



# The Criminologist

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## The Deployment of Copaganda as Protest Repression

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By the close of the 2024 spring semester, Israel's siege on Gaza had inspired mass student protests on campuses around the United States. The varying responses to that activism have exposed profound political tensions, raising numerous questions relevant for us as cultural criminologists. The language employed to justify police repression of protests is of particular concern. More specifically, we seek to underscore the role of misleading, selective, and euphemistic pro-policing discourse, colloquially referred to as "copaganda."

As many are aware, Hamas attacked Israel on October 7, 2023, killing around 1,200 people, kidnapping 240, and displacing thousands. In the aftermath, Israel's intensely disproportionate response in Gaza led the International Court of Justice to rule its actions might plausibly be genocide (Holmes 2024). Israel's campaign has spurred international outrage, and, in late April, university students across the country began constructing protest encampments inspired by movements opposing the Vietnam War and South African apartheid. Administrators and local officials moved to repress the protests, employing violent policing tactics. The repression includes summary suspensions of student organizers; approximately 3,000 arrests of students and faculty as of May 15 (Weill-Greenberg et al. 2024); and severe injuries caused by police and among protesters (Crosnoe 2024).

Much of the rhetoric employed to justify these police actions falls under the rubric of copaganda and is of significant criminological concern. We suggest it would be useful to analyze it as one facet of the broader discursive contestation around policing and its institutional legitimacy. While we acknowledge the ways that prison-industrial complex (PIC) hegemony is sustained more broadly, here we focus attention on how copaganda and "image work"--the ways in which police create and control their own image--are conduits for reproducing policing logics as part of a larger process of hegemony.

### Copaganda and the *copaganda critique*

Rare in criminological literature before 2020, the term copaganda originally gained prominence in popular media, and is increasingly used by scholars to analyze pro-police messaging and sentiments. For example, copaganda has been used in reference to police archival photographs as a form of "community-oriented copaganda" (Petersen 2024) and theorized as a cinematic universe that sustains policing logics through enchantment (Denman 2023). In our research, we use a working definition of the concept to theorize the process of hegemony through which consent to contemporary policing and the PIC is manufactured. Copaganda, broadly defined, is a set of discursive and narrative processes. It encompasses news coverage, popular culture, and popular artifacts that promote public acceptance of policing; reinforce policing myths; garner empathy toward police; or otherwise uphold the legitimacy of policing as an institution.

Copaganda may involve the deliberate engagement of police through image work (Mawby 2012) or may occur via individuals and institutions peripheral to policing. The key function of copaganda is as a conduit for transmitting to the public what Corriea and Wall (2018) refer to as "copspeak,"-- the foundational rhetoric and institutional logics of policing. Copspeak employs militarized jargon and war metaphors to justify the violence of policing, while conversely using

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euphemisms to downplay and obscure that very violence. The contestation around copaganda, and the eventual reaffirmation of policing logics, is a central element of the broader processes involved in the reproduction of PIC hegemony.

This hegemony was briefly ruptured in recent years, notably in the aftermath of the police murder of George Floyd in 2020. At that time, journalists and commentators cited copaganda to reference police propaganda, scrutinizing how popular media portrayals of policing clashed against the everyday realities of police violence. The emergent copaganda critique first targeted the glut of TV crime procedurals recasting even the most seemingly progressive-leaning shows as “...‘copaganda’ helping the real life police more than survivors.”<sup>1</sup> The copaganda critique extended beyond entertainment media as outlets like *Salon* called news coverage copaganda where it parroted police perspectives on crime increases without providing evidence for such claims (Andersen 2023; see also Karakatsanis 2022).

The cultural infusion of this *copaganda critique* ran parallel to the activism and expansion of scholarship on police defunding and abolition during the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement and protests of the Floyd murder. This in effect signaled a marked shift in mainstream public discourse (Davis et al. 2022; Kaba and Ritchie 2022; Maher 2021; Purnell 2022; Vitale 2017). Yet it was short-lived: Police and their allies quickly deployed additional copaganda narratives, including claims regarding a ‘war on cops’ and a ‘crime surge’<sup>2</sup> to repair their legitimacy. Based on our observations of these events, we believe copaganda remains a useful lens for analyzing policing discourse (Cooper 2020).

### Copaganda as protest repression

The Israel-Hamas campus protests of 2024 and those of BLM in 2020 share meaningful affinities, both in terms of their ideological underpinnings and material context. The recent protests at Emory University in Atlanta, likewise, have a multipurpose utility, targeting both Israel’s siege on Gaza and the notorious, planned police training center, “Cop City.” These protests critique the prison- and military-industrial complexes and their overlapping assemblages including training partnerships between US police and Israeli security forces (Rodriguez 2020). In reaction to both the 2024 and 2020 protests, copaganda was deployed as a means of repressing dissent too. For example, even before Columbia University President Manu Shafik called in the NYPD to clear a protest encampment on the school’s grounds, copaganda was rife in discourse.

The varieties of observable copaganda are too many to comprehensively elucidate here. But three key themes demonstrate the deployment of copaganda as protest repression: the violence narrative, the outside-agitators narrative, and the law-and-order narrative. These themes are neither mutually exclusive nor static. They draw on the lexicon of copspeak and ideologically resonate with each other and broader themes that reinforce policing logics.

### The Violence Narrative

The clearest form of copaganda employs hyperbolic and misleading assertions to cast the protests as violent. One way it normalizes police violence is by characterizing police repression as “clashes” between protesters and police. This deceptively implies mutual combat and distracts from the violence of protest repression. Another sensational approach equates the protests with terrorism and fascism. For instance, Republican Congressman Tom Cotton gave a speech<sup>3</sup> reminiscent of his 2020 op-ed in the *New York Times* calling for military repression of BLM. He called the current protests “little Gazas;” chided “liberal college administrators and politicians who refuse to restore law and order;” and characterized protesters as “pro-Hamas sympathizers, fanatics, and freaks” who are “violently and illegally demanding death for Israel.”

Some commentators similarly associated protests with the Nazi takeover of Germany, expanding the violence narrative. *CNN*’s Dana Bash, when reporting on an incident in which protesters were attacked by Zionist counter-protesters and then by police, commented about the anti-war demonstrations, “what you just saw is 2024 in Los Angeles. Harkening back to the 1930s in Europe, and I do not say that lightly.”<sup>4</sup> Likewise, in a widely derided media appearance, NYPD Dep. Commissioner Kaz Daughtry held up a textbook from Oxford University Press’ “Very Short Introductions” series titled *Terrorism*. Strategically linking terroristic ideologies with the protesters and implicitly attacking academic freedom, he declared, “A book on terrorism. I’ve said it before, there’s somebody, whether it’s paid, not paid, but they are radicalizing our students.”<sup>5</sup>

Such widespread claims casting protests as terroristic and violent imply they are a threat to public safety and must be repressed, perhaps by any means necessary. In his research on policing protests, Paul Passavant (2021) finds that since the 1990s, “Protest policing has become more aggressive, violent, and cruel” (p. 1). The violence narrative normalizes militarized policing as a reasonable, if not necessary, response to what were largely non-violent acts of civil disobedience. By positing the protests as a uniquely dangerous threat, the violence narrative obscures the longstanding commonalities between policing and military as co-existing on a continuum of state power, a dynamic forcefully revealed through the accompanying visuals of police in riot gear descending on protesters.

### The 'Outside Agitators' Narrative

Beyond casting the protests as terroristic threats, officials promoted the “outside agitators” and “professional protesters” narrative, parroting racist<sup>6</sup> rhetoric long used to smear dissenters. New York City Mayor Eric Adams repeatedly made such claims, though data confirming the presence of ‘outside agitators’ remain elusive.<sup>7</sup> Observing the first round of arraignments of protesters in a Manhattan court, *The Guardian* reported that only one non-student was included in those charged for protesting.<sup>8</sup> In another attempt to substantiate claims about outside agitators after the raid of Hamilton/Hind’s Hall, *MSNBC* promoted a video of NYPD Dep. Commissioner Daughtry displaying a bike lock (one sold on campus at Columbia) declaring “this is not what students bring to school” and claiming the lock a tool of “professionals.”<sup>9</sup>

In copspeak terms, the outside-agitators narrative implies a sinister and organized effort to undermine order, and calls for police surveillance, investigation, and suppression. This narrative has a dual purpose, both justifying the need for a police crackdown and negating the presence of organic support by allies. This particular narrative was complemented by commentary that idealized police actions, portraying the response as a professional, well-organized, highly technical effort to maintain public safety. NY Gov. Kathy Hochul echoed it, declaring of the raid on the occupied Hamilton/Hind Hall at Columbia, “I will say this, the NYPD had a plan... They arrived on campus and acted professionally and fairly. It could have been far worse.”<sup>10</sup>

In a transparent display of image work intending to highlight its professional efficiency, the NYPD produced a short promotional video of the Columbia raid. Scored with dramatic music, command officers are shown planning it, followed by officers breaching the building using an armored truck with a ladder. It then shows officers clearing the building using breaching tools and arresting students. Several shots show sleeping bags, food, and overturned or haphazardly stacked furniture. The sizzle reel concludes with Daughtry standing outside an encampment remarking, “the conditions in this courtyard are just deplorable. It smells bad, just reeks... Like I said before, lawlessness, that’s what this is... And we’re not going to have lawlessness in our city.”<sup>11</sup>

### The Law-and-Order Narrative

The third copaganda theme, the law-and-order narrative, conflates order maintenance with public safety (Correia & Wall, 2018). This narrative justifies police violence by fetishizing law, treating all forms of law-breaking as morally equivalent and as threats to public safety. For example, one *Philadelphia Inquirer* headline declared of the encampments, “Whether it’s Capitol rioters or campus occupiers, the rule of law must prevail.”<sup>12</sup> “Lawlessness,” such as that articulated in the headline and aforementioned sizzle reel, conjures notions of extreme and dangerous disorder. This is as opposed to highlighting how these acts of trespassing were consistent with civil disobedience carried out during heralded justice struggles such as the civil rights movement. As a narrative functioning to reestablish the status quo, it is reactive both to perceived physical and ideological threats to order.

