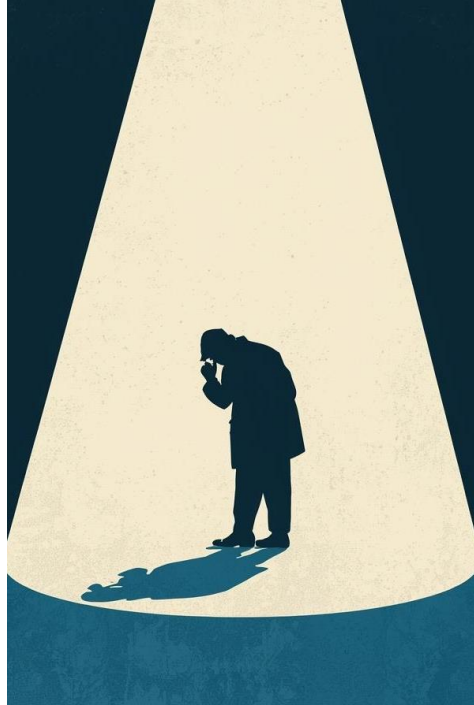




TRADITIONAL MARXIST VIEWS OF CRIME

- **Crime is inevitable due to capitalism, By its very nature, capitalism causes crime. Capitalism is therefore Criminogenic.**
- **Gordon(1976) – Crime is a rational reaction to capitalist foci, which is why it's found in all social classes.**
- **Utilitarian crime is a rational reaction**
- **Non-utilitarian crime is a reaction to the frustration of exploitation.**





- **HOWEVER:**

- **This view assumes that the working class are passive.**
- **If this view were true there would be no crime in Cuba or in the USSR.**
- **This view turns the criminals into victims.**



SELECTIVE LAW **MAKING**

- Capitalism causes crime because the bourgeoisie create laws which reflect the interests of the ruling class.
- Chambliss: Ruling class are a criminal syndicate. They use their wealth and influence to bribe officials and avoid punishment.
- Snider: Corporate crime is far more harmful than street crime but are less regulated.



A02

In 2022, the UK government scrapped the cap on bankers' bonuses, which had been introduced after the 2008 financial crisis to curb risky behaviour in the banking sector. The removal of this cap allows high earners in finance to receive much larger bonuses, directly benefiting the wealthy.



The UK government introduced the Transport Strikes (Minimum Service Levels) Bill, which requires striking transport workers to provide a minimum level of service, further weakening the effectiveness of industrial action and workers' rights.





SELECTIVE LAW **ENFORCEMENT**

- Chambliss suggests that there's one law for the rich and another for the poor, with crime control focused on the working class.
- Reiman claimed the 'rich get richer and the poor get prison' meaning that typically upper class crimes such as tax evasion are more likely to be forgiven, whereas street crimes (typically working class crimes) are treated harshly by the criminal justice system.





- In 2016, Ethan Couch a 16 year old, drove in a crowd of people who were stranded on the motorway in Texas. He was under the influence of alcohol and drugs. He killed four people and caused injuries to many more. A psychologist during the trial coined the term 'affluenza' used to claim Couch was unable to understand consequences due to his wealthy upbringing. He did not have to go to prison, instead he was sent to rehabilitation in a luxury facility paid by his parents.



IDEOLOGICAL FUNCTIONS OF CRIME

- **Althusser**

Maintaining False Consciousness. How can we apply Althusser's ideas to crime?

- **Pearse**

claimed the biggest crimes of all are those committed by the ruling class. Selective law enforcement gives the false impression that most crime is committed by disturbed working-class individuals and this diverts attention away from the exploitation of the bourgeoisie. Therefore it allows individuals to be blamed rather than the system of inequality.

