

White-Collar Crime

Sociology

The category Sutherland invented, and why it is under-counted.

Offences committed in the course of an occupation by people of respectable standing, including both crimes against the employer and crimes for it.

NAMED BY

Sutherland, 1939

USUALLY HANDLED

by regulators

- Sutherland named it in 1939 to widen the field.
- Occupational: against the employing organisation.
- Corporate: committed for the organisation.
- Harm is often diffuse, delayed and hard to trace.
- Frequently handled by regulators, not courts.
- So it is largely absent from crime statistics.

LOOK FOR IT

A safety breach costing many lives may end in a fine and no criminal record for anyone.

Educational reference, not legal advice. Enforcement rates and legal definitions vary sharply between jurisdictions.