



**sabotage** intentional damage to plans or physical facilities, usually by an insider.

**Sacco, Nicola (1891–1927) and Vanzetti, Bartolomeo (1888–1927)** anarchists who were convicted of murder in 1921 and executed in the *electric chair*, despite doubts about their guilt.

**sadism** the derivation of pleasure from inflicting pain or suffering on others, named for the Marquis de Sade. Compare with *masochism*, *sadomasochism*. See *sexual sadist*.

**sadomasochism** practices featuring both *sadism* and *masochism*.

**safecracking** the act or process of breaking into a safe to steal the contents.

**Safe Futures Initiative** an initiative designed to create a continuum of care in communities in order to prevent and control delinquency. Safe Futures is predicated on using community strengths, including the youths themselves.

**safe house** a dwelling used by law enforcement or other criminal justice authorities to hide and protect witnesses or others who may be in danger. See *Witness Security Program*.

**safe room** a secret room designed to protect the structure's inhabitants against attack.

**safe storage laws** laws intended to require the safe storage of firearms. Safe storage laws are designed to prevent accidental injury and death due to firearms misuse.

**Safety Town** a *crime prevention* program where youths learn how to be safe in their communities. Topics covered in a typical Safety Town lesson include how to cross the street, what to do in case of a fire, and what to do if approached by a stranger. Safety Towns emphasize all facets of a child's life, including home, school, and other locations and often end with graduation ceremonies for participating youths.

**Saint Valentine's Day massacre** the murder of seven members of George "Bugs" Moran's gang by killers allegedly hired by mobster *Al Capone*. The

murders were committed by men posing as police officers and led to increased efforts to control *organized crime* in Chicago.

**same sex abuse** the physical, mental, or emotional abuse by a person toward another of the same gender.

**sample** a group of cases considered representative of a *population*. Criminologists collect data on samples of offenders or ordinary citizens in order to draw inferences about the population of interest.

**sanction** a legal consequence for committing a crime. Sanctions can include imprisonment, *probation*, fines, and other options.

**Sandy Hook tragedy** see *Newtown Massacre*.

**San Francisco Project** a series of research projects undertaken in the late 1960s and early 1970s by the School of Criminology at the University of California at Berkeley to examine practices related to *probation*. Among the studies in the San Francisco Project were inquiries into the *presentence investigation report*.

**San Quentin** San Quentin State Prison, San Quentin, California. The oldest of California's prisons, San Quentin was established in 1852. It houses the state's *death row* for condemned men as well as the state's *gas chamber*, even though the condemned now face *lethal injection*.

**sap** a heavy leather-clad weapon used to strike a person. Compare with *blackjack*, *truncheon*.

**SARA model** stands for scanning, analysis, response, and assessment. A method suggested by law professor Herman Goldstein to systematically document and evaluate problems in a community in order to address them. Scanning is the collection of data on problems in a community. Police make sense of these data through analysis which leads them to a response to address identified problems. In the assessment phase, police officials evaluate their response in order to make any necessary adjustments. See *community policing*, *problem-oriented policing*.

**satanic cult** a quasi-religious group whose practices and ceremonies center around the worship of Satan. Compare with *goths*.

**satanism** the worship of Satan. See *satanic cult*.

**satunist** one who worships Satan or otherwise practices the black arts.

**saturation patrol** a law enforcement strategy where large numbers of officers are deployed in a relatively small geographic area for the purpose of deterring and detecting criminal activity.

**Saturday night special** an inexpensive cheaply made handgun. Because of their low cost, Saturday night specials are favored by some criminals.

**scaffold** a platform on which a condemned criminal is executed by *hanging*. Scaffolds typically have a trap door through which the condemned drop to their deaths.

**scam** a dishonest or illegal strategy to deceive others for financial or material gain.

**scammer** one who perpetrates a *scam*.

**Scandinavian Research Council for Criminology** a collaboration of the justice ministries of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden whose purpose is to advance criminological research and offer advice on criminological issues. The Council is headquartered in Aarhus, Denmark.

**scanning electron microscope** an extremely powerful microscope that permits forensic scientists to examine minute samples of *evidence*.

**Scared Straight** an inmate-run program that originated in the Rahway State Prison in New Jersey designed to acquaint youthful offenders with the grim realities of prison life. Scared Straight consisted of inmates, many of whom were serving life sentences for murder, who related graphic portrayals of physical and sexual assault and other forms of exploitation against young male inmates. Evaluations of such programs has shown that these had little effect on the subsequent criminal involvement of attendees. Scared Straight programs also violated the sight and sound requirements of federal juvenile justice legislation.

**school crime** crime committed in and around a school. School crime has always been a problem, but it has become more visible with a series of particularly devastating incidents, including the *Columbine massacre* and the *Newtown massacre*. School officials have been criticized for downplaying the extent and seriousness of school crime and for failing to maintain or disclose crime-related statistics.

**school resource officer (SRO)** a law enforcement officer assigned to work in and around schools. In addition to providing security, SROs typically mentor students and educate them about *substance abuse* and other issues.

**school safety** umbrella term that includes any program or movement intended to ensure the protection of students, teachers, and staff from intentional harm. School safety programs can include the use of a *school resource officer* or metal detectors to prevent weapons from being brought into school.

**school-to-prison pipeline** the hypothetical route youths travel by being pushed out of school and into the criminal justice system due to lack of necessary opportunities and support.

**school violence** violence occurring in or around a school. See *Newtown Massacre, school crime*.

**scientific misconduct** illegal or unethical research or publication practices during the performance of scientific research. Scientific misconduct includes the fabrication or falsification of data, plagiarism, as well as the falsification of credentials by those who apply for scientific positions. Under certain circumstances, individuals engaging in scientific misconduct can be charged with crimes like *fraud*. See *qui tam suit*.

**Scotland Yard** the investigative division of the London metropolitan police. Scotland Yard has an international reputation for being a highly professional law enforcement organization.

**search and seizure** the specialty in criminal law concerned with the ability of law enforcement to search criminal suspects and seize property as a result.

**SEARCH Group, Inc.** since the early 1970s, an organization that promotes the development of criminal justice information systems in the United States. SEARCH, Inc., which is headquartered in Sacramento, California, receives funding from the *Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)*.

**search pattern** any of several systematic ways investigators comb crime scenes for *physical evidence*. Common search patterns include the spiral, wheel, grid and zone methods, each named for the means by which an investigator covers the *crime scene*.

**search warrant** a legal document issued by a judge or magistrate that permits law enforcement officials to enter and search specified environs, such as a home or business, for the purpose of finding evidence, apprehending a suspect, or other legitimate purposes.

**Second Amendment** an amendment of the Constitution of the United States which guarantees a citizen's *right to bear arms*. The *Second Amendment* has been used by the *National Rifle Association* and other organizations to assert individual rights to own and carry firearms. Opponents argue that when the Constitution's framers drafted its language, an armed citizenry was important to guarantee freedom. However, with well-developed armed forces these arguments may be less compelling. See *gun control, gun lobby*.

