

Women's Criminality: From Individual Deviance to Psychological and Social Interpretation of Criminal Phenomenon

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Abstract:

Criminal phenomena have seen substantial alterations over the last several decades, influencing many forms of crime and associated social players. They are no longer confined to males as ancient works described; rather, women have emerged as significant protagonists in the production of specific criminal forms, whether traditional, contemporary, or connected to digital, economic, and social advancements that have touched numerous sectors.

This significant transformation has led to a reconsideration of the explanations that linked women's criminality to biological or individual psychological factors, shifting toward more comprehensive psychological and sociological approaches that connect crime to social structure, socialization, value transformations, and more.

The study of women's criminality does not aim solely to understand the individual behaviour of the deviant but seeks to analyse the various social contexts that give rise to this behaviour, especially in light of the transformations experienced by Algerian families, the changing functional roles within them and in society as well, and the widening circle of marginalization, poverty, and both symbolic and material violence. It has become vital to go beyond the reductionist paradigm that regards the female criminal as an uncommon or aberrant instance.

This study belongs to the field of social studies concerned with the phenomena of crime and delinquency in general, and specifically seeks to uncover a set of factors that explain the tendency of females, being one of the most sensitive social groups, toward the world of crime and the trend toward a psychological and sociological interpretation that links crime to the social structure and the imbalanced relationships in society. The research begins with a basic issue: What are the primary reasons that lead women into criminal behaviour?

The research gives specific emphasis to the role of social and family upbringing in developing this behaviour, giving light on the characteristics of the phenomena and seeking to explain it within the Algerian social and cultural environment.

Keywords: deviation, criminality, women's crimes, socialization, individual deviation...

Introduction:

No criminal phenomenon is studied in isolation from its temporal and spatial context; it is essential to observe its dynamics and track the transformations it undergoes, in order to understand the environments in which it takes root and the human groups among which it spreads, as well as to elucidate the contributing factors to its rise and the conditions that govern its ebb and flow over different periods.

This is attributed to the fact that women's crimes are still considered taboos in our social culture; they are often committed in secrecy and take on a hidden nature when compared to men's crimes.

This study includes the criminal behaviour of women, which holds significant importance in the field of modern social, legal, and psychological studies. This is due to the fact that it constitutes a dangerous behaviour for society and the family, as women are active participants in social life. Any deviation in their behaviour leaves a profound impact on the family and society.

The failure to address the phenomenon of female criminality leads to its dangerous spread. Therefore, many researchers in various fields, especially in criminology, have sought to explain the phenomenon and attempt to combat it by legislating criminal behaviour and giving importance to studying crime among women.

The latter has been associated in people's minds with men due to the prevalence of various crimes among males, given the limited role women played in traditional society. This is contrary to what is common in the current era, where women have entered various fields and domains, competing with men, including in crime and delinquency.

Crime is no longer exclusive to men; prisons are also filled with female criminals due to the influence of various factors. Studying criminal behaviour among women is considered serious research that raises an important issue by posing a significant question about the sociological explanation of the criminal phenomenon among women compared to criminal behaviour among men.

First: The concept of female criminality and the psychological and sociological specificity of the phenomenon:

Female criminality is defined as a set of deviant behaviours and actions that violate the legal system, with its forms branching out to include economic, social, moral, and electronic crimes. This phenomenon derives its uniqueness from two interrelated dimensions that cannot be separated: the sociological dimension, represented by the social and cultural structure that defines the image of women and their roles within society, and the psychological dimension, related to the psychological makeup of women and the internal tensions that arise from socialization pressures and societal expectations, which may predispose them to deviant behaviour.

From a sociological perspective, women are subjected to a system of strict social norms that position them as guardians of moral values and the fundamental pillar of family stability and social cohesion. This makes any deviation from these norms widely condemned and subject to severe forms of social rejection, more intense than what men face in similar situations.

From a psychological perspective, studies indicate that the female criminal often experiences a severe psychological conflict between her intrinsic motivations and the ideal expectations imposed on her by society. The sense of oppression, exclusion, and pressure from gender roles generates a state of psychological tension that may erupt in the form of deviant or criminal behaviour.

And thus, feminist crime is not perceived in the collective consciousness merely as a violation of legal texts, but is also stigmatized as a blatant infringement of the socially prescribed roles for women. This explains the stark contrast in social reactions between the genders, a contrast fueled by prevailing cultural representations of masculinity and femininity within the social and symbolic system.

