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Charles Crocker

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(power) and family functions (control). Power control theory argues that power and control within the family sphere are translated into the work field, and when families are patriarchal and males hold dominant positions, they control households. This can be done either through direct control, like bringing in/allowing the use of money, or indirect control, such as devaluing women's work or not allowing their spouse an egalitarian position in the workplace or the home. Children raised in these households will mirror the power-control relationships that they see at home. For example, girls growing up in patriarchal homes are more likely to fear rules and punishment (by being controlled), and as a result they are more likely to commit behaviors such as running away or suicide. In contrast, girls who are raised in egalitarian homes view power as equal and learn that they may have equal power in a relationship, feel as though they are able to have successful careers, and feel more freedom to engage in less risky behaviors.

These three alternative theories have been applied individually, as well as in their totality, to explain white-collar and corporate crime. At the heart of conflict theory is the concept that society is characterized by conflict and power relations, rather than consensus. White-collar and corporate crime, by definition, must be committed by individuals with access to power, prestige, authority, and/or money. Conflict theory provides strong arguments as to why white males are more likely to commit white-collar or corporate crime; why laws and legislation appear to protect the wealthy; why when more women gain access to power, control, and authority, female rates of white-collar or corporate crime may increase; and why economic fluctuations are related to levels of white-collar and corporate crime. Policy implications of conflict theory include equalizing the distributions of power, wealth, and status; favoring minimum wage laws, sharply progressive taxation, government controlled health care systems, maternal leave, and national policies of family support; reforms of patriarchal societies; placing more women into positions held traditionally by males; equal treatment of boys and girls by families, schools, and juvenile authorities; increased educational choices; more opportunities for day care and family support; and gender-sensitivity

education in schools and workplaces to address gender biases and sexist ideas.

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See Also: Conflict Theory; Gender Discrimination; Racial Discrimination.

Further Readings

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Crocker, Charles

Charles Crocker (1822–88) was born in Troy, New York, into a modest family. At an early age, Crocker began to work in order to support his family, leaving school after eighth grade. In 1836, Crocker moved with his family to a northern Indiana farm, and at the age of 17, he began to earn a meager living, first as a farmhand, then working in a sawmill, and later as an apprentice at an iron foundry. In 1845, he discovered an iron deposit nearby and established a forge known as Charles Crocker Company. Following the California gold rush, Crocker sold the company and set out west with a small band of men, including two of his brothers. The journey took Crocker nearly six months, and they arrived in Placerville in 1850. He later gave up mining, opened a store in Sacramento, and, in 1855, was elected to the city council. Crocker quickly became one of the wealthiest and most prominent men in the city.

In 1860, he was elected to the state legislature as a Republican, and soon after became one of four initial investors, along with Leland Stanford, Mark Hopkins, and Collis P. Huntington, all Sacramento merchants, who formed the Central Pacific Railroad. The men later became known as the Big Four, amassing a vast transportation and land empire. Prior to the start of construction,

Crocker resigned from the Central Pacific and formed Charles Crocker & Company (later succeeded by the Contract and Finance Co.). Central Pacific awarded the newly formed company the construction contract for the western part of the first transcontinental railroad. Crocker was head of construction, tasked with the daunting task of building the railroad through the Sierra Nevada eastward. This was a formidable challenge in an era when labor was scarce, a problem that Crocker solved with the use of Chinese workers. In Promontory, Utah, the Central Pacific finally joined tracks with the Union Pacific on May 10, 1869.

Crocker profited enormously, though not without corruption, from contracts with the Central Pacific. In one billing, the jointly owned Contract and Finance Co. charged the government-sponsored Central Pacific \$121 million for \$58 million worth of work. However, unlike the Credit Mobilier and Union Pacific scandal, the reputations of Crocker and his associates went largely unscathed because records of the Contract and Finance Co. were destroyed prior to any investigatory work. With the line completed, the Big Four were major stakeholders in an invaluable transportation railway, the great majority of which was built at the expense of government loans and land grants authorized by President Lincoln's Pacific Railroad Act of 1862. With the monopoly transportation position established, the Big Four used the Central Pacific and other holdings to reap profits, prevent competition, and dominate politics. Crocker and his associates would often set price structures that milked the profits of farmers and ranchers who sought to ship their goods, a practice later regulated by the passage of the Interstate Commerce Commission Act of 1887. The Big Four also reputedly spent millions to influence legislation.

Crocker and his associates continued the expansion of their transportation and land empire by building additional railways north into Oregon and south into the San Joaquin Valley. They purchased inland and ocean steamship lines, monopolized dock facilities, won additional land grants, and bought all roadways. This allowed the industrialists to individually and collectively exert considerable financial and political weight on the business sector for years. Two years after he was seriously injured in a carriage accident, Charles Crocker died in the Del Monte Hotel on August

14, 1888. He left his wife, Mary Ann Deming, three sons, and a daughter with a fortune estimated at over \$40 million.

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See Also: Hopkins, Mark; Huntington, Collis P.; Interstate Commerce Commission Act; Organized Crime; Robber Barons; Stanford, Leland, Sr.

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Cullen, Francis T.

Francis (Frank) T. Cullen may be counted among the top dozen criminologists in the world who study white-collar and corporate crime today. He is a Distinguished Research Professor of Criminal Justice and Sociology at the University of Cincinnati, in Cincinnati, Ohio. Cullen has been at the University of Cincinnati since 1982, and before that spent six years at Western Illinois University. Cullen earned a bachelor of arts in psychology at Bridgewater State University in 1972, followed by a year of graduate study at the University of Rhode Island. He completed a master of arts in sociology and education in 1974, and a doctor of philosophy in sociology and education degree in 1979, both at Columbia University. His doctoral dissertation, chaired by Richard Cloward, was titled "The Structuring of Deviant Behavior: Deviance Theory Reconsidered."

He is the author, or co-author, of hundreds of publications, including 25 books, journal articles, book reviews, book forwards, and government reports. His research interests have crossed a variety of topics including criminological theory, corrections, rehabilitation, juvenile delinquency,