

A Study On: White Collar Crime

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ABSTRACT

White-collar crime is becoming a bigger issue in India and around the world. We do know that there is a significant amount of white-collar crime, even though accurate statistics are hard to come by and any data we do have tends to underestimate its scope and frequency. Furthermore, the data that we do have indicates that, in India, street crimes have been declining for some time, but white-collar offenses are on the rise. Additionally, the average cost of a white-collar crime is higher than that of a street crime. This paper aims to incorporate etiological research on white-collar crime, based on the theory that criminal behavior arises from the combination of suitable opportunity and motivation. The foundation of the majority of social psychology studies on white-collar crime is the interactionist theory of motivation. Though interactionist theory ultimately falls short of explaining the causes of white-collar crime, it does help us understand it in terms of the offenders' symbolic construction of their social worlds. It is argued that the social structure of industrial capitalism and the "culture of competition" it gives rise to are the sources of symbolic motivational patterns. However, no theory of motivation, no matter how complex, can fully account for the reasons behind white-collar crime. For this reason, the paper's analysis ends with a look at the opportunities that social actors in various structural positions in developed capitalist countries are presented with.

Keywords: White-Collar Crime, Sutherland, Cybercrime, Fraud, Counterfeit, Insider Trading

Introduction:

Almost all societies have certain norms, beliefs, customs, and traditions that are implicitly accepted by their members as conducive to their well-being and healthy development. Behaviour that goes against these deeply held standards and traditions is deemed anti-social. A common definition of "crime" among writers is anti-social, immoral, or sinful behaviour. However, by definition, a crime is any behaviour that a state declares to be harmful to society and for which there is a legal prohibition under the penalty of law. A crime is any act or inaction that violates the law and is subject to punishment.

The most significant recent development in criminology, especially since World War II, has been the emergence of the concept of "white-collar" crime as an area of scientific inquiry and theoretical speculation of course, this crime itself is not entirely new; muckrakers have long exposed high-ranking corruption and venality, and wealthy robbers have been exposed in the past.

Recent efforts have resulted in the generalization of such phenomena and the inclusion of information regarding the illegal behaviour of the higher classes into theories of crime causation. Not only did Edwin Sutherland's lectures and writings, which culminated in his 1939 study, give rise to the term "white-

collar" for this emerging field, but they also sparked a debate in criminological circles about whether or not this idea was suitable for use as a theoretical and research focus.

With the development of trade and technology, white-collar crime has spread around the world. India is similarly engulfed in white-collar crime as any other nation. The rapidly expanding economy and industrialization of this developing nation are the causes of the sharp rise in white-collar crime in recent decades. Legally and socially, white-collar crime differs significantly from more traditional forms of crime.

White-collar crime has an impact on many aspects of modern life. The legitimacy of the financial industry is called into question by financial "scandals" like the failure of large banks and pension frauds, and crime has turned into a political issue. Public sector and tax fraud lowers government funding for welfare, education, and health. Enterprises' detrimental actions jeopardize the security of their employees, clients, and travelers, and also affect the environment and public health.

These are a few of the problems that the study of white-collar crime brings up. The existence of white-collar crime calls into question the methods used by criminal justice organizations to define, quantify, and handle crime. It raises concerns about how it can be compared to other crimes because it includes a broad range of harmful behaviors that are not always considered to be crimes. Beyond the traditional criminological concerns, white-collar crime analysis now encompasses broader areas such as financial regulation, environmental protection, occupational health and safety, consumer affairs, and food regulation.

Research Objectives:

- To study the history of white-collar crime
- To study the meaning & nature of white-collar crime.
- To study different types of white-collar crime
- To study causes, effects, and reasons for the growth of white-collar crime.

