UNDERSTANDING CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORIES AS A TOOL FOR CRIME PREVENTION

By RICARDO SICANGCO MARIANO

Volume 33, 2021
ISSN (Print & Online): 2307-4531

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www.gssrr.org
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ISSN(online & Print) 2307-4531

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UNDERSTANDING CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORIES
AS A TOOL FOR CRIME PREVENTION

A Dissertation Presented to
the Faculty of the Graduate School
University of the Cordilleras

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE
WITH SPECIALIZATION IN CRIMINOLOGY

By
RICARDO SICANGCO MARIANO
August 2020
APPROVAL SHEET

This thesis entitled UNDERSTANDING CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORIES AS A TOOL FOR CRIME PREVENTION prepared and submitted by RICARDO SICANGCO MARIANO in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE, has been examined and is recommended for acceptance and approval for oral examination.

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8.1 Rationale / Background of the Study

The story of Adam and Eve shows that there was a law (not to eat the fruit from the tree of good and evil). The consequence or punishment would be death as stated by God, while the benefit was ‘to be like God’ according to Satan. Therefore, the choices were either to receive a punishment or a benefit. Eve then chose the latter. This may reflect how one foreign theory of crime causation (rational choice theory) works, especially when it comes to crimes and punishments. A person would weigh the costs and benefits and decides according to his/her belief, judgment and conviction. In the local setting, a recent incident showed a preliminary applicability of one of the theories of crime causation, specifically, the rational choice theory (RCT) in the Philippine setting. It was when a relieved security guard turned into a hostage taker.

This research is about whether the foreign theories of crime causation have a place in the field of Criminology in the Philippines. Considering that these theories are from other countries, this study analyzed if said theories can be used in the Philippines both in an academic setting and
for policy-making. After the waging of the drug war, it was clearly shown that crime is still rampant in the country. Too many people are committing crimes. Too many cases are being handled by courts. Too many people are being incarcerated. Although this research will not answer all these problems, it hopes to at least help a little in the big fight against crimes. Further, there is a need for this study in order for the researcher to give a positive contribution to the community as a criminologist. It is possible to find ways to lessen crimes in one’s simple ways.

8.2 Summary

The objectives of this study were to determine whether or not the foreign theories of crime causation apply in the local setting. In other words, the reasons why people commit crimes were investigated. Demographics were also investigated to look into possible relationship with crime or corroboration with the reasons and factors that came about. After knowing the demographics and reasons or factors why people commit crime, the researcher proposed an action plan in order to try to contribute in the reduction of crime. By knowing the demographics of the participants, the researcher made presumptions on possible relationship with crimes. These demographics were used in the drafting of the proposed action plan. The reasons and factors were presented as themes and were also considered in the drafting of the action plan. After approval, the action plan will be implemented in elementary schools and high schools as suggested by the panel members.

Specifically, the study aimed to answer the following questions:
1. What are the demographic profiles of the participants in terms of:
   a. sex;
   b. civil status;
   c. educational attainment;
   d. religion;
   e. occupation; and
   f. crime committed.

2. What are the factors or parameters causing the participants to commit crime?
3. What measures can be suggested to reduce crime using the Rational Choice Theory?

This study used the qualitative approach through thematic analysis. Seven (7) participants were chosen as participants through purposive sampling from jail institutions in Regions 1, 2 and 3 of the Philippines. The study utilized the interview as the data gathering tool. The interview was done through online and written form.

8.3 Findings

1. The demographic profiles of the participants are the following: a) most convicted offenders or persons deprived of liberty (PDL) are males; b) there are more married offenders than not; c) all participants did not finish college; d) all the participants conform to some form of religion, predominant of which are membership to the Iglesia ni Cristo and Roman Catholicism; e) crime can be committed by anyone, whatever the occupation, even if one does not have an occupation. There is, however, an interpretation that most of the occupations mentioned are low-paying or unstable jobs; and, f) rape and drug use represented the most common crimes committed, although the other crimes committed include gambling, qualified theft, and frustrated homicide.

2. The main themes that came about in this study are: influences are the main reason why people commit crime; crime is situational; crime is spontaneous; people will do anything for survival, even committing crime; imprisonment is the cost of crime thought about by the participants; the participants also thought about hazards for themselves as the risk of committing the crime; the participants saw isolation because of imprisonment or being separated from family and loved ones as the consequences for committing the crime; crime is sometimes not beneficial but it is needed in order to survive; crime pays or there is gain in crime; and the participants all thought that their actions would produce bad outcomes not only to themselves, but to others (victims and family members) as well.
8.4 Conclusions

Based on the findings of the study, the researcher arrived at the following conclusions:

1. The social upbringing of males makes them more prone to criminality than females especially in terms of violent or personal crimes. Education is also an important factor on whether or not a person will turn to criminality, that is, generally, one with a higher degree of education is less likely to commit crime than those with lower degree of education.

2. People commit crimes because they are influenced by other people they interact with and consider it as important part of their lives. They make rational calculations and see that they might get away with crime, hence, the need to educate them that the criminal justice system is unrelenting.

8.5 Recommendations

Based on the conclusions of this study, the research recommends the following:

1. The results of this study will be shared in a community outreach program in elementary and high schools to inform both students and teachers on the reasons why people commit crimes and the factors related to it. Focus on crime prevention against personal and property crimes will be discussed and the reasons why males and those with low education are more prone to criminal life. Tips on choosing good peer groups and financial management will also be included. Lastly, the consequences of crime will be discussed.

2. Other research on other theories of crime causation and their applicability in the local setting and in crime prevention or reduction is encouraged.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The researcher would like to extend his wholehearted gratitude to all persons and offices who have aided him in the completion of the study.

To God Almighty, the giver of life, for giving the researcher the strength and will to pursue this study.

To the Commission on Higher Education (CHEd), scholarship grantor, for giving the researcher the opportunity to pursue his studies.

To the University of the Cordilleras, the delivering higher educational institution, for accepting the researcher in its prestigious institution.

To Dr. Darlyn Damasco-Tagarino, the facilitator of Dissertation 1 & 2, for guiding the researcher towards the development and improvement of this study.

To the late Dr. Cristina Balandi, the former adviser of the researcher, for accepting him under her care and ensuring that the study will go smoothly while she was still with us.

To Dr. Robino Cawi, the Graduate Program Coordinator and Adviser, for ensuring that the researcher will have a great study by giving numerous comments and recommendations.
To Dr. Ariel Pumecha, Vice President for Academics and Research of the University of the Cordilleras, for inspiring the researcher to make a study which will be more than just for academic requirements.

To Dr. Cherry Ann A. Cabarrubias, Dean of the College of Criminal Justice Education of this institution, for inspiring the researcher through her excellent examples.

To Dr. Darlito Bernard Delizo, Dr. Theodore Timpac, Dr. Christian Pascual, and Dr. Thelma Palaoag, the members of the panel, who were very supportive by giving several comments for the improvement of this study.

To Sir Anthony John Jimenez, classmate of the researcher, for helping and guiding the researcher in times of confusion.

To Dr. Leah Moyao-Donato, technical editor, for giving corrections which brought betterment to this paper.

Thank you very much.

R.S.M.
DEDICATION

This research is dedicated to those who helped the researcher through their moral support. To the Mariano and Lagunero Family: Trinidad "Madz" Mariano (researcher’s mother), Reynaldo Mariano Jr. (father), Rica Mae Mariano (sister) and Jonie Jingle Lagunero (sister); Ms. Joely Chrystele Domingo, the researcher’s source of inspiration; members of the USST Family, from the administration, Co-Faculty Members: Ma’am Tecson, Sir Barona, Ma’am De Leon, Ma’am Duran, Ma’am Dupitas, Ma’am Argao, Sir Hipolito, Sir Pasigon, Ma’am Sumcad, Ma’am Dizon, Ma’am Botabara, Ma’am Bonus, Ma’am Domingo, Sir Timpac, and Sir Bicoy, and students (the researcher’s everyday challenge); and Almighty God.

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Chapter 1

THE PROBLEM

Background of the Study

“God created the first man Adam and then created the first woman, Eve. God put Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden to care and nurture the land. He told Adam and Eve that they could eat from any fruit from the trees except for the tree of good and evil. God warned them that if they ate from the tree they would die” (Bible Study Tools, 2016).

One day Satan came disguised as a snake and spoke to Eve, convincing her to eat the fruit from the tree of good and evil. Eve told the serpent that God said they should not eat it and they would die if they did, but Satan tempted Eve to eat saying that she would become like God if she did. Eve believed the lie and took a bite of the fruit. She then gave some to Adam for him to eat. Adam and Eve, knowing that they had sinned, immediately felt ashamed and tried to hide from God. (Bible Study Tools)

This story shows that there was a law (not to eat the fruit from the tree of good and evil). The consequences or punishment would be death as stated by God. The benefits were to be like God according to Satan. The choices were
either to die according to God or to “become like God” according to Satan. Eve, then chose what she believed to be the benefit. This is an example of how one foreign theory of crime causation (rational choice theory) works, especially when it comes to crimes and punishments. A person would weigh the costs and benefits and decides according to his/her belief, judgment and conviction. (Ogu, 2013)

In the local setting, a recent incident showed a preliminary applicability of one of the theories of crime causation, specifically, the rational choice theory (RCT) in the Philippine setting. It was when a relieved security guard turned into a hostage taker. Said security guard was Alchie Paray and the researcher quotes him saying, “Hindi ito yung tipo na padalos-dalos. Pinag-isipan ko ito (This is not the rushed type. I thought about it).” This shows that the hostage taker thought about the commission of the crime first (Lim, 2020).

He said, in addition, “Ang desisyon dito sa pagsuko ko, nasa sa akin pa rin. Kung gusto ko sumuko ng buhay, p’wede. Kung gusto kong sumuko ng patay, p’wedeng p’wede rin (The decision here on my surrender, is still up to me. If I want to give up my life, I can. If I want to surrender
dead, I can too).” This shows that the decision still lies with the hostage taker on what will be the consequence of his actions.

