

# **L3 Lead Examiner Report 2001**

January 2020

**L3 Qualification in Forensic and  
Criminal Investigation**

**Unit 5: Applications of Criminology  
(20149K)**

## Edexcel and BTEC Qualifications

Edexcel and BTEC qualifications come from Pearson, the world's leading learning company. We provide a wide range of qualifications including academic, vocational, occupational and specific programmes for employers. For further information visit our qualifications website at <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html> for our BTEC qualifications.

Alternatively, you can get in touch with us using the details on our contact us page at <http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/contact-us.html>

If you have any subject specific questions about this specification that require the help of a subject specialist, you can speak directly to the subject team at Pearson. Their contact details can be found on this link:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-for-you/teachers.html>

You can also use our online Ask the Expert service at <https://www.edexcelonline.com>

You will need an Edexcel Online username and password to access this service.

### **Pearson: helping people progress, everywhere**

Our aim is to help everyone progress in their lives through education. We believe in every kind of learning, for all kinds of people, wherever they are in the world. We've been involved in education for over 150 years, and by working across 70 countries, in 100 languages, we have built an international reputation for our commitment to high standards and raising achievement through innovation in education. Find out more about how we can help you and your learners at: [www.pearson.com/uk](http://www.pearson.com/uk)

January 2020

Publications Code 20149K\_2001\_ER

All the material in this publication is copyright

© Pearson Education Ltd 2020

## Grade Boundaries

### What is a grade boundary?

A grade boundary is where we set the level of achievement required to obtain a certain grade for the externally assessed unit. We set grade boundaries for each grade, at Distinction, Merit and Pass.

### Setting grade boundaries

When we set grade boundaries, we look at the performance of every learner who took the external assessment. When we can see the full picture of performance, our experts are then able to decide where best to place the grade boundaries – this means that they decide what the lowest possible mark is for a particular grade.

When our experts set the grade boundaries, they make sure that learners receive grades which reflect their ability. Awarding grade boundaries is conducted to ensure learners achieve the grade they deserve to achieve, irrespective of variation in the external assessment.

### Variations in external assessments

Each external assessment we set asks different questions and may assess different parts of the unit content outlined in the specification. It would be unfair to learners if we set the same grade boundaries for each assessment, because then it would not take accessibility into account.

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, are on the website via this link:

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/results-certification/grade-boundaries.html>

### Unit 5: Applications of Criminology (20149K)

Grade	Unclassified	Level 3			
		N	P	M	D
Boundary Mark	0	8	17	27	38

## Introduction

This is the third series of this unit 5 paper in the BTEC Forensic and Criminal Investigation specification. This external assessment, requires learners to read a case study and supporting material during timed conditions and apply their understanding of theory to the corresponding material.

The examination is split into four extended response questions, each assessing part of the specification 1) the nature of crime (24 marks), 2) crime prevention and punishment (16 marks) 3) victims of crime (10 marks) and 4) media and crime (10 marks). All four questions are marked using a levels-based approach where answers are awarded marks on a holistic basis, considering the overall quality of the answer.

Some four set questions have both explicit and implicit areas for discussion. The explicit areas are those specifically asked in the question, whereas other areas for discussion will appear in the case study or data. These implicit discussion points may include types of crimes, types of data, theories of crime or judgements on reporting and impact of crime. It is important that learners take time to examine and use all the data and information provided in order to make use of the full range of marks available.

There is an expectation in this unit that learners will demonstrate the ability to make links between theoretical knowledge, use of data, a case study and article (AO1, AO2). This application of knowledge and understanding provides a vocational emphasis that aims to provide a basis for future employment opportunities or study. In addition, Learners are also expected to make reasoned decisions such as judgements on aims and forms of sentencing, and media as a contribution to the fear of crime (AO3). Learners should aim to interpret information and link theory to practical examples explained in the case study.

## Introduction to the Overall Performance of the Unit

The third paper in this series has seen a large number of new centres and a large increase in entries. This has had an impact on the overall performance of the paper, with aspects that were previously improving once again impacting on the scores of individual questions. There was more consistency of marks across the questions on this paper than seen in previous series.

This series has seen an increase in learners using the case study well in applying their understanding of theories. However, there have been a significant number of learners that are simply using extracts from the case study without a clear link to the theory/theorists required. The papers requires a balance and clear links between case study, theory and data in order to access marks related to synthesis. This approach limits access to top band marks for learners who have a clear depth of knowledge of the specification areas.

