

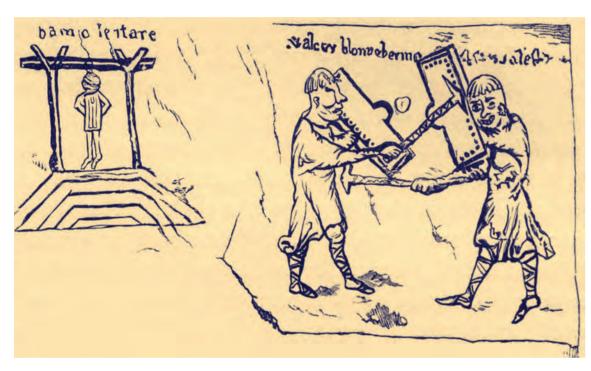
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# Puzzling, disturbing and strange

What explains the nature of medieval crime and punishment?



▲ A drawing on a thirteenth-century court record

This strange drawing appears in a document made in 1249. It records a court case that had taken place that year in Hampshire. The case was highly unusual even in its own day. Maybe that is why the priest who wrote the document added this rather crude artwork to the page as he recorded the details of the crime, the trial and the extraordinary events that followed.

At the centre of the case was a criminal called Walter de Blowberme. His name is written above his head in the picture where he and another man are fighting with pickaxes. You might think this fight was the crime that brought Walter to court but the truth is stranger than that.

Walter had been arrested for robbery, a very serious offence in the Middle Ages. At his trial he was quickly found guilty and, as the law at that time required,he was sentenced to death by hanging.

As soon as the verdict was reached, Walter used an option that was open to anyone sentenced to death in those days. He declared that he wanted to become an 'approver'. This meant that he would provide the court with evidence against other criminals who could then be arrested. If these were then found guilty, Walter would not be hanged. Instead he would be allowed to leave England straight away if he promised never to return. By becoming an approver, Walter was, at the very least, buying himself a few weeks of life while the people he named were captured and brought to court.

At first Walter's plan went well. He named ten other men whom he accused of being criminals like him. Six of these quickly did what Walter had done and chose to become approvers. Three ran away and were found guilty in their absence. But just one of the ten insisted on proving his innocence. His name was Hamo Le Stare.

Walter accused Hamo of being part of his gang of thieves and said that the two of them had recently robbed the house of a woman in Winchester of some clothes. Hamo denied this. He knew he faced death if he were to be found guilty of this theft. Instead of relying on the jury to decide whether he was innocent, Hamo called on a 200-year-old custom that had been falling out of fashion in the thirteenth century: he chose to submit his case to trial by combat.

Trial by combat was introduced to England with the Norman Conquest. It was based on the belief that God would not allow an innocent man or woman to die. Anyone could try to prove their innocence by fighting their accuser in one to one combat. By 1250, this method was very rarely used but Hamo insisted that

he would fight Walter de Blowberme and prove that Walter was lying.

The court supplied the two men, at considerable cost, with specially made tunics, weapons and shields. They stepped forward before a crowd of onlookers and joined in combat. In cases like this the combatants could pause briefly for refreshment, but the only drink they were allowed was their own urine. They fought on knowing that the one who gave in or who could fight no more would be found guilty and sentenced to death. The survivor would go free. In the background of the picture, you can see the body of the loser hanging from the gallows. His name is scrawled above his head.

Poor Hamo. Of the ten men accused of robbery and theft, the only one to be executed was the one who insisted he was innocent.

### Reflect

What strikes you as the most surprising thing about this medieval criminal case?

### The Enquiry

The strange case of Walter de Blowberme and Hamo Le Stare reminds us just how differently people lived in the past. It might leave us shaking our twenty-first-century heads and asking 'What were they thinking of?'

But the surprising and puzzling nature of medieval crime and punishment is both intriguing and useful. One historian said that it is like a tool for looking inside the minds of people in the Middle Ages. And that is what you will be doing in this enquiry.