**Second Amendment Foundation** an American nonprofit organization whose mission is to protect the provisions of the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, particularly the *right to bear arms*.

**secondary conflict** according to Thorsten Sellin's *culture conflict* theory, this is conflict that develops in society as it becomes more heterogeneous. As groups differentiate and develop their own distinct values,

they eventually clash with one another. Compare with *primary conflict*. See *Sellin, Thorsten*.

**secondary crime scene** a location of investigatory interest other than the *primary crime scene*. Examples of secondary crime scenes can include the vehicle that a suspect used to escape or the motel or residence used after committing a crime.

**secondary deviance** in the *labeling perspective*, the deviance which results from the acceptance by an individual of his or her deviant identity. Compare with *primary deviance*.

**secondary high explosive** a high explosive that is susceptible to detonation after the initiation of a *primary high explosive*.

**secondary prevention** the prevention of delinquency in those who are at risk or who have already engaged in delinquent acts. Compare with *primary prevention, tertiary prevention*. See *crime prevention*.

**secondary victim** one who indirectly suffers as a result of a crime, such as a relative or friend of a victim of a serious crime. Many so-called secondary victims object to their experience being referred to as secondary, since many lost loved ones and consequently must live with grief and sorrow.

**second degree murder** murder that is not premeditated or committed in connection with another felony. Compare with *involuntary manslaughter, voluntary manslaughter*.

**secretor** one who secretes blood type A, B, or AB antigens in body fluids. Criminal suspects who are secretors set themselves apart from other offenders and therefore are more easily identified if body fluids are available at the *crime scene* or elsewhere.

**secret police** law enforcement authorities of totalitarian governments who investigate and accuse, often without *evidence*, and employ *enhanced interrogation techniques*. The KGB of the former Soviet Union is an example of secret police.

**Secure Communities** an initiative of Immigration and Customs Enforcement where information on criminal aliens is shared among law enforcement agencies without imposing new requirements.

**securities fraud** any form of deceptive practice designed to illegally profit from the manipulation of stocks or other securities. See *Boesky, Ivan, Milken, Michael*.

**security alarm** a device designed to emit an electronic or mechanical signal when an intrusion takes place.

**security company** a private firm that specializes in identifying and mitigating security threats for residential and commercial customers.

**security guard** a privately employed person whose job is to protect people and property. Pejoratively called rent-a-cops, security guards have limited authority. Compare with *police*.

**security system** a set of devices designed to prevent and detect unauthorized intrusion.

**security threat group** a group of individuals in a correctional facility who collectively pose a threat to the safety and security of staff and other inmates. Examples of security threat groups include gangs, those affiliated with the *Aryan Brotherhood* or other white extremists, as well as Black militants. Those affiliated with security threat groups often are segregated from one another by moving them to different institutions in order to minimize their ability to cause harm. Compare with *gang*.

**sedition** actions or speech that could prompt rebellion against a government or other authority. Compare with *treason*.

**selective breath testing** see random breath testing.

**selective incapacitation** the policy and practice of confining violent or chronic offenders based on statistical predictors, such as *prior record* and seriousness of the *instant offense*.

**self-concept theory** any criminological theory that emphasizes the importance of a youth's self-concept as a cause of, or an insulator against, delinquency. See *containment theory*.

**self-control theory** a criminological perspective which attributes criminal behavior to lack of self-control by individuals. See *General Theory of Crime*.

**self-defense** acting in a way to save one's self from death or injury.

**self-esteem** an individual's sense of his or her own self-worth. High self-esteem is thought by some to help insulate individuals from delinquency and crime.

**self-fulfilling prophecy** the tendency of a person to live up to the negative imputations made about him or her. Self-fulfilling prophecy is often used to describe delinquents who are labeled by the juvenile justice system. See *labeling perspective*.

**self-immolation** the practice of setting oneself on fire. Self-immolation is typically performed as an expression of religious or political protest.

**self-incrimination** verbal or written statements that serve to cast suspicion on the person making them.

**self-injurious behavior** behavior, such as cutting or burning oneself.

**self-mutilation** see self-injurious behavior.

**self-reported crime** crimes divulged in the course of a research study designed to measure, among other factors, the offenders' actual involvement in criminal activity. See *self-report study*.

**self-report study** a study where survey respondents or interviewees are asked to reveal the nature and extent to which they have engaged in crime or delinquency. Self-report studies, which can employ surveys or interviews, gained increasing popularity with the acknowledgment that traditional crime statistics, such as the *Uniform Crime Reports*, had severe limitations in their ability to accurately measure crime. Compare with *other report study*, *victimization survey*.

**Sellin, Thorsten (1896–1994)** a prominent criminologist of the 20th century. Sellin was educated at the University of Pennsylvania where he spent his entire academic career. He is perhaps best known for his monograph for the Social Science Research Council, *Culture Conflict and Crime* (1938), and his work with Marvin E. Wolfgang and Robert Figlio titled *Delinquency in a Birth Cohort* (1972). See *Pennsylvania School of Criminology*.

**semiautomatic weapon** a firearm designed to discharge and re-chamber a round with the single pull of the trigger. Semiautomatic weapons are particularly lethal due to the capacity of their magazines. Compare with *automatic weapon*, *revolver*.

**sentence** the legal consequence imposed by a court of law on a convicted offender. A sentence can consist of time in prison or jail, a fine, *probation*, *restitution* to the victim, other consequences or any combination of these.

**sentence bargaining** a form of *plea bargain* where the negotiations between the prosecutor and defense attorney focus on which sentence the prosecutor will recommend the judge impose. Compare with *charge bargaining*.

**sentence disparity** differences in sentences meted out to offenders convicted of like or similar offenses. Sentence disparities can be the result of discretion or legislative differences between jurisdictions.

**sentencing** the phase of court processes where the defendant's punishment is determined. In many felony cases, the presiding judge uses a *presentence investigation report* to assist in arriving at a more just *sentence*. Sentencing options include *prison* or *jail* terms, *probation*, *fines*, or other alternatives.

**sentencing circle** a form of restorative justice based on Native American tradition. See *restorative justice*.

**sentencing commission** an official body of appointed members charged with examining sentencing laws and practices and recommending changes.

**sentencing discount** a reduction in an offender's sentence in return for a guilty plea. See *plea negotiation*, *sentence bargaining*.

**sentencing guidelines** legislatively determined criteria for the imposition of criminal sentences. Sentencing guidelines restrict judicial *discretion*.

**Sentencing Project, The** a U.S. organization that promotes the development of sentencing alternatives. Based in Washington, D.C., The Sentencing Project has published numerous reports, many pointing out inequitable and discriminatory practices in the criminal justice system. The Sentencing Project was a major force behind the *Campaign for an Effective Crime Policy*.

