



Criminal Justice Research Center News



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Featured Article: The Spatial Crime Research Working Group – pg. 6

From the Director's Desk



Hello, everyone. Welcome to Autumn Term 2010. I hope that you had a wonderful summer and that your term gets off to a good start. As you will see below, CONGRATULATIONS are in order for a variety of successful endeavors. For example, on behalf of the entire CJRC Membership, I offer big shout-outs to:

- Christopher Browning (Sociology), promoted to Professor
- Trevon Logan (Economics), promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure
- James Moore (Physical Activity & Educational Services), promoted to Professor
- Ric Simmons (Law), promoted to Professor
- Bruce Weinberg (Economics), promoted to Professor

HATS OFF TO EACH OF YOU!!!

This year, we are anticipating some old and some new directions/activities at CJRC. Importantly, we will continue our wonderful seminar series that includes both external and internal speakers. Janet Lauritsen (Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Missouri-St. Louis) will get us started on October 8, 2010. Among others, we are also looking forward to presentations by Hal Pepinsky (Criminal Justice, Indiana University), Mathew Coleman (Geography, Ohio State University) and Michelle Alexander (Law and Kirwan Institute, Ohio State University). On the research side, the spatial crime and historical violence projects will also continue to be features of our agenda, and we will have our usual call for research proposals in the spring. Also CJRC will remain the home of the thriving Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network activities, including

the annual Summer Research Institute. On the new (or almost new) side, one innovation is the changed format for the newsletter. We hope that you like (and will continue to read) this "new and improved" version of the newsletter. By bringing it to you as a pdf attachment, we will be able to liven it up with photos and graphics that we hope will make your reading more enjoyable. Future newsletters will also feature a new column that provides an undergraduate take on the value-added on our speaker-series, and perhaps other activities, of CJRC. Stay tuned for this new feature. In the "almost new" category, we hope to bring back a version of our Excellence in Justice program that we abandoned temporarily when we lost the on-site services of Coretta Pettway (Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction). Further, we would like to implement one or two initiatives that focus on the criminal or juvenile justice side of crime research. The foci of these initiatives have not been finalized, so I welcome your thoughts on feasible projects.

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Finally, I want to introduce you to a couple of new faces at CJRC. First, we welcome Amanda Kennedy, who is joining us as a research associate. Amanda recently completed a masters degree in the Glenn School of Public Affairs, but she also has background in sociology and social work. Among other activities, she will assist with the Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network activities, the revamped "Excellence in Justice" activities, and serve as the newsletter editor. Thus, you have Amanda to thank for the new style as well as what's inside of it. Please cooperate with her in the same way as you have with all of our former newsletter editors, and do let us know what you think of this new delivery. (FYI, our just-prior editor, Derrick Bryan, is off to a good start at the University of Alabama.) Second, Dylan Adams is an undergraduate sociology/criminology major, who is doing his undergraduate internship at CJRC. As a part of this internship, Dylan will write a column for the newsletter that speaks to how CJRC, especially its speaker series, add value for undergraduates at OSU. Christopher Keenan and Brian Soller will join our graduate student pool; they will be working on their own projects. Other than these, most of the players at CJRC are familiar. Debbie Flower-Smith is back as our very able administrative associate, and Susan Pennington continues to serve as a partial back-up for Debbie. Aubrey Jackson, Bill Darnieder, Xin Jiang, Darlene Saporu, and Heather Washington are continuing graduate student associates. Mark Davis and Mike Maltz are still on board as Research Scientists. Breanna Williams is continuing as an undergraduate associate. With theirs and your participation in the Center, I look forward to a great 2010-2011.

--- Ruth



Upcoming Talk: Janet Lauritsen

"Violent Victimization and Economic Conditions: The Vulnerability of Race and Ethnic Minorities": A talk by Janet Lauritsen, Professor of Criminology, University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Friday, October 8th, 2010, 9:00-10:20 a.m.

