

## Candidate 5 evidence

[REDACTED]

Hypothesis - Poverty is the leading cause of crime  
Aim 1 - To find out the main causes of crime  
Aim 2 - To find statistics about the connection between poverty and crime rates.  
Aim 3 - To find out the public's opinion on the main causes of crime.

For my first method I chose to conduct a survey to directly investigate my third aim. I asked ten family members, friends or classmates what they thought the main cause of crime is. This is source F on my research sheet.

One advantage of the survey was that it was incredibly flexible. I could ask people online or in person, making it very quick and easy as I could complete it wherever and whenever I needed to.

A further advantage of the survey was how direct it was. I only asked one question and made sure it was very direct and easy to understand and answer. This meant people did not give irrelevant information or get sidetracked.

One disadvantage of the survey was the limited range of opinions I collected. Most of the people I asked were a similar age and from the same area which meant the results I remained fairly similar and did not give me a wide range of views.

A further disadvantage was the opportunity for bias. People may have changed their answers when they heard the opinions of other people, or if they heard about the nature of my research. This potentially leave me with inaccurate results.

An alternative I could have used would be a survey conducted by the government as this would give me results from a much wider range of areas, tax brackets and opinion.

The second method I chose is the BBC website. I chose the BBC website in order to investigate my first aim, and because I have access to internet. This is source ~~A~~ B on my research sheet.

One advantage of the website was that everything published by the BBC is verified and fact checked. This means all of the information I collected was true and accurate.

Another advantage was how quickly I found it. When researching my first aim, the BBC website was the first result on my browser. This means that it did not take me much time to find and speed up my research, and also assured me that it was relevant.

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One disadvantage of the BBC website was that it required internet access in order to work. This meant my use of the website was limited to opportunities when I had wifi.

A further disadvantage was that ~~there~~ there was a very large amount of information to sort through. This slowed down my research as I had to spend time deciding what was relevant and what was not.

An alternative I could have used would be a book. A book does not require internet access so would increase my ability to use it and would not be dependant on wifi.

One thing I found for Aim 2 was a ~~survey~~ ~~document~~ document constructed by the US Department of Justice based off results from the National Crime Victimization Survey 2008 - 2012. It showed that ~~that~~ ~~low income areas~~, 40,000 people from low income households faced violent victimisation, as opposed to 17,000 individuals from high income households. This shows that violent crime is much more of a problem in potentially income deprived areas.

Something I found when researching my third aim was a website made by the charity Revolving doors which showed that majority of adults in the UK believe rising poverty will lead

to a rise in crime. This is source E on my research sheet. The source helped me understand the opinion of the public on crime. Revolving doors conducted a survey in which their results showed that 65% of adults in the UK believe ~~the~~ crime is mainly due to poverty, mental health issues or substance abuse. 76% said they believe with poverty on the rise, crime rates will rise too. This shows just how many people believe poverty leads to higher crime rates.

When researching my first aim I discovered the Alliant International University website. This is source A on my research sheet. A study that had been conducted that aligned well with my first aim showed that there was likely nine main causes of crime. ~~Some~~ This included factors like ~~the~~ criminal impulsivity, unemployment, peer ~~pressure~~ pressure and a lack of education.

When researching my second aim I discovered a website that showed statistics about crime and income deprivation in London. This is source D on my research sheet. Trust for London showed that crime was 40% higher in lower income areas. It also showed that the 10% most income deprived areas of London were 2.1 times more likely to experience robbery, violence and sexual offences. This shows how strongly poverty and

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crime rates are linked.

I used the BBC website to investigate my Aim 1 because it was one of the first things to appear on my browser when I searched it. This is source B on my research ~~see~~ sheet.

It told me that there is two main categories of causes of crime, nature and nurture. Nature refers to the way a persons brain works for example a personality disorder, and nurture refers to the way a person is raised, for example family dynamics.

~~One thing~~ I conducted a survey to investigate my third aim, this is source F on my research sheet. After asking ten people I found that 70% said they thought poverty is the leading cause of crime, 20% said substance abuse and 10% said unemployment.

I can conclude that my hypothesis "poverty is the leading cause of crime" is true. During my research process, a staggering amount of ~~my~~ information linked ~~to~~ increased crime rates to poverty.

A conclusion I can make about my first aim "to find out the main causes of crime" is that there is two main categories of causes, and overall nine main causes. Nature and nurture are the two categories in which almost every cause of crime can fall under, separated by the way an individual's brain works and how they were raised.

A conclusion I can make about Aim 2 "to find statistics about the connection between poverty and crime" is that poverty and crime are very closely related. My research showed that crime rates are almost \*doubled when in an area of income deprivation, showing how ~~to~~ much poverty impacts rates of victimisation.

\* always

[REDACTED]

A conclusion I can make about Aim 3 "to find out the public's opinion on the main causes of crime" is that most people believe poverty or unemployment is the number one cause of crime. My research showed how a very large percentage of people (always over half) agree poverty is the main factor leading to higher crime rates.

Modern Studies National 5 Research Sheet	
Candidate Name	Scottish Candidate Number
Source A	
Why Do People Commit Crimes?(Nine reasons)	
<a href="https://www.alliant.edu/blog/why-do-people-commit-crimes">https://www.alliant.edu/blog/why-do-people-commit-crimes</a>	
Last accessed: 08/09/2024	
Source B	
Causes of Crime: nature and nurture	
<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zqb2pv4/revision/6#:~:text=Factors%20including%20nature%2C%20poverty%2C%20childhood.why%20people%20break%20the%20law.">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zqb2pv4/revision/6#:~:text=Factors%20including%20nature%2C%20poverty%2C%20childhood.why%20people%20break%20the%20law.</a>	
Last accessed: 08/09/2024	
Source C	
Household Poverty and Nonfatal Violent Victimization, 2008-2012	
Special Report	
U.S Department of Justice	
<a href="https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/hpnavv0812.pdf">https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/hpnavv0812.pdf</a>	
Last accessed: 08/09/2024	
Source D	
Crime and income deprivation	
Trust for London	
<a href="https://trustforlondon.org.uk/data/crime-and-income-deprivation/#:~:text=Overall%2C%2040%25%20more%20crimes%20were,the%20least%20income%2Ddeprived%2010%25">https://trustforlondon.org.uk/data/crime-and-income-deprivation/#:~:text=Overall%2C%2040%25%20more%20crimes%20were,the%20least%20income%2Ddeprived%2010%25</a>	
Last accessed: 08/09/2024	

Source E

Majority of UK public believe rising poverty will lead to increase in crime – and this shouldn't lead to prison

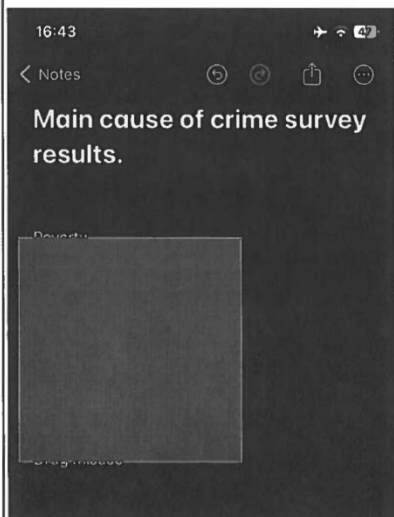
<https://revolving-doors.org.uk/majority-of-uk-public-believe-rising-poverty-will-lead-to-increase-in-crime-and-this-shouldnt-lead-to-prison/>

Last accessed: 08/09/2024

Source F

Context: I asked 10 people from my class the following question

What do you think is the leading cause of crime?



Blue covering responses

Last accessed: 20/09/2024