

The Criminologist

The Official Newsletter of the American Society of Criminology

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May/June 1996

THE JOURNAL OF RESEARCH IN CRIME AND DELINQUENCY: AN EDITOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Tamryn J. Etten
Auburn University

Fledgling authors in the field of criminology are often faced with the puzzle of where to send their articles for publication. While authors are aware articles can be rejected if deemed inappropriate for a particular journal, they may not always know the type of articles considered appropriate by editors of the more elusive journals.

One such elusive publication is the *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* edited by Dr. James Finckenauer of Rutgers University. Since the journal has no automatic distribution to members of such organizations as ASC, ACJS, or ACA, all which send journals to their members, it is not circulated as widely around the field. This means there are many authors who may have heard of the journal but are not familiar with what it publishes. And its title, unlike journals like *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, doesn't help much either.

"You can tell from some of the submissions we get that people don't always know what the journal is about," said Finckenauer, who took over journal editorship from Jeffrey Fagan just under a year ago. "I guess people construe 'research in crime and delinquency' in different ways."

The current editorial board and editorial staff see the journal most simply as a forum for empirical research on crime and delinquency that is theoretically driven, Finckenauer said. "Articles can be



James Finckenauer
Editor

quantitative or qualitative but they have to involve a straightforward effort to examine theory using quantitative data or qualitative information."

The substantive topics that the journal accepts are quite broad, as long as they fall under the general umbrella of "crime and delinquency" research. What limits the submissions in terms of appropriateness is their purpose.

The journal accepts articles "with the end of contributing to our knowledge of theory, but not for the purpose of developing public policy or making public policy suggestions," Finckenauer said. "Not that

(informing public policy) couldn't be the result of a particular article which informs theory, but that's not what our purpose is. We don't even publish traditional evaluation research."

The journal also rarely accepts articles which are solely methodological, Finckenauer said. "We aren't interested in methods for the sake of methods." That's an area he believes is well covered by other publications.

While every journal has its niche, there is some substantive and methodological overlap between articles published in *The Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* and other journals. Finckenauer said he sees the journal's market as quite similar to

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AROUND THE ASC

The Law and Society Division of the Society for the Study of Social Problems announces the winner of the 1996 Alfred Lindesmith Award for the best paper on a law and society topic presented by an untenured faculty member or student at the SSSP annual meeting. The recipient is **Dennis D. Loo**, graduate student in sociology at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Mr. Loo won the award for his paper, "Crime Scares and Media Frames in the 1990s," which was presented at the 1995 annual meeting in Washington, DC.

In response to concern about violence in the U.S., the National Science Board has approved a plan by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to award \$12.1 million to Carnegie Mellon University to establish a National Consortium For Research on Violence. NCOVR researchers will create a comprehensive and focused program delving into the problem of interpersonal violence. NCOVR will have two goals: (1) to develop a better understanding of how and why violent acts occur and (2) to use that understanding to suggest possible preventative actions and programs that will help policy makers and practitioners deal with violent individuals and violent situations. **Alfred Blumstein**, J. Erik Jonsson University Professor of Urban Systems at the Heinz School, will be the consortium director.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

And Justice For All is a multidisciplinary conference which will bring together a wide spectrum of individuals concerned with the law and its impact on America. Academics from a wide variety of disciplines, attorneys, professionals in other fields, and citizens will gather to assess law in American society. The conference is scheduled on September 5-7, 1996 in Omaha, Nebraska at UNO's Peter Kiewit Conference Center, 1313 Farnam. Sponsored by the Creighton University School of Law, the University of Nebraska at Omaha's College of Continuing Studies, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's College of Law and Department of Psychology. For more information contact: Mary Macchietto, College of Continuing Studies, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska 68182, (402) 595-2355, Fax (402) 595-2345, Internet mmacchietto@unomaha.edu.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and the California Youth Authority (CYA) have joined together to develop a model curriculum addressing impact Classes/Panels for Offenders. MADD's Victim Impact Panel program and CYA's Impact Classes for Offenders program are both esteemed national offender programs stressing personal responsibility, accountability, and consequences for criminal behavior, while including the victim perspective. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime, the **Training of Trainers Seminar** will be conducted August 19-23, 1996 at the California Youth Authority Training Center in Stockton, California. The seminar is tailored for both adult and juvenile correctional personnel, probation/parole officers, victim service providers, and allied professionals who work with offenders and victims. Applicants will be selected by a peer review process and OVC will cover all expenses except travel. For more information contact Regina Sobieski at 1-800-GET-MADD, ext. 261.

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Second class postage paid at Columbus, Ohio.

SUBMISSION
DEADLINE FOR
JULY/AUGUST ISSUE:

JUNE 3, 1996

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that of *Criminology* and *The Journal of Quantitative Criminology*. "Occasionally, we'll get submissions that have been rejected from these journals where the authors have made the changes suggested by reviewers and are looking for another forum."

In terms of reputation, Finckenauer and former editor Fagan have worked very hard to maintain a "prestigious journal with a reputation for being rigorous in terms of selection process and review criteria." By the sheer number of submissions the journal receives each year, it's also quite competitive to be selected for publication.

The journal was founded in the mid-1960s by the Research Council of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. Don Gottfredson, Director of the NCCD Research Center and staff to the Research Council acted as the first executive editor of the journal until he left NCCD in 1973 to go to Rutgers University. The Journal has been published by Sage Publications, which bought the journal twelve years ago, since its inception.

"(In the 60s), there were not many journals oriented to crime and delinquency research specifically," Gottfredson said. Most criminologists had to seek publication in sociological or psychological journals. "The Research Council of NCCD perceived the need for a quality refereed publication to report research in the whole field of crime and delinquency."

The Research Council, with members such as Marvin Wolfgang, Jim Short, Hans Toch, and Lloyd Ohlin, became the first board of editors. After Gottfredson left NCCD, editorship was taken over by Vincent O'Leary of SUNY-Albany, who had been instrumental in the founding of the journal as Vice President of NCCD at the time. Jeff Fagan took over as editor in 1990 when the journal was transferred to Rutgers University -- a transfer Gottfredson did not know about until it was complete. "The journal following me to Rutgers was completely coincidental," Gottfredson said.

According to Gottfredson, the journal has retained the same direction and mission as it did when it was founded. "I don't see much of a difference (in today's journal) with how we would describe the original mission of the journal." It's always been an outlet for empirical research in the areas of criminal and juvenile justice, he said.

Today, articles submitted to the journal are reviewed by three anonymous reviewers knowledgeable about the substantive area or the methods or statistics used in the paper. Finckenauer assigns all the reviewers after reading the article himself and then consulting his associate editors, Ko-Lin Chin, Candace McCoy, or Elin Waring, or his managing editor, Amy Bishop O'Regan, for names of expert reviewers. Often he relies on his own knowledge of whose doing what in the field.

Finckenauer spends a great deal of time selecting reviewers for articles, he said, being careful to not always use the "usual suspects." He will use young scholars to take some of the reviewing burden off experienced scholars who are often taxed by the number of reviews they are asked to do. "We've got a lot of intelligent people out there who should be brought into this process" and many of these are young people just getting started in the field.

Using young scholars not only helps the journal by expanding its pool of reviewers, it helps young scholars get experience reading

and reviewing research. In addition, Finckenauer is attempting to implement other procedures to help young scholars -- namely, to reduce turn-around time between manuscript submission and editorial decision making. Unfortunately, Finckenauer has to contend with two unpredictable forces that greatly influence time: reviewers and the U.S. mail.

