

Archival Notice

This is an archive page that is no longer being updated. It may contain outdated information and links may no longer function as originally intended.

Sub-Category A-ii: Arrest and Prosecution

COMPENDIUM OF RESEARCH ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

1993-2016

Table of Contents

CATEGORY A: JUSTICE & RELATED SYSTEMS

ii.	Arrest and Prosecution.....	1A-ii
1993-IJ-CX-0021:	<i>Impacts of Arrest on the Social Control of Violence Among Intimates.....</i>	1A-ii
1993-IJ-CX-0039:	<i>Prosecution of Domestic Violence Offenses.....</i>	1A-ii
1994-IJ-CX-0009:	<i>Community Policing of Domestic Violence: Neighborhood and the Effect of Arrest.....</i>	2A-ii
1994-IJ-CX-0052:	<i>Domestic Violence Cases: Effects of a Specialized Court.....</i>	2A-ii
1994-IJ-CX-K001:	<i>Evaluating a Domestic Violence Training Program.....</i>	3A-ii
1995-IJ-CX-0054:	<i>Beyond Arrest: The Portland, Oregon Experiment.....</i>	3A-ii
1995-IJ-CX-0097:	<i>Targeting Cycles of Domestic Violence: Assessment, Review, and Recommendations</i>	4A-ii
1995-IJ-CX-0102:	<i>The Effects of Court Dispositions on the Likelihood of Rearrest for Domestic Violence.....</i>	4A-ii
1995-IJ-CX-0105:	<i>Domestic Violence Cases: What Happens When Courts Are Faced With Uncooperative Victims</i>	5A-ii
1995-WT-NX-0004:	<i>Evaluation of a Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence.....</i>	6A-ii
1996-IJ-CX-0058:	<i>The Effect of Procedural Justice in Spouse Assault: A Reanalysis of the Milwaukee Domestic Violence Experiment.....</i>	6A-ii
1996-IJ-CX-0098:	<i>Domestic Violence Intervention Project.....</i>	7A-ii
1996-WT-NX-0004:	<i>Factors Related to Domestic Violence Court Disposition in a Large Urban Area: The Role of Victim/Witness Reluctance and Other Variables.....</i>	7A-ii
1997-IJ-CX-K014:	<i>A Domestic Violence Electronic Monitoring Project in San Diego County.....</i>	8A-ii
1997-WE-VX-0131:	<i>Violence Against Women in the City of El Paso, Texas: Developing Researcher Practitioner Partnerships.....</i>	9A-ii
1997-WT-VX-0002:	<i>Investigation of the Role of Stalking in Serious Cases</i>	9A-ii
1998-WE-VX-K010:	<i>Evaluating the DVERT Program in Colorado Springs</i>	10A-ii
1998-WT-VX-0001:	<i>The Richmond/Police Foundation Domestic Violence Partnership.....</i>	11A-ii
1998-WT-VX-0003:	<i>Prosecutors' Charging Decisions in Sexual Assault Cases</i>	11A-ii
1998-WT-VX-0015:	<i>Predicting Reporting and Non-Reporting of Sexual Assault to the Police: A Multivariate Analysis.....</i>	12A-ii
1998-WT-VX-0029:	<i>Evaluation of Efforts to Implement No-Drop Policies: Two Central Values in Conflict.....</i>	13A-ii
1998-WT-VX-K014:	<i>Evaluation of a Coordinated Response to Domestic Violence</i>	13A-ii
2000-WT-VX-0007:	<i>Evaluating a Joint Police-Social Service Program.....</i>	14A-ii
2002-WG-BX-0001:	<i>Temporal Variation in Rates of Police Notification by Victim.....</i>	15A-ii
2002-WG-BX-0002:	<i>Police Intervention and the Repeat of Domestic Assault</i>	15A-ii
2003-IJ-CX-1010:	<i>Police Notification for Assault and Sexual Assault.....</i>	16A-ii
2004-WG-BX-0002:	<i>Preventing Repeat Incidents of Family Violence: A Randomized Multi-Site Field Test of Second Responders</i>	17A-ii
2004-WG-BX-0004:	<i>Evaluating the Impact of a Specialized Domestic Violence Policing Unit.....</i>	17A-ii
2004-WG-BX-0009:	<i>Examining the Effect of Different Case Screening Practices Upon Domestic Violence Recidivism</i>	18A-ii
2005-WG-BX-0005:	<i>Coordinating the Criminal Justice Response to Intimate Partner Violence: The Effectiveness of Councils in Producing Systems Change.....</i>	19A-ii
2005-WG-BX-0011:	<i>Investigative Strategies for the Successful Prosecution of Intimate Partner Violence.....</i>	20A-ii
2006-IJ-CX-0005:	<i>The Effects of Prosecution of Violence Between Intimate Partners.....</i>	20A-ii
2006-WG-BX-0004:	<i>Crime Control Effects of Prosecuting Intimate Partner Violence.....</i>	21A-ii
2006-WG-BX-0007:	<i>Victim Participation in Intimate Partner Violence Prosecution: Implications for Safety</i>	21A-ii
2007-M-07032:	<i>Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research, Part 1: Law Enforcement</i>	22A-ii

2007-M-07032:	<i>Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research,</i>	
	<i>Part 2: Prosecution.....</i>	<i>23A-ii</i>
2009-WG-BX-0009:	<i>Police Decision Making In Sexual Assault Cases: An Analysis of Crimes</i>	
	<i>Reported to the Los Angeles Police Department, 2006-2008.....</i>	<i>23A-ii</i>

Category A: JUSTICE & RELATED SYSTEMS

ii. Arrest and Prosecution

1993-IJ-CX-0021:	Impacts of Arrest on the Social Control of Violence Among Intimates
Amount:	\$24,870
PI:	Jeffrey Fagan
Program Officer:	Christy Visser
Status:	Completed

This grant will review the promises and limitations of the criminalization efforts in domestic violence. This grant will: (1) review the history of the development of modern legal reforms in domestic violence and examine their theoretical underpinnings; (2) review the empirical evidence on the deterrent effects of criminal and civil legal sanctions for domestic violence; (3) examine the unique context of domestic violence to identify factors that influence the deterrent effects of criminal justice reforms; and (4) conclude with an agenda for building an empirical base for knowledge and policy to control domestic violence.

Product: NCJ# 157641

Criminalization of Domestic Violence: Promises and Limits (1995) – J. Fagan

During the past 30 years, the criminalization of domestic assault has developed along three parallel but generally separate tracks: (1) criminal punishment and deterrence of batterers; (2) batterer treatment; and (3) restraining orders designed to protect victims through the threat of civil or criminal legal sanctions. Each policy track has been informed, advanced, and supported by victim advocacy groups. However, research and evaluation have generated weak or inconsistent evidence of deterrent effects on either repeat victimization or repeat offending. Weak research and evaluation designs, lack of integration of violence theories with theories of domestic assault, and many other factors have hindered this research. Therefore, a research program is needed and theory is essential. Testable ideas should be identified from theoretical advances, formative evaluations of innovative practices, and qualitative studies of battering careers. This analysis of research and policy related to the criminalization of domestic assault concludes that the inconsistent findings to date point to the need for a program of research and development to advance the current state of knowledge on the effects of legal sanctions for spouse abuse. Stable and sufficient resources will be required to support these development, evaluation, and research efforts.

Additional NCJ Citations: 153919, 198454

1993-IJ-CX-0039:	Prosecution of Domestic Violence Offenses
Amount:	\$197,530
PI:	Cabell Cropper
Program Officer:	Bernard Auchter
Status:	Completed

The current study seeks to fill information gaps with regard to the local prosecutor's role in the prosecution of domestic violence misdemeanors and felonies and the perspective of domestic violence victims of the local prosecutor's handling of these cases. This study will be primarily descriptive in nature with the following objectives: (1) to assess the state of domestic violence programs within local prosecutors' offices, both formal and informal, throughout the United States; (2) to identify needs of local prosecutors; (3) to explain common obstacles to successful prosecution of these offenses, and (4) to provide recommendations for the improvement of domestic violence prosecution effectiveness. Researchers from the American Prosecutors Research Institute (APRI) devised the national mail survey instrument with the help of information from focus group and advisory committee meetings and personnel from APRI's National Center for the Prosecution of Child Abuse. The purpose of the survey is to collect baseline information on the local prosecution of domestic violence and included open-ended question formats to provide a wide range of responses conducive to exploratory studies, as well as closed-ended questions.

Product: NCJ# 161526

Prosecution Response to Domestic Violence: Results of a Survey of Large Jurisdictions (1996) – D. Rebovich

The first section of the questionnaire queried prosecutors on how they were organized to manage domestic violence cases. The second section explored how decision-making on domestic violence case screening and charging compared

with decision-making on other offenses. The third section centered on the types and strengths of prosecutor office policies to protect domestic violence victims from retribution. The fourth section inquired about the extent to which prosecutor offices chose post-discharge diversion options to suspend case processing while the abuser underwent treatment. The final sections posed questions on special features of domestic violence trials, the sentencing of violent offenders and the extent to which sentences reflected offense seriousness, and the support provided by prosecutor offices to satisfy the needs of victims. Survey results demonstrated a growing commitment by district attorneys to vigorously prosecute domestic violence cases. Prosecutors seemed to be persistently searching for the most effective means of bringing violent offenders to justice. Many local prosecutors were inclined to support domestic violence diversion, offender counseling, and victim advocacy programs. Prosecutors relied heavily on the use of protective orders as a remedy, even though they acknowledged the questionable effectiveness of this option. The lack of adequate prosecutorial resources was a factor in the priority level afforded domestic violence cases. Finally, prosecutors reported a high percentage of cases in which the victim would not serve as a witness.

Additional NCJ Citations: 161517

1994-IJ-CX-0009:	Community Policing of Domestic Violence: Neighborhood and the Effect of Arrest
Amount:	\$6,589
PI:	Charles F. Wellford
Program Officer:	Carrie Smith
Status:	Completed

This purpose of this study was to examine the effect of neighborhood characteristics on recidivism in domestic violence. Using arrest data from the 1989 Milwaukee DV experiment and Milwaukee's census tract data for 1980 and 1990, a sample of 1200 suspects arrested for a misdemeanor DV were examined to determine whether neighborhood characteristics interact with individual characteristics to affect prevalence and frequency of future DV. The research hypothesis posits that those living in the underclass and/or socially disorganized areas will be less deterred by arrest than those living in other areas. This research explored how individual characteristics combine with neighborhood context to affect individual responses to arrest.