Again, many questions throughout the paper were only partly answered. It is important that learners understand that question 1 relates to section A of the specification, including A1, as indicated below:

### **A The nature of crime**

#### **A1 Types of crime and crime statistics**

- Types of crime:
  - different categorisations of crime – volume crime, major crime; classifications of crime – summary, indictable, triable either way, crimes against the person, crimes against property, cybercrime.
- Interpretation and analysis of the different types of crime statistics:
  - Home Office official statistics
  - self-report victim surveys – Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW), Commercial Victimization Survey (CVS)
  - self-report offender surveys.

There was, again, limited discussion regarding the **type** of crime and **type** of data used. Therefore, learners are consistently excluding themselves from accessing band 5 **A well-developed argument that consistently synthesises relevant understanding coherently.**

In addition, in question 3 (victims of crime) learners appear to simply be regurgitating knowledge of positive victimology rather than reading the question closely to identify the areas of the specification being tested.

- Perspectives on victims of crime:
  - positive victimology – factors that produce patterns in victimisation, interpersonal crimes of violence, contribution of the victim to victimisation, including victim proneness
  - critical victimology – structural factors that make a person more at risk of being a victim of crime, state's power to apply or deny the label of victim.

While links to the fear of crime in question 4 is presented very well in this series, there has been a significant drop in the number of learners discussing the news values related to the specification

- news values – risk, immediacy, dramatization, personalisation, higher status persons, novelty or unexpectedness, violence, simplification
-

## Individual Questions

### Qu1.

#### Activity 1

Discuss the reasons for the criminal behaviour of Joseph Armstrong in the **Case study**.

In your answer you must make reference to:

- the **Case study** and **Figures 1** and **2**
- right realist theories that would be used to explain this criminal behaviour
- theories on gender and crime that would explain the behaviour of the offender in the **Case study**.

*You should spend 50 minutes on this activity.*

(24)

Question 1 requires learners to cover section A of the specification including type of crime, consideration of the type of data, general and specific theories. This is a large question that has several implicit elements. In addition to identifying each element the question further requires learners to draw the theory, data and case study together to demonstrate their understanding of how these are linked.

Many Learners showed some knowledge of right realist theories and applied it to explain the offences in the case study, although several incorrectly associated the biological aspects of right realism with Lombroso atavistic theory. There seemed to be some attempt to draw aspects of Unit 7 into criminological theory which is not required for this paper. Unfortunately, this results in knowledge and understanding being limited to **mostly accurate**.

Knowledge and application of gender based explanations was limited. However, those learners who did identify gender and crime discussed a hegemonic masculine society and made good links to the fact Joseph used Domestic Violence to be a 'real man'. Learners were better able to identify social class and crime compared to gender and crime and were able to commonly discuss strain theory in relation to the case study making good links to Figure 1.

Most learners are able to link the data provided with details from the case study to establish some explanatory correlations. However, there were limited links between data, cases study and theory.

## **This response gained 15 marks**

This response correctly identifies the type of crime as triable either way with an explanation of how that relates to the court system. In addition there is good depth and breadth of understanding of right realist theories of crime with clear links to the case study and some discussion of the data. Unfortunately, Lombroso is used as a right realist theory which is incorrect and therefore limits the knowledge and understanding grade awarded.

Social class is not an explicit element in the discussion here, and seems to be more of an accidental, rather than an intentional element of the answer. In addition, gender seems to be an afterthought. It is essential that this question is planned appropriately to ensure that all elements are discussed in enough detail to access the full range of mark available



The crime in question is ~~a~~ a domestic violence <sup>(\*)</sup> offence which is an offence against the person. ~~As~~ it is a triable-either-way offence ~~at any~~ the trial can take place at either a Magistrate's Court or a Crown Court.

As a result of the severity of the crime, the trial will take place at a crown court.

Ⓢ This crime is a form of Grievous Bodily Harm and therefore...

~~A right~~ ~~realists~~ in the perspective of a right realist, there can be many options of which why Armstrong is exhibiting this criminal behaviour.

The three main reasons behind criminality, according to Wilson and ~~Ken~~ Herrnstein are: there is a biological predisposition to which criminality occurs, a lack of socialisation and that committing a crime is a rational choice.

