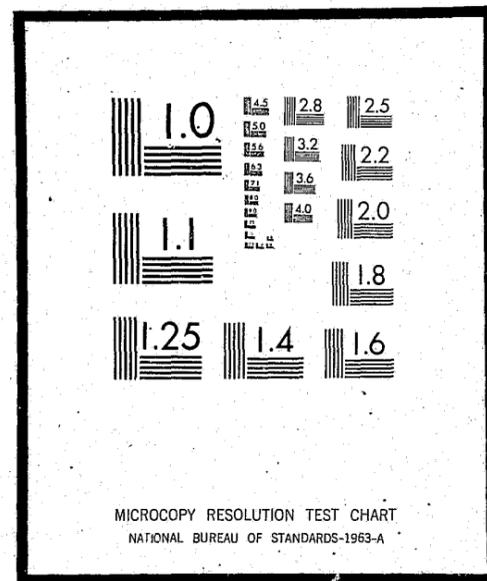


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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20531

Date filmed

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SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

CRIME AND THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM
IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND

November, 1974

FOREWORD

In July, 1974, a public opinion firm surveyed a representative sample of Maryland citizens on issues related to crime and the criminal justice system. The purpose of the study, which was supported under a special planning grant, was to assist the Governor's Commission in formulating overall criminal justice improvement plans for the State, getting public reaction to those plans and evaluating the impact of those plans once they are implemented. This document is a summary of the final report submitted to the Commission by the opinion survey firm.

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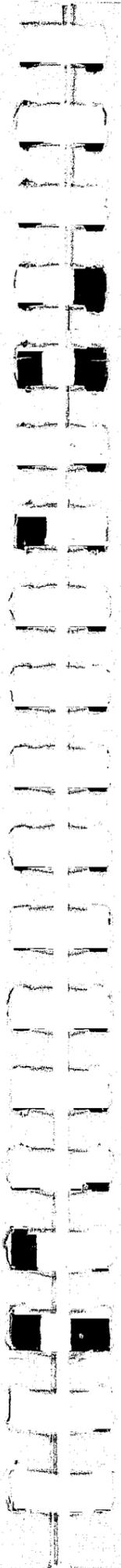
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INTRODUCTION



4. The trade-offs residents are willing to make in terms of tax dollars in order to improve the State's criminal justice system and make a deeper financial commitment to specific anti-crime, court and penal reform programs.
5. The relative importance assigned by the public to reducing or eliminating different types of crime.

In line with these objectives, Quayle, Plesser and Company completed 1000 personal interviews with a scientifically selected cross section of the population of Maryland 16 years of age and older. All interviewing was conducted from July 9 through July 20, 1974.

The Sample

The population sample used for this study was drawn on a modified area probability basis from 1970 census data. Under this methodology, the number of sampling points is controlled by the cluster size (the number of interviews taken at each point). For this project, a cluster size of five was used at 200 sample points.

Sample points were assigned to each area of the State in proportion to each region's share of the 16 and older population, as determined by 1970 census data. Within areas and counties, specific communities were assigned points in random fashion. Within the City of Baltimore, specific census blocks were selected in a random pattern and exact starting points and household and respondent selection procedures were carefully defined.

Interviewing

All interviews were conducted in the homes of respondents by trained, experienced interviewers. All interviewers were thoroughly briefed prior to the commencement of the interviewing, and 20 percent of each interviewer's work was validated by telephone by field supervisors during the field period.

Interviewers followed detailed instructions in completing their work. Those instructions called for up to three call-backs (a maximum of four visits) to households where an eligible respondent was known to reside but was not available for interviewing on initial basis. This system of call-backs insured that the sample did not reflect a bias in favor of Maryland residents who tend to spend a disproportionate amount of time at home.

Additional interviewer controls included prohibitions against interviewing more than one person in any household or personal acquaintances. All interviews with men, except in the case of shift workers who were off during the day, were conducted after 5 P.M. or on weekends, thus preventing an oversampling of unemployed or retired men.

Most interviews with white respondents were conducted by white interviewers and most blacks were interviewed by black interviewers. Spanish-speaking interviewers conducted interviews with respondents whose only language is Spanish. No respondent was given any idea as to the identity of the client. Indeed, to avoid interviewer bias, no member of the field staff was told who the client was. Every respondent was assured of his or her personal anonymity. Each interview required an average of 50 to 60 minutes, for completion.

The Questionnaire

An extensive questionnaire was specifically designed to meet the requirements of the staff of the Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice. The questionnaire was thoroughly pretested prior to finalization. That pretesting consisted of 20 interviews conducted in several areas of the State, including white and black areas of Baltimore as well as suburban locations.

The final questionnaire included 159 closed-end questions (those in which respondents select from among multiple choices offered them) and 8 open-ended questions (those which respondents answer in their own words, without prompting or guidance).

Coding and Tabulation

Completed interviews were coded. A minimum of 330 similar responses was required for each open-ended question before structuring of a code and actual coding. Interviews were then converted to data punch cards and tabulated, cross-tabulated, and percentaged on an IBM Series 360/50 computer.

Data Displays

Some of the data displayed adds up to more than 100 percent. This occurs in instances such as those in which respondents were asked to rate the seriousness of individual problems. For example, under Court/Trial Problems (page 72) respondents were asked to rate the seriousness of nine problems which may be having an impact on Maryland's law enforcement system. Each problem was rated individually on a scale including extremely serious, quite serious, moderately serious, not serious, not sure. Four of those having the highest ratings in the extremely/quite serious range are listed.

Therefore, for the problem, "Citizens' Fear to Testify," a total of 75 percent of the respondents said this was an extremely serious or quite serious problem. "Large Backlog of Cases" was also rated as extremely or quite serious by 75 percent of the respondents. The issues were not rated against one another.

Statistical Reliability

A sample size of 1,000 insures a high degree of statistical reliability. Its error margin at the 95 percent confidence level is plus or minus 3.1 percentage points for the entire State when that universe divides 60/40 on an attitudinal question. Reliability is higher (margin of error narrows) when the universe divides more widely on an attitudinal question (such as 75/25) or when the question concerns a matter of fact (such as demography) rather than attitude.

Reliability decreases slightly as the number of respondents falls. It also decreases when the views of a subgroup of the entire universe are considered since the sample was designed to obtain an accurate cross-section of the State's adult population as a whole rather than precise cross-sections of specific subgroups. The margin of error, for example, increases to plus or minus 4.4 percent, when the size of the subgroup is about 500 and 6.2 percent for a sample of 250 respondents Statewide (on an attitudinal question which divides the subgroup about 60/40). At the same time, however, that tendency is counteracted by a reduction in the margin of error as the homogeneity of the universe increases, as with a particular subgroup such as blacks.

Timing

Events occurring on the local, State, national, and even international scene just prior to and during interviewing can have a significant impact upon the expressed views of respondents. Because of that, it should be kept in mind that all interviewing on this project was conducted from July 9 through July 20, 1974.

Interviewing began in the midst of a week-old strike of municipal workers in Baltimore, just as correctional officers and policemen in that city walked off the job. The police strike ended four days before interviewing was completed, but tensions remained high.

In other news, the Federal Bureau of Investigation released its first quarter crime statistics, in the midst of interviewing, which showed that major crimes in Baltimore City rose 14 percent in the first three months of 1974, compared to an average 15 percent increase nationwide. In Jessup, seven inmates escaped from the Patuxent Institution, and three of them were still at large as interviewing came to an end.

Watergate dominated the news on the national scene. As interviewing began, the Supreme Court began hearings on President Nixon's appeal against a subpoena of 65 tapes sought by the Special Watergate prosecutor. And during the first week of interviewing, John D. Ehrlichman and three others were found guilty of conspiring to violate the civil rights of Daniel Ellsberg's former psychiatrist. As interviewing drew to a close, the Senate Watergate committee issued its final report, and

the House Judiciary Committee released volumes of evidence it had accumulated in its impeachment investigation, while the Committee's senior lawyers urged the Committee to recommend a Senate trial of President Nixon on one or more of five central impeachment charges.

In addition, two armed federal prisoners seized seven hostages in the basement cell blocks of the Federal District Courthouse in Washington, beginning a seige that did not end until interviewing was almost completed.

It is in the context of these and other events that Maryland residents were asked their opinions on the criminal justice system in the State.



SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

GENERAL CATEGORIES

Problems of Concern to Maryland Residents

FINDING: Problems involving crime tended to dominate the thinking of Maryland residents in general, and Baltimore City residents and blacks in particular, during July 1974. The second-ranked issue centers around economic considerations, particularly with regard to inflation/cost of living-- but is clearly subordinate to the top-ranked crime/law enforcement/drugs cluster of problems.

Of primary significance is the correlation between crime as an important problem with residents who perceive that their surroundings have deteriorated during the past few years -- an association which is not observed for most other problem areas of concern to the Maryland public.

There is clearly a greater sensitivity to issues of crime/security/law enforcement/drugs among citizens who have had direct experience with those problems than among the Maryland citizenry in general, and residents who don't know any victims of general crimes in particular.

DISCUSSION:

1. Maryland residents were asked to describe the "two or three most important problems facing your community these days." Almost half (49%) volunteered concern about crime, drugs, juvenile delinquency, and law enforcement problems. The second most frequently mentioned area of concern, the economy, was volunteered by less than a quarter (24%). Other problems were mentioned by fewer than 15%.