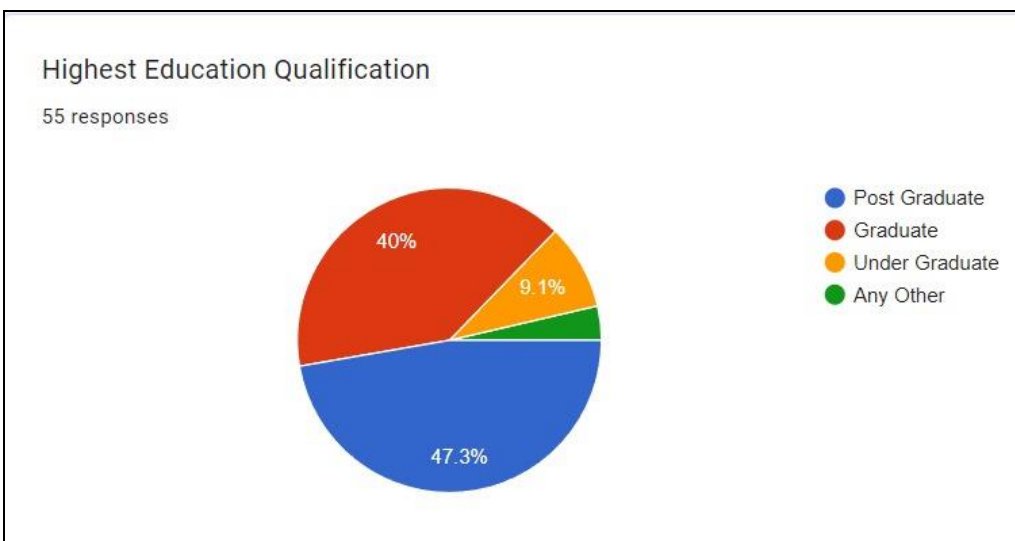
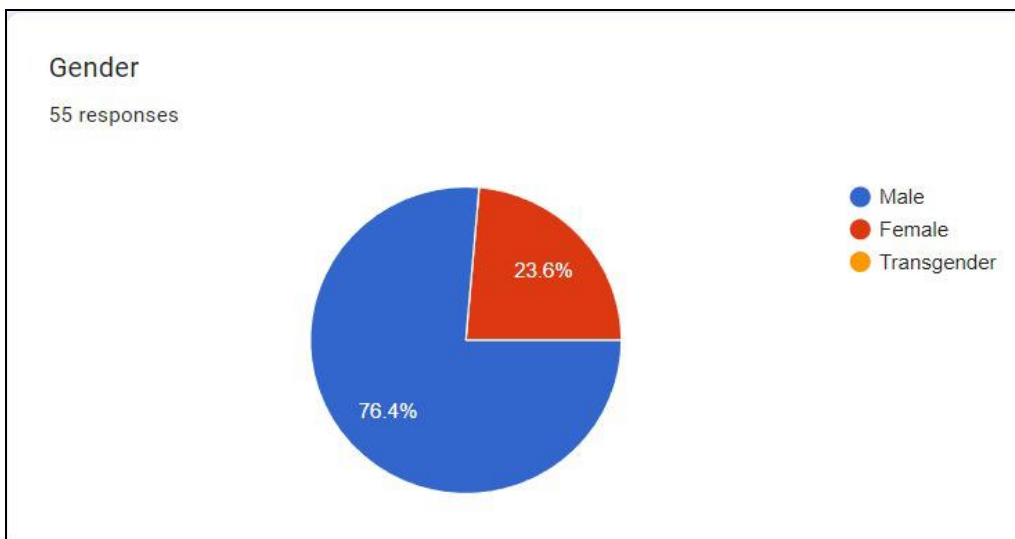
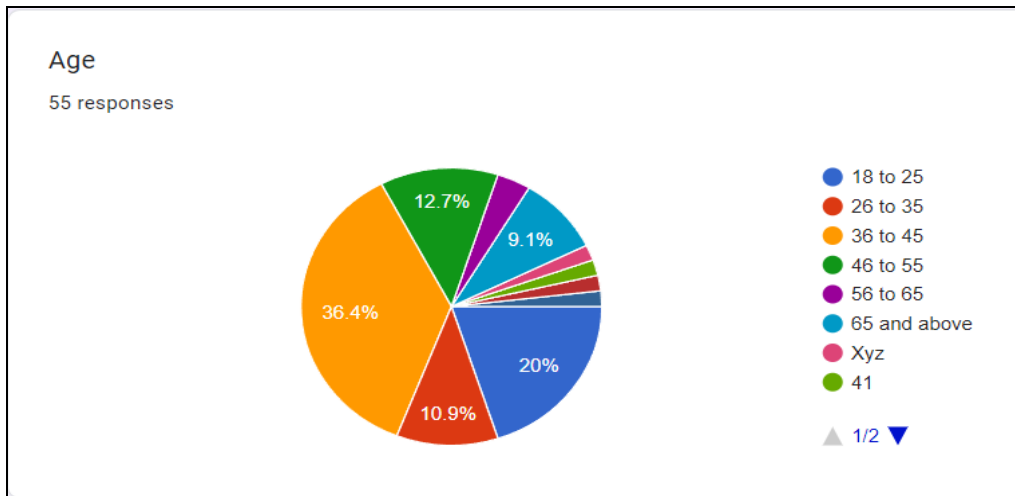
Research Questions:

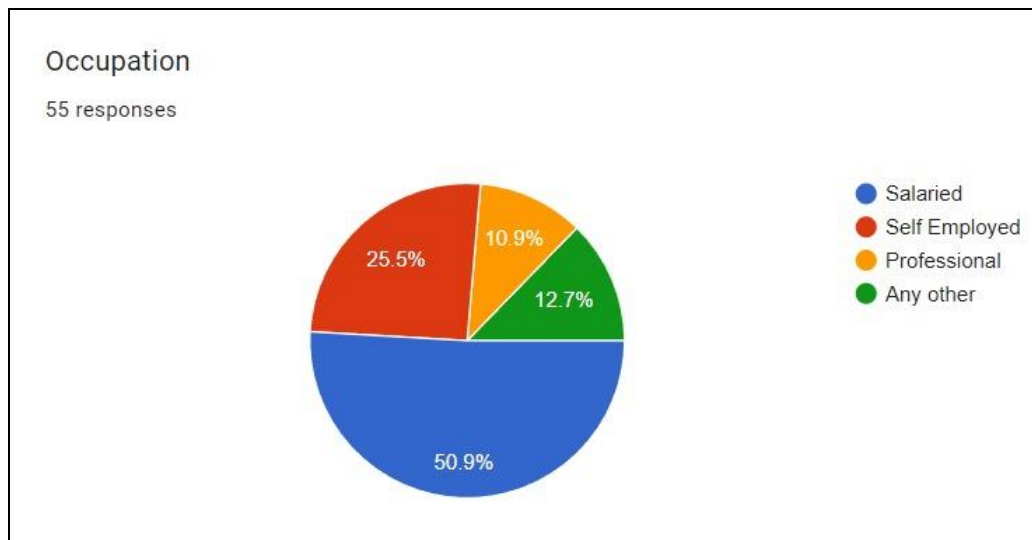
- What is the history of white-collar crime?
- What is the meaning & nature of white-collar crime?
- What are the different types of white-collar crime?
- What are the causes, effects, and reasons for the growth of white-collar crime?

