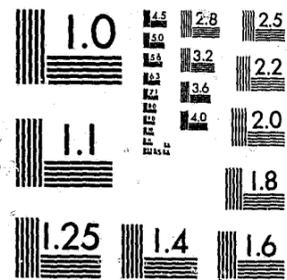


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08/04/82

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT/1979

Criminology Research Council



CRIMINOLOGY RESEARCH COUNCIL

7th Annual Report
1979

U.S. Department of Justice 76245
National Institute of Justice

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Criminology Research Council

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Printed by Union Offset Co. Pty. Ltd., Canberra

ISSN 0311-4481

(ii)

Criminology Research Council,
10-18 Colbee Court,
PHILLIP, A.C.T., 2606.

15 November 1979.

Dear Attorney-General,

I have the honour to submit to you the Seventh Annual Report of the Criminology Research Council for the period ended 30 June 1979.

Yours sincerely,

F. J. Mahony,
Chairman,
Criminology Research Council

Senator the Honourable P. D. Durack,
Attorney-General,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

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Introduction

Since its first meeting on 20 December 1972 the Criminology Research Council has met each quarter with, on most occasions, representatives of all State Governments and the Commonwealth Government being present. The joint Commonwealth-State funding basis for the Council has been supported by all Governments since the Council was established pursuant to Section 34 of the *Criminology Research Act, 1971-73*. The Council is responsible for the control and administration of the Criminology Research Fund and is required to examine and determine the relative importance and urgency of criminological research projects for which moneys from the Fund may be authorised. The Criminology Research Act also established the Australian Institute of Criminology, the staff of which provide professional advice and secretarial and administrative services to the Council.

In the seven years of its operation the Council has provided funds for 59 separate research projects to a total value of approximately \$636,000. Details of projects funded during the year 1978-79, completed during the year, in progress and previously completed are provided in this report. It will be seen that these research projects cover a wide range of subjects. Many are relatively long-term projects but others have been completed in less than one year. They range in cost to the Criminology Research Fund from a few hundred to several thousand dollars. Some have yielded results of immediate practical value while others have concluded with a plea for further research. Some have provoked wide public discussion while others have received little publicity.

These differences in costs, duration, impact and effectiveness of criminological research are being kept under close scrutiny by the Council, and every effort has been made to select research projects of maximum value and relevance to crime prevention and criminal justice in Australia. The Council recognises that there is unavoidably an element of chance in the funding of research as every project is to a greater or lesser extent a step into the unknown.

Compared with the level of funding provided for criminological research in many countries overseas, the Council recognises that its funding program could be realistically described as a 'shoe string operation' but the Council considers that it has received better value for its grants than many other comparable funding agencies. At the same time, the Council takes the view that it could use effectively an annual income of three or four times that which it currently receives. At its present level of funding the Council has been forced to refuse many applications of considerable merit and potential value, and, in a number of cases, has made grants at a significantly lower level than that being sought. At its present level of funding it is impossible for the Council to provide support for, or to initiate, longitudinal studies. The Council expresses the hope that in the near future the economic climate will allow this income to be restored to a more realistic level.

In the year 1978-79 the Council paid particular attention to the draft agenda for the Sixth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders which was to be held in Sydney in late 1980. Where possible funds were provided for research projects which were relevant to this agenda. With the cancellation of Australia's invitation to host the Congress in Sydney there is perhaps less urgency for Australia to develop its attitudes to the agenda items, but the work that has been done will be of great assistance to the Australian delegation that is to attend the Congress at its overseas location.

As in the previous Annual Report of the Council this Report presents a full picture of the work of the Council since its inception in 1972, with summaries of current research and previously completed research being presented together with more detailed information of the Council's work in the year under review. The reports of all completed projects undertaken with Council funds are lodged in the J. V. Barry Memorial Library of the Australian Institute of Criminology, but many have also been

published in the form of books and journal articles. Considered together these completed reports comprise an impressive collection which the Council is confident will continue to grow in both volume and value in the future.

