



CJ Faculty Research Notes

Sam Houston State University · College of Criminal Justice

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In this Issue:

*Front Page: Faculty
Research Reports*

Page 2-3: New Faculty

Page 4-7: New Books

*Page 8-27: Faculty
Research Reports cont.*

*Page 28-31: Faculty
Publications*

*Page 31: Faculty
Funding*



Analyzing the Biosocial Origins of Antisocial Behavior

By: Dr. Brian Boutwell

Over the course of the last year, I have been involved in a number of research projects, all of which were aimed at better understanding the biosocial origins of antisocial and aggressive behavior. In a recent publication, for example, my colleagues and I examined the relationship between genetic risk factors for antisocial behavior and the use of certain disciplinary tactics during childhood. Specifically, prior research has linked the use of corporal punishment with a range of adverse outcomes in children including aggression, psychopathology, and criminal involvement. However, despite evidence concerning the association of spanking with antisocial behavior, not all children who are spanked develop such tendencies. Along these lines, we examined the possibility that a third variable might condition the influence of corporal punishment on conduct problems in early childhood. Our findings, published in the journal *Aggressive Behavior*, suggested that genetic risk factors conditioned the effects of spanking on antisocial behavior. Furthermore, our results provided evidence that the interaction between genetic risk factors and corporal punishment may be particularly salient for males, and not females.

Some of my other research has tested the developmental origins of rape using a nationally representative sample of respondents. In one particular study, my collaborators and I examined the segment of the population predicted by Moffitt (1993) to be chronically aggressive—known as life-course persistent offenders. An impressive body of literature has indicated that this relatively small number of offenders accounts for a disproportionate number of serious crimes committed in society. What has remained less clear, however, is whether this same group of individuals is also responsible for perpetrating acts of forced sexual behavior. My colleagues and I examined the tendency for life-course persisters to perpetrate rape. Our findings suggested that persistent offenders are significantly more likely to rape compared to other individuals. Moreover, these same individuals were more likely to rape multiple partners over the life course. Given the findings of other recent studies suggesting that genetic factors influence the origins of life-course persistent offending (Barnes, Beaver, & Boutwell, 2011), we further suggested that the origins of rape may also be, at in least in part, genetic. Ongoing research projects are currently examining this question in more detail and will help to determine whether our hypotheses concerning the genetic origins of forced sex are supported.

continued on Pg. 8



Dr. Kelly Knight was awarded a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2011. She earned a master's degree in Psychology from San Francisco State University and a bachelor's degree in Psychology from the State University of New York at Oswego.

Prior to starting at Sam Houston State University this Fall, Knight helped conduct several criminal justice program evaluations while working at the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence in Boulder, Colorado and at the National Council On Crime and Delinquency in Oakland, California.

Knight's research and teaching interests include Life-Course Developmental Criminology, Delinquency and Problem Behaviors, Assortative Mating and Partner Influence, Longitudinal Quantitative Methods, Program Evaluation, and Victimology. She also has a growing interest in studying biosocial and intergenerational research.

Knight has published articles in *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* and *Journal of Family Theory and Review*, a book chapter on the health care needs of female offenders, and several program evaluation reports.

Knight's past research experiences have been directed toward improving outcomes for many different types of high-risk populations—abused children who grow up to become parents who maltreat their own children, women in prison caught in a web of drug addiction, minorities disproportionately involved with the criminal justice system, and adolescents facing the interacting costs of delinquency and school disengagement.

Knight's recent work has focused on examining a turning point in the life course that is pivotal in understanding not only the etiology but also the mutually reinforcing consequences of problem behaviors over time, the formation of romantic relationships. It is unclear why individuals select partners who use drugs, are criminal, or have mental health problems—a choice that eventually puts them and their children at heightened risk for negative developmental outcomes. To study these issues, she analyzed longitudinal dyadic data collected by the Rochester Youth Development Study.

Knight's current research projects involve publishing and replicating her dissertation findings on assortative mating and partner influence. In addition, she is beginning two collaborative research projects. The first involves analyzing data from the National Youth Survey Family Study with Dr. Scott Menard (Sam Houston State University). They are assessing the intergenerational transmission of drug use and also the genetic propensity for victimization and delinquency. The second collaborative research project involves using data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health and propensity score modeling with Dr. Kim Henry (Colorado State University). They are examining the lasting benefits of several school engagement indicators on adult adjustment—specifically, substance use, delinquency, and mental and physical health.

At the American Society of Criminology conference this November in Washington, D.C., Knight is convening a round-table discussion on the methodological difficulties associated with intergenerational studies. A related paper co-authored with Dr. Terence Thornberry (University of Maryland) involving a systematic review of the intergenerational maltreatment literature is under review at *Trauma, Violence, and Abuse*.





Dr. Stephen Sloan is a Visiting Professor in the College of Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University where he conducts seminars on crisis management and national security. He is also The Lawrence J. Chastang Distinguished Professor of Terrorism Studies in the Office of Global Perspectives at the University of Central Florida. He is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Oklahoma. His first book “A Study in Political Violence: The Indonesian Experience” was based on his research in that country before, during, and after the attempted coup of 1965.

Sloan is a pioneer in research and teaching on terrorism since the 1970s. His course was one of the first to be given at a university. He also developed the simulation technique to counter terrorism and his book “Simulating Terrorism” has been used to conduct exercises internationally. In addition, he has planned and directed numerous exercises for police, security and military forces in the US and overseas. These simulations included a wide variety of different highly realistic attacks directed against military installations, oil refineries and corporate targets and skyjacking. He conducted one of the first programs on recurrent training for flight attendants for a major carrier and was involved in maritime security. Sloan has conducted a number of command post exercises for various foreign governments’ ministries of foreign affairs and police forces. The simulations and command post exercises, in addition to developing effective responses to incidents, evaluate the ability of the participating organizations to test their intelligence capabilities before as well as during and after a crisis.

Sloan consults on doctrine, strategy and policies associated with combating terrorism. He specializes in counter insurgency and peacekeeping operations both in the United States and overseas. He teaches courses on intelligence and participated in workshops sponsored by the Consortium for the Study of Intelligence. In addition he has been a Senior Fellow at the Center for Aerospace Doctrine and Research (CADRE), the Air University and a member of the first session of the Program on Terrorism and Security at The George J. Marshall European Security Center for Security Studies. He headed a Counterterrorism Practice in Washington, where he developed programs for the military and a wide variety of agencies. He has been very active in training state and local law enforcement police and agencies to address threats and acts of terrorism.

Sloan is the author of 14 books and numerous articles. Three of his latest are: Stephen Sloan and Robert J. Bunker, “Red Teams and Counterterrorism Training,” Stephen Sloan, “Terrorism: The Present Threat in Context,” and Sean Kendall Anderson with Stephen Sloan, “The Historical Dictionary of Terrorism.”

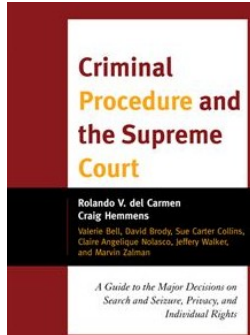
He is Senior Fellow of the Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism and is a Senior Fellow and on the Editorial Advisory Board of the Joint Special Operations University. Sloan is also a member of the International Institute for Strategic Studies and the ASIS Council on Global Terrorism, Political Instability and International Crime.

Sloan has been regularly interviewed on various networks including CNN, PBS, FOX and BBC. In addition he has written and been extensively interviewed on terrorism and international politics by various newspapers and syndicated columns.



Criminal Procedure and the Supreme Court

By: Dr. Rolando del Carmen



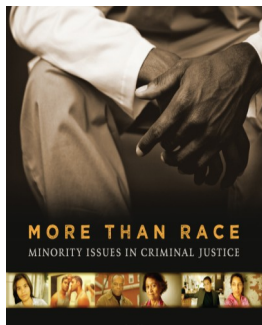
Dr. Rolando V. del Carmen co-edited and published three chapters of a book titled: *Criminal Procedure and the Supreme Court: A Guide to the Major Decisions on Search and Seizure, Privacy, and Individual Rights* (Rowan & Littlefield Publishers). The book focuses on the top twenty cases decided by the United States Supreme Court in criminal procedure. The cases are placed in context, analyzed, and updated. Del Carmen wrote the chapters on Stop and Frisk, featuring the cases of *Terry v. Ohio* and *Minnesota v. Dickerson*; and a case on motor vehicles, *Carroll v. United States*. The book is co-edited by Craig Hemmens, a Sam Houston Ph.D. graduate and incoming President of the Academy of Criminal Justice

Sciences. Other chapter authors are Valerie Bell, David Brody, Sue Carter Collins, Claire Nolasco, Jeffrey Walker, and Marvin Zalman.

The book's 21 chapters cover eight major topics in criminal procedure: Reasonable Expectation of Privacy and Probable Cause; The Exclusionary Rule; Stop and Frisk; Arrest; Searches of Places and Things; Motor Vehicles; Interrogation and Lineups; and Police Liability. The topics covered were determined by the subjects of the court decisions of the 20 cases. Each chapter features a case introduction (facts, issues, holding, majority and dissenting opinions, and case significance), update of the cases, the current scope of police or court authority on the topic, and what the future holds. The book seeks to give readers an in-depth understanding about these major decisions and how they have shaped and influenced criminal procedure. This approach is unique among current criminal justice books. It also aims to enhance the reader's appreciation of the role of the United States Supreme Court in expanding the scope of and setting limits on law enforcement in the American system of criminal justice.

More Than Race

By: Dr. Howard Henderson

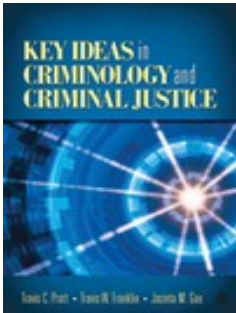


As a researcher of practically relevant correctional issues, most notably predictive risk instruments, Dr. Howard Henderson's soon to be released collection of essays seems contrary to his academic reality. After teaching the newly required Criminal Justice and Social Diversity course, Henderson realized that the available texts for these courses were limited primarily to discussions of race and gender. The challenge of teaching such a course with such limited resources was problematic given that all indications point towards a demographic shift in the United States over the next 40 years. As a result, in an attempt to provide criminal justice students with a better appreciation for the reality of our "ideologically" democratized criminal justice apparatus,

Henderson has put together a collection of readings for a soon to be released edited book entitled "More than Race: Minority Issues in Criminal Justice," which offers a uniquely comprehensive overview of diversity in America. An ideal reader for any criminal justice diversity course, this volume provides critical analysis of the intersections of the criminal justice system relative to issues of age, gender, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, along with the traditional overview of race and ethnicity.

