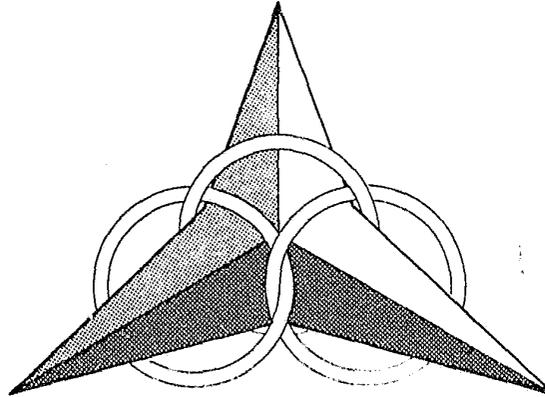


PUBLIC OPINION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN TEXAS

a survey conducted by
Field Research Corporation

In Cooperation with



project
STAR

SYSTEMS AND TRAINING ANALYSIS OF REQUIREMENTS
for Criminal Justice Participants

This Survey Sponsored by:

Texas Commission on Law Enforcement
Officer Standards and Education

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Job Performance - Criminal Justice Officials

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>Extremely or Very Good</u>	<u>Somewhat Good</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>	<u>Somewhat Poor</u>	<u>Extremely or Very Poor</u>
Police	46%	37	7	7	3
Prosecutors	26%	30	27	10	7
Judges	22%	31	30	12	6
Probation Officers	20%	27	42	8	4
Defense Attorneys	19%	29	40	8	4
Parole Officers	16%	25	43	8	4
Correctional Officers	16%	19	46	12	6

(Note: Percentages read across and are rounded)

1. Most supportive of Police: Mexican-Americans - Anglos
2. Most critical of Police: Young Persons - Poor People - Blacks
3. Recent "victims" of vandalism, burglary, and vehicle theft tend to make victims more critical. (So are persons arrested and jailed.)
4. Areas "most" supportive of Police: Dallas - Ft. Worth - Houston & Galveston
5. Area "most" critical of Police: East Texas cities

Job Performance - Criminal Justice Officials, Continued -

6. Activities Affecting the Overall Police Job Rating

How Police Are Rated by Public	Desirability Rank (Public)	Activity
	<u>A. High Importance to Public</u>	
Good	1.	Prevent the occurrence of crime.
Poor	2.	Treat each request for service seriously.
Good	3.	Use minimum force in making arrests.
Poor	4.	Respect dignity when booking prisoners.
Good	5.	Slanting testimony to support officer's position.
	<u>B. Medium Importance to Public</u>	
Good	1.	Observe traffic regulations except in emergencies.
Poor	2.	Listen to traffic violator's story before issuing citation.
Poor	3.	Resolve problems so as to strengthen family.
Poor	4.	Recognize and handle emotional disorders.
Poor	5.	Treat accused person as innocent.
	<u>C. Low Importance to Public</u>	
Good	1.	Establish friendly helpful image.
Good	2.	Explain actions to accused.
Poor	3.	Instill respect rather than fear
Good	4.	Stimulate citizen participation - maintain discipline in confrontations.
Poor	5.	Treat all traffic violators equally.

SOURCE: Project STAR (Systems and Training Analysis of Requirements) Oral and written interviews with 749 "Texans" 1972, sponsored by TCLEOSE & CJD.

INTRODUCTION

Project STAR is intended to improve the performance of operational criminal justice personnel through identification of their roles, tasks, performance objectives, and knowledge and skill requirements, and through the development of needed educational recommendations and training programs. The Project is a collaborative 39-month effort beginning in May 1971 involving four states (California, Michigan, New Jersey, and Texas), the U. S. Department of Justice Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, and numerous local criminal justice agencies. The American Justice Institute, with the assistance of System Development Corporation and Field Research Corporation, and the guidance of Advisory Councils in the participating states, is designing, conducting, and reporting on the research and demonstration effort under contract to the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

This report contains the findings of Field Research Corporation's study of Texas public opinion toward criminal justice issues and toward the several positions, or functional agencies which make up the criminal justice system of Texas. The survey is based on personal interviews conducted with a cross-section sample of 749 members of the Texas general public aged 18 and older. The questionnaire for the survey was adapted from the study of California opinion made in January of 1972. Parallel measurements have been made on virtually all of the California questionnaire items.

The interviews were made by trained interviewers who visited a probability sample of Texas households. A procedure was provided to interviewers for systematically selecting one adult member of each household to be interviewed.

The sample was designed to produce a properly proportionate number of people from all walks of life making up the population of the state. Included are persons from a wide range of occupational groups, from all income levels, and from all of the major racial-ethnic groups resident in Texas. Also represented in the sample are people who have been victims of crime and some who acknowledge that they themselves have been interrogated, arrested, and, in a few instances, even jailed. In short, every effort has been made to obtain as representative a sample of Texans as possible so that the findings of this study can properly be generalized to the population of the state as a whole.

A printed questionnaire was used, consisting of orally administered questions and a self-administered questionnaire booklet filled out by each respondent. (Copies of the interview schedules will be found in Appendix B of this report.) The average interview took approximately 45 minutes to administer. Field interviewing took place between January 16 and February 28, 1973.

Field Research Corporation is responsible for the design and conduct of the survey, and for the analysis of the findings. We wish to thank Mr. Glen H. McLaughlin, Chairman of the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Education for his guidance and support during the course of this project. Mr. Fred Toler, Executive Director of the Commission, was also most helpful in providing advice on questionnaire design amendments and data for the design of the survey sample; his thoughtful counsel and efficient handling of administrative matters connected with the survey have been of material benefit to the project. Special thanks is also due to the agencies funding Project STAR for permission to use the questionnaire instrument developed for the California survey, and to Dr. Charles P. Smith, Director of Project STAR, and his staff for their generously given advice and assistance.

SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS

PUBLIC CONCERN ABOUT CRIME

Crime and criminal justice matters are issues most often mentioned when a cross-section of the Texas public are asked to name the most pressing problems they feel are facing their communities today. In terms of importance, Texans rank protection from burglary and criminal violence highest in priority, along with health and education services. Local officials are seen as doing an adequate job of protecting citizens against violence, but as performing somewhat below par on burglary protection. (Chapter I, Sec. A, B)

Half the public of Texas believes crime is on the increase, and 28% say they have been reluctant to go out at some time recently because of fear of crime. Women are especially prone to these fears. Residents of East and Southwest Texas are more anxious about crime than are residents of the North-western part of the state. (Chapter I, Sec. D)

VICTIMIZATION

About one in three Texans (34%) claims to have been victimized by some criminal act during the past year. This rate of alleged victimization is near the national norm reported by a survey made in 1967, and is significantly lower than the 45% rate reported by Californians questioned in the 1972 Project STAR survey in that state. The crimes most frequently reported are malicious mischief or vandalism (12%), burglary (9%), auto offenses (8%), consumer fraud (8%), larceny (5%), and car theft (3%). (Chapter I, Sec. C)

PUNISHMENT VS. REHABILITATION

A majority of the Texas public believes that rehabilitation, not punishment, should be the goal of the criminal justice system. Nevertheless, while a majority believes that punishment does not deter crime, the public also feels that the courts are too lenient in sentencing. This appears to be at least in part due to dissatisfaction with the present rehabilitation system, however, since the public also believe prisons today impede rehabilitation and they approve of more liberal release policies for prisoners who behave well. (Chapter I, Sec. E)

FAMILIARITY WITH THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

Police personnel are well known to, or related to, 31% of the Texas public. Judges also have a wide circle of friends and relatives in Texas (17% of the public), while incumbents in prosecutor, court-appointed defense attorney, or parole, probation, or correctional officer positions are claimed as relatives or friends by 3% to 10% of the public. Nearly one in seven Texans claims to have been interrogated by the police for something besides a traffic incident, and 22% admit to having been taken to a police station for some reason. Twenty-one per cent of the public claims to have a close friend or relative who has served time in jail, prison, or other correctional institution. (Chapter II, Sec. A)

Forty per cent of adult Texans say they have been called to jury duty, and 8% claim to have served on a criminal jury. Twenty-eight per cent say they have been in court as a party to a case or as a witness. Women are as well acquainted as men are with individuals in the criminal justice system, but men more frequently report having been in court for some purpose, including criminal jury service. (Chapter III, Sec. A)

PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT JOB PERFORMANCE

The Texas public is quite strongly favorable to the job that they perceive being done by the police: nearly half credit police with doing a very good job, and only 3% of the public as a whole offers strongly critical opinions.

The remaining six criminal justice system positions examined were given superior performance ratings by only half as many or less people, and strongly critical opinions were voiced by about twice as many as did so toward the police. In no case, however, did strongly negative opinions exceed 7% of the total public. Much of the generally low level of strongly positive or negative opinions toward most of the other agencies can be attributed to lack of familiarity with them by the public.

SUMMARY OF JOB RATINGS GIVEN TO EACH POSITION BY THE TEXAS PUBLIC

<u>Position</u>	<u>Extremely or very good</u>	<u>Some- what good</u>	<u>Neutral, no opinion</u>	<u>Some- what poor</u>	<u>Extremely or very poor</u>
POLICE	46%	37	7	7	3
PROSECUTORS	26%	30	27	10	7
JUDGES	22%	31	30	12	6
PROBATION OFFICERS	20%	27	42	8	4
DEFENSE ATTORNEYS	19%	29	40	8	4
PAROLE OFFICERS	16%	25	48	8	4
CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS	16%	19	46	12	6

Note: Percentages read across. Rows may not add exactly to 100% because percentages were rounded to nearest whole percent.

CRITICS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE POLICE

The young, the poor, and Black Texans are the groups most critical of police performance. Mexican-Americans and Anglos are largely supportive. Recent experience with a burglary, a car theft, or vandalism leaves its victims somewhat more inclined to be critical of the police. So does arrest and incarceration. Close acquaintance with a policeman, on the other hand, is associated with more favorable attitudes. Residents of the Dallas-Fort Worth area and of the Houston-Galveston area have the strongest favorable response to their police. Residents of other East Texas communities, however, are most critical. (Chapter II, Sec. B, C, D)

A majority of Texans acknowledge that police service in their neighborhoods is as good as in any other parts of town, but many do not believe the police are personally familiar with residents. Except in Southwest Texas, the public feels that minority officers are sufficiently represented in minority neighborhoods. The Texas public as a whole thinks the police do not give people enough follow-up information about their cases, but believes they do encourage people to help them in providing law enforcement services. However, if a citizen has a complaint against a police officer, there is widespread belief that there may be a problem getting authorities to look into the matter. (Chapter II, Sec. E, F)

While Texans generally do not feel a college education is essential for a policeman today, a majority express willingness to grant paid leave to attend college courses and to allow higher pay for officers who obtain academic credits. (Chapter II, Sec. H)

In evaluating a number of different activities of the police, many Texans have a lowered opinion of the job police are doing because it appears to them that the police often do not take requests for service seriously. They also are unfavorably affected by a rather prevailing belief that police do not always respect the dignity of people who are being booked into jail or treat an accused as innocent. Unfavorable attitudes toward the police also result when people believe that the police are acting more harshly to quell some disorders than others, when they are thought to use pressure tactics to obtain information, and if it is believed that police objectivity is impaired by a suspect's racial origins. Opinions of the police held by the public would be improved if people believed that the police would listen to traffic violators' stories before issuing citations, if they felt that the police knew how to recognize and deal with people with emotional disorders, and if police seemed to be trying to resolve family disturbance problems in such a way as to strengthen the family rather than to weaken it. (Chapter II, Sec. I)

CRITICS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE JUDICIARY

As was found to be the case with the police, the young, the lower income, and Black members of the public are least supportive of the judiciary. Those who know a judge as a friend or relative (17% of the public) are likely to be favorably inclined toward the job they are doing, but persons who have been involved in court cases or who have been spectators in court have somewhat more critical opinions of judges' performance. People who have served on a criminal case jury, however, are generally as favorable as the rest of the public toward the judiciary. (Chapter III, Sec. C, D)

Responding to an opportunity to rate judicial actions on a number of factors, the Texas public feels favorably toward judges because they view them as protecting citizens' legal rights, being properly responsive to public opinion, and as being able to recognize and handle emotional disorders in people. They feel, however, that judges are too prone to weigh police testimony higher than defendants' and that judges sometimes seize opportunities to further their own political interests. (Chapter III, Sec. E)

CRITICS AND SUPPORTERS OF PROSECUTORS AND DEFENDERS

Young people are more often more critical of both prosecutors and of court-appointed defense attorneys than their elders are. Socio-economic status and education make little difference, however. Mexican-Americans tend to be less critical of prosecutors and more favorable toward defenders than Anglos are. Blacks are somewhat more polarized toward both groups -- tending as a group to both praise them somewhat more frequently and to criticize them with greater frequency. (Chapter IV, Sec. C, D)

The public feels that prosecutors are somewhat over-lenient in prosecuting offenses that they observe are frequently violated, and they do not exert enough effort to take opportunities to prevent crime. While the public feels that prosecution of marijuana offenses may be overemphasized, they feel more emphasis is needed on prosecution of pornography, gambling, and sex offenses. While not seen as a major problem, the public also feels prosecutors sometimes seem to be more interested in convictions than in justice, and sometimes also seem to be furthering their own political careers. (Chapter IV, Sec. F)

Defense attorneys get high marks for being able to recognize and deal with emotional disorders and for raising every possible defense for their clients. They are also seen, however, as underemphasizing opportunities they might have to prevent crime. The public feels defenders are overdoing it when they defend to the best of their ability even when the client is guilty; to do this seems to them to be placing more concern on the defendant's freedom than on justice. The public also shows an interest in knowing more about what defenders do. (Chapter IV, Sec. F)

CRITICS AND SUPPORTERS OF PROBATION, PAROLE, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS

Probation officers are more often criticized by young people, and by Mexican-Americans than by other segments of the public. Parole officers are also more often criticized by younger people, and also by Mexican-Americans and Blacks. Correctional officers suffer from somewhat greater criticism by younger people and by those with higher education. Mexican-Americans as a group are also particularly critical of correctional officers. (Chapter V, Sec. C)

The Texas public sees probation officers as somewhat overzealous in recommending revocation of probation, and they feel probation officers also should not expect their testimony to have greater credibility than that of others. The public feels probation officers should take every opportunity to prevent crimes, and they feel a good job is being done on this. Also well done, the public feels, is giving counsel and finding job opportunities for probationers. Also desirable, the public believes, would be more emphasis than at present on setting realistic goals for probationers and recognizing and handling emotional disorders. (Chapter V, Sec. E)

Parole officers are criticized most for being too ready to revoke paroles. They are praised, however, for providing counsel and guidance, for aiding in rehabilitation efforts, and for supporting the idea of rehabilitation as opposed to punishment. (Chapter V, Sec. E)

Correctional officers have a relatively poor image with the public because they are seen as treating prisoners too severely and using force, and as being prejudiced by racial origin. Also contributing somewhat to the unfavorable image of correctional officers is the belief that they don't report prisoner grievances to authorities and they do not treat prisoners with courtesy and respect. Neither conjugal visits nor toleration of homosexual practices receives much support from the public. (Chapter V, Sec. E)

Chapter I.

PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE ISSUES IN TEXAS

- A. The Salience of Crime to the Public
- B. The Relative Importance of Crime Issues to the Public
- C. The Extent of the Public's Exposure to Criminal Acts
- D. The Texas Public's Fear of Crime
- E. Attitudes Concerning Criminal Punishment and Rehabilitation

A. THE SALIENCE OF CRIME TO THE PUBLIC

Crime and criminal justice matters stand quite high in the concerns of the people of Texas -- when asked for their top-of-the-mind opinions about the issues that are "...the most pressing problems facing the people of this community these days," 38% of them, nearly two people out of five questioned, spontaneously mention a problem which can be classified as relating to crime or criminal justice. The problems of most concern to Texans are "more police protection" (18%), and "drugs" (18%). Table 1.1 shows that both men and women alike agree on these priorities.

After crime, the people of Texas often mention ecology and pollution issues (19%), transportation problems (17%), and unemployment and welfare (16%). Taxes and inflation are of primary concern to about 10%, and minority and youth problems also are mentioned by 10%.

Concern about various local services, such as street lighting, sewers, dog ordinances, etc., are uppermost on the minds of about 14% of the people questioned.

Lower in top-of-mind concern are health issues (6%), housing (5%), education (4%), public morals (4%), and government corruption (4%). A number of other concerns of a miscellaneous nature were also mentioned, but none by more than 2% of the respondents.

In Table 1.1 are shown the major categories of response elicited by an open-ended question placed at the beginning of the interview, before

respondents were exposed to further specific questions about crime, law enforcement, and criminal justice. This means that their responses can be taken to reflect their most salient concerns, i.e., those issues closest to the surface of their consciousness. High salience in the terms of this survey measurement means that an issue is recognized as an uppermost topic by a number of people. Salience of this type can be affected by events which tend to focus public attention on an issue. Recent headline news about crime would be a case in point. A measurement of salience should not necessarily be assumed to be an assessment of the relative importance of issues, since less immediately salient issues, such as health, housing, or transportation, may be equally or even more important to people.

It should also be noted that respondents in Table 1.1 were asked to identify the problems which are most pressing to the people of this community. Thus, national concerns such as war, inflation, conservation, etc., do not receive as much mention because they have a wider frame of reference than the local community.

In a similar survey conducted in California in 1972, the overall salience of crime issues to Californians was not significantly different from that of Texans today (nearly 40% of both groups mention crime issues), but Californians are more inclined to speak of "crime in the streets," while Texans speak in terms of the "need for more police protection." Californians are relatively more concerned about "taxes and inflation" than Texans are, and are more inclined to mention "education" as a salient issue, but on most other matters, the concerns of the two states' residents are closely parallel. (See Table 1.1)

TABLE 1.1

LEVEL OF FREE-RESPONSE MENTION OF CRIME AND
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ISSUES AS COMMUNITY PROBLEMS, BY SEX

"WHAT DO YOU FEEL ARE THE MOST PRESSING PROBLEMS FACING THE PEOPLE OF THIS COMMUNITY THESE DAYS?"	ADULTS STATEWIDE	SEX		Calif- ornia survey (a)
		MALES	FEMALES	
<u>Crime/criminal justice issues</u>	<u>38%</u>	<u>35%</u>	<u>40%</u>	<u>39%</u>
Crime, unsafe streets	7	6	8	19%
Drugs	18	18	19	16
More police protection, stricter laws	18	16	19	7
Police harassment, brutality	1	1	1	1
Pollution, ecology issues	19%	21%	18%	21%
Transportation issues	17%	15%	19%	11%
Unemployment, welfare issues	16%	19%	12%	19%
Taxes, inflation issues	10%	10%	9%	21%
Minority, youth issues	10%	9%	11%	11%
Health issues	6%	6%	6%	1%
Housing issues	5%	5%	4%	3%
Education issues	4%	4%	5%	10%
Public attitudes (morality, apathy, generation gap)	4%	4%	3%	4%
Quality of government, corruption	4%	5%	2%	2%
Miscellaneous local services	14%	15%	13%	12%
<i>Number of respondents</i>	<i>(749)</i>	<i>(324)</i>	<i>(407)</i>	<i>(811)</i>

Multiple responses were possible and many respondents mentioned more than one concern, as is shown by the fact that each of the columns of percentages add to a great deal more than 100%. "Net" counts are shown for each item indicating the percentage of respondents making any comment in that category, i.e., it is a count from which multiple mentions within the category have been eliminated.

(a) "Public Opinion of Criminal Justice in California," 1972. A statewide public opinion survey conducted as part of Project STAR by Field Research Corporation.

B. THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF CRIME ISSUES TO THE PUBLIC

A better index of the importance of criminal justice issues in relation to other public concerns in Texas is provided by the next question which was asked of respondents. This one asked people to rank a set of nine specific issues in terms of their degree of concern about each one, and then to rate the kind of job that they felt local public officials were doing in dealing with each one. Table 1.2 shows the list of issues as they were presented to respondents, the average concern rank, and the average job rating (on a 7-point scale) given for each one.

Uppermost in level of concern is "protecting citizens against burglary and theft." Next is "medical and health services"; also nearly as high in concern are "protecting citizens against criminal violence," and providing "high quality public schools." Thus, out of the top four concerns, crime and criminal violence rank first and third.

Neither "rehabilitation of parolees" nor "equal justice in the courts" are seen as very high priority issues, ranking 8th and 6th, respectively. "Pollution" and "transportation" are also of relatively low concern to most Texans, ranking 7th and 9th, respectively.

The performance of local officials on criminal justice issues is seen by Texans as a whole as being somewhat short of adequacy where protection against burglary and theft is concerned, and to reflect some excess of emphasis on providing equal justice in the courts. This is shown in Table 1.2 by the

discrepancy between rank order of concern and rank order of performance: burglary and theft protection ranks First in concern but Third in performance; but equal justice ranks only Sixth in level of concern while it places Fourth in level of performance. Protection from criminal violence and rehabilitation of parolees both are ranked closely similar on importance and performance: 3-2 and 8-7, respectively.

Other discrepancies between importance and performance are noted for "dealing with unemployment and poverty," which ranks Fifth in concern, but places only Ninth in the ratings given to adequacy of performance by local officials. Medical and health services are also rated higher in concern (Second) than they are in performance (Fifth). The quality of public schools, on the other hand, is seen to be Fourth in concern, but ranks First in excellence of performance.