All Maryland Residents**

	%
<u>Total Crime Answers</u>	<u>49</u>
"Drugs/junkies are all around here"	14
Vandalism/not enough respect for people's property	9
Crime (non-specific)	9
Juvenile delinquency/kids committing a lot of crime	8
Robbery	7
Burglary/people breaking into houses and stores	5
Cars speeding/drag racing	4
Not enough police	4
Larceny/"you can't leave anything anywhere"	4
Assault/"many people are attacked around here"	3
Feel unsafe/afraid on streets/afraid to go out	3
Insufficient law enforcement	2
Nighttime security/need better lighting	2
Rape/women have to worry when they're alone	1
Murder	1
Legal system needs improvement	1
Disrespect for law	1
Need for more police on foot patrols	*
Arson	*
<u>Total Economy Answers</u>	<u>24</u>
<u>Total Public Services (Streets/Garbage/Sewers) Answers</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Total Neighborhood Problems Answers</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Total Youth Problems Answers</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Total Pollution Answers</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Total Growth/Zoning/Urbanization/Overpopulation Answers</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Total Schools Answers</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Total Transportation Answers</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Total Government Leadership/Corruption/Waste Answers</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Total Housing Answers</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Total Racial Problems Answers</u>	<u>3</u>

*Less than 0.5 percent
 **Answers within Crime category add to more than 49% because respondents could give multiple answers. Similarly, total answers add to more than 100%.

2. Respondents who say the areas in which they live have changed for the worse during the past few years are more likely to volunteer concern about crime than are those who perceive their areas to have improved or stayed the same, but are not more likely to demonstrate concern about most of the other problems.

	<u>All Maryland Residents Who Say The Area In Which They Live Has:</u>		
	<u>Changed For The Better</u>	<u>Changed For The Worse</u>	<u>Stayed About The Same Or Not Sure</u>
	%	%	%
Total Crime Answers	44	59	44
Total Economy Answers	22	20	27
Total Public Services Answers	12	13	14
Total Neighborhood Problems Answers	13	13	10
Total Youth Problems Answers	9	16	9

3. Those who have personally been victims of crime within the past few years demonstrate a greater volunteered concern about law enforcement problems than those who have not so been victimized.

	<u>Total Crime Answers</u>
	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>49</u>
All Who Have Been Victims Of Crime Within Past Few Years	54
All Who Have Not Personally Been Victims But Know Someone Who Has Been Victimized	48
All Who Have Neither Been Victims Nor Know Anyone Who Has Been Victimized	42

Relative Satisfaction With Area Lived In

FINDING: A total of 42 percent of Maryland residents perceive that the area in which they live has remained about the same over the past few years.

DISCUSSION:

1. A fifth of Maryland's residents report improvement within their areas of residence, while a third report a change for the worse.

<u>Area Lived In Has:</u>	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Changed for the better	20
Changed for the worse	33
Stayed about the same	42
Not sure	5

Budget Modification Required To Solve Specific Problems

FINDING: Education ranks highest in the minds of Maryland residents, as far as required budget increases are concerned. Funding for law enforcement/criminal justice is second ranked in that regard, along with environmental problems, and health/hospital care.

Baltimore City residents and blacks are most willing to commit additional revenues to solve law enforcement/criminal justice problems, as are those who feel their living conditions have deteriorated over the past few years.

When compared with residents who perceive that their quality of life has improved over the past few years, those who think conditions are deteriorating are comparatively more willing to increase funds for law enforcement than any other service area evaluated here.

As far as budget increases for specific law enforcement/criminal justice system problems are concerned, Maryland residents place greatest emphasis on narcotics control. Corruption in government, controlling juvenile delinquency, and fighting crime in general are ranked second, with prison and court reform receiving somewhat lower tax revenue commitments.

As observed for criminal justice system problems in general, as well as most of the other issues measured here, perceived budget increases for specific law enforcement problems are highest in Baltimore City and lowest in the nonurban counties -- which is highly correlated with regions other than IV and V.

Blacks place higher than average budget priorities on fighting crime, juvenile delinquency, narcotics control, and prison reform. Citizens who have been victimized by serious crime feel no differently about budget priorities than do other residents.

NOTE: The Commission has divided the State into five planning regions. Region IV is made up of Prince Georges County and Montgomery County; Region V is comprised of Baltimore County, Anne Arundel County, Howard County, Harford County and Baltimore City.

For statistical reasons, it was not possible to "break out" any regions other than IV and V -- "All Other" refers to Regions I, II and III.

DISCUSSION :

1. Close to half (48%) of the State's residents say Maryland should be spending a lot more tax dollars on education, and another third feels somewhat more should be spent, for a total of 81% calling for increased expenditure of tax dollars in this area. Increased spending for law enforcement/criminal justice is desired by 75%, with similar numbers calling for increases in the fields of pollution/environmental problems and health/hospital care.

	<u>All Maryland Residents Who Say The State Should Spend:</u>				
	<u>A Lot More</u>	<u>Somewhat More</u>	<u>Somewhat Less</u>	<u>A Lot Less</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
	%	%	%	%	%
Education	48	33	11	3	5
Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice	35	41	12	3	9
Pollution/Environmental Problems	39	36	14	4	7
Health/Hospital Care	34	41	12	3	10
Poverty	34	30	17	11	8
Mass Transportation	29	33	20	5	13
Attracting New Industry/Jobs	28	33	19	12	8

2. Increased spending of tax dollars on law enforcement/criminal justice is most desired by residents of Baltimore, those who feel the area in which they live has changed for the worse, and by blacks.

All Maryland Residents Who Say State Expenditures Of Tax Dollars On Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice Should Be:

	<u>A Lot More</u>	<u>Somewhat More</u>
	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>41</u>
<u>Residents Of:</u>		
Baltimore City	52	31
Urban Counties	33	44
Nonurban Counties	24	43
<u>Area Lived In Has:</u>		
Changed for the better	29	43
Changed for the worse	45	37
Stayed about the same or not sure	32	42
<u>Race</u>		
White	32	43
Black	47	32

3. Over half (51%) of the State's residents are willing to see a lot more money spent on narcotics control. Little more than four out of ten are as willing to spend a lot more on other specific law enforcement/criminal justice problems.

All Maryland Residents Who Say The State Should Spend:

	A Lot More	Somewhat More	Somewhat Less	A Lot Less	Not Sure
	%	%	%	%	%
Narcotics control	51	33	9	3	4
Corruption in government	44	28	12	7	9
Control juvenile delinquency	42	38	10	3	7
Fighting crime	41	43	8	2	6
Prison reform	36	33	15	7	9
Court reform	34	38	12	4	12

4. Residents of Baltimore are consistently above average in their desire for a lot more spending on these law enforcement/criminal justice system problems, as are blacks, while residents of nonurban counties are consistently less likely to call for a lot more spending.

	<u>All Residents Of:</u>			<u>All Maryland Residents Who Are:</u>	
	<u>Baltimore City</u>	<u>Urban Counties</u>	<u>Nonurban Counties</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>
	%	%	%	%	%
<u>Maryland Should Spend A Lot More Tax Money On:</u>					
Narcotics control	67	49	41	48	66
Corruption in government	51	44	36	43	47
Control juvenile delinquency	60	40	30	38	59
Fighting crime	62	39	26	37	56
Prison reform	51	36	29	31	56
Court reform	42	34	26	33	37

Personal Experience With Or Knowledge of General Crime

FINDING: Respondents were asked whether they, personally, had been a crime victim over the past few years or whether they knew someone who had.

The Maryland public claims greatest exposure to burglary and vandalism, while they are least aware of crimes of murder/manslaughter and rape on a personal experience and direct knowledge basis.

There seems to be no correlation between reported experience or personal knowledge about general crimes and maximum concern with law enforcement and fighting crime as expressed by a willingness to have the State spend a lot more tax dollars in those areas. While this seemingly contradicts the tendency of those who have been victimized by crime to show more concern about these problems on a volunteered basis, there is not really a discrepancy here. Those who have been recent victims are more aware of the problems of crime, demonstrating that sensitivity by volunteering concern. But when reminded of law enforcement problems, those who have not been victimized place just as high a priority on spending more tax dollars on fighting crime as do recent victims.

Reported experience with/knowledge of all general crimes is highest among Region IV residents. It is interesting to note that younger and better educated Maryland residents claim greater exposure to general criminal activity evaluated here.

DISCUSSION:

1. More than half (56%) of the State's residents report that they have personally been victims (17%) or know someone (39%) who has been victimized by vandalism. Almost as many (53%) say the same of burglary. Residents are less aware of other crimes, with experience and knowledge falling to 13% with regard to murder/manslaughter or rape.

	<u>All Maryland Residents Reporting:</u>	
	<u>Personal Experience</u>	<u>No Personal Experience But Knowledge Of Someone Else With Personal Experience</u>
	%	%
Vandalism	17	39
Burglary	12	41
Car Theft	9	27
Robbery	6	30
Assault	6	28
Larceny	6	19
Rape	0.4	12
Murder/Manslaughter	-	13

2. Those with maximum concern about crime, as demonstrated by a willingness to have the State spend a lot more tax dollars on law enforcement/criminal justice problems and on fighting crime, are no more likely to have personal experience with or knowledge of most of these general crimes than those who show less than maximum concern about crime.

	<u>All Maryland Residents Who Show:</u>		
	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>Maximum Concern With Crime</u>	<u>Less Than Maximum Concern With Crime</u>
	%	%	%
<u>Reporting Personal Experience With Or Knowledge Of:</u>			
Vandalism	56	54	57
Burglary	53	51	54
Car Theft	36	38	35
Robbery	36	43	33
Assault	34	38	33
Larceny	25	24	25
Rape	13	13	13
Murder/Manslaughter	13	15	13

3. Reported experience with/knowledge of all general crimes is in most cases highest among Region IV residents and lowest outside of Regions IV and V.

Reporting Personal Experience With Or Knowledge Of:	All Residents Of:		
	Region IV	Region V	All Other
	%	%	%
Vandalism	66	52	52
Burglary	61	51	47
Car Theft	42	34	29
Robbery	39	36	30
Assault	37	36	23
Larceny	30	23	22
Rape	18	12	10
Murder/Manslaughter	13	15	11

Awareness of every general crime tested is highest among those Maryland residents under 25 years old. Experience with/knowledge of general crimes decreases with age in most cases.