**sentry** a lookout.

**sequestering** the practice of isolating a *jury* from any outside influences, such as family, friends, and electronic and print media. Sequestering rests on the assumption that in order to render a just and impartial verdict in a particular case, jurors must not be biased by information from the outside. Depending on the nature and complexity of the criminal case, jurors may be sequestered for weeks.

**serial arson** the occurrence of two or more instances of *arson* by the same *perpetrator*. Like *serial murder*, serial arson is often sexually motivated. Compare with *fire setting*.

**serial arsonist** one who engages in *serial arson*.

**serial killer** one who commits *serial murder*. Also used to define a serial murderer. Infamous serial killers include *Theodore Bundy*, *Jeffrey Dahmer*, *John Wayne Gacy*, and *Wayne Williams*.

**serial murder** a series of homicides committed by one or more offenders with a cooling off period between each one. Serial murder differs from most other forms of homicide in that it is sexually motivated. Compare with *mass murder*, *multiple murder*, *spree murder*. See *Bundy*, *Theodore*, *Dahmer*, *Jeffrey*, *Gacy*, *John Wayne*, and *Williams*, *Wayne*.

**serial murderer** same as *serial killer*.

**seriousness scaling** the use of *psychophysical scaling* techniques to assess the perceived seriousness of criminal, delinquent, or deviant acts. Seriousness scaling in criminology was introduced by *Thorsten Sellin* and *Marvin E. Wolfgang* in *The Measurement of Delinquency*. Two methods of seriousness scaling are category scaling and magnitude estimation scaling.



**serology** the study of blood.

**serotonin** a compound in the blood that also acts as a neurotransmitter. There are some who believe that serotonin levels influence criminal behavior. See *biocriminology*.

**Serpico, Frank (1936–present)** a former New York City police officer who in the early 1970s exposed widespread *corruption* within the New York City Police Department. Serpico met considerable hostility from other officers, many of whom were involved in the corruption. His allegations led to the formation of the *Knapp Commission* and resulted in the conviction of numerous police officials at all levels. See *grass-eater, meat-eater*.

**service bailiff** a *bailiff* employed by a court who serves summons, subpoenas, and other legal documents which must be delivered in person.

**service revolver** see *service weapon*.

**service weapon** the weapon, most often a handgun, a law enforcement officer carries while on the job. Compare with *off-duty weapon*.

**severity** the punitiveness of a criminal sanction. Severity is one of several characteristics of criminal sentences focused on by adherents of the *classical school of criminology*. Compare with *celerity, certainty*.

**sex crime** any of a wide variety of crimes involving sex as a motivating factor.

**sex offender** one who engages in sex-related crimes, such as rape or child molestation. See *sex crime, sex offender notification, sex offender registration*.

**sex offender notification** the process of formally notifying local residents that a convicted sex offender has moved into their community.

**sex offender registration** the requirement by law that convicted sex offenders must register with local law enforcement agencies. Sex offender registration became popular in the 1990s in the wake of several highly publicized sex crimes. See *Megan's Law*.

**sex offender registry** an official roster of individuals who have been convicted of sex offenses who must register by law. Sex offender registries are frequently accessible by the public.

**sex offender residency restrictions** administrative or legal provisions specifying certain locations where convicted sex offenders may not reside.

**sexploitation** term used to describe the commercial exploitation of sex through the production and distribution of sexually explicit materials. See *community standards, pornography*.

**sex slave** a human captive, most often female, who is forced to engage in sexual relations with the captor.

**sextortion** the sexual exploitation of another using nonphysical means, such as the threatened release of private information.

**sex trade** the selling and transportation of humans, primarily female, for use in *prostitution*. See *human trafficking*.

**sexual assault forensic examination (SAFE)** a forensic examination of victims of sexual assault by physicians, nurses, and other medical professionals. SAFE involves the collection of evidence that potentially can be used to identify and prosecute the *offender*. See *Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE)*.

**Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE)** a nurse who is specially trained to examine and collect evidence from victims of sexual assault. SANEs collect biological and other potentially important evidence with a *rape kit*.

**sexual deviance** any deviant sexual practice.

**sexual homicide** a homicide where the perpetrator's motive is primarily sexual in nature.

**sexual predator** an offender who chronically commits sexual offenses. The term sexual predator is also used by legislators to designate special legislation aimed at this type of person.

**sexual psychopath** a *sex offender* considered predatory and beyond rehabilitation.

**sexual sadist** a *sex offender* who derives pleasure from inflicting pain on his victims. See *sadism*.

**shackles** metal restraints that close around the ankles or wrists, linked to chains. Compare with *handcuffs*, *leg irons*. See *belly chain*.

**shakedown** the systematic, often unannounced, search for contraband in jails or prisons. Shakedowns routinely yield homemade weapons, drugs, and other contraband.

**shall issue** a legal provision specifying that citizens who meet requirements should be issued a permit to carry concealed firearms. Compare with *may issue*.

**shaming penalties** one of the consequences for committing a crime where the offender is subjected to the community's disapproval. Shaming penalties have their beginnings in Australia and New Zealand. See *disintegrative shaming*, *integrative shaming*.

**shank** slang term for a homemade knife. Shanks can be fashioned from a variety of hard materials, such as spoons and bedsprings, and are common in prisons and other correctional facilities. Periodic shakedowns in prisons

invariably turn up a variety of contraband, including shanks. Inmates are adept at hiding shanks. Also referred to as a *shiv*.

**sharp force trauma** an injury caused by a sharp weapon or implement that causes penetrating or incised wounds. Sharp force trauma includes stab wounds, incised wounds, slash wounds, and chop wounds. Compare with *blunt force trauma*.

**Shaw, Clifford (1922–1991)** an American criminologist and figure of the ecological school of criminology, along with Henry D. McKay. Shaw took graduate training at the University of Chicago where he was influenced by sociologists Ernest Burgess and Robert Park. See *Chicago Area Project, Chicago School of Criminology, McKay, Henry D., Institute for Juvenile Research*.

**Shawcross, Arthur (1945–2008)** a *serial killer* who murdered numerous women in New York in the 1970s and 1980s. Shawcross died in prison. See *serial murder*.

**Sheldon, William (1898–1977)** a medically trained professor of psychology who developed a *typology* relating body types to temperament. See *constitutional theory, ectomorph, endomorph, mesomorph*.

**shell games** games of chance where the player must guess the location of a pea under one of several shells. Unwary players do not realize that shell games are rigged and therefore impossible to win.

**shelters** places where victims of *domestic violence* can temporarily live in safety and receive services. Shelters are most often operated by nonprofit organizations and do not disclose their location to the public for purposes of safety and security.

**Shepard, Matthew (1976–1998)** a 21-year-old student from the University of Wyoming who was assaulted and left to die near Laramie, Wyoming because he was gay. See *gay bashing, hate crime*.

