

Thursday, October 14

10:00am PT/11:00am MT

EVENT # 6

STUDENT POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Media Engagement and Attitudes Toward Police Among College Students

Rhiannon Hopes, Weber State University

Heeuk "Dennis" Lee, Weber State University

David Kim, Indiana University East

Media coverage of the crime fighter image of police may negatively affect citizens' attitudes toward the police. Previous studies have found a significant relationship with the consumption of media and its impact on citizens' attitudes toward the police. Yet, there has been minimal research on whether how individual's engagement of police-related news on the internet and social media has an impact on their perception of the police. Using a sample of college students from multiple universities, the current study contributes to the literature by examining the relationship between engagement in police-related news and attitudes toward police. Results indicate that news engagement on the internet and social media is a significant factor on attitudes toward the police. Limitations and future studies are discussed.

Police Attitudes Toward Their Involvement in Post-Overdose Outreach Programs

Laurie Becker, University of Massachusetts Lowell

As the field of law enforcement moves toward a treatment-first approach for overdose survivors, police are increasingly called upon to engage with this population in new ways. Specifically, with the advent of post-overdose outreach programs, many police departments are now visiting the home of an overdose survivor within seventy-two hours of their overdose to encourage him or her enter treatment. Although police involvement in post-overdose outreach programs is increasing, there is little research regarding the views of officers. Therefore, this study examines how officers view their involvement in these programs and the extent to which role theory explains these views.

Voluntary Association Participation and Procedural Justice

Edilia Popoca Morales, Weber State University

Heeuk "Dennis" Lee, Weber State University

Myunghoon Roh, Salve Regina University

Although numerous studies have suggested that community voluntary organizations contribute to lower crime rates, but few empirical studies have directly examined the association between voluntary association participation and procedural justice. In the present study, the authors use the results of an anonymous mailed survey conducted in various cities to examine the relationship between the civic engagement activity and procedural justice. The results from the analysis show that the voluntary participation in various civic activities is a significant predictor of procedural justice. The implications of these results are discussed.

11:00am PT/12:00pm MT

EVENT # 7

PAPER PRESENTATIONS: Research in Juvenile Justice

Chair: Omar Melchor-Ayala, Western Oregon University

“I’ve got to break the cycle for my son, so he doesn’t go to juvie like his pops”:

Interrupting intergenerational patterns of incarceration

Omar Melchor-Ayala, Western Oregon University

Patterns of incarceration transmit generationally causing damage to families and communities across decades. Literature is replete with studies on the harmful impact of parental incarceration but is missing the voice of those living within this cycle. This study highlights the perspectives and lived experiences of those who have parents who have been incarcerated, are currently incarcerated themselves, and have children of their own. This middle generation sheds light on how and why they followed in their parents’ footsteps and their desire to break this pattern for their own children. Implications and recommendations are discussed.

False Convictions and Juveniles: A Case Study of Brendan Dassey

Kaitlin Casaubon, Pacific University

Gracie Bulza, Pacific University

Aimee Wodda, Pacific University

False confessions are a common occurrence among frequently and stereotypically targeted populations and a great deal of scholarly research has examined the likelihood of juveniles falsely confessing based on police interrogation tactics. Because we are interested in looking at the potential effects of coerced confessions on juveniles in the United States, this project explores the case of Brendan Dassey, a 16 year old who was accused and convicted of first degree intentional homicide, second degree assault, and mutilation of a corpse. Brendan Dassey was featured in the 2015 Netflix documentary *Making a Murderer* that initially focused on his uncle but shifted gears to include Brendan’s story. In order to understand why false confessions happen and what conditions allow false confessions to occur, we performed a media analysis of the documentary in preparation for a content analysis of the court transcripts. Brendan’s testimony is featured in the documentary and the fact remains that he has a learning disability that was ignored during interrogation and in his trial. A deep examination of this single case will provide insight into similar cases of coerced or false confessions, as have other examinations into cases of false or coerced confessions.

12:00pm PT/1:00pm MT

EVENT # 8

ROUNDTABLE: The Jones are Bankrupt: A Faculty Guide to Avoiding Financial Ruin

Moderator: Ronald Floridia, The University of Virginia’s College at Wise

Discussants: Ronald Floridia, The University of Virginia’s College at Wise

Yenli Yah, The University of Virginia’s College at Wise

This discussion will review the top financial mistakes made by faculty. Additionally, the discussion will focus on money management strategies, the impact of COVID on faculty

finances, financial pressure caused by colleagues and administration, and stress reduction techniques. Attendees are actively encouraged to share stories and ask questions.

1:00pm PT/2:00pm MT

EVENT # 9

PAPER PRESENTATIONS: Special Topics in “Victimless” Crimes

Chair: Kathleen Eckert, Washington State University

A Critical Evaluation of Liberal and Radical Feminist Perspectives as Applied to Prostitution

Kathleen Eckert, Washington State University

There has been increasing attention toward prostitution globally with a heated debate regarding how prostitution should be perceived and regulated. In this paper I examine the prostitution debate through two competing feminist theory lenses: Radical and Liberal feminism. By tracing the origins of these perspectives from the introduction of feminist criminology into present context within the prostitution debate; I perform a theory evaluation to determine which perspective is better suited to inform policy based on the experiences of women in prostitution.

‘You got me’: An Analysis of DRE Writing Quality for DUIs

Brittany Solensten, Washington State University

Tessa Wilson, Washington State University

Drug Recognition Experts (DREs) attend rigorous and in-depth training to learn how to identify signs of drug impairment in drivers. Interviews with prosecuting attorneys in a mid-size city in Washington state suggest that these officers have enhanced writing skills which may help solidify case outcomes. Analyses of blood warrant writing samples indicate that DREs have more technical and complex writing styles when writing the “personal contact with the driver” and “standard field sobriety test” accounts. However, the readability scores for writing the “vehicle in motion” accounts between warrants written by DREs and non-DREs are not significantly different.

Immediately Following Event # 9

CLOSING REMARKS

Jennifer Noble, 2022 WACJ President