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Chapter 2: Theories of Deviant Behavior: I

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. During the Age of Enlightenment, _____ replaced superstitious explanations for the causes of human behavior.

A. social events

B. positivism

C. sociology

D. metaphysics

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.1: Describe the contributions of evidence-based methods to modern understandings of deviant behavior.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Evidence-Based Behavior Analysis

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. What does positivism refer to?

A. the scientific approach to the study of physical and social event

B. the sociological perspective that everything should be interpreted optimistically

C. the religious position that all events happen according to a divine plan

D. the belief that everything can be studied as various parts of a whole

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.1: Describe the contributions of evidence-based methods to modern understandings of deviant behavior.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Evidence-Based Behavior Analysis

Difficulty Level: Easy

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3. Evidence-based behavior analysis is rooted in the _____.

A. sociology of knowledge

B. positivism

C. knowledge-based behavior analysis

D. scientific method

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.1: Describe the contributions of evidence-based methods to modern understandings of deviant behavior.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Evidence-Based Behavior Analysis

Difficulty Level: Hard

4. What term refers to an interrelated and interdependent proposition designed to predict a given phenomenon?

A. scientific theory

B. hypothesis

C. middle range theory

D. master conceptual scheme

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.2: Examine the nature of scientific theory.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: What Is a Theory?

Difficulty Level: Easy

5. Weight, sex, age, and height are all _____ because they are subject to change.

A. theories

B. propositions

C. variables

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D. parsimonious

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.2: Examine the nature of scientific theory.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: What Is a Theory?

Difficulty Level: Medium

6. When evaluating a theory, _____ refers to whether a theory has clearly stated propositions that agree with each other.

A. the scientific method

B. parsimony

C. logical consistency

D. scope

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.3: List the criteria for evaluating a theory.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Criteria for Evaluating a Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Simon wants to create theory that explains all forms of crime and deviance. His theory is so complicated it fills an entire series of books. This theory lacks _____.

A. positivism

B. parsimony

C. variables

D. scope

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.3: List the criteria for evaluating a theory.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Criteria for Evaluating a Theory

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Difficulty Level: Medium

8. There are six criteria for assessing a scientific theory: parsimony, _____, logical consistency, testability, empirical validity, and usefulness/policy implications.

A. reliability

B. validity

C. simplicity

D. scope

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.3: List the criteria for evaluating a theory.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Criteria for Evaluating a Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. Stephen develops a theory that could explain the fundamental nature of the universe. The only problem is there is no way to empirically measure his variables. Therefore, the theory is not _____.

A. valid

B. parsimonious

C. testable

D. scaled

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.3: List the criteria for evaluating a theory.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Criteria for Evaluating a Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. What school of thought were Beccaria and Bentham key figures in developing?

A. classical

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B. societal reaction

C. labeling

D. control

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.4: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and early development of the Classical School.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: The Classical School

Difficulty Level: Easy

11. When deciding whether to shoplift the candy, Izzy bases her decision on the fact that she greatly desires the candy and does not think she is likely to get caught. This illustrates the _____ principal, because she is maximizing her pleasure and assuming there will be no consequences.

A. deterrence

B. hedonistic

C. avoidance

D. obviation

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.4: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and early development of the Classical School.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: The Classical School

Difficulty Level: Medium

12. In the neoclassical school, the deterrence doctrine involves both _____ and _____.

A. hedonism; a cost–benefit analysis

B. rationality; parsimony

C. labels; punishments

D. stigma; reintegrative shaming

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.4: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and early development of the Classical School.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Classical School

Difficulty Level: Medium

13. What do rational choice theory and situational choice theory have in common?

A. They both emphasize the context in which decisions are made.

B. They both suggest that capital punishment is the most effective deterrent.

C. They both focus on an individual's conscious decision-making.

D. They both involve a belief in the essential goodness of individuals.

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.4: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and early development of the Classical School.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: The Classical School

Difficulty Level: Hard

14. What is one possible criticism of routine activities theory?

A. It lacks useful policy implications.

B. It lacks logical consistency.

C. It de-emphasizes personal responsibility.

D. It blames the victim.

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.4: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and early development of the Classical School.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

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Answer Location: The Classical School

Difficulty Level: Hard

15. According to _____, crime is most likely when there is a suitable target, a motivated offender, and the lack of a capable guardian.

