

A high-angle, grayscale photograph of a dense crowd of people. The image is mostly in black and white, but several individuals are wearing brightly colored shirts in shades of red, blue, yellow, green, purple, and orange. The word "Criminology" is overlaid in the center in a black, sans-serif font.

# Criminology

# Criminology Defined

- The sociological and scientific study of the causes, effects, and impacts of criminal activity in a society.
- Studies trends, patterns, and statistics related to criminal activity.
  - Tries to explain patterns of criminal prevalence in societies



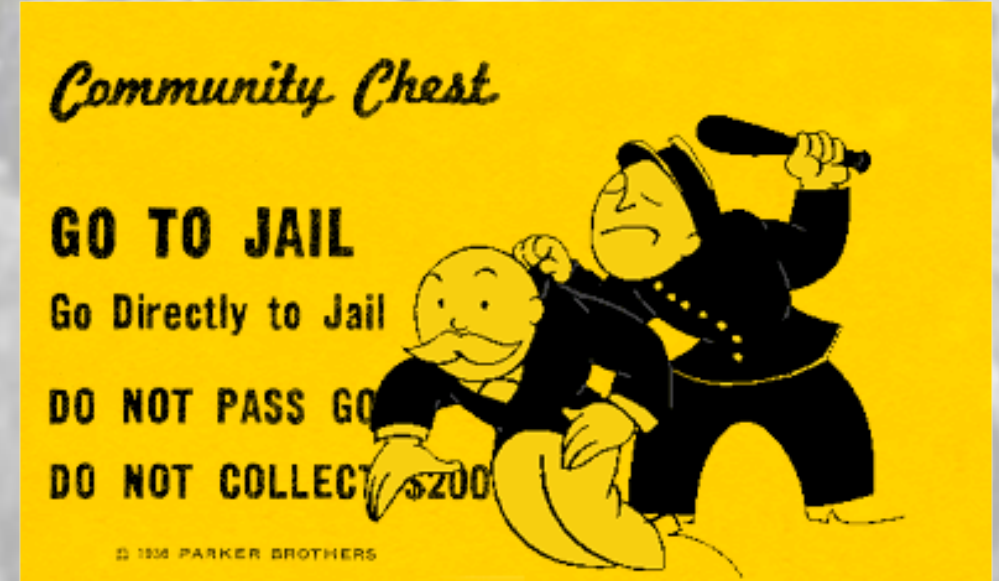
# Criminal Behavior as Deviance

- **Crime** is the violation of a norm that has been codified into law.
  - **Violent crime** is a crime in which violence is either the objective or the means to an end, including murder, rape, aggravated assault, and robbery
  - **Property crime** is crime that does not involve violence, including burglary, larceny theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.
  - **White-collar crime** is crime committed by a high status individual in the course of her or his occupation



# Approaches to Limiting Criminal Activity

- ***Deterrence*** is an approach to punishment that relies on the threat of harsh penalties to discourage people from committing crimes
  - Ex. Knowing that crimes result in jail time results in the less people willing to commit a crime

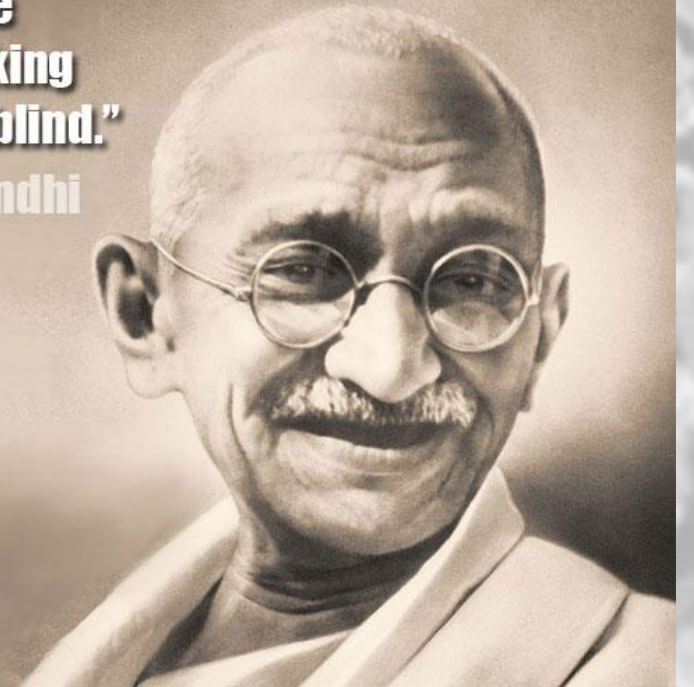


# Approaches to Limiting Criminal Behavior

- **Retribution** is an approach to punishment that emphasizes retaliation or revenge for the crime as the appropriate goal
  - The Eye for an eye principle
  - Used as a way of justifying the use of capital punishment

