



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

**BOSCO MODEL UNITED
NATIONS 2018
THE SICILY CONFERENCE,
1931
STUDY GUIDE**





BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

AGENDA –
CONSOLIDATION OF THE
ITALIAN MAFIA'S POWER
AND POSITION IN THE
AMERICAN ORGANIZED
CRIME SPHERE



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Chairpersons' Address:

Greetings Delegates!

It gives us immense pleasure to welcome you to one of the most unconventional crisis committees simulated at Bosco Model United Nations. We have always strived to present to you interesting and unique committees, and this year is no different. The Sicily Conference, based in the year 1931, is a meet of the bosses and consiglieres (advisors) of the main Italian Mafia families from around the world in the island of Sicily, following the bloody Castellammarese War, to establish the Mafia as the leading organized crime network in the United States of America. This committee, being a constant crisis one, will focus on family policy, joint and individual action and statements to come to a conclusion about the issue at hand. Expect a fast paced and exciting committee, with the delegates playing a crucial role in the proceedings, along with the involvement of the Executive Board. This committee is one of its kind, and we hope to deliver as you travel back in time with us, to the underworld of the early 20th century. Please note that a lot of importance will be given to the values of the Mafiosi, and any violations of the values and codes of honour will be looked down upon. We urge all delegates to think on their feet, because at the end of the day, no one can really be trusted.

That being said, we'd like to take this opportunity to introduce the Executive Board. Your Co-Chairperson, Sourya Chakrabarty, is a twelfth grade Commerce student, who sees himself as a corporate lawyer in the future, Harvey Specter being his inspiration. You might find him adjusting his hair, his tie or his watch from time to time. Sourya is a huge fan of football, particularly, Chelsea FC, and TV shows and movies like Suits, How I Met Your Mother, Silicon Valley, Dead Poets' Society and The Godfather (hence the committee). He is a little stern at times, but is



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

always approachable, and often the most well-researched and hardworking person in the room. He is an amicable and fun guy to be around and to have conversations on a variety of topics. Expect brownie points for references to Suits and The Godfather.

Kshitij Shah, your Co-Chairperson, is also a twelfth grade Commerce student, with a forte for Economics. Hoping to make it big as a businessman in future, Kshitij wants to pursue Economics in college. Kshitij is a huge fan of FC Barcelona, which is evident from his undying love for Lionel Messi. He is a calm, yet fun guy to be around, who always has a smile on his face. Kshitij too has a love for Harvey Specter and is often seen binge watching episodes of Suits. Kshitij is mostly found playing FIFA on his PlayStation, or hanging out with his friends. He is also very dedicated and hardworking.

Rik Mukherjee, your Director, is probably the most fun guy in the Executive Board. A class 11 science student, Rik wants to make it big as a doctor. He is capable of pulling off huge surprises and pranks, leaving you bamboozled. He is highly approachable and is liked by most people around him. Expect a diligent yet light-hearted person in the form of Rik.

Somya Shubhra Pal, your Rapporteur, is a smart and talented guy, who does not fail to deliver. He is a class 10 student, who has already shown a lot of potential in the MUNs he has been to. He is always excited and very hardworking.

We, as the executive board, would like to remind you that on-the-spot thinking is vital for this committee, but at the same time, this is one committee, which also requires detailed research, failing which might lead you to a disadvantageous position. Remember that this study guide is just a tool to help in your research and not the only source for it. With that we wish you luck and hope that you enjoy committee!



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

With Regards,

Sourya Chakrabarty & Kshitij Shah,

Co-Chairpersons,

The Sicily Conference

Introduction:

The Committee

The Sicily Conference is a meet of all the major Italian Mafia Families (Cosa Nostra) from the United States of America and Sicily, in a covert location in Palermo, Sicily. Each family is represented by the Boss and the Consigliere. During the span of the conference, the Underboss leads the family, though he is still answerable to the Boss and the Consigliere. Only Sicilians or Sicilian Descendants are allowed to participate in the proceedings of the committee. Special concession may be granted to one or two members, considering their position and influence.

This is very similar to the Atlantic City Conference of 1929, the Apalachin Meeting of 1957, the Grand Hotel des Palmes Mafia Meeting, a meeting held at Palermo in 1957 and the Havana Conference of 1946, where the mafia bosses in the United States and Sicily met and discussed the future of the Mafia and other 'official business'. Other influential figures in the organized crime sphere, such as Meyer Lansky, Bugsy Siegel and Enoch L. Johnson were also present, along with notorious singer Frank Sinatra. This committee simulates a meeting right after the bloody Castellammarese War of 1930-1931, which led to the death of influential mafia boss, Joe "The Boss" Masseria, and the consolidation of power of the famous Five Families of



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

New York City. The Bosses and their Consiglieres (Advisors) meet in a hotel in Sicily to decide the future of Italian organized crime in the United States. The time period of 1931 has been so chosen because it had the greatest figures of the Italian American Mafia, such as Charles “Lucky” Luciano, Al “Scarface” Capone, Carlo Gambino, Salvatore Maranzano, Meyer Lansky, Joe Profaci and others. The situation at the time was hostile to say the least and at the same time, they faced threats from the Government and the Irish Mob. The bosses and the Consiglieres will gather and discuss all measures to eliminate the threats the mafia faces, at the same time ensuring that their own family gains more power and remains at the top.

Origins of the Mafia

The Mafia, or the Cosa Nostra as it is called, is the highly structured organized crime network of Sicilian origin, spread around the world, mainly in Sicily and the United States of America. Today, the word “mafia” is incorrectly used to refer to several other organized crime networks around the world, such as the Russian Mafia and the Japanese Mafia. The main flaw here lies in the fact that the word “mafia” is derived from the Sicilian adjective “mafiusu”, which, roughly translated means ‘swagger’ or even ‘boldness’ or ‘bravado’. When referring to a man, mafiusu/Mafioso in 19th century Sicily meant fearless, enterprising and proud. On the other hand, while referring to a woman, it meant beautiful or attractive. By definition, only the Sicilian Mafia and the American Mafia qualify to be referred to as the Mafia, although the Mafiosi prefer to call their business “Cosa Nostra”, which translates to “our thing”.

The genesis or origins of the Mafia are very hard to trace, considering how secretive the Mafiosi were and the lack of records kept on paper by the Mafia themselves bears testament to that. It is rumoured that the



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Mafia began in the 19th century. It is believed that the Mafia arose in the upheaval of Sicily's transition out of feudalism beginning in 1812 and its later annexation by Mainland Italy in 1860.

Made Men

In the Mafia, a Made Man is a fully initiated member of a Mafia family. To become "made", an associate first has to be sponsored by another made man. The sponsor must know the associate and vouch for his reliability and abilities, because if he were to make a bad choice, it would be his neck literally that was on the line. An inductee is required to take the oath of Omertà, the Sicilian code of silence. After the induction ceremony, the associate becomes a "made man", and holds the rank of 'soldier' in the Mafia hierarchy.

Since they had the full backing of the Mafia, nobody dared to cross them, and they were allowed greater freedom by the authorities. In the early part of the 20th century, being a made man in the Mafia was a title that brought honor, pride and trust. Not anyone could become a full fledged Made Man, as certain rules and customs had to be met, and only when these were met could someone become a member of the Mafia.

Firstly, to become a Made Man in Cosa Nostra you had to be of Italian descent, if you weren't, then you could only ever be an associate of the Mafia. You also couldn't become a Made Man if you had any connection to the law, whether you were a corrections officer in your past, a police officer, or have close family connected to the police.

Before being inducted, a potential made man is required to carry out a contract killing. This was a rule only brought into the Mafia in the 1980's – previous to this you just needed to be a part of a contracted hit, but



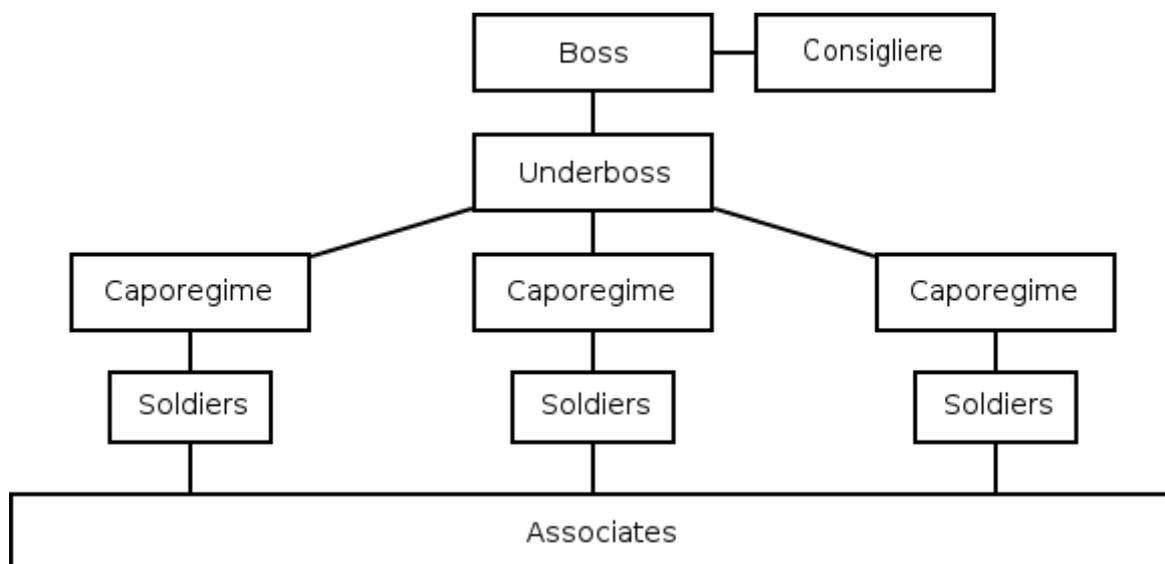
BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

not necessarily the guy who pulled the trigger, held the rope, or...you get the picture.

Structure of a Mafia Family

A Mafia family is highly structured with proper positions and set duties and responsibilities assigned to the Mafiosi in each position.



The mafia operates on a strict hierarchical structure. This structure is slightly different for the American and the Sicilian families, although it is essentially the same. Salvatore Maranzano is credited with the creation of this structure. The three highest positions, which are the Boss, the Consigliere and the Underboss make up the administration. Below the administration, there are factions led by *Caporegimes* (captains), who lead a crew of soldiers and associates. When a boss makes a decision, he rarely issues orders directly to workers who would carry it out, but instead passed instructions down through the chain of command. This way, the higher levels of the organization are insulated from law enforcement attention if the lower level members who actually commit



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

the crime should be captured or investigated. This provides what is called plausible deniability.

- **Boss** – The Boss is the head of the family, usually reigning as a dictator, sometimes called the Don or the “Godfather”. The boss receives a cut of every operation taken on by every member of his family and the region’s occupying family.
- **Consigliere** – The Consigliere is an advisor to the family and sometimes seen as the boss’s “right-hand man”. He is used as a mediator of disputes and often acts as a representative or aide for the family in meetings with other families, rival criminal organizations, and important business associates. In practice, the consigliere is normally the third ranking member of the administration of a family and was traditionally a senior member carrying the utmost respect of the family and deeply familiar with the inner-workings of the organization. A boss will often appoint a trusted close friend or personal advisor as his official Consigliere.
- **Underboss** – The Underboss, usually appointed by the Boss, is the second in command of the family. The Underboss often runs the day-to-day responsibilities of the family or oversees its most lucrative rackets. He usually gets a percentage of the family’s income from the boss’s cut. The Underboss is usually first in line to become Acting Boss if the Boss is imprisoned, and is also frequently seen as a logical successor.
- **Caporegime (or Capo)** – A Caporegime (also captain or skipper) is in charge of a crew, a group of soldiers who report directly to him. Each crew usually contains 10–20 soldiers and many more associates. A Capo is appointed by the Boss and reports to him or the Underboss. A Captain gives a percentage of his (and his underlings’) earnings to the boss and is also responsible for any tasks assigned, including murder. In labor racketeering, it is usually



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

a Capo who controls the infiltration of union locals. If a Capo becomes powerful enough, he can sometimes wield more power than some of his superiors.

- Soldier – A Soldier is a member of the family, and traditionally can only be of full Italian background (although today many families require men to be of only half Italian descent, on their father's side). Once a member is made he is untouchable, meaning permission from a soldier's boss must be given before he is murdered. When the books are open, meaning that a family is accepting new members, a Made Man may recommend an up-and-coming associate to be a new soldier. Soldiers are the main workers of the family, usually committing crimes like assault, murder, extortion, intimidation, etc. In return, they are given profitable rackets to run by their superiors and have full access to their family's connections and power.
- Associate – An associate is not a member of the Mafia, but works for a crime family nonetheless. Associates can include a wide range of people who work for the family. An associate can have a wide range of duties from virtually carrying out the same duties as a soldier to being a simple errand boy. This is where prospective mobsters ("connected guys") start out to prove their worth. Once a crime family is accepting new members, the best associates are evaluated and picked to become soldiers. An associate can also be a criminal who serves as a go-between or sometimes deals in drugs to keep police attention off the actual members, or they can be people the family does business with (restaurant owners, etc.) In other cases, an associate might be a corrupt labor union delegate or businessman. Non-Italians will never go any further than this, although many non-Italians like Meyer Lansky, Bugsy Siegel, Murray Humphreys, Mickey Cohen, Bumpy Johnson, Frank Sheeran, Gerard



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Ouimette and James Burke wielded extreme power within their respective crime families and carried the respect of actual Mafia members.

The Sicilian Mafia

The Sicilian Mafia is a loose criminal syndicate based in Sicily, Italy. It was originally a protection racketeering based underworld business organization. The Risorgimento of Italy saw the power and influence of the Cosa Nostra increase exponentially, due to the increased number of private landowners, which allowed them to expand their protection operations and other under-the-table dealings, such as outside-the-law dispute settlement. The Mafia continued to expand their influence and respective territorial claims, especially among the major urban centres, most prominently Palermo, the capital of Sicily. In the 1870s, the governing officials also had an arrangement of convenience with the Mafiosi of Sicily: the Mafia would co-operate with the government in acting against dangerous, independent criminal bands, in exchange for which the government officials turned a blind eye on the Mafia's criminal activities. The Mafia clans expanded their criminal activities and further entrenched themselves in Sicilian politics and the economy. The Mafia became adept at political corruption and intimidated people to vote for certain candidates, who were in turn beholden to the Mafia. Within a century, the Mafia had firmly established themselves both in Sicilian culture, and in the governing class of Sicily.

