## Should there be feminist criminology?

- **Carlen (1983)** – sheriffs more likely to imprison women, especially when they are mothers

3) **The Gendered Other**

- **Heidenshohn (1985)** – used ‘control theory’
  - There are fewer female offenders as the formal and informal controls of society prevents them from offending

4) **The Masculinity of Crime**

- **Connell (1985; 1987)** – there are multiple masculinities e.g. black/white, gay/straight, middle/working class
- **Messerschmidt (1993)** – crime provides a means of ‘doing’ masculinity

## What is the influence of feminism on criminology?

**Carlen** – no
- Most feminists see crime as a ‘male’ issue
- Attempts to explain crime for both males and females have been academically unsound

**Morris** – no
- Feminism and criminology evolve so to have one unitary explanation is not adequate

**Smart, 1977:**
A few writers/theorists calling themselves/their work ‘feminist’ doesn’t make ‘feminist criminology’

- Developed different explanations of female criminology in a male-dominated society
- Recognised males have been victimised by criminology
- Recognised female experiences of crime via female victim studies

Highlighted specific crimes against women e.g. rape and domestic abuse – solutions can be created/proposed

## What are policies and procedures influenced by feminism?

### Rape

- 1991 – marital rape recognised legally as a crime
- Anonymity of victims in cases
- Not bringing a victims’ character into rape cases
- Specialist suites in police stations

### Domestic Violence

- Women’s shelters have been created
- Seen as a more serious crime to the authorities
- Now includes coercion and control

## SUMMARY:

There are many definitions of feminism and different types

There are 4 waves of feminism – currently we are in the 4th

Liberal feminists strive for equality but only offer superficial solutions by failing to investigate women’s roles in the private sphere

Marxists feminists focus on class and gender, however overemphasise capitalism

There is no sole feminist explanation for criminality

Feminists have contributed to criminology in the forms of: female emancipation; leniency; the gendered other, and the masculinity of crime

Some theorists argue there shouldn’t be a feminist criminology as they both evolve and so a single explanation isn’t enough

Feminism has influenced policies regarding rape and domestic abuse