Paray also said, “Ako mismo magbaril sa sarili ko. Ganu’n ko kayang panagutan yung ginawa ko (I will shoot myself. That’s how I can take responsibility for what I did).” This shows the hostage taker’s resolve regarding his choice and acceptance of its consequence.

Lastly, he asked a question: “Pagkatapos nito, saan ang punta ko? Sa kulungan o sa sementeryo? (After this, where do I go? In jail or in the cemetery?)” This question from the hostage taker (the one who made the choice) shows that he knows the possible consequences of his actions.

This local incident shows that the foreign theory of rational choice might just be applicable in the Philippines.

According to Ganti (2019), Rational Choice Theory states that individuals use rational calculations to make rational choices and achieve outcomes that are aligned with their own personal objectives. This would mean that would-be offenders calculate the pros and cons of their decisions before they execute such actions in hopes of achieving what is important to them.
In relation, Herfeld (2012) pointed out that the “rationality principle” gained prominence during the beginning of the Cold War. It was used not only in American social sciences but also in different fields such as philosophy, mathematics, computer scientists, statistics and operations research. He added that the RCT was praised as a universal theory of human behavior that shows individual choice-making, in turn, predicting future human conduct. Criticisms however, point to the RCT as merely a framework that makes humans as calculators.

In Criminology, the Rational Choice Theory originated in the 18\textsuperscript{th} century through the works of Cesare Beccaria. From then, it expanded to other theories such as the deterrence, situational crime prevention and routine activities theory (Wright, 2017). According to Kitteringham (2012), Clarke and Cornish (1986) first presented the RCT. According to the latter, people commit crime because it benefits them. Crime happens after making decisions and choosing options. These decisions and choices are however limited by time, skills, and available information.

As to the nature of RCT, Kliemt (2018), stated that said theory is a causal factor. Hence, it is explanatory in nature.
Purpura (2019) discussed that the major elements of rational choice theory are that individuals (1) study the consequences of crime against the benefits of crime before committing a crime and (2) select criminal behavior when the rewards offset the costs. Factors that may be considered by an individual contemplating a criminal act are the possibilities of being caught (aided by security), arrested, imprisoned, and stigmatized. However, the potential rewards may appear more attractive, such as monetary gain, respect from others, and the thrill of “getting away with a crime.”

These abovementioned elements and factors were used by the researcher in this study in drafting the questionnaire.

In the study of McCarthy and Chaudhary (2014), it was stated that the Rational Choice Approach (RCA) explains the process why people choose to commit crime. There is also an assumption that the factors affecting the choice to offend is the same with not offending, the most prevalent of which is the “desire to maximize utility.” Other factors are risks, opportunity, costs, and benefits. Some critics say that RCA/RCT applies only to certain crimes such as those against property (theft or robbery) but not to certain crimes such as those of passion. In this regard, RCA/RCT
acknowledges that crime may still be committed irrationally but the assumption that certain crimes are automatically beyond choice are unreasonable. The main conclusions are: (1) there are varieties of reasons why people choose to commit or not commit crimes, and (2) the choice of individuals also depend on the choice of others.

Padowitz (n.d.) stated that RCT applies to the field of economics. As to criminology, it is limited only to economic or financial crimes. Other studies focus too much on “risks” but not on “rewards.” There is an abundance of studies showing that employment rates and wages negatively relate to crime. Some studies show the probability of low-income earners to get closer to robbery than those with high salaries who are afraid not only of getting caught but also of losing their job (Padowitz, n.d.).

Another study made by Wholl (2009) presented that RCT applies only to street crimes. However, this study showed the applicability of RCT to professional crimes.

In an article by Pratt (2008), citing several authors and researchers, a list of individual and contextual factors or influences are provided, namely: (1) individual levels of impulsivity and self-control; (2) experiences (personal and vicarious) with both crime and punishment;
(3) attachment to prosocial institutions; (4) perceptions of the non-legal costs of punishment (shame or loss of respect); and (5) environmental constraints for particular criminal opportunities. In order to deter or reduce criminal behavior, Pratt, citing Weisburd, Morris, and Ready (2008) provided that sanctions tend to work best when the goals of the sanction are modest.

Studying the social bond theory, Chriss (2007) stated, Travis Hirschi's control or social bonding theory argues that those persons who have strong and abiding attachments to conventional society (in the form of attachments, involvement, investment, and belief) are less likely to deviate than persons who have weak or shallow bonds. This is another theory which instead of asking why people commit crimes, asked the better question, what can keep persons from committing crimes? The answer provided by the theory is strong bonds with social institutions that can control the person away from crime such as the family, school, the church and others. There were studies by Jang (2012), Breckin (2018), and Nagasawa, Quian, and Wong (2000) on social control involving the Philippines. That is the limitation though. The study did not focus mainly on the
applicability of the foreign theory in the Philippines but included different countries.

Another theory, the Strain, is explained by Agnew and Scheuerman (2015). Accordingly, Strain theories state that certain strains or stressors increase the likelihood of crime. These strains or stressors are brought about by the failure of people to achieve their dreams. With this failure, people turn to illegal means (i.e. crimes). Agnew (2018) provided further, Examples include parental rejection, criminal victimization, a desperate need for money, and discrimination. This shows that family problems and financial troubles may cause crime. One local study by Barrera (2016) shows support on the applicability of the strain theory but suggests further research. Maxwell (2007) focused on familial strain in her study about strain theory in the Philippines.

The purpose of criminological theories, aside from identifying the causes of crime, is ultimately providing suggestions for crime prevention. Crime prevention involves strategies in order to prevent the further increase or occurrence of crimes.

There are articles and researches on crime prevention in the Philippines such as the crime prevention tips
offered in the Philippine National Police Regional Office
10 website (n.d.). The tips are: (1) Get to know your
neighbors and all those residing in your street. They will
be your partners in watching the activities in your block.
(2) Organize a Street Watch composed of neighbors as
members. Be concerned and cooperate in watching activities
on the block and reporting unusual or suspicious behavior
to the police and the Street Watch Officer. (3) Exchange
names, home and work telephone numbers among members.
Prepare diagram of the block or neighborhood where you
belong for easy identification of households in case an
emergency or crime incident occurs. The diagram should
contain the house number, telephone numbers and occupants'
names. The emergency and police department telephone
numbers should be included in the diagram. (4) Look after
your neighbor’s house when he is away and ask him to look
after yours. This includes collecting your mail, newspapers
and other deliveries which would indicate at a glance that
no one is home. (5) Attend meetings called by your Street
Watch Officer. Find out about the crime situation in your
area and what you can do about them. Share information and
experiences with your neighbors. (6) Get to know your
police chief and members of the police station in your
area. Write down the station’s emergency hotline number in a place you can easily see in case you will need police advise or assistance. Use your police force – they are ready, willing and able to keep you, your family and your neighborhood safe and sound.

The above tips are related to the collective efficacy theory. According to Cole (2019), collective efficacy theory does not rely solely on the strong relationship of a community but on the repeated interactions and expectations derived therefrom. In addition, social control is exercised by residents when they are called upon to act. Community participation must then be encouraged in order to entice the people to act on crimes rather than just expecting them or even just allowing them to act on their own. Indeed, unity in the neighborhood is important to prevent crimes.

Moreover, Caparas (n.d.) provided general strategies for crime preventions such as: The Barangay Initiated Ronda System, The Civilian Volunteer Organizations (CVO) Program, Most Recent Program (Example): Street Watch and others. This street watch is similar to the former neighborhood watch tips provided by the Philippine National Police. Hence, this strategy is also based from the collective
efficacy theory. Indeed, community involvement is the way to go in fighting crimes.

In addition, the study of Patalinghug (2017) proved the effectivity of crime prevention strategies on Integrated Patrol System, Barangay Peace Keeping Operations, Anti-Criminality Operations, Integrated Area Community Public Safety Services, Bantay Turista and School Safety Project. Said study wielded positive results saying that the strategies were much effective in the local of such study. No theory was mentioned in this study; however, it can be implied that the theory of police omnipresence could have been one of the bases of these strategies. Said theory provides that crime is prevented or lessened when would-be offenders feel that police officers are everywhere all the time. With the help of the community, this theory of omnipresence will apply. People will feel safe knowing that police officers and volunteers are everywhere while would-be offenders will think twice before they commit any crime.

Raymundo (2018) also stated old and new strategies namely: community-service oriented policing system and the inter-agency approach of law enforcement. As can be seen in the article, Community-Oriented Policing System (1995) in
the Philippine National Police website, these strategies are based on the normative sponsorship theory. The normative sponsorship theory provides that the police organization will not achieve its goals without the support of the community. This is a reiteration of the age-old principle of Sir Robert Peel that the police is the people and the people is the police. (Report on the Theoretical Basis of Community Policing and Integration of Technology into Community Policing, 2016)

While there are a number of articles and researches from foreign sources and a few local sources on the applicability of the different theories of crime causation in the Philippines, it cannot be denied that such studies are either too specific, does not focus on the Philippines alone, or is not related to criminology. Some of the theories cited were not even empirically tested in the local setting. In terms of crime prevention, many are repetitive and though studies reveal their effectivity, the prevalence of crime in the Philippines show otherwise. Hence there is a need to conduct national, regional or local studies on the applicability of foreign theories in the Philippines.
The objectives of this study were to determine whether or not the foreign theories of crime causation apply in the local setting in connection with crime prevention. In other words, the reasons why people commit crimes were investigated to possibly identify the most appropriate crime prevention approaches or strategies. Demographics were also investigated to look into possible relationship with crime or corroboration with the reasons and factors that came about. After knowing the demographics and reasons or factors why people commit crime, the researcher proposed an action plan in order to try and contribute to the reduction of crime. By knowing the demographics of the participants, the researcher made presumptions on possible relationship with crimes. These demographics were used in the drafting of the proposed action plan. The reasons and factors were presented as themes and were also considered in the drafting of the action plan. After approval, the action plan will be implemented in elementary schools and high schools as suggested by the panel members.