Reporting Personal Experience With Or Knowledge Of:	All Maryland Residents Who Are:			
	Under 25	25-34	35-49	50 and Over
	%	%	%	%
Vandalism	60	60	54	52
Burglary	60	53	52	49
Car Theft	45	40	31	30
Robbery	44	33	33	34
Assault	42	33	33	29
Larceny	35	22	27	29
Rape	23	15	9	9
Murder/Manslaughter	22	11	13	10

Similarly, personal experience or knowledge of each of these crimes rises with educational level.

All Maryland Residents Whose Highest Grade Of Schooling Completed Is:

	<u>Less Than</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>
	<u>High School</u>	<u>High School</u>	<u>Some College</u>
	<u>Graduate</u>	<u>Graduate</u>	<u>Or More</u>
	%	%	%
<u>Reporting Personal Experience</u>			
<u>With Or Knowledge Of:</u>			
Vandalism	42	57	69
Burglary	42	53	65
Car Theft	27	37	42
Robbery	30	34	43
Assault	30	32	40
Larceny	18	23	34
Rape	12	12	16
Murder/Manslaughter	12	11	18

Fear Of General Crime

FINDING: The majority of the Maryland public are only slightly or not at all fearful of each general crime evaluated here happening to them or members of their family, although significant proportions of the population are at least somewhat fearful of all crimes. Levels of fear are highest for vandalism/robbery/burglary/assault, while rape/murder/larceny/car theft cause lower levels of fear.

Residents across the State of Maryland who perceive the areas in which they live to have changed for the worse over the past few years are significantly more fearful of all serious crimes than those who are pleased with the past few years' affect on living conditions. Logically, residents who have been victimized by one or more general crimes are more fearful of the wide range of crimes evaluated here than the total population in general, and those who don't know any victims of serious crimes in particular.

Women and urban county/Baltimore City residents show more fear of every crime measured than do men and those who live in nonurban counties. In some instances, the absence of a formal education is correlated with fear of crime -- particularly for the more violent ones.

DISCUSSION:

1. Exactly half of the State's residents say they are somewhat or very fearful of vandalism. Fewer express fear of the other crimes tested, dropping to a total of 31% who indicate much fear of murder/manslaughter.

All Maryland Residents Who Say They Are:

	<u>Very Fearful</u>	<u>Somewhat Fearful</u>	<u>Slightly Fearful</u>	<u>Not At All Fearful</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
	%	%	%	%	%
Vandalism	23	27	19	31	*
Burglary	20	27	23	30	*
Robbery	20	26	21	32	1
Assault	18	24	21	36	1
Rape	19	16	18	46	1
Car Theft	12	21	22	44	1
Larceny	11	22	21	45	1
Murder/Manslaughter	16	15	19	49	1

*Less than 0.5%

2. Fear of all these crimes is most prevalent among those who feel the areas in which they live have changed for the worse in the past few years and among those who have had personal experience with at least one of these crimes.

All Maryland Residents Who Say The Area In Which They Live Has:

<u>Changed For The Better</u>	<u>Changed For The Worse</u>	<u>Stayed About The Same Or Are Not Sure</u>
%	%	%

Report Being Somewhat Or Very Fearful Of:

Vandalism	46	57	46
Burglary	44	54	42
Robbery	41	55	43
Assault	39	50	39
Rape	33	40	33
Car Theft	27	37	32
Larceny	30	40	30
Murder/Manslaughter	28	38	28

All Maryland Residents Reporting:

<u>Personal Experience With At Least One Of These Crimes</u>	<u>No Personal Experience But Knowledge Of Someone Else With Personal Experience</u>	<u>Neither Personal Experience Nor Knowledge</u>
%	%	%

Report Being Somewhat Or Very Fearful Of:

Vandalism	61	52	28
Burglary	58	47	28
Robbery	56	48	27
Assault	49	43	31
Rape	39	37	24
Car Theft	42	31	23
Larceny	40	34	21
Murder/Manslaughter	34	33	24

Residents of Baltimore evidence the most fear of each of these crimes, with urban county residents close behind. The levels of fear are significantly lower in nonurban counties.

Report Being Somewhat Or Very Fearful Of:	All Residents Of:		
	Baltimore City	Urban Counties	Nonurban Counties
	%	%	%
Vandalism	54	50	46
Burglary	52	46	42
Robbery	53	47	39
Assault	53	52	34
Rape	38	35	32
Car Theft	37	33	30
Larceny	40	32	30
Murder/Manslaughter	42	30	25

Women are consistently a great deal more fearful of crimes being committed against them or members of their family than are men. In a few instances, most notably with regard to the violent crimes of assault/rape/murder, those with less formal education tend to be most fearful.

Report Being Somewhat Or Very Fearful Of:	All Maryland Residents Who Are:		All Maryland Residents Whose Highest Grade Of Schooling Completed Is:		
	Men	Women	Less Than High School Graduate	High School Graduate	Some College Or More
	%	%	%	%	%
Vandalism	47	53	47	49	54
Burglary	41	52	45	50	45
Robbery	41	52	46	47	46
Assault	35	50	44	45	38
Rape	24	45	35	37	32
Car Theft	30	35	29	36	33
Larceny	28	39	34	32	35
Murder/Manslaughter	24	38	37	31	26

Perceived Familiarity With Criminal Justice Agencies

FINDING: The two criminal justice activities perceived to be most familiar to Maryland citizens are State and county police.

Other than juvenile and adult community facilities, with which less than half the State's population claim at least some familiarity, aided awareness of most court and correction functions are at about the same levels -- 10% extremely familiar, 42% somewhat familiar, 40% just heard of, and 8% never heard of/not sure.

On the whole, college graduates allege significantly greater familiarity with a wide range of criminal justice activities. Baltimore City residents claim to be more knowledgeable about many of these law enforcement functions.

DISCUSSION:

1. Maryland residents are most familiar with State, county, and municipal police.

All Maryland Residents Describing Their Degree Of Familiarity With Each Organization As:

	Extremely Familiar	Somewhat Familiar	Just Heard The Name	Never Heard Of It	Not Sure
	%	%	%	%	%
State Police	26	58	15	*	1
County Police	26	51	19	2	2
Municipal Police	19	40	21	13	7
Local Jails	11	47	36	4	2
District Court	11	46	37	4	2
State Prisons	8	46	41	3	2
Juvenile Courts	10	43	41	4	2
Circuit Courts	9	44	40	5	2
Sheriff	11	41	37	8	3
Public Defenders	10	42	40	5	3
Parole and Probation Services	10	42	41	5	2
Local Prosecutors	10	41	38	8	3
Juvenile Institutions	9	40	43	5	3
Juvenile Community Facilities	7	35	43	12	3
Adult Community Corrective Facilities	5	30	44	16	5

*Less than 0.5%

2. Familiarity with almost every organization tested is highest among those with the most education and lowest among the least educated, as would be expected. In most cases, residents of Baltimore are at least as familiar with these organizations as the best educated residents of the State, and frequently more familiar with them.

Reporting At Least Some Familiarity With:	All Residents Of:			All Maryland Residents Whose Last Grade Of Schooling Completed Is:		
	Balti- more City	Urban Coun- ties	Urban Coun- ties	Less Than High School Graduate	High School Graduate	Some College Or More
	%	%	%	%	%	%
State Police	74	84	91	74	85	91
County Police	66	85	73	68	79	86
Municipal Police	77	52	57	54	57	66
Local Jails	73	51	58	55	55	63
District Court	65	54	53	47	58	65
State Prisons	71	51	43	48	50	63
Juvenile Courts	65	49	48	46	51	61
Circuit Courts	61	51	50	44	53	63
Sheriff	52	44	70	46	53	56
Public Defenders	62	51	47	43	50	64
Parole and Probation Services	66	46	50	48	49	58
Local Prosecutors	62	46	51	39	50	63
Juvenile Institutions	62	47	40	41	47	58
Juvenile Community Facilities	55	39	35	35	38	53
Adult Community Corrections Facilities	51	33	27	31	31	45

Job Performance Rating For Specific Criminal Justice Activities

FINDING: Overall, State Police receive the highest job rating scores from a cross section of the Maryland population, with county and municipal police ranked second and third, respectively. Of the fifteen police/courts/corrections functions evaluated in this study, corrections organizations in general, and State prisons/local jails in particular, are rated most poorly. These job evaluations must be placed in context of widespread media coverage (during the interviewing period) of a police and city jail strike in Baltimore -- both of which were reported to cause tensions and unrest.

DISCUSSION:

Maryland residents who indicated at least some familiarity with each organization tested were asked to rate the organization's performance.

About half were rated favorably on balance and about half unfavorably.

All Maryland Residents At Least Somewhat Familiar With Each Organization Rating It:

	Pretty Only		Not		
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	
	%	%	%	%	%
State Police	28	53	13	2	4
County Police	19	53	20	4	4
Municipal Police	10	46	26	8	10
Local Prosecutors	7	45	26	7	15
Sheriff	6	42	26	9	17
Public Defenders	6	42	27	7	18
District Courts	5	42	28	10	15
Circuit Courts	7	39	30	12	12
Adult Community Corrections Facilities	3	36	28	10	23
Citizen's Committee to Reduce Crime	5	38	30	13	14
Parole and Probation Services	4	36	32	13	15
Juvenile Courts	3	31	32	19	15
Juvenile Community Facilities	4	30	33	16	17
Local Jails	2	29	32	25	12
Juvenile Institutions	1	27	34	24	14
State Prisons	3	26	32	26	13

POLICE/LAW ENFORCEMENT - RELATED ISSUES

Priorities For Addressing Crimes

FINDING: Although low levels of fear with regard to rape are recorded when compared to other serious crimes, rape is the crime assigned first priority for law enforcement officials to direct their energies toward among all age and income groups and county residents Statewide.

