

Physiological theories

Lombroso	
Theory  	This theory is Deterministic- removes free will, people who have these features are made to be criminals. Lombroso believed some people are born with strong, innate predisposition to behave antisocially. He claimed criminals are not fully evolved, instead they are throwbacks to a previous evolutionary state. This is known as ATAVISM. As a result, you can spot a criminal from their physical atavistic features. Lombroso also believed tattoos were markings of born criminals because they stood as evidence of both immortality and insensitivity to physical pain, e.g. Richard Ramirez (the night stalker). But not every criminal has a tattoo. He believes Criminals are a separate species called homo delinquents.
Supporting research	To research his theory, Lombroso studied the facial and cranial features of 383 dead criminals and 3,839 living criminals. ● He concluded that 40% of criminal acts were committed by individuals with atavistic features. He even claimed you could tell what type of crime they would commit based on which features they had.
How does this theory explain criminal behaviour	– Principle markers: Strong jaw, Heavy brow – Murderers: Bloodshot eyes, Curly hair – Sex offenders: Thick lips, Protruding ears To be marked by Lombroso as born criminals, women need to have 3 or more atavistic features and men 5 or more.
Key terms	Lombroso, Atavism, atavistic features, homo delinquents.