Evidence and Insight Horizon Scan (July-September 2019)

Overview

The Evidence and Insight (E&I) Horizon Scan reviews published academic studies and other research reports relevant to the Mayor's 2017-21 Police and Crime Plan priorities for London. This latest version of the Scan examines publications from the period July–September 2019.

Methods

A scan of published research was undertaken using key search terms to reflect Police and Crime Plan (PCP) priority areas. *CrimPapers* weekly bulletins was the primary source used to highlight relevant publications in the reporting period. Publications were identified based on title and abstract relevance to the PCP, methodological quality, empirical findings, and potential for practical learning and application. The initial searches identified a 'long list' of articles which were then examined in greater detail to produce a final shortlist of 64. Abstracts for these are included in the Appendices (page 3 onwards).
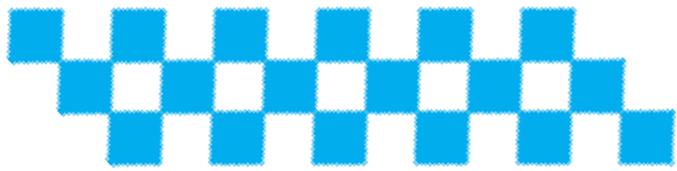
Of the 64 studies in the shortlist, 35 are from the USA or Canada, 17 the UK, 2 from Australia, 5 from continental Europe, while 5 are either systematic reviews or combine results from multiple locations.

Using the Horizon Scan

The Horizon Scan document includes a summary sheet (page 2) which provides headline findings for the most pertinent studies. Each of the studies in the summary is individually numbered - clicking on these numbers automatically takes you to the relevant abstract in the Appendices. For ease of identification, the studies that appear in the summary sheet are shaded in grey in the Appendices.

The references section at the end of this document lists full publication details for all 64 studies. Each study is hyperlinked to the relevant journal page or organisational website where it was originally published.

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Horizon Scan – July-Sept 2019

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A Better Police Service for London

1 Community Engagement and Police Operations

An **intervention to centralise community engagement** within Durham Constabulary operations showed:

Increased…
- Local area power
- Confidence in police
- Social capital

Decreased….
- Fear of crime
- ASB

2 Police Officer Misconduct

An investigation into the **misconduct** of 8,642 **Chicago Police Officers** found that officers learned to use **excessive use of force** through **exposure to peers** engaged in similar behaviour.

3 Mental Health Triage

A systematic review of 47 **mental health triage schemes** highlighted the breadth of current provision.

Analysis showed variations in: **information sharing**, **training** and **activity** during and post-triage response.

Three American studies examined the role of **police investigative** effort/resource in solving crime.

4 MPS Recorded Kidnaps

Analysis of 924 MPS recorded **kidnap crimes** categorised cases into various sub-types. Most common were **gangland/drugs-related** kidnappings (40.5% of all cases) and **domestic or familial-related** (21% of the caseload).

There have been a number of studies examining the impact various factors have on **eyewitness accuracy and recall.**

5 Victim Risk Assessment

A review of the **DASH risk assessment** suggests the tool does not enable police officers to **identify high-risk** revictimization or recidivism cases. Officers focus on the characteristics of the immediate incident, which have been shown to be **poorer predictors** of recidivism.

6 Repeat Reports of Missing Children

75% of **missing child reports** from one UK Police Service were **repeat cases**. Notably, **4%** of repeatedly missing children accounted for **1/3** of all reports.

Repeat missing children are often:
- Teenagers
- In care
- Substance dependent

7 Characteristics of Homicide

Based on victim, offender, and incident characteristics, a Scottish study identified **four subtypes of homicide** (stabbing, bludgeoning, rivalry and domestic).

Notably, there was a **significant decrease in rivalry homicides** over the 15 year review period.

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8 Restrictive Housing in Prison

A study of 4,000 matched inmates showed those placed in **restrictive housing** (i.e. solitary confinement) had, post-prison release, **higher** levels of recidivism and **committed more new crimes** than those not placed in restrictive housing.

Multiple articles have explored the impact on **disciplinary segregation** in prisons on reoffending.

9 Comparing Rates of Recidivism

A **comparison of recidivism outcomes** of formerly incarcerated individuals released from Florida prisons, found **immigrants were less likely to reoffend** than native born offenders.

Keeping Children and Young People Safe

10 Parent-Child Offending Influence

A US study of parent-child pairs found that a child's contact with the **police** on **subsequent offending** was greater when a **parent had an arrest history.** The correlation endured irrespective of when the most recent arrest occurred in the child's life.

11 Child Trafficking Guardians

An evaluation of dedicated **'Independent Child Trafficking Guardians'** in the UK, showed three areas of added value to the service provision for **child survivors** of trafficking:

1. **Building trust with children**
2. **Providing advocacy work**
3. **Specialist professional knowledge**

12 Child Maltreatment in the Family

A systematic review of 51 studies found: **parental characteristics** (e.g. mental health & age), **childhood adversity, relational** (e.g. attachment & social support) **& contextual** (e.g. disadvantage & community support) factors contribute to continued **child-maltreatment** through the family.
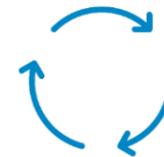
13 Sexting in the UK

A questionnaire of **UK victims** aged 16 and under found adults **'sext'** to **sexually engage with minors.**

Notably, **male victims** of sexting face **increased risk** of **perpetrating** this behaviour in adulthood.

Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls

A number of studies discuss the **prevalence of VAWG**. The **CJS response** and **help-seeking** approaches are also discussed.

14 Female Perceptions of VAWG

A study of 39,377 **women** residing in 28 member states of the **European Union** found that **80% of the sample** perceived **violence against women and girls** to be **common** in their country.

15 Inequalities and Rape Cases

A study of **rape cases** within two UK Police Forces found victim-survivors with the following characteristics face inequality across the CJS process:

- **Youth**
- **LGBTQ**
- **BAME**
- **Mental Health**

Hatred, Intolerance and Extremism

16 Modelling Radicalisation

In a German study's attempt to model radicalisation, **individual-level preconditions** (e.g. youth, male, migration background) were consistently present among radicals.

Factors **'fuelling'** the radicalisation process, which increased over time, included:

- **Pursuing individual needs**
- **Strong group commitment**
- **Comfort with violence**

Important note:
This summary provides headline findings from a selection of recent academic studies (published Jul-Sep 2019). If you have any queries about this summary or the Horizon Scan more generally, please email the Evidence and Insight Unit: *evidenceandinsight@mopac.london.gov.uk*
You can also find out more about our work here: *https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/mayors-office-policing-and-crime-mopac/data-and-statistics/academic-research*

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Policing when and where you need it – in your community

1. Policy-makers have called for community engagement to be made central to police operations in England and Wales, yet little empirical investigation has been undertaken in this context to support its efficacy. Lockey *et al.* (2019) use a quasi-experimental research design to review a community engagement intervention that aimed to develop citizens' perceptions of social capital in their community, improve their perceptions of the police, and reduce fear of crime and antisocial behaviour (ASB) incidents. Results indicate that the intervention was successful in meeting its objectives in the area it was trialled, with significant increases in social capital, local area potency, confidence in the police and perceptions of police community focus and decreases in fear of crime and ASB, results which were generally not evident in a control area. The authors conclude that social capital and local area potency are important antecedents of citizens' positive attitudes toward crime and the police.

Most research on communities and crime measures constructs at only one level of aggregation, but this tendency for a singular unit of analysis makes this research susceptible to omitted level bias. Wenger (2019) provides an empirical demonstration of the problem using disadvantage as a focal construct by measuring the construct at three different units of analysis (blocks, tracts and cities) using multilevel analyses of crime-incident data and demographic data from the American Community Survey for 11,072 block groups nested within 3673 tracts in 34 cities for 2005–2009. Results reveal that the association between disadvantage and crime differs by level of aggregation and when more than one measure of disadvantage is accounted for analytically. Furthermore, the association between disadvantage and crime at one level is dependent on the amount of disadvantage at other levels.

Public access and engagement

Martin and Kaminski (2019) applied indicators of social disorganization theory (i.e., concentrated disadvantage, residential instability, and concentrated immigration) to predict officers' use of coercive action during street stops of citizens suspected of criminal activity. They also investigated whether concentrated disadvantage moderated suspects' likelihood of receiving greater levels of police coercive actions when stopped. The data used was from the New York Police Department's Stop, Question, and Frisk Database, 2011 which contains information on 685,724 stops that and which details the events of the stop along with

information regarding neighbourhood structural and demographic characteristics. The analysis found that suspects stopped in areas marked by concentrated disadvantage are less likely to receive higher levels of police coercive action, while suspects stopped in communities marked by higher levels of minority populations are more likely to have force used against them but are less likely to be arrested.

Proponents of the 'Ferguson effect' suggest de-policing – stemming from increased public scrutiny over the death of Michael Brown – is responsible for the recent surge in crime across the United States. A study by Capellan *et al.* (2019) attempted to deconstruct the effects of public scrutiny on crime trends in New York City police precincts over a two-year period (2014–2015). Increased public scrutiny over the death of Michael Brown was measured through two indicators: local news coverage (using New York Times coverage of Michael Brown's death) and local public interest (gauged through the intensity of Google searches for Michael Brown made in New York City over the analysis period). The total number of police stops made by precincts per month was used as a measure of pro-active policing practices. The research found that overall, public scrutiny significantly lowered burglary, motor larceny, weapons possession, and simple assault through its negative effect on police stops, running contrary to the hypothesized Ferguson effect, although not out-of-line with research on policing and crime, which has noted that the incidence of known crime is partially a function of the intensity of policing. Conversely, the study found public scrutiny had a significant positive direct effect on crime rates, but suggests it increased crime through alternative causal processes, not the 'Ferguson effect'. It is posited that lack of public trust in procedural justice may have led individuals from disadvantaged communities to rely on extra-legal methods to solve conflicts, thus leading to violent crime. Results illustrate how both de-policing and a surge in crime can stem from public scrutiny and covary, yet not be causally linked.