"The review process is difficult for a young assistant professor who has a three year contract and can only serially get articles out. The process right now at most journals can take six to nine months" and for an author who faces a rejection or two before getting his or her article accepted, "It can be a real headache."

To hasten turn-around time, the journal is adopting a software package that tracks where a manuscript is in the review process. It can speed communications with reviewers and encourage them to get manuscripts back in a timely fashion. In addition, the system can hold a reviewer data base which lists all the names and substantive areas of expertise of perspective reviewers.

Second, Finckenauer is working on developing a system where submissions would be accepted (and eventually required to be submitted) electronically and sent to reviewers electronically to completely remove the "snail mail" from the process. "One of our biggest problems is the mailing -- reviewing manuscripts, getting them to reviewers, and getting them back in a timely fashion. The slow pace is rarely because of the dereliction on anyone's part, but because of the mail. Electronic submissions can solve that."

Finckenauer said he hopes these changes will bring the journal into the 21st century while still maintaining The Journal's original mission and reputation.

Prospective authors wanting to submit articles for Journal review should submit four copies of the typewritten, double spaced, no longer than 25 page article in ASA style to: Managing Editor, *The Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*, Rutgers School of Criminal Justice, 15 Washington Street, Newark, New Jersey, 07102.

Anyone interested in becoming a reviewer for the journal should send a letter of interest to Finckenauer. The letter should list areas of competence or expertise.

Subscription inquiries can be directed to Sage Publications at (805) 499-0721. The journal is published quarterly.

Tamryn J. Etten is an instructor in the Criminology Program at Auburn University. She is currently a doctoral candidate at Rutgers University, completing a dissertation on Florida Gun Laws. She is a former news reporter and former copy editor for the journal *Crisis: A Journal of Lay Catholic Opinion*.

FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR PROGRAM

The Fulbright Program is the U.S. government's single most comprehensive offering of individual overseas opportunities. Awards to nearly 130 countries are offered, with opportunities in every discipline. Grants are available for university lecturing, combined lecturing and research activity, and individually directed advanced research.

Fulbright awards range from two to twelve months. In recent years, one-half of the grantees went abroad for six months or less, with most undertaking a semester assignment of four or five months. In other cases, faculty traveled abroad for an academic year.

While Fulbright awards remain competitive, more and more different types of participants are receiving awards. Grants go to junior faculty and to professors emeriti, to candidates from research institutions and comprehensive universities, small liberal arts colleges, community colleges, and minority-serving institutions.

In addition to the many prescribed assignments advertised for your consideration, many countries have open or any field awards that allow the candidate to propose the activity, host affiliation, and duration of the enterprise. These open awards permit you to design a Fulbright opportunity that best meets your interests and needs.

The need for language skills varies dramatically across the worldwide program. In most countries, the language of instruction for Fulbright lecturers is English (Latin America and francophone Africa are the prominent exceptions).

Applicants for Fulbright scholar awards must be U.S. citizens; hold the Ph.D. or equivalent professional/terminal degree (unless otherwise stipulated in the awards announcement); for lecturing, have appropriate college or university teaching experience; and not have held a grant in the last three years or resided abroad for nine or more months for five or more consecutive years in the six-year period preceding application.

The application deadline for 1997-98 lecturing and research awards worldwide is **August 1, 1996**. Other deadlines are in place for special programs. To learn more about what is being offered, contact the Council for International Exchange of Scholars; 3007 Tilden Street, N.W.; Suite 5M; Box GNEWS; Washington, D.C. 20008-3009; (202) 686-7877; e-mail (application requests only): cies1@ciesnet.cies.org.

Professional Fellowship in Police Studies 1997-98 Fulbright Program with the United Kingdom

The United Kingdom Fulbright Commission in London has announced that professional fellowships in the field of police studies will be offered during 1997-98. Two American police professionals will be selected, and they will be provided the opportunity to pursue extended training and professional development in the United Kingdom. The fellowships are being made available under the Fulbright program to allow police professionals to broaden their professional perspective and contribute to greater British/American understanding.

The application deadline is **August 1, 1996**. Applications for the 1997-98 fellowship, including reference forms and special instructions for applicants, may be obtained by telephoning 202/686-7878 or by sending an e-mail request to WE6@ciesnet.cies.org or by writing to the following address: U.K. Police Studies Program, USIA Fulbright Senior Scholar Program, 3007 Tilden Street, N.W., Suite 5M, Box F-UKPS, Washington, D.C. 20008-3009. For specific questions contact: Dr. Karen Adams, 202/686-6245 (e-mail: WE1@ciesnet.cies.org).

JOURNAL OF CONTEMPORARY CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CALL FOR PAPERS

Gender Issues In Criminal Justice

The Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice is now accepting papers for a special issue entitled "Gender Issues in Criminal Justice." Conceptual and theoretical papers as well as qualitative and quantitative research are encouraged. An abstract of approximately 100 words, and a separate brief biographical paragraph of each author's affiliation, research interest(s) and recent publications must also accompany the manuscript.

Four copies of the manuscript should be submitted for publication consideration: manuscripts should be 10-15 double-spaced pages (excluding graphs and charts) and should use APA style of referencing. There are no review fees.

Accepted manuscripts will need to be provided on diskette in a format readable by IBM compatible computers. Graphs and charts need to be provided camera-ready. Authors will be required to proofread galleys and will receive four printed copies of the journal.

Please send all manuscripts to:

Karen A. Casey, Ph.D., Guest Editor
Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice
The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
School of Social and Community Services
615 McCallie Avenue
Chattanooga, TN 37403-2598

The deadline for submission is July 1, 1996.

IN THE CLASSROOM

A High-Tech Solution to a Common Problem

A common complaint from students about the material they read for criminology and criminal justice classes is that it is outdated. Do these questions sound familiar: Why should we know crime rates from three or four years ago? What is happening right now?

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) has a new Internet home page that will solve this age old dilemma for students and professors! The latest BJS reports covering crimes reported to the police, criminal victimization, prison populations, capital punishment, federal case processing, violence against women and trends in juvenile violence are now available electronically. The BJS reports are linked to the raw data used in the report, which can also be downloaded.

The home page address is: <http://www.ojp.usp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>

BJS information is updated frequently. In addition, the web site has links to many other criminal justice statistical sources.

Let us know...

What other Internet services do you find useful as an instructor?
What Internet services do your students find most interesting?

TOPICS NEEDED FOR "IN THE CLASSROOM"

- What are your most challenging dilemmas in the classroom?
- What issues do you find difficult to explain to students?
- Are you interested in techniques to convert you from a lectureholic to a seminar facilitator?
- What foolproof tips for success do you have for beginning instructors?
- What pedagogical techniques would you like to share? Or have explained in more detail?

Please forward topics for "In the Classroom" to:

Editor
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Department of Criminal Justice
60th and Dodge Streets
Omaha, NE 68182-0149

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CRIMINOLOGIST will regularly feature in these columns position vacancies available in organizations and universities, as well as positions sought by members of the Society.

A charge of \$50 for up to 125 words and \$10 for each additional 25 words will be made. The charge will be waived for institutional members of ASC.

It is the policy of ASC to publish position vacancy announcements only from those institutions or agencies which subscribe to equal educational and employment opportunities and those which encourage women and minorities to apply. Institutions should indicate the deadline for submission of application materials.

