

U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice



National Institute  
of Justice

*Resource Directory*

# Data Resources of the National Institute of Justice

Second edition

105575

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# Data Resources of the National Institute of Justice

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May 1987

U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice

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**National Institute of Justice**  
**James K. Stewart**  
*Director*

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## Foreword to the second edition

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Through a carefully planned investment in research, we can ensure that we have the knowledge we need to inform crime control policymaking. The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is very conscious of the need to extract full value from our investment in research. One of the ways that we work to accomplish this goal is to encourage researchers to exploit to the fullest data available from earlier research.

Original data collection is expensive and time consuming. Often, researchers can devote only a limited time to analyzing the data they have collected. Rarely can original data collectors explore all the policy questions that their data permit. Archiving data offers several important benefits. It permits original findings to be validated by independent investigators. It also allows alternative approaches to be explored at a fraction of the original data collection costs and in considerably shorter time.

Secondary analysis is a vital aspect of contemporary public policy research. The reuse and reexamination of these data resources permit relatively economical explorations of important policy issues. They bring the analytical talents of a larger number of researchers to bear on questions of concern to criminal justice practitioners. To the extent that secondary data analysis confirms the findings of the original research, policymakers can have greater confidence in using research findings to inform policy. Clearly, the scientific endeavor necessary to generate a fully documented data set is comparable to the contribution made by published research findings.

The National Institute of Justice led the way among Federal agencies in requiring that data sets from supported research be delivered to the agency at the time the project is completed. In 1985, a report from the National Academy of Sciences cited this policy as "remarkable" and a model for other research funding

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agencies. In 1986, the National Science Foundation adopted a data resource policy similar to the one NIJ established in 1979.

This updated and revised catalog of available data from NIJ-supported research is being widely disseminated to encourage the research community both to contribute to and take advantage of these resources. The advances made since the first edition of the catalog was published in 1984 are testimony to the growing appreciation at NIJ and in the research community of the value of these research products. We hope that the research community will use this document and the data listed here to improve the quality of criminal justice research.

James K. Stewart  
Director  
National Institute of Justice

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# Introduction

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In 1984, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the Institute of Criminal Justice and Criminology at the University of Maryland established the Criminal Justice Data Resource Program. This cooperative agreement between NIJ and the University focuses on the identification, capture, editing, and public archiving of machine-readable data from NIJ-sponsored research.

Staff at the University and the National Institute work together to physically obtain data sets and the documentation needed to understand and use the data. Once the data are available, the program staff at the University of Maryland reviews the data in much the same way that print editors review manuscripts for publication.

Through this process we identify technical difficulties with either the machine-readable data or the documentation and, if problems are uncovered, work with the original investigators to clarify discrepancies. Once they are fully documented, data sets are sent by NIJ to the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) at the University of Michigan.

These joint activities were designed to serve a larger purpose: the increased use of secondary data analysis in criminal justice research and policy analysis. Secondary data analysis has long been a frequent component in NIJ-sponsored research, but until recently there had been no attempt at systematically exploiting these important resources.

## Format

This catalog is designed to help the research community find and understand the available data sets. In this second edition, we have tried to describe each data set

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in some detail and according to consistent format. In addition to the necessary descriptive items, we have included information on the basic purpose and methodology of the original research, the unit of observation and the number of records, the number of variables, and the geographic and temporal coverage of the research. Information about the file structure and important publications derived from the data are also provided.

## Codebooks

The format of these abstracts is intended to guide the reader as to the contents of the data. More detailed information on each data file can be found in codebooks available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service (NCJRS). Microfiche copies are free. Copies of printed codebooks are available through the NCJRS document loan program. In addition, a limited number of free copies of some published NIJ reports are also available from NCJRS; other reports may be purchased from NCJRS or the Superintendent of Documents at the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

Those interested in obtaining codebooks may write to NCJRS at National Institute of Justice/NCJRS, Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20850.

## Data

Machine-readable copies of the data (and printed codebooks) can be obtained from the National Criminal Justice Data Archive maintained by ICPSR at the University of Michigan. The data are available in a variety of formats including punched cards, floppy disks, and magnetic tape. Requests for data from individuals at ICPSR member institutions should be made through their ICPSR Official Representative. All others may request data by contacting:

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Janet Vavra, ICPSR  
Institute for Social Research  
P.O. Box 1248  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106  
Telephone: 313-763-5010.

**Further information**

Revised editions of this catalog will be produced as the data resources of NIJ expand. Any corrections or comments on the catalog should be addressed to:

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# Using the abstracts

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The function of the abstract is to provide information for a researcher who may be interested in using the data set. The intention is to provide sufficient detail so prospective users can decide whether to request the data or examine the codebook and related documentation. The following briefly describes the kinds of information that may be found in each abstract:

**The project's principal investigator(s)**

**Descriptor assigned by the Data Resource Program**  
(it may vary slightly from the ICPSR or NCJRS titles)

**The institution that received the grant**

**The grant number assigned by NIJ**

**Purpose of the study**

The reason the research was conducted, the research hypotheses guiding the research, or the type of evaluation done is described here.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Source of information indicates where or from whom the data were collected (questionnaires, other survey instruments, or an existing source of information). When secondary sources were used, the citation and relevant dates are noted. This includes the date(s) to which data refer as well as the date of publication of source. For example: "the data for 1979 taken from the Statistical Abstract of the United States 1980."

Sample: This section describes the population, how the sample was drawn, and the sample size. If multiple



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samples were selected, a description of each sample or subsample was included.

Dates of data collection: The date of data collection is the time period (interval) or periods when the data were actually gathered. Note this does not include the time period covered specifically by the variables, but when the researcher actually collected the data.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: These are the distinguishing characteristics of the study. The intent of this section is to describe what it is that might make these data particularly useful for additional analysis. Examples of these include such things as unique indicators used or special sampling plans employed like oversampling rare populations, etc.

Description of variables: This section details the kinds of variables or characteristics collected by the researchers on cases or observations.

Unit of observation: The units on which observations were made are defined here. Some studies used only a single type of observational unit while others collected information on several types. For studies with multiple units of observation, each unit is listed along with some discussion of how the data are structured.

### Geographic coverage

This is the location to which the data refer.

### File structure

This section summarizes the physical characteristics of the data set including the number of data files, unit(s) of observation, number of variables, and number of cases. Descriptions of files that did not contain data, such as control card files and machine-readable documentation, have been omitted. If the data set consists

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of three or fewer data files, each file is briefly identified and then listed separately under each of the subcategories by this identifier. Otherwise the data files are not separately discussed in this section.

Data files: This is the number of data files and, where applicable, a brief identifier.

Unit: This is what a case represents. If there are more than one, all are listed. Where there are three or fewer files, each identifier is listed with its unit of observation.

Variables: This is either the range of variables or, when there are three or fewer files, the number of variables in each file. In some cases only the total number of variables is given.

Cases: Either the range of cases or, when there are three or fewer files, the number of cases in each file is given.

### Reports and publications

The final report, articles, reports, and documentation generated from the research are listed. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list of publications, but rather a selection to direct the reader to sources where more information can be obtained.

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# Data sets available

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David H. Bayley

## Effectiveness of police response: Denver, Colorado, 1982

The Police Foundation, Washington, D.C.

81-IJ-CX-0082

### Purpose of the study

Data were collected to evaluate police behavior and response patterns in Denver, Colorado, during (1) domestic disputes and (2) traffic disturbances.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data on police behavior during domestic disputes and traffic disturbances were collected by field observation.

Sample: The data were collected from a sampling of officer patrol shifts, stratified by precinct and shift.

Dates of data collection: June through September 1982.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study is unique in that it is a systematic study of the effect of different police responses to domestic and traffic disturbances.

Description of variables: Variables in the domestic dispute file include type of disturbance, manner of investigation, designation of police response, and situational variables of setting and participants (victims, bystanders, suspects). In the traffic disturbance file variables include incident description,

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police contact, demeanor of participants, and situation resolution.

Unit of observation: Incidents of domestic disputes and traffic disturbances.

### Geographic coverage

Denver, Colorado

### File structure

Data files: 2; (1) domestic, (2) traffic

Unit: Domestic disputes and traffic disturbances

Variables: Domestic file, 404  
Traffic file, 210

Cases: Domestic file, 93  
Traffic file, 164

### Reports and publications

D.H. Bayley. (1983). The Tactical Choices of Patrol Policemen. Unpublished manuscript, Washington, D.C.: Police Foundation.

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Raymond Bell, Elizabeth H. Conrad, Barbara Gazze, Scott C. Greenwood, J. Gary Lutz, and Robert J. Suppa

**Learning deficiencies among adult inmates, 1982:  
Louisiana, Pennsylvania, and Washington**

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

81-IJ-CX-0014

**Purpose of the study**

This study examined the relationship between learning disability, educational and intellectual achievement, and criminal activity.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Data were acquired from incarcerated adult prison inmates through personal interviews, questionnaires, and achievement tests.

Sample: Initially, one State (Pennsylvania) was chosen for site visits and tests. Three institutions (two male and one female) were purposively selected on the basis of size, security status, and type of offender. Random samples of inmates were drawn from a list of all who were expected to be incarcerated through the end of 1982. Computer-generated random numbers were used to select the potential subjects. Participation was voluntary. Since the number of inmates who were identified as having learning deficiencies constituted greater than 25 percent of those tested, two additional States were added to the study. Louisiana and Washington were selected and the whole process was repeated, resulting in a total of nine institutions in the three States. The response rate ranged from a high of 73 percent in Pennsylvania to 23 percent in Washington. To ascertain whether any sampling bias was introduced, information was gathered on a randomly selected group of inmates who were in the original sample but who chose not to participate. These data were gathered from the

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institutional records and comparisons were made with the participants in the study. It was found that it is likely that the report may underestimate the true numbers of learning deficient inmates in the population.

Dates of data collection: January 1982 through January 1983.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study contains a wealth of data on the intellectual and achievement ability of adult inmates in three States. Psychological tests were used to measure academic achievement, and ability and disability in learning.

Description of variables: The data describe adult prison inmates in terms of their personal history (educational, family, criminal) and performance on ability tests and tests designed to diagnose learning disabilities. The following seven groups of variables were collected: (1) demographic variables (age, sex, race, employment history); (2) criminal justice history variables (offenses committed, prior institutionalizations, juvenile commitments); (3) educational background variables (years of formal education, academic and vocational programming while incarcerated, previous diagnoses of learning disabilities and prior achievement test results); (4) family background variables (childhood home situation, structure of childhood family, childhood problems); (5) academic achievement variables (as measured by the Test of Basic Education); (6) ability variables (as measured by the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale); and (7) disability variables (as measured by the Mann-Suiter Disabilities Screening Test).

Unit of observation: Inmate.

### Geographic coverage

Louisiana, Pennsylvania, and Washington

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## **File structure**

**Data files: 1**

**Unit: Inmate**

**Variables: 111**

**Cases: 1,065**

## **Reports and publications**

**R. Bell, E.H. Conrad, B. Gazze, S.C. Greenwood, J.G. Lutz, and R.J. Suppa (1983). The Nature and Prevalence of Learning Deficiencies Among Adult Inmates. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.**

**Richard A. Berk and Lawrence W. Sherman**

### **Specific deterrent effects of arrest:**

**The Minneapolis domestic violence experiment, 1981-1982**

**The Police Foundation, Washington, D.C.**

**80-IJ-CX-0042**

### **Purpose of the study**

**The purpose of this field experiment was to examine the specific deterrent effect of arrest for domestic assault.**

### **Methodology**

**Sources of information: Data for this field experiment involving police response to domestic disputes include interviews with the participants involved in the disputes and police arrest records.**

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Sample: All calls between March 17, 1981, and August 1, 1982, to the police concerning misdemeanor domestic violence incidents where both parties were present were randomly assigned to three treatments: (1) separation; (2) mediation; and (3) arrest. Cases with life threatening or severe injury were excluded. The study focused on 330 domestic violence incidents occurring in Minneapolis.

Dates of data collection: March 1981 through September 1982.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: These data represent the results of a field experiment on the deterrent effects of different police responses to domestic disturbances. The specific deterrent effect of arrest for domestic assault was compared with two other police responses to domestic disturbances, advising the couple, or sending the assaulter away from the scene for 8 hours.

Description of variables: There are nine data files included in the study: the initial police contact; initial interview with the victim; followup interview (up to 12 followup interviews were done); suspect information; repeat (initial interviews with victims of repeat incidents); CCNLog (more data from the police reports); recaplog (summarizing the cases where an arrest was made); dispatch; and rapsheet. Variables in the files include socioeconomic and demographic characteristics of suspect and victim, victim-offender relationship, nature of the domestic argument, presence or absence of weapons, presence of violence, alcohol use, and the nature and extent of police response.

Unit of observation: Domestic assault incident.

### Geographic coverage

Minneapolis, Minnesota



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## File structure

Data files: 9

Unit: Domestic assault incident

Variables: 15-347 per file

Cases: 330

## Reports and publications

L.W. Sherman and R.A. Berk (1984). "The specific deterrent effects of arrest for domestic assault." American Sociological Review, 49(2): 261-272.

Alfred Blumstein and Jacqueline Cohen

Adult criminal careers, Michigan: 1974-1977

Carnegie-Mellon University

79-NI-99-0121

## Purpose of the study

These data were collected to develop estimates of the extent and variation of criminal offense patterns by individual offenders. The data summarize the arrest histories of Michigan adults for the years 1974-1977.

## Methodology

Sources of information: The data are taken from computerized criminal history files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Sample: The sample consists of the adult criminal records of all individuals 17 years of age or older arrested in Michigan from 1974 to 1977. The primary

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criterion for inclusion in the sample was at least one arrest in Michigan for murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, or auto theft.

Dates of data collection: Not available.

## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: The organization of this data set by the individual allows the opportunity to conduct longitudinal analyses of individual offending patterns. For each case included in the sample, the arrest history was recorded, including data on all recorded arrests through 1977, regardless of offense type. The full data set includes records for 41,191 individuals for a total of 200,007 arrests. The data are organized by individual, including demographic data on the individual, followed by information from the individual's arrest record in chronological order.

Description of variables: The data include descriptive information on all arrests through 1977 for each individual in the sample. Variables include birthdate, birthplace, sex, and race. The arrest variables include the date of the arrest, the offenses charged, the disposition (convicted, dismissed, or acquitted), and the sentence.

Unit of observation: Individual adult offenders.

## Geographic coverage

Michigan

## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Individual adult offenders

Variables: 57

Cases: 41,191

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## Reports and publications

Not yet available.

Ken Carlson

### Survey of American prisons and jails, 1979

Abt Associates, Cambridge, Massachusetts

77-NI-AX-C018

#### Purpose of the study

This study was mandated by the Crime Control Act of 1976. It includes counts of facilities by age of facility and rated capacity; counts of the inmate population by confinement variables, security class, age, sex, race, and offense-type; and prison staff counts by age and gender.

#### Methodology

Sources of information: A mail questionnaire was used to collect data from 539 State and Federal adult correctional facilities and 402 community-based prerelease facilities. Telephone queries were made to facilities failing to complete the questionnaire.

Sample: Included in the sample were all State and Federal adult correctional facilities (539) and community-based prerelease facilities (402).

Dates of data collection: 1979.

#### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study included a survey of all State and Federal correctional facilities and their staffs. The return rate from the

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surveys and telephone followups was 100 percent. The data set includes details on the facility, staff, and population characteristics of correctional institutions and prerelease facilities.

Description of variables: Variables concerning the inmates include race, age, and offense type. Facility characteristics were measured by variables such as spatial density, hours confined to quarters, age of facility, and rated capacity. Demographic variables such as race, age, and sex were also collected on the prison staff.

Unit of observation: Correctional, community, or prerelease facility.

### Geographic coverage

State and Federal correctional institutions in the United States

### File structure

Data files: 2; (1) survey of State and Federal adult correctional facilities, (2) survey of community-based and prerelease facilities

Unit: Correctional, community, or prerelease facility

Variables: State and Federal, 291  
Community and prerelease, 208

Cases: State and Federal, 558  
Community and prerelease, 405

### Reports and publications

Abt Associates, Inc. (1983). Survey of American Prisons and Jails, 1979. Washington, D.C.: Office of Federal Procurement Policy.

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A. Blumstein, J. Cohen, and W. Gooding (1983). "Influence of capacity on prison population: A critical review of some recent evidence." Crime and Delinquency, 29(1): 1-51.

K. Carlson, P. Evans, and J. Flanagan (1980). American Prisons and Jails, vol. 2: Population trends and projections. U.S. Department of Justice, LEAA, Rockville, Maryland: NCJRS.

W. Dejong (1980). American Prisons and Jails, vol. 5: Supplemental Report--Adult Prerelease Facilities. U.S. Department of Justice, LEAA, Rockville, Maryland: NCJRS.

R. Ku (1980). American Prisons and Jails, vol. 4: Supplemental Report--Case Studies of New Legislation Governing Sentencing and Release. U.S. Department of Justice, LEAA, Rockville, Maryland: NCJRS.

J. Mullin (1980). American Prisons and Jails, vol. 3: Conditions and Costs of Confinement. U.S. Department of Justice, LEAA, Rockville, Maryland: NCJRS.

J. Mullin, K. Carlson, and B. Smith (1980). American Prisons and Jails, vol. 1: Summary and Policy Implications of a National Survey. U.S. Department of Justice, LEAA, Rockville, Maryland: NCJRS.

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Kent J. Chabotar and Lindsey Stellwagen

## Assessing needs in the criminal justice system

Abt Associates, Cambridge, Massachusetts

80-IJ-CX-0001

### Purpose of the study

This study attempted to identify and prioritize the need for operational and management improvements in the criminal justice system.

### Methodology

Sources of information: The data were collected from mail questionnaires and telephone interviews.

Sample: Questionnaires were mailed to 2,377 respondents from the six response groups (judges, trial court administrators, correctional officials, public defenders, police, prosecutors, and probation and parole officers) in both small and large criminal justice agencies nationwide. Each State government's coordinating board or planning agency for criminal justice also participated in the survey. Within most respondent groups, subgroups were identified and sampled. A census was taken of all the respondents in the smaller subgroups whereas random samples were drawn from the larger subgroups. A total of 1,447 questionnaires were returned.

Dates of data collection: Questionnaires were mailed out during March of 1983; in September of 1983 telephone contacts were made.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study summarizes the position of leading criminal justice administrators regarding problems confronting criminal

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justice agencies and the plans and resources necessary to solve them. Criminal justice officials (judges, trial court administrators, corrections officials, public defenders, police, prosecutors, probation and parole officials) completed mail or telephone survey instruments. The surveys addressed five main issues: (1) the adequacy of financial resources in criminal justice departments and programs; (2) the most important problems confronting these departments and programs; (3) the most important problems facing State criminal justice agencies; (4) assessment of the needs for operational and management improvement; and (5) the technical assistance and research strategies needed to meet these needs. Each component of the criminal justice system received identical surveys.

Description of variables: The variables describe the background of the respondent and their agency, financial resources available to the agency, technical assistance available, research and initiative programs used, and areas in need of improvement.

Unit of observation: Criminal justice practitioners (court, public defenders, corrections, police, probation and parole, and prosecutors).

### Geographic coverage

The continental United States

### File structure

Data files: 6; (1) courts, (2) public defenders, (3) correctional institutions, (4) police, (5) probation and parole, (6) prosecutors

Unit: Criminal justice practitioners

Variables: 18 to 19 per file

Cases: 78 to 403 per file

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## Reports and publications

K. Chabotar (1984). Assessing Needs in the Criminal Justice System: Final Report. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

Thomas W. Church

### Assessing local legal culture: Practitioner norms in four criminal courts

National Center for State Courts, Williamsburg, Virginia

78-MU-AX-0023

### Purpose of the study

This study examined the attitude of court practitioners (judges and attorneys) to determine whether and in what way they affected the handling of criminal cases.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Questionnaires were administered to State court judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys.

Sample: A purposive sample of the criminal courts in four cities was selected (Bronx, New York; Detroit, Michigan; Miami, Florida; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania). The primary selection criterion was that previous research had indicated that the courts in these cities process their criminal cases in quite different fashions (differences in speed, proportion of cases disposed with guilty pleas, and sentencing practices). Within these courts, judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys were sampled. Sample size for each city and category of practitioner varied from 5 (Miami judges) to 42 (Miami prosecutors).



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Dates of data collection: Not available.

## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: For this research, a questionnaire consisting of 12 hypothetical criminal cases was created to explore the attitudes and opinions of court personnel and their perceptions of the best method for processing cases in a properly functioning court. The questionnaire was completed by 242 judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys, and the data summarize each court's "culture" of legal processing.

Description of variables: The variables include attitudinal information on judges, prosecutors, and defense counsel in four urban courts. Variables include respondents' years in the criminal justice system, preferred mode of disposition of the hypothetical case, preferred sentence type, and assessment of probability of conviction.

Unit of observation: Court practitioners: judges, prosecutors, and defense counsel.

## Geographic coverage

Bronx, New York; Detroit, Michigan; Miami, Florida; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Court practitioners

Variables: 114

Cases: 242

## Reports and publications

T.W. Church, Jr. (1982). Examining Local Legal Culture-Practitioner Attitudes in Four Criminal Courts.

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Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

T.W. Church, Jr. (1981). "Who sets the pace of litigation in urban trial courts?" Judicature, 65: 76-85.

Stevens H. Clarke

### **Alaska plea bargaining study: 1974-1976**

Alaskan Judicial Sentencing Commission,  
Anchorage, Alaska

76-NI-10-0001

#### **Purpose of the study**

This study was designed to determine the effect of a statewide ban on plea bargaining in Alaska on case processing and sentencing.

#### **Methodology**

Sources of information: Data sources include police booking sheets, public fingerprint files, and court dockets from August 1974 until 1976.

