Victimology

The study of victims.

‘Ideal victim’-the picture the media paints

- Old
- Disabled
- Vulnerable
- Homeless
- Those living alone
- Wealthy
- Children
- Females
- Drunk

Christie-the idea of the ‘ideal victim’ is favoured by the media, public and criminal justice system. Those whom strangers attack. This idea is a social construction.

Real Victim

British Crime Survey (BCS) created by the home office. Comes from the victim’s point of view, large scale, 40,000 per year unstructured interviews. In 1982 it recorded 11m crimes, OCS only recorded 3m.

16-24yo are more at risk of becoming victims of crime due to their lifestyles.

Lifestyle: binge drinking, likely to join subcultures, spend time on social media-cyber bullying, sex crimes.

Those most at risk of being murdered are under 1 year old.

Teenagers are most at risk of sexual harassment, abuse, theft, assault and cyber bullying.

The elderly are most at risk of hidden abuse in care homes or domestic violence.

Men are more likely to be at risk of violent crime, especially by strangers. About 70% of homicide victims are male. Lifestyle related.

Women are more likely to be at risk of ‘intimate crime’, estimated that 2/3 of rape victims don’t report to the police. Only 5% lead to a conviction.