

### **Table 3—What Offender–Centered Theories Ignore**

**Kennedy and Sacco (1998) define Offender-Centered Theories as:**

- **Theories that focus on the motivated offender and identifying the motives of the offender**
- **In so doing, Offender-Centered theories de-emphasize or ignore victims and treat them as if they were constant and plentiful**
- **Because they see the pool of likely victims as constant and plentiful, there is no need to explain increases and decreases in the size of the pool of victims or increases and decreases in opportunities for victimization; therefore, they can focus on the offender**
- **In the case of violent crime, because they see violence as what one person does to another and not as an interaction or an exchange, they focus on only one actor at the violent event—namely the violent offender and his motivations for violence**
- **Because Offender-Centered theorists see violence as what one person does to another, the victim assumes a passive role and is assumed not to contribute to the violent event**
- **And because they treat violence as if it is one-sided, they treat the victim and offender roles as if they are clearly defined at the outset of the violent event**