Though second-ranked among most subgroups analyzed here, murder/manslaughter is selected first by publics residing in Region V in general, and Baltimore City in particular, as the crime deserving most attention by criminal justice authorities. The demand for attention to be directed in the area of murder/manslaughter decreases in direct proportion to increasing age and family income; is disproportionately high among black residents, and low among those living in municipalities.

As a third priority, the Maryland public looks to law enforcement officials for additional attention in the area of burglary -- a crime that generates disproportionate concern among nonurban county residents, people living in a combination of all regions other than IV and V, and families in the \$15,000 - \$19,999 family income range.

Fourth-ranked, in this regard, is assault, with vandalism and robbery at about the same level of priority as far as crimes toward which Maryland residents feel more attention should be directed. While assault receives the same general priority by all subgroups across the State, robbery and vandalism shift in importance according to demography. For example, higher than average proportions of Baltimore City and black residents assign priority to robbery, while placing disproportionately low emphasis on vandalism -- whereas the opposite is observed among nonurban county publics, those who reside outside Regions IV and V and residents of municipalities.

Car theft and larceny are ranked last, well below the levels observed for other crimes evaluated. In fact, all subgroups consistently place the lowest priority on authorities paying attention to these two crimes.

DISCUSSION:

1. Rape clearly holds the top priority in the minds of State residents as deserving a lot more attention from law enforcement officials, followed by murder/manslaughter and burglary. Assault, vandalism, and robbery are not regarded as top priorities by more than a quarter, and very few see a need for more attention in the areas of car theft and larceny.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Rape	44
Murder/Manslaughter	36
Burglary	30
Assault	25
Vandalism	24
Robbery	23
Car Theft	4
Larceny	4
Don't Know	5

2. While rape receives the highest priority in most areas of the State, residents of Region V and of Baltimore place more emphasis on murder/manslaughter. Burglary, while about third in importance in most areas, receives a higher priority than murder/manslaughter in nonurban counties, regions other than IV and V, and municipalities -- indeed, vandalism receives a high or higher priority than murder/manslaughter in those areas.

The fourth-ranked crimes, assault, vandalism, and robbery, receive different priorities in different areas.

	<u>All Maryland Residents Who Say Law Enforcement Officials Should Be Paying A Lot More Attention To:</u>							
	<u>Rape</u>	<u>Murder/Man-slaughter</u>	<u>Bur-glary</u>	<u>Assault</u>	<u>Vandal-ism</u>	<u>Rob-bery</u>	<u>Car Theft</u>	<u>Lar-ceny</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Residents Of:</u>								
Baltimore City	35	51	31	31	14	30	4	2
Urban Counties	47	32	26	24	26	23	5	5
Nonurban Counties	44	31	38	22	30	15	4	2
Region IV	49	27	23	25	25	25	5	5
Region V	40	44	30	27	22	25	4	3
All other	44	31	40	21	29	15	4	3
Municipalities	39	25	35	23	32	21	6	4

Rape ranks high in priority as a crime warranting a lot more attention from law enforcement officials among all age, income, and racial groups -- it is first in priority among all but those in households with annual incomes of less than \$7,500 or between \$15,000 and \$19,999, and among blacks.

Concern about murder/manslaughter decreases with increasing income, and concern about both rape and murder/manslaughter decreases with increasing age. Citizens in households with incomes between \$15,000 and \$19,999 give top priority to burglary, and that crime ranks second among the highest income residents.

Murder/manslaughter generates unusually high concern among blacks, as does robbery, while these residents show relatively little concern about vandalism.

All Maryland Residents Who Say Law Enforcement Officials Should Be Paying A Lot More Attention To:

	<u>Murder/</u> Man- Rape	<u>Bur- glary</u>	<u>Assault</u>	<u>Vandal- ism</u>	<u>Rob- bery</u>	<u>Car Theft</u>	<u>Lar- ceny</u>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Total Yearly Family Income</u>							
Under \$7,500	43	46	32	23	22	26	5
\$7,500-9,999	42	39	28	31	19	19	7
\$10,000-14,999	43	39	23	27	25	24	3
\$15,000-19,999	41	35	43	21	24	20	6
\$20,000 and over	47	24	34	21	29	26	1
<u>Age</u>							
Under 25	54	46	28	27	22	13	6
25-34	49	39	29	21	22	23	5
35-49	39	37	31	30	22	28	3
50 and older	37	28	31	23	29	25	4
<u>Race</u>							
White	45	32	30	25	27	19	5
Black	40	52	29	24	12	36	4

Public Concern/Priorities For Special Crime Categories

FINDING: Respondents were asked their feelings about a category of special crimes: those which are differentiated from crimes of violence and property crimes. Included in this special crimes category are such things as sale and use of heroin and hard drugs, offering and acceptance of bribes by public officials, sale and use of marijuana, tax evasion, embezzlement, shoplifting, illegal gambling, prostitution and homosexual acts between consenting adults.

The use and particularly the sale of hard drugs/heroin dominates Maryland public thinking with regard to overall concern in the special crime category -- and are perceived as problems that demand maximum attention by law enforcement authorities.

Perhaps due to recent publicity in Maryland and nationwide, offering bribes to/acceptance of bribes by public officials are second-ranked as crimes concerning the citizens Statewide. Public commitment for law enforcement efforts in those areas is also high, with acceptance of bribes demanding greater attention than offering of bribes.

The sale and use of marijuana are third-ranked with regard to public concern, though the use of marijuana is considerably less important as far as crimes that law enforcement officials aren't paying enough attention to at the present time.

Concern for tax evasion and embezzlement rank next, with shoplifting at a considerably lower level. It should be noted that all of these crimes engender strong feelings of concern -- and only prostitution, illegal gambling, and homosexual acts between consenting adults are of high concern to less than a majority of Maryland residents.

Further, only very small proportions of the total population choose prostitution, illegal gambling or homosexual acts between consenting adults as deserving more attention from law enforcement officials.

Concern registered by residents Statewide for the wide range of problems evaluated in this study is generally in the same rank order as problems demanding more attention. This was not true when comparing levels of fear of general crimes with the order that residents want attention paid to them.

DISCUSSION:

1. Maryland residents were asked to indicate how much each of 12 special crime categories concerned them. The sale and use of heroin and hard drugs clearly arouse the most concern. Acceptance of bribes by/offering of bribes to public officials ranked second, with sale or use of marijuana third. Substantial numbers of State residents are also concerned about tax evasion, embezzlement, and shoplifting, but comparatively few indicated much concern about illegal gambling, prostitution, or homosexual acts between consenting adults.

All Maryland Residents Who Say Each Of These Special Crime Categories Concerns Them:

	A Great Deal	Somewhat	Not Very Much	Not At All	Not Sure
	%	%	%	%	%
Sale of heroin and hard drugs	69	18	5	7	1
Use of heroin and hard drugs	69	18	5	7	1
Acceptance of bribes by public officials	53	26	10	10	1
Offering of bribes to public officials	48	26	13	11	2
Sale of marijuana	46	25	11	17	1
Use of marijuana	43	25	13	18	1
Tax evasion	39	30	15	15	1
Embezzlement -- taking or mis-using entrusted money	35	36	13	15	1
Shoplifting	21	32	22	24	1
Illegal gambling	14	22	21	42	1
Prostitution	14	18	18	48	2
Homosexual acts between consenting adults	12	14	16	56	2

2. When asked to identify the two or three special crime categories which deserve a lot more attention on the part of law enforcement officials, State residents indicated almost identical priorities, with the exception of a lower priority given to the use of marijuana.

All Maryland Residents

	%
Law Enforcement Officials Should Be Paying A Lot More Attention To:	
Sale of heroin and hard drugs	67
Use of heroin and hard drugs	42
Acceptance of bribes by public officials	32
Offering of bribes to public officials	22
Sale of marijuana	17
Embezzlement	14
Tax evasion	12
Shoplifting	8
Use of marijuana	7
Illegal gambling	4
Prostitution	3
Homosexual acts between consenting adults	2
None	1
Not sure	8

Organized Crime

FINDING: More than two-thirds of Maryland citizens perceive that organized crime exists in this State. Among residents convinced that organized crime is a reality in Maryland, the majority believe it is a serious problem, with Baltimore City residents, blacks, and low income respondents most concerned about organized crime.

Organized crime is believed to manifest itself primarily in the area of narcotics, with gambling mentioned second most often in that regard. When Maryland residents think of organized crime, gangland killings and bribery also come to mind -- with somewhat greater frequency than prostitution.

The Maryland public's sensitivity to controlling narcotics carries over to organized crime, where it dominates as the one element of organized crime to which law enforcement officials should pay more attention. At the other extreme, prostitution, followed by gambling activities, generates the lowest level of concern, particularly among better educated residents.

Nearly one-third of the Maryland public perceives the necessity of a special State-level task force to investigate and prosecute those involved in organized crime -- though 55% believe Federal agencies are doing an adequate job in that area. Suggested areas of operation for a proposed special task force center around "more comprehensive investigations," increasing the employment of "undercover agents," enhancing prosecutorial efforts, including "prosecuting to the fullest," and making sure that the "best trained and educated people" are hired.

DISCUSSION:

1. Most Maryland residents are convinced organized crime does exist in the State.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Organized crime exists in Maryland	69
Organized crime does not exist in Maryland	13
Not sure	18

2. Of those who do believe organized crime exists in Maryland, a majority (57%) feel it is at least a quite serious problem, that feeling being particularly predominant in Baltimore and among lower income residents and blacks.

