



## **HISTORICAL USA:**

**Author: María José Lizarazo**

**Time for opening speech : 90 seconds**

**One speech per topic**

### **COMMITTEE DESCRIPTION:**

Historical USA, was specially created with the purpose of discussing relevant cases which emerge during the history of the United States of America. Said organization (Historical USA), focuses on analyzing different cases which have generated global commotion and are the center for divergent dialogue, among individuals. With this said, the historical USA committee works within the procedure of an experimental committee, considering that it is mainly based on crisis. The committee works under the mandate of the Crisis Center, and the facts and information which it provides is not aligned to real life scenarios, or circumstances. The committee places fugitives or individuals who have failed to comply with the law, under revision, with the mere purpose of solving the case with a different verdict (from the one established), or on narrating the circumstances in a different way. On this particular case, the committee will center on bringing to the spotlight the capture of Bonnie and Clyde, with different frameworks, mechanisms and procedures.

## **TOPIC A: CAPTURE OF BONNIE & CLYDE**

### **HISTORICAL CONTEXT:**

The second of three children, Bonnie Elizabeth Parker was born on October 1st, 1910, in Texas. When she was a year old, her father, Charles Robert Parker, passed away. Her mother, Emma Krause Parker, who worked as a seamstress, relocated her family to her paternal house in Cement City, a suburban industrial area of West Dallas. When Bonnie met Roy Thornton during her second year of high school, they fell in love, quit school, and got married on September 25, 1926, six days before Bonnie became 16 years old. However, they were only married for a little over a year before splitting up once more in December 1927 over Thornton's claimed adultery.

It's believed that in 1929 or 1931, Thornton made another attempt to get in touch with her but was rejected by Bonnie. They never got divorced, even though they lived apart for the rest of their lives. It should be emphasized that Thornton was incarcerated for a significant portion of the time. Apart from his convictions, not much else about Thornton is known to the public.



Clyde Barrow was born in 1909 to sharecroppers who frequently migrated from one location to another in Ellis County, Texas. Clyde, the fifth of seven children, only managed to finish seventh grade. Clyde started out as a small-time burglar when he was still a young kid, robbing cars and dismantling them to sell the parts.

With this said, it's essential to highlight the mental conditions which Bonnie and Clyde possessed. Bonnie was dependent on morphine to numb her pain due to an immunodeficiency disease, which weakened the immune system and made infections and other health problems more likely to arise. Clyde was identified as having antisocial personality disorder, which was characterized by impulsive, reckless, and frequently criminal behavior. This being stated, the "Bony and Clyde syndrom" was referred to as "Hybristophilia," which is a paraphilia in which sexual arousal, facilitation, are sensitive to and dependent upon being with a partner who is known to have committed a crime.

At the Roosevelt Hotel in downtown Waco on October 16, 1929, Waco police detained Clyde Champion Barrow along with two other wanted individuals, William Turner and Frank Hardy. Barrow had previously been detained in Waco for attempting to

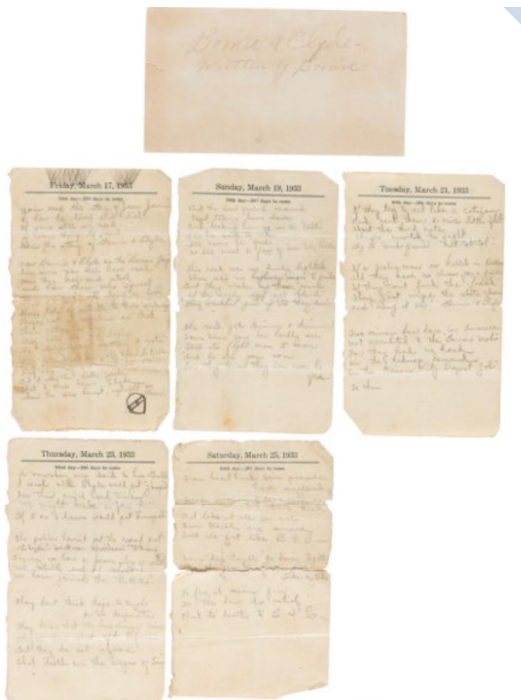


steal an automobile in 1926 while still a minor offender. Some stories claim that he sobbed for two days while being held in custody. He attempted the waterworks once more after escaping from serious jail term. Barrow sobbed in front of Hollis A. Barron, chief of police, and said he had been picked up by Turner and Hardy while hitchhiking and had no idea of their reputations. Barrow's claim of being an innocent spectator was supported by Turner and Hardy, and the police let Barrow go. Three months later, in Dallas, twenty-year-old Barrow struck up a connection with married café waitress Bonnie Parker, age 19, and the two started dating. While committing crimes in the late 1920s, Barrow worked a number of legal jobs. Chief Barron apprehended Clyde Barrow in connection with five automobile thefts and two burglaries in Waco in March 1930.

