on the role of broken homes in juvenile delinquency. The broad conclusion of these studies conducted between and is that 30 to 60 per cent delinquents come from broken homes Sutherland, They were also either indifferent or hostile or used physical punishment against their children. In their later study , they also found that the hostility became reciprocal and children also developed indifference and hostility towards their parents. The value of such studies depends upon the comparison of experiment groups with control groups, i. Such studies were conducted by Shildeler and Merrill who found that about twice as many delinquents as non-delinquents came from broken homes. Shaw and McKay found that Studies by Silverman, Hirsch and Campbell also pointed out that broken home it is a relatively unimportant factor in the causation of delinquency. However, Harny Shulman is of the opinion that the majority of research studies have shown that the incidence of broken homes is higher for delinquents than non-delinquents, which suggests that some relation does exist between delinquency and broken homes. Sutherland , however, believes that evidence in general indicates that broken home is less important than it was formerly believed to be. My own contention is that causation must be seen as a functional relationship in which many factors interact in a changing situation, and broken home is just one factor in it. The role of the father of a child may be taken over by his brother, mother etc. Similarly, before divorce, the relations between the husband and the wife might have already been shattered and, therefore, separation of parents might be more functional than dysfunctional for the child. Poor Home A poor home is not able to provide economic security to its members. It not only fails to satisfy the basic needs of members but it also fails to provide security against various exigencies of life, like accident, illness, unemployment etc. Sometimes, poverty operates directly to produce criminal activities. A father may steal to supply his children food, clothing, and other necessities of life. Often, poverty operates indirectly too. A child from a poor family may run away from his home to escape worry, irritability, desperation and discord

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of parents and may come to associate with delinquent gangs. Scholars like Stephan Hurwitz Functionally Inadequate Home This home is one in which tensions and discords are common in interpersonal relations amongst family members over question of status, role dominance, values, attitudes, rights, and acceptance. But the person who is the subject in any case-history of delinquency or crimifality must be at the apex or one pole of the conflict. He must be a part of the conflict. In some cases, however, a child may not be directly in conflict with his parents but his two parents may have conflicts with each other, and the child may like to escape from such home environment, fall into bad company and become a delinquent.

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## Chapter 2 : Environmental criminology - Wikipedia

*Furthermore, environmental crime in the forestry sector has been identified as a major contributor to climate change, perhaps the world's most pressing security and economic challenge.*

Treaties and International Agreements Introduction Treaties can be referred to by a number of different names: Usually these different names have no legal significance in international law. Treaties may be bilateral two parties or multilateral between several parties and a treaty is usually only binding on the parties to the agreement. An agreement "enters into force" when the terms for entry into force as specified in the agreement are met. Bilateral treaties usually enter into force when both parties agree to be bound as of a certain date. Under international law, however, both types of agreements are considered binding. Regardless of whether an international agreement is called a convention, agreement, protocol, accord, etc. For more details on this topic, see International Legal Research in a Nutshell Research Guides International Treaties and Agreements These guides are good places to begin when researching treaties and agreements. Most contain information on both print and electronic sources. See chapter 15 "International Law" for a detailed discussion of treaty research including treaty interpretation. Mersky, Fundamentals of Legal Research 7th ed. Foundation Press, [ KF See chapter 20 "International Law" for a good discussion of treaty research sources. Guide to International Legal Research 4th ed. Butterworths, [Reference Desk KZ Rothman, [Reference Desk K Oceana, [ KZ Web Guides See also the other topical chapters for subject specific treaties. General Sources for Treaties There are many sources for locating treaties and agreements. Listed below are some general sources where treaties are published for both bilateral and multilateral treaties. Official country treaty series e. United Nations, [UN Room]. Also check a country legal research guide or search under the subject [country]--foreign relations--treaties. Official treaty series are usually slower in publication than other treaty sources and not all countries have treaty series. These series are especially important for locating bilateral treaties. League of Nations, [ KJ Locate these sets by using the subject treaties--collections or by checking a bibliography or publications catalog for the IGO. These sets are usually slow in publication -- the U. An important source for locating multilateral treaties. Official gazettes -- often the first official source e. Law Library, Library of Congress, [ K A1 R62 ] or do a subject search using gazettes--[country]. See also Government Gazettes Online. Statutory compilations chronological such as Statutes at Large of the United States. L45 ] or a legal research guide. The frequency of updating for looseleaves vary from every week to every year to every years. A good source for recent treaties and agreements. To identify relevant electronic sources use database directories, catalogs, and legal research guides. Electronic sources are good for locating very recent treaties. Some periodicals regularly reprint major treaties and others contain articles in which the text of a treaty being discussed might be appended. Congress Senate Treaty Documents ; monographic subject compilations; newspapers e. Some treaties are separately published not part of a set --these can be found by doing a title search under the name of the treaty or the subject matter, to find compilations, add the word "treaties" to a subject search as in taxation, double--united states--treaties. You may also try other subject searches such as commercial treaties or european economic community countries--commercial treaties. Definitions of Treaty Terms For assistance in locating the definitions of key terms used in treaties and agreements, see the UN Treaty Reference Guide. Usually, the researcher is faced with the following research problems: Locating the text of the treaty or agreement. Obtaining status and ratification information. Looking at the intent through background documents negotiation, legislative history. Ratification and Implementation of U. Treaties and Agreements When conducting U. Negotiation of treaties and international agreements is the responsibility of the Executive Branch. Department of State provides the Foreign Service with detailed instructions for the negotiation and conclusion of treaties and international agreements. These instructions are part of the Foreign Affairs Manual, Circular It outlines the general procedures for negotiation, signature, publication, and registration of treaties and international agreements. Outline of the treaty making process: Secretary of State