While the NYPD’s sizzle reel invokes the law-and-order narrative by depicting a professional, coordinated police raid, it omits inconvenient truths such as a) the fact that this was civil disobedience, not terrorism and b) the consequences of such a violent police response. In fact, the clean presentation of the sizzle reel is undercut by body camera footage released by the NYPD showing a chaotic scene and police pushing and tackling non-violent protesters.<sup>13</sup> These police actions highlight what Passavant (2021) describes as the security model of policing protests, stating “Protest is represented not as a democratic practice but as a threat equivalent to crime, or any other risk to the event that must be prevented” (p. 10). Many scholars argue that when the violence and harms caused by police are taken into account, one could conclude that the core function of police is maintaining the existing capitalist order more so than to ensure the safety and well-being of everyday people (Johnson 2024; Kaba and Ritchie 2022). Moreover, copaganda discourse elides how other campuses, including Brown, Northwestern, and Rutgers University<sup>14</sup> successfully negotiated with student protesters without calling in a SWAT-style raid. Nonetheless, according to a survey of prosecutors’ offices with jurisdiction across campuses, nearly all are poised to criminally charge protesters, some with felonies (Weill-Greenberg et al. 2024).

Police actions have endangered and injured students and faculty, for example when an officer accidentally fired his gun at Columbia<sup>15</sup>, and when police beat a professor to the point of needing surgery and hospitalization at Washington University in St. Louis<sup>16</sup>. The harm and selectivity of the police response was also stark at UCLA, when police stood by as counter protesters violently attacked an encampment, and then, the next night, police violently raided the encampment, resulting in the hospitalization of numerous students. Police arrested hundreds of students but none of the violent counter protesters.<sup>17</sup>

Productions like the NYPD reel ignore the questions of ‘is this necessary?’ and ‘is this helpful?’ Given the consequent harms, many would say no.

### Conclusion

As of this writing, the protests continue as does police repression. It’s important for criminologists to properly recognize and label

copaganda discourse as a tool of repression. But copaganda does not merely conceal dysfunctions within policing. It also plays a broad political and ideological role, promoting copspeak as the dominant lens for understanding social problems and disorder. Under that lens, policing and incarceration become the principal response to any threat or hindrance to the efficient operation of racial capitalism. Whether the perceived threat be protest encampments or homeless encampments, under a copaganda mindset, the only response is the 'hammer' in the toolkit of the state. Such conditions devastate communities and erode democracy. They cannot persist.

Thankfully, copaganda has not gone uncontested. Our analysis here is not comprehensive and many of the claims we highlight elicited copaganda critiques from students, academics, and journalists. For instance, viral social-media criticisms that followed claims-making by the NYPD demonstrate that copaganda-as-hegemony can be resisted. Therefore, we suggest that criminologists be outspoken and clear in debunking this nefarious construction that frames our students and our colleagues as threats to public safety, necessitating state violence.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.salon.com/2021/06/14/cop-shows-mare-easttown-brooklyn-99-sexual-assault/>; [https://www.huffpost.com/entry/network-tv-cop-shows-police-procedurals\\_n\\_632c7fdee4b0572027b072f4](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/network-tv-cop-shows-police-procedurals_n_632c7fdee4b0572027b072f4); <https://www.vulture.com/article/law-and-order-organized-crime-elliott-stabler-return-story.html>.

<sup>2</sup> To be clear, by calling these claims copaganda, we are not arguing they are fabricated whole-cloth. For instance, the crime increases in 2020 and 2021 were real, though often exaggerated by police and media.

<sup>3</sup> <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/tom-cotton-attacks-campus-protests-argues-police-day/story?id=109928210>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27K6SnZBfQc>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.nydailynews.com/2024/05/04/book-on-terrorism-displayed-by-nypd-after-columbia-gaza-protest-raid-is-textbook-by-british-historian/>

<sup>6</sup> For example, Jewish anarchists were smeared as 'outside agitators' during US labor mobilizations in the early 20th century.

<sup>7</sup> [https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/columbia-university-protests-nypd-video-hamilton-hall/5371376/?\\_branch\\_match\\_id=1316086377009739593&utm\\_medium=share&\\_branch\\_referrer=H4sIAAAAAAAAAA8soKSkottLXz0tKzkstr8wvvytZLLCjQy8nMy9Z39DN1TEx0LE3zSglA%2Bfrg8ycAAAA%3D](https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/columbia-university-protests-nypd-video-hamilton-hall/5371376/?_branch_match_id=1316086377009739593&utm_medium=share&_branch_referrer=H4sIAAAAAAAAAA8soKSkottLXz0tKzkstr8wvvytZLLCjQy8nMy9Z39DN1TEx0LE3zSglA%2Bfrg8ycAAAA%3D)

<sup>8</sup> [https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/article/2024/may/02/eric-adams-columbia-protests?CMP=Share\\_iOSApp\\_Other](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/article/2024/may/02/eric-adams-columbia-protests?CMP=Share_iOSApp_Other)

<sup>9</sup> [https://twitter.com/Morning\\_Joe/status/1785636351330713667?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1785662139987853394%7Ctwgr%5E1ec5de06c4996bbd7005d0675b874236a017f150%7Ctwcon%5Es3\\_&ef\\_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rollingstone.com%2Fpolitics%2Fpolitics-news%2Fnypd-bike-lock-columbia-student-protests-1235013341%2F](https://twitter.com/Morning_Joe/status/1785636351330713667?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1785662139987853394%7Ctwgr%5E1ec5de06c4996bbd7005d0675b874236a017f150%7Ctwcon%5Es3_&ef_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rollingstone.com%2Fpolitics%2Fpolitics-news%2Fnypd-bike-lock-columbia-student-protests-1235013341%2F)

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/columbia-university-protests-nypd-video-hamilton-hall/5371376/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.yahoo.com/news/odd-self-aggrandizing-sizzle-reel-130000082.html>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.inquirer.com/opinion/student-protests-capitol-riots-law-and-order-20240506.html?query=Whether%20It's%20Capitol%20Rioters%20or%20Campus%20Occupiers,%20the%20Rule%20of%20Law%20Must%20Prevail>

<sup>13</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ms0Gnm\\_aH-0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ms0Gnm_aH-0)

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.cnn.com/2024/05/05/business/how-schools-avoided-police-columbia-encampments/index.html>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/voices/2024/05/03/columbia-protests-student-arrests-nypd-gaza/73539755007/>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.riverfronttimes.com/news/siue-professor-hospitalized-after-arrest-at-wash-u-42446030>

<sup>17</sup> <https://dailybruin.com/2024/05/04/students-condemn-police-sweep-of-palestine-solidarity-encampment>

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## Welcome to Indigenous Criminology - for the 21st Century!

Julie C. Abril, Ph.D.

SHA-NA-NEY (Yaqui: How Are You?)

I have titled this essay, "Indigenous Criminology - for the 21st Century!" because indigenous criminology has been practiced since the founding of our Nation. Our field was not previously known as criminology, however. Indigenous criminology took the form of a body of policies and governmental practices designed to control and eliminate Native people, then-known as "savages" (Letter from George Washington to James Duane September 7, 1783, as cited in Prucha, 1990: 1). The Secretary of the War Department (pre-cursor to the U.S. Department of Defense established August 7th, 1789), placed Indians under the command and control of the War Department and its agent, the U.S. Calvary. Calvary officers were charged with implementing policies and practices designed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (first established within the War Department), to control the 'deviance' of indigenous populations (Prucha, 1990: 37).