Research Methodology:

This research paper is mixed methodology research with the help of quantitative and qualitative data. This research is done using primary as well as secondary data.

Following are the details of 55 respondents:





Literature Review:

1. **RESERVE BANK OF INDIA ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23.**

<https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/AnnualReport/PDFs/0ANNUALREPORT20222322A548270D6140D998AA20E8207075E4.PDF>

Taken bank fraud data from the Reserve Bank of India Annual Report 2022-23.

2. **Number of cyber-crimes reported across India from 2012 To 2022.**

<https://www.statista.com/statistics/309435/india-cyber-crime-it-act/>

Taken cyber-crime data across India from 2012 to 2022.

3. **PwC's Global Economic Crime and Fraud Survey 2022.**

<https://www.pwc.in/assets/pdfs/consulting/forensic-services/pwcs-global-economic-crime-and-fraud-survey-2022-v3.pdf>

Taken Global economic crime and fraud survey 2022.

4. **Sagar Sharma, Dr. Renu Mahajan, "A CASE STUDY ON WHITE COLLAR CRIMES IN DIFFERENT PROFESSIONS", JETIR Journal, Volume 6, Issue 5, 2019.**

The authors of this article have provided in-depth information on white-collar crimes in different professions.

Historical Background¹

The concept of white-collar crime is usually associated with E.H. Sutherland whose penetrating work in this area focused the attention of criminologists on its demoralizing effects on the total crime picture. Sutherland pointed out that besides the traditional crimes such as assault, robbery, dacoit, murder, rape, kidnapping, and other acts involving violence, there are certain anti-social activities that the persons of upper strata carry on in the course of their occupation of business.

In 1934 Morris drew attention to the necessity of a change in emphasis regarding crime, he asserted that anti-social activities of persons of high status committed in the course of their profession must be brought within the category of crime and should be made punishable. Finally, E.H. Sutherland emphasized that these 'upper world' crimes which are committed by persons of upper socio-economic

¹ Dundappa B. Solapure, "White Collar Crimes", KLE LAW ACADEMY BELAGAVI, Page 5-30, 2022.

groups in the course of their occupation violating the trust should be termed as white-collar crimes, to be distinguished from traditional crimes which he called "blue-collar crimes.

White Collar Crime & Criminology

To early criminologists, however, crime was associated with the activities of the lower-class offenders who populated courts and prisons. Theory and research sought to identify the 'causes' of crime that were assumed to lie in the pathologies of individual offenders and poverty and deprivation. This was challenged in 1939 by the US criminologist Edwin Sutherland who advanced an alternative thesis.

Those persons of the upper socio-economic class engage in much criminal behaviour that this criminal behaviour differs from the criminal behaviour of the lower socio-economic class principally in the administrative procedures which are used in dealing with the offenders and that variations in administrative procedures are not significant from the point of view of causation of crime

The concept of white-collar crime found its place in criminology for the first time in 1939 by Sutherland and he published his research paper on white-collar criminality in the year 1941. He was a follower of the sociological school of criminology. He defined white-collar crime as a crime committed by persons of high social status in the course of their occupation.

“White-collar crimes are committed by persons of status, not for need but for greed” Sir Walter Reckless.

Sutherland further pointed out that white-collar crime is more harmful to society than ordinary crimes because the financial loss to society from white-collar crime is far greater than the financial loss from burglaries, robberies, larcenies, etc.

Nature of White-collar crime²:

The primary requirement for a crime to be classified as "white-collar" is that it must be committed as an extension of or in contrast to the offender's professional role. In theory, this is more important than the kind of law broken or the offender's relative status, even though these have unavoidably emerged as central concerns in the white-collar dispute.

Firstly, the majority of the relevant laws do not fall under the purview of the conventional criminal code, and secondly, the majority of those who violate the law is socially superior to the average criminal. Even though they are primarily white-collar crimes—that is, crimes involving larceny by Bailee, embezzlement, some forgeries, and the like—these offenses are nonetheless prosecuted under the penal code. Similarly, individuals working in essentially non-white-collar professions like farmers, repairmen, and others may be categorized as white-collar violators for engaging in illegal activities like watering milk for public consumption or performing needless "repairs" on television sets.

Nonetheless, people who work in high-status white-collar professions and engage in routine criminal activity—like rape, robbery, murder, thefts unrelated to their jobs, and so forth—would not be considered white-collar criminals.

Because of their high social standing and adherence to professional norms, these crimes typically involve "duplicities" or "misrepresentations," which betray the trust that has been placed in the individual (or the corporation, for that matter).

