

CRIME PAYS

Illegal is a strong word.

It means you're doing something that the government doesn't want you to do. You'd never do anything like that, right? Or would you?

It might be that some laws are misguided.

It's civil disobedience and a moral imperative to oppose those laws.

Gandhi taught us that.

My friends and I—*Sample file*—are here to help you make these difficult moral choices. We'll even provide you with a support network, if someone objects to your strong moral compass. And, hey, if everything works out, maybe all of us might come out ahead. Don't worry! We've got your back.

Vice is a sourcebook for **Shadowrun, Fourth Edition**. It provides a detailed look at all levels of organized crime, from the major transnational syndicates—like the Yakuza, the Triads, and the Mafia—to the smallest street gangs and specialist organizations. History, personality, and membership of these groups are provided along with suggestions on how best to use them as key players in a **Shadowrun** campaign. The crimes they commit, the metahumans they recruit, the law enforcement they oppose, and the shadowruns they sponsor are all in here. Whether your team of runners works in concert with the criminal underworld or tries to oppose it, **Vice** will offer new insights and options to your campaign.

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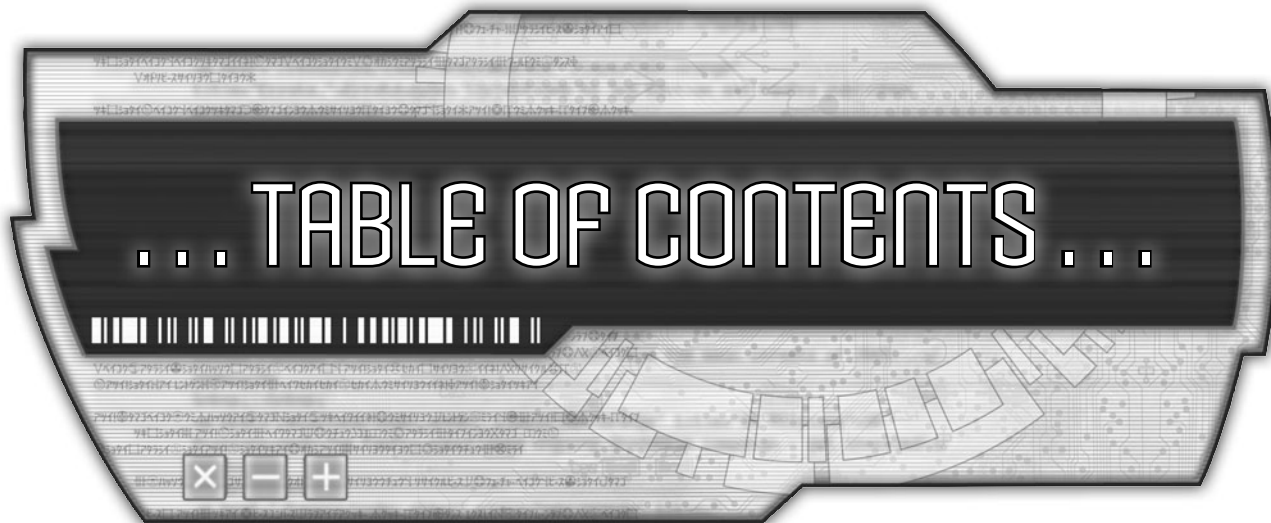
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VICE

Sample file

CATALYST GAME LABS



... TABLE OF CONTENTS ...

