

(Continued)

Phoenix valley. The man, Cristian Alfredo Urquijo, discussed in the case study at the beginning of this chapter, told authorities that he did it to survive and that “desperation was a great motivator.”

Urquijo’s case is reflective of some of the various theories discussed in this chapter, especially those regarding strain theory. After all, we are talking about a man who, up to that time, appeared to have a clean

record. However, when he was suddenly unemployed, he innovated a new way to obtain the money he needed to survive. In addition, according to general strain theory, when positive stimuli are removed (such as a stable job), individuals are more likely to engage in criminal offending, especially when such illegal acts are attempts to replace the lost positive stimuli (in this case, income from work).

### THINK ABOUT IT:

1. How do peak times of bank robberies differ from that of other robberies? Can you provide a reason or reasons for this?
2. Why do you think “takeover” bank robberies are far rarer than “oral command” or “passing note to the teller” bank robberies?

Sources: Federal Bureau of Investigation. (2016). *Bank crime statistics 2015: Federally insured financial institutions, January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015*. Washington, DC: Author; Jobless Arizona bank robber says he “stole to survive.” (2011, August 23). *Reuters*.