The study will benefit future policy makers such as law enforcement agencies, local government units and members of Congress.
Policy makers can use this study as basis for their policies regarding crime prevention and reduction. Considering that there are little on the applicability of foreign theories in the national, regional or local setting, one question which arises is ‘Where were the crime prevention policies of the law enforcement agencies based from’? This study can be a solid basis for said agencies in drafting their crime prevention policies.

Local government units and members of Congress may also use this study as basis for ordinances and laws to prevent or reduce crime either in the national or local level. If this study will be used by the policy makers, then it might just help the community in general once criminality is lessened.

This research is about whether the foreign theories of crime causation have a place in the field of Criminology in the Philippines. Considering that these theories are from other countries, this study analyzed if said theories can be used in the Philippines both in an academic setting and for policy-making. The criminology profession and law enforcement are mainly based on foreign concepts and theories that no one knows if they are realistically applicable in the Philippines. Instructors and professors
The Problem

in the criminal justice academe teach theories of crime that are based from studies conducted abroad. The question is, ‘Are they applicable in the country’? This study tries to answer this important question whether or not the causes of crime in other countries are also the causes of crime in the Philippines. By answering this question, policy-makers, the academe, and the law enforcement can device better strategies in relation to the ultimate goal of preventing or at least reducing crimes.

After the war on drugs in the country, it has been showed clearly that crime is rampant in the country. Too many people are committing crimes. Too many cases are being handled by courts. Too many people are being incarcerated. Although this research will not answer all these problems, it has hopes of at least contributing a little in the big fight against crimes. There is a need for this study in order for the researcher to contribute to the community as a criminologist. This is to find ways to lessen crimes in one’s simple ways.

Theoretical/Conceptual Framework

It is widely known as stated by Sutherland that crime is a social phenomenon. It means that crime happens in society wherever one is. Everyone then, has an obligation
to prevent or at least reduce its rate of occurrence. But how shall one prevent or at least reduce crime? Are there already answers towards the solution? If there are, are these answers correct? These are the questions that this study tried to answer - How crime can be prevented through the study of foreign theories of crime causation and their applicability in the Philippines.

Before going directly to the theories, it is but proper to discuss first how theories are developed or built. There are numerous models, theories and processes on theory building. Some of them are the spiral model of theory building process (Rivard, 2020), the cycle of theory building or theory building process (Carlile & Christensen, 2004), the case study approach (Eisenhardt, 1989), grounded theory building, bottom-up conceptual analysis, extending theories, and applying existing theories in new contexts (Bhattacherjee, n.d.).

The spiral method of Rivard is inspired by the circular motion which starts at the center and circles outward with common activities and differing intentions or outcomes - these two being the components or as Rivard calls it, the ions of a theory. The repeating activities are reading, reflecting and writing. These three are
repeated in the entire process though each complete or 360 circular motion of the spiral, new outcomes are targeted and should be achieved. The outcomes are erudition or that which is defined as “great academic knowledge,” motivation, definition, imagination, explanation and presentation, and contribution. Again, the activities in all of these outcomes are the same. In addition though, a respite or rest is suggested for the achievement of explanation and presentation while review, renouncement, and revision are added on the last outcome which is contribution.

The theory building process of Carlile & Christensen is divided into two (2) stages namely: the descriptive and normative stages. In both these stages, there are three (3) steps, namely: observation, categorization, and association. Observation is conducted in relation to the phenomena being studied. Categorization for the descriptive stage is on the attributes of the phenomena while on the normative stage, it is categorization of circumstances. In terms of association in the descriptive stage, correlation is being studied. During the normative stage, causality is being studied.

The case study approach suggested by Eisenhardt involves the steps of selecting cases, creating of
instruments and protocols, entering the field or gathering data, analyzing within or the case data, searching for cross case patterns, shaping the hypothesis, enfolding literature, and reaching the closure or conclusion.

The four approaches suggested by Bhattacherjee (n.d.) are the grounded theory building, bottom-up conceptual analysis, extending theories, and applying existing theories in new contexts. The grounded theory building provides for inductive investigations or studies on events or behaviors based from observations. The bottom-up conceptual analysis provides for a prepared framework which will identify the predictors of certain phenomena. Extending theories can be described also as modifying theories. In here, theories are extended or modified in terms of its application. For example, sociological theories can be further extended as criminological theories as applicable. The last is the application of existing theories to new contexts. This is the one directly related to this study. In this approach, theories already existing are applied in other contexts such as the setting, statements, or ideas. In this study, the setting or the locale is the new context applied to the existing theories of crime causation.
One example of existing theories of crime causation is the life course theory. The life course theory was explained in the 2003 Annual Report to the Florida Department of Education: Juvenile Justice Educational Enhancement Program. The application of the life course perspective to criminology has been used to explain desistance of criminality. This theory suggests looking into what is there about people who do not commit crime, instead of only looking at why people commit crime. An answer provided by this theory is that non-criminality may be caused by having a family, finding a loved one, and the like. There are no studies on life course theory as applied in criminology in the Philippine setting. Focus may be given to this theory because it gives readers or policy-makers the answer not only as to why people commit crime but why they do not commit crime. By applying the principles suggested by this theory, policy-makers can develop programs utilizing the variables of this theory to possibly prevent or reduce crime. As used in this study, variables that prevent people from committing crimes were asked.

Another theory is the social bond theory. Citing Hirschi’s social bond theory, Wickert (2019) discusses that humans have a natural tendency to delinquency. Accordingly,
what keeps people from committing crime is social control. This theory provides four (4) forms of social bond which are attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief. Attachment is the strength of the bonds and relationships that exist with an individual’s social environment (Wickert). Examples of these are relationship with parents, schools or friends. Commitment describes the level of dedication invested in conventional standards and goals. One who has invested his time and effort on a certain activity or institution will lose more through crime or delinquent behavior. This relates to the choice-making of RCT. By involvement, Hirschi means that someone who is intensively involved in conventional activities has less time and opportunity to engage in deviant behavior. When a person has more time in activities in school or in church, they will have no more time for crime or delinquency in addition to the fact that values and beliefs are honed in these institutions. Belief refers to the belief in and validity of the values and norms of the mainstream society. When a belief is accepted and internalized, then no crime or delinquency will take place in an individual. But once these values or beliefs are questioned, then propensity to crime happens.
A related theory to the social bond theory is the containment theory by Walter Reckless. As discussed by Bernard (n.d.), the containment theory argued that there are inner and outer forces of containment that restrain a person from committing a crime: the inner forces stem from moral and religious beliefs as well as from a personal sense of right and wrong; the outer forces come from family members, teachers, or others who influence the individual to some degree. The effectiveness of containment forces can be influenced by external factors such as effective supervision and internal factors such as a good self-concept. Reckless’s work also focused on “push-pull” forces as explanations of deviant behavior, including internal pushes such as discontent and rebellion and external pulls such as delinquent acquaintances.

If the social bond theory focused on the society and its relation to the individuals, the containment theory focused on two (areas): inner and outer.

Another relevant theory is the Differential Association Theory by Sutherland. This is discussed in the article entitled Differential Association Theory (2019) in LibreTexts. This predicts that an individual will choose the criminal path when the balance of definitions for law-
breaking exceeds those for law-abiding. This shows the relationship of differential association with rational choice. After one learns the behavior of others, the person will choose whether such behavior will be beneficial to him or not, resulting into either criminality or abstinence. Barrera (2015), aside from seeing social control as applicable in the Philippines, also validate the differential association theory as applicable in the Philippines.

Aside from theories, there is also Abrahamsen’s crime formula which is discussed by Shapiro (1961) stating that a criminal act is the sum of a person's criminalistic tendencies plus his total situation, divided by the amount of his resistance. These theories mentioned can be considered as basis for policy making towards crime prevention. Theories of crime causation provides for the reason why people commit crimes. It will now be up to policy-makers on how the reasons or causes of crime can be prevented from happening so that crime incidence may be prevented or at least lessened. This study, having been conducted in three (3) different regions, can be made as basis for crime prevention strategies not only of the places covered in the said regions, but if proven
effective, can be applied in the entire country. Abrahamsen’s crime formula is a theory that tells us variables that cause crime such as criminal tendency and situation. Being a study which tackles criminological theories as tools of crime prevention, this theory is one of the theories used as basis before gathering the data. The theories of crime causation were the basis in the drafting of the questions asked to the participants.

The foreign theories of crime causation were chosen as the main topic of this study considering that they are indeed foreign. How would Filipino criminologists know that these theories are applicable in the local setting if said theories will not be empirically tested? Why would criminology instructors discuss theories to their students if said theories are not applicable in the community? Most importantly, what is the basis of crime prevention and reduction programs of the government if evidence is scarce on what are the causes of crimes in the Philippines? This study aimed to answer said questions. It sought to validate the foreign theories and saw to it that they are applicable in the local setting; if they need to be taught in schools, and if policies and programs can be proposed and implemented in relation to said theories.
The researcher has already conducted a study on the applicability of foreign theories of crime causation in Tarlac before this study. This study, however, is different considering the wider locale which now involves three (3) regions. The questions were deeper and more probing than the previous study also.

The data that were treated as the inputs in this study are the profiles of the participants in terms of sex, age, religion, educational attainment, occupation and crime committed; and the reasons why the participants committed the crimes. Moreover, the reasons for offending whether positive or negative were tested as well as comparison and corroboration of responses were done to determine the strength of the results of this study. The answers provided identified the prevailing reasons for offending. After the data processing, a proposed action plan was drafted and presented to elementary and high schools.
Figure 1. Paradigm of the Study.
Statement of the Problem

The main aim of this study was to look into the applicability of the foreign theories of crime causation in the Philippine setting.

Specifically, it aimed to answer the following questions:

1. What are the demographic profiles of the participants in terms of:
   a. sex;
   b. civil status;
   c. educational attainment;
   d. religion;
   e. occupation; and
   f. crime committed.