Key Ideas in Criminology and Criminal Justice

By: Dr. Travis Franklin



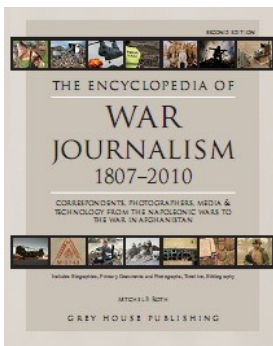
Dr. Travis Franklin, along with Drs. Travis Pratt and Jacinta Gau, recently published a book with Sage Publications entitled, *Key Ideas in Criminology and Criminal Justice*. Although there are numerous texts examining major contributions within the fields of criminology and criminal justice, it was apparent that the existing works provided little context for understanding why, exactly, certain ideas have become so dominant. *Key Ideas* addresses this issue head on to provide its readership with a better understanding of the evolution of criminology and criminal justice over the decades. In doing so, it also attempts to recognize the intertwined nature of the fields of criminology (i.e., theories of criminal behavior) and criminal justice (i.e., institutional responses to such behavior) by addressing key ideas within both disciplines, a strategy that prior works had not adopted.

Each of the main chapters of the text is dedicated to a single key work or idea that has demonstrated a far reaching influence on how we think about or respond to criminality. Criminological works range from the early contributions of Beccaria and Lombroso to the more recent contributions of Gottfredson and Hirschi, Moffitt, and others. With a focus on responses to criminality, key criminal justice related works range from the contributions of Robert Martinson to those of James Q. Wilson, George Kelling, and even those of Nancy Reagan as they were embodied in her now famous “Just Say No” campaign. To help explain why these key ideas have risen to a level of substantial influence, each chapter closely examines the socio-political context of the time as well as the unique characteristics of the works or ideas themselves. This approach aims to inform the reader not only why certain works have achieved such elevated status, but also why other similar works may have been passed over.

Key Ideas in Criminology and Criminal Justice concludes with an explanation for why certain, arguably central, ideas (e.g., social learning theory, routine activity theory) were not given primary attention within the book. It also takes a look forward at potential ideas that may arise in the future as central to our understanding of, and response to, criminality. *Key Ideas in Criminology and Criminal Justice* is currently available through Sage Publications as well as other online outlets such as Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

Encyclopedia of War Journalism

By: Dr. Mitch Roth



Upon its release in 1997, Dr. Mitchel P. Roth's *Historical Dictionary of War Journalism* (Greenwood Press, 482 pp.) became the first major reference book on war journalism. The *Military and Naval History Journal* lauded the first edition as “not only a welcome contribution, but also a much needed one.” An elusive figure until the 1840s, the war correspondent is a relatively new phenomenon. Prior to the Mexican-American War and the invention of the telegraph, military commanders reported their own victories. Correspondents rarely used bylines prior to the 20th century. There is still a lack of consensus as to who should be considered the first “war correspondent”, but by most accounts the first identifiable ones appeared during the Mexican-American War in the late 1840s. Roth suggests that the

first war correspondent was undoubtedly male, and probably worked out of the strategically located city of New Orleans.

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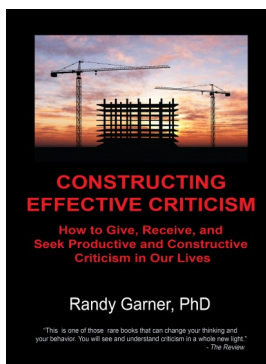
In 2010 Grey House Publishing purchased the rights to the book from Greenwood and asked Roth to reconceptualize and update it. Since 1997, traditional warfare has given way to asymmetrical conflicts often between superpowers and local counter-insurgencies. The new edition of the book, *Encyclopedia of War Journalism, 1807-2010* (634 pp.) has been updated to examine the modern media coverage of conflicts often characterized by terrorism and counter-terrorism. This book demonstrates that although war reporting has always been a deadly profession, the current era has become the deadliest one for war journalists, whether covering wars, battling drug cartels, or political instability. According to the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), between 2003 and 2009 at least 139 journalists were killed covering the Iraq War alone. During this period, Algeria in 1995 was the deadliest year for journalists, when 24 were killed in action. Although most accounts of war journalism focus on Western journalists the brunt of the danger is carried by indigenous correspondents or non-embedded unilateral journalists.

Roth has studied terrorism and counter-terrorism in The United States, Turkey and Israel and has presented at numerous scholarly conferences and published a number of papers focused on this subject. Much has changed since the last edition, including new technologies and the ubiquity of the World Wide Web/Internet as a news source. There are several new features in this edition, including a Timeline and a fully annotated Primary Documents and Photographs section covering the subject up to 2010. Expanded by 30%, it now includes 934 entries, all written by the author. Entries cover correspondents, illustrators, photographers, periodicals, publishers, wars, war zones, news organizations and rebated awards. Each entry includes additional sources to facilitate individual research and cross-references throughout.

The addition of a more than 100 page section of Primary Documents and Photographs adds carefully selected and annotated writings and photographs, organized chronologically by war from the Mexican-American War to the present. These 50 documents and photos were selected to represent not only a variety of approaches to war coverage, but how improved communication has affected the work of correspondents and photographers. Photos range from the Crimean War in the 1850s, to 2009 photos of caskets of fallen Americans, following the lifting of the ban preventing such photos in April 2009. The new edition also included 21 Appendices, which include lists of individual correspondents and photographers for specific wars, Pulitzer Prize winners, and movies that have featured war correspondents.

Constructing Effective Criticism: How to Give, Receive, and Seek Productive and Constructive Criticism in Our Lives

By: Dr. Randy Garner



What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think of “criticism?” How do you handle criticism? How do those around you handle it? Criticism is a term that most always evokes a sense of apprehension. Our reaction to criticism is often evident in a general perception of discomfort. Criticism is usually unsolicited, often unwanted, and frequently unwelcome. However, criticism is a daily occurrence for most of us. As a result, we can either remain painfully affected by it or we can seek new ways to handle criticism prone environments.

Based on years of research involving participants from a wide variety of occupations and vocations, this book explores the concept of criticism and offers a fresh conceptualization of the way we think about criticism. Readers

are provided with research-based practical advice, targeted techniques, and proven strategies for giving, receiving, and even soliciting criticism in all areas of interpersonal interactions.

Though dictionary and thesaurus entries typically provide a rather bleak characterization of “criticism” (to stresses fault; focused on blame), interestingly, the origin of the term was much different. The word “criticism” was derived from the Latin “criticus” which was, in turn, a derivative of the Greek word “kritikos” and was coined during the time of Aristotle and Plato. The term is identified with the classic philosophers and describes a way of thinking about culture and poetry. The word was defined in the context of an intellectual activity and indicated that one was “able to judge or discern.” The focus of criticism during the time of Plato and Aristotle was to discuss how closely a song or poem, for example, actually captured the essence of that which it described. Aristotle used the term kritikos to identify individuals who, by virtue of their education and special ability, could properly appraise the kalon (Greek for beauty or beautiful) in poetry. It did not have the overwhelming negative connotation that it has today. In fact, criticism of that period concentrated on an admiration for works that affected an emotional and thoughtful response from the audience.

Dr. Garner offers the reader a new perspective on the concept of criticism that more closely parallels the origin of the term. He challenges us to consider our goals and our intentions involving potentially critical comments. Communication skills, especially those involving the emotion-intense area of criticism, are an essential component of everyday life and in effective leadership. This book dares us to think about criticism differently and has been described as “career-enhancing” and “life-changing.” According to one review, “Dr. Garner's writing style is very accessible and his use of humor adds to the book’s readability. He covers a lot of ground; from the origins of the term to a better understanding of why we criticize and some of the psychological processes involved.”

One of the most important messages of the book is a discussion on having the proper mindset before offering criticism and something he calls the Aretha (Franklin) Rule—the importance of maintaining R-E-S-P-E-C-T. The book most fully addresses the complications of giving criticism to others and helps us to better understand what he calls the “Criticism Corridor.” The Corridor involves some of the psychological and physiological processes and biases that are often involved when we are presented with a criticism-prone circumstance.

Garner cautions the reader to consider carefully each step of the process and addresses the importance of trying to develop “longer fuses.” As a part of the evaluation of the Criticism Corridor, the book advises us to make sure we have a more complete understanding of the criticism event that we are facing—before we do or say things that we might later regret. Part of this process involves what he calls “The Paul Harvey Solution”—making sure we have “the rest of the story.”

In addition to “constructing” criticism more effectively, Garner addresses ways for all of us to better handle criticism that we receive through the L.E.A.R.N. process. This method provides us with a systematic approach in appraising interpersonal criticism. One of the real keys in handling criticism more effectively is an appraisal process that allows us to evaluate criticism less defensively. He further offers the ABCs of Criticism Response that considers various ways to address the interpersonal criticism that we might receive from others and he provides some helpful examples. Finally, he suggests ways that we can become more receptive to criticism and offers methods to actually seek effective criticism. Though most consider seeking criticism to be an oxymoron, Garner explains some of the strategies and advantages of “seeking criticism before it seeks you.”

“Constructing Effective Criticism” is an engaging and practical guide to handling the thorny path of interpersonal criticism. According to a review by Amazon.com, “This is an excellent book that ought to be required reading for anyone that has a pulse.”



continued from pg. 1

In addition to research in humans, I have also had the opportunity to expand my research interest to other species, specifically, several species of live bearing fishes. My research in this particular system centers on examining questions related to sexual selection and the evolution of mating systems. My work with fish offers a unique opportunity to answer important questions in the realm of evolutionary biology that might be difficult to examine in humans. Importantly, work in this area has helped to shed light on various issues concerning human mate selection and the role that mate choice can play in shaping the evolution of various traits (i.e., IQ) and behaviors, including aggressive and antisocial tendencies. Moving forward, I anticipate continuing to examine both human and non-human animal models in order to address issues related to the evolutionary and developmental origins of antisocial and criminal behaviors.



