

Chapter 2

Topic 4 Realist theories

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Activity: Discussion

Left versus right

Learning objectives

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

- Explain the views of left and right realists on the causes of crime and the solutions to crime.
- Evaluate left and right realist perspectives on causes and solutions.

Left and right realists have very different views on the causes of and solutions to 'the problem of crime'.

A. Divide into four groups:

Group 1 will take right realist explanations of the causes of crime.

Group 2 will take left realist explanations of the causes of crime.

Group 3 will take right realist explanations of solutions to crime.

Group 4 will take left realist explanations of solutions to crime.

Using pages 97-102 of your textbook, prepare a five-minute presentation on how your perspective explains the causes of or the solutions to 'the problem of crime'.

B. Give your presentations in group order (1, 2, 3 and 4) as part of a class discussion on realist views of the causes of and solutions to crime.

C. Individually, write your own summary of the conclusions you reached as a class from this discussion.