1994-IJ-CX-0052:	Domestic Violence Cases: Effects of a Specialized Court
Amount:	\$199,658
PI:	Barbara Smith
Program Officer:	Janice Munsterman
Status:	Completed

This project was one of two projects funded by the National Institute of Justice, which examined domestic violence experiments in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. This experiment evaluated the effectiveness of a special domestic violence court that opened in September 1994, and the second experiment (1995-IJ-CX-0105, listed below) assessed the impact of a change in the district attorney's screening policy that admitted more cases into the special court. The primary intent of the special domestic violence court was to speed up disposition of cases in order to reduce backlogs, reduce the amount of time the victim had to change her mind about prosecution, and reduce opportunities for pretrial violence. The liberalized prosecutorial screening policy was intended to determine whether cases normally rejected by the district attorney for prosecution because victims failed to attend the prosecutor's charging conference could still be successfully prosecuted.

Product: NCJ# 200103

Increasing the Proportion of Domestic Violence Cases That Are Prosecuted: A Natural Experiment in Milwaukee (2003) – R. Davis, B. Smith, B. Taylor

During the 1970s, law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system came under fire for treating cases of domestic violence too leniently. The outcome of campaigns to treat domestic violence like any other assault case was the proliferation of mandatory and presumptive arrest policies in which police officers are compelled to arrest the aggressor of domestic violence where probable cause exists. One result of these policies is an increase in the number of cases brought to prosecutors for adjudication. In many instances, the cases are difficult to prosecute and the prosecutor may be dealing with a victim who never wanted her partner arrested or prosecuted to begin with. Prosecutors are faced with either screening out difficult cases and focusing resources on more clear-cut cases or prosecuting as many cases as possible. The authors studied a natural experiment in which the Milwaukee prosecutor opened up his case screening process to double the number of domestic violence case filings. The results of doubling

the domestic violence case prosecutions were: (1) the time to disposition doubled; (2) conviction rates decreased; (3) the level of pre-trial crime increased; and (4) victim satisfaction decreased. The authors concluded that policies that mandate arrest and prosecution of domestic violence crimes without regard to victim preferences may not be the best way to focus limited staff and financial resources. The good intentions of policymakers need to be coupled with a realistic expectation of what can be accomplished by the criminal justice system.

Additional NCJ Citations: 169110, 169111, 173568, 188067

1994-IJ-CX-K001:	Evaluating a Domestic Violence Training Program
Amount:	\$46,979
PI:	William Holmes
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

The study evaluated six domestic violence programs in the state of Massachusetts using experimental and quasi-experimental methods to determine the impact of domestic violence training programs. Program goals included changing attitudes, increasing knowledge of domestic violence, and influencing behavior. The programs were located in the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, Cambridge Police Department, the Attorney General's Office, and the Criminal Justice Training Council.

Product: NCJ# 157406

Domestic Violence Training: Strategy and Tactics (1995) – W. Holmes, R. Kohl, D. Brensilber, C. Kaufman

The study evaluated domestic violence programs in the state of Massachusetts using experimental and quasi-experimental methods to determine the impact of domestic violence training programs. The Cambridge, Massachusetts Police Department has four goals in its handling of DV which include: (1) integrating DV case handling with community policing; (2) using a department liaison to monitor follow-up action on DV; (3) creating a database to track DV perpetrators and incidents; and (4) training police officers in the handling of DV. The fourth department goal sought to help police officers respond to victims of violence and elder abuse, was evaluated in this study. Department training objectives focus on conveying information, providing moral and administrative support, and offering an opportunity to role play different responses. The strategy was evaluated with a separate concern for DV victims and elder abuse victims. The evaluation illustrated that both projects attempted to modify trainee knowledge, attitudes, and behavior. Police officers and other trainees became more aware of laws and regulations governing their actions and learned about background circumstances that affect the situations to which they responded. Many police officers reported changes in their attitudes toward DV as a result of the training experience.

Additional NCJ Citations: 157408, 157409

1995-IJ-CX-0054:	Beyond Arrest: The Portland, Oregon Experiment
Amount:	\$199,994
PI:	Annette Jolin
Program Officer:	Cynthia Mamalian
Status:	Completed

This study seeks to explore whether arrest, in the context of a coordinated DV response system, has a greater deterrent effect than arrest by itself. The combined efforts of the Portland Police Bureau, the Multnomah County District Attorney's Office, and the Family Violence Intervention Steering Committee provided an opportunity to examine this question. This study evaluates the effectiveness of the Portland Police Bureau's Domestic Violence Reduction Unit (DVRU) which is a product of the Police Bureau's community policing implementation efforts. A citizen's advisory group identified violence as a high priority problem in the city. In light of thousands of arrests for misdemeanor DV that are dismissed by prosecutors each year, the group recommended the creation of a police unit with the specific aim of enhancing sanctions and/or treatment for perpetrators of violence. Hence, the DVRU was created with the aim of reducing violence in Portland. Its specific charge is to enhance prosecutions and empower victims of domestic violence. The Portland Chief of Police gave his full support to the randomized research design proposed here, thus creating a unique opportunity to conduct a field experiment involving a law enforcement response to DV that goes beyond arrest and traditional policing methods.

Product: NCJ# 179968**Beyond Arrest: The Portland, Oregon Domestic Violence Experiment (1998) – A. Jolin, W. Feyerherm, R. Fountain, S. Friedman**

In a randomized, double-blind field experiment designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the Portland's DVRU, an experimental group received a program intervention that included program investigative strategies and victim empowerment strategies, while a control group received no intervention. Victim empowerment strategies included development of safety plans, instruction on how to access criminal justice and community victims services, and assistance with transportation. With a 6 month follow-up, following the offender's arrest, significantly fewer persons within the experimental group reported more DV. Interviews were conducted with 386 female victims of misdemeanor DV, where the male was arrested at the scene and taken to jail. Batterers from the treatment group were more likely to be prosecuted, convicted and sentenced; whereas, treatment group victims were more likely to request batterer release information and call the police after revictimization. Arrest plus police-initiated follow-up compared to simple arrest led to increased prosecutions, conviction, and sanctions for batterers.

Additional NCJ Citations: 167228, 202564

1995-IJ-CX-0097:	Targeting Cycles of Domestic Violence: Assessment, Review, and Recommendations
Amount:	\$228,738
PI:	Dan Fleissner
Program Officer:	Cynthia Mamalian
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this study was to develop more useful measures of DV by focusing on gathering information linked to cycles of violence. A primary objective of this study will be to tap the expertise available at the University of Washington and the Institute for Social Analysis to identify new and useful kinds of information, new sources of information, and consider creative policy responses to domestic violence. The study will rely on multiple methods of data collection, including literature reviews, key informant interviews, focus groups, database analysis, and epidemiological techniques. The study will provide detailed empirical information for the DV units to use in evaluating existing programs, developing new programs, and integrating new sources of information into the department's routine data gathering system.

Product: NCJ# 182435**Police Use of Domestic Violence Information Systems (1997) – J. Roehl**

To assist the Seattle Police Department, the Justice Research Center surveyed police departments known for their development and use of advanced DV information systems, identifying innovative systems through government reports and literature related to law enforcement handling of DV and contacts with key Federal clearinghouses and agencies concerned with DV. Telephone interviews were conducted in 11 police departments in Massachusetts, Illinois, Colorado, Kentucky, Florida, Minnesota, Tennessee, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon, and California. Many departments had only recently developed DV information systems or were currently in the process of developing them. All police departments had separate DV units, and six police departments maintained DV databases that varied in content, comprehensiveness, and age. For the most part, these databases contained information drawn from standard incident reports and were used by police departments for case investigation, especially to identify repeat offenders and to track caseload status.

1995-IJ-CX-0102:	The Effects of Court Dispositions on the Likelihood of Rearrest for Domestic Violence
Amount:	\$54,738
PI:	John Wooldredge
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this research project is to assess the effectiveness of pretrial detention, conviction, or jail sentences for preventing and delaying further domestic violence for suspects arrested for misdemeanor domestic violence in Cincinnati, Ohio. Using arrest reports, intake interview forms and court record data, the researcher will compare re-arrest, and length of time to re-arrest for domestic violence for the three court dispositions. Multivariate regression techniques, as well as event history analysis, will be used to analyze the data. Anticipated results of this study will inform policy makers of effective policies related to the control of domestic violence.

Product: NCJ# 173565

Severity of Dispositions and Domestic Violence Recidivism (1998) – A. Thistlethwaite, J. Wooldredge, D. Gibbs

The effects of court dispositions on re-arrest for DV were examined for a sample of 3,362 adults arrested for misdemeanor DV in Hamilton County (Cincinnati) Ohio. It examined the main effects of court dispositions as well as how those effects may be conditioned by informal social controls. The study included empirical tests of the effectiveness of court dispositions in reducing or delaying recidivism, an examination of the relationship between recidivism and individual- and aggregate-level measures of stake in conformity, analyses of the conditioned effects of court dispositions by stake in conformity on recidivism, maps depicting the geographic distribution of DV, and descriptive analyses of the time until recidivism for suspects in specified disposition groups occurred. Findings revealed that: (1) offender programs and split sentences (probation and jail) were more effective for reducing and/or delaying re-arrest among offenders with higher individual-levels of stake in conformity; (2) the prevalence and incidence of re-arrest were lower for offenders from lower-stake neighborhoods serving split sentences; (3) sentences of jail alone had a greater incapacitation effect compared to probation alone and probation combined with jail; and (4) although suspects whose cases were ignored ended up with high recidivism likelihoods, these recidivists actually had longer delays to re-arrest.

Additional NCJ Citations: 188509, 193268, 196621, 204093, 208203

1995-IJ-CX-0105:	Domestic Violence Cases: What Happens When Courts Are Faced With Uncooperative Victims
Amount:	\$43,928
PI:	Barbara Smith
Program Officer:	Bernard Auchter
Status:	Completed

This project was one of two projects funded by the National Institute of Justice that examined domestic violence experiments in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The first experiment (1994-IJ-CX-0052, listed above) evaluated the effectiveness of a special domestic violence court that opened in September 1994, and the current experiment assessed the impact of a change in the district attorney's screening policy that admitted more cases into the special court. The primary intent of the special domestic violence court was to speed up disposition of cases in order to reduce backlogs, reduce the amount of time the victim had to change her mind about prosecution, and reduce opportunities for pretrial violence. The liberalized prosecutorial screening policy was intended to determine whether cases normally rejected by the district attorney for prosecution because victims failed to attend the prosecutor's charging conference could still be successfully prosecuted.