**Sheppard, Sam (1923–1970)** an Ohio osteopath first convicted and then acquitted of the murder of his wife. Sheppard was represented by attorney *F. Lee Bailey*. The case attracted much attention and inspired the 1960s television series, *The Fugitive*.

**sheriff** an elected official of a county whose duties include enforcing laws and serving legal notices. In the United States, sheriffs typically provide law enforcement services in unincorporated areas of a county. They also operate county jails where offenders serve short sentences and await conveyance to state prisons.

**Sherman Antitrust Act** a law passed in 1890 to regulate corporate behavior. The Sherman Antitrust Act prohibits the development of monopolies and provides penalties for *price-fixing*.

**shiv** same as *shank*.

**shock-and-awe policing** law enforcement practices characterized by the overwhelming show and use of force.

**shock incarceration** a sentence where the *offender* serves a brief period of confinement in prison followed by release on probation or parole. The thought underlying shock incarceration is that exposure to the harsh realities of prison life will shock the offender into remaining crime free. See *shock parole*, *shock probation*.

**shock parole** *parole* following a brief period of confinement in prison designed to acquaint the offender with the realities of prison life. Offenders receiving shock parole typically spend more time in prison than those on *shock probation*.

**shock probation** *probation* following a brief period of confinement in prison designed to shock the offender with the realities of prison life. Generally the sentencing judge imposes a term of incarceration. After a designated period of time, the inmate may then apply to the sentencing court to have a shock probation hearing. The inmate, either present or in absentia, is either granted or denied probation. If shock probation is granted, the inmate is released from prison under probation supervision for a specified period of time under certain conditions.

**shock treatment** a medical procedure where a mental patient is given an electroconvulsive shock in order to restore improved mental health. Also referred to as electroconvulsive shock therapy.

**shoeprint** the image of the sole and heel of a shoe left by an *offender* and used by law enforcement for identification.

**shoplifting** theft in a retail store by concealing merchandise. See *booster girdle*.

**shotgun** a *long gun* with a smooth bore that fires numerous pellets or a rifled slug. At short ranges, shotguns can inflict devastating injuries. See *riot gun*. Compare with *rifle*.

**showup** British term for *lineup*.

**shunning** the practice of avoiding those who have violated certain norms. Shunning is associated with the Amish culture. See *labeling perspective*.

**siblicide** the killing of a sibling. Compare with *fratricide* and *sororicide*.

**Siegel, Benjamin “Bugsy” (1906–1947)** an *organized crime* figure of the 1930s and 1940s. Siegel was instrumental in developing the gambling casino business in Las Vegas. He was shot and killed at the home of his girlfriend, Virginia Hill.

**sight and sound separation** the requirement that juveniles held in adult jails or lockups must be removed in such a way that the adults and juveniles cannot have contact. Sight and sound separation is based on the notion that any contact with adult inmates is detrimental to confined juveniles.

**signature** a distinguishing trademark of a *serial killer* or other offender evident at the crime scene. Examples of signatures include types of binding, the use of unusual knots, and peculiar injuries or positions of the body that are left by the offender. See *serial murder*.

**signature analysis** the forensic analysis of signatures in order to identify a *suspect*. See *signature*.

**silencer** a device, generally affixed to the muzzle end of a firearm, designed to suppress the sound. Silencers are legal to own if one pays the federal transfer tax. Also referred to as a *muffler* or suppressor.

**Silkwood, Karen (1946–1974)** a woman who took on the nuclear power plant where she worked for its disregard of health and safety standards. After gathering incriminating documents, she was en route to a meeting when she was killed in an auto accident. The documents disappeared from the accident scene. The nuclear plant, Kerr-McGee, subsequently was found guilty of contaminating Silkwood and was ordered to pay her estate \$10.5 million in damages. See *corporate crime*.

**Simpson, O. J. (1947–present)** a football and movie star who was accused of killing his ex-wife Nicole Simpson Brown and her friend Ronald Goldman in 1994. Simpson's initial flight from authorities and subsequent trial captured the attention of the world with its combination of high-priced defense attorneys, known as the *Dream Team*, and mistakes made by law enforcement authorities. Although Simpson was acquitted of the murder charges, many still believe he is guilty, especially in light of compelling *DNA testing* evidence. Simpson was later convicted of robbery and sentenced to prison.

**Sing Sing** an infamous New York state prison on the banks of the Hudson River near Ossining, New York. Sing Sing was the site of numerous executions using the *electric chair*, including those of *Julius and Ethel Rosenberg*.

**situational crime prevention** the prevention of crime by recognizing that offenders make rational choices to engage in crime and by removing or reducing opportunities for offending. An example of situational crime prevention is the placement of jewelry in locked display cases that only store clerks can open.

**situational variable** in criminological research, a variable that assesses changing circumstances, such as the dynamics of an interpersonal exchange or an individual's financial condition.

**Sixth Amendment** the amendment of the U.S. Constitution that guarantees among other rights: the right to trial by jury, a speedy trial, and effective counsel.

**skel** a slang term used by some law enforcement officers for *offender*.

**skeletal remains** the skeletal structure remaining after destruction or decomposition of soft tissue and organs of a body.

**sketch artist** an artist who is capable of sketching renditions of suspects based on the recollections of witnesses. See *forensic artist*, *Identikit*.

**skid mark** a mark made on pavement by the tires of a motor vehicle. Skid marks can be analyzed by investigators to determine details of, and responsibility for, motor vehicle accidents.

**skimming** to take money off the top of financial proceeds or hide profits, often to avoid the payment of taxes. See *white-collar crime*.

**skinhead** a member of a white *gang* who wears closely cropped hair and tattoos and is violent against members of certain racial and ethnic minorities. Skinheads subscribe to neo-Nazi beliefs.

**slander** spoken statements that negatively affect the name or reputation of another. Compare with *libel*.

**slap jack** a leather lead-filled device using for hitting. Compare with *blackjack*.

**slavery** the practice of keeping humans in bondage against their will. See *abduction*, *human trafficking*, *white slavery*.

**leuth** a *detective*, either professional or amateur.

**smack** slang for *heroin*.

**small arms** firearms capable of being carried. These include the *handgun* and *long gun*.

**SMART** abbreviation for *Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking*.

**Smart, Elizabeth (1987–present)** a woman who at age 14 in 2002 was abducted and held for nine months before she was rescued. While in captivity, Smart was repeatedly raped and threatened. Since her rescue she has become an activist and journalist.

**Smith, Susan (1971–present)** a woman who murdered her two children by rolling the family car into a lake in South Carolina. Smith, who claimed a carjacker had taken her car with the children still in it, made tearful pleas on television for the safe return of her children. She was convicted of two counts of first degree murder and was sentenced to life imprisonment.

