


## **Sosyal Bağlar Bireylerin Suçluluğunu Engellebilir Mi?**

### ***Can Social Bonds Prevent Individuals from Crime?***

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#### ARTICLE INFO

**Submitted:** 12. 10. 2023  
**Revision Requested:** 24. 11. 2023  
**Final Revision Received:** 25. 11. 2023  
**Accepted:** 04. 12. 2023  
**Published Online:** 15. 12. 2023

#### **Keywords:**

Sociology  
Crime  
Drug dealers  
Travis Hirschi  
Diyarbakır

#### ABSTRACT

Travis Hirschi's Social Control Theory is one of the theories that explains crime. Hirschi (1969) asserted that social bonds protect individuals against criminal behavior by tightly tying them to society. The purpose of this study is to use qualitative research to examine the significance of social relationships in reducing delinquency in drug traffickers, as suggested by Hirschi (1969). In this regard, semi-structured interviews were conducted in Diyarbakır with 20 ex-convicted drug dealers. Participants in the study were categorised as drug smugglers, drug producers/growers, transporters, wholesalers, and dealers. The criminality of drug traffickers, which is one of the key features of the drug trade, is explored in this context within the framework of Hirschi's categories of "attachment, commitment, involvement, and belief," which he defines as social bonds. The findings showed that the individual's education level and belief in social norms have significant effects on criminal behavior. Moreover, in developing criminal behavior, it is not important that the individual has strong social bonds, but with whom he establishes these bonds.

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**Kaynak Gösterimi/ Citing This Article:** Macit, R. (2023). Sosyal bağlar bireylerin suçluluğunu engelleyebilir mi? *Sosyolojik Bağlam Dergisi*, 4(3), 238-247. doi:10.52108/2757-5942.4.3.2