By region of the state, residents of the Houston-Galveston area are more inclined than other Texans to see discrepancies in the performance of their public officials in protecting against burglary and theft and against violence in the streets. In Table 1.3 it will be seen that where Texans statewide rated burglary protection First in concern and Third in performance, people in Houston-Galveston rated this matter First in concern but Fifth in performance. Likewise, where Texans as a whole rated protection from street violence only Fourth in concern and Second in performance, Houston-Galveston rated this Second in Concern and Fourth in performance.

In Southwestern Texas there is also a somewhat more critical attitude about burglary protection -- here it is rated First in concern but just Fourth in adequacy of performance. Equal justice in the courts and rehabilitation of offenders is rated similarly in all parts of the state. (Table 1.3)

TABLE 1.2
 RANK ORDER OF PUBLIC CONCERN OVER COMMUNITY ISSUES
 AND THEIR ASSESSMENT OF THE JOB PUBLIC OFFICIALS
 ARE DOING IN DEALING WITH THEM: ADULTS STATEWIDE

ISSUES	CONCERN		JOB RATING	
	MEAN POSITION	RANK	MEAN RATING	RANK
Protecting citizens against burglary and theft	4.83	1	4.57	3
Providing medical and health services needed by citizens of this community	4.52	2	4.42	5
Protecting citizens against criminal violence on the streets of this community	4.30	3	4.78	2
Providing high quality public schools in this district	4.28	4	5.09	1
Dealing with unemployment and poverty	4.14	5	3.96	9
Providing equal justice in the courts for all people of this community	3.97	6	4.46	4
Controlling and reducing air and water pollution	3.80	7	4.12	6
Rehabilitation of criminal offenders who are being released on parole	3.46	8	4.10	7
Transportation facilities	3.13	9	4.03	8

Number of respondents: each mean rating is computed on the total respondent base of 749

Concern was measured by asking respondents to rank-order the nine issues. Items were scored from first rank = 1 to last rank = 9, with ranks 4 and 5 each receiving a score of 4.

Job rating was obtained for each item on a seven-point scale ranging from "extremely good" = 7 to "extremely poor" = 1.

TABLE 1.3

RANK ORDER OF PUBLIC CONCERN AND ASSESSMENT OF JOB PUBLIC OFFICIALS ARE DOING:
BY AREA OF THE STATE

ISSUES	ADULTS STATEWIDE		DALLAS-FT. WORTH		HOUSTON-GALVESTON		OTHER EAST TEXAS		NORTHWEST TEXAS		SOUTHWEST TEXAS	
	CONCERN RANK	JOB RATING RANK	CONCERN RANK	JOB RATING RANK	CONCERN RANK	JOB RATING RANK	CONCERN RANK	JOB RATING RANK	CONCERN RANK	JOB RATING RANK	CONCERN RANK	JOB RATING RANK
Protecting against burglary and theft . . .	1	3	1	3	1	5	3	3	3	3	1	4
Medical and health services	2	5	3	4	5	1	2	7	2	7	3	5
High quality schools. . .	4	1	4	1	4	2	1	1	4	1	5	1
Protection against violence in streets	3	2	2	2	2	4	4	2	6	2	4	2
Unemployment and poverty .	5	9	6	6	9	6	6	9	1	9	2	9
Equal justice in courts. .	6	4	5	5	6	3	5	5	5	5	6	3
Air and water pollution. .	7	6	7	7	3	8	7	6	7	6	7	6
Rehabilitating offenders. .	8	7	8	8	8	7	8	4	8	8	8	7
Transportation.	9	8	9	9	7	9	9	8	9	4	9	8

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Figure 1

LIST OF CRIMES AND THEIR DESCRIPTIONS
AS PRESENTED TO SURVEY RESPONDENTS

CARD C

1. ARSON: Someone deliberately set fire, or tried to set fire, to property belonging to you or someone in your family.
2. ASSAULT: Someone attacked or beat up on you or some other member of your household. Includes fist fights, muggings, and other kinds of physical violence.
3. AUTO OFFENSES: You or someone in your family were injured by a hit-run driver, a drunk, or a reckless driver. Your property or your car was damaged by someone else's reckless driving.
4. BRIBERY: You or someone in your household was asked to make an under-cover payment to some public official, such as a policeman, an inspector, a councilman, or some official like that so he would not make trouble for you.
5. BURGLARY: While you were gone someone broke into your home or business, or attempted to break in, or came in through an open door or window and took something.
6. CAR THEFT: Someone stole a car belonging to you or some member of the family, or took your car without permission.
7. CONSUMER FRAUD: Merchandise was misrepresented, was not delivered; repairs were not made as paid for.
8. EMBEZZLEMENT: Theft of goods or money by employees; pilfering.
9. FORGERY OR FRAUD: Someone gave you or a member of your household counterfeit money, forged your signature on a check or a credit card, gave you a bad check, or swindled you out of money or property in any way.
10. LARCENY: Someone stole something belonging to you or some household member, from a car, a mailbox, a locker, or some other place outside of your home. Includes having your pocket picked, having a camera stolen, shop-lifting, etc.
11. MALICIOUS MISCHIEF OR VANDALISM: Someone destroyed, or tried to destroy property belonging to you or to some member of your household. Includes things like ripping down a fence, tearing off a car aerial, defacing property with paint, etc.
12. RAPE OR CHILD MOLESTING: You or a member of your family was sexually assaulted or raped; a child was sexually molested by someone.
13. ROBBERY: Someone used force, or threatened to use force to take money or property from you or some household member. Includes purse snatching, taking things from children by force, etc.
14. ANY OTHER INCIDENTS INVOLVING PROPERTY DAMAGE, LOSS OF MONEY, OR PHYSICAL INJURY DUE TO CRIMINAL ACTION BY OTHER PERSONS.

C. THE EXTENT OF THE PUBLIC'S EXPOSURE TO CRIMINAL ACTS

About one in three adult Texans assert that they personally, or a member of their household, have been victimized by one or more criminal acts within the past year, and many persons relate instances of several crimes. Within the past five years, 51% of the families report having been victimized.

(Respondents' claims of criminal victimization are, of course, subject to considerable error of reporting. These answers were elicited by exposing respondents to a checklist of crime categories, excepting homicide, and asking them to designate which, if any, had happened to them or to a member of their family within the past year and within the past five years. They were then asked which crimes they felt were most likely to happen to them. Figure 1 shows the list of crime descriptions as they were presented to respondents. In all cases, respondents' claims were taken at face value. No effort was made to verify the facts or to evaluate the seriousness of the reported crimes. Consequently, the frequencies of crimes reported here are unlikely to correspond closely to any existing state or local indices.)

A nationwide public opinion survey in 1966* estimated that approximately 20% of U.S. households had been victimized by crime during the preceding year. The list of crimes used in that study and the present one are substantially the same, but in the 1966 study a careful evaluation was made of each reported incident and about one in three was discarded as ineligible for inclusion (happened outside the U.S., to a non-family member, etc.) or as

*Ennis, Phillip H. *Criminal Victimization in the United States*, National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago. May, 1967.

being unreliably reported. Adjusting that rate to make it comparable to that of the present study results in a figure of approximately 30%, which is close to the 34% found in Texas by the present study. (The comparable figure from the 1972 California survey is 45%.)

The crimes most frequently reported by Texans are: malicious mischief or vandalism (12%), burglary (9%), auto offenses (8%), consumer fraud (8%), and larceny (5%). Car theft within the past year is reported by 3%. The distribution of reported criminal victimizations within the past five years is higher, as would be expected (51% vs. 34%), and appears to be generally higher in all categories. Californians report nearly all of these crimes with proportionately greater frequency. (Table 1.4)

When asked to describe the crimes which they believe are "most likely" to happen to them, Texans are most likely to worry about "burglary." Fear of burglary, in fact, is about three and one-half times greater than its reported frequency (32% think it most likely, while only 9% report experiencing it within the past year). Auto offenses (damage or injury resulting from another driver's recklessness) are also feared by more people (18%) than reported frequency of occurrence would predict (8%). Robbery and car theft are also somewhat more often believed to be likely to happen than reported frequency of occurrence would suggest. Table 1.4 shows the distribution of reported crimes and the percentage of Texans who think each one is likely.

TABLE 1.4
EXPOSURE TO SELECTED KINDS OF CRIME AND CRIMES RESPONDENTS
FEEL ARE MOST LIKELY: ADULTS STATEWIDE

CRIME	VICTIMIZED--		BELIEVE MOST LIKELY TO HAPPEN	CALIFORNIA SURVEY (Victim in past year)
	PAST YEAR	PAST FIVE YEARS		
Malicious mischief, vandalism	12%	17%	12%	15%
Burglary	9	15	32	12
Auto offenses	8	15	18	11
Consumer fraud	8	12	5	10
Larceny	5	8	2	9
Car theft	3	8	6	3
Forgery/fraud	3	5	1	3
Assault.	2	4	3	4
Robbery.	1	3	6	4
Embezzlement	1	1	*	1
Arson	*	1	2	1
Rape/child molesting.	*	*	2	1
Bribery	-	*	*	1
Other	*	1	*	1
One or more of these	34%	51%	83%	45%
<i>Number of respondents . . .</i>	(749)	(749)	(749)	(811)

*Less than ½ of one percent.

D. THE TEXAS PUBLIC'S FEAR OF CRIME

The public of the United States as a whole has shown evidence of growing concern about crime rates, and in Texas, 51% of the people interviewed in this cross-section survey said they believed that "...the danger from crime of all kinds in this city/town has become greater" in the past year. (In the 1972 survey of California, 55% of the California adults interviewed expressed the same sentiments.)

Further evidence of citizen concern about crime is the frequency with which people say they have "... stayed at home because [they] thought it unsafe to go out." Twenty-two per cent of the Texas men and 34% of the women said they had done this; the comparable figures in California in 1972 were 28% of the men and 42% of the women. A nationwide survey in 1966 by the National Opinion Research Center* asked a similar question and found only 12% of the men and 18% of the women this much concerned about danger from crime. This appears to reflect a generally rising level of fear in recent years, a conclusion that is supported by Gallup Poll figures which show an increase from 31% to 41% between 1968 and 1972 in the per cent of people who say they would be afraid to walk alone at night in the neighborhood around their homes.**

Despite their general fears, however, a majority of Texans believe that their part of town is safer than others. Table 1.5 shows that while 18% think crime would be "more likely" in their part of the city, 62% think it would be "less likely."

*Ennis, *op. cit.*, p. 74.

**Gallup, George, "Crime in the Streets: Fear is Rising," April 24, 1972.

TABLE 1.5
EXPRESSED FEAR OF CRIME: BY SEX

	STATEWIDE ADULTS	MALES	FEMALES	<i>California survey</i>
"Have there been any times recently when you ... stayed at home because you thought it unsafe to go out?"				
Yes	28%	22%	34%	35%
No	72	78	66	65
"Compared to other parts of this city/town, how likely is a person here to be a victim of a crime?"				
Lot more likely	3%	2%	5%	7%
Somewhat more likely	15	15	15	15
No difference	16	15	16	17
Somewhat less likely	36	35	38	37
Lot less likely	26	30	23	21
Don't know	4	3	4	3
"Compared with a year ago, do you feel the danger from crime of all kinds in this city/town has become greater or has it become less?"				
Greater	51%	44%	57%	55%
About same	30	22	29	24
Less	12	16	8	12
Don't know	6	8	5	9
<i>Number of respondents</i>		<i>(342)</i>	<i>(407)</i>	<i>(811)</i>

Note: Columns of percentages may not add to exactly 100% because of rounding.

By section of the state, concern about crime is only about half as great in Northwest Texas as it is in Southwest or East Texas. The people of the Dallas-Forth Worth area are somewhat less concerned about being victimized on their streets than is the case with residents of the Houston-Galveston area, or of other East Texas cities and towns. Table 1.6 shows the regional breakdown of responses to the three questions touching on fear of crime.

Texans of Mexican extraction, and Negroes, are even more greatly concerned about the crime rate increase, and are more often worried about personal safety in their neighborhoods than the Anglo/White population is. Table 1.7 shows that 62% of the Mexican-American population, and 68% of the Black population feel the crime rate is greater now than it was a year ago; 30% of the Mexican-Americans and 44% of the Blacks say they have feared to go out at times; and 29% of both groups believe that victimization is greater in their section of town than elsewhere.

Having been a victim of crime like burglary or malicious mischief/ vandalism makes people more sensitive to fears about going out and leads to the more often expressed belief that their neighborhoods are not safe. In Table 1.7 it will be seen that 45%-50% of the victims of burglary or malicious mischief feel it is sometimes unsafe to go out and 27% to 33% of them think victimization is more prevalent where they live.

Socio-economic status also affects how people see crime danger. The rising rate of crime is perceived most often by "upper-middles," but is of least concern to "uppers." On the other hand, while lower SES Texans are most likely to see their own sections of town as being high in crime and to be more

afraid to go out, lower middle SES people are least fearful about going out, and are less likely to believe their section of town is crime-ridden than are lower SES level people.

TABLE 1.6
EXPRESSED FEAR OF CRIME: BY AREA OF STATE,
SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS, RACE, AND VICTIMIZATION EXPERIENCE

	PER CENT WHO SAY--			Number of respondents
	UNSAFE TO GO OUT	VICTIMIZATION CRIME MORE LIKELY IN THIS PART PART OF TOWN	GREATER THAN A YEAR GO	
Adults Statewide	28%	19%	51%	(749)
Area of State:				
East Texas	35%	21%	58%	(402)
Dallas-Forth Worth	27%	10%	59%	(137)
Houston-Galveston.	42%	29%	58%	(98)
Other East	36%	23%	58%	(167)
Northwest Texas	9%	11%	26%	(186)
Southwest Texas	31%	20%	56%	(161)
Socio-Economic Status:				
Lower	32%	25%	50%	(287)
Lower middle	20%	17%	52%	(169)
Upper middle	31%	13%	57%	(174)
Upper	28%	11%	42%	(118)
Race/ethnic category:				
Anglo/White	26%	15%	48%	(598)
Mexican-American	30%	29%	62%	(76)
Negro/Black	44%	29%	68%	(54)
Self or family member or victim within past year of: ^(a)				
Burglary	45%	33%	65%	(62)
Car theft	25%	14%	56%	(21)
Larceny	24%	28%	65%	(43)
Malicious mischief	50%	27%	56%	(88)

^(a) Shown here are only those categories of crime reported by 20 or more respondents in the sample; percentages based on subsamples as small as those shown are subject to large sampling tolerance and should be used with caution.

E. ATTITUDES CONCERNING CRIMINAL PUNISHMENT AND REHABILITATION

To obtain some information about the direction of public attitudes on basic issues of policy regarding criminal punishment and rehabilitation, the survey questionnaire contained a set of questions addressed to these matters. While these questions do not deal exhaustively with the problem, they provide guidance as to the present state of public opinion.

Punishment

The Texas public largely agrees that "harsh punishment does not deter most criminal behavior" (51% agree with that statement), and only a minority disagrees with it (28%). (See Table 1.7) Further, once an offender has served his time, a large majority of people (86%) believe that he should be "... treated no differently from any other citizen." While this seems to reflect general support for a non-punitive outlook toward criminal punishment and for rehabilitation procedures which would make it possible for the former convict to re-enter society on an equal footing with others, it should be noted that these opinions were offered to questions dealing with the issue at a generalized, abstract level. Whether this many individuals would, for example, actually treat an ex-convict "no differently from any other citizen" if he were involved in a personal relationship or if he was occupying a position of trust, is doubtful. What these findings appear to show is that the majority of the public is willing to entertain the idea of a public policy toward crime which has rehabilitation, rather than punishment, as its goal.

Rehabilitation

A large number of Texans today agree with the statement "the courts these days are too lenient in the sentences they pass on criminal lawbreakers"

(67% agree). In view of the fact that a majority also feels that harsh sentences do not deter crime, what interpretation can be given to this widespread dissatisfaction with courts' sentencing policies? It can be argued that this dissatisfaction is not so much directed at the courts as it is toward the whole criminal rehabilitation process. Reinforcement for this interpretation is provided by examination of additional material from the survey.

A plurality of the Texas public, for example, endorses the idea that "the crime problem would be reduced if fewer offenders were sent to prison and instead more of them were re-educated and readjusted outside of prison" (47% agree; 38% disagree). (See Table 1.7) This is not as pronounced a difference as was found in the California survey (52% agreed; 34% disagreed), but it seems to reflect fairly widespread dissatisfaction in Texas with the performance of prisons. No doubt this feeling has been reinforced in recent years by revelations of bad prison conditions in many places, and by growing currency for the view that prisons are very expensive and that they tend to reinforce criminal behavior instead of promoting rehabilitation.

Public reaction was also tested in the survey toward two procedures which would be aimed at helping convicts to re-enter society. Both get substantial public support. One of these is a policy which would permit prisoners with good records to "... go into the community from time to time for short periods to take care of personal business." This idea is endorsed by 59% of the Texas public and is opposed by only 26%. The second is giving prisoners scheduled for release "two or three day furloughs ... to give them a chance to find a job and a place to live." Nearly two out of three members of the Texas public (62%) agree with this, and only 22% disagree. The California public had substantially the same reaction to these proposals. (Table 1.7)

TABLE 1.7
THE PUBLIC'S VIEWS ON SELECTED CRIMINAL PUNISHMENT
AND REHABILITATION ISSUES: BY SEX

	ADULTS STATE- WIDE	MALES	FEMALES	Calif- ornia survey	
Experience proves that harsh punishment does not deter most criminal behavior	AGREE STRONGLY	9%	8%	10%	13%
	AGREE	42	44	40	51
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE	20	16	25	13
	DISAGREE	22	25	20	19
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	6	6	6	4
Once a person convicted of a crime fulfills his sentence, he should be treated no differently from any other citizen	AGREE STRONGLY	22%	25%	19%	28%
	AGREE	64	63	64	60
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE	7	3	10	6
	DISAGREE	7	8	6	6
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	1	1	1	*
Courts these days are too lenient in the sentences they pass on criminal lawbreakers	AGREE STRONGLY	25%	28%	22%	27%
	AGREE	42	38	47	35
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE	13	11	14	16
	DISAGREE	16	19	13	19
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	4	5	4	3
The crime problem would be reduced if fewer offenders were sent to prison and instead more of them re-educated and re-adjusted outside of prison	AGREE STRONGLY	13%	15%	10%	15%
	AGREE	34	33	35	37
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE	16	10	21	14
	DISAGREE	26	29	24	25
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	12	13	10	9
Prisoners scheduled for parole should be given 2 or 3 day furloughs before their formal release to give them a chance to find a job and a place to live when they are finally released	AGREE STRONGLY	10%	10%	10%	16%
	AGREE	52	51	52	50
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE	16	12	20	12
	DISAGREE	18	20	16	17
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	4	6	2	5
Prisoners with a record of good behavior should be permitted to go into the community from time to time for short periods to take care of pressing personal business	AGREE STRONGLY	6%	6%	6%	11%
	AGREE	53	56	52	50
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE	15	12	17	13
	DISAGREE	21	21	21	21
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	5	6	4	6
<i>Number of respondents</i>		(749)	(342)	(407)	(88)

*Less than ½ of one percent.

Chapter II.

PUBLIC ATTITUDES CONCERNING POLICE IN TEXAS

- A. Contact and Familiarity with the Police
- B. Evaluation of Police Job Performance
- C. Social and Demographic Group Differences in Opinions of Police
- D. The Effects of Familiarity and Crime Victimization on Attitudes Toward the Police
- E. Public Opinion About Police Services
- F. Public Opinion About Police-Community Relations
- G. Public Opinion of Police Conduct
- H. Public Opinion About College Training for Police Officers
- I. Public Opinion About the Desirability and Probability of Occurrence of Selected Police Behaviors

A. CONTACT AND FAMILIARITY WITH THE POLICE

Many Texans have a close relationship with a policeman or policewoman -- almost one in three claims to be a friend or relative of a policeperson, and 26% more say they know one well enough to call him or her by name. Women are virtually as well acquainted with policepersons as men are.

(Table 2.1)

One in three Texans also acknowledges having been interrogated by the police in connection with a traffic incident, and 14% for some other purpose. Ten percent of the men and 1% of the women interviewed admitted to having been taken to a police station under arrest, and 17% said they knew a relative or friend who had been arrested at some time. One-fifth of the Texans interviewed (21%) admitted to having a close friend or relative who had served time in a prison or jail, and 18% said they had an acquaintance who had. In combination, this means that about two-fifths of the Texas adult population (39%) knows someone who has been incarcerated.