A. routine activities theory

B. situational choice theory

C. hedonistic calculus theory

D. control theory

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.4: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and early development of the Classical School.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: The Classical School

Difficulty Level: Easy

16. What provides the foundation for the labeling perspective?

A. the classical school

B. the neoclassical school

C. symbolic interaction

D. social integration

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.5: Describe the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of the societal reaction or labeling perspective.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Societal Reaction/Labeling Perspective

Difficulty Level: Hard

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17. Jack arrives at Daisy's house to pick her up. He does not know her father, but he decides her father thinks he is stupid. Jack begins to think of himself as stupid. What does this demonstrate?

A. reintegrative shaming

B. looking-glass self

C. stigma

D. techniques of neutralization

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.5: Describe the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of the societal reaction or labeling perspective.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Societal Reaction/Labeling Perspective

Difficulty Level: Medium

18. Sun's parents raise her firmly, but kindly. They listen to her, and she learns her words have value. They give her hugs, and she learns that they love her. George Herbert Mead would term Sun's ability to view herself from her parent's perspective as _____.

A. social integration

B. neoclassical

C. taking the role of the other

D. hedonistic calculus

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.5: Describe the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of the societal reaction or labeling perspective.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Societal Reaction/Labeling Perspective

Difficulty Level: Medium

19. _____ theory suggests that the process of becoming a deviant involves primary deviance and secondary deviance.

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A. Labeling

B. Control

C. Routine activities

D. Self-derogation

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.5: Describe the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of the societal reaction or labeling perspective.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Societal Reaction/Labeling Perspective

Difficulty Level: Medium

20. Morgan was caught shoplifting at a local store. Instead of pressing charges, the owner spoke with her parents and arranged for her to work at the store 4 hr a week. Because the store owner communicated his disapproval of Morgan's behavior, but provided her with the opportunity to improve, _____ has occurred.

A. reintegrative shaming

B. disintegrative shaming

C. secondary deviance

D. stigmatization

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.5: Describe the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of the societal reaction or labeling perspective.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Societal Reaction/Labeling Perspective

Difficulty Level: Medium

21. What is primary deviance?

A. deviance that occurs for selfish reasons

B. a hidden norm violation

C. a minor norm violation

D. deviance that serves a social purpose

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.5: Describe the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of the societal reaction or labeling perspective.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Societal Reaction/Labeling Perspective

Difficulty Level: Medium

22. Durkheim's views on how social integration is related to deviant behavior provide the foundation for the development of _____ theory.

A. social control

B. labeling

C. situational choice

D. seduction of crime

Ans: A

Learning Objective: 2.6: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of control theory.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Social Control Theory

Difficulty Level: Hard

23. In Hirschi's control theory, _____ refers to the intensity and variety of interests a person shares with community members.

A. involvement

B. belief

C. commitment

D. attachment

Ans: D

Learning Objective: 2.6: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of control theory.

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Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Social Control Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

24. The general theory of crime suggests that most crimes are committed _____.

A. after a long planning period

B. to satisfy an immediate need

C. by individuals with above average intelligence

D. accidentally

Ans: B

Learning Objective: 2.6: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of control theory.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Social Control Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

25. Clarkton is very active in his community. He volunteers with Meals on Wheels, donates blood every other month, and brings his neighbor groceries once a week. According to control theory, Clarkton's _____ will prevent him from engaging in deviant behavior.