Your challenge is to explain why medieval crimes, law enforcement and punishments took the form they did. You will do this in three stages as you learn about:

- I. The nature of medieval crime and criminals.
- 2. The nature of medieval law enforcement.
- 3. The nature of medieval punishments.

As you work through the enquiry you will be making 'crime cards'.

On one side of each card you will describe a feature of medieval crime and punishment.

On the other side you will explain the feature e.g. why something was done and made sense at the time.

At the end of the enquiry you will use your pack of cards to develop and organise your knowledge and understanding of medieval crime and punishment.

Before you start making the cards you will be learning about the bigger picture of how people lived in the Middle Ages and thinking about how this might have affected their approaches to crime and punishment.

### Feature

In the Middle Ages ... was a common crime.

### Explanation

This makes sense because at that time ...



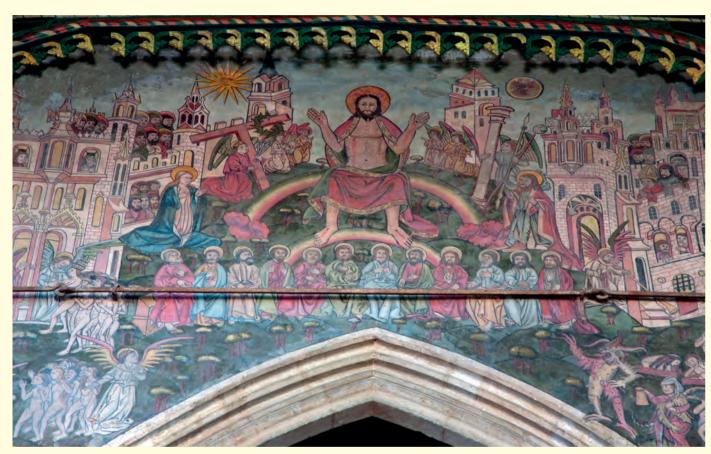
### Britain 1250-1500: an overview

### Record

The next four pages summarise different aspects of life in medieval England. Read through them quickly and make a list of at least six specific features that you think may have affected crime and punishment at that time. Collect and explain your ideas in a table like this:

Specific feature of life at this time

How I think this may have affected crime and punishment



▲ A fifteenth-century Doom painting at St Thomas' Church, Salisbury

### I. God's world, God's people and God's justice

Medieval England was a Christian country that followed Roman Catholic teachings. Many of its churches were decorated with enormous images like this one in Salisbury. It is a 'Doom painting' and it shows Christ sitting in judgement on mankind at the end of time. His twelve apostles sit at his feet, rather like a jury. On the left, angels are opening the doors of heaven to all those who believe in Christ, have honestly confessed their sins and tried to follow his ways. On the right, the sinners who have been found guilty of ignoring Christ's forgiveness and of deliberately following their own wicked ways are being ushered by demons into the monstrous mouth of hell.

The Church's teaching was clear: God cares deeply about how people live their lives on Earth. For those who try to live as he wishes and honestly confess their sins, forgiveness is available. But evil-doers who just live selfishly at the expense of others should expect no mercy.



This illustration from a thirteenth-century manuscript shows Henry III. He was England's king in 1250 when our study starts. Medieval people believed that God appointed kings to act as his representatives on Earth. This is why Henry is shown sitting in the same posture as Christ in the Doom painting.

At his coronation, Henry, like all medieval English kings, promised to uphold the 'King's Peace' by ruling the land so that everyone could live in security, without fear of disorder. This could only be done if everyone knew their place in society and kept to it. Kings were not rich enough to run a really strong central government that could control every part of life in the kingdom. They had to rely on the voluntary help and loyalty of their people in each area of the country.

◀ Henry III, from a thirteenth-century manuscript



The king's people were divided into three main groups:

- The clergy. This group included bishops, priests, monks and nuns. There were huge numbers of clergy. Some bishops were as rich and powerful as anyone in the kingdom but the poorest priests were not very different from the peasants who worked the land. Some clergy were very holy but many were not particularly religious. They were just ordinary people who earned a living within the Church.
- The lords. These were the nobles who ruled great sweeps of the king's lands with the help of their knights. When the king needed an army, the lords and knights would join him with local men gathered from their lands.
- Everyone else. Most people were peasants called 'villeins'. They worked
  on the land in return for shelter and security provided by the lord. Others
  were freemen who owned their own house or land. In the Middle Ages a
  growing number of freemen lived in towns and became wealthy traders.