217 Journalism, 242 W. 18th Ave.



Dr. Janet Lauritsen

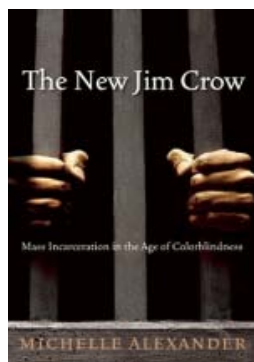
Abstract: The relationship between violent crime rates and levels of neighborhood economic disadvantage has been well established in criminological research. However, the association between national economic conditions and rates of violence over time is less clear, perhaps because much existing research has relied on aggregate violent crime data. Studies have shown that Blacks and Latinos have been more susceptible than Whites to financial hardship during past economic downturns. Thus, if rates of violence are associated with changing economic conditions, violent victimization trends disaggregated by race and ethnicity should show greater changes in violence among minorities during periods of national economic change.

Using data from the 1973 to 2005 National Crime Victimization Survey, we estimate previously unknown trends in serious violent victimization for Latino, non-Latino Black, and non-Latino White males. We find that the trends for Latino and Black males are similar and closely follow changes in the national index of consumer sentiment, while the trends for White males display few of these same fluctuations. The violent victimization of minority males peaks during periods of economic downturn and declines as the economy improves. The findings also show that the association between changing economic conditions and violence might have weakened in recent years. Possible explanations for these patterns and their implications for public policies will be discussed.

What Center Participants are Doing

Michelle Alexander (Moritz College of Law, Kirwan Institute – OSU)

A recently published book written by Michelle Alexander is attracting interest on a national scale. Alexander and her recently published book, *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, have been featured in dozens of national media this year, including *Newsweek*, C-SPAN, CNN, National Public Radio, *The Tavis Smiley Show*, *The Huffington Post*, and *Bill Moyers Journal*.



Dr. Alexander's new book

Christopher Browning (Sociology – OSU)

Dr. Browning published an article written with CJRC members Reginald A. Byron, Catherine A. Calder, Lauren J. Krivo, Mei-Po Kwan, Jae Yong Lee, and Ruth D. Peterson, entitled "Commercial Density, Residential Concentration, and Crime: Land Use Patterns and Violence in Neighborhood Context." The article is featured in the August 2010 issue of the *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency*.

Reginald Byron (Sociology – Southwestern University)

Dr. Byron won an Andrew W. Mellon Integrated Scholarly Community Grant (Co-principal investigator w/ Maria Lowe) for a project entitled "Racing the Academy: A Baseline Assessment of How Students View the Racial Climate at Southwestern." Also, he has a forthcoming publication in *Work and Occupations* entitled "Discrimination, Complexity, and the Public/Private Sector Question."

Walter DeKeseredy (Criminology, Justice and Policy Studies - University of Ontario Institute of Technology)

Dr. DeKeseredy has a new book, *Contemporary Critical Criminology*, published by Routledge (2010). He also authored the epilogue, "Moral Panics, Violence, and the Policing of Girls: Reasserting Patriarchal Control in the New Millennium," featured in Meda Chesney-Lind and Nikki Jones' (Eds.) 2010 book, *Fighting for Girls: New perspectives on gender and violence*, published by SUNY Press. Lastly, Dr. DeKeseredy will be presenting a paper entitled "Feminist Contributions to Understanding Woman Abuse: Myths, Controversies, and Realities" at the University of Haifa's Controversial Issues in Partner Violence Study Group on October 26th, 2010.



Dr. DeKeseredy's new book

Aubrey Jackson (Ph.D. candidate, Sociology – OSU)

Ms. Jackson received the 2010 Alfred R. Lindesmith Award from the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Law and Society Division for the best law-related paper ("The Right to Refuse Sex: Gender Conflict and Marital Rape Laws in the U.S.") by a graduate student or untenured faculty.