The Professional Employment Exchange will be a regular feature at each Annual Meeting. Prospective employers and employees should register with the Society no later than three weeks prior to the Annual Meeting of the Society. Appropriate forms may be obtained by writing to the ASC offices in Columbus, Ohio.

To place announcements in *The Criminologist*, send all material to: Angela Patton, Managing Editor, *THE CRIMINOLOGIST*, Department of Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha, 60th and Dodge Streets, Omaha, NE 68182-0149. Telephone: (402) 554-2610, FAX (402) 554-2326. E-mail address: apatton@facpacs.unomaha.edu.

When sending announcements, please include a phone number, fax number and contact person in the event we have questions about an ad. The deadline date for the July/August issue is June 3, 1996.

Institute for Law and Justice. Nationally-known criminal justice research and consulting firm in Old Town Alexandria, VA, seeks a senior research associate to work in its team-oriented, fast-paced office. Responsibilities include participating as principal on evaluation and research projects related to criminal justice policies and practices, writing proposals and reports. Requires hard work, flexibility, excellent writing and interpersonal skills, background in statistical analysis and computer analysis, and Ph.D. Travel is required. Salary in the \$40s with excellent benefits and opportunities for advancement. Send resume to Institute for Law and Justice, Selection Committee, 1018 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314, or FAX 703-739-5533. Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

Policy Research Associates, Inc. announces an opening for a Project Director for a national study of police - mobile mental health crisis team interactions. Requirements: Ph.D.; ability to work independently; experience in qualitative and quantitative research including designing instruments and using SPSS. Position will involve travel for field data collection, and report and grant writing. The research project is part of the NIMH-funded UNC-Duke Mental Health Services Research Center. Work location is at Policy Research Associates, 262 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054. Send CV and writing samples to PRA, Attn. Henry J. Steadman, Ph.D. Open until position is filled. Salary \$40,000 - \$45,000 plus excellent benefits. Start Immediate. Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

University of Cincinnati. The Division of Criminal Justice invites applications for an entry level tenure-track assistant professor position to begin September 1, 1996. Ph.D. in Criminal Justice or related field required. Evidence of scholarly work and teaching experience is required. Specialty area includes juvenile delinquency, and criminology. The Division of Criminal Justice offers B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. Send vita and a list of three references to: Chair, CJ Search Committee, Division of Criminal Justice, P.O. Box 210389, University of Cincinnati, OH 45221-0389. The deadline for applications is May 15 or until an acceptable candidate is found.



Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention
U.S. Department of Justice
Regional Information
Sharing Systems Projects

National Youth Gang Symposium

June 17-20, 1996
Dallas, Texas

Just a few of the Panel Topics...

"Gangs and Guns"
"Gang Denial and Exaggeration"
"Gang-related Homicides"
"From Youth Gang to Street Gang:
Growing Up"
"Gangs and Drugs: Getting High vs.
Dealing"
"Multisystemic Therapy"

Just a few of the Presenters...

Irving Spergel, University of Chicago
Joan Moore, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
G. David Curry, University of Missouri, St. Louis
Scott Decker, University of Missouri, St. Louis
Walter Miller, former Professor, Harvard
University
Cheryl Maxson, University of Southern California
Malcolm Klein, University of Southern California
C. Ronald Huff, Ohio State University

Make Reservations Now...

Contact the National Youth Gang
Center:

1-800-446-0912,
ext. 285, 259, and 234
nygc@iir.com

NEWS FROM THE DIVISIONS

THE NEW DIVISION OF PEOPLE OF COLOR AND CRIME

At the November 1995 Board meeting, the Board considered the petition for a new division and agreed that it should have division status. Under the leadership of Freda Adler and the great work of Chinita Heard, the requirements were completed in record time. This Division, just as the Women's Division, has been a vision held by many People of Color for many years. It's not that the Society has excluded People of Color in the organization but for the first time, this Division will allow minorities to have a voice in their own destiny.

For too long, that destiny has been tied to the major organization. Some people will ask, why is it necessary to have a separate organization? Why can't all people belong to the American Society of Criminology without a form of segregation? The need for a separate organization is to insure that minorities are heard on issues that deal with race and ethnicity. Very few of us would disagree that issues affecting minority communities are generally written by Caucasians and that minorities are all too often responding to misconceptions of life and events in our communities.

We are now living in a diverse community and the diversity is coming from a different direction than in the past. Most of our early theories of criminal behavior came from Europe. We now have issues of criminality in Asian communities within our borders. Who can better study these problems than Asians themselves. The American Indians are grappling with problems on the reservations, they not only have to deal with the American courts but with the Tribal courts as well. Who can better study these problems than American Indians? Hispanics are a growing majority in some of our large cities and must deal with the open hostility of other groups concerning migration, drugs, gangs, imprisonment, etc. Who can better study these problems than Hispanics? African Americans in large urban communities are dealing with crime, violence, drugs, family, etc. Who can better study these problems than African Americans? While this does not mean that other groups can't study ethnic and racial problems, but it does mean that we can now bring a kind of cultural sensitivity to issues relating to People of Color.

We hope to try and convince departments and schools of criminology to include more People of Color in their readings. There are very few programs that have courses on People of Color. This Division will also act as a catalyst for recruiting additional minorities into the field. We believe that the Division should actively recruit at the high school level to insure that there is an adequate pool at the graduate level. Why is it that there are more minorities in Psychology, Political Science, Sociology and other fields and very few in Criminology/Criminal Justice?

No one would doubt that there should be more People of Color in the field. Most programs suffer because they do not have People of Color on their faculty. How many American Indians do we have in the Academy? What about Asians and Hispanics? As we grow as a nation, we must also be cognizant that we are becoming more diverse and that through diversity, we will become a better nation.

We hope to deal with issues such as time to degree, teaching, publishing, tenure, etc. All issues that you and I have had to deal with over the years but is seen as different by minorities. How does one deal with perceptions by white students that you have little knowledge as a professor if you are a minority and that they will challenge you in class to test your knowledge? Why is it that there are very few publications by minority authors in mainline journals or very few grants and or contracts awarded to minorities from the National Institute of Justice, Juvenile Justice, NSF or NIH? What about mentoring for minority students? These are just a few of some of the issues that the Division, with your help, will try to deal with over the years. This is not just a division devoted only to People of Color, it is opened to each and every member of the Academy but it is a division that is designed to provide a forum for minority issues.

The Co-Chairs this year are Julius Debro and Ruth Peterson. The Program Committee consists of Laura Fishman, Chair; Chinita Heard and David Spinner, Awards; Ruth Peterson, Membership; Charles Crawford and Zina McGee, Nominations/Elections; Delores Jones, Research Committee; Katheryn Russell, Outreach; and Julius Debro and Chinita Heard, Fundraising.

We need your support, we encourage your ideas and we hope that you will join with us in making this Division one of the best in the Academy.

Julius Debro

ASC CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The ASC Nominations Committee announces the call for nominations from the membership for the election slate of officers for 1996. Positions for election include President-Elect, Vice President-Elect, and two Executive Counselors.

Please use the nominations form. All nominations should be received by **September 23, 1996** and should be sent to the address below. To assure that your nominee gets full consideration by the Committee, please attach a resume summary of one or two paragraphs to the nominations form.

