

Evidence and Insight Horizon Scan (Jan - Mar 2020)

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 (PCP) priorities for London. This latest version of the Scan examines publications from the period January to March 2020.

Method

A scan of published research was undertaken using key search terms to reflect PCP priority areas. CrimPapers weekly bulletins were the primary source used to highlight relevant publications in the reporting period.

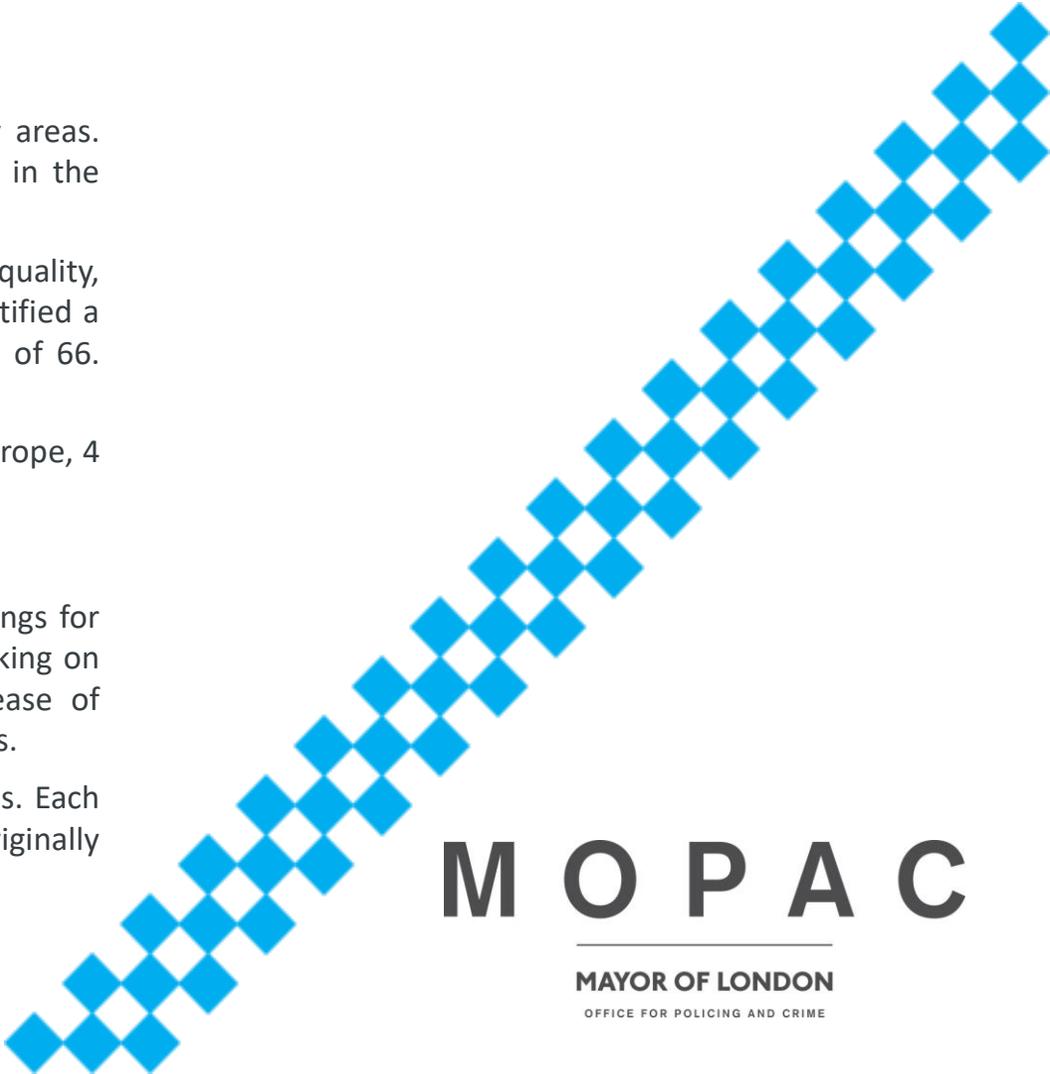
Publications were identified based on title and abstract relevance to the PCP, methodological quality, empirical findings, and potential for practical learning and application. The initial searches identified a 'long list' of articles, which were then examined in greater detail to produce a final shortlist of 66. Abstracts for these are included in the appendices (page 3 onwards).

Of the 66 studies in the shortlist, 35 are from the USA/Canada, 10 the UK, 9 from continental Europe, 4 from Australia, while 8 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 reference section at the end of this document lists full publication details for all 66 studies. Each study is hyperlinked to the relevant journal page or organisational website where it was originally published.



M O P A C

MAYOR OF LONDON
OFFICE FOR POLICING AND CRIME



A Better Police Service for London

1 Police Employee Wellbeing

A UK study of 381 police employees found **perceived & received colleague support** to enhance psychological wellbeing.



2 Homicide Arrests

An analysis of US reported crime incidents concluded that a **homicide suspect's race** does not influence the likelihood of **arrest**.



3 Racial Stereotyping

MPS detectives interviewed around racial stereotyping denied that this was a factor in disproportionality - a notion disputed by the authors.

4 Burglary Prevention

A Danish study found that households using **forensic property marking stickers** experienced **fewer burglaries** than those in a non-participating control group.

The preventative effect declined over the course of the study.



5 Victim Fear of Crime

Analysis of US victim data suggests a link between enhanced police responses post-victimisation and elevated victim fear amongst:

- Females
- Repeat victims
- Older age groups
- Those on low income



6 Repeat Victimization

An exploration of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub identified challenges that may contribute to repeat victimisation:

- Victim demographic
- Abuse location
- Presence of substances
- Recording practices



A Better CJS for London

7 Sentencing Departures

Analysis of sentencing among 138,745 criminal cases in the US found **women receive less severe sentences** than men. **Black men are sentenced more severely** than any demographic.



8 Criminal Career Patterns

Complex and inconsistent **offending patterns** were identified across a sample of Dutch career criminals.

Even after committing several offences, prolonged conviction-free intervals were common.



9 Re-entry Courts

Two evaluations suggest that re-entry courts **do not have a notable impact** on reoffending or rearrests.

Keeping Children & Young People Safe

10 CSA Trigger Factors

An extensive narrative review found that victim factors such as a **younger age** at the time of CSA, and a **longer period of abuse**, could trigger sexual offending behaviour.



11 Child Maltreatment

A review of literature from 13 countries noted a number of **institutional and procedural challenges** present within the **child maltreatment fatality review** process, including: death misclassifications, funding, privacy issues, inadequate investigations & lack of perpetrator information.

Tackling Violence Against Women and Girls

12 Neighbourhood perceptions

A 24-year longitudinal study identified a link between **positive perceptions** of **neighbourhood** and lower levels of Intimate Partner Violence.



13 Temporary DV Intervention

A Finnish qualitative study identified a range of **challenges with implementing temporary DV interventions**: continuity in managerial and organisational support, information distribution, awareness raising and training.



Good practice requires **consistency** across all processes and support mechanisms.

14 Trafficking Victims

Survey data of trafficking victims found that across different exploitation types, those exploited for domestic servitude reported higher levels of:

- Violence
- Restriction
- Mental health problems



15 Cyber Sextortion

A content analysis of media reports and court documents to explore the crimes of 152 US cyber sextortion offenders, revealed four subtypes of offending:

- Cybercrime
- Transnational
- Minor focussed
- Intimate violence



16 Intimate Partner Stalking

A systematic review of intimate partner stalking outlined **barriers** in the CJS victim response to victims, including: lack of **knowledge & training** on stalking, difficulties in **investigation & prosecution**, and **negative perception of victims**.



Important note:

This summary provides headline findings from a selection of recent academic studies (published January – March 2020). 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

It is unclear whether police proactivity as practiced on an everyday basis reflects the optimal strategies and implementation methods (for example, as recommended by the American 2017 National Academies of Sciences (NAS) Committee and Report on Proactive Policing). A study by Lum *et al.* (2020) sought to address this knowledge gap by analyzing almost 2 million computer-aided dispatch records from four American agencies and systematically observing 84 officers for more than 180 hours to better understand the empirical realities of police proactivity. The findings indicate a major difference between the types of proactive interventions supported by research and the practice of everyday police proactivity. Specifically, proactive policing practices are limited in scope and are often implemented in less than optimal ways. A large proportion of proactive activities are also not recorded, rewarded, or supervised, indicating that patrol commanders may have little control over, or awareness of, proactive deployment. The authors conclude that, from an evidence-based policing perspective, much more effort is needed to record and track proactivity to measure its impacts (both positive and negative) and align it with what is known about effective proactive activity from research.

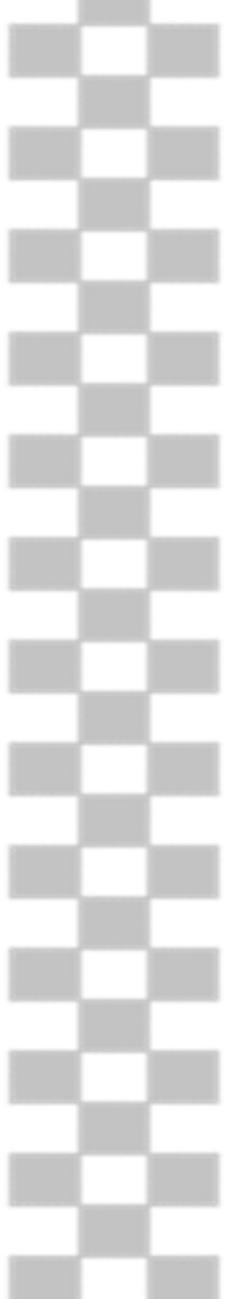
Modern policing policy and practices emphasize the philosophy of community-oriented policing and the principles of procedural justice to improve police–community relations. A study by Dai & Hu (2020) examines the duration of police–citizen encounters involving domestic and non-domestic conflicts. A sample of 262 encounters from systematic social observations in Cincinnati USA was analysed. The results show that officers spent less time interacting with the citizens in the lower social class and spent more time on the encounters involving assaults. Community policing specialists spent more time interacting with citizens. Considering citizens’ voice is also associated with longer duration.