David Jacobs and Aubrey Jackson (Sociology – OSU)

Dr. Jacobs and Ms. Jackson co-authored an article in the 2010 *Annual Review of Law and Social Science* entitled "On the Politics of Imprisonments: A Review of Systematic Findings."

Lauren Krivo (Sociology – Rutgers)

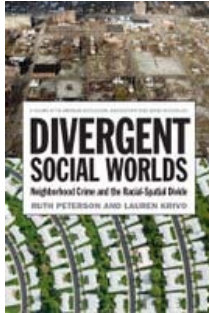
Dr. Krivo made the transition this fall to Rutgers University after being at OSU since 1985. We miss her but we wish her luck in her new position.

David Maimon (Sociology – University of Miami)

Dr. Maimon has accepted an Assistant Professor position at the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Maryland.

Ruth Peterson (Criminal Justice Research Center, Sociology – OSU) and Lauren Krivo (Criminal Justice Research Center – OSU; Sociology – Rutgers)

Drs. Peterson and Krivo continued their fruitful scholarly collaboration during the past year. Most notably, they published their critically acclaimed 2010 book, entitled *Divergent Social Worlds: Neighborhood Crime and the Racial-Spatial Divide*. (New York: Russell Sage - American Sociological Association's Rose Monograph Series).



Dr. Peterson and Dr. Krivo's new book

Wendy C. Regoeczi (Sociology – Cleveland State University)

Dr. Regoeczi will be taking over as editor of the journal *Homicide Studies* beginning January 1st, 2011.

Brian Soller (Ph.D. student, Sociology – OSU)

Brian Soller has the following recent publication: Lee, Juliet P., Robynn Battle, Rob Lipton, and Brian Soller. 2010. "Smoking': Use of cigarettes, cigars, and blunts among Southeast Asian youth and young adults." *Health Education Research*. 25: 83-96. Mr. Soller also has a forthcoming publication in the *Journal of Adolescent Research*, co-authored with Juliet P. Lee, which is entitled "Drug intake methods and social identity: The use of marijuana in blunts among Southeast Asian adolescents and emerging adults." Further, Mr. Soller's paper "Putting the Double Standard in Its Place: Sexual Norms, Network Structure, and Adolescent Sexual Behavior" was awarded First Place in the Graduate Student Paper Competition by the Society for the Study of Social Problems, Sexual Behavior, Politics, and Communities Division, 2010. He received the OSU Department of Sociology's 2010 Clyde W. Franklin Award for this paper as well.

Deanna Wilkinson (Human Development and Family Science – OSU)

It has been a busy year for Dr. Wilkinson. She organized The Second Annual Conference Promoting Community Safety and Preventing Violence on

July 23rd, 2010. The conference was held in Columbus, Ohio, and its theme was "Integrating Lessons from Research and Practice." Dr. Wilkinson received the 2010 OSU College of Education and Human Ecology Dean's Distinguished Service Award on May 24th, 2010, and will also receive the "Fire and Focus" Award for Service from the OSU Office of Outreach and Engagement on October 12th, 2010. She has a forthcoming publication in *The Oxford Handbook on Juvenile Crime and Juvenile Justice* (Oxford University Press, 2010), entitled "An Emergent Situational and Transactional Theory of Urban Youth Violence."

Dr. Wilkinson also produced an unpublished research report in 2009 entitled "Event Dynamics and the Role of Third Parties in Youth Violence," which was submitted to the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice (Grant #: 2006-IJ-CX-0004. Columbus, Ohio. May 28. 230+ pages). She had a publicly archived dataset in September 2009, "The New York City Youth Violence Study: 1995-1998," which is housed in The National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (Deposit Number: 14370. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium. Funded by U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice. Grant #:2006-IJ-CX-0004). Also, Dr. Wilkinson wrote four transnational policy briefs in the past year. These briefs were entitled "From Research to Practice: Bridging the gaps through Collaboration" and were put out by the Community Safety Institute Knowledge Center (Columbus, Ohio). Lastly, Dr. Wilkinson was awarded several grants during the past year:

