**Chapter 1**

**Introduction and History of Victimology**

**Chapter 1 True/False Questions**

1. Victimology as a discipline first emerged in the 1930s.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 1

Level: Basic

2. The victims’ movement gained momentum in the United States in the 1980s.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Discuss how laws have affected victims.

Page number: 14

Level: Intermediate

3. Victimology is a discipline that combines theoretical research with practical experience.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Distinguish between criminology and victimology.

Page number: 3

Level: Difficult

4. The term *victim* is inconsistently applied in the various arenas of federal criminal law.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Distinguish between criminology and victimology.

Page number: 2

Level: Intermediate

5. Primitive laws usually contained two premises: (1) acts that injured others were considered private wrongs, and (2) the injured party was entitled to take action against the wrongdoer.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Discuss how laws have affected victims.

Page number: 4

Level: Difficult

6. The Code of Hammurabi is considered one of the first known attempts to establish a written code of conduct.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Discuss how laws have affected victims.

Page number: 4

Level: Basic

7. The Code of Hammurabi did not provide for victims.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Discuss how laws have affected victims.

Page number: 4

Level: Basic

8. The Mosaic Code was based on the assumption that men were superior to women.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Discuss how laws have affected victims.

Page number: 5

Level: Intermediate

9. The Justinian Code distinguished between two major types of laws: public laws and private laws.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Discuss how laws have affected victims.

Page number: 5

Level: Difficult

10. Common law is a traditional body of unwritten legal precedents created by court decisions throughout the Middle Ages in England.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 5

Level: Intermediate

11. The only crime defined in the U.S. Constitution is treason.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Discuss how laws have affected victims.

Page number: 6

Level: Difficult

12. One of the major contributing forces for the victim rights movement in the past several decades has been the feminist movement.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 6

Level: Difficult

13. Sexual assaults are in reality a way for the perpetrator to control, dominate, and humiliate the victim.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Distinguish between the various victimology theories.

Page number: 6

Level: Intermediate

14. One factor that hindered the awareness of the plight of victims was that society became more conservative and concerned about crime in general.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 8

Level: Difficult

15. Mendelsohn came to the conclusion that there was usually a weak interpersonal relationship between the offender and the victim.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 9

Level: Basic

16. In 1948, in an early classical text, *The Criminal and His Victim*, Mendelsohn explored the relationship between the “doer,” or criminal, and the “sufferer,” or victim.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Distinguish between the various victimology theories.

Page number: 9

Level: Intermediate

17. From 1984 to the present, the victims’ movement has been characterized by a decrease in the professionalism of the victims’ service advocates and providers.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 15

Level: Intermediate

18. In 1982, President Carter appointed a Task Force on Victims of Crime.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Discuss how laws have affected victims.

Page number: 15

Level: Basic

19. The Victims’ Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified during President Clinton’s term in office.

a. True

b. False

Answer: False

Objective: Discuss how laws have affected victims.

Page number: 16

Level: Basic

20. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) mandated that various professions form partnerships and work together to respond to all forms of violence against women.

a. True

b. False

Answer: True

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 16

Level: Intermediate

**Chapter 1 Multiple Choice Questions**

1. One of the most controversial areas of victimology has been and continues to be the concept known as
   1. victim participation.
   2. victim naming.
   3. victim blaming.
   4. restitution.

Answer: c.

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 12

Level: Intermediate

1. Hindelang and his colleagues examined exposure and guardianship as they relate to victimization. They call this theory the \_\_\_\_\_ approach to victimization, which argues that the likelihood of becoming a victim depends on an individual’s lifestyle.
   1. life
   2. real
   3. homogeny
   4. lifestyle

Answer: d.

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 10

Level: Basic

1. Karmen correctly points out that victimologists view the dynamics of the victim’s role in society from a \_\_\_\_\_\_ perspective.
   1. humanistic
   2. multidisciplinary
   3. single
   4. criminology

Answer: b.

Objective: Distinguish between the various victimology theories.

Page number: 10

Level: Basic

1. Marvin E. Wolfgang conducted the first major study of victim precipitation when he focused on \_\_\_\_\_, studying both the victim and the offender as separate entities and as mutual participants.
   1. rapes
   2. homicides
   3. kidnapping
   4. suicides

Answer: b

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 10

Level: Basic

1. Which of the following was NOT one of Von Hentig’s psychological types of victims?
   1. Mentally defected
   2. Depressed
   3. Wanton
   4. Acquisitive

Answer: a.

Objective: Distinguish between the various victimology theories.

Page number: 9

Level: Basic

**Chapter 1 Fill in the Blank**

1. Von Hentig established a typology of victims. The classification was based on psychological, \_\_\_\_\_, and biological factors.

Answer: social

Objective: Distinguish between the various victimology theories.