Test of the General Theory of Crime and Delinquency

By: Dr. Yan Zhang

In the article “A partial test of Agnew’s general theory of crime and delinquency,” Zhang and her colleagues used Paternoster’s Longitudinal Data of Youth and Deterrence (2001) and a structural equation model to examine Agnew’s integrated theory, which proposed that delinquency is more likely to occur when constraints against delinquency are low and motivations for delinquency are high, and constraints and motivations are influenced by variables in five life domains. Results indicate life domains possess both an indirect and a direct effect upon delinquency. All measures for constraints and motivations in the path analysis are related to delinquency in the expected direction. Furthermore, two measures in the peer domain delinquent peers and time spent with peers, have both direct and indirect effects on delinquency. Two family domain variables, attachment to parents and parental supervision, along with two school domain variables, attachment to school and time spent studying, are indirectly related to delinquency, although these four life domain measures do not directly influence delinquency. These findings support the core proposition of the theory: life domains increase delinquency by reducing constraints against delinquency and by increasing motivations for delinquency. This article was recently accepted for publication by *Crime & Delinquency* (Forthcoming).



Striking a Balance between the needs of Police Professionals and the Interest of Academic Researchers

By: Drs. Ling Ren, Solomon Zhao, and Dennis Longmire

Drs. Longmire, Zhao and Ren have been working with the Houston Police Department (HPD) on two waves of the Citizen Contact/Impression Survey since 2008. This longitudinal project represents a joint effort of scholars and practitioners to improve the quality of service delivered by the HPD. The primary purpose of the survey is to inform the HPD of community perceptions of the services they are offering including police control of violent, property, and disorder crime. In addition, the researchers

seek to examine some important questions about the correlates of variations in citizen attitudes towards the police. Thus, the data concerning fear of crime, victimization, and neighborhood dynamics such as collective efficacy were collected. The first wave of the survey involving a random sample of 1,250 residents was completed between May 1 and June 3, 2008, and a final report summarizing the findings was submitted to the HPD.

The second wave of the survey employed the same research design as the first wave with constructive improvements in the sampling technique to strengthen the ability to examine any significant associations between the ethnicity of respondents and their impressions of the HPD and neighborhoods.

Prior to selecting the sample, considerable time was spent constructing a proper instrument that would meet the needs and interests of both the HPD and the researchers. Survey items that ensure maximal integrity of question design were carefully selected from the extant literature. Many of the items included in the second survey were also included in the initial survey, thus enabling a comparison of responses across the two waves. The second wave of data were collected between January 4 and January 30, 2010 through services provided from a contract with a data collection firm. The method of data collection was via telephone, using random digit dialing methodologies via computer-assisted telephone interviewing technology. The results of the survey represent completed interviews with 1,850 Houston area residents.

The findings derived from the two waves of the Houston Citizen Contact/Impression Survey are very intriguing and significant. Longmire, Zhao, and Ren presented their findings to the HPD's Command Staff on October 18, 2010. Coincidentally, the findings attracted significant attention from the municipal government which led to presentations of the survey findings at the Houston City Council meetings on October 25 and November 8, 2010. This led to an article in the *Houston Chronicle* reporting part of the findings on October 27, 2010. It is an important process for the research team to understand the political processes in the City of Houston and keep a balance between the needs of academic researchers and police professionals.

With the availability of the geo-coded variables, the two-wave data were merged with the incident-level crime data obtained from the Texas Major City Police Research Initiative led by Dr. Larry Hoover. The survey data are a valuable asset to the research team as well as to Doctoral students in the College of Criminal Justice. Three Ph.D. students have used the data to write their respective dissertations, with one completed. In addition, Longmire, Zhao, and Ren have published four articles jointly or separately with Ph.D. students in journals such as *Crime & Delinquency* and the *Journal of Criminal Justice*. Several manuscripts are currently under review. The research team is now working with the HPD on the third wave of the survey.



Research Update: Dr. del Carmen

By: Dr. Rolando del Carmen

Currently, with the help of a graduate research assistant, Dr. Rolando del Carmen is in the initial stages of writing a book on the most significant research findings in criminal justice. The purpose is to identify books, monographs, or government reports that have had the greatest impact on policies, practices, and procedures in criminal justice. These publications are discussed, focusing on their background, methodology, and why they deserve inclusion in the list of influential studies. Identification and choices will be made through a survey of academics in the discipline, supplemented by other sources.

continued on Pg. 10

continued from pg. 9

del Carmen is also revising the book on “Criminal Procedure: Law and Practice” (Cengage Publishing). This book, currently in its eighth edition, is widely used in criminal procedure and law enforcement classes throughout the country and has been translated into various languages overseas. He is also helping in the writing and editing of the third edition of “The Death Penalty: Constitutional Issues, Commentaries and Case Briefs” (Anderson Publishing), which is co-edited with Scott Vollum and features chapters by SHSU graduates who are now teaching in various universities.

Aside from books, del Carmen has co-authored two articles: “What Herring Hath Wrought: An Analysis of Post-Herring Cases in the Federal Courts,” (Nolasco, del Carmen & Vaughn), *American Journal of Criminal Law*, Spring 2011, pp. 221-261; and “Toward a New Methodology for Legal Research in Criminal Justice,” (Nolasco, Vaughn, & del Carmen), *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, Volume 21, No. 1, March 2010, pp. 1-23.

He teaches graduate law seminars and continues to help students write and find publication outlets for law oriented articles. He and Dr. Vaughn are co-directors of the Institute for Legal Studies in CJ.



Students at the STAFS Facility Examine and Compare Typical and Atypical Burn Patterns on Human Bone

By: Dr. Joan Bytheway

Burning human remains can destroy or alter evidence and is often used to attempt to obscure the identity of an individual. Proper recovery of burned skeletal remains is important for identification of the individual and identification of possible trauma sustained prior to death. Heat can cause bone fractures making it difficult to distinguish antemortem (before death) trauma from heat altered fractures. Recovery and thorough reconstruction of the skeleton is helpful in determining if there was any trauma to the bones prior to the body being burned. Heat altered bone and teeth exhibit a range of colors indicative of the amount of time the bone and/or teeth were exposed to heat.

In a recent study at the Southeast Texas Applied Forensic Science (STAFS) Facility, students examined and compared the more typical burn pattern and color seen on “fresh bone” (bone that is still covered by soft tissue, i.e. skin, muscles, organs) while in a pugilistic pose, to an adjudicated case of burned human remains. The burned human remains from the adjudicated case were quite unique. Prior to being set on fire, the individual was killed, stuffed in a large garbage can in a tightly flexed position and left to decompose for two weeks. After two weeks, the assailant set the garbage can on fire. After the case was adjudicated, Dr. Joan Bytheway placed the remains on a gurney in the anatomical position for examination by the students. Students could then examine and compare the burn pattern of the skeletal and dental remains of this case to a more typical fresh bone burn case.

With Bytheway’s assistance, the students documented the burn pattern through gross observation, photography, and colored sketches. The burned bone ranged from no burn to calcination. Calcination is defined as bone being white in color with all organic material removed, leaving only inorganic matter. When comparing this case with current literature and images on burn patterns seen in fresh bone in the pugilistic pose, students clearly saw the burn pattern in the adjudicated case was not consistent with the pattern seen in fresh bone cases.

For example, one distinguishable area of the skull, the forehead, which is typically one of the first areas to burn in fresh bone and quickly becomes calcined, was only charred in the adjudicated case. In addition, the occipital bone (the back of the skull) which is one of the last areas to burn in fresh bone, was calcined in the adjudicated case. This indicates that the head was bent forward, exposing the occipital bone to the fire, while the forehead was protected by the knee area where the forehead was most likely resting.

Through this small study, students realized a few important principles: 1) even with extreme heat, bones are not completely destroyed in fires and are recognizable and able to be reconstructed, 2) recovery of as much of the skeleton as possible is essential in making an accurate assessment of the possible induced trauma to the bone, and 3) burn patterns can assist in determining the position of the individual at the time he/she was burned.

Nicole Larison, a recent graduate of SHSU, and Bytheway will be presenting this study at the 2012 American Academy of Forensic Sciences annual meeting.



Gangs Incarcerated in Youth and Adult Facilities

By: Dr. Kate Fox

Dr. Kate Fox joined the College as an Assistant Professor in 2009. Her main areas of research and teaching interests include crime victimization (particularly stalking and intimate partner violence), gangs, corrections, program evaluation, and fear of crime.

Fox is currently the Principal Investigator on a grant-funded program evaluation in collaboration with Dr. Vince Webb and Dr. Chuck Katz (Arizona State University). The project is designed to evaluate the effectiveness of a new gang intervention program in Houston that is designed to reduce recidivism rates among juvenile offenders released from Texas Youth Commission facilities. This initiative is called GitRedy (Gang Intervention Treatment: Reentry Development for Youth) and it targets gang-involved youth between the ages of 13 and 19 who will return to Houston from juvenile facilities. The program works with youth and their families based on their individual needs and offer intensive therapeutic case management and supportive services, including mental health and substance abuse assistance, care coordination, family counseling, school-based counseling, gang education and intervention programs, workforce development, employability assistance, mentoring, supported employment, and Aggression Replacement Training.

The goal of GitRedy is to make sure that the gang members in the program do not recidivate. This will be examined after the youth re-enter the community by utilizing official statistics on their re-arrest and re-incarceration. The research project will follow approximately 200 gang members who participate in the GitRedy program and compare the GitRedy youth to those who were not in the program. The GitRedy program will be evaluated based on recidivism over time among a sample of juvenile offenders recently released from Texas Youth Commission into Houston, Texas who were members of a street gang prior to incarceration. Not all gang members who return to the community recidivate. An important goal of this study is to pinpoint the differences between those who desist from crime and those who recidivate. In addition to capturing data on arrests and incarcerations, the research also will measure the number of youth that became employed and the number of family members that participated in the services. In addition to therapeutic and support services, the program offers other

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opportunities designed to enhance employability, such as tattoo removal, assistance in obtaining birth certificates or state identification cards, and gang intervention and education curriculum.