² Ibid

This betrayal of confidence must not only be an unethical act but also a legal infraction, not just a non-violent departure from customary behaviour within a company or occupation. Furthermore, a theoretical debate that still exists today centers on the legal standing of these infractions.

Types of white collar crime³

Blackmail:

A demand for money or other consideration under threat to do bodily harm, to injure property, to accuse of a crime, or to expose secrets.

Bribery:

When money, goods, services, information, or anything else of value is offered with intent to influence the actions, opinions, or decisions of the taker. You may be charged with bribery whether you offer the bribe or accept it.

Bank Fraud:

Fraud is a crime that aims to mislead and gain inappropriate advantages. Bank frauds are financial scams. It is made through false representations by fraudulent companies. It also involves handling negotiable instruments such as check bouncing, securities, bank deposits, etc. Bank fraud is concerned with the general public as banks and the Governments have a relationship of trust. It is the most prevalent type of white-collar crime as well as a corporate crime. This affects both the public and the country's Government. Despite having a strong regulator, the financial services sector has emerged as the most susceptible sector to fraud. The misuse of technology in the banking sector includes the use of banking access for overpayments to vendors or self-bank accounts, sharing of potentially confidential information, and misuse of the company's technology resources for unauthorized activities which includes conflicting business relationships. Moreover, providing services on mobile and social media platforms with limited knowledge of the security requirements poses a lot of threats to customers as well as financial institutions. Given the weaknesses in the Indian law enforcement system regarding the investigation and prosecution of fraudsters and the ever-increasing social pressure to get rich quickly, fraud remains a constant danger to businesses. The confidence of international investors and domestic entrepreneurs has been low in the last two years, thanks to the various scams that have come to light during this period.

³ Ibid

Table VI.4: Vintage of Frauds Reported in 2021-22 and 2022-23
(₹ crore)

2021-22		2022-23	
1	2	3	4
Occurrence of Fraud	Amount Involved	Occurrence of Fraud	Amount Involved
Before 2012-13	10,803	Before 2012-13	1,547
2012-13	3,272	2012-13	739
2013-14	7,270	2013-14	1,734
2014-15	3,155	2014-15	954
2015-16	4,661	2015-16	479
2016-17	5,620	2016-17	8,349
2017-18	7,346	2017-18	4,232
2018-19	5,448	2018-19	4,623
2019-20	4,740	2019-20	1,399
2020-21	3,719	2020-21	1,325
2021-22	3,785	2021-22	3,196
		2022-23	1,675
Total	59,819	Total	30,252

Note: 1. Data are in respect of frauds of ₹1 lakh and above reported during the period.
2. Refer to footnotes 3 and 5 of Table VI.2.
Source: RBI Supervisory Returns.

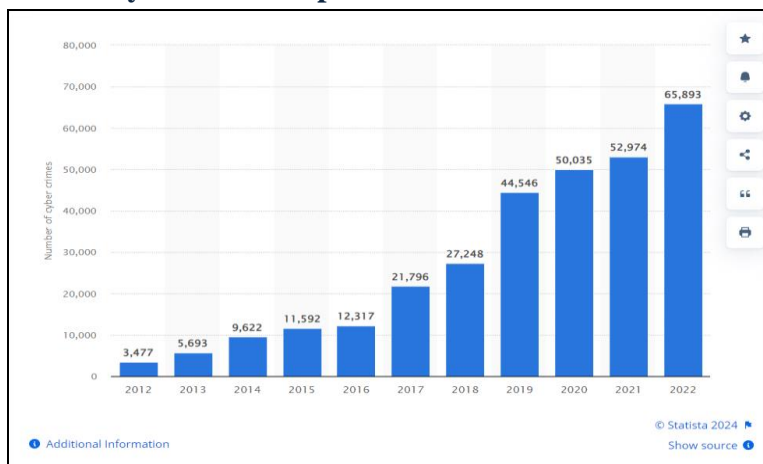
Counterfeit:

Counterfeiting alludes to the act of producing, dispersing, or selling goods or items that imitate or replicate genuine products or services with the intent to deceive consumers or without authorizing them legally. Counterfeit products are intended to deceive consumers into thinking they are buying the brand. Counterfeiters commonly imitate the packaging, branding, and overall appearance of genuine products. Still, the difference between counterfeit and genuine products is that counterfeits are often inferior and lack the same quality.

Cyber Crime:

A cybercrime is any criminal activity that involves a computer, network, or networked device. Although the majority of cybercriminals try to make money through cybercrimes, in the first instance cybercrimes are conducted against computers or devices to cause harm or disable them. Cybercriminals utilize computers or networks to disseminate malware, illegal information, photographs, or other material. Some cybercrimes do this happens — they focus on computers to contaminate them with the virus, which is subsequently disseminated to other machines and, in certain circumstances, whole networks.

Number of cybercrimes reported across India from 2012 to 2022



⁴<https://rbidocs.rbi.org.in/rdocs/AnnualReport/PDFs/0ANNUALREPORT20222322A548270D6140D998AA20E8207075E4.PDF>

Cellular Phone Fraud:

The unauthorized use, tampering, or manipulation of a cellular phone or service. This can be accomplished by either the use of a stolen phone, where an actor signs up for service under false identification, or where the actor clones a valid electronic serial number (ESN) by using an ESN reader and reprograms another cellular phone with a valid ESN number.