Page number: 9

Level: Basic

2. Many scholars credit \_\_\_\_\_\_ with coining the term *victimology*.

Answer: Mendelsohn

Objective: Distinguish between the various victimology theories.

Page number: 9

Level: Intermediate

3. The \_\_\_\_\_movement alerted us to centuries of discrimination and violence directed against women.

Answer: feminist

Objective:

Page number: 6

Level: Basic

4. The researcher \_\_\_\_asserts that rape is an act used by men to maintain their dominance over women through the use of force.

Answer: Brownmiller

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 6

Level: Difficult

5. Von Hentig theorized that a large percentage of victims, because of their acts or \_\_\_\_\_, were responsible for their victimization.

Answer: behavior

Objective: Distinguish between criminology and victimology.

Page number: 9

Level: Difficult

**Chapter 1 Matching**

Match the key words or phrases with the associated phrase.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. His typology was one of the first attempts to focus on victims of crimes rather than to simply examine the perpetrator. | a. Marvin Wolfgang |
| 2. *The Criminal and His Victim* | b. William Ryan |
| 3. Appointed a Task Force on Victims of Crime | c. Mendelsohn |
| 4. *Blaming the Victim* | d. Von Hentig |
| 5. In Philadelphia, he conducted the first major study of victim precipitation. | e. Reagan |

1. c. p. 9

2. d. p. 9

3. e. p. 15

4. b. p. 13

5. a. p. 10

Objective: Distinguish between the various victimology theories.

Level: Intermediate

**Chapter 1 Essay Questions**

1. Explain Mendelsohn’s theory of victimization.

Answer: His approach examined five factors: exposure, guardianship, proximity, attractiveness of targets, and definitions of specific crimes. According to this theory, exposure and guardianship are aspects of the lifestyle theory. Mendelsohn classified victims into six distinct categories: Completely Innocent Victim, Victim with Minor Guilt, Victim Who Is as Guilty as the Offender, Victim More Guilty Than the Offender, Most Guilty Victim, and Imaginary Victim.

Objective: Distinguish between the various victimology theories.

Page number: 15-16

Level: Difficult

1. How did the victims’ rights movement begin?

Answer: The victims’ rights movement began as a small group of volunteers who themselves were crime victims and who had been victimized a second time as a result of their involvement with the criminal justice system. This small group of volunteers has grown and become a powerful force in America that continues to expand and change the way we view victimology.

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 19

Level: Difficult

1. What role has the feminist movement played in the victims’ movement?

Answer: The movement alerted us to centuries of discrimination and violence directed against women. By speaking out, feminists forced us to realize that women were victims not only of violent crime on the streets of cities, but also of sexual harassment within the work environment and family violence within the home. Many of the crimes suffered by women are distinct from those suffered by men. Many of these crimes, although sexual in nature, are in fact nothing more than aggressive assaults that have little to do with sex. Sexual assaults are in reality a way for the perpetrator to control, dominate, and humiliate the victim.

Objective: Discuss how laws have affected victims.

Page number: 6

Level: Intermediate

1. Explain the importance of the Code of Hammurabi.

Answer: The Code of Hammurabi is considered one of the first known attempts to establish a written code of conduct. The code established rules regarding theft, sexual relationships, and interpersonal violence, and it was intended to replace blood feuds with a system sanctioned by the state. The code established certain obligations and objectives for the citizens of Babylon to follow.

Objective: Discuss how laws have affected victims.

Page number: 4

Level: Basic

1. What are the key points in the opportunity model of victimization?

Answer: This approach examines five factors: exposure, guardianship, proximity, attractiveness of targets, and definitions of specific crimes. The opportunity theory links dimensions of social inequity to criminal victimization. It involves exposure to potential offenders; proximity between where victims or targets reside and where potential offenders are found; guardianship, which involves the effectiveness of persons or objects in preventing crime; target attractiveness, which is the desirability of persons or property to potential offenders; and definition of certain crimes, which establishes the difficulty in committing certain acts.

Objective: Distinguish between the various victimology theories.

Page number: 11

Level: Difficult

**Chapter 1 Critical Thinking**

1. Why was the discipline of victimology slow in developing?

Answer: There was an issue as to whether the victim was at fault in some manner. Victims lacked organizations to advocate on their behalf. Our laws did not generally support the rights of victims.

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 2-3

Level: Difficult

1. What is the issue involved in “blaming the victim” approach?

Answer: It is the most controversial area of victimology and includes victim blaming, victim responsibility, or victim perception. Some of the world’s most prominent victimologists established classifications that included victims as a cause of criminal acts. This tends to shift the blame from the criminal to the victim.

Objective: Understand social forces that have impacted on the development of victimology.

Page number: 12

Level: Basic