The Sicilian Mafia continued on the rise until the 1920s, when Benito Mussolini initiated a campaign to destroy the Sicilian Mafia, which undermined Fascist control of Sicily. A successful campaign would legitimize his rule and strengthen his leadership. Not only would a campaign against the Mafia be a propaganda opportunity for Mussolini and the National Fascist Party but it would also allow him to



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

suppress his political opponents in Sicily, since many Sicilian politicians had Mafia links. After 1924, Mussolini instructed Cesare Mori to dislodge the Mafia from Sicily at all costs. Consequently, Mori formed an army sized coalition of law and military officials, which then proceeded to engage in a mass campaign against the Mafia, which resulted in 11,000 arrests and mass inquests and trials. This resulted in a temporary halt in the growth of the Sicilian Mafia, but by the 1930s, it had bounced back.

The American Mafia

During the 1800s and the early 1900s, numerous Italians, including Sicilians, became disillusioned with the incredibly tough living conditions in their homeland of Italy, which experienced widespread poverty, difficulty penetrating the dense bureaucracy, and where the government and ruling class treated the common workers with contempt. At the same time, there was a spreading perception of America as the land of opportunity. As a result, many Italians and Sicilians began to migrate to the United States. While most Italian immigrants pursued honest ambitions and legal blue collar jobs, some of the Sicilians brought the ways of the Sicilian Mafia with them.

Some of the first members of the Sicilian Mafia to emigrate to the United States were Giuseppe Esposito, later known as Vincenzo Rebello, and some of his fellow made men. He fled his trial at Palermo for New York, from where he went to New Orleans. At New Orleans, he took control of fledgling copy-cat Mafias, and continued his illegal practices. He was arrested and charged in 1881 and extradited to Italy. He never returned to the Mafia he had pioneered. The American Mafia has evolved over the years as various gangs assumed, and lost, dominance over the years—for example, the Black Hand gangs around 1900, the Five Points Gang in the 1910s and '20s in New York



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

City, and Al Capone's Syndicate in Chicago in the 1920s. The American Mafia continues to dominate organized crime in the U.S and maintains control over much of Chicago's, Boston, Philadelphia, Providence and New York City's organized criminal activity, as well as criminal activities in many other cities in the North-East and across the country, such as Las Vegas and New Orleans. The cause of the Mafia's origin is also not completely certain. While some studies have focused on weak institutions, predation and the poor state enforcement of property rights, others – particularly when it comes to the Sicilian mafia – have suggested that the legacy of feudalism was an important driver, along with the development of latifundism (a system according to which agriculture is dominated by large estates) and a loss of social capital and public trust in the government which was dominated by a foreign occupation. These theories provide plausible explanations for the origin of the Sicilian mafia as a whole – but they fail to explain the considerable variation in the growth of the criminal organisation across different areas within the Sicilian region – especially when those areas experienced very similar socio-political conditions.

The growth and consolidation of the Sicilian mafia is strongly associated with an external surge in the demand for lemons from 1800 after the discovery of the effective use of citrus fruits to prevent scurvy. Sicily already enjoyed a dominant position in the international market for citrus fruits – and the increase in demand resulted in a very large inflow of revenues to areas focused on citrus production during the 1800s. Citrus trees can be cultivated only in areas that meet specific requirements (mild and constant temperature throughout the year and an abundance of water) – and this guaranteed substantial profits to the relatively few local producers in areas of Sicily that conformed to these requirements.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

A combination of high profits, a weak rule of law, a low level of interpersonal trust and widespread poverty made lemon producers a suitable target for criminals. Neither the Bourbon regime (1816–1860), nor the newly-formed government after Italian independence in 1861, had the strength or the means to effectively enforce private property rights. So, citrus farmers resorted to hiring private security providers to protect themselves from theft and also to arrange intermediaries between the retailers and exporters in the harbours. What kept the Mafia together throughout all these tumultuous times was the code they all shared. The Sicilian Mafia was based around a strict and rigid code of honour. One of the key principles of this code is Omerta, or the Law of silence, mandating any made member of the Mafia to withhold all information if caught by the authorities. In addition, the Mafia's stringent policy of screening all potential members helped keep the organization safe. No 'outsider' was allowed to join, meaning that anyone who was not descended entirely from Sicilians, was automatically disqualified from membership.

Notable Mafiosi

Intros to the families and the family policies also included

Maranzano Family: The origins of the Maranzano crime family can be traced back to the town of Castellammare del Golfo located in the Province of Trapani, Sicily. The Maranzano Mafia clan was led by boss Giuseppe "Peppe" Bonanno and his older brother Stefano as advisor. The strongest ally of the Maranzano clan was the boss of the Magaddino Mafia clan Stefano Magaddino.[2] During the 1900s, the Maranzano and Magaddino Mafia clans feuded with Felice Buccellato, the boss of the Buccellato Mafia clan. After the deaths of Stefano Bonanno and Giuseppe Bonanno, their younger brother, Salvatore, took revenge, killing members of the Buccellato clan. Don



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Cascio Ferro sent his Deputy, Salvatore Maranzano to the USA to take control of the American Mafia. He took over the Bonanno family to take on Joe Masseria. He set up his family as the first of the “Five Families” at the end of the Castellammarese War.

In 1903, Salvatore Bonanno married Catherine Bonventre and on January 18, 1905 she gave birth to Giuseppe. Three years later Salvatore Bonanno moved his family to New York City. While away Stefano Magaddino took over running the Bonanno-Magaddino-Bonventre Mafia clan. Salvatore Bonanno along with members of the Bonanno-Magaddino-Bonventre clan began establishing dominance and control in the Castellammarese community of Williamsburg, Brooklyn. While operating in Brooklyn, the Castellammarese leaders were able to preserve the criminal organization's future. In 1911, Salvatore Bonanno returned to Sicily and died of a heart attack in 1915. Stefano Magaddino arrived in New York and became a powerful member of the Castellammarese clan. In 1921, Magaddino fled to Buffalo to avoid murder charges. The Castellammarese clan was taken over by Nicolo Schirò.

Profaci Family: The family traces its roots to a bootlegging gang formed by Joseph Profaci in 1928. Profaci would rule his family without interruption or challenge until the late 1950s.[2][3] The family has been torn by three internal wars. The first war took place during the late 1950s when capo Joe Gallo revolted against Profaci, but it lost momentum in the early 1960s when Gallo was arrested and Profaci died of cancer. Joe Profaci played both sides, of both Luciano and Maranzano at the end of the Castellammarese War. Joe Profaci arrived in New York City from Italy in September 1921 as an olive oil importer. He ran his own small gang that operated mainly in Brooklyn but also spent a considerable amount of time importing olive oil utilizing his contacts from Sicily. As his business grew, he became a recognized name in



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Brooklyn, and in October 1928 after the murder of Salvatore D'Aquila, a vacuum emerged for D'Aquila's territory. To prevent a war representative's of the five most dominant gangs in Brooklyn were called to a meeting in Ohio to divide the territory. One of the five men was Profaci who came away from the meeting with his own family and a significant chunk of territory.

Mangano Family: The Mangano crime family is one of the five major families that oversee organized criminal operations in New York City, United States and is a part of the worldwide phenomenon known as the Cosa Nostra or the Mafia. The Roots of the Gambino family can be traced back to Ignazio Lupo and Giuseppe Morello who were original immigrants from Palermo, Sicily. When Lupo and his business partner Giuseppe Morello were sent to prison in 1910 for counterfeiting, Salvatore D'Aquila, the right hand man of Lupo, took over as the head of the gang Lupo had left behind. By 1910, more Italian gangs had formed in New York City. In addition to the original Morello gang in East Harlem and D'Aquila's own, now growing gang, also in East Harlem, there were others organizations forming. In Brooklyn, Nicolo Schiro established a second gang of Sicilian Mafiosi from Castellammare del Golfo, west of Palermo, in Sicily. In 1920, the united Sates outlawed the manufacture and sale of alcoholic beverages through the Prohibition Act, creating ideal conditions for the New York crime gangs to carry out lucrative racketeering businesses. At that point of time, D'Aquila's only significant rival was Joe Masseria, who called himself boss of bosses of the New York crime gangs. On October 10, 1928, Masseria gunmen assassinated Salvatore D'Aquila outside his home. D'Aquila's second-in-command, Alfred Mineo, and his right-hand man, Steve Ferrigno, now commanded the largest and most influential Sicilian gang in New York City. In September 1931, Maranzano was himself assassinated in his office by a squad of contract killers. The main man



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

behind both these assassinations was Charlie "Lucky" Luciano. Luciano kept alive Maranzano's five families' concept and added a Commission to mediate disputes and prevent more gang warfare. Also in 1931, Luciano replaced Scalise with Vincent Mangano as head of the D'Aquila/Mineo gang, now the Mangano crime family.

Luciano Family: The Genovese crime family originated from the Morello gang of East Harlem, the first Mafia family in New York City. In 1892, Giuseppe Morello arrived in New York from the village of Corleone, Sicily, Italy. Morello's half-brothers Nicholas, Vincenzo, and the rest of his family joined him in New York the following year. The Morello brothers formed the 107th Street Mob and began dominating the Italian neighborhood of East Harlem, parts of Manhattan, and the Bronx.

One of Giuseppe Morello's strongest allies was Ignazio "the Wolf" Lupo, a mobster who controlled Manhattan's Little Italy. In 1903, Lupo married Morello's half-sister, uniting both organizations. The Morello-Lupo alliance continued to prosper in 1903, when the group began a major counterfeiting ring with powerful Sicilian Mafioso Vito Cascio Ferro, printing \$5 bills in Sicily and smuggling them into the United States. New York police detective Joseph Petrosino began investigating the Morello family's counterfeiting operation, the barrel murders and the Black Hand extortion letters. On November 15, 1909, Morello, Lupo and others were arrested on counterfeiting charges. In February 1910, Morello and Lupo were sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Gagliano Family: Tommaso Gagliano was born on 29 May 1883 in Corleone, Sicily. Gagliano married Giuseppina "Josephine" Pomilla who was also from Corleone. Gagliano and his brother-in-law Nunzio Pomilla were partners in lathing and hoisting companies in the Bronx. He served as underboss to Gaetano "Tom" Reina until he became the boss of the



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

family in 1930. The Reina family controlled a monopoly on ice distribution in the Bronx. Gagliano along with Gaetano "Tommy" Lucchese and Stefano "Steve" Rondelli were viewed as the most powerful members of the Reina family. Frank Gagliano was a distant relative of Tommaso and the son of a deported mobster. He was also the cousin of mob boss Thomas Eboli's chauffeur and bodyguard, future Genovese crime family underboss Dominick Alongi who would later achieve notoriety when they were among the many mobsters arrested fleeing the famous 1957 Apalachin Meeting. He was a blood relative of mobster Joseph (Pip the Blind) Gagliano, who became a childhood friend and early accomplice of future government witness Joseph Valachi. The two performed many burglaries and armed robberies together. Gagliano received the old Reina gang with Tommy Lucchese as his under boss or second in charge. They originated in the early 1920's and beside the Castellammarese War, maintained a low profile under reign of mafia bosses Tommy Gagliano, and their name sake Tommy "Three Finger" Lucchese. Since its inception and particularly during the Gagliano and Lucchese rule, the Lucchese family was known as one of the most peaceful of crime families. That all changed when Corallo was sent to prison and placed Vittoria "Vic" Amuso in charge of the family. Amusa promoted Anthony "Gaspape" Casso to underboss and together, the two led one of the bloodiest reigns in Mafia history.

The Chicago Outfit: The Chicago Outfit (also known as the Outfit, the Chicago Mafia, the Chicago Mob, the South Side Gang, or The Organization) is an Italian-American organized crime syndicate based in Chicago, Illinois, which dates back to the 1910s. It is part of the American Mafia originating in Chicago's South Side.

The Outfit rose to power in the 1920s, under the control of Johnny Torrio and Al Capone and the period was marked by bloody gang wars for



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

control of the distribution of illegal alcohol during Prohibition. Since then, the Outfit has been involved in a wide range of criminal activities, including loansharking, gambling, prostitution, extortion, political corruption, and murder. Following Capone's conviction for income tax evasion (in 1931), the Outfit was run by Paul Ricca.

The Chicago Outfit truly came into its own in the 1920s. Giacomo "Big Jim" Colosimo, who ran hundreds of brothels, had solidified power over large portions of the underworld during the Black Hand era. He welcomed his nephew, Giovanni "Papa Johnny" Torrio, to the scene, and in 1919 Torrio introduced a new face: Alphonse "Scarface" Capone.

Prohibition took effect in 1919, but Chicago, like other cities, simply sent its liquor underground. Torrio urged his boss to go into the booze business, but Colosimo refused. To remove this impediment, Torrio had Colosimo killed. What followed were the "beer wars," the most violent episode of organized crime in American history.

But the Chicago Outfit truly came into its own in the 1920s. Giacomo "Big Jim" Colosimo, who ran hundreds of brothels, had solidified power over large portions of the underworld during the Black Hand era. He welcomed his nephew, Giovanni "Papa Johnny" Torrio, to the scene, and in 1919 Torrio introduced a new face: Alphonse "Scarface" Capone.

Prohibition took effect in 1919, but Chicago, like other cities, simply sent its liquor underground. Torrio urged his boss to go into the booze business, but Colosimo refused. To remove this impediment, Torrio had Colosimo killed. What followed were the "beer wars," the most violent episode of organized crime in American history.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

The Detroit Partnership: The Detroit Partnership is an American Mafia crime family based in Detroit, Michigan.