Police performance

Police departments around the USA are implementing Early Intervention Systems (EIS) to identify officers who may be exhibiting problematic or unprofessional behaviours. The goal of EIS is to minimize officer misconduct and increase officer accountability. To evaluate whether EIS can actually differentiate “problem” from “non-problem” officers, James *et al.* (2020) analyzed the performance of officers from incident reports

of police–citizen interactions. Using a blind scoring method, they evaluated performance across a range of police–citizen encounters from 1000 police reports (500 randomly selected reports from EIS-flagged officers (treatment group) and 500 randomly selected reports from non-flagged officers (control group)) using a percentage-based metric to score officer performance. The overall performance score assigned to officers across all incident reports was 80.46% (SD = 8.75%). When separated into EIS-flagged and non-EIS-flagged incidents, performance scores were 80.63% (SD = 8.58%) compared to 80.27% (SD = 8.95). The absence of a statistically significant difference between EIS-flagged and non-EIS-flagged performance led the researchers to conclude that the EIS evaluated did not appear to be differentiating between problem and non-problem behaviour.

1. Police employees are exposed to a variety of complex, work-related stressors and are susceptible to experiencing reduced psychological wellbeing. To advance understanding of the personal and social factors underpinning psychological wellbeing in this population, Jackman *et al.* (2020) examined the relationship between psychological wellbeing, perceived support from colleagues, received support from colleagues and personality factors in police employees in an English county force. 381 police employees completed an online questionnaire assessing: psychological wellbeing; perceived support; received support; and personality factors. Psychological wellbeing was significantly and positively associated with perceived support from colleagues, received support from colleagues, extraversion, agreeableness, conscientiousness, emotional stability, and openness to experience. Further investigation of these relationships using multiple logistic regression analysis found that perceived support from colleagues, received support from colleagues, extraversion, and emotional stability significantly predicted psychological wellbeing. The researchers conclude that increasing both perceptions of available support and the amount of support received among employees in police forces is important for enhancing psychological wellbeing in this population. Furthermore, police employees with lower levels of extraversion and emotional stability should be considered for additional support to promote psychological wellbeing.



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Public access/engagement

To test whether exposure to news images depicting law enforcement affects public attitudes toward the police, in American research by Wozniak *et al.* (2020) a non-probability sample of 1,100 participants drawn from a national online panel were randomly assigned to view one of three pictures that depicted a range of hostile to friendly police-civilian interactions (compared to a control group who saw no pictures). Dependent variables were perceptions of police officers' effectiveness, misconduct, and bias. Moderating variables were respondents' experiential, ideological, or demographic characteristics. The study found that image exposure did not directly affect any dimension of attitudes toward the police, but there was one significant moderation effect. Respondents who had been recently stopped by an officer and saw a picture of a friendly interaction between officers and a civilian perceived more frequent police misconduct than respondents in the same experimental condition who were not recently stopped. Routine media consumption was significantly related to perceptions of police in the non-experimental analysis. Findings indicate that brief exposure to static images of law enforcement disseminated by the media does not independently affect people's opinions about the performance of police in society. Rather, people's global opinions about the police are shaped by their own beliefs, prior experiences with officers, and cumulative, self-selected media consumption.

Investigation

2. Although strength of physical evidence against a defendant in a criminal case has been repeatedly shown to be important in determining a variety of criminal justice processing outcomes, it has typically been excluded from research studies examining the arrest decision due to data limitations. Arndt *et al.* (2020) examine the relationship between a criminal suspect's race and the arrest sanction for the crime of homicide while controlling for the strength of physical evidence linking the criminal suspect to the crime. The data set used was obtained from the National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD), using official record data that followed criminal cases in five jurisdictions (Los Angeles County, CA; Indianapolis, IN; Evansville, IN; Fort Wayne, IN; and South Bend, IN) from the time of the police incident report to the final criminal disposition. A random sample of 4,205 reported crime incidents between 2003 and 2006 was selected, stratified by crime type and jurisdiction (this included 859 aggravated assaults, 1,263 burglaries, 400 homicides, 602 rapes, and 1,081 robberies). Data were collected from three sources (police incident and investigation reports, crime lab reports, and

prosecutor case files, containing a total of 175 variables including study site, crime type, forensic variables, criminal offense variables, and crime dispositions variables). Logistic regression results show that Black homicide suspects were not more likely than similarly situated White homicide suspects to be arrested by police. They also showed that Black-on-White homicides were not more apt than other offender-victim racial combinations to culminate in an arrest. The authors conclude that a homicide suspect's race does not play a noteworthy role in influencing the likelihood of arrest after accounting for the strength of physical evidence gathered against the criminal suspect in the case.

3. 'Joint enterprise' is described as a 'dragnet' that draws disproportionate numbers of black and minority ethnic young men into the criminal justice system in England and Wales. An article by Young *et al.* (2020) presents the findings from semi-structured interviews with 19 detectives from the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), drawn from Homicide Crime Command (12) and Trident Gang Crime Command (7)—the latter of whom were responsible for tackling 'gang-related' crime, including non-fatal shootings. The detectives rebut accusations of racial stereotyping when investigating multi-handed crimes. Instead, they claim that the disproportionality reflects the involvement of larger numbers of primarily black men in violent crime. Detectives frame their actions as being driven by their 'ultimate concerns' to do a good job of protecting the public and obtaining justice for victims within the difficult social and cultural context in which they operate. The authors identify the racialized notions of risk in detectives' narratives and argue that such 'colour-blind racism' is likely to contribute to young black and mixed-race men being overrepresented in cases that draw on the principles of joint enterprise dragging those on the periphery of group violence into the criminal justice net.

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Crime prevention

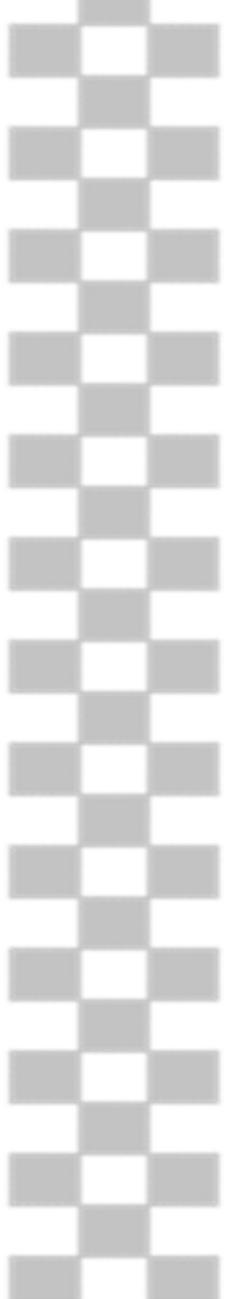
4. In a Danish randomised control trial, Kyvsgaard & Sorensen (2020) analysed whether the posting of sticker decals indicating the use of forensic property marking deters burglary. The sampling frame includes all (N=6603) single-family houses in the municipality of Aarhus, Denmark, that were burgled once or more during the 4 years prior to the experiment. Houses were randomly assigned to treatment (n=3378) and control (n=3225). Treatment houses were offered a free forensic property marking kit and asked to post sticker decals around their front doors indicating their use of the product. Control households were not contacted. A process evaluation determined that only one-third (n=1080) of the houses assigned to treatment requested property marking kits and posted stickers as instructed. An intention-to-treat (ITT) effect analysis was based on the full treatment group despite a low (32%) compliance rate. At the end of a 15½-month observation period, the full treatment group had experienced 21% fewer burglaries than the control group – a statistically significant difference. Analysis revealed that the preventive effect was limited to the beginning of the observation period and declined thereafter, something the authors tentatively concluded may have been due to an “availability effect,” i.e., a heightened vigilance induced by the initial contact letter.

Along similar lines, in a Canadian study Madero-Hernandez *et al.* (2020) looked at the effect individuals’ perceptions of the police (either support for traditional models of policing, or support for community policing/procedural justice models) had on their adoption of crime prevention measures. The study used data from Canada’s General Social Survey with a sample size of 18,790 respondents looking at 13 crime prevention measures (e.g. locking doors, installing burglar alarms), controlling for differing levels of difficulty in the implementation of these measures. Their results showed that the effect of police perceptions on the adoption of crime prevention measures varied by policing model. Residents who have favourable perceptions of the police as to the performance of traditional policing duties are less inclined to take measures against crime. In contrast, those with favourable perceptions of the police as engaging in community policing/procedural justice are more inclined to take such measures.

The business improvement district (BID) model has spread rapidly worldwide as a feasible approach to reduce crime in urban neighbourhoods. However, research on the crime-preventive effects of BIDs has been limited to a handful of US studies, and there is a lack of research from European contexts. Kronkvist & Ivert (2020) examined the

crime-preventive effects of a BID-inspired property owner collaboration (BID-Malmö) implemented in a residential neighbourhood in Malmö, Sweden. Based on the use of a difference-in-difference estimator and weighted displacement quotients, their results demonstrate a significant reduction in crimes reported to the police in the intervention neighbourhood relative to control areas, with signs of spatial diffusion of benefits rather than displacement of crime to adjacent areas. This result is, however, mainly driven by a decrease in reported incidents of vandalism, no effect was observed for violent crime in public places.

Warner & Berg (2020) examine the degree to which adult male social ties with neighbourhood youth, or intergenerational ties, increase the perceived willingness of residents to engage in the informal social control of children. The study uses data from 3 sources: survey data collected between February and August 2000 from approximately 2,200 residents in 64 neighbourhoods in the two largest cities of a southern US state (populations of >250k), the 2000 U.S. Census, and official counts of crimes reported to the police. Male intergenerational social ties with youth are found to be an important and unique source of informal social control of children net of other forms of neighbourhood social organization, and informal social control of children is shown to decrease neighbourhood crime rates. Specifically, findings from this study show that adult males’ ties with youth increase the perceived likelihood of informal social control of children within the community. Importantly, these effects are in addition to the effects of two traditional measure of social ties (neighbouring activities and numbers of friends and family ties), a measure of social cohesion and trust, and controls for the presence of males the neighbourhood. This finding suggests that male intergenerational ties with youth have their own specific and important influence on a community’s capacity for crime control. While men’s neighbouring activities and the size of their neighbourhood networks are found to be less important than women’s, men, nonetheless, contribute importantly to the overall social capital of the community for crime control.



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Future policing/crime developments

The UK Home Office (2020) has produced a report looking at the drivers of, and long-term trends and patterns in, homicide in England and Wales and other nations.

