

The Nature of Crime

- A Crime is any act or omission of an act that is prohibited and punishable by federal statute
- Basically anything in the Canadian Criminal Code.
- Canadian Criminal Code



Omission

Omission of an act means that some crimes are a result of failure to act in certain situations.



4 conditions must exist for an act or an omission to be considered a crime

1) The act is considered wrong by society.



2) The act causes harm to society in general or to those (such as minors) who need protection



3)The harm must be serious



4) The remedy must be handled by the criminal justice system



Are the following considered as examples of crime
using this criteria?

Possession of Child Pornography



Possession of Marijuana



Downloading Torrents



Speeding



Making Beer and Wine

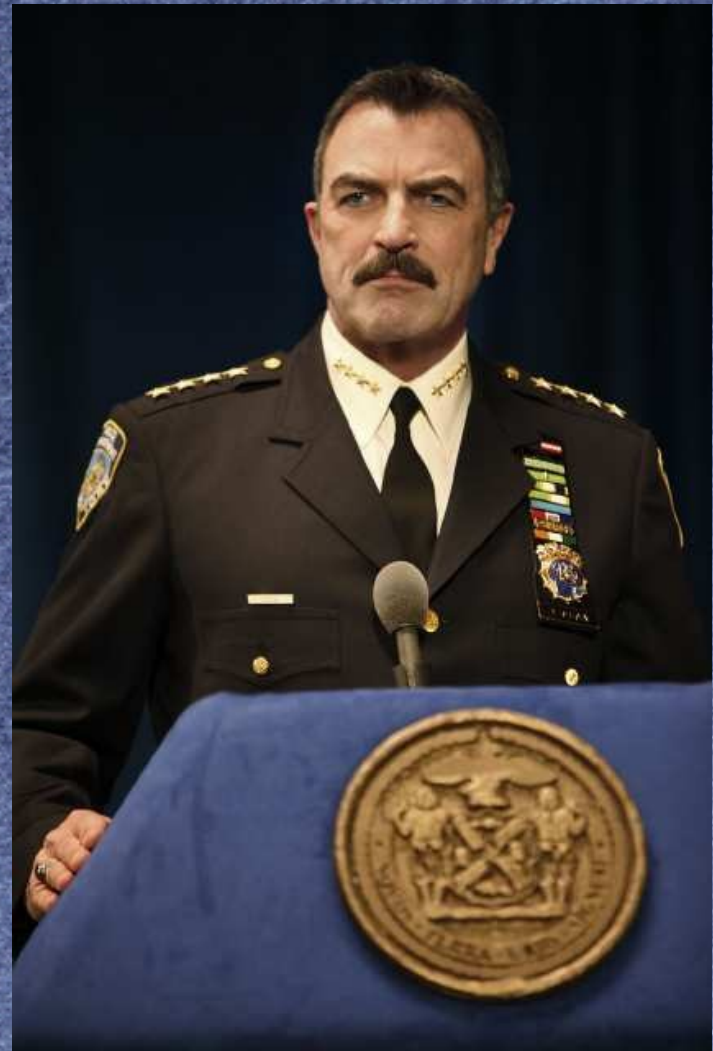


Making Grappa



Crime

- A crime is considered an offence to the general public
- This makes it the government's responsibility to investigate and act against those who commit crimes



The main purpose of Criminal Law is to

i) protect people and property

ii) maintain order

iii) preserve standards of public decency

Which areas in Victoria are most affected by crime?

Victoria Crime Statistics

Which areas in Saanich are most affected by crime?

Map of Saanich

Crime Statistics

What is the general idea about crime rates in Canada?

Current Canadian Crime Statistics

Canadian Criminal Code

- Contains the definition of all criminal offences, the sentences, and procedures for trial
- Parliament amends the code as society's values change
- Canadian Criminal Code



Provincial Jurisdiction

Provincial Courts

administer federal law

- Provinces control traffic and liquor laws
- Provincial or municipal laws are considered quasi criminal, which are less serious and usually involve a fine



1. Should those using illegal drugs be dealt with by the legal system or by social service agencies and the health care system? Explain your choice.

2. To what degree do you think legalizing some or all drugs would be a solution to the problem of illegal drug usage?

3. Form an opinion on safe injection sites and defend it with sound reasoning.

Here are some Resources

B.C.'s Top Doc
Federal Government Reaction
Victoria's Take
CTV News