Sample: Cases from the criminal courts of Anchorage, Juneau, and Fairbanks, Alaska were sampled over the period August 1974-August 1976.

Dates of data collection: During the 1976-1977 calendar year.

#### **Summary of contents**

Special characteristics of the study: This study is one of the first attempts to examine the effects of the abolition of plea bargaining on the administration of felony justice.

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Description of variables: Variables include demographic information of criminal offenders, social characteristics, criminal history of the offender, nature of the offense for the current offense, evidence, victim characteristics, and administrative factors concerning case outcome.

Unit of observation: A single felony charge against a single defendant.

### Geographic coverage

Anchorage, Juneau, and Fairbanks, Alaska

### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Felony charge for a defendant

Variables: 192

Cases: 3,586

### Reports and publications

C.H. Iliff, M.A. Mock, M.L. Rubenstein, S.S. Simpson, and T.J. White (1977). Alaska Judicial Council Interim Report on the Elimination of Plea Bargaining. Unpublished report, Alaskan Judicial Sentencing Commission, Anchorage, Alaska.

M.L. Rubenstein, T.J. White, and S.E. Clarke (1978). The Effect of the Official Prohibition of Plea Bargaining on the Disposition of Felony Cases in the Alaska Criminal Courts. Unpublished report, Alaskan Judicial Sentencing Commission, Anchorage, Alaska.

M.L. Rubenstein and T.J. White (1979). "Alaska's ban on plea bargaining." Law and Society Review, 13: 367-383.

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Stevens H. Clarke

**Felony prosecution and sentencing in North Carolina:  
1979, 1981**

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

80-IJ-CX-0004

**Purpose of the study**

This research was designed to assess the impact of a determinate sentencing law that became effective in North Carolina July 1, 1981. The primary objective of the study was to describe the judicial decisionmaking process and the patterns of felony sentencing prior to and after the statute became operational.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Statewide data were collected on felony cases from police departments, arrest reports, police investigation reports, and District and Superior Court files from 12 North Carolina counties during a 3-month period in 1979 and again in 1981.

Sample: A purposive sample of 12 North Carolina counties were selected. These counties were selected on the basis of three dimensions: (1) region; (2) urbanization; and (3) workload of court.

Dates of data collection: Data were collected during a 3-month period in 1979 and again in 1981.

**Summary of contents**

Special characteristics of the study: These data allow an analysis of the effect of a large-scale judicial reform, the introduction of North Carolina's determinate sentencing scheme. They describe in detail court activities in 12 representative counties. In

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this data set it is possible to trace individual defendants through the criminal justice system from arrest through disposition.

Description of variables: Variables include information from official court records about witness testimony and quality of the evidence, information from prison staff and probation/parole officers, and social demographic and criminal history data for defendants. Information is also provided on the defendant's entry point in the system, charge and charge reduction information, arraignment status, mode, and type of disposition.

Unit of observation: Individual defendant.

**Geographic coverage**

North Carolina

**File structure**

Data files: 2

Unit: Individual defendant

Variables: 1979 file, 279  
1981 file, 322

Cases: 1979 file, 1,378  
1981 file, 1,280

**Reports and publications**

S.H. Clarke, S. Kurtz, K. Rubinsky, and D. Schleicher (1982). Felony Prosecution and Sentencing in North Carolina: A Report to the Governor's Crime Commission and the National Institute of Justice. Unpublished report, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Institute of Government.

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S.H. Clarke, S. Kurtz, G.F. Lang, K.L. Parker, E.W. Rubinsky, and D.J. Schleicher (1983). North Carolina's Determinate Sentencing Analysis: An Evaluation of the First Year's Experience. Unpublished report, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Institute of Government.

S.H. Clarke (no date). North Carolina's Fair Sentencing Act: What Have the Results Been? Unpublished report, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Institute of Government.

S.H. Clarke and S.T. Kurtz (1983). The Importance of Interim Decisions to Felony Trial Court Dispositions. Unpublished report, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Institute of Government.

Marshall B. Clinard and Peter C. Yeager

### **Illegal corporate behavior, 1979**

University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin

77-NI-99-0069

#### **Purpose of the study**

This study examined corporate law violations of 582 of the largest publicly owned corporations in the United States. The research focused on enforcement actions initiated or imposed by 24 Federal agencies, the nature of these activities, the internal structure of the corporations, and the economic settings in which the illegal activities occurred.

#### **Methodology**

Sources of information: Data were collected from the COMPUSTAT service of Investors Management Sciences, Inc., Moody's series of manuals, corporations' annual

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reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission, and Fortune magazine.

Sample: A purposive sample of 582 of the largest publicly owned corporations in the United States was selected. The sample includes 477 manufacturing, 18 wholesale, 66 retail, and 21 service corporations, and covers enforcement actions and economic data during 1975 and 1976.

Dates of data collection: 1977 through 1978.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study represents one of the few large-scale studies of white collar crime in America. The data set contains information on the law enforcement actions taken against these corporations by Federal agencies. In order to determine the conditions conducive to corporate violations of law, economic data on the corporate and industry level were also gathered.

Description of variables: Variables include information about economic data at the corporate and industry level for manufacturing, wholesale, retail, and service corporations. There is also information about the operating and financial difficulties of the corporations. Data were also collected on industry-level characteristics that may relate to commission of illegal corporate acts, violations, sanctions, and other law enforcement activities directed at these corporations.

Unit of observation: Large, publicly owned American business corporations.

### Geographic coverage

The continental United States

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## File structure

Data files: 2; (1) economics, (2) violations

Unit: Corporations

Variables: Economic file, 128  
Violations file, 175

Cases: Economic file, 461  
Violations file, 2,230

## Reports and publications

M.B. Clinard and P.C. Yeager (1979). Final Report of the White Collar Crime Study. Unpublished report, University of Wisconsin, Madison.

M.B. Clinard and P.C. Yeager (1979). Final Report of the White Collar Crime Study. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

M.B. Clinard and P.C. Yeager (no date). Illegal Corporate Behavior. Washington, D.C.: Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.



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James J. Collins, Charles L. Usher, and Jay R. Williams

## Research on alternative probation strategies in Maryland

Research Triangle Institute, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

81-IJ-CX-0005

### Purpose of the study

This research was designed to assess the cost effectiveness of three alternative probation strategies: unsupervised probation, regular supervised probation, and a community-service work order program.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Baseline data about probationers were collected from intake forms from the Maryland Division of Parole and Probation. Criminal history data were gathered from the Maryland State Police "rapsheets" and interviews with the probationers. In addition, each respondent completed a survey instrument concerning economic, general demographic, and job history information.

Sample: In a field experiment 371 nonviolent, less-serious offenders who normally would have been given probation sentences of 1 year or less were offered randomly selected assignments to one of three probation treatments over a 5-month period. All offenders came from Baltimore County, Maryland.

Dates of data collection: March 1981 through August 1983.

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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: Probationers were experimentally assigned to one of three treatment conditions, varying in the amount of supervision exercised and type of activity required. At the halfway point of the experiment, a recidivism assessment was conducted for each probationer. In addition to official arrests, probationers were interviewed about their recent criminal activity and employment history. Six months after the end of the probation period, each participant completed a survey that was designed to discover any changes in socioeconomic circumstances or involvement with criminal justice agencies. Additional data on arrests and outstanding warrants were also obtained at this time and at a followup conducted 12 months after the probation period. In addition, a separate analysis of the general administrative procedures of each probation program was also conducted to produce a cost-effectiveness assessment model.

Description of variables: The data contain criminal history, sanctions, and economic data on three groups of probationers in an experimental probation program in Baltimore County, Maryland. Variables include age and race of probationer, offense resulting in probation, type and length of probation supervision, living conditions, employment situation, kinds of physical and mental problems, involvement with drugs and alcohol, and attitude towards supervision.

Unit of observation: Probationer.

Geographic coverage

Baltimore County, Maryland

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## **File structure**

**Data files: 8**

**Unit: Probationer**

**Variables: 887**

**Cases: 371**

## **Reports and publications**

**J.J. Collins, C.L. Usher, and J.R. Williams (1984).  
Research on Alternative Probation Strategies in  
Maryland. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of  
Justice.**

**Judith Dahmann**

**Prosecutorial response to violent gang criminality:  
An evaluation of Operation Hardcore, 1976-1980**

**Mitre Corporation, McLean, Virginia**

**81-IJ-CX-K004**

## **Purpose of the study**

The purposes of this system performance study were (1) to describe the problems of gang violence in Los Angeles and the ways that incidents of gang violence have been handled by the Los Angeles criminal justice system; (2) to document the activities of the special gang prosecution unit (Operation Hardcore), and the criminal justice handling of the cases prosecuted by that unit; and (3) to evaluate the extent to which Operation Hardcore affected criminal justice handling of gang violence.

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## Methodology

Sources of information: Police records of gang homicides, prosecutorial case files, court records, and case processing information from criminal court were the primary sources of information. Supplementary data sources included the automated Prosecutor's Management Information System (PROMIS) maintained by the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, court records in the Superior Court of California in Los Angeles, and the local felony court.

Sample: Incidents involving gang-related murders were selected from a population of homicide cases in Los Angeles that involved a known gang member as the victim or suspect. The cases were selected for the sample based on the time the incidents occurred and were cross-referenced with police records and records of the District Attorney's office.

Dates of data collection: January 1979 through December 1981.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study evaluates a special prosecutorial program, Operation Hardcore, that was developed and implemented by the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office to examine the effectiveness of law enforcement and prosecutorial activities in dealing with the problems of gang violence. This study provides data which can be used to evaluate the performance of criminal justice agencies and their handling of incidents of gang-related violence.

Description of variables: Variables include characteristics and demographic information about victims, suspects, and defendants, incident characteristics, and information about court involvement, sentencing, and charge descriptions.

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**Unit of observation:** The unit of observation in this study depends upon the particular data file. Observations include incidents of gang-related homicides, court cases, victims, suspects, defendants, and charges.

### **Geographic coverage**

Los Angeles County, California

### **File structure**

Data files: 6

Unit: See description above

Variables: 14 to 19 per file

Cases: 223 to 1,016 per file

### **Reports and publications**

J.S. Dahmann (1983). Final Report Evaluation of Operation Hardcore--A Prosecutorial Response to Violent Gang Criminality. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

J.S. Dahmann (1983). Prosecutorial Response to Violent Gang Criminality--An Evaluation of Operation Hardcore. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

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Julius Debro

**Research on minorities: Toward a relationship between race and crime**

Criminal Justice Institute, Atlanta University

80-NI-AX-0003

**Purpose of the study**

This study was designed to investigate factors within the black family or community that may contribute to (1) high crime rates and (2) high victimization rates. Community and family structures within black communities were evaluated to determine which social processes or structural conditions were conducive to crime among blacks.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Questionnaires were administered to household members in four communities within Atlanta, Georgia, and the District of Columbia. Additional qualitative data were also collected from ethnographic studies of family life in Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The qualitative information has not been archived.

Sample: Four communities within Atlanta and the District of Columbia were purposely selected based upon socioeconomic characteristics, racial density, and community-level crime rate criteria. Two communities were selected as high crime areas and two were selected as low crime areas of low- and middle-income neighborhoods in the two cities. The sample was stratified by age based upon age group representation in nationwide crime statistics for 1979. Household members falling in three age categories were selected: 15-18 years of age, 19-24 years of age, and 25 years and over.

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Dates of data collection: Summer, 1980.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study attempts to address the fact that blacks are disproportionately over-represented in arrest rates and victimization rates. It examines this issue by investigating the community structure within black communities, concentrating on neighborhood social organization.

Description of variables: The variables include respondents' opinions on neighborhood problems, fear of crime, victimization experiences, police contact, attitudes about police, and individual characteristics (such as gender, religion, and recreational activities). The ethnographic studies provide information on alcohol and drug habits and purchases, assault incidents, and theft and stolen property.

Unit of observation: Household members in low- or middle-income neighborhoods, with low or high crime rates.

### Geographic coverage

The community sites selected were Washington, D.C., and Atlanta, Georgia. The sites for the ethnographic studies were the District of Columbia and two communities in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Household members from urban communities

Variables: 434

Cases: 621

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## Reports and publications

J. Debro (1982). Final Report of the Research on Minorities: Toward a Relationship between Race and Crime, Vol. 1. Unpublished report, Atlanta University, Criminal Justice Institute, Atlanta, Georgia.

Floyd Feeney

Arrests without conviction: How often they occur and why

School of Law, University of California at Davis

78-NI-AX-0116

### Purpose of the study

There were four main objectives of this project: (1) to ascertain the amount of criminal court case attrition for frequent, serious crimes such as robbery, burglary, and felony assault; (2) to examine factors that account for observed case attrition; (3) to determine whether high case attrition rates are inevitable or desirable in their effect on the criminal justice system and its personnel; and (4) to determine strategies, if any, for decreasing case attrition rates and estimate, if possible, what the consequences might be.

### Methodology

Sources of information: The empirical analysis is based on a review of prior research, letter, and telephone contacts with criminal justice personnel in more than 100 jurisdictions, brief visits to 10 research sites, detailed observations in 4 locations, and extensive analysis of case records in Jacksonville, Florida, and San Diego, California.



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Sample: Samples of cases were drawn from arrests made during 1978 and 1979. All robbery, burglary, and felony assault cases were included except those in which the defendant was turned over to another jurisdiction or agency, the defendant failed to appear, the case the defendant was wanted on was one in which he had already been charged, the robbery charge was really grand theft, the assault case became homicide because of victim's death, or the case file was not available for some reason.

Dates of data collection: 1979 through 1980.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This research examines dispositions and case characteristics for robberies and burglaries.

Description of variables: Variables include demographics, socioeconomic status, criminal history, weapon use, victim-offender relationship, trial procedures, and dispositions for a sample of felony defendants.

Unit of observation: Individual defendant.

### Geographic coverage

Jacksonville, Florida, and San Diego, California

### File structure

Data files: 5

Unit: Defendant

Variables: 217 to 449 per file

Cases: 200 to 219 per file

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## Reports and publications

F. Feeney (1983). Final Report of Arrests Without Conviction: How Often They Occur and Why. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

F. Feeney, F. Dill, and A. Weir (1982). Appendix Volume of Arrests Without Conviction--How Often They Occur and Why. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

Brian Forst and William Rhodes

## Sentencing in the U.S. District Courts, 1973-1978

Institute for Law and Social Research (INSLAW),  
Washington, D.C.

#J-42723

## Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to provide information about sentencing patterns for Federal offenses by the U.S. District Courts.

## Methodology

Sources of information: Data were drawn primarily from presentence investigation (PSI) reports produced for offenders convicted between 1973 and 1978 in eight Federal District Courts: New Jersey, Eastern New York, Connecticut, Northern Ohio, Middle Florida, Western Oklahoma, Northern New Mexico, and Northern California.

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Sample: The eight districts were selected to represent some degree of geographic spread and variation in size. The most recent 120 PSI's per offense from each of the five largest districts and the most recent 40 PSI's per offense from each of the three smaller districts were chosen as the sample. PSI's were selected based on cases identified from records of case terminations kept by the Probation Division of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts. The end product included information on slightly less than 660 Federal offenders for each selected offense. Eleven crimes were included in the offense-specific data base: bank robbery, embezzlement, income tax, mail theft, forgery, drug, random other, false claims, homicide, bribery of public officials, and mail fraud. The "random other" category contained a random sample of offenders who were systematically drawn from every 10th PSI of all other Federal offenses. Due to the relative scarcity of the PSI's in the last four offenses, about 500 cases were selected nationwide for each category. Most offenders in the sample of 5,781 total cases were male (85 percent), previously convicted (63 percent), and had legitimate incomes of less than \$12,000 (80 percent). About 30 percent were blacks and 54 percent were high school graduates of the total sample.

Dates of data collection: Not available.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: These data examine Federal sentencing patterns, providing rich details about defendants' characteristics, offenses, court involvement, sentencing, and criminal histories. This study uses a complicated research design resulting in three data files--PSI file, Offense Section file, and Administrative Office (AO) file--for each of the 11 offenses. The "PSI section" files describe an offender's demographic background and criminal history. The "offense section" files contain questions tailored to the particular type of offense committed by offenders and the results of their conviction and sentencing. The "AO section" files provide additional descriptions

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about defendants' background characteristics, court records, and dates of court system entry/exit. These files can be merged to provide detailed information on how offenders and their offenses are sentenced by U.S. District Court judges.

Description of variables: The PSI section files contain 187 common variables across the 11 offenses, focusing on the offender's background including family, education, psychological characteristics, social activities, financial status, employment history, substance use, and criminal records. Variables in the offense section relate to each offense the offender committed, including motivations, victims injured, use of weapon, value of crime, PSI recommendations, days of community service, and length of imprisonment. (Note: the number of offense-specific variables for each offense depends on number of offenses committed.) The variables in the AO files include demographic characteristics and court records for each individual offender.

Unit of observation: PSI and sentence result.

### Geographic coverage

United States and Federal District Court Jurisdictions of New Jersey, Eastern New York, Connecticut, Northern Ohio, Middle Florida, Western Oklahoma, Northern New Mexico, and Northern California

### File structure

Data files: 27

Unit: PSI and sentence result for each defendant

Variables: 35 to 187 per file

Cases: 5,781

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## Reports and publications

INSLAW, Inc., and Yankelovich, Skelly, and White, Inc. (1981). Federal Sentencing: Toward a More Explicit Policy of Criminal Sanctions. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.

Brian Forst and William Rhodes

### A 6-year followup study on career criminals, 1970-1976

Institute for Law and Social Research

JYFRP-81-C-0126

#### Purpose of the study

The major objective of the study was to analyze the effects of sentencing decisions on career criminals in order to develop career criminal programs that target and incarcerate those career offenders who may commit crimes in the future.

#### Methodology

Source of information: The major data sources were presentence investigations (PSI) reports, parole administration data tapes, and the FBI's Computerized Criminal History (CCH) system.

Sample: The sample population includes offenders who have committed Federal offenses or certain kinds of serious offenses such as homicide, robbery, fraud, forgery, drugs, and counterfeiting. The study excluded offenses of prostitution, pornography, immigration and tax violations, draft dodging, and other victimless and minor offenses.

Subjects in the PSI data file are defendants who were convicted of Federal offenses in 1969-1970 and sentenced

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up to a year in prison, given probation, or fined. The parole sample consists of Federal offenders who were released from prison during the first 6 months of 1970. About half of this sample served prison terms of longer than 1 year, and the other half served terms of less than a year including probation. The FBI CCH files contain rap sheet information on two types of samples. In the FBI rap sheet file for PSI's, it consists of defendants in the PSI data file. The sample of FBI rap sheets for parolees includes defendants in the parole data file with five or more arrests during the followup period, and offenders who were incarcerated during that period for 60 days or more.

Date of data collection: Not available.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This data set includes detailed demographic background and complete prior and followup criminal records on each selected offender. There are two kinds of data sets in the study: (1) PSI data set (including the PSI file and the FBI's CCH file) and (2) parole data set (including parole file and FBI's CCH file). The PSI data file describes each offender's demographic background, criminal history, and court entry/exit. The parole data file contains coded information about offender's background characteristics; prior records of arrests, convictions, dispositions, and sentences; and followup records for a period of 6 years from 1970 to 1976. The FBI's CCH data files contain coded rap sheet information about each record of arrest for the offenders included in the PSI file and the parole file. It is possible to merge either the PSI file or the parole file with the corresponding FBI rap sheet data files in order to develop a model that can measure whether the offender committed offenses during the followup period.

Description of the variables: The PSI data file contains information about family, education, psychological characteristics, social activities, financial

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status, employment history, substance use, and criminal records. The parole data file contains variables relating to offender's records of offenses committed, arrests, dispositions, sentences, parole and probation histories, along with age, sex, and race of the offender. In the FBI's CCH files variables included are arrest sequence number, arrest date, offense charge, disposition of arrest, result of sentence, and number of months actually incarcerated.

Unit of observation: The unit of observation varies. In the PSI and parole data files it is the defendant. In the FBI rap sheet files it is the arrest.

### Geographic coverage

The United States

### File structure

Data files: 6

Unit: Defendant and arrest

Variables: 160 to 311 per file

Cases: 638 to 1,762 per file

### Reports and publications

W. Rhodes, H. Tyson, J. Weekley, C. Conly, and G. Powell (1982). Developing Criteria for Identifying Career Criminals. Washington, D.C.: Institute for Law and Social Research, Inc.

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**Floyd Fowler**

**Residential neighborhood crime control project:  
Hartford, Connecticut, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1979**

**University of Massachusetts**

**73-NI-99-0044, 75-NI-95-0026, 79-NI-AX-0026**

**Purpose of the study**

The study was designed as an experiment to reduce the rates of residential burglary and street robbery/purse snatchings, and the fear of these crimes.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Questionnaires were administered to members of households in Hartford, Connecticut. Approximately one-half of the questionnaires were administered in person and approximately one-half over the telephone.

Sample: Random and cluster area probability samples were taken of households in Hartford, Connecticut. Oversampling was conducted to permit more detailed analyses; therefore, Hartford was divided into four parts: Asylum Hill, Clay Hill/Sand, the area adjacent to Asylum Hill, and the remainder of Hartford. In each household, a respondent was randomly chosen. A respondent was eligible if he or she was an adult who had lived in the housing unit for at least 6 months.

Dates of data collection: Data were collected in the months of May to July each year over a nonconsecutive 5-year period: 1973, 1975 through 1977, and 1979.

**Summary of contents**

Special characteristics of the study: This study involves a field experiment implemented in neighborhoods in Hartford, Connecticut. The program was especially



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designed to reduce the rates of residential burglary and other forms of street crime, and the perceived fear of personal victimization.

Description of variables: Variables describe the characteristics of the respondent, including age, sex, personal victimization experiences, fear, and perceived risk of victimization, perceptions of and attitudes toward the police, and perceived neighborhood problems. Variables describing community characteristics include amount of lighting on the street, amount of traffic, and predictions of whether the neighborhood would get better or worse.

