# *Violence The Enduring Problem 4th edition Alvarez Test Bank*

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# Chapter 2: Why Do We Do It?

# Test Bank

### Multiple Choice

1. What type of aggression is something that can be easily recognized among young men who sometimes struggle and compete for status by being the toughest and strongest?
a. territorial
b. fear-based
c. intermale
d. instrumental
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Ethological and Biological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

2. What type of aggression concerns animals that fight to control a piece of land they have marked or defined as their own?
a. territorial
b. fear-based
c. intermale
d. instrumental
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Ethological and Biological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Genetically, humans are most closely related to _____.
a. buffalo
b. pigs
c. monkeys
d. chimpanzees
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Ethological and Biological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

4. Wrangham and Peterson specifically suggest that _____ is at the root of the quest for status and privilege.
a. money
b. sex

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c. pride
d. risk
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Ethological and Biological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Phrenology is the study of _____.
a. extra hormones
b. genetics
c. chemical imbalances
d. skull shapes
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Ethological and Biological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

6. Lombroso argued that violent criminals were evolutionary throwbacks or _____, and the problem of crime rested upon the shoulders of individuals who were born to be violent and criminal.
a. serotonin
b. offenders
c. atavisms
d. eugenics
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Ethological and Biological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Which movement tried to improve the human race through selective breeding practices, forced sterilization programs, and similar kinds of policies?
a. biosocial
b. eugenics
c. nature
d. positivism
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Ethological and Biological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

8. A growing body of research suggests that the warrior gene, sometimes referred to as a genetic polymorphism, correlates with which of the following?
a. higher levels of delinquency
b. antisocial behavior
c. hypersensitivity to real or imagined slights
d. all of these

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Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Serotonin
Difficulty Level: Medium

9. Given that most violence is perpetrated by males, some have suggested that male aggression is linked with levels of _____.
a. testosterone
b. estrogen
c. steroids
d. progesterone
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Testosterone
Difficulty Level: Easy

10. Which of the following tends to have the highest levels of testosterone?
a. high level violent inmates
b. high level nonviolent inmates
c. winning athletes
d. losing athletes
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Testosterone
Difficulty Level: Medium

11. Studies using MRIs and PET scans have revealed that violent offenders, especially impulsively aggressive individuals, often have _____ that are believed to have played a role in predisposing some of them to violent behavior.
a. brain dysfunctions
b. prior criminal histories
c. past abuse
d. aggressive traits
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Brain Injuries
Difficulty Level: Medium

12. Some biologists/criminologists suggest that violence can be linked with _____.
a. mesomorphic
b. endomorphic
c. brain injuries from combat or a violent experience
d. metamorphic
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Brain Injuries

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Difficulty Level: Easy

13. _____ seek to understand violent behavior in terms of personality, character, and mental disorder.
a. Sociological perspectives
b. Psychological perspectives
c. Physical perspectives
d. Brain dysfunction perspectives
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Psychological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Medium

14. Those who have _____ are often characterized as being very narcissistic, reckless, and emotionally shallow.
a. PTSD
b. antisocial personality disorder
c. eating disorders
d. none of these
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Antisocial Personality Disorder
Difficulty Level: Medium

15. Research shows that _____ develops best when young people are shown how their actions affect others, but individuals with antisocial personality disorder show an impaired ability to empathize.
a. violence
b. abuse
c. morality
d. selfishness
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Antisocial Personality Disorder
Difficulty Level: Medium

16. An argument made by a number of criminologists but popularized by John DiIulio suggests that our society was home to a new breed of violent offender known as _____.
a. pathological liar
b. sadism
c. violent offenders
d. superpredators
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Antisocial Personality Disorder
Difficulty Level: Easy

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17. As the name implies, the _____ hypothesis contends that violence is one possible response for individuals who feel frustrated and thwarted in achieving something.
a. stress
b. economic deprivation
c. social deprivation
d. frustration-aggression
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Frustration-Aggression Hypothesis
Difficulty Level: Medium

18. According to the frustration-aggression hypothesis, which of the following factors increases the likelihood of a violent reaction?
a. the frustration was unintentionally caused
b. the hindrance was perceived as being fair
c. the presence of aggressive stimuli such as aggressive music
d. the presence of an audience
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Frustration-Aggression Hypothesis
Difficulty Level: Medium

19. A number of scholars assert that it is not absolute deprivation that is associated with violence, but rather inequality that is sometimes referred to as _____.
a. shame
b. strain theory
c. anomie
d. relative deprivation
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Economic Deprivation
Difficulty Level: Easy

20. Merton believed that a state of _____ would result when individuals lived under conditions where legitimate means were not available to achieve societal goals.
a. anomie
b. balance
c. social control
d. self control
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Strain Theories
Difficulty Level: Medium

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21. Steven Messner and Richard Rosenfeld developed what they call a(n) _____ of crime that links crime to the existing social structure.
a. code of the streets
b. general strain theory
c. strain theory
d. institutional-anomie theory
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Strain Theories
Difficulty Level: Medium

