

## ABSTRACT

Heightened crime rates, with tourists often being disproportionately targeted as victims and potentially contributing to criminal activities or other misconducts. While numerous studies and theories have been proposed to unravel various aspects of crime, the motivations of criminals remain largely unexplored. This study aims to develop a comprehensive theoretical and analytical framework for understanding the intricacies of criminal patterns in Ghana's tourism milieu. The research investigates offender motivations, crime propensities, characteristics and perceptions of tourism-crime victims, types of tourism related crimes based on police records and tourism-crime prevention strategies as perceived by law enforcement officials. The Routine Activity Theory serves as the base theory for this study due to its capacity to provide theoretical and conceptual guidance in exploring models of tourism related crimes in Ghana. The Explanatory Sequential Mixed Method approach will enable the generation of robust empirical evidence. Interviewing both ex and serving convicts will facilitate an understanding of their underlying motives, thereby informing the development of effective tourism-crime prevention measures and policies. Furthermore, the findings of this research will contribute to academic discourse in both criminology and tourism, enriching the existing body of knowledge.

## BACKGROUND

Crime rates in Ghana dropped from 48% in 2020 to 44% in 2022

Crimes committed by:	Crimes committed against:	Types of crime	Goal of crime
Locals (Cohen, 1997)	Tourists	Assaults, petty theft...	Economic
Tourists (Matakovic & Matakovic, 2019; Prideaux 1996)	Locals, other tourists, tourism industry	Robbery, pickpockets...	Economic
Tourism Industry (Harris, 2012)	Tourists	Fraud, business misrepresentation	Economic

### Categories of tourism related crime

Every crime of a certain type is usually accompanied by crimes of other types

Tourists may assume dual roles as both perpetrators and victims of criminal activities

## RESEARCH QUESTIONS

What are the types of tourism related crimes in Ghana



What are tourists' perceptions of crimes in Ghana



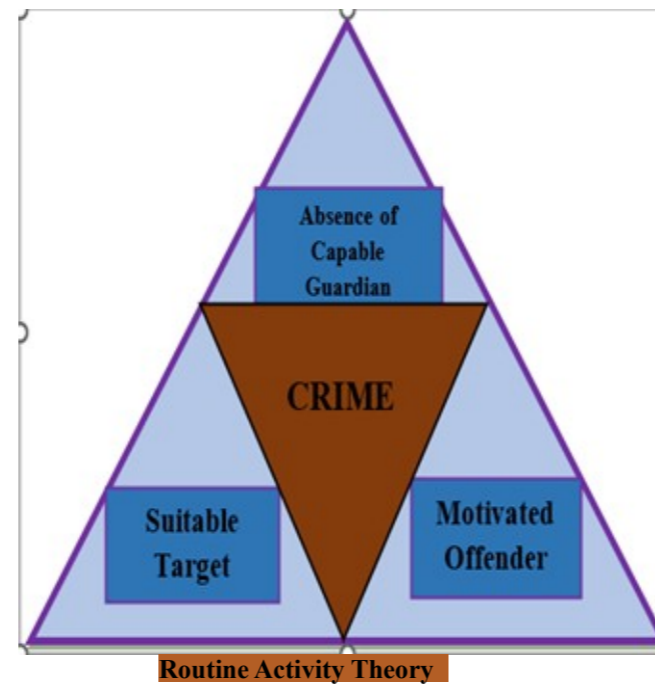
Why do offenders commit crimes against tourists in Ghana



What are security officials' views on tourism-crime prevention in Ghana

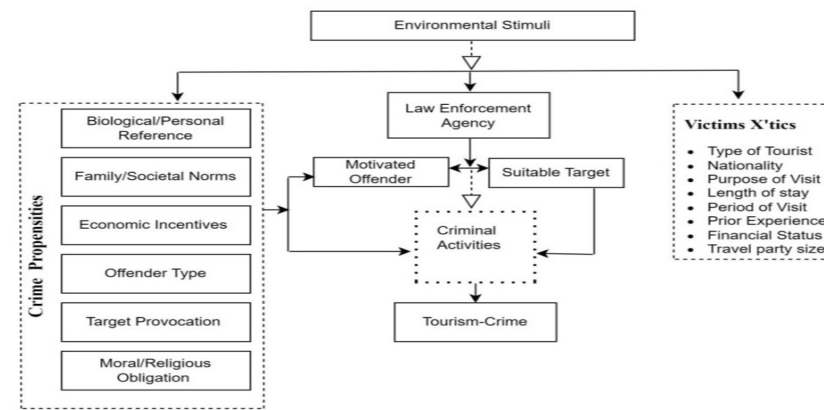


## THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK



**Routine Activity Theory (Cohen and Felson, 1979)**  
Sets out the "chemistry of crime" or preconditions needed for crime to occur. Emphasizes the likelihood of offenders to commit crimes against suitable targets in the absence of a capable guardian.

## CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK



Source: Authors' Construct

## STUDY AREA



## SUMMARY OF THEORIES

SAT argues that likelihood that a person will commit offenses depends on his or her propensity toward crime, his or her exposure to criminogenic situations, and, in particular, the interaction between propensity and exposure

The Routine Activity Theory and Crime Pattern Theory are compatible and complementary. Thus, whilst the former outlines the preconditions for crime to occur, the latter explains when and where these preconditions are most likely to converge as a function of peoples' routine activities whether they be guardians, victims, or likely offenders

The SCPT does not address the detection or sanctioning of offenders. Instead, its objective is to render criminal acts less attractive to potential offenders

## REFERENCES

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