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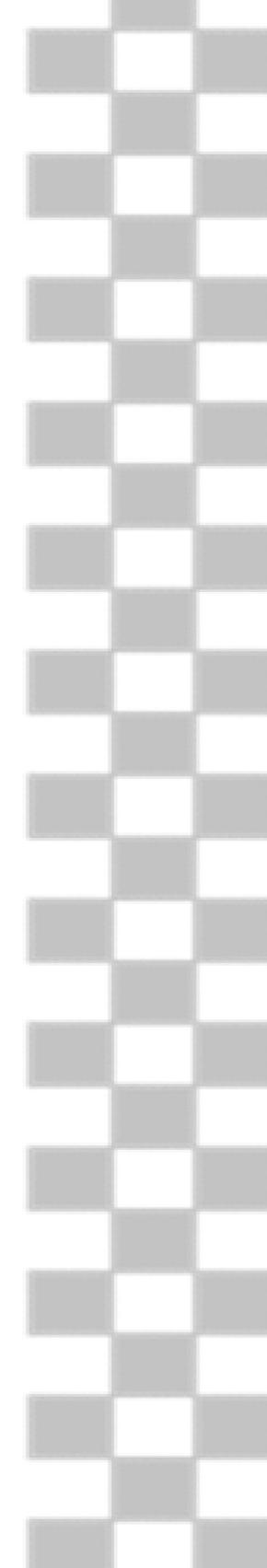
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Rinehart Kochel and Gau (2109) compared the amount of police presence observed by residents versus residents' awareness of and satisfaction with police–community engagement and tactics used as mechanisms for promoting safety, confidence in police, and social cohesion, and ultimately informal social control. Using data from a panel community survey in St Louis, USA in 71 high-crime areas at baseline (March–May 2012), immediately following treatment (November 2012–January 2013), and six to nine months following treatment (May–July 2013) the results suggest that simply seeing the police is not enough, but that the tactics police use in neighbourhoods and most notably, how those strategies are interpreted by residents living there, can be a conduit to facilitate social cohesion and informal social control.

A number of studies used vignette-based methodologies to identify factors impacting on police/public relations. Nix *et al.* (2019) administered three randomized vignettes involving routine police–civilian encounters to 546 officers working in a large city in the southwestern United States. Civilian behaviour was randomised (compliant, bad attitude [compliant but disrespectful], or noncompliant) as was the encounter type (offense-based versus dispatch-initiated). The research found demeanour exerted a large causal effect on what officers thought and felt in police–civilian encounters. In each experiment, civilian hostility and disrespect increased officers' self-reported suspicion, perceived danger, and antagonistic emotions (anger, frustration, and annoyance). In some cases, it also increased their fear.

Research by Flippin *et al.* (2019) used a factorial vignette design and a university-based sample (Arizona State University, n=488) to test the effects of procedurally unfair treatment by 911 dispatchers on behavioural intentions to cooperate with criminal justice professionals. The study used two different vignettes, each of which involved a different type of emergency (a burglary incident and a traffic accident) and two experimental manipulations (procedural injustice and seriousness). Participants who received the injustice stimuli reported they would be less likely to call 911 in the future to report a similar incident, less likely to cooperate with the 911 operator if asked additional questions, and less willing to cooperate with the police once they arrived on the scene. In relative terms, the seriousness of the incident (e.g., amount of property stolen) mattered far less. This study suggests that procedural injustice during 911 calls not only adversely affects dispatchers, but also the police when they arrive on the scene.

Lee *et al.* (2019) explored the predictive effects of three dimensions of residential stability on residents' perception of police trustworthiness after accounting for the effects of individual, attitudinal, and contact variables. Data for the study was from a five-state (Idaho, Montana, South Dakota, Washington, and Wyoming) community policing survey administered in 2001 featuring items regarding citizen's trust in the police, residency within a community, attitudes towards governmental institutions, political ideology, and contacts with the police. Overall, 923 responses were received. Analysis found statistically significant effects for years in the community (the longer an individual stayed in the community, the less trust the person had in the police) and residence (people who lived in in duplex or condos had higher trust in the police than those who had other living arrangements such as a mobile home. However, there was no significant variation in residents' level of trust for those who lived in apartments, single-family homes, and other living arrangements). In addition to the effects of the residential stability variables, five control variables were found to predict trust in the police; residents' education, political ideology, trust in judges, and the two contact variables (good contact positively, and >2 contacts negatively) were all found to influence citizens' levels of trust in the police.

Transforming the Metropolitan Police Service

In a study using a cross-sectional survey of 1,278 adult Dutch-speaking Belgian residents, Adriaenssen *et al.* (2019) investigated the relationship between exposure to overall television content and television news on the one hand, and public crime seriousness perceptions, including the two main components of perceived crime seriousness (perceived wrongfulness and harm severity) on the other. Their findings indicated that overall exposure to television content was not significantly related to perceived crime seriousness, wrongfulness, harm severity, or any of the mediating variables. However, exposure to television news, was both directly and indirectly related to perceived crime seriousness, wrongfulness, and harm severity, suggesting television news exposure as a predictor of people's perceptions of crime seriousness.

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2. Ouellet *et al.* (2019) investigated how police officers' exposure to peers accused of misconduct shaped their involvement in excessive use of force, drawing on 8,642 Chicago police officers named in multiple complaints. Their results showed that officer involvement in excessive use of force complaints was predicted by having a greater proportion of co-accused with a history of such behaviours, suggesting officers' peers may serve as social conduits through which misconduct may be learned and transmitted. The authors conclude that isolating officers that engage in improper use of force, at least until problematic behaviours are addressed, seems to be critical to reducing police misconduct and department-wide citizen complaints.

3. Police routinely encounter individuals experiencing mental distress, despite being ill-equipped to do so. Mental health triage aims to address these concerns. A range of approaches to triage has been introduced; however, no overview exists. Park *et al.* (2019) conducted a systematic scoping review of mental health triage co-responding schemes. Eleven databases were searched to identify the literature; each scheme was charted and described. Thirty-three studies describing 47 schemes were included; 9 described schemes based in the USA, 12 in the UK, 7 in Australia, 4 in Canada, and 1 in France. The article describes the aims of the various schemes, their location, the agencies involved, aspects of training and service delivery, how triage assessment and decision making was undertaken, and details of post-triage follow up. Overall the reported approaches to mental health triage varied, showing 'subtle differences' around the information sharing activities; personnel; and training as well as activity during and after the mental health triage response. However, the article points to weaknesses in the reporting of the schemes in the studies, making it difficult to know whether the differences identified are genuine or simply a result of incomplete reporting.

Miller *et al.* (2019) describe the trialling of neuropsychological trauma processing techniques based on hippocampal-dependent spatial and episodic memory with 71 newly recruited officers (assigned to a trial group of 43 and control group of 28) in a UK police force between March 2018 and February 2019. The trial and control groups were matched for age, gender, previous trauma and current trauma in all training sessions. In each session participants were asked to bring to mind a difficult incident for the purposes of training and applying the mapping and timeline techniques. Key outcome measures comprised feeling at ease about the difficult or traumatic event, ability to shift overhead view (i.e. to apply hippocampal-dependent processing associated with effective trauma

processing) and new recall. Results suggested that officers' ease of feeling about difficult or traumatic incidents seemed to immediately benefit from training sessions, that the skills were teachable within an operational training environment, could improve recall of events and may mitigate against the impact of age and trauma exposure on memory. Participants reported the techniques to be useable, sharable and operationally relevant to trauma management and personal resilience.

Paoline and Gau (2019) assessed the role of internal and external dimensions of the work environment, as well as views of fairness and effectiveness, on the job satisfaction of police officers. Based on survey data from 200 officers from a mid-sized municipal police department in Florida, the research found officers with higher levels of stress and cynicism were less satisfied with their jobs. Conversely, respondents who assessed their job as dangerous and believed that police effectively deter criminal activity experienced higher levels of job satisfaction. Supervisor support was not statistically related to job satisfaction for the full sample, but it was the most powerful correlate for those with frequent contacts with citizens. Subsequent qualitative analysis found differences in positive and negative features of the occupation across varying levels of satisfied and dissatisfied respondents. The top-cited positive feature, across all levels of job satisfaction, was an intrinsic motivating factor— "helping people." Many officers, regardless of job satisfaction level, also noted "the people they worked with" as what they liked best about their jobs. At the same time, the study found that unsatisfied officers valued extrinsic conditions (i.e., pay/benefits/retirement/pension) more than their moderately or highly satisfied peers did.