1997 ASC NOMINATIONS

For President Elect: _____

Name

Nominee's address

Reasons for nomination

For Vice-President Elect: _____

Name

Nominee's address

Reasons for nomination

For Executive Counselor: _____

(you may nominate two)

Signature of Nominator: _____

Please forward your nominations by **September 23, 1996** to:

Jeffrey Fagan
School of Public Health
Columbia University
600 West 168th Street
New York, NY 10032
FAX (212) 305-8280

1996 ASC ANNUAL MEETING - CHICAGO

MAKE YOUR TRAVEL PLANS FOR CHICAGO NOW!

The American Society of Criminology is pleased to announce new benefits for its members when they travel to the upcoming annual meeting in Chicago, November 20-23, 1996.

The Society has signed a contract with Association Travel Concepts of LaJolla, California to handle its members' travel arrangements for the meeting. We have made every effort to secure the best savings for you and to provide you with outstanding service as well.

Here are some of the benefits and services you will receive:

- * Option to book through Association Travel Concepts or any agency you choose, or to book flights yourself.
- * A convenient toll free number with staff available to help you 24 hours a day.
- * Guaranteed lowest fare on all carriers, or the difference will be refunded when tickets are booked through Associated Travel Concepts.
- * A rebate of 20% of the agency commission on any ticket booked through Association Travel Concepts at any time throughout the year, before or after the meeting.
- * A chance to win 2 free airline tickets to destinations throughout the United States.
- * Year-round car rental discounts for ASC members
- * Accessibility to Association Travel Concepts through email

ASC members will soon be receiving more information on the benefits of booking their travel through Association Travel Concepts. Look for it in the pages of *The Criminologist* and in mailings you will be receiving from ASC headquarters.

If you have any comments or questions about your travel arrangements for the Chicago meeting, please send them to Hugh Barlow, ASC Travel Arrangements Coordinator. His FAX number is (618) 692-5050; Email is hbarlow@siue.edu.

1996 ASC ANNUAL MEETING - CHICAGO

MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS EARLY!

The 1996 annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology will be held in Chicago from November 20-23. The site of the 1996 meeting is the Chicago Downtown Marriott Hotel. The Downtown Marriott is located at 540 North Michigan Avenue.

The room rates at the Downtown Marriott are:

Reservations may be made by:

- * calling the hotel reservation desk at (312) 836-6128
- * calling the Marriott toll free reservation number (800) 228-9290
- * faxing the hotel registration fax number at (312) 245-6938

The overflow hotel is the InterContinental Hotel. The InterContinental is located at 505 North Michigan Avenue, just across the street from the Downtown Marriott.

The room rates at the InterContinental are:

\$110 for a single/double

Reservations may be made by:

- * calling the hotel at (312) 944-4100
- * calling the InterContinental toll free reservation number (800) 628-2112
- * faxing the hotel registration fax number at (312) 321-8877

PLEASE MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS EARLY!!!

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 Theodore SASSON, editor. *Crime Talk: How Citizens Construct a Social Problem*. Xiaogang Deng, reviewer.
 Michael TONRY, editor. *Malign Neglect: Race, Crime and Punishment*. Julius Debro, reviewer.

Steven CHERMAK, editor. *Victims in the News: Crime and the American News Media*. Boulder: Westview Press, 1995. 207 pages.

Understanding the mechanics involved in the production of crime news is important due to the fact that most Americans rely on the mass media for information about crime. Coupled with the popularity of television crime programs and crime movies, it is easy to see that the media helps to shape peoples' images of crime. In *Victims in the News: Crime and the American News Media*, Steven Chermak explores, with rich detail, the crime news production process, emphasizing the victim's role. Chermak makes valuable comparisons across local print and electronic media as well as across cities. These comparisons fill gaps in the crime news research literature.

Chermak utilizes three research methodologies in order to show how and why crime stories are presented in print and electronic media. Content analyses were carried out for six print and three electronic media. Ethnographic observations provided insight into the crime news production process at one newspaper and one television station. Interviews complemented those ethnographic observations.

The author divides the crime news production process into four steps. Step one involves the access that information sources grant reporters. In step two, news agencies select potential stories from those that sources make available. Step three includes the production stage where news and source agencies determine the information to include in selected stories. Finally, crime stories compete with other stories for media space.

Similarly, Chermak describes four major types of crime news stories and details the elements of a newsworthy story to show how a story might move from one type to another. Tertiary stories appear everyday and primarily fill space. These are uninteresting stories, yet fill space and show the importance of crime. Secondary stories require reporters to make more contacts but are a burden because the story cannot be dropped, yet it is not extraordinary. Primary stories can emerge from extraordinary secondary stories and can be followed as the case proceeds through the justice system. These stories fill prime media space due to their newsworthiness. Superprimary stories are celebrated criminal justice system cases that draw national attention. "Super primary stories are the news stories that are talked about, watched, and the most likely to affect the impressions people have about crime" (39).

Chermak argues that victim and defendant characteristics are important crime variables that contribute to the newsworthiness of a story. Generally, however, demographic information about victims and defendants is not included. Concerning victims, age, occupation, victimization location, crime impact, number of victims, and victims' reactions are important elements that can elevate the newsworthiness of a story. Other characteristics that can raise newsworthiness include professional defendants and violent predatory defendants. Chermak concludes that news reporters and consumers consider certain crimes 'normal' and that crimes which do not fit in this category have the potential to become more newsworthy.

Analyses show that almost one-fourth of crimes in news stories were murders. This illustrates the fact that crime seriousness

is an important element of a newsworthy story. Less serious crimes can become newsworthy due to increased public interest, like drug crimes. Chermak does not make comparisons between crime characteristics presented in the news media to crime characteristics reported to official agencies or reported by the National Crime Victimization Survey.

Up to this point, Chermak has described the news production process by discussing different types of crime stories and important variables in crime stories. In chapter four, the strongest chapter, he considers the specific role victims play in the news production process. The author details the victim's roles in story selection decisions, story production, and the victim's changing role as the story moves up from the tertiary level. Victims have traditionally been considered outsiders to the criminal justice process and have been similarly treated so by the news media, but Chermak finds that as a story's newsworthiness elevates, the media increasingly rely on victims for information. Chermak uses his observations and interviews to complement his conclusions, giving detailed insight into the victim's role in the production process.

Next, Chermak compares crime news across print and broadcast media, as well as, across city size. One viewpoint claims that crimes presented will not differ across media type because each will access similar information sources. Another argument posits that the media format necessitates different presentations. Chermak found significant differences in 15 of 16 story categories and showed that crime stories accounted for 17.5% of broadcast stories and 9.7% of print stories. Despite format differences, the types of crimes presented in broadcast and print media were found to be

similar. These similarities are attributed to the fact that both media rely on similar sources of crime information.

Chermak contributes to prior research by addressing key questions regarding crime presentation across cities. Overall similarities were found in both print and broadcast media. Differences emerged, however, to support Chermak's assertions about what makes a crime story more newsworthy and about how media format plays a role in crime news presentation. Although the author controls for each city's crime rate, he does not examine any differences between reported crimes and crimes reported in that city's media.

Finally, Chermak describes how the media's watchdog function is limited and concludes that organizational concerns explain why the media provides a distorted crime picture. The strength of this argument lies in the author's description of "the costs of crime news production" (p 176). Costs include a public that believes crime is a more significant problem than it is in reality, a decision making body that uses distorted media information, a justice system that appears to effectively find and process crime, a police force that is rarely criticized, a one sided interpretation of events from the powerful's perspective, and a media that decision makers use to "justify decisions and promote their ideas" (p 177).