22. What theory adds insight into corporate decisions that result in death, such as the current opioid crisis gripping the United States?
a. differential association
b. general strain theory
c. frustration-aggression hypothesis
d. institutional anomie
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Institutional Anomie and the Opioid Epidemic
Difficulty Level: Easy

23. Who suggested some poor young African American men develop what he labels a "code of the street," which involves a strong sense of personal honor combined with a corresponding emphasis on guarding against personal affronts and insults?
a. Elijah Anderson
b. Robert Agnew
c. Edwin Sutherland
d. Messner and Rosenfeld
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Cultural Adaptations
Difficulty Level: Easy

24. What theory contends that violence is learned in the same way that anything else is learned?
a. social learning
b. strain
c. frustration-aggression
d. social media
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Social Learning Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

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25. What theory suggests that criminals communicate through a wide variety of signals and signs that convey to others their credentials, their toughness, and their willingness to engage in violent and criminal activities?
a. institutional anomie
b. strain
c. signaling
d. differential association
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Social Learning Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

26. Craig Anderson and his colleagues define _____ as the reduction in distress-related physiological reactivity to observations or thoughts of violence.
a. antisocial personality disorder
b. mental scripts
c. emotional desensitization
d. intergenerational transmission
Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Social Learning, Media, and Violence
Difficulty Level: Medium

27. Michael Gottfredson and Travis Hirschi articulated their general theory of crime based on the notion that individual criminality is the result of _____.
a. social learning
b. low self-control
c. family genetics
d. body composition
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Self-Control and Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

28. Which of the following individuals contend that criminality is a function of both structural factors and informal social controls?
a. Gottfredson and Hirschi
b. Sampson and Laub
c. Sutherland and Anderson
d. Messner and Rosenfeld
Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Informal Social Control and Life-Course Perspectives
Difficulty Level: Medium

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29. Which theory argues that individuals learn not to act in ways that go against their own personal standards of morality because that brings about self-condemnation and self-criticism?
a. script theory
b. differential association theory
c. general theory of crime
d. theory of moral disengagement
Ans: D
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Explaining Collective Violence
Difficulty Level: Medium

30. Deindividuation, a phenomenon that facilitates violence in a group setting, is actually based on the classic work of _____.
a. Gustave Le Bon
b. Edwin Sutherland
c. Solomon Asch
d. Robert Sampson
Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Deindividuation
Difficulty Level: Easy

**True/False**

1. One specific type of violence that was once believed to separate human beings from other animals is murder, since it was assumed that we were the only animals that killed within our own species.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Ethological and Biological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

2. Franz Joseph Gall suggested that criminals and violent offenders could be identified by looking at the shape of the skull, which was believed to reflect the personality of the individual.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Ethological and Biological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

3. Because of the political and social misuses of biological studies of criminality, many social scientists and others have an almost instinctive trust and validation of them.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

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Answer Location: Ethological and Biological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. Serotonin is a substance that helps relay messages over the gap between the nerve cells and allows them to proceed.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Serotonin
Difficulty Level: Easy

5. Many proponents contend that individuals with higher levels of dopamine are more likely to be aggressive.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Testosterone
Difficulty Level: Medium

6. One of the most recent brain injuries to be linked with violence is called serotonin-frustration, a neurodegenerative disease characterized by an abnormal accumulation of tau protein in the brain.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Brain Injuries
Difficulty Level: Medium

7. Recent research has found that children exposed to high levels of lead not only have serious health consequences but also have an increased risk of behavioral outcomes like aggression.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Biosocial Factors
Difficulty Level: Easy

8. One characteristic of antisocial personality disorder is promiscuous sexual behavior.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Table 2.2: Characteristics of Antisocial Personality Disorder
Difficulty Level: Easy

9. Sadism is when people derive pleasure from harming others and is one of the three reasons identified by Baumeister and Campbell why violence can be gratifying.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Antisocial Personality Disorder
Difficulty Level: Medium

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10. The theory that being poor and living within a relatively affluent community is a much more negative experience than being poor and living within a poor community is referred to as relative deprivation.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Economic Deprivation
Difficulty Level: Easy

11. James Gilligan suggests that the linkage between poverty and violence is caused by one specific factor: social learning.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Economic Deprivation
Difficulty Level: Easy

12. Merton believed that a state of “anomie” would result when individuals lived under conditions where legitimate means were not available to achieve societal goals.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Strain Theories
Difficulty Level: Easy

13. For Agnew, the abuse and neglect people experience revolve around much more than just gaps between goals and the ability to achieve them.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Strain Theories
Difficulty Level: Medium

14. Differential association theory was developed by Thomas Edison in 1940 and was one of the first individuals to suggest criminality and violence were not aberrations but were simply learned behaviors like all other behaviors.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Social Learning Theory
Difficulty Level: Easy

15. The arousal component of watching violence or playing a violent video game is connected to aggressive behavior.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Social Learning, Media, and Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

16. The intergenerational transmission of violence theory is also known as the cycle of violence theory.

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Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: The Cycle of Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

