



# Resistance to crime

## *Storied Selves in 'not doing crime'*

European Society of Criminology (ESC)  
Prague 10 – 13 september 2014

mr. S.D. (Sheila) Adjiembaks MA

**Avans Centre for Public Safety  
and Criminal Justice**

**avans**  
hogeschool



# Why this research?

1. Relative under-representation of narrative lifestory research within criminology
2. Focus on: persons engaged in crime or those who stopped a career in crime.

*‘Criminologist should not only be focussed on the question why do people commit crime, but also on the question why people do NOT commit crime’*  
(Birkbeck & Lafree, 2003)



# Central question (pilotstudy)

*“Many persons within the so-called causal categories do not commit crime.”*  
(Katz, 1988)

*“Unmarked ground”*

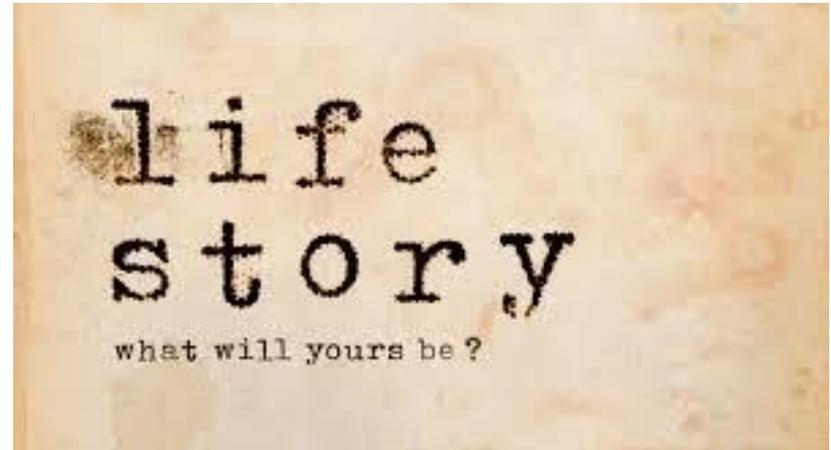
*‘Marked ground’* (Mullaney, 2006)

**Which themes and what storyline(s) dominate lifestories of resisters regarding resistance to crime?**

# Method – General

## Narrative lifestory research

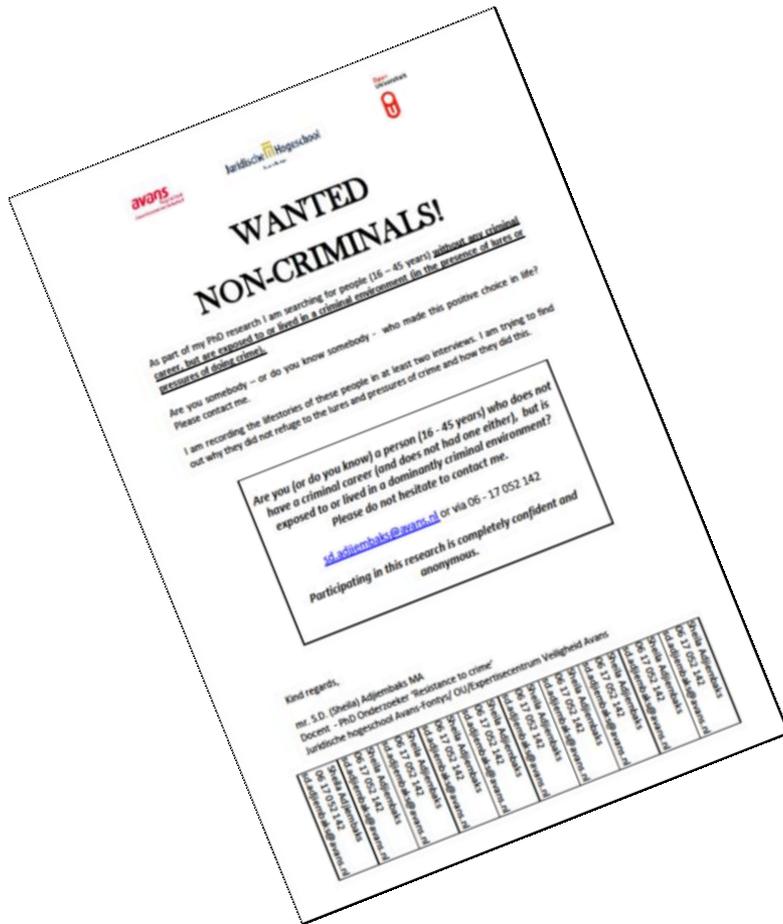
*“A persons identity is not found in behaviour, nor- important though this is – in the reactions of others, but in the capacity to keep a particular narrative going.”* (Giddens, 1991:54).