Unit of observation: Individual households.

### Geographic coverage

Hartford, Connecticut

### File structure

Data files: 5

Unit: Individual households

Variables: 214 to 560 per file

Cases: 146 to 891 per file

### Reports and publications

F.J. Fowler, Jr. (1979). Reducing Residential Crime and Fear: The Hartford Neighborhood Crime Prevention Program. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

F.J. Fowler, Jr. (1982). Neighborhood Crime, Fear, and Social Control: A Second Look at the Hartford Program. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

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John J. Gibbs and Peggy L. Shelly

**"Xenon" (New Jersey) commercial burglary data, 1979-1981**

Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey

80-IJ-CX-0060

**Purpose of the study**

The research was designed to investigate (1) commercial thefts and burglaries; (2) commercial offenders; and (3) methods used to commit commercial offenses in the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area. The study is one component of the three-part "Study of the Causes of Crime for Gain" (see SLATS Truck Theft Data of New York City, 1976-1980, and Port Authority Cargo Theft Data of New Jersey and New York, 1978-1980). "Xenon," a pseudonym, is a small community near the Eastern Seaboard in New Jersey (residential population in 1981 of 6,200).

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Data were collected from official police incident and arrest files from the "Xenon," New Jersey, Police Department.

Sample: Data were collected on incidents of commercial burglary and theft (including attempts) from police files beginning on September 1, 1979, and continuing through June 4, 1980. From the initial universe of the 321 cases of burglary and theft reported, 218 cases met the criteria of the "commercial theft" definition. Theft of property was defined by N.J. Statutes Annotated, Chapter 2C. The sample is stratified by the burglary and theft incidents resulting in arrests made by the "Xenon" Police Department or other police forces, and by the incidents not resulting in arrests. Commercial theft cases were included only if they involved theft of commercial goods from a

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commercial establishment and not if they involved residential or personal property theft. (Note that both traits are necessary to qualify for inclusion.)

Dates of data collection: June 1981.

## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: The study investigates commercial burglaries and thefts.

Description of variables: Variables include incident characteristics (such as method of entry), type and value of property stolen, and offender characteristics (such as number of contacts, number of arrests, sex, age, and race).

Unit of observation: Incidents of commercial burglary or theft from a commercial establishment, including any attempts.

## Geographic coverage

"Xenon," New Jersey, a small community near the eastern seaboard

## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Commercial burglary or theft incidents from commercial establishments

Variables: 37

Cases: 218

## Reports and publications

J.J. Gibbs and P. Shelly (1982). Final Report of the Commercial Theft Studies Project. Unpublished report, Rutgers University, Center for the Study of Causes of Crime for Gain, Newark, New Jersey.

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John J. Gibbs and Peggy L. Shelly

## SLATS truck theft data of New York City, 1976-1980

Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey

82-IJ-CX-0060

### Purpose of the study

This research was designed to investigate (1) commercial truck theft and larceny, and (2) characteristics of commercial truck offenders in the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area. The study constitutes one component of a three-part "Study of the Causes of Crime for Gain" (see "Xenon" (New Jersey) commercial burglary data, 1979-1981, and Port Authority cargo theft data of New Jersey and New York, 1978-1980).

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected from detective squad files from a specialized New York police department, called the "Safe, Lock, and Truck Squad." This squad was created primarily to investigate commercial truck thefts.

Sample: All commercial truck theft incidents that involved the forcible taking of a truck or grand larceny if the loss exceeded \$10,000, occurring between 1979 and 1980, within the city limits of New York City. The cases were selected from the files of the New York City Police Department's "Safe, Lock and Truck Squad." In addition, a 20-percent sample of all incidents involving truck hijacking and grand larcenies from 1976 to 1978 was selected.

Dates of data collection: Between February and April of 1981.

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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: The study examines commercial truck thefts and characteristics of commercial truck thieves.

Description of variables: Variables include incident characteristics, arrest information, police services provided, types of crime involved, type and value of stolen property, weapon involved, treatment of driver, suspect characteristics (such as age, race, and gender), and recovery information.

Unit of observation: Incident of commercial truck hijacking or grand larceny over \$10,000, including attempts, arrests, and surveillances.

## Geographic coverage

Within the city limits of New York City

## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Commercial truck hijacking or theft incidents

Variables: 93

Cases: 601

## Reports and publications

J.J. Gibbs and P. Shelly (1982). Final Report of the Commercial Theft Studies Project. Unpublished report, Rutgers University, Center for the Study of Causes of Crime for Gain, Newark, New Jersey.

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John J. Gibbs and Peggy L. Shelly

**Port Authority cargo theft data of New Jersey and New York,  
1978-1980**

Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey

80-IJ-CX-0060

**Purpose of the study**

This research was designed to investigate the incidents of cargo theft, burglary, and robbery at truck depots, marine piers, and airports in the New York-New Jersey metropolitan area. The study is one component of a three-part "Study of the Causes of Crime for Gain" (see "Xenon" (New Jersey) commercial burglary data, 1979-1981, and SLATS truck theft data of New York City, 1976-1980).

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Data for this study of air, truck, and marine cargo theft were taken from the Crime Analysis Unit's files of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, occurring at either the JFK, LaGuardia, or Newark Airports, the Elizabeth or Newark Ports, or the New York Marine Terminal in Brooklyn, New York.

Sample: A sample of 864 cargo theft cases were selected from the Crime Analysis Unit's files of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, occurring between 1978 and 1980.

Dates of data collection: Between July and September of 1981.

**Summary of contents**

Special characteristics of the study: The study investigates cargo theft, robbery, and burglary.

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Description of variables: Variables include information about methods used to commit theft, incident and missing cargo characteristics, suspect characteristics and punishments, and type and value of property stolen.

Unit of observation: Cargo theft, burglary, or robbery incidents.

### Geographic coverage

New York-New Jersey metropolitan area

### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Cargo theft, burglary, or robbery incidents

Variables: 126

Cases: 864

### Reports and publications

J.J. Gibbs and P. Shelly (1982). Final Report of the Commercial Theft Studies Project. Unpublished report, Rutgers University, Center for the Study of Causes of Crime for Gain, Newark, New Jersey.

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John S. Goldkamp and Michael R. Gottfredson

**Judicial decision guidelines for bail: Philadelphia experiment, 1981-1982**

Center for Criminal Justice Research, State University  
of New York at Albany

81-IJR-0027

**Purpose of the study**

The purpose of this research was to investigate the feasibility and utility of bail decision guidelines.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Data were collected from the court files of criminal cases for the Philadelphia Municipal Court.

Sample: A sample of judges were randomly selected from the Philadelphia Municipal Court. Cases were selected according to a stratified quota sampling design in which a specified number of cases were chosen based on the seriousness of charge and judge.

Dates of data collection: January 1981 through March 1982.

**Summary of contents**

Special characteristics of the study: This study employed an experimental design to investigate the feasibility of bail guidelines. From a sample of 22 judges, 8 judges were randomly assigned to use the bail guidelines or be "experimental" judges, and 8 judges were randomly assigned to "control" or not to use the guidelines.



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Description of variables: Data were taken from defendant's files and included the number of suspects involved, number of different offenses charged, most serious injury experienced by the victim(s), preliminary arraignment disposition, amount of bail, socioeconomic status and demographics of the defendant, prior criminal history, and reason for the granting or denial of bail.

Unit of observation: Individual.

### Geographic coverage

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Individual

Variables: 109

Cases: 1,920

### Reports and publications

J.S. Goldkamp and M.R. Gottfredson (1984). Final Report of the Judicial Guidelines for Bail: The Philadelphia Experiment Project. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

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Lynne I. Goodstein, John H. Kramer, John R. Hepburn, and Doris L. MacKenzie

**The effects of the determinate sentence on institutional climate and prison administration: Connecticut, Minnesota, Illinois, 1981-1983**

Pennsylvania State University, State College,  
Pennsylvania

80-NI-AX-0006

**Purpose of the study**

Data were collected on prison inmates to examine the effects of determinate sentencing on institutional climate and prison administration.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Survey instruments were administered to prison inmates. Six questionnaires were used to collect the data from inmates at five prisons in Connecticut, Minnesota, and Illinois. They were administered on three separate occasions at 6-month intervals.

Sample: The three States used in the study were chosen because they had recently implemented a determinant style reform or were in the process of doing so. Jurisdictions were intentionally selected which differed in the type of reforms enacted. The questionnaires were administered to a random sample of 1,654 prisoners.

Dates of data collection: Data were collected at three time periods, all of which were between April 1981 and September 1982.

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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study examines inmates' attitudes and adjustments to institutionalization in order to determine the effect of recent sentencing law changes toward more determinate periods of imprisonment. Issues covered in the questionnaires included attitudes toward the criminal justice system, family contacts outside the institution, relations with other prisoners and guards, involvement in prison programs, physical problems that developed while imprisoned, and criminal history information.

Description of variables: Variables pertaining to the inmates' attitudes include whether or not the respondent feels the law he was convicted with is fair, and whether or not he feels he was treated fairly in general by the criminal justice system. Other variables concerning prison life are how respondent feels in general about prison life, how many disagreements he has had with other prisoners, how many situations involving physical force he has been involved in with guards, and reasons why he believes inmates become involved in prison programs. Variables that describe the prisoner such as race, gender, marital status, condition of family relations, and past criminal history are also included.

Unit of observation: Inmate.

### Geographic coverage

Connecticut, Minnesota, and Illinois

### File structure

Data files: 9

Unit: Inmate

Variables: 210 in each data collection period

Cases: 1,654

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## Reports and publications

L. Goodstein, J.H. Kramer, J.R. Hepburn, and D.L. Mackenzie, (1984). Determinate Sentencing and the Correctional Process: A Study of the Implementation and Impact of Sentencing Reform in Three States--Executive Summary. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

L. Goodstein, J.H. Kramer, and L. Nuss (1984). "Defining Determinacy--Components of the Sentencing Process Ensuring Equity and Release Certainty." Justice Quarterly, 1(1): 47-74.

David F. Greenberg

### An age cohort analysis of arrest rates

New York University, New York City

82-IJ-CX-0025

#### Purpose of the study

This study examined the relationship between the age structure of American society and crime trends.

#### Methodology

Sources of information: This study uses Census population data and Uniform Crime Report arrest counts broken down by age, sex, and race. Data were collected from sources that included 1970 and 1980 Census data and 1970-1980 Uniform Crime Reports.

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Sample: The study is based on a purposive sample of 7 cities: Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago, Illinois; Denver, Colorado; Knoxville, Tennessee; San Jose, California; Spokane, Washington; and Tucson, Arizona. The cities were chosen from the 25 largest cities for which the FBI was willing to provide unpublished arrest rates. They were selected to ensure geographical representativeness.

Dates of data collection: Not available.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This data set contains detailed data on the distribution of offenses by the age and sex of the offender and summarizes the relationship between age and criminal behavior through the use of official records. The population file includes population totals by sex for ages 5 to 20 on a yearly basis and for age groups 5 to 69. The arrest file contains frequencies of arrests for a wide range of crimes by sex and age.

Description of variables: Variables in the population file include population totals by sex for ages 5-20 on a yearly basis, e.g., 5,6,7, etc. It also provides such information for age groups 5 to 69; e.g., 5-9, 10-14, 15-19, etc. Arrest data were collected for the following crimes: murder, forcible rape, arson, forgery, fraud, embezzlement, stolen property, vandalism, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, other assaults, weapons, prostitution, other sex offenses, opium abuse, marijuana abuse, gambling, family offenses, drunk driving, liquor law violations, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, vagrancy, and all other offenses combined.

Unit of observation: Individual cities.

### Geographic coverage

Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago, Illinois; Denver, Colorado; Knoxville, Tennessee; San Jose, California; Spokane, Washington; and Tucson, Arizona

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## File structure

Data files: 14

Unit: City

Variables: 247 to 1,470 per file

Cases: 7 per file

## Reports and publications

D.F. Greenberg and N.J. Larkin (1985). "Age-cohort analysis of arrest rates." Journal of Quantitative Criminology, 1(13): 227-240.

D.F. Greenberg (1984). An Age Cohort Analysis of Arrest Rates. Paper presented at the meeting of the Eastern Sociological Association, Boston, Massachusetts.

D.F. Greenberg (1984). Arrest Rates in the Teen and Early Adult Years. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Scientists, Chicago.

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Stephanie Greenberg

**Characteristics of high- and low-crime neighborhoods in Atlanta, 1980**

Research Triangle Institute, Chapel Hill, North Carolina

79-NI-AX-0080

**Purpose of the study**

The study examined the physical environment and socio-economic characteristics of neighborhoods, and the relationship between these neighborhood characteristics and rates of crime. It examined why some urban neighborhoods possessed low crime rates despite their physical proximity and structural similarity to high-crime areas.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Survey data were collected from members of households in three pairs of neighborhoods in Atlanta, Georgia. A supplemental data set comes from the Atlanta Bureau of City Planning which was used both to assist in sampling for the household survey and also to provide information on the physical characteristics of the blocks of land in the surveyed neighborhoods.

Sample: A stratified random sample of households was selected from three matched pairs of neighborhoods. The neighborhoods were selected on the basis of their crime, racial, and income characteristics. Neighborhood pairs were selected if they were physically adjacent and similar in terms of racial and economic composition but had distinctly different crime rates.

Dates of data collection: August through October, 1980.

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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study describes neighborhood characteristics, both structural and social, and how such features of communities are related to different kinds of crime. Physical characteristics of neighborhoods examined include land use, housing, street type, arrangement of buildings, and boundary characteristics. Social dimensions of neighborhoods include several measures of territoriality such as spatial identity, local ties, social cohesion, informal social control, residential stability, and racial and economic composition.

Description of variables: The physical characteristics of the neighborhood are measured by variables which include: type of zoning; number of residences, bars, vacant lots, and manufacturers; number of health facilities; presence or absence of railroads; and type of streets. The social dimensions of the neighborhoods are measured by variables such as the number of good friends in the neighborhood, racial occupancy of the neighborhood, how problems with neighbors are handled, family income, number of auto thefts and burglaries, and how prostitutes and delinquent children are handled.

Unit of observation: Individual households.

### Geographic coverage

Atlanta, Georgia

### File structure

Data files: 2; (1) household, (2) city planning

Unit: Households



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Variables: Household file, 683  
City planning file, 40

Cases: Household file, 523  
City planning file, 9,121

## Reports and publications

S.W. Greenberg, J.R. Williams, and W.M. Rohe (1982).  
Safe and Secure Neighborhoods--Physical Characteristics  
and Informal Territorial Control in High and Low Crime  
Neighborhoods--Final Report. Washington, D.C.:  
National Institute of Justice.

Rudy A. Haapanen and Carl F. Jesness

## Early identification of the chronic offender

California Youth Authority, Sacramento, California

79-IJ-AX-0114

## Purpose of the study

This study was designed to determine if chronic offenders could be identified early in their careers by examining serious juvenile delinquents and their adult criminal patterns.

## Methodology

Sources of information: Background and general demographic information were collected from inmate files of the California Youth Authority. Followup data on later criminal history were obtained from official arrest records of the California Bureau of Criminal Investigations, the FBI, and the California Bureau of Vital Statistics.

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Sample: The sample was selected from juvenile inmates who were incarcerated in the 1960's in three institutions of the California Youth Authority: Preston, Youth Center Research Project, and Fricot. These youths had been designated as serious juvenile delinquents and had all been involved in research projects during which extensive demographic, psychological, and behavioral data had been collected.

Dates of data collection: 1978 through 1981.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: An important feature of this study is the collection of followup criminal history data from a sample of youths as adults (18 to 26 years of age). The data set includes information on involvement in programs, and demographic and psychological variables as well.

Description of variables: Variables include age of first contact with the police; worst juvenile arrest; date, severity, and disposition of later offenses; clinical summary variables of subjects' mental rating; violence in past record; and demographic variables such as race and age.

Unit of observation: Institutionalized youths.

### Geographic coverage

California

### File structure

Data files: 6

Unit: Institutionalized youth

Variables: 343 to 420 per file

Cases: 210 to 1,715 per file

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## Reports and publications

R.A. Haapanen (1982). Early Identification of Chronic Offenders: Executive Summary. California Youth Authority, Sacramento, California.

L.N. Harris

### Police response time analysis: Kansas City, Missouri, 1975

Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department

73-NI-99-0047, 77-NI-99-0016

#### Purpose of the study

The study was designed to investigate the relationship between the effectiveness of police actions, swiftness of response time, and citizen satisfaction of police services in Kansas City, Missouri.

#### Methodology

Sources of information: The data were collected from three sources: (1) personal and telephone interviews were conducted with crime victims and witnesses; (2) the response rate of police to dispatch calls and police travel time were measured by timing telephone and radio exchanges on police dispatch tapes; and (3) observers accompanied police officers into the field to record on-scene activities.

Sample: A purposive sample of 69 police beats were selected, based on recorded rates of robbery and aggravated assault. These police beats were located within three patrol divisions in Kansas City, Missouri. The sample included 949 Part I and 359 Part II crime calls as defined by the FBI Uniform Crime Report, and 5,793 noncrime calls.

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Dates of data collection: Field data were collected between March 1, 1975, through January 2, 1976. Other data collections extended into the spring of 1976.

## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study examines both citizen satisfaction with police services and also police response time to crime in high crime areas. It provides a comprehensive examination of: (1) the relationship of response time to the outcomes of criminal apprehension, witness availability, citizen satisfaction, and frequency of citizen injury; and (2) the identification of patterns and problems in reporting crime or requesting police assistance.

Description of variables: Variables include travel times, characteristics about the crime incidents, victims and suspects, reasons for delays, type of crime, social and demographic characteristics (such as age, marital status, occupation, race, income, and gender), criminal justice system involvement, injuries, and arrest information.

Unit of observation: Calls for service.

## Geographic coverage

Kansas City, Missouri

## File structure

Data files: 11

Unit: Calls for service

Variables: Approximately 633

Cases: 949

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## Reports and publications

L.N. Harris (1977). Police Response Time Analysis: Kansas City--An Executive Summary. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

Kansas City (MO) Police Dept. (1980). Police Response Time Analysis, Synopsis. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

Richard Hartigan

**Cost effectiveness of misdemeanor probation, Hamilton County, Ohio, 1981-1982**

Hamilton County Board of Commissioners, Cincinnati, Ohio

80-IJ-CX-0083

### Purpose of the study

This research was designed to determine whether supervision of misdemeanor probationers was cost-effective in increasing the level of successful probation completions.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected from probation files in Hamilton County (Cincinnati), Ohio. Data for the study were collected as a part of the standard probation department procedure where the Daily Probationer Supervision Logs are sent to the Data Coordinator who checks them for completeness and returns them if necessary.

Sample: Data were collected on 2,756 probationers from a potential pool of 7,072 misdemeanor probationers. The remaining 4,316 cases were excluded due to failure of the probationer to show up for screening or for other

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reasons that did not meet the research criteria, such as (1) not falling within the study period (1/1/81 to 12/31/82); (2) prior inclusion in the study of another experience of the same probationer; and (3) nonrandom assignment of supervision.

Dates of data collection: January 1, 1981, through December 31, 1982.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This is one of the first empirical cost-effectiveness studies focusing primarily on the most prevalent type of probation case: misdemeanor probation. Data were collected in order to examine relationships among supervision costs, the collection of court costs, fines and restitution, types of supervision, risk assessment, and probationer's conduct. Probationers were initially classified according to risk assessment and then assigned to a supervision category. Probationer's risk potential was a numerical score derived from demographic background variables, prior record, and history of substance use. The DSCP (Degree of Successful Completion of Probation) was developed to measure probationer conduct and to compare types of probation status.

Description of variables: The variables include risk assessment at intake, supervision level assigned, number of times the probationer was assigned to probation, start and planned termination dates of probation, date of last probation status change, status at termination, degree of successful completion of probation achieved, costs incurred in administering probation and amounts collected from each probationer for court costs, and restitution and fines.

Unit of observation: Misdemeanant probation experience (the individual is not the unit of analysis, so the number of cases is not equal to the number of probationers).

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## **Geographic coverage**

**Hamilton County, Ohio**

## **File structure**

**Data files: 1**

**Unit: Misdemeanant probation experience**

**Variables: 16**

**Cases: 6,618**

## **Reports and publications**

**A. Young (1983). Cost Effectiveness of Misdemeanant Probation. Unpublished report, Municipal Court of Hamilton County, Cincinnati, Ohio.**

**Daryl A. Hellman and James Allan Fox**

## **Urban crime control and property values: Estimating systematic interactions**

**Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts**

**81-IJ-CX-0063**

## **Purpose of the study**

**This research evaluated the impact of crime on urban property values, focusing on the link between local government's finances, property values, city revenues, police budgets, and city crime control efforts, in order to generate strategies and policy guidelines for controlling urban crime.**

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## Methodology

Sources of information: The data for this study come from U.S. Census reports, Uniform Crime Reports, and Expenditure and Employment Data for the Criminal Justice System.

Sample: The data were collected from local governments of 88 cities with populations over 150,000 for the year 1970.

Dates of data collection: Data from secondary sources were merged from the different sources listed above; the merging took place during 1981 through 1982.

## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This data set deals with the finances of city governments and the link between crime and urban property values.

Description of variables: Variables include crime incidence characteristics and sanction information, police employment, expenditures and unionization, city revenues and sources of revenue, property values, and public sector demographic/socioeconomic characteristics.

Unit of observation: Local governments.