Lombroso, a right theorist, believed that people with characteristics that are similar to that of apes and primates (i.e. sloping forehead, long arms) are more susceptible to ~~the~~ criminality. Therefore if Armstrong would have exhibited ~~this because~~ these characteristics, a right realist would quote this as a reason. ~~Specificity~~ <sup>right realists believe</sup> As mentioned before, if there is a lack of socialisation ~~&~~ from a young age, the child as a result will become a criminal. One ~~no~~ main example would be an absent father: 'Criminal child? blame a single mother'. The reasoning behind this is that typically, a father has the role of being the disciplinarian in the family therefore the child may have difficulty grasping mainstream values such as the difference between right or wrong. In the case study, there is ~~no~~ mention of Armstrong's father went to prison when Armstrong was six years old ~~& therefore~~ and Armstrong began criminal acts at thirteen; this fact proves the right realist approach.

Finally, right realists believe that committing crime is a rational choice therefore, in this instance, Armstrong debated the risks and the rewards of this criminal act. Armstrong then must have made the rational choice that the rewards were greater than the risk.

One final right realist explanation to criminality would be the theory of the Underclass (Murray) and that the underclass is more susceptible to criminality. A right realist would define the underclass as people who do not work, and depend on the welfare state. These characteristics are seen in the case study through: 'they both receive benefits' and 'Joseph has not had a job for more than a couple of weeks'. This right realist theory is commonly linked to the Cycle of deprivation. This is explained through the idea that through the underclass claiming from the welfare state, they do not feel the need to work which indicates that they lack mainstream values.

In reference to gender <sup>age</sup> and crime, Armstrong mostly fits into the statistics. It is common

Knowledge that men of the ages of ~~17-20~~<sup>16-21</sup> are more likely to commit crime. Furthermore Figure 1 exemplifies that <sup>16.25%</sup> women of the ages 16-59 with an income of less than £10,000 are likely to be victims of domestic violence. It can only be inferred that ~~the~~ men are the perpetrators. In this case study, this fact is demonstrated as the couple have a total income of £8500 and Armstrong's wife was a victim of domestic violence.

2) Statistics state that 52% of people who are claiming benefits, like Armstrong commit an offense against a person, like domestic violence. This <sup>proves that</sup> ~~p states~~ that the right realist perspective is accurate and can be depended on.

(Total for Activity 1 = 24 marks)

**This answer gained 4 marks:**

This answer includes some relevant knowledge of right realist theories but introduces the theory and links to the case study as separate entities, rather than in the same paragraph. There is a lack of synthesis between data, theory and case study.

In addition, the discussion around gender and crime focuses more on women as victims and the control of women in society than why men are criminals. Therefore there is a limited ability to link to the case study.

Right Realists believe that crime happens because of the selfish and greedy nature of people, they reject any idea that states it is due to any economic reasons. Right Realists believe that bad human nature causes crime.

this can be shown by Joseph within the case study as he is very violent towards his spouse. it can also be seen that people with small incomes are more likely to commit violent crimes (domestic violence) within figure 1.

Right Realists also believe that bad socialisation is also a cause for crime, for example bad disciplin



single parent households/families.

this can be seen in Joseph's life as his mother could not control him and this can imply that not much discipline was shown to him from a young age. His mother is also a single mother which means that there would be less time, effort and resources for the children.

Functionalist criminology theory states that working middle class men commit most crime, this is because they have time and opportunity. Women tend to stay at home and take a maternal & housewife role whilst the men can go out and work. Women ~~work~~ have social controls at work, in public and home where they are controlled to be the way they are, at work there is a lot of controls such as promotion abuse (harassment) and misogyny. In public, the controls change to our social norms and what we expect from a woman

and at home a woman needs to assume her maternal/housewife role. This leaves us time or opportunity for them to commit crime, men however do not have these controls and have more opportunity to commit crimes.

Women have what is called dual burden, this is where a woman is forced to be a home wife but also takes up a job too. This removes opportunity from women so they cannot commit crime.

Men do not have this problem of controls by the society which leaves them opportunity to commit crimes, however they are under pressure to work and provide for a family this can cause stress and frustration.

