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Q1) Following the Brixton Riots in 1981 where hundreds of black youths rioted in South London, the UK Government identified that there was a need to examine why the relationship between the police and members of the public had become fractious. As a result, the government commissioned Lord Scarman to hold a local inquiry, the report of which was published that same year. Lord Scarman identified the importance of the following three fundamental policing strategies being adhered to:

- 'The importance of policing by consent;
- The need for this approach to policing in all aspects of police work; it is not something which can be put in a separate box labelled "community relations";
- That keeping law and order is the concern of the whole community, something in which all sections of the community have a responsibility as well as an interest.' (Holdaway, S. (1983).

Lord Scarman further identified that the public had suffered a loss of confidence and trust in the police and their methods of policing and recommended police forces make a concerted effort to employ more ethnic minorities following his stark warning that urgent action was needed to prevent racial disadvantage becoming an endemic, ineradicable disease threatening the very survival of society (BBC News, 2004). In 1983 it was reported that over 14,000 complaints about the police were being received each year from members of the public, it was argued that such a number indicated a continuing perceived lack of confidence in the police and raised the question as to whether the existing professional regulation of police conduct was sufficient at that time (Holdaway, S. (1983).

Goldsmith states that in absence of public trust in police, policing by consent would be extremely difficult or near impossible and as a result public safety would suffer (Goldsmith, A. (2005). This essay will therefore examine how effective the measures are that have been put into place to ensure officers act with integrity and treat the public fairly.

Following the Scarman Report parliament enacted the *Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984*. The act was enacted to provide a framework for police officers to follow in respect of their policing powers. Part 1 of the act deals with the powers of stop and search. It outlines that a constable may search persons/ vehicles if they have reasonable grounds to suspect the presence of prohibited articles/ stolen items are on that person and that the person is in a place the public have access to. However, police powers to stop search individuals has been a controversial topic since the powers were afforded in the act, due to members of the public reporting that officers were inconsistent and unfair when choosing which people to stop and search. It has been reported that in England and Wales a black person is nine times more likely to be subjected to a Stop Search (The Guardian, 2020). Furthermore, it has been argued that the power to stop search was put in place in the act as an investigative power for the purpose of crime detections or prevention, however, police officers have

been frequently using the powers for other purposes such as gaining intelligence on people who are known to the police, to disperse groups of individuals and for the purposes of social control (Bowling, B. 2007).

As stated by the College of Policing in Code A (paragraph 1.4), the misuse of the powers in this way is likely to be harmful to policing and lead to mistrust of the police. Furthermore, (paragraph 1.6) states that if the provisions are not followed during a search to which it applies, any evidence obtained during the search may be open to challenge (College of Policing, 2016). However, the research conducted on behalf of the HMICFRS found that in 2018 only three percent of the participants questioned had been arrested or stopped and searched and 60% of the participants overall were satisfied with the service they received, these figures being in line with those found in 2016 (Public Perceptions of Policing in England and Wales, 2017).

When asked whether PACE has provided what was envisaged by the Philips Royal Commission between the interests of the community and the rights/liberties of the individual member of the public, it has been argued that the question is unanswerable, due to the fact that there is no right balance as police officers and the civil libertarian will always have different opinions. It is further argued that PACE has been subjected to hundreds of amendments and this will no doubt have to continue to ensure the act meets the needs of the individual and the police (Zander, M. (2011).

In an attempt to ensure officers act with integrity and are aware of the importance of treating the public fairly and with respect and in line with PACE requirements, when officers attest and throughout their careers they are reminded that they are responsible for their own professional behaviour and are required to deliver the highest standards possible, having a good understanding of the Police Code of Ethics (College of Policing, 2024) and to apply the code to their decision making on and off duty. The Code of Ethics promotes the use of the National Decision Model to help embed ethical reasoning in accordance with the nine policing principles being accountability, integrity, openness, fairness, leadership, respect, honesty, objectivity, and selflessness. The introduction of the use of Body Worn Cameras by officers have also made them more accountable for their actions when dealing with members of the public. It has been argued that the increased use of the cameras has decreased police complaints by 93% as they influence both officers' and citizens' behaviour (Ariel, B, 2017).