4. Surtees *et al.* (2019) analysed 924 reports of kidnap crimes recorded by the Metropolitan Police Service between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2011. They produced mutually exclusive categories of kidnappings by codifying all crime records, after examining case notes and populated fields from the Metropolitan Police's crime recording system. Descriptive statistics are used to portray the patterns and nature of these crimes. Gangland/criminal/drugs-related cases comprised 40.5% of all kidnappings. Another 21% of all kidnaps were domestic or familial, including honour killings. Just over 10% were incidental to 'acquisitive' crimes such as car-jacking, whilst 8% were sexually motivated. Only 6% were categorised as traditional ransom kidnappings. About 4% were categorised into a purely violent category, whilst 3% were categorised as international/political.
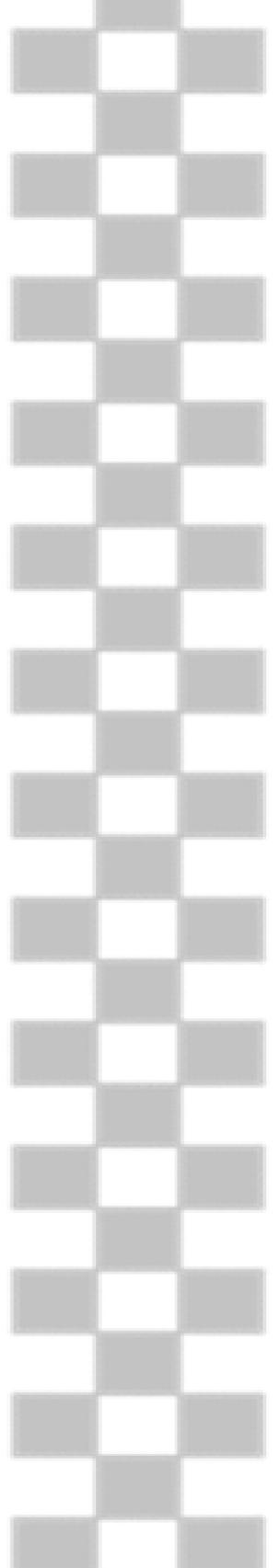
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Strategic policing

7. Skott (2019) used multilevel latent class analysis (MLCA) to identify subtypes of homicide in Scotland and to examine how these types have changed over time. All cases identified as "murders" by the police committed between 2000 and 2015 were collected, resulting in a dataset of 1,978 offenders over 1,344 cases. Based on victim, offender, and incident characteristics the study found that there were four different subtypes of homicide (stabbing, bludgeoning, rivalry and domestic) with three separate classes of offenders in each subtype (unemployed offenders, mixed offenders, and employed offenders) and that these subtypes had changed differently over time. Although there had been an absolute decrease in homicide, some homicide subtypes had reduced more than others. While the proportion of all cases representative of stabbing and bludgeoning homicides had remained relatively stable over time, the proportion of rivalry homicides had decreased significantly, suggesting this has largely been responsible for the overall drop in homicide in Scotland. Conversely, domestic homicides, which had the smallest absolute decrease over time, had demonstrated a relative increase in share over time, which was significant between 2004-2007 and 2012-2015.

In an American study Norris _et al._ (2019) examined criminal offending by true perpetrators after innocent people had been arrested and convicted for their crimes. After investigating a set of cases in which DNA was used to exonerate the innocent and to identify the guilty party, they identified 109 true perpetrators, 102 of whom had committed additional crimes. 337 additional offenses had been committed by the true perpetrators, including 43 homicide-related and 94 sex offenses. Extrapolating from their findings, they estimate that the wrong-person wrongful convictions that occurred annually in the USA might lead to more than 41,000 additional crimes. The study also identifies factors contributing to wrongful convictions [eyewitness misidentification (57%), misapplication of forensic science (47%), false confessions 43%), unreliable informants (23%)]

Investigation

A UK-based study by Hunt _et al._ (2019) attempted to establish (1) if there were any associations between the time spent observing fictional appeals and identification accuracy, (2) if the number of missing children photographs observed, influences identification accuracy and (3) whether the number of missing children appeals observed influences identification accuracy following a short 3-day delay. A two-stage approach was utilised. Two hundred and forty-two participants observed one, four or eight mock missing children photographs followed by a short word memory distraction task and a target present line-up identification task. The second stage comprised another target present line-up identification task presented after a short 3-day delay. One-way between-group ANOVAs indicate that observing one missing child photograph has significantly greater overall identification accuracy and lower identification error than viewing four or eight photographs immediately after observing the appeal and following a 3-day delay. Additional analyses found that the identification accuracy was significantly higher immediately after observation compared with the identification accuracy following a 3-day delay. The findings demonstrate the necessity for improving missing children appeals.

The significant economic and emotional consequences of online fraud have not been equally matched by the policing response to these offenses. Bossler _et al._ (2019) examined constables' and sergeants' perceived preparation to respond to online fraud through a quantitative analyses of survey data collected from over 1300 officers from 35 local police agencies across England and Wales. The findings demonstrated that constables and sergeants being prepared to respond to online fraud was related to agencies having clear policies and procedures, constables having computer skills and online incident experiences, and being able to relate to fraud victims.

There have been a number of studies examining the impact various factors have on eyewitness accuracy and recall. In a UK based study, Mojtahedi _et al._ (2019) attempted to investigate the effects of age and gender on the suggestibility of eyewitnesses when attempting to attribute blame. Participants (N = 268) viewed and discussed a crime (video) with co-witnesses before giving individual statements. Confederates were used to expose the participants to misinformation during the discussion, suggesting that the wrong bystander was responsible for the offence. Findings indicated that participants who encountered the misinformation were more likely to make a false blame attribution and were more confident in their erroneous judgements. The results found no significant age- or gender-related differences in blame conformity rates; however, male eyewitnesses showed greater levels of overconfidence in their false responses than female participants, after encountering co-witness misinformation.

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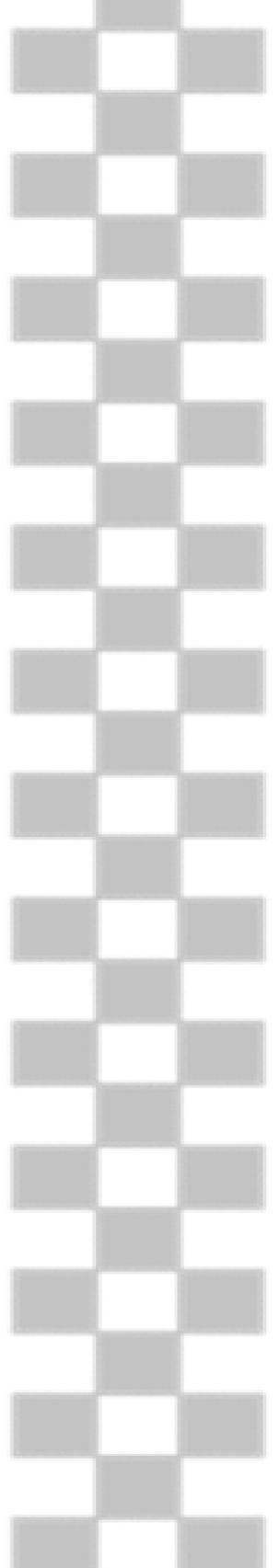
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Research on offending has long noted the prevalence of co-offending, and researchers have argued that an important component of the decision to co-offend is the risk of arrest. In an American study, Lantz (2019) examined the group hazard, or the risk of arrest associated with co-offending, using National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data for physical assault, robbery, sexual assault, and homicide offenses during years from 2003-2012. Group hazard hypothesis posits that offending in groups increases the likelihood of arrest. The results from this study did not support this hypothesis in an overall comparison of solo and group offenders suggesting instead that co-offending was significantly and negatively related to the likelihood of arrest. There was, however, some support for the group hazard when the sample was disaggregated by offense type, supporting the proposition that there is substantial heterogeneity in the relationship between co-offending and arrest. While the study found evidence for a robust group hazard among robbery groups and homicide groups, it found that co-offending reduced the likelihood of arrest compared to solo offenders in other circumstances (assault, for example, regardless of the gender, race, or age composition of groups). The relationship between co-offending and arrest also varied significantly by group gender; while there was a general group hazard for male groups, this relationship also varied by offense type. There was also heterogeneity in the relationship between co-offending and arrest by the age of the group. In the overall sample there was a significant group hazard for younger co-offenders, but no such hazard for older groups; instead, co-offending in adult groups was protective.

During forensic interviews, eyewitnesses are to retrieve correct information from memory. Cognitive load should be high, leading to risks of giving in to suggestive questions and difficulties in memory retrieval generally. Testifying in a non-native vs. native language may require even more cognitive effort due to the need to inhibit the interference of the native language. Such witnesses may also be more motivated to appear credible because they often belong to ethnic outgroups relative to forensic professionals, risking more scepticism. In a study by Alm *et al.* (2019) Swedish participants (N = 51) reported their memory of a simulated crime event either in English (non-native language) or in Swedish (native language) and were tested for suggestibility and accuracy. Results showed that English-speaking witnesses yielded to more suggestive questions, perceived themselves as less credible but were equally accurate. Results suggest that testifying in a non-native language is taxing cognitive resources, in turn increasing suggestibility and suboptimal memory search.

As pupil size is affected by cognitive processes, Elphick *et al.* (2019) investigated whether it could serve as an independent indicator of target recognition in line-ups. In a UK-based study the authors used 3 experiments (with 49, 66 and 12 subjects respectively) where the participants saw a simulated crime video, followed by two viewings of either a target-present or target-absent video line-up while pupil size was measured with an eye-tracker. Participants who made correct identifications showed significantly larger pupil sizes when viewing the target compared with distractors. Some participants were uncertain about their choice of face from the line-up, but nevertheless showed pupillary changes when viewing the target, suggesting covert recognition of the target face had occurred, leading the authors to conclude that pupillometry might be a useful aid in assessing the accuracy of an eyewitness' identification.