A priest, knight and peasant from a thirteenth-century manuscript





A map of Lancashire made in 1611. It shows the county c.1500. The hundreds are shown by yellow boundaries

### 4. Land

Land was the basis of almost all power and wealth. It provided food and everything needed for trade. England was divided into counties or shires. The king placed each shire under the authority of a sheriff who was usually a man from one of the local noble families.

Within these were smaller areas known as hundreds. These were the main unit of local government. Within each hundred were the small parishes where most people would live their whole lives. The parish often shared its boundaries with the manor, an area of land owned by a knight or noble and farmed by villeins.

Communities were small and roads were poor. In the countryside and in smaller towns, everyone knew everyone else and strangers were easily spotted. This created strong local loyalties but it also created friction between neighbours at all levels of society.

### 5. Food and famine

Farming was by far the most important work in medieval England. Villeins farmed many small strips of land scattered around the manor. Everything depended on the harvest and every bit of every strip mattered to a farming family. If the harvest failed for any reason, such as bad weather, there could be hunger or even famine. This would disrupt society, creating debt and desperation for food. There was a terrible series of harvests early in the fourteenth century and this led to a great famine between 1315 and 1321. When the Black Death struck England in 1348 it killed millions and caused more hunger as large areas of land went unfarmed. War could also disrupt farming.

▶ The lines of medieval farming strips in the landscape at Bressington, Derbyshire are still visible today





▲ The scene after a battle in the Wars of the Roses, from a fifteenth-century manuscript

### 6. War and rebellion

The smooth running of society depended on each person or group showing loyalty and obedience to those above. For most of the Middle Ages this worked well enough but there were times when the system came under severe stress and even broke down.

- Powerful lords rebelled against the king in the thirteenth century.
- The Peasants Revolt shook the nation in 1381.
- The second half of the fifteenth century saw the Wars of the Roses, a series of struggles for the throne that drew lords, knights and peasants into civil war.
- Kings also waged wars against France and Scotland.

Medieval people, especially young men, were very familiar with bloodshed and violence.

### 7. Tools and technology

Almost all work was done by hand in medieval England. People's days were spent working alongside each other with tools such as axes, hammers and spades. It was common to carry knives and strong wooden staves. Laws required adult men to keep weapons and armour ready for use should they be called to serve their lord or king in war or to deal with local difficulties.

There were, of course, no telephones, televisions, cameras or computers. Most people could not read or write. Communication was usually done by word of mouth and it was hard to share important information and to keep accurate records. Priests were highly literate. Some worked as clerks, the office workers of the Middle Ages. They produced the hand-written documents that historians use to find out about these times. Only in 1476 was England's first printing press set up in London.

The limitations of science and technology also limited medicine, transport and building.



This artist's reconstruction gives some idea of how a reasonably wealthy peasant family might have lived. People did not go out to work or to school in the way that modern families do so there would usually be someone in or around the house. This changed at harvest time when the whole family would be in the fields busily gathering the crops that their lives depended on.

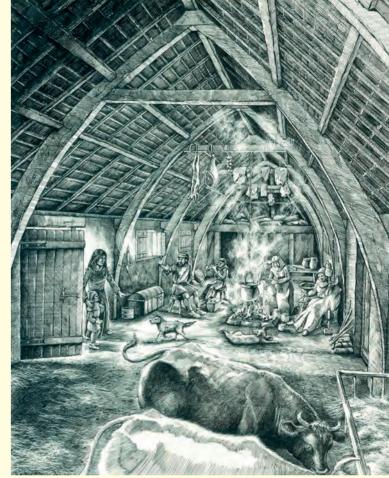
The house has a timber frame with walls made largely from hardened mud. The windows have no glass but there are simple wooden shutters. Even the homes of wealthier people in towns were made in a similar way.

