Control and punishment

Actuarial Justice
People are being increasingly controlled through surveillance based upon sex, religion, political affiliation, employment status and assigned ‘risk scores’. This is evident in profiling of potential terror suspects and government surveillance.

Retributive and Restitutive Justice
Retributive justice is punishment of individual which is cruel and severe. Restitutive Justice – necessary to repair damage done in society – to restore society to how it was before crime.

Right Realism – Zero Tolerance
Based upon ideas of Clarke and Rational Choice Theory – crime is a conscious decision and making punishment for crime harsher acts as a deterrent against committing crimes.

Foucault – Internalised Surveillance
In modern society there is a form of self-surveillance through social institutions continually monitoring individuals behaviour. CCTV, education, health, religion, government all monitor behaviour leading to self regulation.

Durkheim – Boundary Maintenance
Society reaffirms its commitment to the norms and values of society through condemning actions of deviants and punishing them accordingly – this shows extreme deviance will not be tolerated. Eg Punishment of rioters in 2011.

Heidensohn – Control Theory
Women are more excessively controlled in society through being located in domestic sphere whereas males less controlled – this results in more male crime. However, changes in control have led to changes in criminality.

Synoptic Surveillance
Surveillance is becoming a two way process with the powers of the elites being continually monitored by the media and individuals. Examples of this are Wiki Leaks and the leaking of Panama Papers. However, the media are often pressured to conceal crimes of elite.

Functions of Prisons
Prisons have 4 functions for society:
1) Incarceration – keeping dangerous criminals from public
2) Rehabilitation – turn offenders into citizens
3) Punishment – punish offenders for crimes
4) Deterrence – act as incentive not to commit crime
Does not explain recidivism rates being so high.