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Influence of Sanctions and Opportunities on Rates of Bank Robbery, 1970-1975: [United States]

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INFLUENCE OF SANCTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES ON RATES OF BANK ROBBERY, 1970-1975: [UNITED STATES]

(ICPSR 8260)

Principal Investigator

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Acknowledgement of Assistance

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Camp, George M., and LeRoy Gould
INFLUENCE OF SANCTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES ON RATES OF BANK ROBBERY, 1970-1975: [UNITED STATES] (ICPSR 8260)

SUMMARY: This study was designed to explain variations in crime rates and to examine the deterrent effects of sanctions by combining the effects of economic and sociological independent variables. The study concentrated primarily on bank robberies, but it also examined burglaries and other kinds of robberies over the period 1970-1975. The research design combined variables from three different perspectives: economic, sociological, and opportunity, in order to examine the effects of sanctions on robberies. Economic variables included certainty, severity, and immediacy of criminal sanctions. Sociological variables included urbanization, population mobility, rigidity of class structure, and economic means-ends discontinuities. Opportunity variables consisted of exposure, guardianship, and attractiveness of object. Other variables examined were: 1) demographic information, including population changes and growth, percent non-white, income, and unemployment, 2) characteristics of banks, bank robberies, and assets, and 3) criminal justice information on crime clearance rates, arrests, and sentences. CLASS IV

UNIVERSE: Bank robberies in the fifty states, 1970-1975.
SAMPLING: The data collection is a pooled cross-sectional time-series of bank robberies in 50 states over a period of 6 years (1970-1975), resulting in 300 observations.

EXTENT OF COLLECTION: 1 data file
DATA FORMAT: Card Image

FILE STRUCTURE: rectangular
CASES: 300
VARIABLES: 56
RECORD LENGTH: 80
RECORDS PER CASE: 7

RELATED PUBLICATION:
Gould, L.C., G.M. Camp, and J.K. Peck. ECONOMIC AND SOCIOLOGICAL THEORIES OF DETERRENCE, MOTIVATION, AND CRIMINAL OPPORTUNITY: A REGRESSION ANALYSIS OF BANK ROBBERY AND OTHER PROPERTY CRIMES. Unpublished report, South Salem, NY: Criminal Justice Institute, Inc., 1983.

ADVANCING GENERAL DETERRENCE THEORY: THE INFLUENCE OF SANCTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES ON RATES OF BANK ROBBERY

Codebook for the Machine-Readable Data File

Principal Investigators

George M. Camp
LeRoy Gould

Produced by

The Criminal Justice Institute, Inc.
Springhill West
South Salem, NY 10590
(Under NIJ Award 79-NI-AX-0117)

for

National Institute of Justice
U.S. Department of Justice
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Washington, DC 20531

Codebook Prepared by

Criminal Justice Data Resource Program
Institute of Criminal Justice and Criminology
The University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland 20742-8235

February 1987

A B S T R A C T

Advancing General Deterrence Theory: The Influence of Sanctions and Opportunities on Rates of Bank Robbery

George M. Camp and LeRoy Gould

Criminal Justice Institute, Inc., Springhill West, NY

79-NI-AX-0117

Purpose of the Study

This study was designed to explain variations in crime and to examine the deterrent effects of sanctions combining the effects of economic and sociological independent variables. The study concentrated primarily on bank robberies, but it also examined burglaries and other kinds of robberies over the period 1970 - 1975.

Methodology

Sources of information:

Data were collected from many sources: (1) FBI's Uniform Crime Reports; (2) National Crime Survey data; (3) FBI Bank Robbery Division - state statistics; (4) FBI Bank Robber Unit - individual statistics; (5) US Census; (6) Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics; (7) FBI's NCIC CCH data file tape; (8) Federal Regulatory Agencies - FDIC and Federal Home Loan Bank Board; (9) data collected by Thomas F. Pogue, Department of Economics, Univeristy of Iowa, "An Econometric Analysis of the Deterrent Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment," supported by NIJ grant #79-NI-AX-0015, (see also ICPSR Study #7973); and, (10) Statistical Abstract of the United States.

