



# Explaining Criminals and Crime: Essays in Contemporary Criminological Theory

By Raymond Paternoster, Ronet Bachman

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## Explaining Criminals and Crime: Essays in Contemporary Criminological Theory

*Explaining Criminals and Crime* is the first collection of original essays addressing theories of criminal behavior that is written at a level appropriate for undergraduate students. These clear, concise, accessible essays were written expressly for this book, either by the original author(s) of each theory or by a scholar who has written extensively about it.

All major contemporary criminological theories are covered in this book, including:

- \* Biological (Pauline Yaralian and Adrian Raine)
- \* Strain (Robert Agnew, Steve Messner, and Richard Rosenfeld)
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*Explaining Criminals and Crime* also offers section introductions that provide a historical background for each theory, key issues that the theory addresses, and a discussion of any controversies generated by the theory.

Each theoretical essay contains:

- \* A discussion of the key theoretical concepts.
- \* The specific hypotheses derived from the theory.
- \* Existing empirical research on these hypotheses.
- \* Criticisms of the theory and efforts to deal with those criticisms.
- \* Policy implications of the theory.

Most criminological theories are published in journals or specialized texts and are written in language intended for other scholars. As a result, undergraduate

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#### **About the Author**

Raymond Paternoster is at University of Maryland. Ronet Bachman is at the University of Delaware.

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