The Indian Wars resulted in the theft of Native lands by brutal violence and continued until the middle of last Century, concluding with the Yaqui Wars ending around 1929. These wars were designed to subjugate and control indigenous populations. Remembrances of these past policies may be triggered in the minds of Natives today upon witnessing instances of police brutality against other minorities in efforts to 'control' perceived urban deviance. Many policies and programs forced the removal of Indian people from our traditional homelands to distant and often barren properties where many would ultimately die apart from their ancestral lands (e.g., the great Chiricahua Apache warrior Geronimo who submitted to capture and whose burial was in Fort Sill, Oklahoma far from his native desert lands of Arizona as well as the Cherokee Indians who were forced to walk the Trail of Tears, a policy of the *Indian Removal Act of May 28th, 1830*, which began the Indian Removal Period (1830 – 1845). This policy resulted in many tribal people being forcibly removed from their tribal lands, where they had survived for centuries, to often inhospitable environments where many would perish of starvation; policies which some have described as "ethnic cleansing" and "genocide" (University of Alabama at Birmingham, 2017). These past policies are eerily like those of today, such as the overuse of the prison system and deaths of confined individuals far from their families (Carson & Kluckow, 2023). The establishment of Indian boarding schools by the Compulsory Indian Education Act of 1887 (since repealed) (see Lawrence, 1977) was a travesty. It was followed by the *Indian Reorganization Act of 1934* and finally by the *Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975*. These Indian boarding schools, often operated by religious sects, were to 'civilize' and 'assimilate' Indian children into White culture (see, e.g., *Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Sept. 21, 1887*, "one of the chief tools of bringing white civilization to the Indians was the English language" (Prucha, 1990: 174). Using force with horrific physical and sexual violence to strip Native culture from children, including: changing birth names to numbers, forbidding use of Native languages, hair styles, clothing and other basic accoutrements of human culture – the lasting effects of which can be seen in myriad social pathologies with which Native people must now disproportionately contend: domestic violence, substance abuse, child maltreatment, suicide, homelessness, and myriad other social diseases associated with generational poverty - conditions most Native people have come to regard as *intrinsic* to modern Indian-ness and discussed in varied scientific literatures, as well as in national rhetoric. Indeed, it was the grotesque violence committed against Native children which forced Congressional action to end the Indian boarding school policy, and which now motivates the first Native American Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland (Laguna Pueblo) to spearhead the 'healing journey' traveling across the United States today.

Many readers may think, "We study policing, not the military or history." Within the United States, policing too has its origins in the policies and practices used to 'police' Indian populations, such as directives given to 'Indian Agents' (early Indian territorial police officers) to prosecute and eliminate the practice of indigenous spiritual activities (e.g., the Ghost Dance, the Sun Dance, and the Scalp Dance) (Prucha, 1990: 30). These dances were believed by Indian Agents, and their superiors to be insurrectionist in nature and thus subject to adverse actions authorized within federal law. The lasting effects of this policy - a policy only ended after the Ghost Dance War on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota concluded with many deaths and protection of Indian religions codified with the enactment of the *Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978* (Public Law 95-341) (see, e.g., Getches et al., 1993). Modern Indian policing agencies, such as the Bureau of Indian Affairs law enforcement have within their own DNA traces of former military policy and practice.

Natives had their own court system to adjudicate matters of 'criminal offenses' (Courts of Indian Offenses established in 1883, also known as C.F.R. Courts because their rules of operation were included in the *Federal Register*) (Johansen, 1998: 70). Such 'offenses' included engaging in certain dances and rituals, as well as using Medicine Women/Men (traditional healers) and engaging in potlatch ceremonies – each practice banned upon the enactment of the *Religious Crimes Code of 1883* (since repealed) - because these practices were thought by non-Native outsiders to be conspiratorial with the Spirit World (Yaqui: *seanna*) - practices with which to better defeat the U.S. Calvary and thus overthrow the federal government. Fortunately, non-Native sensibilities prevailed and these religious 'offenses' were no longer offensive when the prosecution of such was disallowed by federal edict enunciated in the *Federal Register* following revisions to the *Religious Crimes Code in 1933*, when these Indian dance ceremonies were removed from law.

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Yes, indigenous criminology has a long, humiliating history in the United States - pre-dating Émile Durkheim, Robert K. Merton, Edwin H. Sutherland, Gilbert Geis, Joan Petersilia, and others - who honorably followed their predecessor's footsteps in the shared pursuit of developing criminology into a scientific field. As many are aware, to have a better future – as a field of criminological science – we must acknowledge all parts of our past.

Indian people have been subjected to many and varied detrimental public policies of the past, some of which are better publicized than others. Some policies have yet to be uncovered by the public, citation materials have yet to be released, *if they still exist*, by various institutions. Not unlike modern agencies whose agents target foreign nations for their greatest resources – the 'smartest' individuals for recruitment to become citizens such as scientists, athletes, and the like - this military practice did not begin recently but began with attempts to recruit Native people to aid the U.S. Cavalry during the Indian Wars and it is now a common military strategy. Taking an enemy's greatest resource likely continues today in the quest for dominance by seeking out the 'brightest minds' from within its own population, including Native populations. RAND Corporation, once the primary research arm of the U.S. Department of Defense, published a report as recently as 1996 titled *Native American Affairs and the Department of Defense*. With the history of military / Indian relations as it is, one is forced to ask the question: What was the military really looking for in Indian Country at that time?

Parallels between modern and indigenous criminology can be seen in the rise of feminist criminology, too. Indeed, Native women have been neutralizing Euro-American men since the day they first decided to take Native lands. Some readers might proclaim, "I never read about that in *my* history books!" To which one would ask: Who wrote *your* history books? Imagine this for a moment. Would headlines appear in 'Old World' newspapers about events in the 'New World' reading, "Brave Explorers Ambushed and Killed by Savage Women?" I am not a historian, but I would guess it is more likely than not that the then-prevailing European patriarchal norms forbade publishing such notions. Then-acceptable forms of reporting battle-time defeats would likely be edited to read 'Brave Explorers Ambushed and Killed by Overwhelming Crowd of Savages!' I was not present at the time news of the Indian Wars were first published nor when news reached the 'Old World,' but I am reasonably comfortable to state that this is *probably* how news of wars in foreign lands were published thus contributing to a distorted view of history (and criminology) now held by many.

Indigenous people survived for millennia through war, disease, famine/starvation, extermination attempts, and other deleterious events which have decimated other less-hearty populations because, at least for Native American Indian women, we survive because our strength, cunning, resilience, tenacity and, most importantly, intellect was under-estimated. I am reminded of the words from political scientist and University of California Professor Emeritus Helen Ingram, who in writing about her long career in Democratic politics and her involvement in United States President-making in which she played a distinctive part, noted how the "curse of low expectations" propelled her to work smarter and effectuate her own political dreams (Ingram, 2017). And, University of California Chancellor's Professor Emeritus Kitty Calavita (former President Law and Society Association and Fellow of the American Political and Social Science Society), noted how her parents 'did not think much' of her future scientific career when they named her "Kitty"- a weak, feminine-sounding name for such a powerhouse of intellect (lecture by Professor Calavita in Law and Society seminar at University of California – Irvine Division, 2000). The 'curse of low expectations' on White women continues to haunt historic narrations today as well as the past achievements of Native women. Perhaps when parity between Native and Euro-American published history (and criminology) is reached – the efforts of 'witchy' women y bruja (Yaqui: *hitevi* or *yee sisibome*, Ute: *kwa üvüüpuwagat(ü)*) will be told. Alas, the papers to be presented to you soon are from the hands (and mind) of a Native woman.

#### ***A Note on Terms Used***

As changing societal norms and mores regarding how early indigenous people of the United States are perceived and presented in modern American culture (including media, scientific literature, sports teams, and public discourse), terms used to describe the Native American Indian people are fluid and dynamic. Terms such as "Indian," "Native," "indigenous" and the like, are used to refer to those individuals and their groups (tribes) who remain under the protective umbrella of the *United States Constitution*. Within the United States, terms such as "Indian," "Indian tribe," "Indian reservation," and "Indian Country" are *legal terms* used in myriad instances from the *United States Constitution* to precedents established within legal decisions of the United States Supreme Court (see, e.g., *Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*), and comprise the entire body of law known as Federal Indian Law. When referencing individuals of Native American Indian descent, I use *legal terms* for clarity.



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## CASES CITED

- Cherokee Nation v. Georgia*  
*Compulsory Indian Education Act of 1887*  
*Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978*  
*Indian Removal Act of May 28th, 1830*  
*Indian Reorganization Act of 1934*  
*Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975*  
*Religious Crimes Code of 1883*
-

# EDITOR'S CORNER

## *Criminology & Public Policy* *Annual (and Final) Update to the ASC Membership by Current Editors*

Cynthia Lum and Christopher S. Koper  
Editors in Chief

We write our final annual update to the ASC membership with gratitude and excitement for the future of *Criminology & Public Policy (CPP)*. Since we began our efforts with the journal six years ago (officially publishing Volume 19 in 2020), we have been incredibly grateful for your continued support and interest in the journal, your excellent contributions, and your willingness to review submissions (and do so in both rigorous and timely ways). We are especially grateful to our editorial team for their work over these past six years. Amanda Geller, Catherine Kimbrell, Dan Mears, Ojmarrh Mitchell, Justice Tankebe, Cody Telep, Xiaoyun (Hannah) Wu, and Sue-Ming Yang have been an integral part in advancing the journal, and we thank them for their service to the American Society of Criminology.