(In the California population, familiarity with the police is about the same, and admissions of arrest are similar in frequency, but somewhat more Californians claimed to have a close friend who had been in jail or prison.) (Table 2.1)

TABLE 2.1
ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE POLICE AND PERSONAL EXPERIENCE
WITH THE LAW ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM: BY SEX

	ADULTS STATEWIDE	MALES	FEMALES	<i>California survey</i>
Acquaintance with police:				
Friend or relative a policeman or woman	31%	31%	32%	33%
Know one well enough to call by name	26	32	20	21
Know a policeman or woman by sight	6	5	6	5
Have been interrogated by police:				
For traffic incident	34%	44%	25%	32%
For other reason	14	18	10	10
Have been taken to police station:				
Under arrest	6%	10%	1%	8%
For other reason	5	7	4	5
Relative or friend has been arrested	17%	19%	15%	23%
Know someone who has served time in a jail, prison or other correctional institution:				
Close friend or relative	21%	23%	19%	33%
Acquaintance	18	19	17	13
<i>Number of respondents</i>	<i>(749)</i>	<i>(342)</i>	<i>(407)</i>	<i>(811)</i>

B. EVALUATION OF POLICE JOB PERFORMANCE

Texans are, by and large, very favorably disposed toward their police departments. Statewide, 46% say they feel their department is doing a "very good to extremely good job," and 37% more rate the job as at least "somewhat good." At the negative assessment end, only 3% say their department is doing a "very to extremely poor job," and 7% call the job "somewhat poor." In sum, only about 10% are critical of the police job, while well over 80% are favorable. (Table 2.2)

While there is not a great deal of variance in the public's assessment of its police departments from one part of the state to another, there are some suggestive differences. Most favorable, on the whole, are residents of the Dallas-Fort Worth area, where only 4% found anything to criticize. Houston-Galveston residents also rate their police highly. Most critical, on the other hand, are residents of East Texas communities outside of the major metropolitan areas. Here, 15% of the public gave their police departments "poor job" ratings of some sort. In Northwest Texas, where urgency of concern about crime is apparently much less prevalent, police departments are rated about at the statewide average. Southwest Texas residents also rate their departments near the average. (Table 2.2)

On the same rating scale, California residents rated their local police departments very much the same as Texans did, as shown below:

Police department job rating:	Texas survey	California survey*
Extremely good	8%	10%
Very good	38	40
Somewhat good	37	33
Neutral, don't know	7	7
Somewhat poor	7	5
Very poor	2	4
Extremely poor	1	2

*Adds to 101% because of rounding.

Comparing police with other components of the criminal justice system to be examined in later chapters, the Texas public gives the police substantially higher ratings. For example, below the 5.22 mean average for police, prosecutors are rated 4.60; judges, defense attorneys, and probation officers get mean ratings of about 4.53; parole officers are rated at 4.45, and correctional officers at 4.28.

TABLE 2.2
 THE PUBLIC'S EVALUATION OF THE JOB BEING DONE BY
 "THE POLICE DEPARTMENT THAT SERVES THIS AREA":
 BY AREA OF STATE

JOB RATING	ADULTS STATE- WIDE	EAST TEXAS			NORTH WEST TEXAS	SOUTH WEST TEXAS	
		TOTAL	DALLAS/ FT. WORTH	HOUSTON/ GALV.			OTHER
Extremely good job . . (7) . . .	8%	8%	5%	12%	6%	6%	10%
Very good job (6) . . .	38	42	48	40	39	37	29
Somewhat good job . . (5) . . .	37	34	36	34	31	37	44
Neutral, don't know . (4) . . .	7	7	7	5	9	10	4
Somewhat poor job . . (3) . . .	7	5	3	4	9	8	11
Very poor job (2) . . .	2	2	1	5	2	2	2
Extremely poor job . . (1) . . .	1	2	-	-	4	*	-
Mean rating . . . . .	.5.22	5.27	5.43	5.35	5.04	5.15	5.17
<i>Number of respondents . .</i>	<i>(749)</i>	<i>(402)</i>	<i>(137)</i>	<i>(98)</i>	<i>(167)</i>	<i>(186)</i>	<i>(161)</i>

*Less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of one percent.

Note: Columns may not add to exactly 100% because of rounding.

C. SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP DIFFERENCES IN OPINIONS OF POLICE

While the public as a whole is favorable toward the police, there are some significant differences in attitudes from group to group in the public. Most critical of the police are Negroes, 25% of whom rate their local police department as "poor." Mexican-Americans, on the other hand, tend to be at least as strongly supportive of their police departments as Anglos are. (Table 2.3)

Younger segments of the Texas population are less favorable toward the police than their elders are. Among Texans in the 18-24 age group, 15% rate the police job "poor"; among those in the 25-39 age group, 13% say "poor"; among those over 40, unfavorable attitudes are held by 6%-8%. (Table 2.3)

People in the lowest socio-economic levels of the Texas population are inclined to be more critical of the police (17% "poor job") than are those with higher SES standing (4%-8% "poor job"). (Table 2.3)

Men are more likely than women are to be critical of their police (14% "poor job" vs. 7%). Educationally, people with some college (1-2 years) are less critical of the police (7% "poor job") than are either those with less educational attainment or those with more (11%-12% "poor job"). (Table 2.3)

TABLE 2.3
 COMPARISON OF RATINGS OF JOB BEING DONE BY
 "THE POLICE DEPARTMENT THAT SERVES THIS AREA":
 BY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

CHARACTERISTICS	PER CENT RATING POLICE JOB--						Number of respondents
	EX- TREMELY GOOD	SOME- VERY GOOD	NO WHAT GOOD	NO OPINION, NEUTRAL	SOME- WHAT POOR	EX- TREMELY OR VERY POOR	
Adults statewide . . .	8%	38	37	7	7	3	(749)
Sex:							
Males	8%	35	38	6	10	4	(342)
Females	8%	42	35	8	5	2	(407)
Age:							
18 - 24	3%	32	42	9	13	2	(154)
25 - 39	9%	29	42	7	9	4	(259)
40 - 54	10%	41	40	3	4	2	(147)
55 and older	8%	51	23	9	4	4	(187)
Socio-economic status							
Lower	8%	38	28	10	11	6	(287)
Lower middle	8%	38	40	5	6	2	(109)
Upper middle	8%	39	45	3	4	1	(174)
Upper	8%	37	43	9	4	*	(118)
Education:							
Less than H.S. graduate.	11%	43	29	7	9	2	(207)
High school completed.	8%	38	37	6	8	4	(214)
One-two years college or trade school	9%	41	38	5	5	2	(157)
Three or more years college	2%	32	45	11	7	4	(167)
Race/ethnic category:							
Anglo/White	8%	39	37	6	7	2	(598)
Mexican-American	8%	34	43	6	8	1	(76)
Negro/Black	5%	32	25	13	11	14	(54)

* Less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of one percent.

Note: Rows of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

D. THE EFFECTS OF FAMILIARITY AND CRIME VICTIMIZATION ON
ATTITUDES TOWARD THE POLICE

Being related to a policeman or policewoman or knowing one as a friend makes one more favorable toward the job the police are doing, but casual acquaintance, that is, knowing a police person by name, seems to be related to holding more critical opinions of the police. (Table 2.4)

Most critical are people who have been interrogated for other than a traffic matter (21% "poor job") and those who have been arrested (27% "poor job"). Also more critical of police are persons who have suffered damage from malicious mischief or vandalism, and those who have been victims of burglary or car theft (15%-17% "poor job"). (Table 2.4)

TABLE 2.4
 COMPARISON OF RATINGS OF JOB BEING DONE BY
 "THE POLICE DEPARTMENT THAT SERVES THIS AREA":
 BY ACQUAINTANCE WITH POLICE, VICTIMIZATION EXPERIENCE,
 AND ARREST AND INCARCERATION EXPERIENCE

CHARACTERISTICS	PER CENT RATING POLICE JOB--						Number of respondents
	EX- TREMELY GOOD	VERY GOOD	SOME- WHAT GOOD	NO OPINION, NEUTRAL	SOME- WHAT POOR	EX- TREMELY OR VERY POOR	
Adults statewide	8%	38	37	7	7	3	(749)
Acquaintance with policeman or policewoman:							
Friend or relative	12%	41	33	8	4	2	(254)
Know by name only	5%	29	42	10	8	6	(181)
Do not know any	7%	41	36	6	9	2	(266)
Victim in past year of: ^(a)							
Auto offense	12%	37	39	3	9	-	(53)
Burglary	10%	30	39	5	15	2	(62)
Car theft.	14%	28	32	9	15	2	(21)
Consumer fraud	9%	31	44	7	9	-	(57)
Larceny	17%	19	53	-	5	5	(43)
Malicious mischief/ vandalism	2%	30	49	4	14	1	(88)
Have been stopped and interrogated by police in past 5 years:							
For traffic matter	5%	30	45	8	10	4	(260)
For other matter	11%	34	22	12	13	8	(108)
Have appeared at police station in past several years:							
Under arrest ^(a)	4%	27	33	8	25	2	(38)
Other purpose ^(a)	5%	38	40	-	12	4	(40)
Know another who has appeared under arrest.	6%	37	35	6	12	3	(170)
Know someone who has served in jail, prison, or other institution:							
Close friend or relative	7%	32	38	9	13	*	(148)
Other person	8%	35	34	10	8	5	(161)

Note: Rows of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

^(a) Shown here are only those categories of crime or arrest experience reported by 20 or more respondents in the sample, and percentages based on subsamples as small as those shown are subject to large sampling tolerance and should be used with caution.

*Less than $\frac{1}{2}$ of one percent.

E. PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT POLICE SERVICES

A majority of Texans acknowledge that the police service in their neighborhood is as good as in any other parts of town and relatively few disagree with that (54% agree; 18% disagree). Nevertheless, there is considerable disagreement that "... police are personally familiar with residents of the neighborhoods they patrol" (38% agree; 44% disagree). (Table 2.5A)

When it comes to assigning minority officers to minority neighborhoods, only half of the people interviewed had any opinion about this, but among those who did, opinion was divided -- 29% felt this was the case, but 21% felt it was not. (Table 2.5A)

On the question of neighborhood service, Dallas-Fort Worth residents are somewhat more favorably inclined than other Texans, while Northwesterners are slightly less inclined to rate their neighborhood services strongly favorably. (Table 2.5B) Residents of the large metropolitan areas (Dallas-Fort Worth and Houston-Galveston) are less likely than others to feel that their police are familiar with neighborhood residents. Northwesterners are most likely to believe the police personally know people in the areas where they patrol. (Table 2.5B)

Minority officers are not widely believed to be assigned in sufficient numbers to minority neighborhoods, except in Southwest Texas, where 42% agree that this is the case. (Table 2.5B)

TABLE 2.5A
PUBLIC OPINION ON MATTERS OF POLICE SERVICES:
ADULTS STATEWIDE

Police officers do not give my neighborhood as good services as they do other parts of town	AGREE STRONGLY	3%
	AGREE . . . . .	.15
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE . . . . .	.28
	DISAGREE . . . . .	.47
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	7

The police become per- sonally familiar with residents of the neighborhoods they patrol	AGREE STRONGLY	4%
	AGREE . . . . .	.34
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE . . . . .	.19
	DISAGREE . . . . .	.38
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	6

Police administrators assign enough minority group officers to minority neighborhoods	AGREE STRONGLY	3%
	AGREE . . . . .	.26
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE . . . . .	.50
	DISAGREE . . . . .	.18
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	3

Note: Percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

TABLE 2.5B
PUBLIC OPINION OF POLICE SERVICES:
BY SEX AND AREA OF THE STATE

	PER CENT WHO SAY:			<i>Number of respondents</i>
	NEIGHBOR- HOOD SERVICE GOOD	POLICE FAMILIAR WITH RESIDENTS	MINORITY OFFICERS TO MINORITY NEIGHBORHOOD	
Adults statewide	54%	37%	29%	(749)
Males	54%	37%	31%	(342)
Females	54%	37%	27%	(407)
East Texas:				
Dallas/Ft. Worth	66%	31%	24%	(137)
Houston/Galveston	50%	26%	23%	(98)
Other	55%	39%	29%	(167)
Northwest Texas	48%	51%	23%	(186)
Southwest Texas	51%	37%	42%	(161)
California Survey	63%	32%	22%	(811)

F. PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

There is widespread belief that the police do not give people enough follow-up information about what is happening in their cases. Forty-five per cent agreed that this was the case, while only 18% disagreed. This feeling is universally shared across all areas of the state. (Table 2.6A, 2.6B)

On the other hand, most people believe that the police do encourage people in the community to help them in providing law enforcement services. This feeling is held by 63% of Texans statewide, and is especially strong in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Citizens of East Texas cities and towns outside of the major cities, however, are not so strongly convinced of this. (Table 2.6A, 2.6B)

When a citizen has a complaint against a police officer, 39% of all Texans believe he will have a hard time getting authorities to look into the matter. Forty-one percent of the people questioned disagreed with that statement, however. The people of the Dallas-Fort Worth area and of Southwest Texas expressed the most faith that they would get a fair hearing, while the people of Northwest Texas were the most cynical. (Table 2.6A, 2.6B)

TABLE 2.6A
PUBLIC OPINION ON MATTERS OF POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS:
ADULTS STATEWIDE

The police encourage people in the community to help them in providing law enforcement services	AGREE STRONGLY	7%
	AGREE . . . . .	.56
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE . . . . .	.17
	DISAGREE . . . . .	.18
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	2
The police don't give people enough follow-up information about what's happening to their cases	AGREE STRONGLY . . . . .	.10%
	AGREE . . . . .	.35
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE . . . . .	.36
	DISAGREE . . . . .	.16
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	2
A citizen who has a com- plaint against a police officer will have a hard time getting the authorities to look into the matter	AGREE STRONGLY . . . . .	.10%
	AGREE . . . . .	.29
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE . . . . .	.21
	DISAGREE . . . . .	.37
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	4

Note: Columns of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

TABLE 2.6B
PUBLIC OPINION OF POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS:
BY SEX AND AREA OF STATE

	PERCENT WHO SAY:			<i>Number of respondents</i>
	ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY HELP	GIVE ENOUGH FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION	AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATE CITIZENS' COMPLAINTS	
Adults statewide	63%	18%	41%	(749)
Males	63%	17%	39%	(342)
Females	63%	18%	42%	(407)
East Texas:				
Dallas/Ft. Worth	78%	21%	55%	(137)
Houston/Galveston	64%	15%	37%	(98)
Other East	45%	20%	39%	(167)
Northwest Texas	63%	16%	29%	(186)
Southwest Texas	65%	17%	47%	(161)
California Survey	58%	20%	48%	(811)

G. PUBLIC OPINION OF POLICE CONDUCT

Nearly half of all Texans (48%) do not believe that police officers are in the habit of using excessive force in making arrests, but 25% believe that they do. The least favorable attitudes about police conduct on this issue are found in the Houston-Galveston area and in other East Texas communities outside of Dallas-Fort Worth. (Table 2.7A, 2.7B)

Most Texans, however, are of the opinion that the police are more likely to arrest a person who displays what they consider to be a 'bad attitude' (76% agree). This is especially thought to be the case in Northwest Texas. (Table 2.7A, 2.7B)

TABLE 2.7A
PUBLIC OPINION ON MATTERS OF POLICE CONDUCT:
ADULTS STATEWIDE

The police often use excessive force in making arrests	AGREE STRONGLY . . . . .	.7%
	AGREE	18
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE.	27
	DISAGREE	43
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	5

The police are more likely to arrest a person who displays what they consider to be a bad attitude	AGREE STRONGLY	15%
	AGREE	61
	DON'T KNOW, NOT SURE	12
	DISAGREE.	12
	DISAGREE STRONGLY	*

*Less than 1/2 of one percent.

TABLE 2.7B
PUBLIC OPINION OF POLICE CONDUCT:
BY SEX AND AREA OF THE STATE

	PER CENT WHO SAY		<i>Number of respondents</i>
	POLICE DO NOT USE EXCESSIVE FORCE	NOT LIKELY TO ARREST FOR BAD ATTITUDE	
Adults statewide	48%	12%	(749)
Males	50%	11%	(342)
Females	46%	13%	(407)
East Texas:			
Dallas/Ft. Worth	55%	15%	(137)
Houston/Galveston	36%	15%	(98)
Other East	39%	14%	(167)
Northwest Texas	53%	6%	(186)
Southwest Texas	56%	11%	(161)
California Survey	50%	14%	(811)

H. PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT COLLEGE TRAINING FOR POLICE OFFICERS

Texans, on the whole, do not feel that a college education is essential for a policeman to do a good job today (55%), but a majority are nevertheless willing to grant them paid leave time to attend college courses (59%) and to allow them to qualify for higher pay brackets by taking college courses (67%). (Table 2.8A) Apparently, while higher education is not seen as a necessary requisite for a policeman, most people feel that college training is such a desirable thing that they are willing to offer substantial incentives to policemen to obtain it.

Opinions vary somewhat, depending on respondents' own education -- those with more education themselves are more often in favor of granting policemen leave time for college courses and added compensation for course credits. Lower income people are not quite as favorable to these ideas as others are, but even here a clear majority favors encouraging higher education for policemen.. (Table 2.8B).

TABLE 2.8A
PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT COLLEGE TRAINING FOR POLICE:
ADULTS STATEWIDE BY SEX

	PER CENT WHO --					Number of respon- dents
	AGREE STRONGLY	AGREE	DON'T KNOW NOT SURE	DISAGREE	DISAGREE STRONGLY	
1. To do a policeman's job well today, a person really needs a college education						
Adults Statewide	6%	29	10	49	6	(749)
Males	8%	29	8	47	8	(342)
Females	5%	29	12	50	4	(407)
2. Policemen should be given paid leave time to attend college courses						
Adults Statewide	8%	51	14	23	4	(749)
Males	8%	52	12	24	4	(342)
Females	7%	51	17	22	3	(407)
3. Policemen who take college courses should qualify for higher pay brackets						
Adults Statewide	11%	56	11	20	2	(749)
Males	12%	58	6	21	2	(342)
Females	9%	55	15	19	2	(407)

Note: Rows of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

TABLE 2.8B
PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT COLLEGE TRAINING FOR POLICE:
SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS, AND AREA OF STATE

	PER CENT WHO AGREE THAT POLICEMEN SHOULD--		<i>Number of respon- dents</i>
	HAVE PAID LEAVE TO ATTEND COLLEGE COURSES	QUALIFY FOR HIGHER PAY BY TAKING COLLEGE COURSES	
Adults Statewide	59%	67%	(749)
Age:			
18 - 24	62%	63%	(154)
25 - 39	54%	67%	(259)
40 - 54	59%	69%	(147)
55 and older	62%	69%	(187)
Socio-economic status:			
Lower	52%	61%	(287)
Lower middle	68%	72%	(169)
Upper middle	55%	67%	(174)
Upper	69%	79%	(118)
Education:			
Less than H.S. graduate	52%	57%	(207)
High school completed	54%	66%	(214)
One-two years college or trade school	61%	77%	(157)
Three or more years college	75%	77%	(167)
Race/ethnic category:			
White/Anglo	60%	69%	(598)
Mexican-American	55%	67%	(76)
Negro/Black	53%	55%	(54)
Area of state:			
Total East Texas	61%	66%	(402)
Dallas/Ft. Worth	57%	68%	(137)
Houston/Galveston	62%	68%	(98)
Other Eastern	63%	63%	(167)
Northwest Texas	57%	71%	(186)
Southwest Texas	56%	67%	(161)

I. PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY AND PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE OF SELECTED POLICE BEHAVIORS

As part of Project STAR's study of police roles, members of the public interviewed for this survey were asked to assess their perceptions of the desirability of selected police actions, and the probability with which they believed those actions actually take place. The survey respondents were exposed to twenty-seven items* describing police actions in various situations. These items were selected from a longer list contained in the Role Survey questionnaire which the American Justice Institute has administered to criminal justice personnel in Texas and in the other states being studied. The items chosen were those which it was believed would be relevant to the public and to which people in the general public could reasonably respond with an opinion or a value judgment. The items cover behavior in a range of situations in which police may or do take action, such as handling crowds, traffic regulation, family disturbances, civil disorders, court appearances, arrest, interrogation and booking, community relations, and items falling under the heading "general performance of duties."

The situations and the items presented to respondents are shown in Table 2.9. In this table are shown the mean (average) rating for respondents as a whole regarding (i) the Desirability of the action, and (ii) the Probability of its occurring. The two ratings were elicited on a five-point scale consisting of the following categories, each having the indicated weight in computing the mean.

*Because the list of items for all seven positions being studied was too long to be accommodated in the interview time available, a split-half sampling technique was used in which any individual respondent was exposed to only one-half of the items. See Appendix A, p. A-7.

(5)	Very desirable	(5)	Very probable
(4)	Desirable	(4)	Somewhat probable
(3)	In between	(3)	In between
(2)	Undesirable	(2)	Somewhat improbable
(1)	Very undesirable	(1)	Very improbable

Also shown in Table 2.9 is the rank-order of the items, considered in terms of their mean Desirability ratings and their mean Probability ratings. Comparison of the two rank-orders reveals items which are discrepant, that is, which have a Probability rank markedly higher or lower than their Desirability rank.

A third element of information contained in Table 2.9 is the degree of correlation between the Desirability/Probability scales of an item and basic attitude toward the police as revealed in the overall "job rating" scale examined in Section B. For this purpose, each respondent was given a new score on each item in accordance with a scheme in which highest new score values were given when the respondent rated the item as having high Desirability combined with high Probability, and lowest new score values were assigned to ratings in which low Desirability was coupled with high Probability. Intermediate high new score values were attached to answer patterns in which higher Desirability and lower Probability were associated, and intermediate low values were assigned to lower Desirability-higher Probability patterns. The effect of this is to establish a single continuum of new scores for each respondent on each item in which descending values were given to answer combinations starting with HD+HP → HD+LP → LD+LP → LD+HP. (See Appendix A, p. A-10)

This scale for each item was then correlated with the job rating scale. The resulting correlation coefficients (Pearson r) indicate the extent to which believing that a given behavior is, for example, highly desirable and

highly probable is paralleled by feeling that the police are doing a good job (or whether low desirability and high probability is associated with the opinion that police are doing a poor job): A high degree of association for an item suggests that the particular behavior may be influential in determining basic attitude toward the police, and thus provides a kind of "index of importance" for items.