Membership

The Council consists of seven members, one representing the Commonwealth Government and one representing each State Government. Each member is appointed by the Attorney-General of Australia.

The members at the beginning of the year 1978-79 were as follows:

Commonwealth Government	Mr F. J. Mahony, O.B.E. Deputy Secretary Attorney-General's Department
New South Wales	Mr L. K. Downs, I.S.O. Under-Secretary Department of the Attorney-General and of Justice
Victoria	Mr B. D. Bodna Director-General Department of Community Welfare Services
Queensland	Mr F. N. Albietz Executive Officer Legal Division Department of Justice
South Australia	Mr J. D. Claessen Criminologist Attorney-General's Department
Western Australia	Mr R. M. Christie Under-Secretary Crown Law Department
Tasmania	Dr E. Cunningham Dax Former Coordinator in Community Health Mental Health Services Commission

For the first meeting of the year Mr A. L. Barnett, Department of the Attorney-General and of Justice, deputised for Mr L. K. Downs as the New South Wales representative and Miss M. C. Doyle, South Australian Attorney-General's Department, deputised for Mr J. D. Claessen as the South Australian representative. For the second and third meetings of the year Mr K. I. Williams, Department of Community Welfare Services, deputised for Mr B. D. Bodna as the Victorian representative and Miss P. M. Kelly, South Australian Attorney-General's Department, deputised for Mr J. D. Claessen as the South Australian representative. For the fourth meeting of the year Mr P. R. Loof deputised for the Chairman, Mr Mahony.

On 31 October 1978 Mr A. L. Barnett, Assistant Under-Secretary of Justice, Department of the Attorney-General and of Justice, replaced Mr L. K. Downs as the New South Wales representative on the Council. On 11 April 1979 Dr P. N. Grabosky, Director, Office of Crime Statistics, replaced Mr J. D. Claessen as the South Australian representative on the Council.

Criminology Research Fund

The Fund received a total of \$60,000 during the year ended 30 June 1979. The Commonwealth Government contributed \$30,000 and each State made contributions at an agreed level on a pro rata population basis. The actual State contributions were as follows:

New South Wales	\$11,100
Victoria	8,400
Queensland	4,380
South Australia	2,880
Western Australia	2,280
Tasmania	960

Meetings

Four meetings of the Council were held during the year. These were on 23 August 1978, 21 November 1978, 19 February 1979 and 6 June 1979. Three of these meetings were held at the Australian Institute of Criminology, Canberra, and the fourth in Perth.

At the meeting of 21 November 1978 Mr F. J. Mahony was unanimously re-elected to the position of Chairman.

At the meeting of 19 February 1979 the Council elected its three representatives on the Board of Management of the Australian Institute of Criminology. Those elected were Mr R. M. Christie, Mr J. D. Claessen and Mr F. N. Albietz.

Research Projects Funded

The Council awarded research grants to enable the following 13 projects to be undertaken or continued during the course of the year:

- 1. A Pilot Program in Diversion and Prevention of Juvenile Delinquency**—Mr R. J. Norman (on behalf of Darwin & Districts YMCA Youth Clubs). A grant of \$9,600 was made by the Council at its meeting on 23 August 1978. Mr Norman has subsequently left his position as Executive Director of the Darwin & Districts YMCA and this project is now under the control of his successor, Mr Adrian Harris. This project aims to evaluate the effectiveness of a recreational program for culturally deprived youths who have been identified through selected high schools on the basis of truancy, school performance and behaviour, parental support, police and juvenile court records. The experimental design incorporates comparisons with a control group to whom the recreational program has not been offered at this time.
- 2. A Cross-Cultural Analysis of the Police Occupational Role**—Mr K. L. Milte, Senior Lecturer, Criminology Department, University of Melbourne. At its meeting on 23 August 1978 the Council made a grant of \$14,000 for this research to be undertaken. The research aims to complete

the analysis and writing up of an extensive research project concerning the policeman's occupational role based on a questionnaire survey administered to all police in South Australia, Victoria and a sample of police in the United States.