Sample:

The data collection is a pooled cross-sectional time-series of bank robberies in 50 states over a period of 6 years (1970 - 1975), resulting in 300 observations.

Dates of data collection:

Not available

Special Characteristics of the Data Set

The research design combined variables from three different perspectives in order to examine the effects of sanctions on robberies: (1) economic - certainty, severity, immediacy of criminal sanctions; (2) sociological (anomie) - urbanization, population mobility, rigid class structure, economic means-ends discontinuities; and, (3) opportunity - exposure, guardianship and attractiveness of object.

Description of the variables

Variables include: (1) demographic information about population, including population changes and growth, percent non-white, urbanization, income and unemployment; (2) characteristics about banks, bank robberies, assets; and, (3) criminal justice information about crime clearance rates, arrests and sentences.

Unit of Observation:

State * Year (i.e., repeated annual measures of states)

Geographic Coverage

50 US states

File Structure

Data files:	1
Unit:	State * Year
Variables:	56
Cases:	300

Reports and Publications

Gould, L. C., Camp, G. M. and Peck, J. K. (1983). Economic and Sociological Theories of Deterrence, Motivation and Criminal Opportunity: A Regression Analysis of Bank Robbery and Other Property Crimes. Unpublished report, South Salem, NY: Criminal Justice Institute, Inc.

C O D E B O O K

For the following variables, please note that all log transformations are in Base 10. There are 7 records per case in the data file, 56 variables, and 300 cases.

VAR #	VARIABLE NAME	COLUMN POSITION	VARIABLE DESCRIPTION
Deck 1			
1	ADJLOOT	1 - 10	Average value of cash taken per robbery, in constant dollars. Constant dollars were calculated using the Consumer Price Index Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's Bank Crime Statistics data file tape Range: 295.625 to 55871.82
2	ALARM	11 - 20	Alarmct**2 (square of ALARMACT) Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's Bank Crime Statistics data file tape Range: 0 to 10000
3	ALARMACT	21 - 30	Percentage of robbed banks that activated an alarm Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's Bank Crime Statistics data file tape Range: 0 to 100

4	ARRESTS	31 - 40	Log(PARRCHR) Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's Bank Crime Statistics data file tape Range: 0.0800424 to 1.540444
5	ARPPRISN	41 - 50	Average number of days between arrest and imprisonment, for those going to prison. Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's NCIC CCH data file tape Range: 18 to 1394.999
6	ASSETS	51 - 60	Log(ASSETS1) Source: Federal Regulatory Agencies - FDIC and Federal Home Loan Bank Board Range: 1.335292 to 3.66627
7	ASSETS1	61 - 70	Assets per banking office, in millions Source: Federal Regulatory Agencies - FDIC and Federal Home Loan Bank Board Range: 3.801105 to 39.10577
8	BANKDENS	71 - 80	Log(BANKDENX) Source: Federal Regulatory Agencies - FDIC and Federal Home Loan Bank Board Source: Statistical Abstracts of the United States, annual publication, U.S. Department of Commerce Range: 2.920398 to 4.118507

Deck 2

9	BANKDENX	1 - 10	[(BANKS/STATEPOP) x 100,000] Source: Federal Regulatory Agencies - FDIC and Federal Home Loan Bank Board Source: Statistical Abstracts of the United States, annual publication, U.S. Department of Commerce 10.6 Range: 18.54868 to 61.46744
10	BANKROBA	11 - 20	Number of bank robberies. Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's Bank Crime Statistics data file tape 10.5 Range: 0 to 820.0
11	BANKROBB	21 - 30	Sqrt(BRPBO + 1) - 1 10.6 Range: 0 to 11.27329
12	BANKROBC	31 - 40	-1/(BRPC + 1) 10.6 Range: -1 to 10.146894
13	BANKS	41 - 50	Number of bank offices. 10.4 Range: 132.2278 to 7738.34
14	BANKTYPE	51 - 60	TYPEBANK**2 10.3 Source: Federal Regulatory Agencies FDIC and Federal Home Loan Bank Board Range: 1089 to 10000

