

## Unit 1 Topic 1.4 Page 30

### Activity: Research Performance crimes

#### Learning objective

At the end of this activity you should be able to:

- understand performance crimes and how social media is used to represent crime.

Social media has created a new form of crime which involves the criminal act being broadcast on social media. These 'performance' crimes may be with or without consent or knowledge of the offender. Some criminals accept having their actions filmed for streaming on social network sites and often behave like actors in a film when committing the crime. Perpetrators may also use tweets and other social media posts to broadcast future crimes.

The popularity of celebrities and celebrity status mean that performance crimes are often committed with a view to becoming well known. Some criminals also post videos of planned crimes to heighten interest before they commit and post the actual crime.

A. Working with a partner, visit the link below and complete the following:

<https://www.vocativ.com/underworld/crime/16-year-old-live-tweeted-bomb-threats-3-months-got-arrested/>

1. What crime did the 16-year-old @ProbablyOnion commit?
  2. How many times had he committed the crime before he was caught?
  3. How did he publicise the crimes he had committed?
  4. How did the police determine that @Probably Onion and @ProbablyOnion2 were behind the crimes?
- B. What other types of crimes might be used as performance crimes?
- C. Why might performance crimes be a problem for police to investigate?
- D. What might be the advantages for police when investigating these types of crime?
- E. In your view, are performance crimes more like crime news or more like crime drama? Give your reasons.

For more information on performance crime, read the article at <http://bit.ly/1KcPPCt>