The information from Table 2.9 has been summarized in Figure 2, where the twenty-seven items describing police actions and behavior have been arranged in two dimensions to provide a framework for interpretation. One dimension of the chart establishes the importance of an item, as measured in terms of its correlation with basic job rating. "Low importance" items are those whose correlations were below the level of significance, i.e., which had no measurable association with job rating.* Items classed as "Medium importance" are those whose correlations were below .200; correlations above .200 gave an item a classification of "High importance." The other dimension of the chart shown in Figure 2 is degree of emphasis. Here, items are classified as being "Over-emphasized" if they have a Probability rank that is significantly higher** than their Desirability rank. If the reverse pattern is shown, i.e., if the Probability of occurrence is ranked lower than the Desirability, the item is called "Under-emphasized." Each of the twenty-seven items has been classified on these two dimensions in Figure 2.

* Correlation coefficients have a theoretical range of .000 to ± 1.000 . Due to sampling variances, coefficients of less than $\pm .120$ cannot be considered significant.

**Differences of four or more positions in rank order was considered significant displacement for the purposes of this analysis.

From Figure 2 a set of priorities for police attention can be suggested. First, looking at those things which Texans believe are being given about the right amount of emphasis by police now, and which are considered to be of high importance in maintaining a favorable attitude about police, include: crime prevention, using minimum force in making arrests, and not attempting to support police positions by allowing officers to give "slanted" testimony in court cases. Somewhat less important, but still significant, is making sure that officers always observe traffic regulations except when they clearly show that they are operating in an emergency situation.

Important things being under-emphasized by the police today, according to the Texas public, would include: treating all requests for public service assistance seriously, and respecting the dignity of persons being booked into jail. Also important, although at a lesser level, is treating an accused person as if he were innocent, listening to a traffic violator's story before issuing a citation, resolving family problems in ways which will strengthen the family, and learning to recognize and handle people with emotional disorders.

The public feels the police are over-emphasizing the following actions, which are also contributing in a significant way to create a poorer image in the public's eyes: using pressure tactics to obtain information, allowing racial origins to impair their objectivity, and in responding with more harsh action to quell civil disorders when they involve certain groups.

The police are also over-emphasizing some other things in the opinion of the general public, but these do not significantly affect the basic attitude which people have toward the job the police are doing. These items include:

patrolling large crowds to deter pickpockets and purse-snatchers, arresting bystanders at a civil disorder who may be slow to obey police orders, expecting police testimony to have extra credibility in court, staying "invisible" to trap traffic violators, treating jail prisoners severely, and being lenient in enforcing certain laws that are frequently violated.

TABLE 2.9

DESIRABILITY AND PROBABILITY OF SELECTED POLICE ACTIONS: ADULTS STATEWIDE

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
In the general performance of their duties, police officers:						
1. Permit a person's racial origin to impair their objectivity	2.00	27	3.15	22	Over	.123
2. Take every opportunity to prevent the occurrence of crimes	4.48	1	3.82	1		.515
3. Are lenient in enforcing laws that they observe are frequently violated by the general public	2.65	24	3.25	19	Over	*
4. Are capable of recognizing and handling persons with emotional disorders. . . .	4.18	12	3.12	23	Under	.145
When performing duties involving large crowds such as sporting events, parades, and civic functions, police officers:						
5. Deter crimes such as picking pockets, snatching purses, and theft of autos. .	3.89	16	3.57	8	Over	*
In regulating vehicle and pedestrian traffic, police officers:						
6. Observe all traffic regulations except when in an emergency or in pursuit status with proper warning devices operating	4.39	3	3.77	3		.133

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

- (a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("Under").
- (b) Correlation (Pearson r) between police job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedure.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

(CONTINUED)

TABLE 2.9 (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
7. Attempt to stay "invisible" to trap violators	2.72	22	3.69	4.5	Over	*
8. Listen to a violator's story before deciding whether to issue a citation or just a warning	4.30	6	3.06	25	Under	.130
9. Treat all violators equally regardless of the type of car, car decorations, and regardless of the appearance of passengers in the car . .	3.99	15	3.18	21	Under	*
When responding to a request for assistance related to a family disturbance, police officers:						
10. Help resolve the problem in a way that will strengthen rather than weaken the family	4.22	8-11	3.21	20	Under	.183
When responding to requests for public service assistance, police officers:						
11. Treat each request seriously	4.34	4	3.53	10	Under	.239
When assigned to control civil disorders, police officers:						
12. Arrest by-standers who are slow to obey orders to clear the area	3.20	18	3.43	13	Over	*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
 Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

- (a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("Under").
- (b) Correlation (Pearson r) between police job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedure.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

(CONTINUED)

TABLE 2.9 (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
13. Maintain disciplined behavior in confrontations with demonstrators	4.22	8-11	3.54	9		*
14. Act more harshly to quell disorders involving some groups than others	2.82	21	3.38	14	Over	.182
15. Make arrests with minimum use of physical force	4.22	8-11	3.49	11		.206
When making an arrest, police officers:						
16. Instill an attitude of respect rather than fear	4.28	7	3.37	15	Under	*
17. Expect their testimony to have greater credibility than that of others	2.84	20	3.69	4.5	Over	*
18. Slant their testimony to support their own position	2.23	26	3.11	24		.234
When interrogating a suspect, police officers:						
19. Use pressure tactics to obtain information	2.38	25	3.29	17.5	Over	.130
When holding a person accused of an offense, police officers:						
20. Treat the accused as if he were innocent	3.75	17	2.81	27	Under	.163

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
 Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

- (a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("Under").
 (b) Correlation (Pearson r) between police job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P; and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

*Correlation too low to be significant.

TABLE 2.9 (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
21. Explain to the accused exactly why actions are taken	4.31	5	3.65	6		*
When booking prisoners into a jail, police officers:						
22. Respect the dignity of the person being booked by treating him courteously	4.08	14	3.02	26	Under	.269
23. Treat prisoners severely; show them jail is no hotel	2.69	23	3.34	16	Over	*
When participating in community relations and education programs, police officers:						
24. Are influenced by public opinion on criminal justice issues	3.06	19	3.29	17.5		*
25. Stimulate citizen participation in crime prevention activities	4.22	8-11	3.64	7		*
26. Communicate effectively with citizen groups	4.15	13	3.48	12		*
27. Establish a friendly, helpful image	4.40	2	3.81	2		*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
 Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

(a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").

(b) Correlation (Pearson r) between police job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

Chapter III.

PUBLIC ATTITUDES CONCERNING JUDGES AND COURTS IN TEXAS

- A. Contact and Familiarity with Judges and Courts
- B. Evaluation of Judges' Job Performance
- C. Social and Demographic Group Differences in Opinions of Judges
- D. Effects of familiarity and Court Experience on Opinions of Judges
- E. Public Opinion About the Desirability and Probability of Occurrence of Selected Judicial Actions

A. CONTACT AND FAMILIARITY WITH JUDGES AND COURTS

About one out of six persons in Texas (17%) claims to be a close friend or relative of a judge. Another 19% say they know a judge well enough to call him, or her, by name.

Approximately 40% of all adults say they have been called to jury duty. Men somewhat more often than women claim this (46% vs. 34%). One in twelve Texans (8%) says he or she has served on a criminal jury at some time. Men are also more frequently in this category than women are (13% vs. 4%).

Besides jury duty, 38% of all adult Texans say they have been in court at some time or another, 17% of them as a party to a case. In describing the occasion of their visit to court, 15% said it was in connection with a traffic incident, 19% said it was a civil matter, and 8% were in court for a criminal case. (Table 3.1)

As Table 3.1 shows, the exposure of Texans to their court system is somewhat less widespread than it is in California, where 45% claimed to have been called to jury duty and 58% said they had been in court on other than jury duty. Texans show greater personal familiarity with their judges, however, than Californians do -- where 25% of the California survey sample said they knew a judge by name or as a friend or relative, 36% of the Texas sample claimed this.

TABLE 3.1
ACQUAINTANCE WITH JUDGES AND PERSONAL EXPERIENCE IN COURT:
STATEWIDE ADULTS, BY SEX

	ADULTS STATEWIDE	MALES	FEMALES	<i>California survey</i>
Acquaintance with judges:				
Friend or relative	17%	17%	17%	11%
Know well enough to call by name	19	20	18	14
Know only by sight	5	7	3	4
Called to jury duty	40%	46%	34%	45%
Have served on a jury in a criminal case	8%	13%	4%	8%
Have ever been in court (other than jury)				
	38%	43%	33%	58%
As party in a case	17	20	15	38
As witness	11	14	9	16
As spectator	9	10	8	13
Occasion of court visit:				
Traffic incident	15%	20%	10%	30%
Criminal case	8	12	4	14
Civil matter, other.	19	20	18	25
<i>Number of respondents . . .</i>	<i>(749)</i>	<i>(342)</i>	<i>(407)</i>	<i>(811)</i>

Note: Court visit categories add to more than subtotals shown because multiple responses were accepted.

B. EVALUATION OF JUDGES' JOB PERFORMANCE

When asked to make an evaluation of the job being done by "the judges who preside over the courts of this community," a majority (53%) of Texans rate it "good." A substantial number, 30%, are neutral or have no opinion, however, and 18% of the public offers the opinion that the job being done by judges is "poor." (Table 3.2)

Judges in the Dallas-Fort Worth area are held in highest esteem, with only 9% offering "poor job" ratings and 60% rating judges as doing a "good job."

People in Southwest Texas are most often critical of their judges (29% poor job ratings). Residents of the Houston-Galveston area and other parts of East Texas are also frequently critical of their judges -- 19% to 21% rate the judges of their communities as doing a "poor job." (Table 3.2)

In Northwest Texas, nearly half of the public has no opinion or neutral opinions (46%). Among those with opinions, 44% are favorable and 10% are unfavorable. (Table 3.2)

Texas judges are rated very closely on a par with their California counterparts, as the comparison below shows:

Rating of the job judges are doing:	Texas survey*	California survey*
Extremely good	4%	3%
Very good	18	17
Somewhat good	31	35
Neutral, no opinion	30	25
Somewhat poor	12	13
Very poor	5	5
Extremely poor	1	3

*Adds to 101% because of rounding.

TABLE 3.2
 THE PUBLIC'S EVALUATION OF THE JOB BEING DONE BY
 "THE JUDGES WHO PRESIDE OVER THE COURTS OF THIS COMMUNITY":
 BY AREA OF STATE

JOB RATING	ADULTS STATEWIDE	AREA					
		TOTAL EAST	DALLAS- FT. WORTH	HOUSTON- GALVESTON	OTHER EAST	NORTH WEST	SOUTH WEST
Extremely good job (7)	4%	3%	3%	1%	4%	5%	5%
Very good (6)	18	20	17	17	26	18	13
Somewhat good job. (5)	31	34	40	41	23	21	32
Neutral, no opinion. (4)	30	26	31	22	26	46	21
Somewhat poor job (3)	12	12	8	17	10	6	19
Very poor job (2)	5	4	*	2	10	3	8
Extremely poor job (1)	1	1	1	-	1	1	2
Mean rating	4.53	4.60	4.72	4.58	4.52	4.58	4.31
<i>Number of respondents</i>	<i>(749)</i>	<i>(402)</i>	<i>(137)</i>	<i>(98)</i>	<i>(167)</i>	<i>(186)</i>	<i>(161)</i>

Note: Columns of percentages may not add to exactly 100% because of rounding.

*Less than 1/2 of one percent.

Figure 3

CATEGORIZATION OF SELECTED JUDGES ACTIVITIES IN TERMS OF THEIR IMPORTANCE AND ADEQUACY OF PRESENT EMPHASIS

IMPORTANCE OF THE INDICATED ACTION IN AFFECTING OVERALL JUDGE JOB RATING				
		LOW IMPORTANCE	MEDIUM IMPORTANCE	HIGH IMPORTANCE
OPINION ABOUT DEGREE OF EMPHASIS BEING GIVEN TO THIS ACTION BY THE JUDGES	OVER- EMPHASIZED	Base sentences mostly on criminal history of person convicted (8)	Believe police testimony over that of defendant (10) Seize opportunity to further own political interests (13)	
	ABOUT RIGHT EMPHASIS	Communicate with citizen groups (2) Consider circumstances that motivate crime when sentencing (6) Moving cases through court rapidly (11) Permit racial origin to impair objectivity (14)	Protecting legal rights of citizens (1) Capable of recognizing emotional disorders (5) Lenient about laws frequently violated (9) Influenced by public opinion (12)	
	UNDER- EMPHASIZED	Stimulate citizen participation in crime prevention (3) Treat all convicted persons similarly regardless of social class or appearance (4) Similar sentences for similar crimes(7)		

Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate the "Desirability" rank of each item.
(Source data from Table 3.5)

C. SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP DIFFERENCES IN OPINIONS OF JUDGES

Within the Texas population there are some significant differences in the degree of feeling about judges. Men are more prone to criticize the judiciary than women are, for example -- where 23% of the men interviewed give judges "poor job" ratings, only 13% of the women do so. At the favorable end, however, men and women are found in equal proportions; thus, the difference is that if women are not favorable, they are more likely to have "no opinion" about judges. (Table 3.3)

Young people are a lot more likely to be critical of judges than older people are. Below the age of 25, for example, 24% are critical of judges, while just 42% are favorable; but above age 25, the ratio of unfavorable opinion drops rapidly to just 12% among people in the 40-54 age bracket. (Table 3.3)

Good opinion of the performance of judges increases steadily with socio-economic class: just 48% of those classified as lower SES rated judges' job performance "good," but 64% of those at the top of the SES scale thought judges were doing a "good job." (Table 3.3)

Negroes in Texas are less supportive of the judiciary than are Mexican-Americans or than the White/Anglo population is. Critical attitudes of judges are held by 26% of the Black population members interviewed, but by only 17% of the Mexican-Americans or Anglos. (Table 3.3)

TABLE 3.3

COMPARISON OF RATINGS OF JOB BEING DONE BY
 "THE JUDGES WHO PRESIDE OVER THE COURTS OF THIS COMMUNITY":
 BY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

	PER CENT RATING JUDGES' JOB --					Number of respondents
	EX- TREMELY OR VERY GOOD	SOME- WHAT GOOD	NO OPINION, NEUTRAL	SOME- WHAT POOR	EX- TREMELY OR VERY POOR	
Adults Statewide	22%	31	30	12	6	(749)
Sex:						
Males	22%	31	25	16	7	(342)
Females	22%	31	34	8	5	(407)
Age:						
18 - 24	11%	31	34	18	6	(154)
25 - 39	20%	34	28	12	7	(259)
40 - 54	22%	39	26	7	5	(147)
55 and older	32%	20	31	12	5	(187)
Socio-economic status:						
Lower	24%	24	33	13	6	(287)
Lower middle	17%	35	34	13	2	(139)
Upper middle	20%	35	25	11	9	(174)
Upper	26%	38	20	10	6	(118)
Education:						
Less than H.S. graduate	24%	29	34	11	3	(207)
High school completed	20%	24	32	12	12	(214)
1-2 years college or trade school	29%	36	24	10	1	(157)
Three or more years college	17%	39	25	15	5	(167)
Race/ethnic category:						
White/Anglo	22%	31	30	11	6	(598)
Mexican-American	20%	38	24	15	2	(76)
Negro/Black	28%	22	24	14	12	(54)

Note: Rows of percentages may not add to exactly 100% because of rounding.

D. EFFECTS OF FAMILIARITY AND COURT EXPERIENCE ON OPINIONS OF JUDGES

People who know a judge as a friend, or who are related to a judge, rate the job of the judiciary a bit more favorably than do those who are less well acquainted with a judge, and both groups are more strongly favorable than those who do not know any judge. In the first group, 60% say judges are doing a "good job," and in the second 57% say this; among those unacquainted with a judge, just 48% offer favorable opinions. The difference is in the percentage of "no opinion" rather than in "poor job" ratings, however.

(Table 3.4)

Having served on a jury in a criminal case does not appear to affect a person's opinion of the judiciary, but having been a party or witness in a criminal case does -- this group is much more polarized toward judges, with 60% of them saying "good job" and 26% of them saying "poor job." People who have been in court as spectators have tended to form more negative attitudes toward the judiciary than the public as a whole holds -- 25% of them feel judges are doing a "poor job" and only 44% rate it a "good job." (Table 3.4)

TABLE 3.4
 COMPARISON OF RATINGS OF JOB BEING DONE BY
 "THE JUDGES WHO PRESIDE OVER THE COURTS OF THIS COMMUNITY":
 BY ACQUAINTANCE WITH JUDGE, COURT EXPERIENCE

	PER CENT RATING JUDGES' JOB--					Number of respondents
	EX- TREMELY OR VERY GOOD	SOME- WHAT GOOD	NO OPINION, NEUTRAL	SOME- WHAT POOR	EX- TREMELY OR VERY POOR	
Adults Statewide . . . . .	.22%	31	30	12	6	(749)
Acquaintance with a judge:						
Friend or relative . . . . .	.32%	28	26	12	2	(128)
Know by name only. . . . .	.23%	34	24	12	7	(157)
Do not know any . . . . .	.18%	30	33	12	7	(416)
Have served on a criminal case jury						
	.24%	33	23	16	3	(57)
Have been in court (other than jury):						
Party or witness in criminal case . . . . .	.34%	26	13	24	2	(36)
Party or witness in civil case . . . . .	.24%	35	22	15	3	(90)
Spectator only . . . . .	.17%	27	31	19	6	(67)

Note: Rows of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

E. PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT THE DESIRABILITY AND PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE
OF SELECTED JUDICIAL ACTIONS

To extend the study of criminal justice agency roles, survey respondents were asked to provide their opinions about selected aspects of judicial behavior in a manner similar to that described in Chapter II with respect to police behavior.* In this, each person interviewed was asked to evaluate the desirability and the probability of specific actions that described things judges do, or might do. In all, thirteen such items were measured on five-point scales. The items rated by respondents, and the mean rating scores for each item are shown in Table 3.5. Also shown in that table are the rank order positions of each item and the extent to which discrepancies in rank order indicate some degree of "over-" or "under-emphasis" on the part of the judiciary. In addition, a correlation coefficient for each item is shown, which represents the extent to which the item was found to be related to holding a favorable or unfavorable basic attitude toward judges and their job performance.*

Figure 3 provides a summary of the significance of the data shown in Table 3.5. In the figure will be found each of the thirteen items on which judges were rated, placed in accordance with their importance to public attitudes and the relative degree of emphasis which the public feels is being placed on each one by judges. From this grouping it is possible to infer what sorts of judicial behavior may be in need of attention in order to improve public attitudes, and which others are indicative of presently favorable opinions of the judiciary.

*See Chapter II. pp. 41 to 43 for a detailed description of this procedure.

For example, the behaviors which are currently believed to be being given about the right amount of emphasis by judges, and which are somewhat influential in governing how people form their judgment of the job that judges are doing, include these things: protecting citizens' legal rights, being lenient about laws that are frequently violated, being influenced by public opinion, and being capable of recognizing and dealing with emotional disorders in people.

Important things that the judiciary over-emphasizes, according to many Texans, are: believing police testimony over that of defendants, and seizing opportunities to further their own political interests. These are factors which contribute to a negative attitude on the part of a significant number of people.

While not strongly related to basic feelings about judges, a number of people believe that the judiciary over-emphasizes a defendant's criminal history when passing sentence, and that they under-emphasize such things as: citizen participation in crime prevention, consistency in sentencing, and treating all convicted persons similarly regardless of their social class or appearance.

There are several other activities of judges which Texans as a group also do not consistently associate with judges' job ratings, but which they now feel are presently being given about the right emphasis. These include: moving cases through court rapidly, not permitting racial origins of defendants to impair their objectivity, considering the circumstances that motivated a crime when passing sentence, and communicating with citizen groups.

To summarize the impressions which the data in Figure 3 provide, it appears that Texans are most concerned that judges not appear to be in league with the police, nor that they appear to use their positions to further their own interests. People will think well of judges to the extent that judges continue to be diligent in protecting citizens' legal rights, and tempering justice with compassion (recognize emotional problems) and good sense (be lenient about some laws and listen to public opinion).

The public seems to take for granted that judges are moving cases through court rapidly, that they are free of racial bias, and that they consider motivating factors when passing sentence. They would, however, like to see somewhat more emphasis on consistency in sentencing, and they would like judges to pay more attention to class discrimination as well. While the public feels judges are communicating with citizens' groups adequately, they apparently would like to see greater effort to stimulate citizen participation in crime prevention.

TABLE 3.5

DESIRABILITY AND PROBABILITY OF SELECTED JUDICIAL ACTIONS: ADULTS STATEWIDE

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
In the general performance of their duties, judges:						
1. Are more concerned with moving cases rapidly through the courts than with seeing that each defendant receives just treatment	2.33	11	3.17	11		*
2. Permit a defendant's racial origin to impair their objectivity	1.87	14	2.81	14		*
3. Are capable of recognizing and handling persons with emotional disorders	4.05	5	3.29	6		.135
4. Observe and protect the legal rights of citizens	4.46	1	3.91	1		.162
5. Are lenient in enforcing laws which are frequently violated by the public.	2.76	9	3.25	8.5		.121
6. Are influenced by public opinion on criminal justice issues	2.32	12	3.20	10		.146

*Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.*

(a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").