Product: NCJ# 169110/169111

Prosecuting Domestic Violence Cases with Reluctant Victims: Assessing Two Novel Approaches in Milwaukee (1997) – R. Davis, B. Smith, L. Nickles

Milwaukee officials reasoned fewer defendants would threaten or harm victims and fewer victims would change their minds about cooperating with authorities if they could simply reduce the amount of time it took to dispose of domestic violence cases. Data obtained from case records and victim interviews showed the special domestic violence court was generally successful. Case processing time was substantially reduced after the court began, and this reduction was the result of applying speedy trial concepts to domestic violence cases. Convictions increased with the new court, indicating more defendants were getting into treatment programs. Less frequent use of jail time by the new court was consistent with victim desires. The prevalence of pretrial crime declined after the start of the court due to a smaller window of opportunity to inflict new harm. Despite increased convictions and reduced pretrial crime, however, victim satisfaction with various aspects of the criminal justice process did not increase. The district attorney's liberalized charging policy had several effects, none of them positive. One effect was to bring into the court system a larger proportion of cases with victims who were not interested in seeing the defendant prosecuted. Another effect was that case processing time increased as the special court became overwhelmed with cases.

Additional NCJ Citations: 173568, 188067, 200103

1995-WT-NX-0004:	Evaluation of a Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence
Amount:	\$125,722
PI:	Stan Orchowsky
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this evaluation is to assess the effectiveness of the Alexandria, Virginia Domestic Violence Intervention Project (DVIP) which combines a mandatory arrest policy for instances of DV with a no-drop prosecution strategy and court mandated treatment for batterers. In addition, the DVIP provides services for battered women such as an emergency shelter, counseling, and court advocacy. The study will seek to determine the short-term and long-term outcomes for a sample of 200 women who used the services of the project. Interviews with 100 women who received services will be conducted at one, three, and six months after the initial abuse incident and will be questioned regarding reoccurrences of physical or verbal abuse, changes in their living situations, impacts of the abuse on themselves and their children, and their assessments of the DVIP and their staff. Long-term outcomes will be assessed via interviews with a sample of 100 women who have received services from the DVIP between 1993 and 1995. Additional methods of assessing program effectiveness include re-arrest rates of abusers from the DVIP database, interviews with program staff, judges, prosecutors, and magistrates, and surveys of police officers.

Product: NCJ# 179974

Evaluation of a Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence: The Alexandria Domestic Violence Intervention Project (1999) – S. Orchowsky

This study evaluated the Alexandria Domestic Violence Intervention Program, a coordinated community response to DV, to determine program effectiveness. The study conducted multiple interviews with female victims of DV perpetrated by intimate partners to determine program satisfaction, recidivism, and other elements compared with the responses of a sample of DV victims in Virginia Beach, Va. A total of 106 women in Alexandria and 64 women in Virginia Beach participated in a series of interviews designed to determine the services received, satisfaction with services, and their subsequent experiences with abuse. Findings conclude that the Intervention Program is doing a good job in providing services to DV victims. The Alexandria Police Department's mandatory arrest policy received positive ratings from the officers which seem to have resulted in a greater proportion of arrest from DV calls. Victims in Alexandria experienced less non-physical re-victimization than those in Virginia Beach. In addition, 3½ years of data on DV offenses were used to examine factors related to the recidivism of DV offenders in Alexandria. Recidivism among DV offenders was related to both prior offense history and sentencing for the offense.

Additional NCJ Citations: 202564

1996-IJ-CX-0058:	The Effect of Procedural Justice in Spouse Assault: A Reanalysis of the Milwaukee Domestic Violence Experiment
Amount:	\$17,421
PI:	Raymond Paternoster
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

This secondary data analysis of the Milwaukee Domestic Violence Experiment examined suspects' perception of police fairness in relation to subsequent spouse assault. The analysis examined; (1) whether the prevalence and frequency of subsequent spouse assault was lower for those given a warning than for those arrested if arrested offenders perceived they were treated unfairly; (2) whether those arrested for spouse assault, who believed they were treated unfairly were more likely to commit future spouse assault; (3) whether the perceived procedural fairness of the arrest was as important as the outcome of the arrest; (4) whether procedural fairness inhibited subsequent spouse assault under both favorable and unfavorable outcome conditions; and (5) whether the effect of perceived procedural fairness on re-offending interacted with a person's stake in conformity.

Product: NCJ# 169870

Do Fair Procedures Matter? The Effect of Procedural Justice on Spouse Assault (1997) – R. Paternoster, R. Bachman, R. Brame, L. Sherman

Data collected for the Milwaukee Domestic Violence Experiment between April 1987 and August 1988 were used in the analysis. About 91 percent of suspects in the experiment were male. The dependent variable was the number of spouse assault incidents reported to the Milwaukee domestic violence hotline for each individual suspect. Consistent

with expectations, procedural justice suppressed subsequent violence even in the face of adverse outcomes. When police officers acted in a procedurally fair manner when arresting suspects, the rate of subsequent DV was significantly lower than when they did not. Similarly, suspects who were arrested and believed they were treated fairly had subsequent spouse assault rates as low as the rates for suspects given more favorable arrest outcomes. The suppression effect of procedural justice did not depend on the suspects' personal characteristics.

1996-IJ-CX-0098:	Domestic Violence Intervention Project
Amount:	\$96,530
PI:	Maria Teresa Viramontes
Program Officer:	Cynthia Mamalian
Status:	Completed

The overall goal of this research partnership is to initiate a long-term process to design and implement a scientifically based approach to the problem of domestic violence that unites the criminal justice and rehabilitative/treatment models into a single comprehensive continuum. In this first stage, the focus will be on the least studied and most problematic element of that continuum- where the cop on the beat confronts the tragedy and chaos of a violent household. Goals of this project will be to: (1) develop a simple domestic violence screening tool to aid police decision-making; (2) field test and refine the screening instrument; (3) assess the reliability of the instrument; (4) work with the Berkeley Police Department to refine its Management Information System to obtain information necessary for managing an ongoing domestic violence intervention program; and (5) develop a written training curriculum to train officers in utilization of the instrument.

Product: NCJ# 182781

Creating a Structured Decision-Making Model for Police Intervention in Intimate Partner Violence (2000) – M. Wordes

A collaboration consisting of the Berkeley Police Department (California), the East Bay Public Safety Corridor partnership, and the National Council on Crime and Delinquency created two instruments for a more structured system of police decision-making in handling domestic violence incidents. One instrument required patrol officers to complete a Domestic Violence Safety Assessment/Supplemental Report according to protocol and data collection for the Domestic Violence Prevention Unit (DVPU) and the District Attorney, while the second instrument was a risk assessment instrument to be used by the DVPU to classify offenders according to risk. All police reports were entered into a database. In order to have enough recidivists on which to base a model of re-offending, cases were stratified by recidivism status before sampling. Using the data gathered from the full police reports ($n = 13$), a series of analyses examined the relationship between re-offending and various factors compiled from the records. Overall, the project succeeded in creating a useful Domestic Violence Safety Assessment/Supplemental Report for the Berkeley Police Department, and developed a preliminary risk assessment tool that the DVPU could use to develop appropriate interventions based on risk of recidivism. The project further developed and sustained a locally initiated partnership between researchers and practitioners.

1996-WT-NX-0004:	Factors Related to Domestic Violence Court Disposition in a Large Urban Area: The Role of Victim/Witness Reluctance and Other Variables
Amount:	\$115,773
PI:	Joanne Belknap
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this 15 month study is determine factors that influence judicial and prosecutorial decision-making in domestic violence cases, and factors that influence victim/witness reluctance in bringing batterers to successful adjudication. The goal is to fill the knowledge gap about what happens with domestic violence cases where the alleged batterers were arrested, once they leave law enforcement agencies. Specifically, the goal is to identify factors which influence whether city misdemeanor domestic violence cases where batterers were arrested by the police, result in dismissals, acquittals, or convictions in the courts. Key to this understanding is an awareness of victim/witness reluctance, as domestic violence cases are widely known to have large numbers of victims who do not testify against their batterers, or who may actively try to get the charges dropped, possibly to the extent of testifying to support their batterers' "innocence". Data for this study will be collected from a variety of key actors and sources in the criminal justice system decision-making process, including prosecutors, judges, pretrial services, prosecutor files, court

dockets, and court transcripts. Domestic violence victims also will be interviewed in order to better understand the factors related to their decisions of whether to pursue court cases against their batterers.

Product: NCJ# 184232

Factors Related to Domestic Violence Court Disposition in a Large Urban Area: The Role of Victim/Witness (2000) – J. Belknap, D. Graham

This study examined factors that influence judicial and prosecutorial decision-making in domestic violence cases, and factors that influence victim/witness reluctance in bringing batterers to successful adjudication, i.e. convictions. Specifically, the goal was to identify factors which influence whether city misdemeanor DV cases where batterers were arrested by the police, result in dismissals, acquittals, or convictions in the courts. Results from this study indicate that the two most significant factors related to guilty outcomes were the number of times the prosecutor met with the victim and the prosecutor's caseload— if the caseload was above the mean, defendants were less likely to be found guilty. Other factors related to guilty outcomes included victim/offender relationship and victim statement/testimony. If the victim and offender were still in a relationship, the defendant was more likely to be convicted. In addition, if the victim testified the defendant was more likely to be found guilty; and if the victim recanted the defendant was less likely to be convicted.

Additional NCJ Citations: 184112, 200643, 200644, 202564

1997-IJ-CX-K014:	A Domestic Violence Electronic Monitoring Project in San Diego County
Amount:	\$474,130
PI:	Lawrence T. Brillson
Program Officer:	Chris Miles
Status:	Completed

The project evaluated the effectiveness of a specially configured electronic monitor for use in screened and selected domestic violence cases. The purpose of the study was to determine the effect of this technology on preventing further violence of the offenders on their victims, and the impact on the courts and enforcement agencies, and on enforcement of court-issued protection orders, as well as the ability for this technology to deter misdemeanants from proceeding to more serious involvement in the criminal justice system.