At the start of our tenure, we set forth several goals for the journal. These goals can be best summarized into three priorities: (1) to strengthen the journal's standing and rank as the leading forum for advancing the role of scientific research in criminal justice policy and practice; (2) to diversify and expand its use and reach among ASC and non-ASC members; and (3) to achieve excellence in our responsiveness and turn-around times. Although there is always room for improvement, our team feels proud of our contributions. During our tenure, we quadrupled the number of yearly submissions to *CPP*, and the journal increased its ranking in the Criminology & Penology category of *JCR* from 18th in 2020 to 6th today. We strove to make quick initial decisions regarding desk rejects (averaging 4-5 days) so that authors did not wait long to know whether their paper was appropriate for *CPP* and would be sent for review. For papers that were sent for review, we averaged 62-66 days from receipt of initial submission to the first decision back to the author.

Additionally, we sought to expand the reach and inclusiveness of *CPP* in several ways. We formed one of the most diverse editorial teams in the history of ASC. We significantly expanded our editorial advisory board, adding over 30 new members who are leaders in research on criminal justice policy and practice. We widened and increased our pool of reviewers for *CPP* using ASC membership lists, ScholarOne's reviewer search functions, and experts from other related disciplines. We also worked to expand the journal's impact through webinars, congressional briefings, social media, and news media outreach. Most importantly, we sought to address current events, emerging issues, and significant gaps in the field. We did this generally by encouraging submissions from a wide range of contributors and ensuring that many important topics and debates would be highlighted. More specifically, we expanded *CPP*'s impact in the field through special issues and features that highlighted mass violence (Volume 19: Issue 1); policing reform (19:3 and 23:3, forthcoming); justice disparity (19:4); COVID-19 and justice (20:3); George Floyd (21:1); race and place research (22:1); cybercrime and cybersecurity (22:4); and gun violence (23:4, forthcoming). Overall, we hope that the editorial team's efforts have made *CPP* a more relevant, accessible, and inclusive journal for all of ASC's members.

As we complete our final year as editors of *CPP*, we are incredibly excited about its future. The next editors-in-chief are Professors Ojmarrh Mitchell (University of California, Irvine) and Jacinta Gau (University of Central Florida), who have already started to receive and process new manuscripts (as of December 1, 2023) for publication in their first issue (24:1, which comes out in February 2025). Several of the associate editors will remain on for continuity (Geller, Mears, Tankebe, and Telep), and Mitchell and Gau have added Professor María B. Vélez as well. As with the editors before us, we know that the new team will continue to be excellent stewards of *Criminology & Public Policy* and find ways to improve on our work.

Looking ahead, we strongly encourage ASC members to view *CPP* as their "first choice" journal for submitting their studies of policy and practice. For those interested in submitting to *CPP*, the journal welcomes rigorous empirical studies that address various aspects of program and policy development, theory, operations, impacts, and cost efficiency pertaining to all justice and crime prevention areas. Submitted manuscripts must have a clearly articulated and direct connection to policy and practice.

Again, thank you to all who have made *Criminology & Public Policy* a continued success, including prior editorial teams, the founders of *CPP*, and the ASC membership. We consider it a privilege to serve the American Society of Criminology as chief editors of *CPP* and wish the journal even more success in the future.

## Call for Papers From the *Journal of Gang Research:*



The *Journal of Gang Research* (ISSN number 1079-3062) is an interdisciplinary criminology journal, now in its 31st year as a professional quarterly publication, and it is the official publication of the National Gang Crime Research Center (NGCRC). It is a peer-reviewed quarterly professional journal and the editors are well-known gang researchers or gang experts. It is abstracted in a number of different social science abstracting services. Authors receive four (4) copies of the journal in which their manuscript appears.

For over thirty years, the *Journal of Gang Research* has published original quantitative and qualitative criminological research dealing with gangs and gang problems. These publications have included a wide range of topical areas including theory, qualitative and quantitative research, and useful policy analysis related to gangs and gang problems. A list of the articles previously published in the *Journal of Gang Research* (along with other information) is published at the NGCRC website: <https://ngcrc.com/ngcrc/page2.htm>

### INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS:

We are inviting submissions of original research on gangs, gang members, gang problems, gang crime patterns, gang prevention, and gang social policy issues --- any topic dealing with gangs or gang prevention/intervention services, motorcycle gangs, prison gangs, security threat groups, hate/extremist groups, and of course organized crime.

Authors should submit four (4) copies of the paper in APA format to: George W. Knox, Ph.D., Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Gang Research*, National Gang Crime Research Center, Post Office Box 990, Peotone, IL 60468-0990. You can submit by email to: [gangcrime@aol.com](mailto:gangcrime@aol.com)

## Sample Issue Request Form

Yes, please send me a free sample copy of  
the *Journal of Gang Research*.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Journal of Gang Research, NGCRC, PO Box 990, Peotone, IL 60468-0990.

Fax to: (708) 258-9546

Email to: [gangcrime@aol.com](mailto:gangcrime@aol.com)

Main Website: [www.ngcrc.com](http://www.ngcrc.com)

# AROUND THE ASC

## 2024 Election Results for 2025 - 2026 ASC Officers



**PRESIDENT**

Natasha Frost,  
Northeastern University



**VICE-PRESIDENT**

Anthony Peguero,  
Arizona State University



**EXECUTIVE  
COUNSELOR**

Steph DiPietro,  
The University of Iowa



**EXECUTIVE  
COUNSELOR**

Marisa Omori,  
University of Missouri -  
St. Louis



**EXECUTIVE  
COUNSELOR**

Ebony Ruhland,  
Rutgers University

AROUND THE ASC



2024 Annual Meeting

Criminological Research and Education Matters:
People, Policy, and Practice in Tumultuous Times

November 13 – 16

San Francisco Marriott Marquis | San Francisco, CA

Registration Fees

Submitted, postmarked,
or faxed BEFORE 10/1/2024:

- ASC Member — \$150
Non-Member — \$190
ASC Student Member — \$50
Student Non-Member — \$100

Submitted, postmarked,
or faxed ON or AFTER 10/1/2024:

- ASC Member — \$200
Non-Member — \$240
ASC Student Member — \$60
Student Non-Member — \$110



All Meeting Attendees/Participants are Required to Register

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION FORM TO BE OFFICIALLY REGISTERED
Receipts will be sent via email

Refund Policy: Advance registration fees will NOT be refunded after September 30, 2024

Hotel Information

San Francisco Marriott Marquis | 780 Mission St, San Francisco, CA 94103

Room Rate: \$281, single/double (must request the ASC room block rate)

Reservations: https://book.passkey.com/go/2024ASCconference

Additional meeting
information --
2024 Annual Meeting

## AROUND THE ASC



### Annual Meeting Childcare Grant Lottery

The American Society of Criminology is happy to announce that childcare grants of \$250 per family are available to assist ASC member participants who are attending the Philadelphia Annual Meeting in-person and bringing young children.

The application portal will be open from **September 1st** until **September 30th** and will be accessible from the [Annual Meeting](#) page during the same dates. We only have modest funds available for this year and can only give to up to 40 families. The grant recipients will be chosen by lottery. If less than 40 families apply, then no lottery will be necessary.

Please note the following:

- Must be a 2024 ASC member before applying
- Must be registered for the Annual Meeting before applying
- Must be attending the Philadelphia Annual Meeting in-person and bringing your own young children (aged 14 or under)
- Must be participating in the meeting as a session chair and/or a presenter (ie, panel, round table, lightning session, author meets critic, poster).
- Only one parent of a child/children may apply for the grant.

There are no ASC sponsored childcare services on-site. While ASC neither sanctions nor recommends any particular childcare provider, and does not assume responsibility or liability for child care services provided by the listed childcare providers, a general list of possible childcare providers in the Philadelphia area can be found on the ASC Annual Meeting page (see <https://asc41.org/events/asc-annual-meeting/>). We stress that it is the responsibility of the parents to thoroughly investigate all childcare providers.

Contact the ASC Executive Office at [asc@asc41.org](mailto:asc@asc41.org) ; 614-826-2000 per any questions.