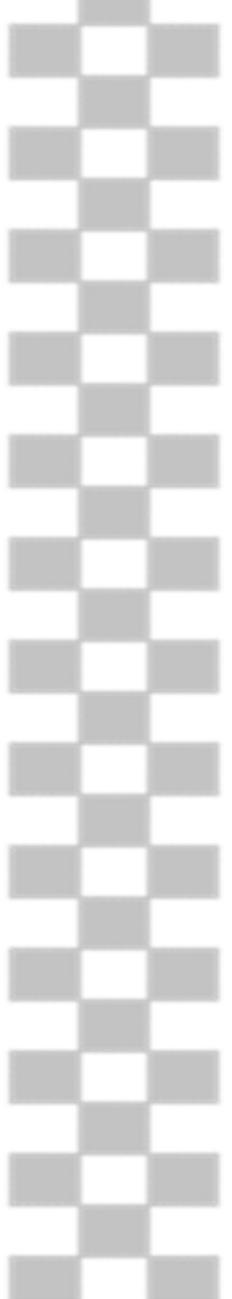
While scholars have investigated the escalation of violence associated with cocaine trafficking, limited attention has been paid to the consequences of instability in the economic value of markets. Aziani (2020) produced an estimate of the gross value added of the cocaine market in 126 countries between 1998 and 2013 (2020) and compared fluctuations with national levels of interpersonal lethal violence. The analysis indicates how expansions, but also contractions, of the value of cocaine markets influenced the level of violence within the countries that constitute the global cocaine trafficking network.

Victimisation/Fear of crime

Ceccato *et al.* (2020) assessed patterns of sexual victimization among young riders of rail-bound public transportation using a sample of 1,122 university students in Stockholm, Sweden. Findings indicate that the physical and social characteristics of transit environments have an impact on the likelihood of sexual victimization after controlling for individual factors. The study found sexual violence to be common in transit environments - about 45% of respondents declared being victimized in public transportation in the previous three years, more often during the trip than at the station or on the way to/from the station. Verbal sexual harassment (e.g., catcalling, obscene language) was more common than physical (e.g., touching, groping) or nonverbal (e.g., unwanted sexual looks or gestures) sexual violence. Sexual violence was gendered (women being more at risk, corroborating the gender hypothesis), but gender was not the only factor affecting young riders' victimization. Younger women, native-born riders, frequent users, those taking long trips and those previously victimized (by property crimes) were more at risk for sexual violence than other riders. Sexual violence happened more often in settings and contexts where overall victimization (and poor social control) were normalized and morally accepted. Variables indicating physical environmental attributes (e.g., isolated station, dirty conditions, illumination) were not as important as the social ones (e.g., drunk people, panhandling) to explain the variation of sexual violence among young riders. The authors conclude that trying to untangle these casual mechanisms was 'a difficult task' since transit environments are peculiar places; they converge people and also disperse them - other passengers are around when a sexual assault occurs, but they

might not be aware or be willing (or might not be able) to intervene since they are on the move. This is also the case with security guards or safety hosts since they move around constantly within the transit system (from platforms to entrances but also from stations to stations and in between transportation modes), which makes guardianship difficult.

Alessi *et al.* (2020) examined how a diverse group of sexual and gender minority (SGM) homeless youth described and understood their victimization experiences occurring before they were homeless and those occurring after they were homeless and engaging in survival sex using a sample of 283 racially/ethnically diverse youth between the ages of 15 and 26 years (living in a large U.S. city. Participants identified their gender as male (47%), female (36%), transgender (15%), or queer and other (3%) and their sexual orientation as bisexual (37%), gay (23%), lesbian (15%), heterosexual (13%), or queer and other (13%). Thirty-seven percent identified as Black, 30% as multiracial, 22% as Latino/a, 5% as White, and 5% as another race. Content and thematic analyses were used to conduct a secondary analysis of qualitative data. Four themes were identified: unsafe and unsupported at home; barriers to housing and employment stability; ongoing victimization and lack of protection; and unexpected opportunities for resilience. Findings demonstrated that participants experienced victimization related not only to their SGM identities but also to chaotic home environments. Once homeless and engaging in survival sex, youth experienced barriers to securing employment and housing as well as victimization by police and clients. These experiences frequently involved prejudice related to their intersecting identities. Despite encountering numerous challenges, participants described surviving on the streets by living openly and forming relationships with other youth.



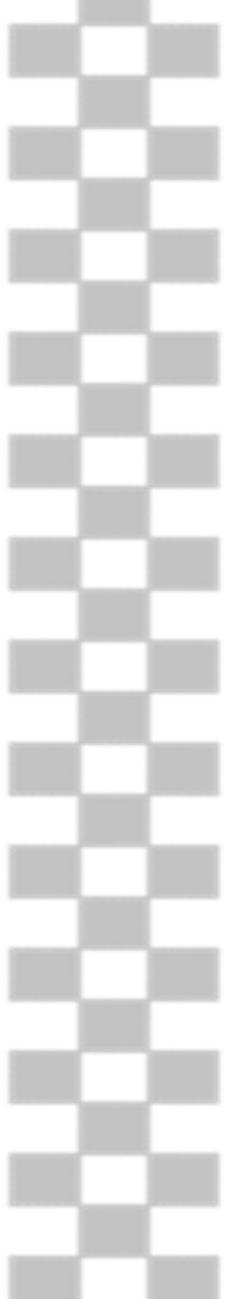
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In another American study, Kattari *et al.* (2020) used data from the 2015 United States Transgender Survey (sample of 27,715 individuals) to examine differential experiences of victimization in health care settings of transgender and nonbinary (TNB) identity individuals. A series of multivariate logistic regressions were run to determine adjusted odds ratios (AORs) for TNB individuals experiencing four forms of victimization in the past year: (a) doctor/health care provider used harsh or abusive language; (b) doctor/health care provider was physically rough or abusive; (c) patient was verbally harassed in health care setting; and (d) patient experienced unwanted sexual contact in health care setting. The results showed that frequency of victimization varied by gender identity and type of victimization; the most prevalent form was verbal harassment by a doctor/provider and the least prevalent was unwanted sexual contact in a health care setting. Although findings varied by form of violence, generally, regression models demonstrated elevated odds of experiencing some form of health care victimization for those who were transgender compared with genderqueer, biracial/multiracial compared with White, low income compared with higher income, and disabled compared to non-disabled. In addition, odds ratios for victimization increased with age and, for some forms, increased with low educational attainment.

Three American studies used National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) data; two to look at gender issues and victimisation. The NCVS collects data on violent and property crimes, including the specific circumstances of the victimization as well as the experiences of the victim her or himself, the effects of victimization on the victim, and subsequent police response. Campagna & Zaykowski (2020) used NCVS data from 2008–2014 to examine whether sex differences in level of distress and help-seeking for physical and emotional problems as a result of criminal victimization can be explained by injury, type of crime, and the victim–offender relationship. Consistent with the existing literature, they found females reported elevated distress and were more likely to seek help for emotional and physical problems. However, being a victim of intimate and family violence contributed to heightened distress and increased help-seeking for both males and females. Male distress was elevated when the offender was a friend or acquaintance and when the attack was a robbery. They conclude that victims’ services should address crimes males are more likely to experience, including robbery and victimizations by known, but not necessarily intimate, relationships.

Hullenaar & Ruback (2020) used a sample of 18,627 non-intimate partner physical assaults from the 1993-2015 NCVS to examine how gender affects victims’ decisions to report physical assaults to the police using two perspectives; coercive power and gender norm. The research found (a) female victims were 21.9% more likely to report to the police when the offender was male (vs. female) and (b) male victims were 45.8% more likely to report to the police when the offender was female. Victims’ tendency to report an opposite-sex offender to the police was strongest in simple assaults and absent in aggravated assaults. The results led the authors to conclude that male and female victims’ reporting behaviours were most consistent with gender norms that encourage the use of self-help violence and discourage police reporting in intragender assaults. Consistent with this explanation, self-help violence was negatively related to crime reporting in assaults. Victims were more likely to use self-help violence and avoid reporting to the police against a same-sex offender than an opposite-sex offender. Finally, the offender’s gender had a relatively stronger influence on assault victims’ decisions to use self-help violence than on victims’ decisions to take no action against the offender (i.e., not reporting to the police or using self-help violence).

5. Abbott *et al.* (2020) sought to assess whether increased police effort subsequent to an individual’s criminal victimization has a significant effect on violent crime victims’ fear of crime using NCVS data from 2010–2014 (n=2499). The research found that greater effort by the police after victimization was related to greater fear levels for the victims. The authors suggest a number of possible explanations for this finding. It may be that police expending greater effort on behalf of crime victims may lead the victim to believe that the victimization is more severe, which would result in higher levels of fear. Furthermore, almost half the sample had been victimized by two or more crimes during the time period under study. Thus, these respondents have been made keenly aware that crime victimization is something that they have little control over, given their current situation, and may have increased levels of fear of victimization because of that realization (and above and beyond any actions the police may or may not take). Overall, being female, older, having a lower income, and being the victim of a greater number of crimes are all responsible for elevated levels of fear.



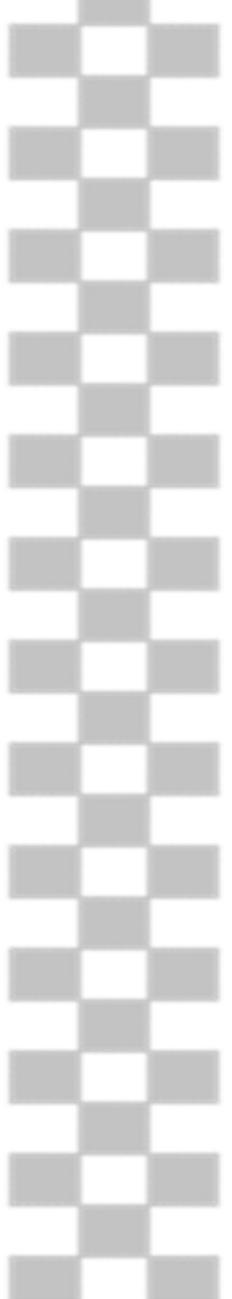
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Contact with the police, as the first contact with the criminal justice system for young people and children, may signify individuals who are vulnerable to later adverse social and health outcomes. However, little is known about how often children have contact with police or for what reason. Whitten *et al.* (2020) provide a demographic profile of the prevalence and reasons for police contact among a representative, longitudinal, population-based sample of 91,631 young people in New South Wales, Australia. By 13 years of age, almost one in six (15.6%) children had contact with police as a victim, person of interest and/or witness on at least one occasion. The most common reason for contact with police was in relation to an assault. There was considerable overlap among children who had been in contact with police on more than one occasion for different reasons, with those having police contact as a person of interest or witness being seven times more likely to have also been in contact with police as a victim in a separate incident, than children not known to police. Contact with the police, in the authors' words, 'is surprisingly common among children and suggest that early interventions for children in contact with police might prevent a range of adverse outcomes not limited to criminal offending'.

