

Issue No1

# NEWSPAPER “UNSOLVED CRIMES”



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# TWO TYPES OF CRIME OR “MY MOTHER DID NOT GIVE BIRTH TO ME FOR WORK”

«Many may have encountered the saying ‘My mother didn’t give birth to me to work’ without delving into its origins. However, this expression holds a rich historical and cultural significance. Its roots extend beyond a mere explanation, forming a cultural layer that resonates in contemporary society

through figures like thieves and clergymen. To truly grasp its evolution, we will explore its origins and trace its influence to the present day.»

To whom does the phrase ‘my mother didn’t give birth to me for work’ allude? Who are the individuals that harbor a disdain for labor?



In reality, a brief examination of historical texts or even fictional works reveals that only two classes traditionally harbor a disdain for work: aristocrats and thieves. The thieves' code explicitly prohibits engaging in labor, while aristocrats are expected to abstain from work by virtue of their birthright. Notable literary references support this idea. For instance, in Boris Akunin's enduring piece, «The State Counselor,» Cornet Seleznev (also known as the terrorist Rakhmet) asserts, «If you want to eliminate tyrants, feel free, but I am not accustomed to working as a laborer.» Another significant voice from the underworld is the 20th-century Russian novelist and poet Varlam Shalamov, who, in his work «Sketches of the Underworld,» notes that, according to the old 'law,' a blatar should not engage in labor within prisons; the frayera should work on their behalf.

A similar parallel can be drawn when examining works that depict the lives of nobility, namely aristocrats. For instance, it is acceptable for them to engage in duels, contemplate philosophical ideas, or wander within their own castles, but the notion of hiring people is not within their accustomed practices. The clear resemblances between the behaviors of criminals and aristocrats are evident. It's noteworthy that in the criminal tradition, the fundamental principle of «refusing to work under any circumstances» holds paramount importance.

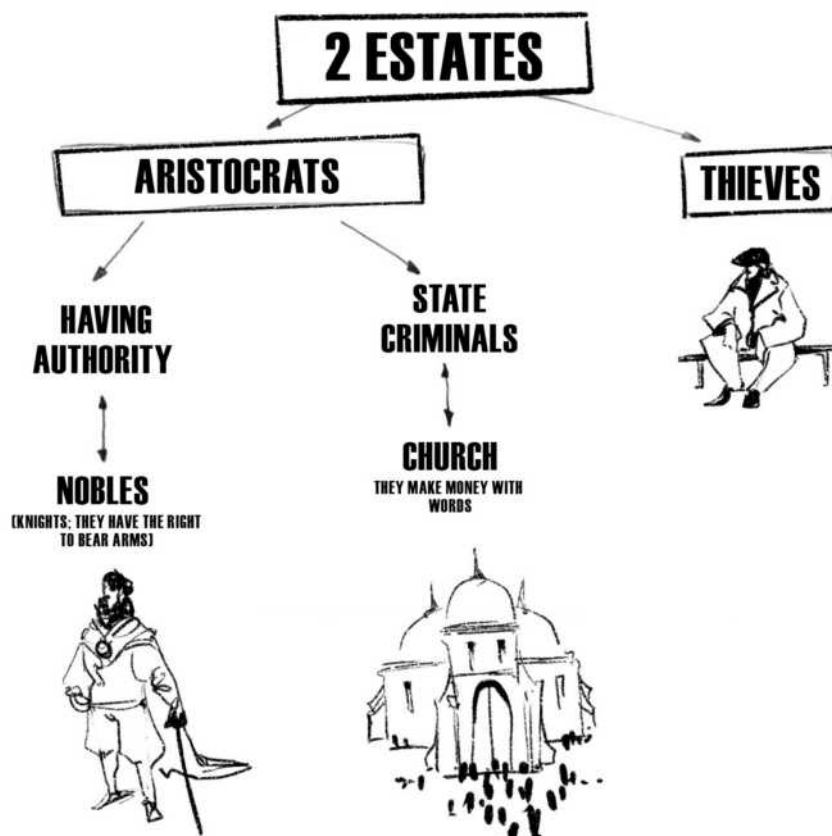
While inherently controversial, considering that criminal activities inherently demand effort from their practitioners, the concept has evolved over time, becoming less absolute. However, it still retains its essence and significance within the criminal realm.

And how about the aristocrats? Have there been any alterations?

Within the aristocratic fraternity, encompassing nobles, gentlemen, and others within its fold, a clear division persisted. This aristocratic brotherhood was rigorously segmented into two factions:

- 1) The affluent elite — individuals currently in positions of power;
- 2) State transgressors, the opposition — those who once held power but were subsequently ousted from it.

Fortune proves capricious. Consider a scenario where you successfully overthrow someone, relegating them to the status of state criminals. However, as time unfolds and political regimes shift, those you ousted regain power, toppling you into the role of a state criminal. This cyclical pattern persisted for centuries, both in Europe and the Russian Empire, marked by relentless internal conflicts and bloody struggles. The abrupt transition from being in a position of prominence one day to being



deemed a criminal the next is disheartening. Living under such a regime lacks stability, and the future appears uncertain. Consequently, the opposition and those in current authority decided to broker an agreement, partitioning the system into two spheres: the church and the nobility (chivalry). In this arrangement, the defeated faction (the opposition) accepts their fate without protest, joining the church and assuming roles like Bishops and Abbots to earn a livelihood through spoken words, as they are now disarmed. If the opposition prevails in the struggle, they reclaim the right to bear arms and revert to being knights once more.

All disgrace found its resolution within the confines of the church. Many ponder, «How did the church originate?» The church, in fact, emerged from a contractual agreement. It lacks divine origins and is essentially a pact among aristocrats. Recognizing your future and understanding its contours is preferable to dwelling in the uncertainties of the unknown. The prospect of enduring perpetual anticipation of being overthrown or seeking revenge is undesirable. For aristocrats, a

pragmatic division existed between the dominion of words and the dominion of weapons. Given their education, these individuals adeptly discharged their responsibilities, ensuring a functional system.

I'll give you an example from a work of fiction when a knight becomes an abbot. Let's recall the novel *D'Artagnan and the Three Musketeers* by Alexandre Dumas, where there is a scene where a girl is sitting on Aramis's lap, and he says to her, «When I become an abbot, no one will stop me from comforting those who are thirsty for comfort.» And as you remember, in Dumas's next stories, the knight Aramis became an abbot. In fact, there are countless such examples throughout world literature. In addition, there are other confirmations of these words in the form of paintings. A number of such paintings have been discovered by the Expeditionary Corps under the direction of Oleh Maltsev, PhD, throughout Europe. No matter what church you enter, you will see an image of a family tree divided into two branches — religious and knightly. On the one hand, the time of the fall of power, on the other hand, the time of the «Power of the Wealthy.»

Consider the convenience when you hail from the same lineage, allowing for the immediate division of relatives into two distinct branches — one pursuing the religious path, and the other directly involved in governance. The architect of this idea demonstrated strategic acumen. Both the right and left wings remained under the control of a single dynasty, rendering the identity of the ruling power inconsequential. This systematic division of families into two segments aimed to ensure precise control over their authority, eliminating the possibility of opposition. The assurance exists that even if someone is ousted, the church remains populated with individuals aligned with the ruling lineage.