Three American studies examined the role of police investigative effort/resource in solving crime. Cook *et al.* (2019) used a quasi-experimental design to compare investigative resources invested in clearing gun homicide cases relative to nonfatal gun assaults in Boston, USA. They found that the large gap in clearances (43% for gun murders vs. 19% for nonfatal gun assaults) was primarily a result of sustained investigative effort in homicide cases made after the first 2 days. When additional investigative effort was expended, law enforcement improved its success in gaining the cooperation of key witnesses and increases the amount of forensic evidence collected and analysed. In turn, the capacity of the police to hold violent gun offenders accountable, deliver justice to victims, and prevent future gun attacks was enhanced.
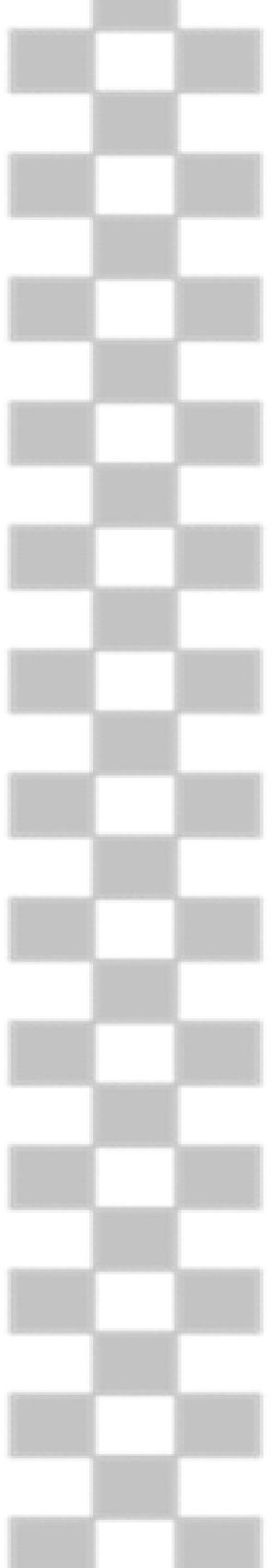
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Similarly, Wellford *et al.* (2019) replicated the methodological approach of the RAND studies on investigations (which had previously found that police agencies and investigative effort mattered little to solving crimes) and used multiagency, detailed case files, as well as organizational analysis, to examine the association among investigative effort, case features, organizational factors, in the clearance of US homicide cases. Their results showed that variation between the homicide clearances in agencies could be explained by case attributes, investigative practices, and organizational differences. An agency's ability to clear homicides was a function of the resources it applied to conduct investigations and how it organised its effort. They conclude that agencies seeking to increase their ability to clear homicides should focus on increasing investigative efforts for cases (i.e., thoroughness of the initial investigative response) and prioritize oversight, management, and evaluation of investigation work.

LoFaso (2019) used a sample of over 500 homicides to investigate whether neighbourhood context influenced the odds of homicide clearance in Rochester, New York, net of theoretically relevant victim and incident characteristics. The study also incorporated a direct measure of investigator caseload to assess the influence of organizational characteristics on clearance rates. Findings indicated that homicides, particularly of Black victims, were significantly more likely to be cleared in disadvantaged neighbourhoods even as witnesses were less likely to cooperate with police in those neighbourhoods. However, the odds of clearance decreased as the number of open cases each investigator was carrying increased. Case incident characteristics and the quality of evidence collected remain salient solvability factors regardless of location. Equally important was maintaining adequate staffing and keeping investigator caseloads at manageable levels.

5. The Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Honour Based Violence (DASH) form is a standardized risk assessment implemented across most UK police forces, intended to facilitate an officer's structured professional judgment about the risk a victim faces of serious harm at the hand of their abuser. The risk assessment involves a balancing act where 27 pieces of information must be taken into consideration. Until now, it has been an open question whether this tool works in practice. Turner *et al.* (2019) have undertaken the largest scale European study and conclude that the risk assessment tool is underperforming. Their results suggest that DASH is not enabling police officers to identify high-risk revictimization or recidivism cases, with the answers to some questions having a large influence on officers' decision. Officers focus on the characteristics of the immediate domestic violence incident, yet these have been shown to be poorer predictors of recidivism. Overall, police performance in the identification of high-risk cases is little better than random. In addition, preliminary analysis suggests there is significant variability across officers, with some officers appearing to be better than others.

6. Investigating reports of missing children is a major source of demand for the police in the UK. Repeat disappearances are common, can indicate underlying vulnerabilities and have been linked with various forms of exploitation and abuse. Inspired by research on repeat victimisation Sidebottom *et al.* (2019) examined the prevalence and temporal patterns of repeat missing episodes by children, as well as the characteristics of those involved using data on all missing children incidents recorded by one UK police service in 2015 (n = 3,352). They found that: (a) 75% of missing incidents involving children were repeats, i.e. attributed to children who had already been reported missing in 2015; (b) a small proportion of repeatedly missing children (n = 59; 4%) accounted for almost a third of all missing children incidents (n = 952, 28%); (c) over half of all first repeat disappearances occurred within four weeks of an initial police recorded missing episode; and (d) children recorded as missing ten times or more over the one year study period were significantly more likely than those recorded missing once to be teenagers, in the care system or to have drug and/or alcohol dependencies.

Crime prevention

A couple of American studies looked at crime prevention in schools, particularly the role of police officers in schools. Hughes *et al.* (2019) analysed school and school district data from the Florida Department of Education, the U.S. Census, the Uniform Crime Report, and the Florida Division of Elections. Findings suggest that safe school expenditures are associated with lower suspension rates for all students. However, the effect of expenditure on Black suspension rates indicated a curvilinear relationship. Safe school expenditures were associated with an initial reduction in the Black suspension rate to a certain threshold; however, once that threshold was met, additional increases in spending on school safety widened the social control net for Black students, thereby amplifying their likelihood of punishment and increasing the likelihood of Black suspensions.
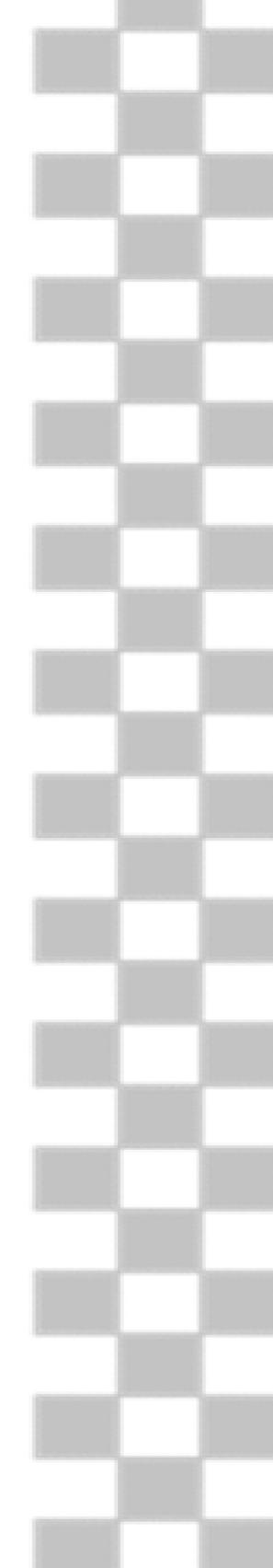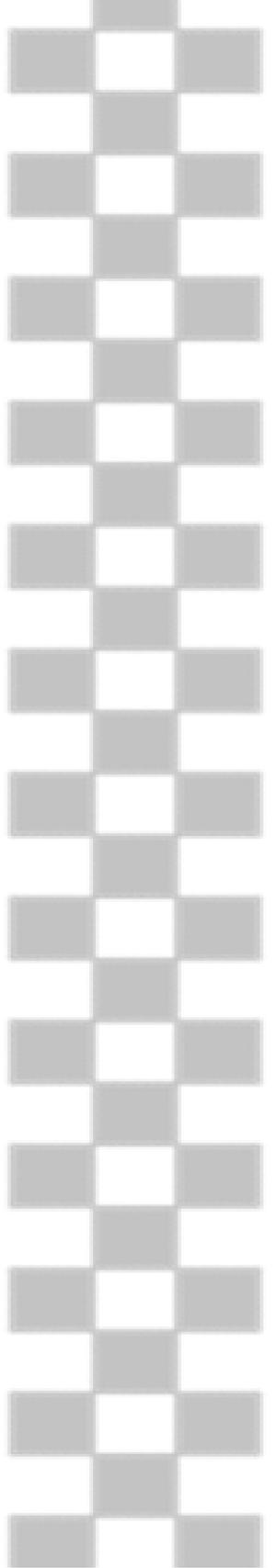
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Fisher and Devlin (2019) used US national-level two-wave longitudinal data from school principals (N = 850) to examine whether implementing school resource officers (SROs) with varying role profiles related to changes in crime recorded in schools and reported to police. The research identified three common role profiles of SROs: Low Engagement, Full Triad, and Reactionary. Implementing SROs engaged primarily in law enforcement (i.e., Reactionary SROs) predicted increases in recording nonserious violent and property crimes and a decrease in reporting drug crime to the police, respectively. Implementing Full Triad SROs who were also engaged in additional roles (e.g., mentoring) predicted a reduction in recording non-serious violent crimes, but an increase in recording property crimes and reporting crime to law enforcement.