Left realists say that frustration causes violent crime, this is

because the working class families are oppressed and they are frustrated that the social expectation is so high but they have so little which makes those people angry and causes them to lash out and commit violent crimes.

this can be applied to Joseph as he has abused his wife and is suspected of doing it before too. knowing that their income is only £8,500 and they live in a council house ~~it~~ would imply that Joseph was under a lot of strain and frustration



Q2

**Activity 2**

Discuss the most appropriate crime punishment and prevention methods related to the type of crime in the case study.

In your answer you must make reference to:

- the **case study**
- Left realist methods of crime prevention.
- Functionalist perspective on punishment
- the most appropriate aim and type of sentencing

*You should spend 40 minutes on this activity.*

(16)

This question requires the learner to discuss crime prevention and punishment methods, aim and type of sentencing in relation to the case study.

Once again there were a number of learners incorporating the data provided. As the question asks the learner to refer only to the case study no credit is available for the use of data in question 2. It is important that learners carefully read the question in order to ensure that they are including the relevant material in their answer.

A significant number of learners used the right realist approach to crime prevention rather than the left realist approach. This resulted in a larger number of marks clustered around the high band 1/ low band 2 grading for this question as the theory is incorrect. Among those identifying the correct theory, there was, once again, a number of learners discussing theories of crime rather than theories of crime **prevention**. A similar pattern was observed with the functionalist approach to punishment. In addition, the approach to punishment often including much less content, and was less well linked to the case study than approaches to prevention. This once again highlights the

Forms of sentencing appear to be identified well on the whole. However, there are a large number of learners that are using examples such as rehabilitation for a sentence. Rehabilitation is an aim of sentencing and rehabilitation treatment would be part of a community order. This is an aspect that should be identified as an area for improvement. Learners are using examples of treatment from unit 7, however, they are not referring to them in terms of the specification requirements.

The aims of sentencing were, for many learners, well discussed. In order to gain a higher band it is essential that a justification for the aim and form of sentencing is offered rather than a simple list.

**This answer gained 16 marks.**

This answer is top band 4 for all traits. The left realist approach is outlined and applied to the case study in relation to how prevention may have been useful for both Joseph and Samantha. In addition the functionalist approach is accurate, well detailed and linked to the case study. This allows access to the knowledge being accurate and **comprehensive.**

Not only is the form of sentencing clear but the aim of sentencing is outlined and explained in relation to the case study.

101  
Armstrong has been arrested for domestic abuse against his wife, there are ~~pre~~ ways to try and prevent and punish these crimes.

Lea and Young are the main left realists, they would say to prevent these crimes happening, you would need to go back and improve Armstrong's living. They would say to improve housing, infrastructure and education, Armstrong grew up poor and potentially with little education. If Armstrong had a strong and stable education perhaps it could of kept him in line, he could of been taught early on about the consequences of crime to deter him from doing it. Improving housing is an important way of preventing his criminal behaviour, as he lived in a council house and in poverty, chances are the area he lived in was not that nice, if there were improvements to housing, it could teach him to respect his surroundings, and not be embarrassed of where he lived. If there

was improvements to infrastructure, making everything overall look better it could stop people committing crime as they would have unmet resources, a happy place to live where they won't want to commit crime. Also, if they could find Armstrong and other's jobs, having a source of income would give ~~him~~ <sup>something</sup> Armstrong to look forward to, if he is working everyday it wouldn't lead him to be at home, angry at the world, taking it out on his wife. Left realists also look at consensus policing, if the wife had more trust in the police perhaps she could've gone to them sooner, preventing her from getting hurt further\*. If there was more police around the areas, they could've come sooner or seen it for themselves, so they could then arrest Armstrong sooner. Generally left realists look at improving their lifestyles and surroundings, if Armstrong was educated more perhaps he could've seen the consequences of his behaviour, or if there was better housing, those on benefits would not feel so excluded from society, as they wouldn't see what others have and want it - relative deprivation.

Functionalists ~~look at~~ or recognise crime will be a part of society, so their perspective on punishment would be to help society heal from the crimes, bringing



them together. Functionalists say we should imprison those who have committed crimes. Armstrong should be put in prison for ~~the~~ abusing his wife as it helps society heal. They believe in retribution as it resets the moral compass, domestic abuse has ~~only recently become~~ in marriage only became illegal in 1991, so imprisoning those committing <sup>the</sup> crimes helps show justice for the victims of the crimes. Although this crime is awful it brings society together, so imprisoning the abuser heals the society.

