

## CRIMINOLOGY ATS1282 UNIT SUMMARY

### Week 2: Politicisation of Law and Order

- Law and order has become popular in politics particularly around campaign periods
- Federal politics (refugees, terrorism)
- State politics (increase police powers, broaden laws, harsher sentences)

#### *Hogg and Brown:*

- Crime is sensationalised and misinterpreted
- Removed from social context
- Fear/social division are promoted
- Punitive strategies heavily relied on

#### *Goldwater's approach:*

- 'Law and order slogan'  
Crime is a serious problem
- Tougher on all levels (policing, sentencing and laws)

#### *Law and order common sense:*

1. Soaring crime rates
  - Opinion polls and surveys
  - Difficult to challenge
  - "Crime rates fall but assaults continue to rise"
2. 'It's worse than ever' – law and order nostalgia
  - Crime wave without precedent
  - Peaceful past?
  - "New climate of violence in Australia"
3. New York and LA: The shape of things to come
  - Comparison to crime in dangerous places
  - "Stabbings in London have massively increased...that is our cultural parent"
  - Zero tolerance policy adopted by New York police in the 1990's
4. Soft on crime: Criminal justice system does not protect citizens
  - No victim consideration
  - Soft on criminals
  - "Guards appalled by prison perks"
5. More police with greater powers
  - Police priorities
  - Lower the crime rate?
  - Quick fix?
6. Tougher penalties
  - Courts impose tougher penalties
  - Government set tougher penalties (less bail, less parole options, longer sentences, abolish suspended sentences)