2. What are the factors or parameters causing the participants to commit crime?

3. What measures can be suggested to reduce crime using the Rational Choice Theory?
Chapter 2

DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the research design and methodology, population and locale of the study, data gathering tool, data gathering procedure, and treatment of data.

Research Design

The research method used in this study is descriptive. According to Aydin (2019), descriptive research involves the identification of characteristics of a phenomenon or exploring differences among dissimilar phenomena. The descriptive method was used to identify the characteristics of crime as it relates to the foreign theories of crime causation applicable in the Philippines. More specifically, the case study approach was used. According to Walinga and Stangor (n.d.), sometimes the data in a descriptive research project are based on only a small set of individuals, often only one person or a single small group. These research designs are known as case studies – descriptive records of one or more individual’s experiences and behavior.

The case study approach was chosen to better understand the characteristics of the phenomenon, in this
study, crime – in relation to the foreign theories of crime causation. In addition, there was a need for participants to accept their offending without denial. Hence, there were only a limited number of participants. The variables of costs and benefits were indicated to test if they characterize the occurrence of crimes in the Philippines. The researcher used the qualitative approach of data gathering.

**Population and Locale of the Study**

The participants of the study were persons deprived of liberty (PDLs) being reformed and rehabilitated in three (3) jails, namely: Tarlac (Region 3), Nueva Vizcaya (Region 2), and Pangasinan (Region 1). The total populations and samples of the three (3) sets of participants are presented below:

**Table 1.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locale</th>
<th>Population of Convicted Offenders</th>
<th>Sample Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tarlac</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nueva Vizcaya</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pangasinan</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Purposive sampling was used in this study. According to Palinkas, et al. (2016), purposive sampling involves identifying and selecting individuals or groups of individuals that are especially knowledgeable about or experienced with a phenomenon of interest. The PDLs from different jails were chosen because they are the few who can answer with regards to the applicability of the foreign theories of crime causation in the Philippine setting. Six (6) jail institutions were personally visited by the researcher. Not less than 20 jails were communicated with online. Three (3) jail institution, one each from regions 1, 2, and 3 allowed for limited interview and giving of questionnaires.

The following table presents the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the selection of participants:

**Table 2.**

**Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inclusion Criteria</th>
<th>Exclusion Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Convicted of a crime.</td>
<td>1. Unwilling to participate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Agrees with the judgement of conviction.</td>
<td>2. Refusal to sign the informed consent form.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The inclusion criteria list down the requirements before a PDL is chosen to participate. The requirements where he/she must be convicted of a crime and that he/she
agrees to such conviction. The first criterion was required because the researcher deemed it inappropriate for those still undergoing trial to admit to their crimes just to participate in the study. The study investigated the reasons why people chose to commit crimes and those still undergoing trial cannot be presumed to have chosen to commit the crimes because in the first place, they are not yet convicted, hence, they are presumed innocent. The second criterion required was that the PDL should agree with his conviction. This is because if the PDL does not agree, then he/she may not honestly answer the questions about the reasons why he/she committed the crime if in the first place, he/she does not admit the crime.

The exclusion criteria were unwilling to participate and/or refused to sign the informed consent form. Although some PDLs may be convicted and agrees with the judgment against them, there might still be instances when some would not want to participate for any reason. In compliance with ethical considerations, these PDLs were not forced to participate and were excluded in the list of possible participants. The participants were not forced to sign the informed consent form. This is because informed consent is an ethical consideration that must be complied with.
Data Gathering Tools

The main instrument used in this study is the interview guide. According to Lewis-Beck, Bryman and Liao (2004), an interview guide, or aide memoire, is a list of topics, themes, or areas to be covered in a semi-structured interview.

According to Doyle (2019), a semi-structured interview is a meeting in which the interviewer does not strictly follow a formalized list of questions. They will ask more open-ended questions, allowing for a discussion with the interviewee rather than a straightforward question and answer format.

The instrument is divided into three parts, namely: the introduction, the questions and the ending remarks. The introduction consists of the formalities such as greetings, introduction of the researcher, the paper and its purpose and the explanation of the general rules and reminders. The questions consist of the things to be asked to the participant to answer the problems of this research study. The ending remarks consist of the review and finalization of the data gathered and the showing of appreciation by the researcher towards the participants. The items were constructed after much data gathering from other research
studies and related literature. The items were delivered and generally answered verbally. However, participants who opted to answer the questions part in written form were allowed by the researcher.

Data Gathering Procedure

First, letter requests to conduct either face to face, online, phone interview or floating of questionnaires were submitted to the officers concerned (wardens) in the different jails in Tarlac, Nueva Vizcaya, and Pangasinan. Only the online interview and floating of questionnaires were approved by the wardens. The researcher and the officers concerned then set dates for the interviews and floating of questionnaires.

The researcher set an online meeting with the jails which approved online interviews. As to the jails which approved the floating of questionnaires, the researcher was called to leave the questionnaires and fetched them back after they were answered. Once there was saturation, the researcher ended the data gathering and expressed his gratitude to the participants.

The raw data gathered were then coded and analyzed for further presentation. After the presentation, the results were analyzed and interpreted.
After the presentation, analysis and interpretation of data, conclusions and recommendations were made, including ultimately, a proposed action plan.

**Treatment of Data**

Thematic coding and analysis was used in this study. According to Mountain (2019), citing Gibbs (2007), thematic coding is a form of qualitative analysis which involves recording or identifying passages of text or images that are linked by a common theme or idea allowing you to index the text into categories and therefore establish a framework of thematic ideas about it.

According to Given (2008), thematic analysis is a data reduction and analysis strategy by which qualitative data are segmented, categorized, summarized, and reconstructed in a way that captures the important concepts within the data set.

Data was then coded and analyzed to fit the qualitative aspect of the study.

**Ethical Considerations**

With the involvement of human participants in this study, it is but proper to discuss and answer the ethical questions that may come about. According to Research Ethics Training Curriculum for Community Representatives (2004),
there are three (3) universally accepted principles of research ethics and they are: respect for persons, beneficence, and justice. From these three fundamental principles, however, stem a lot more ethical considerations for research studies and they are: anonymity (Research Methodology), citing Bryman & Bell (2017), privacy, and confidentiality (Smith, 2003), (Chase, 2019); voluntary participation (Chase), right to withdraw & review (Standards for Ethical Research Practice, 2018), (Principles of research ethics, n.d.) and informed consent (Smith, Morrow & Ross, 2015); minimization of the risk of harm (Chase), avoidance of deceptive practices (Principles of research ethics) and the declaration of possible conflicts of interest Research Methodology, citing Bryman & Bell); the scientific value and merit of the study (Smith, Morrow & Ross) and the focus on relevant components of the study only (Ethical consideration, n.d.); and the fair or equitable selection of participants (Smith, Morrow & Ross). All of these were answered in this section.

As to privacy and confidentiality of data, only the researcher had access to the raw data. Not even the adviser and panel members were allowed access to the data without written consent from the participants. These raw data will
be locked away for five years and disposed thereafter. No raw data or confidential information was passed to outside organizations during the conduct of the study. The results, however, will be provided to government agencies (local government units) for possible basis in drafting crime prevention and reduction programs or policies which is the hope of this research. To ensure confidentiality of data, it was requested that the interview be done one at a time per participant. On the part of the participants, there safety was ensured considering that the questionnaires were floated physically in the correctional institution while the interview was done online.

Before the actual interview, the study and its objectives were discussed honestly with the participants. An informed consent form was given and explained to the participants. After they agreed to participate voluntarily, they were asked to affix their signatures therein without the need to write their names.

At any time before, during, or after the interview, the participants were given the option to withdraw and refuse to participate. Possible psychological distress was avoided by first establishing rapport between the researcher and the participants. Also, as a criterion, only
those who are already convicted and agreed with their verdict were chosen as participants. The study’s purpose was not to put down, humiliate or strike the conscience of the participants, but to try to investigate and understand why they chose to commit the crime. Contrary to the classical school of thought of criminology, this study did not put the blame on the participants, it is more like the positivist school which looked into the situation objectively and provided possible ‘cures’ towards the crime phenomena. In this connection, the researcher conducted the interview and talked with the participants with utmost sensitivity and respect and ensured that the participants did not feel any discomfort.

After the interview, the data and findings were rechecked by the participants for accuracy and reliability of the results. No financial token was given to the participants, but appreciation was communicated.
Chapter 3

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

This chapter presents, analyzes, and interprets the findings of the study on the applicability of the foreign theories of crime causation in the Philippines.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS

This part shows the profile of the participants in terms of sex, civil status, educational attainment, religion, occupation, and crime committed. It shows the quantitative side of the study and will be presented through pie charts.

![Figure 2. Sex of the Participants]
Out of the seven (7) participants, six (6) are males. There is one (1) female participant in this study.

This means that most convicted offenders or persons deprived of liberty (PDL) are males. Furthermore, it means that more males commit crimes than females. This is in line with many studies such as the one made by researchers from the University of Pennsylvania which also cited the “lower resting heart rate” as the reason why more males commit crimes than females (Ordway, 2017). In 2017, 25% of the offenders in Canada were females (Savage, 2019). In 2014, 73% of the arrested individuals in the United States were males. In the same year and setting, 93% of the convicted offenders were males (Kang, n.d.).

This prevalence of males as convicted offenders was considered in the drafting of the proposed policy. Males are more prone to criminality than females.

The next figure presents the civil status of the participants, whether married or not.
Out of the seven (7) participants, three (3) are single while four (4) are married.

This means that being married does not lead one away from crime. Marriage leads to desistance to crime citing the life course theory. Law Aspect (n.d.) defines life course theory as a perspective that focuses on the development of antisocial behavior, risk factors at different ages, and the effect of life events on individual development. Aside from looking into the development of criminal behavior, this theory also investigates the possible reasons or factors why one shies away from crime. One example of this factor is marriage. Another theory that supports the notion that marriage reduces crime is the social control or social bond theory. According to Hirschi’s social bond or control theory, crimes will indeed happen, unless there is something (e.g. a relationship)
that will hold one back against crime (All Answers Limited, 2018). According to Ketchell (2011), self-control is the key towards avoiding crime. Marriage is one phenomenon that encourages self-control. Marriage brings new expectations, standards of behavior and opportunities for self-regulation.

