**Crime**

**Of the more than 230 people who have died from Covid-19 in Texas jails and correctional facilities, 80 percent had yet to be convicted of a crime. *(Vox.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, November 27, 2020)***

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Organized crime in America takes in more than 40 billion dollars a year and spends very little on office supplies. *(Woody Allen)***

**Police in the U.S. make about 12 million arrests a year, and up to 80 percent are for misdemeanors such as loitering, public drunkenness, and petty theft. Defendants rarely have lawyers and are usually found guilty or plead guilty, leaving them with a permanent entry in the FBI's criminal database. *(The Wall Street Journal, as it appeared in The Week magazine, December 12, 2014)***

**A fundamental document of law, the Constitution, mentions only one crime. Ask your lawyer friend to name it. Correct. Treason. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Costs less to keep a convicted killer in prison for 30 years than to see said murderer all the way through to the death penalty. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**A criminal is a person with predatory instincts who has not sufficient capital to form a corporation. *(Howard Scott, economist)***

**Eyewitnesses to a violent crime almost invariably think the action lasted longer than it really did, police say. And the more violent the crime, the longer they think it lasted. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Scholars are now crediting a religious revival as critical to why crime rates went down in late-19th-century America and England, despite urban upheavals brought on by the Industrial Revolution. It's easy in the wake of buffoons such as Tammy Faye Bakker and Jimmy Swaggart to dismiss religion's unique, powerful role in inculcating countless people with a sense of personal responsibility for reshaping their lives, for accepting the values of hard work, thrift and self-denial. *(Malcolm S. Forbes, Jr., in Forbes)***

**Crime is soaring in communities at the heart of Montana and North Dakota's fracking boom. In Watford City, N.D., arrests increased 565 percent since 2005, while Roosevelt County in Montana saw arrests soar 855 percent, leaving jails full. "I don't have nowhere to put them," said Sheriff Freedom Crawford. *(The New York Times, as it appeared in The Week magazine, December 13, 2013)***

**The only violent crime that does not tend to increase during the full moon is murder, says a police statistician. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Two psychologists at Edgewater College, Cincinnati, Ohio, studied 34,318 criminal offenses committed over a one-year period in Hamilton County (Cincinnati), and reported in 1976 that eight categories occurred more frequently during or near the full-moon phase. The categories were rape, robbery and assault, burglary, larceny and theft, auto theft, offenses against family and children, drunkenness, and disorderly conduct. *(Isaac Asimov's Book of Facts, p. 426)***

**Crime is art for lazy people. *(Cee Lo Green)***

**A Tennessean, vacationing in New York, was returning to his hotel late one evening when a man stepped out of a dark doorway. "Hand over your money or I'll blow your brains out," said the man, pointing a gun at the tourist. "Fire away," replied the Tennessean. "I've found out that you can live in this town without brains, but not without money!" *(Omega, Georgia, News)***

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**The FBI reported 7,314 hate crimes in 2019 -- the highest number since 2008. The actual number is probably much higher, given that only 2,200 police jurisdictions out of 15,000 nationwide report data to the FBI. Anti-Semitic hate crimes numbered 953, a 14 percent increase over the previous year. *(The New York Times, as it appeared in The Week magazine, December 4, 2020)***

**Counties that hosted campaign rallies for President Trump in 2016 have experienced a 226 percent increase in reported hate crimes, compared with counties that did not host rallies, according to a new study by the University of North Texas. *(Vox.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, April 5, 2019)***

**Reported hate crimes rose 17 percent in the U.S. last year to 7,175 , according to the FBI -- the third consecutive year the numbers have increased. Anti-Semitic hate crimes climbed by 37 percent last year, and anti-Hispanic and Latino crimes went up by 24 percent. *(Vox, com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, November 23, 2018)***

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**Though crime is at historic lows in much of the nation, including New York City and Los Angeles, murder rates in four big cities -- Chicago, Baltimore, Milwaukee, and Memphis -- have returned to levels not seen since the 1990s. Criminologists blame drug gangs, a flood of guns, high unemployment, and a breakdown of trust between the communities and police. *(The Wall Street Journal, as it appeared in The Week magazine, March 3, 2017)***