## AROUND THE ASC

VISIT THE WEBSITES OF THE ASC DIVISIONS  
FOR THE MOST CURRENT DIVISION INFORMATION

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BioPsychoSocial Criminology (DBC)

<https://bpscrim.org/>

Communities and Place (DCP)

<https://communitiesandplace.org/>

Convict Criminology (DCC)

<https://concrim.org/>

Corrections & Sentencing (DCS)

<https://ascdcs.org/>

Critical Criminology & Social Justice (DCCSJ)

<https://divisiononcriticalcriminology.com/>

Cybercrime (DC)

<https://ascdivisionofcybercrime.org/>

Developmental and Life-Course Criminology (DLC)

<https://dlccrim.org/>

Experimental Criminology (DEC)

<https://expcrim.org/>

Feminist Criminology (DFC)

<https://ascdwc.com/>

Historical Criminology (DHC)

<https://dhistorical.com/>

International Criminology (DIC)

<https://internationalcriminology.com/>

People of Color & Crime (DPCC)

<https://ascdpcc.org/>

Policing (DP)

<https://ascpolicing.org/>

Public Opinion & Policy (DPOP)

<https://ascdpop.org/>

Queer Criminology (DQC)

<https://queercrim.com/>

Rural Criminology (DRC)

<https://divisionofruralcriminology.org/>

Terrorism & Bias Crimes (DTBC)

<https://ascterrorism.org/>

Victimology (DOV)

<https://ascdov.org/>

White Collar and Corporate Crime (DWCC)

<https://ascdwcc.org/>

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## AROUND THE ASC - DIVISION OF FEMINIST CRIMINOLOGY



## DFC STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION Call for Nominations

Submission Deadline: September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Division of Feminist Criminology (DFC) of the American Society of Criminology invites submissions for the 2024 Student Paper Competition. The graduate student winner will receive \$500.00, and the undergraduate student winner will receive \$250.00. For submissions with multiple authors, the award money will be divided among co-authors.

**Deadline:** Papers should be RECEIVED by the committee chair by September 20th, 2024.

**Eligibility:** Any undergraduate or graduate student who is currently enrolled or who has graduated within the previous semester is eligible. Note, any co-authors must also be students, that is, no faculty co-authors are permitted. To document eligibility, every author/co-author must submit proof of student status. This eligibility proof may be in the form of a letter from your department chair or an unofficial transcript.

**Paper Specifications:** Papers should be of professional quality and must be about, or related to, feminist scholarship, gender issues, or women as offenders, victims, or criminal justice professionals. Papers must be no longer than 35 pages including all references, notes, and tables; utilize an acceptable referencing format such as APA; be type-written and double-spaced; and include an abstract of 100 words or less.

Papers may not be published, accepted, or under review for publication at the time of submission.

**Submission:** Papers and proof of eligibility must be submitted to the committee chair by the stated deadline. Submitters must prepare the paper for blind review; all identifying information (name, affiliation, etc.) should be removed from the paper itself and papers should then be converted to a PDF file. In the email subject line, students should include identifying information and indicate whether the submission is to be considered for the graduate or undergraduate competition.

**Judging:** Members of the paper competition committee will evaluate the papers based on the following categories: 1. Content is relevant to feminist scholarship; 2. Makes a contribution to the knowledge base; 3. Accurately identifies any limitations; 4. Analytical plan was well developed; 5. Clarity/organization of paper was well material.

**Notification:** All entrants will be notified of the committee's decision no later than October 18. We strongly encourage winners to attend the conference to receive their award.

**Committee Chair: Andia M. Azimi, Ph.D.**

Email all **paper submissions** to:

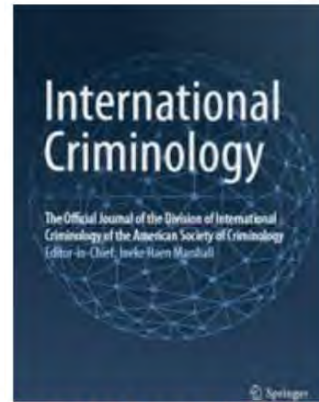
Andia M. Azimi, Ph.D. | Department of Criminal Justice & Criminology | Sam Houston State University ||  
axa205@shsu.edu



# AROUND THE ASC - DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINOLOGY



DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINOLOGY  
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY



Journal access is free with membership

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Manuscripts at any time  
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## BENEFITS



### ACCESS TO DIVISION NEWSLETTER

Stay in the loop with exclusive insights, member spotlights, and the latest trends in international criminology. Our newsletter is your gateway to valuable knowledge!



### LEARN ABOUT CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH

Be at the forefront of innovation! Access groundbreaking research, trends, and discoveries that shape the future of criminology. Empower your mind with the knowledge that matters.



### NETWORK WITH AWESOME PEOPLE!

Connect with like-minded individuals passionate about international criminology. Forge valuable professional relationships, share experiences, and collaborate on projects that make a difference.

## EXCLUSIVE MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS AWAIT YOU!

## TO JOIN OR RENEW, SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT:

<https://bit.ly/3vwwC96>



DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS OPPORTUNITY TO BE PART OF A THRIVING COMMUNITY DEDICATED TO ADVANCING INTERNATIONAL CRIMINOLOGY. JOIN OR RENEW TODAY AND AMPLIFY YOUR IMPACT!

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

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American Society of Criminology - Division of International Criminology

SAE

## AROUND THE ASC - DIVISION OF RURAL CRIMINOLOGY

# The Division of Rural Criminology



Chair: Jessica Peterson  
petersonj@sou.edu

Meet us in San Francisco at our division table and/or Social for a chance to win a copy of *The Encyclopedia of Rural Criminology!*

## Joint Social at ASC San Francisco

Join us for a joint social hosted by the Division of Rural Criminology, the Division for Critical Criminology and Social Justice, and the West Virginia University Research Center on Violence!

The Woodbury (685 3rd Street)  
Thursday, November 14th  
7:00-10:00 PM

10-15 minute walk from the Marriott - reserved for our attendees - come for drinks, food, awards, and fun with colleagues!

## Panels and Roundtables

In San Francisco, the Division of Rural Criminology will sponsor:

3 Roundtables  
5 Thematic Panels

Details to come after the program is available!

## Call for Award Nominations

The Division of Rural Criminology has two awards:

*Early Career Award*

*Ralph Weisheit Lifetime Achievement Award*

We will be accepting nominations soon! Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) or [Twitter](#) to catch the announcement!

Interested in all things rural criminology?  
Our international partners: [ISSRC](#) | [ESC Rural Working Group](#) | [UNE Centre for Rural Criminology](#)  
Places to publish: [IJRC](#) | [Bristol book series](#) | [Routledge book series](#)  
Our growing network - add your name [here](#) to connect!

AROUND THE ASC - DIVISION ON TERRORISM & BIAS CRIMES/  
DIVISION OF WHITE-COLLAR & CORPORATE CRIME

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**JOINT WEBINAR SERIES  
PRESENTED BY THE  
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
CRIMINOLOGY  
DIVISIONS:**

**DIVISION ON TERRORISM & BIAS CRIMES (DTBC)  
AND WHITE COLLAR & CORPORATE CRIME (DWCC)**

**Upcoming Dates and Topics:**

- July 25, 2024: Internal and External Grant Funding/Applications
- October 31, 2024: Preparing for a Successful ASC Conference
- January 30, 2025: Topic To Be Announced
- April 24, 2025: Topic To Be Announced

**Time: Last Thursday of every third  
month, 10:00 AM Central Time**  
**Location: Held over Zoom**

**RSVP Required**

 [Google Form](#)

**Who Should Attend?**  
**This series is ideal for  
professionals and students  
interested in terrorism, bias  
crimes, and corporate crime.**

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**AROUND THE ASC - DIVISION OF WHITE-COLLAR & CORPORATE CRIME**

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## Join us!

Chair: Emily Homer

Vice Chair: Adam Ghazi-Tehrani

Secretary/Treasurer: Marie Springer

Executive Counselors: K. Sebastian León, Katelyn Golladay,  
and José Atilés

### What's our Division Doing?

- Cohosting a professional development webinar series with the Division on Terrorism and Bias Crimes
- Hosting a Student Summer Book Club
- Recognizing our membership with annual awards
- Preparing for roundtables, panel sessions, meetings, award ceremonies, and socials in San Francisco

### What are our Members Doing?

- Publishing in the *Journal of White-Collar and Corporate Crime* and other outlets
- Presenting at the European Society of Criminology and American Society of Criminology meetings
- Conducting research into how to increase students' exposure to the fields of white-collar and corporate crime
- Leading anti-fraud initiatives all over the world

For more information, scan the QR code below or visit

<https://ascdwcc.org/>.



# KEYS TO SUCCESS

## Mentorship Looks Good On You: Tips and Trick for Being a Great Mentor

Chenelle A. Jones, Ph.D., Franklin University

Mentorship comes with the profession of working in academia. Whether its mentoring students or new scholars, at some point, we've probably all been asked to mentor. While at times, it can be very time consuming given all of our other responsibilities of teaching, service, and scholarship, mentorship can also be very rewarding. Whether it's helping someone obtain a job, finish a manuscript, embark on a new adventure, or even just carve out some time to focus on wellness and relax, mentorship can have great benefits for both the mentor and mentee. The key is to ensure mentorship is done right. Therefore, the following article will provide a few tips on how to successfully mentor others.