## Geographic coverage

Eighty-eight American cities

## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Local governments

Variables: Approximately 331

Cases: 88



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## Reports and publications

D.A. Hellman and J.A. Fox (1984). Final Report of Urban Crime Control and Property Values: Estimating Systematic Interactions. Unpublished report, Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

Sally Hillsman-Baker

New York City court employment project evaluation study,  
1976-1979

Vera Institute of Justice, New York, New York

76-NI-99-0040, 77-NI-99-0075

### Purpose of the study

This study was conducted in order to assess the effectiveness of a deferred prosecution and employment counseling program in helping offenders find and maintain employment and avoid criminal activity.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Files from the New York City Police Department were used to obtain information on the criminal history of subjects. In addition, Court Employment Project files were examined and interviews were conducted with project participants.

Sample: The sample is based on an experimental design which included random assignment of defendants eligible for pretrial diversion to experimental and control groups. Data were collected on 666 subjects; 410 were assigned to the experimental group, and 256 were assigned to the control.

Dates of data collection: Not available.

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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study assessed the effectiveness of the Court Employment Project with an experimental design. Defendants were placed in the CEP (experimental condition) or the control group. Three interviews were conducted at 6-month intervals with each subject. Initially, these interviews gathered data on participants' criminal activity, work experience, social service, and training needs. Followup interviews were conducted to gain information on participants' current school, employment, income, and court processing status.

Description of variables: The data summarize demographic, socioeconomic, work, criminal activity, and criminal history experiences of participants of New York's Court Employment Project. Variables in the data set include age, sex, race, and charges against the defendant, previous training and work experience, satisfaction with CEP services, attendance at counseling sessions, type of employment found, job attendance, and subsequent arrests and convictions.

Unit of observation: Court Employment Project participant.

### Geographic coverage

New York City

### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: CEP participants

Variables: 1,241

Cases: 666

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## Reports and publications

S.H. Baker (1981). New York City Court Employment Project Evaluation Study 1976-1979. Rockville, Maryland: NCJRS.

Baker, S.H. (1981). Diversion of Felony Arrests--An Experiment in Pretrial Intervention--An Evaluation of the Court Employment Project--Summary Report. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

Baker, S.H. and Sadd, S. (1979). Court Employment Project Evaluation: Final Report. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

Herbert Jacob

Governmental responses to crime in the United States, 1948-1978

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

78-NI-AX-0096

### Purpose of the study

The study investigated government responses to the increase in crime during the period 1948-1978. The study examined the nature of the increase in crime, the attention given to crime by the media, the connections between structures and patterns of city government, and changes in law by urban government and communities.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected from U.S. Census sources, Uniform Crime Reports, and the news media.

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Sample: A purposive sample was taken of 10 American cities; Atlanta, Boston, Houston, Indianapolis, Minneapolis, Newark, Oakland, Philadelphia, Phoenix, and San Jose. These cities were chosen from a listing of all cities in the country with a population greater than 250,000 in 1970. From that list of 66 cities, 20 were chosen by the principal investigator who focused on 7 dimensions considered to be theoretically important. Some of these dimensions are: fiscal strength, type of city government, regional location, and overall measures of the quality of urban life. A city was included in the list of 20 based on 2 criteria: cities were chosen with extremes on the 7 dimensions, and with average values on the dimensions. The final 10 cities were chosen on the basis of regional distribution, research capacity (cities were chosen that had plentiful research facilities), accessibility (cities were avoided where past researchers had trouble in obtaining cooperation), prior research (cities where substantive prior research had been done were chosen), and significant program initiation (cities were included which had received Federal grants from the LEAA). The data on media attentiveness were collected from a sample of local newspapers from each city except Newark. A random sample of 21 issues for each city was taken. The content analysis was limited to the first three pages, the editorial page, and the letters to the editor.

Dates of data collection: October 1978 through 1980.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This longitudinal study examines policy responses to increases in crime. The data cover three decades of urban experience with crime and crime control of 10 major U.S. cities with different histories, cultures, and political and economic structures. Included in the study is a base-line data set which contains information on all cities having a population of 50,000 or more in 1950, 1960, 1970, and 1975. These data were included in order to constitute a base with which the 10 cities of the study could be compared.

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Description of variables: Variables in the data set cover characteristics of the 10 U.S. cities in the sample, such as (1) official response to crime and actual crime rates over the covered period; (2) changes in the activities, focus, and resources of local police, courts, corrections, and prosecutorial systems; (3) changes in ordinances and laws over time; and (4) attentiveness to crime and criminal justice issues as covered by the news media.

Unit of observation: The unit of observation varies. In the baseline data file the unit is a city. All 396 cities having a population of 50,000 or more in 1950, 1960, 1970, and 1975 are included, with an observation for each year from 1948-1978. The unit in the 10-city file is one annual observation of an individual city over the 31-year period (10 cities, 31 observations). In the State law and city ordinance files the unit is the law or ordinance with an observation for each year of the study. The media data files' unit of observation is a newspaper issue in a specific city for a specific year.

### Geographic coverage

The study focused on 10 cities: Atlanta, Georgia; Boston, Massachusetts; Houston, Texas; Indianapolis, Indiana; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Newark, New Jersey; Oakland, California; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Phoenix, Arizona; and San Jose, California. However the data also include information on all 396 cities having a population of 50,000 or more in 1950, 1960, 1970, and 1975.

### File structure

Data files: 13

Unit: Cities, ordinances, laws, and newspaper issues

Variables: 37 to 140 per file

Cases: 310 to 12,276 per file

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## Reports and publications

H. Jacob and R.L. Lineberry (1982). Governmental Responses to Crime: Executive Summary. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

H. Jacob (1984). The Frustration of Policy: Responses to Crime by American Cities. Boston, Massachusetts: Little, Brown.

Tony Japha

### New York drug law evaluation project, 1973

Association of the Bar of the City of New York and Drug Abuse Council, Inc., New York City

76-NI-99-0115

### Purpose of the study

The study was designed to evaluate the effectiveness of a 1973 New York law that prescribed mandatory penalties for drug offenses.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Sources of information include a survey interview of ex-drug users, in an attempt to determine (1) their knowledge of New York's new drug law, and (2) any effects the new law may have had on their behavior. Other information was obtained from the individual case files maintained either by the county clerk or court clerk, district attorney, or probation department. Official court and department of corrections records were also searched as were records from judicial administrators, probation directors, and district attorneys.

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Sample: This study involved multiple samples: (1) cases of persons convicted for a nondrug felony and given a nonincarceration sentence were randomly drawn from the Criminal Court of Manhattan; (2) cases entering the court for arraignment and cases reduced or dismissed at first arraignment were randomly sampled; (3) clients in drug treatment programs in New York City; and (4) males held on felony charges in Manhattan.

Dates of data collection: 1976 through 1977.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study measures the effect of a newly implemented law on those whom the law most directly affects. In this case the law affects the criminal involved with drug-related crimes. This data set includes information about drug users' knowledge of the new drug statute and penalty structure and aggregated data assessing the law's effects.

Description of variables: The data summarize the extent of drug users' knowledge of the New York drug law and estimate the number and proportion of crimes attributable to narcotic users. The survey included questions such as: have you heard of the new law? how did you hear about it? how has it affected the street scene? and how has it affected your behavior? Other variables include number of previous arrests, number of subsequent arrests, time span between arrests, disposition of each case, and treatment status of the defendant.

Unit of observation: The unit of observation varies: felony cases, volunteers in drug treatment programs, and male felon detainees.

### Geographic coverage

New York City

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## **File structure**

**Data files: 5**

**Unit: Felony cases, volunteers in drug treatment programs, and male felon detainees**

**Variables: 27 to 169 per file**

**Cases: 289 to 3,550 per file**

## **Reports and publications**

**T. Japha (1978). The Nation's Toughest Drug Law: Evaluating the New York Experience. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.**

**T. Japha (1978). Staff Working Papers of the Drug Law Evaluation Project. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.**

**Wayne A. Kerstetter**

**Evaluation of pretrial settlement conference: Dade County, Florida Criminal Court, 1979**

**Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida**

**76-NI-99-0088**

## **Purpose of the study**

**The main research objectives were to determine whether the implementation of a pretrial settlement program would be possible in an urban felony court, to assess the impact of these conferences on case processing and dispositions, and to examine the effects of the conference on criminal justice personnel.**



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## Methodology

Sources of information: There were three sources of information. The first was court records collected from records in the Clerk of the Court's Office. The second source was conference observations in which an observer transcribed the verbal behavior of participants in the plea bargaining conference. The final source was interviews with defendants, victims, and police. Unless the persons were incarcerated, the interviews were conducted by telephone.

Sample: The defendants' cases were assigned to judges in a random fashion by the courts using a blind file system. From the calendars of six judges in the criminal division, cases were randomly assigned to test and control groups. The test group for each judge included all cases assigned to him, regardless of whether a conference was held or not. A control case is one in which no conference was held though it was selected into the study sample. A control case was processed according to the existing practices of the division.

Dates of data collection: January 17, 1977, through February 1978.

## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This research is important because the plea negotiation process in this study differed from traditional plea bargaining because of the involvement of victims, judges, and the police, who ordinarily would either not be present or would play only a small, after-the-fact role in plea bargaining decisions. Data were collected using a field experiment design in which cases randomly assigned to judges were randomly assigned to control and test groups.

Description of variables: The data set includes information about the effect of plea bargaining conferences involving victims, defendants, attorneys, judges, and the police. Information was also collected

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on the extent to which respondents to the interview participated in the processing of their case and their attitudes toward the disposition of the case. Variables include type of case, number of charges, sentence type, sentence severity, seriousness of offense, date of arrest, date of arraignment, date of conference, prior incarcerations, and defendant background information.

Unit of observation: Court case.

### Geographic coverage

Dade County, Florida

### File structure

Data files: 5

Units: Court cases

Variables: 91 to 215 per file

Cases: 320 to 1,073 per file

### Reports and publications

W.A. Kerstetter and A.M. Heinz (1979). Pretrial Settlement Conference: An Evaluation. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

W.A. Kerstetter and A.M. Heinz (1979). "Pretrial settlement conference: Evaluation of a reform in plea bargaining." Law and Society Review, 13: 349-366.

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Solomon Kobrin and Leo A. Schuerman

## Interaction between neighborhood change and criminal activity

University of Southern California

78-NI-AX-0127

### Purpose of the study

This research was designed to evaluate how changes in the structural and compositional attributes of neighborhoods are related to increases in criminal activity and community deterioration over a 26-year period, 1950-1976.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Demographic information was gathered from Los Angeles and Los Angeles County, Los Angeles County Tax Assessor's Office, L.A. County Department of Probation, County Registrar of Voters, State of California Department of Savings and Loans, State and County Vital Statistics, and L.A. County Municipal and County Law Enforcement Agency files.

Sample: The sample was drawn from census tract clusters in Los Angeles County that were defined in 1970 as high crime areas. The county area comprised 1,142 census tracts having identical boundaries in 1950, 1960, and 1970. A statistical procedure was then used to assemble contiguous census tracts into 192 clusters or neighborhoods which were roughly similar in magnitude of their crime problem, their pattern of residential, commercial, and industrial land use, and in their population characteristics.

Dates of data collection: 1979 through 1980.

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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study involves a historical trend analysis that examined changes in community structure and criminal activity. The variables included in the data set primarily measure four components of census tract cluster characteristics that were hypothesized to affect community-level crime rates. They include: (1) changes over time in land use --the transition from residential property to commercial and industrial use; (2) demographic changes in the makeup of families and population changes; (3) changes in the socioeconomic characteristics of neighborhoods due to shifts in the composition of the labor force; and (4) changes in norms concerning law observance due to the emergence of neighborhood subcultures.

Description of variables: The majority of variables are of two types: "concentration" measures and "distribution" measures. Concentration measures are counts divided by the number of square miles in the dummy tract (i.e., "a unique and consistently defined spatial area"). Distribution measures are generally computed as 100 multiplied by (specified count/specified base); e.g., (juvenile crimes against persons/persons 10-17 years old) multiplied by 100. The data set contains neighborhood-level economic, social, and demographic characteristics over a 26-year period and associated aggregated levels of various crimes.

Unit of observation: The unit of observation is "dummy census tracts" which are "unique and consistently defined spatial areas" defined by the principal investigator. The tracts may be close to census-defined areas; however, they are not exactly consistent with them.

## Geographic coverage

Los Angeles County, California

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## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: "Dummy census tracts"

Variables: 999

Cases: 1,142

## Reports and publications

S. Kobrin and L.A. Schuerman (1983). Crime and Changing Neighborhoods: Executive Summary. Unpublished report, University of Southern California, Social Science Research Institute, Los Angeles.

L.A. Schuerman and S. Kobrin (1986). Community Careers in Crime. A.J. Reiss and M. Tonry (eds.). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

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Paul J. Lavrakas and Wesley G. Skogan

**Citizen participation and community crime prevention, 1979:  
Chicago metropolitan area survey**

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

78-NI-AX-0111

**Purpose of the study**

This project was conducted to gain an understanding of the range of activities in which the American public engages to be secure from crime. The survey was designed to identify the scope of anticrime activities undertaken by the public and to investigate the processes which facilitate or inhibit the public's involvement in those activities.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Telephone interviews with households in the Chicago, Illinois, "commuting basin" were conducted by the Survey Research Laboratory at the University of Illinois. Additional information about the commuting area in which respondents lived was obtained from Census Bureau and police reports.

Sample: A modified random digit dialing procedure was used to generate a total of 5,346 prospective sample numbers. A total of 1,803 interviews were completed. Within households respondents were adults (age 19 or older) stratified by sex and age. For analytic purposes, the sample of 1,803 completed interviews was weighted by the inverse of the number of different telephone numbers in each household, in order to correct for the increased probability of reaching a household with multiple phones.

Dates of data collection: June through August 1979.

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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study examines in detail citizens' opinions toward safety, their involvement with crime prevention activities, and the quality of life in those neighborhoods.

Description of variables: Variables include characteristics of the respondent's neighborhood, the various measures the respondent has taken for self-protection, effectiveness of these measures, survey respondents' perceptions and experiences with crime and crime control/prevention activities, and social characteristics of the respondent and the respondent's household.

Unit of observation: Most questions were asked about the respondent, so in general the unit of analysis is the individual person. However, in a few instances the respondent provided information for the household and neighborhood.

## Geographic coverage

The "commuting basin" of Chicago, Illinois, excluding several independent cities and their respective suburbs such as Aurora, Waukegan, and Joliet, on the northern and western fringes of Chicago, and all areas in Indiana

## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Individual

Variables: 219

Cases: 1,803

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## Reports and publications

P.J. Lavrakas (1982). "Fear of crime and behavioral restrictions in urban and suburban neighborhoods." Population and Environment, 5: 242-264.

P.J. Lavrakas and E. Herz (1982). "Citizen participation in neighborhood crime prevention." Criminology, 20: 479-498.

P.J. Lavrakas (1983). "Citizen involvement in community crime prevention." Journal of Community Action, 1: 54-56.

P.J. Lavrakas (1984). "Citizen self-help and neighborhood crime prevention." American Violence and Public Policy. New Haven: Yale University Press.

P.J. Lavrakas (1981). "Reactions to crime: Impacts on households." Reactions to Crime. Beverly Hills: Sage Publications.

P.J. Lavrakas, J. Normoyle, W.G. Skogan, E. Herz, G. Saelem, and D.A. Lewis (1980). Factors Related to Citizen Involvement in Anti-crime Measures: Final Research Report. Unpublished report, Northwestern University, Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research, Evanston, Illinois.

P.J. Lavrakas, J. Normoyle, W.G. Skogan, E. Herz, G. Saelem, and D.A. Lewis (1981). Factors Related to Citizen Involvement in Personal, Household, and Neighborhood Anti-crime Measures: Executive Summary. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office.

W.G. Skogan and M.G. Maxfield (1981). Coping With Crime: Individual and Neighborhood Reactions. Beverly Hills: Sage Publications.



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Dan A. Lewis and Wesley G. Skogan

**Reactions to crime project, 1977 (Chicago, Philadelphia,  
San Francisco: Survey on fear of crime and citizen behavior)**

Market Opinion Research Center, Detroit, Michigan

78-NI-AX-0057

**Purpose of the study**

This survey gathered information for two studies, both dealing with individual responses to crime and the impact of fear of crime on day-to-day behavior. The first focused on collective responses to crime (how individuals work together to deal with crime), and the second focused on sexual assault and its consequences for the lives of women.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Survey data were collected using telephone interviews of randomly selected households of three American cities: Chicago, Philadelphia, and San Francisco.

Sample: Chicago, Philadelphia, and San Francisco were selected for the study. Within each city three or four neighborhoods (total of 10) were selected to provide variation along a number of dimensions: ethnicity, class, crime, and levels of organizational activity. Households for telephone interviews were selected using Random Digit Dialing and respondents (18 or older) were randomly selected within households. An additional citywide sample of 540 adults was selected in each city. Because of the interest in sexual assaults, women were oversampled in several of the neighborhood samples and in the citywide samples. The neighborhood samples range in size from approximately 200 to 450; total samples are 1,640 for Philadelphia and San Francisco, and 1,840 for Chicago.

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Dates of data collection: October through December 1977.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This research examines both general issues concerning how individual community members join together to deal with crime problems, and also how individuals respond to crime fears (such as property identification marking and the installation of bars and locks). The research also looks at the impact of fear on individuals' daily activities, such as shopping and leisure pursuits. A section on sexual assaults asks about victimization in the neighborhood and among persons known to the respondent, as well as opinions about measures for preventing sexual assaults. This portion of the project was supported by the National Institute of Mental Health as a companion project.

Description of variables: Respondents were asked about events and conditions in home areas, relationships with neighbors, who was known and visited, and what was watched on television and read in the newspapers. Other variables included measures of respondents' perceptions of the extent of crime in their communities, whether they knew someone who had been a victim and what they had done to reduce their own chances of being victimized, and specific questions concerning sexual assault.

Unit of observation: Individual respondents to the interview.

### Geographic coverage

Chicago, Illinois; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; San Francisco, California

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## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Individual respondents

Variables: 206

Cases: 5,121

## Reports and publications

F. Dubow, E. McCabe, and G. Kaplan (1979). Reactions to Crime: A Critical Review of the Literature. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice.

D.A. Lewis and M. Maxfield (1981). "Fear in the neighborhoods: An investigation of the impact of crime." Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency, 17: 160-189.

D.A. Lewis and G. Saelem (1986). Fear of Crime: Incivility and the Production of a Social Problem. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Transaction Books.

A. Podolefsky and F. Dubow (1981). Strategies for Community Crime Prevention: Collective Responses to Crime in Urban America. Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas Publishing Co.

S. Riger and P.J. Lavrakas (1981). "Community ties: Patterns of attachment and social interaction in urban neighborhoods." American Journal of Community Psychology, 9(1): 55-66.

W.G. Skogan and M. Maxfield (1981). Coping With Crime: Individual and Neighborhood Reactions. Beverly Hills: Sage Publications.

T.R. Tyler (1980). "Impact of directly and indirectly experienced events: The origin of crime-related judgments and behaviors." Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 39(1): 13-28.

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Colin Loftin and Milton Heumann

## **Mandatory sentencing and firearms violence in Detroit: The Michigan felony firearm law**

Center for Research on Social Organization, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

78-NI-AX-0021, 79-NI-AX-0094

### **Purpose of the study**

The purpose of the study was to estimate the impact of the Michigan Firearm Law on the processing of defendants in the Detroit Recorder's Court.

### **Methodology**

Sources of information: Data were coded directly from documents and records of the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, Wayne County (Detroit), Michigan, and the Office of Court Clerk, Recorder's Court of Detroit, Michigan.

Sample: The sample included all defendants listed in Recorder's Court Docket Control records that were arraigned (originally charged with) on at least one of the following charges (i.e., a universe) from January 1, 1976, through December 31, 1978. The charges from which the defendants were drawn include murder, death/explosion, death/discharge firearm, criminal sexual conduct offense, robbery, and assault.

Dates of data collection: June 1978 through April 1980.

### **Summary of contents**

Special characteristics of the study: This study is valuable in that it includes variables containing information about the defendant and court processing decisions made at each stage of processing. Special

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attention was given to determining the presence and use of firearms and other weapons in each offense. Overall, extensive efforts were made to locate and completely code every case file of interest indicated on the docket entry listings.

Description of variables: The data summarize case records for defendants processed by Recorder's Court during the period 1976-1978 where at least one original charge was a violent felony. Some victim characteristics are also available (i.e., victim's age, race, and gender); however, they were not collected in the early stages of the study (mainly 1976 cases) and therefore may not be representative of all persons victimized by defendants during the entire study period. Information on victim-offender relationship and degree of victim injury were collected from the beginning and are relatively more complete. Variables are also available relating to victim characteristics, use of weapons, number of charges, and disposition of the case.

Unit of observation: Docket entries (court cases) for each defendant.

### Geographic coverage

Detroit, Michigan

### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Docket entries

Variables: 73

Cases: 8,414

### Reports and publications

M. Heumann and C. Loftin (1979). "Mandatory sentencing and the abolition of plea bargaining." Law and Society Review, 13(2): 393-430.

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C. Loftin, M. Heumann, and D. McDowall (1983). "Mandatory sentencing and firearms violence: Evaluating an alternative to gun control." Law and Society Review, 17(2): 287-318.

Mary Ellen Marsden and Thomas Orsagh

**Matching treatment and offender: North Carolina prison releasees, 1980**

Department of Economics, University of North Carolina,  
Chapel Hill

81-IJ-CX-0061

**Purpose of the study**

Data were collected to evaluate the implications of rational choice theory for offender rehabilitation. The hypothesis of the research is that income-enhancing prison rehabilitation programs are most effective for the economically motivated offender.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Data on returns to prison were obtained from machine readable and "jacket" data on inmates from the North Carolina Department of Correction; "rap sheets" information from the North Carolina Police Information Network provided information on arrest history, and data on employment and earnings were obtained from the North Carolina Employment Security Commission.

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Sample: The sample consists of 1,425 male inmates released from the North Carolina prison system during the first 6 months of 1980. This sample includes those inmates who were in prison at least 6 months, who had not been outside the prison for significant periods of time during their current incarceration, and who were released back into North Carolina.