Much like other studies, this result is somewhat indecisive which may be due to the limited number of available participants. Studies looking into the relationship of marriage to offending or non-offending yielded different results. Andersen, Andersen, & Skov (2015) showed that marriage reduced recidivism as compared to non-marriage provided the spouses involved do not have criminal records. On a limited degree, Bersani & DiPietro (2015) showed in their study that marriage and desistance to crime have a connection. Majority of the findings do not relate marriage to desistance to crime directly. Studies show that what causes the desistance is the process leading to marriage, not the marriage itself (Lyngstad & Skardhamar, 2011).

Marriage has no direct connection with crime or desistance to crime. After civil status, the next chart is the educational attainment.
This shows that low educational attainment (in the Philippines, not finishing college) relates to crime. This finding is in line with several books and studies. According to Lochner (2020), education has crime-reducing impacts. Machin, Costa, and Bell (2018) stated that many findings already prove that education lowers criminality. Using Census and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) data, Lochner & Moretti (2004) provides that schooling reduces the probability of arrest and imprisonment.

Low education is a factor in the commission of crimes. Next in the demographic profile is the religion.
All the participants conform to some form of religion, predominant of which are membership to the Iglesia ni Cristo and Roman Catholicism.

The diversity in religion of the participants show that religion is not a factor in involvement in crimes. As to related studies, there is also diversity, or conflicting views whether religion is really a factor to consider in crimes or not. Johnson and Schroeder (2014) stated that religion and crime are independent from each other. They however admit that there are various studies that show the “robust” and “inverse” relationship between religion and
crime. Simpson and Brownfield (2020) cited several studies to also show the conflicting views as to the relation of religion towards crime. The aforementioned researchers cited Middleton and Fay who concluded that religion causes crime and delinquency. Kvaraceus (1944) contradicted this, saying that religion had no effect on crime (Simpson & Brownfield). Other known criminologists such as Sutherland and Cressey agreed that the relationship of religion and crime is not yet established (Simpson & Brownfield). Hirschi & Stark (1969) also reported that there was no relation between religiosity and crime and delinquency (Jang, 2019). Just like Simpson and Brownfield, Jang cited different studies showing that there is indeed a relationship between crime and religion. The findings from aforementioned studies also support the social bond or control theory which considers the church or religion as one of the bonds that needs to be maintained and strengthened to stay away from crime. To sum up, Salvatore and Rubin (2018) suggest that further studies should be done in order to clearly show the relationship of religion and crime.
Religion has no direct connection with crime desistance or control. The next chart shows the occupation of the participants.

Figure 6. Occupation

There is no highest nor lowest number of participants considering that each profession present in the study is represented by exactly one participant. The three occupations though (farmer, gardener, and poultry
caretaker) can be grouped as occupations relating to agriculture.

This result means that crime can be committed by anyone, whatever the occupation, even if one does not have an occupation. There can be however, an interpretation that most of the occupations mentioned are low-paying or unstable jobs. According to Lageson and Uggen (2013) both the public and policy-makers know that there is indeed a relationship between employment and crime. It differs, however, based on the stages of life (i.e., whether in adolescence or adulthood). Theories such as rational choice and economic theories suggest that better-paying jobs decrease the motivation to commit crime (Lageson & Uggen). Crutchfield and Pitchford (1997) support this by stating that those with unstable jobs are more likely to commit crimes than those with stable jobs. Citing Beirne (1987), Criminal Justice (n.d.) stated that those unemployed or employed in low-paying occupations are more likely to commit crimes. Other theories that came about in various studies aside from the rational choice, social bond or control and life course theory are differential association theory which posits that criminal behavior is learned; and
strain theory which points the cause of crime because of the failure to achieve personal goals in legitimate means.

The last part of the demographic profile of the participants is the crime committed by each participant. The chart below shows the idea.

![Figure 7. Crime Committed](image)

Out of the seven (7) participants, two (2) were convicted of rape, one (1) was convicted of gambling, two (2) were convicted of drug-related offenses, one (1) was convicted of qualified theft, and one (1) was convicted of frustrated homicide. Twenty-nine percent (29%) comprised of participants who have committed rape, 14% comprised of a participant who committed gambling, and another 29% is comprised of participants who have committed drug-related
offenses. The participant who committed qualified theft and frustrated homicide comprised each of the remaining two (2) 14% for a total of 100% of the participants.

Rape and drug use represented the most common crimes committed by the participants, although the other crimes committed include gambling, qualified theft, and frustrated homicide.

This means that there is a variety in the crimes committed. It can be inferred though that the main groups of crimes committed are crimes against persons (rape and frustrated homicide) and crimes related to finances (gambling, qualified theft, and drugs dealing). According to the Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC) of the United States Department of State (2020), the most common crime in our country is theft and assault. This is supported by Philippine National Police’s (PNP’s) Directorate for Investigation and Detective Management Report (January to May 2018) that indeed, theft, robbery and physical injuries are the top crimes in the country. Hays (2015) also explained that theft is the number one crime in the Philippines because of cash economy of the country. Shootings are also prevalent according to Hays. Caliwan (2019) also reported the eight common crimes in the
Philippines all falling under crimes against persons and property. Though theft might not be the most common crime in this study, still, there is similarity in a sense that crimes against persons and crimes against property or financial crimes came about as the actual groupings of crimes committed by the participants. Crime against persons and acquisitive crimes are the most common or prevalent crimes.

**FACTORS OR PARAMETERS CAUSING THE PARTICIPANTS TO CHOOSE TO COMMIT CRIME**

This part shows the reasons why the participants chose to commit the crimes they have committed, the contributing factors, thoughts before the crime, costs, risks, consequences, benefits, gains and outcome. By knowing these, one can see the applicability of the foreign theories of crime causation in the Philippines. This part shows the qualitative side of the study through the themes that emerged. The data were gathered through interviews and administration of open-ended questionnaires. Codes were taken from the answers of the participants, then clustered into sub-themes and generalized into the themes. Said codes and sub-themes are attached in the appendices.
Influences

This study shows that the crimes committed by the participants are all influenced by certain factors. Two (2) participants or 29% were under the influence of alcohol when they committed the crime, three (3) participants or 43% were influenced by their friends towards the commission of crime, one (1) participant or 14% was influenced by his emotion (i.e. anger), and the last one (1) participant or 14% was influenced by his survival instinct.

When asked why he committed the crime and what was his main reason, the Participant A answered:

“Kalasingan po Sir. (Intoxication Sir.)”

In the above statement, the participant blames intoxication as the reason why he committed the crime. In said statement, the rationality cannot be seen considering that according to the participant, he was unaware of his actions during the commission of the crime.

Answering the same question, Participant D stated:

“Nagawa ko po yung krimen dahil lang po sa pakikiisa ko sa mga kaibigan. (I committed the crime just because of my solidarity with friends.)”

In the above statement, peer influence or influence from friends can be seen. This may mean that in order to
belong to the group of friends, the participant chose to commit the crime.

Answering the same question, Participant E stated: “Galit, madalas kapag tayo ay nadadala sa ating emosyon nakakagawa tayo ng mga desisyon labag sa ating kalooban.” ("Anger, often when we are driven by our emotions we make decisions against our will.")

In the above statement, the decision or choice is clear from the words of the participant himself. Though the reason in the statement is anger, a decision was made, even if regretted later.

The most prevalent influence as to crime is the influence from friends. This is followed by the substance influence. The least prevalent influence is emotion and survival instinct.

This means that peer influence is the most common reason why people commit crimes. This is supported by the social learning theory which states that the motivation and skills to commit crime is developed through the people one is associated with (Briggs, n.d.). Majority of studies and articles also point to peer influence or process as a cause of crime although majority of the population being studied in these researches are for juvenile delinquents or the
Esiri (2016) explains that although peer pressure is mostly present in adolescents, it still has an influence in adult criminal behavior. This is caused by rejection (e.g. from family) and acceptance by peer groups can lead the person or child to find belongingness and give in or imitate the behavior of his peers whether legal or illegal. Rokven et al. (2016) proved in their study that living with delinquent friends increase one’s tendency towards offending. Crime prevention strategies against peer pressure are mentoring, peer influence intervention and development of attachment to positive groups (Sullivan & Jolliffe, 2012).

Peer influence was the main reason why the participants committed the crime.

**Crime is situational**

This study shows that the factors contributory to crime are different and varied depending on the situation. Two (2) participants or 29% cited no other reason why they committed the crime; three (3) participants or 43% cited financial reasons or hardships as the reason why they committed the crime; and the remaining two (2) participants or 29% were situational (i.e., revenge and self-defense).
When asked about other factors why he committed the crime, Participant A answered:

“Wala na po. (No more.)”

In the above statement, the participants cited no other reason aside from the one he previously answered as the sole cause or determining factor for his commission of the crime. This shows that the factors of crime are indeed situational. There are instances where there are multiple factors contributing to the commission of the crime but there are also instances where there is only one reason and no other contributory factor considered in the commission of the crime just like in the above case. Factors of crime that are either present or absent on a case-to-case basis.

Asked the same question, Participant C answered:

“Kaya ko po nagawa yung krimen ng dahil sa gusto kong magkaroon ng pera. (I committed the crime because I wanted to have money.)”

In the above statement, it can be seen that aside from the reasons mentioned earlier, financial gain is also a factor in the commission of crime. This shows that crimes may emerge in situations where one is experiencing financial hardships.

Asked the same question, Participant F answered:
“Wala ng ibang dahilan pinagtanggol ko lang ang sarili ko. (There was no other reason I just defended myself.)”

In the above statement, it can be seen that crime is indeed situational. Aside from having no other reasons, and experiencing financial hardships, an instance or situation may arise where one must defend himself in order to survive but being unable to prove the justifying circumstance, said person will be convicted of a crime.

