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Theories of Deviance. Stuart H. Traub and Craig B. Little.

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Stuart H. Traub and Craig B. Little (Eds.). *Theories of Deviance* (Fourth edition). Itasca, IL: F. E. Peacock, 1994. \$30.00 papercover.

Sociologists have made an enormous contribution to understanding the nature and causes of crime, deviance and social problems over the last fifty years. But their insights have not produced a uniform theoretical perspective which structures and organizes the diverse findings of research in the field. Today, very different conceptual approaches compete with each other, and there is little agreement among sociologists about which of their theories offer the most useful framework for analyzing crime in society today.

While many will be critical of sociology's inability to formulate a coherent body of theory on crime and deviance, it should be remembered that the subject is very complex and that there are many different facets to the issue. It is not surprising, therefore, that sociological analysis should reflect different facets and accentuate different aspects of the problem. In addition, it can argue that the existence of diverse theoretical insights contributes to the richness of the field and fosters deeper insights than would be possible through adopting any single perspective.

The fourth edition of Traub and Little's successful textbook on theories of deviance reveals the richness of sociological research into crime and deviance. The book is organized chronologically covering the well documented functionalist, social disorganization and anomie approaches as well as the interactionist labeling perspective. Attention is also given to existentialist, phenomenological, Marxist and other less well known approaches. The final section, which deals with new direction in deviance theory, is particularly interesting. This textbook is comprehensive, useful and highly recommended for student use.

George S. Bridges and Martha Myers (Eds.), *Inequality, Crime and Control*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1994. \$59.95 hardcover; \$22.95 papercover.

It is a well established axiom in criminological research that there is a direct relationship between crime and social class.