In a recent project, Fox administered surveys to over 2,400 inmates incarcerated throughout 14 jails in Florida in an effort to study the differences between gang members and non-gang members. Her survey included a variety of questions about the inmates' crime, victimization, self-control, and perceptions of neighborhood disorganization. Fox has published several articles from these data and she is currently working on papers that focus on the theoretical effects of self-control, control balance, and social disorganization.

Based on this project, Fox has recently published an article in the *Journal of Criminal Justice Education* that highlights the "top ten lessons learned" from conducting research with jail inmates. This article discusses the challenges of obtaining data from incarcerated samples and offers practical advice for newer researchers who are interested in collecting original data from inmates.

For example, the lessons target a variety of challenges that could arise from research with inmates, including: obtaining access to correctional agencies, keeping good records, maintaining positive relationships with correctional officers and inmates, understanding the rules of the correctional facility, dealing with low response rates, scheduling and rescheduling data collection procedures, anticipating unexpected situations, understanding the accuracy of inmate self-report data, and maintaining relationships with correctional agencies after data collection.

Fox's work has recently appeared or is forthcoming in *Justice Quarterly*, *Crime & Delinquency*, *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, and the *Journal of Criminal Justice*. She has previously taught courses on crime victimization, introduction to criminology, and research methods. Currently, Fox teaches "Victimology" as an online undergraduate course and "Controversies in Victimology" as a graduate course.



Police Research Center Completes Evaluation of Houston Targeted Response

By: Dr. Larry Hoover

The Texas Major Cities Police Research Initiative has completed its evaluation of the Houston Enhanced Action Patrol (HEAP) program in the Houston Police Department (HPD). This evaluation was conducted as an element of the Texas Major City Chiefs' Leadership Training Program sponsored by SHSU's Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas (LEMITE). The faculty research team included Drs. Larry Hoover, Ling Ren, Bill Wells, Solomon Zhao, and Yan Zhang.

Targeted response units typically deploy in marked patrol cars with two officers in full uniform. Assignments are usually premised upon "hot spot" neighborhoods or zones that have experienced high crime rates. Targeted response units saturate such areas, employing a range of tactics, but at the core is generally numerous traffic and pedestrian "inquisitory" stops.

The first step identified high crime HPD beats using Part I offenses in 2008. The next step was to select locations to receive additional patrols. Several factors were used in making these decisions. In consultation with HPD personnel, a total of 14 beats at 12 patrol divisions were selected to receive additional patrol coverage during the implementation. From within these 14 beats, smaller

concentrations of crime were selected for attention from the additional patrols. The smaller areas selected exhibited high crime concentrations that were defined by natural boundaries, such as major roads and landmarks, and would be feasible for two patrol units to cover without continuously bumping into one another. They were typically about half of the beat area, encompassing two to three square miles. Between February and December 2010, two additional proactive patrol units were deployed to the 14 beat areas. Deployment duration varied between four and 12 weeks, with some beats experiencing three or four “cycles” of deployments.

Employing time series analysis over three years and ARIMA (autoregressive integrated moving average) scrutiny, three beats of the 14 saw sufficient drops in crime to meet the statistical test level of .05 – results would have occurred by chance no more often than 5 times out of 100.

The most that we can say is that all three beats experiencing a statistically significant drop in suppressible crime had a minimum of an eight week intervention, as opposed to the four week interventions in six of the thirteen beats. At the same time four other beats were also exposed to either an eight or 12 week intervention, with no measurable effect. Given the overall pattern, the best descriptor for the three instances is “isolated effect.” One carefully considers expending resources when the best that can be expected is isolated effects.



Research Update: Dr. Bouffard

By: Dr. Jeff Bouffard

Dr. Jeff Bouffard’s recent work on criminological theory has focused on the relationship between self control, social bonds and offender decision making, as well as the role of emotion in decision making processes. In May, 2011 he presented a proposal for a study of the role of emotion in offender decision making at a workshop sponsored by the Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime, and Law Enforcement at the University of Leiden, The Netherlands. The results of this study will be published in an edited book on the topic of “Affect and Cognition in Criminal Decision Making.”

Bouffard and several graduate research assistants (Melissa Petkovsek, Maria Koeppel, David Rempel) recently completed a large-scale survey data collection involving 778 SHSU undergraduate students and 1,016 male and female, felony-level offenders in two TDCJ facilities. Several manuscripts are in preparation that use data from this project, including studies of the generalizability of existing rational choice research from students to real criminals, the impact of social bonds on the perceived consequences of offending, and the validity of measures of self control across offender and student samples.

Bouffard (along with co-authors Dr. Bill Wells, Dr. Matt Nobles, and Mike Cavanaugh) has also had several articles accepted for publication that deal with the issue of concealed handguns on university campuses. These accepted articles will appear in the prestigious *American Journal of Public Health*, the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* and the *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*. In addition, Bouffard (along with Dr. Leana Bouffard) recently had an article accepted in *Journal of Criminal Justice* dealing with the impact of sanction certainty, severity and swiftness as they related to DUI offending. This article was the result of an evaluation of the DUI court in Spokane County, Washington.

Bouffard’s upcoming projects include an evaluation of the Montgomery County (TX) managed assigned counsel program which will attempt to improve the delivery of defense counsel provided to

Continued on Pg. 14

continued from pg. 13

mentally ill and other indigent defendants in that county. Bouffard (along with Drs. Phillip Lyons, Holly Miller, and Gaylene Armstrong) was recently awarded a three-year grant, worth \$99,000 to conduct a process and outcome evaluation of this program. Bouffard is also completing a manuscript that examines the differential effectiveness of restorative justice programming for various types of juvenile offenders (along with his colleague, Dr. Kathleen Bergseth).



NIJ/FSF Funds Toxicology Research on "Bath Salt" Designer Drugs

By: Dr. Sarah Kerrigan

In October 2011, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and the Forensic Science Foundation (FSF) funded an MSFS (Master of Science in Foreign Service) capstone project proposal to investigate the designer drugs known as beta-keto-amphetamines (BKAs, commonly referred to as "Bath Salts").

Designer drugs have posed a challenge for law enforcement and forensic scientists for decades, but more recently the proliferation of analogs has overwhelmed the scientific community, in large part due to the internet. The majority of BKA designer drugs are derived from cathinone, the active ingredient of Khat (*Catha edulis*), a plant native to Africa and the Middle East. Synthesis of these drugs is readily accomplished by clandestine chemists, making it an appealing drug for the designer drugs market.

The study will specifically address a number of central nervous system stimulants that are capable of producing powerful and unpredictable adrenergic and hallucinogenic effects. These drugs were available locally in gas stations, smoke shops and online until September 1 of this year, when The State of Texas enacted legislation to ban these substances. Many of these drugs were considered "legal highs" until the Drug Enforcement Administration placed several of them in Schedule I of the Federal Controlled Substance Act in an emergency scheduling action earlier this year. At least 24 other states have outlawed them, or have legislation pending due to intense media interest and publicity.

In the proposed study, at least six of the most popular "bath salt" drugs will be investigated in biological samples. These include mephedrone, methylone, ethylone, butylone, MDPV and naphyrone. Mephedrone is one of the most common BKAs. It has a reputation of having similar but superior effects to MDMA (3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine, Ecstasy). Street names for mephedrone include MCAT, meow meow, MMC hammer, 4 MMC, bubbles, meph, rush, drone and plant feeder. Mephedrone and the related BKAs are still relatively new, so few clinical, pharmacological or toxicological studies have been reported.

These drugs are easily identified in seized drug materials. The SHSU Regional Crime Laboratory (RCL) operated by the Criminal Justice Center routinely receives items of evidence containing these drugs. Detection in toxicological (biological) evidence is far more challenging. Toxicologists are struggling to develop methodology to detect these drugs (and their metabolites) in biological specimens. Even less is understood with respect to the interpretation of results, and this has real consequences in terms of criminal casework and death investigation.

In order for these drugs to be studied and understood, analytical methodology will be developed for routine use. In the proposed study, solid phase extraction (SPE) will be used to isolate the beta-keto amphetamines from biological matrices. Chromatographic and spectroscopic methods will be developed for instrumental analysis of the biological extracts. Chemical derivatization will be used to develop

extracts that are amenable to common instrumental techniques that are used in a crime laboratory, such as gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS).

The research will be conducted by MSFS student Kayla Ellefsen from Toronto, Canada and Dr. Sarah Kerrigan. Due to the scheduling status of some of these drugs, much of the research must be conducted at the Regional Crime Laboratory in The Woodlands. The proposed study is an example of the MSFS student capstone experience, whereby students must successfully complete an intensive one-year research project with a faculty member.

During the final phase of the study, the optimized procedure will be validated for use in actual casework at the Regional Crime Laboratory. This NIJ/FSF funded research highlights not only the relevance of student research in the field of forensic science, but also the potential for important collaborations between the MSFS Program and the RCL.



Research Update: Dr. Titterington

By: Dr. Victoria Titterington

Dr. Victoria Titterington continues to alternate between her long-standing interest in domestic homicide research and more recently, projects related to elder crime victimization and offending. She merged the two areas of study in a co-authored paper published with recent Ph.D. recipient, Dr. Napoleon Reyes, wherein they analyzed risk factors for elder homicide victimization across the cities of Houston, Chicago and Miami. She also worked with the Crime Victims Institute (CVI) by extracting and describing the characteristics and concerns of elder Texas residents from CVI's 2005 and 2006 Texas Crime Victimization Surveys. This 2010 report offered a synopsis of elders and the law, as well as recommendations of strategic responses to prevent or reduce crimes against the elderly. A follow-up summary was featured on the SHSU homepage this spring. Another age-related project, a cross-cultural analysis of physician-assisted suicide, co-authored with current Ph.D. candidate, Pierre Rivolta, is presently under review for publication.