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authorizes negotiation U. Representatives negotiate Agree on terms, and upon authorization of Secretary of State, sign agreement Three types of agreements [5] Agreement enters into force President transmits agreement to Congress pursuant to Case-Zablocki Act [6] For more information on the ratification and implementation process, see the following: *Treaties and Other International Agreements: The Role of the United States Senate*: Johnson, *The Making of International Agreements: Congress Confronts the Executive* New York: New York University Press, [on order]. Dalton, *National Treaty Law and Practice: United States* , in Leigh, et. *American Society of International Law*, [ K Forms of Publication Until , U. Several volumes are published annually, each with a non-cumulative subject and country index. Note that there is currently an year lag time between ratification and official publication in UST. This series has a lag time of years. Commerce Clearing House, After ratification, but still well before treaties appear in slip form, selected treaties after they are cleared for publication by the Senate are published in the Senate Treaty Document Series Congressional Information Service formerly the Senate Executive Document Series. Office of the Legal Advisor, U. This annual publication lists and very briefly summarizes all U. The primary use of TIF is verification of the existence of a treaty. TIF is also available on the Web, but the electronic version is no more current than the print. Archived issues back to are also available. This annual publication should be used in conjunction with TIF. Access is by a combined subject index for both bilateral and multilateral treaties, as well as by numerical and country index. Current Treaty Action Supplement. United States Treaty Index 15 vols. This is one of the most comprehensive sources for U. There are subject, chronological, and country indexes. This set is supplemented by Current Treaty Index, see next. Current Treaty Index I. It supplements the United States Treaty Index, see above. Available on the Web from Oceana Publications Boalt only. Select "Treaties and International Agreements" from the "Product" menu. Access to treaties and agreements from to present. A free treaty index is also available with limited information. Commerce Clearing House, Inc. Two volume looseleaf set issued for each Congressional session. The Senate volume of this set contains a section on treaties pending before the Senate. It provides information on the status of treaties. Look under the tab "Treaties and Nominations. This web site provides some information for locating treaty documents from 90th Congress to the present. Some full-text treaties are available. Provides a listing of treaty actions and discussion appearing in the Congressional Record under the heading "Treaties" and occasionally under the name of a particular treaty or its subject matter. May provide the text of a treaty or reservation to a treaty and it is often a good source for legislative history of a treaty.

## Chapter 3 : Genes, Environment, and Criminal Behavior

*The proposed study focuses on an understudied research area at the intersection between organized crime and environmental crimes, and offers a trans-comparative study of illegal soil and sand mining conducted by Indian and Italian organized crime groups with two main objectives.*

Research has been conducted regarding this debate which has resulted in a conclusion that both genes and environment do play a role in the criminality of an individual. This evidence has been generated from a number of twin, family, and adoption studies as well as laboratory experiments. Furthermore, the research has stated that it is more often an interaction between genes and the environment that predicts criminal behavior. Having a genetic predisposition for criminal behavior does not determine the actions of an individual, but if they are exposed to the right environment, then their chances are greater for engaging in criminal or anti-social behavior. Therefore, this paper will examine the different functions that genetics and the environment play in the criminal behavior of individuals. There is a vast amount of evidence that shows our criminal justice system is the new home for individuals with psychological problems. Although this may seem like a solution to some, it is creating a dilemma for our society. Once we label these individuals as criminals it creates a stigma for those who may suffer from psychological problems. Certain psychological problems have been shown to be heritable and if given the right circumstances, individuals with those genes could find themselves engaging in criminal activity. Therefore, should society look towards limiting the reproductive capabilities of individuals who suffer from certain psychological problems to better society? That same question was asked back in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries when the role of genetics in crime was widely accepted. Joseph, Prominent researchers believed that genes were fully responsible for criminal activity and that criminals could be identified by their physiological features. This period was therefore marked with inhumane treatment and the belief that genes were the sole reason behind criminal behavior. Not long after the practices of controlled breeding, there was evidence to support the idea that the environment also played an important role in crime. Although these studies were void of high validity and reliability, it still raised the question of whether the environment can also influence individuals to act in a criminal manner. The debate between genetics and environment continues today with much more reliable research and data. Consequently, this paper will examine the various roles in which both genes and environmental factors influence criminal behavior.

**Definition and Measurement of Criminal Behavior** To fully understand the nature of how genes and the environment influence criminal behavior, one must first know how criminal behavior is defined. Therefore determining what constitutes criminal behavior can envelope a wide variety of activities and for that reason, researchers tend to focus on the wider context of antisocial behavior. Authors Morley and Hall , who have investigated the genetic influences on criminal behavior, point out three different ways to define antisocial behavior. First is equating it with criminality and delinquency, which both involve engaging in criminal acts. Information can be collected using court and criminal records, as well as self report surveys to analyze the influences that were present. Secondly, they advise individuals to define antisocial behavior is through criteria used to diagnose certain personality disorders. More specifically, they mean those personality disorders, such as Antisocial Personality Disorder, which is associated with an increased risk in criminal activity. A final measure suggested for defining antisocial behavior is by examining personality traits that may be influential in the criminal behavior of individuals. Further details of disorders and personality traits associated with criminal behavior will be discussed later in the paper. With regards to determining the effects the environment plays in criminal behavior there are fewer resources available. Observational studies and reports submitted by parents are two sources, but not everyone agrees on the validity of information collected from these sources.

**Twin, Adoption, and Family Studies** There has been great debate between researchers regarding the outcomes of twin, adoption, and family studies. On the other hand, some have concluded that there is not enough evidence from these twin, family, and adoption studies to profess that genetics do play a role in antisocial or criminal