Farming tools and the men's weapons may be in a simple outhouse. All the family's other belongings are shown here. They may have earned some cash in coins by selling ale, vegetables or eggs. This cash and any other valuables, including special clothing, would be locked inside in the large oak chest. The animals are probably their most valuable goods. For much of the year, they would be kept inside overnight.

In country villages, families like this would live side by side for generations. Villeins were not free to move. They had to keep working for the lord of the manor in return for being allowed to live in this house on the lord's land.

Hires to come

► An artist's reconstruction of a medieval peasant's home, c.1



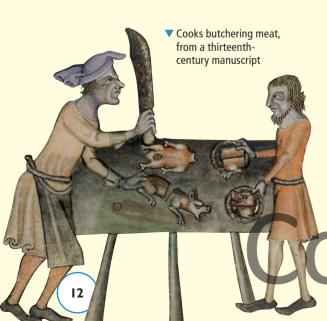
### 9. Life and leisure

Medieval people went about their work and tried to live in as much comfort as they could, caring for each other like the couple here, settling down to share a simple meal. They are probably fairly wealthy townspeople. Those with money in medieval England gave to those in need as part of their Christian duty. Most schools and hospitals are now paid for by taxpayers' money but in the Middle Ages they depended on the gifts of individuals.

The pattern of life was largely set by the Church calendar. Sundays were days of rest as were the many feast days to honour Christian saints. This couple may be drinking wine but the most common drink of the time was ale, partly as the brewing process made it safer to drink than water. This was less strong than modern beers but drink could lead to high spirits and misbehaviour of all sorts.

Feast days were also times when villages and towns held special fairs and events like football games with very few rules and plenty of physical contact!

A detail from an illustration in a fifteenth-century manuscript



### Medieval crimes and the criminals

The criminals below appear in a medieval illustration of a law court. They are all men and they look poor and rough. But do not be fooled: all sorts of people, men and women, rich and poor, committed all sorts of crimes in the Middle Ages.

Crimes are often sorted into two main types. These are

- serious crimes, often called felonies
- less serious crimes, known as petty crimes.

**Serious crimes** would lead to severe punishment. You did not have to murder someone in the Middle Ages to face a death penalty. In 1275, King Edward I passed a law that said anyone stealing more than 12d worth of goods could be hanged for their crime. 12d was about three weeks' wages for most labourers at that time. Before that time, a person might be hanged for any theft depending on how the judge saw the case.

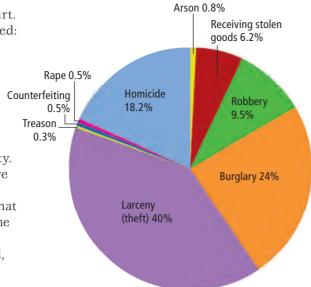
**Petty crimes** might involve stealing goods worth less than 12d, getting into debt or doing limited harm to a person or property.

Unfortunately historians cannot say for sure how much crime took place in the Middle Ages. Crime rates are often measured by how many crimes are committed per head of the population. We do not know how many people lived in England at the time so we cannot work out a national crime rate.

One historian, Barbara Hanawalt, studied just eight English counties and found that they held around 16,000 trials to judge serious crimes between 1300 and 1348. The pie chart on this page shows the different types of crime in the trials she studied. The proportion of homicide cases is alarmingly high but you will soon learn why. Later you will also discover how many of the accused were found guilty.

On the next five pages you will see a wide range of court cases that took place all over England between 1250 and 1500. These cases include examples of petty crimes as well as the sorts of serious crime that are shown in the pie chart. The great majority of all crime in medieval England was non-violent but the first four cases are all crimes that would have been called homicide in the Middle Ages. There are some grim details.





▲ Serious crimes that went to trial in eight English counties. 1300–48

### Reflect

As well as serious and petty crimes, crimes can also be divided into

- crimes against property
- crimes against a person.

Which of the crimes in the pie chart are crimes against property and which are crimes against a person?