	<u>All Maryland Residents Who Say Organized Crime In Maryland Exists And Is:</u>				
	<u>Extremely Serious</u>	<u>Quite Serious</u>	<u>Moderately Serious</u>	<u>Not Serious At All</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
	%	%	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents Who Say Organized Crime In Maryland Exists:</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Residents Of</u>					
Baltimore City	34	36	24	2	4
Urban Counties	25	29	35	4	7
Nonurban Counties	21	30	38	6	5
<u>Total Annual Family Income</u>					
Under \$7500	35	27	31	5	2
\$7500-9,999	27	34	29	1	9
\$10,000-14,999	30	29	33	5	3
\$15,000-19,999	19	33	37	3	8
\$20,000 or more	20	33	37	3	7
<u>Race</u>					
White	25	30	36	3	6
Black	34	33	23	7	3

3. When asked to cite the types of crime that come to mind with regard to organized crime, narcotics is the most frequently volunteered response.

All Maryland Residents Who Believe Organized Crime Exists In Maryland

<u>Areas of Organized Crime That Come to Mind</u>	<u>%</u>
Narcotics	62
Gambling	42
Gangland Murder/Killings	31
Bribery/Pay Offs	30
Prostitution	24
Business	13
Labor Union	11
Loan Sharking	10
Night Clubs	4
Robbery/Car Theft	1
Other	19
Not sure	4

4. More than six out of ten (62%) of those who believe organized crime exists in Maryland say narcotics is the one area of organized crime which is most deserving of the attention of law enforcement officials. Other areas of organized crime arouse comparatively little concern.

All Maryland Residents Who Believe Organized Crime Exists In Maryland

<u>Organized Crimes Of Most Concern/ Most Needing Attention</u>	<u>%</u>
Narcotics	62
Labor Union	15
Business	11
Loan Sharking	5
Gambling	3
Prostitution	1
Other	1
Not sure	3

5. Asked to indicate the one organized crime of least concern, Maryland residents exactly reverse the order of priorities, attaching the least concern to prostitution and then gambling.

	All Maryland Residents Who Believe Organized Crime Exists In Maryland	All Maryland Residents Who Believe Organized Crime Exists In Maryland and Whose Highest Grade of Schooling Completed Is:		
		Less Than High School Graduate	High School Graduate	Some College or More
	%	%	%	%
<u>Organized Crimes Of Least Concern</u>				
Prostitution	43	31	50	47
Gambling	28	29	21	32
Loan Sharking	9	11	10	6
Business	6	10	6	3
Labor Union	5	8	2	5
Narcotics	1	1	1	2
Other	1	1	*	1
Not sure	7	9	9	4

*less than 0.5 percent

6. Close to a third (32%) of all Maryland residents believe a special State-level task force to tackle organized crime is necessary, while a majority (55%) feel an adequate job is now being done by Federal agencies.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Need a special State-level task force to investigate and prosecute organized crime	32
Federal agencies are doing an adequate job now	55
Not sure	13

7. Those who believe a special State-level task force is necessary offer a wide range of specific steps the force should take to combat organized crime.

<u>All Maryland Residents Who Believe A State-Level Task Force Is Necessary To Combat Organized Crimes</u>	
	%
<u>Specific Steps The Task Force Should Take</u>	
Investigate more fully/check up more on people/see if people are legitimate/have better research methods	19
The force should do undercover work/use tactics to infiltrate organized crime	12
Prosecute more/prosecute to the fullest extent/bring more arrests/prosecute with more evidence/prosecute quickly	11
Less leniency in prison terms/courts should be stricter	10
Remove government corruption/investigate elected officials from top to bottom/prosecute public officials who allow organized crime to exist	10
Get the right people for the force/hire the best trained and educated people	10
Stop, control crime/solve more cases/enforce existing laws	9
Get the top person, the head man/get at the leaders, the big offenders	6
The task force could handle the city and State problem better, they could stick to organized crime alone/the FBI is too busy	6
More policemen needed/need more police on streets rather than in cars/need a better trained police force/need more investigators	5
Increase citizen involvement in the reporting of crime/educate the people about crime/keep them informed	5
Get to the bottom of organized crime/break up the syndicate	5

All Maryland Residents Who Believe A State-Level Task Force Is Necessary To Combat Organized Crimes

	%
<u>Specific Steps, Cont.</u>	
The task force should cooperate with federal agencies and other forces and coordinate its activities with local enforcement people	5
Investigate businesses and business leaders/find out where business ties to underworld exist	5
Crack down on drug pushers/stop drugs from being sold in the schools	5
Clean up police department/bring a stop to pay-offs to law enforcement officials	4
Control the flow of narcotics	4
Judicial reform is needed	4
Legalize gambling, prostitution/let the State regulate them	4
All other	5
Not sure	23

Image Profile Of Police

FINDING: Image strengths of local police departments throughout the State center around "use of modern methods/equipment," "officers maintaining high standards of appearance," and "cooperating with other police agencies."

The lowest scores assigned to local police are in the areas of sufficient manpower, working relationship with youth, and overall effectiveness in solving crimes.

Personal contact with local police officers, or perceived familiarity with police, does not influence the overall image profile of local police departments.

DISCUSSION:

1. Maryland residents were asked to rate their local police departments on each of 16 characteristics by assigning for each a scale number from zero to 100, zero signifying that the characteristic does not describe the local police department at all and 100 denoting that the characteristic perfectly describes the local police. Those scales were translated into one-figure scores by taking the mean figure for each characteristic. The higher the score, out of a possible "perfect" score of 100, the more closely a given characteristic is perceived as describing local police.

There is little difference among the scores assigned by all Maryland residents, those who claim to be at least somewhat familiar with police, and those who have had personal contact with local police within the past year.

	All Maryland Residents Who Are At Least Somewhat Familiar With Police	All Maryland Residents Who Have Had Personal Contact With Local Police During The Past Year
	%	%
Officers maintain high standards of appearance in and out of uniform	84.18	84.28
Use modern, up-to-date methods and equipment	83.93	84.53
Cooperative with other police agencies	82.24	84.37
Courteous/friendly	79.34	79.51
Cooperative/helpful	79.31	79.87
Well trained	78.76	78.17
Capable/competent	78.31	79.06
Interested in crime prevention as well as solving crimes	77.11	77.38
Respond promptly	76.17	76.02
Able to communicate with people	75.68	76.76
Honest	74.97	75.17
Genuine concern for the rights of all citizens	73.28	73.66
Make arrests only when justified	72.42	73.31
Effective at investigating and solving crimes	71.37	70.61
Work well with youth	70.90	72.11
Well-staffed/enough policemen	68.61	69.17
Average	76.66	77.12

Residents who are under 25 years old assign below average scores to local police, while the older State residents (50 and older) have a better than average perception of the police. Blacks are less impressed than whites by the image of local police.

	All Maryland Residents	All Maryland Residents Who Are:				All Maryland Residents Who Are:	
		Under 25	25-34	35-49	50 And Older	White	Black
	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Officers maintain high standards of appearance in and out of uniform	84.18	78.68	82.63	85.42	87.98	85.61	78.64
Use modern, up-to-date methods and equipment	83.93	82.37	80.45	84.69	86.69	84.72	80.90
Cooperative with other police agencies	82.24	80.10	80.23	83.25	84.26	82.87	75.84
Courteous/friendly	79.34	65.45	78.46	82.22	87.34	81.57	70.67
Cooperative/helpful	79.31	70.66	77.96	80.84	84.98	81.17	72.10
Well trained	78.76	74.43	76.96	80.02	82.05	79.70	75.15
Capable/competent	78.31	71.92	76.08	78.98	83.65	79.33	74.33
Interested in crime prevention as well as solving crimes	77.11	71.87	72.51	79.68	81.66	79.78	66.62
Respond promptly	76.17	65.89	71.99	78.99	83.69	78.95	65.47
Able to communicate with people	75.68	65.93	74.51	77.75	81.58	77.31	69.35
Honest	74.97	65.02	73.81	76.98	81.10	78.00	63.16
Genuine concern for the rights of all citizens	73.28	64.95	70.28	75.63	79.18	75.66	63.97
Make arrests only when justified	72.42	63.07	69.41	74.40	79.63	74.99	62.69
Effective at investigating and solving crimes	71.37	66.37	66.79	74.06	75.67	72.79	65.88
Work well with youth	70.90	60.18	68.23	73.08	78.76	71.68	67.82
Well-staffed/enough policemen	68.61	68.22	63.85	67.04	73.39	69.27	66.02
Average	76.66	69.69	74.01	78.31	81.98	78.34	70.16

Attitudes Toward Consolidation Of Police Departments

FINDING: Reactions to the concept of combining local police departments into regional or countywide departments are neither strongly positive nor negative. The idea of consolidation receives its most positive support from upper income residents, with residents of all regions and county groupings similar in their reaction.

Citizens of the State of Maryland are evenly divided in their attitudes toward replacing police departments which do not meet minimum standards set by the State.

DISCUSSION:

1. Asked to rate the idea of combining local police departments into regional or countywide departments, 44% rate the idea favorably ("excellent" or "pretty good") while exactly the same number respond unfavorably ("only fair" or "poor").

	All Maryland Residents
	%
Excellent	15
Pretty good	29
Only fair	19
Poor	25
Not sure	12

2. There is little difference in the way residents of different counties or regions rate the idea, but those in upper-income households tend to regard it more favorably than average.