Extortion:

It occurs when one person illegally obtains property from another by actual or threatened force, fear, or violence, or under cover of official right.

Engineering:

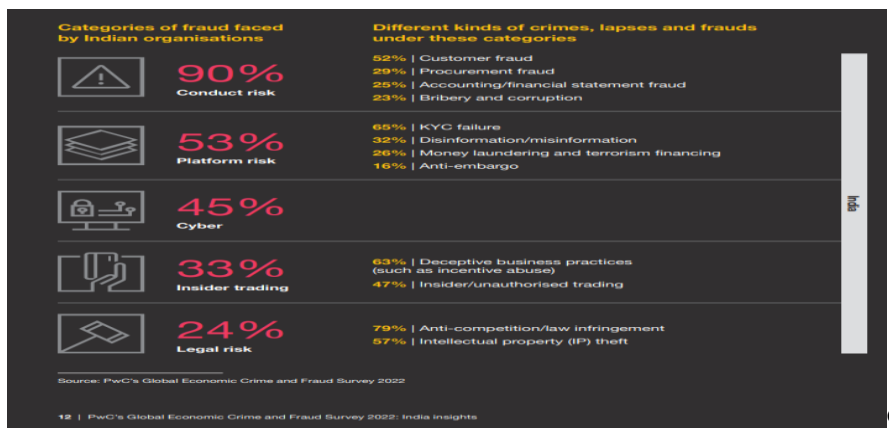
In the engineering profession, underhand dealing with contractors and suppliers, passing of sub-standard works and materials, and maintenance of bogus records of working of labor are some of the common examples of white-collar crime. Scandals of this kind are reported almost every day in our country.

Fake Employment Placement Rackets:

Several cheating cases are reported in various parts of the country by the so-called manpower consultancies and employment placement agencies which deceive the youth with false promises of providing them white-collar jobs on payment of huge amounts.

Fraud:

In white-collar crime, fraud is generally termed as non-violent and includes public corruption, health care fraud, mortgage fraud, securities fraud, money laundering, etc.



Insider Trading:

Once one trader has access to such information and uses it to make trades in a manner that significantly capitalizes on the imminent change in the offering in the making, it's said that they traded with an insider. In this sense, here is an example of how a trader would conduct insider trading. An employee working at

⁵ <https://www.statista.com/statistics/309435/india-cyber-crime-it-act/>

⁶ <https://www.pwc.in/assets/pdfs/consulting/forensic-services/pwcs-global-economic-crime-and-fraud-survey-2022-v3.pdf>

an investment banking firm is knowledgeable of the likelihood of the acquisition of Company B being made by Company A. The employee would further buy shares from Company B since they have confirmed information that once the acquisition process starts, the firm’s share prices rise to unjustifiable values.

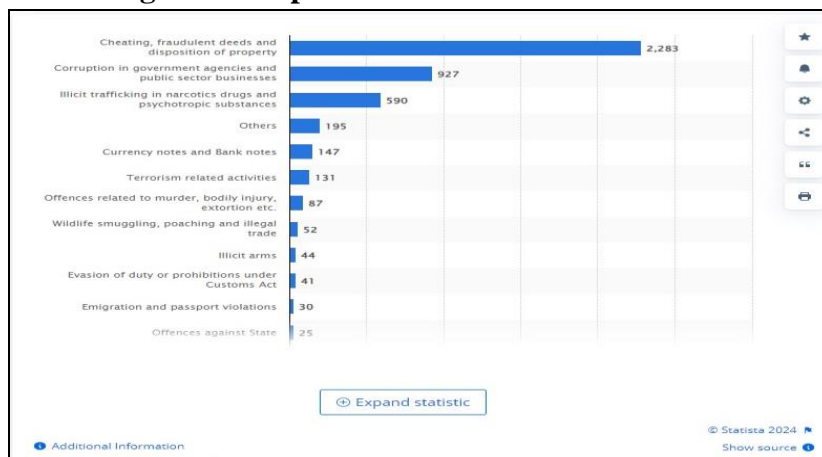
Medical Profession:

White-collar crimes that are commonly committed by persons belonging to the medical profession include the issuance of false medical certificates, helping illegal abortions, secret service to dacoits by giving expert opinion leading to their acquittal, and selling sample medicines to patients or chemists.

Money laundering:

Money laundering is a service that satisfies the needs of the creatures that conclude transactions in cash. It is the placement of cash in numerous transactions through several accounts, eventually being deposited into legitimate firms. The money in the company is mixed with genuine money generated by the company. Thus, the latter money is no longer distinguishable as the precise money that started the crime.

Number of Money laundering crimes reported across India from 2012 to 2022



Ponzi scheme:

Accordingly, a Ponzi scheme can be defined as an investment fraud promising its participants overwhelming rewards. It repays the initial participants the profits using fresh deposits that are received. Once the fraudster is unable to recruit enough fresh clients to compensate for the old ones, the scam will implode, taking numerous investors along due to their considerable losses.

