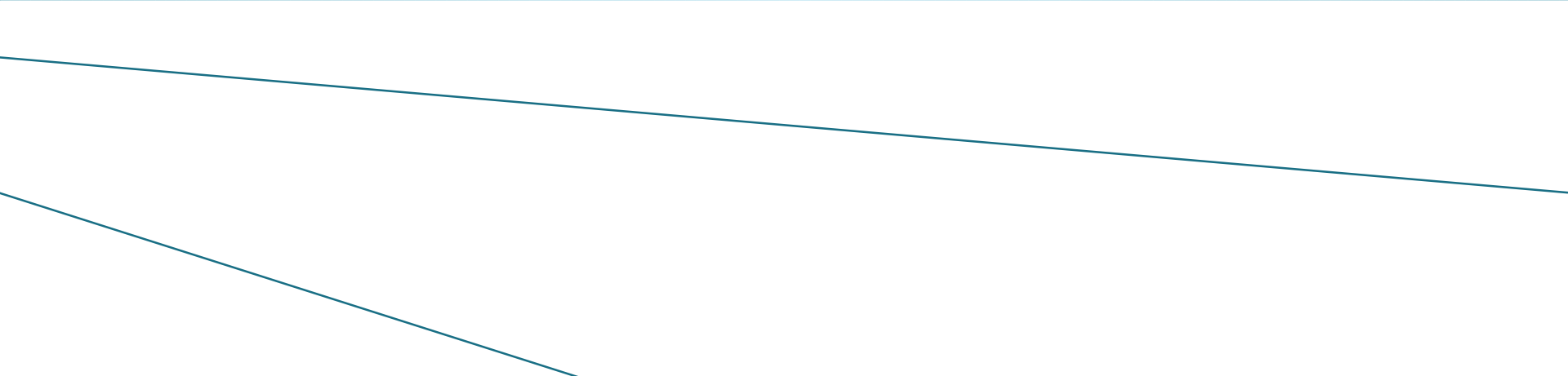


Social Learning Theory & Crime

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Does the Media affect us?

Two thin, parallel teal lines that start from the left edge of the slide and extend towards the right, with a slight downward slope.

- ▶ Case studies such as Ryan and Columbine offer limited evidence for modelling of aggression from the media as such cases are very rare indeed and offer tentative links.
- ▶ The Bulger case has shown no significant link between media violence and modelling.

Huesmann and Eron

(1986):

- ▶ Aimed to find if watching television made children more aggressive
- ▶ The study began in 1960 with 800 eight-year olds, and their TV viewing habits were logged, as well as teachers' reports of how aggressive they were at school. In 1971, the participants were looked at for a second time, now aged 19, to see if they had run into trouble with the law. They were studied a third time aged 30 in 1982, to see once again if any had run into trouble.
- ▶ The children who watched more television showed more aggression around the age of 8 were more likely to be aggressive as teenagers.
- ▶ They were also more likely to be arrested as adults for criminal behaviour

Results

- ▶ Study 1 found that real-life violent video game play was positively related to aggressive behaviour and delinquency.
- ▶ The relation was stronger for individuals who are characteristically aggressive and for men.
- ▶ Academic achievement was negatively related to overall amount of time spent playing video games.

Social learning theory

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This is the explanation!

Evaluation Prompts

- ▶ Focus on Nature or Nurture?
- ▶ Evidence in support?
- ▶ What about from AS?
- ▶ Problems with applying this evidence to crime?
- ▶ What did we say about real life examples?
- ▶ What would Freud say?
- ▶ Why might it be difficult to measure the effect of

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