- Women's criminality throughout history:

The search for the roots of female criminality leads us to investigate the origins of human crime itself. The Quranic narrative tells us that the first murder witnessed by humanity was committed by a man when he killed his brother; Allah said: "And recite to them the story of Adam's two sons in truth, when they both offered a sacrifice and it was accepted from one of them but not accepted from the other. He said, 'I will surely kill you.'" Then Allah continues: "He said, 'I will surely kill you,'" confirming that the first murder on earth was committed by a man, not a woman.

It is difficult to pinpoint the first crimes committed by women due to the scarcity of historical evidence, but some ancient laws, such as the "Ornammu" and "Bet Ishtar" codes and the "Hammurabi" code (2003 BC), reveal actions attributed to women that were considered violations of prevailing customs and traditions. B.C.), reveal actions attributed to women that were considered contrary to prevailing customs and traditions.

For example, the Code of Hammurabi included what was known as sacred prostitution, where the girl was offered to the temple as an offering to the gods. Meanwhile, an unmarried woman who committed adultery was looked down upon compared to a chaste woman, even though adultery in general did not constitute a violation of public order unless the woman was married.

And in the Holy Quran, there are profound references to women from previous nations who committed deviant acts; the wife of Lot betrayed her husband and insisted on his stance, so her fate was destruction along with her unjust people, and God saved Lot and his family except for her.

Allah Almighty said: *"Indeed, we will destroy the people of this city, for its people have been wrongdoers... "To save him and his family, except for his wife, who was among those who lagged behind."*

And likewise, the wife of the Aziz who attempted to seduce Prophet Joseph and fabricated a false accusation against him, in a scene immortalized by the Holy Quran: *"And she, in whose house he was, sought to seduce him. She closed the doors and said,*

'Come, you.' He said, 'I seek refuge in Allah. Indeed, he is my lord. He has made good my residence. Indeed, wrongdoers do not succeed.'" (Yousef: 23).

In the pre-Islamic era, women's crimes revolved around adultery, drinking alcohol, and dancing in taverns, which made the Arabs fear giving birth to daughters and even led them to the point of burying them alive out of shame.

God Almighty said, lamenting their stance: *"And when one of them is given tidings of a female, his face becomes dark and he is filled with inward grief. He hides himself from the people because of the bad news he has received. Shall he keep it in humiliation or bury it in the ground? Unquestionably, evil is what they judge."*

Islam came to gradually prohibit what was permissible in actions, until halal and haram became clearly defined, and women became accountable for their actions just like men. Over time, in countries that relaxed their punitive laws and granted women a wider margin of freedoms, the rate of their criminality gradually increased, within a legislative context that permitted what was previously prohibited.

Second: The psychological and social development of female criminality and its differences from male criminality:

Criminologists and forensic sociologists present a complex and multidimensional picture when it comes to female crime and its developmental trajectory, especially when compared to male crime.

Understanding this phenomenon cannot rely solely on official criminal statistics, as the latter remain an incomplete and not entirely reliable source, due to potential distortions or modifications driven by various considerations; such as the desire to reassure public opinion or the need to polish the image of security agencies before the legislative and executive institutions.

Moreover, many crimes committed by women are characterized by secrecy and concealment, which hinders reporting them and keeps them within the realm of the dark figure, far from official records. This concealment is fundamentally due to intertwined psychological and social factors, the most prominent of which are: the pressure exerted by the family and social environment on the victims, the social stigma that pursues the reporting woman before it pursues the perpetrating woman, in addition to the psychological barriers resulting from a social upbringing based on silence and submission, which prevent disclosure and reporting.

- Aspects of the difference between male and female criminality **A- The difference in terms of quantity:**

Historically, women have received positive testimonials due to their lower crime rates compared to men. Pollak believes that many crimes committed by women are not reported in official statistics, especially thefts committed by prostitutes and maids, as well as crimes of abortion, infanticide, and sexual deviance, which are rarely reported to the courts (Samia Hassan Saati, 1999, p.124).

Pollak also points out that men often act as a barrier to reporting women's crimes, even if they are the victims, playing the role of the protector who conceals these crimes from the relevant authorities (Pollak, 1950, p.07).

Lombroso pointed out that women are not necessarily less criminal than men, but their crimes are less prominent and visible because their roles as housewives, caregivers, and wives allow them to commit crimes that are difficult to detect, such as slow poisoning of the husband, child abuse, or abortion (Mohammed Abdullah Al-Warikat, 2009, p.170).