When officers do not adhere to these standards the procedures put in place to make a complaint have been made easier by the use of online forms on police websites, making the complaint procedure more accessible to members of the public (South Wales Police, 2024). More serious complaints are referred to the Independent Officer for Police Conduct, who are completely independent of the police, ensuring that member's of the public are provided with a fair and transparent complaint investigation. The IOPC provide a news page on their website allowing people to consider the investigations they have carried out, increasing the public's confidence in their work (IOPC, 2024).

In conclusion it can be argued that in order for the measures in place to be effective to maintain public confidence, the measures need to continuously adapt to meet both the needs of citizens and those of the police.

Word Count: 1093

Q3) Police officers in England and Wales are provided cognitive interview training during their initial training whereby they are taught how to use the PEACE interview model as per the Home Office investigative interviewing strategy. The model was introduced in 1992 to guide officers on how to conduct an effective cognitive interview by getting the best possible evidence from a witness or complainant (ACPO, 2001). The mnemonic stands for planning and preparation, engage and explain, account, closure and evaluation (College of Policing, 2013). This essay will discuss how effective cognitive interviews are when used to obtain initial accounts from complainants and witnesses.

In order to achieve the best evidence from a complainant or witness' initial account it is imperative that police officers receive adequate investigative training to include cognitive interviews. It can be argued that the planning and preparation of the interview is possibly the most important stage. An officer must take into consideration multiple factors such as when is the best time to conduct the interview, when an individual or witness experiences an offence it can be traumatic and trauma can affect an individual's memory. For example, during a study whereby individuals were shown two films, one containing violence and one being violence free, witnesses recalled less of the violent video (Simons and Chabris 1999). It is also widely reported that cognition is an active and selective process, and witnesses may miss the entire event if they are focused on a particular thing at the time a crime occurs and their brain will attempt to fill in the gaps, especially when questioned. This is evidenced in a demonstration where people were tasked to count the amount of missed basketball passes in a video and 50% of those taking part failed to spot a gorilla walking from one end of the screen to another as they were so focused on the basketball (Simons and Chabris 1999). It can be argued that a witness' first account interview should be conducted as soon as possible before the gaps are filled (Sammons, A. and Putwain, D. (2019). Other considerations prior to interview would be age, vulnerabilities, religion, time constraints, gender and the interviewee's interactions with police.

Building rapport during the planning and preparation with an individual prior to a cognitive interview it is imperative the individual feels as relaxed as they possibly can before the interviewer helps them recall a potentially traumatic event they have witnessed. Rapport building has been referred to as the process of establishing a harmonious working relationship between the interviewer and the interviewee (Abbe and Brandon 2013). It has been proven that individuals provided with the rapport building stage prior to interview then went on to give up to 38% more information during interview (MacDonald, S. et al. (2017).

The next stage of the PEACE model is to explain and engage. It is important for the interviewer to discuss their plan for the interview, to discuss the topics they will want to address and to set ground rules respected by both the interviewer and interviewee.

When the above stages are complete an officer can begin the questioning in the account and clarification stage. The first stage of questioning as per the PEACE model is to allow a complainant/ witness to give a free narrative. This is done by asking an open question such as 'Tell me in as much detail as possible what happened on that day'. It is important for the interviewer to note that there are different forms of memory, each of which need to be understood to get the best recall from a witness. These being episodic memory (where a person recalls a particular event in the past or recently), semantic memory (someone's long term knowledge), procedural memory (muscle memory), short term memory and working memory (memories stored for a brief amount of time), sensory memory (sights and sounds) and prospective memory (forward thinking memory) (Springer, V (1973). By asking such an open question it allows the complainant/ witness to give a free narrative (College of Policing, 2020), where their memory recall will be fluid and they are afforded the opportunity to recall the event from the most systematic way their memory can recall it. It has been argued that open ended questions are essential because they maximise the accuracy of the individual's account and minimise confusion, contamination, and misunderstanding (Smith, R.M., Powell, M.B. and Lum, J, 2009).