6.To help reduce victimisation, safeguarding practices in England and Wales are becoming more multi-agency, with Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH) being a contemporary example of such an approach. MASH aim to reduce victimisation by identifying and managing vulnerability at the earliest opportunity, achieved through the co-location of safeguarding agencies, joint decision making and the co-ordination of interventions. Previous research has indicated that the demand placed upon MASH often outweighs available resources, questioning the extent to which MASH effectively safeguards vulnerable people at the earliest opportunity. Whilst existing literature has focused upon the characteristics of MASH referrals, alongside referral processes, rates of repeat referrals have been overlooked. Shorrocks *et al.* (2020) explore the number of repeat referrals made over a two-month period to a MASH location in the north-west of England (n = 2,134). By investigating repeat referrals, reasons why some individuals are susceptible to being victimised on multiple occasions are identified. Demographic factors, including gender, age and ethnicity, as well as situational factors, such as the presence of substances and location of abuse, were found to increase the likelihood of an individual being repeatedly referred to MASH. The study also questions the effectiveness of MASH recording practices, since processes distorted the rate at which individuals were re-referred to MASH. Equally, what happens to a referral once a decision is made was not

monitored, potentially increasing the likelihood of an individual being revictimised. Whilst MASH may reduce the likelihood of most individuals being revictimised, MASH practices, as well as individual and situational characteristics, make it difficult for MASH to effectively safeguard all referrals from being repeatedly victimised. The paper concludes that whilst MASH has taken a step towards identifying and managing victimisation, practices and processes need to be reviewed if MASH is to proactively prevent repeat victimisation.

Tanksley *et al.* (2020) employ a twin-based design to test the social neurocriminology hypothesis (Choy et al. 2017 which suggests that socio-environmental factors affect the development/function of brain-based biological factors that then increase the likelihood of later crime and delinquency). Using regression analysis on data from the Environmental Risk Longitudinal Twin (E-Risk) Study (N = 1,986), the study examines whether cognitive (specifically, measures of intelligence, theories of mind, and self-control) and psychological characteristics (ADHD, conduct disorder, depression, anxiety, and psychosis) are related to subsequent polyvictimization. The E-Risk Study is a contemporary UK-based panel study of same-sex twins which captures detailed information on a variety of victimization experiences in childhood through early adulthood. Additionally, the E-Risk Study has an extensive battery of measures of cognitive and psychological characteristics assessed in repeated clinical interviews. The findings indicate that self-control, as well as symptoms of conduct disorder and anxiety, are related to polyvictimization even after adjusting for family environments and partially adjusting for genetic influences. After fully adjusting for genetic factors, only self-control was a statistically significant predictor of polyvictimization. The findings suggest polyvictimization is influenced by cognitive/psychological characteristics that individuals carry with them across contexts.



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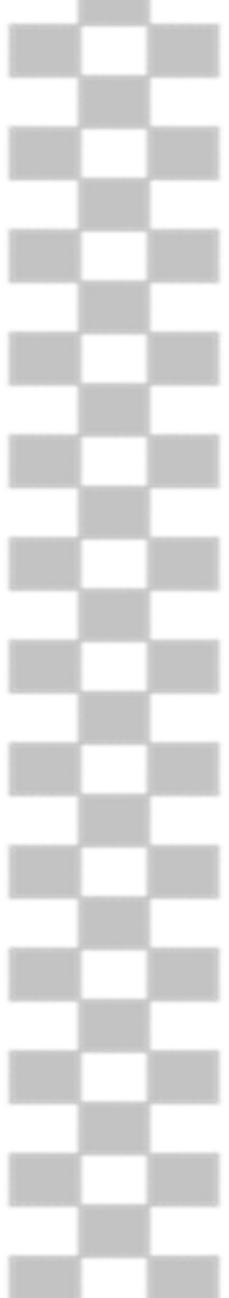
Criminal Justice Service

The 'information effect' suggests that providing detailed information about sentencing reduces punitive attitudes of laymen. Grimmelikhuisen & van den Bos (2020) examined whether this extends to modest information treatments and which specific informational types matter most. In four survey experiments, 1,778 Dutch participants were exposed to a sentence concerning a serious traffic offence resulting in a fatal accident. Studies 1 and 2 explored the effect of a press release on negative and positive affect. Studies 3 and 4 explored the effects of various types of information on affect and trust in judges. Modest information treatments generally heightened positive affect, reduced negative affect and—sometimes—increased trust in judges. Providing procedural cues and reference points about the sentence had a sizable effect on legal attitudes. The information effects pertain to a broader set of attitudes than currently presumed in the literature. Furthermore, subtle treatments containing procedural cues and reference points can change attitudes towards judicial verdicts.

Extra-legal factors such as accent status, race and age may affect how someone is perceived in courtrooms. Even eyewitnesses who are not on trial may be rated less favourably as a result of such features. Frumkin & Stone (2020) measured accent status, race and age with 254 participants listening to oral witness statements; 161 females and 93 males (the research used auditory stimuli to focus on the accent and voice of the eyewitness not confounded with issues of appearance (e.g., clothing, grooming, attractiveness)). Other aspects of speech not included (language variation (hesitations), vocabulary, grammar and non-native accents) were recognised by the researchers as relevant aspects of speech but beyond the scope of the study. Most participants were living and working in and around East London, and many were also students. These factors account for the racial mix of the participant sample (self-defined race was 76 black, 99 Asian, 25 whites, 14 mixed (e.g., white and black, black and Asian, etc.), and 40 'other'). Three participants were excluded who reported being unable to hear the testimonies clearly, so 251 participants' data were analysed. Results indicate eyewitnesses with higher-status accents were rated more favourably than those with lower-status accents and younger black eyewitnesses were rated higher than older black witnesses. White eyewitnesses were more favourably rated than black witnesses although this was qualified by results suggesting anti-norm deviance. The authors conclude that the findings 'provide the criminal justice system with reasons to question how interactions among witness characteristics and with observer characteristics may influence court decisions'.

Two American studies looked at the relationship between ethnicity and sentencing. Using data from Florida (N = 186,885), Lehmann (2020) explored the potential moderating effects of different violent crimes on sentencing. The findings from these analyses indicate that Black–White sentencing disparities were particularly pronounced for manslaughter, robbery/carjacking, arson, and resisting arrest with violence. While Hispanic ethnicity exerts limited effects on sentencing outcomes generally, Hispanics are particularly disadvantaged in manslaughter cases. Relative to minority defendants, White offenders receive harsher sentences for sexual battery, other sex offenses, and abuse of children.

7. Holmes *et al.* (2020) analysed the effects of defendant race and gender on the likelihood and length of sentencing departures (upwards and downwards) from federal sentencing guidelines using 138,745 criminal cases sentenced between 2014 and 2016 in federal criminal courts. Case information included demographic characteristics of the defendant, statutes of conviction, presentence investigation reports, guideline information, sentencing information, and information about the sentence relative to guideline recommendations. The study identified two key findings. First, race/ethnicity and gender separately are important factors when examining sentencing departures. Black defendants were less likely to receive downward departures and tended to receive shorter sentencing discounts when downward departures were given, net of controls. However, Hispanic defendants were not disadvantaged in downward departure decisions and were actually less likely to receive an upward departure than White defendants. Female defendants were consistently more likely to receive downward departures and less likely to receive upward departures than male defendants. In addition, when they did receive downward departures, female defendants tended to receive larger sentencing discounts than similarly situated male defendants. In short, being Black meant more adverse sentencing departures and Hispanic defendants fared either similarly or slightly better than Whites in departure decisions. Meanwhile, females were consistently treated more leniently than males. Second, when examining race and gender in combinations, race was particularly important for men (and especially Black men) but less so for women. Findings indicated that minority disadvantages in departure decisions appear to be reserved exclusively for Black men. For women, race/ethnicity appeared to carry little weight on departure decisions. The results showed a consistent female advantage in departure decisions regardless of race/ethnicity, with Hispanic women receiving the most lenient departure outcomes.



A Better Criminal Justice Service for London

Supporting offenders

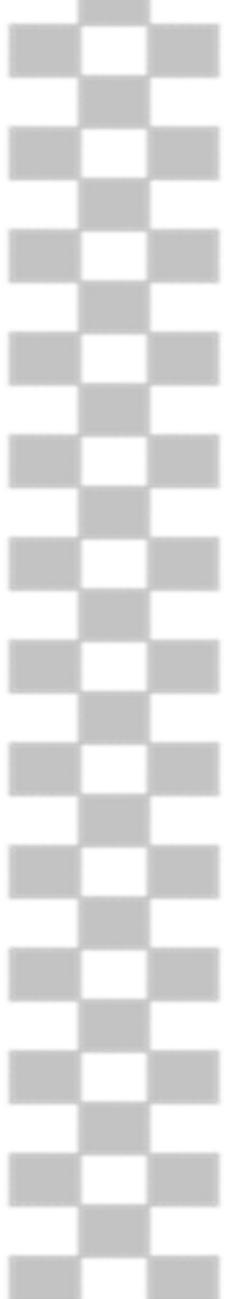
Alward *et al.* (2020) examined the relationship between internal change factors (agency, readiness for change, and legal cynicism), and four re-entry outcomes (recidivism, reincarceration, drug use, and treatment participation). The study also assessed the impact of external change factors, such as family support and perceived neighbourhood quality on re-entry outcomes. The study used the Serious and Violent Offender Re-entry Initiative (SVORI) data set collected across 14 US states between 2005 and 2007 to assess the impact of re-entry programming on re-entry outcomes, including employment, housing, recidivism, and desistance. A total of four waves of data were collected; wave 1 collected approximately 30 days prior to respondents' scheduled release from incarceration, wave 2 collected approximately 3 months post-release, wave 3 approximately 9 months post-release and wave 4 collected roughly 15 months post-incarceration. The study's final analytic sample included 1,148 individuals (55.9% of SVORI adults). The research found within-individual changes in agency and family emotional support were significantly related to decreased self-reported recidivism and reincarceration over time. Within-individual changes in family emotional support were also significantly related to reductions in self-reported drug use and within-individual changes in readiness for change were positively associated with treatment participation across the post release waves of the SVORI data. Between-individual results further demonstrate the salience of change factors on re-entry outcomes.

