**Causes of crimes**

The crime rate in the world and specifically in Pakistan is increasing day by day. People commits crime due to certain causes. Some of these causes are as follows;

1. **Family and marriage.** The disputes in the family and marriage institution in the shape of divorce, separation and elopement results in serious types of crimes in both rural and urban areas of the country. Sometimes family stress regarding arranged marriage results in abduction and elopement. Late marriages result in rape crimes.
2. **Economic disputes.**  Economic disputes over the distribution of land and other property results in heinous crimes like abduction, murder, etc. Especially, in rural areas of Pakistan the improper demarcation of lands results in crime.
3. **Illiteracy and ignorance.** Illiteracy and ignorance regarding law and consequences of crimes stems crime. Most of the offenders in the prisons are illiterate. They cannot bifurcate right and wrong, due to which they commit crimes.
4. **Urbanization.** Due to rapid urbanization rate in our country new towns are becoming crowded where there are no family belongings between neighbors. In towns, a criminal is not easily detected which in turns increase crime rates.
5. **Lack of transport and communication.** There are certain geographical locations in our country where police and other agencies cannot operate easily due to lack of communication and transport. These places are becoming the forts of criminals and anti-social activities.
6. **Poverty.** Poverty is responsible factor of crime. Individual struggles for fulfilling his basic needs. When these needs are not fulfilling, while using institutionalized means, people use shortcuts. These shortcuts are most often against the law. It is an established hypothesis that poverty leads towards crime.
7. **Media.** Media plays a vibrant role in crime causation. Cheap movies badly effect the immature mind of juveniles. Juveniles try to imitate the anti-social activities portrayed in movies. In most of the movies the tactics of crimes are portrayed in such a way that the youth become curious to practice it in their practical life which leads to criminality. Some juveniles commit minor crimes to get money to watch pictures in theaters.
8. **Emotional disturbance.** There are circumstances which leads an individual to crimes. For example, when someone see a female of his family with a strange person and he cannot control himself to handle the situation and commit murder or attempt to commit murder.
9. **Lack of religious control.** Religion is a major mean of social control. The teachings of every religion are based on good deeds. Specifically, Islam is a religion of peace and love. Islam teaches doing good and retreat from bad. A Muslim who is aware of the basic teachings of Islam would never do harm to any person or society. Allah creates human being with intellect to execute both right and wrong. Allah says, “And its enlightenment as to its wrong and its right” (Quran 91-8). Doing wrong is inherent nature of mankind which started from the initial stage of human being creation. Allah prescribed punishment for evil deeds and reward for good deeds in the day of ultimate judgment. In fact, Allah also identifies punishment to offences for safeguard of individual and society in the world. The object of the Islamic criminal law is to control the commission of the offences to defend the rights and interest of the public and assure peace in the society. Punishment is the actual method to protect and safeguard society against crimes and is thus a social need. The Holy Quran states, “whoever works evil, will be requited accordingly.” Due to fear of these punishments people are restricted. When there is no or less awareness of religious teachings the crimes rates in that society will be definitely high.
10. **Unemployment.** Human beings are struggling for the fulfilment of basic needs. When these needs are not fulfilling through institutionalized means, people use illegal ways as alternative which results crimes. Especially, unemployment of a large section of population results in increasing crime rate.
11. **Old values and traditions.** Generally, the people of Pakistan and especially rural people have strong traditions of taking revenge. They feel satisfied when they personally take revenge from his enemy. The punishment of criminal justice system is not considered enough until they personally punish them. A murderer is revenged through killing him or killing his family member and a series of murders starts which prevail for generations.
12. **Imposed leadership.** Imposed leadership give birth to many crimes. Some leaders are not capable of representing the community nor the community willingly support him but, for maintaining his position he supports big criminal to fear the community. These criminals in turn compel the people to support a defunct leader against their will.
13. **Environmental factors.** Environment play a vital role in shaping the personality of individual. English proverb “a man is known by the company he keeps” better portrayed the environmental factor of crime causation. When a child grows up, he come in contact with people outside the family. This procedure starts from observation. He observes all around him. He thinks upon the observed things and finally act according to his mind.
14. **Biological factor.** Cesare Lombroso elaborated the biological causes of crimes in detail. When a person is not physically fit, he will serve from mental illness which leads to abnormality. An abnormal person can easily break the rules of society as compared to normal individual.
15. **Psychological factors.**

Beside all other causes, there are a lot of psychological problems which causes crime. The psychological causes of crimes are mental defect, psychoses, psychoneurosis, uneven mental development, inferiority complex, revengefulness, repression and substitution, introversion, and egocentrism. These factors push an individual towards crimes.

1. **Imprisonment of First offenders.** Crime is a learning process. When first offender in imprisoned in petty crimes, he come in contact with professional and organized criminals in prison because human is gregarious by nature. He wishes to live with other people. Once, the contact of first offender and professional criminals developed, he joins their company after release which leads to crimes. Hence, a law-abiding citizen becomes a criminal.
2. **Joint trial of Juveniles and Adult criminals.** The Prison Rule 1978 generally and the Juvenile Justice System Ordinance 2000, specifically declares that juveniles should not be housed with adults. But unfortunately, due to lack of facilities in prisons and lack of availability of Boarstal Institutions juveniles and adults are housed in the on prison. The mind of the child is like a white board where one can write everything and the child curiously learn them. This joint incapacitation diverts a juvenile to criminal.