## ‘Storied identities’

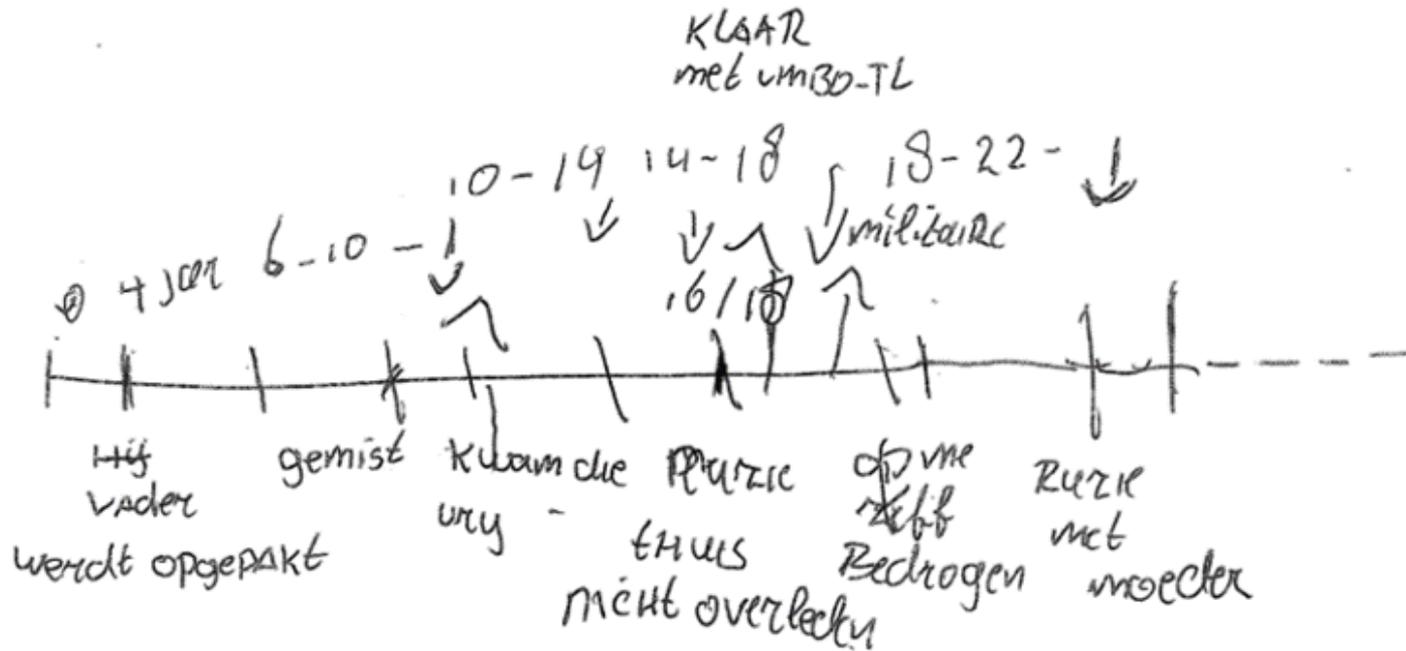
(Presser, 2010:433)

# Data-collection



- Seven participants
- Two personality tests
- Two Interviews, 1 - 2,5 hours
  - Introduction
  - Lifestory interview inspired by McAdams (1996)
- + life-line
- Memo's
- Taped & Verbatim transcribed