**“An eye for an eye  
only ends up making  
the whole world blind.”**

**- Mohandas Gandhi**



# Approaches to Limiting Criminal Behavior

- ***Incapacitation*** is an approach to punishment that seeks to protect society from criminals by imprisoning or executing them
  - Justification is that it is not possible for a criminal to commit the same crime if they are removed from society



# Approaches to Limiting Criminal Behavior

- **Rehabilitation** is an approach to punishment that attempts to reform criminals as part of their penalty
- Through education, counseling, and therapy the goal is to release the offender back into society to be a fully functioning contributor again



# Alternative Punishments

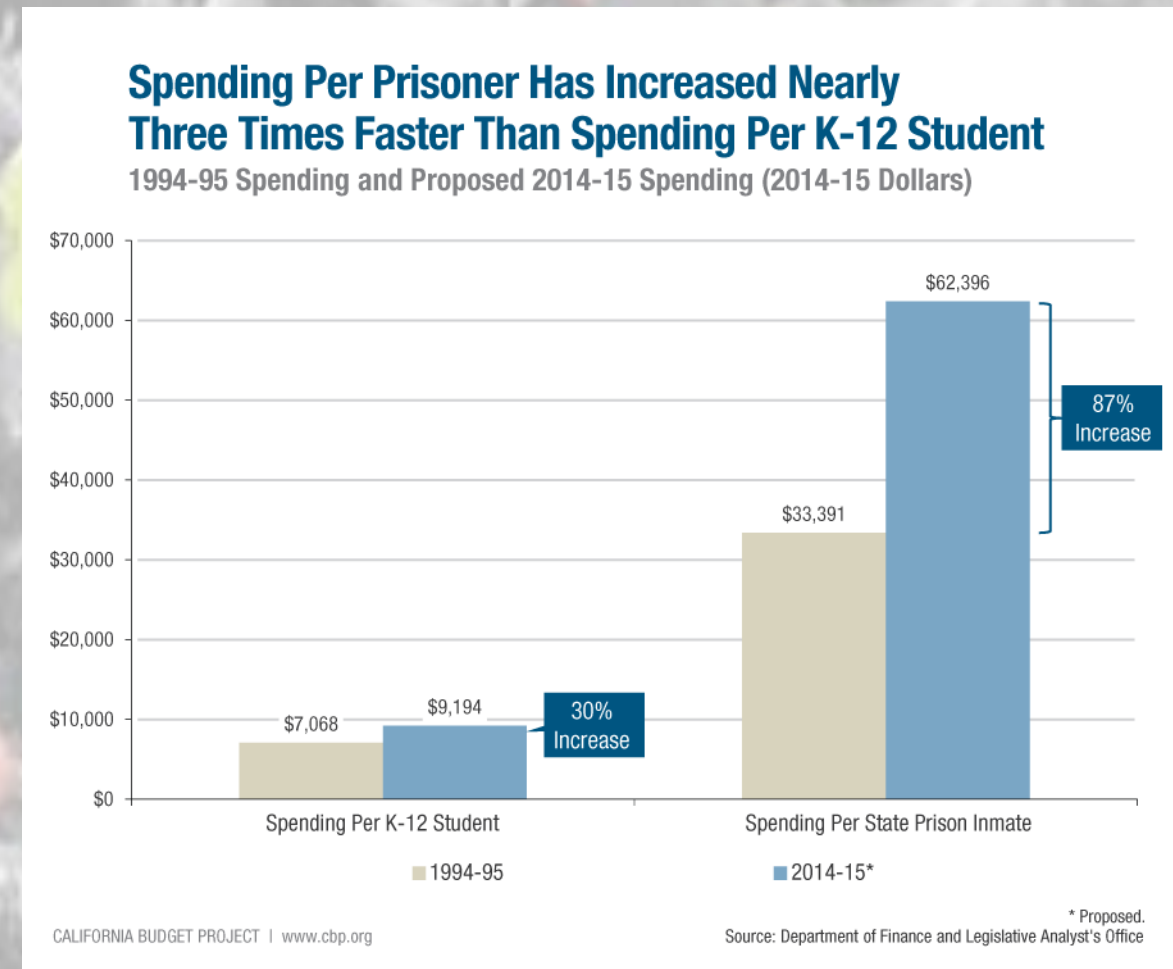
- Shunning – Purposefully avoiding or ignoring someone as a way to ostracize someone who has committed a crime
- Banishment – Removal of an individual from a community for a set period of time or permanently
- Corporal Punishment – Physical punishment for committing a crime that includes physical harm
- Capital Punishment – Executing a criminal, usually only used in extreme cases