(b) Correlation (Pearson r) between judge job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

(CONTINUED)

TABLE 3.5 (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
7. Believe police testimony over that of the defendant, as a general practice	2.36	10	3.46	5	Over	.120
8. Seize on opportunities to further their own political interests	1.96	13	3.27	7	Over	.190
When participating in community relations and education programs, judges:						
9. Stimulate citizen participation in crime prevention activities.	4.09	3	3.25	8.5	Under	*
10. Communicate effectively with citizen groups	4.22	2	3.51	3		*
When involved in sentencing a person convicted of a crime, judges:						
11. Give similar sentences for similar crimes	3.61	7	3.09	12	Under	*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
 Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

- (a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").
- (b) Correlation (Pearson r) between judge job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

(CONTINUED)

TABLE 3.5 (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
12. Consider the circumstances that motivate people to commit crime	4.01	6	3.50	4		*
13. Treat all convicted persons similarly regardless of their social class or physical appearance	4.08	4	2.68	13	Under	*
14. Base sentences mostly on the criminal history of the person convicted	3.20	8	3.61	2	Over	*

*Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probably = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.*

- (a) *Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").*
- (b) *Correlation (Pearson r) between judge job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.*

* *Correlation too low to be significant.*

Chapter IV.

PUBLIC ATTITUDES CONCERNING PROSECUTORS AND COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE ATTORNEYS IN TEXAS

- A. Contact and Familiarity with Prosecutors and Defenders
- B. Evaluation of Prosecutors' and Defenders' Job Performances
- C. Social and Demographic Group Differences in Opinions of Prosecutors
- D. Social and Demographic Group Differences in Opinions of Defenders
- E. Effects of Familiarity and Court Experience on Opinions of Prosecutors and Defenders
- F. Public Opinion of the Desirability and Probability of Occurrence of Selected Prosecutor and Defense Attorney Actions

A. CONTACT AND FAMILIARITY WITH PROSECUTORS AND DEFENDERS

Not many Texans are acquainted with a prosecutor (10%) or court-appointed defense attorney (6%). This level of familiarity is quite a bit less than that for judges (17%) or policepersons (31%). Texans and Californians are closely similar in their levels of awareness of prosecutors and defenders. (Table 4.1)

TABLE 4.1
ACQUAINTANCE WITH PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS AND
COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE ATTORNEYS: BY SEX

	ADULTS STATEWIDE	MALE	FEMALE	<i>California survey</i>
Acquaintance with a prosecutor:				
Friend or relative	10%	11%	9%	9%
Know well enough to call by name	14	16	12	8
Know only by sight	4	6	2	2
Acquaintance with court appointed defense attorney:				
Friend or relative	6%	6%	5%	7%
Know well enough to call by name	8	11	5	9
Know only by sight	1	2	1	1
<i>Number of respondents</i>	<i>(749)</i>	<i>(342)</i>	<i>(407)</i>	<i>(811)</i>

B. EVALUATION OF PROSECUTORS' AND DEFENDERS' JOB PERFORMANCES

In Table 4.2 it can be seen that the Texas public has a somewhat clearer idea of the job performance of its prosecutors (73% offer an opinion) than of its court-appointed defense attorneys (60% offer an opinion). Among those who do have an opinion, however, there is a close similarity between the ratio of favorable and unfavorable opinion. About 17% of the public rates the prosecutors as doing a "poor job" while 12% rate defenders as doing a "poor job." At the favorable end of the scale, 26% rate the prosecutors in the two highest favorability categories, while 19% rate defenders that high.

In California, it appears that prosecutors (district attorneys) are neither as well known, nor quite as highly regarded as Texas prosecutors are. California public defenders and Texas court-appointed defense attorneys are generally on a par in visibility and favorability with the public. (Table 4.2)

TABLE 4.2

THE PUBLIC'S EVALUATION OF THE JOB BEING DONE BY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS (a) AND COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE ATTORNEYS (b):
ADULTS STATEWIDE

JOB RATING	PROSECUTORS	DEFENDERS	California survey*	
			Pub. D.A.	Def.
Extremely good job (7)	4%	3%	2%	3%
Very good job (6)	22	16	17	17
Somewhat good job (5)	30	29	29	29
Neutral, don't know (4)	27	40	35	36
Somewhat poor job (3)	10	8	11	11
Very poor job (2)	5	2	3	3
Extremely poor job (1)	2	2	2	2
Mean rating	4.60	4.54	4.43	4.45
Number of respondents	(749)	(749)	(811)	(811)

(a) "The prosecuting attorney and his staff who have the job of prosecuting cases where people have been charged with breaking laws."

(b) "The defense attorneys appointed by the court to represent people who have been accused of crimes."

* Do not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

C. SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP DIFFERENCES IN OPINIONS OF PROSECUTORS

Prosecutors in Texas are held in generally high esteem in all parts of the state, but especially in Northwestern Texas and in East Texas cities and towns outside the metropolitan areas. Northwesterners often do not have any opinion at all of prosecutors (40%), but of those who do, opinion is predominantly favorable. In the Southwestern part of the state, opinion of prosecutors is rather polarized -- many people are high in their praise, but many others are more than usually critical. (Table 4.3A)

Younger people are less inclined to praise, and somewhat more inclined to criticize prosecutors. Socio-economic status and education do not make a marked difference, although people with more education are less well acquainted with prosecutors and tend to rate them less highly favorably. (Table 4.3A)

Mexican-American persons are less inclined to criticize prosecutors (12% poor job) than are Blacks (19% poor job) or White Anglos (18% poor job). (Table 4.3A)

TABLE 4.3A
 COMPARISON OF RATINGS OF JOBS BEING DONE BY
 PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS (a):
 BY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

	EX- TREMELY OR VERY GOOD	SOME- WHAT GOOD	NO OPINION NEUTRAL	SOME- WHAT POOR	EX- TREMELY OR VERY POOR	Number of respondent
Adults Statewide	26%	30	27	10	7	(749)
Area of State:						
Total East.	24%	31	26	11	8	(402)
Dallas-Ft. Worth.	21%	32	25	16	5	(137)
Houston-Galveston	21%	29	31	10	8	(98)
Other East.	30%	31	22	7	11	(167)
Northwest	29%	25	40	4	1	(186)
Southwest	28%	34	16	13	10	(161)
Sex:						
Males	25%	32	24	12	8	(342)
Females	27%	29	30	8	6	(407)
Age:						
18 - 24	14%	33	33	10	10	(154)
25 - 39	26%	32	28	8	6	(289)
40 - 54	27%	30	29	9	5	(147)
55 and older	34%	26	20	13	8	(187)
Socio-economic status:						
Lower	27%	25	31	10	7	(287)
Lower middle	26%	28	27	10	9	(169)
Upper middle.	24%	38	22	10	7	(174)
Upper	27%	38	21	10	4	(118)
Education:						
Less than H.S. graduate	30%	29	26	7	7	(207)
High school completed	26%	29	26	10	9	(214)
1-2 years college or trade school	28%	31	22	12	8	(157)
Three or more years college	20%	33	32	12	4	(167)
Race/ethnic category:						
White/Anglo	25%	30	26	11	7	(598)
Mexican-American	33%	32	23	9	3	(76)
Negro/Black	32%	28	22	5	14	(54)

(a) The prosecuting attorney and his staff who have the job of prosecuting cases where people have been charged with breaking laws--what kind of a job are they doing?

Note: Rows of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

D. SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP DIFFERENCES IN OPINIONS OF DEFENDERS

Court-appointed defense attorneys are not as well known as prosecutors, but among those with an opinion about them, the people of Southwest and Eastern Texas (outside of metropolitan areas) are most inclined to give them favorable job ratings.

Young people, especially those under 25, are more often critical of defenders (20% poor job) than are older people. Socio-economic status does not make a consistent difference, nor does education, although it appears that people with one or two years of college are more likely either to support defenders or to criticize them than are other segments of the population. (Table 4.3B)

Negroes are most critical of court-appointed defenders (21% poor job), while also giving them "extremely or very good job" ratings with considerable frequency (24%). Mexican-Americans tend to praise defenders somewhat more often than Anglos do (23% vs. 19% extremely or very good job). (Table 4.3B)

TABLE 4.3B

COMPARISON OF RATINGS OF JOBS BEING DONE BY COURT
APPOINTED DEFENSE ATTORNEYS (b) :
BY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

	EX- TREMELY OR VERY GOOD	SOME- WHAT GOOD	NO OPINION NEUTRAL	SOME- WHAT POOR	EX- TREMELY OR VERY POOR	Number of responde
Adults Statewide	19%	29	40	8	4	(749)
Area of State:						
Total East	17%	33	38	7	4	(403)
Dallas-Ft. Worth	14%	43	32	9	3	(137)
Houston-Galveston	13%	30	44	9	4	(98)
Other East	23%	27	39	4	6	(167)
Northwest	22%	18	54	3	2	(156)
Southwest	22%	31	28	13	4	(161)
Sex:						
Males	18%	31	35	10	5	(342)
Females	20%	28	44	5	3	(407)
Age:						
18 - 24	10%	29	41	15	5	(154)
25 - 39	21%	26	40	8	5	(259)
40 - 54	22%	31	36	7	3	(147)
55 and older	21%	32	42	2	3	(187)
Socio-economic status:						
Lower	20%	24	44	5	7	(287)
Lower middle	17%	31	42	9	1	(139)
Upper middle	22%	32	31	14	2	(1,4)
Upper	17%	39	36	4	3	(118)
Education:						
Less than H.S. graduate	20%	24	44	6	6	(207)
High school completed	19%	27	42	7	5	(214)
1-2 years college or trade school	26%	28	32	13	1	(157)
Three or more years college	13%	41	38	6	2	(167)
Race/ethnic category:						
White/Anglo	19%	30	41	8	3	(598)
Mexican-American	23%	35	29	8	5	(76)
Negro/Black	24%	21	35	7	14	(54)

(b) The defense attorneys appointed by the court to represent people who have been accused of crimes--what kind of job do you feel they are doing?

Note: Rows of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

E. EFFECTS OF FAMILIARITY AND COURT EXPERIENCE ON OPINIONS OF PROSECUTORS AND DEFENDERS

To know a prosecutor or defense attorney as a friend or relative is to have a more favorable opinion of the job that they are doing. For example, among those who know a prosecutor, 34%-35% rate their job performance "very good," while among strangers, only 23% rate it this high. A similar pattern is true of defense attorneys. (Table 4.4)

Having served on a criminal case jury does not markedly affect how people assess the job of prosecutors nor that of defenders; however, having been a party or a witness in a criminal case does: among this small group (just one in twenty persons interviewed), criticism of both the prosecutor and the defender are very high. (Table 4.4)

TABLE 4.4

COMPARISON OF RATINGS OF JOBS BEING DONE BY PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS (a) AND COURT APPOINTED DEFENSE ATTORNEYS (b) : BY ACQUAINTANCESHIP AND COURT EXPERIENCE

	EX- TREMELY OR VERY GOOD	SOME- WHAT GOOD	NO OPINION NEUTRAL	SOME- WHAT POOR	EX- TREMELY OR VERY POOR	Number of respondents
PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS						
Adults Statewide	26%	30	27	10	7	(749)
Acquaintance with a prosecuting attorney:						
Friend or relative	34%	23	30	9	4	(87)
Know by name only	35%	31	13	10	11	(105)
Don't know any	24%	30	29	10	7	(520)
Have served on a criminal case jury	31%	30	27	8	3	(57)
Have been in court (other than jury)						
Never in court	25%	32	28	8	8	(445)
Spectator only	26%	22	30	15	8	(67)
Party or witness in civil case	28%	34	18	13	8	(177)
Party or witness in criminal case.	34%	6	30	21	9	(36)
DEFENSE ATTORNEYS						
Adults Statewide	19%	29	40	8	4	(749)
Acquaintance with a defense attorney:						
Friend or relative	35%	39	22	4	1	(52)
Know by name only	26%	35	30	7	1	(63)
Don't know any	17%	28	42	8	4	(619)
Have served on a criminal case jury	15%	32	42	6	5	(57)
Have been in court (other than jury)						
Never in court	20%	27	42	8	4	(445)
Spectator only	18%	20	50	11	1	(67)
Party or witness in civil case	20%	40	31	7	3	(177)
Party or witness in criminal case.	15%	35	30	13	8	(36)

(a) The prosecuting attorney and his staff who have the job of prosecuting cases where people have been charged with breaking laws--what kind of a job are they doing?

(b) The defense attorneys appointed by the court to represent people who have been accused of crimes--what kind of job do you feel they are doing?

Note: Rows of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

F. PUBLIC OPINION OF THE DESIRABILITY AND PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE
OF SELECTED PROSECUTOR AND DEFENSE ATTORNEY ACTIONS

Survey respondents were asked to provide their opinions about selected aspects of prosecutors' and court-appointed defense attorneys' behavior in a manner similar to that previously analyzed in Chapters II and III for police and the judiciary. A detailed description of the procedure will be found in Chapter II (pp. 41 to 43). In brief, each person interviewed was asked to evaluate the desirability and the probability of occurrence of specific actions on the part of prosecutors and defenders. The basic rating values for each item are shown in Tables 4.5A (Prosecutors) and 4.5B (Defenders). Also shown there are the rank orders of items and the discrepancies, if any, between their desirability rank and their perceived probability of occurrence. Items which have a higher perceived desirability rank than probability of occurrence rank are termed "under-emphasized," while those with lower desirability rank than perceived probability of occurrence are termed "over-emphasized." Correlation coefficients are shown for each item to indicate the degree of relationship of these assessments with basic attitude toward each of the criminal justice positions.

Prosecutors

Figure 4 provides a graphic representation of the sixteen items of behavior for Prosecuting Attorneys which were rated by the public in this survey. Interpreting the data in the figure, it appears that Prosecutors are

Figure 4

CATEGORIZATION OF SELECTED PROSECUTORS ACTIVITIES IN TERMS OF THEIR IMPORTANCE AND ADEQUACY OF PRESENT EMPHASIS

IMPORTANCE OF THE INDICATED ACTION IN AFFECTING OVERALL PROSECUTOR JOB RATING				
		LOW IMPORTANCE	MEDIUM IMPORTANCE	HIGH IMPORTANCE
OPINION ABOUT DEGREE OF EMPHASIS BEING GIVEN TO THIS ACTION BY THE PROSECUTORS	OVER- EMPHASIZED	Prosecute marijuana offenses (6) More concerned with convictions than with justice (16) Seize opportunities to further political interests (14)	Lenient in prosecuting offenses frequently violated by public (10)	
	ABOUT RIGHT EMPHASIS	Establish a friendly, helpful image (2) Communicate effectively with citizens groups (3) Tell witnesses what they should say (12) View community relations as a nuisance (13) Permit racial origin to impair objectivity (15)	Stimulate citizen interest in crime prevention (4.5)	
	UNDER- EMPHASIZED	Prosecute pornography offenses (7) Prosecute gambling offenses (8) Prosecute sex offenses between consenting adults (9) Spend excessive time on nuisance complaints (11)	Take opportunities to prevent crime (1) Recognize and handle emotional disorders (4.5)	

Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate the "Desirability" rank of each item.
 (Source data from Table 4.5A)

Figure 2

CATEGORIZATION OF SELECTED POLICE ACTIVITIES IN TERMS OF THEIR IMPORTANCE AND ADEQUACY OF PRESENT EMPHASIS

IMPORTANCE OF THE INDICATED ACTION IN AFFECTING OVERALL POLICE JOB RATING				
		LOW IMPORTANCE	MEDIUM IMPORTANCE	HIGH IMPORTANCE
OPINION ABOUT DEGREE OF EMPHASIS BEING GIVEN TO THIS ACTION BY THE POLICE	OVER- EMPHASIZED	Deter pickpockets, purse snatchers (16) Arrest bystanders who are slow to obey (18) Expect police testimony to have more credibility (20) Stay invisible to trap traffic violators (22) Treat prisoners severely (23) Be lenient in enforcing laws frequently violated (24)	Act more harshly to quell some disorders than others (21) Use pressure tactics for information (25) Permit racial origins to impair objectivity (27)	
	ABOUT RIGHT EMPHASIS	Establish a friendly, helpful image (2) Explain actions to the accused (5) Stimulate citizen participation (8-11) Maintain discipline in confrontation (8-11) Communicate with citizen groups (13) Be influenced by public opinion (19)	Observe traffic regulations except in emergencies (3)	Prevent occurrence of crime (1) Use minimum force in making arrests (8-11) Slant testimony to support officer's position (26)
	UNDER- EMPHASIZED	Instill respect rather than fear (7) Treat all vehicle violators equally (15)	Listen to traffic violator's story before issuing citation (6) Resolve problems so as to strengthen the family (8-11) Recognize and handle emotional disorders (12) Treat accused as innocent (17)	Treat each request for service seriously (4) Respect dignity when booking prisoners (14)

Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate the "Desirability" rank of each item.
(Source data from Table 2.9)

felt by most Texans to be somewhat over-lenient in prosecuting certain offenses that they observe to be frequently violated by the public, and they do not exert enough effort to take opportunities to prevent crime. These are matters of some importance to the attitudes they take toward prosecutors.

Less important, but over-emphasized according to many Texans, is prosecution of marijuana offenses. On the other hand, Texans feel that more emphasis should be given to prosecuting pornography, gambling, and sex offenses. People feel that prosecutors could improve their ability to recognize and handle emotional disorders.

Prosecutors are also felt by some Texans to be overly concerned with obtaining convictions at the expense of justice, and to be a bit too prone to seize opportunities to use their office to further their political interests. (Figure 4)

Defenders

Figure 5 portrays the public's perceptions of court-appointed defense attorneys. Here it will be noted that a Defender gets higher marks for being able to recognize and deal with emotional disorders, and for raising every possible defense for his clients. Defenders are also, however, seen as under-emphasizing the opportunities they might have to prevent crime.

The public places a fairly high priority (3rd rank in Desirability) on providing more information about what defenders do, and feels that this should receive more emphasis than it is now getting. On the other hand, the public feels that Defenders are overdoing it when they seem to be defending their clients to the best of their ability even when the client is known to be guilty. This appears to some people, apparently, as showing greater concern for the client's freedom than for the cause of justice, another factor that is believed to be over-emphasized.

Figure 5

CATEGORIZATION OF SELECTED COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE ATTORNEYS ACTIVITIES IN TERMS OF THEIR IMPORTANCE AND ADEQUACY OF PRESENT EMPHASIS

		IMPORTANCE OF THE INDICATED ACTION IN AFFECTING OVERALL COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE ATTORNEYS JOB RATING		
		LOW IMPORTANCE	MEDIUM IMPORTANCE	HIGH IMPORTANCE
OPINION ABOUT DEGREE OF EMPHASIS BEING GIVEN TO THIS ACTION BY THE COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE ATTORNEYS	OVER-EMPHASIZED	Defend clients to best of ability even when guilty (6) Tell witnesses what to say (7) More concerned with defendant's freedom than with justice (8)		
	ABOUT RIGHT EMPHASIS	Visit scenes of crimes (4.5) Allow client to testify knowing he will lie on witness stand (9) Call witness who will lie on stand (10)	Raise every possible defense (2)	Recognize and handle emotional disorders (4.5)
	UNDER-EMPHASIZED	Inform public what defenders do (3)		Take opportunity to prevent crime (1)

Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate the "Desirability" rank of each item.
 (Source data from Table 4.5B)

TABLE 4.5A

DESIRABILITY AND PROBABILITY OF SELECTED PROSECUTING ATTORNEY ACTIONS: ADULTS STATEWIDE

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
In the general performance of their duties, prosecuting attorneys:						
1. Take every opportunity to prevent the occurrence of crimes	4.30	1	3.39	4	Under	.123
2. Permit a defendant's racial origin to impair their objectivity	2.08	15	3.07	13.5		*
3. Are lenient in prosecuting offenses which are frequently violated by the public	2.67	10	3.26	7	Over	.126
4. Are more concerned with securing convictions than with seeing justice done	2.06	16	3.20	8	Over	*
5. Are capable of recognizing and handling persons with emotional disorders	4.12	4.5	3.18	9	Under	*
In determining which cases to prosecute, prosecuting attorneys:						
6. Prosecute most sex offenses committed between consenting adults which are reported to them by the police	2.98	9	2.91	15	Under	*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
 Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

- (a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").
- (b) Correlation (Pearson r) between prosecuting attorney job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

(CONTINUED)

TABLE 4.5A (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
7. Prosecute most gambling offenses reported to them by the police	3.61	8	3.09	11.5	Under	*
8. Prosecute most pornography offenses reported to them by the police	3.63	7	3.07	13.5	Under	*
9. Prosecute most marijuana offenses reported to them by the police.	3.91	6	3.54	2	Over	*
When involved in settling domestic and civil disputes, prosecuting attorneys:						
10. Spend excessive time on nuisance complaints	2.57	11	2.84	16	Under	*
When participating in community relations and education programs, prosecuting attorneys:						
11. Establish a friendly, helpful image	4.24	2	3.68	1		*
12. Communicate effectively with citizen groups	4.19	3	3.33	5		*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
 Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

(a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").