Titterington and CMIT Director, Doug Dretke, have also met with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice regarding the need for an analysis of the ever-growing subpopulation of elder inmates, particularly those with chronic health conditions.

Titterington is working with current Ph.D. student, Jeanne Subjack, on a preliminary analysis of this issue nationally. Meanwhile, she continues to generate homicide research. Taking a cue from Dr. Larry Hoover and the Police Research Center's Major Cities Program, Titterington and Subjack co-presented for an ASC (American Society of Criminology) panel on the sex ratios of spousal homicides across Texas' six largest cities. From this paper, she is currently preparing an invited article for a 2012 special issue of Homicide Studies, honoring the pioneering work of the late Dr. Margo Wilson. Needless to say, she continues to find both of these areas of research relevant and interesting.



Continued on Pg. 16

Testing Theories of Crime

By: Dr. Scott Menard

Dr. Scott Menard's research involves ongoing interests in quantitative methods and statistics, self-reported illegal behavior and criminal victimization, and substance use in a longitudinal, intergenerational, life course perspective. His most recent publications have a common theme of testing criminological theories, in particular to see whether they are generally applicable or more limited in terms of the types of illegal behaviors or the ages of the individuals involved. Included in this work is a paper by Dr. Robert Morris (SHSU Ph.D. 2007), fellow SHSU professor Drs. Jurg Gerber and Scott Menard on testing the impacts of two different versions of control theory on adult respondents. The paper, published in *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, found that both theories contributed to the explanation of adult criminal behavior, and that both the number and the salience of one's social bonds help reduce illegal behavior.

In the other papers, the focus is on testing the integrated theory first proposed by Delbert S. Elliott, Suzanne S. Ageton, and Rachelle Canter. The integrated theory combines elements of strain, social disorganization, control, and learning theories, suggesting that the combined ability of the theories to explain illegal behavior is greater than that of any one of the theories by itself. Past studies testing the integrated theory have suggested that the learning theory component, represented by deviant bonding (the perceived delinquency of one's friends) tends to be the strongest and most direct influence on one's own delinquency, followed by one's attitudes (internal bonding) toward delinquency, with strain and social control variables having weaker and more indirect effects.

In a paper by Scott Menard and Jennifer K. Grottpeter published in *Violence and Victims*, the theory is extended to elementary school students in grades 3-5, in the context of an evaluation of a program designed to prevent school bullying and victimization as perpetration of aggression as an outcome. As in previous research, delinquent bonding emerges as a significant risk factor for school aggression; additionally, it is a significant risk factor for being a victim, not just a perpetrator, of school aggression. Apparently, there is no honor among bullies; if you hang out with aggressive kids, you sometimes become their target. Beliefs that aggression is wrong reduce perpetration but, not unexpectedly, are not significantly related to victimization. In general, the results support the integrated theory as an explanation of school aggression.

In a paper by Scott Menard and Robert G. Morris that is forthcoming in the *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, the integrated theory is tested for its ability to explain crimes of trust by younger (ages 18-24) and older (ages 38-45) adults. This work represents a continuation of work by Menard, Morris, and Gerber, along with Dr. Herbert C. Covey, reported in last year's Faculty Research Notes. As described there, crimes of trust are characterized by a combination of financial gain for the perpetrator and an attempt to avoid detection not of the perpetrator, but of the fact that a crime has been committed. These crimes, which include such offenses as credit card and tax fraud, workplace theft and embezzlement, are more characteristic of middle age than are crimes like illicit drug use, theft, and assault.

Overall, the learning and strain components of the theory were better supported than the social disorganization or control components. That learning theory remains a significant and direct influence on illegal behavior is consistent with past test of the theory, but the greater importance of the strain component is in contrast with earlier tests of the theory, and suggests that the influences that lead to crimes of trust may be partly but not entirely the same as the influences that lead to other types of crime.

Procedural Justice and Police Practices

By: Dr. Phillip Lyons

Half a century ago, Social Exchange and Equity theorists assumed that judgments of fairness were largely determined by outcomes, that is, that people view themselves as having been treated fairly if the result they experience involved a satisfactory distribution of punishments and rewards, benefits and burdens. In 1975, Thibaut and Walker challenged this notion and argued that perceptions of fairness were determined not only by outcomes (i.e., distributive justice), but also by process (i.e., procedural justice). In 1988, Tom Tyler took this further and turned social exchange theory on its head by demonstrating that procedural justice is actually more important than distributive justice in people's judgments of fairness.

Tyler, his colleagues, and students have since fleshed out the contours of procedural justice considerably, and it seems to apply to many facets of police-community engagement as well as police administration. We now know that the inclusion of stakeholders in decision-making procedures increases their sense of fairness. We know that enhancing procedural justice facilitates voluntary compliance with rules by officers. Similarly, we know procedural justice enhances voluntary compliance with the law on the part of community members. These findings have obvious connections to law enforcement practice but have yet to change that practice in any meaningful way. Tyler's life work, and the work of many others, has yielded huge insights into how police officers and agencies might conduct themselves in ways that promote public confidence and trust, but precious little has been done to translate that research into practice.

A core aspect of using the ideas outlined is taking the theoretical insights of procedural justice research and creating implementable police policies and practices. For example, Sherman used procedural justice models to generate specific police practices – providing a letter from the Chief explaining the reason for the stops and asking for motorist feedback – that increased perceived fairness. More recently randomized field experiments in Queensland, Australia have also identified specific policing procedures associated with perceived fairness. Similarly, police in London have demonstrated the value of providing local police newsletters demonstrating police interest in neighborhood concerns and Swedish police have demonstrated that having the police call those who have reported crimes several days later to ask “if everything is going all right” increased public confidence in the police. These specific policies and practices built upon procedural justice models provide clear support for the notion that procedural justice principles can be applied to contemporary police work.

Although a number of studies have examined public attitudes toward the police and compliance with the law through the lens of procedural justice, none has considered the impact of procedural justice on appeals of traffic citations.

Dr. Lyons and his colleague, Dr. Randy Embry (SHSU, Ph.D., 2011), are proposing to do just that. Baseline information will be collected from multiple participating police agencies concerning the rates at which traffic citations result in complaints against officers and appeals of the citations to court. At present, the Alvin and League City police departments have agreed to participate. The traffic violators who receive citations will also be invited to complete a very brief survey modeled after earlier procedural justice research inquiring about their satisfaction with the stop, the officer, and the agency as well as their assessments of fairness.

Following the collection of baseline data, officers will receive training on how to interact with traffic violators in a manner consistent with procedural justice approaches, particularly those related to enhancing violators' senses of fairness. In addition to training, officers will receive mentoring,

Continued on Pg. 18

continued from pg. 17

including feedback on their video-recorded traffic stops so as to align their practices maximally with procedural justice tenets.

The collection of data after the intervention will allow for a comparison of pre- and post-intervention: (a) rates of complaints against officers, (b) rates of appeals of citations to court, (c) assessments of fairness, and (d) satisfaction with the stop, the officer, and the agency. If the intervention results in changes in police behavior that significantly reduce the rates of complaints against officers and the rates at which traffic violators appeal their citations to court (as opposed simply to paying them), then agencies will have evidence for a method through which to achieve substantial cost savings. This evidence can then inform police practice as it relates to traffic violators. The cost of investigating complaints against officers and of paying officers overtime for court appearances runs into the millions of dollars for larger agencies. In these times of shrinking budgets, improvements in police practice that reduce cost are worth pursuing.

In addition to the more practical considerations, as noted above, perceptions of fairness also relate to confidence in legal institutions. The more fairly people believe they have been treated, the more legitimately they view the police and the criminal justice system. This legitimacy, in turn, leads to greater voluntary compliance with the law.



A Novel Biomarker for Cyanide Poisoning

By: Dr. Jorn Yu

Cyanide exposures commonly originate from smoke inhalation or direct exposure to either cyanide salt or hydrogen cyanide (HCN) and occur in military, firefighting, industrial and forensic settings. In the investigation of deaths, a bitter almond odor emanating from the victim and the presence of pink lividity from postmortem examination are two common indicators of acute cyanide poisoning. Alkali burns of the gastrointestinal tract can often be observed during autopsy in cases where cyanide salts have been ingested. Since cyanide salts are solid crystalline, their presence in a crime scene or in the areas near victim's nose or mouth can be easily discovered, collected and preserved for further forensic testing. In cases where no suspicious substances are observed in the scene of the death, the presence of cyanide in the victim's body can be confirmed chemically using a colorimetric test, followed by a laboratory analysis using a gas chromatography– mass spectrometry (GC-MS). Forensic evidence, such as stomach contents and whole blood of the victims, are usually collected and analyzed in order to confirm the cause of death. The toxicological detection of cyanide involves extraction and measurement of HCN from biological extracts. Blood or urine can be collected from the victim for laboratory analysis. Due to the relatively short half-life of cyanide (from minutes to hours depending on the matrix), toxicological detection of cyanide to confirm cyanide poisoning may only be feasible within the first few hours following exposure. Moreover, the volatility and reactivity of cyanide leaves direct measurements highly susceptible to errors introduced during the sample collection and separation step.

Cyanide levels in blood samples taken at autopsy the next day have been reported to decrease by approximately 79%. Postmortem formation of cyanide may also occur and complicate the interpretation of cyanide results. Therefore, the presence of cyanide becomes less feasible when the detection window

is passed or the victims' body has been damaged by fire or advanced decomposition. The detection of stable biomarkers of cyanide is needed to extend the time in which cyanide exposure can be reliably assayed in a post mortem examination.