Braga *et al.* (2019) undertook an updated systematic review of the effects of focused police crime prevention interventions at crime hot spots, examining in particular whether they resulted in crime displacement or diffusion of crime control benefits. The search strategies identified 65 studies containing 78 tests of hot spots policing interventions. Meta-analyses revealed a small statistically significant mean effect size favouring the effects of hot spots policing in reducing crime outcomes at treatment places relative to control places. Crime displacement and diffusion effects were measured in 40 tests. Meta-analyses favoured a small statistically significant diffusion of crime control benefits over displacement. The authors conclude that the extant evaluation research provides fairly robust evidence that hot spots policing is an effective crime prevention strategy and that focused police intervention at hot spot locations does not seem to result in the spatial displacement of crime into areas immediately surrounding targeted locations. Rather, crime control benefits seem to diffuse into proximate areas.

In an American study, data from two randomized experiments were analysed by Koper *et al.* (2019) to determine optimal methods of patrol with license plate readers (LPRs) for maximizing detection and apprehension In the first, a four-officer squad conducted short daily operations to detect stolen and other vehicles of interest at randomly selected road segments (averaging 0.6 miles) at varying times of day for 2 weeks per location. Based on random assignment, the unit operated with LPRs on some routes and conducted extensive manual checks of license plates on others. In the second experiment, the squad conducted similar operations focused on larger hot spot areas (averaging 1 square-mile) using the same research design. The first experiment emphasized longer surveillance on primary hot routes, while the second emphasized shorter visits to the main hot routes and more roving surveillance around these routes. Officer log data were used to examine the likelihood that the patrols resulted in detection of wanted vehicles, arrests, or recoveries of stolen vehicles. The research found LPRs increased the likelihood of all outcomes (which were generally rare) in both experiments, though only the effects on detections were statistically significant. Differences across the experiments were not statistically significant, but LPR performance was generally better during the second experiment, particularly with regard to how much LPR use improved performance over manual plate checks, suggesting LPR patrols emphasizing roaming operations within larger hot spot areas may be most optimal, but the effects of LPR patrols may not be substantial without large-scale deployment.

A Better Criminal Justice Service for London

Reducing reoffending

Experiences of childhood trauma such as physical and sexual abuse are common among offender populations, and a trauma history is related to increases in the risk of criminal conduct. A systematic review by Dalsklev *et al.* (2019) explores the association between childhood physical and sexual abuse and its prediction on actual reoffending rates in adult populations. A total of 3,151 studies were identified, and 13 met the a priori eligibility criteria. Most of the studies obtained high quality ratings. A narrative synthesis of the results suggests that childhood physical and sexual abuse are generally high among the prison population and tend to be even higher among those who reoffend. A substantial number of studies found that childhood physical and sexual abuse predict reoffending, and the majority of the studies found a positive direction for this association, albeit of a small magnitude. It is argued that prisons should consider trauma-informed assessment and rehabilitation of offenders.

Schaefer and Little (2019) report the results of a pilot test of the Environmental Corrections model of probation and parole, a framework for supervising offenders in the community that focuses on opportunity-reduction strategies. All offenders supervised at one probation and parole office in a large metropolitan area of Australia were subjected to the model (total supervisees that took part in trial, $n = 993$). At 6 months post-intervention, 35% of the offenders in the control group had reoffended compared with 25% of the offenders in the matched treatment group, for a reduction in the rate of reoffending of 28%.

In a study by Butler *et al.* (2019), data collected from offenders released to post-release supervision in Ohio ($N = 1,983$) are used to examine how various types of exposure to confinement in disciplinary segregation influence the odds of recidivism. The findings showed that confinement in disciplinary segregation and the timing of confinement prior to release were associated with increased odds of rearrest, felony rearrest, reincarceration, and reincarceration for new crimes, with offenders who were exposed to disciplinary segregation within the 6 months prior to release exhibiting significantly higher means for these measures of increased recidivism. It was also found that most of the measures of exposure to disciplinary segregation (e.g., number of placements, days served, and ever placed) increased the odds of recidivism.

8. A US-based study by Zgoba *et al.* (2019) examines the effect placement of inmates in restrictive housing (RH) (i.e. solitary confinement) has on offender recidivism post prison release. Subjects include approximately 4,000 matched inmates followed 36 months post-release. The findings showed that inmates placed in restrictive housing had elevated levels of recidivism and proportionally more new commitments for all crime types than those not placed in restrictive housing. Restrictive housing subjects also displayed shorter time to re-arrest than non-RH individuals.

9. Empirical research shows that immigrants have lower rates of offending, arrest, and incarceration than the native-born. However, previous work has not examined whether this relationship extends to recidivism. Consequently, Ramos and Wenger (2019) compared recidivism outcomes of 192,556 formerly incarcerated native- and foreign-born individuals released from Florida prisons. Using multiple analytic methods, including logistic regression, propensity score matching, and survival analysis, they found that immigrants were less likely to reoffend than their native-born peers.
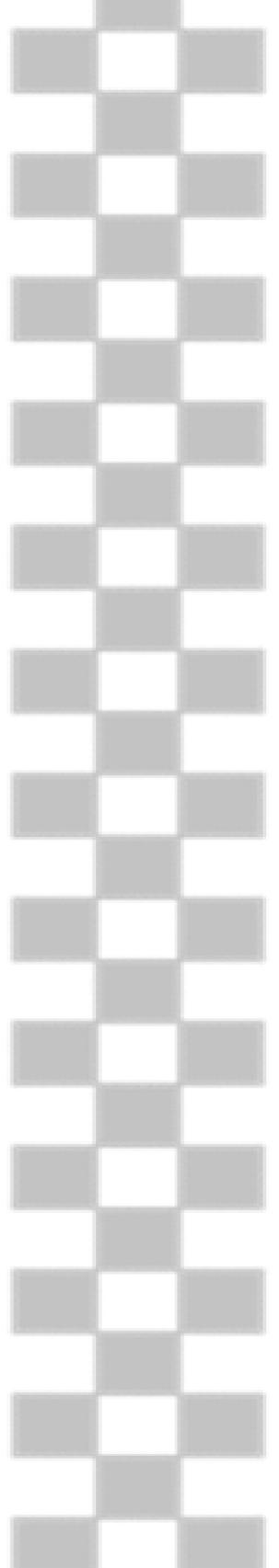
Keeping Children and Young People Safe

Keeping children and young people safe

A study by Spencer *et al.* (2019) examined risk markers for physical teen dating violence (TDV) perpetration and examine whether there are significant differences in the strength of risk markers between male and female adolescents. This meta-analysis included 37 studies from the United States. The results showed that physical TDV victimization, externalizing behaviours, approval of violence, risky sexual behaviours, alcohol use, depression, and delinquency were the strongest risk markers for TDV perpetration. Conflict resolution skills and responsibility were protective markers against TDV perpetration. Undifferentiated TDV perpetration and depression were significantly stronger risk markers for female perpetration, whereas exhibiting controlling behaviours was a significantly stronger risk marker for male perpetration.

A US-based study by Pusch (2019) assessed the relationships between Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES), protective factors, and violent school victimization using a sample of 12,850 boys and 14,121 girls in 8th, 10th, and 12th grades. Non-abuse ACES items were found to significantly predict violent school victimization for both boys and girls, and protective factors were found to moderate the relationship between the two in several instances.

Preventing young people from getting involved in crime

Although school punishment has been tied to a variety of negative outcomes, the link between suspension and offending remains unclear. Using data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 ($n = 6,876$), a US-based study by Mowen *et al.* (2019) examines the extent to which school punishment contributes to within-individual increases in offending across time and/or amplifies offending between-individuals. Results show that school suspensions contribute to within-individual increases in offending. This relationship remains even when accounting for the effect of baseline levels of offending on future offending. Further, repeated suspensions amplify offending differences between-individuals.

Siennick *et al.* (2019) present results from an American randomized controlled trial of a school-based intervention that provided services to youth with prior police contact. The intervention used a wraparound-style approach and a school-based, multisystem team to deliver services to youth. The study took place over 3 years and used a rolling enrolment strategy. Youth (N = 869) were assigned to either an intervention condition or a business-as-usual control condition using a block randomization strategy. Outcomes came from school records and state Department of Juvenile Justice records. The results concluded that intervention condition did not predict time to first post-enrolment suspension or juvenile justice system contact. It also did not predict alternative specifications of these outcomes (i.e., in- versus out-of-school suspension and misdemeanor versus felony contact). Subgroup analyses revealed similar null results for youth with varying types of prior police contact, though statistical power was limited.

10. A US-based study by Augustyn *et al.* (2019) used data from 312 parent–child pairs from the Rochester Youth Development Study and Rochester Intergenerational Study to examine whether the relationship between a child's involuntary contact with the police and subsequent offending depends on parental arrest history and parent sex. Result showed that contact with the police on subsequent offending is greater when the parent has an arrest history, regardless of when the most recent arrest occurs in the life course of the child. However, some differences in the magnitude of the exacerbating effect of recent parental arrest emerged. Results also suggested potential mechanisms across mother–child and father–child pairs with respect to deviance amplification. It is argued that to reduce deviance amplification, special attention should be paid to youth who experience police contact in the context of a parental arrest history.