- 2010 Principal Investigator, The Columbus Violence Prevention Collaborative (CVPC): Violence Prevention Smart Grid. OSU Office of Outreach and Engagement Impact Grant. OSU. \$50,000; 6/1/10-5/31/11.
- 2010 Principal Investigator, Identifying violent hot spots: Phase II of the Columbus Violence Prevention Collaborative (CVPC). College of Education and Human Ecology seed grant program. OSU. \$25,000; 1/10-12/10.
- 2010 Principal Investigator, Promoting Community Safety and Preventing Violence Conference. The Columbus Foundation. \$10,000; 6/10-8/10.
- 2009 Principal Investigator, Community Safety Knowledge and Resource Center. Ohio Office Criminal Justice Services. RARA JAG. \$25,060; 11/09-12/31/10.

Dorian Wingard (Special Assistant to the Superintendent & CEO for Board Services & Government Affairs - Columbus City Schools)

Mr. Wingard was recently voted in as president of the board of trustees for Columbus Area Inc., the oldest and one of the largest community mental health agencies in central Ohio (FY 2010 budget \$12.4 million). He was also a recipient of the "Forty Under 40" Award from Central Ohio's *Business First* periodical, and became a member of "Who's Who in Black Columbus." Further, Mr. Wingard was appointed as co-chair of the Education Environment Committee, and as a member of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative, the Juvenile Justice Community Planning Initiative, and Executive Committees, all of Franklin County.

Calls for Papers, Conferences, and Opportunities

The 2010 Juvenile Law Symposium at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law will be held on October 14-15, 2010. The theme this year is entitled "Opportunity from Necessity: Innovative Policies and Practices in Ohio During Fiscal Challenges." Budget shortfalls and dwindling resources provide opportunities for creative and innovative approaches to the problems faced by children and their families. This two-day seminar will highlight some innovative practices and policies being implemented in Ohio's juvenile justice and abuse and neglect systems, despite – or perhaps because of – fiscal concerns. Additional topics include case law overviews, 60 minutes of ethics, 60 minutes of professionalism, 30 minutes of substance abuse, and legislative updates. The schedule and list of speakers are now available online for the juvenile law seminar. For more information and to register for the event, please go to:

<http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/jfc/symposia/index.php>

The Bureau of Justice Statistics and the Justice Research and Statistics Association 2010 National Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, Maine from October 28-29, 2010. This year's theme is "Using Statistics and Research to Improve Justice Policies and Practices." The program includes more than 20 panel sessions on topics, including corrections, domestic violence, human trafficking, racial disparity, reentry, research using national incident based reporting system (NIBRS) data sentencing, substance abuse, tribal crime data, and

victimization, as well as plenary discussions on current justice issues. For more information, please go to:

<http://www.irsa.org/events/conference/index.html>

The National Association of Social Workers-Ohio Chapter (NASW-OH) Annual Conference will be held on October 28-29, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency in Columbus, OH. According to the NASW, this conference will be a time where social workers come together to share knowledge and promote social work values, ethics, and principles. Ohio State Senator Capri Cafaro will deliver the Keynote Address entitled "Social Workers as Advocates: Changing Our Communities for the Better" at the 2010 NASW-OH Annual Conference. Those in attendance will learn how social workers can make far-reaching changes in the community by advocating for laws, policies, and practices that promote professional social work values, ethics, and principles.

Whether you are a social worker, instructor, student, administrator, or practitioner, the 2010 NASW-OH Annual Conference has opportunities for you! In addition to the 30 continuing education workshops available to choose from, the conference facilitates networking among professionals and representatives from more than 30 human service organizations. Faculty and students will present social work research. Students are also invited to attend workshops at a reduced rate. They can also become involved donating their time as a volunteer at conference. Administrators and service providers are welcome as sponsors and exhibitors to promote their organizations. For more information, visit naswoh.org, or call NASW-Ohio Chapter at (614) 461-4484.

