

## Journal 3/12 (B Day 3/13)

What is a deviant act that is not against the law, but you feel should be against the law (a crime).

- Explain why you think it should be a crime
- Explain why you think it isn't currently a crime

# Unit 5: Social Control and Deviance

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Crime

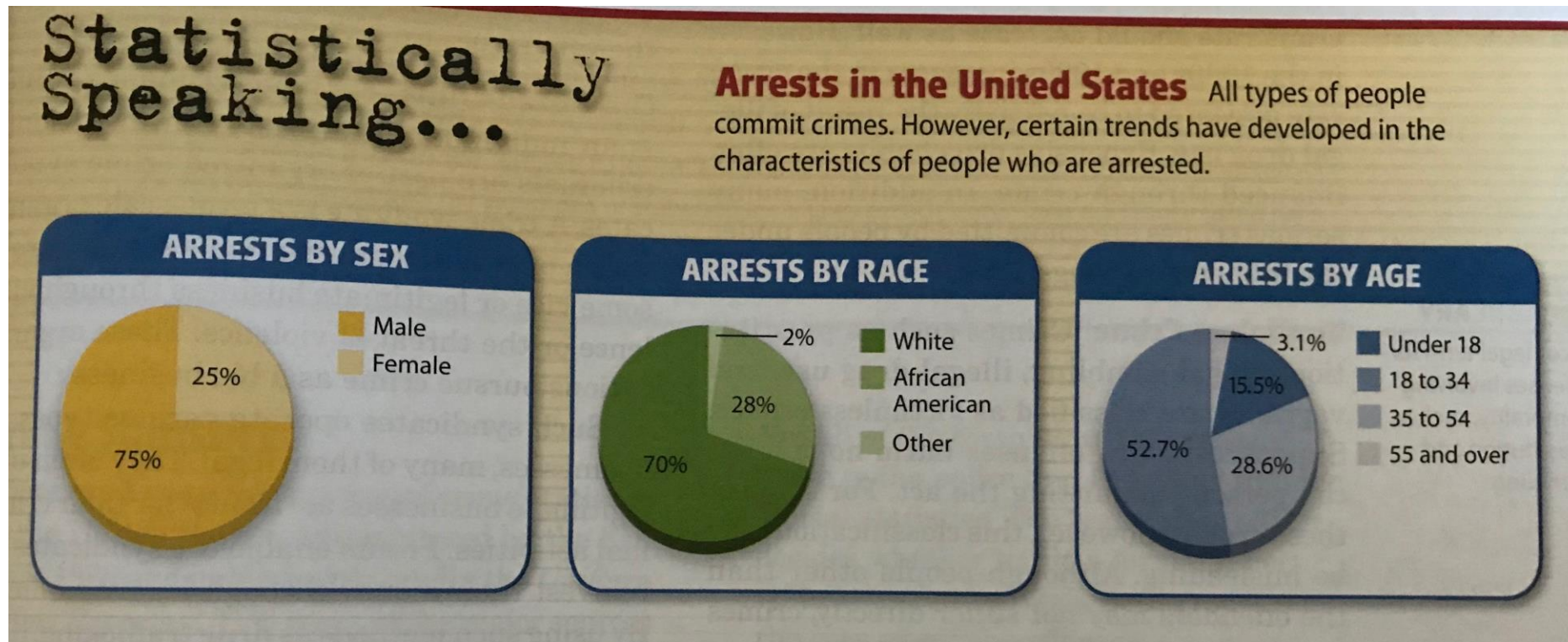
# Crime and Criminals

- Crime affects everyone in the United States
  - Victims, criminals, bystanders
- Our experiences and exposure to crime through mass media make many consider crime a serious social problem



# Crime

- A **crime** is any act that is labeled as such by those in authority and is prohibited by law



# Types of Crime

- The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) organizes crime into 29 separate classifications with two levels of severity
- Five general categories of crime:
  - Violent Crime
  - Property Crime
  - Victimless Crime
  - White-Collar Crime
  - Organized Crime