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behavior Lowenstein, To understand why there are such conflicting opinions, one must first look at the available studies that have been conducted. Twin studies are conducted on the basis of comparing monozygotic MZ or identical twins and their rates of criminal behavior with the rates of criminal behavior of dizygotic DZ or fraternal twins. Ordinarily these studies are used to assess the roles of genetic and environmental influences. A study conducted looked at thirty two MZ twins reared apart, who had been adopted by a non-relative a short time after birth. The results showed that for both childhood and adult antisocial behavior, there was a high degree of heritability involved Joseph, This study was of particular importance because it examined the factor of separate environments. Another researcher studied eighty-five MZ and one hundred and forty-seven DZ pairs and found that there was a higher concordance rate for the MZ pairs. Ten years later after checking police records of these same twins, two other researchers concluded that there was a fifty-four percent heritability of liability to crime Joseph, Around the same time of the study just mentioned, two researchers studied forty-nine MZ and eighty-nine DZ pairs, but found no difference in the concordance rates. They concluded therefore that in respect to common crime, hereditary factors are of little significance Joseph, Many other twin studies have been conducted, but there is concern over the validity of those studies and their ability to separate out the nature and nurture aspects; therefore other sources of information should be examined. Adoption studies are critical in examining the relationship that exists between adopted children and both their biological and adoptive parents because they assume to separate nature and nurture. Studies have been conducted that test for the criminal behavior of the adopted-away children, if their biological parents had also been involved with criminal activity. In Iowa, the first adoption study was conducted that looked at the genetics of criminal behavior. The researchers found that as compared to the control group, the adopted individuals, which were born to incarcerated female offenders, had a higher rate of criminal convictions as adults. Another study in Sweden also showed that if a biological background existed for criminality, then there was an increased risk of criminal behavior in the adopted children. In Denmark, one of the largest studies of adopted children was conducted and found similar results to the previous studies. The defining feature of the Denmark study was that the researchers found a biological component for criminal acts against property, but not for violent crimes Joseph, Children whose biological fathers had been convicted of property crimes were more likely to engage in similar behavior, when compared to those biological fathers who had been convicted of violent crimes. According to an article by Jay Joseph , who studied all of the minor and major adoption studies, the majority of researchers have found and agreed upon the non-significance of genes in violent crime. This reestablishes the findings from the studies mentioned already in that there may be a genetic component to antisocial behavior or that genes influence criminal behavior, but specifically for property offenses. Family studies are the third type of instrument used to assess the relationship between genetics and environmental influences on criminal or antisocial behavior. Research in this field has probably been the least accepted by psychologists and other scholars because of the degree of difficulty in separating out nature and nurture in the family environment. Twin studies have this flaw, as stated earlier, but it is more prevalent in family studies. An additional concern with family studies is the inability to replicate the results, therefore leading to a small number of studies. Regardless of these drawbacks, one family study in particular should be acknowledged for its findings. Brunner, Nelen, Breakefield, Ropers, and van Oost conducted a study utilizing a large Dutch family. In their study they found a point mutation in the structural gene for monoamine oxidase A MAOA , a neurochemical in the brain, which they associated with aggressive criminal behavior among a number of males in that family Alper, These males were reported to have selective MAOA deficiency, which can lead to decreased concentrations of 5-hydroxyindoleacetic acid 5-HIAA in cerebrospinal fluid. Evidence suggests that low concentrations of 5-HIAA can be associated with impulsive aggression. These results have not been confirmed in any additional family studies, which lead to a need for more studies to determine if other families share similar results Brunner et al. However, this one family study does seem to suggest that genetics play an important role in antisocial or criminal behavior. Neurochemicals in Criminal and Anti-Social Behavior Neurochemicals are responsible for the activation of

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behavioral patterns and tendencies in specific areas of the brain Elliot, As seen in the Brunner et al. Included in the list of neurochemicals already cited by researchers are monoamine oxidase MOA , epinephrine, norepinephrine, serotonin, and dopamine. Monoamine oxidase MAO is an enzyme that has been shown to be related to antisocial behavior. Specifically, low MAO activity results in disinhibition which can lead to impulsivity and aggression Elliot, The Brunner et al. However, there has been other evidence that points to the conclusion that deficiencies in MAOA activity may be more common and as a result may predispose individuals to antisocial or aggressive behavior Brunner et al. MAO is associated with many of the neurochemicals that already have a link to antisocial or criminal behavior. While, according to Eysenck , MAO is related to norepinephrine, epinephrine, and dopamine, which are all related to the personality factor of psychosis. Low levels of serotonin have been found to be associated with impulsive behavior and emotional aggression. In addition, children who suffer from conduct disorder which will be discussed later , have also been shown to have low blood serotonin Elliot, Needless to say, there is a great deal of evidence that shows serotonin is related to aggression, which can be further associated with antisocial or criminal behavior. Dopamine is a neurotransmitter in the brain that is associated with pleasure and is also one of the neurotransmitters that is chiefly associated with aggression. Activation of both affective emotionally driven and predatory aggression is accomplished by dopamine Elliot, In one study cited by Morley and Hall , a relationship was found between the genes in the dopaminergic pathway, impulsivity, ADHD, and violent offenders. Obviously, from this list of neurochemicals it seems plausible that there is a genetic component to antisocial or criminal behavior. Personality Disorders and Traits Personality traits and disorders have recently become essential in the diagnosis of individuals with antisocial or criminal behavior. These traits and disorders do not first become evident when an individual is an adult, rather these can be seen in children. For that reason it seems logical to discuss those personality disorders that first appear in childhood. ODD is characterized by argumentativeness, noncompliance, and irritability, which can be found in early childhood Holmes et al. When a child with ODD grows older, the characteristics of their behavior also change and more often for the worse. They start to lie and steal, engage in vandalism, substance abuse, and show aggression towards peers Holmes et al. They also point to the fact that children diagnosed with ADHD have the inability to analyze and anticipate consequences or learn from their past behavior. The future for some children is made worse when ADHD and CD are co-occurring because they will be more likely to continue their antisocial tendencies into adulthood Holmes et al. ASPD has been shown to be associated with an increased risk of criminal activity. Therefore, it is of great importance that these early childhood disorders are correctly diagnosed and effectively treated to prevent future problems. Another critical aspect that must be examined regarding antisocial or criminal behavior is the personality characteristics of individuals. According to the article written by Holmes et al. One statistic shows that between seventy and ninety percent of violent offenders had been highly aggressive as young children Holmes et al. These personality traits have, in some research, been shown to be heritable. Environmental Influences Thus far it has been established through research and various studies that genetics do influence criminal or antisocial behavior. Researchers agree on the point that genes influence personality traits and disorders, such as the ones just mentioned. However, researchers also agree that there is an environmental component that needs to be examined. Environmental influences such as family and peers will be discussed, as well as a look into the social learning theory. The family environment is critical to the upbringing of a child and if problems exist then the child is most likely to suffer the consequences. We have seen the problems associated with a child who is diagnosed with ADHD and how that can influence antisocial or criminal behavior. In relation to that, some researchers have claimed that it is the family environment that influences the hyperactivity of children Schmitz,

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### Chapter 4 : Crime and Public Safety :: Green Cities: Good Health

*private organizations to improve criminal justice. Carry out research on criminal behavior. Develop new methods of crime prevention and reduction of crime and delinquency.*

