



Premiere Issue

The NIJ Research Review

Volume 1, Issue 1

March 2000

Director's Corner

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is always seeking new and innovative ways of meeting the research needs of the criminal justice community. We realize that it is of utmost importance for you to receive such information as soon as possible. As a result, we have developed the NIJ Research Review to provide you with information about recently completed NIJ-supported research projects in a timely and efficient manner.

The NIJ Research Review, which will be published every 3 months, contains short summaries of significant research findings and a listing of other recently completed projects. In addition, a Web address is provided for easy electronic access to the full abstract of each project. Information on upcoming conferences and other significant events is also included.

I am sure that along with the other publications, the NIJ Research Review will prove to be an invaluable criminal justice information tool.

Jeremy Travis

Selected Summaries

This section contains short summaries of significant research findings from recently completed NIJ-funded projects. At the end of each project title and summary, there is a URL address to point readers to the Web location for the full report abstract. Copies of the full research report are available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service by calling 800-851-3420.

Controlling Drugs and Social Disorder Using Civil Remedies: Final Report of a Randomized Field Experiment in Oakland, California,

L.G. Mazerolle et al. Fairly simple and expedient civil remedies applied by police officers, with backing from municipal agencies, effectively reduced drug problems in the short run. Directed against the owners or managers of blighted properties, interventions included police warnings of legal consequences if problems were not remedied and threats by city inspectors for code violation citations. The result of these and similar coercive pressures applied by the police had the positive effect of reclaiming properties from drug dealers. Grant 95-IJ-CX-0039; NCJ 179280. More information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/01.html or in NIJ's Research in Brief titled *Controlling Drug and Disorder Problems: Oakland's Beat Health Program* at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/pubs-sum/175051.htm>.

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Improved Analysis of DNA Short Tandem Repeats With Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometry,

J.M. Butler et al. This study found that time-of-flight mass spectrometry provided a rapid, cost-effective alternative for genotyping large numbers of DNA samples. Researchers found that, due to the increased accuracy of mass spectrometry, short tandem repeat alleles may be reliably typed within a few seconds without comparison to allelic ladders. Therefore, mass spectrometry holds significant promise as a technology for high-throughput DNA processing that will be valuable for large-scale DNA database work. Grant 97-LB-VX-0003; NCJ 179419. More information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/02.html.

Safe and Smart: Making the After-School Hours Work for Kids,

J. Pederson et al. This study provides empirical evidence and anecdotal illustrations of the success that properly structured afterschool activities can have for latchkey children. The report identifies the key components of effective program practices. It showcases exemplary afterschool and extended learning models and describes how they reduce juvenile crime and improve students' school work. Grant 93-IJ-CX-0043; NCJ 179991. More information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/03.html.

Research in Brief

Choosing Punishments: Crime Control Effects of Sentences,

D.M. Gottfredson. Begun more than 20 years ago in collaboration with the judges of New Jersey's Essex County Court, this research project has found little justification for differences in sentencing from a crime control perspective. While incarceration served the crime control purpose of incapacitation, the study concluded that confinement or increased jail time had no discernible rehabilitative or deterrent value. Furthermore, no evidence could be found to support the belief that adding jail time to a probation sentence had any specific deterrent effect. The study did not investigate whether imposed sentences were deserved or fair, nor did it investigate effects of general deterrence. Grants 82-IJ-CX-0054 and 95-IJ-CX-0118; NCJ 179278. More information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/04.html or in NIJ's Research in Brief titled *Effects of Judges' Sentencing Decisions on Criminal Careers* at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/pubs-sum/178889.htm>.

The Influence of Alcohol and Drugs on Women's Utilization of the Police for Domestic Violence,

I.W. Hutchison. The study's findings confirmed and supported previous research indicating that substance use by male abusers is the most consistent predictor of women calling the police in cases of domestic violence. Other precipitating factors included frequency of threats to the victim, hitting the victim, and race. The study concluded that offender intoxication, rather than the absolute quantity or frequency of alcohol consumption, escalates police utilization by abused women, while substance use by victims has virtually no impact on police utilization. Grant 97-IJ-CX-0047; NCJ 179277. More information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/05.html.