The Ohio Department of Health Family Planning Program, Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prevention Program and the Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN) are collaborating on a new pilot project addressing at-risk populations in family planning clinics and adolescent health setting about sexual and reproductive coercion. ODVN received a grant from the Family Violence Prevention Fund (<http://www.endabuse.org>) to identify, assess and implement support and referral mechanisms to victims of coercion and violence. The Adolescent Health Clinics are soon to be announced. Four ODH funded family planning agencies have been chosen to participate in this pilot project: KnoHoCo-Ashland Community Action Commission, Wood County Health Department, Public Health of Dayton-Montgomery County and Huron County General Health District.

Clinic staff at the pilot sites will be trained on improving screening techniques of all clients for sexual and reproductive coercion and on referrals of identified victims to resources within their community. Additionally, the pilot project will be strengthening partnerships between the local family planning clinics and the corresponding local domestic violence and sexual violence agencies. For more information contact the ODH Family Planning Program at (614) 466-5332.



Summer Research Institute Class of 2010

Crime and Justice Summer Research Institute: Broadening Perspectives & Participation, held from July 11 – 29, 2011 at The Ohio State University. Faculty pursuing tenure and career success in research intensive institutions, academics transitioning from teaching to research institutions, and faculty members carrying out research in teaching contexts will be interested in this Summer Research Institute. Organized by Lauren J. Krivo and Ruth D. Peterson and funded by the National Science Foundation and Ohio State University, the institute is designed to promote successful research projects and careers among faculty from underrepresented groups working in areas of crime and criminal justice. During the institute, each participant will complete an ongoing project (either a research paper or grant proposal) in preparation for journal submission or agency funding review. In addition, participants will gain information that will serve as a tool-kit tailored to successful navigation of the academic setting. The Summer Research Institute will provide participants with:

- Resources for completing their research projects;
- Senior faculty mentors in their areas of study;
- Opportunities to network with junior and senior scholars;
- Workshops addressing topics related to publishing, professionalization, and career planning;
- Travel expenses to Ohio, housing in a trendy Columbus neighborhood, and living expenses.

The institute will culminate in a research symposium where participants present their completed research before a scholarly audience. **Completed applications must be postmarked by February 11, 2011.** To download the application form, please see our web site: (<http://cjrc.osu.edu/rdcj-n/summerinstitute>)

Eligibility: All applicants must hold regular tenure-track positions in U.S. institutions and demonstrate how their participation broadens participation of underrepresented groups in crime and justice research. Graduate students without tenure track appointments are not eligible for this program. Please direct all inquiries to: kennedy.312@sociology.osu.edu.

Featured Article

Diverse Voices With A Common Purpose: The Spatial Crime Research Working Group

By Amanda Kennedy

How do the places where we live affect our outcomes as individuals and as a society? Do the areas we frequent for routine activities like working, shopping, attending religious services and visiting family or friends also influence our life chances? What are the social repercussions of interactions between individuals from higher and lower socioeconomic statuses in a given neighborhood? These important questions are the “life’s blood” of the Spatial Crime Research Working Group. Since 2005, its members have been collaborating to examine the spatial roots of crime and other problematic behaviors like drug abuse and risky sexual engagement. These issues are all looked at in the context of the relationship between residential and visited neighborhoods and the behavior of individuals, with the goal of producing meaningful research that informs scholars and policymakers alike.

The Spatial Crime Research Working Group’s strength lies in its interdisciplinary approach. This team of thinkers hails from three academic areas: sociology (OSU faculty members Chris Browning and Ruth Peterson, Ph.D. students Aubrey Jackson and Heather Washington, and Rutgers faculty member Laurie Krivo); geography (OSU faculty member Mei-Po Kwan and former Ph.D. student Tim Hawthorne, now a faculty member at Columbus State University in Georgia); and statistics (OSU faculty member Kate Calder and Ph.D. student William Darnieder). Together, they develop theoretical models and novel methodological approaches that highlight community factors which promote or deter social problems.

