Introduction

 Establish clearly the two theories that you will be comparing and contrasting.  Provide the background of each theory. Provide the assumptions of each theory.  Describe what is important to know and to do for each theory.  When were the theories established? How? Are the theories offshoots of other theories?  Major theorists attributable to the theories that you selected.  Demonstrates an exceptional understanding of the terminology in a CJ course

Discuss multiple (more than 3) key ideas of each theory selected. Demonstrate an exceptional understanding of key concepts. Provide specific examples of each theory.  Cite the sources in APA format.  Provide a complete “comparison” and contrast of both theories.

The outline needs to layout your paper

I   Introduction

 There are many different theories of crime. It has been theorized that crime can determined through biological factors and others believe that environmental factors are more important to those who commit crimes.

 The purpose of this outline is to compare two of the most major theories of criminology: classical and biological. I will then analyze each of the theories and their main assumptions and compare and contrast their approaches to crime.

II Theory A. Classical School

The Classical School became the first modern approach to making sense of crime and criminal behavior. (Schmalleger, 2016, p 23)

1. Background-Characteristics, assumptions—examples

The classical theory has the belief that every individual has their own right and ‘free will’ in the way in which they behave, so they commit a crime because they choose to do so, not because it is in their biological make-up.

Furthermore, the Classical theory ignores the possibility of irrationality and unconscious drives as motivational factors – it places entire responsibility on the criminal.

III Theory B. Biological and bio social

acts have been linked with roles taken by inherited characteristics. The basic theory is that irregularities which may be inherited or developed throughout life, predispose individuals to.

Biological theories argue that certain inborn characteristics are beyond an individual’s control.

The theory assumes that criminal behavior is caused, but may be manageable, possibly through rehabilitation.

a. Background-Characteristics—assumptions examples

Biological positivism differs in the sense that it places the responsibility on forces beyond control of the criminal and hence, suggests that the criminal is born, not made.

IV Comparisons

a.        Similarities

One similarity is that both classical and biological theorists believed that punishment for crime should not be too severe.

b.      Differences

The difference between these two theories of criminology is that the classical view focuses on the particular act/crime whereas the biological view focuses on each individual criminal.

c.       Strengths

The Classical School in order for punishment to be a deterrence it must be prompt, proportionate to the crime, so that others would learn of the consequences of being involved in criminal; activity, and sure as a deterrent for other would-be offenders.

The Classical school was a consensus view of crime, and that a crime is an act that violates the basic values and beliefs of society.

d.      Weaknesses

The classical view believes that the problem of crime should be addressed by concentrating on the crime itself, all criminals who commit the same offence are punished the same, regardless of any extenuating circumstances. The problem involved with these principles was the concentration was only the criminal act, and not individual difference between individuals. Everyone was treated the same.

V.  Conclusions

There are several similarities and differences between the classical and the biological theories of crime. They both encourage the idea of less severe punishments and both have developed and improved over time. And they are different; the biological school theories focus on the individual criminal whereas classical school theories focus on the actual crime. Plus, the biological school encouraged the idea of rehabilitation and the reformation of criminals while the latter believed in deterrence to try to reduce crime.

References

Schmalleger, Frank. 2016. Criminology. Pearson Education, Inc,