Victims in the News is an insightful and thorough look into the mechanics of crime news production with emphasis on the role victims play in the process. Chermak contributes to relevant issues in crime news research with content analyses, ethnographic observations, and interviews. Anecdotes from interviews and observations add real world illustrations to the author's conclusions.

William M. Wells
University of Nebraska at Omaha

Edwin J. DELATTRE, editor. *Character & Cops: Ethics in Policing*. 2nd ed. Washington, D.C.: The American Enterprise Institute Press, 1994. 307 pages. (\$21.95)

This publication, which explores the ethical dimension of police work is a tough read. It is tough because it takes the trouble to examine the ethical issues embedded in

policing in a serious and thorough manner. It is tough because it disallows the normative standards of conventional textbooks on policing, or many other topics, for that manner. Finally, it is tough because it causes the reader to reflect more seriously about the moral dimension in the overall context of human experience. It is not a book that permits of light grazing. Rather, it encourages and stimulates the kind of careful reflection that delves deeply into the eternal questions that relate to personal goodness and right action. These are not avenues of inquiry typical of police literature.

One of the first things that struck this reviewer about this publication was a sense of wonder at seeing the names of Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Kierkegaard, and John Stuart Mill invoked in a book aimed at a police audience. Typically, and lamentably, the realm of police literature does not often intersect with that of substantive political theory or philosophy. Police textbooks are more often than not characterized by a pragmatic, procedural practicality that does not betray a deep knowledge of the traditions of ethics, virtue, goodness, and wisdom. Indeed, much of the literature subscribes absolutely to the tenets of value-free social science and steadfastly denies the merits of that older tradition. It should not be surprising, however, that the enterprise of policing allows of significant insight from those who thought seriously and profoundly about political principles. The etymology of "police" reveals its immediate association with the ancient source of all political and ethical life; the "polis" (city).

Delattre has constructed a careful, thoughtful and instructive guide for anyone concerned with the creation and perpetuation of ethical excellence. While his focus is on the policing profession, there is much in his work that should be especially valuable to anyone seeking a realistic understanding of the moral and ethical challenges confronting those whom we have placed between ourselves and the forces of disorder, conflict, and injustice. In fifteen chapters he covers a full range of topics dealing with pertinent topics such as: the mission of the police; discretion; corruption; education in moral reasoning; and ethical ideals & youth violence. In this second edition, the author has added an appendix which provides some extremely helpful suggestions for those who would seek to pursue the subject of ethics in

order to better relate it to policing. Delattre recommends that such a pursuit include the serious study of books which might seem more appropriate to a course in political philosophy, including such Platonic dialogues as the *Apology* and the *Crito*. Indeed, much of what Delattre is driving at partakes of a persistent sign of health in the academic and scholarly community which actively encourages the ennobling aspects of studying the work of the most serious thinkers. By pointing the reader in the direction of ancient and modern texts that carry on an extended dialogue about the most serious human issues, Delattre is doing a public service that could contribute to the development of police leaders and officers with a deeper understanding of the moral, ethical, and civic responsibilities they bear.

By directly addressing the threat of declining standards for public servants, by clearly articulating the reasons why a truly good police service cannot be merely a microcosm of society in general, and by raising important reservations about the prevailing ideologies that have weakened and confused a great deal of police education and training, Delattre has crafted something of worth for his reader. Through the use of living examples and by reference to exemplary writings that touch on the most challenging concepts of virtue, ethics, and character, the author offers substantial scope for higher learning. The work of a true teacher is to gently guide the student toward the path of understanding. This book illuminates a path that the willing student may pursue.

Paul F. McKenna
Ontario Ministry of the Solicitor
General and Correctional Services

Philip JENKINS. *Using Murder: The Social Construction of Serial Homicide*. New York: Aldine De Gruyter Press. 1994. 262 pages. (\$20.95)

Serial murder has received enormous attention both from the popular media and academic scholars for many years. To date, however, little analysis has been focused on the social construction of serial homicide. In *Using Murder: The Social Construction of Serial Homicide*, Philip Jenkins aspires to contribute to a deeper understanding of

the fascinating phenomenon of serial murder. Utilizing historical, political, cultural, rhetorical, and sociological perspectives, Jenkins attempts to dissect the means by which this social problem is constructed and presented in modern society.

The major contribution of this book is Jenkin's theoretical focus on the social construction of serial murders. This theoretical view emphasizes that people create a "reality" of serial homicide - a world they believe exists - based on their individual knowledge and discussions with other people. This socially constructed world of serial homicide is composed of events individuals believe to be happening; facts they believe to be true; relationships they believe exist; casual processes they believe are operating; and values, attitudes, and opinions they believe are valid. People then act in accordance to these views of reality - their social construction of serial homicides. This theoretical perspective allows Jenkins to examine the underlying factors that explain the construction of the serial murder problem which in turn allows the reader a deeper understanding of the phenomenon.

The first section of the book explores the reality of serial murder. Though this phenomenon has received increased attention since the 1970's, it occurred in other historical periods as well with Jack the Ripper, Ed Gein, and Albert Fish representing several of the most famous cases. Since the 1980's, the problem has been exaggerated in terms of scale and severity by bureaucratic agencies and journalistic accounts. In reality, serial murder accounts for a very small proportion of American homicides.

Why the disparity between the reality of serial murder and the accounts reported by bureaucratic agencies as well as the media? To answer this question, Jenkins investigates the role of the "claims-makers" and the agendas of these different interest groups that mold public attitudes through their depictions of this social problem.

Jenkins argues that the Justice Department achieved "ownership" of the issue by asserting that the serial murder problem was "novel, without historical precedent, and a threat potential since killers were "highly mobile." The ownership and social construction of serial murder by the Justice Department allowed for great bureaucratic and political benefits for the

claims-makers or shapers of this social problem. These groups manipulated the construction of serial murder to reflect their conservative, "law and order" ideology; i.e. to focus on the responsibility of the individual - portrayed now as a monster or evil personified - rather than as a victim of social or economic dysfunction.

This stereotype of the serial killer encouraged by the claims-makers reflected the conservative ideology - especially the rights of the victim. The victim most emphasized was the child, which allowed for the symbolic manipulation of this social problem by the claims-makers. Young Americans were portrayed as being at the mercy of such killers as John Wayne Gacy and Dean Corll. Also the Atlanta child murders and the murder of Adam Walsh served to contextualize serial murder as part of the perceived dangers of child pornography, sexual abuse, and missing or kidnapped children.

Journalistic accounts of these serial murder cases assisted both in framing the problem for the public and to escalate their fears of being victimized to disproportionate levels. This resulted in giving serial murder an inappropriately high ranking on the public agenda which allowed the federal bureaucratic agencies (especially the Reagan administration) to achieve major rewards in terms of resources and prestige that furthered their conservative agenda.

The second section of the book focuses on the cultural meanings attached to the serial murder problem. The cultural image of the serial killer as evil personified, or as a terrifying dehumanized monster, assisted the Justice Department as the boundaries between fiction and real life were blurred. Serial killers were always a popular subject of crime stories from "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" (1886) to Alfred Hitchcock's "Psycho" (1960) to the slasher films like "Friday the Thirteenth" (1980-1983). The film version of "The Silence of the Lambs" (1991), an international sensation, played a decisive role in determining cultural attitudes towards this phenomenon since it further stimulated public fascination with the problem. The film also portrayed the FBI as experts in the heroic role of federal "mind-hunters" who must be called upon for assistance when murders are not solved rapidly. This of course reflected favorably on federal law enforcement agenda and policy.

