## Criminology V – approaching the modern scene.

Part 1 – the Wearside Jack detection.

N.B. out of the learning experiences of the Ripper case, a very British methodology emerged.

Though Oldfield died feeling humiliated, and Holland still bears guilt, their efforts stimulated new thinking.

Centrally, that an EMPIRICIST approach should be adopted; as an example, Britton says –

1. What has happened?
2. To whom?
3. How?
4. Why?

Must be resolved BEFORE one can seek those responsible. Scientific methodology.

This would have prevented WJ from distracting the police for a year and a half.

The ‘jump to conclusions’ prevented the police from accepting expert interpretation.

Chris Cregg is an example of modern detection. You can’t work out who is the criminal without first having the evidence – so you need forensic science.

Having looked at a small, if revolting, sort of crime and seen the need for methodology , we move to the far end of the scale. Although we have noted that organised criminals use willing murderers as ‘enforcers’, the extent and effect of these ‘crime bosses’ is much greater, the detection of those in charge even harder and so the need for method greater.

Part 2 – Organised Crime and Criminal Gangs.

Typological and Geographical approaches. The former is said to lack OBJECTIVITY.

‘Understanding Criminal Careers in Organised Crime – report 74’ The Home Office. A recognition of a need for a ‘geographical approach.

Section 2 ‘The characteristics of organised crime offenders’.

‘Few studies have previously examined the demographic characteristics of organised crime offenders, and none of these has been in the U.K.’

Serious organised crime in the UK is statistically analysed and tabulated so that resources can be targeted against it.

Globalisation since WW2 has dramatically changed the nature of crime.

* Money supply and rewards.
* Industrialisation of operations.
* Opening up of legitimate trade routes.
* Use of substance abuse..........

Some consequences;

* Territory. Some activities are so lucrative that ‘turf war’ is inevitable.
* The upshot – juvenile street gangs. Gun and drug ‘mules’ too young for prosecution.
* Peter Joyce *‘There have been many examples of gangs of this nature in post 1945 England and Wales. Their formation is often associated with* ***social and economic deprivation and social exclusion*** *in which crime is embraced as a form of livelihood or as a means of excitement. Sociology* is thus one tool for detection and prevention.

This is a variation on organised crime, which also involves such activities as people trafficking and fraud. Drug related crime is the only area in the UK that is increasing. We begin with it.

Some points.

1. The detection and punishment of intra national offenders is less difficult than dealing with the inter national infrastructure.
2. Those recruited into local street gangs are often alienated from their society, but fail to realise that they are being exploited by their criminal ‘handlers’.
3. The demographics correlate social depravation and poor education with those, mostly males, who are most easily recruited.
4. The use of violence is both an entrance test and also a means of ensuring compliance.
5. Drug trafficking is often associated with people trafficking .

Question for written response/ thought –

‘would substantially increasing the severity of punishment for being involved in organised, large scale illegal drug supplying significantly reduce the activity?’