**Smith & Wesson** since the 1800s, a major manufacturer of firearms, especially handguns. Smith & Wesson, along with other gun makers, were the subject of lawsuits in the 1990s for manufacturing dangerous consumer products.

**smuggler** one who engages in *smuggling*.

**smuggling** the surreptitious transfer of goods, often for the purpose of avoiding the payment of tariffs or transporting illegal drugs. See *Customs and Border Patrol, United States*.

**sneak-and-peak warrant** a *search warrant* that permits law enforcement officer to enter premises without permission and search without seizing property or *evidence*.

**sniper** a marksman capable of shooting targets at long distances. See *Whitman, Charles*.

**snitch** term used to describe an *informant*. See *confidential informant*.

**snuff film** a film where a person is murdered on camera. For many years, it was presumed that snuff films were urban legends when people referred to them because no one had ever actually seen one.

**sobriety checkpoint** a temporary station on a roadway where law enforcement officers stop and assess the sobriety of motorists in order to reduce drunk driving.

**social bond theory** the criminological notion that the strength of a person's bonds to society affect the likelihood of becoming involved in delinquency and crime. Social bond theory is most closely associated with criminologist Travis Hirschi. See *control theory*.

**social capital** collective assets in a community that increase the likelihood of positive social adjustment, and conversely help insulate residents from *criminogenic factors*.

**social class** the social and economic stratum to which a person belongs.

**social contract** the unwritten agreement between self-interested individuals and the government where they consent to restrict their pursuit of self-interest in pursuit of peace. In return, the government agrees to protect the individual's rights and freedoms.

**social control** both formal and informal means of ensuring compliance with laws, rules, and norms.

**social control theory** any one of several perspectives in criminology which emphasize crime as a consequence of uncontrolled hedonistic individuals. See *General Theory of Crime*.

**social defense** a nonviolent nonmilitary response to aggression. Social defense, which favors demonstrations and boycotts over the use of weapons and force, applies to both domestic and foreign aggression.

**Social Development Research Group** a research group affiliated with the University of Washington whose mission includes conducting research on healthy behavior and positive social development and developing effective interventions. The Social Development Research Group is headquartered in Seattle, Washington.

**social disorganization** the myriad of problems besetting certain urban neighborhoods, including crime and disorder.

**social ecology** the field concerned with the relationship between humans and their environment.

**social inquiry report** in Britain, a *presentence investigation report*. Also known as social enquiry report.

**social justice** equity and fairness in all spheres of life, including, but not limited to economic opportunity, gender, freedom of expression, concern over natural resources, and human rights.

**social learning theory** a criminological theory advanced by Ronald Akers and Robert Burgess which asserts that criminal behavior is learned through various forms of reinforcement. Also *learning theory*.

**socially redeeming value** regarding potentially pornographic material, the concept that it has something positive to offer society. See *pornography*.

**social network analysis** a set of techniques that permit the analysis of interdependent relationships among individuals and how these influence individual and social behavior. Social network analysis has been used to examine the interrelationships among gang-involved youths.

**social norms** the customary rules that govern behavior in groups and societies.

**social pathology** behavior in society which has negative consequences, such as crime and delinquency.

**social process theory** a theory in criminology that asserts that crime is a consequence of socialization. An example of a social process theory is *differential association*.

**Social Science Research Council** a nonprofit organization that explores important public issues through social science research. The Social Science Research Council issues publications and funds social research, including studies of crime.



**social therapeutic institutions** in Europe, facilities for convicted offenders designed to emphasize treatment over punishment. Incorporated into penal codes, social therapeutic institutions are criticized by conservatives for not being retributive enough and by liberals for perpetuating the medical model of corrections. See *therapeutic jurisprudence*.

**Society for Laws Against Molesters (SLAM)** an organization committed to promoting tougher legislation to punish child molesters.

**socio legal studies** the field of study that focuses on how the law and social institutions influence one another, as well as how the law influences the everyday lives of people.

**sociology of law** the empirical study of law and legal institutions as instruments of social change.

**sociopath** an individual who has no conscience, does not profit from experience, and has little regard for the rights or feelings of others. See *antisocial personality disorder, psychopath*.

**Soderman, Harry (1902–1956)** a Swedish police officer and pioneer in *criminalistics*.

**sodomy** sexual intercourse with a member of the same sex or with an animal. Sodomy also refers to anal or oral sex between humans.

**software piracy** the illegal acquisition and reproduction or use of licensed computer software.

**solicitor** in Britain, a member of the legal profession qualified to advise clients and provide instruction to barristers. Compare with *barrister, counselor*.

**solitary confinement** usually enforced as a punishment or for the individual's protection, the isolation of an inmate from others. See *hole*.

**somatotypes** body types that are believed to have a relationship to the individual's personality. See *ectomorph, endomorph, mesomorph, Sheldon, William*.

**Son of Sam** in the 1970s, the pseudonym used by *David Berkowitz*, the infamous .44 caliber killer who shot and killed men and women he found at lovers' lanes and other isolated locations.

**Son of Sam laws** any state or federal laws designed to prohibit convicted criminals from profiting from their crimes by way of lucrative book or movie deals, or other means of commercial exploitation. These laws take their name from the *Son of Sam* killings by *David Berkowitz*, who attempted to sell his story to a major book publisher. New York was the first state to enact such a law. These laws have been controversial because they conflict with the *First Amendment*.

**SORNA** abbreviation for *Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act*.

**sorricide** the killing of a sister by a sibling.

**soul murder** term used to describe the effects of sexual abuse on a child. See *post-traumatic stress disorder*.

**Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics** since 1973, an annual compilation of a wide variety of crime- and justice-related statistics. The Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics includes data on arrests, reported offenses, victimization, citizen surveys, and correctional populations. Funded by the *Bureau of Justice Statistics*, the Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics is prepared by the Hindelang Criminal Justice Research Center at the University at Albany, State University of New York.

**Southern Police Institute** a law enforcement education and training center affiliated with the Department of Justice Administration at the University of Louisville in Kentucky.

**Southern Poverty Law Center** a legal organization located in Montgomery, Alabama that tracks white supremacist and other hate groups and engages in litigation against them. The Southern Poverty Law Center is a nonprofit organization and is funded by contributions.

**southern subculture of violence** a culture in the southern part of the United States characterized by a preference for violence in response to insults or threats. See *reactive aggression*.

**souvenirs** in a *serial murder*, an object taken by the killer from the victim as a memento of the crime. Souvenirs can be anything from the victim's personal possessions to body parts. The identification of souvenirs can help law enforcement officials make linkages among related homicides.

**Spanish Society for Criminological Research** an organization based in Spain that promotes criminological research and its application to national and international issues.

**spatial analysis** the statistical analysis of crime-related patterns in geographic areas, such as those depicted on maps.