Griffin *et al.* (2020) also used data from SVORI to examine the effects of social support and stressors on self-reported illicit drug use among 1,074 recently released individuals (men = 874; women = 200). Three broad conclusions can be drawn from these findings: (a) Men were more likely than women to use drugs in the first 3 months following release from prison; (b) mental health and neighbourhood quality were universal predictors of drug use in early re-entry; and (c) social support, stressors, and individual and legal characteristics affected drug use for men and women differently. This work fills knowledge gaps related to the intersection of re-entry, gender, and drug use within the context of correctional policy and practice.

The requirement to submit to drug testing is either a standard or special condition of adult community correctional supervision in most jurisdictions. Positive drug test results are one of the most common violations of probation that result in official action by a supervising officer. Hicks *et al.* (2020) examine the relationship between individual characteristics, drug test results, and federal supervision outcomes in the USA. Results

indicate that individual risk score and offense category are associated with positive drug tests. Furthermore, testing positive for hard drugs is associated with revocation for new crimes and non-drug technical violations, but testing positive for cannabis only is not associated with supervision revocation for either reason.

Roman *et al.* (2020) examined self-reported data from adults enrolled in MADCE (the Multisite Adult Drug Court Evaluation), a quasi-experimental study of participants in 23 drug courts in seven states and six comparison courts in four states—all of whom had similar drug use and criminal history profiles. Repeated interviews were conducted at baseline, 6 months and 18 months after the baseline interview. In total the study included 1,349 participants who completed all three interviews (877 drug court respondents and 472 comparison court respondents). The authors identify anticipated mechanisms by which drug-court practices change perceptions and attitudes, and how these changes subsequently affect drug use and crime. Proposed mediators include changes in court practices (e.g., court appearances, drug testing, and treatment) and psychological mediators, including perceived risk and reward (deterrence), perceived legitimacy (procedural justice), and motivation to change one's behaviour through substance abuse treatment. Results suggest that the clients' attitude toward the judge, is the most crucial theoretical mediator on the pathway to desistance from drug use and crime.



A Better Criminal Justice Service for London

Willoughby *et al.* (2020) examined violence-related death (VRD) after release from prison among a representative sample of people released from prisons in Queensland, Australia, by sex and Indigenous status. Correctional records for all people (aged ≥ 17 years) released from prisons from 1994 until 2007 (N = 41,970) were linked probabilistically with the National Death Index. The primary outcome was VRD following release from prison. The researchers calculated crude mortality rates (CMRs) and standardized mortality ratios (SMRs) standardized by age and sex to the Australian population. Of 2,158 deaths after release from prison, 3% (n = 68) were violence-related. The SMR for VRD was 10.0 and was greatest for women. The rate of VRD was 2.5 deaths per 10,000 person-years and was highest between 2 and 6 months after release from prison. Risk factors for VRD included short sentences (<90 days; for males and non-Indigenous people) and experiencing two or more imprisonments (for non-Indigenous people). No significant risk factors for VRD were identified for women or Indigenous people. People released from prison die from violence at a rate that is greatly elevated compared with the general population, with women experiencing the greatest elevation in risk.

Reducing reoffending

8. Focusing on intermittency as a specific criminal career dimension, van Koppen *et al.* (2020) explore the distribution of intermittency as it occurs across individuals and in the course of the criminal career. Using conviction data on repeat offenders (N = 3716) from the Dutch Criminal Career and Life-Course Study (CCLS), overall patterns of intermittency (measured as conviction-free intervals between subsequent convictions) are analyzed. Given different levels of offending before and after conviction-free periods, they examine the length of the conviction-free interval and the extent to which offending in terms of frequency and specialization changes after a conviction-free period. On average, repeat offenders show relatively short intermittency periods. However, conviction-free intervals tend to increase towards the end of the criminal career regardless of offending frequency. A substantial minority of offenders has a criminal career characterized by more than one spell of frequent offending separated by an extended period of non-offending. As the intermittency period increases, offending specialization across offending periods declines, but not for all types of offenses. This study shows that even after committing several offenses, some offenders experience a prolonged conviction-free interval only to resume offending at a non-trivial rate. Due to the length of their conviction-free interval, these offenders would erroneously have been labeled 'desisters' in many prior studies.

Existing research has shown that the rise of incarceration had a substantial effect on the stabilizing forces of employment. Two American studies have looked at the links between employment and crime, both using data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997 (NLSY97). (The NLSY97 is a longitudinal research study that involves collecting data on a variety of subjects using a sample representative of individuals living in the United States. The sample consisted of respondents born between 1980 and 1984, who were between the ages of 12 and 16 during the initial survey. At implementation, the NLSY97 included 8,984 youth in the initial survey, identified through a multistage cluster research design. Respondents complete self-administered surveys every year on a variety of topics including criminal activity, employment, family, and other social developments). Using longitudinal data from NLSY97, Fernandes (2020) explores the effects of the continuum of criminal justice contact (arrest, conviction, and jail sentence), on employment stability and wages. Results show that the consistency of employment is detrimentally affected by all points of low-level contact, with an added penalty for African Americans. The conditions and circumstances that render felony imprisonment impactful are also present for less severe points of contact, leading the author to conclude that all levels of contact need to be monitored to fully ascertain how the criminal justice system can increase stratification and occupational inequality. Abeling-Judge (2020) identified a subset of individuals (n=4,922) with offense histories across different waves of NLSY data collection from 1997 to 2011 to examine the impact of employment on offending behaviour through employment. The results identify a long-term reduction in offending, but also suggest that social network opportunities may provide limited prosocial growth experiences.

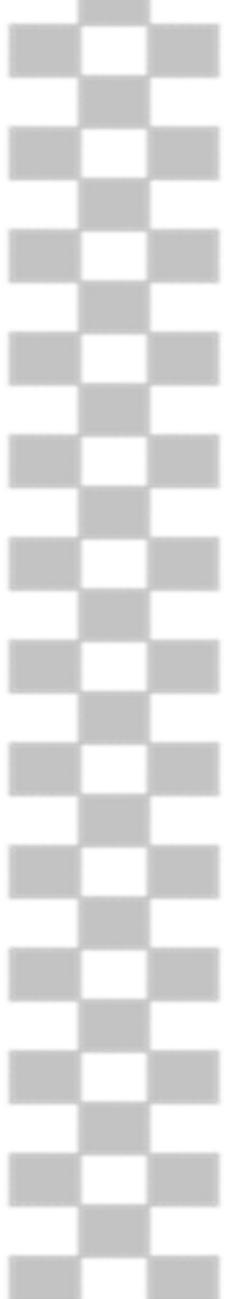
A Better Criminal Justice Service for London

Home visits provide a space for officer–supervisee encounters. However, little is known about the dynamics of home visits and their association with supervision outcomes. Meredith *et al.* (2020) examine the context, content, and role of home visits in parole in Georgia, USA. Six members of the research team individually accompanied 64 parole officers (who varied by race, age, gender, and tenure) as they made 383 home visits (one visit per supervision case/person) across the state in 13 districts including a mixture of urban, suburban, and rural areas. Ride-along shifts occurred throughout work—weekdays over 5 months from the end of 2014 to the beginning of 2015. Longitudinal data were extracted from several Georgia criminal justice system agency databases, with the parole CMS serving as the primary source. The average visit included only those on parole, inside a single-family home, lasted 8 minutes, was conducive to discussions, and covered rules and needs topics. Findings suggest that each visit was related to reduced risk of a new felony arrest or a revocation, controlling for criminogenic factors and supervision activities. Risk was further associated with a reduction if officers engaged in mixed-topic discussions (rules and needs). The researchers conclude that home visits can enable officers to help people on parole successfully navigate the challenges of re-entry.

9. Two American evaluations into the effectiveness of re-entry courts have both produced similar findings. Ayoub (2020) undertook a randomized controlled trial into the effectiveness of the Harlem Parole Re-entry Court, an innovative re-entry court model implemented by the Harlem Community Justice Centre, examining its impact on recidivism. After random assignment to either the treatment or control groups, the study compared recidivism (re-arrest, reconviction, and revocation) among parolees released to Upper Manhattan between 2010 and 2013. Parolees were either assigned to report to the re-entry court (N = 213) or to traditional parole for the control group (N = 291). Results from logistic regression models indicate that the court significantly reduced (by 45%) revocations for re-entry court parolees within 18 months of release, when controlling for relevant covariates. Re-entry court parolees demonstrated a significant 45% reduction in revocation. However, there was no evidence of significant differences on re-arrest or reconviction.

9. Similarly, a quasi-experimental outcome evaluation (Taylor 2020) of a US federal re-entry court (the STAR program) found that while the programme increased access to social services, decreased probation revocations, and increased future employment, it did not reduce the likelihood of new arrests. The first 265 STAR participants were compared

to a matched sample of 265 individuals under the regular terms of supervised release. Taylor concluded that differences in sanction imposition explained the programme effects on probation revocation. The STAR group was significantly more likely to receive community service and curfew sanctions (and marginally significantly more likely to experience confinement), suggesting that the STAR program may be more willing to use intermediate sanctions in lieu of revocation. As such, the STAR program may be interpreted as a programme that changes justice system decision-making at least as much as, if not more so, than it changes individual participant criminal activity in the short term.



Keeping Children & Young People Safe

CSA/CSE

Seppälä *et al.* (2020) examined whether children with a number of disabilities and illnesses were at increased risk of child maltreatment (mental violence, disciplinary violence, and serious violence) using data from the 2013 Finnish Child Victim Survey. The data consist of a nationally representative sample of pupils in Finland in sixth grade (12–13 years of age) and ninth grade (15–16 years of age), sampling was undertaken as a stratified cluster by province, municipality type, and school size, with 11,364 respondents overall. According to the logistic regression analyses, the children with at least three disabilities or long-term illnesses had an increased risk of violence compared with children with no disability: The risk of mental violence increased by 2.96 times, the risk of disciplinary violence by 4.30 times, and the risk of serious violence by 3.53 times. Thus, a child's multiple morbidity (in the case of three or more disabilities and illnesses) can be categorized as one of the major risk factors for child maltreatment.