Clyde and two others managed to escape from the McLennan County Jail while they were awaiting trial with the help of a weapon Bonnie Parker smuggled in. Before being arrested by police a week later, the inmates made it as far as Ohio. Barrow was then sentenced to an additional fourteen years in jail on top of the accusations already against him. In January 1932, while serving a 14-year sentence in Texas for robbery and car theft, Clyde made the decision that he could no longer put up with

the merciless labor and harsh living conditions at the infamously difficult Eastham Prison Farm.

It is unknown whether Clyde or another prisoner used the deadly weapon to sever his left big toe and a chunk of a second toe in an effort to force a transfer to a less punishing facility. In the end, the self-mutilation was unneeded because he was freed on parole six days later, permanently impairing his walking gait and preventing him from driving in shoes.



*Bonnie Parker's original manuscripts from diary, retrieved from*

<https://historical.ha.com/itm/miscellaneous/ephemera/bonnie-parker-and-clyde-barrow-poetry-ostensibly-written-by-the-folk-hero-outlaws/a/6185-43260.s>

## CAUSES

Undeniably, many causes emerged around Bonny and Clyde's actions. Some of these events being; The Great Depression, type of Weaponry, Policial Procedures, and the mental state of the involved ones in the case.

### The Great Depression 1929:

The Great Depression, which lasted from 1929 to 1939, was the worst economic downturn in the history of the industrialized world. It started after the 1929 stock market catastrophe. Consumer spending and investment fell during the following years, which led to sharp drops in industrial output and employment as faltering businesses laid off workers. When the Great Depression peaked in 1933, there were 15 million unemployed Americans and nearly half the nation's banks had failed. The United States' economy grew quickly throughout the 1920s, and from 1920 and 1929 (a time period known as "the Roaring Twenties") the country's overall wealth more than doubled.

At that point, unemployment had increased and production had already decreased, driving up stock values well over their true value. Additionally, the agricultural sector of the economy was struggling owing to the drought and declining food prices, low



wages, the proliferation of consumer debt, and banks' surplus of huge loans that couldn't be repaid. In the summer of 1929, when consumer spending dropped and unsold products started to accumulate, manufacturing output also slowed, the American economy experienced a slight recession. However, stock prices kept rising, reaching astronomical heights by the fall of that year that were incomprehensible in light of projected future earnings. Henceforth, in 1932, when the nation was in the throes of the Great Depression and there were almost 15 million unemployed people, Democrat Franklin D. Roosevelt won the election by a wide margin. At the end of the fourth wave of banking panics, every state in the United States had ordered the closure of all remaining banks by Inauguration Day (March 4, 1933), and the U.S. Treasury lacked the funds to pay all federal employees. FDR, as he was commonly called, still exuded a serene vitality and optimism, memorably saying "the only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

### **Herbert Clark Hoover's Political Regime;**

The Great Depression began in 1929, the year Herbert Hoover (1874–1964) became the 31st president of the United States. Hoover was mostly held responsible in the eyes of the American public, even though the policies of his predecessors clearly



contributed to the crisis, which lasted for more than a decade.

Hoover failed to grasp the gravity of the problem as the Depression grew worse or use the federal government's authority to effectively confront it. The president, who was born in Iowa and had previously achieved success as a mining engineer before joining politics, was widely regarded as being heartless and unsympathetic to the suffering of millions of helpless Americans. As a result, Democrat Franklin D. Roosevelt easily defeated Hoover in the 1932 presidential election (1882-1945).

Hoover implemented a number of initiatives to boost the economy, and several of the programs he put in place ultimately became crucial elements of relief efforts. Hoover's conservative political stance, however, limited his ability to respond to the situation. He was concerned that excessive federal intervention threatened capitalism and individualism and supported a limited role for government. He believed that providing assistance should be done locally and voluntarily. As a result, Hoover vetoed a number of proposals that would have offered direct assistance to American citizens in need. In his 1930 State of the Union address, he said, "Prosperity cannot be restored by raids upon the public Treasury." During Hoover's presidency, the



Depression got worse, and his detractors increasingly painted him as being unconcerned with the suffering of the American people. By the time of the 1932 presidential election, Hoover had mostly become a very disliked, if not loathed, figure. He was soundly defeated by Democratic nominee and New York governor Franklin D. Roosevelt, who vowed to implement a number of progressive reforms and economic relief measures that he referred to as "a New Deal for the American people," winning only six states.