15	BANKX	61 - 70	Sqrt(BANKS) Range: 11.49904 to 87.96783
16	BRANCHES	71 - 80	-1/(RATIO)***6 Range: -0.767913 to -0.025518

Deck 3

17	BRPBO	1 - 10	(BANKROBA/BANKS) x 1000 Range: 0 to 149.6336
18	BRPC	11 - 20	(BANKROBA/STATEPOP) x 100000 Range: 0 to 5.807621
19	CJEXPEND	21 - 30	Log(CJEXPENX) Source: Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics, annual publication, U.S. Department of Justice Range: 2.63977 to 5.227357
20	CJEXPENX	31 - 40	Criminal justice expenditures per capita Source: Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics, annual publication, U.S. Department of Justice Range: 14.00998 to 186.2998

21	CLEARRAT	41 - 50	Log(CRIMCLR) Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports, annual publication Range: 3.214867 to 4.526127
22	CRIMCLR	51 - 60	Robbery clearance rate + burglary clearance rate Source: Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reports, annual publication Range: 24.8996 to 92.3998
23	CRIMRATE	61 - 70	Robbery rate + burglary rate (FBI) Range: 292.5996 to 2749.598
24	EXPSENT	71 - 80	Log(EXPSENTX) Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's NCIC CCH data file tape Range: 2.07944 to 6.841615

Deck 4

25	EXPSENTX	1 - 10	PCONV x MSENTENC Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's NCIC CCH data file tape Range: 7.99999 - 935.999
26	F	11 - 20	Undocumented variable Range: -18.4691 to 786.571

27	FRED	21 - 30	Undocumented variable Range: - 0 to 1
28	H	31 - 40	Undocumented variable Range: - 0.00862059 to 0.1850514
29	HETERO	41 - 50	Log(NONWHITE + 1) Source: Information from tape compiled by Thomas F. Pogue, Department of Economics, University of Iowa for his study, "An Econometric Analysis of the Deterrent Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment," which was supported by grant 79-NI-AX-0015 from the National Institute of Justice Range: 0.5347373 to 4.130339
30	INCOME	51 - 60	Log(INCOMEX) Source: Information from tape compiled by Thomas F. Pogue, Department of Economics, University of Iowa for his study, "An Econometric Analysis of the Deterrent Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment," which was supported by grant 79-NI-AX-0015 from the National Institute of Justice Range: 7.853604 to 9.153559
31	INCOMEX	61 - 70	Per capita income Source: Information from tape compiled by Thomas F. Pogue, Department of Economics, University of Iowa for his study, "An Econometric Analysis of the Deterrent Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment," which was supported by grant 79-NI-AX-0015 from the National Institute of Justice Range: 2574.999 to 9448.0

32 INCOMEY 71 - 80 Log(INCOMEX)

Range: 7.853604 to 9.153559

10.7

Deck 5

33 INCOMEZ 1 - 10 Undocumented variable (may be duplicate of INCOMEX)

10.4 Range: 2574.999 to 9448.0

34 LOOT 11 - 20 Log(ADJLOOT)

Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's Bank Crime Statistics data file tape

10.6

Range: 5.689091 to 10.93082

35 MSENTENC 21 - 30 Mean sentence (in months) for those sentenced (for bank robbery or other charges)

10.5

Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's NCIC CCH data file tape

Range: 24.0 to 390.0

36 NONWHITE 31 - 40 Percentage of population nonwhite

10.6

Source: Information from tape compiled by Thomas F. Pogue, Department of Economics, University of Iowa for his study, "An Econometric Analysis of the Deterrent Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment," which was supported by grant 79-NI-AX-0015 from the National Institute of Justice

