Abstract of Thesis
“Essays in the Economics of Crime”
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In addition to shocking crimes around the time of proposing this research theme, the fact that Crime in the Indian context has been scarcely explored from the perspective of Economics, is what motivated this thesis. The first chapter uses secondary data to gauge the effect of State Legal Apparatus on Crime as well as Juvenile crime, controlling for relevant socioeconomic indicators and finds varying effects depending on the category of crime. The second chapter uses primary data to examine whether it is the awareness status of juveniles (in terms of the relative leniency of the Juvenile Justice System) that drives juvenile crime, and finds that this is not the case. And finally, the third chapter employs secondary data to look into the bearer side of crime, assessing if “social capital” affects vulnerability to crime and finds, inter alia, that this is indeed the case.