# ODVIII STATES

### Crimes from the thirteenth century

All sudden deaths in medieval England had to be reported to a coroner. He viewed and measured the body and recorded any wounds. There were only four coroners in each county so bodies were often in a bad state by the time one arrived some days after the death.

The coroner was responsible to the king for recording evidence about sudden deaths with the help of local people. This was not a trial but every case of homicide was tried eventually, often a few months later.

Here are four homicide cases from thirteenth-century coroners' reports. They are not all straightforward murder cases.

A brutal attack by burglars:

### 23 April 1271 in Ravensden, Bedfordshire

John Reyd was at supper in his house with his wife Maud and his servants Walter and Richard. Felons entered by the door towards the courtyard. They struck John on the crown of his head with an axe and pierced his heart with a knife. He died immediately. They wounded Maud in the head, almost cut off her left hand, heated a trivet [a large iron cooking grill] and placed her upon it, leaving her almost dead. They tied up Walter and Richard and took away all the goods of the house.

A burglary, a death and an alarming injury:

### 4 June 1276 in Clun, Shropshire

Philip the Taylor of Clun broke the house of Reynold Kaym of Upton in the night-time; Reynold came out with his sword and tried to arrest Philip, who shot Reynold with an arrow through the testicles and fled. Reynold followed him and killed him with his sword.

A desperately sad case from Norwich:

### 25 July 1276 at Norwich

Richard was taken with a frenzy and killed his two children. His wife came home and found the children dead and cried out for grief, and tried to hold him, but he killed her in the same frenzy. When the neighbours heard the noise and came to the house they found Richard trying to hang himself, but prevented him. They say that Richard committed all these acts in a frenzy and that he is subject to it.

A deadly sporting contest:

### 7 September 1280 in Ulgham, Northumberland

Henry son of William de Ellinton while playing at ball with David le Keu and many others, ran against David and received an accidental wound from David's knife from which he died on the following Friday.

### **Reflect**

Medieval homicide verdicts might be

- justifiable homicide
- homicide in self defence
- accidental homicide
- suicide
- murder.

Which of these verdicts would you apply to each of the cases on this page and why?

### Record

Make your first explanation card. The first side should look like this:

On the back, explain how medieval 'homicide' covered much more than just cases of murder.

### Feature

The number of homicides was very high in the Middle Ages.

Explanation

This is because...



### Crimes from the fourteenth century

### Anger

Let's start this century as the last one ended, with another grim death:

### 6 November 1311 at Yelvertoft, Northamptonshire

William of Wellington, chaplain of Yelvertoft, sent a servant to John Cobbler's house to buy candles, but the same John would not send them without the money. For this reason the said William grew angry, took a stick, and went to the house of the said John and smote this John on the head so that his brains gushed forth and he died.

This is a straightforward case of murder – by an angry priest! Records suggest that over half of medieval homicides stemmed from simple arguments. The medieval system of strip farming meant that peasants had to work very close to each other and arguments were sure to occur just when sharp or heavy tools were at hand. To make matters worse, there was no effective medical care and wounds easily became infected. This also helps to explain the high homicide rate in medieval England.

### Hunger

Arguments and thefts were worst at harvest times when the fields were full and the pressure was great. Crime also rose if a harvest failed and people found themselves in debt and in need. The first quarter of the fourteenth century saw a truly terrible run of harvests with famine across England in 1315–16. Maybe that explains some of these court cases recorded around those years:

### 1314 at West Halton, Lincolnshire

Thomas Amcotes says William Brotherstone owes him 25 shillings.

### 7 April 1316 at Birton, Yorkshire

The wife of Adam Shepherd of Heppeworth drew blood from Emma the wife of Adam Smith.

### 16 November 1316 at Wakefield, Yorkshire

Ellen, daughter of Richard Cosyn is accused of stealing two bushels of oats worth 12d from John Patrick's grange.

Eva, wife of William Cort, is accused of knowingly receiving the said two bushels.