### **Weaponry 1900's**

The names of the weapons implemented around that time, and used to fight and capture Bonnie and Clyde, were:

- I. Thompson submachine gun.
- II. Colt Monitor machine Rifle.
- III. Custom Pistol Grip.
- IV. Colt automatic pistol.
- V. 1917 Smith.
- VI. B.A.R 30-06.
- VII. 03' Springfield.
- VIII. Remington Model 11.
- IX. Ariska type 38.
- X. Browning Auto-5.
- XI. Colt Model 1903.
- XII. Hotchkiss Model.
- XIII. Luger P08.
- XIV. Madden Machine gun.
- XV. Maxim MG08.



- XVI. Model 1904 Vergueiro.
- XVII. Mondragon Rifle.

### **Policing in the United States 1900s-2000s**

The direct and significant participation of politics in policing during the 1900s in the United States is a distinguishing feature. Policing was deeply ingrained in neighborhood politics at this period. Local politicians and the police had a mutually beneficial connection; in order to maintain their political clout, politicians would hire and keep police personnel, and in exchange for employment, police officers would aid politicians by urging voters to elect them. Because of the strong ties between politicians and the police, it was usual procedure to overhaul the police force's personnel whenever there were changes to the local political establishment. Because they directly selected the police chiefs who would lead the agencies, politicians were able to keep influence over them. A cost was associated with the appointment to the job of police chief. Police chiefs had limited influence over decisions that would affect their staff members and organizations once they accepted the position. The significant political presence in many police departments was not accepted by the chiefs of those departments, which led to a high rate of chiefs of police leaving their positions.

During this period of policing, instances of police corruption and wrongdoing were frequent. Politics was often involved in corrupt practices, such as election fraud, convincing individuals to cast particular votes, and misconduct resulting from officers abusing their position and using excessive force. When police officers thought that a person was acting illegally, they would employ violence as a standard procedure. Police officers would physically reprimand young people because they thought it had a stronger deterrent effect than arrest or incarceration. Assaulted perpetrators would also be subjected to violence in an effort to obtain information from them or extort confessions from them (this was known as the third degree). Additionally, it was thought that using violence was acceptable when officers thought that someone were disrespecting them. In the event that residents refused to comply with officers' demands or requests, it was appropriate to administer "street justice." As police supervisors and municipal courts frequently sided with police personnel, residents who had complaints about the conduct of police officers had very little recourse.

<b>IDENTIFICATION</b> ORDER NO. 1211 October 24, 1935	<b>DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION</b> U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON, D. C.	<b>Fingerprint Classification</b> J3 29 W MO 9 26 U 00 9
<b>WANTED</b>		
CLYDE CHAMPION BARROW, aliases CLYDE BARROW, ELVIN WILLIAMS, ELVIN WILLIAMS, JACK HALE, ROY BAILEY.		
<b>NATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT ACT</b>		
		
<b>DESCRIPTION</b> Age, 23 years Height, 5 feet, 7 inches, bare feet Weight, 150 pounds Build, medium; hair, dark brown, wavy, reported dyed black; eyes, hazel; Complexion, light; marks, shield and anchor with "J.C.W." on right forearm outer; Girl's bust, left inner forearm; tattoo, neck, Dallas, Texas.	 	<b>CRIMINAL RECORD</b> As Clyde Champion Barrow, No. 608, arrested police department, Dallas, Texas, December 1, 1932; charge, auto theft; indictment dismissed. As Clyde Champion Barrow, No. 4316, arrested police department, Fort Worth, Texas, February 27, 1932; charge, investigation dismissed. As Clyde Barrow, No. 604, arrested police department, Dallas, Texas, October 13, 1931; charge attempted burglary and safe burglary; indictment quashed. As Clyde Barrow, alias Elvin Williams, No. 416, arrested police department, Waco, Texas, March 2, 1930; charge, burglary; sentence, 14 years Texas State Penitentiary; escaped County Jail, Waco, Texas, March 11, 1930. As Clyde Barrow, No. 766, arrested police department Middletown, Ohio, March 16, 1930; charge, fugitive. As Clyde Barrow, No. 4357, received Texas State Penitentiary, Huntsville, Texas, April 21, 1930, from McLennan County; charge, burglary, theft over and from the person; sentence 14 years (7-2 1/2, cum.); paroled February 2, 1932.
<b>RELATIVES:</b> Mrs. Cunio F. Barrow, mother, Rural Route 4, Dallas, Texas E. C. Barrow, brother, Rural Route 4, Dallas, Texas Mrs. Otis Wilcox, sister, Denison, Texas Mrs. Clyde Barrow, aliases Bonnie Barrow, Bonnie Parker, Mrs. Roy Harding, wife, presently accompanying Barrow Mrs. Emma Parker, mother of Mrs. Clyde Barrow, Dallas, Texas.	<p>This man is very dangerous and extreme caution must be exercised by arresting officers as he is wanted in connection with assault and murder of officers.</p> <p>Complaint was filed at Dallas, Texas, on May 20, 1933, charging Clyde Champion Barrow and Mrs. Roy Harding, nee Bonnie Parker, with transporting Ford Coupe, motor No. 44878105, property of Dr. E. L. Saemon of Effingham, Illinois, from Dallas, Texas, to Pawhuska, Oklahoma, on or about September 16, 1932. Law enforcement agencies kindly transmit any additional information or criminal record to nearest office, Division of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice. If apprehended, please notify the Director, Division of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., or the Social Agent in Charge of the office of the Division of Investigation listed on the back hereof, which is nearest your city. (over) Issued by: J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR.</p>	