The Gianolla gang would now reign supreme for roughly the next 4–5 years as the dominant Italian crime group in Detroit. The Gianolla gang controlled the most lucrative rackets within Detroit's Italian underworld and the gang would spawn the career of some of the most notable crime figures in Detroit history. Top members of the gang who would go on to lead the Detroit Mafia and rule the local underworld included John Vitale, Salvatore Catalanotte, Angelo Meli, William Tocco, Joseph Zerilli, Leonardo "Black Leo" Cellura, Angelo Polizzi and a host of other well known area mafiosi. Tony Gianolla remained the top leader of the gang running his operations from his base in Wyandotte. Over the years his younger brother Sam had secured his reputation as a tough enforcer who led a group of killers, while Gaetano remained the adviser of the group.

Elizabeth Crime Family: The Elizabeth Crime Family is an influential family based in Elizabeth, New Jersey. This family rose into prominence when Simone DeCavalcante came into power.

Buffalo Crime Family: The Buffalo crime family, also known as the Magaddino crime family and The Arm, is an Italian American Mafia crime family based in Buffalo, New York, United States. The family operated throughout Western New York, Ontario, Canada and Erie, Pennsylvania.

The Buffalo crime family gained power during the Prohibition era through bootlegging. In 1931, the family boss, Stefano Magaddino, became an original member of The Commission, the governing body



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

of the American Mafia. The family remained strong and relatively united until his leadership was challenged.

Philadelphia Crime Family: The Philadelphia crime family, is an Italian-American Mafia family based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Formed and based in South Philadelphia, the criminal organization primarily operates in various areas and neighborhoods in the Greater Philadelphia Metropolitan Area (Delaware Valley) and New Jersey, especially South Jersey.] The family is notorious for its violence, due in particular to its succession of violent bosses and multiple mob wars. In the early 20th century, several Italian immigrant and Italian-American South Philadelphia street gangs joined to form what would eventually become the Philadelphia crime family. Salvatore Sabella was the first leader of the group that would later bear his name. They busied themselves with bootlegging, extortion, loansharking, and illegal gambling, and it was during the Prohibition era that Sabella and his crew were recognized as members of the wider Sicilian crime syndicate of New York and Chicago. Sabella retired in late 1931

Greco Mafia Clan (Ciaculli): The Greco Mafia family is a historic and one of the most influential Mafia clans in Sicily and Calabria, from the late 19th century. The extended family ruled both in Ciaculli and Croceverde Giardini, two south-eastern outskirts of Palermo in the citrus growing area and also rural areas of Calabria where they controlled the olive oil market. Members of the family were important figures in the Sicilian Cosa Nostra and Calabrian 'Ndrangheta. Salvatore "Ciaschiteddu" Greco was the first 'secretary' of the Sicilian Mafia Commission, while Michele Greco, also known as The Pope, was one of his successors.

According to the pentito Antonio Calderone "the Grecos effectively exercised power in the whole of Sicily." According to Giovanni Brusca



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

the Greco family was very important and the ones who tipped the balance in every internal Mafia war.

The Grecos were typical representatives of the rural Mafia. In 1916, they ordered the murder of a priest who had denounced the Mafia's interference in the administration of ecclesiastical revenues and charity funds during a Sunday sermon. In 1921, a Greco who had suffered a sgarro (a personal affront) killed two shepherds along with their flock of sheep. In 1929, a Greco fired twenty bullets into an enemy's great casks of wine and then sat down amid the foaming splinters to smoke his pipe.

Catania Mafia Clan: The Catania Mafia clan is a Sicilian Mafia clan, formerly among the most powerful in Sicily. It's primary operations are based in the province of Catania.

Corleonesi Mafia Clan: Corleonesi affiliates were not restricted to mafiosi of Corleone. The Corleone Mafia bosses initiated "men of honour", not necessarily from Corleone, whose status was kept hidden from the other members of the Corleone cosca and other Mafia Families. Members of other Mafia Families who sided with Riina and Provenzano were called Corleonesi as well.

Bontade Mafia Clan: The Bontade clan, led by Francesco Paolo Bontade, gained a lot of influence in the 1930s in the Sicilian Cosa Nostra.

Inzerillo Mafia Clan: The Inzerillo Mafia clan is a Sicilian Mafia clan, formerly among the most powerful in Sicily, and is associated with American boss Carlo Gambino and his family.

Charles "Lucky" Luciano – Charles "Lucky" Luciano was an Italian-born mobster and crime boss who operated mainly in the United States. Luciano is considered the father of modern organized crime in the



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

United States for the establishment of the first Commission. He was also the first official boss of the modern Genovese crime family. He was, along with his associates, instrumental in the development of the National Crime Syndicate.

Luciano was tried and successfully convicted for compulsory prostitution and running a prostitution racket in 1936 after years of investigation by District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey. He was given a thirty-year prison sentence, but during World War II an agreement was struck with the Department of the Navy through his associate Meyer Lansky in order to protect New York's harbors from Axis U-boats. Dewey almost failed to keep his end of the bargain, and it took months to finally come up with a solution to release Luciano. He was deported to live his life freely outside the U.S.

Vito Genovese – Vito "Don Vitone" Genovese was an Italian-American mobster who rose to power during Prohibition as an enforcer in the American Mafia. A long-time associate and childhood friend of Charles Luciano, Genovese took part in the Castellammarese War and helped shape the rise of the Mafia and organized crime in the United States. He would later lead Luciano's crime family, which was renamed the Genovese crime family by the authorities.

Al Capone – Alphonse Gabriel Capone sometimes known by the nickname "Scarface", was an American gangster and businessman who attained notoriety during the Prohibition era as the co-founder and boss of the Chicago Outfit. His seven-year reign as crime boss ended when he was 33.

Capone was born in New York City, to Italian immigrants. He was a Five Points Gang member who became a bouncer in organized crime premises such as brothels. In his early twenties, he moved to Chicago and became a bodyguard and trusted factotum for Johnny Torrio,



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

head of a criminal syndicate that illegally supplied alcohol—the forerunner of the Outfit—and was politically protected through the *Unione Siciliana*. A conflict with the North Side Gang was instrumental in Capone's rise and fall. Torrio went into retirement after North Side gunmen almost killed him, handing control to Capone. Capone expanded the bootlegging business through increasingly violent means, but his mutually profitable relationships with mayor William Hale Thompson and the city's police meant he seemed safe from law enforcement.

Carlo Gambino - Carlo "Don Carlo" Gambino was a Sicilian-American mobster and boss of the Gambino crime family, which is still named after him. After the 1957 Apalachin Convention, he unexpectedly seized control of the Commission of the American Mafia. He was inconspicuous and secretive. He was part of "The Young Turks" and gained a lot of influence. He later replaced Vincent Mangano as boss.

Salvatore Maranzano – Salvatore Maranzano was an organized crime figure from the town of Castellammare del Golfo, Sicily, and an early Cosa Nostra boss who led what later would become the Bonanno crime family in the United States. He instigated the Castellammarese War to seize control of the American Mafia operations and briefly became the Mafia's *capo di tutti capi* ("boss of all bosses"). He was murdered under the orders of Charles "Lucky" Luciano, who established an arrangement in which families shared power to prevent future turf wars.

Frank Costello – Frank "the Prime Minister" Costello was an Italian-American Mafia gangster and crime boss. Costello rose to the top of American organized crime, controlled a vast gambling empire, and enjoyed political influence.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Nicknamed "The Prime Minister of the Underworld," he became one of the most powerful and influential mafia bosses in American history, eventually leading the Luciano crime family (later called the Genovese crime family), one of the Five Families that operates in New York City.

Vincent "The Executioner" Mangano – Vincent Mangano also known as "The Executioner" as he was named in a Brooklyn newspaper, was the head of what would come to be known as the Gambino crime family from 1931 to 1951. His brother, Philip Mangano, was his right-hand man and de facto, or substituto, underboss. He is also a distant paternal relative of deceased Genovese crime family underboss Venero Mangano and a suspected relative of Lawrence Mangano

Joseph "Joe Bananas" Bonanno – Joseph Charles Bonanno Sr. was an Italian-born American mafioso who became the boss of the Bonanno crime family. Almost from the beginning, Bonanno was recognized by his accomplices, especially Salvatore Maranzano, as a man with superior organizational skills and quick instincts; Bonanno immediately became a protege of Maranzano. He also became known to the leader of Mafia activities in New York, Joe "the Boss" Masseria. Masseria became increasingly suspicious of the growing number of Castellammarese in Brooklyn. He sensed they were gradually dissociating themselves from his overall leadership.

Joseph Profaci – On December 5, 1928, Profaci attended a mob meeting in Cleveland, Ohio that would make him an organized crime boss in Brooklyn. In October 1928, Brooklyn boss Salvatore D'Aquila was murdered. An important part of the Cleveland meeting, attended by mobsters from Tampa, Florida, Chicago, and Brooklyn, was to appoint Profaci as Aquila's replacement so as to maintain calm among the Brooklyn gangs. Magliocco was named as Profaci's second-in-command.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Given Profaci's lack of experience in organized crime, it is unclear why the New York gangs gave him power in Brooklyn. Some speculated that Profaci received this position due to his family's status in Sicily, where they may have belonged to the Villabate Mafia. Profaci may have also benefited from contacts made through his olive oil business. Cleveland police eventually raided the meeting and expelled the mobsters from Cleveland, but Profaci's business was accomplished.

By 1930, Profaci was controlling numbers, prostitution, loansharking, and narcotics trafficking in Brooklyn. In 1930, the Castellammarese War broke out in New York City. Some sources say that Profaci remained neutral, while others say that Profaci was firmly aligned with Castellammarese boss Salvatore Maranzano. When the war finally ended in 1931, top mobster Charles "Lucky" Luciano reorganized the New York gangs into five organized crime families. At this point, Profaci was recognized as boss of what was now the Profaci crime family, with Magliocco as underboss and Salvatore Profaci as consigliere.

When Luciano created the National Crime Syndicate, also known as the Mafia Commission, he gave Profaci a seat on the governing board. Profaci's closest ally on the board was Bonanno, who would cooperate with Profaci over the next 30 years. Profaci was also allied with Stefano Magaddino, the boss of the Buffalo crime family.

Johnny Torrio – Johnny Torrio was an American gangster who became a top crime boss in Chicago and, later, one of the founders of modern organized crime in America. Born in a village near Naples, Torrio was brought to New York City by his widowed mother when he was two. He became a brothel-saloonkeeper and leader of the James Street Boys, allying them with the Five Points Gang (1904–08). He then rose to become a rackets boss (i.e., engaged in activities involving extortion) in Brooklyn before being called to Chicago in 1909 to operate and



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

expand Big Jim Colosimo's chain of brothels. In 1919 Torrio summoned his old friend Al Capone from New York to manage one of the brothels and, in 1920, had either him or Frankie Yale murder Colosimo. Torrio thereby inherited Colosimo's empire and immediately expanded into big-time bootlegging (illegal manufacture, sale, and transport of alcohol) and gambling casinos of the Prohibition era.

In 1925, after successively being shot at and wounded by a rival gang and serving nine months in prison for operating a brewery, Torrio turned over his rackets to Capone and retired to Italy (1925–28). Returning to live in New York, he invested profitably in real estate and helped create a bootlegging combine, becoming a close associate of Lucky Luciano, Meyer Lansky, and other bosses. Torrio was one of the directors of the national crime syndicate or cartel formed in 1934. He helped build the Chicago Outfit, which was later inherited by his protégé, Al Capone. He put forward the idea of a National Crime Syndicate. He gained several nicknames but was mostly known as "The Fox" for his cunning and finesse. Widely considered one of the most influential personalities in American organized crime, Torrio impressed authorities and chroniclers for his business acumen and diplomatic skills.

Values, Principles and Code of Conduct of the Mafia

The Mafia, being a highly organized and structured network, has certain sacred rituals and codes of honour, which are considered a very important part of being a Mafioso, and all Mafiosi are expected to maintain these codes of honour, or run the risk of being excommunicated. Mafiosi are required to be loyal to their families, and if found being disloyal, they face severe punishment. Any delegate



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

found violating these codes will be good enough grounds to expel them from committee.

Omertà:

Omertà is the Sicilian code of silence. It is probably the most important and valuable principle of the Mafia. It places importance on silence, non-cooperation with authorities, and non-interference in illegal actions of others.

The basic principle of *Omertà* is that it is not manly to seek aid from legally constituted authorities to settle personal grievances. The suspicion of being a *cascittuni* (an informant) constitutes the blackest mark against manhood. An individual who has been wronged is obligated to look out for his own interests by avenging that wrong himself, or finding a patron – but not the State – to do the job.

Omertà implies "...the categorical prohibition of cooperation with state authorities or reliance on its services, even when one has been victim of a crime." A person should absolutely avoid interfering in the business of others and should not inform the authorities of a crime under any circumstances (though if justified he may personally avenge a physical attack on himself or on his family by *vendetta*, literally a taking of revenge, a feud). Even if somebody is convicted of a crime he has not committed, he is supposed to serve the sentence without giving the police any information about the real criminal, even if that criminal has nothing to do with the Mafia. Within Mafia culture, breaking *omertà* is punishable by death.

Omertà is an extreme form of loyalty and solidarity in the face of authority. One of its absolute tenets is that it is deeply demeaning and shameful to betray even one's deadliest enemy to the authorities.

The Ten Commandments of the Mafia:



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

1. No one can present himself directly to another of our friends.

There must be a third person to do it.

One must know how to conduct himself. More importantly, one must realize the importance of becoming a man of many friends. That's the easiest way to associate with powerful people. The most concrete way to establish a valuable connection is if you have a third party greasing the wheels.

2. Never look at the wives of friends.

It means, be loyal. Close friends can often be considered brothers in many instances. Your friends' girls are off limits, period. They could be throwing themselves at you. They could tempt you with the possibility that no one would ever know. It does not matter.

3. Never be seen with cops.

No one likes a snitch. People get turned off even by the remote possibility of someone being a snitch. This does not apply to just cops. This applies to any form of authority in the workplace. Employees are always wary of that one goody two-shoes who they know will report any slander against the boss.

