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| --- | --- |
| 1066 | Norman Conquest |
| 1315 | Great Famine |
| 1326 | JPs first appointed |
| 1340s | Black Death |
| 1370s | Poll Tax introduced |
| 1381 | Peasant’s Revolt over Poll Tax |
| 1497 | Cornish Rebellion – against government taxes |

How did they enforce law and order?

**Feudal System** – people pledged allegiance to the King

**Church** had strong control over society so rebellion and revolt was rare.

**COMMUNITY ACTION** helped enforce the law.

**Tithings** A group of 10 men who were all responsible collectively for each other’s behaviour

10 tithings were grouped into a **Hundred** and the **Hundredman** dealt with serious crimes.

The community had responsibility to shout and chase criminals in their area by raising the **Hue and Cry.**

The **Sheriff** had the authority to raise a **posse** to catch criminals.

After the Norman Conquest – **JPs; royal courts; Parish Constables, watchmen** introduced.

**Saxon and Medieval Crime and Punishment**

**c.500 - 1485**

Causes and Nature of Crime

Theft: 73.5% of all offences Murder: 18.2%

Receiving stolen goods: 6.2%

Arson, counterfeiting coins, rape, treason – 2%

**POVERTY –** famine and disease; government taxation; impact of warfare



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| **Attitudes to Crime** |
| Deterrence | To scare people into not committing a crime |
| Retribution | ‘An eye for an eye’- the idea that the punishment should fit the crime |
| Public Humiliation | Also a deterrent and to scare others |

Punishments

**Corporal Punishment** – Physical punishment

**Theft** = **mutilation** (cutting off a body part)

**Heresy (going against the official religion)** = burning at the stake

**Murder** = Hanging

**Drunkenness** = Stocks

**Gossiping** = Scolds’ Bridle



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| 1536 | Dissolution of the Monasteries (Henry VIII shuts them down and there is no more help for the poor) |
| 1536 | Pilgrimage of Grace: religious rebellion |
| 1553-58 | Mary I executes 283 Protestants |
| 1550s | Poor harvests lead to increase in poverty |
| 1600  | Population of Britain is 4.5 million |
| 1601 | JPs used to administer Poor Law |
| 1605 | Gunpowder Plot (treason) |
| 1663 | Charleys introduced |
| 1717 | Transportation formerly starts |
| 1750s | Bow Street Runners set up. |

How did they enforce law and order?

1500s – 1600s, continuity with Medieval times. **Change came in 1700s when population rise meant this was unsustainable.**

Gradual in 1700s to **preventative policing**. **Bow Street Runners** (Henry Fielding)

**Early Modern**

**c.1485 - 1750**

Causes and Nature of Crime

**Theft** continued to be most common (75% of all crimes).

**POVERTY** increased because of poor harvests; increase in population; rack-renting; enclosure; Dissolution of the Monasteries

Increase in crime linked to the changes in **RELIGION** under the Tudors and Stuarts (heresy/treason)

**GOVERNMENT TAXATION** led to **smuggling** in 1700s.

Increase in **Highway Robbery**



Punishments

1500 – 1700 NO REAL CHANGE.

1700s – GRADUAL CHANGE: **Transportation** (sending prisoners to USA then Australia).

**Hulks** – shops used to hold prisoners while they waited to be transported.

Attitudes to Crime

1500-1700 CONTINUITY with Medieval times. Deterrence, retribution; public humiliation

1700s – GRADUAL CHANGE towards the idea that the punishment should fit the crime; Bloody Code seen as too harsh.



***Find out more: BBC Bitesize has a good revision website for Crime and Punishment. Watch Tony Robinson’s CH4 documentary of the same name on Youtube.***

|  |  |
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| 1784 | Tax Reform Act –duty on tea reduced from 119% to 12%. Leads to decline in smuggling |
| 1800  | Population of Britain is 16 million |
| 1829 | Metropolitan Police Force set up |
| 1823 | Prison Act – rules regarding security and health |
| 1831 | Last recorded Highway Robbery |
| 1839 | Prison Act – Separate System introduced |
| 1856 | County and Borough Police Act makes it compulsory to have a police force |
| 1865 | Penal Servitude Act – Hard Labour/Hard Fare/Hard Board |
| 1868 | Public Execution ends |
| 1900 | Population of Britain is 42 million |
| 1901 | Fingerprinting  |
| 1902 | Borstal opens  |
| 1919 | First women in police |
| 1920 | Dangerous Drugs Act  |
| 1930s | Police cars become common |
| 1955 | Ruth Ellis is last woman hanged in Britain |
| 1965 | Capital Punishment ends |
| 1967 | Parole introduced |
| 1983 | Compulsory to wear seat belt in car |
| 1986 | DNA first used as evidence in murder trial |
| 1970s | Bombing campaign by IRA  |
| 1996 | Manchester Arndale Centre bombed |
| 2002 | Community Police Officers introduced |

How did they enforce law and order?

**1829 Metropolitan Police** set up by **Robert Peel**– **MAJOR TURNING POINT.**

From then on – government responsibility

**Specialised policing in 20th century:** change in use of transport, technology, electronics and forensics.

Modern

1750 - present

Causes and Nature of Crime

Theft, robbery, assault still common. **Changes in technology has dramatically changed nature of crime**

**Car crime** – committed by people of all social classes. New crimes committed as laws changed.

**Cyber-crime** – hacking; phishing; cyber-bullying

**Violent Crime** – football hooliganism/ **Gun and Knife Crime/Drug Crime**

**POVERTY** still major cause of crime. Also social changes.



Attitudes to Crime

MAJOR CHANGES after 1900

Shift away from toughness to rehabilitation and reform (the idea that criminals could be changed with help) and alternatives to prison

Punishments

1800s –Reform of the ‘Bloody Code’ led by Sir Samuel Romilly and Robert Peel. Reduced the number of crimes punishable by hanging.

1800s – Increasing use of prisons. Prison reformers: Elizabeth Fry, John Howard, GO Paul. Introduction of the Separate and Silent Systems.

But 1865 – back to ‘hard labour, hard fare, hard board’

20th century: Huge change in reform of prisons. Categorised A-D depending on seriousness of offenders; ‘open prisons’, juvenile prisons, women’s prisons.

Alternatives to prison = parole, fines, community service, electronic tagging, drug and alcohol rehabilitation