**From the preceding discussion, two discernible identities emerge:**

1. «Aristocrats and thieves — exhibit an aversion to work and hold contempt for it.»
2. «Aristocrats and churchmen — manifest a reluctance toward work and harbor disdain for it.»

Given that the left side of our two identities shares the common category of aristocrats, the remaining groups are **thieves and churchmen**. Through straightforward mathematical deductions, we can confidently assert that thieves and churchmen are



*Figure 1. Two Branches of the family tree: priests and aristocrats*

synonymous. This assertion provides significant clarity. It explains why clergymen disdain labor, as they originate from aristocrats who are «unaccustomed to strenuous work.» However, they readily engage in activities like eliminating the king's enemies or producing literary works.

Vorovsky's belief system implies the existence of priests, and priests are akin to thieves. These individuals are religious figures, and various films support this notion. In the 1930 film «The Feast of St. Jorgen,» a noteworthy line declares, «*I maintain that from a scientific standpoint, the essential aspect in the profession of a thief, much like in the profession of a saint, is, of course, to cleanse oneself in a timely manner.*» The film itself explores three categories of thieves: a street thief, a sophisticated thief, and the abbot of the church of St. George.

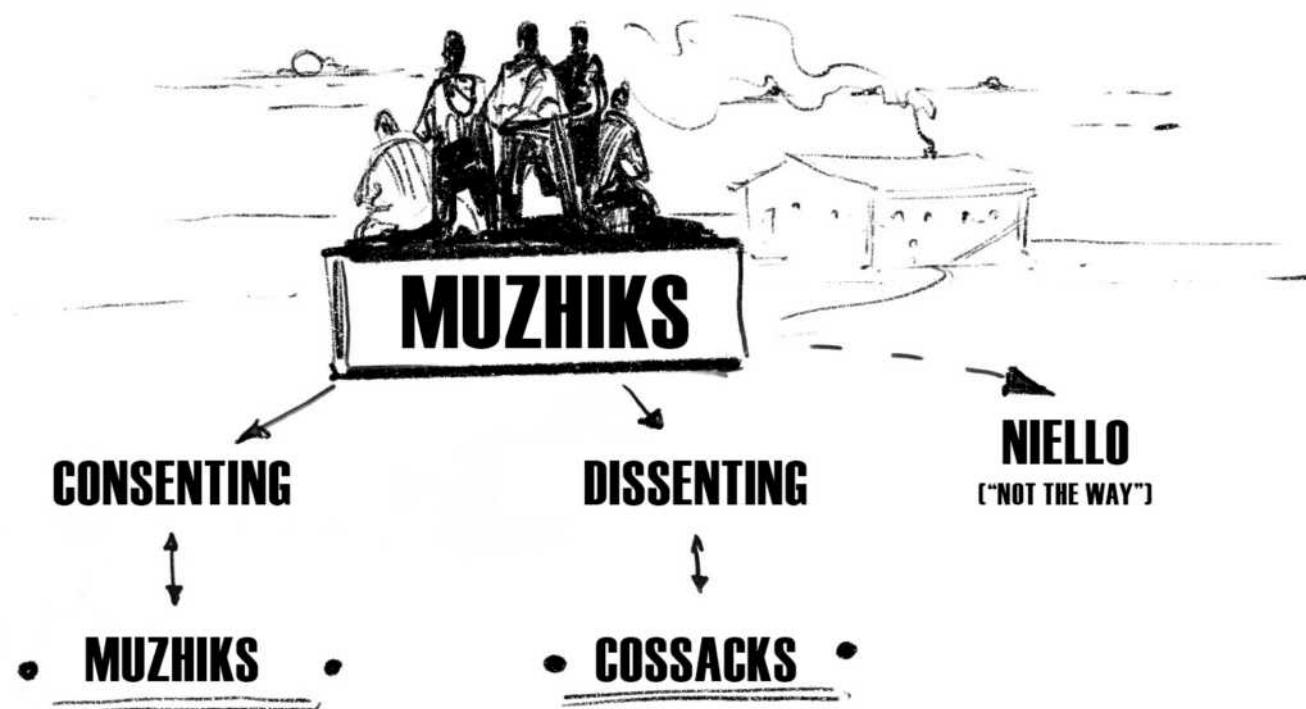
Another instance worth noting is the film «Born of Revolution» (1974), more contemporary to our era. In one of the scenes, attempts are made to apprehend a gang leader in a village. This gang, under his command, imposed its own rule on the villagers, ruthlessly eliminating dissenters, and was involved in various acts of robbery. Notably, the leader of this gang was a priest, Father Seraphim, a repeat offender. In present times, the transition of former criminals into priests is not an uncommon phenomenon.

However, not everyone belonged to the aristocracy. What about the common people, often referred to as «commoners»? Interestingly, these individuals also fell into two distinct categories:

- 1) Those who aligned with the existing government;
- 2) Those who opposed the existing government.

This division persists in contemporary times; there are always individuals who align with the authorities and an opposing faction that rejects the ruling power. Consider the era of Imperial Russia before 1917. Recall, there were men, and they were categorized into those who concurred with the prevailing conditions and lifestyle, and those who dissented. The dissenting men were known as **Cossacks**, while the concurring ones were called **muzhiks**. Additionally, there existed a third group of individuals who fell outside this hierarchy: those tilling the fields, commonly referred to as «blacks» or «neshlyakh» (a person constrained to follow the plow, lacking alternative capabilities).

You might question whether these men contribute to agricultural work in the village. However, they do not partake in such labor; they are engaged in more intriguing pursuits. These individuals, among them those who constituted the army, represented a crucial segment. At that time, the ruling







*Figure 2. Cossacks in Europe*

*Picture caption (from left to right): Heidelberg, Germany / Rothenburg, Germany / Munich, Germany*

elite, predominantly composed of aristocrats, recognized the imperative of having an army to avoid subjugation to another force. Acknowledging this necessity, all men aligned with the prevailing order chose to enlist as soldiers. However, it's crucial to recognize that for a large group of individuals to collectively decide to enlist as soldiers, they require a leader whom they respect and are willing to follow — a commander. Such a leader must possess undisputed authority, proficiency with weapons, excellence in tactics and strategy, and the ability to instruct and train others. Prince Alexander Nevsky serves as an illustrative example of such a leader. Throughout history, various epochs have witnessed numerous examples of exceptional military commanders.

However, aristocrats constitute a limited demographic, insufficient to form a complete army, and it is not within their societal role to be dependents of commoners. Aristocrats were highly educated individuals, proficient in weaponry, and held positions of authority, leading and commanding regiments. Those falling under the category of dissenters, such as the Cossacks, were often marginalized and labeled as criminals.