CSA/CSE

11. In the UK Government's response to the Independent Review of the Modern Slavery Act 2015, the Government committed to refer to Independent Child Trafficking Advocates as 'Independent Child Trafficking Guardians'. This evaluation (Kohli *et al.*, 2019) conducted by the Home Office and the University of Bedfordshire has assessed the ICTG service in the three original early adopter sites (Greater Manchester, Hampshire and Wales). The evaluation, conducted across a two-year period from February 2017 – January 2019, considers the original model for the ICTG service which provided one-to-one ICTG support for all children. The main aim of the evaluation was to establish the 'added value' of the ICTG service. The interim report identified three main areas of added value: (i) building trust with trafficked children, (ii) providing important advocacy work, and (iii) providing specialist knowledge to professionals involved.
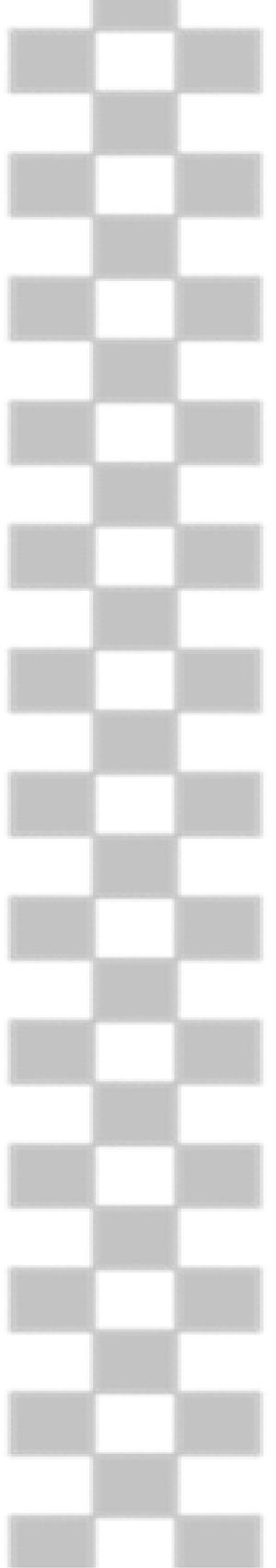
Keeping Children and Young People Safe

Despite the awareness that children with severe and complex difficulties experience child sexual abuse (CSA), the development of research in this area is still in its infancy. UK researchers, Barron *et al.* (2019) make a call for relevant research, seeking to identify the main gaps in knowledge in order to inform future debate, potential research questions, and raise issues for practice. Themes are identified relevant to researchers and practitioners globally including: the complexity and duality of definition: recognition of CSA; barriers to communication with children and between services; diversity of segregated and inclusive settings; interaction of age and gender; adult and peer abuse in institutions; sexuality and disability; and intrusive care and medical practices. Recommendations for future research and practice in creating safe environments are provided.

12. Since several studies have investigated risk and protective factors associated with the intergenerational continuity of child maltreatment over the past decades, and no systematic review of the literature is available, Langevin *et al.* (2019) aimed to summarize studies documenting associated psychosocial risk and protective factors. A secondary objective was to document the prevalence of this phenomenon. A final sample of 51 papers was retained, 33 providing data on risk and protective factors and 18 providing only prevalence data. Results indicate that parents' individual characteristics (e.g., mental health, age), childhood adversity (e.g., multiple forms of adversity), relational (e.g., couples' adjustment, attachment, social support), and contextual factors (e.g., disadvantage, community violence) are relevant to the intergenerational continuity of child maltreatment. Prevalence rates of continuity ranged from 7% to 88%. Continued efforts to uncover the mechanisms associated with the intergenerational continuity of child maltreatment using strong methodological designs are necessary.

13. Sexting is a phenomenon that has only recently been recognised as a sexual offence, specifically when such communications are directed towards a child. Muncaster *et al.* (2019) sought to investigate the use of sexting by adults and whether it is utilised as a mechanism to sexually engage with UK victims under the age of 16. Self-worth, sexual self-worth, and resilience were also examined as factors potentially relating to perpetration and/or victimisation. Participants ($n = 285$) were recruited via opportunity sampling using an online questionnaire methodology. The results indicated sexting is being used by adults in an attempt to sexually engage with minors. It was found that males who had been victims of sexting were likely to become perpetrators of this behaviour in adulthood, however, this was not the case for females. There were no statistically significant findings for self-worth, sexual self-worth, and resilience as predictors of victimisation.
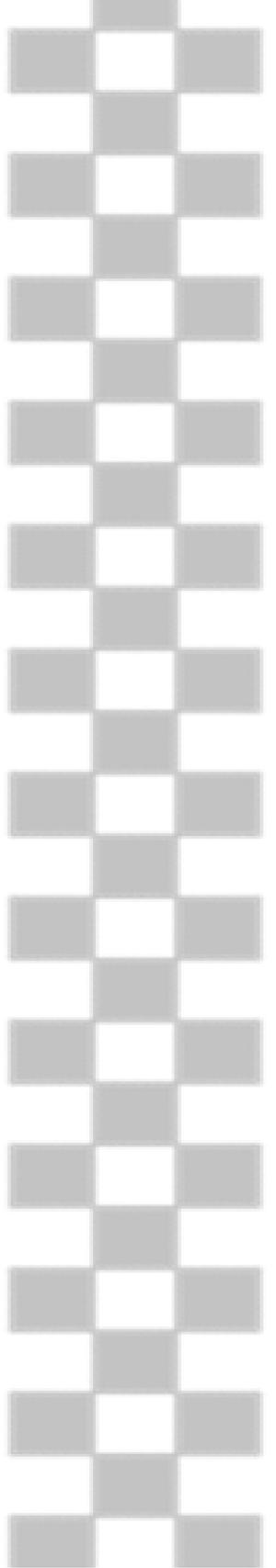
Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls

Prevalence of VAWG

14. Vazquez *et al.* (2019) analysed individual and country-level factors influencing women's perceptions of the prevalence of violence against women in their countries. Multilevel modelling was used to study 39,377 women residing in 28 member states of the European Union (EU). Individual-level predictor variables included direct victimisation, vicarious victimisation, avoidant and defensive behaviours, awareness, and sociodemographic characteristics. At the country level, an index of gender equality and the prevalence of intimate partner violence against women was accounted for. The results showed that approximately 80 percent of women indicated that violence against women was common in their country. Most of the individual-level covariates were statistically significant, whereas the country-level indicators were not significantly associated with perceptions of violence against women.

An American study by Canan *et al.* (2019) sought to analyse women's rates of sexual assault and rape across sexual orientation status while accounting for other social characteristics (e.g., race, education, income, outness). Women (*N* = 1,366), who identified as lesbian, bisexual, and heterosexual, completed a nationally distributed, cross-sectional online survey in 2016. Overall, 63% of bisexual, 49% of lesbian, and 35% of heterosexual women reported experiencing rape in their lifetime. When holding all other social characteristics constant, sexual orientation remained a significant predictor in the model. Compared with the odds of heterosexual women experiencing sexual assault or rape, bisexual and lesbian women were disproportionately victimized. Sexual orientation clearly plays a role in sexual victimization risk, independent of other measured sociodemographic indicators.

Using data from the 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey, King *et al.* (2019) analysed weighted data from 23,999 adult transgender participants to estimate the prevalence and explore correlates of five IPV subtypes: psychological IPV, physical IPV, trans-related IPV, stalking, and forced sex committed by an intimate partner. The sample was racially/ethnically diverse and comprised of transgender men, transgender women, assigned-female-at-birth nonbinary participants, and assigned-male-at-birth nonbinary participants. Results showed that rates of IPV were high, with variability by IPV subtype: 42.0% endorsed psychological IPV, 39.9% endorsed physical IPV, 30.4% endorsed trans-related IPV, 18.0% endorsed stalking, and

21.5% endorsed forced sex by an intimate partner. Disparities were observed in IPV subtypes by race/ethnicity, gender identity, and experiences of social marginalization. Results highlighted the need for targeted, trans-inclusive IPV screening practices and interventions.

Schut *et al.* (2019) retrospectively examined the nature of all domestic violence (DV) incidents (N=54,456) involving parents and their minor children to which police in Philadelphia responded during 2013. Of the 2,361 DV incidents involving a verbal or physical altercation between a minor child and at least one parent, verbal incidents and cases perpetrated by the child were most frequent. Analysis showed that boys were the most common offenders and mothers the most common victims when a child was the offender, whereas mothers were the most common offenders and daughters the most common victims when a parent was the offender. Parent-offender incidents were far fewer, but more likely than child-offender incidents to involve physical violence and to result in arrest. Thus, parent-child incidents that are not child abuse constitute about 20% of all domestic violence incidents to which police are summoned and commonly police appear to serve as mediators in these mostly verbal disagreements.