The more common situation in the Philippines is the experiencing of financial hardships considering that we are still a developing country (Briones, n.d.). There are, however, conflicting views about whether or not financial hardship or poverty causes crime. Some even say that the roles are reversed in that crime causes poverty. One thing is sure though, and that is crime and financial hardship or poverty is related. A theory that can somehow show this is the strain theory. In strain theory, because of the lack of skills or opportunities (financial strain), one is experiencing, he or she resorts to crime to achieve the personal goals that he or she has put upon himself or herself (Briggs, n.d.). As to articles and studies, the United Nations (2012) states that economic crises causes a
rise in the occurrence of crimes. Probably so because of the hardship that everyone is experiencing. According to Berrebi (2011), poverty causes crimes like violence and drug use. These two crimes are also present in this study as crimes committed by the participants. Samenow (2014) acknowledges that researchers and public officials consider poverty or financial hardship as the root cause or at least a risk factor in relation to crimes. Considering that crime is situational, the strategy should also be situational. Welsh and Farrington (2012) provides Situational prevention refers to interventions designed to prevent the occurrence of crimes by reducing opportunities and increasing the risk and difficulty of offending. Opportunity reduction may be achieved through more constant patrolling while increasing the risk can only be accomplished by legislation of higher penalties.

Crime happens because of the different situations the participants are involved in such as financial hardship and dangerous circumstances.

**Crime is spontaneous**

This study shows that crime is more spontaneous than it is planned. One (1) participant or 14% cannot explain how the reasons and factors related to his decision to
commit the crime; three (3) of the participants or 43% did not think about, plan or decide to commit the crime; two (2) of the participants or 29% refused to answer; and the other one (1) or 14% related his anger towards the decision to commit the crime.

When asked how said reasons and factors contributed to the decision to commit the crime, Participant B answered:

“Di ko po alam. Wala sa isip ko. (I do not know. It was not on my mind.)”

In the above statement, it can be seen that indeed the crime was spontaneous. The participant was not able to think about the reason or factor for the commission of crime. There was only the urge to commit the crime.

When asked the same question, Participant E answered:

“Wala namang taong likas na masama at nais lamang gumawa ng masama dahil sa galit ay nagawa kong kunin yung bagay na alam kong mahalaga sa kanya. (No one is naturally evil and just wants to do evil because in anger I was able to take the thing I knew was important to him.)”

In the above statement, it can be seen that the participant is trying to generalize that no one is
inherently bad or evil. The want or decision to commit the crime came about because of the anger he felt during that time.

When asked the same question, Participant F answered:

“Hindi pinagplanuhan ang nagawa kong krimen kaya hindi ko masasabing itoy napagdesisyunan ko ng maayos. (The crime I committed was not planned so I cannot say that it was decided well.)”

In the above statement, it is clearly shown from the words of the participant himself that the crime he has committed was unplanned. He did not decide to commit the crime, it was spontaneous on his part.

This means that in a direct question of whether or not the participants decided to commit the crime, the answer was no. There are, however, further themes that came about this study which may contradict this initial answer of the participants. Obviously, this result contradicts the rational choice theory which states that crime is chosen after weighing the risk and benefits. It basically says that the rational choice theory is not applicable in the Philippine setting. Ganti (2020) cites many researchers in support of this finding that offenders do not always think
rationally before committing the crime. He cited Simms in saying that when people feel anxious, they fail to decide rationally. There is also another theory of bounded rationality by Simon which posits that people sometimes decide badly because of limited information (Ganti). Ogu (2013) supports this theory in his study by stating that limited information and uncertainty may lead people to decide on other ways. Crimes that are spontaneous are hard, if not impossible, to prevent. What can be done is to organize community watches in order for quick responses to be achieved in the reporting of crimes and the apprehension of offenders.

The participants committed crime at the heat of the moment.

**Anything for Survival (Even Crime)**

This study shows that anyone will do anything in order to survive – even if it means committing crimes. Two (2) participants or 29% cannot recall what they were thinking before the commission of the crime; two (2) or 29% of the participants thought about money before the commission of crime; one (1) or 14% of the participants thought about anger and getting away; one (1) or 14% of the participants thought about self-defense; and the last one
(1) or 14% of the participants did not think about anything before committing the crime.

When asked what he thought about before committing the crime, Participant C answered:

“Naisip ko para po magkaroon ng pera kasi wala po. (I thought of having money because I did not have any.)”

The above statement does not only support the theme in this section but a previous one as well. The statement shows that because of lack of money or inadequate finances, the participant turned to a life of crime.

In answering the same question, Participant E said:

“Wala akong ibang naisip noon kundi GALIT at pagnanais na lumayo. (I had no other thought before but ANGER and the desire to get away.)”

In the above statement, it can be seen that aside from the recurring anger or revenge in the answer of one of the participants, there is also a want or need to get away. That is to get away for one’s safety as mentioned in the preceding excerpts.

In answering the same question, Participant F said:

“Ang nasa isip ko ng mga sandaling iyon ay ipagtanggol at protektahan ang sarili. (What I had in mind during those moments was to defend and protect myself.)”
The above statement, together with the 2 preceding statements, show that indeed, sometimes, participants chose to commit crime because they needed to do it in order to survive. They stole or sold drugs to make money in order to survive, or run away and defend themselves in order to live. As good as their intentions are, still they violated the laws, hence they were convicted.

This means that though the first themes may not show much consideration before committing the crime, this theme showed that there is a reason why people commit crime and that is to survive. The question on whether they decided to commit the crime before doing it will be answered in the next themes. Giaritelli (2020) talking about the effects of coronavirus, cited personalities saying that indeed, crimes especially property crimes, will increase because of the need for the people to survive during the pandemic. Giaritelli quoted Troxell, a spokesperson from a country sheriff’s office, that they are expecting a rise in property related crimes because of the financial crisis brought about by the pandemic. Crime committed in order to survive can be lessened or prevented by providing the means of survival for the would-be offenders. If their reasons are financial crisis, then economic opportunities and
financial literacy can be solutions. Though not necessarily or directly crime prevention programs or strategies, they can be used to lessen crimes and improve the overall condition of a community which will again, lessen crimes. The participants of this study committed the crimes because they felt the need to or in order to survive. They knew the cost and consequences of committing crimes, one of which is imprisonment that will lead them to isolation or being away from their families and loved ones. The participants did not look into crime as beneficial but as a need or a necessity where they saw a possible gain in committing it. And, they knew that their actions or crimes will bring pain not only to themselves but for others.

This study shows that there are numerous factors why people commit crimes. Rational choice and differential association theory emerged as the most applicable foreign theories in the Philippine setting. This study may be taken as basis for development of crime prevention strategies against the main factor of peer influence. By using the results of this study in developing crime prevention strategies and programs, it is hoped that crime may be lessened not only in the concerned region but in the entire Philippines.
The participants committed the crime because they felt the need to or in order to survive.

**Imprisonment: The Cost of Crime**

This study shows that indeed people, offenders, and would-be offenders know the cost of crime and that is imprisonment. All of the seven (7) or 100% of the participants knew that the cost for their actions or crimes is incarceration or imprisonment.

When asked on what costs did he thought about committing the crime, Participant D answered:

“Maaari po akong makulong. (I can be imprisoned.)”

The above statement clearly shows that the participant thought about the possibility of being imprisoned as the cost of his crime. Despite thinking about the possible cost, he still committed the crime.

Answering the same question, Participant E stated:

“Oo naman alam kong maaari akong sampahan ng kaso at mapiit sa bilangguan. (Of course, I know I can be charged and jailed.)”

In the above statement, the participant knew the possibility of being charged and jailed. Nonetheless, the participant still committed the crime.

Answering the same question, Participant C stated:
“Makukulong po ako. (I will be imprisoned.)”

The above statement shows sureness. The participant knew that indeed he will be imprisoned, not just a mere possibility. Still, even knowing that he will be imprisoned, the participant continued on and committed the crime.

That means that indeed, offenders or would-be offenders know the cost of crime but still, they commit it. This is supported by the rational choice theory which is one of the theories being studied in this research. The RCT posits that individuals weigh the pros and cons before deciding a course of action – in this case, whether or not to commit crime (Udemy Editor, 2020). According to Macmillan (2020), there are so-called offender-related costs which can range from time or lost time because of imprisonment and injuries brought about by the victims. These are in line with the findings of this study. In the above excerpts, we can see that indeed, the participants knew about one of the cons or the cost of crime which is imprisonment, but they still committed it. From this, the participants or offenders were willing to take the risk of being imprisoned in order to survive. There might even be a miscalculation on their part that the possibility of being
caught was slim. Being imprisoned, it shows that their calculations were wrong. Thus, if being imprisoned no longer deter offenders, then rehabilitation and reformation must really be implemented well so as to prevent re-offending. The general deterrence can be tinkered that it can be transformed into general inspiration. That is, once an offender is convicted and rehabilitated well, it may inspire offenders or would-be offenders to stay away from crime knowing that it is not too late.

The participants knew about the cost of committing a crime which is imprisonment.

**Hazards to the Individual**

This study shows that the risks thought about by the participants before the commission of the crime are risks for or against themselves. All of the seven (7) participants or 100% were worried or anxious before the commission of the crime. Two (2) or 29% of the participants thought about the risk of confinement; and another two (2) or 29% of the participants thought about retaliation, and possible injury or death as a risk for the commission of the crime.

When asked on what were the risks he thought about before the commission of the crime, Participant A answered:
“Napanunot nga delikado, panagkakulong, ngem nakainom isu nga naaramid latta. (Thought it was dangerous, might be imprisoned, but I was drunk so I did it anyway.)”

The above statement shows that the participant was aware of the possible risk to himself (confinement) if he pushes through with the commission of the crime. As admitted though, even with the risk in mind, the participant went and committed the crime.

Answering the same question, Participant F stated:

“Maaaring ikapahamak ko din ang nagawa ko pero kung hindi ko naipagtanggol ang sarili ko maaaring ako ang nasaktan o ako ang namatay. (I may be put in danger for what I did but if I did not defend myself, I might have been hurt or I might have died.)”