3. **Police Training and Social Interaction**—Dr G. M. McGrath, Lecturer, Centre for Educational Studies, University of New England. The Council at its meeting on 23 August 1978 made a grant of \$4,262 for the first year of this project. With the approval and support of the Premier of New South Wales this project, through the intensive interviewing and observation of police recruits in training, aims to assess the impact of joining the police force on the trainees' social relationships with their friends and families. It is therefore a study of the socialisation process within police forces and aims to provide information which could be used in reducing social isolation and alienation of police.
4. **Crime and Architectural Design in Brisbane**—Dr G. F. DeGruchy, Reader, Department of Architecture, University of Queensland. At its meeting on 23 August 1978 the Council made a grant of \$11,500 for this research to be undertaken. Following the work of Oscar Newman in the United States, this project is essentially a detailed analysis of architectural and design aspects of selected commercial centres in the suburbs of Brisbane. Data on the incidence of breaking and entering and vandalism are being collected by interviewing shopkeepers and lessees of commercial premises with a view to establishing the relationship between architectural features and these two categories of crime. The results are expected to be of particular interest to architects and planners.
5. **An Econometric Technique for Estimating True Criminal Offence Rates**—Dr J. C. Baldry, Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of New England, and Dr D. S. Prasada Rao, Lecturer, Department of Economic Statistics, University of New England. At its meeting on 23 August 1978 the Council made a grant of \$7,885 for this project, and at its meeting on 21 November 1978 the Council approved an additional grant of \$286 which represented a mandatory salary increase for the part-time research assistant engaged on the project. This project aims to develop and test a statistical technique for estimating 'true' criminal offence rates from officially recorded rates and from other data. If successful, this technique will inexpensively supplement the findings of the more costly crime victims surveys.
6. **Aboriginal Adolescent Offenders Study**—Dr R. D. Morice, Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, Flinders University of South Australia. A grant of \$10,291 was approved by the Council for this project at its meeting on 19 February 1979. The objectives of this project are to:
 - Identify significant psychosocial and cultural variables which distinguish between offenders and non-offenders in the Aboriginal adolescent population at Yalata;
 - Identify significant psychosocial variables which constitute causal or contributory factors in the development of offence behaviour;
 - Identify variables of strong predictive value in identifying those Aboriginal adolescents at risk regarding future offence behaviour;
 - test the feasibility and efficacy of adopting a 'problem-posing' approach to criminal behavioural problems in an Aboriginal community.
7. **Mental Retardation and Stealing**—Dr M. S. Jackson, Reader in Special Education, University of Tasmania, and Mr A. T. Haines, Part-time Lecturer, Faculty of Education, University of Tasmania. At its meeting on 19 February 1979 the Council made a grant of \$6,908 for this project. Using an experimental design this project aims to assess the effectiveness of a structure program designed to reduce the temptation to steal among educable mentally retarded children in the age range 12 to 16 years.