Dates of data collection: 1981 through 1982.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study looks at interaction effects between several income-enhancing rehabilitation programs and the type of offender. The offender was characterized by demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, criminal history and behavior, and participation in rehabilitation and work programs during incarceration. Information was also collected on type of release and post-release recidivistic and labor-market measures. Post-release behavior was measured in terms of recidivism and employment. Six measures of recidivism were used: any arrests, any convictions, length of time until first arrest after release, seriousness of offense leading to reincarceration, and a comparison of the seriousness of new offense with that for prior incarceration. Employment behavior was measured in terms of reported earnings and amount of earnings per quarter.

Description of variables: Variables describe individual demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, criminal history and behavior, participation in rehabilitation and work activities during incarceration, type of release, and post-release recidivistic and labor-market measures.

Unit of observation: Male inmates released from the North Carolina prison system during the first half of 1980.

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## Geographic coverage

North Carolina

## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Male inmates

Variables: 55

Cases: 1,425

## Reports and publications

M.E. Marsden and T. Orsagh (1984). Rational Choice Theory and Offender Rehabilitation. Unpublished report, University of North Carolina, Department of Economics, Chapel Hill.



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Kenneth J. Matulia

## Police use of deadly force, 1970-1979

International Association of Chiefs of Police,  
Gaithersburg, Maryland

79-NI-AX-0131

### Purpose of the study

This is a descriptive study of incidents of "justifiable homicide" committed by police officers in 57 urban police departments.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected through survey questionnaires sent to police executives of 57 U.S. cities serving urban areas with a population of 250,000 or more, during the period 1970-1979. The FBI supplied unpublished Uniform Crime Report data on justifiable homicide by police and civilians, including age, sex, and race information, for the same time period.

Sample: The sampling element in this study was "justifiable homicides" by police which occurred in 57 U.S. cities during the period 1970-1979 that had police agencies serving urban areas having a population of 250,000 or more. Incidents of "justifiable homicide" include homicides committed by on- and off-duty police officers.

Dates of data collection: During an 18-month period between 1979 and 1981.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study is valuable because it examines the issue of police use of deadly force. The data describe in great detail inci-

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dents of "justifiable homicide" by police and departmental practices and procedures regarding related issues.

Description of variables: Variables include the number of sworn officers in the department; number of supervisory officers; average years of education; department regulations about such issues as off-duty employment, wearing of uniforms, carrying firearms, and disciplinary actions; inservice training; firearms practice; assignments without firearms; and on- and off-duty deaths.

Unit of observation: Incidents of justifiable homicide.

### Geographic coverage

57 U.S. cities that had police agencies serving urban areas having a population of 250,000 or more

### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Incidents of justifiable homicide

Variables: Approximately 785

Cases: 57

### Reports and publications

K.J. Matulia (1982). A Balance of Forces: Executive Summary. Unpublished report, Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

K.J. Matulia (1982). Justifiable Homicide by the Police: A Study of Homicides by the Police in 57 U.S. Cities. Gaithersburg, Maryland: International Association of Chiefs of Police.

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K.J. Matulia (1982). A Balance of Forces. Unpublished report. International Association of Chiefs of Police, Gaithersburg, Maryland.

Marlys McPherson, Glenn Silloway, and David Frey

Crime, fear, and control in neighborhood commercial centers: Minneapolis and St. Paul, 1980

Minnesota Crime Prevention Center, Inc.

80-IJ-CX-0073

### Purpose of the study

The major objective of this two-staged study was to examine how both the residential and commercial characteristics of an area contribute to crime and how these affect reactions to crime in mixed commercial-residential settings.

### Methodology

Sources of information: During the first stage of the study, a walk-through survey of each of 93 commercial centers was conducted to collect data concerning their physical characteristics. Additional information collected for each center includes crime data obtained from the Minneapolis and St. Paul police departments, demographic data obtained from the Minneapolis and St. Paul city assessors' offices, R.L. Polk and Company, and U.S. Census Reports. In addition to recollecting the information about the physical characteristics of commercial centers, and using the crime and demographic data obtained from Stage I, three other data collection instruments were employed for Stage II. These include a residential survey, business person interviews, and use-pattern observations of pedestrian activities in commercial centers.

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Sample: The first stage of the research included a purposive sample of 93 commercial centers. Each center contained an average of 20 stores and had a surrounding residential neighborhood within a 0.3 mile radius. In the second phase of the research, 24 commercial centers were selected from the original sample based on three criteria: percent minority change from 1970 to 1980, an observational measure of disorder in each commercial center, and personal crime rates for the entire commercial/residential area. The 24 selected areas were chosen to represent adequate variation on these three variables. A telephone survey of 870 residents, in-person interviews of 213 business persons, and use-pattern observations of each commercial center were conducted for the 24 selected areas.

Dates of data collection: Not available.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: The unique characteristic of this study is that after establishing links between commercial land use and crime in residential areas, they establish links between commercial and residential characteristics and reactions to crime through intervening variables. These intervening variables include territoriality, identification and satisfaction with the neighborhood, use patterns, perceived problems, and individuals' personal characteristics.

Description of variables: The variables measured physical characteristics of commercial centers and demographic characteristics of residential areas that interact with crime. The physical characteristic variables include type of business, store hours, arrangement of buildings, defense modifications in the area, descriptions of the residential area contiguous to the commercial center, and signs of disorder such as graffiti and business vacancies. The demographic variables include number of residential dwelling units and multi-family units, racial composition, average household size and income, and percent change in composition. The crime data include six types of crimes: robbery, burglary,

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assault, rape, personal theft, and shoplifting. Each type of crime contains three subcategories and each subcategory represents the number of crimes in three concentric rings around the center each ring being approximately 0.1 mile wide. Variables included in the survey and interview measured personal commitment to the neighborhood, perceptions about the nearby commercial center, victimization experiences, fear of crime, and security precautions taken by the respondents. Variables included in the field observations examined group size, sex, race, life stage, primary activity, and business use of pedestrians.

Unit of observation: There are four different units of observation in this study: (1) commercial-residential neighborhoods; (2) telephone surveys of residences; (3) business persons; and (4) pedestrian activity.

### Geographic coverage

Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota

### File structure

Data files: 5

Unit: Neighborhoods, residences, business persons, pedestrian activity

Variables: 11 to 183 per file

Cases: 24 to 7,096 per file

### Reports and publications

M. McPherson, G. Silloway, and D.L. Frey (1983). Crime, Fear, and Control in Neighborhood Commercial Centers, an Executive Summary to the National Institute of Justice. Unpublished report, Minnesota Crime Prevention Center, Inc., Minneapolis.

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Harold Mendelsohn and Garrett J. O'Keefe

## Media crime prevention campaign in the United States, 1980

University of Denver

78-NI-AX-0105

### Purpose of the study

This was a descriptive study of the effectiveness of the "Take a Bite Out of Crime" public service advertising campaign. The research was designed to determine whether media campaigns can contribute to public awareness and participation in crime prevention.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected from telephone interview surveys.

Sample: The population examined included a national sample of the noninstitutionalized civilian population of the United States age 18 and over. A one-call quasi-probability sample design was employed, based upon the Roper Organization's master national probability sample of interviewing areas. First, 100 counties were chosen at random proportionate to population after all counties in the Nation had been stratified by population size within geographic region. Second, cities and towns were randomly selected from the sample counties according to their population. Third, four blocks or segments were then drawn within each location. Quotas for sex and age, as well as for employed women, were set in order to assure proper representation of each group in the sample.

Dates of data collection: April 12, 1980, through May 5, 1980.

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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This research uses a national sample to examine the influence of the media, the perception of crime and its nature, and the number and kind of community relationships they had.

Description of variables: The variables describe characteristics of the respondents, such as age, sex, and marital status. Variables included to measure respondents' attitudes and perceptions of crime were number of crime protection clubs to which respondent belongs, amount of attention given to news stories about crime, and respondents' main concerns about crime. Variables measuring awareness of crime prevention programs include whether respondent pays attention to ads, time spent watching television, attention given to crime prevention ads, and their influence.

Unit of observation: Individual survey respondent.

## Geographic coverage

The continental United States

## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Survey respondent

Variables: 352

Cases: 1,454

## Reports and publications

G.J. O'Keefe, H. Mendelsohn, K. Reid-Nash, E. Henry, B. Rosenweig, and H.T. Spetnagel (1984). Taking a Bite Out of Crime : The Impact of a Mass Media Crime Prevention Campaign. Unpublished report, University of Denver, Center for Mass Communications Research and Policy, Denver.

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Sheldon Messinger

**Characteristics and movement of felons in California prisons,  
1945-1964**

University of California, Berkeley

78-NJ-AX-0093

**Purpose of the study**

This is a descriptive study of felons in the California prison system. It provides data on the prison population from 1945 to 1964. The objectives behind the study were: (1) to determine costs incurred in the administration of misdemeanor probationer assignments among first-time probationers; (2) to determine these costs among repeating probationers; (3) to determine a relationship between revenues received and costs incurred in the administration of misdemeanor probationer assignments; and (4) to design, develop, and test a management information system.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Data were collected from inmate files of the California Department of Corrections.

Sample: The sample included all California felons who were either committed to the California Department of Corrections, returned to prison as parole violators, paroled, suspended from or reinstated on parole, discharged, or who had died or were executed from January 1, 1945, through December 31, 1964.

Dates of data collection: Not available.



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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: The data include rich information on the California felon population over a 20-year time period for each individual felon. Within the data set, records are arranged by year and type of movement. For each year of the study, there are individual records on (substantially all) newly admitted felons, parolees returned for parole violation, persons paroled, parolees suspended from parole, parolees reinstated to parole, prisoners discharged from or who died or were executed in prison, parolees discharged from or who died while on active parole, and parolees who were discharged from or died while on inactive parole.

Description of variables: The variables include descriptive information on characteristics of the inmate, such as age at admission, race, marital status, education, military history, occupation, number of prior arrests, escape record, date and type of releases, and parole violations.

Unit of observation: Inmate movement (such as parole release or a return to prison for a parole violation).

### Geographic coverage

California prison system

### File structure

Data files: 16

Unit: Inmate movement

Variables: 305 per file

Cases: 210 to 5,010 per file

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## Reports and publications

R.A. Berk, D. Rauma, S.L. Messinger, and T.F. Cooley (1981). "A test of the stability of punishment hypothesis." American Sociological Review, 46: 805-828.

R.A. Berk, S.L. Messinger, D. Rauma, and J. Berecochea (1983). "Prisons and self-regulating systems: A comparison of historical patterns in California for male and female offenders." Law and Society Review, 17: 547-586.

Raymond H. Milkman

### Employment services for ex-offenders field test

The Lazar Institute, McLean, Virginia

80-IJ-CX-K013

### Purpose of the study

The study was conducted to test whether job counseling and placement services, accompanied by intensive follow-up after placement, would increase the effectiveness of employment programs for recent prison releasees.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected from several sources. Rap sheets were obtained from official criminal justice agencies for each individual at approximately 1, 3, 6, 12, 18, 24, and 36 months after the individual entered an employment assistance program for ex-offenders; data on short-term employment and self-reported rearrest as well as information regarding the employment services each participant actually received were collected, through the use of questionnaires, at 30, 90, and 180 days after job placement; comprehensive delivery systems analysis was conducted at each site to

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document the extent of services available to the client.

Sample: A total of 2,045 individuals within 6 months after release from Federal, State, or local adult correctional facilities and with a history of primarily income-producing offenses volunteered to participate in the field test as program clients. These participants were divided between three cities: 511 at the Comprehensive Offender Employment Resource System in Boston; 934 at the Safer Foundation in Chicago; and 600 at Project JOVE in San Diego. Participants were randomly assigned to experimental and control groups at each site. Clients from both groups who had not been placed at the end of the study were placed in comparison groups involving no program services. In addition to standard program services, each experimental group member was assigned to a specialist who provided emotional support and advocacy to the client during the job search as well as during the 180-day period following placement. These additional services included weekly contact, crisis intervention, and referral to other agencies when necessary. The control group received standard job placement services. (The total sample size was later reduced to 381 in Boston, 529 in Chicago, and 305 in San Diego).

Dates of data collection: March 1981 through May 1984.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This is one of the few studies to examine the effect of employment assistance (actual and emotional support) for recent prison releasees via a quasi-experimental design.

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Description of variables: Data were collected on personal, criminal, and employment backgrounds at an initial interview. These data include information on the type, duration, and pay of previous employment, information about living arrangements and marital status, and self-reported criminal histories. Additional variables document program and referral agency services received by the client and the characteristics of the placement position if one was found. Data on client, employer, and agency activities were collected at 30, 90, and 180 days after placement. Criminal activity information was obtained from rap sheets at 1, 3, 6, 12, 18, 24, and 36 months after placement.

Unit of observation: Individual program participant.

### Geographic coverage

Boston, Massachusetts; Chicago, Illinois; and San Diego, California

### File structure

Data files: 3; one each for Boston, Chicago, and San Diego

Unit: Individual program participant (or control or comparison individuals)

Variables: Boston, 183  
Chicago, 191  
San Diego, 191

Cases: Boston, 381  
Chicago, 529  
San Diego, 305

### Reports and publications

A.D. Timrots (1985). An Evaluation of Employment Services for Ex-offenders. Unpublished Masters Thesis, University of Maryland, College Park.

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Herbert S. Miller, William McDonald, and  
James A. Cramer

## Plea bargaining in the United States, 1978

Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

77-NJ-99-0049

### Purpose of the study

The purpose of the study was to compare and evaluate the processing of cases in U.S. courts, particularly as it applies to plea bargaining.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected from court records in six U.S. cities, in-court observations focusing on the formal supervision of plea bargaining by judges, and the results of a plea bargaining simulation game.

Sample: Case files were drawn from six purposefully selected U.S. cities: Norfolk, Virginia; Seattle, Washington; Tucson, Arizona; El Paso, Texas; New Orleans, Louisiana; Delaware County, Delaware; in the plea bargaining simulation: Norfolk, Virginia; Seattle, Washington; Tucson, Arizona; New Orleans, Louisiana; Media, Pennsylvania; Miami, Florida; and Portland, Oregon were used. All prosecutors and defense attorneys who could be contacted in these jurisdictions were included in the sample. The remainder was a convenience sample conducted at a national conference of prosecutors and defense attorneys.

Dates of data collection: 1978

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study focuses on the role of defendants, victims, and judges in plea bargaining cases in 1978. The study includes

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three different measures of plea bargaining: case study, courtroom observation, and hypothetical cases given to courtroom actors. Part of the study consisted of the use of decisionmaking simulation. The two hypothetical cases which were used were robbery and burglary. The simulation was administered to 136 prosecutors and 104 defense attorneys from a large number of jurisdictions from many States. A quasi-experimental design was incorporated into the simulation and two variables, prior record of defendant and strength of the case, were experimentally manipulated.

Description of variables: The study consists of three data files. The first two contain information from six cities while the file containing the plea bargaining simulation contains information from a different set of cities (see Sample, above). The first contains court case records. The variables in the file include demographic information on the accused and the victim, past record of the accused, seriousness of the offense, pleas entered, speed of trial process, and sentencing. The second file contains information gathered from in-court observations focusing on the formal supervision of plea bargaining by judges. Variables include nature of the litany, type of defense counsel, and who explained the charges and rights to the defendant. The third file consists of the results of a plea bargaining simulation. The variables include type of attorney (prosecutor or defense), strength of case, seriousness of offender (long or short prior record), and attorney's type of legal experience.

Unit of observation: There were three different units of observation: individual plea bargaining cases, courtroom observation of plea-bargained cases, and respondents to the simulation.

### Geographic coverage

Norfolk, Virginia; Seattle, Washington; Tucson, Arizona; El Paso, Texas; New Orleans, Louisiana; Delaware County, Delaware; Media, Pennsylvania; Miami, Florida; and Portland, Oregon

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## File structure

Data files: 3; (1) case (2) in-Court observation (3)  
plea bargaining simulation

Unit: Plea bargain cases, courtroom  
observations of plea bargained cases, and  
participants in the simulation

Variables: Case, 63  
Court, 33  
Simulation, 17

Cases: Case, 3,397  
Court, 711  
Simulation, 479

## Reports and publications

W.F. McDonald and J.A. Cramer (1980). Plea  
Bargaining. Lexington, Massachusetts: D.C. Heath and  
Company.

H.S. Miller, W.F. McDonald, and J.A. Cramer (1980).  
Plea Bargaining in the United States. Washington,  
D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

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Peter F. Nardulli, James Eisenstein, and Roy  
B. Flemming

## A comparison of court case processing in nine courts, 1981

University of Illinois

81-IJ-CX-0027

### Purpose of the study

Data were collected in order to examine characteristics of officials involved in court case processing in nine counties.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Quantitative data regarding court officials were generated by a series of questionnaires. Data concerning case and offender characteristics were collected from official records.

Sample: States were chosen on the basis of convenience. Three counties with populations between 100,000 and 1,000,000 in each of three States (Michigan, Illinois, and Pennsylvania) were selected. In each State, a suburban ring county (DuPage, Illinois; Oakland, Michigan; and Montgomery, Pennsylvania), an autonomous county (Peoria, Illinois; Kalamazoo, Michigan; and Dauphin, Pennsylvania), and a declining county (St. Clair, Illinois; Saginaw, Michigan; and Erie, Pennsylvania) were purposively chosen. Data were collected on the cases of 7,475 defendants processed in these counties in 1979 and 1980.

Dates of data collection: Not available.



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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: These data contain information on personality variables for each of the principal actors in court case processing, i.e., judges, prosecutors, public defenders, and defense attorneys.

Description of variables: The file includes variables describing the case and defendant (e.g., defendant age, evidence of intoxication, total charges at sentencing, name of charge), variables describing the officials involved in the cases (e.g., involvement in professional groups, percentage of life spent in county, and political affiliation), scale variables describing personality characteristics of these officials (e.g., Machiavellianism, belief in punishment, and belief in efficiency and tolerance), and variables indicating the perceptions of each other shared by these officials (e.g., judge's view of the prosecutor's trial competence and defense counsel's view of the judge's concern for clearing the docket).

Unit of observation: The defendant.

### Geographic coverage

Data were collected in the following nine counties: DuPage, Peoria, and St. Claire, Illinois; Oakland, Kalamazoo, and Saginaw, Michigan; and Montgomery, Dauphin, and Erie, Pennsylvania

### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Defendant

Variables: 264

Cases: 7,475

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## Reports and publications

J. Einstein, P.F. Nardulli, and R.B. Flemming (1982). Interim Report: Explaining and Assessing Criminal Case Disposition: A Comparative Study of Nine Counties. Unpublished report, University of Illinois.

P.F. Nardulli, J. Einstein, and R.B. Flemming (1983). Final Report of Sentencing as a Sociopolitical Process: Environmental, Contextual, and Individual Level Dimensions. Unpublished report, University of Illinois.

P.F. Nardulli, R.B. Flemming, and J. Einstein (1985). "Criminal courts and bureaucratic justice: Concessions and consensus in the guilty plea process." The Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology, 76(4): 1,103-1,131.

David Nurco

## Crime days precursors (narcotic drugs) study: Baltimore, 1952-1976

Friends Medical Research Center, Baltimore, Maryland

82-IJ-CX-0031

### Purpose of the study

The study's purpose was to investigate the frequency with which various narcotic substances were used among male narcotic addicts and their relation to different types of criminal activities during periods of active addiction and periods of nonaddiction.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Personal interviews with male narcotic addicts in Baltimore, Maryland, were the source of information for this study.

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Sample: A sample of 354 male narcotic addicts were selected using a stratified random sample of a population of 6,149 known narcotic abusers arrested or identified by the Baltimore Police Department between 1952 and 1976. The sample was not selected on the basis of criminality, but stratified by race and year of police contact.

Dates of data collection: July 1973 through January 1978.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This research, the reverse of the usual approach to studying the drug-crime connection, used a sample of narcotic addicts to find out about crime. The data summarize the substance use, demographic, and criminal history of arrested or known narcotic addicts.

Description of variables: Variables include respondents' use of marijuana, hallucinogens, amphetamines, barbiturates, codeine, heroin, methadone, cocaine, tranquilizers, and other narcotics. Also included is information about the respondents' past criminal activity including arrests and length of incarceration, educational attainment, employment history, personal income, mobility, and drug treatment experienced, if any.

Unit of observation: Period of addiction (which varies, according to the particular individual, between 1 and 14 periods) or period of nonaddiction (which varies between 1 and 8 periods according to the individual).

### Geographic coverage

Baltimore, Maryland

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## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Addiction-nonaddiction period

Variables: 405

Cases: 4,895

## Reports and publications

D.N. Nurco, J.W. Shaffer, J.C. Ball, and T.W. Kinlock (1984). "Trends in the commission of crime among narcotic addicts over successive periods of addiction and non-addiction." American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, 10(4): 482-489.

David N. Nurco

## Measures and patterns of criminality among narcotic addicts: The role of nonnarcotic drugs

Friends Medical Research Center, Baltimore, Maryland

82-IJ-CX-0031

### Purpose of the study

The major purpose of the study was to investigate the frequency with which various nonnarcotic substances were used among male narcotic addicts and their relation to different types of criminal activities during periods of active addiction and periods of nonaddiction.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Personal interviews were conducted with male narcotic addicts between 1973 and 1978 in the Baltimore metropolitan area.

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Sample: Confidential in-person interviews were conducted with 354 male narcotic addicts who were selected from a population of 6,149 known male narcotic offenders arrested by the Baltimore Police Department between 1952 and 1976. The sample was stratified by race and year of police contact. These 354 sampled addicts were selected because they had used addictive narcotic drugs at least 4 days per week for a period of more than 1 month. The majority of the subjects were heroin addicts.