CRIME PAYS	5	D'Onore (Uomine d'Honore)	42	Computer Crime	71	ETHNIC SYNDICATES	93
Crime 101	6	Donna d'Honore)	42	Controlled Substances	71	Fanti Pirates	95
Arson	6	Associates	42	Brand Counterfeiting	72	Interests and Income	97
Black Magic	6	The Children's Hour	44	Gambling	72	Grey Wolves	98
Blackmail	8	Yakuza	46	People Trafficking	72	Current Affairs	99
Controlled Substances	10	The Gaijin's Game	46	Prostitution	72	Territorial Rights	99
Counterfeiting and Piracy	11	Postmodern History	46	Protection Rackets	72	Trading Culture for Nuyen	101
Forgery	12	Coda	47	Smuggling	72	Anatomy of a Wolf Pack	101
Financial Crime	13	Jingi	48	Notable Triads	73	Kabul Maffiya	101
Gambling	14	Giri	49	Red Dragon Triad	73	Modern Crimes	102
Grifting	15	Ninjo	49	Large Circle League	73	Drugs	102
Hijacking	16	Rituals	50	Sapphire Crane Society	74	Arms	102
Kidnapping	17	Irezumi	50	Vory V Zakone	74	Smuggling	103
Matrix Crime	18	Renaming	50	Thieves of the Code	74	Ancient Culture	104
Money Laundering	18	Sakasuki	51	Recent Events	75	Following the Code	104
Pornography	19	Yabitsume	51	The Code	76	Family Ties	105
Prostitution	19	Divisions	51	Ranks	76	The Komun'go Seoulpa	
Protection	21	The Old School	52	Tactics	77	Ring	105
Robbery	21	and the New Wave	52	Intimidation	77	Komun'go	106
White-Collar Crime	22	The Way of Rengo	52	Bribery	77	A Brief History Lesson	106
Underworld Support Structure	23	Most Popular: Rengo	52	Bigotry	78	The Shape of a Ring	107
Fencing	23	The Shotokan-rengo	53	Thaumaturgy	78	The Biz	107
Fixing	23	The Four Oyabun	54	Specialties	78	The Koshari	108
Loansharking	24	Fathers and Sons	55	Data Brokerage	79	Recent Events	108
Smuggling	24	Rengo	56	Loan Sharking	79	Las Vegas	109
Underworld Medicine	24	Kumi and Kai	56	Matrix Crimes	79	Los Angeles	109
Mafia	26	Saiko-Komon	58	Prison Economics	79	Organization and Operations	110
Traditions	28	Wakagashira-hosa	58	Prostitution	79	Layout	110
Initiation	28	Hisho	60	Protection	80	Major Rackets	111
Omerta	30	Kaikai	60	Smuggling	80	Personnel	111
Pentito	30	Komon	60	White Collar Crime	80	The Outer Circle	111
Rispetto	31	Shingiin	60	Povryejhda Seattle	80	Santa Fe	111
Minor Traditions	31	Kumi-In	60	Tsar Aleksander Bilotkiy	80	Phoenix	111
Introductions	31	O-Nee	62	Sovetnik Sergei Antonov	80	Denver	111
Nepotism	32	Affiliates and Employees	63	Lideri Piotr Kirilskiy	81	Las Vegas	111
We Only Kill Each Other	32	Ninja	63	Bojevik Lyubov Kirilskaya	81	Recruiting	112
The Organization	32	Students	64	Shestiorka Konstantin Valerov	81	Initiation	112
The Mafia in America	32	Notable Ninja Societies	64	Local Operations	81	Zobop	112
The Mafia in Australia	34	Koga	64	Manpower	82	Rootwork and Slavery	113
The Mafia in Europe	34	Oni Do Kai	64	Ghost Cartels	83	The Houses of the Loa	113
The Commissione	36	Yagyu Ryu	64	A History of the Ghost Cartels	83	A Rising Darkness	115
Capo di Tutti Capi	36	The Triads	65	NewsNow! By Holly Haskins	84		
The Family	36	Interesting Times	65	David Cartel	86	GANGS	116
Capo Famiglia (Don, Dona)	37	Red Scare	65	South American		Gang Life	118
Capo di Capi	37	Growth	65	Politics and Crime	87	A Primer on Gang Life	118
Consigliere	38	Organization	66	The Andes Cartel	88	Gang Culture	118
Sotto Capi (Sotto Capo/		Running the Numbers	66	Products	88	Racial/Ethnic Gangs	118
Sotto Capa)	38	Philosophies	68	Morales Cartel	89	Turf Gangs	119
Capi (Capo/Capa)	40	Common Triad Ranks	69	Organization	89	Activist Gangs	119
Soldati (Soldato/Soldata)	42	Variations on a Theme	70	Friends and Neighbors	89	For-Profit Gangs	119
Picciotti (Picciotto)	42	Global Ties	70	Cachoeira Cartel	89	Initiation	119
		Operations	71	Olaya Cartel	90	Membership	120