4. Don't go to pubs and clubs.

Going to pubs or clubs is strictly against the rules. In the life of an Italian Mafiosi, before anything else comes the Cosa Nostra. Therefore one must avoid even remote chances of a Mafiosi getting caught and jeopardizing the Cosa Nostra.

5. Always being available for the Cosa Nostra is a duty - even if your wife's about to give birth.

As mentioned before, the Cosa Nostra comes before all else and therefore duties entrusted to you by the Cosa Nostra are far more important than anything that could ever happen, even the birth of your own child.

6. Appointments must be absolutely respected.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

When you say you are going to do something, you do it. When you say that you are going to be somewhere at a certain time, you show up at that time. A man's word is everything and breaking your word is a sign of weakness.

7. Wives must be treated with respect.

Wives of the Mafiosi must be treated with adequate respect. These rules are not to teach the women to avoid under all circumstances introducing oneself to other men of honour.

8. When asked for any information, the answer must be the truth.

This rule only applies within the Cosa Nostra to avoid all miscommunication and to find out about the snitches. When one is asked a question, he must answer to the best of his knowledge.

9. Money cannot be appropriated if it belongs to others or to other families.

Worry about your own finances. You can't allocate something that's not yours to have. This rule is implemented so as to stomp out treachery based on financial matters between the Cosa Nostra.

10. People who can't be part of the Cosa Nostra: anyone who has a close relative in the police, anyone with a two-timing relative in the family, anyone who behaves badly and doesn't hold to moral values.

This rule defines the eligibility of people who want to make it into the Cosa Nostra. Keeping in mind the safety of all the other members, anyone who is even remotely a potential risk to the mafia's covert working is strictly prohibited from being a part of the Cosa Nostra.

Loyalty:

As a member of the Mafia, and of the individual mafia family, a made man is expected, above all to be loyal to the family. Loyalty in a



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Mafioso is an unspoken code that governs every other activity and belief of the mafia. Although there have been quite notable Mafiosi who have been disloyal and unfaithful, loyalty is something that has never gone unrewarded, and plays a vital role in the running of the mafia in the covert way it is run.

Ethnicity:

Only men of Italian descent through their father's lineage are allowed to become full members (Made Men). Associates, partners, etc. have no ethnic limits.

Family Secrets:

Members are not allowed to talk about family business to non-members.

Blood for Blood:

If a family member is killed by another member, no one can commit murder in revenge unless the boss gives permission.

No Fighting Among Members:

No fights, from fist fights to knife fights are permitted among members of the same family.

Tribute:

Every month, the members must pay the boss, also giving the boss a cut on any side deals.

Adultery:

Members are not allowed to commit adultery with another family member's wife.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

No Facial Hair:

Members are not allowed to maintain facial hair.

The Castellammarese War

The Castellammarese War was a bloody power struggle for control of the Italian-American Mafia, which lasted from February, 1930, to April 15th, 1931. The main perpetrators of this conflict were Joe “The Boss” Masseria and Salvatore Maranzano, along with their followers. The reason why the conflict was named such, was because, Maranzano originated from the Sicilian town of Castellammare del Golfo. This conflict resulted in victory for Maranzano and his faction, and Maranzano declaring himself the “Capo di tutti capi”, which means “boss of all bosses”, and the proper organization of the Five Families of New York.

In the 1920s, the American Mafia activities were mainly controlled by Joe “The Boss” Masseria, whose faction mainly consisted of gangsters from Sicily, Calabria and Campania. During this time, Don Vito Cascioferro, a powerful Sicilian Mafia boss, had set his sights on gaining control of the Mafia on the American front. Thus, he sent Salvatore Maranzano to America from Castellammare del Golfo to seize control.

Although this conflict took place majorly between Masseria and Maranzano, it was inherently a war between the “Mustache Petes” and the “Young Turks”, who were the old guard of Sicilian Mafiosi and the newer generation of Sicilian Mafiosi respectively. This was the reason Charles “Lucky” Luciano came into prominence. This period of conflict saw a large number of Mafiosi changing allegiance several times. Luciano himself fought on Masseria’s front, but he secretly wanted the War to end as soon as possible. He was forward thinking and sought to expand the Mafia operations to include Non-Italians as well. Luciano



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

and the other Young Turks viewed the War as unnecessary. Luciano wanted to modernize the Mafia and do away with orthodox practices, like trading with only Italians, which gained him a lot of support. Ultimately, this led to Luciano defecting to Maranzano towards the end and plotting the assassination of Masseria. Later, in September of 1931, a much more ambitious and ruthless Luciano, who had had several confrontations with Maranzano, ordered his killing as well.

The tensions between Maranzano and Masseria in 1930-31 were imminent, considering the frequent hijackings of each other's alcohol trucks during the Prohibition era.

As the war became more violent, gunmen clashed on the streets of New York and bodies started falling. According to Bonanno, in February 1930, Masseria supposedly ordered the death of Gaspar Milazzo, a Castellammarese native who was the president of Detroit's chapter of Unione Siciliane. Masseria had reportedly been humiliated by Milazzo's refusal to support him in a Unione Siciliane dispute involving the Chicago Outfit and Al Capone.

However, according to most sources, the opening salvo in the war was fired within the Masseria faction. On February 26, 1930 Masseria ordered the murder of an ally, Gaetano Reina. Masseria gave the job to a young Vito Genovese, who killed Reina with a shotgun. Masseria's intent was to protect his secret allies Tommy Gagliano, Tommy Lucchese, and Dominick "The Gap" Petrilli. Later his treachery would come back to haunt him, as the Reina family then threw its support to Maranzano.

On August 15, 1930, Castellammarese loyalists executed a key Masseria enforcer, Giuseppe Morello, at Morello's East Harlem office (a visitor, Giuseppe Pariano, was also killed). Two weeks later, Masseria suffered another blow. After Reina's murder, Masseria had appointed Joseph Pinzolo to take over the ice-distribution racket. However, on September



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

9, the Reina family shot and killed Pinzolo at a Times Square office rented by Lucchese. After these two murders, the Reina crew formally joined forces with the Castellammarese.

Masseria soon struck back. On October 23, 1930, Castellammarese ally Joe Aiello, president of the Chicago Unione Siciliane, was murdered in Chicago. At the time, it was widely assumed that Capone, another Castellammarese ally, had killed Aiello as part of a bitter power struggle in Chicago. However, Luciano later admitted that Masseria ordered the Aiello hit, which was performed by Masseria ally Alfred Mineo.

Following the murder of Aiello, the tide of war rapidly turned in favor of the Castellammarese. On November 5, 1930 Mineo and a key member of Masseria's gang, Steve Ferrigno, were murdered. Francesco Scalice inherited control of Mineo's gang and subsequently defected to the Maranzano faction. At this point, many other members of Masseria's gang also began defecting to Maranzano, rendering the original battle lines of the conflict (Castellammarese versus non-Castellammarese) meaningless. On February 3, 1931, another important Masseria lieutenant, Joseph Catania, was gunned down, dying two days later.

Given the worsened situation, Masseria allies Luciano and Genovese started communicating with Castellammarese leader Maranzano. The two men agreed to betray Masseria if Maranzano would end the war. A deal was struck, based on which Luciano would arrange for Masseria to be murdered and Maranzano would bring the Castellammarese War to an end. On April 15, 1931 Masseria was killed while eating dinner at Nuova Villa Tammaro, a Coney Island restaurant in Brooklyn. The hitters were reputedly Anastasia, Genovese, Joe Adonis, and Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel; Ciro "The Artichoke King" Terranova drove the getaway



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

car, but legend has it that he was too shaken up to drive away and had to be shoved out of the driver's seat by Siegel.

Mustache Petes:

A Mustache Pete is the name given to members of the Sicilian Mafia who came to the United States (particularly New York City) as adults in the early 20th century.

Unlike the younger Sicilian-Americans known as the "Young Turks", the old guard Mustache Petes had large mustaches and usually committed their first killings in Italy. The most prominent members of this group were Joe "the Boss" Masseria (1886–1931) and Salvatore Maranzano (1886–1931). Many of them also had connections with the Sicilian Mafia. The Mustache Petes wanted to maintain Sicilian criminal traditions in their new country and were more interested in working with and exploiting their fellow Italians rather than the public at large. To that end, they opposed their younger members' desire to work with the powerful Jewish and Irish gangs. These younger members wanted to branch out, realizing the numerous other ways in which to make their fortunes, but were stifled by the Mustache Petes. This annoyed younger *caporegimes*, such as Lucky Luciano (1897–1962) and Vito Genovese (1897–1969)

Young Turks:

Young Turks refer to the younger generation of the Mafiosi, such as Charles "Lucky" Luciano, Vito Genovese, etc. who were tired of the orthodox practices of the old guard of Mafia bosses, such as Joe Masseria, who would only involve ethnic Italians in business and forbade association with any non-Italians. The Young Turks, led primarily by Luciano garnered a lot of support for their progressive mindsets and their plans of expanding to include non-Italian associates in the



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

business of the families. This group of Mafiosi was ruthless in its activities and left no scope for questioning its motives. They ended up ordering the killings of both, Masseria and Maranzano, the two most powerful and influential Mafia Bosses in the USA.

Luciano and other "Young Turks" in the New York Mafia soon concluded that the Mustache Petes were too set in their ways to see the millions of dollars that working with non-Italian gangsters could bring. During the Castellammarese War (1930–31), Luciano built a network of younger mafiosi in both the Masseria and Maranzano camps and secretly intended to assassinate one of the older bosses, then bide their time before killing the other. They eventually decided to kill Masseria and feigned loyalty to Maranzano until they got a chance to eliminate him as well.

Following this, the newer generation of Italian mobsters reorganized the National Crime Syndicate and founded The Commission in 1931, becoming closer to the modern American Mafia known today.

The Irish Mob

The Irish Mob is the oldest organized crime group in the United States, in existence since the early 19th century. Originating in Irish American street gangs—depicted in Herbert Asbury's 1928 book *The Gangs of New York*—the Irish Mob has appeared in most major U.S. cities, including Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, and Chicago.

In New York City, the Five Points Gang, the Hudson Gang and the Gopher Gang rose to prominence in the early 1900s. Later, the White Hand Gang was formed by the various Irish Mob bosses, to tackle the Black Hand, formed by the Italian Mafiosi to gain control of the New York waterfront.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

During the early years of Prohibition, "Big" Bill Dwyer emerged among many in New York's underworld as a leading bootlegger. However, following his arrest and trial for violation of the Volstead Act during 1925 and 1926, Dwyer's former partners were split between Owney "The Killer" Madden, the English-born former leader of the Gopher Gang, and Frank Costello against Jack "Legs" Diamond, "Little" Augie Pisano, Charles "Vannie" Higgins and renegade mobster Vincent "Mad Dog" Coll.

In Boston, Frank Wallace's Gustin Gang dominated the underworld, until he was ambushed by Italian Mafiosi from the North End of Boston.

Daniel "Danny" O'Leary fought with Maxie Hoff over control of Philadelphia's bootlegging throughout Prohibition. Jack "Legs" Diamond was a prominent mobster in both Philadelphia and New York City.

The most dominant among all Irish Mobs was the North Side Gang of Chicago, formed by Dean O'Banion, which was the main rival of Al Capone, Johnny Torrio and the Chicago Outfit. During the Prohibition the North Side Gang was led by George "Bugs" Moran, who was as ruthless and influential as O'Banion.

With the start of Prohibition, the North Siders quickly took control of the existing breweries and distilleries in the North Side of Chicago. This gave them a near monopoly on the local supply of real beer and high quality whiskey; their rivals only had supplies of rotgut liquor and moonshine. Based on the North Clark Street restaurant McGovern's Saloon and Cafe, the North Side Gang would soon control the working-class neighborhoods of the 42nd and 43rd Wards within months. In addition to bootlegging, the gang continued to burglarize local stores and warehouses and run illegal gambling operations. Unlike the rival South Side Gang, however, they refused to traffic in prostitution.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

O'Banion strengthened his political protection by helping his politician friends commit election fraud. O'Banion also ran a publicity campaign in the North Side with large-scale donations to orphanages and charities as well as food and loans to the poor and unemployed.

The old hostility between Irish and Italian gangs combined with O'Banion's refusal to sell portions of North Side distilleries to the South Siders, raised tension between the North and South Siders. During several meetings arranged by Torrio, O'Banion would often insult the Italians. O'Banion was also secretly hijacking South Side beer shipments and selling them back to their owners. However, the North Side Gang also ran into trouble with other ethnic gangs; in 1921, O'Banion shot Ragen's Colts member Davy "Yiddles" Miller after he insulted a North Sider at a local opera.

Although O'Banion and Weiss were arrested and charged with burglary in 1922, the North Side Gang enjoyed considerable protection from the Chicago police department. At one point, O'Banion threw a lavish banquet for Chicago politicians and police officials. Attendees included Chief Detective Michael Hughes, Police Lieutenant Charles Evans, County Clerk Robert Sweitzer, Public Works commissioner Colonel Albert A. Sprague, and a host of both Democrat and Republican politicians. Dubbed the "Balshazzar Feast" by the press, it was later investigated by reform Mayor William E. Dever.

In 1924, Chicago police assisted the North Side Gang in robbing the Sibly Distillery, which had been under federal guard since the beginning of Prohibition. Escorted by Police Lieutenant Michael Grady and four detective sergeants, North Siders looted the distillery in broad daylight, taking 1,750 bottles of bonded whiskey worth approximately \$100,000. Although Grady and the other police officers were later indicted for this crime, they were quickly dismissed.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Relations between the North and South Side gangs continued to fester. In early 1924, O'Banion agreed to an alliance with Torrio and Capone that was brokered by Mike Merlo. However, the alliance began to founder when O'Banion demanded that "Bloody" Angelo Genna pay a \$30,000 gambling debt from losses at the co-owned gambling casino *The Ship*. This demand contravened an agreement allowing Angelo and other gang members to run up debts there. In the interest of maintaining harmony, Torrio persuaded Genna to pay his gambling debt.