The public's fascination with serial killers was further titillated by journalist's accounts in tabloid as well as the so-called respectable press. Phil Donahue and Geraldo Rivera frequently used multiple murder as a theme of their talk shows. Nightly TV news shows spotlighted this theme while focusing on stories of serial killers. True crime accounts were especially popular; indeed, over forty book-length studies of individual cases were published between 1990-1993.

The appeal of the serial murder stories is understandable since they are the material of high drama. Reflecting a system of contemporary mythology, the serial killers epitomize a variety of symbolic roles as they manipulate the fears of the audience. Jenkins notes that these tales appeal to societies' universal nightmares and fears as crime is personalized with frightening, threatening images of what can befall people. They explain violent crime by linking it to a handful of evil individuals which makes the conceptualization of crime more manageable, simpler, and perhaps less frightening.

The third section of the book examines the ideological and political perspectives that are integral to the serial murder issue in contemporary America. Images of the serial killer are fundamental to many of the claims-makers or shapers of the ideological and political perspectives. They tend to use this type of crime as a tool to achieve their agendas by linking it (or "mapping together") with other phenomena perceived as being far more dangerous including: satanism, increased sexual deviance, pedophilia, racial bias, and so on. For instance, conservative rhetoric in the 1980's focused on threats to children because of the breakdown of the family, increased sexual permissiveness, and individual selfish hedonism. Jenkins argues that by citing cases where young boys were sexually victimized (i.e., John Wayne Gacy), the claims-makers drew attention to the widely credited link between homosexuality, pedophilia, and violent crime. They sought to stigmatize the homosexual movement, an aspect of contemporary "permissiveness" detested by social conservatives (especially the fundamental Christian right). By creating such a link between serial murder and child exploitation, Jenkins states that this context or "frame" benefited the law enforcement bureaucracy since they could justify the expansion of their official powers to meet the alleged threat.

Jenkins' analysis of how other claim-makers have framed the serial murder problem was particularly interesting. He offers insightful views of the feminist construction of serial murder as well as serial murder as both a bias crime and as a weapon in racial politics. His exploration of the framing of the Atlanta child murders was especially intriguing.

This book is a brilliant and finely documented analysis of the social construction of serial murder. Jenkins' greatest contribution is his interdisciplinary approach that explores the richness of the entire spectrum of American culture - from scientific facts to fictional and popular works - as it seeks in-depth understanding of this phenomenon. This book is an example of what true social science and scholarship should aspire to achieve, for Jenkins has contributed to an area of knowledge often littered with little more than number-crunching and sensational true crime stories written for the popular press. This book can complement textbooks in courses as diverse as criminal justice theory, journalism, public policy, juvenile justice, research methods, and cultural or feminist studies. With the publication of this excellent work, Jenkins has established himself as a noteworthy scholar and a serial murder expert who has redefined this area of study.

Rose Johnson Bigler
Charleston Southern University

Theodore SASSON, editor. *Crime Talk: How Citizens Construct a Social Problem*. New York: Aldine De Gruyter, 1995. 197 pages.

Mass media and public views of crime are two important topics for social research. However, our knowledge of the origin and formation of the public views of crime is limited due to inadequate academic research. Sasson's book examines the contour of popular consciousness about crime and explores its ideational sources.

This book is unique in terms of methodology and content. The author applies frame analysis to the study of public discourse of street crime. Frame analysis assumes that people are not passive receivers of information but active assemblers of symbolic meaning. People use frames to organize experiences and guide action.

Frame analysis considers people as orators of their minds. It does not, as survey analysis does, ask subjects to give simplistic responses to complex issues. Instead, it asks subjects to freely express their opinions and analyzes the underlying frames. Based on the content analysis of the speeches and publications on street crime, Sasson identifies five contesting frames that constitute the crime debate: a) faulty criminal justice system, b) social breakdown, c) blocked opportunities, d) media violence, and e) a racist criminal justice system.

After a brief discussion of the methodology of the study (chapter 1-2), Sasson empirically assesses the performances of these frames in the samples of newspaper columns and 20 public discussion groups, as well as cite an abundance of well-chosen public discourse to support his arguments (chapter 3-6). The author finds that the two conservative frames, Faulty System and Social Breakdown, have strong empirical support while the liberal frame, Blocked Opportunities is widely rejected. Not surprisingly, black and white participants are evenly divided by Racist System based on their social positions and personal experiences.

The author uses a constructionist theoretical perspective to explain why some frames perform well and what factors determine popular consciousness about crime (chapter 7-9). Faulty System, Social Breakdown, and Racist System (among black participants) have strong empirical support because people have a full spectrum of resources (experiential knowledge, popular wisdom, and media discourse), which allows individuals to combine these resources into the coherent frames and make strong arguments for these frames. The Blocked Opportunities frame is less successful because the resources for integration are scarce. The individual's common and diverse structured positions (such as race, class, societal cultural themes, and medial discourse) in society influence the availability of ideational resources for making sense of crime.

Even though the Blocked Opportunities frame does not do very well, the author argues that it does not mean that progressives lose their battle in the crime debate. On the contrary, any frame does not necessarily have a clear-cut policy position. Sasson offers some strategic advice for progressives

about how to engage in the crime debate: focus on the most effective ways of reversing the social breakdown and challenge conservatives' attacks on antipoverty initiatives and progressive social movements.

This book contributes to our understanding of popular views of crime and of the politics of crime control. The constructionist perspective offers a unique framework to study the process of constructing meaning. Its methodology, frame analysis and focus groups provide researchers with an opportunity to study the dynamic process of media and public views of crime. It reminds us that survey method with its precoded response categories cannot adequately capture the complicated thinking process, and is by no means a tool for everything. The book contains ample materials on the public discourse of crime. The participants' conversations on root causes of crime are particularly well chosen, vivid, interesting, and forceful, and contain much conventional wisdom. The book fills a vacuum in an area where criminological research has not yet given sufficient attention: public views of crime and the role of mass media.

While this book has many merits, it also has some minor flaws which need to be mentioned. First, the units of analysis for the media sample are newspaper columns and for the public discourse sample are discussion groups. However, the study attempts to explain the individual's consciousness formation process. It would be interesting if the author could examine the effects of the individual's characteristics on one's use of media resources and consciousness formation process. Second, people obtain the bulk of their information about crime from various sources of the media. It may be more compatible to examine a participants' exposure to various types of media discourse such as TV and local newspapers rather than just newspaper columns alone. Third, when a new frame is introduced in each chapter, the new frame is added into the existing charts which are very similar to the ones in the previous chapters. Two charts may be sufficient enough to contain most relevant information in the two samples as opposed to 8 charts in chapters 3-6.

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Michael TONRY, editor. *Malign Neglect: Race, Crime and Punishment.* New York: Oxford University Press, 1995. 209 pages. (\$25.00)

Malign Neglect is one of a very few books that comes along in a decade that addresses critical issues facing the criminal justice system. This book should be required reading in the classroom and should be read by not only people in Criminal Justice but by people in other disciplines as well. The basic theme is one of examination of disproportionality issues of African Americans in the criminal justice system.

Tonry has revisited the entire issue of whether or not there is discrimination in the criminal justice system. The book raises questions as to the causes of disproportionality especially as it relates to African Americans. His analysis deals primarily with policy decisions made by the Reagan and Bush administration and how those policies created the enormous increase in the prison population while crime remained essentially stable. Tonry indicates that African Americans and Hispanics have suffered more than any other group because of major policy decisions made by the two former presidents.

