

## **AC.2.1 Biological theories of criminality**

### **1. Physiological theories**

- Lombroso (evolution and facial features)
- Sheldon (Body type)

### **2. Genetic theories**

- Jacob's XYY chromosomal abnormalities
- Mednick (Adoption v biological parents)
- Christiansen (Twins)

### **3. Brain structures**

- Brain damage/injury (Phineas Gage)
- Serotonin & diet (brain chemicals)

## **AC.2.2 Individualistic theories of criminality**

### **1. Learning / behaviourist theories**

- Sutherland (learnt values from family and friends - association)
- Bandura (Bobo doll experiment, including observation, imitation and models)
- Skinner (rats) – operant conditioning: reinforcement (positive and negative) and punishment

### **2. Psychological theories**

- Kohlberg – moral development (Heinz's dilemma)
- Eysenck – criminal personality

### **3. Psychodynamic / psychoanalytic theory**

- Freud
  - o Mind – unconscious
  - o Personality – Id, ego and superego with focus on the **id** and **superego**

## AC.2.3 Sociological theories of criminality

### 1. Structural theories

- Functionalism
  - o Durkheim (Functional, inevitable, normal)
  - o Merton (means and goals)
- Marxism
  - o (Karl) Marx (class and capitalism)

### 2. Interactionism

- Labelling (Becker)
  - o Stigma
  - o Outsider
  - o Master status
  - o Self-fulfilling prophecy
  - o Primary and secondary deviance
  - o Disintegrative shaming
  - o Reintegrative shaming

### 3. Realism

- Left realism (Young) – tough on the **causes** of crime /deviance (e.g. tackling poverty, community links with the police)
- Right realism (Murray) – tough on the criminal or deviant act itself (e.g. harsher penalties)