Record Nr. UNINA9910810816903321 What is a crime? : defining criminal conduct in contemporary society / / **Titolo** edited by the Law Commission of Canada Pubbl/distr/stampa Vancouver, : UBC Press, c2004 **ISBN** 0-7748-5103-1 Edizione [1st ed.] 1 online resource (223 pages) Descrizione fisica Collana Legal dimensions series Disciplina 364.971 Soggetti Criminology - Canada Criminal law - Canada Crime - Sociological aspects Sociological jurisprudence Criminologie - Canada Droit penal - Canada Sociologie juridique Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Front Matter -- Contents -- Introduction -- What Is a Crime? A Secular Answer -- Undocumented Migrants and Bill C-11: The Criminalization of Race -- Crime, Copyright, and the Digital Age -- Criminalization in Private: The Case of Insurance Fraud -- From Practical Joker to Offender: Reflections on the Concept of "Crime" -- Poisoned Water, Environmental Regulation, and Crime: Constituting the Nonculpable Subject in Walkerton, Ontario -- Contributors -- Index Sommario/riassunto We all have notions of what it means to commit a crime. Most of us are very much aware of the behaviours which, by law, constitute crime. Rarely, however, do we stop to consider why certain activities and

very much aware of the behaviours which, by law, constitute crime. Rarely, however, do we stop to consider why certain activities and behaviours are deemed criminal and others are not. What Is A Crime? examines how we define criminal conduct in contemporary society, and how we respond to it once it has been identified. Drawing from diverse scholarly traditions, including law, sociology, criminology and sociolegal studies, this rich collection of essays looks at the processes of defining crime and considers the varied and complex implications of our decisions to criminalize certain unwanted behaviour. From the

perspective of various case studies, the contributors reflect on the social processes that inform definitions of crime, criminal law, and its enforcement, while illuminating the subjective nature of crime and questioning the role of law in dealing with complex social issues. What Is A Crime? will be of interest to a broad spectrum of readers with an interest in the governance of crime and its control in contemporary society. Students and scholars of law, sociology, political science, philosophy, and criminology will find this book invaluable in furthering their understanding of the processes of defining and responding to crime and criminal behaviour. It will also hold sway with policymakers, criminal justice practitioners, and anyone with a stake in our current approaches to crime.