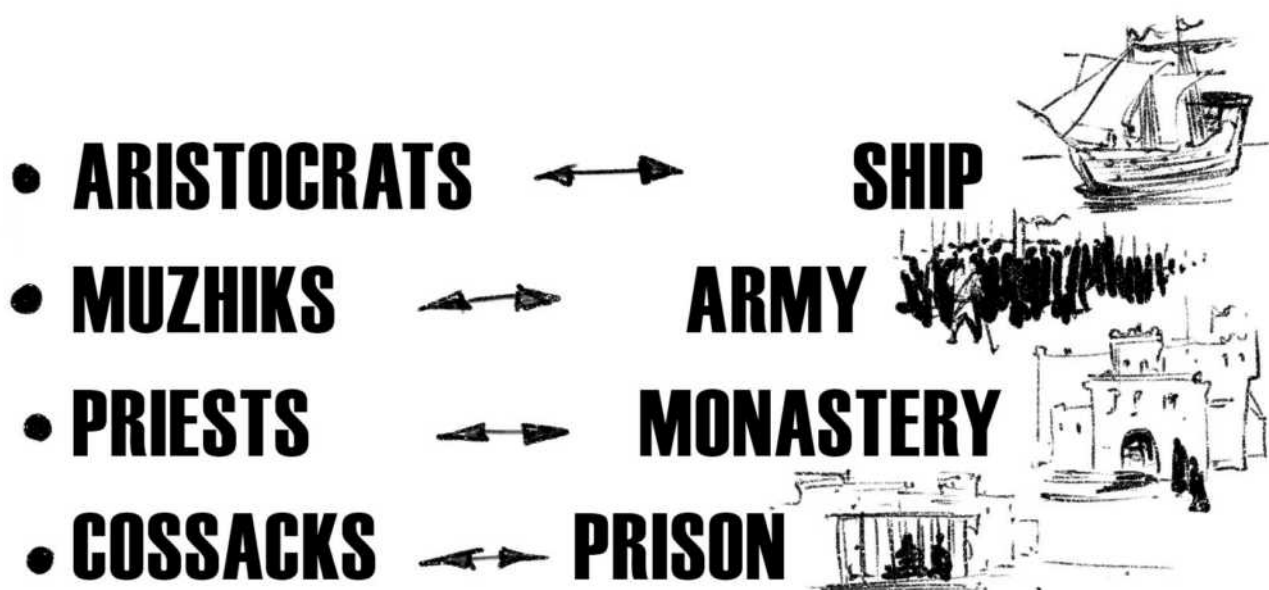
Illustrating the criminal deeds of the Cossacks, I would like to cite the notable Soviet film «Wedding in Malynivka» (1967). The movie depicts a scenario where a gang led by an «ideological ataman» and local native Hrytsian Tavriysky arrives in a tranquil village. The ataman opts to establish an «independent state» in Malynivka, following the prevalent custom of the time. Naturally, the process of state-building initiates with acts of robbery and violence.

Hence, we identify **two categories of criminality: the church, representing political crime, and the Cossacks**, embodying military transgressions.

Many might insist on immediate validation of the aforementioned claims. This task is not intricate; simply refer to the 1725 treatise «True Neapolitan Fencing» authored by Nicola Terracusa and Ventura. Within its pages, you will find a detailed account of how an individual attains both state and criminal authority. Remarkably, this observation dates back to the eighteenth century, and it is a well-known fact acknowledged openly.

The church, akin to its underlings, was initially perceived as a form of criminal authority. Consequently, the Cossacks are not exclusive to





Russian, Ukrainian, or Belarusian contexts; they are a global phenomenon, existing universally but identified by different names. This assertion finds support in the architectural heritage of Europe.

There exist two categories of individuals considered as societal outliers: the church and the Cossacks. Conversely, there are two corresponding groups of upstanding individuals: aristocrats and those who serve in the army under these aristocrats. Thus, we delineate four classes: priests, Cossacks, aristocrats, and common individuals. Academician Yakovlev posited that only four phenomena in the world are inherently tied to these four classes, namely: PRISON, ARMY, CHURCH (monastery), and SHIP. Presenting this information in a consolidated table allows for a comprehensive understanding of the organizational needs in different states. It is within the crucible of these four structures that individuals undergo transformation, acquiring skills that were previously absent, whether desired or not.

*conducted by Academician Oleg Maltsev, PhD, who serves as a senior researcher at the Research Institute of Memory, alongside the contributions of Alena Merevska.*

*The content of this article is derived from forensic and criminological investigations, scholarly inquiries into European mysticism, and an analysis of historical epochs. This extensive research has been*

# ЧЕРНАЯ СМЕРТЬ

# ОЛЕГ МАЛЬЦЕВ ЧЕРНАЯ ЛОГИКА



## BOOKS: TRUTH AND LIES

**I**n my investigation into the criminal tradition in South Africa, I extensively engaged with a plethora of sources, ranging from documentaries by prominent media entities to works authored by other contemporary researchers on this subject. As a researcher, I diligently verified the accuracy and reliability of these materials. Interestingly, the outcome was quite unexpected: the actual reality, encompassing aspects such as the nature of digital gangs, their history, philosophy, etc., proved to be entirely incongruent with the depictions found in books about South African crime.

Truth and falsehoods are often entangled in history, as is commonly observed. However, adopting an unscientific approach by failing to distinguish between the credible and the dubious is not acceptable. Acknowledging this, I dedicated a specific chapter in the book “55” to delve into the examination and analysis of sources related to the criminal subculture of South Africa — sources that were already available before my research commenced. I subjected them to scrutiny to assess their reliability and validity. In this discussion, I aim to share with you, esteemed readers, the outcomes of my analysis.

When faced with unfamiliar information, many individuals instinctively turn to Wikipedia to gain insights into the subject at hand. Digital gangs, being a South African phenomenon, are predominantly covered in English-language sources. Even upon my initial comparison of the information present in these texts with my firsthand investigations during a research expedition in Cape Town in 2018, discrepancies with reality became evident.

The explanation for this discrepancy is straightforward. The Wikipedia entry on digital gangs relies on information from reputable media outlets that, in turn, cite specific familiar sources. However, the challenge arises from the fact that digital gangs deceive the media by fabricating newsworthy stories with the intent of extracting money from them.

The allure of digital gangs’ notoriety is particularly appealing, especially to media professionals constantly seeking a sensational story. However, it’s essential to recognize that sensationalism does not equate to scientific inquiry. In contrast, when a scientist undertakes research, it is a prolonged process, where one day’s findings may differ from the next. Unlike scientists, the media does not have the luxury of developing a topic over the course of



*Figure 1. Gang members. Photo from the archives of the police station in cape town*

years. Journalists operate in a realm where they require information instantly — a product for today, not a year later. Programs and articles must be rapidly produced. Journalists are willing to pay for the swift acquisition of information, and digital gangs are eager to provide them with the information they choose to present. Nevertheless, it remains a work of fiction — a new “sensational story,” a “terrifying secret”—which, in reality, is merely a theatrical performance, a spectacle for the public.

In the course of my research on the South African criminal tradition in Cape Town, I had a direct conversation with a former member of a digital gang who opted for a different path. He is 26 years old, and his initial statement to me was, “Do you believe everything is true? It’s not. No one tells the truth in this life because in digital gangs, revealing the truth can be fatal.” **Indeed, divulging secrets of the digital world can lead to severe consequences, including death.** Consequently, those interviewed or featured in documentaries about digital gangs are not truthful about their identities. Gangs consider it an honor to deceive the media, a practice ingrained within gang culture. Furthermore, they take pride in deceiving both the

state and ordinary people, with a particular affinity for manipulating representatives of the 26th. Incidentally, the 26th continually strive to devise new “surprises” to mislead others.