8. **Victorian Sentencing Law**—Mr R. G. Fox, Reader, Faculty of Law, Monash University, and Mr A. Freiberg, Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Monash University. A grant of \$12,439 was approved by the Council for this project at its meeting on 19 February 1979. This project aims to describe and analyse the law governing sentencing in Victoria and will make use of legislation, case reports and other relevant materials. The results will be published in the form of a book. This work complements the research into sentencing that has been conducted within the Australian Institute of Criminology in relation to other jurisdictions.
9. **Outreach Work Evaluation Project**—Mr H. Van Moorst, Lecturer in Sociology, Humanities Department, Footscray Institute of Technology. At its meeting on 19 February 1979 the Council made a grant of \$14,740 for this project. Outreach is a form of preventive youth work which aims to help delinquent and pre-delinquent youth avoid becoming enmeshed in the criminal justice system. This research project is designed to evaluate the effectiveness of a number of Outreach programs using interviews, self-reported offences, truancy and recidivism as the basis for the evaluation.
10. **Women Charged and Convicted of Homicide Offences in New South Wales**—Mrs R. A. Omodei, Tutor and Post-Graduate Research Student, Department of Social Work, University of Sydney. A grant of \$7,274 was approved by the Council for this project at its meeting on 19 February 1979. This is a pilot study of murder, manslaughter and infanticide. The research will analyse data regarding the social and legal factors relevant to the crime, the court proceedings and the conditions under which the sentence is being served. This study will ascertain the degree of awareness of these offenders of their legal rights, the appropriateness of the penalties imposed and the legal status of those women in custody at the Governor's Pleasure.
11. **Perspectives of Juvenile Defendants on the Children's Court in Kalgoorlie and Kambalda**—Mr K. A. Maine, Director, Department for Community Welfare, Western Australia. The Council at its meeting of 6 June 1979 made a grant of \$9,100 for this project. The aim of this project is to describe, and account for the perspectives of juvenile defendants in the Children's Court in Kalgoorlie and Kambalda. Both observational and interview methods will be used, and the results of the study will be compared with similar research that has been conducted in the Children's Court in Perth.
12. **Public Attitudes to Various Types of Criminal Behaviour**—Dr A. A. Landauer, Senior Lecturer, Department of Psychology, University of Western Australia, and Dr D. A. Pocock, Forensic Pathologist, Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre, Perth. This project was originally funded in the year 1977-78 and an additional grant of \$2,177 was made by the Council at its meeting on 6 June 1979 for its final stage.
13. **A Study of the Principles of Sentencing as Enunciated by South Australian Appellate Courts**—Mrs M. W. Treacher (formerly Miss M. W. Dauntou-Fear), former head of the Legal Affairs Section, Australian Institute of Criminology, Canberra. This project was originally funded in the year 1975-76 and an additional grant of up to \$900 was made by the Council for this project on 6 June 1979. This amount will be used to subsidise the publication of the book which resulted from this project.

Research Reports Received

1. **Person Perception and Behaviour Patterns of Young Female Offenders**—Ms Patrice Cooke, Institute of Human Development, Western Australia. The report of this research of 200 pages incorporates the detailed results of the psychological assessment of 67 delinquent and

56 non-delinquent adolescent girls. The main aim of the research was to explore the use of a non-metric multidimensional scaling technique to uncover the principal dimensions used by female adolescent offenders to structure their 'person world', and to investigate the usefulness of this technique in providing an instrument for differential diagnosis within the adolescent group and a means of measuring change through treatment. Significant differences were found between delinquent and non-delinquent girls, and the intensive treatment program applying these results to delinquent girls produced the remarkably low recidivism rate of 2.5 per cent.

2. **Evaluation of S.O.F.T.L.Y. (The Social Options for Teenagers Like You) Program**—Mr K. A. Maine, Director, Department for Community Welfare, Western Australia. This peer group activities program for delinquent and pre-delinquent youths aimed to stimulate the acquisition of social skills and culturally acceptable behaviour. The specific aims were to: develop socially relevant skills, develop an awareness of options, teach skills to create further options, teach decision-making, planning and organisational skills, and reduce recidivism. The program was conducted with groups of from five to eight adolescents working with one adult.

The evaluation was conducted by comparing 39 participants who completed the program with a matched group of similar size. Pre and post tests were used to measure personal and social attributes as well as levels of criminal behaviour. The evaluation showed that the program was enjoyable to participants and, while it was operating, led to marginally lower levels of anti-social behaviour. However, it was also shown that higher rates of recidivism followed the completion of the program compared with the rates of those youths to whom the program was not offered. For this reason the program has been discontinued.