One of his most salient points is that crime among African Americans is not increasing and that crime has been level for more than a decade yet there are more African Americans incarcerated in our prisons and jails than ever before in the history of this country. His attack on crime control policy is based on sound conclusions of past knowledge such as data from the National Academy of Sciences indicating that we have known for over twenty-five years that changes in the penalty structure has relatively little or no effect on crime rates yet, because of political implications, presidents and legislators have found it feasible to get tough on crime.

The section on who is in prison should enlighten policy makers, the community, as well as students and faculty. Policy makers must take heed to the enormous cost of incarceration despite their views of trying to get tough on crimes of violence. Tonry points out that thirty-eight percent of our population in 1991 had not been imprisoned before and that well over half of our state prison population had been convicted of crimes not involving violence. He suggests

that as a policy matter, we could consider releasing user-dealers and most property offenders, rescind all mandatory penalty laws retroactively. Also, we should create special parole boards with the power to consider the release of every prisoner who is over age fifty and has served at least five years and every prisoner who has served ten years or more. While these suggestions appear to be radical, they are nothing more than the same discussions that have been debated for some time among academics. Unfortunately, politicians will not attempt to implement these suggestions for fear of being described as soft on crime.

Tonry raises the major issue of racial disproportionality within the criminal justice system. He admits that there is some racial bias in the system but sees the disproportionality as slight. While I disagree somewhat with various parts of this section, his argument does hold some merit. He concludes that African Americans suffer from "statistical discrimination". This argument is very interesting and I will suggest that the reader purchase the book for further understanding of this topic. Tonry supports his thesis of very little racial discrimination with data from Blumstein, Wilbanks, Langan, and even Cora Mae Mann who is an African American Scholar. His argument is that there are few differences in sentencing patterns when you compare legitimate differences between offenders. The flaw in this argument is that at what stages do you compare these legitimate differences. In his quote of Wilbanks who states that there is little evidence that white police officers make different decisions with respect to arrests than black officers. His contention that claims of systematic discrimination against blacks by the police is "sparse, inconsistent and contradictory to the discrimination thesis" is entirely incorrect, all one has to do is look at major police departments such as L.A., New York, and Philadelphia to see how widespread discrimination is and then draw conclusions as to racial bias. The problem is that white authors do not believe that discrimination is rampant and thus utilize statistical data as the only means to nullify their null hypothesis that discrimination does not exist within the criminal justice system. When conducting surveys of African American authors, discrimination is found or at least perceived at every stage of the criminal justice system.

The discussion of Race and the War on Drugs is perhaps the most detailed section in the book. Tonry suggest that the "War" has been a failure and that the crime control efforts have not resulted in fewer drugs coming into the country nor in a reduction in its use. Tonry compares the "Drug War" with the Viet Nam war saying that we continued to pour more and more money and troops into Viet Nam even though we knew it was a losing proposition. His analysis suggest that we are doing the same thing with the governments position on fighting drugs in this country.

Tonry suggest that the drug fight has had a disastrous effect upon our prison population and that African Americans have been the group most adversely affected by political decisions and that these decisions were consciously made to increase the prison population to show that the Reagan and Bush administration was tough on crime. Should the war have been declared? One must read the book for an answer. At every stage of the criminal justice system African American's have been disproportionately represented from the War on Drugs.

The defense of "social adversity" is an interesting discussion especially as it applies to African Americans in the ghetto. Tonry essentially argues that because of poor life chances of African Americans in the ghetto's that they should be allowed to use this defense in mitigation. His argument is that judges must be allowed to mitigate punishment suffered by disadvantaged offenders. He recommends rejection and reversal of mandatory and habitual-offender laws as well as rejection of "just deserts" as a sentencing rationale.

Tonry would reverse course in sentencing policy and reject the present course in which we now use guidelines and mandatory laws for sentencing decisions. We now sentence based on the offenders prior record and the instant offense. Tonry would return to the days of rehabilitation and utilize sentencing only in such ways that it would benefit the offender. He believes that sentencing laws were changed to insure fairness and that they were based on middle class values (i.e. that middle class offenders were getting off with less time than poor defendants) and that sentencing guidelines were supposed to remedy the unfairness but in effect, there were very few middle class offenders in the system thus the people who

suffered disproportionately were African Americans. His first step toward reducing racial disproportion would be to loosen up sentencing laws and guidelines in order to let judges once again use life chances in mitigation.

Racial disparities can be corrected according to Tonry if politicians would only think of the effects of crime control policy on minorities. He uses the differences in sentencing policy for cocaine and crack as an example showing that penalties are much more harsher for selling of crack than cocaine and that African Americans are primarily the persons arrested for crack and whites for cocaine. The interesting point he makes is that arrest percentages by race bear no relation to drug use percentages. African Americans are less likely to have used drugs than whites.

Politicians must rethink crime control policy with least restrictive alternatives as its major emphasis. The U.S. Sentencing Commission policy that forbids mitigation of sentences on grounds of the offenders personal characteristics or special circumstances should also be repealed and we must move to treatment on demand.

Malign Neglect is one of the most informative books that I have read in a long time. The author covers race, crime and punishment in ways that I have not seen covered in other books. Tonry understands the problems of African Americans and the deprivations they have suffered in the criminal justice system. For politicians, students, and professors who are interested in the effects that our "War on Crime" has had on our incarceration rates, this book is a must.

Julius Debro
University of Washington

NEW CRIMINOLOGY/CRIMINAL JUSTICE TITLES

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IN MEMORIAM - SOLOMON KOBRIN (1910-1996)

Criminologist Solomon Kobrin, a pioneer in the study of juvenile delinquency and an emeritus professor of sociology at the University of Southern California, died Monday, January 15, at Saddleback Memorial Medical Center, in Laguna Hills, California. He was 85.

His death was the result of complications from heart disease, according to his wife, Charlotte.

Dr. Kobrin's research focused on the sociology of street gangs, the study of deviant behavior, and methods to evaluate programs for crime control, delinquency prevention and juvenile justice. In 1977, he received the American Society of Criminology's Edwin H. Sutherland Award for his outstanding research achievements.

"Sol Kobrin was one of the true sages in American criminology," said Gilbert Geis, professor emeritus at the University of California, Irvine, and a former president of the American Society of Criminology. "He was kind, thoughtful and burningly intelligent. He always sought to reclaim and help young persons who were in trouble. His research, his dedication and his overall goodness will be sorely missed."



Kobrin was president of the Illinois Academy of Criminology (1958) and the California Association for Criminal Justice Research (1975).

He was a consultant to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare during the 1970s and chaired the HEW Task Force on Youth Development and Delinquency Prevention Administration (1973). He was a consultant to the California Council on Criminal Justice (1972), served on an advisory board to evaluate addict-treatment centers for the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity (1971), and served as a member of the President's Committee on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice (1955-56).

During the 1940s, Kobrin helped to organize an innovative project at the Illinois Institute for Juvenile Research. It worked to mobilize community residents to provide recreational and other constructive activities for youths in Chicago neighborhoods with high delinquency rates.

Malcolm W. Klein, director of the Social Science Research Institute at the University of Southern California, describes Kobrin as "one of the wisest men I have ever known, a genuine scholar and a hard-nosed researcher."