1. Establish a cadence for communication - Carve out some time to regularly meet (either virtually or in-person). Identify a time that works best for both you and your mentee. Depending on the need, it could be weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, every other month, or quarterly. The meeting cadence should take into consideration several factors including your availability, and what you and your mentee are trying to accomplish. In order to keep everyone on track, it is best to put the meeting cadence on a calendar and stick to the schedule. If for any reason, you or your mentee are not able to meet at a particular time, it is critical to communicate that to each other, and then attempt to reschedule. This will allow both you and your mentee the opportunity to stay on track.
2. Clearly define roles and expectations – It is imperative that roles and expectations are clearly defined in order for the mentoring relationship to work. This is often dependent on the needs of the mentee and the capabilities of you as the mentor. There should be a discussion about whether you are fulfilling the mentorship role as a career coach, a research expert, a classroom consultant, or a life coach. Specifically, as the career coach, you would provide your mentee with tips for navigating his/her career in academic as well as best practices for exploring new employment opportunities. As a research expert, you would be a sounding board for your mentees research agenda as well as an accountability partner to ensure they are regularly producing research that aligns with his/her areas of interests. As a classroom consultant, you would discuss issues the mentee encounters with students and his/her peers in academia. Lastly, as a life coach, you would check in with the mentee to ensure they are taking care of his/her whole self while navigating academia. This includes ensuring that he/her designates time for their mental, physical, and/or spiritual wellbeing.
3. Identify goals – Once the roles and expectations are clearly defined, you and your mentee can work on goals for the mentoring relationship. These goals should follow the SMART model of being specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time stamped. This will ensure that both you and your mentee have some sort of metric in place to hold each other accountable throughout the mentoring relationship.
4. Tell your story – There is a reason your mentee sought you out as a mentor. Therefore, be sure to tell your mentee not only about your successes but also your challenges, and how you overcame them. The lessons you learned along your journey could be the blueprint for which your mentee navigates their challenges. Your experience and expertise could lend additional insight to the many things they may encounter along their academic journey.
5. Be a cheerleader – The typical nature of mentorship is to help mentees navigate through challenging situations. However, there are many times when the mentee overcomes those challenges or achieves other accomplishments such as a publication, award, promotion, or a personal goal. As a mentor, it is imperative that you celebrate and champion the success of your mentee. Celebrating your mentee could be the very motivation they need to keep working towards another goal. Also keep in mind that the celebration does not have to be elaborate. It could be a simple congratulatory message or small gift. The best way to ensure the most appropriate gift for your mentee is to ask them what types of gifts they like or how they like to be celebrated.

In addition to the above, great mentors have the following qualities:

1. They are good listeners
  2. They are great motivators
  3. They share diverse perspectives
  4. They share their network
  5. They challenge their mentees
  6. They are trusted confidants
  7. They are emotionally intelligent
-

## KEYS TO SUCCESS

8. They are life-long learners
9. They are experienced
10. They are honest

The lists above provide you with a few ways in which you can be a great mentor. At the end of the day, a mentor is basically a trusted advisor. Mentors make themselves available to advise someone when they need it. They also provide encouragement, motivation and support. The key to mentorship is delivering the support and advice in a way that makes sense to the mentee, keeps their best interests in mind, and ultimately helps them achieve their personal and/or professional goals.

Introducing the New



Mentor & Mentee Connection

**ASC would like to remind you about the Mentor & Mentee Connection webpage on the ASC website**  
<https://asc41.com/resources/mentor-mentee-connection/>

**The page provides publication of submitted resources for mentors and mentees, as well information related to the ASC Mentor Directory**  
<https://account.asc41.com/mentor>

The ASC Mentoring Committee would like to encourage ASC members interested in mentoring to contact Kelly Vance, ASC Associate Director ([kvance@asc41.com](mailto:kvance@asc41.com)). Once designated as a mentor in the directory, the mentor's contact information, as entered in their member portal (name, title, affiliation, email address, website, [social media handles by member request only]) will be made public on the Mentor Directory.





In search of a mentor who aligns with your specific goals?

Have questions related to research, theory, methodology, relevant literature, or, related to challenges, accessing resources, etc...?

Try searching the [ASC Mentor Directory](#)

## RESEARCH DOCTORATES IN CRIMINOLOGY, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, AND RELATED DISCIPLINES

**Centelles, Vanessa.** Sociocultural Factors, Definitions, and Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence Among Latina and Hispanic Women. Chaired by Ráchael Powers, March 2024. University of South Florida.

**Gill, Lexi.** Multiple shots to understanding gun violence. Chaired by Bryanna Fox, February 2024. University of South Florida.

**Moore, Demi. L.** "Success Beyond Prison Walls: A Qualitative Study on the Successful Reentry of the Formerly Incarcerated." Chaired by Marlon A. La Rose and Christy Visher, May 2023. Wilmington University.

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# DOCTORAL STUDENT FORUM

## A Critical Review of ASC's Student Support: Recommendations for Improvement

Brenna Dunlap, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Student engagement and professional development within the American Society of Criminology (ASC) is crucial for the advancement of the field and larger academic community. Involving students in conferences early in their career is important for their socialization and identity as a scholar. Cullen & Vose (2014) outline a three-step process for becoming a scholar. The first step is to join the discipline's major professional organizations, such as ASC, and attend their annual conferences. Conferences are key sites for sharing knowledge, interacting with researchers, and accumulating status and recognition (Hansen & Pedersen, 2018). More recently, studies have found that as conference attendance increases, students develop greater agency and independence as scholars, which contributes to a more positive self-image (Kuzhabekova & Temerbayeva, 2018). Conferences are also important for signaling students are capable of career advancement to external audiences and employers consider conference presentations when evaluating job candidates (Applegate et al., 2009).

These studies demonstrate the value of engaging students in conferences early. However, students often experience financial barriers to conference participation due to low salaries, limited funding support from their institutions, and the expenses associated with registration, travel, lodging, and other necessary fees for attendance. ASC offers various awards, resources, and opportunities for student members. This paper aims to educate members on these opportunities and propose recommendations for improving student engagement and support. ASC currently offers opportunities for students to network, generate knowledge, and gain recognition, but these opportunities are often driven by the divisions, which could limit student engagement due to less awareness.

### Publication Opportunities

#### *Journals*

There are two ASC journal publications and nine ASC division journals. While all of these journals welcome student submissions, they are still required to pass standard peer review processes, which students may need substantial mentorship to navigate.

#### *The Criminologist*

*The Criminologist* is an ASC publication that allows students to contribute their work to the Doctoral Student Forum (DSF). Published six times a year, *The Criminologist* provides updates on Society activities, criminal justice events, and member-related news.

However, in recent years the number of student articles featured in the DSF has been limited, with only six included since the January/February 2022 publication. Often these papers lack consistency as the submission expectations are unclear.

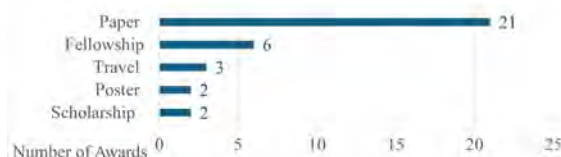
### Presentation Opportunities

Presentations allow students to showcase their work to diverse audiences beyond their academic institutions. Students can submit their work to be presented at the ASC Annual Meeting each November. Presentations can be in the format of a thematic panel, individual papers, author meets critics session, posters, roundtables, or lightning talks. Typically, presentations are more formal and posters are more conversational.

### Awards

To identify the current financial support mechanisms and recognition opportunities for students at ASC, I reviewed the ASC and ASC division websites in April 2024. As shown in Figure 1, thirty-four student awards were identified. These awards span various categories such as paper competitions, poster presentations, fellowships, scholarships, and travel grants.

Figure 1. Number of Awards by Type





## DOCTORAL STUDENT FORUM

As shown in Table 1, some awards provide monetary prizes, project support, or travel stipends. For instance, the Ruth D. Peterson Fellowships for Racial and Ethnic Diversity provide substantial financial support (up to five \$8,000 fellowships each year). Through the available awards, the ASC celebrates academic achievements and provides resources and opportunities for students to further their research, professional development, and contributions to the field.

