

The

DYNAMICS

of

POLITICAL

CRIME

Jeffrey Ian Ross

University of Baltimore



SAGE Publications

International Educational and Professional Publisher

Thousand Oaks ■ London ■ New Delhi

CONTENTS

Foreword	ix
<i>Kenneth D. Tunnell</i>	
Preface	xiii
Acknowledgments	xiv
1. Introduction	1
Obstacles to Understanding and Interpreting Political Crime	2
Clarifying What Political Crime Is	3
Why Political Crime Has Changed Over the Past 20 Years	6
Typologies and Categories of Political Crime	8
<i>Targets</i>	8
<i>Perpetrators</i>	9
<i>Why Is This Distinction Important?</i>	10
<i>Where Does State Crime Fit In?</i>	10
What This Book Attempts to Accomplish	11
Summary	13
2. Theoretical Explanations of Political Crime	17
Is It Necessary to Have a Theory of Political Crime?	18
Theories of Political Crime	18
The Broader Context	21
<i>Psychological Theory</i>	22
<i>Structural Theory</i>	24
A New and Improved Explanation	25
<i>Individuals Who Commit Political Crimes</i>	26
<i>Situation Presents Itself</i>	26
<i>Organization Facilitates Illegal/Deviant Behavior</i>	27

	<i>Individuals/Organizations Have Necessary Resources</i>	27
	Summary	28
3.	Oppositional Political Crimes	32
	Delimiting and Defining Political Crime	32
	Typologies	35
	Summary	38
4.	Nonviolent Oppositional Political Crimes	41
	Historical Perspective	42
	Dissent	45
	Sabotage	47
	Subversion	47
	Sedition	48
	Treason	51
	Espionage/Spying	53
	Summary	57
5.	Violent Oppositional Political Crimes: Terrorism	62
	Definitional and Conceptual Issues	63
	Typologies	64
	Historical Perspective	64
	How Widespread Is the Problem?	66
	<i>Number of Events/Annual Trends</i>	66
	<i>Geographic Spread</i>	67
	<i>Targets</i>	68
	<i>Tactics</i>	69
	<i>Terrorist Groups</i>	69
	Research and Theoretical Implications	70
	Causes	70
	<i>Structural Explanations</i>	72
	<i>Social-Psychological Explanations</i>	72
	Summary	74
6.	State Crime	78
	How Widespread Is the Problem?	80
	Definitional and Conceptual Issues	81
	Power and Interest Articulation	82
	Conceptual Clarification of State Crime	84
	Typologies	86
	The Relevance of State Repression	88
	Summary	90

7. Political Corruption	93
Definitional and Conceptual Issues	93
The Special Case of High Crimes and Misdemeanors	94
How Widespread Is the Problem?	94
Historical Perspective	95
The Effect of Political Corruption	95
Who Are the Perpetrators?	96
Singling Out the Dominant Types	96
<i>Corruption by Lawmakers</i>	96
<i>Corruption by Law Enforcement Officers</i>	99
<i>Corruption by Regulatory Inspectors</i>	101
Summary	103
8. Illegal Domestic Surveillance	106
Definitional and Conceptual Issues	106
How Widespread Is the Problem?	107
Causes	107
The Effect of Illegal Domestic Surveillance	109
Historical Perspective	110
<i>The American Experience</i>	111
<i>The Canadian Experience</i>	114
<i>The British Experience</i>	115
Illegal Domestic Surveillance	
by Local Police Forces	116
Summary	117
9. Human Rights Violations	121
Definitional and Conceptual Issues	121
How Widespread Is the Problem?	122
<i>Human Rights Violations in the United States</i>	123
<i>Human Rights Violations in Great Britain</i>	124
<i>Human Rights Violations in Canada</i>	125
Safeguarding Human Rights	125
<i>Philosophical Background</i>	125
<i>Treaties</i>	126
<i>Country-Level Departments</i>	126
<i>Regional Efforts</i>	127
<i>International Bodies</i>	128
Nongovernmental Organizations	
That Protect Human Rights	131
War Crimes	133

Changes in Human Rights Practice	133
Summary	134
10. State Violence	138
Torture	139
Deaths in Custody	140
Police Riots	141
Police Use of Deadly Force	142
Genocide	143
Summary	144
11. State-Corporate Crime	148
<i>Definitional and Conceptual Issues</i>	148
Typology	149
Historical Perspective	150
Causes	153
Summary	154
12. Conclusion: Controlling Oppositional and State Crime	157
Controlling Oppositional Crime	159
Controlling State Crime	161
Summary and Conclusion	167
References	171
Answers to Multiple-Choice Questions	189
Index	191
About the Author	194