(b) Correlation (Pearson r) between prosecuting attorney job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P, next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

(CONTINUED)

TABLE 4.5A (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
13. Seize on these opportunities to further their own political interests	2.18	14	3.30	6	Over	*
14. View these activities as nuisance assignments	2.35	13	3.09	11.5		*
15. Stimulate citizen participation in crime prevention activities	4.12	4.5	3.46	3		.128
During trial proceedings, prosecuting attorneys:						
16. Specify to witnesses, before they take the stand, exactly what they should say	2.41	12	3.15	10		*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
 Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

(a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").

(b) Correlation (Pearson r) between prosecuting attorney job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

TABLE 4.5B

DESIRABILITY AND PROBABILITY OF SELECTED COURT APPOINTED
DEFENSE ATTORNEY ACTIONS: ADULTS STATEWIDE

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
In the general performance of their duties, defense attorneys:						
1. Take every opportunity to prevent the occurrence of crimes	4.30	1	3.18	6	Under	.235
2. Are capable of recognizing and handling persons with emotional disorders	4.12	4.5	3.14	7		.284
3. Are more concerned with securing the defendant's freedom than with seeing that justice is done	2.31	8	3.34	5	Over	*
4. Defend their clients to the best of their ability, even when they believe they are guilty	3.91	6	3.62	2	Over	*
5. Should take a more active part in informing the public about what public defenders do	4.14	3	2.90	9	Under	*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

(a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").

(b) Correlation (Pearson r) between defense attorney job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

(CONTINUED)

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TABLE 4.5B (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
6. Should visit the scenes of the crimes which their clients are accused of During trial proceedings, defense attorneys:	4.12	4.5	3.39	3		*
7. Raise every possible defense for their clients	4.19	2	3.69	1		.187
8. Call witnesses to the stand whom they know will lie for their clients	1.79	10	2.89	10		*
9. Specify to witnesses, before they take the stand, exactly what they should say	2.60	7	3.37	4	Over	*
10. Allow their clients to testify even when they know the client will lie on the witness stand	1.94	9	2.94	8		*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

(a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").

(b) Correlation (Pearson r) between defense attorney job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

Chapter V.

PUBLIC ATTITUDES CONCERNING PROBATION, PAROLE, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS

- A. Contact and Familiarity
- B. Evaluation of Probation, Parole, and Correctional Officers' Job Performance
- C. Social and Demographic Group Differences
- D. Effects of Familiarity and Incarceration Experience
- E. Public Opinion of the Desirability and Probability of Occurrence of Selected Actions by Probation, Parole, and Correctional Officers

A. CONTACT AND FAMILIARITY

Parole officers are the least widely known members of the criminal justice system -- only about one in fourteen persons (7%) is personally familiar enough with one to call him, or her, by name. Probation Officers and Correctional Officers are somewhat more widely acquainted among the public, since they are known fairly well by 15%-13% of the Texas public.

(Table 5.1)

TABLE 5.1
ACQUAINTANCE WITH PROBATION, PAROLE, AND
CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS: BY SEX

	ADULTS STATEWIDE	MALE	FEMALE	<i>California survey</i>
Acquaintance with Probation Officers:				
Friend or relative	7%	7%	7%	9%
Know well enough to call by name	8	10	7	10
Know only by sight	3	4	2	3
Acquaintance with Parole Officers:				
Friend or relative	3%	4%	2%	4%
Know well enough to call by name	4	6	2	5
Know only by sight	2	3	1	*
Acquaintance with Correctional Officers:				
Friend or relative	9%	12%	6%	10%
Know well enough to call by name	4	5	3	6
Know only by sight	2	4	1	1
<i>Number of respondents</i>	<i>(749)</i>	<i>(342)</i>	<i>(407)</i>	<i>(811)</i>

B. EVALUATION OF PROBATION, PAROLE, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS' JOB PERFORMANCE

Of the three positions under discussion in this chapter, Correctional Officers are the most often criticized. In Table 5.2 it is shown that 18% of the Texas public rates their job "poor," while only 12% rate the other positions in the "poor job" category. None of the Texas positions is as frequently criticized as was the case in California: Table 5.2 shows that 19% to 28% of the California public rated occupants of these three positions as doing a "poor job" in the survey conducted there in 1972.

TABLE 5.2
THE PUBLIC'S EVALUATION OF THE JOB BEING DONE BY PROBATION (a), PAROLE (b), AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS(c) : ADULTS STATEWIDE

JOB RATING	PROBATION OFFICERS	PAROLE OFFICERS	CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS	California survey		
				Prob.	Par.	Corr.
Extremely good job (7)	5%	4%	3%	2%	2%	2%
Very good job (6)	15	12	13	17	11	8
Somewhat good job (5)	27	25	19	27	25	21
Neutral, don't know (4)	42	48	46	35	43	42
Somewhat poor job (3)	8	8	12	13	13	15
Very poor job (2)	3	3	4	4	4	8
Extremely poor job (1)	1	1	2	3	2	5
Mean rating	4.53	4.45	4.28	4.37	4.28	3.98
Number of respondents	(749)	(749)	(749)	(811)	(811)	(811)

(a) "Probation officers whose job it is to investigate and to supervise juveniles and adults who have been in trouble with the law and who receive suspended sentences or are placed on probation."

(b) "Parole officers whose job it is to supervise juveniles and adults who have served part of their sentences and who have been allowed to leave correctional institutions on parole."

(c) "Correctional officers whose job it is to supervise prisoners while they are in jails, prisons or other correctional facilities."

Note: Columns of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

C. SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC GROUP DIFFERENCES

Probation Officers are particularly often criticized in Southwest Texas and in the Houston-Galveston area (18%-20% poor job), and by younger people: Among persons under 25, 19% say "poor job" and among those 25-39, 15% rate Probation Officers as doing a "poor job." Mexican-Americans are more often critical (23% poor job) than are Blacks (15%) or Anglos (11%).

(Table 5.3A)

Parole Officers are also frequently criticized by younger people. The percentage of "poor job" ratings is 17% among the youngest segment (18-24), 16% among 25-39 year-olds, 10% among persons 40-54, and just 3% among people 55 and older. Mexican-Americans and Blacks are both more critical than Anglos are (17% - 18% poor job). (Table 5.3B)

Correctional Officers have a poorer image in the Houston-Galveston area and in Southwest Texas than elsewhere (28%-29% poor job). They also suffer from heavier criticism from young people: 32% "poor job" ratings among 18-24 year-olds; 23% among 25-39 year-olds; and only 8%-13% among people over 40. Criticism of Correctional Officers also appears to increase with education, since it is only 13% among those with less than high school education and rises to 23% among those with three or more years of college. Mexican-Americans are very much more critical of Correctional Officers (31% poor job) than are Blacks (15%) or Anglos (17%). (Table 5.3C)

TABLE 5.3A
COMPARISON OF RATINGS OF JOB BEING DONE BY PROBATION
OFFICERS (a): BY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

	EX- TREMELY OR VERY GOOD	SOME- WHAT GOOD	NO OPINION NEUTRAL	SOME- WHAT POOR	EX- TREMELY OR VERY POOR	Number of respondents
Adults Statewide	19%	27	42	8	4	(749)
Area of State:						
Total East	19%	30	40	8	4	(402)
Dallas-Ft. Worth	10%	37	50	2	2	(137)
Houston-Galveston	17%	27	38	14	4	(98)
Other East	28%	26	34	6	6	(167)
Northwest	20%	17	57	5	2	(166)
Southwest	21%	30	30	14	6	(161)
Sex:						
Males	18%	25	42	11	4	(342)
Females	21%	28	41	6	4	(407)
Age:						
18 - 24	13%	33	35	15	4	(154)
25 - 39	20%	32	34	10	5	(259)
40 - 54	24%	17	49	7	2	(147)
55 and older	20%	24	50	3	3	(187)
Socio-economic status:						
Lower	20%	25	42	9	4	(287)
Lower middle	21%	27	39	8	5	(169)
Upper middle	17%	33	40	9	1	(174)
Upper	19%	24	47	6	5	(118)
Education:						
Less than H.S. graduate.	24%	25	42	4	5	(207)
High school completed.	19%	24	43	11	3	(214)
1-2 years college or trade school	25%	26	36	9	4	(157)
Three or more years college	9%	34	43	9	4	(167)
Race/ethnic category:						
White/Anglo.	18%	27	45	8	3	(598)
Mexican-American	23%	29	25	18	5	(76)
Negro/Black.	27%	29	29	4	11	(54)

(a) "Probation officers whose job it is to investigate and to supervise juveniles and adults who have been in trouble with the law and who receive suspended sentences or are placed on probation."

Note: Columns of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

TABLE 5.3B
COMPARISON OF RATINGS OF JOB BEING DONE BY PAROLE
OFFICERS (b): BY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

	EX- TREMELY OR VERY GOOD	SOME- WHAT GOOD	NO OPINION NEUTRAL	SOME- WHAT POOR	EX- TREMELY OR VERY POOR	Number of respondents
Adults Statewide . . . . .	.16%	25	48	8	3	(749)
Area of State:						
Total East . . . . .	.15%	26	48	8	4	(402)
Dallas-Ft. Worth . . . . .	.6%	36	52	4	1	(137)
Houston-Galveston . . . . .	.12%	24	50	10	4	(98)
Other East . . . . .	.26%	19	41	9	5	(167)
Northwest . . . . .	.16%	16	63	5	1	(186)
Southwest . . . . .	.19%	29	35	12	5	(161)
Sex:						
Males . . . . .	.15%	25	46	10	4	(342)
Females . . . . .	.17%	24	50	6	3	(407)
Age:						
18 - 24 . . . . .	.9%	25	50	14	3	(154)
25 - 39 . . . . .	.14%	30	40	9	7	(259)
40 - 54 . . . . .	.20%	19	50	8	2	(147)
55 and older . . . . .	.21%	22	54	2	1	(182)
Socio-economic status:						
Lower . . . . .	.19%	23	46	8	4	(287)
Lower middle . . . . .	.18%	23	44	11	4	(169)
Upper middle . . . . .	.10%	30	49	9	2	(174)
Upper . . . . .	.14%	24	59	2	1	(118)
Education:						
Less than H.S. graduate . . . . .	.19%	22	48	8	3	(207)
High school completed . . . . .	.15%	25	46	12	2	(214)
1-2 years college or trade school . . . . .	.20%	23	44	6	6	(157)
Three or more years college . . . . .	.10%	28	55	5	3	(167)
Race/ethnic category:						
White/Anglo . . . . .	.14%	24	52	7	2	(598)
Mexican-American . . . . .	.18%	32	33	14	3	(76)
Negro/Black . . . . .	.33%	21	28	5	13	(54)

(b) "Parole officers whose job it is to supervise juveniles and adults who have served part of their sentences and who have been allowed to leave correctional institutions on parole."

Note: Columns of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

TABLE 5.3C
COMPARISON OF RATINGS OF JOB BEING DONE BY CORRECTIONAL
OFFICERS (c): BY SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

	EX- TREMELY OR VERY GOOD	SOME- WHAT GOOD	NO OPINION NEUTRAL	SOME- WHAT POOR	EX- TREMELY OR VERY POOR	Number of respondents
Adults Statewide.	17%	19	46	12	7	(749)
Area of State:						
Total East	17%	19	46	12	6	(402)
Dallas-Ft. Worth	9%	25	51	9	5	(137)
Houston-Galveston.	8%	16	47	20	8	(98)
Other East	32%	17	40	7	4	(167)
Northwest	19%	13	60	5	4	(186)
Southwest	14%	25	32	17	12	(161)
Sex:						
Males	13%	20	44	14	9	(342)
Females.	20%	19	47	10	4	(407)
Age:						
18 - 24	9%	19	39	19	13	(154)
25 - 39	21%	21	35	14	9	(259)
40 - 54	15%	18	54	10	3	(147)
55 and older	18%	18	56	5	3	(187)
Socio-economic status:						
Lower	22%	16	45	11	6	(287)
Lower middle	17%	21	48	6	8	(169)
Upper middle	10%	22	42	20	8	(174)
Upper	12%	22	52	10	4	(118)
Education:						
Less than H.S. graduate.	20%	18	49	6	7	(207)
High school completed.	21%	16	44	14	5	(214)
1-2 years college or trade school	17%	22	42	12	7	(157)
Three or more years college	6%	23	48	16	7	(167)
Race/ethnic category:						
White/Anglo	14%	19	50	11	6	(598)
Mexican-American	17%	24	27	21	10	(76)
Negro/Black.	40%	17	28	5	10	(54)

(c) "Correctional officers whose job it is to supervise prisoners while they are in jails, prisons or other correctional facilities."

Note: Columns of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

D. EFFECTS OF FAMILIARITY AND INCARCERATION EXPERIENCE

Having a Probation or Parole Officer as a friend or relative leads one to give the group high ratings in job performance (46% - 48% very good job), but close association with a Correctional Officer leads to a somewhat less pronounced increase in favorable ratings. Knowing someone by name who occupies any of the three positions is associated with more critical opinions than is the case where the officer is more intimately known to the respondent.

(Table 5.4)

Knowing someone who has been in jail or prison also leads to less favorable ratings for officers in all three positions, especially for Correctional Officers. (Table 5.4)

TABLE 5.4

COMPARISON OF RATINGS OF JOBS BEING DONE BY PROBATION(a),
PAROLE(b), AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS(c),
BY ACQUAINTANCESHIP AND INCARCERATION EXPERIENCE

	EX- TREMELY OR VERY GOOD	SOME- WHAT GOOD	NO OPINION, NEUTRAL	SOME- WHAT POOR	EX- TREMELY OR VERY POOR	Number of respondents
PROBATION OFFICERS						
Adults Statewide	19%	27	42	8	4	(749)
Acquaintance with a Probation Officer:						
Friend or relative	46%	34	10	9	2	(60)
Know by name only	32%	32	21	8	7	(55)
Do not know any	16%	26	47	7	4	(611)
Know someone who has served time in jail, prison, or other institution:						
Close friend or relative	19%	30	36	10	6	(148)
Other person	21%	26	36	12	5	(161)
PAROLE OFFICERS						
Adults Statewide	16%	25	43	8	3	(749)
Acquaintance with a Parole Officer:						
Friend or relative	48%	14	25	9	4	(23)
Know by name only	35%	24	18	16	6	(26)
Do not know any	14%	25	50	8	3	(683)
Know someone who has served time in jail, prison or other institution:						
Close friend or relative	18%	28	40	8	5	(148)
Other person	14%	23	46	13	4	(161)
CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS						
Adults Statewide	17%	19	46	12	7	(749)
Acquaintance with a Correctional Officer:						
Friend or relative	25%	20	30	18	7	(64)
Know by name only	11%	24	36	16	14	(37)
Do not know any	16%	19	49	10	6	(629)
Know someone who has served time in jail, prison or other institution:						
Close friend or relative	15%	14	43	19	8	(148)
Other person	20%	18	41	15	6	(161)

(a) "Probation officers whose job it is to investigate and to supervise juveniles and adults who have been in trouble with the law and who receive suspended sentences or are placed on probation."

(b) "Parole officers whose job it is to supervise juveniles and adults who have served part of their sentences and who have been allowed to leave correctional institutions on parole."

(c) "Correctional officers whose job it is to supervise prisoners while they are in jails, prisons or other correctional facilities."

Note: Columns of percentages may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

Figure 6

CATEGORIZATION OF SELECTED PROBATION OFFICERS ACTIVITIES IN TERMS OF THEIR IMPORTANCE AND ADEQUACY OF PRESENT EMPHASIS

IMPORTANCE OF THE INDICATED ACTION IN AFFECTING OVERALL PROBATION OFFICERS JOB RATING				
		LOW IMPORTANCE	MEDIUM IMPORTANCE	HIGH IMPORTANCE
OPINION ABOUT DEGREE OF EMPHASIS BEING GIVEN TO THIS ACTION BY THE PROBATION OFFICERS	OVER- EMPHASIZED		Recommend revocation of probation when warranted (8) Expect their testimony to have greater credibility (11)	
	ABOUT RIGHT EMPHASIS	Go out of way to help probationer adjust (3.5) Seek outside aid for rehabilitation of probationers (6) Attempt to increase probationer's acceptance in the community (7) Identify with the probationer (10) View community activities as a nuisance (12) Permit racial origin to impair objectivity (13) Slant testimony to support own position (14)	Give counseling and guidance to probationers (1) Identify potential employers for probationer (9)	Take every opportunity to prevent occurrence of crimes (2)
	UNDER- EMPHASIZED	Set standards probationer can understand and fulfill (3.5) Be capable of recognizing and handling emotional disorders (5)		

Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate the "Desirability" rank of each item.
(Source data from Table 5.5A)

Figure 7

CATEGORIZATION OF SELECTED PAROLE OFFICERS ACTIVITIES IN TERMS OF THEIR IMPORTANCE AND ADEQUACY OF PRESENT EMPHASIS

		IMPORTANCE OF THE INDICATED ACTION IN AFFECTING OVERALL PAROLE OFFICERS JOB RATING		
		LOW IMPORTANCE	MEDIUM IMPORTANCE	HIGH IMPORTANCE
OPINION ABOUT DEGREE OF EMPHASIS BEING GIVEN TO THIS ACTION BY THE PAROLE OFFICERS	OVER- EMPHASIZED			Recommend revocation of parole when warranted (6)
	ABOUT RIGHT EMPHASIS	Be capable of recognizing and handling emotional disorders (4) Identify potential employers (9.5) Slant testimony to support their own position (12)	Take every opportunity to prevent occurrence of crime (2) Set standards which parolee can understand and fulfill (3) Permit racial origin to impair objectivity (11)	Give counseling and guidance to parolees (1) Seek aid of other organizations in rehabilitation (7) Support policy of rehabilitation as opposed to punishment for parolees (8) Identify with parolee (9.5)
	UNDER- EMPHASIZED	Go out of way to assist parolee to adjust (5)		

Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate the "Desirability" rank of each item.
(Source data from Table 5.5B)

E. PUBLIC OPINION OF THE DESIRABILITY AND PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE OF
SELECTED ACTIONS BY PROBATION, PAROLE, AND CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS

Previous chapters have shown how survey respondents evaluated the desirability and probability of certain actions by incumbents in the various criminal justice positions being studied. (See Chapter II, pp.41-43 for detailed description of the rating process.) In this chapter the comparable ratings given by the public to Probation, Parole, and Correctional Officers will be analyzed.

Tables 5.5A (Probation), 5.5B (Parole), and 5.5C (Correctional) present the list of items that were evaluated for each position, together with their mean ratings and rank orders on desirability and probability of occurrence. When items have higher perceived desirability rank than probability of occurrence rank they are termed "under-emphasized." When the reverse is true, they are termed "over-emphasized." All others are considered "about right" in present degree of emphasis. Correlation coefficients for each item indicate its degree of association with basic attitude toward each position.

Probation Officers

Figure 6 provides a summary analysis of the fourteen items rated for Probation Officers. Here it will be noted that probation officers are seen as somewhat over-zealous in recommending revocation of probation, and that this contributes to some of the less than favorable attitudes toward Probation officers (Medium importance). Probation officers also should not expect their testimony to have greater credibility than others.

It is quite important to the public that Probation Officers use every opportunity to prevent crime, and they are believed to be placing about the right amount of emphasis on this. Also important, and being done with proper emphasis, is giving counsel and finding job opportunities for probationers.

The Texas public thinks that Probation Officers are under-emphasizing the matter of setting standards that probationers can understand and live up to, and they do not feel enough emphasis is being given to recognizing and handling emotional disorders in probationers. These items do not contribute a significant amount to overall attitudes, but they are rated high in desirability. Remaining items, shown in the Low importance/About right emphasis box in Figure 6, are things which Probation Officers appear to be doing adequately, in the view of the Texas public as a whole.

Parole Officers

Figure 7 shows the distribution of items describing how the public perceives Parole Officers. Here it will be noted that Parole Officers are seen to be too ready to revoke parole, and that this is an important matter in judging the job that they do. Also important components in judging the kind of job being done by Parole Officers, and things to which they are presently believed to be giving about the right amount of emphasis, include: giving counsel and guidance, seeking assistance from other organizations for rehabilitation of parolees, and supporting rehabilitation policy as opposed to punishment.

Figure 8

CATEGORIZATION OF SELECTED CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS ACTIVITIES IN TERMS OF THEIR IMPORTANCE AND ADEQUACY OF PRESENT EMPHASIS

		IMPORTANCE OF THE INDICATED ACTION IN AFFECTING OVERALL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS JOB RATING		
		LOW IMPORTANCE	MEDIUM IMPORTANCE	HIGH IMPORTANCE
OPINION ABOUT DEGREE OF EMPHASIS BEING GIVEN TO THIS ACTION BY THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS	OVER- EMPHASIZED		Use force when prisoners refuse to obey reasonable orders (11) Permit racial origin to impair objectivity (14)	Treat prisoners severely (12)
	ABOUT RIGHT EMPHASIS	Take every opportunity to prevent occurrence of crime (1) Seek aid of other organizations in rehabilitation (4) Give prisoners maximum freedom possible within rules (7) Identify potential employers for prisoners (9) Permit conjugal visits (10) Tolerate homosexual practices (13)	Seek support for policy of rehabilitation rather than punishment for prisoners (8)	Be capable of recognizing and handling emotional disorders (2)
	UNDER- EMPHASIZED	Report prisoner grievances to proper authorities (3) Treat prisoners with courtesy and respect (5)	Treat accused person as innocent when holding in jail (6)	

Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate the "Desirability" rank of each item.
(Source data from Table 5.5C)

Also moderately important, and performed adequately at present, are such things as preventing crimes whenever possible and setting standards which parolees can understand and fulfill. Permitting racial origin to impair objectivity is seen as undesirable and if it occurs it would damage the reputation of Parole Officers in the eyes of the public. Parole Officers are sometimes seen as not going enough out of their way to assist parolees to adjust, but this is not a serious omission in terms of its affect on overall attitude. (See Figure 7)

Correctional Officers

The overall image of Correctional Officers is not entirely favorable, as the earlier section of the chapter has shown. The factors shown in Figure 8 which appear to be at least partially responsible for this include these views held by the public: Treating prisoners too severely, using force on prisoners who refuse to obey, and permitting racial origin to impair objectivity. All of these things are importantly associated with basic attitudes. Jailers who fail to treat an accused person as innocent while he is being held in jail are also strongly criticized.

