Class Activities

Chapter 2: Measuring Crime

**Class Activity 1: Clery Act Data**

**Application (group activity)**

**Instructions:** Every university receiving federal funding must comply with the Clery Act reporting laws. One of the elements of the law is to provide statistics on the crimes committed on campus. Obtain the report for the class (or have them access it if it is online). Working in groups, have the students answer the following:

1. What is the most popular crime committed on our campus?
2. What crimes do you think are underreported on our campus and why?
3. Is this information helpful to you as a student in understanding crime on our campus? Why or why not?

**Class Activity 2: Spatial Analysis of Crime**

**Analyze the Data**

**Instructions:** For this assignment, please find an interactive crime map for either your home town (city), a major city near you, or your campus.

1. Identify the most popular crime committed.
2. Describe the area in which the greatest number of crimes is committed.
3. How can this data be used to assist victims and deter crime?

**Class Activity 3: Crime Data from Law Enforcement Agencies**

**Compare and Contrast**

**Instructions:** Please read the section “Crime Data from Law Enforcement Agencies,” especially the following sections: Uniform Crime Reports (UCR), National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS), and Crime Data from Victims of Crime: The National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). Please answer the questions below.

1. Define the terms *UCR, NIBRS,* and *NCVS*. What is the purpose of each?
2. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each measure.
3. If you could pick only one measure of crime, which one would you choose? Defend your answer.