Dates of data collection: July 1973 through January 1978.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study records information on periods of nonaddiction as well as periods of addiction. In order to obtain chronological information, each sampled addict was asked to describe his periods of addiction as well as periods of nonaddiction from the time of first regular narcotic use to the time of the interview. Data were collected up to a maximum of 14 on-periods and 8 off-periods of addiction for each addict. Within each period, information concerning types of narcotic drug use, crime days at risk per year, and percentages of illegal income were reported.

Description of variables: Variables in the crime risk file include length of periods, number of days committing crime during each period, number of partners in the crimes committed, and crime days at risk per year. The drug use file includes variables concerning the total number of times respondents used 15 types of non-narcotic drugs (i.e., marijuana, hallucinogens, amphetamines, barbiturates, codeine, heroin, methadone, cocaine, tranquilizers, and other narcotics). The illegal income file includes variables corresponding to percentage of income obtained illegally.

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Unit of observation: The unit of observation in the first and second files is the period of addiction/non-addiction. In the third file it is the addict.

### Geographic coverage

Baltimore, Maryland

### File structure

Data files: 3; (1) crime risk, (2) drug use, (3) illegal income

Unit: Periods of addiction/nonaddiction and individual addict

Variables: Crime risk, 18  
Drug use, 18  
Illegal income, 24

Cases: Crime risk, 1,898  
Drug use, 1,898  
Illegal income, 354

### Reports and publications

D.N. Nurco, I.H. Cisin, and J.C. Ball (1985). "Crime as a source of income for narcotic addicts." Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment, 2: 113-115.

J.W. Shaffer, D. Nurco, J. Ball, and T. Kinlock (1985). "The Frequency of non-narcotic drug use and its relationship to criminal activity among narcotic addicts." Comprehensive Psychiatry, 26: 558-566.

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Elinor Ostrom, Roger B. Parks, and Gordon  
Whittaker

## Police services study, phase II

Indiana University

78-NI-AX-0020

### Purpose of the study

Data were collected under a grant by the National Science Foundation (grant number APR74-14059 A03) in order to examine the delivery of police services in selected neighborhoods of Rochester, New York; St. Louis, Missouri; and Tampa-St. Petersburg, Florida. Much of the analysis for the study, however, was done under a grant from the National Institute of Justice.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Information came from three sources: (1) observational data of general police shifts; (2) police officers' encounters observed during selected shifts; and (3) telephone interviews conducted with citizens who were involved in police-citizen encounters or who had requested police services during observed shifts.

Sample: The sample for Phase II of the project was based on results from Phase I of the Police Services Study. In Phase I it was determined that based on differences in population size, police departments could be grouped into five basic classes: agencies with 575 or more full-time sworn officers, 319 to 574 officers, 132 to 318 officers, 36 to 131 officers, and agencies with less than 35 full-time sworn officers. The choice of metropolitan areas was restricted to the 34 largest ones used in Phase I. Rochester, New York; St. Louis, Missouri; and Tampa-St. Petersburg, Florida, were selected from this group as research sites because the police agencies in these cities ranged from small to

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large in size. Nonprobability sampling methods were then used to obtain a sample of neighborhoods thought to be consistent with the Phase I results. Three departments were selected in the first two largest size groups, two in the next size, seven in the next, and nine in the last.

Dates of data collection: May through August 1977.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: Data were collected from various sources, each of which can be analyzed separately. The files may also be linked to provide a richer set of information for analysis. The files can be merged by concatenating across sites the variables identifying the jurisdiction, neighborhood, shift, and sequence of the encounter and utilizing the resulting variable as a key for linking the different files.

Description of variables: Variables describe the shift, the officers, the events occurring during an observed shift, the total number of encounters, a breakdown of dispatched runs by type, and officer attitudes on patrol styles and activities. Other variables provide detail about the officers' role in the encounters and their demeanor towards the citizen(s) involved, including how the encounter began, police actions during the encounter, and services requested by the citizen. Variables describing the citizens include age, sex, total family income, satisfaction with the delivered police services, and neighborhood characteristics.

Unit of observation: There are three different units of observation: the shift, encounter, and the citizen involved in the encounter.



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## Geographic coverage

Rochester, New York; St. Louis, Missouri; and Tampa-St. Petersburg, Florida

## File structure

Data files: 3; (1) general shift, (2) patrol encounters, (3) citizen debriefing

Unit: Shift, patrol encounters, and citizens involved in the encounters

Variables: General shift, 170  
Patrol encounters, 594  
Citizen debriefing, 152

Cases: General shift, 949  
Patrol encounters, 5,688  
Citizen debriefing, 1,675

## Reports and publications

E. Ostrom (1983). "A public service industry approach to the study of local government structure and performance." Policy and Politics, 11(3): 313-341.

E. Ostrom (1983). "A public choice approach to metropolitan institutions: Structure, incentives, and performance." Social Science Journal, 20(3): 79-96.

D.A. Smith (1982). Invoking the Law: Determinants of Police Arrest Decisions. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Indiana University.

D.A. Smith (1984). "The organizational context of legal control." Criminology, 21: 468-481.

D.A. Smith and J.R. Klein (1984). "Police control of interpersonal disputes." Social Problems, 31: 468-481.

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D.A. Smith and C.A. Visser (1981). "Street-level justice: Situational determinants of police arrest decisions." Social Problems, 29: 167-178.

D.A. Smith, C.A. Visser, and L.A. Davidson (1984). "Equity and discretionary justice: The influence of race on police arrest decisions." Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology, 75: 234-249.

Methods Reports are available upon request from:

Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis  
Indiana University  
513 North Park  
Bloomington, IN 47405  
(812) 335-0441

Dennis J. Palumbo, Michael Musheno, and  
Steven Maynard-Moody

Evaluation of the implementation of community corrections in  
Oregon, Colorado, and Connecticut

School of Justice Studies, Arizona State University,  
Tempe, Arizona

82-15-CV-KO15

### Purpose of the study

The objectives of this study were (1) to evaluate the community corrections programs of three States noted for such community-level programming (Oregon, Colorado, and Connecticut) and (2) to identify the conditions that underlie their success.

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## Methodology

Sources of information: Interviews of correctional personnel were secured from State, county, and district officials. In addition, mailed questionnaires were employed.

Sample: Purposive sample of community corrections programs in three States: Oregon, Colorado, and Connecticut. These three States were selected because of their unique administrative structuring of community corrections programs.

Dates of data collection: June 1982 through November 1984.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study evaluates community correction programs in three States that have different administrative or judicial approaches to alternative sentencing. For example, Oregon's community corrections program was designed as a sentencing alternative to prison incarceration and is administered through the State department of corrections. Colorado's program was also a sentencing alternative program but is administered through the judicial department by individual local districts. Connecticut's program is run by the State department of corrections, but is a transitional one, providing facilities for offenders within a year of being released.

Description of variables: The variables include information about the kind of people who implement and maintain community corrections programs, the level of commitment by judicial and prison officials to these programs, the perceived extent of community support for such programs, the decisionmaking process of program implementors, and the achievement of the goals of cost reduction, work training, and rehabilitation.

Unit of observation: Correctional personnel.

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## Geographic coverage

Oregon, Connecticut, and Colorado

## File structure

Data files: 3

Unit: Correctional personnel

Variables: Oregon, 50  
Colorado, 65  
Connecticut, 51

Cases: Oregon, 272  
Colorado, 317  
Connecticut, 474

## Reports and publications

D. Palumbo, S. Maynard-Moody, and P. Wright (1984).  
"Measuring degrees of successful implementation:  
Achieving policy versus statutory goals." Evaluation  
Review, 8: 45-74.

D. Palumbo, S. Maynard-Moody, and P. Wright (1984).  
Final Report of the Evaluation of Implementation of  
Community Corrections in Oregon, Colorado, and  
Connecticut. Unpublished report, Arizona State  
University, School of Public Affairs, Tempe, Arizona.

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Anthony Pate and Sampson Annan

**Reducing fear of crime: Program evaluation surveys in Newark (New Jersey) and Houston (Texas), 1983-1984**

The Police Foundation, Washington, D.C.

83-IJ-CX-0003

**Purpose of the study**

The study was designed to investigate two issues: (1) the effects of various crime-reduction programs in two large U.S. cities through a combination of experimental and quasi-experimental designs; and (2) the extent of victimization experiences, crime prevention activities, and attitudes toward the police in these selected neighborhoods.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Data were collected from surveys administered within two large U.S. cities, Newark, New Jersey, and Houston, Texas. Survey instruments were administered to respondents in randomly selected households and business establishments in seven neighborhoods in the two cities.

Sample: A random sample was used to select the respondents from the residences and the commercial establishments in the seven neighborhoods. The cities of Houston and Newark were selected as examples of two different types of American cities, but similar in that the police departments were able to design and manage complex experimental programs. Both were purposively selected; Houston because it is a new, growing city with low population density, Newark because it is a mature, high population density city with declining resources.

Dates of data collection: During the summer months of 1983 (pre-intervention) and 1984 (post-intervention).

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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study used a pre- and post-intervention research design to measure the effectiveness of specialized police programs to reduce the fear of crime within communities. The specific police interventions were (1) a victim re-contact program (Houston only); (2) a citizen contact patrol program (Houston only); (3) police-community newsletter experiment (Newark and Houston); (4) a community organizing response team (Houston only); (5) community police stations (Houston only); (6) community clean-up programs (Newark only); and (7) a coordinated community policing program (Newark only). The design is valuable in that the surveys query respondents both before and after police intervention programs about victimization, attitudes toward the police, changes in lifestyles because of perceived crime or victimization, and personal involvement in crime prevention activities.

Description of variables: The variables provide measures of recalled program exposure, perceived area social disorder problems, perceived area physical deterioration problems, fear of personal victimization in area, worry about property crime victimization in area, perceived area property crime problems, personal crimes problems, actual victimization, evaluation of police service and aggressiveness, defensive behaviors to avoid victimization, household crime prevention efforts, and satisfaction with area.

Unit of observation: Survey respondents from either a residential or a commercial setting.

### Geographic coverage

Houston, Texas, and Newark, New Jersey

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## File structure

Data files: 6

Unit: Survey respondents

Variables: 195 to 434 per file

Cases: 293 to 2,079 per file

## Reports and publications

A.M. Pate, M. Wycoff, W.G. Skogan, and L.W. Sherman (1986). Final Report of the Effects of Police Fear Reduction Strategies: A Summary of Findings from Houston and Newark. Unpublished report, The Police Foundation, Washington, D.C.

## Raymond Paternoster

Three wave panel survey of youths and deterrence: Perceptions and experiential effects in Columbia, South Carolina, 1979-1981

Institute of Criminal Justice and Criminology,  
University of Maryland, College Park

81-IJ-CX-0023, 83-IJ-CX-0045

## Purpose of the study

The research was designed to examine the reciprocal effects between perceptions of the certainty of punishment and involvement in self-reported delinquency.

## Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected with confidential, self-administered questionnaires from nine Columbia, South Carolina, area high schools, beginning

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with students in the 10th grade. Subsequent questionnaires were administered during the same students' 11th and 12th grades.

Sample: All students currently attending nine Columbia high schools. The nine high schools were deliberately selected to reflect social class and racial variation in the Columbia, South Carolina, area.

Dates of data collection: Between October 1981 and October 1984.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study is one of the few data sets with three wave panel data, such that longitudinal control over causal relations can be better secured. This offers greater temporal control than most delinquency studies which contain only cross-sectional data. Two-wave data were collected on approximately 1,500 respondents while complete three wave data were collected on 1,250. The wave panel design feature offers a chance to test the relative explanatory power of most contemporary theories of delinquency at different time reference periods (such as deterrence, strain, social control, labeling, and differential association). Time between data collections was 1 year.

Description of variables: Variables include demographic characteristics of respondents, perceptions of the certainty and severity of punishment, measures of commitment, conventional involvements and commitments, beliefs, perceptions of peers' involvement and attitudes toward common delinquent acts, and an extensive self-report inventory requesting both prevalence and incidence information.

Unit of observation: High school students.

### Geographic coverage

Columbia, South Carolina



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## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: High school students

Variables: 164

Cases: 3,382

## Reports and publications

R. Paternoster and L. Iovanni (1986). "The deterrent effect of perceived severity: A reexamination." Social Forces, 64(3): 751-777.

R. Paternoster (1986). "The use of composite scales in perceptual deterrence research: A cautionary note." Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency, 23 (2): 128-168.

Joseph L. Peterson, Steve Mihajlovic, and  
Michael Gilliland

Forensic evidence and the police: The effects of scientific evidence  
on criminal investigation, 1976-1980

University of Illinois-Chicago

82-IJ-CX-0064

## Purpose of the study

This study was designed to determine the relationship between the utilization of forensic evidence in serious criminal investigations and the court dispositions of these cases.

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## Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected from official court, police, and laboratory reports.

Sample: Court cases involving serious criminal investigations (homicides, rape, robbery, aggravated assault/battery, burglary, and arson) were selected from four cities; Peoria and Chicago, Illinois; Kansas City, Missouri; and Oakland, California. Two types of cases were selected, those cases that involved physical evidence and those that did not. In each city a slightly different method of selecting cases was used, but in general cases were selected by randomly selecting approximately 50 cases in each crime type from the records of the crime labs. The cases with no evidence collected were drawn from robbery, assault and battery, and burglary cases. In order to be eligible for selection, the crime had to have occurred between 1976 and 1980. A total of 2,659 cases were selected.

Dates of data collection: 1980.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study examines the impact of forensic evidence on court dispositions. Detailed court, police, and laboratory information was collected on cases that involved physical evidence and a comparison group of cases that did not.

Description of variables: These data summarize the use of forensic evidence in serious criminal cases and the effect of such evidence on court disposition. Variables include crime scene location, original condition of crime scene, time devoted to crime scene by technicians, type of evidence collected, and disposition of the case.

Unit of observation: Court cases involving serious criminal investigation.

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## Geographic coverage

Peoria and Chicago, Illinois; Kansas City, Missouri; and Oakland, California

## File structure

Data files: 8

Unit: Court case

Variables: 120 per file

Cases: 278 to 502 per file

## Reports and publications

J. Peterson, S. Mihajlovic, and M. Gilliland (1982).  
The Role of Scientific Evidence in the Prosecution of Criminal Cases: A Discussion of Recent Empirical Findings. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Law and Society Association, Toronto, Canada.

J. Peterson, S. Mihajlovic, and M. Gilliland (1983).  
"Does the crime laboratory have the answers? Four cities compared." Chemistry and Crime: From Sherlock Holmes to Today's Courtroom. Samuel Gerber (ed.). Washington, D.C.: The American Chemical Society.

J. Peterson, S. Mihajlovic, and M. Gilliland (1984).  
Forensic Evidence and the Police: The Effects of Scientific Evidence on Criminal Investigation. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

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Mark A. Peterson, Suzanne Polich, and Jan  
Michael Chaiken

## Survey of California prison inmates, 1976

The Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, California

83-IJ-CX-0006

### Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study was to collect offense, incarceration, and social data on two groups of inmates: (1) recidivists--those who were repeatedly arrested and convicted, and (2) habituals--those reporting the greatest number of serious crimes.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Anonymous self-administered questionnaires were given to inmates in five California prisons.

Sample: A purposive sample of five adult penal institutions in California were selected. Inmates volunteered to participate in the study.

Dates of data collection: Summer of 1976.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study investigates incarcerated criminals, using self-report information on offending histories and backgrounds. Variables were derived to examine the characteristics of repeatedly arrested or convicted offenders as well as offenders reporting the greatest number of serious crimes.

Description of variables: The variables include information about crimes committed leading to incarceration, rates of criminal activity, social-psychological

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scales for analyzing motivations to commit crimes, and offense histories and attitudinal/psychological information about the inmates.

Unit of observation: Inmate.

**Geographic coverage**

California

**File structure**

Data files: 1

Unit: Inmate

Variables: 378

Cases: 624

**Reports and publications**

M.A. Peterson, H.B. Braiker, and S. Polich (1980). Doing Crime: A Survey of California Prison Inmates. Santa Monica, California: The Rand Corporation.

M.A. Peterson, H.B. Braiker, and S. Polich (1981). Who Commits Crimes: A Survey of Prison Inmates. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Oelgeschlager, Gunn and Hahn.

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Mark A. Peterson, Jan Chaiken, and Patricia Ebener

**Survey of jail and prison inmates, 1978: California, Michigan, and Texas**

The Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, California

83-IJ-CX-0006

**Purpose of the study**

This study was conducted as part of the Rand Corporation's research program on career criminals. This second inmate survey was undertaken to provide detailed information about the criminal behavior of convicted offenders and their associated characteristics.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: A self-administered anonymous questionnaire was given to inmates at 12 prisons and 14 county jails in California, Michigan, and Texas.

Sample: A purposive sample of 12 prisons and 14 county jails in California, Michigan, and Texas was selected. The sample included inmates in these State prisons and county jails who volunteered to participate in answering questionnaires.

Dates of data collection: From late 1978 to early 1979.

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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study investigates incarcerated offenders, using self-report information on offending histories and offenders' backgrounds. It is the second study of Rand's research on career criminals (see Mark A. Peterson et al., Survey of California prison inmates, 1976).

Description of variables: Variables contain information concerning prior criminal histories of inmates, demographic, social, and psychological characteristics, varieties of criminal behavior, and different types of prison treatment programs.

Unit of observation: Inmates.

### Geographic coverage

California, Michigan, and Texas

### File structure

Data files: 11

Unit: Inmates

Variables: 62 to 455 per file

Cases: 204 to 21,900 per file

### Reports and publications

J. Petersilia and P. Honig with C. Hubay, Jr. (1980). The Prison Experience of Career Criminals. Santa Monica, California: Rand Corporation Publication R-2511-DOJ.

M.A. Peterson, J. Chaiken, P. Ebener, and P. Honig (1982). Survey of Prison and Jail Inmates: Background and Method. Santa Monica, California: Rand Corporation Publication N-1635-NIJ.

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Glenn L. Pierce, William J. Bowers, James  
Baird, and Joseph Heck

**Uniform Crime Reports: National time series community-level data  
base, 1967-1980**

Center for Applied Social Research, Northeastern  
University, Boston, Massachusetts

79-NJ-AX-0009

**Purpose of the study**

The purpose of the research was to create a time series of community-level crime information from police agencies that participated in the Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) Program in a frequent and consistent manner over a 14-year period.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: The data include detailed monthly breakdowns of offenses and clearances taken from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports "Return A" form.

Sample: All U.S. law enforcement agencies submitting 10 or more monthly reports in every year from 1967 through 1980 were selected. Data include crime and clearance counts reported by 3,328 such agencies.

Dates of data collection: Not available.



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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: The data include monthly breakdowns of offenses and clearances taken from UCR Return A master tapes. They contain more detailed information than that published annually by the FBI in Crime in the United States. The data set was constructed specifically for time-series and pooled cross-section analysis. The sample was designed so that only the most "complete" cases were included (i.e., only data from agencies that submitted UCR's frequently and consistently over time are included).

Description of variables: Three general types of variables are included: the number of offenses known to police, the number of offenses cleared by arrests, and the number of offenses cleared by arrests only for persons under age 18. Each of these categories contain such detailed items as weapon-specific robbery and assault, types of rape, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft in both monthly and annual aggregations. Identifying variables include the FBI "ORI Code," a unique sequential case number (consistent across files), geographic region, State, SMSA, county, population size and group, and frequency of reporting.

Unit of observation: The actual unit of observation is the police agency; however, the original investigators suggest that the crimes and clearances reported by a police agency to the UCR Program represent the experiences of "communities" where the boundaries of a police jurisdiction are considered the operational definition of the community.

### Geographical coverage

United States

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## File structure

Data files: 14

Unit: Agency

Variables: 1,210

Cases: 3,328

## Reports and publications

Not yet available.

Thomas F. Pogue

## Deterrent effects of arrests and imprisonment in the United States, 1960-1977

University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

79-NJ-AX-0015

## Purpose of the study

This research was designed to examine the relationship between objective properties of punishment at the aggregate level (State and standard metropolitan statistical area) and official crime rates within those jurisdictions.

## Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected from several sources: (1) crimes and crimes cleared by arrest

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are from the Uniform Crime Reports and unpublished FBI data (principally on clearances); (2) prison populations and sentences from National Prisoner Statistics of the Department of Justice, Bureau of Prisons and Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Services; (3) government expenditures data from Governmental Finances, Census of Governments (1962, 1967, 1972), and Expenditure and Employment for the Criminal Justice System--these data are produced by the Department of Commerce and Bureau of Census; and (4) socioeconomic and demographic data for publications of the Department of Commerce, Department of Labor, and Census Bureau.

Sample: In one part of this analysis, data are collected on all 50 States, thus constituting a universe of U.S. States. In the second part of the analysis, a panel of 77 Standard metropolitan statistical areas (SMSA's) were selected for a city-level analysis. The central concern of the sampling plan was to obtain data for a set of States and SMSA's that were consistent both across States and SMSA's at each point in time and across time for each State and SMSA included in the sample.

Dates of data collection: January 1 through May 31, 1979.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study has constructed an 18-year State-level panel data set from 50 States and city-level panel data from 77 SMSA's. This information was collected in order to test deterrence hypotheses about the effect of sanction levels on crime rates over the period 1960-1977. The data also contain important information about crimes and sanctions, as well as economic and political/legal information on these jurisdictions.

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Description of variables: The State-level data consists of a panel of observations from each of the 50 States covering the years 1960-1977. The 484 variables contain information on crime rates; clearance rates; length of time served for incarcerated inmates; the probability of imprisonment; socioeconomic factors such as unemployment rates, population levels, and income; sentencing statutes; prison population levels and estimated capacity; and State and local expenditures for police protection. The SMSA-level data consist of a panel of 77 SMSA's covering the years 1960-1977. The 232 variables contain information on crime and clearance rates; length of time served and probability of imprisonment; socioeconomic factors such as unemployment rates, population levels, and income; taxation; and expenditure data. Only property crimes (burglary, larceny, robbery, and auto theft) were considered in the SMSA data base.