The reaction of cyanide (CN⁻) with cystine to produce 2-aminothiazoline-4-carboxylic acid (ATCA) is one of the independent detoxification pathways of cyanide in biological systems. ATCA could be a promising biomarker for cyanide poisoning. Unfortunately, in vivo behavior of ATCA is not well understood. From a recent study in Dr. Yu's laboratory (in collaboration with Dr. Petrikovics in the Department of Chemistry), in vivo production of ATCA and its distributions in plasma and organs were studied after a sub-cutaneous (sc) sub-lethal dose of 4 mg/kg body weight potassium cyanide (KCN) administered to rats. It was found ATCA concentration was not significantly increased in the plasma samples at this sub-lethal dose of KCN. However, ATCA was found significantly increased in liver samples. These results suggested that liver could serve as the right organ for the detection of ATCA in post mortem examinations involving cyanide poisoning. These latest results will be published in *Biomarkers* (Ilona Petrikovics, David Thompson, Gary Rockwood, Brian Logue, Sarah Martin, Prashanth Jayanna, Jorn Yu. Organ-Distribution of the metabolite 2-aminothiazoline-4-carboxylic acid in a rat model following cyanide exposure. (*Biomarkers*, accepted on September 20, 2011). Co-author Sarah Martin worked on this ATCA research project as an undergraduate student majoring in forensic chemistry at Sam Houston State University. Sarah is currently a second-year graduate student with our MSFS (Master of Science in Forensic Science) program. Yu's laboratory continues to work on ATCA's in vivo behavior and stability in order to explore the potential of using ATCA as a biomarker for cyanide poisoning.

Other than research on biomarkers for cyanide poisoning, Yu's laboratory is also working on selective solid phase extraction using advanced materials, such as molecularly imprinted polymers. Seongshin Gwak, who graduated from our MSFS in 2011, completed his capstone research project entitled "The separation of chiral psychedelic amphetamine by molecularly imprinted monolithic polymers" with Yu. Gwak's research project was awarded by NIJ/FSF (National Institute of Justice/Forensic Sciences Foundation) student research grant. Gwak is currently pursuing his Ph.D. degree in forensic science at Florida International University.



Research Update: Dr. Longmire

By: Dr. Dennis Longmire

Dr. Longmire has been actively working on projects related to fear of crime, institutional misconduct of capital inmates, restorative justice, prosecutorial decision making, and the death penalty. He co-authored an article published in 2010 with Dr. Shi-Ya Kuo (SHSU Ph.D. 2008), Dr. Steven J. Cuvelier, and Kuang-Ming Chang entitled "Prosecutorial decision-making in Taiwan- A partial test of Black's Behavior of Law" in the *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology* (v. 54, No.6). This project involved an analysis of aggregate-level prosecution data collected in Taiwan between 1973 and 2005. The results partially confirm Black's prediction that "organization" (measured through the introduction of martial law) and "culture" (measured through

Continued on Pg. 20

continued from pg. 19

levels of educational attainment) would impact prosecutorial decision making in the directions predicted by his theory. The findings also suggest that the extent of governmental autocracy and their control over legislative policy development may have a mediating effect on the power of Black's theory of law.

Longmire, Shih-Ya Kuo, and Steven J. Cuvelier also published "An empirical assessment of the process of restorative justice" in the *Journal of Criminal Justice* in 2010. This project involved an assessment of the process used in the Reintegrative Shaming Experiments conducted in Australia between 1995–1999. This is one of the first studies to examine the process rather than outcome of restorative justice interventions demonstrating that these programs significantly increase offenders' active engagement in the sentencing process and increased their involvement in relationship building and moral communication. One surprising finding emerging from this study was that violent offenders who were involved in the restorative justice interventions did not report a greater sense of relationship building than did similar offenders who were processed through traditional court proceedings. Possible explanations for this anomaly were offered, including the relatively small number of violent offenders, a "decay effect" following the close of the conferencing sessions, and the possibility that adolescent offenders have immature defense mechanisms to violent behavior that mitigate any significant impact of restorative interventions.

With Drs. Robert G. Morris (SHSU Ph.D. 2007), Jacqueline Buffington-Vollum, and Scott Vollum (SHSU Ph.D. 2005), Longmire examined the effect of parole eligibility on institutional misconduct among the population of all capital inmates in Texas who were sentenced to "life" in prison under different sentencing policies rather than execution between 1987 – 1994. This study entitled "Institutional misconduct and differential parole eligibility among capital inmates" was published in *Criminal Justice and Behavior* in 2010, (v. 37, No.3). The results demonstrate that capital sentenced inmates serving longer sentences prior to parole eligibility are less likely to engage in serious and violent misconduct than those serving shorter sentences. This confirms previous research negating the belief that long-term inmates present a greater risk than others because they have "nothing to lose" due to their lengthy sentences. The findings also confirm previous findings that younger offenders present more of a risk than older ones and that offenders with a history of prior incarceration are less likely to engage in serious misconduct during their terms of confinement than are those serving their first term of confinement.

Longmire also has two articles examining issues related to fear of crime forthcoming in major journals. Both articles involve an analysis of the relationship between a person's residential location, the actual incidence of crime within close proximity to his or her residence, and the reported levels of "fear of crime." The first article in this set is entitled "An Examination of the Micro-Level Crime-Fear Link" and is forthcoming in *Crime & Delinquency*. This study was published with Drs. Solomon Zhao and Brian Lawton. The second article in this set was completed with Drs. Solomon Zhao and Yung-lien Lai (SHSU Ph.D. 2011) and is entitled "Specific crime-fear linkage: The effect of actual burglary incidents reported to the police on residents' fear of burglary." This article is forthcoming in the *Journal of Crime and Justice*. Both of these articles contribute information about the relationship between the public's fear of crime and the actual rates of crime occurring within close proximity to their where they live.

In collaboration with Drs. Solomon Zhao and Ling Ren, Longmire has completed two waves of surveys focusing on citizens' perceptions of the Houston Police Department. These surveys involved telephone interviews with 1,250 (wave 1) and 1,850 (wave 2) citizens residing in Houston. Both surveys include questions designed to assess citizens' levels of satisfaction with the Houston Police Officers'

conduct as well as their impressions of the professionalism and effectiveness of the officers in general. Also included were questions measuring collective efficacy at the neighborhood level, fear of crime, and measures of other more specific aspects of policing. Summary reports of the findings were presented to the Houston Police Department's Command Staff as well as the Houston City Council's Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security. Several doctoral dissertations examining these data sets are currently underway.

During the Spring of 2011, Longmire also provided expert resource testimony concerning the costs associated with the death penalty before the Texas House of Representatives' Criminal Jurisprudence Committee during Texas' 82nd Legislative Session and continues to work on projects provide consultation related to the death penalty. This testimony draws from work he is currently engaged in with SHSU doctoral student Valarie Mahfood involving the economic analysis of the cost of the death penalty at the county level relying on social-welfare economics.



Research Update: Dr. Henderson

By: Dr. Howard Henderson

Dr. Howard Henderson's recent correctional research, collaborating with Dr. Holly Miller, was published in *Criminal Justice Policy Review* and examined the predictive validity of the Wisconsin Risk Needs Assessment Instrument on a sample of Texas probationers. Despite being created in the late 1970s, validated on 1980s offender populations, and widely adopted by many agencies in the United States, including Texas, the Wisconsin Risk Need Assessment Instrument (commonly referred to as the Wisconsin) has very few empirical examinations. Due to previous research reports of poor utility of the instrument, the Wisconsin's creators proposed a new weighting of the risk portion of the instrument in 2009, in an attempt to increase its predictive ability.

Being the first to test the proposed re-weighted risk scale's relationship to probationer re-arrest, their findings indicated that the original risk/need sections and proposed re-weighted risk items were poor predictors of re-arrest. Several suggestions for further research along with probation policy and administrative recommendations were put forth.

Currently, Henderson is working on several research projects focusing on risk assessment validations and the perceptions of the criminal justice system as expressed through the lyrical content of hip-hop music. Along with his doctoral research assistant, Kevin Steinmitz, the content analysis of Hip-Hop music addresses a critical oversight of the extant criminal justice literature. Despite empirical inquiries into hip-hop music by other academic disciplines (i.e. psychology, sociology, history, and education) the art form has very few examinations in criminal justice and criminology. Considering that hip-hop music is derived from a subculture heavily impacted by the criminal justice system, this genre has a potential for advancing the criminal justice system's understanding of the community.

Hip Hop research primarily focuses on the music's misogynistic and violent nature, while simultaneously being methodologically weak as a result of unsubstantiated generalizations. In an era where measurements of public perception have become the norm, the extant criminological and criminal justice literature has not sought to address the portrayal of the criminal justice system through

Continued on Pg. 22

continued from pg. 21

the lyrical focus of rap artists. Utilizing a latent and manifest content analysis in conjunction with several measures of association, this study examined lyrics of 200 platinum selling hip-hop artist's lyrics and is the first to assess hip-hop artists perceptions of the criminal justice system.



Phenotype Informative SNPs Population Data in a Population of Texas

By: Dr. David Gangitano

From the discovery of the DNA double helix structure in 1953 to the complete sequencing of the entire genome by the Human Genome Project in 2003, vast advances have been made in DNA research in the last 50 years. After the completion of the Human Genome Project, researchers identified numerous variations or polymorphisms throughout the genome. Approximately 90% of these polymorphisms were identified as single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs). SNPs are defined as a single base sequence change at a particular point in the genome. These variations can be bi-, tri-, or tetra- allelic meaning they can have two, three, or four nucleotide changes in the sequence. However, the tri- and tetra- allelic polymorphisms are extremely rare so SNPs are widely referred to as bi-allelic markers. There are four different categories of SNPs for human identification: Individual Identification SNPs (IISNPs), Ancestry Informative SNPs (AISNPs), Lineage Informative SNPs (LISNPs), and Phenotype Informative SNPs (PISNPs). Recently, extensive research has been conducted on PISNPs and it was found that they strongly influence the phenotypic characteristics of an individual, specifically those relating to hair and eye pigmentation as well as skin tone in relation to ethnicity. At the cellular level, the color of a person's hair, eyes, and skin is controlled by the type and amount of melanin present in the melanocytes.

Melanocytes are comprised of melanosomes, which are specialized organelles that synthesize and store the melanin pigment. There are two types of melanin found in the body. The first type is brown/black melanin called eumelanin and the second is red/yellow melanin called pheomelanin. The multiple variations in pigmentation seen throughout human populations are determined by the distribution of melanocytes as well as the ratio between eumelanin and pheomelanin in the cells.