Regardless of the newspaper, book, or movie you encounter, if it is based on interviews with digital gang members, the consistent conclusion is that everything narrated is fabricated. For instance, a widely-known documentary on Polsmoor prison



*Figure 2. A gang member. Photo from the archives of the cape town police station*



produced by CNN was described by an informant (a member of the 26) as entirely fictional. According to this source, all the individuals featured in the documentary are imaginary characters, meticulously selected and portrayed by the gang's leadership. This includes the use of an actor who, notably, played the role of a general in the Polsmoor documentary.

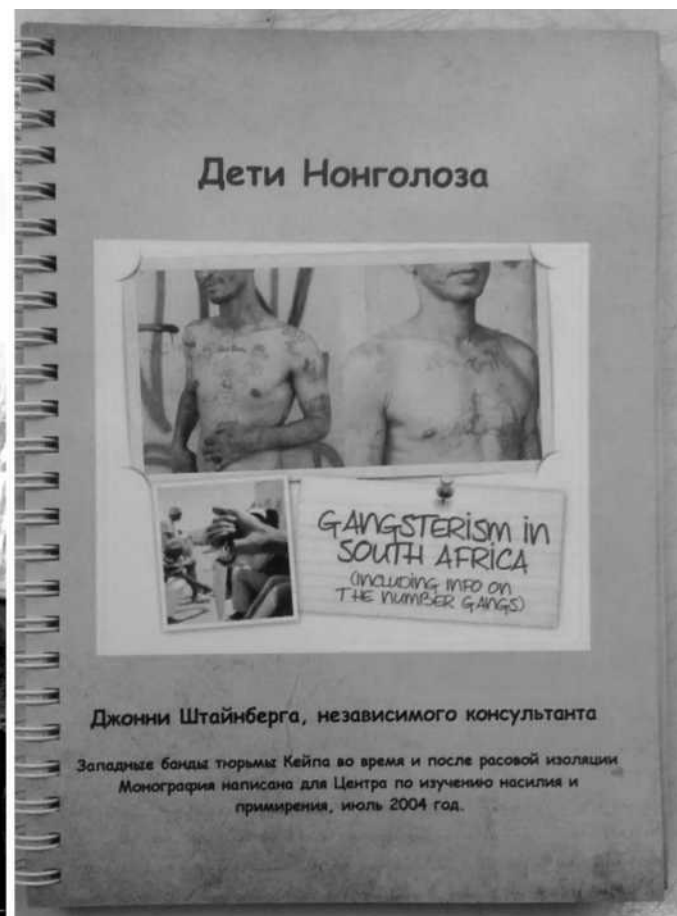
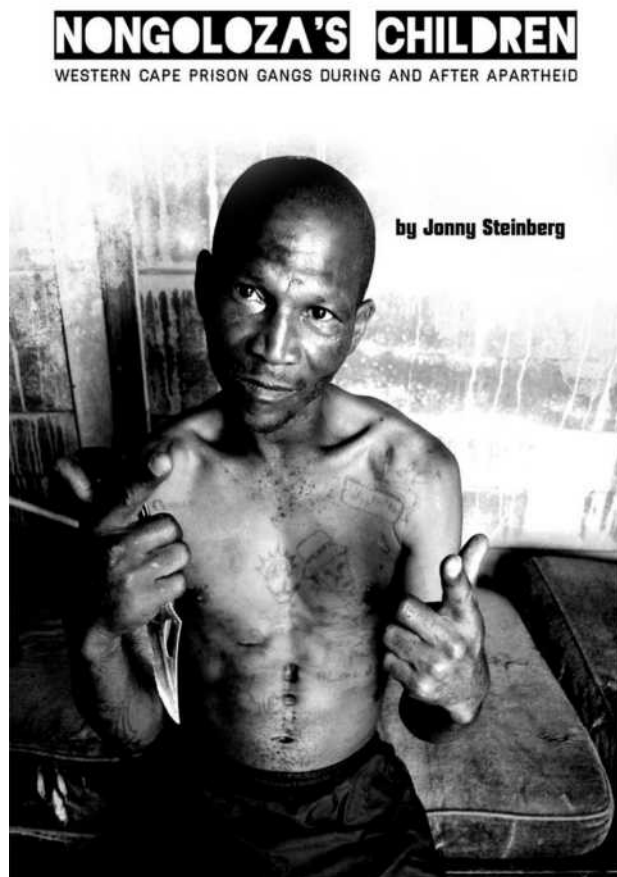
How did it all unfold in the end? Journalists were satisfied with the captivating narratives they obtained, edited and embellished the material, and eventually broadcast the film. Presently, this film stands as the most significant production on digital gangs. However, it should be noted that all the information presented in the movie about digital gangs is a fabrication, skillfully portrayed on screen through the outstanding performances of carefully selected actors.

Another intriguing case is that of "General 28," a character who, in interviews with various media outlets, claims to be a former gang member, asserting that he has left digital gangs and is currently undergoing rehabilitation. This, however, is false. In reality, nobody truly departs from digital

gangs. The supposed "exit door" only leads to the entrance of the gang. There is no genuine way out, and every member is aware of this fact from the outset. So, who are the individuals claiming to be "rehabilitated"? The answer is straightforward: these individuals remain active gang members, having merely ascended to a higher level of involvement.

**Digital gangs actively engage in misleading the media for financial gain, openly acknowledging this strategy.** They are willing to offer tours of Polsmoor prison for a specified fee, providing detailed insights. According to the gang members themselves, they view "white people as ATMs," considering the chance to profit from this endeavor as a substantial, obligatory, and respected pursuit. Due to these motives, information about digital gangs from the media cannot be deemed trustworthy, as it lacks authenticity.

Let's shift our focus to written materials, specifically books. In this context, the noteworthy mention is "**Children of Nongoloza**," authored in 2004 by Oxford University professor **Johnny Steinberg**. It's essential to emphasize that this



*Figure 3. The book "Nongoloza's Children"*

book provides a broad overview of digital gangs, exploring the myth surrounding them and offering a general description of the phenomenon. While lacking in substantive research information, the book functions as more of a guided tour, serving as an introduction to the realm of digital gangs in Cape Town.