B- The difference in terms of severity:

Criminal studies have proven that men's crimes are often characterized by violence and cruelty, as they commit murder, armed robbery, home invasions, and bank heists with a boldness that is lacking in women. In contrast, women tend to commit crimes thru deception and treachery, avoiding direct confrontation. When they commit a serious crime like murder, they resort to poison or take on the role of the instigator who does not appear at the crime scene (Wadi Imadeddine, 2013, p.35).

Regarding crimes against property, women tend toward shoplifting, pickpocketing in crowded places, and fraud. As for crimes against public morals, they commit offenses such as corruption, prostitution, and child abuse. In conclusion, her criminality is less severe than that of men, and statistics on recidivism prove that women return to crime less frequently compared to men (Samia Hassan Saati, p.30).

C- The difference in terms of type:

Most scholars agree that women's crimes are characterized by cunning and deception; although they often play a secondary role, they effectively employ trickery, cunning, and scheming. Her participation manifests in two forms: the first is enticing a man and drawing him into compromising situations that are later used as leverage for blackmail, and the second is playing the role of the obedient wife or the trusted sister to instill a sense of security in situations where the victim is being deceived. (Wadi Imadeddine, 2013, p.35)

One of the crimes most associated with women is infanticide, which is the method girls' resort to in order to eliminate the consequences of illicit relationships and avoid social shame. The crimes particularly associated with women also include: throwing acid on the faces of rivals and unfaithful lovers, the sexual exploitation of young boys, practicing lesbianism and prostitution, in addition to abortion, which many researchers consider the most prevalent undetected crime among female offenders.

- Reasons for the difference between male and female criminality:

A- The difference in biological and psychological makeup:

Women differ from men in their physical and psychological structure; from an organic perspective, they are more delicate and less physically strong, which explains their distance from violent crimes. The role of innate functions such as pregnancy and childbirth in shaping her personality and emotions should not be underestimated either. Psychologically, a woman may commit a crime when she feels her emotions are broken or her identity is violated, which explains the connection of some of her crimes to the stages of menstruation, childbirth, and breastfeeding (Mohammed Chellal Habib, 1985, p.186).

In this context, Freud (Freud, 1933) believes that femininity is shaped by specific psychological dynamics related to sexual identity and unconscious conflicts, and that women tend to direct their aggression inward or toward their immediate emotional

environment rather than expressing it directly, which explains the covert nature of many of their crimes compared to those of men (Freud, S, 1933).

As Erik Erikson (1968) adds in his theory of identity development, a woman builds her psychological identity closely related to her social and emotional relationships. Therefore, any threat to these relationships or the collapse of the family structure may be a pivotal factor in pushing her toward criminal behaviour, especially crimes of an emotional and retaliatory nature (Erikson, E., 1968).

Some researchers have estimated a woman's muscular strength to be about half that of a man's, which explains the rarity of her committing crimes that require significant physical effort, and her resorting instead to means that do not require strength, such as poisoning (Basma bint Abdullah Al-Namsawi, 2010, p.150).

B - The difference in social roles:

The woman occupies a protected position under the man in most stages of her life, which makes her less exposed to external influences that predispose her to crime. Studies have confirmed that the criminality of married women is less than that of single women, and that as their participation in social life increases, their exposure to these influences rises.

- Prevailing social values:

Social values carry significant weight in determining what is considered deviant behaviour and what is not, and these values vary from one society to another. In some countries, premarital pregnancy does not constitute a legal crime, which automatically reflects on the scale of abortion and infanticide crimes (Samia Hassan Saati, 1999, p.124).

In conclusion, women remain less criminal than men in all societies, and this difference is partly attributed to their deeper religiosity and greater adherence to religious and moral norms, as well as their qualities of selflessness, gentleness, and compassion that steer them away from the path of crime.

Third: Sociological Explanations for Women's Crimes:

Traditional explanations focused on the individual aspect of women's crimes, where the biological school attempted to analyse women's deviance thru genetic factors and physical and hormonal characteristics. The pioneers of the positivist school considered that women suffer from biological or psychological disorders that make them more prone to deviance. Psychological approaches also focused on trauma, emotional disintegration, personality disorders, and family deprivation as major factors driving women to commit crimes.

Fourth: Psychological Explanations for Women's Crimes:

There are multiple scientific interpretations that have sought to understand the phenomenon of female criminality and analyse its dimensions. These interpretations have evolved thru successive stages, transitioning from reductionist individual perspectives to more profound and comprehensive psychological approaches.

