

Chapter 2: Explaining Violence

Test Bank

Multiple Choice

1. Given that most violence is perpetrated by males, some have suggested that male aggression is linked with levels of _____.

- a. testosterone
- b. estrogen
- c. steroids
- d. progesterone

Ans: A

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: easy

2. _____ seek to understand violent behavior in terms of personality, character, and mental disorder.

- a. sociological perspectives
- b. psychological perspectives
- c. physical perspective
- d. brain dysfunction perspectives

Ans: B

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: easy

3. Those who have _____ are often characterized as being very narcissistic, reckless, and emotionally shallow.

- a. PTSD
- b. antisocial personality disorder
- c. eating disorders
- d. none of the above

Ans: B

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: easy

4. Some biologists/criminologists suggest that violence can be linked with _____.

- a. mesomorphic
- b. endomorphic
- c. brain injuries from combat or a violent experience
- d. metamorphic

Ans: C

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: easy

5. Which of the following tends to have the highest levels of testosterone?

- a. high level violent inmates
- b. high level nonviolent inmates
- c. winning athletes
- d. losing athletes

Ans: C

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: easy

6. An argument made by a number of criminologists but popularized by John Dilulio suggests that our society was home to a new breed of violent offender known as _____?

- a. pathological liar
- b. sadism
- c. violent offenders
- d. superpredators

Ans: D

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: easy

7. As the name implies, the _____ hypothesis contends that violence is one possible response for individuals who feel frustrated and thwarted in achieving something.

- a. stress
- b. economic deprivation
- c. social deprivation
- d. frustration-aggression

Ans: D

Cognitive Domain: medium

Difficulty Level: knowledge

8. According to the frustration-aggression hypothesis, which of the following factors increases the likelihood of a violent reaction?

- a. the frustration was unintentionally caused
- b. the hindrance was perceived as being fair
- c. the presence of aggressive stimuli such as aggressive music
- d. the presence of an audience

Ans: C

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: easy

9. It is not absolute poverty that is associated with criminality and violence, but rather inequality. This is sometimes referred to as _____?

- a. shame
- b. strain theory
- c. anomie
- d. economic deprivation

Ans: d

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: medium

10. Steven Messner and Richard Rosenfeld developed what they call an _____ of crime that links crime to the existing social structure. Specifically, they suggest that the high rates of crime and violence found in U.S. society can, in part, be explained with reference to the notion of the "American Dream," which suggests that economic success can be achieved by anyone who works hard, plays by the rules, and is willing to engage in competition with others for jobs, income, and status.

- a. code of the streets
- b. general strain theory
- c. strain theory
- d. institutional-anomie theory
- e. none of the above

Ans: D

Cognitive Domain: application

Difficulty Level: medium

11. Lombroso was arguing that violent criminals were evolutionary throwbacks or _____, and the problem of crime rested upon the shoulders of individuals who were born to be violent and criminal.

- a. serotonin
- b. offenders
- c. atavisms
- d. eugenics

Ans: C

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: medium

12. Phrenology is the study of _____.

- a. extra hormones
- b. genetics
- c. chemical imbalances
- d. skull shapes
- e. body shapes

Ans: D

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: easy

13. Genetically, humans are most closely related to _____.

- a. buffalo
- b. pigs
- c. monkeys
- d. chimpanzees

Ans: D

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: easy

14. Merton believed that a state of _____ would result when individuals lived under conditions where legitimate means were not available to achieve societal goals.

- a. anomie
- b. balance
- c. social control
- d. self control

Ans: A

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: medium

15. Steven Messner and Richard Rosenfeld developed what they call the _____ theory of crime that links crime to the existing social structure.

- a. frustration was unintentionally caused
- b. hindrance was perceived as being fair
- c. institutional-anomie
- d. presence of an audience

Ans: C

Cognitive Domain: knowledge

Difficulty Level: medium

16. Who suggested some poor young African American men develop what he labels a "code of the street," which involves a strong sense of personal honor combined with a corresponding emphasis on guarding against personal affronts and insults?

- a. Elijah Anderson
- b. Robert Agnew
- c. Edwin Sutherland
- d. Messner and Rosenfeld

Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: medium

17. Signaling theory, which suggests that criminals communicate through a wide variety of signals and signs that convey to others their credentials, their toughness, and their willingness to engage in violent and criminal activities, was suggested by whom?

- a. Edwin Sutherland
- b. Elijah Anderson
- c. Diego Gambetta
- d. Robert Agnew

Ans: C
Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: medium

18. Robert Merton's theory is often referred to as the theory of differential _____.

- a. opportunity
- b. ambition
- c. poverty
- d. association

Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: easy

19. General theory of crime based on the notion that individual criminality is the result of?

- a. social learning
- b. low self-control
- c. family genetics
- d. body composition

Ans: B
Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: easy

20. Deindividuation, a phenomenon that facilitates violence in a group setting, is actually based on the classic work of _____.

- a. Gustave Le Bon
- b. Edwin Sutherland
- c. Solomon Asch
- d. Robert Sampson

Ans: A
Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: easy

True/False

21. The idea that it is easier to remove ethical restrictions against violence when we perceive the victims to be less than us or perhaps even less than human is known as disenagement.

Ans: F
Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: medium

22. Edwin Sutherland articulated the general theory of crime based on the notion that individual criminality is the result of low self-control.

Ans: F

Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: easy

23. The intergenerational transmission of violence theory is also known as the cycle of violence theory.

Ans: T

Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: easy

24. Differential association theory was developed by Thomas Edison in 1940 and was one of the first individuals to suggest criminality and violence were not aberrations but were simply learned behaviors like all other behaviors.

Ans: F

Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: easy

25. Merton believed that a state of “anomie” would result when individuals lived under conditions where legitimate means were not available to achieve societal goals.

Ans: T

Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: easy

26. James Gilligan suggests that the linkage between poverty and violence is caused by one specific factor: social learning.

Ans: F

Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: medium

27. The theory that beings poor and living within a relatively affluent community is a much more negative experience than being poor and living within a poor community is referred to as relative deprivation.

Ans: T

Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: easy

28. Serotonin is a substance that helps relay messages over the gap between the nerve cells and allows them to proceed.

Ans: T

Cognitive Domain: knowledge
Difficulty Level: easy

Short Answer/Essay

29. Because there is no single theory alone that can explain violence, we must look at a variety of theories, each of which can help us understand a portion of the puzzle that is human violence. In Chapter 2, you learned about ethological and biological explanations of violence along with sociological explanations of violence. Choose one of these explanations, and discuss the concept behind the theory. How does the theory you have chosen help explain and understand violence?

Cognitive Domain: Application
Difficulty Level: Hard

30. Define antisocial personality disorder (APD) as it relates to violence. What characteristics could be associated with APD?

Cognitive Domain: Application
Difficulty Level: Medium

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Instructor Resource
Alvarez & Bachman, *Violence: The Enduring Problem, 3rd Edition*
SAGE Publishing, 2017

31. Discuss the relationship between stress and violence as it relates to the overrepresentation of minority communities.

Cognitive Domain: Comprehension

Difficulty Level: Hard