**Table 1.** ASC Student Awards

Entity	Award Name	Prize
<i>ASC General Award</i>		
	Gene Carte Student Paper Competition <sup>1</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> - \$1,000 (+ \$1,000 for travel); 2 <sup>nd</sup> - \$600; 3 <sup>rd</sup> - \$400
	Graduate Student Poster <sup>2</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> - \$1,000; 2 <sup>nd</sup> - \$600; 3 <sup>rd</sup> - \$400
	Ruth D. Peterson Fellowships for Racial and Ethnic Diversity <sup>3</sup>	Up to five \$8,000 Fellowships
<i>Division of Biopsychosocial Criminology</i>		
	Student Innovation Award <sup>1</sup>	Monetary award, amount not listed
<i>Division of Communities and Place</i>		
	Robert J. Bursik Junior Scholar Award <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
	Ruth D. Peterson and Lauren J. Krivo Graduate Student Scholar Award <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
<i>Division of Convict Criminology</i>		
	Student Paper Award <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
<i>Division of Corrections and Sentencing</i>		
	Ben Steiner Excellence in Correction Student Paper Award <sup>1</sup>	Monetary award, not listed
	Dissertation Scholarship Award <sup>4</sup>	\$3,000 for project support
	Dr. Kimchi Memorial Graduate Travel Award <sup>5</sup>	\$540 for travel
<i>Division of Critical Criminology and Social Justice</i>		
	Graduate Student Paper Award <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
	Undergraduate Student Paper Award <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
<i>Division of Cybercrime</i>		
	Best Peer-Reviewed Publication <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
<i>Division of Developmental and Life-Course Criminology</i>		
	Outstanding Student Contribution <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
<i>Division of Experimental Criminology</i>		
	Student Paper Award <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
<i>Division of Feminist Criminology</i>		
	Larry J. Siegel Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Gender and Crime <sup>3</sup>	\$5,000 for project support; \$500 for two honorable mentions
	Feminist Criminology Graduate Research Scholarship <sup>4</sup>	\$5,000 scholarship; \$500 for two honorable mentions
	Graduate Scholar Award <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
	Student Paper Competition <sup>1</sup>	\$500 for graduate winner ; \$250 for undergraduate winner
	Student Poster Competition <sup>2</sup>	\$250 for graduate winner; \$125 for undergraduate winner
	Claire M. Renzetti Domestic Travel Grant <sup>5</sup>	Up to \$2,000 for travel
<i>Division of International Criminology</i>		
	Student Paper Award <sup>1</sup>	Monetary award, not listed
	DIC Graduate Fellowship for Global Research <sup>3</sup>	\$1,000
<i>Division on People of Color and Crime</i>		
	Norman White Outstanding Paper Award <sup>1</sup>	\$500
	Helen Taylor Greene and Vernetta D. Young Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Race and Crime <sup>3</sup>	\$2,500 for project support
	Media and Public Scholarship (MPS) Fellowship <sup>3</sup>	\$1,000
<i>Division of Policing</i>		
	Outstanding Student Article Award <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
	Outstanding Dissertation Award <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
	Student Travel Award <sup>5</sup>	Not listed
<i>Division of Queer Criminology</i>		
	DQC Student Paper Award <sup>1</sup>	Not listed
<i>Division of Terrorism &amp; Bias Crimes</i>		
	Student Paper Award <sup>1</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup> - \$500; 2 <sup>nd</sup> - \$250
<i>Division of Victimology</i>		
	Graduate Student Paper of the Year Award <sup>1</sup>	\$300
	Larry J. Siegel Graduate Fellowship <sup>3</sup>	\$5,000 for project support
<i>Division of White-Collar and Corporate Crime</i>		
	Student Paper Award <sup>1</sup>	Not listed

Notes: Type of award: <sup>1</sup> Paper, <sup>2</sup> Poster, <sup>3</sup> Fellowship, <sup>4</sup> Scholarship, <sup>5</sup> Travel

## DOCTORAL STUDENT FORUM

### Professional Development Opportunities

The ASC Annual Meeting includes Professional Development and Students Meet Scholars sessions. Since 2014, there have been an average of 4.5 of these sessions each year, with two years having no sessions. Through sessions such as thematic panels on publishing, effective reviewer practices, alternative career pathways, and mentorship, and lessons from specific fields, students learn the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate the complexities of academia and beyond.

### Recommendations

While the ASC offers a range of student publication opportunities and awards, there are areas for improvement in the structure and transparency of these opportunities. The following are five recommendations for ASC and its' divisions to improve student support.

1. Encourage student contributions to *The Criminologist* and provide clear instructions for students interested in contributing.
2. Expand opportunities for student travel by establishing a general ASC student travel award and encouraging more divisions to develop student travel awards.
3. Enhance transparency of student awards programs by reviewing and updating award descriptions. These descriptions should include clear outlines of the eligibility criteria, application procedures, selection criteria, and details of financial support or prizes offered.
4. Promote student opportunities and awards more broadly, through email newsletters, social media, and student forums. It may be useful to collaborate with criminology and criminal justice departments and student organizations to promote awards to their students.
5. Conduct regular reviews of student engagement and adjust programs in response to student needs and interests. For example, the Society could evaluate the effectiveness of the available awards by analyzing data on applications, selections, and outcomes. The analysis may include examining the diversity of award recipients, the impact of awards on students' academic and professional development, and any disparities in access to awards.

By implementing these steps, the ASC can enhance the accessibility, transparency, equity, and effectiveness of its efforts to serve the needs of students as future scholars. This will provide more support and opportunities for student engagement and professional development.

### Conclusion

This article serves two primary purposes. First, it provides a guide for organizational change at ASC. ASC leadership can use this article to make meaningful improvements for supporting its student members and generating more student involvement. Second, it can be disseminated to directors at various academic institutions to educate and inform programs and their students. By doing so, students may become more engaged in and responsive to ASC and division opportunities.

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# CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

If you have news, views, reviews, or announcements relating to international or comparative criminology, including new books or conference announcements, please send them here! We appreciate brevity (always under 1,000 words) and welcome your input and feedback. – Jared Dmello, [jared.dmello@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:jared.dmello@adelaide.edu.au)

## Crime Data in India: Myths, Misreporting, and Misinterpretations



Founder / Principal Director & Professor of Criminology & Justice Sciences -  
International Institute of Justice & Police Sciences (IJPS), Bangalore | <https://www.jaishankar.org>

### Introduction

Benjamin Disraeli famously said, “There are three types of lies – lies, damn lies, and statistics.” This quote, often attributed to Mark Twain as well, underscores the deceptive power of statistics. The remark highlights how statistical data, despite its appearance of objectivity, can be manipulated to mislead and distort the truth. It serves as a cautionary reminder that numbers, when selectively presented or interpreted, can convey a false narrative, thus requiring a critical approach to understanding and evaluating statistical claims.

In India, one of the most glaring examples of this deception lies in the portrayal of crime statistics. Official crime data often fails to reflect the true extent of criminal activity due to underreporting, inconsistent data collection methods, and political pressures to present a more favorable image of public safety. This discrepancy between reported and actual crime rates can create a false sense of security and hinder effective policy-making.

### The Fallacy of Data vis-à-vis Reporting Behavior

The “Crime in India – 2021” report, published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs, compiles crime data from every state’s crime records bureau. While this compilation is extensive, the methodology and credibility of state crime records raise significant issues. Following the report’s publication, media outlets like the Indian Express highlighted alarming statistics, such as a 15.3% increase in crimes against women. Delhi, Mumbai, and Bangalore were labeled the most unsafe cities for women, overshadowing states known for high crime rates like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. This discrepancy points to the fallacy of the data. The primary issue with these statistics is the poor reporting behavior in India. Higher crime statistics often reflect better reporting rather than higher actual crime rates. Cities like Lucknow and Patna may not appear in top crime lists due to underreporting, not a lack of crime. This leads to a distorted perception of safety in different regions.

Despite the data’s questionable authenticity, it is widely accepted and propagated by national media as accurate. This perpetuates misinformation among the public. For example, the NCRB data shows higher suicide rates in southern states like Kerala and Tamil Nadu compared to northern states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. This does not mean suicides are less frequent in the north; rather, they are underreported. In states like Haryana, societal structures like Khap Panchayats can prevent accurate reporting of suicides and honor killings, further skewing the data.

Despite being an official document, the NCRB report includes disclaimers about the data’s authenticity and limitations. The “Principal Offence Rule,” which only counts the most serious crime in multiple-offence cases, can lead to underreporting of less severe crimes.

## CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

The NCRB's disclaimer admits they only compile existing data without verifying its accuracy, undermining the report's credibility. It is ironic that the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), which operates under the Ministry of Home Affairs, has acknowledged the unreliability of its own crime statistics, stating that they are not responsible for their accuracy. While this admission might seem acceptable in isolation, the problem arises when these statistics are disseminated by the media as credible. Media outlets, including reputable ones like The Hindu and Indian Express, often report these statistics uncritically, leading to public misinformation. Educated audiences, who rely on these sources, form opinions based on potentially inaccurate data. The media's failure to critically analyze or explain the limitations of these statistics is concerning.

### Issues with Crime Data: My Personal Experiences with the Police and Prisons

Long back, during a Crime Mapping Study in a South Indian city, I collected data from the Crime Records Bureau and created crime maps highlighting hotspots—areas with higher crime rates. When a Deputy Commissioner saw the map, he told me it was incorrect. I explained that the map was based on their data, but he admitted that they had spread crime data across different areas to make it appear more balanced. This experience deterred me from creating crime maps with such data. Hopefully, crime data collection and reporting have improved since then.

Additionally, during a visit to a prominent jail in a Western Indian city, I discovered over 700 inmates labeled as rape offenders. Upon investigation, I found that many of these inmates were young men aged 18-21 in consensual relationships with girls under 18. The law does not consider these relationships consensual due to the Indian Majority Act of 1875, which sets the age of majority at 18. This legal technicality results in young people being imprisoned. Meanwhile, the Factories Act of 1948 allows children under 14 to work in non-hazardous industries, highlighting the inconsistencies in defining the age of consent. High Courts and the Chief Justice of India have urged the government to lower the age of consent from 18 to 16, but the government has no plans to do so. This legal discrepancy has led to many young people being unjustly imprisoned.