17. Edwin Sutherland articulated the general theory of crime based on the notion that individual criminality is the result of low self-control.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Self-Control and Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

18. In a famous series of experiments, Stanley Milgram was interested in finding out how far people would go on the orders of someone in authority.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Explaining Collective Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

19. The idea that it is easier to remove ethical restrictions against violence when we perceive the victims to be less than us or perhaps even less than human is known as disengagement.
Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Explaining Collective Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

20. One factor that facilitates group participation in group violence is conformity to peer pressure, which is especially strong among members of military and paramilitary groups.
Ans: T
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Explaining Collective Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

**Short Answer/Essay**

1. Define both intermale aggression and territorial aggression.
Ans: Intermale aggression is something that we can easily recognize among young men who sometimes struggle and compete for status by being the toughest and strongest. Territorial aggression concerns animals that fight to control a piece of land they have marked or defined as their own.
Cognitive Domain: Knowledge
Answer Location: Ethological and Biological Explanations of Violence
Difficulty Level: Easy

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2. What is serotonin and what impact does it have on violent behavior?
Ans: Serotonin is a substance that helps relay those messages over the gap and allows them to proceed. Without serotonin, data messages do not make it across the gap or, if they do, they tend to be incomplete and garbled. Behaviorally, deficiencies in serotonin have been linked to a wide variety of disorders, such as depression, suicide, and anxiety. Importantly, they have also been linked with impulsive acts of aggression. People with low levels of serotonin appear to be more likely to engage in violence because their ability to control their aggressive impulses is diminished. Serotonin acts as an impulse inhibitor, and lower levels of this neurotransmitter hamper a person's ability to stop and think. We need to understand, however, that while this may help explain certain types of impulsive violence that are essentially overreactions to some sort of provocation, serotonin levels do not help us to understand how other, more calculated forms of violence are perpetrated. At the risk of sounding redundant, we also need to remember that a low level of serotonin is not sufficient, in and of itself, to produce violence. Serotonin deficiency is just one of many possible contributing factors that help explain the puzzle of violence.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Serotonin
Difficulty Level: Medium

3. Define antisocial personality disorder (APD) as it relates to violence. What characteristics could be associated with APD?
Ans: Those who have an antisocial personality disorder are often characterized as being very narcissistic, reckless, and emotionally shallow. Importantly, they are also unable to empathize or feel compassion for others. The suffering of others does not touch them emotionally, so they have no guilt about hurting others. In many ways, it comes down to the issue of empathy. The ability to feel the pain of others, to put yourself in their place, to share their feelings is a crucial element in developing a moral sense of your actions. Research shows that morality develops best when young people are shown how their actions affect others, but individuals with this disorder show an impaired ability to empathize. Simply put, they cannot process the pain and fear of others. In addition to this, they also have a reduced ability to process fear, which means that the punishments and negative consequences that often prevent the majority of us from engaging in criminal acts do not act as a deterrent to these individuals. Punishment does not scare them. These factors are combined with a tendency for them to be extremely self-centered, seeing others as a means to an end. As such, they do not hesitate to employ violence to fulfill their selfish goals. They act out of pure self-interest, without reference to a moral or ethical compass. In fact, historically, this kind of disorder was originally defined as a kind of "moral insanity." This does not mean that they do not understand the consequences of their actions. In fact, they are fairly well grounded in reality and understand right from wrong, they just do not seem to care. People with this disorder are consequently marked by a high likelihood of engaging in instrumental forms of violence, which makes sense since instrumental violence is a means to an end. Others may resort to aggression to help them get their way or acquire something they

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want. The underlying mechanism in both cases is that fact that they seem incapable of caring that their behavior harms others. In short, they lack empathy.
Cognitive Domain: Application
Answer Location: Antisocial Personality Disorder
Difficulty Level: Medium

4. Discuss the relationship between stress and violence as it relates to the overrepresentation of minority communities.
Ans: Many forms of violence are concentrated among the ranks of the poor, and we also know that low-income neighborhoods and communities suffer from a disproportionate amount of social problems that often include high rates of drug and alcohol abuse, gang violence, street crime, and the like. Individuals in these communities also suffer the daily strains and indignities of living with few resources within a society that largely ignores their plight. People struggle to get by, to survive, and to make ends meet. They also have to constantly be on their guard and react to potentially dangerous situations. In short, the poor tend to lead stressful lives, and over time, stress decreases their ability to cope.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: Stress and Violence
Difficulty Level: Medium

5. Define the cycle of violence.
Ans: This perspective points out that parents are often the strongest role models that children have, and when children see their father hitting their mother, for example, or experience one of their parents hitting or otherwise physically disciplining or abusing them, they cannot help but learn that this is how parents interact with each other and with their kids. Violence is thus understood to be a normal and acceptable part of family life. As a result, children who grow up in such environments are more likely to engage in similar acts of violence when they themselves are adults.
Cognitive Domain: Comprehension
Answer Location: The Cycle of Violence
Difficulty Level: Medium

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