Product: NCJ# 207132

Electronic Monitoring of Domestic Violence Cases: A Study of Two Bilateral Programs (2004) – E. Erez, P. Ibarra, N. Lurie

There has been limited systematic research concerning the use of electronic monitoring for persons charged or convicted of DV. In DV cases, surveillance and control technology is not only used for control of the perpetrator, but for protection of the victim, requiring their participation in the bilateral electronic monitoring (BEM) program. The current study examined key aspects of two BEM programs for DV cases located in two Midwestern States. Data included official records from the probation department; in-depth interviews with victims (30), defendants and convicted offenders (27), criminal justice professionals (34), and victim assistance professionals (8); and field observations of equipment installation, program explanation to participants, and supervisory visits. Results revealed that most referrals to both BEM programs were made by lower courts, but the type of defendant referred to BEM differed between programs. One of the programs only considered cases in which the victim was judged to have no further contact with the defendant. This approach was considered unresponsive to research about the “cycle of violence”. The processes of restriction also varied between programs, with one having much more flexible supervision and restriction requirements. Despite their differences, victims involved with both programs perceived increased safety as a result of the program. Other jurisdictions should consider the use of BEM for DV cases.

Additional Publication: Erez, E., & Ibarra, P.R. (2005). Victim-centric diversion? The electronic monitoring of domestic violence cases. *Behavioral Sciences & the Law*, 23, 259-276.

1997-WE-VX-0131:	Violence Against Women in the City of El Paso, Texas: Developing Researcher Practitioner Partnerships
Amount:	\$46,020
PI:	Andrew Giacomazzi
Program Officer:	Bernard Auchter
Status:	Completed

This project builds upon an existing interagency collaborative partnership established in 1996 and initiated by the El Paso Police Department in an effort to reduce the occurrence of domestic violence in the city. Key components of the project include: (1) the introduction of researchers from the University of Texas at El Paso as academic resources for the collaborative partnership in the areas of domestic violence theory, training, policies, and program evaluation; (2) the continuation and strengthening of the collaborative partnership under the "Four T" approach; (3) the monitoring of the process of interagency collaboration in the area of domestic violence; and (4) a comprehensive outcome evaluation of the effects of domestic violence training. Four experimental designs with pretest and posttest measurements will assess the effect of police officer training on: (1) attitudes toward domestic violence interventions; (2) the amount of time spent at the scene of the domestic violence episode; (3) the acceptance for prosecution by the District Attorney's Office; and (4) the number of convictions.

Product: NCJ# 191840

Collaborative Effort and the Effectiveness of Law Enforcement Training Toward Resolving Domestic Violence (2000) – M. Smithey, S. Green, A. Giacomazzi

The evaluation of the police officer training gauged the extent to which planned intervention and training affect police officer perceptions of DV measured through multi-dimensional indicators, including myths surrounding family violence, sexism, and attitudes towards victims of DV. Further analysis focused on the training's effect on the amount of time police officers spent on the scene with victims and data collected from police department and district attorney's office were used to determine whether training initiatives led to a higher number of prosecuted cases as well as more convictions. The comprehensive outcome evaluation on the effects of officer training indicated that the training produced no change in attitudes toward DV, that it had no effect on an officer's opinion toward mandatory arrest, and that the training did not make it easier for an officer to identify the perpetrator or to determine whether victims wanted to cooperate with officials to end the violence. Additionally, the DV training did not change the length of time the police officers spent at the scene, acceptance of cases for prosecution, or the number of resulting convictions.

Additional NCJ Citations: 199701, 199716, 202564

1997-WT-VX-0002:	Investigation of the Role of Stalking in Serious Cases
Amount:	\$26,276
PI:	Cindy Kimilar
Program Officer:	Bernie Auchter
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this 12-month project is to examine the role of stalking in serious cases of DV and the effectiveness of anti-stalking efforts. The project will investigate the role of stalking in harassment (stalking and non-stalking), DV, DVERT and non-DVERT (Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team), aggravated assaults, and homicide cases to: (1) explore the presence of stalking behavior in cases not charged under the stalking statute but meeting the researchers' operational definition of stalking and (2) examine the relationship between stalking and DV cases (which may be classified under many different laws depending on severity of violence). The effectiveness of anti-stalking laws will be examined in terms of arrest, conviction, and sanction rate in the arrest categories included in the study. Data (6,296 cases) from Police and District Attorney files in Colorado Springs, Colorado will be used for analyses. Descriptive analyses, including means and standard deviations, will be calculated for all continuous variables and frequencies will be calculated for all categorical variables. Chi-square and log linear analyses will be conducted for the presence of stalking, charges, type of case, age group, ethnicity, estimated socio-economic status, gender, conviction, and type of sanction. ANOVA will be conducted with categorical independent variables and dependent variable, amount of sanction.

Product: NCJ# 187346/187446**Stalking: Its Role in Serious Domestic Violence Cases (2000) – P. Tjaden, N. Thoennes**

The study reviewed 1,785 DV crime reports generated by the Colorado Springs Police Department April through September 1998. Bivariate and multivariate analyses were used to determine: (1) the prevalence of stalking allegations in DV crime reports; (2) risk factors associated with DV stalking; (3) the frequency with which suspects of intimate partner stalking are charged; (4) differences in presenting conditions in DV crime reports with and without stalking allegations; and (5) differences in law enforcement outcomes in DV crime reports with and without stalking allegations. Reports with stalking allegations were significantly less likely to mention physical abuse or victim injury in the presenting condition, to involve victims and suspects who were using alcohol at the time of the report, and to involve households with children. Victims who alleged stalking by their partners were significantly less likely than victims who did not allege stalking to be emotionally distraught at the time of the report, but significantly more likely to have an active restraining order against the suspect and to request notification of further action in the case. Police were significantly less likely to make an arrest or issue a companion summons if the victim alleged stalking and routinely charged stalking suspects with harassment or violation of a restraining order instead of stalking charges in this study.

Additional NCJ Citations: 187727

1998-WE-VX-K010:	Evaluating the DVERT Program in Colorado Springs
Amount:	\$100,114
PI:	Craig Uchida
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

This project will involve a process evaluation of a comprehensive, systemic approach to curtailing domestic violence with the Colorado Springs Domestic Violence Enhanced Response Team (DVERT). The objective of this project is to closely examine the DVERT intervention process, with emphasis on the following questions: (1) what are the characteristics of domestic violence-related incidents in Colorado Springs and surrounding jurisdictions; (2) what is the effect of the intervention and prevention activities of the DVERT Team; (3) what is the nature of the intervention; (4) how do cases handled by DVERT compare to other domestic violence incidents; (5) what is the nature and extent of the collaboration among criminal justice agencies; (6) what are the dynamics of the collaboration; (7) how successful is the collaboration; and (8) what is the potential for an impact evaluation. The project will analyze the collaboration among the 15 agencies that participate in DVERT. This project will track the flow of cases from referral of domestic violence incidents through their adjudication or resolution, while also tracking the flow of cases that enter and exit DVERT.

Product: NCJ# 188261**Evaluating a Multi-Disciplinary Response to Domestic Violence: The DVERT Program in Colorado Springs (2001) – C. Uchida, C. Putnam, J. Mastrofski, S. Soloman, D. Dawson**

Over the past 20 years the Colorado Springs Police Department has received over 15,000 calls for service annually for domestic violence. In response to this the department created a non-traditional DV unit called DVERT. This evaluation examined case files from 1996 to 2000, observations of DVERT activities, interviews with members of DVERT, and interviews with victims of DV in addition to a process evaluation of a comprehensive and systemic approach to curtailing DV. The findings of the process evaluation suggest that DVERT is a unique blend of social service and criminal justice components which focuses primarily on the safety of victims and does not follow the traditional model of DV special units. DVERT takes a more balanced approach to the problems of DV as it spreads responsibility for the problem to a number of agencies, not just the police. As a result, these activities have provided better services for victims and their children, more awareness of DV issues by the criminal justice system, the perception of a reduction in violence, and a high level of cooperation and collaboration among city and county agencies.

Additional NCJ Citations: 190230, 190231

1998-WT-VX-0001:	The Richmond/Police Foundation Domestic Violence Partnership
Amount:	\$258,984
PI:	Rosann Greenspan
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this project is to conduct an evaluation of The Second Responders Program in Richmond, Virginia, which is a collaborative effort between the Richmond Department of Social Services and the Richmond Police Department. The Second Responders are social workers who are called to the scene of domestic violence incidents, joining the police at the site of the call, which was implemented in two out of the four policed precincts in Richmond. Using interviews with 80 control subjects (2 traditional precincts) and 78 experimental subjects (2 Second Responders precincts), this research interviewed adult female victims of assault.

Product: NCJ# 199717

Second Responders Program: A Coordinated Police and Social Service Response to Domestic Violence (2004) – E. Lane, R. Greenspan, D. Weisburd

On all measures of satisfaction with services, experimental subjects assessed the Responders highly, and the police were rated as performing their services better when the Responders service was provided as well. The experimental subjects experienced reduction in the incidence and prevalence of repeat violence when compared to control subjects. As there were initial problems with the researcher/ practitioner partnership, the researchers concluded that success could be better ensured if police officers recognize the benefits of the new procedure, such as Second Responders, while leadership demonstrates a firm commitment to that new procedure. In most situations, the Second Responders provide victims with information about services and assist in the development of a plan to access these services by referring each night's DV cases to the Family Violence Prevention Program in the Department of Social Services. Evaluation researchers used a quasi-experimental design, with an experimental group and a control group. There were no significant differences between the experimental and control groups on demographics, including age, race, marital status, living situation, education, work status, income, and household size. The evaluation found that the Second Responders frequently provided safety assessments and information services on a range of social services and legal resources, though direct services were provided less often. Many more experimental subjects than control subjects were contacted by a worker shortly after the incident; however, 45% of experimental subjects reported they had not been contacted by a worker after the DV incident. Experimental subjects had much more positive views of the police encounter than control subjects and there were significant differences between the groups regarding the type and extent of services provided by the police. These findings show significant promise for the program and for similar interventions that combine social worker and police services at the site of the initial response to domestic violence.