On the level of traditional interpretations, the positivist biological school focused on analysing women's deviance thru the lens of genetic factors, physical characteristics, and hormonal disorders. Its pioneers argued that there is an inherent biological predisposition in women's composition that makes them more prone to deviant behaviour.

This reductionist view sparked extensive debate in academic circles due to its lack of contextual and human dimensions.

However, psychological approaches have come to transcend this biological reductionism, shedding light on the deep psychological factors that predispose women to commit crimes. These approaches have given central importance to early psychological traumas and emotional disintegration resulting from relational failures, as well as personality disorders rooted in childhood and adolescence experiences, and familial deprivation that produces psychological wounds hindering the construction of a healthy identity and weakening the ability to adapt socially.

These interpretations reveal that female crime is not an isolated, sporadic event, but rather often the result of psychological accumulations and emotional breakdowns whose roots extend to early upbringing and psychological formation pathways.

- The studies that emerged between 1900 and 1950:

Among the studies, we can mention, for example, the study by Margaret Adam, the study by Peachop, and the study by Sheldon Glueck. What distinguished these writings was the significant influence of Freud's writings on explaining women's criminal behaviour. On the other hand, the functionalist theory emerged. Despite the criticisms it faced, Freud's theory holds weight in criminology, as it represents the fundamental explanation for most writings before 1920.

Therefore, we briefly refer to the content of this theory, which interprets women's criminal behaviour based on an important concept: lack of integration. The woman was not adapted to her roles as a mother or wife and lacked the ability to suppress and adapt. Based on this assumption, Freud explained deviations in women's behaviour, whether it manifested as professional activity outside the home, a lack of desire for marriage and motherhood, or the commission of criminal acts. This woman suffers from a masculinity complex.

Among the symptoms of this complex that appear in women is their intense desire to achieve the accomplishments that men aspire to, such as success, distinction, fame in the professional field, power, and authority. Freud believes that gender and the roles assigned to it are what define entities, as culture focuses on structural composition and personal traits, which are not chosen by the individual or social conditions, but are the result of biological and hereditary factors.

The psychological theory, like biological explanations, tends to say that the origins of crime and deviance lie within the human psyche, while biological explanations focus on physical characteristics. Psychological explanations have given weight to personal characteristics.

As for functionalism, it sees the phenomenon of crime and deviance as resulting from tensions and structural imbalances, as well as various mechanisms of organization and moral regulation in society. If the aspirations of individuals do not align with the incentives provided by society, the gap between desire and its fulfilment may drive individuals to commit deviant acts and crimes.

The functionalist theory recognizes the importance of culture and social structure and focuses on the division of labour and the delineation of roles between men and

women as having great significance in society. Men should specialize in professional roles, while women should specialize in domestic and familial roles. A woman's deviation from her designated roles is considered a lack of adaptation and poses a danger to individuals and the stability of society.

- The studies that emerged during the 1960s:

The studies in this era differed from those that came before it. Among the most important studies that emerged during that period was the study by Otto Pollak. Previous studies viewed women as unequal to men, considering them less criminally inclined. However, Pollak refuted this hypothesis, declaring that women's crimes are equal to men's crimes. This idea resonated with the liberation movement and received significant acceptance.

Women's crimes are attributed to the mask-like nature that characterizes their offenses, due to the traditional role of women which makes it difficult to detect their crimes. It is believed that women's crimes revolve around murder by poisoning, and most of the crimes they commit are not recorded in official records due to the traditional role women play, which makes them subjects of sympathy from the criminal justice system. Additionally, most of the crimes are not committed by them alone; they often resort to involving men in their crimes, which sometimes leads to the men covering for them.

- Studies that emerged after the 1960s:

This period is considered one of the richest in studies that focused on women's crimes, as this topic received a lot of attention. Among the notable features of the works during that period was the focus on social influences. Among those studies are the works of Rita Simon and Freda Adler, who examined the role of women's entry into the workforce and its impact on the increase in crime rates among women.

Statistics were presented regarding the status of women in the workforce and predicted that increasing job opportunities for women would raise the likelihood of them committing work-related crimes. Adler, on the other hand, attributes the rise in women's crimes and delinquency to the influences of women's movements, in addition to the role of technology, which has given momentum to women's freedom, leading them to commit crimes that were previously male-dominated.