### Comparing India and the United States in Crime Data Analysis

The USA's Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) emphasizes credible and objective crime analysis, conducting large-scale victimization surveys annually. This approach contrasts sharply with the NCRB's reliance on secondary data. The BJS's independence from external influence and rigorous data collection and verification processes ensure more accurate crime statistics.

Unlike the NCRB's method of data collection, which relies solely on secondary data from the respective State Crime Records Bureaus (SCRBs), the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) conducts an extensive annual survey known as the "National Crime Victimization Survey" (NCVS). This survey serves as the primary source of information on criminal victimization in the United States. Each year, researchers, scholars, and enumerators conduct individual interviews with over 240,000 people from around 150,000 households to compile the report.

India lacks a comprehensive crime victimization survey like the BJS's National Crime Victimization Survey. Reliance on secondary data prevents a deep understanding of crime trends. Additionally, past victimization surveys by Indian universities have suffered from biases, further questioning the reliability of such data. Rigorous guidelines and quality control are essential to ensure accurate data collection.

### Conclusion

The NCRB report's list of officers involved in its creation reveals a lack of criminologists and statisticians in key roles. To improve the credibility of crime statistics, the NCRB should be headed by a criminologist or social scientist with significant experience in the management of crime data and analysis. A dedicated team of criminologists, sociologists, data scientists, and statisticians should handle crime analysis independently, free from external influence. Implementing crime victimization surveys and establishing Crime Analysis Units (CAUs) in each police department, as practiced in the USA, would significantly enhance the accuracy of crime data. Further, numerous factors, including literacy rates, caste, religion, economic background, gender, and political power, influence crime reporting behavior and data accuracy. Addressing these issues requires a multifaceted approach involving independent research, rigorous data collection, and critical analysis to ensure reliable crime statistics in India.

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Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in the article are solely those of the author, and they do not necessarily reflect the official stance or views of any organization, institution, or entity. The article is intended to provide insights into the subject matter based on the author's personal experiences and interpretations. Readers are encouraged to critically evaluate the information presented and consider multiple sources of information before forming their own opinions.

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## CRIMINOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD

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### Conferences, Webinars & Workshops

#### 2ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FORGIVENESS

**Event Type:** Conference

**Location:** Zefat Academic College, Israel

**Date:** July 9 – 11, 2024

<https://bit.ly/3sG49jP>

#### TRUST AND SAFETY IN EVERYDAY TECHNOLOGIES

**Event Type:** Webinar

**Location:** Online

**Date:** July 16, 2024 – 9:00 am to 10:00 am AEST (Brisbane) / July 15, 2024 – 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm PDT (Los Angeles)

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/a3ad94e1-6f26-41cf-af53-5982df22c78f@5a7cc8ab-a4dc-4f9b-bf60-66714049ad62>

#### WAR CRIMINOLOGY: EXPLORING DIMENSIONS, ADDRESSING CHALLENGES

**Event Type:** International Conference

**Location:** University of Porto, Portugal

**Date:** July 22, 2024

<https://injusticewar.direito.up.pt/conference/>

#### WORKPLACE MOBBING

**Event Type:** Conference

**Location:** Niagara Falls, NY and Virtual

**Date:** July 22 – 24, 2024

<https://www.niagara.edu/workplace-mobbing-conference/>

#### INTERNATIONAL POLICE EXECUTIVE SYMPOSIUM

**Event Type:** Conference

**Location:** Thessaloniki, Greece

**Date:** August 4 – 9, 2024

<http://www.ipes.info/>

#### 2024 NGCRC INTERNATIONAL GANG TRAINING CONFERENCE

**Event Type:** Meeting

**Location:** Chicago, IL

**Date:** August 5 – 7, 2024

<https://ngcrc.com/2024.conference.html>

#### 14TH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER ACADEMY ON PEACEBUILDING, CONFLICT SOLUTION, MEDIATION, JUSTICE, INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, LEADERSHIP & INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

**Event Type:** Summer Academy

**Location:** Basel, Switzerland

**Date:** August 5 – 21, 2024

<https://www.ipdinstitute.ch/Trainings-Events/>

#### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL CRIMINOLOGY AND VICTIMOLOGY 2024

**Event Type:** Conference

**Location:** RV University, Bengaluru, India

**Date:** August 7 – 10, 2024

<https://www.icgcv.com/>

#### ASIAN CRIMINOLOGICAL SOCIETY

**Event Type:** Conference

**Location:** Manila, Philippines

**Date:** August 8 - 10, 2024

<https://www.15thacs2024ph.com/>

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**INTERNATIONAL CORRECTIONS & PRISONS ASSOCIATION (ICPA) ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024****Event Type:** Conference**Location:** Singapore**Date:** September 2 – 6, 2024<https://icpa.org/events/save-the-date-icpa-s-annual-conference-2024.html>**NIJ 2024 RESEARCH CONFERENCE****Event Type:** Conference**Location:** Pittsburgh, PA**Date:** September 16 – 18, 2024**Contact:** [NIJ.conference@ojp.usdoj.gov](mailto:NIJ.conference@ojp.usdoj.gov)<https://nij.ojp.gov/events/conference>**2024 NY STATE PUBLIC SAFETY SYMPOSIUM****Event Type:** Symposium/Conference**Location:** Empire State Plaza Convention Center, Albany, NY**Date:** September 17 – 20, 2024**Contact:** [PublicSafetySymposium@dcjs.ny.gov](mailto:PublicSafetySymposium@dcjs.ny.gov)**Call for Presentations:** <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7691870/2024-PS-Symposium-Call-For-Presentations>**POLISH CONGRESS ON CRIMINOLOGY****Event Type:** Conference**Location:** Bialystok, Poland**Date:** September 23 – 24, 2024<https://konferencje-prawo.uwb.edu.pl/kongres-kryminologiczny>**BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE ISRAELI SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY****Event Type:** Conference**Theme:** *Criminology and Criminal Justice in War and Peace***Location:** Netanya, Israel**Date:** September 25 – 26, 2024**24th Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology - Criminology goes East  
Bucharest, Romania, 11-14 September, 2024**

Bucharest, the capital of Romania, welcomes you to one of the most important academic events in the field of criminology.

Bucharest is the most Easternmost city of the conferences organised by the European Society of Criminology. Certain historical characteristics of Romania, host country of this conference, could be linked to its general topic. Geography positioned Romania for centuries between different civilisations. As such, the constant swing between cultures gave birth to the current day mix. One should take as an example the Romanian language, which is predominantly Latin, but with heavy Slavic influences. The Romanian cuisine has mainly Eastern influences, but throughout time borrowed Western habits. The list can go on. The Balkans are a region which continuously had to adapt to new realities.

The Opening Plenary will be given by Josep Maria Tamarit Sumalla, President of the European Society of Criminology (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya) and Andra-Roxana Trandafir, Local Organizer of the 2024 Conference (University of Bucharest, Romania). During the following days, the plenaries will be attended by Sally S. Simpson (University of Maryland, United States of America), Nicholas Lord (University of Manchester, United Kingdom), Anna-Maria Getos Kalac (University of Zagreb, Croatia), Marieke Liem (Leiden University, The Netherlands), Thomas Ugelvik (University of Oslo, Norway) and Ioan Durnescu (University of Bucharest, Romania).

The conference will tackle issues related to the development of criminology all over Europe and beyond and will be a great opportunity to bring people together in a city full of history.

The 24th conference of the ESC invites you to reflect on such issues and many more linked to the general topic of the conference. It is our hope that you will take part in discussions and all the ideas that will be disseminated and shared will contribute to the development of criminology in a contemporary context.

For more information, please visit the website [www.eurocrim2024.com](http://www.eurocrim2024.com).

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**  
 FUTURE ASC ANNUAL MEETING DATES

2025	November 19 - 22	Washington, D.C.	Washington D.C. Marriott Marquis
2026	November 18 - 21	Chicago, IL	Palmer House Hilton
2027	November 17 -- 20	Dallas, TX	Dallas Anatole Hilton
2028	November 15 -- 18	New Orleans, LA	New Orleans Riverside Hilton
2029	November 14 - 17	Philadelphia, PA	Philadelphia Marriott Downtown
2030	November 20 - 23	San Francisco, CA	San Francisco Marriott Marquis
2031	November 12 - 15	Washington, D.C.	Washington, D.C. Marriott Marquis
2032	November 17 - 20	Chicago, IL	Palmer House Hilton
2033	November 16 - 19	Washington, D.C.	Washington, D.C. Marriott Marquis
2034	November 11 - 19	New Orleans, LA	New Orleans Riverside Hilton
2035	November 10 - 18	Chicago, IL	Palmer House Hilton



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**2024 ASC ANNUAL MEETING**

**Venue:** San Francisco Marriott Marquis

**Location:** San Francisco, CA

**Date:** 11/13/2023-11/16/2023

**Chairs:** Charis Kubrin & Jennifer Macy

**Theme:** *Criminological Research and Education Matters: People, Policy, and Practice in Tumultuous Times*

Visit the [ASC website](#) for additional details.