

**Source A:**

'The recipe to make a poacher', written by an English Lord in 1825

The recipe to make a poacher will be found to contain a very few and simple ingredients which may be met with in every game county in England. Search out (and you need not go far) a poor man with a large family, or a poor single man, having his natural sense of right and wrong ... give him little more than a natural disinclination to go to work, let him exist in the midst of lands where the game is preserved, keep him cool in the winter, by allowing him insufficient wages to purchase fuel; let him feel hungry upon the small pittance of parish relief; and if he be not a poacher it will only be by the blessing of God.

**Source B:**

An image of a group of smugglers called the 'Hawkhurst Gang' breaking into the custom house in Poole, Dorset. This armed group were not opposed during the event. Many of the local residents turned a blind eye or supported them. They were not afraid to use violence.

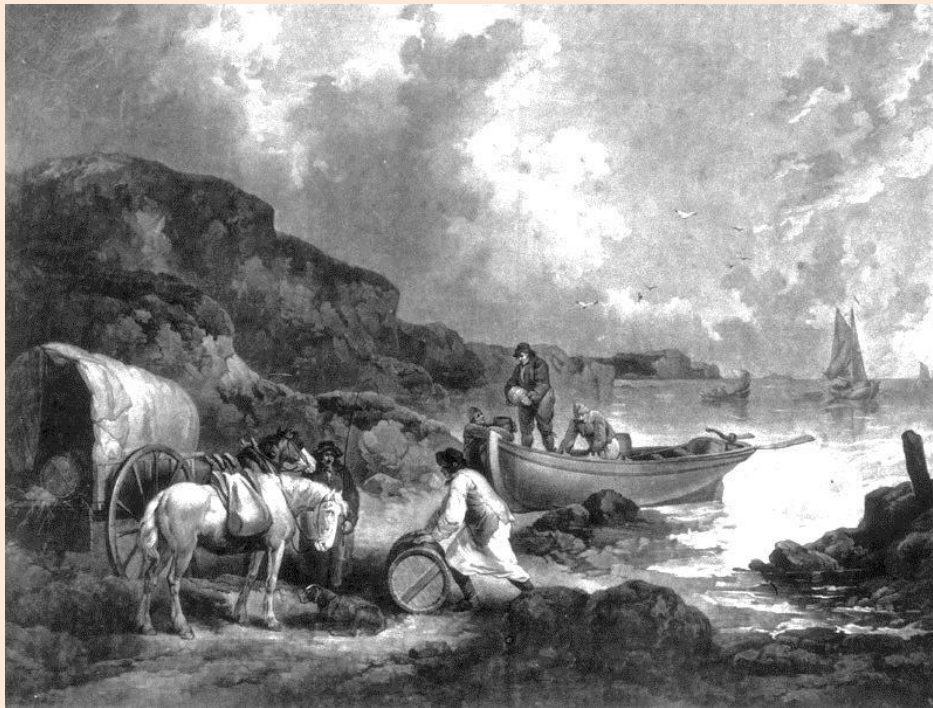


Smugglers breaking open the King's Custom House, Poole, Dorset / Credit: Bridgeman Art Library / Universal Images Group / Copyright © Bridgeman Art Library / For Education Use Only. This and millions of other educational images are available through Britannica Image Quest. For a free trial, please visit [www.britannica.co.uk/trial](http://www.britannica.co.uk/trial)

**Source C:** A letter to Queen Elizabeth I in 1575:

Her Majesty having been advised of numerous highway robberies which have lately been committed in diverse parts of the realm, and that it is a common thing for the thieves to carry pistols whereby they either murder out of hand before they rob, or else put her subjects in such fear that they dare not resist, their lordships are requested to take such steps as may be necessary to redress this mischief.

**Source D:** An image of 18th century smugglers coming ashore.



Coming Ashore / Credit: Rischgitz / Hulton Archive / Getty Images / Universal Images Group / Copyright © Getty Images / For Education Use Only. This and millions of other educational images are available through Britannica Image Quest. For a free trial, please visit [www.britannica.co.uk/trial](http://www.britannica.co.uk/trial)

**Question:**

Why did the authorities in the Early Modern era have difficulty in dealing with ‘social crimes’ such as poaching and smuggling?

Use sources A-D and your own knowledge to explain your answer.