In 1900 cars had only just been invented. By the 1980s car theft was one of the biggest categories of crime particularly by teenage boys. Stolen cars would be used either for joy riding, or to be sold. But by 2010 car theft fell dramatically because of new security technology and the falling cost of cars. Other elements of car crime included speeding, drink driving and driving without a licence.

Since the early 1970s Britain lived with an almost constant threat of terrorist violence. Between 1970-1994 the threat came from the IRA bombings on ordinary people and MPs. They threatened the state because they wanted to end British rule of Ireland. Since 2001 the threat has been from different Islamic extremists who use violent acts such as suicide bombing. These groups threaten Britain because of her involvement in Middle Eastern wars.
Drug Crime

The 20th saw the invention of new drugs such as Ecstasy, crack cocaine and heroin. It became an offense to possess such drugs and trade in them. Drug smuggling and supplying banned goods became big business and in many ways is similar to smuggling in earlier time periods.

Murder

Murders continued in the 20th century. The number of murders increased in the 20th century, but not as fast as for other crimes. Across time, 75% of murders are carried out by someone whom the victim knows. The photograph shows Harold Shipman, a local doctor who murdered at least 215 of his lonely elderly patients by injecting them with high does of morphine between 1971-1998.
**Smuggling**

The late 20th and earlier 21st century saw an increase in smuggling people into Britain to use them illegally. Girls and women from Eastern Europe and Asia have been smuggled into the country to use in the sex industry. Men have been smuggled into Britain sometimes willingly to work in different jobs including the building or health industries. They can be paid less as they are not registered to pay tax.

Other forms of modern smuggling include bringing goods such as tobacco or alcohol into the country to avoid paying the import tax. Drug smuggling is also big business.

**Conscientious Objectors**

Before 20th century armies were mostly made up of professional volunteers. No one who objected to fighting had to. However, with the introduction of conscription in WW1 then WW2 men of a certain age were required by law to fight. Some objected on religious, moral or political grounds. This was a new crime as it broke the law. In WW1 16,000 Cos refused to fight. This made them very unpopular with the public.

Tribunals were set up which decided whether people had genuine reasons for objecting. Some only refused to fight. They were prepared to take part in driving ambulances or carrying stretchers. Some refused to do anything connected to the war and they were sent to prison and received harsh punishments.

With the horrors of war much more visible after WW1, during WW2 the numbers of Cos increased. This time they were not treated as harshly, more were encouraged to work in farming and it was rare of a CO to be sent to prison.
**Computer Crime**

The late 20th and earlier 21st century saw the invention and then widespread use of computers. This has seen a surge in new crimes. But several of these are simply modern versions of old crimes. Computer crime includes: Stealing computers, using computers to steal money from bank accounts, spying (using computers to find trade secrets about a business competitor), sabotage ie using viruses to break or corrupt computers.

**Racism**

Before 1965 there was no law which stated that people of different races and cultures had to be treated with respect. In 1965 the Race Relations Act was introduced which made it a crime to discriminate against anyone on grounds of race, colour or ethnic origin in jobs, schools, training and housing.