	All Maryland Residents Rating Idea Of Consolidated Local Police Departments:		
	Favorably	Unfavorably	Not Sure
	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	44	44	12
<u>Residents Of:</u>			
Baltimore City	42	40	18
Urban Counties	44	43	13
Nonurban Counties	43	48	9
Region IV	47	40	13
Region V	41	45	14
All other	45	47	8
<u>Total Annual Household Income</u>			
Under \$7500	35	45	20
\$7500 - 9999	45	40	15
\$10,000 - 14,999	44	46	10
\$15,000 - 19,999	41	50	9
\$20,000 or more	55	37	8

3. Some 45% agree with the idea of abolishing any local police departments which do not meet certain minimum standards set by the State, while almost as many (43%) either disagree (30%) or feel that such local departments should be brought up to standard rather than abolished (13%).

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Agree, Abolish Below Standard Departments	45
Disagree, Do Not Abolish Them	30
Have Local Police Meet Minimum Standards (Volunteered Response)	13
Not sure	12

Awareness Of/Attitudes Toward The Office Of Sheriff

FINDING: A majority of the citizens of Maryland correctly understand that the sheriff in each county is an elected official. Residents of nonurban counties, regions other than IV and V and those with a college education are most familiar with that fact. Even higher proportions of residents statewide and in these subgroups in particular, prefer the electoral process over appointment in this regard.

Approximately one in three State inhabitants has no idea what the sheriff's duties are, with the balance not focusing on any one functional aspect. The most frequently mentioned duties of a Maryland sheriff -- each, offered by approximately one in ten residents -- are: "maintain law and order/enforce the law," "swear out and serve warrants," "take care of the jail and needs of prisoners," "serve summonses," and "make arrests/incarcerate prisoners." Significantly higher than average proportions of nonurban county and "all other" region residents perceive the function of the sheriff to center around maintenance and care of jails/prisoners.

Reactions to the proposal of abolishing the office of sheriff are about equally divided on a Statewide basis, with nonurban county/regions other than IV and V residents clearly opposing that idea -- with urban county residents more likely to support it.

DISCUSSION:

1. More than six out of ten (61%) Maryland residents are aware that sheriffs in each county are elected.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Elected	61
Appointed	20
Not sure	19

2. That awareness is most common in nonurban counties and regions other than IV and V, as well as among the more highly educated.

All Maryland Residents Who Believe County Sheriffs Are:

	<u>Elected</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	61	20	19
<u>Residents Of:</u>			
Baltimore City	39	28	33
Urban Counties	60	23	17
Nonurban Counties	86	6	8
Region IV	64	20	16
Region V	50	27	23
All Other	87	4	9
<u>Highest Grade Of Schooling Completed</u>			
Less Than High School Graduate	53	22	25
High School Graduate	62	20	18
Some College Or More	69	19	12

3. Residents ascribe a wide range of duties to the office of sheriff

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Maintain law and order/enforce the law	13
Swear out and serve warrants	13
Take care of the jail and the needs of the prisoners	10
Serve summonses	10
Make arrests/incarcerate prisoners	8
Train and administer police force/see that it functions properly	7
Serve court papers	5
Transfer/transport prisoners	5
Serve eviction notices	5
Supervise deputies/see that they perform their duties	4
Protect and help the people	4
Serve subpoenas	4
Perform court duties/act as an officer of the court	4
Crime prevention	3
Investigate complaints and reports of crime	2
"He's just a figure-head/a waste of the taxpayers' money/it's the police who do the work"	2
Cooperate with other law enforcement agencies	1
Ride around/patrol the ares	1
His duties are administrative	1
Control traffic	1
Repossess property	1
Handle foreclosures/hold sheriff sales	1
Participate in official functions	1
Solve local/petty crimes	1
Render assistance in emergencies	1
Arrest and deliver out of state criminals	1
Issue licenses/collect fees	1
Control riots when necessary	1
Pursue law breakers/hunt escaped criminals	1
Regulate finances/present a budget for the department	1
Collect prisoners arrested in another state	*
All other	1
Don't know	35

*Less than 0.5%

4. Residents of nonurban counties and of regions other than IV and V are particularly likely to be aware of the sheriff's role in taking care of the jails and needs of the prisoners.

<u>All Maryland Residents Saying The Sheriff Is Responsible For Maintenance Of Jails/Prisoners</u>	
	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Residents Of:</u>	
Baltimore City	1
Urban Counties	8
Nonurban Counties	24
Region IV	13
Region V	2
All Other	28

5. Reaction is about evenly divided Statewide with regard to the idea of abolishing the office of sheriff, with urban county residents most likely to approve and residents of nonurban counties and regions other than IV and V most likely to disapprove.

All Maryland Residents Rating The Idea Of Abolishing The Office Of Sheriff:

	Pretty		Only	Not	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Sure
	%	%	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>Residents Of:</u>					
Baltimore City	10	26	17	13	34
Urban Counties	21	24	13	22	20
Nonurban Counties	12	12	16	46	14
Region IV	19	19	14	24	24
Region V	16	26	15	18	25
All Other	13	13	14	49	11

6. A total of 62% do not indicate support of the idea of abolishing the office of sheriff or are not sure. Of this 62%, the majority (76%) favors continuation of the election rather than appointment of sheriffs, especially in nonurban counties and regions other than IV and V.

All Maryland Residents Who Do Not Favor Abolishing The Office Of Sheriff But Feel It Should Be:

	<u>Appointed Elected Not Sure</u>		
	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Residents Of:</u>			
Baltimore City	10	61	29
Urban Counties	11	79	10
Nonurban Counties	10	85	5
Region IV	9	80	11
Region V	12	70	18
All Other	9	84	7

COURT - RELATED ISSUES

Awareness Of/Attitudes Toward The Election Of Court Clerks/Circuit Court Judges

FINDING: There is no consensus Statewide as to whether court clerks are elected or appointed -- even among residents claiming higher than average familiarity with court functions. However, preference runs nearly two to one in favor of court clerks being elected, with stronger than average feelings in that direction among residents of nonurban counties/regions other than IV and V as well as blacks and Baltimore city residents.

Having been told that District Court judges are appointed and Circuit Court judges elected, a clear majority of the citizenry of Maryland want to maintain the electoral process for Circuit Court judges.

DISCUSSION:

1. Pluralities of both residents Statewide and those who claim at least some familiarity of Maryland court functions believe that court clerks are appointed.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>All Maryland Residents Who Claim Some Familiarity With Court Functions In Maryland</u>
	%	%
Elected	33	40
Appointed	46	44
Not sure	21	16

A clear majority supports the election of court clerks, with the strongest approval being registered in Baltimore and nonurban counties, regions other than IV and V, and among blacks.

	<u>All Maryland Residents Who Feel That Court Clerks Should Be:</u>		
	<u>Elected</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Residents Of:</u>			
Baltimore City	65	22	13
Urban Counties	51	38	11
Nonurban Counties	67	21	12
Region IV	49	40	11
Region V	60	28	12
All Other	67	20	13
<u>Race</u>			
White	57	31	12
Black	63	25	12

3. An even stronger majority favors the continued election of Circuit Court judges.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Elected	69
Appointed	24
Not sure	7

Awareness Of/Attitudes Toward State Attorneys

FINDING: More than half of the residents Statewide correctly perceive state's attorneys in Maryland to be elected compared to 29% appointed -- a margin that increases dramatically when residents are asked which they prefer.

Reaction to State funding of state's attorneys is generally positive, though a proposed organization on a Statewide basis meets with mixed responses. Residents of municipalities and particularly those living in nonurban counties/regions other than IV and V, clearly favor the present independent county-by-county system.

By relatively small percentage point margins, Maryland citizens prefer changing state's attorneys' offices to a full time system in each location throughout the State instead of having the system stay the way it is with each county deciding what it wants. Private law practices for state's attorneys are not desired by a similar margin.

Reactions to the issue of private law practices is not consistent, with residents age 16-24 and those not graduating from high school supporting outside activities for state's attorneys.

DISCUSSION:

1. A majority (57%) of the State's residents are aware that state's attorneys are elected.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Elected	57
Appointed	29
Not Sure	14

2. A stronger majority (76%) prefers it that way.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Elected	76
Appointed	17
Not sure	7

3. Most (62%) rate the idea of State funding for the 24 state's attorneys favorably.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Excellent	25
Pretty good	37
Only fair	15
Poor	13
Not sure	10

4. But a plurality favors continuation of the existing county-by-county system of state's attorneys over Statewide organization. Preference for continued independence is particularly strong among residents of municipalities, nonurban counties, and regions other than IV and V.

	All Maryland Residents Who Say The State's Attorney System Should Be:		
	Statewide Organization	County By County	Not Sure
	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Residents Of:</u>			
Baltimore City	48	35	17
Urban Counties	45	45	10
Nonurban Counties	30	62	8
Region IV	43	47	10
Region V	46	41	13
All Other	29	64	7
Municipalities	39	53	8

5. A majority of the State's residents favor a change from part-time to full-time state's attorneys.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Change to full-time attorney system	52

All Maryland Residents (cont. from previous page)

	%
Allow each county to decide	40
Not sure	8

6. Exactly half of the adult population feels private law practice by state's attorneys should not be allowed, while 42% feel it should be. Residents under 25 and those who did not complete high school are more likely than average to accept the idea of private practice for state's attorneys.

	All Maryland Residents Who Feel Private Law Practice By State's Attorneys:		
	Should Not Be Allowed	Should Be Allowed	Not Sure
	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Age</u>			
Under 25	37	56	7
25 - 34	58	34	8
35 - 49	52	41	7
50 and Older	52	38	10
<u>Highest Grade Of Schooling Completed</u>			
Less Than High School Graduate	40	50	10
High School Graduate	55	36	9
Some College Or More	55	40	5

Reaction To Plea Bargaining And Court Re-Organization Proposals

FINDING: Plea bargaining, put primarily in the context of the state's attorney not being sure he can get a conviction, is rejected by a significant majority of citizens Statewide. Municipality and nonurban county/"all other" region residents are even stronger in their lack of support for plea bargaining. Younger and wealthier residents are more likely to favor plea bargaining for easing court loads -- although still rejecting it by nearly a two to one margin.