3. **An Evaluation of the Suspended Sentence in South Australia**—Department of Correctional Services, South Australia. To undertake this research, which was recommended by the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee of South Australia in its First Report, the Department of Correctional Services employed Ms C. E. Dengate as a temporary research officer. Ms Dengate produced a report of 192 pages entitled *The Use of Suspended Sentences in South Australia* together with a shorter summary. The report showed that since the power to suspend prison sentences was given to the courts in South Australia in 1969 nearly 3,000 suspended sentences had been imposed up to and including the year 1975-76. Records of 915 of these cases, all of which incorporated supervision orders, were analysed for the purpose of the research. The majority of the offences for which suspended sentences were imposed were against property, with 48.6 of the sample being convicted for theft or breaking and entering, smaller proportions of the sample were convicted for assault, false pretences, drink-driving and drug offences, with occasional cases of manslaughter, rape, carnal knowledge and robbery being found. The report discussed the difficulties of determining 'success rates' in relation to suspended sentences, and cited data relating to a sub-sample of 270 cases of which 120 had apparently completed the suspension period without difficulty, while for the remainder a variety of factors had complicated the situation. Some had been imprisoned for the non-payment of fines for other offences, a few had died and for some, breach proceedings had been initiated or considered during or after the suspension period. Others had lost contact with the supervising probation officer. This study was primarily focused on the legal and administration aspects of the operation of suspended sentences in South Australia and therefore cannot be held to have evaluated the effectiveness of this disposition.

4. **Social and Personal Impact of Pornography**—Dr J. H. Court, Senior Lecturer in Psychology, School of Social Sciences, Flinders University of South Australia. The final report of this research describes an attempt to obtain evidence from persons convicted of sex offences with regard to their prior involvement with pornography. The pitfalls and problems involved are de-

scribed in the context of previous research reports which have also tried to do this. As background to this research, evidence was gathered of well publicised examples of links between exposure to media experiences and subsequent involvement in sex-related offences. Difficulties in drawing conclusions from such sources are noted. The report summarises the research evidence on the link between sex and aggression and further lines of study on this subject are proposed.

5. **The Welfare Role of the Police with Respect to Family Problems**—Mrs L. E. Foreman, Lecturer, Criminology Department, University of Melbourne. An interim report of 55 pages entitled *At The Crossroads? The Functions of Policewomen in Victoria* was submitted to the Council in October 1978. This report explored:
- the nature and extent of the 'traditional welfare role';
 - the incidence and characteristics of children, women, families and others coming into contact with policewomen; and
 - the relationships between policewomen, statutory and non-statutory social welfare agencies.
- Summaries of the findings from a survey of police work were given and discussed in the light of possible changes to the role and function of policewomen in Victoria.
6. **Evaluation of the Western Australian Prison System**—Dr J. E. Thomas, Deputy Director, Department of Adult Education, The University of Nottingham. This project was completed in 1976 as far as expenditure of the grant from the Council was concerned. During the year under review, however, the book *Imprisonment in Western Australia: Evolution, Theory and Practice* by J. E. Thomas and Alex Stewart was published by the University of Western Australia Press. This book, which has received favourable reviews, is the main product of this grant. The book examines how the Western Australian prison system evolved, how it relates to a changing and expanding society, and analyses the historical forces that created the system as it stands today. It is expected that the book will be widely used by students of history, law and criminology.

