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WEEK THREE ASSIGNMENT

 **Nadine Acevedo**, Ashley Pederson, Leah Anderson... [+23 more](#) April 17, 2019 at 1:36pm
SOC305: Crime & Society (BLE1914A)

Hello Class!

This week we have an essay assignment. It is based on Myths and Reality of Crime.

You will watch the video, Crimes of the Powerful (click on the link to the external site.) and write your paper based on the video, our course readings, and outside related scholarly sources.

Our justice system tends to focus on street crime, often ignoring much more significant problems such as white-collar, corporate, and state crime. The video also discusses euthanasia, although the point of this reference is to illustrate how the law can be used as a tool for social change. The video also discusses moral values with a focus on media coverage of harm to children. Laws have changed in direct response to these incidents and the resulting media coverage. In effect, this coverage becomes an engine for social change. The video ends with a discussion of crime theory, reminding us that often people with wealth and high status fall into a different category of criminology.

Please elaborate on the following points in your essay:

1. Imagine asking 100 strangers to describe a criminal. Predict whether those descriptions would be likely to focus on street criminals, or the variety of topics covered in this video.
2. Describe how society defines crime. Do not provide a definition – instead, explain how the definition is reached.
3. Discuss how society decides what to define as a crime.