Additional NCJ Citations: 199701

1998-WT-VX-0003:	Prosecutors' Charging Decisions in Sexual Assault Cases
Amount:	\$173,460
PI:	Cassia Spohn
Program Officer:	Andrew Goldberg
Status:	Completed

This project will examine prosecutors' charging decisions in sexual assault cases in three large urban jurisdictions (Chicago, Philadelphia and Kansas City). The jurisdictions represent variations in procedures for screening and prosecuting sexual assault and sexual abuse cases. The objectives are to: (1) identify the factors affecting charging decisions in assault cases; (2) test whether prosecutors are more likely to file charges in aggravated SA cases than in simple SA cases; (3) test whether the effect of victim characteristics on prosecutor's charging decisions will be greater in simple than in aggravated SA; (4) to compare case outcomes and the relative importance of victim characteristics, offender characteristics, and evidence factors on the prosecution of SAs involving children and those involving adults; and (5) examine the impact (on the likelihood of charging and the likelihood of conviction) of a special unit for prosecuting SA cases. The disposition of filed cases will also be examined. The researchers will collect data on all SA and sexual abuse cases referred to the prosecutors' offices for screening in each of the three jurisdictions during 1996 and 1997. They will examine police and prosecutor case files to obtain information on offender, the victim, and the circumstances of the crime. Approximately 5,000 cases will be collected.

Product: NCJ# 199720**Prosecuting Sexual Assault: A Comparison of Charging Decisions in Sexual Assault Cases Involving Strangers, Acquaintances, and Intimate Partners (2004) – C. Spohn, D. Holleran**

The study analyzed data on sexual assaults that resulted in arrest in Kansas City and Philadelphia. Victim characteristics were subdivided into background factors and “blame and believability” factors (victim characteristics that might cause justice officials to blame the victim and/or question her credibility). Researchers controlled for whether the victim physically resisted her attacker or made a prompt report to the police, whether the victim's “moral character” was in question, and whether the victim engaged in any type of risk-taking activity at the time of the incident. The suspect's age, race, and prior criminal record were included in the analysis. In both jurisdictions approximately half of the SA cases that resulted in an arrest were prosecuted. The decision to charge was based on a combination of victim, suspect, and case characteristics. Prosecutors were more likely to file charges if there was physical evidence connecting the suspect to the crime, if the suspect had a prior criminal record, and if there were no questions about the victim's character or behavior. The relationship between the victim and the suspect had no effect on the decision to charge. The presence of physical evidence to connect the suspect to the crime had a strong significant effect on charging in all types of cases, but had a more pronounced effect in cases involving strangers than acquaintances or relatives.

Additional NCJ Citations: 190494, 197048, 199701

Additional Publications: Spohn, C., Beichner, D., & Davis-Frenzel, E. (2001). Prosecutorial justifications for sexual assault case rejection: Guarding the “Gateway to Justice.” *Social Problems*, 48, 206-235.

Beichner, D., & Spohn, C. (2005). Prosecutorial charging decisions in sexual assault cases: Examining the impact of a specialized prosecution unit. *Criminal Justice Policy Review*, 16, 461-498.

1998-WT-VX-0015:	Predicting Reporting and Non-Reporting of Sexual Assault to the Police: A Multivariate Analysis
Amount:	\$27,990
PI:	Libby Ruch
Program Officer:	Shelly Jackson
Status:	Completed

The goal of the project is to investigate variables that facilitate and hinder the reporting of sexual assault to the police and the implications for treatment centers and criminal justice agencies. The proposed study will utilize data collected as part of a study funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). The sample includes 746 female victims (14 years or older) of non-incestuous sexual assault, who were seen at a treatment center within 1 year of assault. Variables relating to the assault (e.g., completed or attempted, stranger or known assailant, physical injury) were measured to examine whether stereotypical or “classic” sexual assaults were more likely to be reported. The variables about the victims include her demographic characteristics, social support, trauma level, and post-assault behaviors (e.g., time between assault and seeking treatment). Data analysis will examine differences between reporting and non-reporting victims in the entire sample, and in the immediate and delayed treatment seeker sub-samples with Student's t-tests, Chi-square tests, and logistic regression analysis with reporting status as the dependent variable.

Product: NCJ# 184179**Reporting Sexual Assault to the Police in Hawaii (2000) – L. Ruch, B. Coyne, P. Perrone**

The study involved a sample of 709 female victims of non-incestuous sexual assault, 14 years old or older, who were treated at the Sex Abuse Treatment Center (SATC) in Honolulu, Hawaii. Within the sample, 75% sought treatment within 72 hours of the assault (“Immediate Treatment Seekers”), and 25% sought treatment over 72 hours after the assault (“Delayed Treatment Seekers”). Bivariate relationships between a single independent variable and the report of sexual assault were examined by computing two-variable frequency tables, and the significance of the relationship between the independent variable and reporting status was assessed through chi-square tests. The multivariate analysis show that the following seven variables that relate to the victim positively correlated with reporting the sexual assault to the police: (1) assailant threatened to harm or kill the victim; (2) victim attempted to flee and escape her attacker; (3) victim yelled or screamed for help; 4) victim tried to track or fool the assailant; (5) victim sustained no physical injury in addition to the sexual assault; (6) victim was a member of a non-Asian ethnic group; and (7) the victim attributed no or low self-blame to herself for the assault.

Additional NCJ Citations: 188264

1998-WT-VX-0029:	Evaluation of Efforts to Implement No-Drop Policies: Two Central Values in Conflict
Amount:	\$216,160
PI:	Laura Nickles
Program Officer:	Katherine Darke
Status:	Completed

This 18-month project includes both process and impact components in order to achieve the following three goals, to examine: (1) whether no-drop policies led to actual changes in prosecution of domestic violence; (2) the extent to which no-drop policies, if implemented successfully, change the pattern of dispositions and sentences in domestic cases; and (3) the effect of no-drop policies on victims of domestic violence. During the process component investigators will collect written materials from four selected sites, interview criminal justice officials, and conduct on-site observations. Together, these data sources will be used to produce models describing how the handling of domestic violence cases has changed as a result of no-drop policies. The impact phase of this evaluation will use the program models to define specific outcome measures to gauge the success of the no-drop implementation. Four-hundred cases will be sampled from prosecutor's files at each of the four sites. For the sampled cases, data will be collected from prosecutor's files and victims will be interviewed about their experiences in the criminal justice system, their feelings about no-drop practices, and their satisfaction with the criminal justice system and officials.

Product: NCJ# 187772

Evaluation of Efforts to Implement No-Drop Policies: Two Central Values in Conflict (2001) – B. Smith, R. Davis, L. Nickles, H. Davies

Three sites were selected that recently adopted no-drop policies for this 18-month project because they seemed the clearest about implementing a strong no-drop policy. At each site, 200 cases in the year prior, and 200 cases in the year post policy implementation were examined. Study information also came from interviews with criminal justice officials, onsite observations, a review of written policies, analysis of case examples, and victim interviews. At one site pre-policy information was not available. Findings indicated that no-drop policies were not rigidly implemented, and really amounted to evidence-based prosecution. At the two sites where pre- and post- information was available, there was a large increase in convictions, trials, and processing time. Judges must be on board regarding admitting hearsay and excited utterances from victims and statement from defendants, or documentation of prior bad acts. In one site where judges were reluctant to admit this kind of evidence, the no-drop policy was weak, and prosecutors often failed to prosecute if victims were uncooperative. No-drop policies are expensive, involving considerable training and resources.

Additional NCJ Citations: 193235, 199701, 199719, 202564

1998-WT-VX-K014:	Evaluation of a Coordinated Response to Domestic Violence
Amount:	\$70,504
PI:	Susan Pennell
Program Officer:	Angela Moore Parmley
Status:	Completed

This project will evaluate the San Diego Sheriff's Department efforts to implement a detectives unit where domestic violence cases are centralized, based on objectives outlined in a 1997 Department of Justice project to encourage arrests for domestic violence. In order to identify changes in response to call for services, arrests, complaints, filings, and other measures, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) compiled baseline data on 2,247 domestic violence incidents reported in 1996 to the Sheriff's Department. SANDAG also conducted a pretest of unit deputies' knowledge of state laws concerning appropriate responses to domestic violence. This evaluation will build on these tasks and document efforts to train deputies, use the automated tracking system, and conduct activities to improve victim safety using cell phones, body alarm devices, and audiovisual surveillance. The project will examine the baseline data and identify outcome measures and comparison areas for the impact evaluation. Project members will attend domestic violence unit meetings and department training, review program documentation, and conduct interviews with unit staff. Analysis will be primarily descriptive and qualitative, with frequency distributions and cross-tabulations.

Product: NCJ# 197051

Centralized Response to Domestic Violence: San Diego County Sheriff (2002) – S. Pennell, C. Burke

In 1997, through funding from Violence Against Women Act, the sheriff's office in San Diego County developed a specialized unit charged with responding to DV calls. This report was an evaluation of the effectiveness of this specialized unit. The evaluators of this unit convened monthly with representatives from victim advisory groups, prosecutors, public defenders, probation officers, the medical community, treatment providers, and members of the sheriff's DV unit to monitor research and the data collection methods. A survey of field deputies concerning their knowledge of DV laws, source documents from the DV unit including training materials, phone interviews with victims, and case tracking of reported cases of DV indicate that having a specialized unit comprised of experts with training in DV had a positive impact on cases in San Diego County. One problem that was revealed through this research was that officers in this unit experienced "burn out" to a greater degree than officers who were not in a specialized unit.

2000-WT-VX-0007:	Evaluating a Joint Police-Social Service Program
PI:	Robert C. Davis
Program Officer:	Richard Titus
Status:	Completed

The proposed research will examine studies of New York City's Domestic Violence Intervention Education Project (DVIEP), which uses multidisciplinary crisis response teams to follow up on the initial police response to domestic violence complaints in attempting to reduce revictimization. The DVIEP in New York City was evaluated three times using the same experimental design: random assignment of victims to either the DVIEP home-visit intervention (experimental) group or a non-intervention (control) group. The data sets are comprehensive and compatible, and include demographic, case characteristics and other information obtained from criminal justice sources and follow-up interviews with victims in the experimental and control groups. Outcome data will include the number of new calls for police services within six months following the trigger incident, self-reports of victimization, and the time between the trigger incident and the first new incident of abuse. Preliminary analysis of two of the databases produced ambiguous and seemingly contradictory results; the third database was not analyzed. The ambiguity of the results is at least partially attributable to the fact that repeat abusive incidents were rare and most cases have no repeat instances. A Poisson regression model will be used to address analytical and interpretation issues posed by the highly skewed distribution for this variable. A Cox regression model will be used to examine the time from the trigger event to the first new victimization. Analyses will also be conducted to determine if there were significant differences between the background or case characteristics of the experimental and control groups that may be associated with case outcomes.