Correctional Officers are believed to be guilty of under-emphasizing things like reporting prisoner grievances to authorities and treating prisoners with courtesy and respect, although these factors are not strongly instrumental in shaping attitudes toward the performance of the profession as a whole. Permission for conjugal visits and tolerance of homosexual practices in prison are not seen as very desirable (10th and 13th in Desirability), and are seen as receiving about the right amount of emphasis at this time.

TABLE 5.5A

DESIRABILITY AND PROBABILITY OF SELECTED PROBATION OFFICERS ACTIONS: ADULTS STATEWIDE

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
In the general performance of their duties, probation officers:						
1. Permit a probationer's racial origin to impair their objectivity	1.98	13	2.92	14		*
2. Give counseling and guidance to their probationer as needed	4.37	1	3.54	3		.173
3. Take every opportunity to prevent the occurrence of crimes	4.31	2	3.66	1		.200
4. Are capable of recognizing and handling persons with emotional disorders	4.25	5	3.30	10	Under	*
When supervising persons on probation, probation officers:						
5. Identify with the probationer rather than with the "establishment".	3.65	10	3.36	8.5		*
6. Recommend revocation of probation when warranted	4.02	8	3.58	2	Over	.173

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

- (a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").
- (b) Correlation (Pearson r) between probation officer job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

(CONTINUED)

TABLE 5.5A (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
7. Go out of their way to assist probationers to adjust	4.28	3.5	3.48	6		*
8. Set behavioral standards for each probationer which he can understand and fulfill	4.28	3.5	3.43	7	Under	*
When appearing in court as a witness, probation officers:						
9. Slant their testimony to support their own position	1.97	14	3.01	12		*
10. Expect their testimony to have greater credibility than that of others . . .	2.98	11	3.49	5	Over	.123
When participating in community relations and education programs, probation officers:						
11. View these activities as nuisance assignments	2.12	12	2.94	13		*
12. Use such occasions to identify potential employers for probationers .	3.67	9	3.23	11		.131

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

- (a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").
- (b) Correlation (Pearson r) between probation officer job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

(CONTINUED)

TABLE 5.5A (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
13. Seek the aid and cooperation of public and private service organizations for rehabilitation of probationers	4.15	6	3.50	4		*
14. Attempt to increase the public's acceptance of probationers in the community	4.07	7	3.36	8.5		*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
 Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

(a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").

(b) Correlation (Pearson r) between probation officer job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

TABLE 5.5B

DESIRABILITY AND PROBABILITY OF SELECTED PAROLE OFFICERS ACTIONS: ADULTS STATEWIDE

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
In the general performance of their duties, parole officers:						
1. Give counseling and guidance to their parolees as needed	4.43	1	3.78	1		.232
2. Take every opportunity to prevent the occurrence of crimes	4.36	2	3.51	4		.176
3. Are capable of recognizing and handling persons with emotional disorders	4.29	4	3.41	5		*
4. Permit a parolee's racial origin to impair their objectivity	2.15	11	3.06	11		.133
When supervising persons on parole, parole officers:						
5. Recommend revocation of parole when warranted	4.12	6	3.71	3	Over	.226
6. Go out of their way to assist the parolee to adjust	4.27	5	3.32	9	Under	*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

(a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").

(b) Correlation (Pearson *r*) between parole officer job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

(CONTINUED)

TABLE 5.5B (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
7. Set behavioral standards for each parolee which he can understand and fulfill	4.30	3	3.73	2		.151
8. Identify with the parolee rather than with the "establishment"	3.76	9.5	3.13	10		.206
When appearing in court as a witness, parole officers:						
9. Slant their testimony to support their own position	2.00	12	2.95	12		*
When participating in community relations and education programs, parole officers:						
10. Seek public support for the policy of rehabilitation as opposed to punishment for parolees.	3.95	8	3.34	8		.210
11. Use such occasions to identify potential employers for parolees . . .	3.76	9.5	3.37	7		.154
12. Seek the aid and cooperation of public and private service organizations for rehabilitation of parolees.	4.11	7	3.38	6		.414

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
 Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

(a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").

(b) Correlation (Pearson r) between parole officer job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

TABLE 5.5C

DESIRABILITY AND PROBABILITY OF SELECTED CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS ACTIONS: ADULTS STATEWIDE

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
In the general performance of their duties, correctional officers:						
1. Permit inmates to be with their wives in private for conjugal visits	3.52	10	2.65	12		*
2. Are capable of recognizing and handling persons with emotional disorders	4.25	2	3.32	4		.289
3. Take every opportunity to prevent the occurrence of crime	4.36	1	3.45	3		*
4. Permit a prisoner's racial origin to impair their objectivity	1.90	14	3.02	10	Over	.161
When holding an accused person in jail, correctional officers:						
5. Treat the accused person as if he were innocent	3.86	6	2.63	13	Under	.123

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

- (a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").
- (b) Correlation (Pearson r) between correctional officer job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

(CONTINUED)

TABLE 5.5C (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
When supervising prisoners in a correctional facility, correctional officers:						
6. Treat prisoners with courtesy and respect	3.94	5	2.99	11	Under	*
7. Use force when individual prisoners refuse to obey reasonable orders and other methods have failed	3.47	11	3.75	1	Over	.123
8. Report prisoner grievances to the proper authorities	4.18	3	3.13	7.5	Under	*
9. Give prisoners the maximum freedom possible within the institution's rules	3.85	7	3.13	7.5		*
10. Tolerate homosexual practices	1.94	13	2.58	14		*
11. Treat prisoners severely; show them that prison is not a resort	2.65	12	3.17	6	Over	.297
When participating in community relations and education programs, correctional officers:						
12. Use such occasions to identify potential employers for inmates	3.54	9	3.07	9		*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
 Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

(a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability, which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").
 (b) Correlator (Pearson r) between correctional officer job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

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TABLE 5.5C (CONTINUED)

SITUATION AND ACTION	DESIRABILITY		PROBABILITY		DISCREPANCY IN EMPHASIS (a)	CORRELATION WITH JOB RATING (b)
	MEAN	RANK	MEAN	RANK		
13. Seek public support for the policy of rehabilitation as opposed to punishment for prisoners.	3.78	8	3.30	5		.144
14. Seek the aid and cooperation of public and private service organizations for rehabilitation of inmates	4.11	4	3.46	2		*

Mean: average rating on a five-point scale on which very desirable/probable = 5 and very undesirable/improbable = 1.
 Number of respondents: 354 to 372 per item.

- (a) Discrepancies in rank between Desirability and Probability which indicate activities that are receiving more emphasis than most people think warranted ("over") or less emphasis than is warranted ("under").
- (b) Correlation (Pearson r) between correctional officer job rating and respondent desirability by probability score in which highest values were assigned to High D/High P responses, next highest to High D/Low P; next highest to Low D/Low P, and lowest values to Low D/High P responses. See Appendix A for description of procedures.

* Correlation too low to be significant.

APPENDICES

Appendix A

THE SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Overview of the Survey Method

This public opinion survey was made by means of interviews with a cross-section sampling of the general public of Texas. In all, 749 personal, in-home interviews were made with persons 18 and older. The survey was designed to produce results that could be projected to the population of the state at large; to this end, it includes a proportionate number of people representing all socio-economic levels, ages, and races.

Interviews were made in the homes of respondents by resident interviewers employed by Field Research Corporation, between January 19 and February 28, 1973.

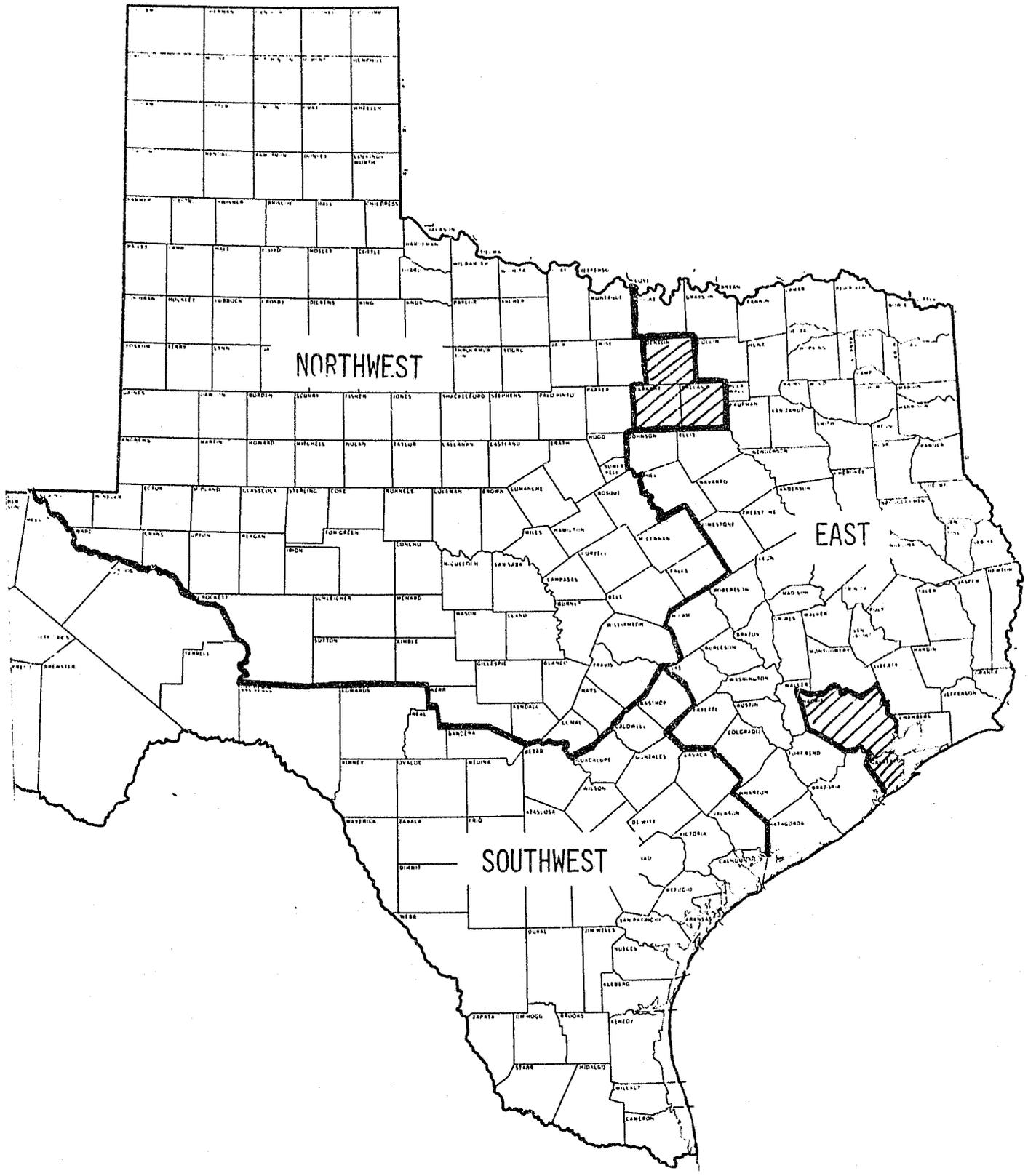
The Sample Design

Field Research Corporation designed a statewide sample of Texas for this project. At the first stage, primary sampling units (PSU's), consisting of census county divisions were selected by a systematic random sampling procedure with probability of selection of any given district being in proportion to its population. Within each selected PSU, three sample clusters were drawn, each one consisting of a group of 10 households. Starting points for the formation of clusters were located by random selection from the current telephone directory covering the PSU. The cluster address listing process was carried out by the interviewers in the field, following a specified procedure. The procedure results in the inclusion of households without telephones as they are encountered in the systematic listing process. (A weighting procedure is applied later, to adjust for variations in telephone density from neighborhood to neighborhood. See below.)

Interviewers made up to three callbacks if necessary in an attempt to obtain an interview at designated households. Within households, an adult respondent was selected by a systematic procedure which called for the interviewer to interview the youngest male adult at home; if no males were at home, then the interview was made with the oldest female at home. This manner of respondent selection is not a probability model, but has proved to be an efficient way to obtain a range of respondent age and sex groups that conforms quite closely to the census population distribution by sex and age. Any imbalances in the distribution of the sample by age and sex are corrected by weighting, as described below.

Sample Weighting

Two stages of weighting were used in the process of arriving at a working sample that is adjusted for telephone directory sampling bias, and which is aligned with known sex and age population parameters. The first stage of weighting corrects for variable telephone density from neighborhood to neighborhood, a fact which tends to bias the initial probability of selection of cluster starting addresses. For example, neighborhoods within a directory area which have a low proportion of households listed in the current directory (whether because of absence of telephone altogether or because of a high proportion of unlisted numbers) will have less chance to be selected as cluster sites, while neighborhoods with proportionately more listed telephones per household will have a greater probability of falling into the sample. This probability bias is corrected through a process which assigns a weight to each cluster of interviews which is inversely proportional to the density of listed telephone



NORTHWEST

EAST

SOUTHWEST

homes encountered in the cluster. This procedure results in an adjusted sample in which non-telephone and non-listed telephone homes are represented in their proper proportions.*

A second weighting stage was next applied to the adjusted sample resulting from the first stage weighting described above. The original sample is designed to be self-weighting, i.e., proportionate to population, but variations from ideal fulfillment occur due to operational factors, such as the age/sex respondent selection procedure, and to variable completion rates. The second stage of weighting, therefore, adjusts the sample to fit basic major population ratios of age, sex, and area of the state. The final "corrected sample" is closely aligned with major population parameters, as the data in Table A show:

Table A
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SAMPLE

Characteristics:	1970 Census	Raw Sample	Corrected Sample
East Texas			
Metro Area . . . . .	.36.0	31.4	36.2
Other . . . . .	.19.9	22.3	19.8
Northwest Texas . . . . .	.21.9	24.8	22.0
Southwest Texas . . . . .	.22.2	21.4	22.0
Sex:			
Male . . . . .	.47.9	45.7	47.8
Female . . . . .	.52.1	54.3	52.2
Age:			
18-24 . . . . .	.19.2	20.6	19.2
25-44 . . . . .	.37.3	40.7	37.1
45-59 . . . . .	.23.6	19.6	23.6
60 and over . . . . .	.19.9	18.8	19.8
Not reported	-	.3	.2
Race/ethnicity:			
Mexican, other Latin American . . . . .	.14.5	11.9	13.7
Negro/Black . . . . .	.11.5	7.2	8.5
Tenure			
Own . . . . .	.64.6	70.5	65.6
Rent . . . . .	.35.4	28.4	33.6
Not reported	-	1.1	.8

Note: Percentages within categories may not add exactly to 100% because of rounding.

*This sampling procedure and the weighting correction is based on a design concept originated by the late J. Stevens Stock of Market-Math, Inc.

Interviewer Training and Supervision

A total of 55 resident interviewers were employed on this survey. Each interviewer was provided with detailed written instructions for administering the survey questionnaire, and her work was carefully checked while in progress. When completed, each interviewer's work was verified by supervisors who re-contacted a sample of respondents to assure that the interview reports were authentic and accurate. No work was accepted which did not meet stringent standards of fidelity and completeness.

Field Interviewing Results

In total, 1,605 households were visited by the field interviewers employed on this survey. Contact could not be made with 502, or 31%, of the households because of persistent not-at-homeness, illness in the home, language barriers, and inaccessible residences. From the remaining households, interviews were completed with 749 adult persons. Table B shows the disposition of household calls in detail.

Table B
RESULTS OF FIELD INTERVIEWING

	Number	Per cent
Total households in sample	1605	100.0
No one at home or no adult reached after three callbacks	374	23.3
Illness in the family	65	4.1
Language barrier	45	2.8
Inaccessible household	18	1.1
Refused interview (unwilling, too busy) . . .	310	19.3
Began but did not complete interview . . .	44	2.7
Interview completed in household	749	46.7

Questionnaire Processing

Completed questionnaires were returned to Field Research Corporation's central data processing facility in San Francisco, where they were edited for consistency and completeness, and where open-end question responses were read and coded for tabulation. The processed questionnaires were then keypunched. Four data cards for each survey respondent were required to record all of the questionnaire and rating booklet data obtained. Before being tabulated, these data decks were subjected to a computerized logical consistency and completeness check.

The statistical data were obtained by computer tabulation using special programs designed for processing questionnaire survey data. Basic tabulations were prepared on Field Research Corporation's in-house IBM 1130 computing system, and additional tabulations and the correlation analysis were performed on a CDC 6400 computing system.

Estimates of Sampling Error

All surveys based on probability sample of human populations are subject to some degree of error tolerance due to random sampling variability. The extent of this variability in a particular survey can be assessed through the use of a technique known as "replicating sampling."* This procedure utilizes data generated by the survey itself to estimate empirically the amount of sampling variability in the data. Table C shows the tolerance limits for data from this survey, calculated at the 95% confidence level. The figures in the table indicate the plus or minus range within which one can have 95% confidence that the "true value" of a given statistic would be found if the whole population were to be surveyed. For example, 51% of the adult sample said

*W. Edwards Deming, *Sample Designs in Business Research* (New York: Wiley, 1960) pp. 87-101.

they believed that the danger of crime "has become greater compared to a year ago." In Table C it will be seen that statistics based on the (weighted) sample of 749 persons which have a frequency near 50-50% are subject to a tolerance range of plus or minus 4 percentage points. Thus, we are 95% certain that if we had interviewed all adults in Texas, we would have obtained a "true value" for this statistic somewhere in the range between 47% and 55%.

Table C
TABLE OF SAMPLING TOLERANCES AT 95% CONFIDENCE LEVEL

Sample Base	Percentage Division of Replies					
	50-50	60-40	70-30	80-20	90-10	95-5
50	16	15	14	13	9	7
100	11	11	10	9	7	5
150	9	9	8	7	5	4
200	8	8	7	6	5	3
250	7	7	6	6	4	3
300	6	6	6	5	4	3
350	6	6	5	5	4	3
400	6	5	5	4	3	2
500	5	5	5	4	3	2
600	5	4	4	4	3	2
700	4	4	4	3	3	2
800	4	4	4	3	2	2

CJS Role Survey Item Booklets

It was desired to have members of the general public respond to certain of the same items that are contained in the Role Survey questionnaire which was administered to criminal justice system agency members in California, Texas,

Michigan, and New Jersey. One hundred and six items were selected from the Role Survey as being relevant to the public and were presented to the public opinion survey respondents in Texas in a self-administered questionnaire booklet that was presented to each respondent midway through the personal interview. This part of the questionnaire was filled out by the respondent and returned to the interviewer, at which point the orally administered portion of the interview was resumed. In order to keep the interview length within tolerable limits (i.e., approximately 45 minutes average), it was necessary to divide the Role Survey item list into two matched halves, and to have each respondent make answers to only one-half of the total list of items.

Not every respondent completed a Role Survey rating booklet due to unwillingness or inability to cope with the items. In a few cases the interviewer read the items to persons who could not manage the task themselves. In all, 726 respondents filled out booklets that were acceptable for analysis. A booklet was accepted as "completed" if the respondent was able to respond to items in at least one section of the ratings.

The cover page for the Role Survey booklet items which describes the rating task as it was presented to respondents will be found in Appendix B. The specific items that respondents evaluated are presented in Chapters, Two, Three, Four, and Five.

Socio-Economic Status Scale

A scale of "socio-economic status" was formed out of respondents' answers to three questions: income, occupation, and employment status. Table D below shows the class positions assigned to various combinations of characteristics.

Table D

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS SCALE#

Occupation of chief earner	Income quartile*	Self-employed	Work for other	Retired, student, unempl.
Professional, technical	IV	U	U	-
	III	U	UM	-
	II	UM	LM	-
	I	LM	LM	-
Managers, proprietors, officials	IV	U	U	-
	III	U	UM	-
	II	UM	LM	-
	I	LM	LM	-
Clerical, white collar	IV	U	UM	-
	III	UM	UM	-
	II	LM	LM	-
	I	L	L	-
Sales	IV	U	UM	-
	III	UM	UM	-
	II	LM	LM	-
	I	L	L	-
Foreman, skilled manual workers	IV	UM	UM	-
	III	LM	LM	-
	II	LM	L	-
	I	L	L	-
Operatives, semi-skilled	IV	UM	LM	-
	III	LM	LM	-
	II	L	L	-
	I	L	L	-
Service workers	IV	LM	LM	-
	III	L	L	-
	II	L	L	-
	I	L	L	-

(continued)

Table D (cont.)

