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**How much of a Problem to Society is White Collar Crime?**

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## How much of a Problem to Society is White Collar Crime?



Instantcheckmate (2010).

### Introduction

Crime is a very broad concept whose definition has changed over the years and human societies. There are many factors that lead a person to commit crimes. Almost always associate with people of low socioeconomic classes, who have greater contact with the criminal acts. However, there are cases where the causes that lead people to commit a crime do not have to do with social pathologies, personal, economic, or his quality of life, but rather with those social and interpersonal relationships, big influences on perpetrate such acts. The term white collar is a slang term used to describe individuals in the elites, the business and the company in particular, sometimes the policy (Simpson, Weisburd, 2009). This essay is to answer the question that how much of a Problem to Society is white collar crime?

## **White Collar Crime**

The concept of white-collar crime has been defined as a crime committed by a respectable person (or at least respected), status high office in his professional environment. White collar match the new middle class of the early twentieth century. The expression comes from the white shirt (white collar, so) that are office workers, as opposed to blue work workers or blue collar, which means it manual workers and workers. White collar crime and its forms have evolved in the same way as every day, and in turn the people who commit them have changed their profile. Although in the past wanted to break with this kind of injustice, yet the crimes continue senior leaders, high class people. This type of criminals is called white collar thieves, and remains the suffering of thousands of civilians who suffer the injustices and violations of their actions (Simpson, Weisburd, 2009).

Sutherland (1945) in his work on white collar crime began with the collection and study of 90 cases and judicial and administrative decisions against seventy of the most important companies in the United States of America. This analysis led him to conclude that corporations commit crimes in the same proportion as the so-called common criminals. Therefore concluded that the binomial poverty / crime as theoretical maximum prevailing at the time of his studies, was one questionable. While poverty can cause crime, it is also true that it is not the sole reason for this behaviour, as it was obvious that not only the poor commit criminal acts (Friedrichs, 2009).

## **Sociological Challenges**

Friedrichs (2009) argued that unlike ordinary criminals, or blue collar, human society is faced with people located in business associations, political positions, leaders and community representatives, etc. Just as different types of people commit this crime, there are many methods,

which differ much from theft, which is the most common. Actions such as mismanagement, plays under the table, violations of law, among others, are planned by one or several persons of this kind, playing with the system to help commit these acts. This is the cross that brings so much controversy, the point of intersection between the upper class and crime. In the end, it becomes a turning point, because they have a high and disproportionate impact on society (Friedrichs, 2009).

According to Edelhertz (1970) human society sees in a country with cultural, ethnic and large resources, which faces the ambitions of those who refuse the conformity to venture to benefit a few. Human society treated as naive, human society unnoticed against the actions committed by white collar, using as a front to institutions that give us security and order. Human society contribute to the growth of society through business, but bad unions as the main cause of this type of crime end up damaging the international image that UK has been repaired in recent years. Fighting the white collar is no easy task, are educated and experienced. His scruples are minimal and no social conscience, so that takes advantage of the opportunities offered by the country for future persons accessing high office must be the most satisfactory for society (Akers, 2009).

### **Big Blow to Social Progress**

Akers (2009) in his study on British empirical sociology has often used the category of white-collar workers in the study of impact on one's life or career of individuals, global problems of economic, political and social type. It has been shown for example that in small towns, white-collar workers tend to be particularly discriminated workers, while in the big cities; they have great difficulty to be in a specific group.

Similarly, Schmallegger (2011) in the analysis of voting, membership of a trade union, specific attention to white-collar workers has introduced important nuances. In discussions on education, this category also emerged as highly relevant: the white collar open much more than workers with the prospect of upward mobility by the school, which is in accordance with a predetermined order. It goes without saying, finally, that this category can be very important for market research. C. Wright Mills, in his famous book, *White Collar: the American Middle Classes* (1951), drew a profile of the social group and its political importance (Schmallegger, 2011)

### **White Collar Crime and Differential Association Theory**

The differential association theory, to replace the concept of social disorganization, on which rests a large part of Chicago sociology, for the differential social organization, opened itself to the study of values, cultures and subcultures in conflict. Thereafter it was possible to ask who sets the rules and the benefit of those. But at the same time, to the extent that it was a sociological theory was read, in regard to the policies of crime prevention and reintegration policies, as a reference system for a complex form of social intervention Community. Sutherland actually interested in the work they were doing in Chicago sociologists Clifford R. Shaw and his friend Henry D. McKay largely shared with him the theory of differential association (Brym, Lie, 2006).