Product: NCJ# 200608

Preventing Repeat Incidents of Family Violence: A Reanalysis of Data from Three Field Tests (2002) –

R. Davis, C. Maxwell

On three separate occasions between 1987 and 1997, three separate field tests were conducted in order to evaluate the basic approaches used in prevention programs in New York City. These field tests were aimed at public housing residents that reported family violence to police. The field-test interventions consisted of a follow-up home visit to households reporting a domestic incident by a police officer and social worker, and a public education program using community meetings, posters, and flyers to educate participants about family violence. The results of all the field tests were inconsistent. Since the composition of the samples varied across studies (two used family violence incidents and the third elder abuse incidents), it could be construed that the prevention programs had different effects with different populations. A series of re-analyses was conducted to try to resolve earlier inconsistencies. The results of the re-analysis of data from three separate field tests of the same interventions unequivocally demonstrate that the interventions caused an increase in reporting of new abusive incidents to authorities and to research interviewers. Those groups assigned to receive home visit or public education interventions reported more abuse than control groups. The fact that the findings were so consistent across the three studies indicates that increased reporting of abuse is not idiosyncratic to one of the samples, but holds across the three different types of samples used in these studies. The results suggest the need for monitoring and strong supervision of programs that intervene in households whose residents have recently reported domestic violence.

2002-WG-BX-0001:	Temporal Variation in Rates of Police Notification by Victim
Amount:	\$34,998
PI:	Eric Baumer
Program Officer:	Catherine McNamee
Status:	Completed

This research project uses data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) for the years 1973-1999 to explore whether legal, political and cultural reforms implemented during the past three decades have affected the likelihood that victims of rape and sexual assault notify the police of their victimization. The research will address: (1) whether overall rates of reporting among victims of rape and sexual assault have increased since the early 1970s; (2) whether any observed increase in rates of police notification have been prominent among women raped or sexually assaulted by non-strangers; and (3) whether differences in rates of reporting between strangers and non-strangers have diminished over time. Data from the 1973-1992 NCVS are being used to explore changes in the likelihood of police notification by victims of rape ($n = 1,844$), and data from the redesigned survey for 1992-1999 will be used to examine these issues during the 1990s ($n = 155$). The dependent variable will be measured as a dichotomy, scored 1 for incidents in which victims or somebody else reported the incident to the police and 0 for incidents in which the police were not notified and, accordingly, logistic regression will be used to evaluate its response on the key independent variables: year of the incident and victim-offender relationship.

Product: NCJ# 204619

Changes in Police Notification for Rape: 1973-2000 (2003) – E. Baumer, R. Nelson, S. Messner

Previous research indicates that the social and legal climate of the early 1970s, coupled with public perceptions of low probability of arrest, prosecution and conviction in rape cases, discourage police notification by victims, especially those victims raped by acquaintances or intimates. The anti-rape reform movement of the 1970s attempted to increase awareness of rape and to lobby for reform of rape laws that were viewed as antiquated and unjust. So, some of the institutional and cultural barriers that seemed to serve as disincentives to police notification by rape victims have been diminished or removed during the past three decades. Using data from the National Crime Survey (NCS) and the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), this study will examine changes in the likelihood of police notification in rape incidents. Data from the NCS examined changes between 1973 and 1991 and data from the NCVS examined changes between 1992 and 2000. Research results suggest that rates of police notification for incidents of rape have increased since the early 1970s. The increase in reporting during the 1970s and 1980s was due to changes in third-party reporting and changes in victim reporting of non-stranger rapes. During the 1990s, the rates of change accelerated and broadened in scope: there was an increase in both victim and third-party reporting of rapes committed by strangers, as well as non-strangers. The increase during the 1970s and 1980s in reporting of rape was limited to non-stranger rapes and third-party reporting. The scope and momentum of the large-scale media and social campaigns appear to have accelerated increases in police notification among both victims and third-parties and both stranger and non-stranger rapes.

Additional NCJ Citations: 207497

2002-WG-BX-0002:	Police Intervention and the Repeat of Domestic Assault
Amount:	\$34,867
PI:	Richard B. Felson
Program Officer:	Richard Titus
Status:	Completed

This project will examine the effects of police intervention on whether offenders repeat assaults against their domestic partners. The researcher will examine re-offending as a function of whether the victim or third party reported the incident to police and whether the police made an arrest during a 3½ year period following the assault. The goal of this study is to determine whether notification of the police or arrest deters offenders from repeating assaults against their female partners under some conditions, and accordingly, to determine what type of intervention works best. Objectives are to examine: (1) the effects of notification and arrest on re-offending in felony and misdemeanor assaults; (2) assaults by women as well as assaults by men; (3) the conditions under which police notification and arrest affect re-offending; and (4) whether offenders retaliate when the victim's actions led to their arrest.

Product: NCJ# 210301**Police Intervention and the Repeat of Domestic Assault (2004) – R. Felson, J. Ackerman, C. Gallagher**

Experimental studies of the effects of arrest on domestic violence may have missed the incidents that have the highest risk of being repeated- incidents that are not reported to the police. This research expands upon that literature by broadening the universe of interest to include all incidents of intimate partner violence, whether the police are involved or not. This analysis is based on data from the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS), 1992-2002. The researchers analyzed 2564 assaults committed by spouses, partners and ex-partners, and determined whether they were repeated during the remaining time the victim remained in the survey. The researchers include both misdemeanors and felonies and assaults committed by both men and women. These data are used to test the deterrent or inflammatory effects of whether: (1) the incident was reported to the police; (2) the victim or third parties called the police; (3) the police made an arrest; and (4) the victim signed a complaint. Equations included controls for the seriousness of the offense, prior violence of the offender, and socioeconomic variables. The longitudinal analyses suggest that police involvement has a strong deterrent effect while the effect of arrest is small and statistically insignificant. In addition, researchers found no support for the hypothesis that offenders retaliate when victims (rather than third parties) call the police or when victims sign a complaint. Nor did they find evidence that the effects of reporting or arrest depend on the seriousness of the offense, a history of violence by the offender, or social-demographic characteristics. These results suggest that the best policies for reduction of repeated intimate violence will be those that encourage victims and third parties to report domestic violence to the police.

Additional NCJ Citations: 211125

2003-IJ-CX-1010:	Police Notification for Assault and Sexual Assault
Amount:	\$35,000
PI:	Richard B. Felson
Program Officer:	Brett Chapman
Status:	Completed

The current study will use data from the Survey of Violence and Threats Against Women and Men, a nationally representative sample, to explore the issue of police notification for both sexual and non-sexual assault. Using adult survey data from 6,971 reported incidents of assault and 1,845 reported incidents of sexual assaults, the study will examine the following: (1) whether victims and third parties are less likely to report assaults involving family members or other people who know each other as opposed to assaults involving strangers, and whether these effects depend on gender; (2) whether victims and third parties are less likely to report sexual assaults by people they know than sexual assaults committed by strangers; (3) whether the reporting of domestic and sexual assaults has increased in the last thirty years; (4) whether differences in rates of reporting between incidents involving non-strangers and strangers have diminished significantly over time; and (5) whether those reasons have changed over time.

Product: NCJ# 209039**Reporting of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault by Non-Strangers to the Police (2005) – R. Felson, P. Pare**

Research has found that violence, in general, is often unreported. Domestic violence and sexual assault in particular are incidences of violence hidden from society's view and are typically not reported to the police. It is important to determine whether domestic violence and sexual assaults are less likely than other forms of violence to be reported to the police. Utilizing data from a sample of 6,291 physical assaults and 1,787 sexual assaults from the National Violence Against Women Survey for 1995 to 1996, this study examined the effects of the gender of the victim and offender and their relationship to each other on whether sexual and physical assaults were reported to the police. In addition, it examined the reasons victims provided for not reporting assaults and if reporting patterns changed over time. Results from the study indicate: (1) victims were almost twice as likely to report incidents as third parties, but only about one out of four incidents were reported; (2) less than a quarter of the incidents involved sexual assaults; (3) victims were less likely to have been assaulted by other family members than by partners, strangers, and other known offenders; (4) the most common reason victims gave for not reporting the assault was that it was too minor; and (5) two-thirds of the incidents occurred since 1980. In summation, theoretical discussions that emphasize inhibitions about reporting family members or barriers to women cannot explain the reporting patterns that are observed in this study.

Additional Publication: Felson, R.B., & Pare, P. (2005). The reporting of domestic violence and sexual assault by non-strangers to the police. *Journal of Marriage & Family*, 67, 597-610.

2004-WG-BX-0002:	Preventing Repeat Incidents of Family Violence: A Randomized Multi-Site Field Test of Second Responders
Amount:	\$411,961
PI:	Robert Davis
Program Officer:	Carrie Mulford
Status:	Closed

The aim of the proposed research is to determine how second responder programs can be structured in ways that are likely to reduce domestic abuse and minimize the risk for subsequent victimization. The study will involve a randomized trial to test a version of a second responder program in Redlands, California, which is close to the kind used in most jurisdictions. Second responder programs are ones in which case workers follow up on domestic violence incidents reported to police. Previous research on second responder programs has produced contradictory results, with one study showing an increase in continuing abuse among those who received the intervention. The current research will test the timing of the second responder intervention (immediate, delayed, or none). Seventy-five cases will be assigned to the immediate and delayed condition, and 150 to the no response condition (total $n = 300$). The outcome measure will include new official reports of abuse six months after intake. Victim interviews will also take place at six months after intake and will obtain information on new abuse, positive changes in victim's lives, and their assessment of the services provided by the program.

