Durkheim

Durkheim was trying to develop a science of moral order which puts him somewhere between classical approaches and positivism. He was concerned, with the problem of social order and the relationship between the individual and society. For Durkheim, the social causes of crime are not simply found in people’s material situations as many social reformers believed. They are also to be found in people’s cultural situations, such as the extent to which they feel part of society and the relationship between their aspirations and the opportunity to achieve them. Although he wrote very little on crime itself, three of Durkheim’s key ideas :

anomie

the functions of crime

social integration

have been very influential in the development of the sociology of crime and deviance.

Some of these links are indicated in the following and may be useful in future analysis and discussion.