This study is about white collar crime in India - a socio-legal survey of occupational crime amongst the socially privileged and economically superior sections of the people. It has attempted to assess the volume, nature and extent of white collar criminality, the causes therefore, and the effectiveness and inadequacies of the legal processes in reducing its incidence.

It has long been the practice in India to identify the crime problem with certain backward socio-economic conditions and/or with psychological maladjustments of individual offenders. Criminal policies and penal reforms have been largely based on the above assumptions. The widespread prevalence of criminal practices in the occupational activities of the richer and socially advanced segments of the community has tended to disprove the popular impression of crime as a narrow range of behaviour concentrated in the lower class of people. The socio-economic impact of white collar criminality seems to have not yet been fully appreciated either by the administrator or by the common man. This study, it is hoped, might help to develop information and understanding of this new and important segment of the crime problem in India today.

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