Research in Progress

In addition to the research projects listed earlier in this report, the following projects are in progress:

- Multi-Problem Families**—Dr E. Cunningham Dax, former Coordinator in Community Health, Tasmania. Published papers which have resulted from this project to date are:
 - 'The Criminal and Social Aspects of Families with a Multiplicity of Problems', Lynn Davies and E. Cunningham Dax, *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, Vol. 7, No. 4, Dec. 1974.
 - 'The Police and the Less Intelligent Driver', Lorinne Boyce and E. Cunningham Dax, *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology*, Vol. 10, No. 5-16, Mar. 1977.
 - 'The Driving Records of Multiproblem Families', Rona Hagger and E. Cunningham Dax, *Social Science and Medicine*, Vol. 11, 1977.
 - 'Multiproblem Families and Their Psychiatric Significance', E. Cunningham Dax and Rona Hagger, *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, Vol. 11, 1977.
 - 'The Problem Family and Community Medicine', E. Cunningham Dax and Rona Hagger, *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Medicine*, Vol. 8, 1978.
 - 'The Psychiatry of Inadequacy: A Review', E. Cunningham Dax, Rona Hagger and G. W. Ternowetsky, *Ethics in Science & Medicine*, Vol. 5, 1978.

2. **A Survey of Juvenile Offenders, Queensland**—Mr A. Eakin, Research Officer, Department of Children's Services, Queensland, and Mr L. Reilly, Lecturer, Social Work Department, University of Queensland.
3. **Gun Ownership in Australia**—Associate Professor R. Harding, Law School, University of Western Australia, and Associate Professor G. Hawkins, Institute of Criminology, University of Sydney. Published papers which have resulted from this project to date are:
'Firearms Ownership and Accidental Misuse in Western Australia', *University of Western Australia Law Review*, Vol. 12, 1975-76.
'Firearms Ownership and Accidental Misuse in South Australia', *Adelaide Law Review*, Vol. 6, No. 2, 1978.
4. **Prison Administration in New South Wales**—Miss M. Sernack, Ph.D. student, Department of Government, University of Sydney.
5. **Crime and Penal Strategy in Australia**—Messrs P. Ward and G. Woods, Senior Lecturers, Institute of Criminology, University of Sydney.
6. **Spatial Analysis of Juvenile Offending in the Brisbane Metropolitan Area**—Mr V. L. Bartlett, Lecturer, Department of Education, University of Queensland. A report of the first phase of this project was submitted to the Council in November 1976.
7. **Psychological, Social and Biological Origins and Control of Aggressive and Violent Behaviour**—Dr T. Vinson, Chairman, Corrective Services Commission, New South Wales, and Dr W. Hemphill, Principal Adviser, Maternal and Child Health, Health Commission of New South Wales.
8. **Evaluation of Community Treatment Programs for Delinquent Youths in Victoria**—Messrs J. Martin, J. Murray and J. M. Olijnyk, Department of Community Welfare Services, Victoria.
9. **The Use and Form of Psychiatric Reports in Sentencing**—Mrs C. A. Warner, former Tutor, Faculty of Law, University of Tasmania.
10. **Sentencing in the Lower Courts: A Statistical Analysis**—Mr R. J. Homel, Lecturer, School of Behavioural Sciences, Macquarie University, New South Wales.
11. **A Manpower Analysis of Police Recruitment and Retention**—Dr Glenn A. Withers, Research Fellow, Department of Economics, Australian National University, Canberra.
12. **Evaluation of Jesuit Post-Release Youth Hostel**—Reverend Father P. J. Norden, S. J., Manresa People's Centre, Victoria.
13. **Patterns of Leadership in Penal Institutions**—Mr F. D. Hayes, Director, School of Social Work, The Milperra College of Advanced Education, New South Wales.
14. **Avoiding Delay in Magistrates' Courts**—Mr E. Sikk, Magistrate, Attorney-General's Department, Tasmania.
15. **School Programs to Reduce Delinquent Behaviour**—Ms Leonie Marnier (formerly Ms Leonie Emery), Research Officer, Research and Planning Branch, Department of Education, South Australia.
16. **Recidivist Prisoners and Their Families**—Dr K. M. Koller, former Medical Commissioner, Mental Health Services Commission, Tasmania.