The above statement shows that the participant knows that his action will bring him to danger. However, the participant chose his life over another. That was the decision he came up with on the spot (during the crime).

Answering the same question, Participant E stated:

“Oo naman, una dahil hindi ako tunay na tiga Pangasinan maaari n’ya akong gawan ng masama lalo na at nasa balwarte ako ng kanyang pamilya. (Of course, first, because I am not really from Pangasinan, he can do bad
things to me especially because I am in his family's stronghold.)"

The above statement shows the participant’s fear of the risks he might encounter after the crime. He thought about the possible retaliation and harm to himself after he commits the crime. The participant however, despite of these risks still pushed through with the crime for some reason.

This means that there are risks that offenders consider before committing the crime. These risks are however, overpowered by some other reason and that is why offenders push through with their crimes. This result supports the thesis that indeed rational choice theory is applicable. Although there are risks, an overpowering reason or factor which may be a benefit or gain still emerges. Viscusi (1986) supports the findings of this study. The risks Viscusi found in his study are arrest, conviction and prison which amounts from half to two-thirds of the answers of the participants. The same with the strategy mentioned earlier. If the harm that is to be caused to the offender no longer deters him from further committing the crime, then other strategies must be implemented. Non-institutional corrections can be more
appropriate in instances applicable. By reforming and rehabilitating offenders well, it would follow that crimes or repeat offenses will be lessened.

**Isolation**

The study shows that the consequence of the crimes thought about by the participants is isolation. Isolation is different from imprisonment which is literal. Isolation may mean other things such as separation from family and loved ones. One (1) or 14% of the participants refused to answer; another one (1) or 14% did not think about any possible consequence before committing the crime; four (4) or 57% of the participants thought of imprisonment as the consequence of their crimes before committing them, two (2) or 29% also thought about their possible separation from family and loved ones; and the last one (1) or 14% thought about the consequence of ruining others’ lives in the crime he committed.

When asked on what consequences the participant thought about before the commission of the crime, Participant E answered:

“Naisip ko rin na maaari nga akong makulong pero talagang galit ka kasi nawawalan ka na ng kakayahang mag-isip ayon sa lohika. (I also thought that I could be
imprisoned but when you are really angry you lose the ability to think logically.)”

In the above statement, it can be seen that the participant has thought about the possible consequences of his actions. Nonetheless, his anger prevailed over his reasoning, hence, the commission of the crime.

Answering the same question, Participant G stated:

“Ang mawalay sa pamilya, pagkakulong ng habang buhay. (Separation from family, imprisonment for life.)”

In the above statement, it can be seen that the consequences thought about by the offender before committing the crime was separation from his family and life imprisonment. Despite this, the offender still committed the crime. Did he have a choice? Yes. It was either an isolated life or the end of his life.

Answering the same question, Participant C stated:

“Naisip ko po na makukulong ako sa ginawa kong pagsusugal. (I thought I would be imprisoned for my gambling.)”

In the above statement, it can be seen that the participant thought about the consequence of being imprisoned. Still, he committed the crime, probably hoping
that he will not be caught. His need for money outweighed his awareness on the punishment of his crime.

This means that the ultimate consequence thought about by offenders is the isolation or lonely life brought about by imprisonment and separation from one’s family and loved ones. However, there were still various reasons why offenders still commit crimes, and this is still in furtherance of the applicability of the rational choice theory in the Philippine setting. According to Okabe & Haushalter (2018), aside from imprisonment, fines and probation may be consequences of a crime. Fines and probation probably did not come out from this study considering its lesser impact on an individual’s life as compared to imprisonment. There are instances when punishment or imprisonment does not deter would-be offenders because they believe that they will not be caught. Hence, a crime prevention strategy to combat this is one that would ensure apprehension of offenders once they commit a crime. Certainty of punishment is a better deterrent than harsher punishments (Five Things About Deterrence, 2016). Creation of neighborhood or community watches, use of high definition closed-circuit television
and the like can be used to ensure that offenders are caught once they commit a crime.

Being isolated or away from their families and loved ones were the consequences thought about by the participants in committing the crime.

**Crime not beneficial, but for survival**

This study shows that the participants did not see much benefit in committing the crime. It was, however, needed in order for them and their families to survive. Three (3) or 43% of the participants did not see any benefit for the commission of the crimes; one (1) or 14% of the participants thought about money as a possible benefit for the commission of crime; another one (1) or 14% of the participants did not think about benefits before the commission of the crime; and two (2) or 29% thought about survival, one for himself and one for his family.

When asked on what benefits the participants can get in the commission of crime, Participant B answered:

“*Wala po. (None.*)”*

The above statement shows that one of the participants saw no benefit at all in the commission of the crime. However, the participant still pushed through with his actions.
Answering the same question, Participant F stated:

“Buhay ako ngayon at yun ang naiisip kong naging benepisyo ng nagawa ko. (I am alive now and that is what I think was the benefit of what I did.)”

The above statement shows that one of the participants saw himself being alive as the benefit in the crime he has committed. If it were not for him defending himself, he would have died. That was the choice he made – his life over another.

Answering the same question, Participant G stated:

“Naisip ko po na akala ko mabuhay ko na pamilya ko. (I thought that I could already provide for my family.)”

In the above statement, it can be seen that one of the participants committed the crime in order to help his family survive, albeit, on an illegal manner. This shows that the crime was done for survival.

It can be seen that although some view no benefit to crime, sometimes, people resort to crime in order to survive. Trueman (2015) cited the pleasure principle as one of the reasons why people commit crime. Trueman explained that people are in constant search of pleasure whether it be food, sex or survival, and they want it quick. Hence,
people may turn to crime because it is the easiest way to survive. Marxism also agrees with this result that people turn to crime in order to survive. Just like in the earlier result, if crime is done in order to survive, policies and programs should be in place to ensure survival of would-be offenders without resorting to crime. Livelihood education projects can be used to hopefully lessen crimes.

The participants did not look into crime as beneficial but as a need or necessity.

**Crime pays**

This study shows that there is a possible gain in crime and that is money or financial gain. Three (3) or 43% of the participants did not see any gain from the commission of the crime; one (1) or 14% saw the satisfaction of revenge as the gain for the commission of the crime; and the other three (3) or 43% of the participants viewed money as a possible gain in the commission of the crime.

When asked on what he thought were possible gains in the commission of crime, Participant C answered:

“Maraming pera. (Lots of money.)”

In the above statement, it can be seen that one of the participants saw money as the gain in the commission of
crime. The participant decided to commit the crime because of the high reward he thought it might give him.

Asked the same question, Participant G stated:

“Magkapera. (Make money.)”

The above statement shows another participant seeing money as a possible gain in the commission of the crime. It was the gain that he considered before committing the crime.

This means that indeed, offenders, especially those who commit property or financial crimes and even drug trafficking, see money in criminality. Choosing to commit crime for a possible reward of money despite the possibility of imprisonment furthers the applicability of the economic theories and rational choice theory in the Philippines. Other theories in relation to gain are self-control and opportunity theory. According to the Law Aspect website (n.d.), the primary causes of crime in relation to these theories are greed and the immediate want for pleasure, profit, or gain. In instances when would-be offenders see that crime pays more than it punishes, it would make sense to give higher penalties. Considering though that such is not effective, the certainty of the arrest is more suggested. Same as mentioned earlier,
neighborhood watches, police contact numbers and the like should be made known to all citizens for quicker discovery of crimes and in turn, there will be a quicker response time and assurance of the offender’s apprehension.

The participants saw possible gain in the commission of crime.

**Bad outcomes for everyone**

This study shows that aside from the disadvantages of crime to offenders (as perceived by them), there are also bad outcomes to the victims, and other persons. Six (6) or 86% of the participants thought that their actions will lead to bad outcomes. Out of the six (6) participants, two (2) of them thought of incarceration as the outcome while another two (2) thought about negatively affecting other people’s lives.

When asked on what outcomes he thought about before committing the crime, Participant D answered:

“*Masama dahil nakakasira ng buhay ng tao.* (Evil because it destroys human life.)”

In the above statement, one of the participants admits that he knows his actions can destroy other people’s lives. Despite this, the participant still chose to commit the crime for the rewards or gains.
As asked the same question, Participant E answered:

"Naisip ko ng maaari akong makulong, na di nga nagtagal ay nangyari dahil sa mga desisyon kong hindi pinag-isipang mabuti. (I thought I might be incarcerated, which soon happened because of my poorly thought out decisions.)"

In the above statement, one of the participants knew that there is a possibility of imprisonment which really happened. The participant also admits coming to a decision that was not well thought of. Hence, the result was incarceration.

Such finding shows that although bad outcomes were to happen to the offender, victim, and the people around them, offenders still chose to commit crime either because of the higher rewards or lower possibility of getting caught, spontaneity of anger, for self-defense, or because of certain situations such as intoxication. Nonetheless, the results clearly show that although the participants directly denied having thought about and decided to commit the crime, further questions revealed that they knew about the pros and cons of their actions. They wrongfully chose to be optimistic about the result or considered their actions as necessary in the situation. There were also
instances when they were incapable of deciding properly because of certain influences or because of the anxiety of the moment. Nonetheless, these results show that indeed rational choice theory applies in the Philippine setting.

Other theories also emerged in this study such as life course, social bond or control, self-control, differential association theory, and others. The University of Sheffield (n.d.) cited possible effects to victims which agrees with the results of this study showing the bad outcomes for victims. Possible effects are costs, injuries, and psychological effects including possible post-traumatic stress order. This is also supported by Shapland and Hall (2007) stating that the possible outcomes or effects of crime on the victims are financial, emotional, and even PTSD. As to the outcome for the offender, Victoria Legal Aid (n.d.) agrees with the result of this study that the possible outcome, which should now be considered as probable outcome, is imprisonment or incarceration. Again, even in the presence of negative outcomes, the offenders still pursued the crime because they were deceived by the thought of having that slight chance of being not caught. Crime prevention strategies that would ensure certainty of arrest are therefore suggested here. Police community
relations must be improved in order for the community to participate well in the fight against crime.