# Example - Life line



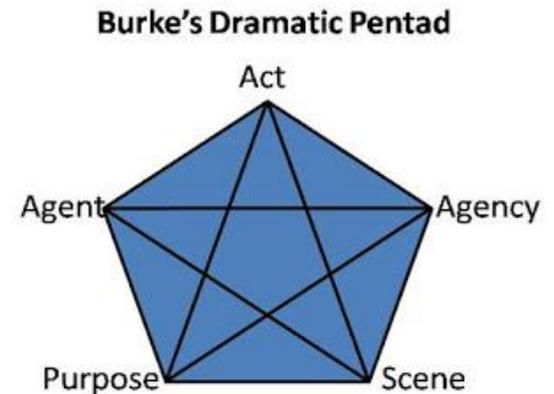
# Data Analysis

- **Thematic Analysis**  
(GT inductive > deductive)
- **Storyline Analysis** (Murray & Sools, 2014)



## Burke's Pentad

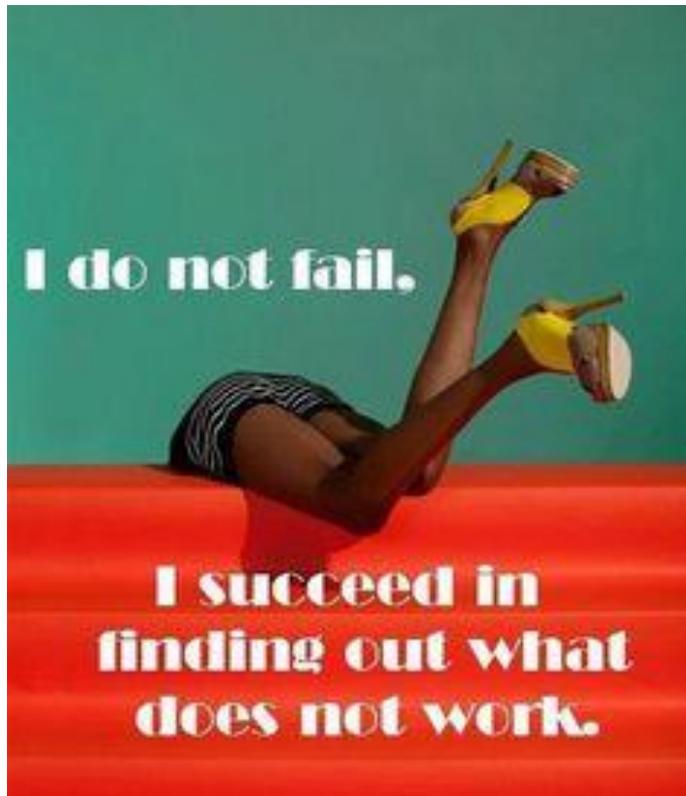
- (Introduction + case Title)
- 1. Five elements + breach, narrative summary
- 2. Interactional analysis
- 3. Moral, wider context
- (Comparitive analysis)



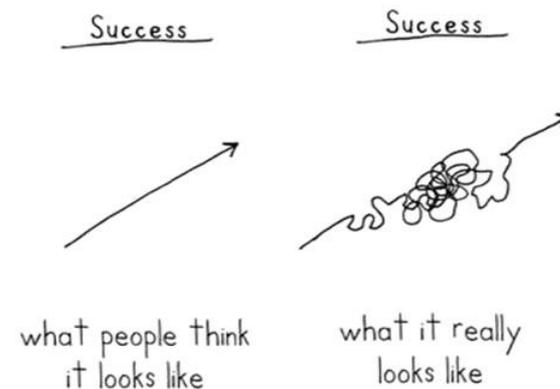
# Thematic Analysis: Preliminary conclusions

*“Sometimes It literally was told that I was some kind of ... Torchbearer of the family you know.. Like: you are one of the smarter ones, you came a long way, so now you must continue on the road to succes...”  
(Michael)*

# Storyline Analysis: Preliminary conclusions (phase 1)



- Storied self is a redemptive one: *'My past is my future'*
- Progressive lifestory; the best is yet to come...