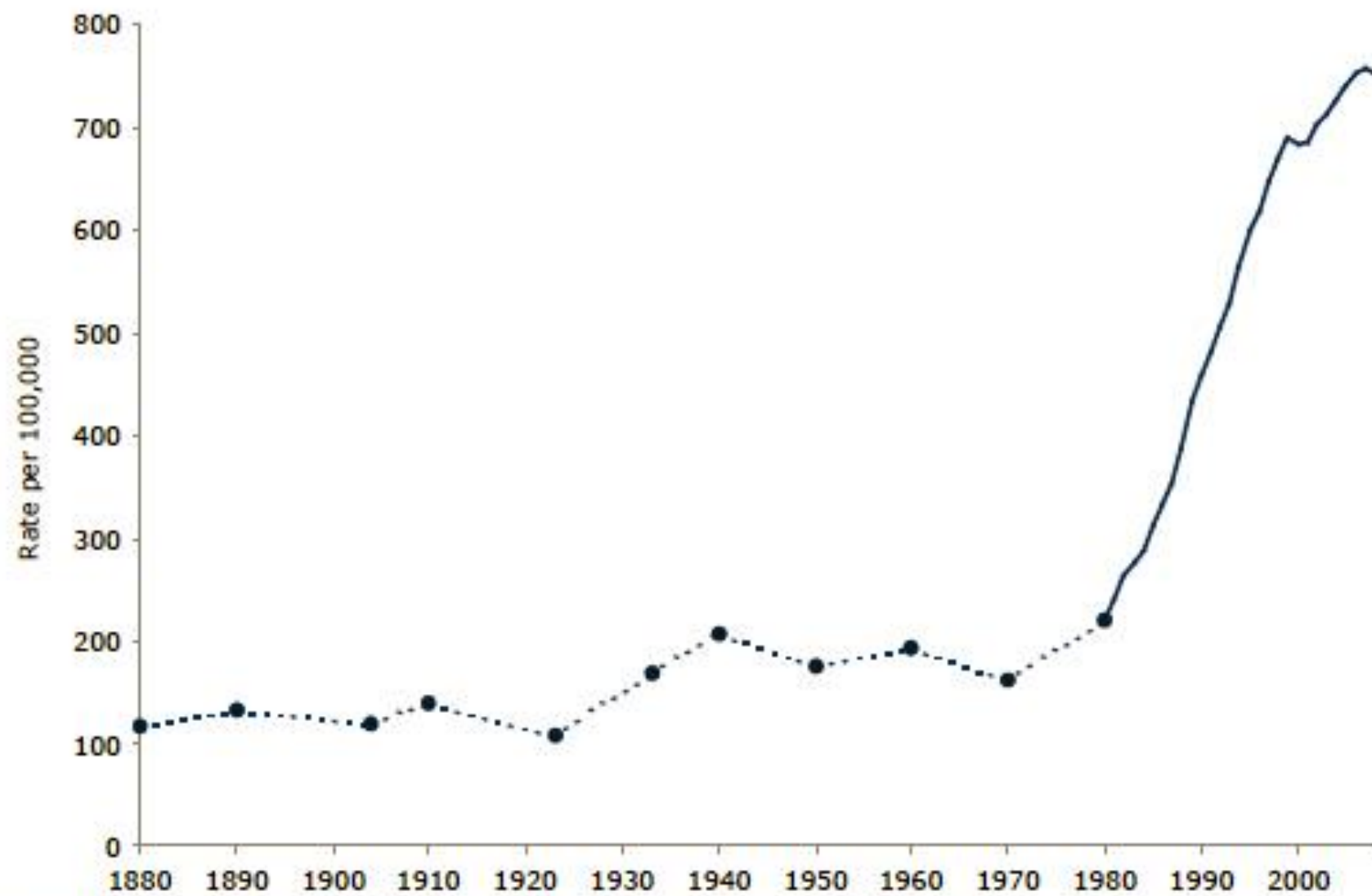
# Punishing Criminal Behavior

- Most serious crime in the United States today is punished by imprisonment, but many other societies lack the resources to build and maintain prisons
  - Need money for buildings, to pay guards, and to feed/clothe prisoners
  - The United States spends around \$32,000/yr per prisoner

(Note: Chart is for California)