The Development of a Spatial Analysis Toolkit for Use in a Metropolitan Crime Incident Geographic Information System,

N. Levine. *CrimeStat* (Version 1.0) is a Windows-based Spatial Statistics program designed to operate with large crime incident datasets collected by metropolitan police departments. It provides descriptions of the locations where crime incidents occur, thereby enabling police forces to assign officers to "hot spots." It allows for a quantitative analysis of crime patterns over time, but it is not a standard statistical package aimed at modeling correlates or determinants of crime incidents, nor can it be used as a predictor of crime locations. Grant 97-IJ-CX-0040; NCJ 179282. More information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/06.html.

Extent and Nature of the Sexual Victimization of College Women: A National-Level Analysis,

B.S. Fisher et al. This 6-month study of the sexual victimization of young women on college campuses used national-level samples to measure the incidence of various types of sexual assault. Researchers found that 1.7 percent of the sampled college women experienced a completed rape; the corresponding figure for attempted rape was 1.1 percent. Fifteen percent of the women reported at least 1 of the 12 types of victimization measured by the survey, with 13.1 percent indicating that they had been stalked. The majority of assaults were committed by single offenders who knew the victims. Included among the factors that increased the risk of being victimized were frequent alcohol intake to the point of drunkenness, prior sexual victimization, and living on campus. Grant 95-WT-NX-0001; NCJ 179977. More information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/07.html.

Final Outcomes of Project ROAR: A Discussion of Findings and Implications for Future Research,

Q.C. Thurman et al. Tenants of Spokane's largest public housing unit, along with local business owners, the police department, and the housing authority, developed a program of drug crime prevention known as Project ROAR. The program resulted in high participation rates among local residents in activities designed to promote citizen cohesion and safety, reductions in drug sale arrests in the experimental area, improvements in the physical environment immediately surrounding the housing complex, and substantial reductions in the fear of criminal victimization among public housing residents. ROAR also encouraged community mobilization in adjacent neighborhoods, enhanced the sense of ownership among legitimate area residents, attracted legitimate nonresidents, and discouraged illegal activities. Grants 93-IJ-CX-0054 and 96-IJ-CX-0074; NCJ 179978. More information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/08.html.

Problem-Oriented Policing in Public Housing: Final Report of the Jersey City Project,

L.G. Mazerolle et al. This evaluation of a problem-oriented policing program implemented in six crime-ridden public housing sites challenges the view that public housing sites are bastions of program resistance. Policing activities, implemented by site teams composed of police, public housing officers, and social liaison officers, sharply reduced calls for assistance with interpersonal, property, and vehicle problems, but not those related to drug and disorder problems. Grant 94-IJ-CX-0063; NCJ 179985.

These summaries do not contain sufficient information to adequately assess the significance of the findings as stated here. The full report provides greater detail, including information on the research design, data analyses, and study limitations.

More information can be found at:
http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/09.html.

Beyond Arrest: The Portland, Oregon, Domestic Violence Experiment—Final Report,

A. Jolin et al. This study attempted to determine if police-initiated interventions, as part of a coordinated community response system, would reduce domestic violence. Increasing the prosecution of batterers and thereby reducing the risk of renewed violence for their victims proved to be a successful strategy. Cases with Domestic Violence Reduction Unit treatment resulted in more batterers being prosecuted, convicted, and sentenced than control group batterers. Treatment group victims, who tended to receive additional police services after their batterers' arrests, were also less apt to suffer repeat violence. Grant 95-IJ-CX-0054; NCJ 179968. More information can be found at:
http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/10.html.

Sex Offender Community Notification: Assessing the Impact in Wisconsin,

R. Zevitz et al. An assessment based on a statewide survey of law enforcement agencies found that community notification of a sex offender's reentry into society was being used as the legislative policymakers had intended. While law enforcement's primary goal is protection of the community, it is also charged with locating housing and helping to settle the offender. However, involving the public in a collateral network meant to oversee the behavior of released sex offenders is a costly endeavor,

The *NIJ Research Review* is prepared by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the research, evaluation, and development bureau of the U.S. Department of Justice. The *NIJ Research Review* contains short summaries of reports resulting from grants funded by NIJ, additional abstract titles, and notices of upcoming events.

particularly for law enforcement in terms of personnel, time, and budgetary resources. Grant 98-IJ-CX-0015; NCJ 179992. More information can be found at:
http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/11.html.