### 1316 at Wakefield, Yorkshire

Hugh Skayfes accuses Robert Liftfast of the theft of one ox belonging to the said Hugh, the hide whereof was found in Robert's possession.

### 1320 at Barrington, Cambridgeshire

William, servant of John Marchant, took fishtraps and set them in private waters.

### c.1321 at Chatteris, Cambridgeshire

▼ Reasons for homicide, from medieval records 1300-48

	Number of murders	% of all murders
Argument	178	51.3
Domestic disputes	3	0.9
Revenge	2	0.6
Property disputes	13	3.7
Drinking	15	4.3
Self-defence	25	7.2
Jealousy	2	0.6
Accident	6	1.7
Robbery	85	24.5
Insanity	I	0.3
Others	17	4.9
Total	347	100

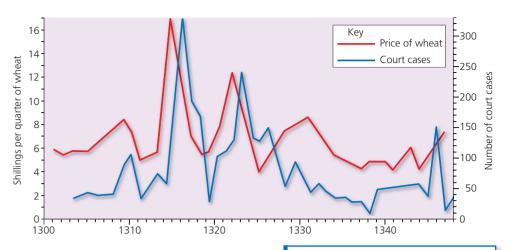
▼ Gathering the harvest, from the Luttrell Psalter, early fourteenth century



### Reflect

How might bad harvests help to explain each of the court cases shown on this page?

► Graph showing the price of wheat and number of court cases for serious crimes in eight English counties, 1300-48. Court cases usually took place several weeks after the crime which explains the time gap between the two lines



### Suicide

This sad case shows another reason why the homicide rate was so high in the Middle Ages:

### 17 March 1343 at Oxford

(The coroner reports that) Henry de Bordesle died in the house of Richard le Coke. Henry had long been sick with diverse diseases and took a knife and smote himself in the belly for he was as it were mad. Afterwards he lived until the Sunday and then died of his wound.

Suicides were tried as cases of homicide in the courts. The Church taught that only God could decide when a person's life should end, so it was both a serious crime and a sin to murder yourself.

### New crimes 1350-1400

In 1348, the Black Death struck Britain. Historians now believe that this plague killed 3.5 million people, which may have been over half the population. Society was severely disrupted, especially by the shortage of workers on the land. Cases of debt and theft were very common in the courts for a good number of years but in general terms the pattern of crime was very similar to the first half of the century.

As attitudes and circumstances change, new crimes appear. Here are two examples from this period. One just emerged from local court cases and the other came from a new law. They both went on to become serious issues in the early modern period (1500-1750).

**Scolding** was the use of offensive and abusive speech in public. Medieval manors were free to devise their own local laws and punishments. This one first appeared as a crime in some local courts after 1350. It then spread steadily. It was almost always applied to women, not men. Here is an example:

### 1359 at Bradford, Yorkshire

Three women are accused of being common and notorious scolds.

Vagrancy became a problem after the Black Death. There was a shortage of workers. Some left their manors and became vagrants, wandering the country trying to find work with better pay somewhere else. In 1351, Parliament passed a law that required all able-bodied men to John de la Haye ploughed on the land of the Lady Abbess of Chatteris, a furlong in length and two feet in width.

Swear that they would stay and work in their home village. In 1388 another law made it a crime for any labourer to leave their hundre without written permission.

### Reflect

Which of the court cases on these two pages do you think are about serious crimes and which do you think are about petty crimes?

### Record

Make some more crime cards. These could be about:

- why arguments might turn into murders so easily
- why crime went up at harvest time
- why suicide was treated as a crime of homicide
- why new laws could appear without an Act of Parliament
- why vagrancy became a crime in 1388.

### Crimes from the fifteenth century

### Outlaw gangs

The most feared and despised of medieval criminals were gangs of robbers:

### 2 April 1402 at Tottenham, Middlesex

Robert Berkworth alias Bekworth alias Edward the Hermit, Thomas Andrew alias Edward Kelsev, Thomas Draper, William Faunt, John Russell of Somerset, Richard Hauteyn and Alice Leche with other felons on the highway between Tottenham and London, lay in ambush and robbed two unknown men [i.e. strangers] of ten pounds of silver in money.