The reactions against the concept of white collar crime and the theory of differential association did not however expect. From positions close to Marxism Sutherland reproach you not avail of concepts such as capitalism, class struggle and others. From traditional budgets criminology, psychiatry and psychology was accused of diluting the decision processes of individuals in social interactions and to dispense with the idea of a criminal personality. A trial

de these theoretical sociological theory of crime relegated both internal and individual factors. To this was added the fact that Sutherland put more emphasis on the processes of transmission of delinquent behaviours in the reception and staff development (Brym, Lie, 2006).

According to Friedrichs (2009) for Tappan offender is one that is defined as such by the courts through formal sentences. It thus added to the view taken by the publisher's lawyers Dryden Press he feared that if the book was published the names of the seventy large companies, the publishing house could be accused of promoting criminal libel for calling large companies. Sutherland's reply seems nevertheless compelling because, among other things, is based on impunity, evidenced by Sutherland himself in the professional thief, enjoyed by professional burglars: offender is one who transgresses the laws, the subject or not the offender after sentencing procedures. Sutherland came to consider not only the criminals that violate the letter of the law but also to those who violate the spirit revealed by the legislature (Friedrichs, 2009).

Furthermore, one could argue that his scientific work on the white collar crimes provides first-hand information to the judges to convict white collar criminals in compliance. And this enables judiciary to act on law the spirit of the law. Sutherland understood that excessive legalism and guarantor in respect to white collar crime far from encouraging a system of citizen's rights. in fact, what it creates is a dual scales of justice: on one side balance systematically criminalizing crimes of the poor and otherwise the one shown complacent and condescending to the crimes of the rich.

The work of Edwin Lemert (1951) on systematic check forgery, based on 62 counterfeiters who are convicted of forging checks and signing checks, as well as three interviews counterfeiters released, showed that these career criminals improvise their shots, they

with great frequency to jail and usually act alone. As stated one of these counterfeiters Lemert of ten wolves nine are checking steppe. Those working in bands are not true because they act for money counterfeiters.

Simpson and Weisburd (2009) have argued that the differential association theory, which rested on analytic induction, seemed so collapse it impossible to explain the behaviour of check forgery. Lemert insisted in his writings on the inner tension in solitude and secrecy with which these thieves around their blows, which came at odds with the statements of Chick Conwell Sutherland. Lemert's thesis is that the art of counterfeiting has changed historically.

Counterfeiting organized seems to have originated in England in the nineteenth century, when a solid reputation attorney rode his professional banded. It was a difficult art requiring cooperation and division of labour. The check forger of mid-twentieth century, however, acting alone, is not associated with other criminals. Middle class from traditional or upper class, these criminals present themselves as black sheep. On the other hand seem to be located in a kind of no man's land, halfway between white collar criminals, as if it were a specialty to disappear. This unique position and cyclical emasculates the argument Lemert. On the other hand for Sutherland learning occurs in a process of interaction, and Lemert, in the extent that race does not analyze these counterfeiters to the world of crime, tells us nothing about the process of cooperative learning (Weisburd, 2009).

### **Economic Blow to Society**

Fraud in private companies has become more common than you think. In the latest Global Fraud Report just revealed that the company Kroll shows how this has grown white collar crime worldwide. One of the conclusions of the research, which was based on surveys of 700 senior executives from leading global companies, is that almost no one is exempt from suffering

a fraud by employees: 85 percent of respondents admitted to having been the victim of these practices. Also, the average loss for each company increased from \$ 8.2 million, according to the survey last year, to 8.8 million this year. Economic crises lead to increased risk of fraud, as companies at the time of internal controls relaxed setting. It is noted that one of the fronts where more space is there for fraud in the theft of intellectual property (Robb, (2002).

The tax and customs fraud is not perceived by the social consciousness as a real offense. Many "honest" people "forget" to complete their tax return. All the "good people" or almost buy products they know come from the black market smuggling. All these people do not see themselves as criminals and society's never considered as such. They enjoy the indulgence and sympathy accomplice of society and nobody notify to denounce, while smugglers are regularly denounced by the customs administration (Robb, (2002).

## **Conclusion**

A few years ago, British press, described the favourite sport of rich is tax evasion. This does not prevent the same press cry foul whenever a big scam was exposed. Some of big white collar crimes never come to the knowledge of the government and remain unknown to them. Some will accidentally, often once the prescription will be covered with impunity. Another type of offense is not very often denounced. These are crimes committed between close relatives. Battered women rarely complain to the relevant departments. Thus the white collar crime appears as only a small part of all crimes, whereas; in reality white collar crimes constitute a very large share of crimes. White collar crimes impact society very silently but very significantly, it creates a sense of social injustice in the society incite many others to think why to take a long route of righteousness, the difficulties and challenges in tracing majority of white crime and prosecution has not been very impressive, the lack of ability of society to punish white collar



criminals creates an impression of crime pay. Besides, the impact of white collar crimes to the economy is no lesser and these economic harms are also going to be translated in social issues and challenges as a bi-product of white collar crime.

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