Kobrin joined the sociology faculty of the USC College of Letters, Arts and Sciences in 1967. He also worked as a senior research associate at USC's Social Science Research Institute. After he retired from teaching and received emeritus status in 1975, he continued his research activities at the institute up to the time of his death.

Before joining the USC faculty, Kobrin headed the Division of Social Systems Analysis at the Institute for Juvenile Research in Chicago.

Kobrin was the author of several influential books on delinquency prevention and crime control, including (with Leo Schuerman) "Interaction between Neighborhood Change and Criminal Activity" (1988); and (with Malcolm W. Klein) "Community Treatment of Juvenile Offenders" (1983). He also contributed numerous chapters to books and articles to scholarly journals.

Kobrin was born on February 5, 1910, in Chicago. More than 30 years after earning his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Chicago, he went to USC on a fellowship from the National Institutes of Health and earned his Ph.D. there in 1973.

He was a member of the American Sociological Association, the Society for the Study of Social Problems, the Pacific Sociological Association, the American Society of Criminology, the California Association for Criminal Justice Research, and the Law and Society Association.

Kobrin is survived by his wife, Charlotte, of Laguna Hills, California; daughter Janet, of Pasadena, California; son Michael and grandson Daniel, both of Hotchkiss, Colorado.

James Lytle
University of Southern California

EULOGY for SOLOMON KOBRIN

Sol Kobrin taught me a lot about the way to deal with this thing we call life. He had a perfect instinct, totally natural, for friendship and for thoughtfulness. He could, seemingly without effort, convey to others, or at least to me, that I was in the presence of a kindly wise man - a sage.

Sometimes he would surprise me a bit. I had been taught by my mother that the proper response by a proper person to the question: "How are you?" was that you were "Fine." No more. The question, my mother indicated, was a polite inquiry, but one really not asking for an answer.

Nonetheless, as he went through that awful time in which one physical problem after another arose to torment him, I would ask Sol how he was feeling. And he would always tell me, because I had asked, and because he assumed, correctly, that I wanted to know. But he answered in a manner that I had never encountered before. He was informative, and he distilled and summarized the important matters. There was not the slightest element of self-pity or mordant philosophizing nor the equally common over-optimism that people having health troubles may adopt to ease the concerns of others. He did not use black humor to display bravery. Nor was he cold-blooded, trying to distance himself from the difficulties. He gave you a brief report, calmly and sensibly, and in terms of what that report suggested he offered a schedule of when we and our wives might be able to see our next foreign film, or eat a meal out or in together.

You could define that response as bravery, but it really wasn't bravery because it was part of the deeply-rooted way that Sol handled everything, straightforwardly and honestly and carefully. He had strong feelings about many things, but his strongest feeling, I believe, was that he had no right to impose his beliefs on others: besides, he perfectly well might be wrong. He possessed what now has become somewhat old-fashioned: an unqualified tolerance for other people and for other ideas so long as they do not harm, so long as they are sincere.

When I last visited Sol in the hospital, he was very sick. Yet, he smiled, and immediately wanted to know: "Well, what else was there at the Boston meetings?" We had discussed the annual criminology conference earlier, but he always was deeply interested in what colleagues were thinking and what they were doing. He liked professional gossip too, but not if it was malicious. Tell him a derogatory story, and he would half-grin and invariably answer with some bit of folk wisdom that made the culprit's error seem a bit more human and forgivable.

At professional meetings, Sol always was bad for my ill-formed conscience. I tend to situate myself in the hallways, socializing. Sol assiduously went to sessions and listened patiently to what I usually regarded as tedious. Bought up in the fiercely competitive world of the Bronx, my almost invariable reaction to the papers he sometimes shamed me into listening to was to pick them apart. I never, ever heard Sol do that. He would nod a bit, grant that the presentation might have left something to be desired, but then he would smile, happy, and say something like: "But didn't you think the point that he made near the end was really interesting?" And he'd read into the point he had abstracted much more meaning than its progenitor ever had imagined it had - and in this way Sol would congratulate the author. That kind of grace was something I admired enormously.

I spent some days earlier this week in the library reading about half a dozen of Sol's published articles. I want to recommend them to you. They reflect so well the extraordinarily human, strikingly intelligent, and intellectually humble person that Sol was. They are fluent, thoughtful, modest, and they are outstanding contributions to scholarship.

The last time I visited Sol, Charlotte talked about what the future might hold. I don't remember her exact words - she was concerned that Sol understand that there was no way, none whatsoever in the whole world, that his presence would not be a blessing to her. Whatever his health, whatever care he needed. She said, half to herself, half to me, two words, repeating them several times.

"We'll manage," was what she said.

I have never heard so much love expressed in one brief sentence.

Gilbert Geis
University of California, Irvine

EULOGY for RICHTER H. MOORE, JR.

(Given at the 1996 annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in Las Vegas, Nevada)

Last Tuesday, March 12, 1996 at 5 p.m., the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences lost our most distinguished member, Richter H. Moore, Jr., who lost a long battle to cancer.

Dr. Moore's history in criminal justice education dates back to the 1960s when we were struggling for recognition in academe. Dr. Moore's many position papers served as a foundation and defense for criminal justice education, and provided a defense against the criticism from the traditional disciplines.

Dr. Moore was a catalyst and founder of the North Carolina Criminal Justice Association, and he was one of the founders of the Southern Criminal Justice Association. He developed one of the earliest overseas programs for students, recognizing the need for an international perspective in our field of study.

Dr. Moore's contributions to the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences are long and outstanding. Many have forgotten or never knew that Dr. Moore assumed the position of secretary/treasurer in 1975 at a time when the funds had been totally depleted -- embezzled. He gave the next year of his life to restoring integrity to the organization and trust among the membership. No one else in the organization at that time could have accomplished that task for which we all need to be repeatedly thoughtful and thankful. It is because of Dr. Moore's dedication to the Academy that we survived that crisis and moved forward to become an extremely successful organization. This is reflected in the many meetings that followed the 1975 Atlanta meeting, including this meeting.

Even more important, however, is Dr. Moore's dedication to students and colleagues throughout the field. As a political scientist and attorney, Dr. Moore was able to reach across the social and behavioral sciences, demonstrating the importance of the contributions each individual could make to the study of crime. He was my mentor when I assumed the secretary/treasurer position after him. Always helpful, always dedicated, he brought a sense of humor to those thousands of people his life touched. To know Richter Moore and his wife Caroline was to love them, not only as major contributors to the quality and success of the Academy, but as people who brought a sense of humor and civility to life and events that will never be forgotten by this organization.

Dr. Moore's early work in the development of accreditation documents for ACJS was an effort that raised the level of consciousness regarding who we were and what we would become. Dr. Moore's trademark of quality was reflected in two books and more than 100 articles in political science and criminal justice. He served with distinction as a member of the Judge Advocate Corps in the United States Air Force Reserve, as a member of the South Carolina bar and the United States Supreme Court as a practicing attorney. His many awards from ACJS and other professional organizations speak to his integrity, honesty, dedication and loyalty to higher education and criminal justice.

To know Rick was to love him, as he personified the kind of decency that promoted collegiality, scholarship and an affection for him as a person. His leaving is a sad event on the one hand, but I would ask that we always remember him for his life and celebrate those memories of our most distinguished member -- Dr. Richter H. Moore, Jr. of Appalachian State University.

May we stand for a moment of silence in his memory.....Thank you.

Robert G. Culbertson, Past-President ACJS
University of Wisconsin-Platteville

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