▲ An ambush by robbers, from a thirteenth-century manuscript

Throughout the Middle Ages, gangs like this ambushed travellers and robbed houses or threatened to burn them down if villagers did not hand over their valuables. They even killed shepherds just to take their clothing.

Many gang members were outlaws, on the run after being accused of committing crimes in their home village or town. England had great areas of forest where these outlaw gangs could live unchallenged. Any that were caught might even be given a pardon by the king if they promised to serve in his army overseas.

### Bad behaviour and bad beliefs

Here is a crime at the other end of the scale from violent gangs:

### 1411 at Winchester

William Silver, a cook, is accused of gambling with dice.

From time to time laws were passed against dice, football and other games. The Church said they were sinful as they encouraged idleness. The laws were often ignored but the Church did take action against gambling for money as well as other 'moral crimes'. These ranged from shaving beards on Sundays to committing acts of homosexuality.

The Church also dealt with the crime of heresy or spreading false Christian beliefs. From the end of the fourteenth century a group called the Lollards challenged Roman Catholic teachings about God's forgiveness and demanded to be allowed to read the Bible in English.

### 5 February, 1413 at Leicester

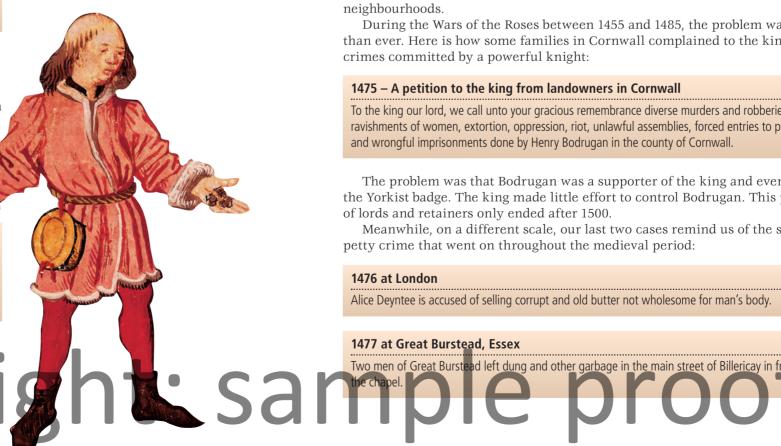
John Belgrave of Leicester is a Lollard and a notorious speaker against the pope and his power ... and that William Mably parchment maker, Nicholas Taylor of Leicester, Ralph Chapman, Roger Goldsmith and Lawrence Barbour of Leicester are common Lollards and holders of deviant opinions against the laws of the Holy Church.

The Church feared that people might go to hell if they were free to interpret Christ's teachings as they wished - but it also wanted to preserve its own wealth and power. Challenging the teachings of the Church became a serious issue after 1500.

### Reflect

- I. Why did some of the gang at Tottenham have more than one identity?
- 2. Why was it possible for outlaw gangs to carry weapons without being challenged?

▼ New caption to come



### Treason – crimes against authority

Until 1351, the crime of treason had never been clearly defined. An Act of Parliament passed in that year changed this. It had some surprising features. Take this crime, for example:

### 9 September 1420 at Rothwell, Northamptonshire

Katherine Beeston, gentlewoman, and John Colle, farmer, did feloniously murder Thomas Beeston, husband of the said Katherine.

Under the 1351 Act, this was not just murder, it was treason. Everyone had to know their place: husbands were thought to be the head of the family just as kings were the heads of their kingdoms. So Katherine, who killed her husband, was a traitor as well as a murderer!

Counterfeiting coins was also treason, but the most serious examples of treason were plots to kill the king. Few were as strange as this one:

### 12 November 1427 at Westminster, London

John Parker confesses that he and William Billington, Elias Davy and William Felton planned to kill the king and his uncles with the help of a clerk [probably a priest] who through sorcery could drain the life out of whomsoever he wished to kill.