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS SCALE#

Occupation of chief earner	Income quartile*	Self-employed	Work for other	Retired, Student, unempl.
Laborer, unskilled manuals	IV	LM	LM	-
	III	L	L	-
	II	L	L	-
	I	L	L	-
Student, unemployed	IV	-	-	LM
	III	-	-	LM
	II	-	-	L
	I	-	-	L
Retired	IV	-	-	UM
	III	-	-	LM
	II	-	-	L
	I	-	-	L

*IV = \$15,000 plus
 III = \$8,500 - \$14,999
 II = \$4,800 - \$8,499
 I = Under \$4,799

#U = Upper SES
 UM = Upper middle SES
 LM = Lower middle SES
 L = Lower SES

Desirability and Probability Scoring

Each respondent was asked to give desirability and probability responses to a number of Role Survey items that were contained in the special self-administered questionnaire booklets. In order to facilitate the analysis of these items a rescoring procedure was adopted which provided a single index number indicating the degree of discrepancy between the respondent's perception of the desirability of an action and his assessment of the frequency with which he considered it likely to occur, and the direction of the discrepancy. The new scoring scheme provides for assignment of increasing weight to a response as the perceived probability of occurrence of the behavior increases and/or as its desirability was felt to be increasingly greater or lesser. Items having "in between" desirability were given a neutral or "0" score, regardless of their perceived probability.

Table G shows the scores assigned to each combination of desirability/probability. The properties of the scoring scheme are such that within the "somewhat" desirability levels, probability scores are successively incremented by 2, 3, 4, and 5; and within the "extreme" desirability levels the increments are 3, 4, 5, and 6. Proceeding in the other direction, the increment assigned to greater or lesser desirability levels within levels of probability becomes successively greater (in steps of 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) as a respondent's judgment of probability of occurrence increases.

Table G
DESIRABILITY/PROBABILITY RESCORING SCHEME

	Extremely unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	In-between	Somewhat likely	Extremely likely
Extremely desirable	+2	+5	+9	+14	+20
Somewhat desirable	+1	+3	+6	+10	+15
In-between	0	0	0	0	0
Somewhat undesirable	-1	-3	-6	-10	-15
Extremely undesirable	-2	-5	-9	-14	-20

Appendix B

The Interview Schedules

TEXAS COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY

Hello. I'mof Field Research Corporation, an independent public opinion research company. We're working on a survey throughout the state on public opinion and I'd like to interview you on some questions of interest in your community.

		<u>LENGTH OF TIME LIVED IN--</u>	
		<u>STATE</u>	<u>CITY/TOWN</u>
1a. First of all, how long have you lived in this state, altogether?	LESS THAN 1 YEAR . . . . .	.15	.1
	1 YEAR TO 2.9 YEARS . . . . .	.2	.2
	3 TO 4.9 YEARS . . . . .	.3	.3
1b. How long have you lived here in this city or town?	5 - 9.9 YEARS . . . . .	.4	.4
	10 - 19.9 YEARS . . . . .	.5	.5
	20 YEARS OR LONGER . . . . .	.6	.6

2. What do you feel are the most pressing problems facing the people of this community these days? *Probe:* Any other problems you think are serious?

17/23

	3a. RANKING OF CONCERN	3b. JOB PUBLIC OFFICIALS DOING
3a. Now, this card (CARD A-1) shows a list of some issues that may be of concern to people here. On this list, please tell me which of these things you would rank <u>number one</u> in concern or importance to you today. Which one would you rank <u>number two</u> ? Which one <u>number three</u> ? (<i>Place rank numbers in brackets.</i>)		
Now, which one on that list would you rank lowest in concern or importance to you? Which one would you rank next lowest? Which one would be of least concern after that? (<i>Place numbers in brackets</i>)		
<i>When finished you should have six brackets filled with numbers (1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9) three brackets will be empty.</i>		
3b. Now, I'd like you to give me a rating of what kind of a job you feel the public officials in this city or town are doing in dealing with <u>each</u> of these problems. Use this card (A-2) to give me your rating of the public officials. (<i>Record number of answer in brackets under 3b.</i>)		
a. Transportation facilities for this community	[] 24	[] 33
b. Providing high quality public schools in this district	[] 25	[] 34
c. Protecting citizens against burglary and theft in this part of town	[] 26	[] 35
d. Protecting citizens against criminal violence on the streets of this community.	[] 27	[] 36
e. Providing medical and health services needed by citizens of this community	[] 28	[] 37
f. Providing equal justice in the courts for all people of this community	[] 29	[] 38
g. Controlling and reducing air and water pollution in this community	[] 30	[] 39
h. Rehabilitation of criminal offenders who are being released into the community on probation or parole	[] 31	[] 40
i. Dealing with unemployment and poverty	[] 32	[] 41

4. Are you a member of any social or fraternal clubs, or labor union, a business association, or a professional association? (If Yes) Are you extremely active, moderately active, or not too active in these? (If active in more than one, answer for one most active in)

NOT A MEMBER1⁴²
 NOT TOO ACTIVE2
 MODERATELY ACTIVE3
 EXTREMELY ACTIVE4

5. Are you a member of any civic action organizations or civic improvement club? (If Yes) Are you extremely active, moderately active, or not too active?

NOT A MEMBER1⁴³
 NOT TOO ACTIVE2
 MODERATELY ACTIVE3
 EXTREMELY ACTIVE4

6. Are you registered to vote? (If Yes) Besides voting, are you extremely active, moderately active, or not too active in political affairs, such as working on campaigns, attending meetings, and so on?

NOT REGISTERED1⁴⁴
 NOT TOO ACTIVE2
 MODERATELY ACTIVE3
 EXTREMELY ACTIVE4

	A.	B.	C.
	Has happened within five years	Within past year	Most likely
7. Next, I'm going to show you a list of things that sometimes happen to people and I'd like you to look it over for a moment. (Hand over Card C and permit respondent to read it through. If respondent has trouble reading or understanding it, read it aloud for him or her.)			
A. Would you tell me, please, whether any of these things have ever happened to you or to members of your household within the past five years? (If Yes, ask): Which ones? Any others? (Circle code(s) under A)			
B. (For each circled in A) Was this within the past year, or was it longer ago than that? (Circle under B)			
C. Of course, no one likes to think about being victimized, but sometimes it happens. I'd like you to tell me which one of the crimes on that list you think <u>might</u> be the most likely one to happen to you? (Circle under C)			
1) ARSON	1 ⁴⁵	1 ⁴⁷	1 ⁴⁹
2) ASSAULT	2	2	2
3) AUTO OFFENSES	3	3	3
4) BRIBERY	4	4	4
5) BURGLARY	5	5	5
6) CAR THEFT	6	6	6
7) CONSUMER FRAUD	7	7	7
8) EMBEZZLEMENT	8	8	8
9) FORGERY/FRAUD	9	9	9
10) LARCENY	0	0	0
11) MALICIOUS MISCHIEF/ VANDALISM	1 ⁴⁶	1 ⁴⁸	1 ⁵⁰
12) RAPE/CHILD MOLESTING	2	2	2
13) ROBBERY	3	3	3
14) OTHER (specify) _____	4	4	4
NONE OF THESE	Y	Y	Y

8. Have there been any times recently when you might have wanted to go somewhere in town, but you stayed at home because you thought it would be unsafe to go there?

YES1⁵¹
 NO2

9. Compared to other parts of this (city/town/area), how likely is a person around here to be a victim of a crime--a lot more likely, somewhat more likely, somewhat less likely, or a lot less likely?

LOT MORE LIKELY1⁵²
 SOMEWHAT MORE LIKELY2
 ABOUT THE SAME, NO DIFFERENCE3
 SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY4
 LOT LESS LIKELY5
 DON'T KNOW6

10. Compared with a year ago, do you feel that the danger from crime of all kinds in this city or town has become greater or has it become less?

GREATER1⁵³
 ABOUT SAME2
 LESS3
 DON'T KNOW4

11. Now, I have some more statements that I'd like to see whether you agree or disagree with. As I read each one, please use this card (CARD B) and tell me which answer best fits how you feel about it?

	<u>AGREE</u> <u>STRONGLY</u>	<u>AGREE</u>	<u>DK,</u> <u>NOT</u> <u>SURE</u>	<u>DISAGREE</u>	<u>DISAGREE</u> <u>STRONGLY</u>
1) The crime problem would be reduced if fewer offenders were sent to prison and instead more of them re-educated and readjusted outside of prison . . . . .	.5 ⁵⁴	4	3	2	1
2) Courts these days are too lenient in the sentences they pass on criminal lawbreakers . . . . .	.5 ⁵⁵	4	3	2	1
3) Experience proves that harsh punishment does not deter most criminal behavior . . . . .	.5 ⁵⁶	4	3	2	1
4) Prisoners scheduled for parole should be given 2 or 3 day furloughs before their formal release to give them a chance to find a job and place to live when they are finally released . . . . .	.5 ⁵⁷	4	3	2	1
5) Prisoners with a record of good behavior should be permitted to go into the community from time to time for short periods to take care of pressing personal business . . . . .	.5 ⁵⁸	4	3	2	1
6) Once a person convicted of a crime fulfills his sentence, he should be treated no differently from any other citizen . . . . .	.5 ⁵⁹	4	3	2	1
7) The police are more likely to arrest a person who displays what they consider to be a bad attitude . . . . .	.5 ⁶⁰	4	3	2	1
8) The police become personally familiar with residents of the neighborhoods they patrol . . . . .	.5 ⁶¹	4	3	2	1
9) The police encourage people in the community to help them in providing law enforcement services . . . . .	.5 ⁶²	4	3	2	1
10) Police officers do not give my neighborhood as good services as they do other parts of town . . . . .	.5 ⁶³	4	3	2	1
11) Police administrators assign enough minority group officers to minority neighborhoods . . . . .	.5 ⁶⁴	4	3	2	1
12) A citizen who has a complaint against a police officer will have a hard time getting the authorities to look into the matter . . . . .	.5 ⁶⁵	4	3	2	1
13) The police don't give people enough follow-up information about what's happening to their cases . . . . .	.5 ⁶⁶	4	3	2	1
14) The police often use excessive force in making arrests . . . . .	.5 ⁶⁷	4	3	2	1
15) To do a policeman's job well today, a person really needs a college education . . . . .	.5 ⁶⁸	4	3	2	1
16) Policemen should be given paid leave time to attend college courses . . . . .	.5 ⁶⁹	4	3	2	1
17) Policemen who take college courses should qualify for higher pay brackets . . . . .	.5 ⁷⁰	4	3	2	1

12. Now, I have some questions about the different people and agencies that make up the criminal justice system of police, courts, and corrections. I'd like you to tell me which of the answer categories on this card (CARD A-2) best fits your opinion about the kind of job that each of these agencies is doing. Here is the first one--

	<u>EXTREMELY GOOD</u>	<u>VERY GOOD</u>	<u>SOME- WHAT GOOD</u>	<u>NEUTRAL</u>	<u>SOME- WHAT POOR</u>	<u>VERY POOR</u>	<u>EXTREMELY POOR</u>
A. The <u>police department</u> that serves this area--what kind of a job would you say they are doing?7 ¹⁵		6	5	4	3	2	1
B. The <u>prosecuting attorney</u> and his staff who have the job of prosecuting cases where people have been charged with breaking laws-- what kind of a job are they doing?7 ¹⁶		6	5	4	3	2	1
C. The <u>judges</u> who preside over the courts in this community--what kind of a job do you feel they are doing?7 ¹⁷		6	5	4	3	2	1
D. The <u>defense attorneys</u> appointed by the court to represent people who have been accused of crimes-- what kind of job do you feel they are doing?7 ¹⁸		6	5	4	3	2	1
E. <u>Probation officers</u> whose job it is to investigate and to supervise juveniles and adults who have been in trouble with the law and who receive suspended sentences or are placed on probation--what is your impression of the job Probation Officers are doing?7 ¹⁹		6	5	4	3	2	1
F. <u>Parole officers</u> whose job it is to supervise juveniles and adults who have served part of their sentences and who have been allowed to leave correctional institutions on parole--what is your impression of the job Parole officers are doing?. .7 ²⁰		6	5	4	3	2	1
G. <u>Correctional officers</u> whose job it is to supervise prisoners while they are in jails, prisons or other correctional facilities--what is your impression of the job Correctional Officers are doing?. . .7 ²¹		6	5	4	3	2	1

13. Next, I have a booklet here in which you can fill out your own ratings of several of the different agencies making up what is called the Criminal Justice System--that is, the courts, the law enforcement agencies, and the correctional institutions. (Hand over booklet and a pencil)

Here's how you fill these items out--
(Show respondent how to fill out example)
Stand by to answer questions or offer assistance if respondent seems to need it.

Remind respondent of these things as he starts, and once or twice at intervals as he is working through the examples:

1. Please answer each item to the best of your ability. There are no "right" or "wrong" answers--we just want your frank and honest opinions.

2. Remember to check two answers for each item:

First, how desirable you think it is that the action described in the item be done, and

Second, how often you think it happens the way the item describes it.

If you really can't answer an item, just leave it blank and go on to the next one. Try to answer each one, however.

14. Have you ever received a notice that you were being called to serve on jury duty?

YES 1²²
NO X

(If Yes):

A. Have you ever served as a juror in a criminal case, that is, where someone was being tried for a felony or for some other crime that involved a possible prison sentence?

YES 1²³
NO X

15. Have you ever been in court for any reason (besides being on a jury)?

YES 1²⁴
NO X

(If Yes):

A. When you have been in court, were you personally involved as one of the parties in the case, as a witness, as a spectator or what? (Multiple answers O.K.)

PARTY IN CASE 1²⁵
WITNESS 2
SPECTATOR. 3
OTHER _____ . 0

B. When you have been in court, was it because of a traffic incident, a criminal case, or some civil matter? (Multiple answers O.K.)

TRAFFIC INCIDENT 1²⁶
CRIMINAL CASE. 2
CIVIL MATTER 3
OTHER _____ . 0

16A. Do you happen to know anyone who is a policeman or policewoman?

YES 1²⁷
NO X

(If Yes):

Is that person a close friend or relative? (If No) Do you know that person well enough to call him by name if you met him on the street?

FRIEND OR RELATIVE 1²⁸
COULD CALL BY NAME 2
COULD NOT CALL BY NAME . . 3

B. Do you happen to know anyone who is a prosecuting attorney?

YES 1²⁹
NO X

(If Yes):

Is that person a close friend or relative? (If No) Do you know that person well enough to call him by name if you met him on the street?

FRIEND OR RELATIVE 1³⁰
COULD CALL BY NAME 2
COULD NOT CALL BY NAME . . 3

C. Do you happen to know anyone who is a judge?

YES 1³¹
NO X

(If Yes):

Is that person a close friend or relative? (If No) Do you know that person well enough to call him by name if you met him on the street?

FRIEND OR RELATIVE 1³²
COULD CALL BY NAME 2
COULD NOT CALL BY NAME . . 3

D. Do you happen to know anyone who is a court-appointed defense attorney?

YES 1³³
NO X

(If Yes):

Is that person a close friend or relative? (If No) Do you know that person well enough to call him by name if you met him on the street?

FRIEND OR RELATIVE 1³⁴
COULD CALL BY NAME 2
COULD NOT CALL BY NAME . . 3

E. Do you happen to know anyone who is a probation officer?

YES 1³⁵
NO X

(If Yes):

Is that person a close friend or relative? (If No) Do you know that person well enough to call him by name if you met him on the street?

FRIEND OR RELATIVE. 1³⁶
COULD CALL BY NAME 2
COULD NOT CALL BY NAME . . 3

F. Do you happen to know anyone who is a parole officer?

YES 1³⁷
NO X

(If Yes):

Is that person a close friend or relative?
(If No) Do you know that person well enough to call him by name if you met him on the street?

FRIEND OR RELATIVE . . . 1³⁸
COULD CALL BY NAME . . . 2
COULD NOT CALL BY NAME . 3

G. Do you happen to know anyone who is a correctional officer, that is a guard or other person who works in a jail, or prison, or correctional facility?

YES 1³⁹
NO X

(If Yes):

Is that person a close friend or relative?
(If No) Do you know that person well enough to call him by name if you met him on the street?

FRIEND OR RELATIVE . . . 1⁴⁰
COULD CALL BY NAME . . . 2
COULD NOT CALL BY NAME . 3

17. Have you ever been stopped and questioned by a policeman for anything in the past five years or so?

YES 1⁴¹
NO X

(If Yes):

A. Was that for a traffic incident or was it for something else?

TRAFFIC INCIDENT . . 1⁴²
SOMETHING ELSE . . . 2

18. Have you ever been taken to the police station for anything in the past several years?

YES 1⁴³
NO X

(If Yes):

A. Were you under arrest or were you appearing at the station for some other purpose?

ARREST 1⁴⁴
OTHER PURPOSE 2

19. Has anyone in your family, or a close friend ever been taken to the police station for anything in the past several years?

YES 1⁴⁵
NO X

(If Yes):

A. Was this person under arrest, or was he appearing at the station for some other reason?

ARREST 1⁴⁶
OTHER REASON 2

20. Do you happen to know anyone personally who has served time in a county jail, a state prison, or other correctional institution?

YES 1⁴⁷
NO X

(If Yes):

A. Is that a close friend, or is it someone you don't know too well?

CLOSE FRIEND . . . 1⁴⁸
DON'T KNOW WELL. . . 2
OTHER _____ . 3

21. What is your occupation, please? Not where you work, but the kind of work you do and the type of business or industry that it is in?

A. RESPONDENT: _____ 49
(type of work)

(type of business or industry)

B. (If Housewife, Student or Retired)
What is the occupation of the chief earner in this household?

CHIEF EARNER: _____ 50
(type of work)

(type of business or industry)

22. Does the chief earner work for someone else, or is he (she) self-employed?

WORK FOR SOMEONE ELSE . . . 1⁵¹
SELF-EMPLOYED 2
RETIRED, STUDENT,
NOT WORKING. 3

23. What is your age, please?
- 18 - 201 52
 - 21 - 242
 - 25 - 293
 - 30 - 344
 - 35 - 395
 - 40 - 446
 - 45 - 497
 - 50 - 548
 - 55 - 599
 - 60 - 640
 - 65 OR OVER.X

24. What was the last grade you completed in school?
- 8TH OR LESS1 53
 - 9TH - 11TH GRADE2
 - 12TH GRADE (H.S. COMPLETED)3
 - 1-2 YEARS TECHNICAL OR TRADE SCHOOL4
 - 1 YEAR COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.5
 - 2 YEARS COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY6
 - 3 YEARS COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY7
 - 4 YEARS COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY8
 - 5 OR MORE YEARS9

25. Just for classification purposes, we'd like to have a rough idea of your total family income here. I don't need an exact figure, but would you please look at this card and tell me which amount shown here comes closest to the total yearly income of this household, before taxes. (CARD D)
- A. UNDER \$3,0001 54
 - B. \$3,000 - \$4,7992
 - C. \$4,800 - \$6,4993
 - D. \$6,500 - \$7,4994
 - E. \$7,500 - \$8,4995
 - F. \$8,500 - \$11,9996
 - G. \$12,000 - \$14,9997
 - H. \$15,000 - \$19,9998
 - I. \$20,000 - \$22,9999
 - J. \$23,000 AND OVER0

NOT REPORTED (Interviewer estimate group)

26. Do you own or rent this dwelling?
- OWN1 55
 - RENT2

27. How many times have you changed your address during the past five years?
- NO CHANGE1 56
 - ONCE2
 - TWICE3
 - THREE TIMES4
 - FOUR OR MORE TIMES5

28. Is there a private telephone in this residence?
- YES1 57
 - NOX

(If Yes):

- A. Is your telephone number listed in the current telephone directory?
- YES1 58
 - NO2
 - DON'T KNOW.Y

(If "No" or "DK"):

- B. Is that because you have only had your telephone connected since the current directory was issued, or is this an unlisted number?
- INSTALLED SINCE CURRENT DIRECTORY.1 59
 - UNLISTED NUMBER2

29. Counting yourself, how many people live in this household?
- TOTAL _____ 60

- A. How many are 18 years of age or older?
- 18+ _____ 61

30. Do you happen to be of Mexican, Puerto Rican, or other Latin American descent?

(If Yes):

- MEXICAN1 62
- PUERTO RICAN2
- OTHER LATIN AMERICAN3

(If No):

- NEGRO/BLACK4
- ORIENTAL5
- WHITE6
- OTHER (specify) _____ . 7

Classify by Observation:

SEX OF RESPONDENT:	
MALE	1 ⁶³
FEMALE	2

Now, just so my supervisor can verify my work, would you please tell me your name?

Mr. []
Mrs. []
Miss [] _____ (first name) (last name)

Address: _____ (number) (street)

City or Area Name: _____ State: _____

Telephone number where respondent can be reached: _____ (area code) (number)

Date completed: _____
Time completed interview: _____ ^{AM}
Total time: _____ (minutes)

I hereby certify this to be a true and accurate account of this interview:

INTERVIEWER SIGNATURE: _____ (full name, please)

OFFICE USE ONLY

VERIFIED BY: _____
DATE: _____ AM
TIME: _____ PM
COMMENTS:

COUNTY 64/65
CLUSTER NUMBER 66/68