Maps and graphs Transnational organized crime is found wherever money can be made from illicit activities. One such activity is environmental crime, in particular trafficking in wildlife and timber. The problem is particularly acute in developing countries, where Governments often lack the capacity to regulate the exploitation of their natural resources. Poor management of natural resources can lead to corruption and even violent conflict. Though environmental crime is a global and multifaceted phenomenon, this fact sheet deals with just two aspects of it in certain parts of the world: Trafficking in wildlife from Africa and South-East Asia: In addition to the damage it causes to natural ecosystems, poaching also impacts on the tourism trade, which represents a key part of many national economies. Ivory, rhino horn and tiger parts are among the most popular large animal "commodities" that are trafficked from various parts of Africa and South-East Asia to other parts of Asia. There are also numerous smaller wild species in South-East Asia that are either killed for traditional medicine, food and decorative products or captured for the pet trade. Every year, thousands of cases of poaching are reported by authorities in Africa and Asia. In just one incident, elephants were reported killed by poachers in early in the Bouba Ndjida National Park in northern Cameroon. Between and , there were at least 55 very large seizures of ivory, with an average volume of 2. Almost all ivory comes from African elephants and most of it is exported to Asia. Both African and Asian rhinos are targeted by poachers, and the few remaining tigers in the world, found in Asia, are hunted and killed for their body parts. In , an estimated 7, elephants were killed, mostly in Central Africa. There are, on average, 92 ivory seizures per month, or about three per day. There are vast disparities between the prices paid in source countries and those paid in destination countries. Value may also be added to the raw material if it is carved; the value of ivory objects cannot be gauged by their weight alone. Central Africa is the main source of elephant ivory and Southern Africa is used as a source of rhino horn. Animal parts are illegally shipped or transported by air to Asia by a variety of routes, often concealed in legitimate cargo, with criminal syndicates taking advantage of the growing legal trade between Africa and Asia. Areas of wilderness that extend across borders are particularly vulnerable to being used for transnational trafficking. By operating in such areas and working with corrupt authorities, criminal networks are able to transport poached animals with relative ease. Both tigers and rhinos are hunted and killed in Asia. There are now only around 3, tigers left in the wild, down from an estimated , at the beginning of the twentieth century,[12] and the poaching of these animals is a deliberate and systematic crime. There is evidence suggesting that poachers may be "commissioned" to hunt them. Many die while being transported to destination countries. Trafficking in timber from South-East Asia: Regrettably, the region is experiencing the fastest deforestation rate on Earth. Some of this deforestation is a result of illicit logging and, in this way, organized crime contributes to irreversible environmental damage. Forests are crucial to absorbing carbon from the atmosphere and deforestation therefore has a global impact. Local communities are also affected by environmental damage, which is often accompanied by corruption of officials, violence and loss of income and livelihoods. It is estimated that more than half of global demand for illicitly logged timber comes from Asia and Europe and that about 20 per cent of the global total of illegally felled timber is imported into the European Union, and about 25 per cent into China. Methods used include fraudulently declaring a protected hardwood as an ordinary variety or falsifying certificates of origin, thereby declaring wood obtained in a protected area to be from an authorized source. One of the repercussions of the illegal trade in timber is corruption. In many instances, the documents needed to transport illegal timber are not forged but bought from corrupt officials in the source countries. Gangs involved in illegal logging may also receive assistance from corrupt officials. Clandestine smuggling of timber is rare, and either fraudulent paperwork or bribery of customs officials is involved. In the past, timber flows have mostly been illicit. For example, it was estimated

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that at one point in the first few years of the twenty-first century, 98 per cent of all the timber transported overland from Myanmar to China had been illegally logged. Similarly, at the height of the illegal logging problem in Indonesia, 80 per cent of the timber being transported out of the country had been illegally logged. At its peak, deforestation was occurring at a rate of 2 million hectares a year - an amount equivalent to football fields every hour. The primary source of illicitly logged timber was Indonesia. Criminal groups often fraudulently label Indonesian wood as coming from Malaysia and trans-ship it from other parts of the region. What is being done? Under the Convention, States that do not take measures to protect endangered species are subject to escalating international pressure, which can ultimately result in trade sanctions. At the local and regional levels, UNODC works extensively to tackle various forms of environmental crime. In South-East Asia in particular, it conducts widespread research to better guide countries on countering trafficking in wildlife and illegal logging and encourages Governments to increase their efforts to protect natural resources and convict perpetrators of crimes against the environment. Critically, the work of UNODC in this area also involves working with authorities to improve laws and increase international cooperation to respond to crimes against the environment. International NGOs such as WWF also play an important role in lobbying Governments for greater action against environmental crime and collaborating with them on conservation issues. They also build awareness among the general public at the global and local levels and lead debate on these concerns. Aside from these international and national initiatives, the role of the public is essential. Here are some of the things that the public can do: Consumers have a big - if not the biggest - role to play in stopping the illegal trade in wildlife and timber. As an informed consumer, you can help reduce demand by being aware of which species are under protection. This includes knowing whether products such as rhino horn or tiger bones are used in traditional medicine and paying careful attention to labelling when buying exotic timber. As a tourist, you can choose your routes, visits and destinations carefully and support eco-tourism. It should also be a given that you do not take home with you any animal or wildlife products - particularly not those discussed above. High profile individuals can speak out against environmental crimes. In some countries, traditional practices and beliefs and a desire for status symbols hinder efforts to curb wildlife crime. Influential public voices can help to dispel myths, expose the cruelty of poaching and highlight the illegality of the practices involved, thereby building support for change. Lack of knowledge or awareness often leads to unknowing consumption of illegal wildlife products. Governments, NGOs and individuals can help spread information about these issues within society. Providing alternatives and sustainable livelihoods. As poverty is one of the main factors driving the illegal trade in wildlife, supporting legal income-generating activities can be an important measure, indirectly helping to curb environmental crime. Companies can take action through smart and sustainable business decisions. In the timber trade in particular, companies should check certificates to ensure that products are of legal origin. If companies refuse to buy illegally produced timber and wood products, it will lead to less revenue for traffickers, and therefore less deforestation. This fact sheet has not been formally edited. The content of this fact sheet does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of UNODC or contributory organizations nor does it imply any endorsement. The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this fact sheet do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory or city or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Counterfeit goods - A bargain or a costly mistake? Between and , there were at least 55 very large ivory seizures, with an average volume of 2. In early a reported elephants were killed in the Bouba Ndjida National Park in northern Cameroon by poachers. South Africa is one of the most targeted countries by rhino poachers - in , 13 rhino were poached in the country; by this had jumped dramatically to , with numbers anticipated to exceed by end

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## Chapter 5 : Environmental Crimes Section | ENRD | Department of Justice

*At the end of the day, researching environmental crime in autocratic regimes means extensive fieldwork, conducting interviews with journalists, environmental activists, local researchers, and, if at all possible, with insiders who are willing to talk under conditions of anonymity.*

Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. EPA has this goal for all communities and persons across this Nation [ sic ]. It will be achieved when everyone enjoys the same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards and equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work. A disproportionate quantity of minority communities for example in Warren County , North Carolina play host to landfills, incinerators, and other potentially toxic facilities. The location of transportation infrastructures, including highways, ports, and airports, has also been viewed as a source of environmental injustice. Among the earliest documentation of environmental racism was a study of the distribution of toxic waste sites across the United States. Section prohibits discrimination based on race, color, or national origin by any government agency receiving federal assistance. To win an environmental justice case that claims an agency violated this statute, the plaintiff must prove the agency intended to discriminate. Section requires agencies to create rules and regulations that uphold section This section is useful because the plaintiff must only prove that the rule or regulation in question had a discriminatory impact. There is no need to prove discriminatory intent. Chester Residents Concerned for Quality Living set the precedent that citizens can sue under section There has not yet been a case in which a citizen has sued under section , which calls into question whether this right of action exists. The actions of many mainstream environmental organizations still reflect these early principles. Therefore, vulnerable communities with fewer political opportunities are more often exposed to hazardous waste and toxins. Environmental elitism manifested itself in three different forms: They disproportionately benefit environmentalists and harm underrepresented populations. They have convinced minority leaders looking to improve their communities that the economic benefits of industrial facility and the increase in the number of jobs are worth the health risks. In fact, both politicians and businesses have even threatened imminent job loss if communities do not accept hazardous industries and facilities. Although in many cases local residents do not actually receive these benefits, the argument is used to decrease resistance in the communities as well as avoid expenditures used to clean up pollutants and create safer workplace environments. Please improve it by verifying the claims made and adding inline citations. Statements consisting only of original research should be removed. January Learn how and when to remove this template message One of the prominent barriers to minority participation in environmental justice is the initial costs of trying to change the system and prevent companies from dumping their toxic waste and other pollutants in areas with high numbers of minorities living in them. There are massive legal fees involved in fighting for environmental justice and trying to shed environmental racism. For example, in the United Kingdom, there is a rule that the claimant may have to cover the fees of their opponents, which further exacerbates any cost issues, especially with lower income minority groups; also, the only way for environmental justice groups to hold companies accountable for their pollution and breaking any licensing issues over waste disposal would be to sue the government for not enforcing rules. This would lead to the forbidding legal fees that most could not afford. The community organization and the social values of the era have translated to the Environmental Justice movement. Because the two movements have parallel goals, it is useful to employ similar tactics that often emerge on the grassroots level. Common confrontational strategies include protests, neighborhood demonstrations, picketing, political pressure, and demonstration. In these southern communities, black churches and other voluntary associations are used to organize resistance efforts, including research and demonstrations, such as the protest in Warren County, North Carolina. As a result of

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the existing community structure, many church leaders and civil rights activists, such as Reverend Benjamin Chavis Muhammad, have spearheaded the Environmental Justice movement. Majora Carter spearheaded the South Bronx Greenway Project, bringing local economic development, local urban heat island mitigation, positive social influences, access to public open space, and aesthetically stimulating environments. The New York City Department of Design and Construction has recently recognized the value of the South Bronx Greenway design, and consequently utilized it as a widely distributed smart growth template. The first case to use civil rights as a means to legally challenge the siting of a waste facility was in *Southwestern Waste Management, Inc. v. Environmental Justice League*. This group was the first organization that found the connection between race and pollution. Southwestern Waste Management, Inc. The two most paramount sections in these cases are sections 602 and 603. To win an Environmental Justice case that claims an agency violated this statute, the plaintiff must prove the agency intended to discriminate. Section 602 requires agencies to create rules and regulations that uphold section 601; in *Alexander v. Sandoval*, the Supreme Court held that plaintiffs must also show intent to discriminate to successfully challenge the government under section 602. Affected groups[ edit ] Among the affected groups of Environmental Justice, those in high-poverty and racial minority groups have the most propensity to receive the harm of environmental injustice. Some studies that test statistically for effects of race and ethnicity, while controlling for income and other factors, suggest racial gaps in exposure that persist across all bands of income. One notorious example is the "Cancer Alley" region of Louisiana. This mile stretch of the Mississippi River between Baton Rouge and New Orleans is home to companies that produce one quarter of the petrochemical products manufactured in the United States. From 1960 to 1990, the predominately poor, African American residents of the "West Grove" endured the negative effects of exposure to carcinogenic emissions and toxic waste discharge from a large trash incinerator called Old Smokey. It was not until the surrounding, predominantly white neighborhoods began to experience the negative impacts from Old Smokey that the legal battle began to close the incinerator. Indigenous groups are often the victims of environmental injustices. Native Americans have suffered abuses related to uranium mining in the American West. Churchrock, New Mexico, in Navajo territory was home to the longest continuous uranium mining in any Navajo land. From 1951 until 1982, the tribe leased land to mining companies who did not obtain consent from Navajo families or report any consequences of their activities. Not only did the miners significantly deplete the limited water supply, but they also contaminated what was left of the Navajo water supply with uranium. Kerr-McGee and United Nuclear Corporation, the two largest mining companies, argued that the Federal Water Pollution Control Act did not apply to them, and maintained that Native American land is not subject to environmental protections. The courts did not force them to comply with US clean water regulations until 1982. After DDT and other chlorinated hydrocarbon pesticides were banned in the United States in 1972, farmers began using more acutely toxic organophosphate pesticides such as parathion. A large portion of farmworkers in the US are working as undocumented immigrants, and as a result of their political disadvantage, are not able to protest against regular exposure to pesticides or benefit from the protections of Federal laws. Banned throughout much of the rest of the world because of the potential threat to human health and the natural environment, Endosulfan is a highly toxic chemical, the safe use of which cannot be guaranteed in the many developing countries it is used in. Endosulfan, like DDT, is an organochlorine and persists in the environment long after it has killed the target pests, leaving a deadly legacy for people and wildlife. Maquiladoras are assembly plants operated by American, Japanese, and other foreign countries, located along the US-Mexico border. The maquiladoras use cheap Mexican labor to assemble imported components and raw material, and then transport finished products back to the United States. Much of the waste ends up being illegally dumped in sewers, ditches, or in the desert. Along the Lower Rio Grande Valley, maquiladoras dump their toxic wastes into the river from which 95 percent of residents obtain their drinking water. In the border cities of Brownsville, Texas and Matamoros, Mexico, the rate of anencephaly babies born without brains is four times the national average. A CBA may favor placing a toxic facility near a city of 20,000 poor people than near a city of 5,000 wealthy people. This is due to the way that women typically interact more closely with their environments at home, such as through handling food preparation and childcare. Women