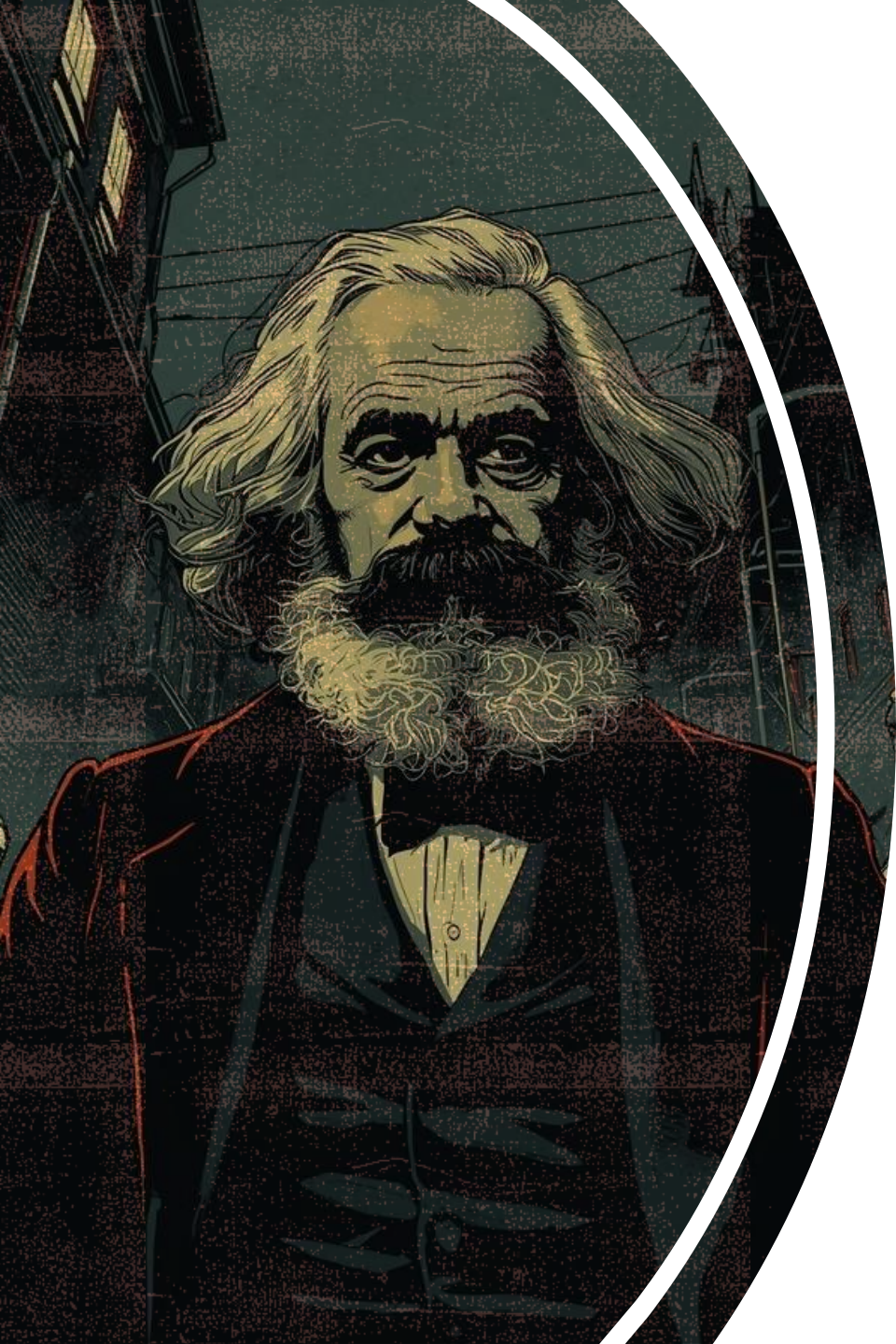


A02



- Health and Safety legislation appears to protect workers, however it hides the fact that the law exists to protect the profit of the business, because healthy workers means more profit!!





A03:

- Over-emphasis on class inequality in relation to crime, neglects gender and ethnicity inequality.
- Traditional Marxists are too deterministic. Neo-Marxists argue they ignore the fact that individuals have free will.
- Marxists tend to romanticise the criminals and pay little attention to the victims of crime.
- There is evidence of capitalist countries with very low crime rates (Switzerland) and communist countries that have high crime rates (Cuba)



CREATE A PARAGRAPH:

A01:

_____ suggests.....

A concept in relation to this argument is.....

A02:

For example.....

This links with.....

A03:

This implies

In contrast to this view

