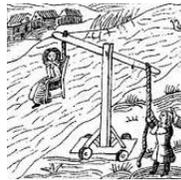




History

Crime and Punishment



- **What do we mean by crime and punishment and what have been some of its main features over time?**

In the past, smaller communities decided what was a crime and how to punish it. The Anglo Saxons created a legal system run by local and royal government; later the judiciary was separated from royalty and government; eventually, in 1830, a Central Criminal Court was established in London. In 1956, Crown Courts were created in Liverpool and Manchester.

- **Over time, what have been some of the main changes to the types of crime committed?**

There are new crimes today due to developments in technology and some crimes from the past – such as treason, vagrancy and highway robbery – that do not exist in the same way in the present.

- **How and why have punishments changed over time?**

In the past, many punishments were severe in order to be a deterrent; later, in the 18th Century, prisons were built for debtors and those awaiting trial. The death penalty was still in use for around 200 crimes and hard labour and transportation were also given as a sentence.

- **How have crimes been investigated over time?**

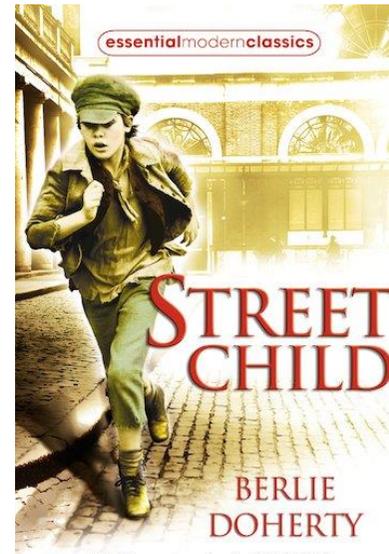
Trial by Ordeal and witch-ducking were among the ways of investigating crime in the past. Before Sir Robert Peel established the first organised police force in 1829 there were Justices of the Peace.

- **How have our views about crime changed over time?**

There have been many changes, notably a more generous attitude towards the poor and the belief that prisons should be a place of reform for the individual rather than simply a punishment.

ENQUIRY QUESTION:

How have crimes and punishments changed in the UK over time?



"A brilliant and moving book." *Julia Golding*

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

A Victorian Scandal:

Prisons, Punishment and Poverty!



Elizabeth Fry, Oscar Wilde and Thomas Barnardo were all Victorians who spoke out about either the awful state of prisons or the treatment of the poor. Fry spoke in Parliament and wrote a book about prisons, Wilde wrote a poem about his experience in jail and Barnardo started the first children's homes for street children.

convict, conviction	judge,	lawyer	poverty
protest	jury	wergild	attitudes
reform	court	outlaw	trial by ordeal
campaign	justice	government	debtors
deter, deterrent	legal system	lawyer	poverty
capital punishment	transportation	wergild	attitudes
corporal punishment	magistrate	vagrancy	workhouse
sentence	prevent	judiciary	vagrants