When the complaint/ witness has given their free narrative and the interviewer has actively listened, the interviewer can then select 'topics' from the free narrative upon which they wish to subject more probing questions upon. At this stage, in order to get the individual to recall as much information as possible it is important for the interviewer to put the witness back at that scene/ time, using phrases such as 'I want you to focus on the time you said he walked up to you and looked at you directly in the eyes, can you see his eyes?'. This will help the individual to delve deeper into the memory that they have supplied in their free narrative (Sammons, A. and Putwain, D. (2019). This affords the interviewer the opportunity to ask probing/detailed questions to establish minute detail by using the funnel questioning style (Revolution Learning and Development, 2022).

Once the interview has concluded, either because of the complainant/ witness has requested it to end, or the relevant information has been acquired by the interviewer, it has been noted that it is important to close the interview effectively as per the PEACE model. During the previous stage in the model whereby the interview will ask the interviewee to recall a traumatic event and ask them to go back to that event, it is essential that the interviewee does not leave the interview in that state of mind. Grounding techniques can be effective whereby the interviewer can use the rapport they established during the initial stages to discuss everyday life with the individual to ensure their cognitive state is not stuck on the traumatic event and focusing on the present before they leave the interview room (Helfgott, S. 2012).

In conclusion, the effectiveness of an interview using cognitive strategies is only as effective as the interviewer's skills and training provided to them. It has been reported that in-experienced officers joining feel that they have been inadequately trained to conduct effective interviews with and that

this issue could be solved by more on the job training, whereby the officer spends more time learning the skill in real life situations instead of in the classroom (Dando, C., Wilcock, R. and Milne, R. (2008).

Word Count: 1100

Q4) Within society it has always been debated whether nature or nurture defines the path upon which an individual finds themselves during their lifestyle choices and behaviours (Mcloed, S. 2023). There have been numerous studies into whether an individual is born a criminal or has been subjected to adverse childhood experiences that has given them a propensity to violence or criminal behaviour (Baglivio, M.T., Wolff, K.T. and Epps, N. (2021). Furthermore, it is argued that some individuals are more prone to stress and trauma due to the fact that their genetic susceptibility and particular varying levels of vulnerability have been linked (Waite, R. and Ryan, R.A, 2020).

A vulnerable person may feel the need to join a common purpose and a criminal gang may fill that void for them, as they feel it may fulfil their personal and monetary needs. A gang has been identified as a group of persons that share a common identity. Gang culture has been reported to emanate strongly from the United States of America whereby individuals would group together as a common cause to defend and assert a common message of their ethnic group or society to others (Curry, G.D. and Decker, S.H. 2010).

The most important thing to note is to establish why an individual may feel the need to affiliate themselves with a gang. Psychologically, the impact of adverse childhood experiences can affect an individual's thought processes and their decision making skills. Adverse childhood experiences are negative situations that a child may face when growing up such as emotional, physical, sexual and witness to domestic violence. It has been proven that adverse childhood experiences have a negative outcome later in life for the individual that experienced them. A study in 2014 found that half of those in England alone had experienced one adverse childhood experience during their life time and that Welsh citizens were in even a worse position making 'ACES' the policy priority for the Welsh Government (Walsh, D. et al. (2019).

For example, in Wales poverty has been reported to be the single major challenge whereby an estimated 34% of children were living in poverty in March 2021 (Herd, G. 2021). Furthermore, 1 on 5 adults in the UK have reported that they have experienced domestic abuse during their lifetime (National Centre for Domestic Violence, 2024).