The participants knew that their actions or crimes will bring pain not only to themselves but for others.

In summary, the findings of this study have proven that offenders in the Philippines think of the pros and cons, the risks and benefits, and the consequences and gains before committing the crime. This shows the applicability of the rational choice and other theories of crime causation in the Philippine setting.
Chapter 4

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter presents the conclusions and recommendations of this research.

Conclusions

Based on the findings of the study, the researcher arrived at the following conclusions:

1. The social upbringing of males makes them more prone to criminality than females especially in terms of violent or personal crimes. Education is also an important factor on whether or not a person will turn to criminality, that is, generally, one with a higher degree of education is less likely to commit crime than those with lower degree of education.

2. People commit crimes because they are influenced by other people they interact with and consider it as important part of their lives. They make rational calculations and see that they might get away with crime, hence, the need to educate them that the criminal justice system is unrelenting.
Recommendations

Based on the conclusions of this study, the research recommends the following:

1. The results of this study will be shared in a community outreach program in elementary and high schools to inform both students and teachers on the reasons why people commit crimes and the factors related to criminality. Focus on crime prevention against personal and property crimes will be discussed and the reasons why males and those with low education are more prone to criminal life. Tips on choosing good peer groups and financial management will also be included. Lastly, the consequences of crime will be discussed.

2. Other research on other theories of crime causation and their applicability in the local setting and in crime prevention or reduction is encouraged.
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Appendix A

INTERVIEW GUIDE QUESTIONS

1. Greetings and Introduction of the Researcher
2. Introduction of the Research and its Purpose
3. General Rules and Reminders
4. Preliminary and Engaging Questions or Topics:
   a. Introduction from participants (Civil Status; Education attainment; Religion; Occupation; and Crime Committed); and
   b. Validation of amenability with judgment.
5. Key and Probing Questions:
   a. Why did you commit the crime?
      1. What are the other factors that contributed to the commission of the crime?
      2. How did these factors contributed to the commission of the crime?
   b. What did you think about before committing the crime?
      2. What were the costs you thought about before committing the crime?
      3. What were the risks you thought about before committing the crime?
4. What were the consequences you thought about before committing the crime?

5. What were the benefits you thought about before committing the crime?

6. What were the gains you thought about before committing the crime?

7. What was the outcome you thought about before committing the crime?

6. Ending Remarks

   a. Additional information or missed topic or issue

   b. Appreciation
Appendix B
Letter to Wardens

University of the Cordilleras
Baguio City
College of Criminal Justice Education-Graduate School

(Date)

(Name of Warden)
(Jail)
(Address)

Greetings!

I am currently taking up Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice Education Major in Criminology (Ph D CJE) at University of the Cordilleras and studying the subject or course "Dissertation Writing 2." The main requirement of the course is to conduct a research study on a criminological topic. The title of my study, as approved by the panel, is "Understanding Criminological Theories As A Tool For Crime Prevention." It is a study that investigates whether the theory which states that crime is a choice is applicable in our country. It will be conducted in regions 1, 2, & 3, including at least one (1) jail institution from each region. After looking into the applicability of the theory, the researcher will provide recommendations based on the answers of the participants.

In this connection, but still in consideration of the pandemic, may I have the permission to conduct a semi-structured interview with the persons deprived of liberty (PDLs) through either of the following means:

1. Face-to-face interview;
2. Phone interview;
3. Online interview;
4. Written interview.

As part of the criteria in selecting the participants, only those who are already convicted and agree with their conviction can participate. This is to ensure that no one is forced to participate in this study. Proposed schedule is on (proposed date) from 9 o’clock in the morning onwards, or upon the availability of the participants. If approved, this will be of great help to the researcher, the criminology profession, and the community.

Thank you very much and hoping for your favorable response.

Very truly yours,

RICARDO S MARIANO
PhD Candidate-09171247223
Appendix C
Letter to Participants

Kaibigan,

Ako si Ricardo Mariano, kumukuha ng kursong Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice sa University of the Cordilleras. Ako ay kasalukuyang gumagawa ng isang pagsaaral na may pamagat na “Understanding Criminological Theories As A Tool For Crime Prevention” Ang layunin ng pagsaaral na ito ay upang tignan kung totoo nga bang ang paggawa ng krimen ay desisyon o pinipili ng tao.

Kaugnay nito, ako ay humihingi ng tulong sa pamamagitan ng tapat na pagsagot sa mga katanungang aking ibabato. Ang iyong mga sagot at katauhan ay magiging pribado at ito'y magagamit lamang sap ag-aaral na ito.

Ako ay nagpapasalamat sa iyong pagtulong at dasal kong gabayan ka ng Diyos at ang iyong mga mahal sa buhay.

Lubos na gumagalang,

Ricardo S Mariano
Appendix D

INFORMED CONSENT FORM / AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH STUDY

PURPOSE
I agree to participate in this study entitled “Applicability of the Rational Choice Theory in the Philippines.” I understand that the purpose of this study is to investigate the reason why people chose to commit crime and by providing truthful answers, the researcher may recommend measures to possibly prevent or reduce future crimes.

PROCEDURE
I understand that this study will be conducted either through face-to-face, phone, online or written interview as approved by the jail institution in compliance with the health protocols during this pandemic.

POTENTIAL RISKS AND BENEFITS
I know and understand that I might experience some discomfort in sharing my life story and experience, but I know that by sharing my thoughts, there is a chance that the community will be better. Aside from this discomfort, I do not see any other harm that may arise from participating in this interview.

RIGHT TO WITHDRAW & REVIEW
I understand that my participation in this study is voluntary and at any time, I can refuse to further participate or answer questions I am not comfortable with. I will also be reviewed of my answers before the end of the interview to ensure accuracy of the data.

AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION
I understand that data to be gathered in this study will only be used for research purposes. I know that the raw data will only be available to the researcher and no one else. When it comes to the information produced, findings or results, concerned government bodies may have access.

CONFIDENTIALITY
I know and understand that my real identity will not be revealed anywhere in this study. For this purpose, I will only be called by my preferred pseudonym so that any data gathered herein cannot be associated to me during and even after the study.

PAYMENT
I know and understand that I will not be paid for my time, participation and possible inconvenience brought about by this study.

This form tells you what will happen during and after the study if you choose to participate. By signing here, you declare that the form was discussed to you, your questions have been answered and that you are willing to participate.

This is not a contract. By signing here, you are not waiving any rights. This is merely an informed consent form to show that you voluntary participate in this study discussed to you. You will be given a copy of this form to serve as your record.

______________________________
Signature of Participant and Date

______________________________
Signature of Researcher and Date
# Appendix E

## PROPOSED ACTION PLAN FOR CRIME REDUCTION

### Community Outreach Program for Elementary and Highschool Students and Teachers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Person Involved</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tr>
<td>To orient the community on Criminology and its Significance</td>
<td>(Recorded/Streamed) Discussion of Criminology and its Significance</td>
<td>May 24, 2021 (4:00PM-5:00PM)</td>
<td>Panel Member and Attendees/Viewers</td>
<td>Virtual/Elementary &amp; High schools in Baguio/Benguet, Tarlac, Nueva Vizcaya, and Pangasinan; Tarlac State University; &amp; United School of Science and Technology.</td>
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<tr>
<td>To make known to the attendees the reasons why people commit crime and factors related to criminality</td>
<td>(Recorded/Streamed) Presentation of the Dissertation</td>
<td>Or upon availability or for the convenience of the attendees/viewers</td>
<td>Researcher-Proponent and Attendees/Viewers</td>
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<tr>
<td>To give suggestions on how to prevent crimes, delinquency and deviancy</td>
<td>(Recorded/Streamed) Discussion of tips on preventing crimes, delinquency, and deviancy</td>
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<td>Panel Member and Attendees/Viewers</td>
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### Guidelines:

1. In consideration of the pandemic, no face-to-face community outreach can be organized yet.
2. For the meantime, video discussions will either be recorded via Bandicam or OBS Studio or another recording platform or streamed live via Facebook or Zoom or Google Meet or any other video conferencing platform.
3. Discussions should be limited to 15 to 20 minutes per speaker to ensure the attentiveness of the attendees or viewers.

4. Once this action plan is approved, letter requests will be sent to the target schools.

5. If approved by the target schools, the streaming will be conducted on the date and time agreed upon.

6. The event will be documented and said documentations will be appended in the study.

Prepared by:

RICARDO S. MARIANO
## Appendix F

### Table 2. Timeline

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Appendix G
Grammarian’s Certificate

GRAMMARIAN’S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the undersigned has reviewed and went through all the pages of the dissertation entitled UNDERSTANDING CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORIES AS A TOOL FOR CRIME PREVENTION by RICARDO SICANGCO MARIANO aligned with the set of structural rules that govern the composition of sentences, phrases, and words in the English Language.

Signed and issued this 30th day of April 2021.

SUSIECA B. SANGIAO, MA English
Grammarian
CURRICULUM VITAE

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Tarlac City, Tarlac
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Citizenship : Filipino
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Weight : 70 kgs.
Religion : Roman Catholic
Languages Spoken : English, Filipino

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Justice Major in Criminology
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Panpacific University North
Philippines)
2013-2016

Tertiary : Bachelor of Science in Criminology
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Technology
2007-2011

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2003-2007
Elementary : Camiling North Elementary School
1998-2003

Camiling Central Elementary School
1997-1998

Affiliation : Head, Criminology Department
United School of Science and Technology

Achievements/Awards : Cum Laude
United School of Science and Technology

Trainings Attended:

Changes and Innovation in the Criminal Justice System
June 16, 2019

International Training-Workshop on “Thesis and Dissertation Writing in Qualitative Research”
February 14-16, 2018

Research Forum
June 1, 2013

Criminology Conference
July 20, 2008
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