Product: NCJ# 219840

Preventing Repeat Incidents of Family Violence: A Randomized Field Test of a Second Responder Program in Redlands, CA (2007) – R. Davis, D. Weisburd, E. Hamilton

The findings showed no reduction in another incident of domestic abuse within 6 months of the initial police response because of any of the randomly assigned conditions for a planned second response by police. These findings, combined with earlier research results, indicate that second-response programs and policies are at best no factor in preventing Reoffending and at worst may increase the likelihood of a repeat of the abuse. Beginning January 1, 2005, and continuing through December 3, 2005, domestic violence victims who called the Redlands Police Department (California) with a complaint were randomly assigned to receive a second response within 24 hours ($n = 75$), or within 7 days ($n = 77$), or not at all ($n = 148$). Victims who received a second response, whether within 24 hours or 7 days, were visited by a social worker or a specially trained domestic violence police officer, who talked with victims about the nature of domestic violence, helped them develop a safety plan, and informed them about various services and legal alternatives available to provide protection from future abuse. Reoffending was determined from police records and surveys with victims 6 months after the initial complaint was made.

2004-WG-BX-0004:	Evaluating the Impact of a Specialized Domestic Violence Policing Unit
Amount:	\$93,878
PI:	Paul Friday
Program Officer:	Bernard Auchter
Status:	Closed

This project will focus on the efficiency and effectiveness of a specialized domestic violence (DV) unit (DVU) in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg, North Carolina Police Department (CMPD). The researchers will establish standardized, objective screening criteria to assign cases to this unit, which reviews all DV reports and selects the most serious for intensive intervention. The project goals are to determine: (1) whether DV cases, victimization and offending, assigned to the DVU track have lower recidivism rates (prevalence, incidence, and severity) than do cases assigned to the officer track; (2) for each processing track; which victim, offender, and case characteristics best predict lower recidivism; (3) which program services are associated with selected case outcomes such as lower recidivism rates and higher rates of prosecution, conviction, and victim compliance; (4) whether there is a difference across tracks in the likelihood of future arrest of the victim for violence against his or her abusive partner; and (5) whether cases assigned only to DVU detectives have higher conviction and prosecution rates, lower recidivism rates, and higher proportions of victims actively seeking support services and becoming actively involved in the court process.

Product: NCJ# 215916**Evaluating the Impact of a Specialized Domestic Violence Police Unit (2006) - P.C. Friday, V.B. Lord, M.L. Exum, J.L. Hartman**

The process evaluation found that the DVU selected the most severe cases of domestic violence, as intended. The outcome evaluation found that the DVU reduced the number of suspects who reoffended but did not reduce the number of repeat offenses by those who did reoffend compared to the suspects processed by regular patrol units. Among the DVU cases, repeat victims experienced less severe abuse than in prior incidents. The role of the prosecution and courts apparently undermined potential positive effects of the DVU in failing to prosecute or convict a relatively high percentage of DVU suspects. Recommendations are offered for how the DVU can improve its work and collaboration with other criminal justice agencies. The DVU's activities included investigating serious domestic violence cases; interacting with service and treatment agencies to prevent further violence and assist victims; training officers, victims, and community members in how to deal with domestic violence; and acting as a liaison for officers. The process evaluation assessed the criteria used to select the domestic violence cases for DVU intensive intervention and the factors that distinguished how cases were handled. The outcome evaluation tracked case outcomes through police, court, and jail statistics. The outcomes of cases handled by the DVU were compared to the outcomes of cases handled by regular patrol officers. Only cases that involved a single suspect and single victim were included in the analysis. A total of 891 cases were analyzed, with 25 percent of these involving the DVU. Both suspects and victims were traced through official records for previous and subsequent domestic violence incidents.

2004-WG-BX-0009:	Examining the Effect of Different Case Screening Practices Upon Domestic Violence Recidivism
Amount:	\$433,942
PI:	Scott Millstein
Program Officer:	Bernard Auchter
Status:	Completed

Widespread adoption of pro-arrest policies by police and adoption of tougher prosecutor stances in domestic violence cases have seriously taxed the resources of prosecutors in the last decade. One way in which many prosecutors have adapted to the strain is to decline to file arrests in which victims expressed unwillingness to cooperate with prosecutors. Today, there are widely divergent views among prosecutors about whether cases ought to be filed regardless of whether that is what victims seem to want. This research will take place in two sites in New York City where prosecutors have adopted different screening policies: Kings County (Brooklyn) and the County of the Bronx. However, since the sites are comparable in many other ways (including police arrest policies, court rules and administration, and state laws and requirements), there will be a strong quasi-experimental design. The researchers will track a sample of cases that the prosecutor declined to prosecute in one borough (Bronx) and a sample of similar cases that were prosecuted in the other borough (Brooklyn). They will test for differences between the samples in recidivism, stalking behavior, women's satisfaction with the justice system, and utilization of victim services, willingness to report future incidents, victim empowerment and allocation of prosecutor and court resources.

Product: NCJ# 225995**Comparison of Two Prosecution Policies in Cases of Intimate Partner Violence: Mandatory Case Filing Versus Following the Victim's Lead (2008) - Robert C. Davis, Chris s. O'Sullivan, Donald. J. Farole Jr., Michael Rempel. *Criminology and Public Policy*, 7, 633-662.**

There was not a lower recidivism rate in Brooklyn as a result of its mandatory filing policy. A comparison of new arrests for assault, menacing, or harassment found no difference between the two boroughs. Regarding victims' preference regarding the different prosecution policies, however, domestic-violence victims in both boroughs generally favored the Brooklyn policy of filing all cases, especially when the prosecution could proceed without the victim's participation. Victims apparently felt that although the decision to proceed to prosecution would be taken out of their control, they preferred to leave the decision about prosecution to those experienced in dealing with domestic violence cases. Further, they felt too emotionally torn to weigh all the factors involved in making the decision themselves. The Brooklyn policy is more costly, and most cases were ultimately dismissed. The findings support an intermediate policy of filing most cases but dropping them sooner in order to give victims a voice while avoiding heavy investments in cases likely to be dismissed. The study was designed to compare outcomes in cases that were declined for prosecution in the Bronx with similar cases that were prosecuted in Brooklyn. The study first analyzed 102 declined and 102 prosecuted cases in the Bronx to determine what factors predicted the decision not to prosecute.

Applying these criteria to Brooklyn cases, the study compared 272 cases declined for prosecution in the Bronx with 211 cases that were filed in Brooklyn but probably would have been declined in the Bronx.

2005-WG-BX-0005:	Coordinating the Criminal Justice Response to Intimate Partner Violence: The Effectiveness of Councils in Producing Systems Change
Amount:	\$356,830
PI:	Nicole Allen
Program Officer:	Bernie Auchter
Status:	Completed

Communities across the US are focusing on creating a coordinated community response (CCR) to intimate partner violence (IPV). Beginning in 1990, the Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts created a network of Family Violence Coordinating Councils (FVCC) across 22 Judicial Circuits. While FVCC are the primary vehicles for the creation of CCRs nationwide, there is limited empirical evidence regarding whether they facilitate desired systems change in the criminal and civil justice response to IPV (CCJ). The proposed study will examine Illinois FVCC and their statewide structure by investigating: (a) the extent to which FVCCs have an impact on proximal goals and distal goals; and (b) those factors and processes that facilitate FVCC success. The proposed study will employ a multi-method approach, including key informant interviews with FVCC coordinators, survey research with FVCC members, archival analysis of CCJ statistics and FVCC documents and ethnographic methods. Study participants, recruited with the aid of FVCC coordinators, will include multiple stakeholders ($N = \sim 2,000$): IPV survivors; advocates; law enforcement and probation officers; prosecutors; court personnel; judges; human service providers; child protection workers; school personnel; faith-based leaders; and/or concerned citizens. Statewide data will be accessed from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) from 1996 to present regarding various CCJ and service utilization statistics (e.g., arrest rates, order of protection rates, referral rates to shelter programs). To examine research questions, quantitative (e.g., multilevel modeling, social network analysis) and qualitative methods will be employed. The proposed study has important implications for examining the FVCC in their promotion of a CCR, an area of inquiry that has received little consideration but requires urgent attention given the widespread implementation of FVCC to produce systems change.

Product: NCJ# 229248

Coordinating the Criminal Justice Response to Intimate Partner Violence: The Effectiveness of Councils in Producing Systems Change (2009) – N. Allen, S. Javdani, C. Anderson, S. Rana, D. Newman, N. Todd, A. Lehrner, A. Walden, S. Larsen, S. Davis

The evaluation found that the councils consist of broad memberships that represent relevant stakeholder groups. This promotes a cooperative climate that encourages multidisciplinary input and leadership. Consistent with previous research, councils apparently facilitate stronger relationships and enhanced knowledge among stakeholders, and some were well positioned to facilitate and lead institutionalized change in the system's response to IPV. Councils provided local and regional training that reached 33,000 participants between 2000 and 2006. During this period, councils also produced numerous products, including approximately 275 pamphlets, protocols, and intervention checklists, so as to improve the local response to IPV. This resulted in approximately 20 instances of local policy shifts regarding responses to IPV. The evaluation also found that the existence of councils was positively related to the rate with which emergency protection orders became plenary orders (i.e., "return rates"). In addition, council-member agencies are more likely to exchange information and referrals with other member agencies compared to nonmember agencies. The evaluation also found, however, that councils were not uniformly effective in producing institutionalized change. Multiple factors and processes affected councils' success in this regard, including enhanced knowledge and relationships, features of the council itself, support from the broader community, knowledgeable and skilled local leadership, and council members who were capable of achieving change in their respective organizations. The evaluation methodology involved interviews with council members and key informant interviews, interviews and focus groups with IPV survivors, observations of council meetings, surveys of council members across all involved jurisdictions, and reviews and analysis of relevant reports and data.

2005-WG-BX-0011:	Investigative Strategies for the Successful Prosecution of Intimate Partner Violence
Amount:	\$180,042
PI:	Andre Rosay
Program Officer:	Bernard Auchter
Status:	Completed

The key goal of this research project is to examine how investigative strategies affect the successful prosecution of IPV cases. More precisely the project will examine the extent to which (1) the thoroughness and timeliness of the officer's investigation; (2) whether a follow-up investigation was performed, and (3) whether a local police presence, if available, affects case outcomes and the reasons for case outcomes. The key objective of this research project is to create an empirically-based investigation guide for law-enforcement personnel to increase the likelihood of full and successful prosecution of IPV cases.