When faced with these challenges an individual can feel the need to belong, to belong to a common purpose as explained above, and gangs have become experts at preying on these vulnerabilities and by doing so they initially provide a safe space providing for all of the needs of that individual, making them feel apart of a family and that their needs are met. However, as time goes on the gang will exacerbate those needs by gradually enforcing those very vulnerabilities the individual was running

from by making them comply to the gang's needs through threats, violence and financial control. The vulnerable individual would have already learned through their childhood experiences to comply with the needs of their 'superiors' and will then conform to the needs of the gang in order to belong.

Furthermore, gangs have begun to use music tactics as an elicitation tool within life-story narratives to entice vulnerable children and adults into believing that that can make money through sharing their adverse experiences. It has also been noted that the individual feels that the music making process feel therapeutic (Levell, J. (2019), offering them a therapeutic service that they have yet to be able to access due to the struggling mental health team within the NHS. It has been reported that there is a lack of funding into mental health and the GP's nurses and NHS workers within the field feel that there is not enough support for mentally vulnerable people (British Medical Association, 2024). Furthermore, studies have found that males that have been subjected to the adverse childhood experiences stated above experience a complex relationship between violence, vulnerability, and identity (Frances, T. 2023), making them vulnerable to joining a gang.

It has been noted by academics following studies that gang members recruit based on their own vulnerabilities. Proving the statements above that the individuals in gangs are looking for a common purpose where they feel like they can belong. Two years of field work were conducted into gangs in London whereby it was found that gang's face a primary level of trust dilemma whereby they question the quality of a recruit, then they face the second stage of trust dilemma where they question the reliability of the recruit, but gangs will then base their recruitment on the 'hard to fake' characteristics (Densley, J.A. (2012). Vulnerable people after experiencing ACES are therefore the very people who cannot fake the life experiences that they have experienced and are vulnerable to gang member recruitment processes.

Furthermore, it has been reported that those who come from a socio-economically disadvantaged background are more likely to have no trust in police, making them further susceptible to gangs. As stated above, it has been reported that in England and Wales a black person is nine times more likely to be subjected to a Stop Search (The Guardian, 2020).

It is also important to note that not all people who are socio-economically disadvantaged are at risk, as are not all those who are socio-economically advantaged not at risk. The psychological element then can be used by gangs where money is not a problem, but they are lacking psychological fulfilment in their life or are stuck in ideological beliefs passed down to them from others. For example, individuals in the UK from socio-economically advantaged backgrounds join gangs such as white supremacists (Belew, K. and Gutiérrez, R.A. (eds) 2021).

In conclusion it is clear that any individual can become susceptible to influences from peers given their economic and psychological statuses and those most at risk are those that have been subject to adverse childhood experiences (Rachel M. Durso and David Jacobs 2013).

Word Count: 990

Q5) Violence towards women and children has existed since history began, it is only more recently that domestic abuse towards males has been understood. Domestic abuse was once seen as something that happened behind closed doors between domestic partners and something that was shameful and hidden (Office for National Statistics, 2017). In the past it was considered that only men could partake in law making and that women and children were seen as property of the male. The oldest written law regarding domestic violence is the Code of Hammurabi, during 1792 to 1750 BCE. Whereby males were afforded the right under law to drown their wife if she committed adultery and cut the hands of his son off should he strike him, encouraging patriarchal dominance (Fader, S. 2021).

In the 20th century women pushed for more rights and it was not until the 1990's whereby the United Nations identified that victims of domestic violence should be protected from it as an international human right. Domestic abuse covers a range of behaviours to include physical violence, psychological or emotional harm, sexual violence, 'honour-based' violence (for example forced marriage), harassment, stalking, gang violence, sharing or distributing intimate private videos or photographs of another person without their permission and coercive and controlling behaviour (HM Inspectorate of Probation (2018).

Wales introduced the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) Act in 2015. This empowered a national adviser to advise the Welsh Government ministers and improve the joint working procedures among public bodies, arrangements to prevent domestic abuse and protect and support victims and a 24 hour help line for victims, and the role of domestic abuse coordinators.