# Storyline Analysis: Preliminary conclusions (phase 2)

## Interaction 'confessional'

*" When I was driving home that evening I kept thinking.. "Wow, I actually am talking to someone about it! [lauging]... I noticed I felt some kind of..liberation, I mean you know more about me than my girlfriend does!"*

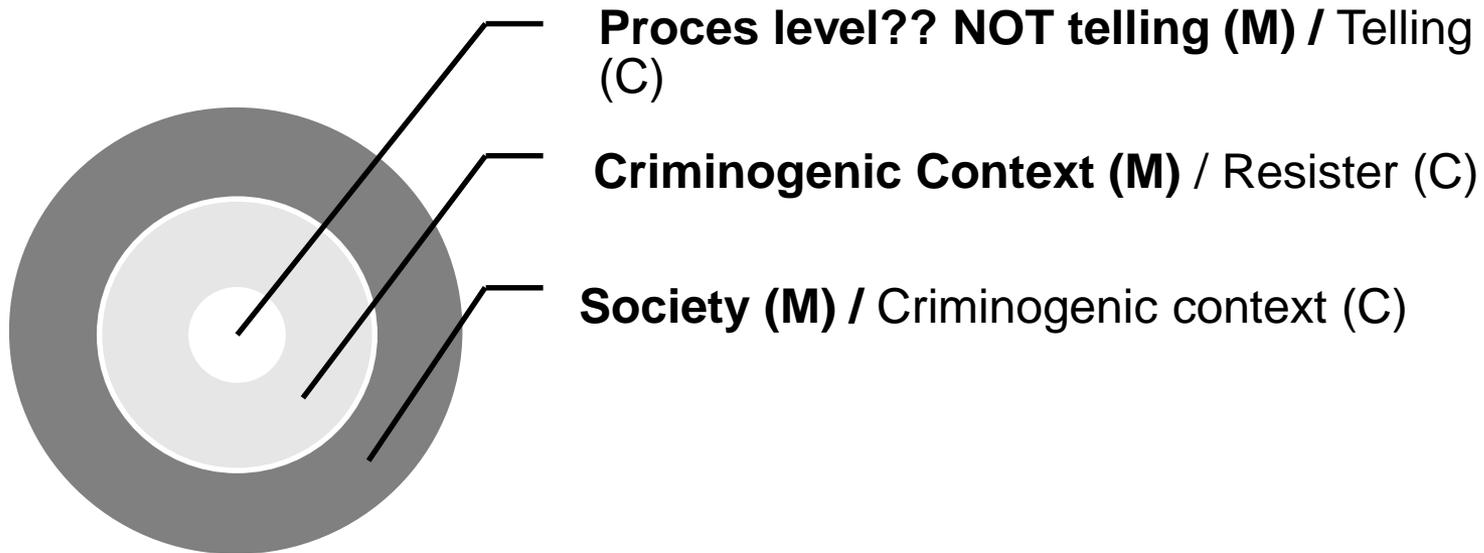
Resisters' storied selves are **secret stories**



# Storyline Analysis: Preliminary conclusions (phase 3)

## 'Masternarrative' – Counternarrative

(Bamberg, 2004)



# So... (I hope you) ...

- Know which two things inspired me to conduct this research;
- Are aware of the way I conducted this research regarding data-collection and data-analysis;
- Have some substantiated knowledge of (a part of) the preliminary conclusions related to life stories of resisters

Thank you!

[sd.adjiembaks@avans.nl](mailto:sd.adjiembaks@avans.nl)