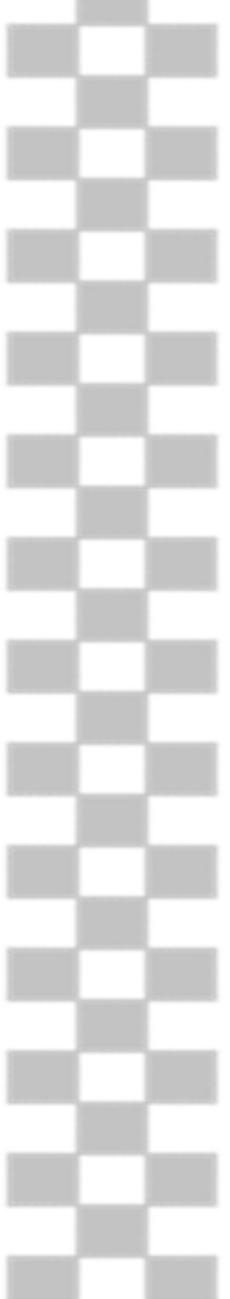
In a UK study, Marono and Bartel (2020) sought to explore whether a paedophilic individual would be judged more harshly than a heterosexual and a homosexual individual in relation to a nonsexual, nonviolent offense. A final sample of 309 participants were recruited online and allocated to one of three sexual orientation conditions. Participants read the same hypothetical crime report (breaking and entering) followed by a suspect profile that was identical across conditions except for sexual orientation. They then provided sentencing and moral character judgements of the suspect. Participants also completed a punitive attitudes scale pertaining to paedophilia. Results showed that the paedophilic individual received harsher judgments relative to the heterosexual individual, but only at higher levels of pre-existing punitive attitudes. These findings suggest that anti-paedophilia stigma can bias judgments about offenses that are not sexual.

10. Lateef and Jenney (2020) sought to synthesize literature specific to adolescents with sexually abusive behaviours who have histories of CSA. Based on findings from 66 peer-reviewed articles published between 1990 and 2017 that included male adolescent participants with sexually abusive behaviours, the literature presented different characteristics of CSA experiences: a younger age at the time of abuse and a longer period of abuse were more prevalent among adolescents with sexually abusive behaviours. The CSA experiences of these adolescents could act as triggers for their sexual offenses, and the Trauma Outcome Process Assessment model addresses the importance of processing past trauma in treatment with adolescents with sexually abusive behaviours. This review concludes with clinical recommendations for how the reviewed literature could be

applied within trauma-informed interventions with adolescents with sexually abusive behaviours with a history of CSA.

11. McCarroll *et al.* (2020) sought to understand child maltreatment fatality review processes and their outcomes. A literature review was conducted through searches of the databases PubMed, PsycINFO, and EMBASE and through citations in publications. Over 165 publications were reviewed and 55 were selected for inclusion. Papers were from the United States, England, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Netherlands, France, Canada, Australia, South Africa, Switzerland, Saudi Arabia, Japan, and China. Challenges to the review process include varying criteria for review, misclassifications of the manner of death, inadequate or incomplete forensic and medical investigations, lack of information about the perpetrator, diversity of the community, concealment of the cause of death by parents or other caregivers, and disagreement among reviewers about the results of their inquiries. Institutional challenges are also present: funding, privacy issues on obtaining information, updating reviewer training, lack of follow-up by institutional authorities on the recommendations of the reviews, and research facilitating the review of maltreatment fatalities.

The Multi-agency Investigation & Support Team (MIST) was a new US approach to abuse investigations that aimed to minimize the distress and uncertainty experienced by children and non-abusive caregivers in dealing with multiple agencies in a case post-disclosure, while also attempting to improve the accessibility of supportive and therapeutic services. As part of a broader evaluation, Herbert and Bromfield (2020) conducted 33 interviews with workers affected by this new pilot. The interviews identified positive perceptions of the changes relative to practice as usual, particularly in terms of improvements to collaboration and communication across agencies, and the benefits of providing support alongside the investigation process. Some challenges were identified, particularly the need for stronger governance of the cross-agency protocol and improved connection to some of the groups involved in the response that were not co-located. The study suggests professionals working in the MIST model consider the model beneficial to the quality of the response to severe child abuse while highlighting that the process of change into this new way of working was challenging at times.



Keeping Children & Young People Safe

In a Canadian study, Maalouf *et al.* (2020) sought to evaluate PTSD as a potential mediator between CSA and the occurrence of infectious diseases among children and adolescents. Furthermore, the authors postulate that PTSD plays a specific role as an indicator of chronic stress during childhood, in comparison to other mental disorders, such as anxious and non-anxious disorders (e.g., depression). Via a prospective matched-cohort design, administrative data were used to document PTSD, anxious and non-anxious disorders, and infectious diseases. The sample size was 882 persons with a substantiated report of sexual abuse and 882 matched controls. Negative binomial regressions revealed that CSA is associated with a greater number of anxious diseases diagnoses that, in turn, predict more infectious diseases diagnoses. These findings highlight the importance of preventing and intervening among sexually abused youth with anxious disorder symptoms to limit negative outcomes on physical health.

Research consistently shows that individuals who experience a sexual assault are at an increased risk of experiencing subsequent sexual assault, a phenomenon known as sexual revictimization. However, little research has used a longitudinal methodology to examine rates and correlates of peer-to-peer sexual revictimization in middle and high school youth. In a study by Edwards & Banyard (2020), 1,706 American youth in Grades 7 to 10 (51.3% female) completed surveys at the beginning and end of an academic year, approximately 6 months apart. Results showed that the vast majority ($n = 1561$, 90.4%) of youth reported no sexual victimization at either time point, 125 youth (7.2%) reported sexual victimization at one time point, and 40 youth (2.3%) reported sexual victimization at two time points. Among victims ($n = 165$), about one quarter ($n = 40$, 24.2%) were victimized at both time points. Binge drinking, depression, and suicidal thoughts were all higher among multiple and singular victims compared with nonvictims and among multiple victims compared with singular victims. Girls and sexual minorities were more likely to be multiple and singular victims compared with nonvictims and multiple victims compared with singular victims. Older youth were more likely to be multiple and singular victims compared with nonvictims.

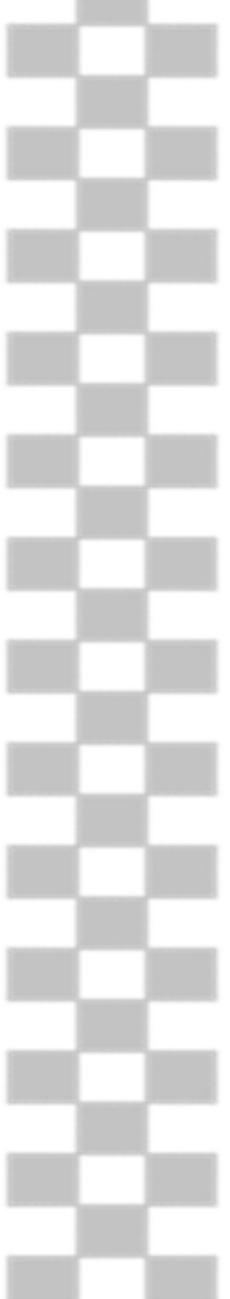
Preventing young people from getting involved in crime

Segeren *et al.* (2020) identified constellations of childhood risk factors associated with violent criminal behaviour in early adulthood. Using a Dutch cohort of young adult males born between 1985 and 1993 with a known history of juvenile probation in Amsterdam ($n = 2300$), two groups were distinguished: those who persisted and escalated into committing violent offenses and those who committed no violent offenses and as few as

possible nonviolent offenses. Childhood characteristics were compared between these groups to identify determinants of violent offending after transitioning into early adulthood. Risk factors were retrieved from their juvenile probation files. Two constellations of risk factors were associated with a high risk of violent criminal behaviour. The first consisted of juvenile delinquents who had been moderately involved with criminal peers, who had committed offenses under the influence of drugs, and who came from a dysfunctional family. The second was characterized by having been severely involved with criminal peers and having had criminal family members. Presenting with depressive symptoms in childhood was associated with a low risk of violent criminal behaviour.

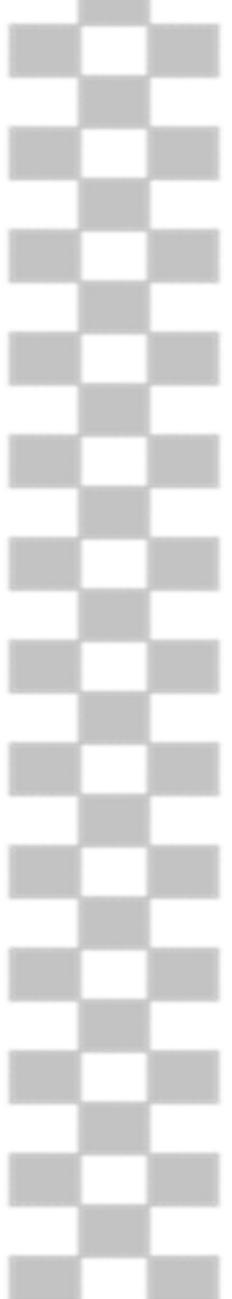
Research has indicated juvenile delinquents with more (ACEs) are more likely to be recidivate. However, much of this research has relied upon limited samples, such as those serving a community-based sentence. Craig *et al.* (2020) examined the impact of exposure to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on recidivism among a cohort of serious state incarcerated juvenile offenders (621 serious and violent delinquent offenders incarcerated in Texas state juvenile correctional facilities from 2005 to 2013). The result indicate ACEs failed to predict post-release recidivism, measured as either any rearrest or felony rearrest. Instead, measures indicative of juvenile justice history, such as prior adjudications, length of incarceration, and the rate of disciplinary misconduct while incarcerated were most relevant in an explanation of post-release recidivism.

A study by Mendez *et al.* (2020) examined the association between trauma exposure and gang involvement and whether these interrelations were explained by callous-unemotionality (CU). In addition, the current study examined whether the associations among these variables differed based on race or ethnicity. A sample of 829 justice-involved youth (215 girls, 614 boys) were recruited from a juvenile detention centre in the Western United States. Participants were between the ages of 12 and 19, and their demographics were consistent with that of justice-involved youth in the geographic region. Participants completed self-report measures of trauma exposure, CU, and gang involvement. A moderated mediation analysis indicated that CU helped explain the association between trauma exposure and gang involvement for non-Hispanic White participants only. In contrast, the direct association between trauma exposure and gang involvement was significant across racial or ethnic groups. These findings highlight the importance of a trauma-informed perspective on intervening and preventing gang involvement among youth.