Little Fish, Big Pond	121	Chupra Sangre	163
King of the Mountain:		The Crimson Moon Stalker	163
Top-Tier Gangs	122	Erik Dannover	164
Patina of Legitimacy	122	Frida Kohlman	164
The Ancients	123	Job	165
Portfolio	124	Kane	166
Friendly Relations	124	Walter Kralt	167
Firepower	125	Merode Ngobobo	167
Comando Verde	125	Mikasa Heihachiro	168
Organization and Membership	126	MRX	168
Revenue and Expense	126	Null	169
Government Compliance	127	The Pied Piper	169
Chaos Engine	127	Sergei Malenkin	170
The Virtual Boogiemen	128	Sir Simon	170
The Yardies	129	Snowbird	171
Manpower	129	Teachdair	171
Business Interests	130	Xin Lao	172
The Cutters	131		
Leadership	131		
Internal Organization	131		
Second-Tier Gangs	133	THE LAW	173
Los Angeles Ardientes	133	Know the Law	
Leadership and Organization	134	Before You Break It	174
Initiation	134	The Big Leagues	176
The Vikings	134	What Can They (Legally) Do?	176
Leadership and Organization	135	The Minor Leagues	177
Allies and Enemies	135	Cops for Hire	178
Income and Interests	135	Lone Star	178
The Cocotona	135	Major Divisions	179
Income and Interests	136	Knight Errant	180
Leaders and Organization	136	Second Tier	180
The Numbers Gang	137	Getting	
Leadership and Organization	138	(and Keeping) a Contract	181
Membership and Initiation	138	Time is Money	182
Income and Interests	138	Public Opinion:	
First Nations	138	What You Think Matters	183
The Unholy Trinity	139	GovPol: HomeGrown Cops	183
Resources and Profits	139	PCC Cops:	
Third Tier: Life at the Bottom	140	An Exercise in Efficiency	183
Matrix Gangs	140	Knowing Your Legal Rights	184
Go-Gangs	141	Scotland Yard:	
Wizzer Gangs	141	Policing the Police State	185
Theme Gangs		NeoTokyo Police: Saving Face	185
(And Other Psychos)	142	Corporate Masters	186
		International Police	186
		Cooperation and (M)	
		Communication	187
OTHER OUTFITS	143	GAME INFORMATION	188
Introduction	144	It's a Crime	188
Organleggers	144	Knowing Your Place	188
History	146	Competition	188
Operations	147	Organized Crime and the Law	188
Crackerz	148	All in the Family	188
Dead Deckers Society	148	Kinship	188
Schattengesellschaft	148	Honor	189
Schattengesellschaft Ops	149	Diplomacy	189
Fences	150	Corruption	189
The Support Structure	150	Criminal Activity	189
Sell High, Buy Low	151	Different Worlds	189
Finding a Fence	151	Size	189
Hot Spots	152	Scope	189
Infobrokers	152	Resources	189
Other Outfits	154	History	189
IAD Underworld Investigations		Culture	189
Report	154	Organizations	190
		The Syndicate	190
DANGEROUS MINDS	159	The Gang	190
Interpol News	160	Independent Operators	190
Interpol's Most Wanted	160	Between Worlds	190
Billy Joe Wallace	160		
Castle Grey	162	An Offer	
Charlie Wire	162	You Can't Refuse	191