Bonnie and Clyde Criminal Record (retrieved from;)  
<https://www.fbi.gov/history/famous-cases/bonnie-and-clyde>

### Bonnie and Clyde's Mental Condition;

Bonnie suffer from an immunodeficiency disorder, according to medical explanations, it consists on: The Immune system defense against invading or attacking foreign or aberrant cells is compromised by immunodeficiency diseases (such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and cancer cells). Unusual bacterial, viral, or fungal illnesses as a result. Immunodeficiency diseases frequently occur from pharmaceutical use or from a chronic major illness, but they can also be hereditary. People frequently get often, odd, abnormally severe, or unusually prolonged infections, and they can also get cancer or an autoimmune disease. Another issue is that up to 25% of individuals with





immune system disorders also have autoimmune diseases (such as immune thrombocytopenia). The immune system assaults the body's own tissues in autoimmune disorders. Sometimes the autoimmune illness appears prior to any indications of immunodeficiency. Immunodeficiency disorders come in two different varieties:

Primarily genetic and typically inherited, these illnesses are typically apparent at birth. They usually start to show during childhood or early adulthood. Some primary immunodeficiency diseases, including common variable immunodeficiency, are not diagnosed until later in life. Primary immunodeficiency disorders number over 100. They are all fairly uncommon. Secondary: These conditions typically manifest later in life and are frequently brought on by the use of specific medications or by a different condition, such as diabetes or HIV infection. Compared to primary immunodeficiency disorders, they are more prevalent.

On the other hand, Clyde presents antisocial personality disorder, which consists of: A person who continuously disregards right and wrong and the rights and sentiments of others is said to have antisocial personality disorder, often known as sociopathy. Antisocial personalities have a propensity to



manipulate, provoke, or treat people cruelly or with callous indifference. They don't display any regret or guilt for their actions.

People with antisocial personality disorder frequently break the law and turn into criminals. They might be dishonest, act angrily or rashly, and struggle with drug and alcohol abuse. These traits make patients with this condition often unable to meet obligations to family, or employment. Each individual is distinct because of their unique combination of thoughts, feelings, and behaviors, or personality. It has to do with how people see themselves, how they perceive, comprehend, and relate to the outside environment. During childhood, personality develops as a result of the interaction between inherited traits and environmental circumstances. Antisocial personality disorder's specific source is unknown, although life circumstances and inherited vulnerability to antisocial personality disorder can both contribute to its onset. The way the brain works may have changed as a result of brain growth. Antisocial personality disorder appears to be more likely to develop when certain conditions exist, including: Childhood conduct disorder diagnosis, family history of mental illness or personality disorders such as antisocial personality disorder, having experienced abuse or neglect as a kid, unstable, violent, or disorderly family



situation when you were growing up. Additionally, men are more likely than women to suffer from antisocial personality disorder.