17. **Criminal Law in the Bedroom: A Study of the South Australian 'Rape in Marriage' Legislation**—Dr D. Chappell, Commissioner, The Australian Law Reform Commission, and Mr P. A. Sallmann, Lecturer, Department of Legal Studies, La Trobe University, Victoria.
18. **Forensic Implications of the Development of Maggots in Cadavers**—Professor T. O. Browning, Waite Professor of Entomology, Waite Agricultural Research Institute, South Australia.
19. **Evaluation of the Honorary Probation Officer Service in Victoria**—Professor R. F. Henderson on behalf of the Volunteer Resource Centre of the Victorian Council of Social Service.
20. **The Development of a Quantitative Index of the Fear of Crime**—Mr R. W. Whitrod, former Visiting Fellow, Department of Sociology, Australian National University, Canberra.
21. **The Identification of Petroleum Residues in Arsons**—Dr F. A. Bull, Senior Research Officer, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Melbourne, and Mr P. J. Thatcher, Forensic Scientist, Norman McCallum Forensic Science Laboratory, Victoria.
22. **Recidivism Rates of Violent Offenders**—Department of Community Welfare Services, Victoria.

Previously Completed Research Projects

1. **Delinquency in Planned Urban Areas**—Dr P. R. Wilson, Reader in Sociology, University of Queensland.
2. **A Survey of Juvenile Offenders, Victoria**—Mr D. Challinger, Lecturer, Criminology Department, University of Melbourne.
3. **A Survey of Juvenile Offenders, South Australia**—Mr G. Bruff, Acting Director-General of Community Welfare, South Australia.
4. **Institutional Staff Training Procedures**—Mr R. Sanson-Fisher, Clinical Psychologist/Superintendent, Nyandi Treatment and Research Centre for Adolescents, Western Australia.
5. **Migrant Crime in Australia**—Mr R. Francis, Senior Lecturer in Psychology, La Trobe University, Victoria, and Mr A. Cassell, Research Assistant, School of Behavioural Sciences, Macquarie University, New South Wales.
6. **Evaluation of the Tasmanian Work Order Scheme**—Mr J. G. Mackay, Principal, Probation and Parole Service, Attorney-General's Department, Tasmania.
7. **The Children's Court Hearing**—Mr D. Challinger, Lecturer, Criminology Department, University of Melbourne.
8. **A Study of Community-Based Treatment for Young Offenders**—Mr R. Sanson-Fisher, Lecturer, Department of Psychiatry, Perth Medical Centre, University of Western Australia.
9. **Crime and the Hobart Bridge Disaster**—Mr E. V. Knowles, Commissioner of Police, Tasmania.
10. **Behavioural Effects of Three Simulated Prison Environments**—Professor S. H. Lovibond, Head, School of Psychology, The University of New South Wales.

11. **Robbery Prevention and Detection Study**—Director of New South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.
12. **Crime and Police in Port Moresby**—Mr M. L. Mackellar, Magistrate of the District Court, Papua New Guinea.
13. **Young Offenders in Victoria**—Mr D. Challinger, Lecturer, Criminology Department, University of Melbourne.
14. **Police Stress**—Ms M. J. Davidson and Dr A. Veno, Psychology Department, University of Queensland.
15. **The Effects of Role Reversal in a Simulated Prison Experiment**—Professor S. H. Lovibond, Head, School of Psychology, The University of New South Wales.
16. **Sexually Explicit Materials and Serious Crime**—Dr J. H. Court, Senior Lecturer in Psychology, School of Social Sciences, Flinders University of South Australia.
17. **Evaluation of Civil Rehabilitation Committees of New South Wales**—Mr E. C. Slatter, former President, Civil Rehabilitation Committee. Terminated 1978.
18. **Evaluation of Driver Improvement and Rehabilitation Scheme**—Mr M. F. Farquhar, Chairman of the Bench of Stipendiary Magistrates of New South Wales. Terminated 1978.