**specialty court** a court designed to address a specific social issue or offender problem, such as domestic violence, drugs, guns, and mental health. Proponents argue that specialty courts are an improvement over traditional courts in that they better meet the needs of the offender and society. Those opposed to specialty courts believe that traditional courts can adequately handle a variety of diverse cases. See *domestic violence court*, *drug court*, *gun court*, *mental health court*.

**specification** a circumstance of a crime that carries an additional mandatory term of confinement for those convicted. An example of a specification is the use of a firearm during the commission of a robbery. Aside from the penalty the robbery carries, the law also specifies that the use of a gun results in an add-on of additional years to the sentence.

**specific deterrence** the type of *deterrence* directed toward individuals who have already engaged in crime. Locking up an offender is an example of specific deterrence. Also referred to as *individual deterrence*. Compare with *general deterrence*.

**Speck, Richard (1941–1991)** an infamous mass murderer convicted of stabbing and strangling eight student nurses in Chicago in 1966. Though convicted and sentenced to death, Speck was spared execution by the 1972 prohibition against the death penalty. Years after his conviction, Speck once again made news by his participation in videotaped homosexual acts while in prison. See *mass murder*.

**spectator violence** violence perpetrated by those who attend sports events. Spectator violence by hooligans at European soccer games has resulted in numerous deaths and injuries. Much of the problem can be attributed to the excessive consumption of *alcohol*. Compare with *hooliganism*.

**speedy trial** the right of a defendant to have their pending criminal case brought to trial within a specified period of time. The defendant may waive this right, permitting the criminal justice system to take longer to process the case. See *Sixth Amendment*.

**split sentence** a sentence given in a criminal court which consists of a term or confinement coupled with conditional release, such as probation. Split sentences combine the *incapacitation* associated with confinement with the opportunities presented by *community-based sanctions*.

**sports violence** the violence that often accompanies certain forms of athletics. Boxing is perhaps the most controversial sport where violence is not a by-product, but an expected part of the action. Certain groups of medical professionals, including the American Medical Association, have spoken out against sports violence.

**spousal abuse** the psychological or physical mistreatment of one spouse by the other. Compare with *domestic violence*.

**spree murder** a series of homicides committed within a short period of time, sometimes in conjunction with other felonies, such as robbery or sexual assaults, without any intervening cooling off period. A notorious example of spree murders are those of *Charles Starkweather* who in 1956

killed ten people over eight days. Spree murder is a form of *multiple murder*. Compare with *mass murder*, *serial murder*, *Starkweather syndrome*.

**spuriousness** an apparent, but false relationship between two variables. The classic example of a spurious relationship regarding crime is the relationship between ice cream sales and crime. As ice cream sales go up, so does crime. This might lead some to conclude that ice cream sales cause crime. However, the relationship is spurious because both ice cream sales and crime are related to a third variable, hot weather.

**spy** a person who surreptitiously collects intelligence on the activities of others. See *espionage*, *Walker spy ring*.

**staged crime scene** the arrangement of a corpse, weapon, furniture, or other *evidence* to mislead investigators about how a crime took place. Investigators are adept at identifying a staged *crime scene*.

**stakeout** the covert surveillance of person or location to gather *evidence*.

**stalking** the often undetected following of one person by another for the purpose of harassment or with the intent to do bodily harm. Stalking gained national attention in the 1980s and 1990s when several Hollywood celebrities became victims. Many states have enacted legislation designed to punish stalkers and protect their victims.

**Standard Ammunition File** a reference collection that catalogues standard civilian and military ammunition.

**Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol** a method for assessing the extent that juvenile programs reduce recidivism of participants.

**stand your ground laws** state laws permitting citizens to not back down from threats of force or bodily injury. See *Zimmerman, George*.

**Stanford Prison Experiment** a controversial social psychology experiment conducted by Stanford University professor Philip Zimbardo and his students. Some students played the roles of inmates, others played the roles of guards.

**Starkweather, Charles (1938–1959)** a young man who with teenage girlfriend Carol Ann Fugate went on an infamous murderous eight-day rampage throughout the Midwest which left ten people dead. Starkweather was executed in 1959. See *multiple murder*, *spree murder*.

**Starkweather syndrome** the assertion in criminology that offenders who engage in *spree murder* are more likely to be more violent and versatile than other kinds of murderers. This syndrome takes its name from the spree killer *Charles Starkweather*.

**starring** the star-shaped rupture of human flesh caused by the pressure of exploding gasses during a contact gunshot wound. Also referred to as a *stellate*. See *contact wound*, *entrance wound*.

**state administering agency** in U.S. Department of Justice nomenclature, a state agency that administers federal formula or block grant programs, such as those of the *Bureau of Justice Assistance* or the *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention*. Many, but not all state administering agencies also serve as state planning agencies. See *state planning agency*.

**state crime** crimes of commission or omission by the state, specifically by governmental authorities.

**State Justice Institute (SJI)** a private, nonprofit organization created by Congress in 1984 to foster improvements in state courts. The SJI periodically awards competitive grants to organizations and governmental agencies to address court-related problems or to undertake innovative practices. Projects sponsored by SJI include those related to training for judges and court personnel, substance abuse, and the application of technology. The SJI is headquartered in Alexandria, VA.

**state planning agency** a unit of state government officially charged with overseeing criminal justice planning and policy development throughout the state. Many state planning agencies were created in the late 1960s in order to administer the federal funds made available through the *Law Enforcement Assistance Administration*. Some state planning agencies are also *state administering agencies*. See *National Criminal Justice Association*.

**state police** a law enforcement agency that has broad legal authority to investigate violations of criminal and traffic laws anywhere within the state. Home rule states do not have state police and instead rely on local law enforcement authorities like sheriffs for enforcement.

**state prison** a correctional facility operated by state authorities for the confinement of convicted felons. Compare with *federal prison*.

**stationary killer** a *serial killer* who commits crimes within a restricted geographical area. Compare with *nomadic killer*. See *serial murder*.

**stationhouse release** the release of an offender right after arrest without the filing of formal charges. Stationhouse release is an example of law enforcement's use of *discretion*. Compare with *diversion*.

**statistical analysis centers (SACs)** an organizational unit in most U.S. states and territories formed for the purpose of collecting, analyzing, maintaining, and disseminating various criminal justice data. In addition to serving as repositories for crime and justice data, many SACs undertake

research and evaluation projects. See *Justice Research and Statistics Association*.

**statistical power** the ability of a study to detect an effect.

**statistical prediction** the use of statistical variables to predict the likelihood of some outcome. In criminological research, the outcome of interest might be offender *recidivism*. Compare with *clinical prediction*.

**Statistics Canada** the national agency responsible for collecting and maintaining criminal justice statistics in Canada.

**status offender** a minor whose offense would not be illegal if he or she were an adult. Status offenders include those charged with *runaway* or being *incurable*. The federal *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)* has made a commitment to force states not to detain status offenders in secure facilities, especially in close proximity to adult offenders. Compare with *delinquent*.