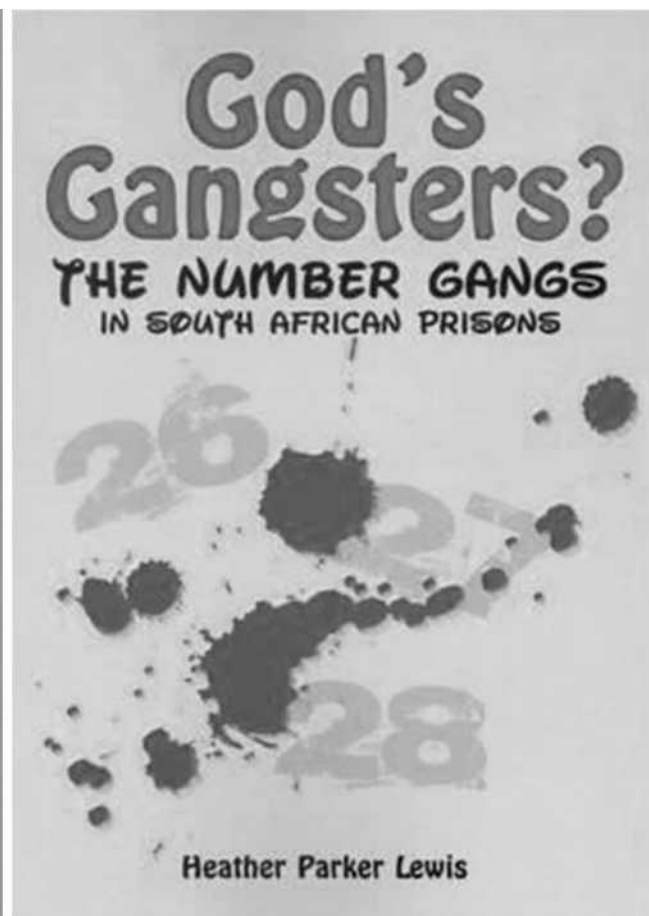
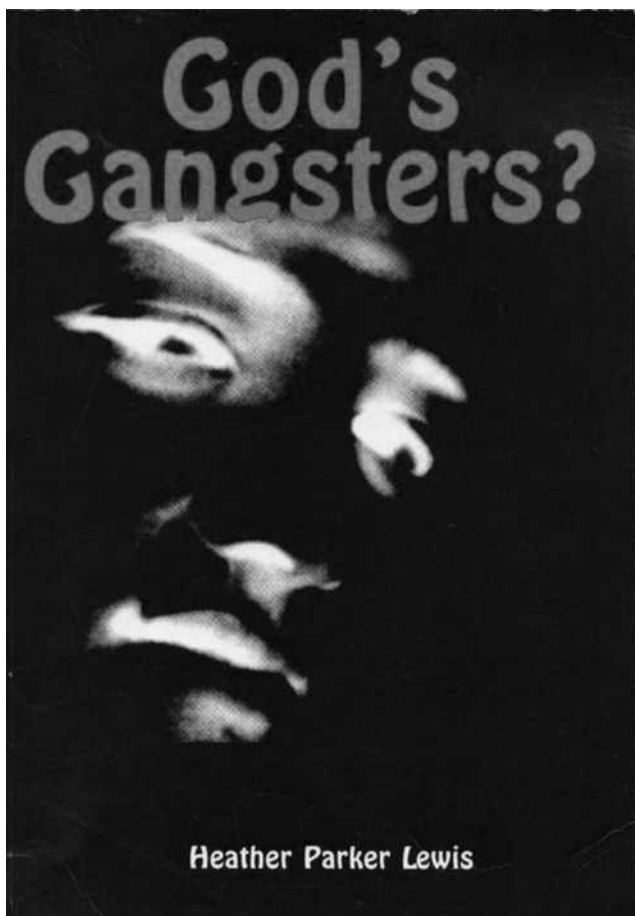
The following book in the discourse on “numbers” is Heather Parker Lewis’s work, “Gangsters of God.” This book represents the author’s personal perspective on the subject. “God’s Gangsters” is a blend of both truth and falsehoods, intricately mixed like a cocktail. Distinguishing between truth and lies within the narrative becomes challenging. Primarily, the book reflects Parker’s individual interpretation of digital gangs. Additionally, it consists solely of interviews with gang members and nothing more. This is underscored by Heather’s personal visits to Polsmoor for these interviews. To facilitate communication with gang informants, she even studied the language of Cape Town’s criminal gangs. Similar to interactions with the media, the “figures” disclosed a combination of truths and deceptions, all presented in a blended manner.

Consequently, determining what is accurate and what is not proves difficult, but there is certainty that the book represents a fusion of both truth and falsehoods.

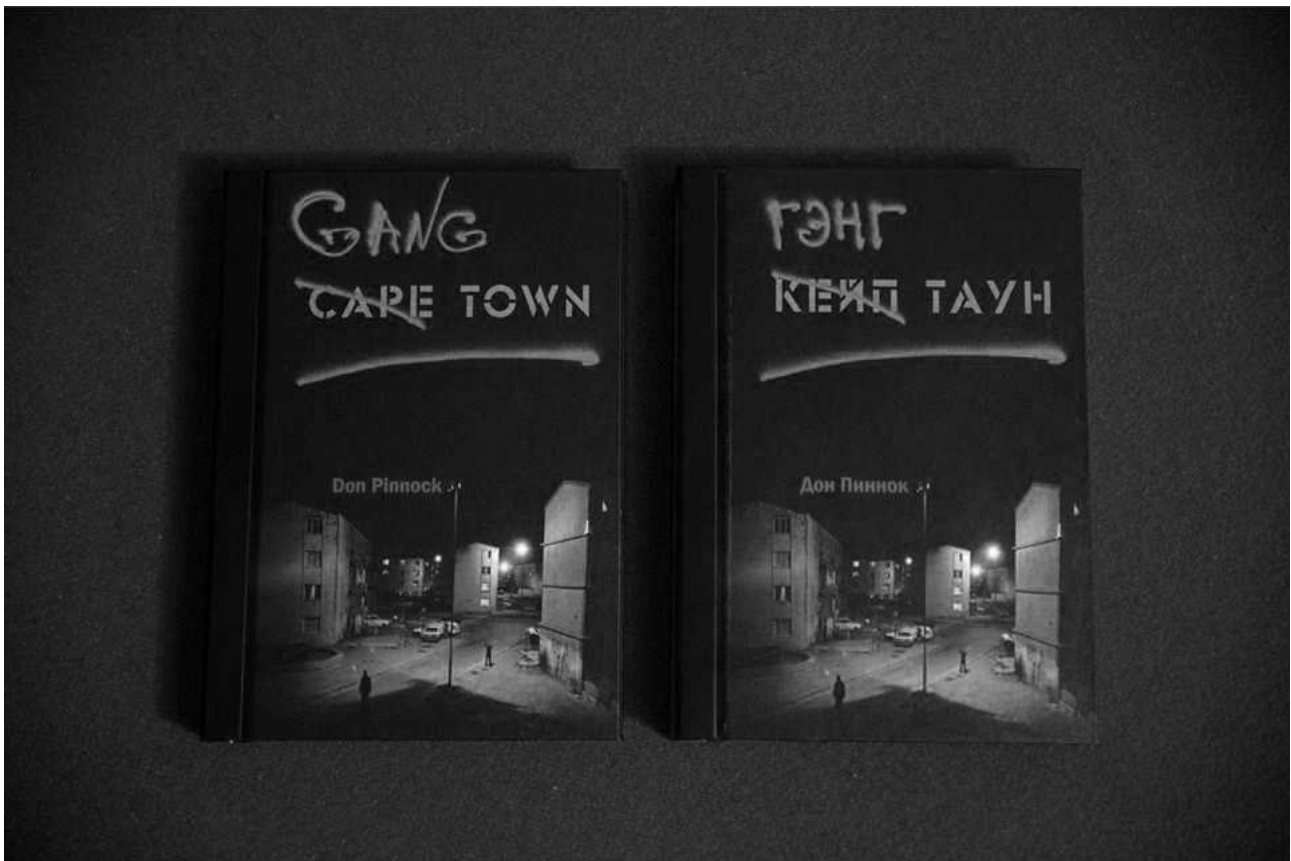
#### Figure 4. BOOK “GOD’S GANGSTERS”

It’s important to highlight that throughout the extensive research period, I encountered only one individual who possesses comprehensive knowledge about digital gangs. Surprisingly, this person is not someone you would immediately associate with such insights. Who is it? Picture this: a pastor working in a rehabilitation center where all the “former” gang members undergo “socialization.” This pastor genuinely understands everything about the “numbers” as he interacts with representatives from the 26, 27, 28 regularly, working closely with them every day. In this realm, he stands out as the sole authoritative figure.

