from psychological disorders
- Confused criminality with psychopathology
  - Despite flaws & theory being dismissed, Lombroso’s work was very important
- Tried using empirical evidence & scientific method (even if weakly applied)
- Move from philosophical reasoning to scientific research
  - Lombroso considered by some as the father of modern criminology

Sheldon’s Theory (1949)
- Linked criminality with body build (or somatotype)

  - Three basic body types:
    1. Endomorphs - round, large & heavy
    2. Ectomorphs – thin & bony
    3. Mesomorphs - broad, stocky & muscular
      - Somatotype linked to temperament
        - Endomorphs: relaxed, sociable, out-going
        - Ectomorphs: restrained, introverted
        - Mesomorphs: adventurous, aggressive
      - Due to temperament, mesomorphs more likely to get involved in criminal activity
      - Pure somatotypes are rare
    - Most people are a blend of each type
      - Amount of mesomorphy predicts criminality
      - Compared somatotypes of students & delinquents
        - Mesomorphy was rated on a scale of 1 to 7
        - Delinquents rated with more mesomorphy
      - Mixed support for Sheldon’s hypothesis
        - Hartl et al. (1982): similar findings
        - Sutherland (1951): legal criteria not used for selecting delinquents. When data re-analysed using legal criteria, no link found
    - Many studies in this area suffer from methodological problems
      - Particularly in how mesomorphy assessed
      - However, some support for link between body build & criminal behaviour – but why?
      - Higher testosterone, leading to aggression
      - Judicial system’s negative response to people with a tough appearance
      - None of these explanations are enough

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