Through the efforts of these scholars, the Spatial Crime Research Working Group has undertaken three major research projects – "Segregation and Local Crime: An Integrated Spatial Analysis"; "Dynamics of Space and Time Use: Patterns, Causes, and Consequences for Crime and Problem Behaviors"; and "Spatial Patterns of Social Isolation, Youthful Marijuana Use, and Sexual/HIV Risk." The group also values a larger mission of fostering diversity in the academy by providing mentors and relevant, interesting research topics to students from historically underrepresented groups. Thus far, four undergraduate students from diverse backgrounds and from both local and national universities have been trained to undertake studies using complex survey data.

To find out more about the Spatial Crime Research Working Group and its participants, I spoke with members Kate Calder, Aubrey Jackson and Heather Washington. I asked all three what piqued their interest in joining the group. Heather said, "Initially, I was interested in the group's research agenda...I thought that it was interesting that one of the aims of the project was to...examine how social isolation varies across various socio-demographic groups and neighborhood types." Kate explained that she thought the research goals of the group were compelling and important as well, stating, "Even though I have no background in the social sciences, I found the questions the group was tackling to be interesting and recognized the group's potential for making substantive and methodological contributions." Aubrey discussed the draw of the interdisciplinary approach, stating, "I realized that this project would allow me to work with top researchers in different fields."

The participants further discussed how their distinct disciplinary viewpoints each bring an important voice to the group. "I think that sociologists bring a unique way of thinking about the problems that we study by focusing on the way that individuals, institutions, and structures interact to comprise society and influence human behavior," Heather stated. She elaborated on the motivations of sociologists as scholars, explaining that "We are often interested not only in the methodology and the fact that a phenomenon occurred, but we are also interested in *why* we observe the patterns that we find in our research." Aubrey expressed that sociologists effectively link data with the underlying reasons why social patterns occur: "I help connect the concepts of space and context to individual outcomes using sociological theory, such as social disorganization. I also evaluate competing arguments to see what story the data tell us." Kate highlighted how her skills as a statistician

enhance the ways in which participants can measure social problems. "My aim is for my collaborators not to feel limited by the statistical methodology available to them. I try to bring cutting-edge statistical methods to the table and introduce new methods when necessary," she said.

Working with people from multiple disciplines positively influences the group as a whole during the various phases of the research and writing process. Heather said, "It is great to get feedback from scholars from other disciplines concerning a working paper. They usually look at issues through a different lens." Hearing different perspectives has also helped the group's scholars expand their approaches to their own work. Kate explained that the "questions and data that our group has examined have also led me to identify areas in which there is a need for new statistical methodology," while Heather noted that her work in the group had allowed her to learn "methodologies using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to produce activity space measures - this is a skill that I probably would not have learned if I were not working on this project." Aubrey explained how geographers and statisticians informed the project in unique ways. "The geographers introduce us to new ways of thinking about and measuring activity space (i.e. the locations individuals visit in their daily lives). The statisticians tackle the problem of imperfect data and have been developing ways to measure activity space given missing observations."

To date, the group's work has produced a two-day conference and articles in high impact journals. In sum, the cornerstone of the Spatial Crime Research Working Group is its diversity of voices while maintaining the unifying purpose of answering key questions about social problems. Undeniably, their approach is working well.

For more information on the Spatial Crime Research Working Group, please see their website:

<http://cjrc.osu.edu/researchprojects/spatialcrimeworkinggroup.html>.

Thanks to all of you who sent your suggestions and announcements, and to Kate Calder, Aubrey Jackson and Heather Washington for their valuable time and insights. We encourage you to keep us informed about any events that might be of interest to CJRC participants as well as any suggestions that you have for activities or programs. To contact the newsletter editor, please email Amanda Kennedy at kennedy.312@sociology.osu.edu. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please send Amanda your e-mail address.