The next noteworthy contribution is the book “**Gang Town**” authored by scholar **Don Pinnock**. Don Pinnock, primarily a professor, stands out as one of the key figures conducting research on digital gangs at the University of Cape Town for over four decades. Given his extensive background,



*Figure 4. Book “God’s Gangsters”*



*Figure 5. The book “GANG TOWN”*

Don Pinnock’s book “Geng Town” merits serious consideration as a sociological study. It marks the inaugural serious work providing a comprehensive analysis and pertinent conclusions drawn from interviews. **“Gang Town” stands as the first book to systematically arrange information and unveil the truth about the numbers.** Consequently, Don Pinnock is widely recognized as one of the foremost authorities on digital gangs today.

The subsequent publication focusing on South African gangs is titled **“The Number”**, authored by Oxford professor **Johnny Steinberg**, a work I had the opportunity to discuss with the author during our interview. **“The Digit”** serves as a highly intricate psychological exploration, an endeavor to delve into the mindset of digital gangs. Regrettably, from a psychological perspective, it can be deemed an unsuccessful attempt, despite the well-conceived nature of the book. The underlying idea is undeniably powerful — writing a book about the psychology of digital gangs is an immense undertaking. However, Steinberg, not being a psychologist, leaves room for further exploration in this realm. Consequently, while the book itself is intriguing, it signifies not the culmination but a

stepping stone for future research and immersion into the dynamics of this subculture.

Beyond these prominent books that shed light on South Africa’s digital gangs and are now accessible to the global community, numerous other works exist in the form of reports, abstracts, and various studies. However, they lack significance from a scientific research perspective.

For a detailed exploration of how we successfully distinguished truth from lies, reality from fiction, and fact from fabrication, refer to the book “55.”

*Dr. Oleg Maltsev*



# CRIMINALS MONOPOLIZE THE MARKET WHILE THE PANDEMIC IS ONGOING

**O**n September 27, 2020, during the second day of the criminology experts' meeting, a roundtable discussion on "Organized Crime and Criminal Traditions" took place.

Academician Oleg Maltsev, Ph.D., presented a report addressing the two issues under discussion.

## WHAT ARE THE PRESENT PATTERNS OF CRIMINALIZATION ON BOTH A NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SCALE?

Professor Antonio Nicaso and I share identical perspectives. As Professor Nicaso accurately highlights, contemporary crime possesses unique characteristics. One crucial point to underscore is that over centuries, crime has developed the ability to swiftly adjust to global situations and capitalize on them. Accustomed to existing in illegality and perpetual crisis, crime remains resilient in the face of financial downturns, political upheavals, or legislative changes. Presently, the criminal underworld exhibits greater adaptability and psychological prowess than most law enforcement agencies.

Secondly, they possess an unparalleled ability to travel globally during the pandemic, a privilege not afforded to ordinary citizens, and they do so completely within the bounds of the law. Professor Antonio Nicaso highlights that crime exhibits an astonishing capability to corrupt individuals. Numerous members of the underworld hold five or even ten identity cards, enabling them not only unrestricted global mobility but also the flexibility to assume various identities. While many people remain confined at home, gripped by fear and financial constraints, crime is thriving, expanding its influence, and generating revenue. This grants the criminal underworld a distinct advantage over all global businessmen. The current operations, especially in the case of Ndrangheta, yield a profit of \$1,000 from every \$1,000 invested. Consequently, they accumulate substantial illicit wealth without the burden of taxes, capital deductions, or the need to wait for a salary.

Let's examine the situation unfolding in Europe. For nearly six months, the entire European economy has ground to a halt. Remarkably, the renowned Oktoberfest festival, untouched even during World War II, has been canceled in Germany at this juncture. Lufthansa, the German airline, has incurred





*Figure 1. Expedition to Croatia, September 2020 (archive of the Expedition magazine)*

losses amounting to billions of dollars. Bavaria, over the six-month hiatus, has faced substantial financial setbacks. It's reasonable to assume that Italy's financial and industrial conditions are no more favorable than Germany's. The authorities have orchestrated a scenario where honest businesses are entirely incapacitated. Simultaneously, criminals were operational both before and during the pandemic. With business activities halted, asset values begin to plummet, making everything attractive for investment. However, investments require capital, and the criminal sphere possesses abundant resources. Presently, the criminal underworld is actively seizing control of production means economically. They are acquiring companies pushed to the brink of bankruptcy amid the pandemic, anticipating rapid growth and substantial profits under their ownership. **The takeover of production means will result in a restructuring of the market. Alterations in market dynamics and organization will pose a risk of power shifts and alterations in the social and governmental systems.**

Criminals possess a unique quality, distinct from many businessmen and politicians, which is the ability to swiftly and effortlessly engage in negotiations. Unlike politicians or businessmen

who adhere to specific ideologies or philosophies, criminals are adaptable and can easily alter their stance to suit the situation. Their primary focus is on acquiring and expanding power, regardless of the means employed. They are indifferent to the methods used to attain greater power and are willing to collaborate with anyone to achieve their objectives. While political tensions may exist between entities like the European Union and Russia, criminal elements from these regions can readily cooperate. Regardless of the prevailing political circumstances, crime holds an unparalleled and monopolistic position in today's market, resulting in significant profits. Professor Nicaso's presentation underscored the elevated financial standing of crime in contemporary times, as evidenced by various digital indicators.

**HAVE THE FORECASTS OUTLINED DURING THE PREVIOUS CONFERENCE MATERIALIZED, AND IF THEY HAVE, IN WHAT MANNER?**

Ukraine currently boasts a robust quarantine system, surpassing European counterparts despite

previous uncertainties. Initially, the government's emulation of European quarantine measures led to a surge in crime across the nation. The implementation of quarantine often results in increased poverty among the population and the lower echelons of criminal elements. The financially strained individuals from the lower criminal strata engage in more severe offenses than before. Additionally, individuals who were previously averse to criminal activities might succumb due to financial constraints and dwindling resources. The quarantine essentially acts as a catalyst for crime. Fortunately, Ukraine swiftly acknowledged this reality, and the stringent measures have largely disappeared, remaining limited to external restrictions such as air travel protocols.