# Reference list

- Apel, R., & Kaukinen, C. (2008). ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FAMILY STRUCTURE AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR : PARENTAL COHABITATION AND BLENDED HOUSEHOLDS \*. *Criminology*, 46(1), 35–70.
- Andrews, M. (2002). *Narrative Inquiry*, 12(1), 1 – 6.
- Antony, C., & Charmaz, B. (2007). The SAGE Handbook of Grounded Theory, 31–52. doi:10.4135/9781848607941
- Bamberg, M. (2012). *Narrative analysis*, 2, 77–94. doi:10.1037
- Besemer, S., Farrington, D. P., & Bijleveld, C. C. J. H. (2013). Official Bias in Intergenerational Transmission of Criminal Behaviour. *British Journal of Criminology*, 53(3), 438–455. doi:10.1093/bjc/azt006
- Boer, F. De. (2011). De Grounded Theory Approach : een update \*. *Kwalon*, 16((1)), 25–33.
- Blazei, R. W., Iacono, W. G., & Krueger, R. F. (2006). Intergenerational transmission of antisocial behavior: How do kids become antisocial adults? *Applied and Preventive Psychology*, 11(4), 230–253. doi:10.1016/j.appsy.2006.07.001
- Chen, X., & Adams, M. (2010). Are Teen Delinquency Abstainers Social Introverts?: A Test of Moffitt's Theory. *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*, 47(4), 439–468. doi:10.1177/0022427810375575
- Fagan, A. a, & Najman, J. M. (2003). Sibling influences on adolescent delinquent behaviour: an Australian longitudinal study. *Journal of Adolescence*, 26(5), 546–558. doi:10.1016/S0140-1971(03)00055-1
- Gemert, F. Van. (2012). *Biografie wordt etnografie*, Tijdschrift voor Criminologie 2012(17), 34–40.
- Van Gelder, J.-L., Hershfield, H. E., & Nordgren, L. F. (2013). Vividness of the future self predicts delinquency. *Psychological Science*, 24(6), 974–80. doi:10.1177/0956797612465197
- Giordano, Peggy C., Monica A. Longmore, Ryan D. Schroeder, and Patrick M. Seffrin. 2008. "A LIFE-COURSE PERSPECTIVE ON SPIRITUALITY AND DESISTANCE FROM CRIME\*." *Criminology* 46(1):99-132.
- Giordano, and C. Peggy. 2010. *Legacies of crime*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Halsey, M., & Deegan, S. (2012). *Father and son: Two generations through prison*. *Punishment & Society*, 14(3), 338–367. doi:10.1177/1462474512442315
- Katz, J. (1988). *Seductions of crime*, Basic Books.
- Maruna, Shadd. 1998. Making good: how ex-convict reshape and rebuild their lives. *Oxford Journals · Law & Social Sciences · British Journal of Criminology · Volume 42, Number 4*  
bjc.oxfordjournals.org/ cgi/ reprint/ 42/ 4/ 812

- 
- Maruna, S. 2001. Making Good: How Ex-Convicts Reform and Rebuild Their Lives." American Psychological Association.
- Murray, C. (2008). Conceptualizing Young People's Strategies of Resistance to Offending as "Active Resilience." *British Journal of Social Work*, 40(1), 115–132. doi:10.1093/bjsw/bcn115
- Murray, M., & Sools, A. (2014). No Title. *Nog Uit Te Komen Hoofdstuk in Handboek*, 1–36.
- Presser (2010). Collecting and Analysing the stories of offenders'. *Journal of criminal Justice Education*, 2010 Vol 21 no 4 page 431-446.
- Rakt, M. V. A. N. D. E., Nieuwbeerta, P., & Apel, R. (2009). Association of criminal convictions between family members : Effects of siblings , fathers and mothers. *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health*, (19), 94–108. doi:10.1002/cbm
- Sools, A. (2012). *Narratief onderzoek*, Kwalon, 2012(17), 27–35.
- Vogelvang, B., & Vosters, N. (2013). *Sustaining Probations Officers ' Resilience in Europe*.
- Westerhof, G. (2008). *De analyse van levensverhalen : een psychologisch perspectief*, Kwalon 2012 38(2), 17–22.
- Weijer, S. Van De, Bijleveld, C., & Blokland, A. (2011). De overdracht van gewelddadige delinquentie tussen drie generaties mannen \*. *Tijdschrift Voor Criminologie*, 53(3), 244–259.

Websites:

<http://culverteacher.blogspot.nl/2012/06/burkes-pentad.html>

<http://icejewlz.wordpress.com/2011/05/09/reflective-easy/>