5.4 Feminist Explanations of Crime and Gender Patterns: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8192 · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Use sociological vocabulary and name sociologists where you can.

1 Using Carlen's concept of the gender deal, explain why the second woman might, according to Carlen's theory, be more likely to see crime as an option.

(Total for Question 1 is 6 marks)

2 Explain one reason why feminist sociologists argue crime should not be studied only by looking at male offenders.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

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Mark scheme · 5.4 Feminist Explanations of Crime and Gender Patterns: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

identifies the gender deal as the implicit promise of reward for conforming to a traditional female or family role	**B1**
explains the first woman's stable family life means the gender deal is still broadly being honoured for her	**B1**
explains the second woman's unhappy, unsupported situation means the gender deal has broken down or is not available to her	**B1**
links this absence of reward to Carlen's argument that crime can then appear a more reasonable choice	**B1**
correctly notes that financial hardship alone, shared by both women, is not what makes the difference in Carlen's argument here; it is the state of the gender deal	**B1**
accurate use of Carlen's terminology throughout	**B1**

Answer: The first woman's stable family life means her gender deal is still broadly honoured, giving her a reason to conform; the second woman's unhappy, unsupported situation means her gender deal has effectively broken down, so, according to Carlen, she has less reason to conform and crime may look like a more reasonable option, even though both women face similar financial hardship.

Question 2

identifies that criminology historically focused mainly on male offending	**B1**
development, e.g. this risks giving an incomplete or distorted picture of crime, its patterns and its causes	**B1**

Answer: Criminology historically focused mainly on male offending, which feminist sociologists argue risks giving an incomplete or distorted picture of crime, its patterns and its causes.

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