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also tend to be the leaders in environmental justice activist movements. Despite this, it tends not to be considered a mainstream feminist issue. Department of Agriculture[ edit ] In its environmental justice strategy documents, the U. Department of Agriculture USDA stated an ongoing desire to integrate environmental justice into its core mission, internal operations and programming. It identified ambitious timeframes for action and promised improved efforts to highlight, track and coordinate EJ activities among its many sub-agencies. Agency-wide the USDA expanded its perspective on EJ, so that in addition to preventing disproportionate environmental impacts on EJ communities, USDA voiced a commitment to improve public participation processes and use its technical and financial assistance programs to improve the quality of life in all communities. USDA funds or implements many creative programs with social and environmental equity goals, however it has no staff dedicated solely to EJ, and faces the challenges of limited budgets and coordinating the efforts of a highly diverse agency. Background[ edit ] The USDA is the executive agency responsible for federal policy on food, agriculture, natural resources , and quality of life in rural America. Agency programs, policies and activities can lead to health and environmental effects that disproportionately impact minority and low-income populations. Under Executive Order agencies must develop strategies that identify and address these effects by: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of requires that federal funds be used in a fair and equitable manner. Under Title VI any federal agency that receives federal funding cannot discriminate. Title VI also forbids federal agencies from providing grants or funding opportunities to programs that discriminate. An agency that violates Title VI can lose its federal funding. Although USDA has no staff dedicated solely to EJ, its sub-agencies have many offices dedicated to civil rights compliance, outreach and communication and environmental review whose responsibilities incorporate EJ issues. The details and specific implementation of many of these programs and the performance measures are left to the departments and sub-agencies to develop. Provide targeted training and capacity-building to EJ communities. The Strategic Plan also lists existing programs that either currently support the goal, or are expected to in the future. According to Holmes, some of the challenges of the Strategic Plan process have stemmed from the diverse programs and missions that the agency serves, limitations on staff time, and budgets. The Strategic Plan emphasizes capacity-building in EJ communities, and includes objectives that emphasize communication between USDA and environmental justice communities, including Tribal consultation. Sub-agencies must announce schedules for training programs in EJ communities and to develop new, preliminary outreach materials on USDA programs by April 15, The Strategic Plan also reiterates compliance with the Executive Orders on Tribal consultation and outreach to non-proficient English speakers, and seeks more diverse representation on regional forest advisory committees. Agency leadership has asked its sub-agencies to prepare responses to additional comments that have been received, and the agency will release an interim progress report, prior to winter The measures include environmental justice trainings, new web pages, and potential revisions to staff manuals and handbooks. Sub-agencies began reviewing their existing training in and in their April 9, reports to the USDA EJ steering committee, sub-agencies were asked to describe their goals for enhanced EJ training. As of late April , the sub-agencies were still in the process of describing a baseline of current activities and determining the metrics to evaluate improvement, such as staff time, grant funding or increased programming. Forest Service USFS is working to update its policy on protection and management of Native American Sacred Sites, an effort that has included listening sessions and government-to-government consultation. USDA credits this increased outreach with generating a percent increase in contracts, representing more than , acres of farmland, in its Environmental Quality Incentives Program. The partnership focuses on outreach, fair returns to minority and other small farmers and rural communities, farmworker working conditions, environmental protection and food safety. It also shows, by census tract, the number and percentage of certain populations, such as children, seniors, or households without a vehicle, with low access to grocery stores. The mapped deserts can be used to direct agency resources to increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables and other food assistance programs, according to Blake Velde, an agency scientist and spokesperson on EJ issues. These programs work to administer water and

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wastewater loans or grants to rural areas and cities to support water and wastewater, stormwater and solid waste disposal systems, including SEARCH grants that are targeted to financially distressed, small rural communities and other opportunities specifically for Alaskan Native villages and designated Colonias. This program provides grants and loans to farmers, ranchers and rural small businesses to finance renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements. However, it was not published in the Federal Register as a formal rulemaking and does not create a private right of action or enforcement tool. This performance standard reflects a requirement in DR that required the USDA departmental regulation on rulemaking, DR , to be revised to require an EJ evaluation in the rulemaking process.

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## Chapter 6 : Environmental Crime Tops List by Organizations | United States Courts

*Michigan State University Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, School of Criminal Justice, and Environment Science and Policy Program Conservation criminology synergizes the fields of criminology and criminal justice, conservation and natural resource management, and risk and decision-analysis to examine environmental crimes, harms and/or risks.*

The panel offered a blueprint for uncovering and reporting on fraudulent organizations. Flickr user Images Money. Piller, along with Christopher Robinson, professor of law and University of Arizona associate dean for research and innovation, spoke about the science of genetic testing at the Association of Health Care Journalists health journalism conference in Phoenix. Delving into similar credulous claims might prove fruitful. Examine the science Lightly regulated industries are prime fodder for investigation. In this instance, Proove was only testing for 12 out of hundreds of genetic variationsâ€”and although there are important genetic elements to addiction, the problem is socio-environmental as well as genetic. Piller recommends looking up studies at clinicaltrials. The site is run by the National Institutes of Health, and anybody conducting human experiments must register on the site and describe the experiment. This allows reporters to glean information on the type of study at play. Interviews with employees, doctors, and patients come into play, but Piller offers a word of caution: This can help protect you from someone promoting a hidden agenda. Look for financial conflicts of interest Physicians often take money from drug and device companies, in the form of royalties, consulting, speakers bureaus, board service, and sometimes even kickbacks, Robertson explained. Only the latter are illegal, under the federal Anti-Kickback Statute. The amounts tend to be substantial. For more information on the causal effect of financial relationships between companies and health care professionals, see Robertson, et al. Even if a test or device is FDA-approved, individuals can still be given an inaccurate test, or the test could be interpreted improperly. The tests may not be good value for the money. Many types of tests or devices do not require external review and do not require the reporting of adverse events. Often the FDA does not address clinical validity or impose standards for quality in manufacturing. Fact-check your reporting Make sure to validate leaked documents, fact-check your own work ruthlessly, and test all of your assumptions. Be sure to be able to show your work. Because businesses can sometimes be litigious, make sure to have a lawyer review your reporting before publishing.