**FIGURE 3**  
**U.S. Incarceration Rate, 1880-2008**

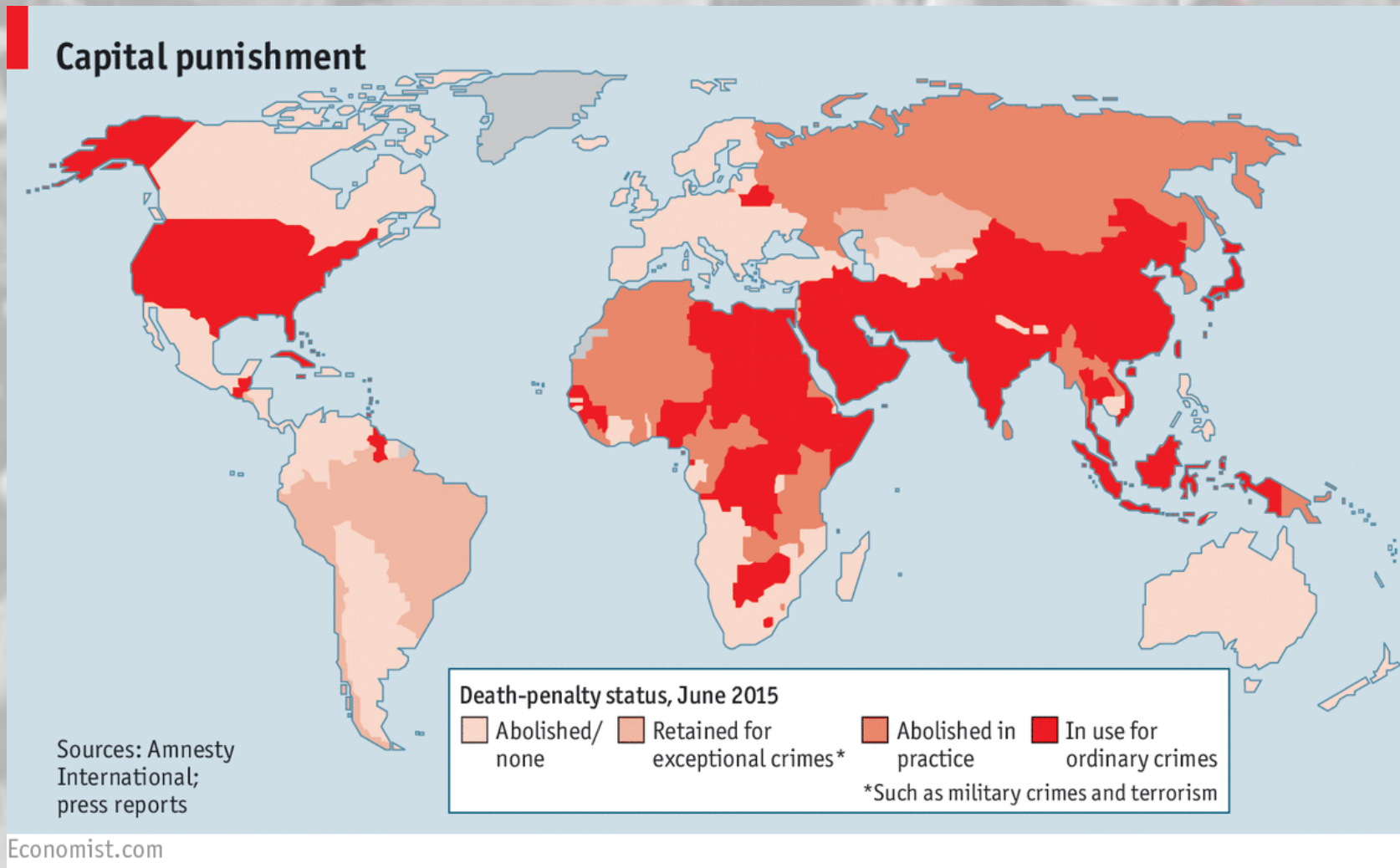


Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics, Census Bureau, and Cahalan (1986). See Appendix for further details.

# Capital Punishment Nationally



# Capital Punishment Internationally



# Incarceration Levels by Country

Country	Prison population	Population per 100,000	Jail occupancy level %	Un-sentenced prisoners %	Women prisoners %
US	2,193,798	737	107.6	21.2	8.9
CHINA	1,548,498	118	N/A	N/A	4.6
RUSSIA	874,161	615	79.5	16.9	6.8
BRAZIL	371,482	193	150.9	33.1	5.4
INDIA	332,112	30	139	70.1	3.7
MEXICO	214,450	196	133.9	43.2	5
UKRAINE	162,602	350	101.3	19.5	6.1
SOUTH AFRICA	158,501	334	138.6	27.5	2.1
POLAND	89,546	235	124.4	16.8	3
ENGLAND/WALES	80,002	148	112.7	16.4	5.5
JAPAN	79,052	62	105.9	14.7	5.9
KENYA	47,036	130	284.3	45.6	42
TURKEY	65,458	91	77.4	47.7	3.3
NIGERIA	40,444	30	101.5	64.3	1.9
AUSTRALIA	25,790	125	105.9	21.6	7.1
SCOTLAND	6,872	134	107.5	21	4.4
N IRELAND	1,375	79	91.5	37.4	2.2

SOURCE: International Centre for Prison Studies