Credits: Vice

Writing: Robert Deric, John Dunn, Mark Edwards, Jennifer Harding, Adam Large, Stephen McQuillan, Aaron Pavao, Malik Toms

Editing: Peter Taylor, Jason Hardy, Joanna Hurley, Diane Piron-Gelman

Development: Peter Taylor

Art Direction: Randall Bills

Interior Layout: Alicia Heerdts and Adam Jury

Cover Art: Fergus Duggan

Cover Layout: Matt Heerdts

Illustration: Tom Bax, Kent Burles, Kevin McCann, Mike Jackson, Mike Mumah, Allen Nunis, Chad Sergesketter, Mark Smith, Florian Stitz, Eric Williams

Inspiration and Must Reads: "McMafia" and "Gomorra"

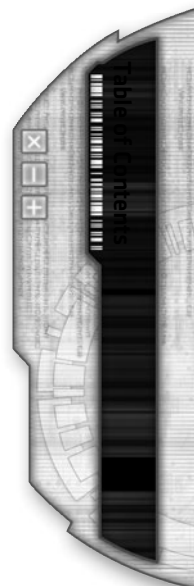
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PMB 202 • 303 - 91st Ave. NE, G-701
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Find us online:
info@shadowrun4.com
(Shadowrun questions; please check the website FAQ first!)
<http://www.shadowrun4.com>
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Connecting JackPoint VPN ...
... Matrix Access ID Spoofed.
... Encryption Keys Generated.
... Connected to Onion Routers.
> Login

> Enter Passcode

... Biometric Scan Confirmed.
Connected to <ERROR: NODE UNKNOWN>
"Crimes, like virtues, are their own rewards."

JackPoint Stats

61 users currently active in the network

Latest News

* <012172> Make sure you've updated your JackPoint key with security [patch v.12.2](#) and the multimedia plug-in pack [RodeoK](#) to get more bang for your buck out of the content on this p2p MoSoSo network.. - FastJack

Personal Alerts

* Your "xploit3r" agent has an 3 [urgent messages](#) for you
* You have 7 new private [messages](#)
* You have 2 [messages](#) queued for anonymous re-routing
* You have received 3 [Metalink](#) Friends add requests
* You have 18 new [responses](#) to your JackPoint posts
* PDA: The Mercurial Tribute Concert at Underworld 93 starts in 8 hours, 12 minutes and 30 seconds [\[map\]](#)
* PDA: You have received 3 [pings](#) from K.

First Degree

You are hidden from all contacts.
Your Current [Rep Score](#): 56
(92% Positive)
Current Time: February 28, 2072, 1215

PREFERENCES

FEEDS

TASKS

LINKS

HISTORY

Welcome back to JackPoint, omae; your last connection was severed:
4 hours, 28 minutes, 23 seconds ago

Today's Heads Up

* Still clearing your head after the tempo high? Sorting through the fallout of the gangland wars? Want to know what the underworld status quo looks like now that the dust is settling? This file might be just what you want.
[Tag: [Vice](#)]

Incoming

* Have you been wondering what our would-be lords and masters have been scheming of late in their comfy ivory towers? Find out the latest buzz with our latest download. [Tag: [Corporate Guide](#)]
* Serious changes are afoot in the Emerald City. Brackhaven is governor, The Star has fallen. The Shotozumi-gumi has taken a pounding. All this and more in our latest guide to the City on the Sound. [Tag: [Seattle 2072](#)]