Meeting the Needs of Racine Citizens: Evaluation of a Community Policing Project,

H. Rosenberg et al. This project found that citizens in policed areas felt their neighborhoods had stabilized and become safer places to live. Results indicated that these policed areas of the city were also subject to a number of other concurrent social and crime prevention programs that may have contributed to the marked crime reduction experienced. Nevertheless, community leaders were overwhelmingly supportive of the effort, crediting it with crime reduction, although patrol officers' attitudes toward community policing remained neutral at best. Grant 96-IJ-CX-0093; NCJ 179983. More information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/12.html.

Justice in Indian Country: A Process Evaluation of the U.S. Department of Justice Indian Country Justice Initiative

(Videotape), C.C. Lujan et al. In 1995, U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno issued an order creating the Indian Country Justice Initiative to improve safety and the quality of life on Indian reservations. It came in response to complaints that the Federal Government was not responsive to Indian law enforcement concerns and that coordination between Federal, State, and local reservation police authorities was lacking. The initiative allows tribes to restructure existing Justice Department programs and/or formulate new ones to address specific needs of their communities. Interviews conducted with Indians and other government personnel involved with two reservations noted the need to find agency people willing to live on reservations and become part of the community to better understand it, the need for greater community participation in the program, and the need

to find community remedies to youth crime. Grant 96-IJ-CX-0097; NCJ 179987. This videotape is available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service at 800-851-3240, P.O. Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20849-6000. The cost is \$19 in the United States and \$24 in Canada and other countries. Please refer to NCJ 179987 when ordering.

Police Response to Emotionally Disturbed Persons: Analyzing New Models of Police Interactions With the Mental Health System,

H.J. Steadman et al. Findings revealed that innovative prebooking diversion programs are promising in preventing detention of emotionally disturbed persons in local jails. Prebooking diversion programs in Birmingham, Alabama, and Memphis and Knoxville, Tennessee, found that they helped keep mentally ill people out of jail and facilitated access to treatment in the community. Across all three cities, only 6.7 percent of "mental disturbance" calls resulted in arrests, an outcome attributed to intervention training given to local police officers. Grant 96-IJ-CX-0082; NCJ 179984. More information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/13.html.

Other Research Projects

This section contains a listing of other recently completed NIJ-funded research projects.

- *Field Evaluation of the ShotSpotter Gunshot Location System: Final Report on the Redwood City Field Trial*, L.G. Mazerolle et al. Grant 96-MU-MU-0018; NCJ 180112. Information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/14.html.
- *Evaluation of the Florida Department of Corrections Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) for State Prisoners*

Program—Final Technical Report, C.A. McNeece. Grant 97-RT-VX-K007; NCJ 180107. Information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/15.html.

- *Field Evaluation of the System for the Effective Control of Urban Environment Security (SECURES): Final Report on the Dallas Field Trial*, L.G. Mazerolle et al. Grant 96-MU-MU-0018; NCJ 180113. Information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/16.html.
- *Collaborative Evaluation of Pennsylvania's Program for Drug-Involved Parole Violators*, D. Young et al. Grant 98-RT-VX-K002; NCJ 180165. Information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/17.html.
- *Review of Specialized Family Drug Courts: Key Issues Handling Child Abuse and Neglect Cases*, A. Harrell et al. Grant 97-IJ-CX-0013; NCJ 179281.

Information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/18.html.

- *Correctional Program Assessment Inventory: Conducted on Barrett Juvenile Correctional Center*, A. Stichman. Grant 97-RT-VX-K020; NCJ 178738. Information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/19.html.
- *Prison-Based Treatment Assessment (PTA): Final Activity Report*, K. Knight et al. Grant 96-IJ-CX-0024; NCJ 179418. Information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/20.html.
- *Process Evaluation of the Genesis Program at the Southern New Mexico Correctional*

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Facility, P. Guerin et al. Grant 1997-RT-VX-K002; NCJ 179986. Information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/21.html.

- *Profiling the Needs of Young Female Offenders: A Protocol and Pilot Study*, B. Owen et al. Grant 95-IJ-CX-0098; NCJ 179988. Information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/22.html.
- *Evaluation of a Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence: The Alexandria Domestic Violence Intervention Project*, S.J. Orchowsky. Grant 95-WT-NX-0004; NCJ 179974. Information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/23.html.
- *Implementing Community Policing in Public Housing: Philadelphia's 11th Street Corridor Program—Final Report*, P. Collins et al. Grant 95-IJ-CX-0041; NCJ 179980. Information can be found at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/24.html.