Proposals to create a separate court for family oriented cases, such as those dealing with domestic relations, child neglect, juvenile delinquency, divorces and paternity suits and special administrative procedures to deal only with traffic violations receive strong support by a broad cross-section of the Maryland population.

DISCUSSION:

1. Some six out of ten residents are opposed to plea bargaining.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
In favor of plea bargaining	24
Opposed	60
Depends (Volunteered Response)	9
Not sure	7

2. Opposition to plea bargaining is strongest among residents of nonurban counties, regions other than IV and V, and municipalities. Although younger and wealthier residents show above average support for plea bargaining, clear majorities of the residents living in the above-mentioned jurisdictions reject the idea.

	All Maryland Residents Who Are:			
	In Favor Of Plea Bargaining	Opposed To Plea Bargaining	Depends (Vol)	Not Sure
	%	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	24	60	9	7
<u>Residents Of:</u>				
Baltimore City	27	55	10	8
Urban Counties	26	58	10	6
Nonurban Counties	16	70	7	7
Region IV	26	59	10	5
Region V	26	57	10	7
All other	15	71	6	8
Municipalities	19	67	11	3
<u>Age</u>				
Under 25	32			
25-34	23	54	9	5
35-49	20	65	9	3
50 and over	22	63	11	6
		59	9	10
<u>Total Annual Household Income</u>				
Under \$7500	20			
\$7500-9999	18	52	14	14
\$10,000-14,999	26	61	9	12
\$15,000-19,999	26	63	8	3
\$20,000-or more	33	64	6	4
		55	8	4

3. Almost eight out of ten (79%) favor creation of a separate court for family oriented cases such as those dealing with domestic relations, child neglect, juvenile delinquency, divorces and paternity suits.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Should have a separate court	79
Favor present system	17
Not sure	4

4. An even stronger majority (83%) feels that a special administrative procedure to deal only with traffic violations would be a pretty good or excellent idea.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Excellent	48
Pretty good	35
Only fair	8
Poor	6
Not sure	3

Court/Trial Problems

FINDING: More than seven out of ten respondents consider the large backlog of cases, citizen fear of testifying, and cases dragging out as "quite" or "extremely" serious problems that interfere with the law enforcement system in Maryland. The lack of good defense lawyers and judges handing down lenient sentences are second ranked in terms of their seriousness, with public reluctance to testify also rated "quite" or "extremely" serious by a majority of residents Statewide.

Less serious problems include the inability of juries to understand what the case is all about and to therefore make a fair decision, and public reluctance to serve on juries.

In general, those who are most concerned with problems of crime consider these court related problems to be more serious than the average of all publics, while residents of nonurban counties/"all other" regions and municipalities consider these problems to be less serious.

DISCUSSION:

1. Majorities agree that six out of nine of the problems tested are at least quite serious.

	All Maryland Residents Who Say Each Problem Is:				
	Extremely Serious	Quite Serious	Only Moderately Serious	Not Serious At All/Not A Problem	Not Sure
	%	%	%	%	%
Citizens are afraid to testify in criminal cases	42	33	17	4	4
There is a large backlog of cases waiting to be heard	40	35	15	3	7
Cases drag out too long	36	34	21	5	4
Judges handing down sentences that are too lenient	32	27	20	15	6
There are not enough good defense lawyers for the needy	28	28	21	13	10
People are reluctant to testify because of personal inconveniences	24	32	30	10	4
Too many juries can't understand what is going on and therefore cannot make a fair decision	24	25	24	19	8
Too many people are reluctant to serve on juries	19	27	31	16	7
Judges handing down sentences that are too harsh	10	15	21	46	8
Average	28	28	22	15	7

2. Those who demonstrate maximum concern about crime, as evidenced by a willingness to have the State spend a lot more tax dollars in fighting crime, are more concerned about these problems than average, while residents of nonurban counties, regions other than IV and V, and municipalities are less concerned than average.

74.

Describing Problem As Extremely Serious	All Maryland Residents %	All Maryland Residents Who Show Maximum Concern With Crime %	Residents Of:			Residents Of:		Residents Of Muni- cipalities %	
			Baltimore %	Urban Counties %	Nonurban Counties %	Region IV %	Region V %		
Citizens are afraid to testify in criminal cases	42	52	48	41	38	38	46	36	34
There is a large backlog of cases waiting to be heard	40	48	43	42	35	43	41	33	34
Cases drag out too long	36	42	38	39	29	39	38	28	33
Judges handing down sentences that are too lenient	32	44	32	33	32	28	36	31	30
There are not enough good defense lawyers for the needy	28	30	31	31	21	34	27	22	29
People are reluctant to testify because of personal inconveniences	24	32	25	26	17	24	26	16	17
Too many juries can't understand what is going on and therefore cannot make a fair decision	24	28	28	25	18	25	27	15	21
Too many people are reluctant to serve on juries	19	23	21	20	14	20	20	13	12
Judges handing down sentences that are too harsh	10	11	15	10	6	11	11	6	9
Average	28	34	31	30	23	28	30	22	24

75.

CORRECTIONS - RELATED ISSUES

Community Corrections

FINDING: Slightly more than one-third of the Maryland population claim to be at least somewhat familiar with a corrections plan under which adult prisoners who are within six months of release or other offenders who have not committed serious crimes, such as murder or rape, be taken from State prisons and placed in smaller facilities in a community where they would receive localized rehabilitation services and programs. Such a proposal is favored by 71% of residents Statewide. Support is reduced to 51% if the facility were located in the respondent's own neighborhood, (within 5 blocks of the home) and returns to original levels when the location is moved further away from home -- "within a few miles -- but not within five blocks."

Reasons offered by those not willing to have a facility in their neighborhood center on fear of crime and lack of security, with hard core resisters -- when the facility is located a few miles from home -- somewhat less specific in their opposition.

Support is also observed for community rehabilitation of juvenile delinquents, other than the hard core variety, by a wide margin. Those who reject such a plan do so for reasons of fear, with negative influence on children also as an important factor.

In line with these observations, use of smaller community correctional facilities, wherever possible, is closer to the way most people feel about corrections priorities (56%) as opposed to using large facilities as much as possible (33%).

DISCUSSION:

1. Some 38% of Maryland's residents claim at least some familiarity with community corrections plans.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Extremely familiar	5
Somewhat familiar	33
Not very familiar	34
Not at all familiar	25
Not sure	3

2. A strong majority expresses approval of such a plan.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Favor	71
Opposed	18
Depends	8
Not sure	3

3. A smaller majority would still be willing to support a community corrections facility if it were located within five blocks of home.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Would be willing to have in own neighborhood	51
Would not be willing to have in own neighborhood	38
Depends	7
Not sure	4

4. But half of those who oppose or were dubious about the idea of a community corrections facility in their own neighborhood would accept such a facility if it were within a few miles of home but not within five blocks. Statewide, a three-to-one majority would accept a facility within a few miles of home.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>All Maryland Residents Who Oppose Or Are Not Sure About A Community Correction Facility Within Five Blocks Of Home</u>
	%	%
Would be willing to have within a few miles of home	76	50
Would not be willing to have within a few miles of home	16	32
Depends	4	8
Not sure	4	10

5. Objections to a community corrections facility within five blocks of home are predominantly based on fear.

All Maryland Residents Who Oppose Or Are Dubious About A Community Corrections Facility Within Five Blocks Of Home

	%
Oppose the idea	30
Fear of crime/violence	26
Fear of poor security	25
Fear for children/their safety	23
Fear (non-specific)	22
Would reduce property values	19
Bad influence on children	18
Fear of walking around/safety	16
Other	20
Not sure	4

6. Those who resist the idea of such a facility within a few miles of home cite many of the same reasons, but tend to be a little less specific.

<u>All Maryland Residents Who Oppose Or Are Dubious About A Community Corrections Facility Within A Few Miles Of Home</u>	
	%
Oppose the idea	42
Fear of crime/violence	28
Fear for children/their safety	27
Fear (non-specific)	27
Fear of poor security	25
Bad influence on children	21
Would reduce property values	17
Fear of walking around/safety	14
Other	15
Not sure	4

7. Almost three out of four Maryland residents favor the idea of treating all but the most hard-core juvenile delinquents in small residential facilities "such as group homes where they would receive localized community rehabilitation treatment."

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Favor	72
Opposed	20
Depends	4
Not sure	4

8. Again, those opposed most often cite fear, also emphasizing concern about the influence on their own children.

<u>All Maryland Residents Who Oppose Or Are Dubious About Residential Facilities To Treat Juvenile Delinquents in Their Own Community</u>	
	%
Oppose the idea	38
Fear of poor security	27
Bad influence on children	27
Fear of crime/violence	22
Fear for children/their safety	22
Fear (non-specific)	15
Fear of walking around/safety	14
Would reduce property values	12
Other	18
Not sure	8

9. When Maryland residents were asked which of two related statements they felt come closer to the way they feel, most indicated support for the idea of using smaller community correctional facilities wherever possible.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
We should use large prisons as much as possible	33
We should turn to smaller community facilities wherever possible	56
Not sure	11

Perceived Goals Of The Corrections System

FINDING: Approximately half of Maryland residents feel that rehabilitation of prisoners is the most important goal of the corrections system, compared to protection of society against future crimes, which is ranked second, with punishment a close third. Inversely, punishing the criminal is clearly the goal judged to be least important by significant proportions of the Maryland population -- although that is the goal which is perceived by respondents to be operative in the corrections systems.

When compared directly, rehabilitation of inmates is strongly preferred over punishing people for the crimes they commit. Sympathies for the punishment goal are stronger with increasing age, as well as decreasing income and education.

