



Requirement of Strong Legal Framework and Procedures to Contest with Cybercrime in Pandemic Situation

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Abstract:

One of the most significant global occurrences in recent history will be the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. The government's response of issuing legal stay-at-home orders is one facet of this situation that is unique. The COVID-19 has affected the world in several ways not seen in decades. One of the effects is crime rates, which appear to have fallen in some communities around the world. We argue that the government ordered to stay-at-home may be principal reasoning for the change. While in some other countries, there has been increase. In fact, the impact has been different in different ways. The important question is how the effect on rate of crime will be in future; increase or reduction. The tendency of crime regarding torturing, abusing, molesting, assaulting, rape or killing the innocent women and children increased. Pakistan formulated fresh legislation. The major role in combating the crime depends upon existence of strong legislation capable of causing reduction in crime rate, which allows the investigators vast powers and collaboration with prosecution and safeguarding the witnesses. The criminals are very well organized and using most modern technology and IT equipment, therefore, the police, investigators and prosecutors must have and be highly trained and equipped, similarly. No strategy can be successful in the absence of strong legislation. The criminals involved in Cybercrime and white-collar crime keep on acquiring and hacking the data of people, government and business organizations by crossing security barriers of computers and networks. The occurrence of crime increased particularly in threats to attack and asking money to stop the attack. More strict security measures must adopted to safeguard the data and networks and strong encryption attained and implemented. The European Union advocates focusing on strong legal frame work. In addition, there exists justifications to amend the US cyber legal framework to reduce the frequency of crime. The paper presents some salient legal, procedural and feasible measures. The most salient philosophy presented in this research paper is that there must exist a strong legislation coupled with morality, code of ethics and severe punishment as deterrent forces to combat with these offences.

Keywords: White Collar crime, assaulting, rape, killing, Computer & network security

1. Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 will

undoubtedly be one of the most momentous global occurrences in recent history, having a long-term impact on culture, government

operations, crime, economics, politics, and social relationships. The government's approach of issuing legal stay-at-home orders to try to prevent the spread of the virus is one unique facet of this catastrophe. While the degree and timing of these commands varied by country and state, they invariably started with considerable encouragement for people to separate themselves voluntarily. As the problem became more serious. Several academics have looked into how crime rates have changed with the implementation of COVID-19. To say the least, the results have been inconsistent, especially when comparing broad categories of crime across cities and using different methodology and time.

According to [1], the need for robust and strong legislation to tackle white Collar crime is stressed, which is on the rise in both the public and private sectors. The effect of immoral and unlawful actions in government, notably high-level bribes, has crippled the financial and legislative bodies' normal functioning. Bank fraud and cybercrime are also on the rise, thanks to the widespread use of digital gadgets and the internet. The goal of this study is to learn more about the importance of applying strong regulations as well as morality and ethical principles. Authors of this research argue that morality and ethical norms have a positive influence on minimizing such crimes. There is a pressing need to implement the social welfare system used in Europe, Canada, and the United States. Employees of banks participate in bank frauds and perpetrate embezzlement and illicit transitions using computers and other digital technologies. The importance of corporate ethics in the banking industry cannot be overstated. Some

politicians' commit misdeeds, which be called out with a strong and iron fist.

Human behavior has deteriorated recently, because of economic slump in all countries, political instability, and the rise of the Covid-19 epidemic. Digital offences, money laundering, and unlawful transactions were at an all-time high even before Covid-19. Fighting such illicit professional practices is a huge task for the world. Business activities are likewise expanding, necessitating the requirement for fair financial transactional activity. According to [1,] the most common causes of illegalities are accounts that are not working properly and people who purposefully take money from them. The majority of the crimes are performed with the aid of computer software, hacking and tracking.

The important reasons are deceptive behavior, inadequacy, ineffectiveness, corrupt work style, willful neglect and dysfunction in commercial activities of the workers and employees. Particularly, when it comes to receiving and moving funds, as well as money exchange locally and internationally, auditing that is not up to par, using falsehoods to harm the market, misconduct by private and public companies, commercial, organizations and banks. The scarcity of trustworthy and well-trained bank officers is another reason.

According to [2], there is need to promulgate strong legal framework for women and child protection against offences of torturing, abusing or killing.

It is proposed in [3] that standardization of forensic evidence, its procurement, preservation is essential in court of law using

FBI techniques by FIA.

It is advocated in [4] that the deficiencies in the criminal and procedural must be amended in accordance with need of the day to facilitate the investigators, prosecutors and the the court of law. The use of effective digital electronic devices must be mandatory in the process of investigation. The purpose behind is to effectively implement the law.