However, Torrio himself would soon lose patience with O'Banion. It happened when O'Banion offered to sell Torrio the valuable Sieben Brewery. On May 19, 1924, while Torrio was inspecting the property, O'Banion arranged for the police to raid the place and arrest Torrio. After his release from custody, Torrio acceded to demands from the Gennas to whack O'Banion.

On November 10, shortly after the death of Merlo, three unidentified men entered the Schofield Flower Shop owned by O'Banion and shot him dead. This was to be the beginning of a five-year gang war between the North Side Gang against Johnny Torrio's Chicago Outfit that would end with the St. Valentine's Day Massacre in 1929.

The bootlegging operation of Hymie Weiss and Bugs Moran continued to pose a significant challenge to Capone's South Side Gang. Moran and Capone then led a turf war with each other that cost them both. Moran's hatred of Capone was apparent even to the public. Moran was disgusted that Capone engaged in prostitution. He would not increase profits himself by engaging in prostitution rings because of his Catholic religion. Torrio's gang killed Dean O'Banion, and in an attempt to avenge him Bugs Moran and Earl "Hymie" Weiss made an attempt on Torrio's life. Later they went on to make a failed attempt on



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Al Capone's life at his headquarters, the Hawthorne Inn in Cicero, Illinois. More than one thousand shots were fired at the inn and at a nearby restaurant in their attempts to kill Capone.^[3] In retaliation, Weiss's life was taken by Al Capone's gang, and Bugs Moran became head man of the North Side Gang. Responding to Weiss's death, Moran tried to kill a member of Capone's gang, resulting in the St. Valentine's Day Massacre.

St. Valentine's Day Massacre:

The Saint Valentine's Day Massacre is the name given to the 1929 murder of seven members and associates of Chicago's North Side Gang. The men were gathered at a Lincoln Park garage on the morning of Valentine's Day, where they were made to line up against a wall and shot by unknown assailants. The incident resulted from the struggle between the Irish North Siders and their Italian South Side rivals, led by Al Capone, to control organized crime in the city during Prohibition. Though the perpetrators have not been conclusively identified, former members of the Egan's Rats gang, working for Capone, are suspected of a significant role as are members of the Chicago Police Department who are said to have had personal revenge as their motive following the killing of a police officer's son.

Gang warfare ruled the streets of Chicago during the late 1920s, as chief gangster Al Capone sought to consolidate control by eliminating his rivals in the illegal trades of bootlegging, gambling and prostitution. This rash of gang violence reached its bloody climax in a garage on the city's North Side on February 14, 1929, when seven men associated with the Irish gangster George "Bugs" Moran, one of Capone's longtime enemies, were shot to death by several men dressed as policemen. The St. Valentine's Day Massacre, as it was known, was never officially linked to Capone, but he was generally considered to have been



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

responsible for the Chicago's gang war reached its bloody climax in the so-called St. Valentine's Day Massacre of 1929. One of Capone's longtime enemies, the Irish gangster George "Bugs" Moran, ran his bootlegging operations out of a garage on the North Side of Chicago. On February 14, seven members of Moran's operation were gunned down while standing lined up, facing the wall of the garage. Some 70 rounds of ammunition were fired. When police officers from Chicago's 36th District arrived, they found one gang member, Frank Gusenberg, barely alive. In the few minutes before he died, they pressed him to reveal what had happened, but Gusenberg wouldn't talk.

Police could find only a few eyewitnesses, but eventually concluded that gunmen dressed as police officers had entered the garage and pretended to be arresting the men. Though Moran and others immediately blamed the massacre on Capone's gang, the famous gangster himself claimed to have been at his home in Florida at the time. No one was ever brought to trial for the murders.

National Crime Syndicate, The Commission, Murder, Inc. and other such Organized Crime Confederations

The National Crime Syndicate was the name given by the press to the multi-ethnic, loosely connected American confederation of several criminal organizations, a confederation that mostly consisted of the closely interconnected Italian-American Mafia and Jewish mob but also included to various lesser extents Irish-American criminal organizations and other ethnic crime groups.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

According to writers on organized crime, the Syndicate was an idea of Johnny Torrio, and was founded or established at a May 1929 conference in Atlantic City, attended by leading underworld figures throughout the United States, including Torrio, Lucky Luciano, Al Capone, Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, Frank Costello, Joe Adonis, Dutch Schultz, Abner "Longie" Zwillman, Louis "Lepke" Buchalter, Gambino crime family head Vincent Mangano, gambler Frank Erickson, Frank Scalice and Albert "the Mad Hatter" Anastasia. Others described the Atlantic City meeting as a coordination and strategy conference for bootleggers.

The Commission is the governing body of the American Mafia, formed in 1931. The Commission replaced the "Boss of all Bosses" title with a ruling committee consisting of the New York Five Families bosses and the bosses of the Chicago Outfit and the Buffalo crime family.

After Maranzano's murder in 1931, the Mafia families called a meeting in Chicago. The purpose of the meeting was to replace the old Sicilian Mafia regime of "boss of all bosses" and establish a rule of consensus among the crime families. Charlie Luciano established a Mafia board of directors to be known as "The Commission" to oversee all Mafia activities in the United States and serve to mediate conflicts between families. The Commission consisted of seven family bosses: the leaders of New York's Five Families: Charlie "Lucky" Luciano, Vincent Mangano, Tommy Gagliano, Joseph Bonanno, and Joe Profaci; Chicago Outfit boss Al Capone; and Buffalo family boss Stefano Magaddino. Charlie Luciano was appointed chairman of the Commission. The Commission agreed to hold meetings every five years or when they needed to discuss family problems.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

The Commission held the power of approving a new boss before he could take over officially. The New York Five Families also decided that the names of all new proposed members must be approved by the other families. After the new proposed member was approved by the other families, he could become a made man.

The Commission allowed Jewish mobsters Meyer Lansky, Bugsy Siegel, Louis "Lepke" Buchalter, Dutch Schultz, and Abner "Longie" Zwillman to work alongside them and participate in some meetings. In 1935, Dutch Schultz questioned the Commission's authority when he wanted to have prosecutor Thomas Dewey murdered. Instead, the Commission had Schultz killed on October 23, 1935. The Commission used Louis Buchalter's Murder, Inc. to dispose of any rivals to their authority.

Murder, Inc. (or Murder Incorporated) were organized crime groups in the 1930s and '40s that acted as the enforcement arm of the Italian-American Mafia, Jewish mob, and connected organized crime groups in New York and elsewhere. The groups were largely composed of Italian-American and Jewish gangsters from the Brooklyn neighborhoods of Brownsville, East New York, and Ocean Hill. Originally headed by Louis "Lepke" Buchalter, and later by Albert "The Mad Hatter" Anastasia, Murder, Inc. was believed to be responsible for between 400 and 1,000 contract killings, until the group was exposed in the early 1940s by former group member Abe "Kid Twist" Reles. In the trials that followed, many members were convicted and executed, and Abe Reles himself died after suspiciously falling from a window. Thomas E. Dewey first came to prominence as a prosecutor of Murder, Inc. and other organized crime cases.

The Sicilian Mafia Commission, known as Commissione or Cupola, is a body of leading Sicilian Mafia members to decide on important



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

questions concerning the actions of, and settling disputes within the Sicilian Mafia or Cosa Nostra. It is composed of representatives of a mandamento (a district of three geographically contiguous Mafia families) that are called *capo mandamento* or *rappresentante*. The Commission is not a central government of the Mafia, but a representative mechanism for consultation of independent Mafia families who decide by consensus. "Contrary to the wide-spread image presented by the media, these superordinate bodies of coordination cannot be compared with the executive boards of major legal firms. Their power is intentionally limited [and] it would be entirely wrong to see in the Cosa Nostra a centrally managed, internationally active Mafia holding company," according to criminologist Letizia Paoli.

The jurisdiction extends over a province; each province of Sicily has some kind of a Commission, except Messina, Siracusa and Ragusa. Initially the idea was that the family bosses would not sit on the Commission, but in order to prevent imbalances of power some other prominent member would be appointed instead.

Adversaries of the Mafia

The Irish Mob – As mentioned before, the Irish Mobs were the primary rivals of the Mafia in the United States. By the time the Mafia arrived in the US, the Irish Mob was already well established and organized. It was without a doubt the supreme organized crime network in the country, which had control of almost the entirety of the North-East of the United States' and parts of Canada's criminal activities. The rivalry between The Chicago Outfit and the North Side Gang is one of the most notable gang-rivalries in history.

Local Governments – The local governments, which were primarily occupied by Irish-Americans and British-Americans, always had a



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

certain hatred towards the Italian gentlemen with hair slicked-back with oil, wearing expensive Italian suits. A majority of these politicians had links to the Irish Mob and wanted to eliminate the Mafia. Although, there were a lot of politicians and businessmen who collaborated with the Mafia and helped them carry out their activities. The corrupt policemen and politicians accepted remuneration in cash and kind from the other enemies of the mafia, to keep a check on them, often facilitating their attempts at assassinating influential Mafia bosses.

Camorra - The Camorra is an Italian Mafia-type crime syndicate, or secret society, which arose in the region of Campania and its capital Naples. It is one of the oldest and largest criminal organizations in Italy, dating back to the 17th century. Unlike the pyramidal structure of the Sicilian Mafia, the Camorra's organizational structure is more horizontal than vertical. Consequently, individual Camorra clans act independently of each other, and are more prone to feuding among themselves. They were the Sicilian Mafia's primary enemies, along with the Fascist Government and the 'Ndrangheta.

'Ndrangheta - The 'Ndrangheta is a Mafia-type organized crime group based in Calabria, Italy. Despite not being as famous abroad as the Sicilian Mafia, and having been considered more rural than the Neapolitan Camorra and the Apulian Sacra Corona Unita, it has a lot of power and influence in the Calabrian region of Southern Italy.

Role of Politicians and Businessmen

The Mafia has always maintained contacts with influential politicians and businessmen. The Mafiosi often have several policemen in their payroll, which is why they were able to carry out so many activities even during the Great Depression and the Prohibition era. These politicians offered protection to the mafia from the governments, in



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

return for the safety of their families as well as cash compensations. The businessmen often sponsored activities of the Mafiosi, again, in return for a cut of the spoils of the activities. The police, judges and lawyers helped the mafia primarily for cash payments, which were way higher than they earned from the government, Several high profile politicians and businessmen openly defended members of the mafia who were convicted. In this committee, the presence of a few corrupt politicians and businessmen, of Italian-American origin and with links to the Mafia, will provide a different angle to the committee, with politics playing an important role in the proceedings and constructive action of the committee as a whole and of the individuals present in committee.

Prohibition

Prohibition in the United States of America was a nationwide constitutional ban on the production, importation, transportation and sale of alcoholic beverages from 1920 to 1933.

During the 19th century, alcoholism, family violence, and saloon-based political corruption prompted activists, led by pietistic Protestants, to end the alcoholic beverage trade to cure the ill society and weaken the political opposition. One result was that many communities in the late 19th and early 20th centuries introduced alcohol prohibition, with the subsequent enforcement in law becoming a hotly debated issue. Prohibition supporters, called "drys", presented it as a victory for public morals and health.

Criminal gangs were able to gain control of the beer and liquor supply for many cities. By the late 1920s a new opposition mobilized nationwide. Wets attacked prohibition as causing crime, lowering local revenues, and imposing rural Protestant religious values on urban America. Prohibition ended with the ratification of the Twenty-first



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Amendment, which repealed the Eighteenth Amendment on December 5, 1933. Some states continued statewide prohibition, marking one of the last stages of the Progressive Era.

Working-class people were inflamed by the fact that their employers could dip into a private cache while they, the employees, could not. After the Eighteenth Amendment became law the United States embraced bootlegging. In just the first six months of 1920 alone, the federal government opened 7,291 cases for Volstead Act violations. In just the first complete fiscal year of 1921, the number of cases violating the Volstead Act jumped to 29,114 violations and would rise dramatically over the next thirteen years.

Although the temperance movement, which was widely supported, had succeeded in bringing about this legislation, millions of Americans were willing to drink liquor (distilled spirits) illegally, which gave rise to bootlegging (the illegal production and sale of liquor) and speakeasies (illegal, secretive drinking establishments), both of which were capitalized upon by organized crime groups in America. As a result, the Prohibition era also is remembered as a period of gangsterism, characterized by competition and violent turf battles between criminal gangs.

Sources of Income and Main Activities

Protection Rackets – A protection racket is a scheme whereby a group provides protection to businesses or other groups through violence outside the sanction of the law—in other words, a racket that sells security, traditionally physical security but now also computer security. Through the credible threat of violence, the racketeers deter people from swindling, robbing, injuring, sabotaging or otherwise harming their clients. Protection rackets tend to appear in markets where the police



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

and judiciary cannot be counted on to provide legal protection, either because of incompetence (as in weak or failed states) or illegality (black markets). The ultimate point of the Mafia is to make money. Families use a variety of activities to accomplish this. One of the most common is also one of the simplest -- extortion. Extortion is forcing people to give up their money by threatening them in some way. Mafia "protection rackets" are extortion schemes. They tell a shop owner that she needs to pay them \$100 a week so they can "protect" her from criminals who might demolish the shop or hurt her family -- the implication being that the Mafia members themselves are these criminals. The Mafia's protection is not restricted to illegal activities. Shopkeepers often pay the Mafia to protect them from thieves. If a shopkeeper enters into a protection contract with a mafioso, the mafioso will make it publicly known that if any thief were foolish enough to rob his client's shop, he would track down the thief, beat him up, and, if possible, recover the stolen merchandise (mafiosi make it their business to know all the fences in their territory).