DISCUSSION:

1. Rehabilitation is viewed as the most important goal of the corrections system by half of Maryland's adult residents.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Punishing the individual convicted of a crime	20
Protecting society against future crimes an individual might commit	26
Rehabilitating the individual so that he might become a productive citizen	50
Not sure	4

2. And punishing the individual convicted of a crime is, conversely, viewed as the least important goal by a plurality.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Punishing the individual convicted of a crime	41
Protecting society against future crimes an individual might commit	22
Rehabilitating the individual so that he might become a productive citizen	17
Not sure	20

3. But a plurality also believes that punishment is the major goal of Maryland's corrections system as it presently operates.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Punishing the individual convicted of a crime	43
Protecting society against future crimes an individual might commit	18
Rehabilitating the individual so that he might become a productive citizen	25
Not sure	14

4. Asked to choose directly between punishment and rehabilitation, close to three out of four prefer the emphasis on rehabilitation.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
The emphasis in prison should be on punishing people for the crimes they committed	20
The emphasis in prison should be on rehabilitating inmates	72
Not sure	8

5. The oldest, least educated, and lowest income residents are more inclined than average to favor punishment over rehabilitation.

	<u>All Maryland Residents Who Feel The Emphasis In Prison Should Be On:</u>		
	<u>Punishment</u>	<u>Rehabilitation</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Age</u>			
Under 25	12	85	3
25 - 34	17	75	8
35 - 49	17	75	8
50 and older	30	58	12
<u>Highest Grade Of Schooling Completed</u>			
Less Than High School Graduate	24	67	9
High School Graduate	21	69	10
Some College or More	14	80	6
<u>Total Annual Household Income</u>			
Under \$7500	28	58	14
\$7,500 to 9,999	16	76	8
\$10,000 to 14,999	19	74	7
\$15,000 to 19,999	15	76	9
\$20,000 or more	17	78	5

Attitudes Toward The Prison System

FINDING: Although rehabilitation is a process that the public generally believes in, most respondents also feel that prisoners should serve their complete sentence rather than the alternative of giving parole "as soon as possible." In fact, a higher proportion agree that citizens convicted of crimes should serve longer, rather than shorter terms, than they do now.

Support for more liberalized parole and shorter prison terms is highest among the under age 25 population segment.

Generally in line with earlier stated goals in the direction of rehabilitation and positive attitudes toward community facilities, a majority of the Maryland public agree that "fewer people convicted of crimes should be sent to prison and more to community rehabilitation centers." But agreement with the alternative argument that "more people convicted of crimes should be sent to prison than are now" is also supported by a significant segment of the population.

DISCUSSION:

1. Half of Maryland's residents believe that prisoners should serve their full terms, while only 35% feel they should be paroled as soon as possible.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Prisoners should be paroled as soon as possible	35
Prisoners should serve out their full terms	50
Not sure	15

2. While four out of ten are undecided about whether prison terms should be longer or shorter, more support longer terms than endorse shorter terms.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Prisoners should serve longer terms than they do now	36
Prisoners should serve shorter terms than they do now	24
Not sure	40

3. Young residents are most likely to support early parole and shorter terms.

	<u>All Maryland Residents Who Are:</u>			
	<u>Under 25</u>	<u>25-34</u>	<u>35-49</u>	<u>50 or Older</u>
	%	%	%	%
Prisoners should be paroled as soon as possible	46	34	32	31
Prisoners should serve shorter terms than they do now	44	21	19	16

4. A majority agrees that fewer people convicted of crimes should be sent to prison and more to community rehabilitation centers.

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
More people convicted of crimes should be sent to prison than are now	34
Fewer people convicted of crimes should be sent to prison and more to community rehabilitation centers	51
Not sure	15

CONTINUED

1 OF 2

STANDARDS AND TRAINING

Standards for The Criminal Justice System

FINDING: As far as overall standards for criminal justice agencies are concerned, the residents of Maryland lean slightly in favor of the State rather than local communities establishing the rules. Baltimore City residents are out of line with general public attitudes in this regard.

Police officers are thought to require less education than corrections/parole/juvenile/probation officers; education standards for corrections officers are second lowest as far as public requirements are concerned, with the remaining occupations all requiring similar schooling.

Residents in the highest income brackets, those age 16-24 and with some college training or better set somewhat higher educational standards for these criminal justice occupations than the average of all publics Statewide.

DISCUSSION:

1. A slight majority Statewide favors standards for criminal justice agencies being set by the State. Baltimore residents tend to prefer allowing local communities to set their own standards.

All Maryland Residents Who Feel Standards For Criminal Justice Agencies Should Be Set By:

	<u>The State</u>	<u>Local Communities</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Residents Of:</u>			
Baltimore City	37	47	16
Urban Counties	56	39	5
Nonurban Counties	54	41	5

2. Majorities of about three to one feel juvenile, probation, and parole officers should have at least some college education. A smaller majority (58%) favors at least some college for corrections officers, while most residents (63%) believe a high school diploma is the most education needed by police officers.

	All Maryland Residents Who Describe Desired Education Standards For:				
	Juvenile Officer	Probation Officer	Parole Officer	Corrections Officer	Police Officer
	%	%	%	%	%
Some high school	3	3	4	5	6
High school diploma	19	20	20	35	57
Some college	31	33	36	33	23
College degree	37	37	34	23	12
Post-graduate degree	8	5	4	2	1
Not sure	2	2	2	2	1

3. The youngest, best educated, and wealthiest residents are more likely than average to seek higher educational standards.

All Maryland Residents Who Feel At Least Some College Education Is Desirable For:

	Juvenile Officer	Probation Officer	Parole Officer	Corrections Officer	Police Officer
	%	%	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>Age</u>					
Under 25	80	78	77	64	49
25-34	79	78	77	57	36
35-49	81	81	79	57	33
50 and older	68	65	66	54	28
<u>Highest Grade of Schooling Completed</u>					
Less than high school graduate	59	61	58	47	26
High school graduate	77	75	75	58	28
Some college or more	92	88	89	67	54
<u>Total Annual Household Income</u>					
Under \$7,500	64	65	63	56	27
\$7500 to 9,999	70	68	67	59	35
\$10,000 to 14,999	76	76	73	55	32
\$15,000 to 19,999	84	80	79	59	35
\$20,000 or more	91	87	90	62	50

Reactions To A Proposed Special Criminal Justice Training Academy

FINDING: Public sentiment is in support of the creation of a special criminal justice agency, which would provide most of the required training for police, courts, and corrections employees in the State.

DISCUSSION:

More than eight out of ten Maryland residents rate the idea of a special criminal justice academy "excellent" or "pretty good."

<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	
	%
Excellent	41
Pretty good	42
Only fair	10
Poor	4
Not sure	3

ATTITUDES TOWARD CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

FINDING: The State is almost evenly divided on the subject of capital punishment for rape, with those who favor it comprising only a small plurality. However, when it comes to murder, a clear majority favor capital punishment -- with even higher proportions of the Maryland public supporting capital punishment for those convicted of murdering a police or corrections officer. Less than one in five residents across the State do not agree with imposing the ultimate penalty for a convicted murderer who murders again.

Some variations in attitudes on this subject are observed among different age, geographic, and education level groupings. However, in the final analysis, it is differences in education that are most pronounced as a correlate to these attitudes -- rejection of capital punishment for murderers who murder again is approximately three times greater among residents attending college than those who did not complete their high school education.

DISCUSSION:

1. Majorities favor capital punishment for each of the crimes tested except rape -- which holds the support of a plurality.

All Maryland Residents Whose Attitude Toward Capital Punishment In Each Instance Is:

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
	%	%	%
Rape	49	42	9
Murder	65	25	10
Murder of a police or corrections officer when the victim is doing his duty	74	21	5
If a convicted murderer murders again	81	15	4

ATTITUDES TOWARD LEGALIZING MARIJUANA

FINDING: Maryland residents are opposed by a substantial majority to legalizing the use of marijuana. Opposition to legalizing the use of marijuana is strongest among lower income, older, and less educated publics, as well as those residing in nonurban counties.

DISCUSSION:

1. Almost two out of three Maryland residents are opposed to legalizing the use of marijuana.

	<u>All Maryland Residents</u>
	%
Favor	28
Opposed	65
Not sure	7

2. Those who have attended at least some college are much more likely than average to oppose capital punishment.

All Maryland Residents Whose Highest Grade Of Schooling Completed Is:

	<u>Less Than High School Graduate</u>	<u>High School Graduate</u>	<u>Some College Or Better</u>
	%	%	%
<u>Oppose Capital Punishment For:</u>			
Rape	29	37	61
Murder	17	21	36
Murder of a police or corrections officer when the victim is doing his duty	11	18	34
If a convicted murderer murders again	8	12	25

2. The only public which supports legalization consists of residents under 25. The strongest opposition occurs among the lower income, older, and least educated residents, and among residents of nonurban counties and regions other than IV and V.

All Maryland Residents Whose
Attitude Toward Legalizing
The Use Of Marijuana Is:

	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Opposed</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>
	%	%	%
<u>All Maryland Residents</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Residents Of:</u>			
Baltimore City	29	64	7
Urban Counties	31	61	8
Nonurban Counties	20	76	4
Region IV	35	56	9
Region V	27	67	6
All Other	21	76	3
<u>Age</u>			
Under 25	60	35	5
25 - 34	30	63	7
35 - 49	23	71	6
50 and older	9	83	8
<u>Highest Grade of Schooling Completed</u>			
Less Than High School Graduate	21	74	5
High School Graduate	25	69	6
Some College or More	38	53	9
<u>Total Annual Household Income</u>			
Under \$7,500	22	74	4
\$7,500 to 9,999	26	69	5
\$10,000 to 14,999	26	67	7
\$15,000 to 19,999	35	60	5
\$20,000 or more	39	50	11

END