Unit of observation: States and SMSA's in the United States.

### Geographic coverage

Fifty U.S. States and 77 SMSA's

### File structure

Data files: 2; (1) States, (2) SMSA's

Unit: States and SMSA's in the United States

Variables: State file, 484  
SMSA file, 232

Cases: State file, 50  
SMSA file, 77

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## Reports and publications

T.F. Pogue (1983). Crime Prevention Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment: Evidence from Multiple Cross-section Analyses. Unpublished report, University of Iowa, Iowa City. Available from NCJRS.

T.F. Pogue (1981). Economic Analysis of the Deterrent Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment. Unpublished report, University of Iowa, Iowa City.

T.F. Pogue (1981). On Controlling Crime: Will Increasing Arrest and Imprisonment Rates Help? Unpublished report, University of Iowa, Iowa City.

T.F. Pogue (1982). Offender Expectations and Identification of Crime Supply Functions. Unpublished report, University of Iowa, Iowa City.

Nicole Hahn Rafter

Women in prison, 1800-1935: Tennessee, New York, and Ohio

Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts

79-NI-AX-0039

### Purpose of the study

This study was designed to provide historical descriptions of the women's correctional system over a 135-year period through an examination of three types of penal institutions.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected from official State prison records.

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Sample: The sample consisted of all female inmates incarcerated in State prisons in Tennessee, New York, and Ohio from 1800 to 1935. Their records were gathered from prison registries.

Dates of data collection: Not available.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: The study focuses on the ways in which female prisoners were treated across time in different types of penal institutions. In Tennessee, women were incarcerated in a predominantly male prison while Ohio and New York incarcerated females in custodial and reformatory institutions. These differences in institutions allow comparability of types of prisons and prisoners. Studying women's prisons is of interest because there have been so few historical explorations about incarcerated women. In addition, studies on women's prisons are needed because they are unique from men's prisons because of ideological and structural differences.

Description of variables: The data describe demographic information such as parents' place of birth, race, age, prisoner's occupation, marital status, and offense information about conviction, sentencing, prior incarcerations, methods of release, and offense characteristics.

Unit of observation: Female inmate.

### Geographic coverage

Tennessee, Ohio, and New York

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## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Inmate

Variables: 30

Cases: 4,609

## Reports and publications

N.H. Rafter (1985). Partial Justice: Women in State Prisons, 1800-1935. Boston: Northeastern University Press.

N.H. Rafter (1980). "Female State Prisoners in Tennessee: 1831-1979." Tennessee Historical Quarterly, 39(4): 485-497.

N.H. Rafter (1983). "Prisons for women, 1790-1980." Crime and Justice: An Annual Review of Research, vol. 5. M. Tonry and N. Morris (eds.) Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

N.H. Rafter (1983). "Chastising the unchaste: Social control functions of the women's reformatory system." Social Control and the State: Comparative and Historical Essays. A Scull and S. Cohen (eds.) Oxford: Martin Robertson and Co.

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Joseph Romm

**Evaluation of intensive probation, Milwaukee, Wisconsin: 1980-1981**

System Sciences, Inc., Bethesda, Maryland

J-LEAA-027-78

**Purpose of the study**

Data were collected to evaluate impact of a 2-year experiment in innovative probation practices. The primary objectives of the research were to (1) determine whether a new classification/diagnostic instrument called the Client Management Classification (CMC) system results in more effective outcomes for the probationer than the traditional instrument (the Needs Assessment Form); (2) determine for high-risk probationers whether probation was more effective if the initial 6 months of probation and support services were intensified; and (3) determine for low-risk probationers whether limited services were as effective as services that were normally provided.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: The data collection instruments were the State of Wisconsin's internal probation case tracking and management forms which were filled out by Milwaukee County probation agents.

Sample: The sample included those defendants in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, sentenced to probation between January 2, 1980, and June 30, 1981, and who had reported to the probation department for intake. The sample was limited to adult residents of Milwaukee County who were not already on probation, not judged to be severely psychotic or severe sex deviate cases, and not assigned to jail/work release sentences of more than 10 days followed by probation. Attrition within the study was mainly due to "no-shows," those who did not



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report to probation intake after sentencing and were immediate absconders. No-shows accounted for 394 of the 2,316 probationers.

Dates of data collection: January 2, 1980, through June 30, 1981.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study uses an experimental design to assess the effectiveness of different levels of probation supervision. Individuals were given the Wisconsin risk and needs assessment scales in order to assign them to one of three groups of risk/need. The risk/need classifications were low, medium, and high. All subjects were divided into two groups based on their case numbers, odd/even. Those with an even number were given the Client Management Classification (CMC) System interview. Low-medium risk clients with and without the CMC were then assigned to control service groups (normal service) or to experimental service groups (intensive service) based on their risk scores and/or CMC scores. High-risk probationers with and without the CMC interviews were randomly assigned to control and experimental service groups. After 6 months clients assigned to intensive service were transferred to normal service and support.

Description of variables: The data set contains information on type of probation supervision, original probation classification level, and demographic and criminal history data. Variables in the data set include demographic variables (gender, race, marital status, and education), employment status, referred agency, and variables describing the subject's mental health (presence of criminal value system, hyperactivity, destructive behavior, and withdrawal).

Unit of observation: Each case in the Reassessment and Admissions/Terminations files represents data on an individual probationer. Cases in the chronological file are records of probation agent contacts with probationers over the course of the study.

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## Geographic coverage

Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

## File structure

Data files: 3; (1) reassessment, (2) admissions/  
terminations, (3) chronological

Unit: Probationers and probation agent contacts  
with probationers

Variables: Reassessment, 218  
Admissions/terminations, 210  
Chronological, 17

Cases: Reassessment, 1,343  
Admissions/terminations, 1,922  
Chronological, 47,169

## Reports and publications

J. Romm (1982). Review Draft Final Report on the  
National Evaluation Program--Phase II Intensive  
Evaluation of Probation. Unpublished report, System  
Sciences, Bethesda, Maryland.

L.A. Bennett (1986). A Reassessment of an  
Experimental Study of Intensive Probation Supervision.  
Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Academy of  
Criminal Justice Scientists, Orlando, Florida.

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Lyle W. Shannon

## Juvenile delinquency and adult crime: Effects of sanctions

Iowa Community Research Center, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa

84-IJ-CX-0013

### Purpose of the study

Data were originally collected with support from the National Institute for Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. This research evaluates the effectiveness of judicial intervention and varying degrees of sanction severity on subsequent delinquency. The primary research hypothesis was whether the number or type of judicial intervention had any effect on the seriousness of offenders' future criminal behavior or the decision to desist from such behavior.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data were coded from police and juvenile court records. In addition, respondents in the 1942 and 1949 birth cohorts were interviewed.

Sample: The research was based upon a longitudinal study of three birth cohorts (1942, 1949, and 1955) in Racine, Wisconsin. The three birth cohorts included 6,127 persons (both males and females) of which 4,079 had continuous residence in Racine. Of these 4,079 persons, only 2,061 had at least one contact with the police. These males and females comprised the bulk of the study.

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Dates of data collection: Not available.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: The data come from a longitudinal design study consisting of three birth cohorts. Extensive information about contact with the justice system was collected as well as rich information from individual respondents through interviews. Only the 1942 and 1949 birth cohorts were included in the interviewing phase of data collection.

Description of variables: Each individual in the data set is identified by a variable called UID which is a unique identification number. The police contact data set contains data on the number of police contacts, the seriousness and severity of the contact, and its temporal occurrence in the career of the respondent. Other variables include characteristics of the person who had the police contact, such as age, cohort, and decade in which the contact occurred. The interview information includes self-reports of police contacts, attitudes toward the police, and other attitudinal and demographic variables.

Unit of observation: Police contact.

### Geographic coverage

Racine, Wisconsin

### File structure

Data files: 2; (1) police/interview, (2) police

Unit: Police contact

Variables: Police/interview, 158  
Police, 94

Cases: 15,245

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## Reports and publications

L.W. Shannon (1985). A More Precise Evaluation of the Effects of Sanctions. Unpublished report, University of Iowa, Iowa Urban Community Research Center, Iowa City.

John R. Snortum

### Drunken driving: Broader dimensions of deterrence

Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, California

82-IJ-CX-0059

#### Purpose of the study

This study examines the drinking and driving habits of a national probability sample of adult Americans (those aged 16 and over). It is a component of a six-part analysis comparing drinking and driving attitudes, legal knowledge, and violations in Scandinavia and the United States.

#### Methodology

Sources of information: Data for this study come from telephone interviews (approximately 51 questions) with licensed drivers, 16 years of age or older.

Sample: A national probability sample of 1,000 respondents from 48 States was initially generated. This sample was drawn from a universe of all licensed drivers 16 years old or older in 1983. The telephone numbers used were generated by random digit dialing. The final 400 cases were selected by oversampling in 20 key States. Conditions were imposed to yield approximately 50 percent males and 50 percent females resulting in 1,401 cases in all.

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Dates of data collection: April 4 through 6, 1983.

## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study includes a national survey of licensed drivers with a focus on (1) drinking and driving habits; (2) attitudes toward these activities; and (3) attitudes toward legal regulation of these activities.

Description of variables: The data set includes information on the drinking and driving practices of adult Americans. Questions in the interview were directed toward socioeconomic status and demographic information (sex, age, and educational attainment), frequency of alcoholic beverage consumption, location of drinking activities and mode of transportation to and from this location, and past experiences of drinking and driving.

Unit of observation: Licensed drivers 16 years of age or older.

## Geographic coverage

The continental United States

## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Licensed drivers

Variables: 52

Cases: 1,401

## Reports and publications

D.E. Berger and J.R. Snortum (1986). "A structural model of drinking and driving: Alcohol consumption, social norms, and moral commitments." Criminology, 24(1): 139-153.

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J.R. Snortum (no date). Drunken Driving: The Broader Dimensions of Deterrence. Unpublished report, Claremont McKenna College Department of Psychology, Claremont, California.

Richard F. Sparks

## New Jersey statewide sentencing guidelines evaluation, 1979, 1980

Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey

### Purpose of the study

The purpose of this project was (1) to study the implementation and use of the statewide sentencing guidelines in New Jersey and (2) to report on the perceptions of criminal justice personnel and inmates on those guidelines.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected from interviews with incarcerated inmates at the New Jersey State Prison, Rahway, New Jersey, and from the inmates' prison records.

Sample: For the 1979 inmate survey, a random sample of 226 inmates at the New Jersey State Prison was drawn from the total inmate population as of June 1979. The Rahway prison classifies inmates as maximum, medium, or minimum security. For the sample, inmates were divided into either minimum or maximum/medium categories. Background information from inmates' records and files was collected. However, not all of the selected inmates agreed to be interviewed, so the survey sample consists of 146 inmates. For the 1980 inmate survey, no background material was collected. The 1980 survey consists of many of the same sections as the 1979 inmate survey, except for a new section about sentencing

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comparisons and preferences.

Dates of data collection: October through June of 1981.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This data set deals with attitudes of inmates concerning the implementation of sentencing guidelines. The inmates were interviewed about their feelings toward the relative seriousness of offenses, severity of punishments, appropriate penalties for various kinds of crimes, and their perceptions of sentencing guidelines as tools to structure judicial sentencing decisions. The research design allows for oversampling of minimum security inmates since this status was the least represented in the institution.

Description of variables: The data set contains information about inmate attitudes toward crime, punishment, and various sentencing strategies. Demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, residential information, and current and prior criminal history are also available for each inmate interviewed.

Unit of observation: Inmates.

### Geographic coverage

Rahway, New Jersey

### File structure

Data files: 3; (1) 1979 background file, (2) 1979 survey file, (3) 1980 survey file

Unit: Inmates



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Variables: 1979 background file, 25  
          1979 survey file, 209  
          1980 survey file, 191

Cases: 1979 background file, 226  
        1979 survey file, 146  
        1980 survey file, 157

## Reports and publications

R.F. Sparks (1982). New Jersey Statewide Criminal Justice Guidelines Evaluation, 1980: Inmate Survey Data. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

B.A. Stecher and R.F. Sparks (1982). "Removing the effects of discrimination in sentencing guidelines." Sentencing Reform--Experiments in Reducing Disparity, pp. 113-129. Martin L. Forst (ed.), Beverly Hills: Sage Publications, Inc.

Richard F. Sparks

Massachusetts statewide sentencing guidelines evaluation, 1979

Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey

78-NI-AX-0147

## Purpose of the study

The purposes of this project were (1) to study the implementation and use of statewide sentencing guidelines in Massachusetts, and (2) to report on the perceptions of criminal justice personnel and inmates on those guidelines.

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## Methodology

Sources of information: The respondents were selected from the official files of convicted Massachusetts offenders sentenced in the Massachusetts Superior Court. The data for each defendant were collected from their records and files located in the county district attorney's office, the clerk of the court office, and the superior court probation office.

Sample: A random sample of 1,440 convicted criminals was selected. These defendants were sentenced in the Massachusetts Superior Court between November 1977 and October 1978. The sample represents approximately one-third of the actual number of defendants sentenced in the Massachusetts Superior Court during a 1-year period. Cases that were dropped from the original sample due to missing or lack of updated information were replaced with additional sampling.

Dates of data collection: February through June of 1979.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This data set summarizes the background and case characteristics of convicted offenders in the Massachusetts Superior Court during 1977-1978.

Description of variables: The data set includes information about each defendant's social and economic background, juvenile and adult criminal history, characteristics of the current offense, and the elements of the disposition of the current offense.

Unit of observation: Convicted offenders.

### Geographic coverage

Massachusetts Superior Court

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## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Convicted offenders

Variables: 128

Cases: 1,440

## Reports and publications

R.F. Sparks (1982). Massachusetts Statewide Criminal Justice Guidelines Evaluation, 1979: Sentencing Data.  
Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

William Spelman

Reactions to crime in Atlanta and Chicago: A policy oriented reanalysis, 1979-1980

Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

82-IJ-CX-P254

## Purpose of the study

This research was designed to conduct a reanalysis of existing data to investigate what social and physical or environmental conditions may facilitate citizen crime prevention in different types of neighborhoods. The original data sets merged in the reanalysis were Greenberg's study of 523 residents in six neighborhoods in Atlanta and Taub's survey data of 3,310 residents of eight Chicago neighborhoods.

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## Methodology

Sources of information: This study involved a re-analysis of two existing data sets: Stephanie Greenberg's study entitled "Characteristics of high- and low-crime neighborhoods in Atlanta, and Richard Taub's study, "Crime factors and neighborhood decline in Chicago."

Sample: See the descriptions for Stephanie Greenberg and Richard Taub.

Dates of data collection: See the descriptions for Stephanie Greenberg, and Richard Taub.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: In addition to studying the relationship between community characteristics and crime, this study examines what role the government can play in efforts to mobilize community participation in crime prevention efforts.

Description of variables: The complete data set includes individual demographic and socioeconomic status characteristics; personal property, and neighborhood crime rates; and neighborhood characteristics.

Unit of observation: Neighborhoods.

### Geographic coverage

Atlanta, Georgia, and Chicago, Illinois

### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Neighborhoods

Variables: 156

Cases: 3,833

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## Reports and publications

W. Spelman (1983). Final Report of the Reactions to Crime in Atlanta and Chicago: A Policy Oriented Re-analysis. Unpublished report, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

William Spelman and Dale K. Brown

### Calling the police: Citizen reporting of serious crime

Police Executive Research Forum, Washington, D.C.

78-NI-AX-0107

#### Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study was to replicate the citizen reporting component of the Kansas City Response Time Analysis Project. It examines the relationship between police response time and citizen reports of satisfaction with police services.

#### Methodology

Sources of information: The data were collected from the dispatch records of the police departments in four U.S. cities (Peoria, Illinois; Jacksonville, Florida; Rochester, New York; and San Diego, California) and interviews with citizens who had requested police services.

Sample: This study selected 3,300 reported criminal incidents of aggravated assault, auto theft, burglary, larceny, rape, and robbery that occurred between April and December of 1979 in four U.S. cities (incidents of rape were not collected for San Diego). A sample of each of these crimes was drawn in each of the cities. Within each of these samples a distinction was made

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between involvement (the incidence was reported by the victim or a witness to the crime) and discovery (the crime was discovered after it had been committed). A further distinction was made between cases in which an arrest was made on the scene and cases where no arrest took place. Cases were randomly selected within each of these categories. Involvement crimes and crimes resulting in on-scene arrests were oversampled to ensure enough cases. Between April and December of 1979, data from 3,300 reported instances of serious crimes were collected from police dispatch records and interviews were done with citizens who had requested police assistance.

Dates of data collection: April 21 through December 7, 1979.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This project extended the Kansas City Response Time Analysis Project to four other cities; Peoria, Illinois; Jacksonville, Florida; Rochester, New York; and San Diego, California.

Description of variables: Variables from the dispatch records include dispatch time, call priority, police travel time, demographics of the caller, number of suspects, and area of the reported incident. Variables taken from citizen interviews include respondent's role in the incident (victim, caller, victim-caller, witness-caller), location, relationship of caller to victim, number of victims, identification of suspect, and interaction with police.

Unit of observation: Reported criminal incidents.

### Geographic coverage

Peoria, Illinois; Jacksonville, Florida; Rochester, New York; and San Diego, California

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## File structure

Data files: 4

Unit: Reported criminal incidents

Variables: 250 per file

Cases: 710 to 1,303 per file

## Reports and publications

W. Spelman and D. Brown (1984). Calling the Police: Citizen Reporting of Serious Crime. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

Richard Taub and D. Garth Taylor

## Crime factors and neighborhood decline in Chicago, 1979

National Opinion Research Center, Chicago

79-NI-AX-0079

## Purpose of the study

This study explored the relationship between neighborhood deterioration and crime in eight neighborhoods in Chicago.

## Methodology

Sources of information: The data are based on telephone interviews with heads of households in selected Chicago neighborhoods. Physical appearance ratings of neighborhoods came from windshield surveys taken by trained personnel of the National Opinion Research Center. Criminal victimization data came from the Chicago Police Department.

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Sample: Respondents for the telephone survey were selected by random digit dialing techniques. Heads of households were selected from particular Chicago neighborhoods. These neighborhoods were purposely selected on the basis of slowly or rapidly appreciating real estate values, stable or changing racial composition, and high or low community crime rates.

Dates of data collection: 1979 through 1980.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study provides rich detail about neighborhood deterioration and its relationship to crime. A total of 3,310 interviews were conducted with detailed information on respondents' victimization experiences, fear and perceptions of crime, protective measures taken against crime, attitudes toward neighborhood quality and resources, attitudes toward the neighborhood as an investment, and degree of community involvement. Other information included physical appearance ratings for the block of the respondents' residence, and aggregate figures on personal and property victimization for that city block.

Description of variables: The variables include information describing respondents' attitudes toward crime and victimization. The data set also includes aggregate data about neighborhood characteristics and crime rates.

Unit of observation: Neighborhoods.

Geographic coverage

Chicago, Illinois

File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Neighborhoods



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Variables: 411

Cases: 3,310

### Reports and publications

R.P. Taub, D.G. Taylor, and J.D. Dunham (1981). Final Report of the Crime, Fear of Crime and the Deterioration of Urban Neighborhoods. Chicago, National Opinion Research Center, Chicago, Illinois.

R.P. Taub, D.G. Taylor, and J.D. Dunham (1981). "Neighborhoods and safety." Reactions to Crime. Dan A. Lewis (ed.). Beverly Hills: Sage Publications.

R.P. Taub, D.G. Taylor, and J.D. Dunham (1982). Crime, Fear of Crime, and the Deterioration of Neighborhoods, Executive Summary. Unpublished report, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

R.P. Taub, D.G. Taylor, and J.D. Dunham (1984). Paths of Neighborhood Change. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

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Linda A. Teplin

**Keeping the peace: Police discretion and the mentally disordered in Chicago, Illinois, 1980-1981**

Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, Illinois

81-IJ-CX-4079

**Purpose of the study**

Data on police-citizen encounters were collected to explore the peacekeeping functions of the police and their handling of encounters with mentally ill persons. The data summarize the characteristics of encounters, the nature of those actions, and the attitudes and behavior of participants in those actions.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: The data were gathered using observations made by researchers riding in police cars in two Chicago police districts during a 14-month period in 1980-1981.

Sample: A total of 270 police shifts were observed resulting in 1,382 police-citizen encounters involving 2,555 citizens.

Dates of data collection: During a 14-month period in 1980 through 1981.

**Summary of contents**

Special characteristics of the study: This study investigates police response to mentally ill persons. During the first phase, data were gathered on the police officers during their shifts of duty. For the second phase, information was collected on the police-citizen encounters. A unique and consistent shift identification number is attached to each encounter so that

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information about police officer characteristics from the first part of the data (shift level) may be matched with the second level (encounter level). A unique and consistent shift identification number is attached to each police-citizen encounter so that information about police officer traits from the first file can be matched with the second.

Description of variables: Variables include information collected about activity during police shifts, the attitudes displayed by the police officers observed, and their personal characteristics, work history, and working relationships. Detailed information was also collected on each police-citizen encounter including its nature, location, police actions and/or responses, citizens involved and their characteristics and behavior.

Unit of observation: There are two units of analysis: police shifts and police-citizen encounters.

### Geographic coverage

Chicago, Illinois

### File structure

Data files: 2; (1) police shifts, (2) police-citizen encounters

Unit: Police shifts and police-citizen encounters

Variables: 884

Cases: Police shift, 270  
Police-citizen encounter, 1,382

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## Reports and publications

L.A. Teplin (1984). "Managing disorder: Police handling of the mentally ill." Mental Health and Criminal Justice, pp. 157-175. Linda A. Teplin (ed.). Beverly Hills, California: Sage Publications.