Top News Items

* In a press conference today, a spokesperson formally confirmed the Corporate Court's long-rumored project to develop a space elevator, or specifically a so-called "sky hook". Speculation is rife about the Earth-based anchor point, but Ariana Smith, the CC spokesperson, also confirmed that the operation to introduce a counterweight asteroid into Earth orbit has already been launched and should be finalized sometime next year. [Link](#).
* The Draco Foundation has announced a 10,000¥ reward for information leading to the recovery of the stolen artifact known as the "Sexton of Worlds". The relic—an item only known from public mentions in the will of the late President Dunkelzahn—was stolen last week while in transit from a Foundation vault in Washington DC to a Dunkelzahn Institute of Magical Research facility in Boston. Federal authorities have been investigating the case in conjunction with Foundation investigators. [Link](#).
* The series of gruesome murders attributed to the serial killer known as the "Chupra Sangre" continued today with Pueblo authorities in Los Angeles announcing the discovery of an eighth body. Thomas Parker, the killer's latest victim, was a 24-year-old college student attending Caltech. As with the Chupra Sangre's previous victims, Parker was Awakened. Peace Force authorities have asked for any witnesses to come forward. [Link](#).

CHAT

MESSAGES

FILES

POSTS

NEXUS

SEARCH

Active

ComStar Firewall

Active

Jack-In-the-Box Antivirus

Active

SpamWitch Filter

On/Receiving

Commcode

Excellent

Signal

Active

Hidden Mode

Local Map

Vice

Invited Guests

Abacadavre

Posts/Files tagged with "Vice":

* Crime Pays
* Gangs
* Local and Ethnic Syndicates
* Transnational Syndicates
* Dangerous Minds
* Independents
* The Opposition
[\[More\]](#)

CONTINUE

ADVANCED SEARCH

SAVE



It had been three days, and Pistons was still jacked in. /dev/grrl checked the drip going into her vein, and the little stimpatches full of uppers lining her neck. Pistons' sister Bette was in the living room, watching her twins play a private Matrix game they'd made up and keeping a parental eye on their Matrix traffic. Pistons joked that as soon as the kids got old enough to recognize Matrix porn, she'd have to give them the "speech" just to "keep the number of unwed teenaged technomancer mothers down." It was only half a joke. Pistons never let any of the girls out alone, not even /dev/grrl. Too many predators on the streets for kids; not just rapists and drug dealers, but gang recruiters, ghouls, and organleggers too.

/dev/grrl had called the orks, the ones who took bodies to those who didn't ask questions; just broke them down for spare parts. She had to get things ready before they got here. Pistons started talking out loud.

"Twenty-five. The data's good, I just have to get it out," she said.

The bodies were laid out on the kitchen table. With a deep breath, and a bit of queasiness, she picked up the knife and pliers, then ran the tutorial she'd bought from Butch.

"Señor Rohas, please, you know I'm not trying to duck you, but money's tight with my sister and her kids..."

Sometime after she had removed the datajack and was rooting around with a finger on the bone to trace the connections where the headware memory should be, one of the twins got sick. Bette got up to look after her.

"... and that'll clear my marker? We'll be even? Okay, forward me the details."

/dev/grrl deposited the gory chunk of hardware in a bowl. She'd wash the bits of brain and hair off later.

"What about the paydata? That's still good for twenty-five, if you move it quick. No, I know what Hector said, but Hector couldn't punch code to save his own skin."

The cyber hand was old and tricky, desiccated skin and slivers of bone still attached to the stump. The little AROs painted a stenciled line where it wanted her to cut, and flashed a warning about a back-up battery on this model that might still be live.

Just as /dev/grrl was finishing up, Pistons jacked out and sat up, blinking. Her eyes were adjusting to three days without light, and her hands gave little shakes as the stims wore on her nerves a little more. Bette handed Pistons a bottle of electrocyte refresher, which the hacker gulped greedily.

"Rohas says I owe him forty thousand for springing Bette and the kids. He knows I can't pay, but he's offered a trade." Pistons said as /dev/grrl washed her hands and tools.

"Need any help?" the teen offered.

"Oh sweetheart, you've been fantastic so far. I never could have done this without you. This run is going to be dangerous, and it'll take time. We need to get you home before your parents start to worry," Pistons replied.

"Relax, they're in Vegas on a business junket-slash-second honeymoon. They think I'm with the sitter, I've been getting their calls forwarded through one of my anonymizers. We've got a couple days yet," /dev/grrl said. "Now tell me, who's the target?"