

Society, Crime and Law

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Crime is defined as an act which is deviant from the behavioral norm in a given society. In acknowledging the fast-changing times and the importance of law in the development of society, the Author posits that criminal law in order to be more effective must be a.) adapted to the society to which it will be applied and b.) based in a thoroughly established criminal policy. The necessity for a change in the basic elements and principles upon which criminal law has been established has not been attended to. In fact, at most, only minor changes have been made. He thus points out that the criminal code has become old-fashioned and unable to satisfy the demands of present-day societies. The need for a juridical framework in which criminal law can be more effectively and easily enforced is also emphasized.

The conservative and liberal approach in the treatment of the offender seem to offer no common ground in this regard, although, at present, there are many other methods under which the effectivity of treatment of the offender is measured. However, the Author laments the lack of research with respect to the criminological field. In this regard, he points out the United Nations Organization's move to further research in criminology and highlights the following conclusions: a.) the need for research to establish a system most appropriate for their society, b.) the avoidance of repetitive mistakes in adopting policies, c.) the indispensability of using existing data in establishing the best possible system, and d.) funneling resources into specific plans of action rather than into more ambitious and general ones.

In this regard, he emphasizes caution and the need for trained people to do research work in order to avoid repetitive mistakes and absurd positions. Furthermore, there is also the necessity for an applied criminological research and not just a mere academic discussion, which admittedly needs time, budget, and trained personnel. The Author also notes that the social problem of crime and delinquency does not gather enough interest. He thus concludes that everyone who is connected in dealing with crime and criminology must acknowledge their responsibility and recommends the heightened use of media and the establishment of a stronger relationship with researchers,

administrators, social action leaders and policy-making bodies in order to be able to incorporate their research into a more rational criminal policy. This, in turn, will aid the administration of justice and the prevention of crime and treatment of offenders.