L.A. Teplin (1984). "Criminalizing mental disorder: The comparative arrest rate of the mentally ill." American Psychologist, 39: 794-803.

L.A. Teplin (1985). "The criminality of the mentally ill: A dangerous misconception." American Journal of Psychiatry, 142: 593-599.

James W. Thompson

### The relationship between employment and crime: A survey of Brooklyn defendants, 1979-1980

Vera Institute of Justice, New York, New York

81-IJ-CX-0024

#### Purpose of the study

The study was designed to explore the relationship between labor market participation and involvement with the criminal justice system.

#### Methodology

Sources of information: The data were collected from three sources: (1) survey of 902 respondents at the central booking facility in Brooklyn; (2) official arrest histories for the sample of 902 respondents; and (3) followup survey 1 year later.

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Sample: The sample consists of 902 males arrested predominantly for felony offenses in Brooklyn, New York, during July and August, 1979. A subsample of 152 respondents was reinterviewed in 1980.

Dates of data collection: July and August 1979; followup interviews were conducted 1 year later.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study examines the empirical relationship between crime and employment at various points in time: (1) at 2 years prior to arrest; (2) at the time of arrest; and (3) at a year following arrest.

Description of variables: The data include information on labor market participation, arrests, periods of incarceration, and respondents' demographic characteristics. The labor market information, which was obtained in an interview at the time of the respondents' arrest, spans a 2-year period prior to that arrest. Prior arrest history and other criminal justice data cover the 2 years prior to arrest and 1 year following the arrest. Additional variables include employment and occupational data, social and neighborhood characteristics, and information on perceptions of the risk of doing selected crimes.

Unit of observation: Defendant.

### Geographic coverage

Brooklyn, New York

### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Defendant

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Variables: 541

Cases: 902

### Reports and publications

M. Sullivan and J.W. Thompson (1984). Youth Crime and Employment Patterns in Three Brooklyn Neighborhoods. New York: Vera Institute of Justice.

M. Sviridoff and J. McElroy (1984). Employment and Crime: A Summary Report. New York: Vera Institute of Justice.

J.W. Thompson, J. Cataldo, and G. Lowenstein (1984). Employment and Crime: A Survey of Brooklyn Arrested Persons. New York: Vera Institute of Justice.

Mary A. Toborg

### Pretrial release practices in the United States, 1976-1978

Lazar Institute, Washington, D.C.

79-NI-AX-0038

### Purpose of the study

This research included both a descriptive study of pre-trial release practices and an evaluation of the impact of pretrial release programs on selected State and local trial court release practices, focusing on four topics: (1) release; (2) court appearance; (3) pre-trial criminality; and (4) impact of pretrial release programs.

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## Methodology

Sources of information: Data were collected from on-site interviews with pretrial program staff, judges, prosecutors, law enforcement officials, and defense attorneys; as well as from State or FBI rap sheets; court indexes; and police, booking, presentence, or probation reports. For the first phase of the study, the data were gathered from Baltimore City and Baltimore County, Maryland; Washington, D.C.; Dade County (Miami), Florida; Jefferson County (Louisville), Kentucky; Pima County (Tucson), Arizona; Santa Cruz County, California; and Santa Clara County (San Jose), California. For the second phase, the data collection sites were Pima County (Tucson), Arizona; Baltimore City, Maryland; Lincoln, Nebraska; Jefferson County (Beaumont-Port Arthur), Texas.

Sample: The eight sample sites were selected based on (1) geographic diversity; (2) a wide range of release types; (3) accurate and accessible records; and (4) a willingness of criminal justice personnel to cooperate with the study. The sample included all criminal justice personnel involved with pretrial release programs.

Dates of data collection: Not available.

## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study investigates pretrial release practices. Part one analyzed release practices and outcomes in eight jurisdictions, looking at both the individuals involved and the organizations. Additionally, a sample of defendants from each site was studied from point of arrest to final case disposition. Part two examined the impact of the existence of pretrial release programs on release, court appearance, and pretrial release outcomes. For this phase, an experimental design was used to compare a group of defendants who participated in a pretrial release program with a control group who

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did not. (In Tucson and Baltimore, separate experiments were conducted for felony and misdemeanor cases.)

Description of variables: Variables include detailed information on pretrial release program involvement, defendants' offense history, court information, release decisionmaking, defendant behavior during release, and defendants' characteristics such as race, age, gender, occupational experience, and employment status.

Unit of observation: Pretrial releases.

### Geographic coverage

Baltimore City and Baltimore County, Maryland; Washington, D.C.; Dade County (Miami), Florida; Jefferson County (Louisville), Kentucky; Pima County (Tucson), Arizona; Santa Cruz County, California; Santa Clara County (San Jose), California; Lincoln, Nebraska; and Jefferson County (Beaumont-Port Arthur), Texas

### File structure

Data files: 2; (1) phase I, (2) phase II

Unit: Pretrial releases

Variables: Phase I file, 223  
Phase II file, 274

Cases: Phase I file, 3,488  
Phase II file, 1,598

### Reports and publications

Mary Toborg (1981). Pretrial Release: A National Evaluation of Practices and Outcomes. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

Lazar Institute (1981). Pretrial Release--A National Evaluation of Practices and Outcomes, Introduction. Rockville, Maryland: NCJRS.



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Lazar Institute (1981). Pretrial Release--A National Evaluation of Practices and Outcomes, Vol. 1: Release Practices and Outcomes--An Analysis of Eight Sites. Rockville, Maryland: NCJRS.

Lazar Institute (1981). Pretrial Release--A National Evaluation of Practices and Outcomes, Vol. 2: The Impact of Pretrial Release Programs--A Study of Four Jurisdictions. Rockville, Maryland: NCJRS.

Lazar Institute (1981). Pretrial Release--A National Evaluation of Practices and Outcomes, Vol. 3: Pretrial Release without Formal Programs. Rockville, Maryland: NCJRS.

David Trubek and Joel Grossman

### Civil litigation in the United States, 1977-1979

Civil Litigation Project, University of Wisconsin Law School, Madison

82-IJ-CX-0003

#### Purpose of the study

This study was conducted as part of the Civil Litigation Research Project. The major goals of the project were the development of a large data base on dispute processing and litigation, and the collection of information, especially on the costs of litigation.

#### Methodology

Sources of information: The data set includes information from several sources: (1) court records on 1,645 cases in State and Federal courts in five judicial districts; (2) information from the institutional records of cases sampled from various alternative dispute processing institutions; (3) screening survey of

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responses of households and private organizations; and (4) surveys of lawyers, litigants, organizations, and disputants identified by the screening survey. The survey of households and private organizations was taken in order to locate bilateral disputes.

Sample: The universe included all cases terminated during the 1978 calendar year collected from the records of the Federal district court, one or more representative State courts, and a series of alternative institutions. From this universe a sample of cases was chosen. The cases were randomly sampled from these five Federal jurisdictions: Eastern Wisconsin, Central California, Eastern Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and New Mexico. A case was not included if it was a divorce case unless there was a dispute over property, uncontested collection case, uncontested probate case, bankruptcy case, government versus government case, and quasi-criminal matters. A survey of households and private organizations was taken to obtain the sample of bilateral disputes.

Dates of data collection: 1981.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study is a systematic attempt both to estimate the prevalence of civil disputes and also to investigate characteristics of these disputes empirically. The study included a survey that attempted to capture civil disputes that never reached third parties for adjudication.

Description of variables: Variables in the data set include costs in terms of time and money, goals of disputants, relationship between disputants, relationship between lawyer and client, resources available to disputants, negotiations, and settlement.

Unit of observation: Dispute or case.

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## Geographic coverage

Eastern Wisconsin, Central California, Eastern Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and New Mexico

## File structure

Data files: 3; (1) organizational screening survey, (2) household screening survey, (3) disputes

Unit: Dispute or case

Variables: Organizational screening, 742  
Household screening, 1,874  
Disputes, 1,000

Cases: Organizational screening, 1,516  
Household screening, 5,202  
Disputes, 2,631

## Reports and publications

H.M. Kritzer, W.L.F. Felstiner, A. Sarat, and D. Trubek (1985). "The impact of fee arrangement on lawyer effort." Law and Society Review, 19(2): 251-278.

D. Trubek, W.L.F. Felstiner, J. Grossman, H.M. Kritzer, and A. Sarat (1983). Civil Litigation Research Project: Final Report. Unpublished report, University of Wisconsin Law School, Civil Litigation Research Project, Madison.

D. Trubek, A. Sarat, W.L.F. Felstiner, H.M. Kritzer, and J.B. Grossman (1984). "The costs of ordinary litigation." UCLA Law Review, 31(1): 72-127.

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Richard Van Duizend, L. Paul Sutton, and  
Charlotte A. Carter

## The search warrant process: Preconceptions, perceptions, and practices

National Center for State Courts, Williamsburg,  
Virginia

80-IJ-CX-0089

### Purpose of the study

Data were collected to evaluate the search warrant review process as it operated in urban areas. The study examined the information used as a base for obtaining search warrants, sources of warrant applications, types of offenses involved and material sought, the administration and judicial review procedures, and the case dispositions involving evidence obtained with a search warrant.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Three data collection methods were employed: (1) direct observation of warrant review proceedings; (2) analysis of archived records; and (3) interviews with officials who directly participated in the warrant proceedings. The seven cities selected for the study are not identified.

Sample: Using jurisdictions issuing at least 150 search warrants annually, over 900 warrant-based cases were selected from seven metropolitan areas, varying in terms of warrant procedures employed and regional and geographical characteristics. One of the sites was selected as the primary site, where more intensive and detailed investigations were focused.

Dates of data collection: January 1, 1980, through June 30, 1981.

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## Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This study contains both an analysis of official data and direct observation of warrant proceedings.

Description of variables: Data include information about the reasons warrants were sought, the types of cases they were used in, and the result of warrant-based information on the ultimate disposition of the case.

Unit of observation: Search warrant cases.

## Geographic coverage

Seven cities in the United States; however, these sites are not identified in order to preserve anonymity

## File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Search warrant cases

Variables: 904

Cases: 227

## Reports and publications

R. Van Duizend, L.P. Sutton, and C.A. Carter (1984).

Executive Summary of the Search Warrant Process:

Preconceptions, Perceptions, and Practices.

Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

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Walter Vandaele

**Participation in illegitimate activities: Erlich revisited, 1960**

Department of Economics, University of California, Los Angeles

J-LEAA-006-76

**Purpose of the study**

This research reanalyzes Ehrlich's 1960 cross-section data, providing alternative model specifications and estimations. The research was commissioned as part of the National Academy of Sciences' "Panel on Research on Deterrent and Incapacitative Effects." The study examined the deterrent effects of punishment on seven FBI index crimes: four property crimes--robbery, burglary, larceny, and theft--and three violent crimes--murder, rape, and assault--in 47 States.

**Methodology**

Sources of information: Data were collected from: (1) U.S. Census; (2) FBI Uniform Crime Reports; and (3) National Prison Statistics bulletins.

Sample: The sample consists of data gathered from 47 States, excluding New Jersey, Alaska, and Hawaii, for 1960.

Dates of data collection: Not available.

**Summary of contents**

Special characteristics of the study: These data permit a reanalysis of Isaac Ehrlich's research on the empirical relationship between aggregate levels of punishment and crime rates.

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Description of variables: Socioeconomic variables include: family income, percentage of families earning below half of the median income, unemployment rate for urban males in the age groups 14-24 and 35-39, labor force participation rate, educational level, percentage of young males and nonwhites in the population, percentage of population in the SMSA, sex ratio, and place of occurrence. Two sanction variables are also included: (1) the probability of imprisonment and (2) the average time served in prison when sentenced (severity of punishment). Also included are: per capita police expenditure for 1959 and 1960, and the crime rates for murder, rape, assault, larceny, robbery, burglary, and auto theft.

Unit of observation: U.S. States.

#### Geographic coverage

47 U.S. States (New Jersey, Alaska, and Hawaii were not included)

#### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: State

Variables: 66

Cases: 47

#### Reports and publications

I. Ehrlich (1973). "Participation in illegitimate activities: A theoretical and empirical investigation." Journal of Political Economy, May/June: 521-565.

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I. Ehrlich (1974). "Participation in illegitimate activities: An economic analysis." Essays in the Economics of Crime and Punishment, pp. 69-134. G.S. Becker and W.M. Landes (eds.). New York: National Bureau of Economic Research (distributed by Columbia University Press).

W. Vandaele (1978). "Participation in illegitimate activities: Ehrlich revisited." Deterrence and Incapacitation: Estimating the Effects of Criminal Sanctions on Crime Rates, pp. 270-335. A. Blumstein, J. Cohen, and D. Nagin (eds.). Washington, D.C.: National Academy of Sciences.

Kevin Wright

Improving correctional classification through a study of the relationship of inmate characteristics and institutional adjustment

State University of New York at Binghamton

83-IJ-CX-0011

### Purpose of the study

This research was designed to improve methods of classifying inmates.

### Methodology

Sources of information: Data come from inmate records of the New York State Department of Correctional Services and three survey instruments administered to inmates. Inmate records included their results on the Prison Adjustment Questionnaire, Prison Environment Inventory, Toch's Prison Preference Inventory, Risk Analysis method, and Megargee's MMPI Typology.



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**Sample:** The sample consisted of 942 inmates from 10 New York State correctional institutions--5 maximum and 5 minimum security--over a 20-month period. The final sample size was 6 percent of the population of large New York correctional facilities and 11 percent of the smaller institutions' population.

**Dates of data collection:** 1983 through 1984.

## **Summary of contents**

**Special characteristics of the study:** Pre-incarceration information on demographic and social traits were obtained from inmate records. Using information from these background characteristics and environmental characteristics of the institutions, a classification system designed to reduce behavioral problems with the institution and improve inmate adaptation to confinement was developed. One-half of the sample was designed to develop and test the classification system while the other half was designed to validate it. In addition, three questionnaires probed inmates' preferences on a variety of subjects and explored measures of adjustment to incarceration.

**Description of variables:** The data set contains demographic and social information on inmates, as well as psychological characteristics and mode of adaptation to prison life. Variables used to indicate adjustment to prison life include the number of disciplinary reports for aggressive or assaultive behavior; the frequency of sick call visits, the extent to which they feel stress or anxiety (which was measured by the Prison Adjustment Questionnaire), and information about the type of institution.

**Unit of observation:** Individual inmates.

## **Geographic coverage**

New York State

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## File structure

Data files: 5

Unit: Individual inmates

Variables: 5 to 172 per file

Cases: 529 to 12,502 per file

## Reports and publications

K.N. Wright (1985). Improving Correctional Classification Through A Study of the Placement of Inmates in Environmental Settings: Executive Summary. Unpublished report, State University of New York, Center for Social Analysis, Binghamton.

James D. Wright and Peter H. Rossi

The armed criminal in America: A survey of incarcerated felons

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts

82-IJ-CX-0001

## Purpose of the study

This research examined motivations behind owning guns and the methods of obtaining firearms.

## Methodology

Sources of information: This study is based on self-administered questionnaires administered to 1,874 convicted felons in medium- and maximum-security prisons in 10 States (two prisons in Minnesota and one prison in Michigan, Missouri, Oklahoma, Nevada, Arizona, Georgia, Florida, Maryland, and Massachusetts).

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Sample: This sample consists of males who were incarcerated on a felony conviction on or after January 1, 1979, including both armed and unarmed offenses. The sample was obtained from volunteers in the prison populations of 10 States.

Dates of data collection: August 1982 through January 1983.

### Summary of contents

Special characteristics of the study: This data set captures self-reports of gun prevalence, offender motivation, and incident characteristics among incarcerated felons.

Description of variables: The variables include information on handgun ownership, use of handguns and other weapons in the commission of crimes, how the weapon was used and why, as well as information concerning those offenders who did not carry a gun.

Unit of observation: Incarcerated male felons.

### Geographic coverage

Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, and Oklahoma

### File structure

Data files: 1

Unit: Incarcerated male felons

Variables: 593

Cases: 1,874

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## Reports and publications

J.D. Wright and P.H. Rossi (1984). Final Report of the Armed Criminal in America. Unpublished report, University of Massachusetts, Social and Demographic Research Institute, Amherst.

J.D. Wright and P.H. Rossi (1986). Armed and Considered Dangerous: A Survey of Felons and Their Firearms. New York: Aldine de Gruyter.

J.D. Wright and P.H. Rossi (No date). The Armed Criminal in America: A Survey of Incarcerated Felons. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice.

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## Data sets forthcoming

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The following is a list of data sets that NIJ has acquired, but are not yet available for use. They represent data sets that have been received by NIJ for archiving and are currently being reviewed by Data Resource Program staff to assure completeness of code-books/documentation and to verify technical readability of the data. When a data set's processing is completed, the data set is forwarded to ICPSR at the University of Michigan for archiving and dissemination. Information about the current availability of any data set in this catalog may be obtained by calling or writing ICPSR (see page 3.)

Kenneth W. Allen

The Variance of Crime Rates:

National, State, and Local Contributions

National Institute of Justice,

Washington, D.C.

84-IJ-CX-0005

James Austin

Illinois Forced Release Study

National Council for Crime and Delinquency,

San Francisco, California

83-IJ-CX-K026

James Austin and Barry Krisberg

Differential Use of Jail Confinement in California:

A Study of Jail Administration in Three Counties

National Council for Crime and Delinquency,

San Francisco, California

81-IJ-CX-0068

James Austin and Barry Krisberg

Evaluation of the Field Test of Supervised Pretrial  
Release

National Council for Crime and Delinquency,

San Francisco, California

80-IJ-K014

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Terry Baumer  
Robbery of Financial Institutions  
School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University,  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
83-IJ-CX-0056

George Camp and LeRoy Gould  
Advancing General Deterrence Theory: The Influence of  
Sanctions and Opportunities on Rates of Bank Robbery  
Criminal Justice Institute, Inc., South Salem, New York  
79-NI-AX-0117

Royer F. Cook, Barbara E. Smith, and Adele V. Harrell  
Helping Crime Victims: Levels of Trauma and  
Effectiveness of Services  
Institute for Social Analysis, Washington, D.C.  
82-IJ-CX-K036

Robert C. Davis  
Providing Help to Victims: A Study of Psychological and Material  
Outcomes  
Victim Services Agency, New York, New York  
83-IJ-CX-0044

William Feyerherm  
Minority Employment Project: Assessment of Affirmative  
Action in Criminal Justice Agencies  
School of Social Welfare, University of Wisconsin,  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
81-IJ-K003

Brian Forst  
Specific Deterrent Effects of Arrest in Shoplifting  
The Police Foundation, Washington, D.C.  
82-IJ-CX-0061

Simon Hakim  
Impacts of Casino Gambling on Crime in Atlantic City and  
its Region  
Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
85-IJ-CX-P394

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Dean Harper  
Crime and Mental Disorder in Rochester, New York  
University of Rochester, Rochester, New York  
OJP-85-M-431

Herbert Holeman and Barbara Krepps-Hess  
Women Correctional Officers Study  
California Department of Corrections,  
Sacramento, California  
79-NI-AX-0096

Thomas B. Marvell  
Appellate Court Adaptations to Caseload Increases  
Court Studies, Inc., Williamsburg, Virginia  
83-IJ-CX-4046

Michael S. McCampbell  
Field Training for Police Officers: The State  
of the Art  
Arlington County, Virginia  
85-IJ-CX-0039

Susan Pennell and Christine Curtis  
Transit Rider Surveys Regarding the Guardian Angels in  
Boston, Chicago, Cleveland and New York, 1984  
San Diego Association of Governments,  
San Diego, California  
83-IJ-CX-0037

Joan Petersilia  
Analysis of Those Who Receive Probation  
The Rand Corporation, Santa Monica, California  
83-IJ-CX-0002

Irving Piliavin  
Supported Work Study of Offenders  
Institute for Research on Poverty, University of  
Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin  
82-IJ-CX-0045

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Robert Prentky  
Dangerous Sex Offenders: Post-Release Criminal History  
The Massachusetts Treatment Center, Bridgewater,  
Massachusetts  
82-IJ-CX-0058

Albert J. Reiss, Jr.  
Police-Citizen Encounters in Boston, Chicago, and  
Washington, D.C., 1968  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan  
OLEA-006

Marc Riedel  
Trends in American Homicide, 1968-1978: Victim-Level  
Data from the FBI Supplementary Homicide Reports  
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois  
79-NI-AX-0092

Dennis Rosenbaum  
A National Evaluation of the Crime Stoppers Program  
Center for Urban Affairs, Northwestern University,  
Evanston, Illinois  
83-IJ-CX-K050

Peter Schmidt and Ann D. Witte  
Improving Predictions of Recidivism by Use of Individual  
Characteristics  
Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan  
84-IJ-CX-0021

Lawrence W. Sherman  
Georgetown Crackdown Project  
The Police Foundation, Washington, D.C.  
85-IJ-CX-0061

Wesley G. Skogan  
Disorder and Community Decline Project  
Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research,  
Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois  
85-IJ-IX-0074



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Edwin Villmoare and Virginia V. Neto  
Victim Appearances at Sentencing Hearings Under the  
California Victims' Bill of Rights  
Center for Research, McGeorge School of Law,  
University of the Pacific, Sacramento, California  
83-NI-AX-007

Susan Welch  
Development and Validation of an Index  
of Criminal History  
University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska  
84-IJ-AX-0035

Stanton Wheeler  
Federal White Collar Crime Sentencing Behavior  
Yale Law School, New Haven, Connecticut  
78-NI-AX-0017

Laura Winterfield  
Criminal Careers of Juveniles in New York City  
Vera Institute of Justice, New York, New York  
83-IJ-CX-0004

Lois Wise  
Academic and Entrepreneurial Research  
at the National Institute of Justice  
Wise Consulting, Bloomington, Indiana  
84-NI-PO-0088

Edwin Zedlewski  
Public and Private Resources in Public Safety  
National Institute of Justice, Washington, D.C.

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