In April 2021 a 'Call to Action' strategy was put forward by over 125 individual domestic abuse organisations that called for changed and as a result the government knew it had to make a change and to put policies and statutes in place that focused on the perpetrator behind such as prevalent offence that was going undetected.

The five key proposals of the perpetrator focused strategy were:

- 1) Effective multiagency working – where multiagency personnel could have a stream lined approach where they all worked together sharing information to ensure perpetrators did not slip through the net;
- 2) Availability and awareness – whereby extra training and support be afforded to perpetrators to help them identify their abusive behaviours and provide them with the coping mechanisms and skills to change those behaviours;
- 3) Quality assured interventions – putting regulations into place whereby all programmes provided were of high quality and effective to those upon which it was meant to serve;
- 4) Investment – from the government in order to tackle domestic abuse at its core, saving money and resources for all front-line services and support services;

- 5) Leadership – to create an implicit role whereby the Domestic Abuse Commissioner oversees the response to perpetrators.

As a result, the government enacted the *Domestic Abuse Act 2021*. The recent legislation changes provided improved identification and more successful prosecutions of domestic violence, which in turn increased the workload of the Probation Service. As a result, the use of community based rehabilitation programmes increased. Two programmes were evaluated. One programme, the Integrated Domestic Abuse Project (IDAP), is based on the Duluth model; the other programme, the Community Domestic Violence Programme, is based on the Canadian Correctional Services' domestic violence programme and will be offered through both the prison and probation services pending accreditation (Home Office, 2003; Lindsay & Brady, 2002). It has been argued that in order to stop re-offending in respect of domestic abuse it is important to change the perpetrators way of thinking and not focus on questioning 'why' to the victim (Gilchrist, E., Johnson, R., Takriti, R., Weston, S., Beech, T., & Kebbell, M. (2003). There is some evidence that the known domestic abuse aggressor often has a high emotional need of attachment with another and that they more prevalent in British treatment attendees than non-attendees (Gilchrist et al., 2003)

The report dated January 2023 titled 'Standards for domestic abuse perpetrator interventions' outlined that it was imperative that the priority outcome for all perpetrators should be enhanced safety and freedom for the victims/ children of their abuse, that interventions should be located within a wider co-ordinated community response, that perpetrators should be held to account for their actions and share responsibility for their actions, that interventions should be offered to the right people, interventions should be equitable and delivered by staff who are skilled and trained in the response to domestic abuse (Government website, 2023).

Furthermore, in an attempt to prevent offending complainants are offered extra support services such as Women's Aid, Freedom Project, Refuge and Mankind for men etc. By providing the complainant skills to identify the abusive behaviours of a partner and coping mechanisms can also help to reduce re-offending as the complainant will already have the relevant skills to chat and avoid relationships where there are 'red flags'. Complainants are also provided with extra support such as an IDVA and MARAC meetings where multi agencies can voice their concerns and make a joint educated decision in respect of risk and the suspect's ability to change (Steel, Blakeborough and Nichol, 2010).

Further measures have been put in place to attempt to reduce domestic abuse offending such as the domestic abuse, stalking and harassment and honour based violence risk assessment that can be completed by an officers, which initiates the process for making referral decisions. These can be completed by any professional working within the domestic abuse sector, but it has been argued that some agencies such as the probation service very rarely use the tool (Home Office, Probation, 2023).

The introduction of the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme, also known as Clare's Law was introduced in 2014 to give the police powers to inform partners of any violent offences their

partner's have been arrested or convicted of in the past in order to give them a fair and well rounded view of whether they want to be in a relationship with such a person.

The court has also been given further powers to set down domestic violence protection orders which can administered even when there is insufficient evidence to charge the perpetrator. The orders allow the court to set in place a prohibition that the perpetrator cannot return to the family home for 28 days, to give the complainant time to reflect on whether they wish to continue the relationship.

Word count: 1068

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