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## Chapter 7 : What are the Environmental Factors of Crime

*The World Customs Organization (WCO) continues to work closely with other international organizations involved in environmental issues such as the CITES Secretariat, the Basel Convention Secretariat and UNEP, which maximises joint efforts in the fight against environmental crime (WCO, ).*

Search Green Criminology "Green Criminology is the analysis of environmental harms from a criminological perspective, or the application of criminological thought to environmental issues. As elsewhere in criminology, this means thinking about offences what crimes or harms are inflicted on the environment, and how , offenders who commits crime against the environment, and why and victims who suffers as a result of environmental damage, and how , and also about responses to environmental crimes: Below are brief descriptions of ongoing projects in this area. The path to environmental sustainability raises important equity and environmental justice concerns for public health and across all six focal areas of the School of Global and Environmental Sustainability SoGES: Dimitris Stevis, Department of Political Science. Using national survey data, this project examines how risk perceptions influence support for social control measures in the form of regulation and punishment for violations of the Clean Air Act. This project involves a national public opinion survey on environmental crime and environmental policy, with a specific focus on hydraulic fracturing. Aside from more general environmental crime and policy issues, we examine public perceptions about a number of risks and negative consequences associated with fracking-related activities that include but are not limited to: We also examine perceived benefits associated with fracking-related activities that include but are not limited to: Mike Hogan and Matthew Tullis. This mixed methods research project highlights the strengths and limitations of regulation as well as the under-studied social impacts of oil and gas development in Colorado communities through qualitative interviews with citizens, an analysis of the nature and extent of all citizen complaints filed with the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission COGCC from 2011-2015, and a statewide survey of individuals who have filed complaint paperwork with the COGCC—the agency responsible for regulating oil and gas activity in Colorado. Tara Opsal and Dr. This longitudinal research project examines the nature and extent of these activities through the lens of Green Criminology and Environmental Justice theories. Tara Opsal, Adam Mayer Ph. Student , John Hilgendorf and Lauren Alessi. This qualitative research project relies on semi-structured interviews with individuals who owned, managed, or resided on or adjacent to properties that contained oil and gas facilities damaged by the Northern Colorado storms and floods of 2013. This project was funded by a Natural Hazards Center quick response grant see the preliminary report here. Within Colorado, several municipalities have banned or passed moratoria on hydraulic fracturing while drilling has been embraced in other parts of the state. Though the politics of oil and gas drilling may seem highly polarized it is likely the Coloradoans hold nuanced and complex views about the ideal policy response to the oil and gas boom. Societal Reaction towards Invasive Species. Green Criminology Publications 1. Brisman, editors , New York, NY: Assessing the Perceived Seriousness of Environmental Crime. Long, and Paul B. Law Enforcement Generalists or Specialists? Modeling Crime Outcomes in Florida. An Analysis of Superfund Sites in Florida.

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## Chapter 8 : Environmental Crimes

*Though environmental crime is a global and multifaceted phenomenon, this fact sheet deals with just two aspects of it in certain parts of the world: trafficking in wildlife from Africa and South-East Asia to other areas in Asia, and trafficking in timber from South-East Asia to the European Union and other areas in Asia.*

On one hand, experiences in natural settings are believed to promote healing and renewal. Yet in urban settings the presence of vegetation is often implicated as a screen for criminal activity. This briefing summarizes the research findings on the relationship between urban vegetation and crimes, aggressive behavior, and safety. The science findings are not conclusive and may even seem inconsistent or conflicting, yet certain patterns and relationships appear across several studies. **Fast Facts** There are, on average, about 3, crime victims per , population in the U. Cleaning up vacant lots was one of the most effective treatment strategies. **Crime and Fear - A Literature Review.** College of the Environment, University of Washington. Crime behaviors can be influenced by social situations; the latter sections describe how nature affects the psychology of crime. **Just the Facts, Please.** Crime is typically reported as both a quantity and the relative frequency of incidents. For example, law enforcement agencies reported Nationally, crime rates have dropped since , but the number of crimes remains high, and rates vary widely across states and cities. Careful record keeping helps us to understand the relative public safety of areas by location and across time. But such reports do not address the causes and influences behind crime and violence. Law enforcement officials often have strong impressions on the negative influences of urban vegetation, seen to support criminal activity. Recent research has tested such claims more carefully. Rates of social disruption and incivilities, such as the presence of noisy individuals, loitering strangers, and illegal activity, were also lower in planted areas. Comparing similar buildings within Chicago public housing , women were asked to recall aggressive and violent behaviors within their household. Does this effect extend to acts of violence? The team found that rates of reported violence mild and severe, during the year and across a lifetime were significantly lower in the green areas than in the barren ones. The scientists in this study noted that future research should examine the effects of natural settings on aggression by men and specific acts of violence e. **Serious Crimes** What about more serious crimes? Not relying on resident surveys, a science team collected two years of police data on property and violent crimes within public housing communities of inner-city Chicago. Even modest amounts of greenery were associated with lower crime rates. Other crime predictors were tested such as building height and vacancy rates , and amount of vegetation was one of the two predictors in the most accurate model of crime prediction the other being the number of units in a building. The relationship between the amount of vegetation and the level of property crime was also evaluated in Tallahassee, Florida. NDVI was significantly and negatively related to the number of property crimes; that is, the more abundant the vegetation around a house, the less frequently property crimes occurred. A recent study in Portland, Oregon, investigated effects of street trees and trees on residential lots. The effect of trees on crime rates on house lots was mixed; smaller, view-obstructing trees tended to increase crime, whereas larger trees reduced crime. Trees may reduce crime by signaling to potential criminals that a house is better cared for and, therefore, subject to more effective policing by owners than a comparable house with fewer trees. **Community Policing** Crime behavior is the result of a complex blend of social and environmental factors. Direct interventions such as more police patrols, or higher offender conviction rates are common strategies for reducing crime and improving safety. Crime calls were then monitored to compare treatment responses to disorder rates in control neighborhoods over one year. Crime prevention approaches included standard and innovative practices, and the results were striking. Evaluating the approaches, what worked best? Cleaning up the physical environment was relatively effective, misdemeanor arrests less so, and boosting social services had no apparent impact. Cleaning up vacant lots was one of the most effective strategies; urban greening organizations could be important collaborators in reducing community crime. **More Studies** Some law enforcement officials may see vegetation as visually obstructive,