Melanogenesis, the melanin biosynthesis pathway, begins with the stimulation of the melanocortin 1 receptor (MC1R) protein by the binding of the melanocyte stimulating hormone (α -MSH). The binding of this hormone causes an increase in levels of cyclic AMP (cAMP) in the melanocyte, which activates the microphthalmia transcription factor (MITF). Activation of MITF stimulates tyrosinase (TYR), tyrosine-related protein 1 (TYRP1), and dopachrome tautomerase (DCT). These enzymes are essential for the conversion of tyrosine to melanin. Additional proteins such as SLC24A5 and agouti-signaling protein (ASIP), activated throughout the pathway are required for the synthesis and maturation of the melanosomes and determine whether eumelanin or pheomelanin will be produced. The SNPs thought to control pigmentation variation directly or indirectly are located at key points in the melanin biosynthesis pathway (Figure 1).

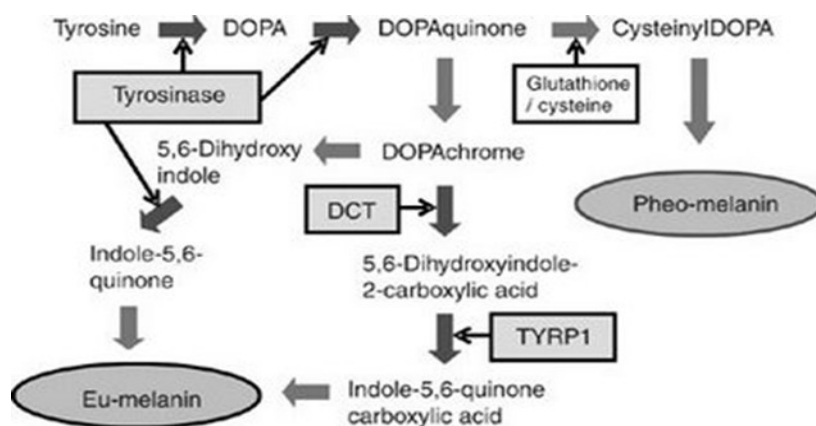


Figure 1: Simplified melanogenesis pathway.

One of the newer areas of research in SNPs is the determination of hair color. Variation in hair color is a result of the amount and type of melanin deposited into the hair shaft. More knowledge on the genetic basis of hair color variation is being discovered but with the exception of red hair, a positive hair color prediction with a high degree of certainty is not yet possible.

In the case of eye pigmentation, the iris structure has an effect upon the color of an individual's eyes. The iris has four layers and the pigmentation is a result of the presence of melanocytes in the anterior border layer. The number of melanocytes is fairly constant throughout a population but the quantity, packaging, and quality of the melanin present in these cells differs with each person and is genetically determined. As with hair color, the variation in eye color is a result of the ratio of the two types of melanin produced by the melanocytes. At the genetic level, 61 SNPs have been linked to human iris pigmentation. Many of the same genes thought to control eye color are the same as those associated with hair color prediction.

Compared to hair color, prediction of eye color by SNPs is one of the most researched phenotypic characteristics in this area and therefore can be predicted with a fairly high level of certainty.

Skin tone is one of the most complicated phenotypic characteristics to predict accurately. The massive amount of mixing between ethnicities and the many genes involved result in a wide range of skin pigmentations seen throughout human populations. As with hair and eye color, skin tone is also controlled by the amount and type of melanin produced by melanocytes located in the epidermis of the skin.

Many of the genes used for skin pigmentation prediction are the same as those mentioned above. Despite the research done in this area, prediction of this phenotypic characteristic will always be troublesome due to the vast array of observed phenotypes in humans.

The goal of this research was to test the hypothesis that a group of selected PISNPs have the ability to predict the hair, eye, and skin pigmentation of an individual. A series of eight PISNPs were chosen from the *HERC2*, *OCA2*, *SLC24A4*, *KITLG*, *TYR*, *SLC45A2*, and *SLC24A5* pigmentation genes and subjected to a single base extension reaction. Genotype frequencies were obtained, analyzed, and compared to previously published data. This research has the potential to be critical to the forensic community. The ability to predict an individual's phenotype would not only be useful in cases without witnesses or suspects but also cases where only degraded DNA is available.

Crime, History and Hollywood

By: Dr. Will Oliver

In the most recent issue of the *Journal of Criminal Justice Education* (Vol. 22, No. 3, September, 2011), I published an article titled, “Crime, History, and Hollywood: Learning Criminal Justice History through Major Motion Pictures.” In the article I explore how Hollywood’s presentation of history in its motion pictures is almost always flawed, and flawed in very consistent ways. I present these patterns in the article and then use the motion picture, “Amistad,” as an example of these historical inaccuracies. Interestingly, the idea, development, and publication of this particular article can be traced back to a criminal justice student of mine, here at Sam, back in 2005.

I was teaching the History of Criminal Justice course and reached the chapter in my book “A History of Crime and Criminal Justice in America on the American West.” In that chapter I address the differences between true crimes and criminals of the American West and the myths that have developed around them. When I began addressing the gunfight at the O.K. Corral, one of my students raised his hand and explained that the real reason for the gunfight was the Cowboys, the bad guys that wore red. I explained that the “Cowboys” were a loose reference and that they did not wear red. The student argued that in the movie Tombstone the Cowboys all wore red sashes. I had to explain that the movie came out in the early 1990s and the alleged bad guys in the movie were seen wearing red because it was used as a symbol to convey gang activity to the viewers, primarily because of the widespread media saturation on street gangs and the colors they wore; more specifically the red colors worn by the street gang the Crips. I explained the real Cowboys were hardly an organized gang, nor did they wear red sashes. My student was not at all convinced.

This then started a pattern that I noticed. I would talk about the Draft Riots during the Civil War in New York City and students would say, “Well in the movie Gangs of New York . . .” I would mention the missing civil rights works in Mississippi and my students would say, “Well in the movie Mississippi Burning . . .” All of these comments typically included historical inaccuracies that I would then spend a large portion of my class time trying to correct and still the students did not seem to go away entirely convinced that my information was correct or Hollywood was wrong. I thought about trying to incorporate a movie into the class to demonstrate the issue, but the format of the class was not conducive to the idea. So, I decided to teach a class that would highlight this point, hence I began teaching a special topics class titled “Crime, History, & Hollywood.”

Having taught the class several times and doing research into other fields regarding this issue of historical accuracy in major motion pictures, I discovered that there are very defined patterns in the way Hollywood presents American history. They almost always over simplify the story, even if that means combining real historical characters into composites, eliminating historical people instrumental to the real story, or by creating entirely fictitious characters to present some modern viewpoint or carry the film from beginning to end. A good example is the actor Morgan Freeman’s role in the movie Amistad. He plays the role of a man who is a freed slave and an abolitionist who helps the lawyers win the freedom of the captured slaves from the ship Amistad. Although Morgan Freeman is an excellent actor, the character he plays, Joadson, is entirely fictitious— he never existed. Yet, he is used by Steven Spielberg to present a black abolitionist’s perspective in the movie.

Perhaps one of the worst distortions of history comes in the form of a racial issue that is dubbed a “White Wash.” Because Hollywood aims to make a profit from its films, its target audience tends to be

the white middle class. Therefore, the heroes in the films all tend to be white middle class people. Even when the true events had non-white characters who were instrumental in the case, they often become background players to the white characters portrayed in the movie. Two great examples of this are the films *Amistad* and *Mississippi Burning*, where in the real events blacks were instrumental figures in these cases, but in the movie they all are background props to the lead white characters who arrive to save the day.

In the class, I have the students learn about the real life events of specific cases (e.g., *Amistad*, *Mountain Meadows Massacre*, *Throwing of the 1919 World Series*, etc.) and then we watch the motion picture associated with these events (e.g., *Amistad*, *September Dawn*, *Eight Men Out*). Students then analyze what Hollywood got right and what they got wrong. Overwhelmingly, the students become very adept at pointing out how inaccurate these films are and always note that had they not researched the actual events, they would have believed the film entirely accurate.

In order to share this concept for a class, I wrote the journal article in 2010, which was just recently published. In the article, I draw upon my experience from teaching the course and use *Amistad* as an example. Since then, I have also obtained a book contract with Carolina Academic Press to take the concept even further by presenting the mistakes Hollywood makes and then reviewing the accuracy of ten crime related films: *Amistad*, *September Dawn*, *Tombstone*, *Eight Men Out*, *St. Valentine's Day Massacre*, *Public Enemies*, *In Cold Blood*, *Escape from Alcatraz*, *Mississippi Burning*, and *All The President's Men*. In conclusion, I would like to thank the student who defended the historical accuracy of *Tombstone* and all the students who have taken the class – you have helped me define and redefine the concept, the journal article, and now the book. Thank you!



Windham School District Evaluation supported by SHSU faculty and doctoral students

By: Dr. Gaylene Armstrong

During the most recent legislative session, the Windham School District came under close scrutiny as Texas legislators struggled to put forth a balanced budget. Although some positions were eliminated and salaries reduced, the agency did survive and continues to provide education programming to offenders incarcerated in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice Institutional Corrections system. In a proactive move to better understand and demonstrate the impact of increased educational attainment to legislators in the upcoming session, administrators from the Windham School District approached Sam Houston State University and the Correctional Management Institute to engage in an evaluation of their correctional education programs.

Within the field, correctional education is argued to be a very valuable component of correctional programming in terms of how offenders' time is spent in prison and in the potential decrease in recidivism, yet the academic literature is mixed on the extent to which education involvement itself is solely responsible for improved outcomes. This project brings together the Windham School District (WSD) and faculty and graduate students from Sam Houston State University to determine the impact that correctional education has on post-release outcomes. Although recidivism is typically the outcome

Continued on Pg. 26

continued from pg. 25

of interest when evaluating correctional programs, other outcomes, such as finding and maintaining legitimate employment, are also argued to be effective determinants of successful reintegration to society. Using historical data provided by WSD, Dr. Gaylene Armstrong and her research team will evaluate five different program areas that WSD provides to the eligible offender population housed within the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). These program areas include:

1. The **Basic Academic Program** which focuses on literacy training and GED preparation;
2. The **Career and Technology Education (CTE) Program** which integrates career path planning and technology training to prepare inmates for today's work force;
3. The **CHANGES Program** which is a pre-release program designed to prepare offenders for their return to society;
4. The **Cognitive Intervention Program** which addresses thinking patterns and is designed to improve behavior during incarceration and after release; and,
5. **Post-secondary Programs** which provide continuing education in both vocational and academic settings.