A. differential association

B. hedonistic calculus

C. involvement in his community

D. control–balance

Ans: C

Learning Objective: 2.6: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of control theory.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: Social Control Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

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True/False

1. The scientific approach to the study of physical and social event is also called positivism.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.1: Describe the contributions of evidence-based methods to modern understandings of deviant behavior.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Evidence-Based Behavior Analysis

Difficulty Level: Easy

2. One component of the scientific method is hypothesis collection.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.1: Describe the contributions of evidence-based methods to modern understandings of deviant behavior.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Evidence-Based Behavior Analysis

Difficulty Level: Medium

3. A proposition is a statement of the relationship between at least two variables.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.2: Examine the nature of scientific theory.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: What Is a Theory?

Difficulty Level: Easy

4. Gender is a variable.

Ans: T

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Learning Objective: 2.2: Examine the nature of scientific theory.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: What Is a Theory?

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. When evaluating a theory, empirical validity refers to the clarity of the concepts or variables that are used to form the propositions.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.3: List the criteria for evaluating a theory.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Criteria for Evaluating a Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

6. Situational choice theory acknowledges that crime displacement can lead to target hardening.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.4: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and early development of the Classical School.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Classical School

Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Both rational choice theory and situational choice theory are based on the idea that individuals engage in conscious, rational decision-making.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.4: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and early development of the Classical School.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: The Classical School

Difficulty Level: Medium

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8. According to Bentham, people hold three basic characteristics: free will, rationality, and manipulability.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.4: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and early development of the Classical School.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: The Classical School

Difficulty Level: Easy

9. The looking-glass self refers to the idea that our self-perception is based in part on how we think other people see us.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.5: Describe the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of the societal reaction or labeling perspective.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Societal Reaction/Labeling Perspective

Difficulty Level: Medium

10. Reintegrative shaming refers to the process by which a person comes to accept the largely negative judgments of others.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.5: Describe the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of the societal reaction or labeling perspective.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Societal Reaction/Labeling Perspective

Difficulty Level: Easy

11. Hirschi's social bonds theory focused on understanding why people choose not to commit deviant acts.

Ans: T

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Learning Objective: 2.6: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of control theory.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Social Control Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

12. In social control theory, commitment refers to the intensity and variety of interests a person has in common with others in the community.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.6: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of control theory.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Social Control Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

13. Social control theory is related to Emile Durkheim's ideas about how social integration effects deviance.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.6: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of control theory.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Social Control Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

14. Farrington identified three key transitions that changed the life trajectory of young offenders: having children, getting married, and attending college.

Ans: F

Learning Objective: 2.7: Explain the viewpoint taken by new theoretical approaches to the understanding of deviance, including theories of human development.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: New Theoretical Approaches

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Difficulty Level: Easy

15. Both trajectories and transitions are major components of Sampson and Laub's developmental approach to understanding deviant behavior.

Ans: T

Learning Objective: 2.7: Explain the viewpoint taken by new theoretical approaches to the understanding of deviance, including theories of human development.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: New Theoretical Approaches

Difficulty Level: Easy

Short Answer

1. Compare and contrast control theory and the general theory of crime.

Ans: Hirschi saw integration as a set of social bonds between individuals and conventional society. Control theory developed first and focused on understanding what prevented people from committing delinquent acts. It is credited to Hirschi alone. Gottfredson and Hirschi reformulated of control theory into the general theory of crime, focuses on self-control rather instead of bonds to conventional social life. Gottfredson and Hirschi reformulation contends that most crimes are not well planned but are committed to satisfy an immediate need or desire. They are similar because they both involve individual actions, but control theory focuses on what prevents criminality while the general theory of crime focuses on the internal motivation to act deviant (low self-control).

Learning Objective: 2.6: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of control theory.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Social Control Theory

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. According to the general theory of crime, what benefits does crime offer a person with low self-control?

Ans: According to Gottfredson and Hirschi, crime provides a person who has low self-control with a number of benefits. First, criminal acts provide easy or simple gratification of desires. Second, crime is exciting, risky, and thrilling. Third, you don't need to be highly skilled to commit crimes. Fourth, crime does not require much planning. Fifth, crimes can cause pain or discomfort for the victim.

