



Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2020

CONTACT: SHEILA JERUSALEM, 202-598-0793
SHEILA.JERUSALEM@OJP.USDOJ.GOV

*****PUBLICATION ADVISORY*****

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE EXAMINES GANG RESEARCH TO ADDRESS DOMESTIC EXTREMISM

WASHINGTON – The Office of Justice Programs’ National Institute of Justice today published an article detailing recent NIJ-funded research, which suggests that community-focused gang programs do not help communities build resilience to emerging homegrown violent extremism because gang members and domestic extremists have too few commonalities.

According to NIJ Director David Muhlhausen, “Research has shown us a lot about the workings of criminal gangs and the traits of gang members, and that knowledge has informed anti-gang programs. There was a question about whether gang research and programs would translate to homegrown violent extremists, however, this research suggests that the differences between these groups will call for tailored solutions.”

With NIJ support, the University of Maryland’s National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism analyzed demographic traits of gang members and domestic extremists and differences between the groups to find better solutions to violent extremism. The research also examined distinguishing factors of the groups such as comparative strength of community, family connections and reliance on social media.

TITLE: *Gangs vs. Extremists: Solutions for Gangs May Not Work Against Extremism*

AUTHOR: National Institute of Justice

HERE: <https://nij.ojp.gov/topics/articles/gangs-vs-extremists-solutions-gangs-may-not-work-against-extremism>

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The Office of Justice Programs, directed by Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

Katharine T. Sullivan, provides federal leadership, grants, training and technical assistance, and other resources to improve the nation's capacity to prevent and reduce crime, assist victims and enhance the rule of law by strengthening the criminal and juvenile justice systems. More information about OJP and its components can be found at www.ojp.gov.

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