Council Policy

As indicated earlier in this report the Council made research grants for 11 new projects during the year. Four of these were concerned with various aspects of criminal behaviour, two with policing and two with court procedures. The Council has thus continued to apply its policy of endeavouring to cover all aspects of crime and the administration of justice in Australia rather than to concentrate its efforts in restricted areas. Of the total of 59 grants made by the Council since its establishment, and using a classification system developed for the Council, five have been concerned with community attitudes, one with criminal law, 23 with criminal behaviour, seven with policing, seven with the courts and 16 with corrections. There is therefore an imbalance in favour of research dealing with criminal behaviour and corrections, but this is not as marked as it was in previous years.

An analysis of the location of Council projects and the geographical distribution of funds compared with the sources of Council funding shows that all States have received more from the Council than they have contributed, but there is considerable variation between States in this regard. Thirteen projects have been located in New South Wales, fourteen in Victoria, five in Queensland, eight in South Australia, eight in Western Australia, seven in Tasmania, one in the Northern Territory, two in the Australian Capital Territory and one in Papua New Guinea. Most of these projects have been of an intensive, local or regional nature and therefore complement the research undertaken by the Australian Institute of Criminology which is generally national and comparative in nature.

During the year greater effort has been made to integrate Council-funded research with Institute research by appointing Institute research staff as advisers or liaison officers to Council-funded projects where this has been appropriate. In all cases Council grantees have expressed appreciation of the advice and assistance they have received from Institute staff. In a further effort to improve communication and provide assistance to Council-funded researchers the Institute conducted an intensive seminar for persons undertaking criminological research in February 1978. This was at-

tended by many Council grantees as well as the Institute research staff and proved highly successful in facilitating an exchange of views on methodological issues. If Institute funds permit, this seminar will become an annual event.

The Council has continued to review the areas in which criminological research is needed in Australia and has been assisted by the Institute in this task. Some of the areas previously identified as needing research, such as crime among Aborigines and the relationship between architecture and crime, have received Council funding during the year. Papers reviewing other areas of research have been prepared for the Council by Institute staff. The limited funds available to the Council, however, have prevented it from pursuing a pro-active policy by soliciting research in the areas of need that have been identified. If this were possible the Council would be interested in encouraging research into the operation of probation and parole systems, court administration and the jury system, and the evaluation of crime prevention and correctional programs.

The income to the Criminology Research Fund for 1978-79 from the Governments of the Commonwealth and the States was held at the same level as for the previous year. When the effects of inflation are taken into account, this has resulted in a significant reduction in the funds available. As stated earlier in this report the Council expresses the hope that in the near future the economic climate will allow a more realistic level of funding to be provided for it.

Appreciation

The Council wishes to express its appreciation to the Director of the Australian Institute of Criminology, Mr W. Clifford, for his cooperation and assistance. The Council has also been greatly assisted in its work by Mr D. Biles, Assistant Director (Research), who is the Institute's Adviser to the Council.

The Council also records its appreciation of the administrative and secretarial services provided to it by the staff of the Australian Institute of Criminology.

Auditor-General's Office
Canberra City, A.C.T. 2601

30 October 1979

The Honourable the Attorney-General,
Parliament House,
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

Dear Sir,

The Criminology Research Council

In compliance with section 43(2) of the Criminology Research Act 1971 the Criminology Research Council has submitted for my report its financial statements for the year ended 30 June 1979 comprising a statement of receipts and payments and a statement of assets. A copy of the Statements which are in the form approved by the Minister for Finance under section 43(1) of the Act is attached for your information.

In terms of section 43(2) of the Act I report that the Statements are in agreement with the accounts and records of the Council and in my opinion—

- (a) the statements are based on proper accounts and records; and
- (b) the receipt, expenditure and investment of moneys, and the acquisition and disposal of assets, by the Council during the year have been in accordance with the Act.

Yours faithfully,

D. R. Steele Craik,
Auditor-General

END