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attribute crime to the presence of urban natural landscapes, and overlook the role of clean and green places in preventing social disorder. Citizens may recognize the positive role of vegetation but may still have safety concerns. In another public housing study, it was found that the more vegetation there is, the less residents expressed a fear of crime. Those residents who lived in buildings with more on-site trees and grass reported a greater sense of safety than did their counterparts living in relatively barren settings. A study examined crime spill-over from a 5-mile greenway in Boston. No significant increase in crime was found for those living next to the corridor. In fact, there was less crime, as compared to houses bordering quiet commercial streets, and significantly less crime than for those buildings abutting a busy arterial street. Respondents also highlighted the role of daylight in ensuring safety; there were generally positive attitudes about park safety by day but low impressions of night-time safety. People reported higher perceived safety when greater numbers of people were assumed to be out walking in the evening and at night. The interplay of crime and urban nature is not straightforward, and park presence may influence property desirability in opposite directions. As crime rates climb above a threshold value, the direction of the relationship changes, and nearby parks negatively influence home values. Fear Factor Safety can be judged objectively, as measured by facts and figures, and subjectively as personal perceptions and inferences. Impressions of crime likelihood irrespective of actual crime rates can lead people to choose to not enter public spaces,<sup>20,21,22</sup> retreat within their homes, and cease on-street socializing. This section highlights research on the role of vegetation in perceived safety. Views and Visibility Generally, visual preference ratings for urban settings increase with tree density, and the highest preferences are reported for the most densely planted settings. In one study, park managers and park police indicated that dense vegetation is used by criminals to conceal their activities. Secondly, dense vegetation is seen to provide potential cover for criminal activities, potentially increasing the likelihood of crime, and certainly increasing the fear of crime. Large shrubs, underbrush, and dense woods all substantially diminish visibility and view distance, and may support criminal activity. Vegetation can be retained and managed to reduce risk, be it perceived or actual. Residents of inner-city neighborhoods in Chicago claimed that higher tree density and grass maintenance increased both setting preference and sense of safety. Vegetation is likely to increase crime only when it affords opportunities for concealment, particularly in undergrowth. Urban studies relate site maintenance to higher levels of perceived security. Urban research suggests a clear relationship between lack of setting care and fear of crime, though perhaps a weaker relationship between lack of care and actual victimization. The presence of nature, including higher densities of trees, is preferred. A more open understory that provides adequate lines of sight increases perceived safety in urban park settings. Defensible Space and Territoriality Crime prevention specialists tend to think in terms of physical structures such as windows and gates in deterring crime; how does the presence of trees and vegetation contribute to safe spaces? Defensible Space<sup>51</sup> is a widely recognized principle that asserts that the architectural features and physical layout of places substantially influence patterns of informal contacts among residents. Vital, well-used residential spaces are key factors in the development of neighborhood social ties and the discouragement of potential perpetrators because they encourage neighborliness and introduce informal surveillance. Contact among neighbors and informal surveillance are, in turn, linked to strength of community and lower crime rates. Markers of territoriality are linked to lower rates of incivilities and crime. It could be that community gardens or adopt-a-park projects send the same signals. Trees and plants are generally preferred in urban settings as a visual amenity, and they encourage the social interactions that may deter crime. Surveillance Surveillance is related to defensible space. Visibility from windows provides an overlook of the setting, extending the surveillance potential. Surveillance is enhanced by providing adequate lighting and landscaping that promotes unobstructed views. Landscaping can serve as a screen or buffer to define a space but should not act as a barrier to public view by police or other passers-by. Considering social interaction, studies confirm that perpetrators avoid areas with greater surveillance and greater likelihood of intervention. A series of studies of Chicago inner-city neighborhoods found that outdoor spaces with trees are consistently used more often by residents of all ages than are treeless spaces, and the greater the number of trees in the space, the greater the

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number of simultaneous users. Implied surveillance is equally important; criminals might be deterred by place cues suggesting that surveillance is likely even when no observers are present. Mental Health A final perspective on crime is the mental state of the person who engages in antisocial behavior. The power of the physical environment to influence human aggression is well established and has been reviewed by Landscape and Human Health Laboratory scientists. The information processing demands of everyday life—traffic, phones and texting, stresses at work, and complex critical decisions—all take their toll on mental well-being, resulting in mental fatigue, a state characterized by inattentiveness, irritability, and impulsivity. Such demands draw down the capacity to identify appropriate solutions and control personal behaviors. Mental fatigue may contribute to aggression because of its effects on cognitive processing. Information processing plays a central role in managing social situations, especially in avoiding potential conflicts. With mental fatigue, social behavior is likely to become increasingly thoughtless, tactless, and unstrategic, allowing conflicts to spiral out of control,<sup>81</sup> potentially leading to aggression. Mental fatigue may also contribute to aggression because of its effects on emotion—specifically, heightened irritability. Irritability appears to be a frequent side effect of mentally fatiguing tasks<sup>82,83</sup> and is linked with aggression. In summary, three psychological factors—impairments in cognitive processing, irritability, and impulsivity—has been scientifically implicated in aggression. Mental fatigue can contribute to outbursts of anger and even violence. Attention restoration theory proposes that exposure to natural settings reduces mental fatigue - or more precisely, directed attention fatigue. It is possible that impulsive crimes committed out of frustration or rage can be reduced through the beneficial effects of natural settings on mental fatigue. Some crime prevention specialists have advocated removal of most, if not all, vegetation in potential problem areas. However, the relationship between natural settings and crime prevention is more complicated than originally thought. More research is needed to look directly at urban greenspace, crime and causality. Nonetheless, initial theory and evidence suggests that vegetation may be linked to lower levels of crime in residential neighborhoods, particularly poor inner-city neighborhoods. Residential vegetation has been linked to a greater sense of safety, fewer incivilities, and less aggressive and violent behavior. The link between urban forestry and urban greening with healthier social systems is surprisingly straightforward. The presence of trees and well-maintained lower understory vegetation can transform barren spaces lands into pleasant, welcoming, well-used places. Such common spaces serve to strengthen ties among residents, increase informal surveillance, and deter crime, thereby creating healthier, safer urban communities. Prepared by Kathleen Wolf, Ph.

### Chapter 9 : Researching Fraudulent Organizations in Health Care - Reynolds Center

*International cooperation on crime was also scarce, with states and international organizations struggling with awareness and knowledge of environmental harms, not least because there was little.*