Introduction to Forensic Psychology Essentials for Law Enforcement 1st edition Scott Snyder Test Bank

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II. CHAPTER 2—OVERVIEW OF FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGICAL CONCEPTS

A. Learning Objectives

1. Differentiate between the broad and narrow definitions of forensic psychology.
2. Describe how various subspecialties of psychology overlap the forensic arena.
3. Identify criticisms made of psychology by legal scholars.
4. Illustrate an understanding of the history of forensic psychology.
5. Discuss the importance of subconscious bias as it pertains to investigation.
6. Provide examples of the influence of societal values on the creation and implementation of laws.
7. Define insanity and discuss the evolution of legal insanity standards.

B. Test Questions

1. Multiple Choice (**correct answer in bold**)

    a. What is the difference between the broad definition of forensic psychology and the more traditional (narrow) meaning of the term?

        1) **the broad definition encompasses both clinical and research activities, while the narrow definition includes only clinical work**

        2) the broad definition views only clinical activities as "legitimate" whereas the narrow definition includes only research

        3) the broad definition includes various types of training, while the narrower definition requires legal (law school) training

        4) the narrow definition includes offender profiling, whereas the broad definition includes crime scene analysis

    b. Who is the father of forensic psychology?

        1) Sigmund Freud

        2) Caesar Lombroso

        3) **Hugo Munsterberg**

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4) Reid Meloy

c. Which of the following is *not* a criticism of psychology made by the legal system?

1) psychological experiments have no bearing on real life

2) psychologists are unethical

3) psychologists' activities interfere with the legal system

4) psychologists go beyond the data to make judgments

d. Identify three clinical activities in which forensic psychologists engage:

1) treatment of offenders, evaluation of offenders, memory research

2) **court-mandated therapy for offenders, insanity assessments, competency evaluations**

3) jury nullification research, evaluation of victims, family therapy

4) crisis intervention, research on the fallibility of eyewitness testimony, trial consultation

e. Hugo Munsterberg gained notoriety for:

1) writing *On the Witness Stand*

2) advising the legal system of the merits of psychology

3) conducting memory research

4) all of the above

2. Short Answer

a. Describe the purpose of an insanity defense.

b. Briefly explain the three criticisms of psychology made by the legal system.

c. Which psychological theories did Freud believe were relevant to the court system?

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3. Essay Topics

    a. Select one of the following disciplines and explain its potential application to the legal system: developmental psychology, neuropsychology, clinical psychology.

    b. Discuss the relevance of subconscious influence as it pertains to the Timothy Masters case.

    c. What are values and how do they influence our justice system? Provide examples.

    d. Discuss McNaughten and Hinckley as turning points in insanity legislation.

C. Recommended Class Activities

1. Present the details of a case in which the defendant mounted an affirmative defense. Select either a case that is currently in the news, or something recent with which students are likely to be familiar, such as the Jodi Arias case. Then, divide the class in half; one half will represent the prosecution and the other will represent the defense. Have the students research the defendant's mental health status as well as the details of the offense prior to making an argument for (defense) or against (prosecution) NGRI. This exercise will reinforce students' understanding of the definition of insanity, assist them in differentiating between legal insanity and psychological illness, and highlight the difficulty inherent to a retrospective assessment. This exercise can be utilized as the group presentation referenced in the syllabus.

1. Divide the class into groups and have each one choose a relatively recent news story in which an investigation did not go as planned or an interaction between police and a suspect resulted in a violent altercation. Then have each group answer the following questions: How might an understanding of psychology have assisted officers or the investigation as a whole? Why was tactical training not enough to ensure the success of law enforcement in this particular situation? What role might bias on the part of the officers or community members have played? This activity pertains to both Chapters 1 and 2.

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