**status offense** an *offense* committed by a juvenile which would not be illegal if the person were an adult. Examples of status offenses are running away from home and *truancy*. See *runaway, unruly*.

**statute** a law.

**statute of limitations** a law which specifies time limits for prosecuting specific crimes. Typically, there is no statute of limitations for the crime of *murder*, but there is for lesser crimes.

**statutory rape** sexual intercourse with a person under the age of consent. Statutory rape, while defined as illegal, often involves sex between consenting individuals. In most jurisdictions, the age difference between the *offender* and *victim* is significant in defining the act as statutory rape.

**stay of adjudication** the avoidance of conviction by agreeing to certain court-imposed conditions. On meeting the specified requirements, the court dismisses the case. A stay of adjudication keeps the defendant from a guilty verdict.

**stay of execution** an order suspending the execution of a court order or judgment. Execution in this context does not refer to the *death penalty*.

**stellate** a star-shaped wound caused by a contact gunshot wound to the head or body. Gases expand under the skin, causing a ragged wound resembling a star or cross. See *contact wound, entrance wound, starrng*.

**stereomicroscope** a microscope which allows the side-by-side examination of two specimens. Stereomicroscopes are used to examine two bullets for comparison.

**stick-up boy** a small-time armed robber. See *robbery*.

**stigma** an undesirable characteristic or reputation that follows youths, those with mental illness, or others processed by agents of social control. Stigma can reduce future opportunities for the labeled person. See *labeling perspective*, *radical non-intervention*.

**stimulant** a drug that creates a sense of euphoria in the user. Other common effects of stimulants include sleeplessness and loss of appetite. Amphetamines are an example of a stimulant.

**sting operation** an organized secret effort by law enforcement authorities to investigate and arrest those suspected of engaging in professional or organized criminal activity.

**stippling** same as *tattooing*.

**Stockholm Prize in Criminology** a prize awarded annually by the Swedish Ministry of Justice to one or more individuals for outstanding achievements in criminology.

**Stockholm syndrome** a phenomenon which occurs when a hostage begins to identify with and grow sympathetic toward their captor and antagonistic toward the authorities. The syndrome takes its name after the city where a female bank robbery *hostage* in 1973 became emotionally attached to one of her captors. One of the most famous cases of the Stockholm syndrome was that of newspaper heiress *Patty Hearst*, kidnapped by members of the *Symbionese Liberation Army* in 1974.

**stocks** a wooden structure used in colonial times to publicly punish and humiliate people for minor offenses. Compare with *pillory*.

**stoner gangs** gangs of white youths who identify with heavy metal music, punk associations, and sometimes satanic cults. Some stoner gangs have affiliated with white extremists. The term stoner derives from a person being stoned on drugs. See *White Aryan Resistance*.

**S.T.O.P.** abbreviation for *Stop Turning Out Prisoners*.

**stop-and-frisk** the law enforcement practice of stopping and patting down a person, usually one suspected of carrying a weapon, illegal drugs, or other contraband.

**Stop Stick** a long triangular box filled with sharp steel spikes designed to stop the motor vehicle of a fleeing suspect by puncturing the tires. Law enforcement officers lie in wait for the suspect vehicle and then pull a rope, drawing the Stop Stick into the vehicle's path. Once the tires pass over the Stop Stick, hollow spikes penetrate and insert in the tire, causing deflation and assisting pursuing officers to apprehend the suspect.

**Stop Turning Out Prisoners (STOP)** a movement that originated in Florida devoted to stemming the early release of violent prison inmates. STOP proposes legislation and undertakes publicity campaigns.

**strain theory** any theoretical perspective in criminology which emphasizes various types of strains on individuals that in turn make them more likely to engage in crime or other forms of deviant behavior. See *anomie theory*, *General Strain Theory*.

**STR analysis** abbreviation for short tandem repeats, a method of analyzing DNA that is better at discriminating between two individuals. See *DNA testing*.

**stranger abduction** the *abduction* of an individual by someone unknown to the individual. Stranger abductions, while capable of creating fear in parents for their children's safety, comprise a relatively small proportion of all abductions.

**stranger danger** a phrase used to educate and warn children about the potential threat posed by predatory strangers.

**stranger rape** the rape of an individual by someone unknown to the victim. Compare with *acquaintance rape*.

**strangling** the act of compressing the throat of a person, thereby cutting off the air supply, eventually resulting in serious injury or death. See *garrote*.

**straw purchase** the purchase of a firearm by a qualified buyer for another individual who intends to illegally possess, use, sell, or transfer it. Straw purchases that circumvent gun laws account for many guns getting into the hands of criminals. See *gun control*, *Operation Fast and Furious*.

**street crime** conventional unsophisticated crime, such as robbery and theft. Street crimes, which do not require special skills or education to commit, comprise the majority of crime in the United States. Compare with *upper-world crime*, *white-collar crime*.

**street gang** a *gang* composed primarily of juveniles and young men who engage in criminal activity.

**strict liability** a theory of close adherence to the letter of the law, even in the face of ignorance that a violation has occurred. According to strict liability, a person who unknowingly buys stolen goods is criminally liable even though he was not aware that the merchandise was "hot." Compare with *vicarious liability*.

**strip search** the search of an accused suspect or convicted offender that involves the removal of clothes and the search for weapons and other contraband over the entire person, often including body cavities. Strip searches are necessary because some criminals are adept at hiding contraband.



**Stroud, Robert (1890–1963)** a convicted federal prisoner who became known as the Birdman of *Alcatraz*. Stroud was an extremely violent offender who had to be segregated from other prisoners.

**structural** of or relating to the social structure and broad social forces in society, such as socioeconomic status and stratification.

**structural criminology** a branch of *criminology* that emphasizes the role of structural factors in the genesis and transmission of crime, such as poverty, economic disadvantage, racism, and other societal factors. Structural criminology plays down the role of individual factors like personality. See *power-control theory*.

**structural equation modeling** a set of methods used to specify the relationship and causal order of latent variables in criminological research.

**structural Marxism** a more scientific Marxism that argues that the state and its institutions promote capitalism and the interests of the ruling class. Compare with *instrumental Marxism*.

**structural theory** any theory in criminology that emphasizes the role of structures in society, such as class and institutions.

**student threats** threats made by students against teachers, other students, or the school. See *school crime*.

**stun gun** an electrical handheld device that permits the user to render another person temporarily immobile through the application of a nonfatal, high-voltage electrical charge. Compare with *TASER*.

**subculture** a smaller cultural group with beliefs, *norms*, practices, and rituals that are different from and sometimes at odds with the larger culture. Examples of subcultures are *gangs* and *organized crime*. See *subculture of violence*.