As for sentencing the offender, this is a crime against the person and would be a triable either way offence. So, Armstrong should go to prison as this teaches a lesson of how bad this crime is, showing also Armstrong the consequence of his behaviour. Armstrong should be shown as an example to deter those away from domestic abuse to show how serious it is and impact it has on the victims. Retribution is the best option for this ~~rehabilitation~~ <sup>rehabilitation</sup> may not stop his behaviour as he is 56, the behaviour seems to have been with him for years, so imprisoning him would teach him and society the consequence. As for time in jail, depending which court he goes to, <sup>if he was tried at Magistrates Court,</sup> he could be looking at at least 6 months in jail, but with this case it should be tried in Crown Court.

so he could spend more time in prison,

\* perhaps having more female officers for Samantha to talk to, as then she could feel more comfortable confiding in the police about what has happened to her.

### This answer gained 4 marks:

This answer demonstrates an example of a learner that has discussed the right realist theory of crime prevention rather than left realist. While there are some aspects and the answer that are creditable this would remain in band 1. This is a lack of understanding of prevention methods and the learner does not differentiate between theories. There is some creditable material which allows mid band 1 for knowledge and understanding.

The learner attempts to incorporate elements of A1, types of crime, into this question, but as this is not relevant to question 2 it gains no credit. There is some reference to aims and forms of sentencing, however the reasoning behind this is vague, therefore this trait again stays in band 1.

Left realists believe that Crime is committed due to inequality within different societies. This links to the case study of ~~Joas~~ Joseph as it could suggest that if he ~~wasn't~~ <sup>didn't</sup> have a difficult up bringing and ~~lived~~ in a deprived are he may not of committed the crime. A Method in which left realists would use for crime preventions would be more community conventions. This would help bring the community together and decrease the divide between the proletariat and the Bourgeoisie. This would mean that everyone has an equal chance and that the working class won't ~~turn~~ turn to crime ~~the~~.

On the other hand functionalists believe that there are different aspects of society and if one of them are lost, the society will be weakened, meaning that crime rates will rise. As Joseph had one of the aspects of society weakened/gone due to his dad not being present from the age of 6, they ~~would~~ <sup>would</sup> take that into account when looking at punishment. Functionalists also believe in the broken window theory and that crime is inevitable (Durkheim). Broken window theory is when ~~if~~ you see people committing crime that you are more likely to do it due to you thinking you can get away with it. This also links to Joseph as he lives in a deprived area there is a lot of crime going on so he may of thought he can get away with it or the police have to deal with "more serious crimes". Functionalists idea of punishment would be to hold the person accountable for their actions but take into



account ~~that~~ the different aspects of society he has missing from his life.

In my opinion, I think the best aim ~~of~~ would be <sup>rehabilitation</sup> ~~retribution~~. ~~Retribution~~ is the aim to change the person as well as punishing. This would show Joseph that yes he is wrong but hopefully after some time he can change his behaviour. This crime can be seen as a volume crime or a major crime as it included violence rather than being against the community. A reason why it would be volume is because local police can deal with it and no one major needs to be called out. As it was domestic abuse it meant that it's a crime against a person, which could also extend the sentencing as it could affect Samantha for the rest of her life. Another factor which will extend the sentencing ~~of~~ would be the fact that it's a repeat offence and the only

reason he hasn't been held accountable before is because of "lack of evidence" and Samantha giving "believable reasons for her injuries." The sentencing I would give Joseph would be at least 2 years in imprisonment. It would be triable either way in court but he has to be present. AS it borders ~~Mo~~ on Major Crime it will go from Magistrates to Crown so he has a chance to put forward his view in front of a judge. After his 2 years (at least) imprisonment, he should do cognitive behavioural therapy to restructure his brain and change the way he reacts in situations, this should last 6 weeks. That would be his sentencing but if he repeats his offence then he will have a harsher sentence next time. Although his sentencing could only be carried out if enough evidence is found this time round.

Q3

**Activity 3**

Explain the possible reasons why Samantha was a victim and the impact this will have on her.

In your answer you must make reference to:

- the **Case study** and the **Article: Interview with Samantha Armstrong**
- patterns of victimisation
- critical victimology
- impact of victimisation.

