

# CMY3702 Crime Typologies (15 Mark Questions Oct/Nov 2017 Exam Summaries)

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## **CMY3702 Crime Typologies**

### **(15 Mark Questions Oct/Nov 2017 Exam Summaries)**

1. Discuss the drug trafficking syndicates in South Africa.
2. Discuss various factors contributing to organised crime in South Africa.
3. Discuss the illegal trade in endangered species.

## FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO ORGANISED CRIME

1. SA's Favourable **geographical Position** on main trade routes (Far Middle east, America and Europe)
2. **Poor border control** is taken advantage of by criminals (Hijacked/stolen vehicles smuggled out of the country, sold to neighbouring countries, e.g. Mozambique). Money used to purchase drugs and firearms which are brought back to South Africa and sold for enormous profit/criminal activities.
3. **Poverty and unemployment** which make some people susceptible to bribery and promote corruption
4. Renewed **International investment** in South Africa
5. The **large-scale presence of Illegal immigrants** involved in crime contributes to competition for limited goods, services /work opportunities
  - **Social and technological development** that creates opportunities for organised crime (e.g. efts)
6. A **Criminological market structure** that creates a demand for illegal goods such as drugs, firearms, counterfeit money, vehicles and endangered (scarce) special products
7. **Criminal alliances** that work because of community involvement in illegal activities (However, criminal alliances that share the same interests [e.g. the taxi industry] often come into conflict with each other with subsequent outbreaks of violence.)
8. **Corrupt officials** such as border police and immigration officials (Such officials are bribed and they contribute to the survival and success of organised crime syndicates.)  
Examples of such corrupt behaviour:
  - supplying roadworthy certificates and registration documents for hijacked vehicles, supplying residence permits to illegal immigrants
  - supplying police radios and confidential police information on investigations to syndicates
9. South Africa's **accessibility** via land, sea and air
10. A **Lack of trust** in the criminal justice system to curb organised crime activities

## DRUG TRAFFICKING SYNDICATES IN SA – 15 MARKS

- South Africa played a multifaced role in drug trafficking.
- toward the end of apartheid rule, SA, as one of the wealthier African countries, had a *MAJOR CONSUMER MARKET*, among affluent whites, for cocaine and hallucinogens.
- *SA- being a major source country for cannabis* is a leading source of marijuana
- *South America, Asia US and Europe syndicates used SA smugglers for gemstones, currency and ivory, and weapons*
- *Nigerian syndicated find SA smuggling profitable and lead to high immigration to SA*
- *Lack of awareness in SA resulted in slow and ineffective response to drug trafficking threat.*
- A relatively unsophisticated drug distribution infrastructure exists.
- It is built around a network of street gangs and are growing more sophisticated and have become deep-rooted as a result of the heavy volume of cash associated with the retail and wholesale cocaine trade
- During the apartheid years, *cocaine was for the most part limited to whites* who could afford it - poor drug *"white pipe", a mixture of Mandrax and marijuana.*
- Police narcotics officers have reported that the situation has changed since economic redistribution began
- Investigations conducted by the South African Narcotics Bureau identified *more than one hundred drug syndicates* in the country.
- The indigenous syndicates still specialise in dagga, Mandrax, heroin and LSD, but the smuggling of cocaine from Colombia and Brazil is becoming a major source of income for new and developing syndicates.
- The profitability of cocaine has pushed some established criminal organisations into replacing the traditional recreational substances

## ILLEGAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES – 15 MARKS

### Endangered Species Protection Unit (ESPU):

- The ESPU was terminated several years ago &
- combined into mainstream policing
- dealt with this crime specifically despite the fact that South Africa has very large nature reserves and poor customs control at airports and borders
- illegal trade in wildlife constituted the second largest illegal market in the world (after drugs) and
- was worth an estimated US\$10 billion per annum in 1989.
- FACT: Up to nine out of ten birds caught from the wild for the pet trade die before they reach their destination.

### Three categories of traders in the illegal trade in rhino horn:

- Poachers	- Runners	- Wholesalers
<p>The <b>poachers</b> seem to be <i>the first link in this chain</i>. They are generally <b>local people</b> with a thorough knowledge of the environment, which <b>helps to track</b> the rhinos. although financial reasons are the most important reason for rhino poaching, there are also a <b>number of other reasons</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b><u>Trouble</u></b>: The more trouble one experiences during the poaching process, the more status one earns</li> <li>- <b><u>Excitement</u></b>: The challenge of not getting caught is very exciting.</li> <li>- <b><u>Being smart</u></b>: Poachers enjoy outmanoeuvring law enforcers. They also enjoy exhibiting their knowledge of guns, hunting tactics and use of special equipment during hunting expeditions.</li> <li>- <b><u>Being tough</u></b>: will not allow law enforcers to arrest them and will do whatever it takes to get away</li> <li>- <b><u>A sense of autonomy</u></b>: these individuals are playing by their own rules. (independence)</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>The runners are the middlemen</u></b>: Transport the rhino horn from the poacher to the wholesaler.</p> <p>Sometimes the poacher supplies rhino horn directly to the illegal wholesale market.</p> <p>In most cases, the poacher and the runner <b>earn more than the average South African</b> by smuggling rhino horn, the money being used to Support their families.</p>	<p>international crime syndicate lords;  very elusive.</p> <p>they earn a lot of money,</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 70,5% of the dockets studied, only <b>one rhino horn</b> was smuggled at a time</li> <li>• Illegal traders also seem to focus on a single species during smuggling operations.</li> <li>• In most cases (84,4%), only rhino horn was illegally traded.</li> <li>• Most rhino horn recoveries took place away from the scene of the crime in offices, homes and vehicles.</li> <li>• Some rhino horns were confiscated at the poaching site.</li> </ul>		