The change in their societal roles, as they no longer confined themselves to secondary roles but have taken on primary roles, also contributed to this. The exaggeration in demanding women's freedom and the weakening of social control were reasons for the increase in crime rates among women.

- The stereotype of women's crimes:

Researchers have historically viewed deviance as a predominantly male phenomenon. However, recent research has revealed that this phenomenon has also infiltrated the female world, to the extent that organized systems of female deviance now exist. The various differences between the genders, whether biological, psychological, or social, have contributed to the emergence of specific criminal patterns among women.

Among the most prominent of these patterns:

Infanticide: Girls resort to it primarily to rid themselves of the social consequences of illicit relationships, and to avoid the social stigma and the shame it brings in our societies.

The crime of prostitution: a socially rejected phenomenon religiously, morally, legally, and customarily, leading to the destruction of women's dignity, the collapse of the family, and the distortion of society's image (Chafik Mohammad, 1995, p.189).

Abortion crime: It falls under the category of hidden crimes that rarely appear in statistics, and it has started to take on alarming dimensions in light of moral decay and girls distancing themselves from their family environment. Women resort to it when they become pregnant outside of marriage out of fear of scandal, or when they are unable to provide for the necessities of life (Abu Al-Rous Ahmed, 1980, p.315).

Robbery, theft, fraud, and extortion: Although traditionally classified as male crimes, reality proves that women are increasingly engaging in them, as their multiple social roles provide them with unusual opportunities to practice these crimes with a degree of immunity against detection and legal prosecution.

Adultery: Any sexual relationship outside the framework of a legitimate marriage contract is considered a forbidden act punishable by law and contrary to religious principles.

Drug offenses and public intoxication: These crimes are no longer exclusive to men, as women have noticeably become partners in them, and they are often associated with the practice of debauchery and prostitution (Rachouan Hassan, 1983, p.80).

Studies indicate that female criminality is characterized by secrecy and concealment to a large extent, making official statistics inadequate in reflecting its actual magnitude. Researchers note that fraud, forgery, and prostitution dominate the list of crimes committed by women, while spousal murders top the list of homicides.

Fourth: Contributing factors that drive women to commit crimes

A- Biological factors:

Cesare Lombroso explained the low rate of female crime by biological and physiological factors; he linked the causes of criminal behaviour to biological determinism and believed that the physical constitution of women places them in a position of observation and waiting, unlike the proactive male. He also demonstrated a relationship between women's criminal activity and the stages of puberty, menstruation, and menopause, showing that crime peaks during the stages of menopause and early childhood (Ihsan Mohammed Al-Hassan, 1981, p.100).

Lombroso observed that the delay in the onset of menstruation is associated with the commission of theft crimes, while early puberty is linked to prostitution. He also demonstrated that an imbalance in the secretion of the reproductive glands, especially during childhood and youth, may drive a woman toward moral crimes when she finds in her environment social factors that predispose her, such as a broken family or a fragile social status.

B - Social factors:

Sociologists assert that crime is an acquired behaviour, not an inherited one, and therefore they oppose attributing it to purely biological factors. They believe that

understanding female criminality requires studying the prevailing values in society, the roles assigned to women, the nature of their relationship with men, and the environment of peers and the family and social surroundings (Ihsan Mohammed Al-Hassan, 2008, p.115).

Many studies suggest that socialization is the decisive factor in determining the behavioural patterns of both genders; from childhood, girls learn gentleness and withdrawal, while boys learn control and initiative. And if there is a flaw in women, society is responsible for it by establishing restrictive standards shaped from a purely male perspective.

C- Incorrect family values:

The Algerian family has inherited a set of backward values toward women as a result of historical and civilizational residues; preferring boys over girls and granting them absolute freedom while restricting and monitoring girls forms constraints that limit their potential and weaken their self-confidence.

Additionally, harmful concepts have seeped thru cultural interactions, including the derogatory views some young men hold toward girls, which drive them to harass and exploit them, potentially leading them into moral crimes such as adultery, prostitution, and illicit relationships.

- Unemployment and Idleness:

Many girls suffer from the burden of unemployment and the deadly psychological shadows it casts; for idleness kills ambition, leads to despair and loss, and slips toward deviation. And when a girl does not know how to invest her time and fill it with something beneficial, she may resort to the company of young people, staying out late, and going on mixed trips that open doors to deviation.