*You should spend 30 minutes on this activity.*

(10)

This question requires learners to comment in three areas victimisation: patterns, perspectives and impact. The learner is expected to highlight aspects of the case study and article that are relevant when discussing victims of crime. It is important to note here that there is no credit available for use of the data. This is limited to question 1.

The majority of answers focused on the impact of Samantha as a victim, highlighting the fear she felt and how this would affect her mentally. This was done well, but is only one part of the question and limits marks if it is the only part attempted. There was little reference to secondary victimisation, such as the impact on other women at the refuge after the case collapsed.

Stronger answers highlighted that Samantha was a repeat victim, vulnerable because of gender and that she was young when she first became a victim of crime.

There were a significant number of learners who used the concept of positive victimology in reference to the question rather than critical victimology, required by the question. There is a need for students to be able to distinguish between elements of the question, and understand how these relate to the specification. Some stronger candidates did attempt to relate critical criminology to the case study, but few were able to demonstrate a clear understanding of the concept in relation to Samantha.

**This answer gained 9 marks:**

This answer gained low band 4. There are clear links to the case study throughout the answer. The answer is well structured with evidence relating to patterns of

victimisation, impact of victimisation and some clear knowledge of critical victimology. While there are some slight inaccuracies in the answer, marking holistically would enable this to enter into band 4.

In this essay, discussed will be possible reasons as to why Samantha was a victim and how it will impact her.

In the case study and article, both domestic violence victims are women. The patterns of victimisation suggest that most women will always be attacked by someone they know, more commonly a partner or ex partner and in the two cases, both women have been abused by their husbands. However, in Samantha's case, there is also something else that suggests a pattern in her victimisation. Along with her gender and who she was attacked by, her age plays a very important part. The abuse from her husband started when she was just 18. Women that are in the teenage years or early twenties are more at risk from crimes such as sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking and domestic abuse etc. Unfortunately,

Samantha was both the age and gender where patterns of victimisation would put her high at risk for the crimes ~~which~~ she was a victim of.

In the interview Samantha said she felt as though 'the judge was calling her a liar' which relates directly to critical criminology. Critical criminology suggests that the state has the power to apply or deny someone the victim label suggesting that being a victim is largely a social construct. However, because Samantha's husband does not have a conviction and she felt the judge was calling her a liar, that takes away the feeling of being a victim which often makes victims feel as though it is partly their responsibility. This strongly relates to Marxism as it suggests that the ruling class are the state and can apply or deny the victim label. Critical criminology also suggests that there are some structural factors as to why you are a victim of crime which also links in with patterns of victimisation. These factors are again given things like age, homelessness, gender etc and both Samantha and Joseph's wife both fall into some of these factors.



For Samantha, being a victim of domestic violence will have a lot of impact on her. It will affect her directly and she could think of ways she could stop it and may also leave her with a lot of anxiety and sleepless nights wondering if her husband will come after her. The impact may also occur indirectly, for example, it may affect her friends, her family and children wondering why they didn't notice sooner. The first way this could impact her is secondary. This is when people like counsellors/social workers are insensitive causing more trauma to the victim. Overall, this will not just affect Samantha psychologically but also the people close to her.

In conclusion, the reason why Samantha was a victim of this abuse is due to the patterns of victimisation and the structural factors she had from critical criminology. However, it is not Samantha's fault that she has had to happen to fall into these certain categories. These things all contributed to her being a victim and the impact will affect her for the rest of her life.

(Total for Activity 3 = 10 Marks)

**This answer gained 3 marks:**

This answer highlights some elements of the question, such as initial patterns of victimisation like gender and some brief identification of the impact of being a victim. There is a lack of understanding in this answer around critical victimology.

(10)

Samantha was a victim because of many possible reasons. ~~but~~ Women are significantly more likely to be victims of domestic abuse. Samanthas and Armstrongs income is below 10,000 a year which suggested in the given data that families who earn less, are more prone to domestic abuse. Critical victimology is victim ~~prone~~ proness, and Samantha's age could have also impacted why she was a victim as she's quite elderly and feeble and does not have money to go or do something else. Samantha being targeted as a domestic abuse victim can lead to PTSD and mental health problems. Armstrong, drinking problem would have made him more violent and aggressive.

## Q4

### Activity 4

Assess the impact of the information in the **Case study** and the **Article** on the fear of crime for people living in Linton.