### Lords and retainers – crimes that abused authority

The last years of the fifteenth century saw a dreadful crime wave. The culprits were the rich and powerful. Medieval kings always struggled to keep their nobles and knights under control. Many rich landowners built up private armies of armed servants called retainers. They used them in feuds against rival lords. The winners then ruled their local area by fear and favouritism and abused their power. They were like modern gangster leaders who take control of whole neighbourhoods.

During the Wars of the Roses between 1455 and 1485, the problem was worse than ever. Here is how some families in Cornwall complained to the king about crimes committed by a powerful knight:

### 1475 – A petition to the king from landowners in Cornwall

To the king our lord, we call unto your gracious remembrance diverse murders and robberies, ravishments of women, extortion, oppression, riot, unlawful assemblies, forced entries to property, and wrongful imprisonments done by Henry Bodrugan in the county of Cornwall.

The problem was that Bodrugan was a supporter of the king and even wore the Yorkist badge. The king made little effort to control Bodrugan. This problem of lords and retainers only ended after 1500.

Meanwhile, on a different scale, our last two cases remind us of the sorts of petty crime that went on throughout the medieval period:

### 1476 at London

Alice Deyntee is accused of selling corrupt and old butter not wholesome for man's body.

### 1477 at Great Burstead, Essex

### **Reflect**

Why do you think counterfeiting (forging) coins was counted as treason?



▲ A fifteenth-century retainer's badge The boar was the emblem of Richard. Duke of York who became King Richard III

### Record

Make some more crime cards. These could be about:

- why outlaw gangs could escape so easily
- why shaving a beard could land you in court
- why local lords could become leaders of organised crime.

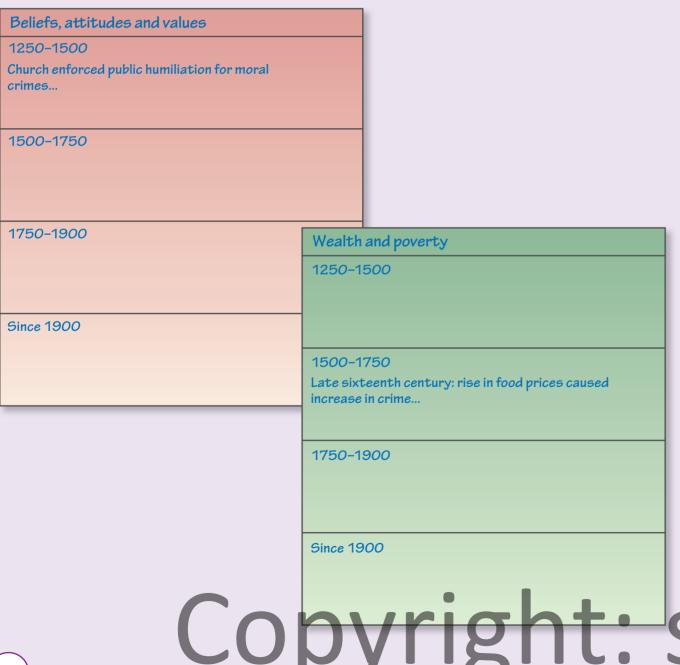


### Why things changed or stayed the same

As well as explaining the patterns of change and continuity across time, historians also explain why things change and stay the same. Your study has focused on the ways in which the following five factors influenced changes and continuities in crime and punishment:

- I. Beliefs, attitudes and values
- 2. Government
- **3.** Science and technology
- 4. Urbanisation
- **5.** Wealth and poverty

Use your notes for Crime and Punishment to create your own factor folders with examples from different periods. It might help to use a different colour for each factor (see below). The examples will get you started.



Urbanisation 1250-1500 1500-1750 1750-1900 Growth of towns in first half of nineteenth Government century led to increase in crime... 1250-1500 Since 1900 1500-1750 1750-1900 Government introduced harsh new laws Science and technology against witchcraft... 1250-1500 Since 1900 1500-1750 1750-1900 Since 1900 Emergence of internet in 1990s led to cyber crime... Copyright: sample proofs