Further, in [5] effective roll of business ethics is proposed. It is proposed in [6], that the use of electronics devices be mandatory to investigate the offences of torturing, abusing, molesting assaulting or killing the Innocent women and Children. According to [7], several academics have looked into how crime rates have changed with the implementation of COVID-19. To say the least, the results have been inconsistent, especially when comparing broad categories of crime across cities and using different methodology and times.

2. Spreading Disinformation to Harm Business

This strategy is adopted my criminal minded people to harm the business. The incorrect information is believed to be true, particularly in stock markets, which can be achieved by floating incorrect trade data willfully by miscreants. This adversely influences the trade and industry indexes. The statistical manipulations are affected due to disinformation and hence results in incorrect decision-making. Apart from the trade indexes, it also affects statistical market conditions measures; the business volume, operation, credit availability, price patterns, benefit

potential and investment opportunities rely are hit adversely due to deception.

Inaccurate 'trade data' frequently and intentionally floated to confuse and damage other industry counterparts by firms. Industry and trade indices, measurements of statistical market rates, comparative criteria of industry data based on business volume, activity, credit availability, pricing fluctuations, profit capacity and investment opportunities are carelessly prepared due to confusion, inexperience, or intentionally misleading motive. Disinformation always harm the businesses and create uncertainty in decision-making. The business organizations should be able to take measures such as to spot disinformation online, to take care of web site apps. Every business must adopt techniques of Artificial Intelligence. The companies must comprehend a process of social listing, adopt procedure of regular self-assessment and communicate with their clients regularly, be aware of the fake ads. The organizations and companies must go for litigation for the protection of their legitimate rights as and when infringed.

There is no doubt that the COVID-19 crisis will affect history on a scale not seen since previously indicate that a substantial drop in crime is occurring around the world and within the US. However, the reports also indicate the changes are not even across time, place, or crime type. Therefore, we encourage criminologists to study this crisis through use of new and existing sources of crime data, with a specificity of crime types, in a temporal fashion, and placed based. When the world actually returns to normal, then more

experimentation and tests shall have to be conducted using huge reservoirs of data scattered around the world regarding relationships with offences.

The use of sophisticated IT equipment such as high-speed processing facilities and technological assistance, the automated bank frauds are committed. The authors of this paper the implementation of business ethics, which plays a pivotal and key role in the banking and industrial sector. The risk mitigation is an impotent area in this case. The implementation of machine learning techniques leads to overcome such risks, obsolete and trivial data.

3. The White Collar Crime Frauds and Money Laundering

In [8], public perceptions of white-collar crime and punishment are detailed and [9], presents 2010 National Public Survey on White Collar Crime. The aspects of white-collar crimes discussed in [10]. White-collar crime refers to the person's nonviolent, politically motivated crime perpetrated by corporations and government professionals. It is defined as a crime committed by persons of respectability and high social status in the course of the occupation". For example, it is committed for financial gains, such as securities fraud, embezzlement, corporate fraud, and money laundering. In every society offender having modes-operandi of committing white-collar crime working in influential capacity in the society; either managerial positions or publically and politically powerful. They operate the offence in groups. On the face of it, they non-violent but have strong links to

high-ups. A crime is peculiar to a group of persons, usually in positions of influence linked to them in their society through their social standing. The most appropriate solution to such to combat with such offences is the use of most modern technology, IT equipment, communication tools, and adoption of computer and network security with high level of protection. Some important areas of white-collar crime shown in table-1.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Black Money | Counterfeiting | Credit Card |
| Currency arrangement | Embezzlement | Kickback |
| Investment Act to commit fraud | Insurance Trickery | Income Tax Avoidance |

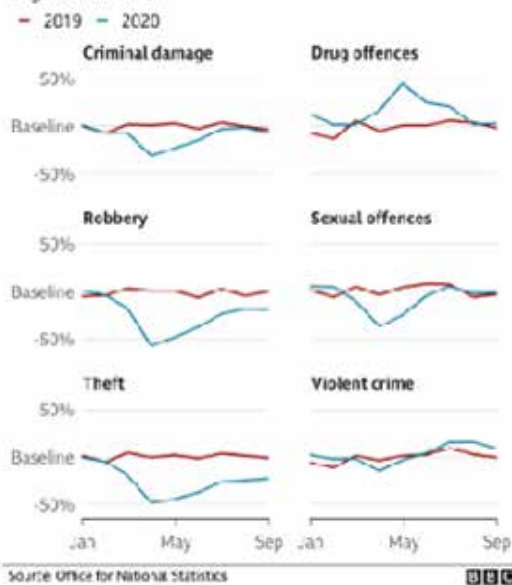
Table 1 : Selected areas of white-collar crime. Source [1]

4. Statistics

This section discusses statistical information on the association between covid-19 and the pre-lockdown work from home situation. Lockdowns in the United Kingdom, as shown in Figure 1 have had a significant impact on crime and criminal justice. Some oscillations in offences been recorded because of the influence of constraints on our lifestyles; these changes to community safety will have a long-term influence for years to come. The most dependable and comprehensive statistic is the Crime Survey for England and Wales, but that face-to-face survey has had a difficult year due to the transition to telephone calls. Considering everything, the best we can say is that total crime recorded to police - the second way we count what is going on - has fluctuated quite a little. The drug crime increased in some parts of UK.