**Creating hope: "Can you imagine a world without men? No crime and lots of happy fat women." *(Nicole Hollander, cartoonist)***

**What else do men convicted of violent crimes have in common? Tattoos, history of abuse as children, record of late bedwetting. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Crime in Japan has become so rare that police often have nothing to do. In 2015, there was just one gun homicide. Firearms are virtually illegal there. *(The Economist, as it appeared in The Week magazine, October 27, 2017)***

**The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it. (*Martin Luther King, Jr.*)**

**People who live near areas with high violent crime rates are 25 percent more likely to suffer from hypertension and 53 percent more likely to be obese, according to a new University of Chicago study. Researchers said chronic stress was contributing to these health problems. *(Chicago Tribune, as it appeared in The Week magazine, July 27, 2018)***

**In Mexico, 93 percent of all crimes are not even reported, because of a lack of trust in the authorities, according to a new report by the University of the Americas Puebla. Of the cases that are filed, fewer than 5 percent result in convictions. Overall, the report said, the chance of paying a penalty for breaking the law in Mexico is 1 percent. *(Oz.com, as it appeared in The Week magazine, February 19, 2016)***

**Murder statistics show killers are 5-to-1 male while their victims are 3-to-1 male. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Every new year is the direct descendant, isn't it, of a long line of proven criminals? *(Ogden Nash)***

**We'll never stop crime until we get over the idea that we can hire or elect people to stop it. *(American Farm & Home Almanac)***

**The number of murders in New York City has fallen 18 percent this year and is on pace to fall below 300 for 2017, which would be the lowest total since the 1950s. In 1990, the NYPD recorded 2,262 murders. *(New York Post, as it appeared in The Week magazine, November 17, 2017)***

**Crime, once exposed, has no refuge but in audacity. *(Tacitus, Roman historian)***

**There is no crime, absolutely none, that cannot be condoned when "our" side commits it. *(George Orwell)***

**The violent-crime rate in the U.S. has dropped to its lowest level in nearly 40 years, defying several long-held theories on the underlying factors for crime. Despite high unemployment rates and fewer people held in jails, robberies fell by 9.5 percent last year, and violent crimes dropped by 5.5 percent. *(The New York Times, as it appeared in The Week magazine, June 10, 2011)***

**Red Handed: A thief was caught in Sydney, Australia, when police "paged" him on the pocket paging device he had stolen. They were investigating a burglary which had occurred at the Telecommunications Commission and decided to dial the number of the missing beeper. It went off in the pocket of a man standing nearby, who was being questioned about a completely different crime. *(Reuters)***

**Secret Weapon: If we really want to stop organized crime, all we have to do is form a government agency to run it, then stand back while it is choked to death by red tape., *(Robert A. Linebaugh, in Reader's Digest)***

**A computer run on files of prison inmates turns up this curiosity: The higher the adult prisoner's level of the male hormone testosterone, the earlier the age of that inmate's first arrest. *(L. M. Boyd)***

**Violent crime decreased 4.4 percent in 2013, putting it at the lowest level since 1978. *(Chicago Tribune, as it appeared in The Week magazine, November 21, 2014)***

**Why has crime kept dropping? : The "Broken Windows" theory of crime reduction "is almost certainly wrong," said Kevin Drum. I's true that crime in New York City began a steep, two-decade decline after the police department began cracking down on vandalism, graffiti, and other petty crimes in the early 1990s. But crime rates in other major cities such as Chicago, Dallas, and Los Angeles that didn't institute Broken Windows policing went down at the same rate and time as in New York City. Urban crime has continued to decline steeply throughout the country, and criminologists have advanced many theories to explain this phenomenon, including the decline of lead-based paint (which can cause brain abnormalities that lead to violence), the rise of legal abortion (which kept legions of unwanted poor children from being born), and the end of the crack epidemic. New York City's Police Commissioner Bill Bratton -- who was also commissioner in the '90s -- disdains such theories as "far-fetched" speculation by academics. But Bratton and other Broken Windows advocates need to believe that "the things they do affect crime." In fact, "crime is down for multiple reasons" -- most of them reflecting major social changes beyond the control of the cops. *(The Week magazine, January 16, 2015)***

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