Response to VAWG

Myhill and Kelly (2019) address recent debates relating to the measurement of domestic violence, and in particular the 'domestic violent crime' framework proposed by Sylvia Walby and colleagues. The authors argue for the utility of coercive control as a framework for measurement of domestic violence and highlight misrepresentation of this concept. The limitations of traditional crime codes in capturing the range of abuse suffered by victims of coercive control are discussed and the authors question whether measuring physical assault is any more straightforward in sample surveys than measuring non-violent forms of coercion. The article concludes by calling for greater attention to qualitative narratives and practice-based knowledge to ensure that measurement frameworks reflect the lived experiences of victim-survivors.
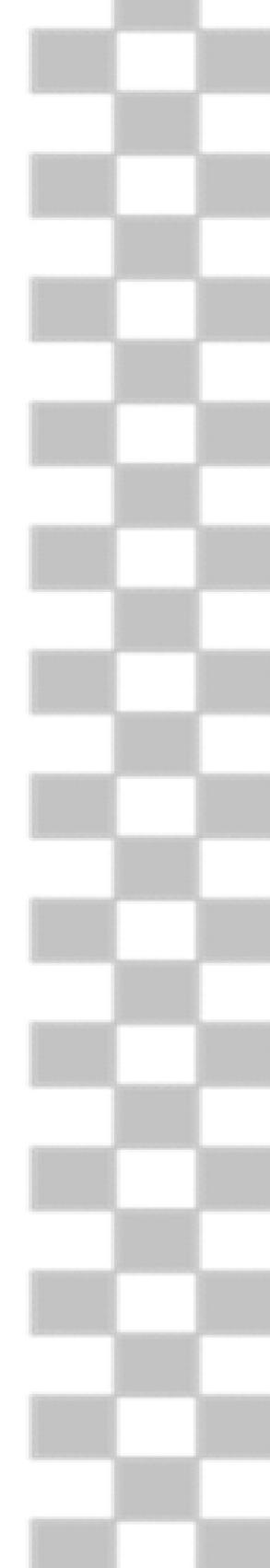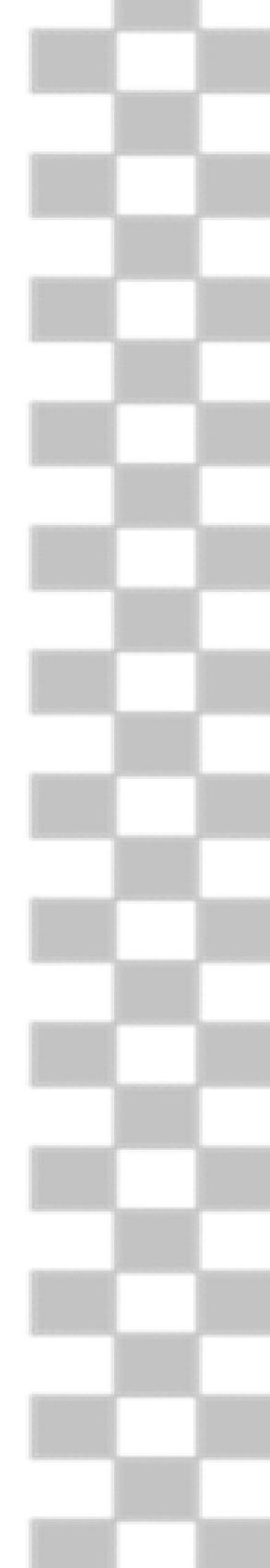
Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls

15. Walker *et al.* (2019) conducted a quantitative and content analysis of 585 reports of rape recorded within two police force areas in England in 2010 and in 2014 to track individual incidents to eventual outcome and examine the impact, if any, of intersecting inequalities on trajectories of rape cases reported to police. The results suggest age and gender are significant factors in how sexual violence, and the criminal justice system, is experienced. While younger women and girls were disproportionately affected by certain types of sexual violence cases and were more likely to come into contact with the criminal justice system compared to men and older women, they were not necessarily more likely to achieve a conviction. The findings also confirm that some of the most vulnerable victims-survivors of sexual violence, especially those with poor mental health, are still not achieving criminal justice. Victims-survivors from Black and minority ethnic group or lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, transsexual, queer groups were underrepresented within the criminal justice system, implying these groups do not seek a criminal justice response in the same way as 'white' heterosexual victims-survivors.

In a qualitative study of a Scottish Rape Crisis advocacy service, Brooks-Hay (2019) sought to explore why victim-survivors engage with the police by drawing upon the accounts of 24 women who reported rape or sexual assault. Findings defy public narratives around rape reporting, indicating that victim-survivors may exercise limited agency in reporting. Moreover, a problematic "aspiration-reality gap" exists due to stark differences between the aspirations attached to reports and the reality of the ensuing criminal justice response. It is suggested that the concepts of "secondary victimization" and the "justice gap" can be augmented through appreciation of the "aspiration-reality gap," and contemporary preoccupation with increasing rates of reporting is called into question.

Using data from the 2009 Canadian General Social Survey-Victimization, Barrett *et al.* (2019) conducted a hierarchical binary logistic regression to evaluate the relationship between IPV victims' (n = 900; 385 males and 515 females) sense of social belonging and their engagement with seeking help from informal and formal sources of support. Socio-demographic characteristics and severity of violence experienced were controlled for. Results showed that males were significantly less likely than females to seek help from all sources and social belonging was significantly associated with an increased probability of seeking support from friends or neighbours; however, it was not associated with seeking help from any other source.

Few studies examine risk and the likelihood of reoffending of intimate partner violence (IPV) among same-sex couples. Gerstenberger *et al.* (2019) utilized a large US sample of people (N = 6,711) arrested for IPV to explore the risk, likelihood, and timing of reoffending, including 332 perpetrators in same-sex relationships. Analyses revealed that male perpetrators in same-sex relationships had lower assessed risk than males in heterosexual relationships, and a smaller percentage were rearrested for a new violent offense. Although female perpetrators in same-sex relationships were no more likely to have higher assessed risk compared with perpetrators of female to male violence, female perpetrators in same-sex relationships had a higher likelihood and rate of reoffending, more closely resembling male-to-female violence. Female perpetrators with male victims were identified as the lowest risk to reoffend and indeed were the least likely to reoffend.

Given the reality that the majority of sexual assault offenders are known to their victims, Shepp *et al.* (2019) conducted interviews with US survivors and their Support Providers (SPs: family, friends, romantic partners etc.) about disclosure, recovery, and help-seeking following interactions with their offender post-assault. Twenty-eight survivors mentioned interactions or appraisals of the offender, as did twelve SPs. Qualitative analysis revealed several themes including: a) various outcomes of interactions with the offender post-assault, b) emotions felt toward offender, c) gaining of perspective and/or forgiveness, d) interactions with the offender as a catalyst for disclosure, and e) importance of the offender's actual or perceived death. Results show some anecdotal support for restorative justice practices with sexual assault victims in the criminal-legal system. Clinical implications include treatment plans for survivors to prepare for the possibility of seeing their offenders' post-assault.

Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls

The effects of VAWG

A US study conducted by Forke *et al.* (2019) measured associations between witnessing adult violence in the home during childhood, and the victimization and perpetration of relationship violence among males and females. Using an anonymous, cross-sectional survey with 907 undergraduates from three urban East Coast colleges, analysis showed witnesses had higher risk than non-witnesses for physical, sexual, and emotional victimization and perpetration. Notably, witnesses also had higher risk for polyvictimization and poly-perpetration. Except for sexual victimization, female witnesses were more likely than female non-witnesses to experience all forms of victimization, including polyvictimization; they also had higher risk for perpetration, particularly physical perpetration. In contrast, victimization outcomes did not differ for male witnesses, but male witnesses were more likely than male non-witnesses to perpetrate all forms of violence, including poly-perpetration.

Using the 2014 Canadian nationally representative General Social Survey on Victimization (GSS-V), Du Mont *et al.* (2019) examined the association of sociodemographic, health, and assailant characteristics and prior traumatic experiences (physical or sexual dating violence, physical assault, stalking, childhood abuse, and witnessing of violence between parents) with PTSD among sexually assaulted women. Among 319 women who reported experiencing at least one incident of sexual assault in the 12 months prior to the survey, 68.6% had experienced at least one negative emotional impact as a result, among whom, 43.6% reported past-month PTSD symptoms. Results revealed that prior traumatic events in the form of physical or sexual dating violence, stalking, and having witnessed violence between parents were associated with higher odds of experiencing PTSD symptoms, as was having been sexually assaulted by a known assailant. In contrast, the odds of experiencing PTSD symptoms was lower for Aboriginal or visible minority women. The results suggest that PTSD symptoms in the near aftermath of sexual victimization are common, and there are a range of factors that contribute to the likelihood of developing these symptoms.

In this article, Mortimer *et al.* (2019) presents findings from 29 interviews with sexual assault support workers and LGBTQ community workers in Victoria and South Australia to examine how myths and stereotypes about sexual violence might impact LGBTQ victims/survivors. A thematic analysis exploring the complex interplay between

heterosexist and cissexist ideas about LGBTQ people (their bodies, sexual practices and relationships) as well as myths and stereotypes about sexual violence (what it looks like, what causes it and who is deserving of compassion) was conducted. The article discusses workers' views on how myths and stereotypes impact on LGBTQ victims/survivors' ability to speak about their experiences of violence and be understood and appropriately supported by others. It is argued that myths and stereotypes can often work to minimise and justify sexual violence, while also blaming LGBTQ victims/survivors for their experiences.

Arai *et al.* (2019) conducted a systematic review using findings from the 'ViOlence: Impact on Children Evidence Synthesis (VOICES)' project that synthesized published qualitative research on the experiences of DVA from the perspective of children and young people. A thematic synthesis of 33 reports identified six themes: lived experience of DVA, children's agency and coping, turning points and transitions, managing relationships postseparation, impact of DVA on children, and children's expressions of hope for the future. The Authors concluded that professionals working with children affected by DVA should be mindful of the diversity in children's experiences and listen carefully to children's own accounts.