Keeping Children & Young People Safe

van der Stouwe *et al.* (2020) undertook a meta-analysis of the effectiveness of social skills training (SST) for juvenile offenders and for whom and under which conditions SSTs were most effective. All studies in English or Dutch before 2018 addressing the effectiveness of SST with juvenile offenders were included in the study. Multilevel meta-analyses were conducted to examine the effectiveness of juvenile offender SST compared to no/placebo treatment and alternative treatment on offending, externalizing problems, social skills, and internalizing problems. Beneficial effects were only found for offending and social skills compared to no/placebo treatment. Compared to alternative treatment, small effects on only reoffending were found. Moderator analyses yielded larger effects on offending, with larger post-treatment effects on social skills. Effects on externalizing behaviour were only reported in the USA, and effects on social skills were larger when the outcomes were reported through self-report. The authors conclude that SST may be a too generic treatment approach to reduce juvenile delinquency, because dynamic risk factors for juvenile offending are only partially targeted.



Violence Against Women and Girls

Type/prevalence of VAWG

12. In a US longitudinal study, Thulin *et al.* (2020) explored contextual factors, particularly perceived neighbourhood factors in relation to intimate partner violence (IPV). Using five waves of data from a 24-year longitudinal study, the authors employ multilevel linear regression models to examine the trajectory of IPV experiences in relation to positive perceptions of neighbourhood, neighbourhood cohesion, and informal social control in 520 individuals aged 28 to 33 years. The results suggest that more positive perceptions of neighbourhood are associated with lower levels of IPV experiences when controlling for risk factors of alcohol use, substance use, observed neighbourhood violence, and economic need. The measure of positive perceptions of neighbourhood is derived from busy streets theory, which may be a useful conceptual framework for understanding how neighbourhoods may contribute to positive social contexts that can protect residents from IPV experiences, and potentially other violent behaviour.

Jung *et al.* (2020) compared intimate partner sexual violence (IPSV) with non-sexual intimate partner violence (IPV) and sexual violence against other non-intimate partner victims on demographic data of perpetrators and victims, offence and police reporting features, and the perpetrators' criminal history and recidivism. The sample was extracted from a database that included all occurrences of IPV and sexual assaults reported to local police in a medium-sized Canadian city, over a 5-year period. Analyses revealed that IPSV occurrences took longer to report compared to the other violent occurrences. However, IPSV was similar to IPV occurrences in that weapons were rarely involved, occurrences were more likely outside of the downtown area, and perpetrators were younger. These findings contribute to the limited knowledge about IPSV perpetration and highlight avenues for future exploration in the literature.

Intimate partner sexual violence (IPSV) is a common yet hidden form of violence against women. It encompasses a range of behaviours, including rape and sexual assault, coercion and blackmail. Tarzia (2020) aimed to explore the ecological factors that may be associated with IPSV. It draws on both thematic analysis of $N = 38$, unstructured interviews with Australian women victim/survivors. Individual-level factors included sexual inexperience and past trauma (for victims), and fragile masculinity and a sense of entitlement to sex (for perpetrators). Relationship-level factors included a large age gap in the relationship and co-occurring psychological abuse. Community-level factors were identified as failure to talk about sex, isolation, and lack of support, while societal-level factors included the idea that sex is a woman's duty in a relationship, and that "real rape" is perpetrated by strangers.

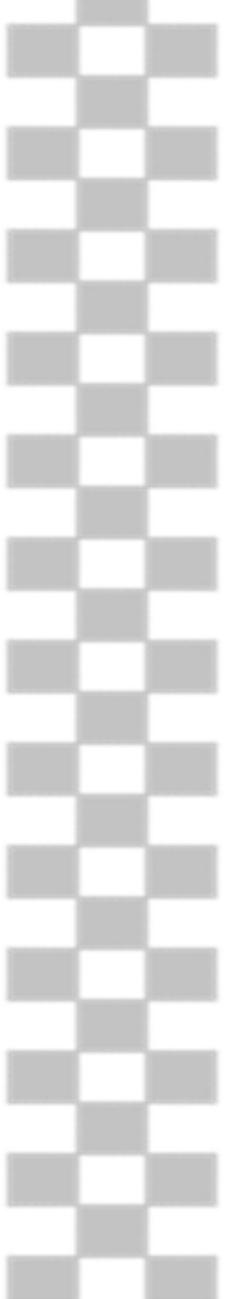
These factors inform an ecological model that is unique to IPSV, furthering our understanding of this complex problem and its areas of overlap and difference with intimate partner violence and sexual violence.

Reporting VAWG

Rowlands *et al.* (2020) examined reporting of lifetime intimate partner violence (IPV) among 7,917 young Australian women who completed two surveys, 12 months apart. At the first survey, 32% reported a history of IPV with a current or former partner. Of these, one third of women did not report IPV 12 months later (inconsistently reported IPV). Compared with women who consistently reported a history of IPV, women who inconsistently reported a history of IPV were less likely to report suicidal ideation, self-harm, illicit drug use, and smoking at the 12-month follow-up. With the exception of women who experienced physical violence, inconsistencies in women's reports of IPV appeared to be associated with improvements in their psychological and physical health. Better health among these women may reflect more positive ways of thinking about or dealing with IPV, and clinicians may assist women by facilitating positive conversations about how some strategies have achieved positive outcomes for women.

VAWG Prevention

13. In a qualitative study involving 11 focus groups, composed of social welfare and health care professionals ($n = 51$) in a midsized Finnish hospital, Husso *et al.* (2020) examined the challenges and possibilities within DV interventions and the adoption of good practices produced by a DV intervention development project funded by the European Union (EU). The results show that short-term development projects, amid the pressure of limited time and resources, encounter serious challenges when applied to wicked and ignored problems, such as DV. Developing successful violence intervention practices requires a broad understanding of the challenges that rapid development projects present to professionals and at the organizational level. Hence, the implementation of good practices requires continuity in managerial and organizational support, distribution of information, documentation of DV, awareness raising, education, training, and agreement on basic tasks and responsibilities. Thus, short project durations lead to unnecessary work and the need to reinvent temporary work practices time and again.



Violence Against Women and Girls

Supporting survivors

Advocates who work for non-profit organizations (NPOs) that address gender-based violence (GBV) experience a wide range of psychosocial health and well-being risks due to the emotionally demanding nature of the work they engage in. By conducting in-depth interviews with 25 US, metropolitan based GBV-specific advocates, Cayir *et al.* (2020) sought to understand organizational-level factors that influence well-being and self-care practices. Key themes included, the ways in which leaders established relationships with other advocates to accomplish organizational goals, how advocates developed a sense of camaraderie with their co-workers, and shared norms around self-care shaped advocates' willingness and ability to engage in individual and collective self-care. Findings highlight the role of GBV-specific NPOs in creating workplace cultures and practices that are conducive to engaging in self-care and developing resilience among the advocates. By fulfilling this responsibility, organizations would enable the advocates to not only survive, but to thrive in their work.

The lack of training in how to identify and respond to IPV has been identified as a barrier for the assessment of IPV. Burns *et al.* (2020) sought to better understand the IPV-related training gap by assessing global mental health professionals' experiences of IPV-related training and factors that contribute to their likelihood of receiving training. Participants were French-, Spanish-, and Japanese-speaking psychologists and psychiatrists ($N = 321$) from 24 nations. Participants responded to an online survey asking them to describe their experiences of IPV-related training and to rate the frequency with which they encountered IPV in clinical practice and their level of knowledge and experience related to relationship problems. 53.1% of participants indicated that they had received IPV-related training, with clinicians from countries with relatively better implemented laws addressing IPV and those who encountered IPV more often in their regular practice more likely to have received training. Participants who had received IPV-related training, were also more likely to report greater knowledge and experience related to relationship problems. Findings suggest that clinicians' awareness of IPV and the institutional context in which they practice are related to training and experience related to relationship problems.

Human Trafficking

Transgender (trans) people are rarely included in human trafficking research. Through conducting in-depth interviews in New York City and Los Angeles with sex workers and trafficked persons ($n = 50$), of whom 26 were trans, and key informants ($n = 17$) from law enforcement and social services, Fehrenbacher *et al.* (2020) present narratives of and attitudes towards the human trafficking of trans individuals. Most trans participants who reported exploitation did not self-identify as victims of trafficking nor were they identified by police or anti-trafficking organizations as victims. Law enforcement gatekeeping was identified by anti-trafficking advocates as a barrier to meeting the needs of trans clients because they were viewed as "less exploitable" than cisgender women. Discriminatory law enforcement practices resulted in the exclusion and hyper-criminalization of trans migrants and people of colour who were profiled not only by gender, but also race/ethnicity and immigration status.

14. In a UK study, Rose *et al.* (2020) sought to describe the characteristics, experiences, and mental health outcomes of a sample of trafficking victims, comparing across different types of exploitation. Using survey data, descriptive statistics and comparisons between groups were calculated using chi-squared tests and regressions, a sensitivity analysis was conducted to control for gender. Forty-four (29.3%) participants reported exploitation for domestic servitude, 43 (28.7%) for sexual exploitation, and 59 (39.3%) for other labour. Those exploited for domestic servitude reported higher levels of mental health problems, though this may be confounded by gender. Those exploited for domestic servitude also reported more experiences of violence and restriction than the other labour group, differences remaining after the sensitivity analysis. Practitioners and policymakers should be aware of and responsive to the high prevalence of experiences of violence and restriction and mental health problems in people trafficked for domestic servitude to ensure their recovery.

Violence Against Women and Girls

Evaluations of anti-trafficking programming have primarily focused on assessing the progress of project implementation and the achievement of outputs, rather than tracking outcomes or impact. This is further complicated by the hidden nature of human trafficking and the trauma experienced by human-trafficking victims; consequently, organizations are still struggling to demonstrate impact and discern what works to combat human trafficking. Despite the limitations of the methodologies used in anti-trafficking interventions, Bryant and Landman (2020) draw conclusions regarding what works: the impact of raising awareness campaigns is limited when these are not targeted to specific communities with a clear message and support for government to pass legislation can be deemed to have had an impact, but only when there is national ownership and sufficient time allocated to reflect the length of time it takes to implement legislative and policy change. Additionally, support for victims is effective when it is victim-centred, applies a trauma- focused lens and prioritizes the sense of identity of the victim.

