The Effects of Reported Crime and Neighborhood Context on Citizens’ Perceptions of Neighborhood Crime and Disorder in Houston

This study examined factors associated with citizens’ perceptions of neighborhood crime and disorder issues in Houston area. Data were collected from general citizens and citizen volunteers of the Proactive Interaction Program in Houston. Calls for service data were used to examine the effects of reported crime and disorder whereas American Community Survey data were used to test the influence of neighborhood structures on crime-related perceptions. Findings derived from the current study indicated that information regarding crime control is the most important element when it comes to residents’ recognition of crime and disorder problems.