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- *NCJRS Catalog*. Everyone who is registered with NCJRS will continue to receive the *NCJRS Catalog*.
- *NIJ Research Review*. The new *NIJ Research Review* contains summaries of recent research findings. It will be published every 3 months. Everyone who is registered with NCJRS will receive this initial issue by mail. An online version that will link you to complete research abstracts is available at <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/rr/>. If you would like to receive electronic announcements of future *NIJ Research Review* issues—rather than print copies—go to <http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/subscribe>.

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NIJ in the Journals

- *Are Arrest Statistics a Valid Measure of Illicit Drug Use? The Relationship Between Criminal Justice and Public Health Indicators of Cocaine, Heroin, and Marijuana Use* (Grant 3-8050-MO-IJ; NCJ 178780), R. Rosenfeld et al. 15 pp. From *Justice Quarterly* Vol. 16, No. 3, September 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/25.html.
- *Childhood Victimization, Running Away, and Delinquency* (Grants 86-IJ-CX-0033, 89-IJ-CX-0007, 93-IJ-CX-0031, and 7-5502-NY-JN; NCJ 179867), J.G. Kaufman et al. 24 pp. From *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* Vol. 36, No. 4, November 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/26.html.
- *Comparison of U.S. and Canadian Findings on Uxoricide Risk for Women With Children Sired by Previous Partners* (Grant 6-7522-TX-IJ; NCJ 179873), V.E. Brewer et al. 16 pp. From *Homicide Studies* Vol. 3, No. 4, November 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/27.html.
- *Differences Between Gang Girls and Gang Boys: Results From a Multisite Survey* (Grant 94-IJ-CX-0058; NCJ 178760), F. Esbensen et al. 27 pp. From *Youth and Society* Vol. 31, No. 1, September 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/28.html.
- *Evaluating Corrections-Based Treatment for the Drug-Abusing Criminal Offender* (Grant 96-IJ-CX-0024; NCJ 179806), K. Knight et al. 6 pp. From *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs* Vol. 31, No. 3, July-September 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/29.html.
- *Experimenting With the Drug Court Model: Implementation and Change in Maricopa County, Arizona* (Grant 91-DD-CX-K050; NCJ 179573), E.P. Deschenes et al. 26 pp. From *The Early Drug Courts: Case Studies in Judicial Innovation, Drugs, Health, and Social Policy Series*. Volume 7, 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/30.html.
- *Female Victims of Partner Versus Nonpartner Violence: Experiences With the Criminal Justice System* (Grant 93-IJ-CX-K003; NCJ 178788), C.A. Byrne et al. 18 pp. From *Criminal Justice and Behavior* Vol. 26, No. 3, September 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/31.html.
- *How Much Justice Hangs in the Balance? A New Look at Hung Jury Rates* (Grant 98-IJ-CS-0048; NCJ 179265), P.L. Hannaford et al. 9 pp. From *Judicature* Vol. 83, No. 2, September-October 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/32.html.
- *How Officers Spend Their Time With the Community* (Grant 95-IJ-CX-0071; NCJ 178773), R.B. Parks et al. 36 pp. From *Justice Quarterly* Vol. 16, No. 3, September 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/33.html.
- *Impact of Probation on the Criminal Activities of Offenders* (Grant 93-IJ-CX-0045; NCJ 179870), D.L. MacKenzie et al. 34 pp. From *Journal of Research in Crime and Delinquency* Vol. 36, No. 4, November 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/34.html.
- *Matching Drug-Involved Probationers to Appropriate Drug Interventions: A Strategy for Reducing Recidivism* (Grant 93-IJ-CX-0056; NCJ 178757), G.P. Falkin et al. 6 pp. From *Federal Probation* June 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/35.html.
- *Police Perspectives on Responding to Mentally Ill People in Crisis: Perceptions of Program Effectiveness* (Grant 96-IJ-CX-0082; NCJ 178781), B. Borum et al. 13 pp. From *Behavioral Sciences and the Law* Vol. 16, No. 4, Autumn 1998. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/36.html.
- *Problem-Oriented Policing in Violent Crime Places: A Randomized Controlled Experiment* (Grant 93-IJ-CX-K015; NCJ 178770), A.A. Braga et al. 40 pp. From *Criminology* Vol. 37, No. 3, August 1999. More detailed information can be found in the full abstract at: http://www.ncjrs.org/rr/vol1_1/37.html.

Findings and conclusions of the research reported here are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

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NCJ 181104

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