

Cloward and Ohlin drew upon Merton's ideas of strain, but focused on the opportunities to commit crime based on locality that young working-class found themselves in

Denied status through legitimate means working-class males would deviate into one of 3 forms of subculture

### Criminal

Based in areas where there was an existing criminal network, males would be apprenticed into crime as an alternative to legitimate career

### Conflict

In the absence of an existing criminal network, frustrations would be channelled into clashes with other groups based upon 'turf', or other factors such as ethnicity

### Retreatist

Rejected by other groups, young males would opt out of society and turn to deviant behaviours such as drugs and petty crime to alleviate frustrations

**Subcultural Theories of Crime**  
- part of functionalist approach



- Evaluations of Cloward and Ohlin:**
- Some subcultures contain elements of more than one category - e.g. criminal and conflict in instance of drug dealing
  - Matza suggested criminality was a phase that young males drifted in and out of - rather than a career in deviance

Cloward and Ohlin

# Theories of Crime and Deviance