Bootlegging – The big winners from Prohibition were the nation's gangsters. The law had only been in operation for an hour when the police recorded the first attempt to break it, with six armed men stealing some \$100,000-worth of "medicinal" whisky from a train in Chicago. From the very beginning, criminals had recognised that Prohibition represented a marvelous business opportunity; in major cities, indeed, gangs had quietly been stockpiling booze supplies for weeks. By far the most celebrated gangster of the day, though, was Al Capone, a New York-born hoodlum who controlled much of the Chicago underworld in the mid-1920s. Living in splendour in the city's Lexington hotel, he was said to be raking in some \$100m a year from casinos and speakeasies. To many people, he seemed a real-life Robin Hood, opening soup kitchens for the unemployed and giving large



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

sums to charity. Unlike Sherwood Forest's finest, however, Capone had a pronounced taste for the good life, wearing smart suits and drinking expensive Templeton Rye whisky. "I'm just a businessman," he used to say, "giving the public what they want." But when, in 1929, Capone ordered the brutal machine-gunning of seven Chicago rivals in the Valentine's Day Massacre, public sympathy evaporated. That same year, Prohibition agent Eliot Ness began to investigate Capone's affairs, and in October 1931 – after Capone's efforts to nobble the jury had been defeated – he was sentenced to 11 years for tax evasion. He eventually died in prison of a heart attack; appropriately, perhaps, for the nation's most famous vice baron, his health had been eroded by syphilis. Bootlegging helped lead to the establishment of American organized crime, which persisted long after the repeal of Prohibition. The distribution of liquor was necessarily more complex than other types of criminal activity, and organized gangs eventually arose that could control an entire local chain of bootlegging operations, from concealed distilleries and breweries through storage and transport channels to speakeasies, restaurants, nightclubs, and other retail outlets. These gangs tried to secure and enlarge territories in which they had a monopoly of distribution. Gradually the gangs in different cities began to cooperate with each other, and they extended their methods of organizing beyond bootlegging to the narcotics traffic, gambling rackets, prostitution, labour racketeering, loan-sharking, and extortion. The national American crime syndicate, the Mafia, arose out of the coordinated activities of Italian bootleggers and other gangsters in New York City in the late 1920s and early '30s.

Gambling – Gambling has always been a very important business in the Mafia. From card games to betting on horses and other sports, the Mafia has earned cash from all of them. They operated many illegal and luxurious gambling operations throughout the United States. Police



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

officers and law enforcement agencies were in the payroll of the Mafia Bosses and ignored the gambling operations. However, a major event occurred which forever changed the history of gambling and casinos in the United States. The state of Nevada legalized gambling in 1931. Even though gambling had been legalized, no one paid much attention except the local cowboys and some men from nearby military bases. Las Vegas was a dirty town in the middle of the desert with a few gas stations, greasy junk food diners and a few slot machine emporiums. Las Vegas in the early 1930's was not an attractive place to do business or live. Al Capone had eyed the town with great interest but never got onto completing his plans of turning it into a hotel and casino haven for tourists and travellers. Las Vegas remained Mafia free until the Mafioso Meyer Lansky and Bugsy Siegel realized the potential for Las Vegas. The timing could not have been better. Before the formation of Las Vegas, American tourists looking for a great time had to go all the way to Cuba. In Cuba gangsters were welcomed by the corrupt Batista regime, casinos were plentiful, and the profits were huge. Around a decade after the opening of the first casino in Las Vegas, Fidel Castro's Revolution swept Cuba. So, the people were left with no other alternative for legal gambling than going to Las Vegas. With Siegel's imagination and great organizational skills and the money of the Mafia, the first gambling resort of Las Vegas - The Flamingo - opened on December 26, 1946. It was the first of many Mafia-financed resorts. Las Vegas proved to be a very profitable and legal business for the Mafia.

Extortion – Extortion (also called shakedown, outwrestling and exaction) is a criminal offense of obtaining money, property, or services from an individual or institution, through coercion. It is sometimes euphemistically referred to as a "protection racket" since the racketeers often phrase their demands as payment for "protection" from (real or



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

hypothetical) threats from unspecified other parties; though often, and almost always, the person or organization offering "protection" is the same one willing to cause harm if the money is not paid, and such is implied in the "protection" offer. Extortion is commonly practiced by organized crime groups.

Money Laundering – U.S. money laundering itself dates back to the early 1920s, when members of the Mafia (organized crime) were earning huge sums of cash from illegal gambling, bootleg liquor and other underground activities. They needed a way to legitimately explain these funds, and came up with the brilliant idea of purchasing laundromats. Laundromats were a cash-only business—but over time, even the laundromats couldn't explain just how they were as profitable as they had become. Meyer Lansky, one Al Capone's contemporaries, ultimately became the Father of Money Laundering. He was determined to avoid Capone's fate (a conviction in 1931 for tax evasion) and was the one responsible for figuring out how to use the Swiss banking system to hide his growing cash reserves. He developed the first real laundering technique, which placed illegally-received money into the Swiss bank and then loaned it back to other foreign banks, thus making it legitimate.

Loan Sharking – In late 19th-century America, the low legal interest rates made small loans unprofitable, and small-time lending was viewed as irresponsible by society. Banks and other major financial institutions thus stayed away from small-time lending. There were, however, plenty of small lenders offering loans at profitable but illegally high interest rates. They presented themselves as legitimate and operated openly out of offices. Their Mafia connections helped the trade flourish, and they simultaneously acted as major money makers for the Mafia



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Prostitution – Prostitution is the act or practice of providing sexual services to another person in return for payment. Persons who execute such activity are called prostitutes. Prostitution is one of the branches of the sex industry. Estimates place the annual revenue generated from the global prostitution industry to be over \$100 billion. Mafia bosses were heavily involved in prostitution rackets, which earned them millions of dollars. Al Capone was the primary prostitution racketeer among the mafia bosses. Although narcotics and prostitution were activities which were highly disapproved of, certain rebellious bosses indulged in such activities and earned huge profits.

Narcotics – Although the Mafia, primarily the lower ranks of the various crime families, were involved in the drug trade, the old guard of the Mafia (Moustache Petes) kept themselves largely outside of the trade, at least until the late 1940s. The reality is that as far back as Lucky Luciano, the mob has been in the drug business. In 1959, Vito Genovese — who gave his name to one of the five New York families — was imprisoned on drug charges, as was his low-level crime family soldier Joe Valachi. Drugs have generated billions of dollars in income for the mob over the decades.

Kidnapping – The Mafia has often used kidnapping to gain what they want to, which includes politicians, businessmen, rival Mafiosi. This was the Mafia's go-to activity for earning large amounts of money. These kidnappings were often planned out with detail, but at times were carried out hastily.

Contract Killing - Contract killing is a form of murder in which one party hires another party to kill a target individual or group of people. It involves an illegal agreement between two or more parties in which one party agrees to kill the target in exchange for some form of payment, monetary or otherwise. Either party may be a person, group,



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

or an organization. In the United States, the crime is punishable by 15 years to life in a state penitentiary. Contract killing has been associated with organized crime, government conspiracies, and vendettas. For example, in the United States, the gang Murder, Inc. committed hundreds of murders on behalf of the National Crime Syndicate during the 1930s and 1940s.

Notable Associates of the Mafia and other Organized Crime Networks

Meyer Lansky – Meyer Lansky, an organized crime figure known for his sharp financial acumen, was instrumental in the development of a national crime syndicate in the United States. Meyer Lansky was born in 1902 in Grodno, Russia (present day Belarus), immigrating to America as a child. Growing up on tough streets, he eventually became an organized crime figure instrumental in the development of a national crime syndicate in the United States. For decades he was considered one of the most powerful men in the country and also ran gambling operations both domestically and abroad in Cuba. In 1970 he attempted to retire to Israel to evade federal indictment but was eventually forced to return to the United States, though the bulk of charges were dropped due to Lansky's failing health. He died in 1983 in Miami Beach, Florida. He was known as the "Mob's Accountant". He, along with Meyer Lansky was instrumental in the development of the National Crime Syndicate. Associated with the Jewish mob, Lansky developed a gambling empire that stretched across the world. He was said to own points (percentages) in casinos in Las Vegas, Cuba, The Bahamas and London. Although a member of the Jewish mob, Lansky undoubtedly had strong influence with the Italian-American Mafia and played a large role in the consolidation of the criminal underworld. The full extent of this role has been the subject of some debate, as Lansky



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

himself denied many of the accusations against him. With Prohibition in effect, Lansky also ran a prominent liquor bootlegging operation. Charles "Lucky" Luciano was a fellow bootlegger as well, and Siegel would later acknowledge that Lansky and Luciano were in fact far closer in terms of their friendship.

Bugsy Siegel – Iconic mobster Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel built the Flamingo casino in Las Vegas, igniting an era of glamour, gambling and gangsters in the desert. Born in Brooklyn on February 28, 1906, Bugsy Siegel built a criminal empire through bootlegging, gambling and ruthless assassinations before setting up shop in Las Vegas. He opened the famous Flamingo Hotel and Casino, the start of his notorious gambling operation in the middle of the Las Vegas desert. During the 1920s, Mafia kingpin Charles "Lucky" Luciano and a number of other Italian gangsters organized themselves into a national syndicate. Nicknamed Bugsy for his volatile nature, Siegel became a prominent player in this newly established group of criminals. With a goal of killing off many of New York's veteran gangsters, Siegel was one of four hit men hired to execute Sicilian mobster Joe "the Boss" Masseria in 1931. In 1937 Siegel relocated his bootlegging and gambling rackets to the West Coast. Settling in California, he set up gambling dens and offshore gambling ships, while also consolidating the already existing prostitution, narcotics and bookmaking rackets. Moving his wife and children out with him, Siegel maintained an extravagant lifestyle in Beverly Hills, where he bought a palatial estate, frequented parties and rubbed elbows with Hollywood moguls and starlets.

Enoch L. Johnson – Enoch Lewis "Nucky" Johnson was an Atlantic City, New Jersey political boss, Sheriff of Atlantic County, New Jersey, businessman, and racketeer. He was the undisputed "boss" of the political machine that controlled Atlantic City and the Atlantic County government from the 1910s until his conviction and imprisonment in



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

1941. His rule encompassed the Roaring Twenties when Atlantic City was at the height of its popularity as a refuge from Prohibition. In addition to bootlegging, his organization also was involved in gambling and prostitution. Johnson's power reached its zenith during Prohibition, which was enacted nationally in 1919 (but did not go into effect until 1920) and lasted until 1933. Prohibition was effectively unenforced in Atlantic City, and, as a result, the resort's popularity grew further. The city then called itself "The World's Playground." Most of Johnson's income came from the percentage he took on every gallon of illegal liquor sold, and on gambling and prostitution operations in Atlantic City. Under Nucky Johnson, Atlantic City was one of the leading ports for importing bootleg liquor[3] and, in 1927, he agreed to participate in a loose organization of other bootleggers and racketeers along the east coast forming the Big Seven or Seven Group. He was the host of the Atlantic City Conference in 1929, a meeting of national organized crime leaders, including Al Capone. (A well-known photograph purporting to show Johnson and Capone walking down the Boardwalk together during the conference is of doubtful authenticity.)

Arnold Rothstein – Arnold Rothstein was born on January 17, 1882, in New York City. After earning renown as a loan shark and gambler, Rothstein moved into liquor and narcotics and became a kingpin of organized crime during the Prohibition era. Although never convicted, Rothstein is credited with helping to rig the 1919 World Series. Rothstein eventually opened a Manhattan casino and invested in racetracks, his earnings moving him into the big leagues. By the time he was 30, Rothstein was a millionaire and setting his sights on grander schemes, one of which would make him infamous. The 1919 World Series found the Chicago White Sox playing the Cincinnati Reds, and a plot was underway to rig the series. Rothstein was approached by groups involved in the scheme, and he was asked to finance the bribery of



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

several White Sox players. In the end, the White Sox (known thereafter as the "Black Sox") threw the series, with Rothstein believed to have earned approximately \$350,000 by betting on the Reds. An investigation revealed that Abe Attell, a friend and employee of Rothstein's, was involved in making payments to White Sox players, but Rothstein vehemently denied any involvement and was never indicted. The following year, Prohibition became law, and Rothstein was one of the first to get involved with smuggling liquor into the country and to illegal drinking establishments. The booze business proved too much to juggle and not profitable enough, so Rothstein soon turned his attention to the narcotics industry.

Abner "Longie" Zwillman – Abner "Longie" Zwillman was a Jewish American mob boss, mainly active during Prohibition, operating primarily in North Jersey. At the start of Prohibition, Zwillman began smuggling whiskey into New Jersey through Canada, using several World War I armored trucks. Zwillman later joined a syndicate headed by Joseph Reinfeld to smuggle liquor from Canada using ships. They were reputed to have controlled 40% of liquor smuggling. Zwillman used this revenue to greatly expand his operations in illegal gambling, prostitution, and labor racketeering, as well as legitimate businesses, including several prominent night clubs and restaurants. In 1929, he was sent to prison for six months, for assaulting an associate. It was the only crime he was ever convicted of.

Louis "Lepke" Buchalter – Louis "Lepke" Buchalter was a Jewish-American mobster and head of the Mafia hit squad Murder, Inc. during the 1930s. Buchalter was one of the premier labor racketeers in New York City during that era. Upon Buchalter's 1922 release from prison, he started working with his childhood friend, mobster Jacob "Gurrah" Shapiro. Through force and fear, they began gaining control of the garment industry unions. Buchalter then used the unions to threaten



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

strikes and demand weekly payments from factory owners while dipping into union bank accounts.[citation needed] Buchalter's control of the unions evolved into a protection racket, extending into areas such as bakery trucking. The unions were profitable for him and he kept a hold over them even after becoming an important figure in organized crime. Buchalter later formed an alliance with Tommy Lucchese, a leader of the Lucchese crime family, and together they controlled the garment district.

Buchalter and Shapiro moved into new and fashionable luxury buildings on Eastern Parkway with family who were active synagogue goers (Union Temple and Kol Israel Synagogue of Brooklyn). In later years, Buchalter and his family lived in a penthouse in the exclusive Central Park West section of Manhattan. In 1927, Buchalter and Shapiro were arrested for the murder of Jacob Orgen (Little Augie) and the attempted murder of Irish-American bootlegger Jack Diamond, a criminal rival. However, the charges were later dropped due to a lack of evidence.