Learning Objective: 2.6: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of control theory.

Cognitive Domain: Knowledge

Answer Location: Social Control Theory

Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Differentiate between key components of Sampson and Laub's approach to the study of crime and deviance.

Ans: Sampson and Laub adopt a life-course perspective to understanding crime and deviance. Key components of this approach are trajectories, transitions, and turning points. Trajectories refer to long-term patterns of behavior throughout life course. Transitions are short-term events that occur within trajectories. The turning point is an abrupt event that redirects the course of a life trajectory.

Learning Objective: 2.7: Explain the viewpoint taken by new theoretical approaches to the understanding of deviance, including theories of human development.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: New Theoretical Approaches

Difficulty Level: Hard

4. Explain the key transitions that changed the trajectory of young offenders identified in Farrington's development study of delinquents.

Ans: Farrington identified three key transitions that changed the life trajectory of a young offender: employment, marriage, and relocation. Having a steady job offered an alternative to a relatively meaningless life on the street. Getting married to a person who is not involved in a deviant lifestyle gives delinquents a reason to conform. Moving to a low-crime area would offer fewer opportunities to commit crimes and fewer partners to commit crimes with.

Learning Objective: 2.7: Explain the viewpoint taken by new theoretical approaches to the understanding of deviance, including theories of human development.

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Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: New Theoretical Approaches

Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Explain, using example, the components of a scientific theory.

Ans: (Varies) A scientific theory is a set of interrelated and interdependent propositions designed to predict a given phenomenon. A proposition is a statement of the relationship between at least two variables. For example, if I study for my sociology test, I will get an A. A variable is something that changes. For example, how much I study for my sociology test and the grade I receive are both variables.

Learning Objective: 2.2: Examine the nature of scientific theory.

Cognitive Domain: Application

Answer Location: What Is a Theory?

Difficulty Level: Medium

Essay

1. Compare the findings from the 1972 Philadelphia Birth Cohort study to Farrington's 1986 Cambridge Study in Delinquent Development.

Ans: In the 1972 Philadelphia Birth Cohort study, Marvin Wolfgang and his colleagues found that juvenile offenders who committed five or more offenses, called chronic offenders, were developmentally different from 1-time offenders and nondelinquents. Chronic offenders tended to have lower IQ scores, do less well in school, and were more likely to come from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. They also typically committed their first offense at younger age. Wolfgang and his colleagues conclude that earlier the age of onset was associated with a greater the likelihood of chronic offending. By contrast, Farrington's Cambridge study focused on antisocial behaviors, such as dishonesty and aggression, which appeared early in life. When these antisocial behaviors occurred within the right social context, they tended to persist into early adulthood. Specifically, young offenders from large families that experienced harsh and inconsistent discipline, had few social and economic resources, and whose siblings were also committing delinquent acts were more likely to be set on a trajectory of criminal involvement. Both studies involved looking at crime and deviance as it occurred over a longer period of time, but while Wolfgang's study focused on chronic offenders versus nonchronic offenders, Farrington focused specifically on antisocial behavior and

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the context that, combined with antisocial behaviors, would produce a criminal trajectory.

Learning Objective: 2.7: Explain the viewpoint taken by new theoretical approaches to the understanding of deviance, including theories of human development.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: New Theoretical Approaches

Difficulty Level: Hard

2. Explain, using Aker's criteria for evaluating a theory, how social scientists would evaluate control theory.

Ans: Control theory is the view that social bonds (attachment, belief, commitment, and involvement) prevent people from engaging in deviant behavior. The criterion Aker's promotes for evaluating a theory include logical consistency, scope, and parsimony, testability, empirical validity, and usefulness and policy implications. To assess control theory for logical consistency involves assessing whether the key components (attachment, belief, commitment, and involvement) are clearly defined and mutually exclusive. Scope refers to "range of phenomena" accounted for by the theory. Assessing control theory for scope involves assessing what range of criminal and deviant behavior control theory can account for. Parsimony or simplicity can be assessed in relation to control theory by assessing if any of the key components or overly complicated. The testability of a theory refers to whether evidence is available to assess the validity of its propositions. Assessing control theory for testability means assessing whether it can be proven false. The empirical validity of control theory can be assessed by asking if there is scientifically credible evidence to support it. Finally, control theory can be assessed for its utility and policy implications. Can control theory be used in designing and implementing prevention and intervention programs and policies?