How has crime changed over lockdown?

% difference in crime compared to 2019 baseline
England and Wales



Domestic Abuse Rises

According to [11], Domestic abuse has increased during lockdown because victims have been forced to stay at home with their abusers. While lockdown does not create domestic abuse, it can exacerbate pre-existing behaviors in abusive spouses. Women across the country are being isolated by abusive relationships and children are observing, and in some cases suffering, domestic abuse.

Figure 1: Crime Statistics regarding UK.
Source [11]

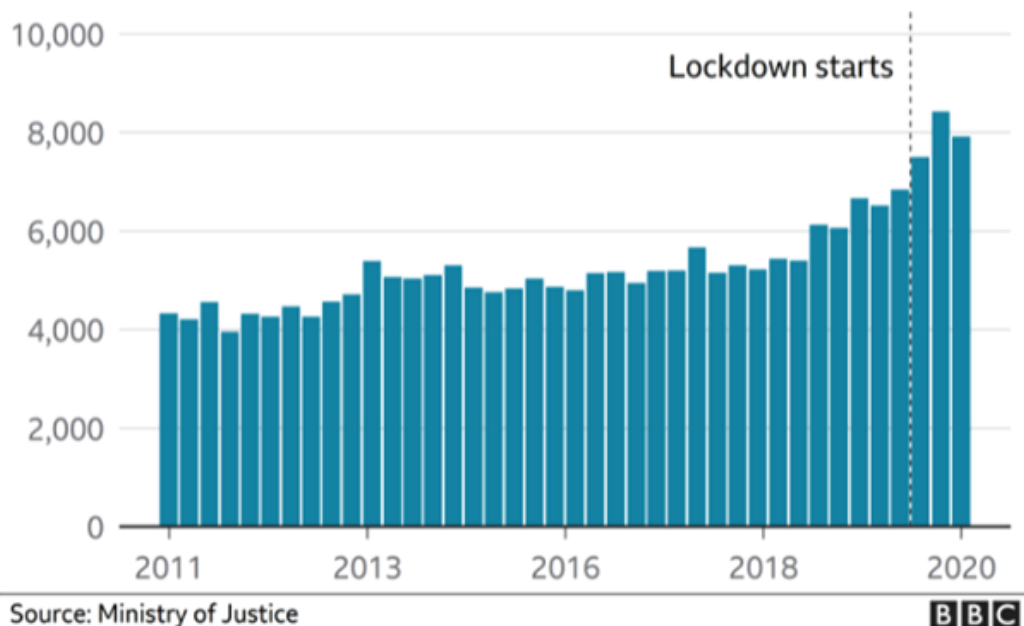


Figure 2 : Domestic violence, Courtesy BBC

5. Situation of Offences During Lock Down in US

Because many offenders would presumably conduct less serious crimes in a non-pandemic world, we draw attention to the likelihood that mandatory lockdown orders have taken minor offenders and placed them in situations where intimate partner violence, serious battery, and homicides are widespread. While crime appears to be decreasing generally in the United States, this good news should not mislead us to a worrying co-occurring reality — a reality that presents a bleak picture of unintended repercussions to public health and criminal justice budgets because of COVID-19 lockdowns. State governments around the United States issued obligatory stay-at-home orders in reaction to the COVID-19 epidemic towards the end of March 2020. Though designed to halt the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the lockdowns have had far-reaching consequences on people's lives in ways that were not anticipated. The goal of this study is to look into how government actions to COVID-19 have affected crime rates in the United States. Crime has reduced significantly in comparison to the pre-pandemic year of 2019, as assessed by calls for service to law enforcement. However, there are also signs that the crime drop is being driven by reductions in small offences, which are commonly committed.