Tax Evasion:

When a person commits fraud in filing or paying taxes. The complexity of tax laws has provided sufficient scope for taxpayers to evade taxes. The evasion is more common with influential categories of persons such as traders, businessmen, lawyers, doctors, engineers, contractors, etc. The main difficulty posed before the Income Tax Department is to know the real and exact income of these Professionals. It is often alleged that the actual tax paid by these persons is only a fraction of their income and the rest of the money goes into circulation as ‘black money’.

Telemarketing Fraud:

Someone places telephone calls to an individual and a corporation, where he/she requests a donation for a charitable organization or where he requests money and does not use the donation for the stated purpose.

Weights and Measures:

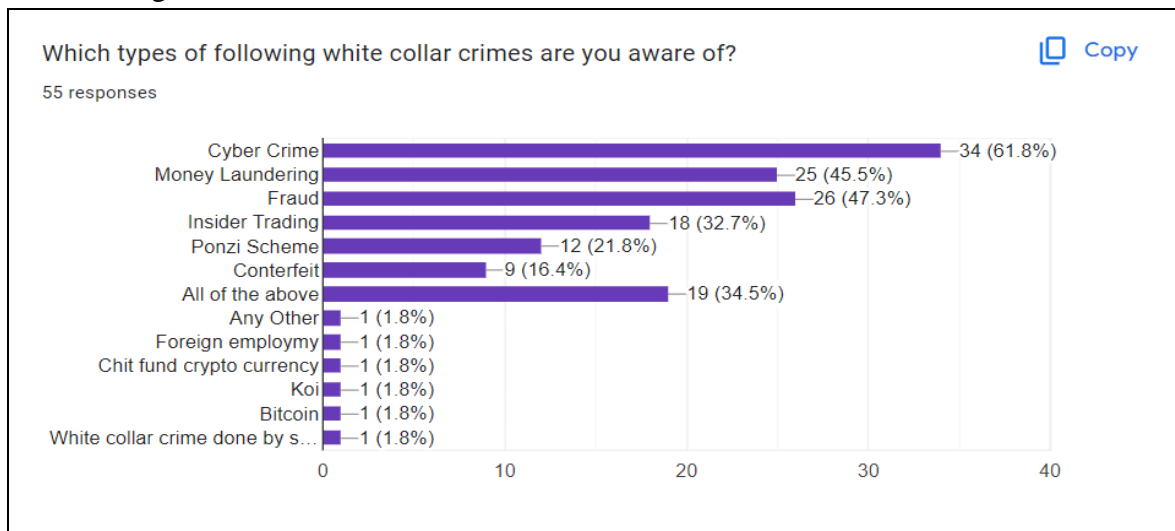
The act of placing an item for sale at one price yet charging a higher price at the time of sale or short-weighting an item when the label reflects a higher weight.

Research Outcome:

Out of an online survey of 55 respondents, we got the following feedback from them.

The majority of participants are aware of the following white-collar crimes

1. Cybercrime
2. Money Laundering
3. Fraud
4. Insider Trading



Causes of white collar crime⁷

Despite having stringent laws, the administration often fails to implement them, as keeping control of such a large number of people becomes difficult. In such circumstances, it is very likely for white-collar crimes to flourish.

The various other reasons for the growth of white-collar crimes are as follows:

1. The white collar crimes are committed by people who are financially secure and perform such illegal acts to satisfy their wants. These crimes are generally motivated by the greed of the people.
2. Poverty is considered a major cause of an underdeveloped country. Poverty is a cause of financial and physical compulsion among the major chunk of the population. Since people are so much in

⁷ Sagar Sharma, Dr. Renu Mahajan, “A CASE STUDY ON WHITE COLLAR CRIMES IN DIFFERENT PROFESSIONS”, JETIR Journal, Volume 6, Issue 5, 2019.

need of money, they easily get attracted by the false representations made to them. They forget to look into the veracity of the representations being made to them.

3. The gravity of white-collar crimes is more intense than other traditional crimes. White-collar crimes cause great loss at all levels, i.e. financial, emotional, etc. Corporate mishaps, like false pharmaceutical tests, cost more lives than the crime of murder.
4. The advancement in technology, the faster growth rate of industries and businesses, and political pressure have introduced offenders to newer, easier, and swifter methods of committing such crimes.
5. With easy access to the internet and digital world, where big transactions take place within seconds and where reaching out to people from all over the world is a matter of few minutes, criminals have an incentive to commit more crimes and hide anywhere in the world.
6. The law enforcement agency also becomes reluctant to deal with such crimes as these cases are very complicated and tracing a suspect is a difficult job. The investigation in the case of white-collar crimes is much more time-consuming than that in traditional crimes.

Reasons for the growth of white-collar crimes

The main causes of the rise in white-collar crime are competition, greed, and a lack of appropriate legislation to deter these kinds of crimes.

Greed

Machiavelli, the founder of modern political philosophy, was adamant that people are inherently greedy. He said that a man forgets his father's passing more quickly and readily than he forgets losing his inheritance. This also applies to the committing of white-collar crimes. If not out of greed, why would a man of his social standing and importance, who is well-off financially, commit such crimes?

Simple, quick, and long-lasting, with the fast advancement of business, politics, and technology, criminals now have new venues to commit white-collar crimes. Additionally, technology has sped up and simplified the process of harming or losing something to another person. It would also take longer for the victim to recover from such crimes because they are far more expensive than other crimes like murder, robbery, or burglary. This would reduce the level of competition.

