

Law enforcement investigators (traditionalist vs. revisionist)

[Law](#)



Law Enforcement Investigators

The traditional school of thought ascribes, believe in great historical events. They view history as a long, relentless march to the current times and that it is inevitable. The revisionists, on the other hand, make what they believe are substantial revisions to the view of the traditionalists. (Parker, 2006) This essay will focus on these two paradigms, and law enforcement in regard to the investigators.

There are times that these two schools of thought clashed where the revisionists claimed that traditionalists failed to analyze all documents and evidence that is available to historians.(Robert, 2006) The traditionalists, on the other hand, have dismissed revisionists as using dubious means to undo the work of revolution.

Both schools of thought, ideologies can be useful in the implementation of the law. When analyzed, they can tell how investigation officers who ascribe to either of the two paradigms have portrayed these ideologies in solving criminal cases.

Advantages of Traditionalism

The traditionalist school of thought is important for various factors. One is that it helps to appreciate the knowledge of previous generations. By using this approach, law enforcement agents can find a way into finding a solution to a criminal situation.

Another advantage is that traditionalists appreciate that even though people from previous generations were not as technologically advanced as those in the present generation, progression patterns can be seen. This is because even though inferior to the present generation, they were superior to those

that came before them. This approach helps in analyzing details so as not to miss the point that was missed in previous events.

Disadvantages of Traditionalism

This approach can however be detrimental because the circumstances that were there at the past could be different in present cases. Another disadvantage is that with improved technology, the way to solve problems today is through the use of better technological tools to help analyze present cases.

Advantages of Revisionist Theory

This theory is advantageous in that it puts into place the facts and circumstances of the time. The benefit of this is that all scenarios will be considered before taking a certain direction during criminal investigations. Another advantage is that it looks at a particular event not as though it was inevitable due to past occurrences, but as one that happened due to circumstances just prior to the event.

Disadvantages of the Revisionist Theory

It is necessary to look at a particular instance, independent of other historical chains of events, but overlooking such matters can be detrimental during investigations. There could be different sides of the story. The act could have been spontaneous or as a result of occurrences just before the act: it is very possible that it occurred as a result of acts or omissions from the past.

Applying the Two Paradigms

There is no one means to an end. It is not impossible to put the two schools of thought together. In an investigative session, law enforcement agencies may apply both ideologies to come up with even better results.

Putting together the traditionalist approach with the assumption that a particular instance was inevitable is necessary for it will help the investigators to dig deeper into the past to show the link that could help solve the issue. When the revisionist approach is used, all facts, evidence and circumstances will be used. By using these two approaches, law enforcement agencies can come up with a successful investigative product.

References

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- Ferrel R. H. (2006). *Harry S. Truman and the Cold War revisionists*. Columbia: University of Missouri Press.