6. Crime Scenario in Pakistan During 2020-21

According to the reports and statements of lawyers and journalists, the people and political leaders were subdued due to policies

of the Government. Strict actions against senior politician has been one aspect. The terrorist activities and offences against innocent women and children frequently took place. People not having mask were torture by police and fined. In violence several innocent people died. The most agonizing situation has been when political leaders have been fighting for no real cause. A woman political leader slapped the member of Provincial assembly during deliberation in TV program. The violation of freedom of expression occurs all most every day. The street crime increased in major cities. In several cases in 2020, government regulatory agencies blocked cable operators and television channels that had aired critical programs. The media coverage was restricted several times. Two senior judges of highest Courts were tried in court. One of them is honorably, exonerated and acquitted of the burden of all allegations. The contestants could not prove the case against him.

The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) started investigation into at least 12 journalists and activists in late September for alleged violations of the Electronic Crimes Act. A senior journalist in the Punjab province was charged with sedition and "high treason". Government officials continued to use the National Accountability Bureau (NAB), an anti-corruption agency, to target critics. On March 12, NAB agents in Lahore arrested editor-in-chief of the Jang group, the largest media group in Pakistan. This is unfortunate that the victims, without proof allege the establishment. The Pakistan Army is one of the best in the world; fighting on all fronts with terrorists activities. Abuses against female children and Women occurred in great frequency. Rape, murder, acid assaults,

domestic abuse, and forced marriage are all common forms of violence against women and girls in Pakistan. Human rights activists estimate that approximately 1,000 women are killed each year in so-called honor killings. Domestic violence cases climbed 200 percent from January to March 2020, according to data from domestic violence helplines across Pakistan, and intensified during the Covid-19 lockdowns following March.

In September 2020, nationwide protests were held to demand police reform after the Lahore Police Chief made a public statement implying that a woman who was gang-raped on a Punjab highway was at fault because she should not have been travelling “without her husband's permission” on a motorway late at night.

7. Conclusion and Recommendations

1. There is need for reaffirmation and making currently available legislation into a stronger set of procedural and criminal law. To reduce corruption and bribery, the government must take proactive measures.
2. The criminal need to be allowed to ruin the life of others. We should identify them quickly after finding out their locations and IP addresses. For the sake of protection of the business, experts may hired to do the needful and track the blackmailers.
3. The public funds not to be squandered or wasted. To prevent bribery and corruption, take strong measures against public servants and place them under rigorous observation.
4. Adhere to the privacy policy during the emergency and detection of attacks.
5. Computerization i.e. e-commerce and e-governance, be implemented in all public sector companies. Reducing rules and making the procedure simple with appropriate tools will also help the process.
6. Special vigilance is essential in services where bribes and corruption touch millions of people. Allow the press to reclaim its freedom so that they can launch the campaign. To reduce corruption and bribery, the government must take proactive measures.
7. The comprehensive programs planned and developed for bankers during training at banking institutes in the area of business ethics, economics and morals
8. In-house ethics activities, conferences, seminars and short-term training in ethical philosophy related to banking and employee advice conducted. All meaningful actions should be taken to organize moral education.
9. To prevent the financing of terrorism, obsolete laws and regulations are required be removed and replaced with new stringent legislation. The actual cause of such activities is the random use of discretionary powers; consequently, these powers must be restricted, curtailed, and decreased, and officials

must adhere to the law, Rules, and Regulations.

10. Use Electronic methods to track elected politicians. Encourage individuals to use social media to express their displeasure with corruption and ransom requests for specific services.
11. Complete programmes in business ethics, economics, and morals may be designed during banker training.
12. The underlying cause of such actions is the indiscriminate use of discretionary powers; as a result, these powers must be limited, curtailed, and reduced, and officers must work in line with the law, Rules, and Regulations.
13. The electronic methods adopted and implemented to examine and track the cases and accounts of elected politicians will be a great success.
14. Complete programmes in business ethics, economics, and morals can be designed and created during banker training.
15. Attempt to change legal and ethical standards in terms of moral principles by introducing enhancements to existing rules. The ethos of the banking industry is survival of the fittest; technical advice, experience, abilities, and business expertise are passed down, and banking management remains fit. When engaging with workers, policymakers and clients are professional, inventive, educated, and knowledgeable.

16. The laws must be based on and drawn from a valid moral theory that takes market dynamics into consideration.
17. It is critical to hire folks of good faith and ordinary conscientiousness who will honestly accept the codes and principles. Public authorities must be allowed to reap the benefits of
18. If a person has been wrongfully permitted to join as an employee, management must have the right to discharge the misfit if it is not to contribute successfully to the accomplishment of pre-settled goals. Employee competency, behavior, preparation and expertise requirements should be favoured over political pressure for appointments in the banking sector, especially for technical personnel.
19. Reasonable steps should be taken to reestablish traditional ideals in order to inspire trust and honesty into banking industry operations and partnerships in order to develop lucrative relationships with employees and clients.
20. Stepladders should be taken to eliminate unethical financing norms and practices.

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