Dutch Schultz – Gangster Dutch Schultz built up a criminal network that included bootlegging, illegal gambling and murder. His biggest enemies were Legs Diamond and the IRS. Dutch Schultz was born Arthur Flegenheimer on August 6, 1902, in the Bronx borough of New York City. After his father left the family, Schultz turned to burglary, then bootlegging. Soon he expanded into illegal gambling, clashing with rival gangsters Legs Diamond and Vincent Coll. In the 1930s he was targeted by both the IRS and special prosecutor Thomas E. Dewey. In the 1920s, Schultz became involved in bootlegging during the Prohibition and became associated with the likes of gangsters Lucky Luciano and Legs Diamond. Schultz eventually bought a partnership in an illegal saloon. Ruthless and determined, Schultz formed a gang with friend and fellow criminal Joey Noe, and they built an illegal business



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

selling beer in New York, intimidating rival saloons into buying from them. Schultz even went as far as kidnapping and torturing a man who refused to buy their booze. The group soon expanded its operations from the Bronx into Manhattan, but this led to a territorial conflict with Legs Diamond. In October 1928, Noe was shot and killed by members of Diamond's gang. Schultz is believed to have ordered the killing of Diamond's associate Arnold Rothstein in retaliation, and Diamond himself met a bitter end in 1931, reportedly at the hands of one of Schultz's thugs. In his quest for power and wealth, Schultz clashed with other gangsters as well, including former associate Vincent Coll. During the 1930s, the two were embroiled in a vicious gang war, which led a number of men dead in both camps. The conflict lasted until Coll was killed — reportedly by members of Schultz's gang — in February 1932.

Joe Adonis – Joe Adonis, also known as "Joey A", "Joe Adone", "Joe Arosa", "James Arosa", and "Joe DiMeo", was a New York mobster who was an important participant in the formation of the modern Cosa Nostra crime families. During the 1920s, Adonis became an enforcer for Frankie Yale, the boss of some rackets in Brooklyn. While working for Yale, Adonis briefly met future Chicago Outfit boss Al Capone, who was also working for Yale. Meanwhile, Luciano became an enforcer for Giuseppe "Joe the Boss" Masseria, who ran an organization loosely based on clans from Naples and Southern Italy. After the 1928 assassination of Yale, Masseria took over Yale's criminal organization. On April 15, 1931, Adonis allegedly participated in Masseria's murder. Luciano had lured Masseria to a meeting at a Coney Island, Brooklyn restaurant. During their meal, Luciano excused himself to go to the restroom. As soon as Luciano was gone, Adonis, Vito Genovese, Albert Anastasia, and Bugsy Siegel rushed into the dining room and shot Masseria to death. No one was ever indicted in the Masseria murder. Adonis and Luciano soon controlled bootlegging in Broadway and



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Midtown Manhattan. At its height, this operation grossed \$12 million in one year and employed 100 workers. Adonis also bought car dealerships in New Jersey. When customers bought cars from his dealerships, the salesmen would intimidate them into buying "protection insurance" for the vehicle. Adonis soon moved into cigarette distribution, buying up vending machines by the hundreds and stocking them with stolen cigarettes. Adonis ran his criminal empire from Joe's Italian Kitchen, a restaurant he owned in Brooklyn. By 1932, Adonis was also a major criminal power in Brooklyn. Despite his wealth, Adonis still participated in jewelry robberies, a throwback to his early criminal career on the streets.

Mickey Cohen – Meyer Harris "Mickey" Cohen was an American gangster based in Los Angeles and boss of the Cohen crime family. He also had strong ties to the Italian American Mafia from the 1930s through 1960s. During Prohibition, Cohen moved to Chicago and became involved in organized crime, working as an enforcer for the Chicago Outfit, where he briefly met Al Capone. During this period Cohen was arrested for his role in the deaths of several gangsters in a card game that went wrong. After a brief time in prison, Cohen was released and began running card games and other illegal gambling operations. He later became an associate of Capone's younger brother, Mattie Capone. While working for Jake Guzik, Cohen was forced to flee Chicago after an argument with a rival gambler. In Cleveland, Cohen again worked for Lou Rothkopf, an associate of Meyer Lansky and Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel. However, there was little work available for Cohen in Cleveland, so Lansky and Rothkopf arranged for him to work with Siegel in Los Angeles.

Murray Humphreys – Murray Humphreys (also known as The Camel or The Hump), was a Chicago mobster of Welsh descent who was the chief political and labor racketeer in the Chicago Outfit during



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Prohibition. Considered to be a ruthless but clever man, Humphreys believed in killing only as a last resort as he was known to place great trust in the corruptibility of authority figures; a favorite maxim of his was: "The difference between guilt and innocence in any court is who gets to the judge first with the most". But perhaps the statement that best summed up Humphreys' philosophy of life was: "Any time you become weak, you might as well die". Al Capone said of him, "Anybody can use a gun. 'The Hump' can shoot if he has to, but he likes to negotiate with cash when he can". Humphreys other role in the Chicago Outfit was to do everything in his power to ensure its members attracted as little press attention as possible. Whereas some mobsters, such as Sam Giancana and Filippo Sacco, welcomed the limelight most gangsters took their cue from Humphreys, conducting themselves behind the scenes out of public view.

Frankie Yale – Francesco Ioele, better known as Frankie Yale or Frankie Yale, was a Brooklyn gangster and original employer of Al Capone before the latter moved to Chicago. Like his mentor Johnny Torrio, Yale was one of a new breed of gangster who believed in putting business ahead of ego. After getting started with some basic racketeering, Yale took control of Brooklyn's ice delivery trade by selling "protection" and creating monopolies.[5] With the proceeds from these rackets, Yale opened a bar on Seaside Walk in Coney Island known as the Harvard Inn in 1917. Hoping to capitalize on the collegiate name of his bar, he began using the name Yale. It was at the Harvard Inn that a young bouncer named Al Capone got his famous facial scars in a dispute with Frank Galluccio, in which Capone made a pass at Galluccio's sister. After two years in Yale's employ, Capone was shipped off west to Chicago by Yale, and joined Torrio's organization. Yale's gang engaged in Black Hand extortion activities and ran a string of brothels. Their gang became the first new-style Mafia "family" which included



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Italians from all regions and could work in partnership with other ethnic groups if it was good for business. Yale's "services" to his customers included offering "protection" to local merchants and controlling food services for restaurants, as well as ice deliveries for Brooklyn residents. Yale's notorious sideline was his line of cigars, foul-smelling stogies packaged in boxes that bore his smiling face. Yale also owned and operated his own funeral home at 6604 14th Avenue (he and his family lived across the street). When asked about his profession, Yale wryly commented that he was an "undertaker". At the beginning of Prohibition, Yale became one of Brooklyn's biggest bootleggers. In addition to Capone, other gangsters who worked under Yale at one time or another included Joe Adonis, Anthony "Little Augie" Carfano, and Albert Anastasia. Yale's top assassin was Willie "Two-Knife" Altieri, nicknamed as such due to his preferred method of dispatching a victim.

Moe Dalitz – Morris Barney Dalitz was an American gangster, businessman, casino owner and philanthropist. He was one of the major figures who shaped Las Vegas, in the 20th century. He was often referred to as "Mr. Las Vegas". He worked in his family's laundry business early on, but began his career in bootlegging when Prohibition began in 1919, and capitalized on his access to the laundry trucks in the family business. Additionally he developed a partnership with the Maceo syndicate which ran Galveston and supplied liquor from Canada and Mexico. Though he admitted under oath that he had been a bootlegger and had operated illegal gambling houses, Dalitz was never convicted of a crime. During Senator Estes Kefauver's committee hearings (investigating organized crime), when questioned about his bootlegging, Dalitz said, "If you people wouldn't have drunk it, I wouldn't have bootlegged it." With the repeal of Prohibition in 1933, Dalitz turned to gambling and operated illegal but protected casinos in



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Steubenville, Ohio, and Covington, Kentucky. For part of its ten-year run, Dalitz ran The Pettibone Club, an illegal gambling hall that operated in far southwest Geauga County, Ohio (on Pettibone Road east of Solon) from 1939 to 1949. He enlisted in the Army in World War II and rose in rank from private to first lieutenant.

Relationships with the American and Italian Governments

As mentioned, the Mafia had strained relationships with the local American governments, which were mostly made up of Irish-Americans and wanted to suppress the Mafia, instead paving the way for the Irish Mob. The Mafia often faced a hard time tackling certain politicians and policemen, who had links to the opponents of the Mafia, such as the Irish Mob, and such other non-Italian organizations.

Benito Mussolini's Fascist Government undertook an aggressive campaign against the Sicilian Mafia, led by Sicily Prefect Cesare Mori, which led to a widespread diminishing of existing authority and power of the Mafiosi in Sicily. Even though this campaign affectively destroyed the influential presence of the Mafia in Sicily, this could not eliminate the secretive Mafia's presence, as they continued operations covertly.

The American Government played a big role in the boom of the Mafia's operations during the World Wars, as they signed a deal with the Mafia, wherein they would protect the eastern coastline of the United States, in return for which, several high profile mafia bosses would be released from prison and they would be free from prosecution.

Sullivan Act:



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

A near giant of a man, Big Tim Sullivan, was a notorious Irish gangster, (His mob controlled New York City south of 14th Street around the turn of the 20th century. This dangerous street thug and politician became an influential figure in the corrupt Democratic machine there known as Tammany Hall. He made the transition from thug and political ward heeler to New York state senator in 1894. Sullivan represented New York's Red Hook district, Sullivan served a six-year term in the U.S. House of Representatives, and returned to the New York state legislature in 1909, complaining that he "lacked the juice in Washington that he had grown accustomed to on his home turf."

In 1911, Sullivan's constituents, (Irish and Jewish mobsters who put him into office), shared a growing problem with him. Immigrant Italian mafia members were horning in on what had once been their exclusive area of criminal operations. Commercial travelers passing through the district would be relieved of their valuables by armed robbers. Naturally, in order to protect themselves and their property, honest travelers began to arm themselves.

Gunfights in what was to become Little Italy became more frequent. This both raised the criminal's risk while conducting armed robbery, and reduced the gang's profit. Sullivan's criminal constituents then "lobbied" Sullivan to introduce a law prohibiting concealed carry of pistols in order to reduce the risk to his criminal constituents while robbing honest people. That Sullivan was successful in passing a law disarming honest citizens so as to aid and abet other criminals is well documented.

The Sullivan Act is a gun control law in New York State that took effect in 1911. The law required licenses for New Yorkers to possess firearms small enough to be concealed. Possession of such firearms without a license was a misdemeanor, and carrying them was a felony. The act



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

was named for its primary legislative sponsor, state senator Timothy Sullivan, a notoriously corrupt Tammany Hall politician.

For handguns, the Sullivan Act qualifies as a may issue act, meaning the local police have discretion to issue a concealed carry license, as opposed to a shall issue act, in which state authorities must give a concealed handgun license to any person who satisfies specific criteria, often a background check and a safety class.

The criminals responsible for enacting this law had no intention of being deterred themselves by the Sullivan Act from their business of armed robbery. Thus, the effect of the Sullivan Act was precisely what the criminals intended, whereby they could be armed and the law abiding could not. Having a seriously unfair tactical advantage over the law abiding made their criminal life of crime much safer and easier.

Anton Cermak – He was the Mayor of Chicago after the St. Valentine's Day Massacre, and was closely involved with the Mafia. He was elected after the St. Valentine's Day Massacre, and when Prohibition was in full swing.

William Hale "Big Bill" Thompson - He was an American politician, who was Mayor of Chicago for three terms. He was the last Republican to serve as Mayor of Chicago. Al Capone's support was pivotal to Thompson's return to the mayor's office, using such tactics as the "Pineapple Primary" which occurred April 10, 1928, so-called because of the hand grenades thrown at polling places to disrupt voting. The St. Valentine's Day Massacre also took place while Thompson was mayor

Fascism

Fascism is a form of radical authoritarian ultranationalism, characterized by dictatorial



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

power, forcible suppression of opposition and control of industry and commerce, which came to prominence in early 20th-century Europe. The first fascist movements emerged in Italy during World War I before it spread to other European countries. Opposed to liberalism, Marxism and anarchism, fascism is usually placed on the far-right within the traditional left-right spectrum. It was brought about by Benito Mussolini, who led the National Fascist Party, and ruled Italy as Prime Minister from 1922 to 1943. Until 1925, he constitutionally ruled the country, after which he dropped the pretense of a democracy and initiated his full-fledged dictatorship.

The Sicilian Mafia was less active during the era of Fascist Italy and it was fought by Benito Mussolini's government. In June 1924, Mussolini instructed Cesare Mori to eradicate the Mafia from Sicily and on October 25, 1925, appointed Mori prefect of the Sicilian capital, Palermo.

In 1924, Mussolini initiated a campaign to destroy the Sicilian Mafia, which undermined Fascist control of Sicily. A successful campaign would legitimize his rule and strengthen his leadership. Not only would a campaign against the Mafia be a propaganda opportunity for Mussolini and the National Fascist Party, but it would also allow him to suppress his political opponents in Sicily, since many Sicilian politicians had Mafia links.

According to a popular account that arose after the end of World War II, as prime minister of the Kingdom of Italy, Mussolini had visited Sicily in May 1924 and passed through Piana dei Greci, where he was received by the mayor and Mafia boss Francesco Cuccia. At some point Cuccia expressed surprise at Mussolini's police escort and is said to have whispered in his ear: "You are with me, you are under my protection. What do you need all these cops for?" After Mussolini rejected Cuccia's



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

offer of protection, Cuccia, feeling he had been slighted, instructed the townsfolk not to attend Mussolini's speech. Mussolini felt humiliated and outraged. Cuccia's careless remark became the catalyst for Mussolini's war on the Mafia.

Mussolini's Minister of the Interior, Luigi Federzoni, recalled Mori to active service and appointed him prefect of Trapani. Mori arrived in Trapani in June 1924 and stayed until October 20, 1925, when Mussolini appointed him prefect of Palermo. Mussolini granted Mori special powers to eradicate the Mafia by any means possible. In a telegram, Mussolini wrote to Mori:

"Your Excellency has carte blanche, the authority of the State must absolutely, I repeat absolutely, be re-established in Sicily. If the laws still in force hinder you, this will be no problem, as we will draw up new laws."