Competition

Evolution is the "survival of the fittest," according to Herbert Spencer, who coined the term after reading Charles Darwin's "On the Origin of Species." This suggests that there will always be competition between the species, with the best individual able to adjust to the environment and survive.

Lack of Stringent Laws

The majority of these crimes are made possible by the internet and digital payment methods, so laws are hesitant to pursue these cases because they become challenging to investigate and track. Because they are typically committed in the privacy of a home or office, there are typically no eyewitnesses, making it more difficult to track them down.

Necessity

White-collar crime is also committed by people to support their families and themselves. However, feeding one's ego is the most important thing that people in high social status desire.

Lack of awareness

White-collar crimes differ from other types of crimes in their nature. The majority of people are the worst victims of crime, but they are unaware of this.

Effects of White-Collar Crimes:

1. Effect on the Company

White-collar crimes cost businesses enormous sums of money. These businesses eventually increase the price of their product to make up for the loss, which lowers the number of people purchasing it. This is in line with the law of demand, which states that, given all other factors being equal, a commodity's demand will rise with a rise in price and fall with a price decrease. Put simply, the relationship between a commodity's price and demand is inverse. Employee salaries are reduced because the company is losing money. Occasionally, the organization eliminates positions held by multiple workers. It is difficult for the company's employees and investors to return their loans. People find it more difficult to obtain credit as well.

2. Effect on the Employees

White-collar crimes put workers in danger. They start to notice whether or not their working conditions are safe. They begin to question their safety and the company's ability to continue earning their trust.

3. Effect on Society

White-collar crimes are bad for society because the people committing them are the ones who ought to be held up as moral role models and who must behave responsibly. As a result, society gets contaminated.

4. Effect on Offenders

There isn't agreement among the authorities on what constitutes white-collar crimes. The government is unable to take precise action to prevent these crimes because there are no reliable statistics available to examine the causes and effects of such crimes. Moreover, although these crimes are increasing, they are typically not reported.

Since these crimes are being done on camera, there are no eyewitnesses. This implies that the perpetrators are using their computers while seated in a closed space or their area, and no one could know what they are doing.

This poses a challenge in locating the perpetrators. Because the punishment for these crimes is also short-term, unlike those involving blue-collar labor, all these loopholes serve as an incentive for the perpetrators to carry out these crimes with fearlessness. Most offenders are seen wandering around freely, endangering society.

5. Effect on the Affected Person

Elderly people with limited access to liquid assets and lower cognitive abilities than younger people are typically the target of offenders. As a result, the criminals find them to be an easy target. Because sometimes the loss incurred is unbearable, victims of such crimes frequently experience depression and are observed to have suicidal thoughts.

White Collar Criminals:

White-collar criminals are non-violent, financially motivated offenses committed by individuals, businesses, or government professionals. These crimes, often conducted within office settings, involve deceit, concealment, or violation of trust, and are primarily driven by financial gain.

Research Outcome:

As per the 55 respondents to the questionnaire, the following are the types of white-collar criminals.

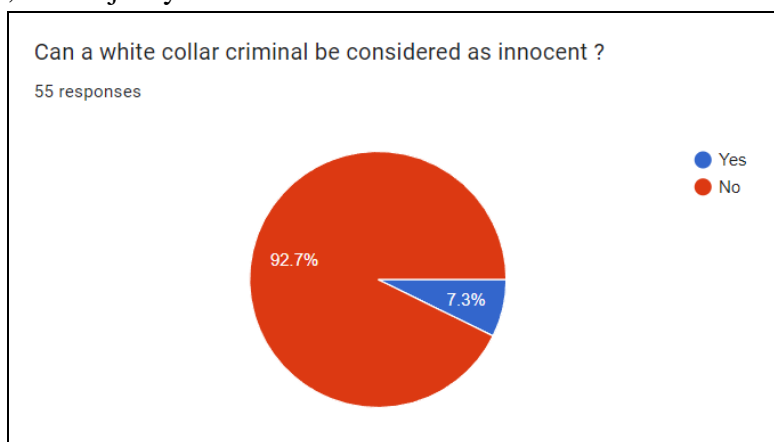
1. Politicians
2. Business Men
3. Government Servant
4. Insider traders
5. Professionals

Can a white-collar criminal be considered as innocent?

A person's high rank, great career, and respect do not make the person's crime innocent. White-collar criminals are not innocent because they contain moral damages even though they do not contain violence. There may be some regulations in all countries to catch white-collar criminals.

Research Outcome:

Out of 55 respondents, the majority of them considered white-collar criminals are not innocent.



Case Law:

1. Harshad Mehta Securities Fraud (1988-1995)

In 1990, the security firm Grow More Research & Asset Management Limited was established by stockbroker Harshad Mehta. Because Mehta was a well-known figure in the stock market and was referred to as the "Sultan of Dalal Street," investors followed his example without question.

He bought the scrips at outrageous prices, borrowing large amounts of money from the bank to create a phony market. He used his position to his advantage, manipulating the stock prices of specific scrips. The result was an abnormal surge in the price of these shares due to an artificial inflow of funds into the stock markets. Even though Harshad Mehta's action was unethical, it was lawful.