**subculture of violence** a term coined by criminologists *Marvin E. Wolfgang* and *Franco Ferracuti* to describe a *subculture* in society whose *norms* support violence as an acceptable way of life. An example of a subculture of violence is that found in the southern United States where affronts to one's honor are typically met with a violent response. Gangs, also subcultures of violence, operate under different norms from those of larger society.

**subculture theory** any criminological theory that focuses on the distinct characteristics or criminogenic effects of a subculture.

**subpoena** a writ issued by a court or other government body compelling a person to testify or produce *evidence*.

**subpoena duces tecum** a *subpoena* that includes an order to produce certain documents or other *evidence*.

**sub rosa indictment** a secret *indictment*. Sub rosa indictments often are used when officials fear that any publicity will compromise their ability to successfully apprehend and prosecute the party in question.

**substance abuse** the use of drugs or alcohol that poses a risk of health, legal, occupational, or other problems.

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services responsible for promoting programs and providing funding for substance abuse and mental health issues.

**substantial capacity test** a test of insanity which asks whether the accused had the substantial capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the conduct in question and, if so, to control that behavior. See *Durham rule*.

**subterranean values** the values of deviant subcultures which differ from those of mainstream society.

**suffocation** a condition caused by the interruption of the flow of air for breathing. Suffocation is a common cause of death in homicides, especially those of infants. See *burking*.

**suicide** the intentional taking of one's own life. Suicide is actually a form of *homicide*, and in most jurisdictions is investigated as such. See *inmate suicide*, *self-injurious behavior*.

**suicide bridge** a high bridge notorious as a place where suicidal individuals jump to their deaths. Examples include the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco Bay and the Prince Edward Viaduct in Toronto, Canada. See *suicide*.

**suicide by cop** the intentional effort by a person to force a police officer to shoot. Some suspects refuse to surrender their weapons and even charge the police, leaving officers no alternative except to use *deadly force*. See *suicide*.

**suicide cluster** a group of suicides that appear to be related geographically, temporally, or for some other reason.

**summary executions** executions carried out quickly without due process of law for the condemned.

**summons** an order to appear in court. Compare with *subpoena*.

**superglue fuming** see *fuming*.

**superior court** a court where felony cases are heard.

**supermax prison** a maximum security prison or unit designed to securely house the most dangerous convicted prisoners. Because supermax prisons

often segregate offenders and keep them in isolation, it is argued that this prison system constitutes *cruel and unusual punishment*.

**super predator** term used to describe youthful offenders capable of greater amounts of more serious criminal behavior than their predecessors. Some criminologists predicted that in the early 21st century, super predators would proliferate, creating a wave of violent crime.

**supervised release** the release of a convicted offender from imprisonment followed by a period of supervision requiring certain conditions. Compare with *parole*.

**Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR)** adjunct reports on criminal homicide produced routinely by local law enforcement agencies as part of their participation in the *Uniform Crime Reports* program. Data collected through SHR include the offender's age, sex, and race, the victim's age, sex, and race, the circumstances of the offense, the offender-victim relationship, and the type of weapon. SHR has largely been replaced by the *National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)*.

**supply reduction** a drug control policy that focuses on restricting the supply of drugs available for consumption. Compare with *demand reduction*.

**supreme court** in courts of appeals, the highest court to which an appeal can ascend. Rulings of the U.S. Supreme Court are final.

**Sureños** a large Hispanic street *gang*.

**surety** one who assumes responsibility for the appearance in court of another.

**surety bond** a promise to pay a certain amount of money to a party in the event someone fails to meet an obligation.

**surveillance** close watch over something, such as a criminal suspect. Known informally as *stakeout*, surveillance by law enforcement is surreptitious.

**surveillance equipment** mechanical or electronic devices designed and used to monitor others. Examples are fiber-optic cameras and small listening devices, also referred to as bugs.

**survival analysis** a statistical technique used to measure the time between the onset of a disease and a terminal outcome. Survival analysis was originally developed to study the survival of patients with diseases, such as cancer, and has been employed by criminologists to measure how long offenders remain crime free after they have undergone various forms of treatment.

**survivalist** a radical, often heavily armed individual who fears a takeover by foreign or domestic governments. Survivalists stockpile provisions in the event they have to retreat from mainstream society and defend their freedoms.

**survivor** term used to describe the living victims of crimes that often resulted in serious injury or death, especially violent offenses like domestic violence. The meaning of the term has been broadened to include the family and close friends of the victims of violent crimes, including homicide, who continue to suffer long after the commission of the crime. See *Children of Murdered Parents*, *Parents of Murdered Children*, *secondary victim*.

**suspect** a person believed to be responsible for a crime. Compare with *accused*, *arrestee*.

**suspected item disposal** the safe disposal of an item that could be potentially harmful, such as a suspected bomb. See *bomb squad*.

**suspense novel** a fictional book where the main character is placed in jeopardy, creating suspense on the part of the reader. Compare with *crime novel*, *mystery*, *thriller*.

**Sutherland, Edwin H. (1880–1951)** a leading figure in 20th-century American criminology, considered by many as the father of modern criminology. Sutherland took his graduate training at the University of Chicago, and taught at several universities before moving to Indiana University for the remainder of his career. His most notable writings include *The Professional Thief*, *White-Collar Crime*, and *Criminology*, a textbook coauthored with *Donald Cressey*, which was published in numerous editions over the course of 40 years.

**Sutton, Willie (1901–1980)** an infamous American bank robber of the 20th century.

**Swango, Michael (1954–present)** a physician and *serial killer* who murdered an undetermined number of patients by poisoning them. See *angel of death*, *serial murder*.

**S.W.A.T.** short for Special Weapons and Tactics. A specialized squad of law enforcement officers whose job is to handle high-risk operations in progress, including hostage negotiations, *high-risk entry*, and violent felonies. SWAT officers typically are trained in repelling and scaling as well as the use of a variety of weapons.

**swiftness** see *celerity*.

**swindling** the cheating of a person out of money or possessions.

**switchblade** a spring-loaded knife designed to open quickly with the push of a button. Under federal law, switchblades are illegal to carry in the United States. Compare with *ballistic knife*.

**Symbionese Liberation Army** an American left-wing group that committed a number of crimes, including murder, armed robbery, and the 1974 kidnapping of heiress *Patty Hearst*.

**symbolic interactionism** a social psychological perspective that emphasizes subjective impressions and interpretations in human interaction. Symbolic interaction, which arose out of the work of early social psychologists Charles Horton Cooley and George Herbert Mead, helped lay the theoretical groundwork for the *labeling perspective* in criminology.

**Synanon** a well-known drug rehabilitation program that disbanded in 1989.

**syndicate** a large criminal organization. Like the term *mob*, syndicate is frequently used for *organized crime*.

**systematic check forger** a forger who purposely engages in forgery as a business. Compare with *naive check forger*.

**systematic review** a compilation of in-depth evaluation information about a program. See *Campbell Collaboration*, *Cochrane Collaboration*.

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