Range: 0.707 to 61.19899

37	NROBBERS	41 - 50	Mean number of robbers per bank robbery Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's Bank Crime Statistics data file tape Range: 1.0 to 4.000001
38	PARRCHR	51 - 60	PANYCHR/NROBBERS Bank robbery arrest rate [persons arrested or charged for bank robbery ("PANYCHR")/bank robberies x average number of robbers per robbery] Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's Bank Crime Statistics data file tape Range: 0.0833333 to 3.666666
39	PCONV	61 -70	PSENT2/PANYCHR Bank robbery conviction rate [bank robbery sentence/bank robbery arrests] Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's NCIC CCH data file tape Range: 0.1818177 to 5.799897
40	POCHANG	71 - 80	Percentage of population change, 1960-1970 Source: Information from tape compiled by Thomas F. Pogue, Department of Economics, University of Iowa for his study, "An Econometric Analysis of the Deterrent Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment," which was supported by grant 79-NI-AX-0015 from the National Institute of Justice Range: 9.379998 to 17.12997

Deck 6

41	POPGROW	1 - 10	-1/POCHANG Source: Information from tape compiled by Thomas F. Pogue, Department of Economics, University of Iowa for his study, "An Econometric Analysis of the Deterrent Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment," which was supported by grant 79-NI-AX-0015 from the National Institute of Justice Range: -0.10661 to -0.058377
42	PROPCRIM	11 - 20	Sqrt(CRIMRATE) Range: 17.10554 to 52.43661
43	PSENT2	21 - 30	Sentences/bank robberies (used Montana mean for ID and NH for VT) Range: 0.0625 to 3.0
44	R	31 - 40	Undocumented variable Range: -132.334 to 198.6565
45	RATIO	41 - 50	Branch banking offices/main banking offices Source: Federal Regulatory Agencies - FDIC and Federal Home Loan Bank Board Range: 1.044996 to 1.842997

46	RELDEP	51 - 60	UNEMPLY x INCOME
	10.6		Source: Information from tape compiled by Thomas F. Pogue, Department of Economics, University of Iowa for his study, "An Econometric Analysis of the Deterrent Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment," which was supported by grant 79-NI-AX-0015 from the National Institute of Justice
			Range: 6.758248 to 22.0444
47	ROBBERS	61 - 70	Log(NROBBERS)
	10.7		Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's Bank Crime Statistics data file tape
			Range: 0 to 1.386294
48	SENDELAY	71 - 80	Log(ARPPRISN)
	10.7		Source: Information from Federal Bureau of Investigation's NCIC CCH data file tape
			Range: 2.890371 to 7.240649

Deck 7

49	STATE	1 - 10	State
	10.0		Range: 1.0 to 50.0
50	STATELAB	11 - 20	[Data are ordered by year within state].
	10.0		
51	STATEPOP	21 - 30	State population
	10.0		Range: 808000 to 21197984

52	TYPEBANK	31 - 40	Percentage of (robbed) banks that were commercial banks Source: Federal Regulatory Agencies - FDIC and Federal Home Loan Bank Board Range: 33 to 100
53	UNEMPLOX	41 - 50	Percentage of workforce unemployed Source: Information from tape compiled by Thomas F. Pogue, Department of Economics, University of Iowa for his study, "An Econometric Analysis of the Deterrent Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment," which was supported by grant 79-NI-AX-0015 from the National Institute of Justice Range: 2.199998 to 12.5
54	UNEMPLOY	51 - 60	Log(UNEMPLOX) Range: 0.7884564 to 2.525728
55	URBAN	61 - 70	Percentage population living in urban areas Source: Information from tape compiled by Thomas F. Pogue, Department of Economics, University of Iowa for his study, "An Econometric Analysis of the Deterrent Effects of Arrest and Imprisonment," which was supported by grant 79-NI-AX-0015 from the National Institute of Justice Range: 32.19998 to 90.89998
56	**YEAR**	**71 - 80**	**Years: 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975** (The last two digits of the year are coded).