**Reflecting on crime and criminal justice**

In this activity, you will explore your own understanding of the meaning of crime and criminal justice. This is an opportunity to assess your own preconceptions of the field.

Before reading, write down your original thoughts and ideas about:

* What constitutes crime?
* What constitutes the criminal justice system (CJS)?
* What should be the goals of the criminal justice system?
* Is the criminal justice system effective in meeting these goals?

As you complete the reading for this section, you will identify some of the key debates pertaining to these questions.