# Violent Crime

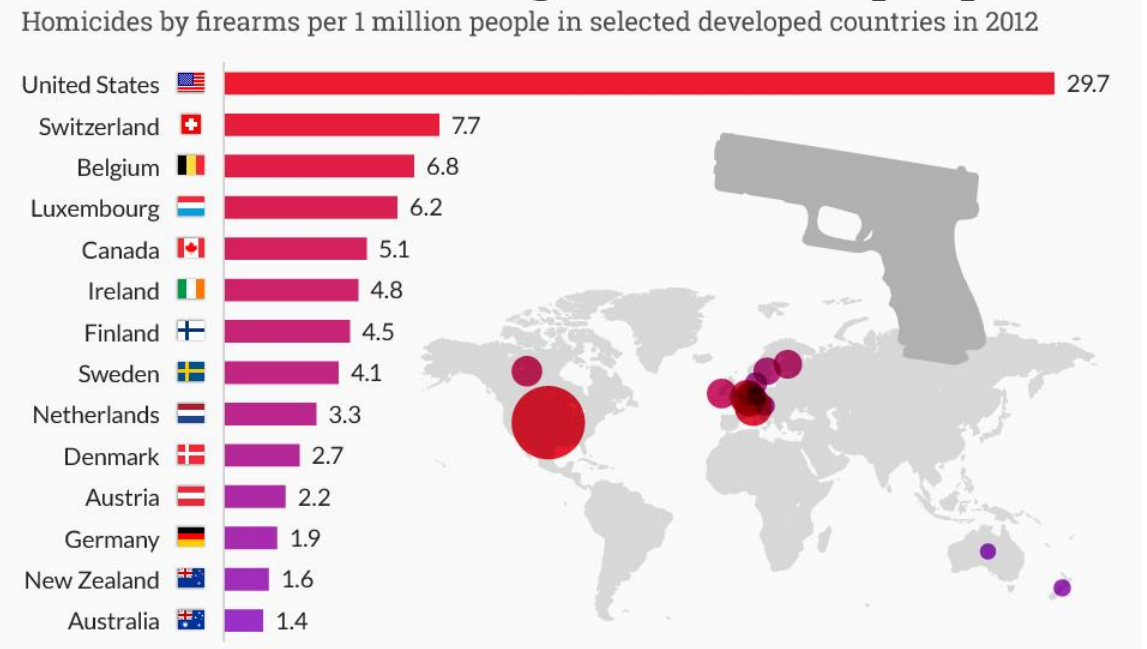
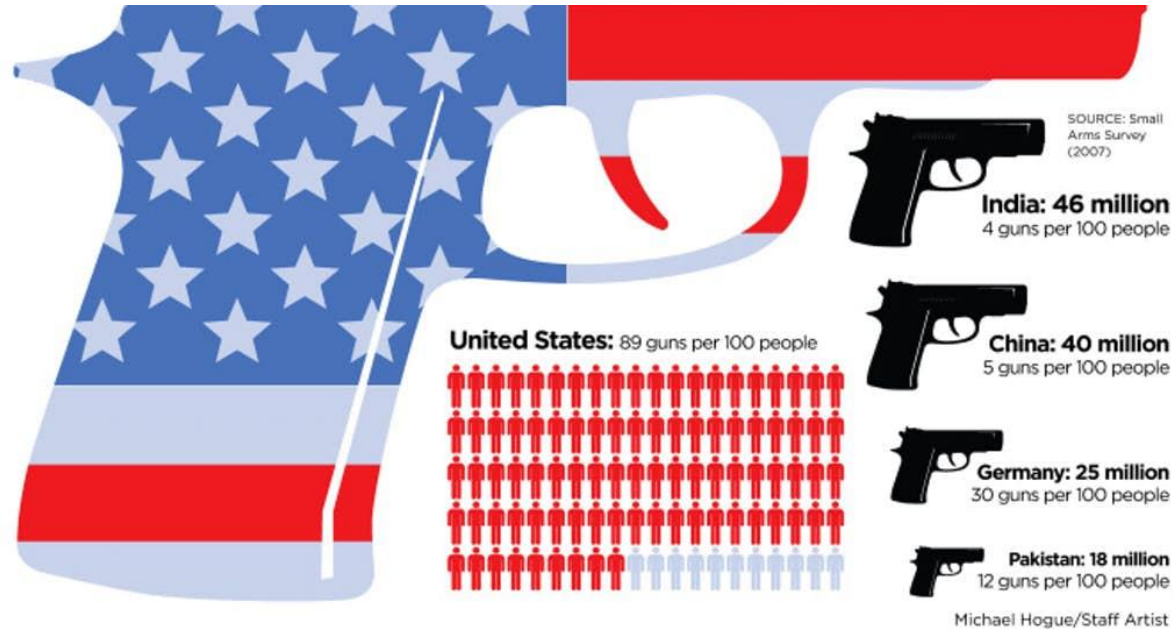
- Violent crimes include murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault
- Violent crimes make up a very small percentage of all crimes  
Most victims of violence are African American
- Black men between the ages of 18 and 24 have a victimization rate that is 8 times that of black women and white men, and 30 times that of white women





# Violent Crime

- The majority of murders are committed with guns (69%)
- The rate of handgun use in homicides is higher in the United States than in any other industrialized country in the world





# Property Crime

- All property crimes either involve stealing or intentionally damaging someone else's property
- Crimes against property are more common than violent crimes
  - burglary (breaking and entering)
  - larceny (theft other than auto)
  - motor vehicle theft
  - arson



# Victimless Crime

- Offenses harm no one but the person committing the act
  - Prostitution
  - Illegal Gambling
  - Illegal Drug Use
  - Vagrancy
- Although people might not suffer directly, there can be significant consequences for family and society



# White-Collar Crime

- Offenses committed by people of high social status in the course of their professional lives.
  - Politicians, employees of corporations, and corporations themselves
- Offenses include:
  - Fraud
  - Tax evasion
  - Embezzlement
  - Price-fixing
  - Toxic pollution
  - Insider trading
  - Political corruption
- Costs US over \$300 billion/yr



# Organized Crime

- A crime syndicate is a large-scale organization of professional criminals that controls some vice (gambling, prostitution, drugs) or legitimate business through violence or threat of violence
- They often use legitimate businesses as fronts for their criminal activities



# Crime Project

- Make a poster for one of the groups of crime (Violent Crime, Property Crime, Victimless Crime, White-Collar Crime, Organized Crime)
- Define the group of crime
- Define various crimes that fall under the larger group (ex: burglary)
- Provide informative demographics and statistics
- Include an infamous case
- Draw or glue on images