Perpetrators

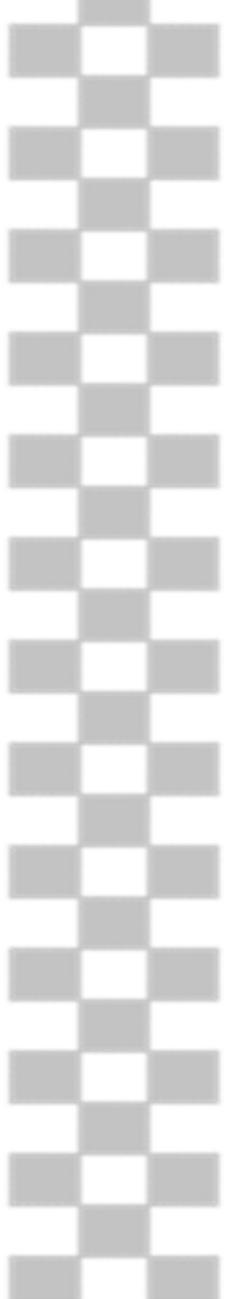
15. Sextortion, a portmanteau of “sexual” and “extortion,” is the threat to distribute intimate, sexual materials unless a victim complies with certain demands. O’Malley and Holt (2020) employed a qualitative content analysis of media articles and court documents to explore the crimes of 152 US cyber sextortion offenders. Characteristics of offenders, victims, demands, and methodology were identified and synthesized to generate a qualitative understanding of offenders who employed cyber sextortion. The results revealed four different themes of offenders based on crime characteristics: minor-focused cyber sextortion offenders, cybercrime cyber sextortion offenders, intimately violent cyber sextortion offenders, and transnational criminal cyber sextortion offenders. All cyber sextortion involves a sense of power and control over the victim that is wielded and maintained by the threat to distribute images through technological means. As such, cyber sextortionists take advantage of the highly connected space between offline and online to threaten and coerce, with the goal to promote fear of widespread exposure. Although all cyber sextortion offenders have this in common, they are a diverse group of individuals with varying motivations who employ different methodologies.

In a Spanish study Teva *et al.* (2020) examined batterers’ childhood experiences of violence. 740 men convicted of IPV completed a family violence related questionnaire. Of them, 305 men were classified as specialist batterers (offences only related to IPV), and 391 men were classified as generalist batterers. Results showed that specialist batterers had a higher likelihood of having experienced child abuse, childhood maltreatment, physical punishment and child neglect, and having their father as the aggressor of such

experienced situations of abuse, or maltreatment. Likewise, specialist batterers had a higher likelihood of having witnessed family violence, physical and psychological violence in the family, their mother and siblings being the victims and their father being the aggressor when family violence occurred. This study emphasized the need for identifying children exposed to direct and indirect family violence as a vulnerable group for future IPV perpetration and must be considered when developing intervention treatment programs focused on male specialist batterers.

There has been increased interest in the subjective experiences of participants of community partner abuse intervention programs (PAIPs). In a UK study of a community nonmandated PAIP, Pearson *et al.* (2020) investigates the experiences of both completers and non-completers perceptions of the treatment process, the reasons for sustained program engagement, and the perceived outcomes of treatment. Semi-structured interviews were completed with 14 participants: nine completers and five non-completers. Three themes emerged from the data: (a) Treatment as Challenging Yet Enlightening, (b) the Importance of a Well-timed and Safe Therapeutic Environment, and (c) Improved Emotional Self-Management Due to Treatment. Results highlighted how structured individualized sessions, underpinned by a strong therapeutic alliance with facilitators, helped participants increase their interpersonal problem-solving and communication skills. The study reinforced the importance of developing a therapeutic alliance and providing structured individualized treatment characterized by flexibility and accessibility.

O’Connor *et al.* (2020) conducted a rapid review to examine Men’s Behaviour Change Programs (MBCP) content, implementation, and the impact on participant and family outcomes. Thirteen articles and 10 MBCPs were identified examining MBCPs or domestic violence perpetrator programs with male perpetrators. The findings indicated a limited evidence base of detailed MBCP evaluations. Information relating to program content was included for nine MBCPs and covered a wide range of topics. None of the articles examined the links between men’s accountability and responsibility to the safety and well-being of women and children and none of the articles included assessments of integrity of program delivery, system processes, or evaluations based on program logics. Positive changes were reported for MBCP participants, including communication, parenting, interpersonal relationships, aggression, abuse, responsibility for behaviour, self-awareness power and control tactics, empathy, skills development, cognitive beliefs, behaviour control, and abusiveness patterns. A whole family approach was utilized by some of the programs and one article reported on family outcomes.

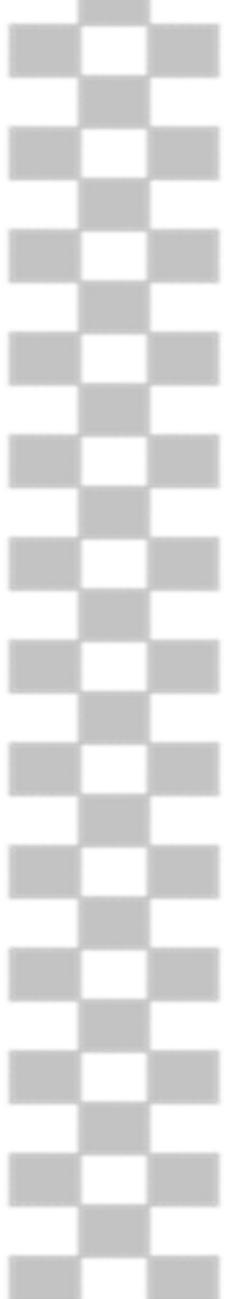


Violence Against Women and Girls

Stalking

16. Backes *et al.* (2020) conducted a systematic review to assess the extent to which criminal justice responses to intimate partner stalking (IPS) are successful in promoting survivor safety, well-being, and justice. Over 336 records were reviewed dating back to 1993 and screened for inclusion in the study, resulting in a final sample size of 22 studies. Findings identify both formal and informal strategies used by the criminal justice system to address IPS. However, pervasive barriers exist including a lack of knowledge and training on stalking, difficulties in investigation and prosecution, and negative perceptions of victims. Successful strategies for mitigating IPS were linked to increased training of law enforcement and prosecution and the granting and enforcement of civil protective orders. Complexity of charging decisions was identified as a challenge for criminal justice entities and methodological and definitional issues make stalking a difficult area to study. Despite numerous barriers in effectively responding to victims of IPS, recommendations for improving responses across the criminal justice system include enhanced training and periodic refreshers across criminal justice entities, coordinated reviews of IPS cases, and better incorporation of the stalker's criminal history to strategically pursue charges.

The purpose of this study is to examine the correlates of homicides precipitated by intimate partner stalking among a sample of homicide victims in the USA. This cross-sectional study included a subsample of adult homicide cases classified as intimate partner violence victims ($N = 6028$) between 2003 and 2015 on the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS). Logistic regression analysis examined victim and suspect variables associated to homicide precipitated by intimate partner stalking. The findings suggest that the victim's marital status, suspect's sex, suspect's use of a firearm, geographic region of the homicide, and a documented history of abuse of victim by the suspect had significant relationships with homicide precipitated by intimate partner stalking. The associations between death by firearm and previously documented history of abuse with homicide precipitated by intimate partner stalking have substantial implications for the criminal justice system (Rai *et al.* 2020).



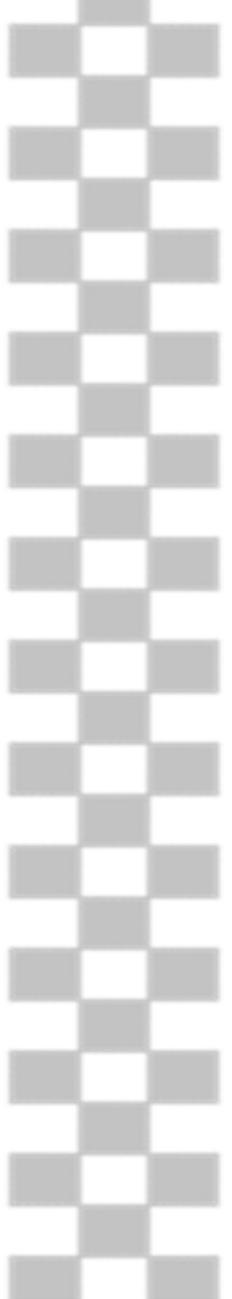
Hatred, Intolerance and Extremism

Hate Crime

The UK Government's 2016 Hate Crime Action Plan aimed to tackle hate crime through: Prevention, improving victim support, encouraging reporting, and improving understanding of hate crime. The Hate Crime Community Fund Project (HCCPF) is a key commitment of this Action Plan. A report by Pullerits *et al.* (2020) collated evaluations from 15 HCCPF projects and is structured by audience type: general public, victim, practitioner and perpetrator. It provides learning for future delivery and examples of effective practice. The guidance for future projects includes:

- Integrating participants (their needs/ views) in the creation of project aims.
- Having local context and utilising local networks.
- Using specific engaging techniques such as storytelling and online campaigns.
- Having skilled facilitators to create safe spaces to support vulnerable people and increase engagement.
- Using longer-term projects to tackle ingrained negative views.

Previous research on Defended Neighbourhood Theory suggests that increasing minority populations represent a threat to the majority's political and economic interests in a competition for limited resources. Areas experiencing demographic change with ethnoracial minorities moving into predominantly White areas will see increases in hate crime. A study by Mills (2020) examines anti-Jewish hate crime at a community-level in New York City using data from the New York Police Department's Hate Crimes Task Force (the HCTF – which recorded 2,340 anti-Jewish hate crimes committed between 1995 and 2010, approximately two-thirds of which targeted property. For each incident, the HCTF noted the year, precinct, and borough). The study employed negative binomial regressions to investigate the impact of defended neighbourhoods, social disorganization, and strain variables on anti-Jewish hate crime. The results show that defended neighbourhoods consistently predict higher levels of anti-Jewish hate crime in White, Black, and non-White neighbourhoods even when accounting for social disorganization and strain variables. Results also demonstrate that anti-Jewish crime occurs in communities that are more socially organized and with better economic conditions. This study's findings reveal Jewish victims to be a catchall target when a minority group increasingly moves into a majority area.



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