Learning Objective: 2.6: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of control theory.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Social Control Theory

Difficulty Level: Hard

3. Using examples, distinguish between the primary components of routine activities theory.

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Ans: Routine activities refer to an individual's lifestyle that influences the likelihood of becoming a victim of criminal activity. Lawrence Cohen and Marcus Felson's routine activities theory is composed of three primary components: a suitable target, a motivated offender, and lack of a capable guardian. Cohen and Felson suggest that crime typically occurs when three conditions intersect: a suitable target, a motivated offender, and the lack of a capable guardian. A suitable target may be someone intoxicated, flashing money. Motivated offenders, such as a person who needs money to buy street-level drugs illegally, are often present but choose to strike only when a suitable target is present. One final factor determines whether the motivated offender strikes. Is there a capable guardian? If the capable guardian, for instance, a sober eyewitness, is absent, the motivated offender is more likely to strike.

Learning Objective: 2.4: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and early development of the Classical School.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: The Classical School

Difficulty Level: Hard

4. Compare and contrast the contributions of Lemert and Becker to the social reactionist perspective.

Ans: Lemert and Becker both contributed to the social reactionist perspective. They both focused on the process of becoming deviant. Lemert focused on two stages involved in the process of becoming a deviant, primary deviance and secondary deviance. Primary deviance consists of minor norm violations that probably won't be officially noticed. The offender usually does not self-identify as deviant. However, if an act of primary deviance draws official notice and response, then the offender is labeled criminal. The process of being arrested, booked, fingerprinted, and adjudicated in court serves solidifies the criminal label. Secondary deviance, behavior that is the direct result of being labeled criminal, then occurs. In the secondary deviance stage, the offender has self-defined as "bad" or "criminal," and offending often escalates in seriousness and frequency.

Unlike Lemert, Becker emphasizes that deviance itself is socially created. Becker changes from Lemert's more objective definition of deviant behavior to a subjective definition of deviant behavior. For Becker, behavior is neutral rather than good or bad. Others must define a person's behavior before it can take on a social value, a judgment of right or wrong, moral or immoral, harmful or benign. While Lemert adopted a two-stage process of becoming deviant, Becker suggested that the process of creating a deviant involves three stages. First, an act must be defined as a deviant act. Second, the actor must be defined as deviant person. In the third and most critical stage of the

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process, the actor must accept the label of deviant and define himself or herself as a deviant.

Learning Objective: 2.5: Describe the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of the societal reaction or labeling perspective.

Cognitive Domain: Analysis

Answer Location: Societal Reaction/Labeling Perspective

Difficulty Level: Hard

5. Summarize control theory.

Ans: Hirschi's control theory is grounded in Emile Durkheim's ideas about social integration. Prior to Hirschi, the focus was on understanding what drive people to engage in deviant behavior. Hirschi proceeded from the assumption that many people want to commit deviant behavior and focused his theory on explaining what prevented people from engaging in deviance. He identified four social bonds between individuals and conventional society: attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief. Attachment refers to the intensity and variety of interests a person has in common with others in the community. Commitment is reflected in the amount of energy a person's expends on community-oriented activities. Involvement is indicated by the person's expenditure of time on projects of common interest. Belief means the acceptance of a common system of values and moral precepts. Hirschi concludes that the stronger the bonds between individuals and conventional social life, the less likely they would engage in deviant behavior.

Learning Objective: 2.6: Summarize the conceptual beginnings and contemporary perspective of control theory.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Answer Location: Social Control Theory

Difficulty Level: Medium

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