

	CRIMES Crime is defined as the violation of law. Crime is classified or identified by type (or category), degree (or intensity), and intention.	1
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THE CATEGORIES OF CRIME

Crimes can be assigned categories based on their nature and their severity.

Crimes Against						
	Property	Environment	Sophonts	Society	Justice	Doctrine
Gaffe	1 Misuse	Litter	Offense	Disharmony	Mistake	Ignorance
Infraction	2 Vandalism	Waste	Insult	Violation	Inattention	Question
Misdemeanor	3 Damage	Damage	Assault	Slack	Inaction	Heterodoxy
Felony	4 Theft	Pollution	Mayhem	Dishonor	Perjury	Blasphemy
High Crime	5 Destruction	Ravage	Killing	Treason	Injustice	Heresy
Atrocity	6 Havoc	Ruin	Mass Killing	High Treason	Tyranny	Mass Deception

Within each category of crime, there is an ascending scale of seriousness. The least serious are gaffes (and typically not prosecuted): Slightly more serious are misdemeanors. Serious crimes are felonies.

Economic Degree. Crimes are further detailed by degree, the exponent of the economic value or cost of the crime: Violation-2 is a minor crime involving a value of about Cr100 ($100 = 10^2$ where the exponent is 2). Intentionally killing a businessman is Murder-6 (attributing to him a value of Cr1,000,000); killing a laborer is perhaps Murder-4. Assigning economic value to a crime is sometimes (often?) a subjective decision.

Cultural Values. Not all cultures believe that all of the instances on this list are crimes.

Intent. Intent is a strong component of crime; it affects the severity of consequences of committing a crime (in the general range: Ignorant. Uninformed. Passionate. Deliberate). An individual who specifically intends to commit a crime or to violate the law bears a greater degree of guilt than someone who commits a violation in the heat of passion or through inadvertence or negligence. Lack of intent may be argued as a defense. After conviction, lack of intent may be argued as a mitigating circumstance to reduce the severity of consequences.

Crimes Against Property

Misuse. Use of property inappropriate purposes.

Vandalism. Casual defacing of property.

Damage. Physical devaluation of property, but falling short of destruction.

Theft. Taking property Includes theft (taking by stealth) and robbery (taking by force), fraud (taking by deception).

Destruction. Physical destruction of property. Includes Arson, Bombing.

Havoc. Indiscriminant or mass destruction of property.

Crimes Against The Environment

Litter. Inattention to environment.

Waste. Misuse of resources. Includes failing to sort trash, failure to maintain equipment in efficient running order.

Contamination. Minor crimes against the environment. Includes littering, emitting obnoxious noises or odors, failure to dispose of useless property.

Pollution. Serious crimes against the environment. Includes disposal of untreated waste, unauthorized toxic waste production.

Ravage. Commercial actions which degrade the environment without regard for long-term consequences. Includes strip mining, clear cutting of forests, unaesthetic ice-harvesting.

Ruin. Non-commercial actions which degrade the environment. Includes setting forest fires. Use of weapons of mass destruction.

Crimes Against Sophonts

Beings may include intelligent beings, animals, artificial beings, artificial intelligences, and artificial entities such as corporations or companies.

Insult. Non-physical attacks against others. Violence or near-violence against beings, but which inflicts no injury. Includes threats, threatening actions, libel or slander.

Battery. Violence against beings which results in injury to the victim or others. Includes physical violence, emotional abuse; may include libel or slander.

Mayhem. Causing pain or suffering to a being. Includes cruelty to animals, torture.

Killing. Causing the death of an intelligent being. Includes murder and serial murder.

Mass Murder. Multiple killing of intelligent beings. Includes waging illegal war and crimes of aggression.

Crimes Against Society or the State

Violation. Disobedience of regulations. Includes traffic or curfew violations, failures of permits or paperwork.

Slack. Undue dependence on society or the state. Includes welfare or unemployment assistance abuse.

Dishonor. Betrayal of the basic principles of society.

Treason. Adherence to the principles of an alternate or competing society. In religious cultures, this might be heresy.

High Treason. Active support of the principles of a competing society to the detriment of the individual's native or adopted society.