2. Satyam Scandal: biggest-ever corporate accounting fraud

This scam was exposed in a confession letter that Satyam Computers Services Limited founder and Chairman B. Ramalingam Raju wrote and published in the Times of India on January 7, 2009. He

acknowledged manipulating his books of accounts by understating liabilities and exaggerating assets in the letter.

The books of accounts show the company's financial status. Investors can depend on them as an essential resource before investing. A scheme to deceive investors and shareholders involved falsifying the account's books.

The fraud, which had a total estimated cost of 14,000 Crores, is believed to have been a major factor in the 2009 recession. With a strong reaction to this scam, SEBI found Ramalinga Raju and nine key associates guilty of insider trading.

3. Ketan Parekh Security Scam

Parekh participated in stock manipulation and circular trading between 1999 and 2001. He used loans from banks such as Madhavpura Mercantile Co-operative Bank and Global Trust Bank to manipulate several K-10 stocks. Roughly ₹ 1,250 crores was spent on the scandal. Even though he just spent a year in prison, he won't be able to trade stocks in India until 2017.

His name is still heard on the street, despite accusations that he performs behind the scenes. An Intelligence Bureau report said that Parekh and his accomplices engaged in both insider trading and circular trading using front businesses.

4. Saradha chit fund case

Significant financial fraud as well as an alleged political scandal were caused by the collapse of the Ponzi scheme run by the Saradha Group, a group of 200 private companies that were reportedly running collective investment schemes that were commonly and wrongly referred to as "Chit Funds." This gang collected almost ₹30,000 crores from over 17 lakh investors with the promise of a very large sum in return in the shape of cash or real estate and other assets.

At least ten Saradha group companies were accused of defrauding the public by taking part in money-pooling schemes. Sudipta Sen, the managing director of Saradha Realty India, was prohibited by SEBI from the securities market until the company completed all Collective Investment Schemes (CIS) and issued the reimbursement.

5. Punjab National Bank Fraud

The renowned jewelry designer and diamantine Nirav Modi is the 85th richest person in India.

Bank asserted that to help finance buyers' credit, Modi and the companies affiliated with him colluded with bank staff to secure guarantees or letters of undertaking from other overseas banks.

PNB's preliminary investigation indicates that two bank employees issued Los to the entities above without following the correct protocol, committing fraud. Then, using the SWIFT messaging system, credit was given to the previously stated companies in light of these Los.

According to PNB, the funds that were allegedly raised to purchase and sell diamonds were not utilized. PNB provided the stock exchange with information about the detection of fraudulent and unauthorized transactions. At ₹11,400 crores, a scam was found.

Conclusion:

Sutherland defines "white collar" crimes as those that respectable and socially standing individuals conduct while working for a company or in their line of work. It seems evident that Sutherland's

description is accurate given the growing scope of white collar crimes. The scope of white-collar crime is growing in respectable professions including engineering, medicine, law enforcement, media, and law enforcement as well as in educational institutions and among politicians and other high-class workers. The primary motivation behind these growing dimensions is financial gain. These days, white-collar crime is a threat to every profession.

White collar criminals are using new techniques to commit crimes as a result of scientific and technological advancements. The majority of crimes are perpetrated using internet platforms. Since most white-collar crimes are not protected by Indian law, white-collar crime is on the rise daily and the perpetrators have little fear of being discovered. The biggest benefit for white collar criminals is that those in professions like law enforcement and legal services, whose major responsibility is to uphold law and order, serve the interests of justice, and safeguard society, are also involved in white collar crime.

Initially, it was believed that only members of the upper class engaged in white-collar crimes. However, as society evolved and individuals became more sophisticated, members of the middle class began to conduct white-collar crimes as well, such as tax evasion and internet fraud. Individuals from the middle class are starting small businesses and engaging in white-collar crimes including high-interest loans, setting up expensive educational institutions, and fabricating degrees, among other offenses. Nowadays, white-collar crime affects everyone from middle-class workers and small business owners to wealthy businessmen and staff. White collar crime is on the rise, and while it may not directly impact society, it is having an economic impact on all facets of society, making it evident that the affluent are becoming richer and the poor are getting poorer.

Suggestions:

In this research following are the suggestions given by the respondents.

- Proper awareness and deterrent measures to be implemented.
- There should be proper awareness should be given to common people, that they should aware of white collar crime.
- More stringent laws to be in place to prevent such crimes
- We should spread awareness and report the crime when noticed.
- Generate more value & jobs for intelligent experts so that they can earn in a positive way
- Awareness among the people and strict punishment and fine
- Periodic awareness to people. More vigilant actions from cyber-crime police
- CCTV at all Minister's cabins with audio, CCTV at all working places of these officials with audio
- Awareness and increase checkpoints for consumer
- You be careful with your dealings.
- Detect unusual patterns or anomalies in financial transactions and strict penalties
- Prepare a special team to deal with such crimes and spread awareness among the public
- Transparency, audit, and recruitment of more people to keep an eye
- Control corruption
- Implementing stringent internal controls, coupled with regular audits, ensures transparent financial practices.
- Preventing white-collar crime requires a combination of regulatory measures, enforcement actions, and organizational practices.

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