### **ORIENTATION AND OBJECTIVE OF THE COMMITTEE:**

Towards the discussion of Bonnie and Clyde, delegates are expected to comply with the following parameters. Firstly, an appropriate representation of their delegations towards the topic has to be made. Delegates must bear in mind the jurisdiction of their delegations, along with how involved they have been in similar cases. The use of directives and crisis play an essential role through the committee. Above all, delegates are encouraged to adapt a specific perspective regarding the final judgement of the case. Delegates must provide relevant facts and data which proves that whichever is the theory that they are defending, is nothing else, but the mere truth. The social, political, cultural, and economic aspects must be taken into consideration. A new legal framework could be established for cases similar to these one. Said framework, must work under a specific jurisdiction which can be backed up by treaties, conventions, or organizations, which adapt to these kind of circumstances. Its essential to highlight the fact that the committee will not move towards the real story Bonnie and Clyde, everything will be



decided by the Crisis Center. The committee will be carried out since Clyde's escape from jail, this is the reason behind the fact the academic guide only includes data before 1930 (the time before Clyde escaped jail). An initial crisis statement will be provided at the beginning of the committee, supplying more information about Bonnie and Clyde's actions in order to solve the case. The academic guide of procedure should also be contemplated under every delegate's investigation, due to the fact that it possesses more information concerning the center of the debate and the actions performed by Bonnie and Clyde. To conclude, delegates are expected to have a positive and encouraging attitude. Evidence, testimonies, and witnesses play a fundamental role for the well functioning of the committee. The chair is open to any solution which holds accountable those, who have committed unlawful actions towards the case.

### **ORIENTATION QUESTIONS**

1. Considering the actions which your delegation has done with similar cases, which mechanisms does the delegate consider appropriate to adapt, with the mere purpose of capturing Bonnie and Clyde?





2. How will your delegation express its ideologies basing on relevant facts and data, which provide appropriate circumstances concerning the case?
3. How will the capture of Bonnie and Clyde benefit the international community? Does it benefit your delegation individually? If so, explain.
4. Is the use of violence necessary in order to capture Bonnie and Clyde? Can you name another possible solution in order to capture them?
5. How do cases like these ones perpetrate the historical structure, altering the knowledge that your delegation possesses towards the case?

## SOURCES

FBI. (2016, May 18). *Bonnie and clyde*. FBI. Retrieved from <https://www.fbi.gov/history/famous-cases/bonnie-and-clyde>  
YouTube. (2020, May 26). *How they were caught: Bonnie and clyde*. YouTube. Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=876JTKU8Mek>  
Encyclopædia Britannica, inc. (2023, January 12). *Bonnie and clyde*. Encyclopædia

Britannica. Retrieved , from <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Bonnie-and-Clyde-American-criminals>  
YouTube. (2021, March 18). *Bonnie and Clyde Biography - The True Story*. YouTube., 2023, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51Y2kFHeNH0>  
Small arms from 1900 to 1909. (n.d.). Retrieved , from <https://www.militaryfactory.com/smallarms/guns-1900-1909.php>  
*The Great Depression and World War II*. Texas Our Texas. (2013, November 22). Retrieved, from <https://texasourtexas.texaspbs.org/the-eras-of-texas/great-depression-ww2/#:~:text=The%20state's%20economy%20was%20further,in%20towns%20all%20but%20impossible.v>  
Fleck, A., & Staff. (2018, June 22). *Historical series: Bonnie and clyde live fast, die young*. Rambler Newspapers. Retrieved, from <https://ramblernewspapers.com/2018/06/historical-series-bonnie-and-clyde-live-fast-die-young/#:~:text=Clyde%20Barrow%20was%20born%20in,them%20to%20sell%20the%20parts.>  
*Woodrow Wilson - Presidency, Facts & Foreign Policy - History*. (n.d.). Retrieved, from <https://www.history.com/topics/us-presidents/woodrow-wilson>  
Texoso, A. (2021, August 12). *Roy Glenn Thornton, husband of Bonnie Parker*. TEXAS



HISTORY NOTEBOOK. Retrieved from <https://texoso66.com/2018/02/01/roy-glen-n-thornton/>

*10 things you may not know about Bonnie and clyde - history.* (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.history.com/news/10-things-you-may-not-know-about-bonnie-and-clyde>

Ryan, T. J. (n.d.). *Clyde Barrow.* Waco History. Retrieved, from

<https://wacohistory.org/items/show/123>

American Psychological Association. (n.d.).

*Apa Dictionary of Psychology.* American

Psychological Association. Retrieved, from

<https://dictionary.apa.org/hybristophilia>



#### **SUPPORT LINKS**

[Source 1: Official FBI records Bonnie & Clyde](#)

[Source 2: What happened?](#)

[Source 3: Fun Facts](#)

[Source 4: History](#)

[Source 5: The Great Depression](#)