Mori formed a small army of policemen, *carabinieri* and militiamen, which went from town to town, rounding up suspects. To force suspects to surrender, they would take their families hostage, confiscate their property, and publicly slaughter their livestock. Confessions were sometimes extracted through beatings and torture. Some Mafia members who had been on the losing end of Mafia feuds voluntarily cooperated with prosecutors to secure protection and exact revenge. Charges of Mafia association were typically leveled at poor peasants and gabelotti (tenant farmers), but generally not leveled at wealthy landowners. By 1928, over 11,000 suspects were arrested. Many were tried *en masse*. More than 1,200 were convicted and imprisoned, and many others were internally exiled without trial.

Casinos and Gambling



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

It's not uncommon for people to underestimate just how powerful and influential the mafia has been in America throughout its history. They've bankrolled anything from banks and bars to even comic books. No, that's not a joke – Marvel Comics in particular was funded by the mob, which is why they needed to refer to any criminal organisations within their comics as 'The Maggia', to avoid inciting the ire of the Mafiosi. With so many connections spread throughout basically every aspect of American culture, how shocking would it be to learn that the mafia not only had their fingers all over the gambling pie, but also baked it in the first place? Bugsy's appetite was insatiable. He semi-retired from crime in the 1940s, deciding to instead pursue real estate and construction work. Why? Because Bugsy smelled an opportunity, and, true to his nickname, wanted to be the first to seize it. In 1931, the state of Nevada officially legalised gambling, seeking to secure another source of revenue from casinos and resorts in the area. By that point, American Mafiosi often went to Havana to gamble, so the presence of a high-end casino resort on domestic soil was in their best interest, especially if it could generate revenue. As such, numerous crime families tasked Bugsy with finding an appropriate spot in Nevada where such a resort could be feasibly built. He ultimately chose Las Vegas, which seems like the obvious choice today, but at the time the city was less of a bustling nightlife metropolis and more like something you'd see in a bad Wild West TV show. Which, honestly, suited Bugsy just fine. A smaller, quieter town was going to be far cheaper to build in than a place that's already full of similar venues, and once the construction was done, the resort's popularity could easily attract tourism to the city. As such, the man set out to work on The Flamingo – a giant hotel resort that would feature a state of the art casino and gambling room. The original budget the mafia allocated for The Flamingo's construction was \$1.5m (about £14m in today's money), but the final price tag upon the resort's opening ended up being four times that amount, at around \$6m (£58m



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

in today's money). Why? Well, because Bugsy wasn't an idiot. He knew this would be his big break and wasn't about to let it go to waste. So he ridiculously overcharged his investors, skimming the cash and getting out of this richer than he ever dreamed. Alas, his riches wouldn't get him far, as the moment the mafia realised what he'd done they put a bullet in his head. But hey, at least the Flamingo Resort turned out nice!

The Great Depression

The Great Depression was a severe worldwide economic depression that took place mostly during the 1930s, beginning in the United States. The timing of the Great Depression varied across nations; in most countries it started in 1929 and lasted until the late-1930s. It was the longest, deepest, and most widespread depression of the 20th century. In the 21st century, the Great Depression is commonly used as an example of how far the world's economy can decline.

The Great Depression started in the United States after a major fall in stock prices that began around September 4, 1929, and became worldwide news with the stock market crash of October 29, 1929 (known as Black Tuesday). Between 1929 and 1932, worldwide gross domestic product (GDP) fell by an estimated 15%. By comparison, worldwide GDP fell by less than 1% from 2008 to 2009 during the Great Recession. Some economies started to recover by the mid-1930s. However, in many countries, the negative effects of the Great Depression lasted until the beginning of World War II. The mob made a fortune in illegal alcohol due to Prohibition in the Roaring '20s. But they made their greatest profits during the Great Depression: They became loan sharks. One of the rising mob bosses was "Lucky" Luciano in New York. With the help of Meyer Lansky — the ultimate financial genius, also called the "Mob's Accountant" — and the infamous Bugsy Siegel, he implemented a strategy that helped the mob thrive during one of



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

the worst downturns in history. It was a simple matter of supply and demand. When the Depression hit, people and businesses couldn't get loans. So the mob took the money they got from bootlegging and started lending it out at shark rates of 20% plus. They hugely benefit from this business, which earned them large profits and also allowed them to consolidate their influence.

World War I & World War II

The Mafia played a very important role during the World Wars. They took advantage of the volatile situation throughout the duration of the Wars, and expanded their business, and increased the frequency of organized crimes. Although the Mafia had strained relationships with the local American governments and the Fascist Government, the US Federal Government realised the importance and the power of the Mafia, and used it to their advantage during the World Wars.

Operation Underworld:

Operation Underworld was the United States government's code name for the cooperation of Italian and Jewish organized crime figures from 1942 to 1945 to counter Axis spies and saboteurs along the U.S. northeastern seaboard ports, avoid wartime labor union strikes, and limit theft by black-marketeers of vital war supplies and equipment. Fears about possible sabotage or disruption of the waterfront led Commander Charles R. Haffenden of the U.S. Navy Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) Third Naval District in New York to set up a special security unit. He sought the help of Joseph Lanza, who ran the Fulton Fish Market, to get intelligence about the New York waterfront, control the labor unions, and identify possible refueling and resupply operations for German submarines with the help of the fishing industry along the Atlantic Coast. To cover Lanza's activities, he was suggested to



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

approach Charles Luciano who was an important boss of the five New York Mafia crime families. Luciano agreed to cooperate with authorities in hopes of consideration for early release from prison. The State of New York, Luciano and the Navy struck a deal in which Luciano guaranteed full assistance of his organization in providing intelligence to the Navy. In addition, Luciano associate Albert Anastasia—who controlled the docks and ran Murder, Inc.—allegedly guaranteed no dockworker strikes throughout the war. In return, the State of New York agreed to commute Luciano's sentence. Luciano's actual influence is uncertain, but the authorities did note that the dockworker strikes stopped after the deal was reached with Luciano.

Operation Husky:

The Allied invasion of Sicily, codenamed Operation Husky, was a major campaign of World War II, in which the Allies took the island of Sicily from the Axis powers (Italy and Nazi Germany). It began with a large amphibious and airborne operation, followed by a six-week land campaign, and initiated the Italian Campaign. Italian Americans were very helpful in the planning and execution of the invasion of Sicily. The Mafia was involved in assisting the U.S. war efforts. Luciano's associates found numerous Sicilians to help the Naval Intelligence draw maps of the harbors of Sicily and dig up old snapshots of the coastline. Vito Genovese, another Mafia boss, offered his services to the U.S. Army and became an interpreter and advisor to the U.S. Army military government in Naples. He quickly became one of AMGOT's most trusted employees. Through the Navy Intelligence's Mafia contacts from Operation Underworld, the names of Sicilian underworld personalities and friendly Sicilian natives who could be trusted were obtained and actually used in the Sicilian campaign.

Power Politics and Internal Conflicts



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

The mafia has always been characterized by the internal conflicts, and changes of rule in each family, not to mention the power politics among the various mafia bosses. The Young Turks betrayed Masseria, and once they got the power and influence they wanted, they also eliminated Maranzano, who had facilitated their rise to power. In almost every family, the family name changed with every two bosses due to the previous boss being killed by the incoming boss, or such other action to oust them. Everyone in the mafia world was hungry for power and autonomy, much more than being loyal to one's superior or his family. The power politics of the Mafia was initiated by Maranzano when he declared himself "Boss of all Bosses" and then was followed by the formation of the Cupola in Sicily and then the Commission. Luciano, through his clever moves ensured that he was the most powerful boss among all, which was later done by Carlo Gambino. Very rarely has the successor the incumbent boss wanted, be it the consigliere, the underboss or a capo, ultimately ended up becoming the boss. And, very rarely has a boss died a natural death. These conflicts have led to several Mafia Wars taking place in the 20th century.

Timeline of Events

1919 - On October 28th the Volstead Act passes the US Congress and establishes the enforcement of prohibition.

1920's - The rise of bootleggers such as Al Capone in Chicago highlight the darker side of prohibition.

1929 - Elliot Ness begins in earnest to tackle violators of prohibition and Al Capone's gang in Chicago.

Capone has much of the North Side mob murdered in what has become known as the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. Four men - two in police uniforms - drove up in a police car to a stronghold of Bugs



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Moran, a garage at 2122 North Clark Street. Six Moran gangsters and one friend of Moran's were lined up against a wall and shot to death by the four assailants. Moran had been returning to the building when he saw the police car and decided to beat it. Capone was relaxing (and establishing an alibi) near his Florida home at the time of the killings.

Capone reportedly invites the important members of his organization to a meeting/celebration at the Hawthorne Inn in Cicero, just outside Chicago. According to legend, he then brutally beats to death Guinta, Scalise and Anselmi, the Sicilian defectors from his gang. His action puts an end to the Sicilian rebellion in his Chicago outfit but earns the disapproval of mob bosses in New York and elsewhere.

Sabella and nine of his men (probably including some who were hastily initiated into the Philly Mafia) move to New York to assist the Brooklyn Castellammarese clan in its fight against Joe Masseria. Source:

With Capone temporarily out of the way, Joe Aiello steps to the presidency of the Chicago Unione Siciliana.

1930 - Police link weapons from St. Valentine's Day Massacre with those used in Uale murder. Implies that Capone was responsible for Uale's death.

Masseria attempts to broker a peace arrangement between Aiello and Capone. When Aiello resists and threatens Masseria, Joe the Boss approaches Gaspar Milazzo, leader of Detroit Mafia, in an effort to dissuade him from continuing to support Aiello. Milazzo won't budge, and Joe the Boss begins to see the start of a Castellammarese conspiracy against his authority. The Castellammarese in Brooklyn (Cola Schiro's group), Buffalo (Stefano Magaddino) and Detroit (Milazzo) appear to be backing Aiello in Chicago. The allegiance of Gaetano Reina in the Bronx is also in question at this time. Joe Parrino is murdered



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

by the Castellammarese. With the blessing of Stefano Magaddino of Buffalo (who has ruled the Brooklyn Castellammarese in absentia), Salvatore Maranzano becomes war leader of the group.

Masseria believed responsible for death of Gaspar Milazzo, boss of Detroit Mafia and elder statesman among the Castellammarese in America. Milazzo aide Sasa Parrino is also killed in the attack. Joe the Boss installs Lemare atop Detroit group. Probably believes he is undermining Aiello by this action and also striking at the Castellammarese conspiracy. But he is undermining his own support by meddling in the internal affairs of Mafia "families."

Reina, whose Bronx rackets include a monopoly on ice, is killed and replaced by Joe Pinzolo. Masseria believed responsible. Gaetano Gagliano and Gaetano Lucchese split off from Pinzolo and ally themselves with Maranzano. Source:

Capone is released from Philadelphia prison and resumes warfare against Aiello. Capone supports Masseria in struggle against Castellammarese.

Lucchese arrested and charged with murder of Pinzolo. Charges are later dropped.

Capone eliminates Aiello, sends financial support to Masseria in New York. Capone takes over what remains of the Unione by assigning Agostino Loverdo to be its president. Aiello is murdered by machine gun fire in front of a friend's home at 205 Kolmar Avenue.

Maranzano scores another victory as his soldiers ambush and kill Al Mineo, powerful ally of Joe the Boss, and Steve Ferrigno, an important Mafia figure, outside of Ferrigno's home at 759 Pelham Parkway South. Masseria, who had met with the two men, lagged behind as Mineo and Ferrigno left the building and so escaped the ambush.



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

1931 – Masseria sends peace feelers to Maranzano. The Castellammarese say they will not end the war until Joe "the Baker" Catania, a firm Masseria and Terranova ally, is killed.

Luciano arranges for Masseria to be assassinated after a big lunch at Coney Island's Nuova Villa Tammaro restaurant (also known as Scarpato's Restaurant) while Luciano is in the bathroom. Terranova said to be the driver of the assassins' car but too nervous to drive. Benjamin Siegel, believed to have been one of the shooters, reportedly shoved Terranova from the wheel and drove the car himself.

Salvatore Maranzano declares himself as the "Capo di tutti capi" (Boss of all bosses).

Aim of the Committee

The Sicily Conference has been convened by the bosses of the major Mafia families in Sicily and in the United States of America, in association with the Sicilian Cupola, to come to a conclusion among the families with regards to the future of the Mafia in the United States, now that the Castellammarese War is over, and the Mafia has risen to prominence in the organized crime sphere. The committee's aim should be to establish the Mafia as the supreme organized crime network in the United States after having displaced the Irish Mob and prevent internal conflicts and resolve them as soon as possible. The delegates are also expected to discuss the Mafia's relationship with the various governments and how to strengthen/severe ties to protect and advance the interests of the Mafia. The committee will be crisis-heavy and all delegates are expected to think on their feet, and at the same time have impeccable research on the relations of the families and the events that have taken place till April 1931 in not only the mafia world, but also in American politics and business, and probably events after



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

the said date as well. We hope that you can use your negotiation skills to the best effect for lobbying, which will play a big role in this committee. Ultimately, remember that this is a mafia committee, meaning that it is not very conventional, and that no one, probably not even the closest member can be trusted in these volatile times, even though they might have taken an oath of loyalty, meaning individual action will play a big role. We hope you enjoy the committee and that, we, as your Executive Board, can deliver. With that, we wish you luck for the committee.

In the 1920's there was one thing that was more lucrative than drugs and money-politics. With this, we ask you

“Make us an offer we cannot refuse.”

Sourya Chakrabarty

Co-Chairperson

(+91 8334023337)

souryachakrabarty@gmail.com

Kshitij Shah

Co-Chairperson

(+91 9903547476)

kshitij.shah2001@icloud.com

Rik Mukherjee

Director

(+91 9051551372)



BOSCO MUN 2018

1ST-3RD AUGUST 2018

Somya Shubhra Pal

Rapporteur

(+91 9073203029)