Having recently visited Croatia for scientific purposes, I can affirm that the Croatian government's approach to handling the pandemic serves as an exemplary model for Europe. During my two weeks in Croatia, I observed the highly competent work of the police and a lack of significant impact from any quarantine measures. In this country, there is a sense of freedom to move around the streets, enter various establishments, and there is no aggressive enforcement of mask-wearing. Croatia has consistently remained in the green zone throughout the entire pandemic, experiencing no significant growth in virus cases. This success can be attributed to the government's actions, which have adeptly adhered to the country's laws, protected citizens' rights, and preserved the economy and industrial activity. Their behavior during the pandemic stands as a commendable and competent approach that should serve as an example for many nations.

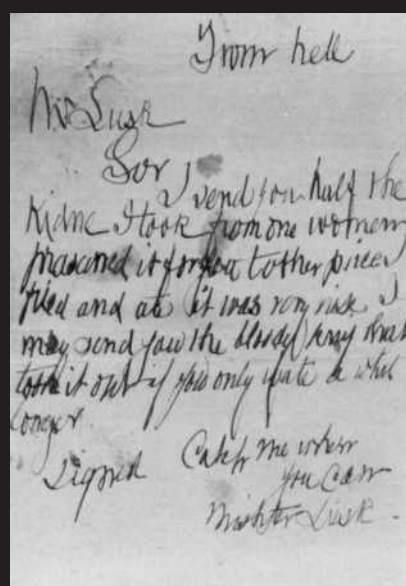
The rationale behind Europe imposing repeated quarantines remains unclear and has, in fact, become a catalyst for organized crime and the impoverishment of its citizens. Despite scientists openly advocating for a different approach by the government, there seems to be a persistent unwillingness to change these measures. The suspicion arises that governments may have a vested interest in these quarantines. While large sums are allocated to restart the economy, this move provides an opportunity to utilize incoming budgets, which can be beneficial for various purposes, including budget allocation. In this context, the collaboration with organized crime, viewed as adept business partners, becomes advantageous for money laundering. Governments may find this collaboration beneficial, allowing them to handle funds more effectively.

In the case of Ukraine, the government's official statement indicates that only 35% of the allocated budget for coronavirus measures has been used, suggesting a potential incentive to prolong the coronavirus situation. This raises questions about the true nature of the events in Europe, hinting at financial fraud rather than a genuine epidemic.



# 10 MOST FAMOUS UNSOLVED CRIMES

## 1. JACK THE RIPPER



*Figure 1. Letter “From Hell”*

## 2. THE ZODIAC

### 3. ANDREW AND ABBY BORDEN



**Figure 2.** The most famous sketch of the Zodiac

Forensic evidence indicated the wife's death occurred approximately an hour before the husband's.

Suspicion arose as Lizzie had allegedly attempted to purchase hydrocyanic acid (poison) on August 03, and shortly afterward, she reportedly burned her dress in the oven. The maid, also a suspect, left the house that evening with a package. Although Lizzie was arrested and initially convicted of murder, she was later acquitted based on circumstantial evidence. Despite the acquittal, she faced condemnation in her Massachusetts hometown, where she continued to reside until her death in 1927.

#### **4. THE BLACK ORCHID**

Elizabeth Short, born on July 29, 1924, was a 22-year-old American woman whose brutal murder garnered significant media attention. Known as the Black Orchid, she was discovered mutilated and severed in half on January 15, 1947, in a Los Angeles park. The unsolved nature of the crime has sparked numerous speculations, leading to the creation of books and movie adaptations. The case remains a focal point of public interest, with ongoing discussions introducing new potential suspects.



*Figure 3. Elizabeth Short*

#### **5. JONBENÉT RAMSEY**

JonBenét Ramsey, a six-year-old girl engaged in beauty contests, was discovered murdered in her parents' Boulder, Colorado home basement. Her disappearance was reported, and she was located eight hours later.

Despite numerous extensive grand jury hearings, the case remains unsolved. In December 2003, forensic analysts successfully extracted sufficient material from mixed blood samples on JonBenét's underwear. A DNA profile, belonging to an unidentified Caucasian male, was identified as a match in the FBI's DNA database.

#### **6. THE NEW ORLEANS LUMBERJACK**

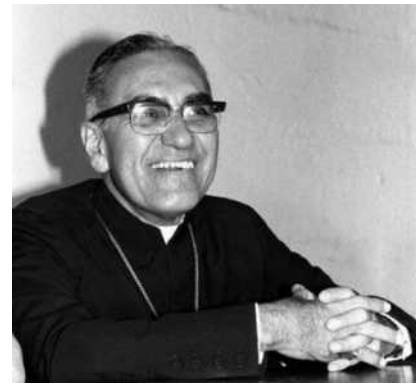
On May 23, 1918, an Italian grocer named Joseph Maggio and his wife were fatally attacked while asleep in their apartment above Maggio's store. An axe, stained with the owner's blood, was discovered within the apartment. Remarkably, nothing was taken from the residence, including valuables in plain view. A cryptic chalk inscription near the crime scene hinted at the involvement of Mr. Joseph Maggio and Mrs. Toni.

Nearly a month later, another gruesome incident unfolded. Louis Bossumer, a grocer residing above his store with his wife, was discovered by neighbors in the morning, surrounded by blood. The killer, known as "The Lumberjack," claimed eight victims before the spree ceased. Despite the only suspect, Joseph Mumphrey, no evidence was found linking him to the crimes.

#### **7. JACK THE RIPPER**

The unidentified serial killer responsible for the "nude murders" in London between 1964 and 1965 is commonly referred to as Jack the

Ripper due to similarities in handwriting. Targeting prostitutes, the perpetrator claimed six, possibly eight, victims, whose naked bodies were discovered in the outskirts of London or in the Thames River. Ambiguities exist in the victim count, as two murders attributed to him deviate from his usual methods. Similar to the original Jack the Ripper case, the killings ceased without providing substantial leads for the police. Despite the unknown identity, Donald Rambelow, a writer, theorized that the perpetrator might have been a young man who, like the prime suspect, worked as a security guard at the Heron Estate. Although the police lacked concrete evidence linking him to the crimes, one victim's body was found concealed on the estate. The young man, suspected of being the killer, left a suicide note expressing an inability to endure the pressure any longer.



*Figure 4. Oscar Romero*

## **8. THE BOY IN THE BOX**

In 1957, an unknown Caucasian boy, likely aged 4 to 6, was discovered deceased, naked, and wrapped in an inexpensive flannel blanket. The body was found in a large cardboard box positioned along the side of a Philadelphia highway. Notably, the boy's body was clean and dry, with hands neatly folded on his stomach. His fingernails and toenails were well-groomed, and his hair had been shaved, possibly intentionally to conceal his identity. The child exhibited numerous bruises, particularly on the head and face, indicating simultaneous infliction. Despite recent DNA testing, the perpetrator of this crime remains unidentified.

## **9. ULAF PALME**

Olof Palme, a Swedish politician who served as Prime Minister from 1982 to 1986, advocated for the removal of all nuclear reactors in Sweden following the repercussions of the 1979 Three Mile Island nuclear accident in the United States.

During his second term in office, starting in 1982, Palme endeavored to reinstate socialist economic policies in Sweden and adopted a radical stance on European security matters. Tragically, Palme was assassinated while returning home with his wife after a visit to a movie theater. The motives and the identity of the assailant remain unresolved.