A Norwegian study conducted by Strom *et al.* (2019) examined alcohol use and alcohol intoxication trajectories for victims of childhood violence (physical, sexual, psychological, neglect) over time and the potential pathways of relational difficulties and revictimization for the association between childhood abuse and problematic drinking behaviour. The sample included 681 respondents from a follow-up study (2017) conducted via phone interviews derived from a community telephone survey collected in 2013. Whilst the violence exposed cases reported more problematic drinking behaviour than the controls generally, it was clear that individuals who were exposed to violence had higher starting levels of alcohol intoxication at age 16, whereas the controls had a steeper increase across time. Significant predictors for problematic drinking behaviour among the cases were revictimization, having deviant peer relationships and low social support. Clinicians need to be aware of the negative relationships between revictimization, social relationships and problematic drinking behaviour in individuals exposed to childhood violence.
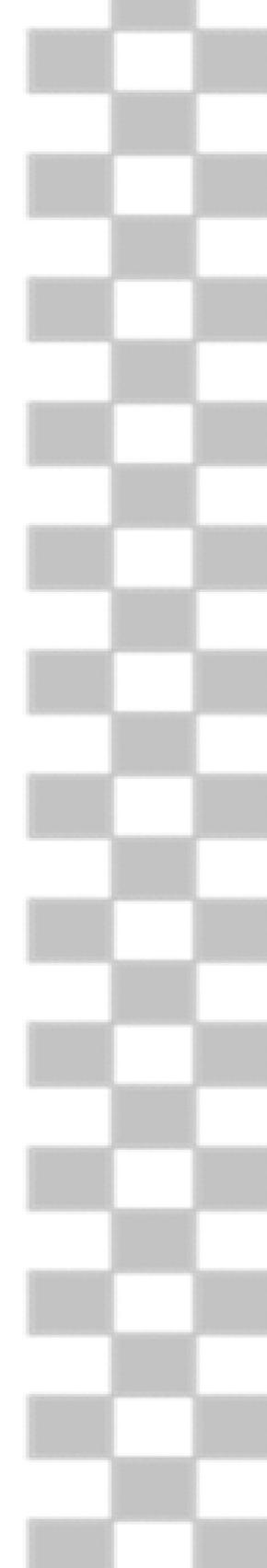
Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls

Human Trafficking

Argento *et al.* (2019) longitudinally investigated the burden and socio-structural correlates of recent suicidality among a community-based sample of cis and trans women sex workers in Vancouver, Canada. Women completed biannual interviewer-administered questionnaires, and correlates of suicidality in the last 6 months were analysed using bivariate and multivariable logistic regression with generalized estimating equations (GEE). Of 867 women at baseline, 48% reported lifetime suicidality, 16% reported suicidality in the last 6 months, and 29% reported suicidality at some point during the study. Factors independently associated with suicidality included physical/sexual childhood abuse, mental health issues, intimate partner violence, physical/sexual client violence, and homelessness. Older age and higher social cohesion were significantly associated with reduced odds of suicidality. Findings reveal key socio-structural correlates of suicidality among sex workers including experiences of historical and interpersonal violence, trauma/mental health issues, and homelessness.

As the police are increasingly called on to combat sex and labour trafficking crimes, Farrell *et al.* (2019) sought to explore how this new population of victims is served by the police. Information from a review of human trafficking investigations (n=613) and in-depth interviews with police (n=23) and service providers (n=41) in three U.S. communities indicates that human trafficking victims often do not trust the police and rarely seek their assistance. When the police do respond, human trafficking victims seek affirmation of their experiences and safety from future harm. Recommendations are offered to improve police responses to human trafficking victims including efforts to build trust, promote victim safety, and meet the needs of victims outside of the justice system.
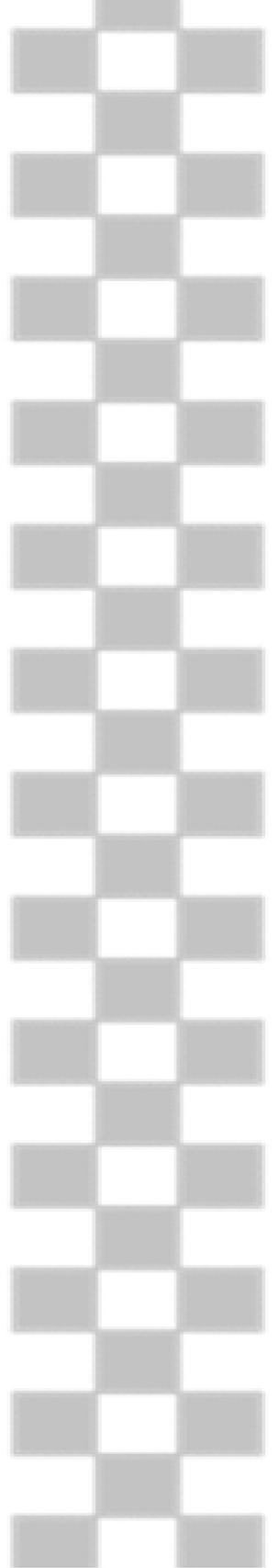
Hatred, intolerance and extremism

Countering violent extremism

Following the 2017 terrorist attacks in Manchester and London, MI5 and counter-terrorist policing conducted a review process which looked at how intelligence was handled prior to the Westminster, Manchester, London Bridge and Finsbury Park attacks. They also produced an operational improvement review to identify changes to improve their future performance. Anderson (2019) has conducted a stock-take a year on to assess the progress made in implementing the recommendations that had been generated by the review process.

16. In a German study, Pfundmair *et al.* (2019) aimed to compose a comprehensive model of radicalization, testing it empirically by collecting and analyzing data on Islamist radicals in Western Europe. In Study 1, police professionals assessed seventy-five subjects under investigation for being in the process of radicalization. In Study 2, data from open source news articles about 86 radical Muslims were evaluated by psychologists. Specific individual preconditions including young age, male gender, migration background, and biographical cuts were consistently found among radicals. Fuelling the actual radicalization process, a gradual increase of individual, group and catalyst processes was observed from early (Study 1) to late stages of radicalization (Study 2). These included pursuing individual needs (transcendence, significance, self-esteem, control); processes in the course of a strong group commitment (group identification, prejudice, polarization, perceived group threat, collective emotions, informative influence); and cognitive adaptions to get increasingly comfortable with applying violence (desensitization, dehumanization).
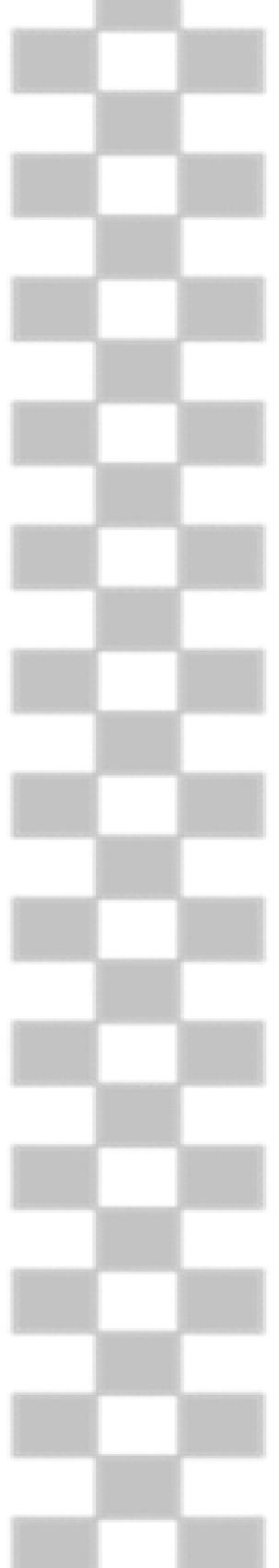
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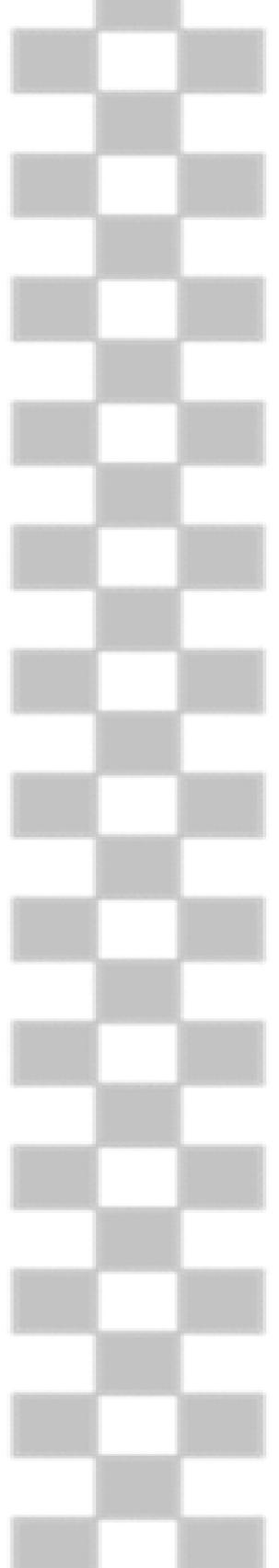
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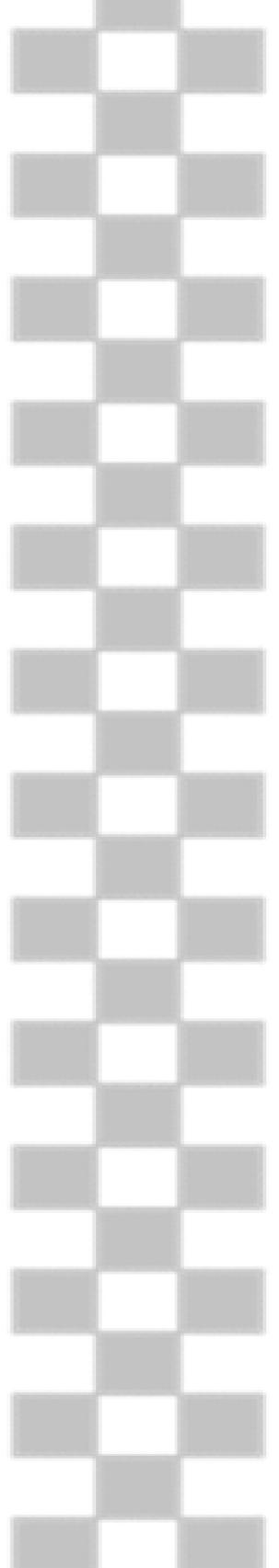
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