Because many offenders enroll in multiple programs over the duration of their incarceration, the data provided by WSD will allow researchers from SHSU to attempt to isolate the impact of specific programs on the outcome measures. In addition, because attendance hours for each inmate are tracked, the research team will also be able to examine the impact of treatment dosage on the outcome measures.

The outcome measures studied will include institutional disciplinary violations (data provided by TDCJ), re-arrest (data provided by the Texas Department of Public Safety [TxDPS]), re-incarceration (data provided by TDCJ), and unemployment (data provided by the Texas Workforce Commission [TWC]). As this project moves forward, it is hoped that, eventually, the correctional education programing provided by WSD will be amenable to comparison with other correctional education programs throughout the United States through the use of the Correctional Education Data Network.

The initial stages of this project have formed the basis of Armstrong's doctoral course, Advanced Correctional Research, in which advanced doctoral students gain real-world research experience with correctional agencies. In the course that was modeled after an initiative that Dr. Hoover has led for many years, the students participate in the ground up process of project development including attending and even leading meetings with key WSD staff.

Through the process, doctoral students learn about the structure of the correctional organization, key issues faced by the agency, and experience challenges and pitfalls typical of applied research. Through a review of the related literature, the students will be developing specific research questions that will be examined in the later part of the project. In addition to meeting with administrators at the WSD headquarters at the Wynne Unit in Huntsville, students received an extended tour of the vocational programs ongoing at the Ferguson Unit.

Any questions pertaining to this project may be directed to Dr. Gaylene Armstrong at GArmstrong@SHSU.edu.



Biosocial Stalking Indicators in a College Student Sample

By: Drs. Matt Nobles, Brian Boutwell and Todd Armstrong

Recently, the biosocial approach to understanding criminal behavior has been suggested as a promising avenue for investigating stalking perpetration. Meloy and Fisher (2005) note that several commonly observed stalking motivations and behaviors may be associated with underlying physiological processes or disorders. They also discuss, for example, results from two prior studies using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to measure brain activity of individuals who self-identified as “in love.” These studies concluded that the presentation of stimuli related to individuals’ beloved resulted in greater activation of the areas of the brain responsible for dopamine production, distribution, and reception; other studies have linked these structures to the processes of reward and motivation, including experiments in which the “goal” was a monetary reward or the desire for cocaine (Breiter, et al., 2001; Elliott, et al., 2003). Although suggestive, these studies were limited in terms of sample size (N = 17 in both cases) and did not directly operationalize or measure stalking behaviors. Furthermore, existing research has yet to examine directly the role that specific genetic polymorphisms might play in the emergence of stalking behaviors in the population.

This project extends the literature on physiological and behavioral genetic correlates of stalking by evaluating a large sample of volunteers for key indicators. Data were gathered from a sample of students enrolled in criminal justice classes at Sam Houston State University, and featured survey questionnaires containing items on behavioral, environmental, and demographic factors, including scales of stalking behaviors, intimate partner violence, and relationship attachment. Finally, the principal investigators asked students to provide a simple cheek swab to permit testing for several genetic indicators that relate to physiological processes that have been suggested in the literature as potentially related to stalking behavior, including genes that encode for the receptors and transporter proteins of key neurotransmitters and enzymes such as dopamine, serotonin, and monoamine oxidase A (MAOA). This study follows from a clear precedent in the literature on stalking and biosocial criminology.

At present, no peer reviewed research has investigated molecular genetic indicators specifically related to stalking outcomes, although work on genetic markers for general behavioral tendencies such as aggression and certain mood disorders offers some insight. Given the relative dearth of work on this topic, we anticipate that the potential for peer-reviewed publication in top-tier psychiatric, social science, and genetics journals as high.



Recent Faculty Publications

- Aitkenhead-Peterson, J.A., Owings, C.G., Alexander, M.B., Larison, N., & **Bytheway, J.A.** (2011). Mapping the lateral extent of human cadaver decomposition with soil chemistry. *Forensic Science International*.
- Armstrong, G., Armstrong, T.A.,** Webb, V.J. & Atkin, C.A. (Forthcoming). Redeploy Illinois: Can financial incentives reduce juvenile confinement rates? *Journal of Criminal Justice*.
- Armstrong, G.** (Forthcoming). Factors to consider for optimal span of control in community supervision evidence based practice environments. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*.
- Armstrong, G.,** & Kim, B. (Forthcoming). Juvenile penalties for "lawyering up": The role of counsel and extralegal case characteristics. *Crime and Delinquency*.
- Armstrong, T.A.,** Katz, C., & Schnebly, S. (2010). The relationship between citizen perceptions of collective efficacy and neighborhood violent crime. *Crime & Delinquency*.
- Akers, R.L. **Fox, K.A.,** & **Nobles, M.R.** (Forthcoming). Is stalking a learned phenomenon? An empirical test of social learning theory. *Journal of Criminal Justice*.
- Atkin, C.A., & **Armstrong, G.,** (Forthcoming). Does the concentration of parolees in a community impact employer attitudes toward the hiring of ex-offenders? *Criminal Justice Policy Review*.
- Barnes, J.C., Beaver, K.M., & **Boutwell, B.B.** (Forthcoming). Examining the genetic underpinnings to Moffitt's developmental taxonomy: A behavioral genetic analysis. *Criminology*.
- Barnes, J.C., **Boutwell, B.B.,** & Beaver, K.M. (Forthcoming). Height in adolescence predicts polydrug use in adolescence and young adulthood. *Physiology and Behavior*.
- Barnes, J.C., **Boutwell, B.B.,** Morris, R.G., & Armstrong, T.A. (Forthcoming). Explaining differential patterns of self-reported delinquency: Evidence from latent class analysis of sibling pairs. *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice*.
- Beaver, K.M., Vaughn, M.G., DeLisi, M., Barnes, J.C., & **Boutwell, B.B.** (Forthcoming). The neuropsychological underpinnings to psychopathy in a nationally representative and longitudinal sample. *Psychiatric Quarterly*.
- Beaver, K.M., Flores, T., **Boutwell, B.B.,** & Gibson, C.L. (Forthcoming). Genetic influences on adolescent eating habits. *Health Education and Behavior*.
- Blackburn, A.G., Fowler, S.K., Marquart, J.W. & **Mullings, J.L.** (2010). Inmates cultural beliefs about sexual violence and their relationship to definitions of sexual assault. *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation*.
- Bouffard, J.A., Nobles, M.,** & **Wells, W.** (Forthcoming). Differences across majors in the desire to obtain a license to carry a concealed handgun on campus: Implications for criminal justice education. *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*.
- Bouffard, J.A., Bouffard, L.A.** (Forthcoming). What works (or doesn't) in a DUI court? An example of expedited case processing. *Journal of Criminal Justice*.
- Bouffard, J.A., Nobles, M., Wells, W.,** & Cavanaugh, M. (Forthcoming). How many more guns? Estimating the effect of allowing concealed handgun licenses on college campuses. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.
- Bouffard, L.A.,** & Piquero N.L. (2010). Defiance theory and life course explanations of persistent offending. *Crime & Delinquency*.
- Boutwell, B.B.,** Beaver, K.M., Gibson, C.L., & Ward, J.T. (Forthcoming). Prenatal exposure to cigarette smoke and childhood externalizing behavioral problems: A propensity score matching approach. *International Journal of Environmental Health Research*.

- Boutwell, B.B.**, & Beaver, K.M. (2010). The role of broken homes in the development of self-control: A propensity score matching approach. *Journal of Criminal Justice*.
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- Bucheli, S., **Bytheway, J.A.**, & **Gangitano, D.A.** (2010). Necrophagous caterpillars provide human MtDNA evidence. *Journal of Forensic Science*.
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- Cuvelier, S.**, Lim, L. (2010). The impact of police levels on crime rates: A systematic analysis of methods and statistics in existing studies. *Asia Pacific Journal of Police and Criminal Justice*.
- Farrell, A.L., Keppel, R.D., & **Titterington, V.B.** (2011). Lethal ladies: Revisiting what we know about female serial murderers. *Homicide Studies*.
- Fox, K.A.**, Zambrana, K., & Lane, J. (2011). Getting in (and staying in) when everyone else wants to get out: Ten lessons learned from conducting research with inmates. *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*.
- Fox, K.A.**, **Nobles, M.R.**, & Fisher, B.S. (2011). Method to the madness: An examination of stalking measurements. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*.
- Fox, K.A.**, **Nobles, M.R.**, & Akers, R.L. (2011). Is stalking a learned phenomenon? An empirical test of social learning theory. *Journal of Criminal Justice*.
- Franklin, C.A.** (2010). The effect of victim attitudes and behaviors on sexual assault victimization severity: An examination of university women. *Women and Criminal Justice*.
- Franklin, T.W.** (2010). Social context and prosecutorial charging decisions: A multilevel analysis of case-and country-level factors. *Journal of Criminal Justice*.
- Henderson, H.** & **Miller, H.A.** (Forthcoming). The (twice) failure of the Wisconsin risk needs assessment instrument. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*.
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continued from pg. 29

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- Menard, S.**, Grotmeter, J.K. (Forthcoming). Peer influence, social bonding, physical and relational aggression. *Victims and Offenders*.
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- Menard, S.**, Morris, R.G., **Gerber J.**, Covey, H.C. (2011). Distribution and correlates of self-reported crimes of trust. *Deviant Behavior*.
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- Patton, C.L., **Nobles, M.R.**, & **Fox, K.A.** (2010). Look who's stalking: Stalking perpetration and attachment theory. *Journal of Criminal Justice*.
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- Webb, J.V., **Ren, L.**, **Zhao J.S.**, He, N., & Marshall, I.H. (Forthcoming). A comparative study on youth gangs in China and the United States: Definition, offending and victimization. *International Criminal Justice Review*.

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- Wells, W., Chermak, S.** (Forthcoming). Risk factors for gun victimization in a sample of probationers. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*.
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