## **10. OSCAR ROMERO**

Oscar Romero, a prominent Catholic priest and archbishop in El Salvador during the 1960s and 1970s, emerged as a vocal advocate for the poor and victims of the nation's violent civil war after witnessing widespread human rights abuses.

He voiced opposition to the U.S. military backing of the El Salvadoran government and encouraged soldiers to defy orders that infringed upon human rights. Archbishop Romero was fatally shot during a mass in a small chapel adjacent to his cathedral. It is suspected that the perpetrators were affiliated with Salvadoran death squads.





# ITALIAN MAFIA:

## POLICE ARREST 61 NDRANGHETA SUSPECTS IN LARGE-SCALE RAIDS

Italian authorities have apprehended an additional 61 individuals suspected of affiliation with the Ndrangheta, Italy's most formidable criminal organization, through a series of raids conducted in seven regions of the country.

The individuals in question are under suspicion for offenses including fraud, drug trafficking, infiltration of governmental authorities, and extortion of local farmers.

The operation engaged over 500 law enforcement officers and targeted a total of 167 individuals, including several dozen who were already incarcerated.

The initiative was a component of a more extensive effort to suppress the activities of the organization.

In the past week, over 100 individuals were apprehended across Europe in what authorities described as the most extensive operation against the Ndrangheta.

The operation involved the participation of ten countries, leading to the confiscation of assets valued at 25 million euros.

The inquiry has also unveiled significant and previously unknown details about the actions of certain high-ranking members of the group, especially amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

Last month, authorities apprehended Pasquale Bonavota, one of the purported leaders of the organization, in a cathedral located in the northern city of Genoa.

Numerous members of the mafia and individuals with allegations of corruption are either incarcerated or awaiting trial on suspicions of connections with the Mancuso family.

This represents merely one out of the 150 families constituting the Ndrangheta crime network, which has surpassed the Cosa Nostra to become the most influential mafia group in the country. The network operates in over 40 countries.

Italian and Belgian investigators suspect that the criminal organization illicitly transported approximately 25,000 kilograms of cocaine from October 2019 to January 2022, while also transferring over €22 million from Calabria to Belgium, the Netherlands, and South America.

# **IN ITALY, MEMBERS OF THE NEAPOLITAN CAMORA OFFER COMPENSATION TO THE FAMILY OF A YOUNG MAN THEY “MISTAKENLY” KILLED**

In Italy, members of the Neapolitan Camora offer compensation to the family of a young man they “mistakenly” killed

In 2000, Kamora mistakenly abducted a young worker, confusing him with another individual. Initial court proceedings for the two defendants are now underway.

Giulio Giaccio, aged 26, was kidnapped by impostors posing as police officers in July 2000, and tragically, he was mistakenly killed and dissolved in acid. This occurred as he was mistaken for another individual targeted by the Polverino

clan in the municipalities of Cuarto, Marano, and the Neapolitan district of Pianura. The clan sought retribution for the person’s involvement with their companion’s sister. Despite the acid’s inability to dissolve his teeth, they were deliberately smashed with a hammer. As the preliminary hearings commenced on Tuesday, April 18, two defendants, Carlo Nappi and Salvatore Cammarota, offered the victim’s family compensation of 150,000 euros in cash and property. However, the family declined, stating, “We only want justice.”



### ***Kidnapping.***

A young worker, accompanied by friends, was abducted at the Naples-Marano border by an impostor posing as a policeman. When asked if he was Salvatore, he denied it, but the fake officer instructed him to accompany them to the police station for an “investigation.” Giulio, mistaken for someone involved with the sister of one of the current defendants, Salvatore Cammarota, tried to explain the misunderstanding but followed, believing it would be resolved. Unfortunately, his trail was lost. Despite the family’s pleas, the case went dormant until 2015, when it was reopened based on revelations from a justice assistant shedding light on the situation.

me of their decision not to accept this offer, as they trust exclusively the decisions of the judiciary following the outcome of this criminal trial. For this reason, the ‘real’ offer made cannot be accepted.”

“There is no price to pay for Giulio’s life: after 23 years, the only thing the family believes in is the Justice they have placed their trust in,” the lawyer added.

### ***The story of a “traitor”.***

Years later, justice officer Biaggio Di Lanno disclosed, “The individual was fatally shot in his vehicle, and subsequently, he was transported to the Quarto neighborhood, where his remains were dissolved in acid.” Adding a grisly detail, he mentioned, “The acid failed to dissolve the victim’s teeth, so they were crushed with a hammer.”

### ***Money and real estate.***

Prior to the commencement of the trial on Tuesday, the mafia proposed compensation to Giaccio’s family — his mother and brothers — for the mistaken killing: a sum of 30 thousand euros in cash and an additional 120 thousand euros in real estate.

“It was a way to get a lighter sentence than life imprisonment, as well as a possible request for a shortened trial,” the Corriere della Sera article says, adding that it was the maximum compensation the Camoristi said they could afford.

### ***Refusal of relatives.***

Giulio’s family, however, declined the offer. The attorney representing them, Alessandro Motta, conveyed their decision to the judge in the following text:

“As the lawyer for Rosa Palmieri, Rachelle and Domenico Giaccio, I emphasize that the family members who have been assisted have informed





# CRIME IN GERMANY

## INCREASES AFTER COVID RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED

*In 2022, 5,628,584 criminal offenses were registered in Germany, which is 3.5% more than in 2019, the pre-pandemic year.*

In Germany, following the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions in 2022, there was a 3.5% rise in the crime rate compared to the pre-pandemic figures from 2019, as indicated by police statistics obtained by Deutsche Welle (DW) on Thursday, March 30, 2023.

The latest data was presented in Berlin by German Interior Minister Nancy Faeser, German Senator for the Interior Iris Spranger, and Head of the Federal Criminal Office Holger Münch.

It shows that in 2022, 5,628,584 criminal offenses were registered in Germany. This is 11.5% more than in 2021.

The surge was notably driven by a rise in thefts (up by 20% to 1,780,783 cases), robberies (up by 27% to 38,195 cases), and incidents of bodily harm (dangerous and grievous bodily harm up by 18% to 144,663 cases; simple bodily harm up by 19% to 366,699 cases).

### **“Crime is moving into the digital space”**

“Even after the end of the pandemic, our assessment that many criminal phenomena are increasingly

moving into the digital space is confirmed,” said Holger Münch.

Iris Spranger clarified that digital criminals often transcend borders, particularly in the realm of illegal images involving children. To address this issue, there is a determination to enhance collaborative efforts across interconnected agencies.

Nancy Faeser commented on the trend, expressing concern about the ongoing sexual abuse of children and young people. She emphasized the commitment to exhaust all efforts in identifying perpetrators and their networks, with the paramount goal of safeguarding children. This is designated as one of the top priorities.

The German Interior Minister underscored the creation of European mechanisms to ensure accountability of online platforms, ensuring the identification and removal of illegal images, and the prosecution of perpetrators. Furthermore, the EU Center against Child Abuse will offer support to victims, granting them the explicit right to ascertain whether their images persist online. Faeser also stressed the imperative to enhance efforts in combating violence against women.

IMPRESSUM

**“UNSOLVED CRIMES”  
NEWSPAPER**

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