- Family disintegration:

The family is the basic unit of society and the primary factory of values; therefore, its disintegration leaves extremely serious effects on the children. The absence of supervision and guidance drags children toward bad company, leading to the distortion of their personalities and their inability to adapt. And the girl, in particular, is the most vulnerable to this disintegration, as it may drive her to homelessness and make her a victim of exploitation and rape, and then lead her into the cycle of crime.

- Women's liberation and their entry into the workforce:

The mid-20th century witnessed loud calls for women's liberation and equality with men, and these calls were translated into legislation in many countries that granted women expanded rights. In reality, women's entry into the workforce and their assumption of positions in the state exposed them to influences they had not encountered before, which significantly increased the rates of crimes they commit, such as embezzlement and bribery, among others (Samia DjJaber Al-Hassan, 2000, p.338).

And when the moral distinctions that frame freedom disappear, and responsible freedom is confused with reckless freedom, many girls slip into the valleys of vice, finding in crime, theft, and addiction an outlet that deceives them into believing they have independence without foundation.

- Media:

The media has become a major source of socialization, even a fierce competitor to the family in shaping values and identities. As much as they contribute to expanding individuals' horizons and enriching their knowledge, when they present drugs as heroic or cloak sexual excitement in the guise of entertainment, they become a focal point for distorting awareness and pushing adolescents to unconsciously imitate deviant models (Thuraya Al-Tijani, 2011, p.126).

- The poor economic and housing conditions:

Adequate housing and sufficient income are two pillars for the development of a sound personality; cramped and dark living conditions push individuals to the streets in search of relief, where they fall into the clutches of bad company away from supervision and guidance. As for poverty, it is one of the strongest motivations that compel girls to commit crimes such as prostitution in search of financial gain in the absence of legitimate resources (Guazmir Amina, Mohammed Al-Aissaoui, 2004, p.195).

- The Comrades Group:

A girl in the stages of adolescence and youth needs belonging and social acceptance, which may make her a tool for groups that entice her with love and affection, then drown her in the tide of crime. Bad friends are often the first gateway for a girl to encounter drugs and delinquency. The difficulty lies in the fact that when she finds in this companionship a compensation for emotional deprivation, she sometimes willingly succumbs to it, and she may be forced into it when the threat of returning becomes too tight.

- Addiction to alcohol and drugs:

Alcohol and drugs are among the most ferocious factors that predispose individuals to crime; they derail the mind, dismantle innate controls, and transform a person into a being devoid of willpower, capable of committing anything in pursuit of their daily dose. For girls, the danger increases when addiction is linked to a broken family environment, making crime the final destination on the path of collapse. (Saad Al-Maghribi, 2007, pp.19-30)

- The unsuitable school environment:

The school can be a turning point toward delinquency if it fails to build healthy relationships between the student, their teacher, classmates, and the subject matter. The unqualified teacher who resorts to insults, beating, and reprimanding stirs resentment in the student and drives them to abandon school and loiter in the streets. And when the student feels failure and exclusion inside the classroom, they seek belonging outside of it, often finding it in street gangs.

- The clash of values between customs and traditions and modern values:

Our societies still carry within them some inherited traditions that restrict women and reinforce their inferiority, in stark contrast to the spirit of Islam, which equated between male and female. Allah, the Exalted, said: "O mankind, fear your Lord, who created you from one soul and created from it its mate and dispersed from both of them many men and women" (An-Nisa: 1).

And the hatred of girls, which the Quran reminds us to condemn, remains a hidden thread in some social fabrics: "And when one of them is given tidings of a female, his face becomes black and he is filled with inward grief" (An-Nahl: 59). This accumulated sense of inferiority sometimes generates in women a hatred and resentment that manifest in society thru criminal behaviours, as if it were a revenge against an unjust reality. Similarly, the conflict between deeply rooted traditional values and new incoming values intensifies, leaving the individual in a dilemma between two opposing loyalties, which leads to emotional disturbances that pave the way for various forms of deviance.

Conclusion:

Understanding the phenomenon of crime among girls can only be achieved by examining the interconnected system of factors in a comprehensive and integrated manner, without excluding any of them or relying on a single factor claiming its sufficiency.

Every social transformation and every disruption in the value system inevitably produces tensions and deviations, varying in degree and impact according to the pressures of the individual's environment, psychological makeup, and social resources.

Recognizing this truth, a conscious family, sound social upbringing, and firm religious values remain the best safeguards against crime and deviance, far from narrow security solutions that address symptoms while ignoring the roots.

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