In your answer you must make reference to:

- the **Case study** and the **Article: Interview with Samantha Armstrong**
- the news values that will have been used when deciding to publish the article
- the representation of the type of crime.

*You should spend 30 minutes on this activity.*

(10)

This question requires learners to make a judgement on whether the media increases the fear of crime. Judgements are expected to be supported by both theoretical evidence and links to the case study.

Many answers highlighted judgements on the fear of crime with links to the case study, a main focus of the question. Stronger answers were also able to link theoretical concepts to these judgements.

Theoretical concepts related to news values and the concepts of folk devils and moral panics. Many weaker answers did not include reference to any specific news values listed in the specification. Other answers discussed the work of Cohen, but did not link this concept to the case study or article.

### **This answer gained 5 marks:**

This answer demonstrates an understanding of theoretical concepts such as news values and the work of Cohen. The value of dramatization is mentioned, however, there is little to demonstrate any in-depth knowledge. These concepts are only linked to the case study at the end of the paragraph, seemingly as an afterthought compared to weaving the discussion and linking concepts directly to the case study and article.



Crimes such as domestic abuse do not spark curiosity from the media. This is because they are crimes that occur ~~for~~ inside the home and ~~as~~ courts suggest, there is evidence. News values are almost like ratings given to stories and articles to see which story is more 'worthy' of being published. Journalist and editors tend to add and ~~change~~ ~~or~~ manipulate interviews and stories in ways that would make the audience curious into knowing more.

In this case study and article, the media tend to label both the victim and offender that makes the story more 'dramatic'. Cohen would ~~also~~ ~~the~~ suggest that the media's response and representation <sup>of a crime</sup> have a huge impact on the people and how the news is perceived because the media have a lot of power and influence. He ~~is~~

would also suggest that the media sometimes exaggerate and manipulate the news to make crimes look worse, making them more worthy of news values. Deviancy Amplification is the term Cohen gave to the media's exaggeration of crime. Cohen believes the media amplifies crimes in order to make the news worthy of being posted. In Samantha's interview article, the repetition and constant emphasis on fear would make the audience sympathise with her, bringing a social agreement as to how one should react to the news.

In the article, ~~the~~ domestic abuse is shown as a crime that is not dealt with correctly. The emphasis of the police's anger and determination on being able to prove domestic crimes shows that it is a crime the courts tend to consider as a 'waste of time'. This point is further added by Samantha where she apologises for wasting their time.

Also, the title of the article suggests that victims of domestic crimes are ~~not~~ 'forgotten'. This may suggest that the victims

of domestic abuse are not treated like victims of other crimes as domestic abuse is considered 'one person's word against another.'

Domestic abuse is presented as a crime that the court does not deal properly with, as well as showing 'forgotten' victims being isolated and living in 'fear' as the criminal justice system fails to bring them to justice.

### This answer gained 1 mark:

This answer does make a vague reference to the fear faced by individuals in relation to crime, hence 1 mark. However, they have simply regurgitated evidence from the case study rather than included any knowledge from the specification. This characteristic is seen throughout all questions and does not gain any credit.

The case study and the article both describe that Joseph lived in a council house without a father figure. He then married Samantha and they moved into a different council house and Joseph would often come home and abuse Samantha. She was too scared to say anything until she went to hospital about it. Joseph was arrested and she got to talk about it to an officer. Samantha then went to a court hearing about it and Joseph was found not guilty under insufficient evidence. Now she lives in a refuge scared he will come after her.

The type of crime was domestic abuse which happens to 16.8% of women in the month Joseph was arrested. Reading the article could either cause women to come forward if they are a victim of domestic abuse

or it could make women terrified that they will be a victim.

## Summary

Based on the performance of this paper, candidates should:

- Ensure that they are aware of how the specification links to each question. This will ensure that they are able to fully answer the question.
- Plan essays to ensure that all aspects, both implicit and explicit are included.
- Practice leaving points to theory, case study and data.
- Ensure there is a clear understanding of the requirements of the specification, such as positive and critical victimology, and that these concepts will not appear together.
- Ensure that all areas of the question are covered in enough detail.

For more information on Pearson qualifications, please visit  
<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/home.html>

Pearson Education Limited. Registered company number 872828  
with its registered office at Edinburgh Gate, Harlow, Essex CM20 2JE

Ofqual