Product: NCJ# 236429

Investigation and Prosecution of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Stalking (2011) – A.B. Rosay, D. Wood, M. Rivera, G. Postle, K. TePas

The study identified several factors that Alaska State Troopers can address in order to increase the rate of successful legal resolutions. Three factors significantly increased the odds of both referral and acceptance: (1) documenting multiple sex acts more than tripled the odds of referral and almost quadrupled the odds of acceptance. (2) Closing cases within 2 weeks increased the odds of referral by a factor of 1.6 and increased the odds of acceptance by a factor of 3.7. (3) The odds of referral were tripled when the suspect had multiple charges, and the odds of acceptance were doubled when the suspect had multiple charges. Four additional factors significantly increased the odds of referral: (4) collecting physical evidence or DNA from the suspect, (5) tape recording the suspect, (6) tape recording the victim, and (7) building victim cooperation. Other factors that increased the odds of acceptance were (8) taking photos of the assault scene, (9) interviewing the suspect within 3 days, (10) finding inconsistencies in statements by the suspect, and (11) having a local paraprofessional as the first responder. There was no evidence of under-enforcement in rural areas for the offenses examined. Geographic isolation of the crimes did not hinder case processing. The study examined all cases of sexual assault and sexual abuse of a minor reported to Alaska State Troopers in 2003 and 2004, all domestic violence incidents reported to Alaska State Troopers in 2004, and all stalking incidents reported to Alaska State Troopers from 1994 to 2005. In addition, the study examined whether cases were referred to the Alaska Department of Law Enforcement for prosecution, were accepted for prosecution, and resulted in a conviction.

Additional NCJ Citations: 236042

2006-IJ-CX-0005:	The Effects of Prosecution of Violence Between Intimate Partners
Amount:	\$ 34,425
PI:	Joel Garner
Program Officer:	Bernie Auchter
Status:	Completed

This research will systematically determine the extent to which the central findings about effectiveness of criminal sanctions on repeat offending reported by Wooldredge and Thistlethwaite (2005) can be reproduced from the archived data. This research will build upon the existing analyses to construct new analyses that will extend our understanding of the crime control effects of prosecution, conviction and sentence severity. New variables will be constructed to measure case disposition and the role of an offender's stakes in conformity. In addition, the use of propensity scores will be explored to address analytical biases introduced by the processing of criminal cases.

Product: NCJ# 222907

Crime Control Effects of Prosecuting Intimate Partner Violence in Hamilton County, Ohio: Reproducing and Extending the Analyses of Wooldredge and Thistlethwaite (2008) – J. Garner, C. Maxwell

Researchers found that the prosecution, conviction, and sentencing of IPV arrestees to probation was associated with less repeat offending; however, the sentencing of IPV arrestees to a treatment program was not associated with less repeat offending. Sentencing of convicted IPV offenders to jail was associated with more repeat offending. Offender employment was consistently associated with less repeat offending; however, the effectiveness of prosecution, conviction, or sentencing severity did not vary by offender employment status. Being married had no direct effect on repeat offending. No other sanction type was influenced by the offender's marital status. Although the analyses of the current study confirm most of the findings published by the original authors, the current finding that prosecution,

conviction, and sentencing to probation for IPV offenders reduced reoffending was stronger than the findings they reported. The findings show the importance of verifying the published results of criminological research.

2006-WG-BX-0004:	Crime Control Effects of Prosecuting Intimate Partner Violence
Amount:	\$113,203
PI:	Joel Garner
Program Officer:	Bernie Auchter
Status:	Completed

This research seeks to assess the extent to which the prosecution, conviction, and enhanced sentences of offenders reduce repeat intimate partner violence. A secondary focus is to determine whether the effectiveness of criminal justice interventions is conditioned upon an offender's stakes in conformity (employment, marriage, etc.). Investigators will compile the existing automated data on the crime control effects of the prosecution of intimate partner violence collected by previously completed studies and archived at the University of Michigan data archive. The researchers will reproduce the original analyses of each study and construct a consistent set of re-analyses testing the conditions under which criminal justice interventions are more effective. When and if appropriate, they will combine data from different studies to produce some limited cross-site analyses. This research will improve our understanding of the results of prior research, provide a more solid basis for current public policy, and help identify measurement, methodological, and substantive issues that ought to be addressed in future research on the criminal justice response to intimate partner violence.

Product: NCJ# 236959

Crime Control Effects of Criminal Sanctions for Intimate Partner Violence (2010) – J.H. Garner, C.D. Maxwell

A review of 135 English-language publications that reported on sanctions for violence between intimate partners determined that one-third of all reported offenses and approximately three-fifths of all arrests for intimate partner violence (IPV) result in a prosecution. The research also found that 1 in 6 reported offenses, one-third of all arrests, and more than one-half of all prosecutions for intimate partner violence result in a conviction for intimate partner violence. A detailed review of 32 studies found that the predominant finding reported in this literature is that criminal sanctions have no effect on repeat offending. The literature review also found that methodological weaknesses (small sample sizes, diverse measurement of sanctions and of repeat offending, and the absence of statistical power analyses) limit the ability of these studies to provide a strong base of research that enables testing of theories or evaluating public policy. Secondary analyses of the data available from these studies determined that the use of more consistent methods and measures across 12 sites generates the same general conclusion, i.e., that criminal sanctions are not significantly associated with less repeat offending.

2006-WG-BX-0007:	Victim Participation in Intimate Partner Violence Prosecution: Implications for Safety
Amount:	\$498,726
PIs:	Karin Rhodes, Catherine Cerulli
Program Officer:	Bernie Auchter
Status:	Completed

This project will examine the impact of victim participation on risk of revictimization, measured both within the civil and criminal justice systems (subsequent IPV-related 911 calls, arrests, petitions for civil protection orders) and within the healthcare system (use of ED services). Kalamazoo County, Michigan, is the site in which these justice and health data will be merged for 1,094 partner violence assault cases from the year 2000. Qualitative data will be used to both inform and interpret the quantitative data. After the conclusion of the quantitative data analysis, another series of focus groups will be assembled to help understand the context of the findings and to explore in depth the mechanisms by which victim experiences, empowerment, and safety, and experiences within the justice process influence the decision to participate in prosecution. The study will provide data to inform the development of interventions that can help (a) to empower female IPV victims to make efficient and effective use of the criminal justice system in ways that maximize their health and safety and (b) to inform policy and practice in the implementation of victim advocacy within the criminal justice system.

Product: NCJ# 235284**Victim Participation in Intimate Partner Violence Prosecution: Implications for Safety (2011) – K.V. Rhodes, C. Cerulli, C.L. Kothari, M.E. Dichter, S. Marcus**

Intimate partner violence (IPV) is recognized as a major public health problem affecting millions of families and resulting in long-lasting health complications. The intergenerational transmission of violence calls for urgent responses. By the late 20th century, the United States responded to IPV by criminalizing behavior and redefining the prosecutorial role. Currently, all 50 states have enacted laws that address IPV through prosecutorial responses that complement aggressive policing responses, such as mandatory and permissive arrest policies. Prosecutors are encouraged to pursue evidence-based prosecutions and discourage victims from dropping charges. Given findings that protection orders can reduce future harm to victims, it is essential to understand how a victim's participation along the continuum of calling 911, talking to the prosecutor, and engaging in criminal prosecution all impact victims' safety. It is hypothesized that participation would improve IPV victims' safety. The key finding is that victim participation in prosecution does not increase help-seeking via police calls for service that generate an incident report, nor does it increase the likelihood of future IPV and injury. These results are important in light of the current pro-prosecution strategies, which support evidence-based trials that proceed regardless of the victim's presence or testimony. Based on study findings, special prosecution units, vertical prosecution, and continuances sensitive to victims' needs — combined with court-based victim advocacy and victim input into prosecution outcomes — should continue to be considered best practices. Policy recommendations include increasing communication between the prosecutor's office and victims, improving referrals to advocacy organizations, and reducing logistical barriers so victims can participate in prosecutions.

Additional NCJ Citations: 235349, 231023

2007-M-07032:	Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research, Part 1: Law Enforcement
Amount:	\$16,200
PI:	Andrew R. Klein
Program Officer:	Bernie Auchter
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this work is to describe to law enforcement practitioners what the research tells us about domestic violence, including perpetrators and victims, and the impact of current responses to domestic violence and, more particularly, the implications of research for day to day real world responses to domestic violence by law enforcement officers.

Product: NCJ# 222319**Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research. Part I: Law Enforcement**

Based on prevalence research, law enforcement agencies must commit time and resources to domestic violence that are comparable to that allotted for any other major crime. The deployment of the bulk of these resources should focus on shifts between 6 PM and 6 AM. Responding officers and investigators should be alert to possible sexual abuse as well as physical abuse in domestic violence cases. In attempting to reduce homicides of women generally, agencies should give priority to protection for female victims of domestic assault. A full investigation of a particular domestic assault incident may reveal even more serious incidents of domestic violence than that which prompted the investigation. Consequently, officers should always inquire about prior unreported assaults for evidence of the primary aggressor and additional charges that may be filed. Research suggests that arrest should be the default response for officers in all domestic violence incidents. If the perpetrator has fled the scene by the time officers arrive, finding and arresting the abuser should be a priority. If an agency's pattern of arresting both partners exceeds the national average, agencies should develop and implement primary-aggressor policies and protocols. Other implications for law enforcement practice are drawn for research findings that address specific prevalent characteristics of offenders and victims, the role of substance abuse, the risk for reoffending, gender issues, the presence of firearms and other weapons, and risk markers for severe injury and homicide.

2007-M-07032:	Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research, Part 2: Prosecution
Amount:	\$16,200
PI:	Andrew R. Klein
Program Officer:	Bernie Auchter
Status:	Completed

The purpose of this work is to describe to prosecutors what current research tells us about domestic violence, with a focus on perpetrators and victims, and the impact of current responses to domestic violence and, more particularly, the implications of research for day to day real world responses to domestic violence by prosecutors.

Product: NCJ# 222320

Practical Implications of Current Domestic Violence Research, Part II: Prosecution – A. Klein

Among the issues addressed in the reviewed research are the prevalence of nonfatal domestic violence, the rate at which domestic violence reaches the courts, whether arrest is the best response, perpetrator and victim characteristics, risk for reoffending and homicide, whether prosecution of offenders deters reabuse, and the current level of domestic-violence prosecutions across the country. Also discussed are the evidence typically available for prosecuting domestic violence cases, the dispositions most suspects receive, whether specialized prosecution units are effective, sentences for convicted batterers, and whether batterer intervention programs prevent reabuse. One of the implications drawn from research on the prevalence and adverse impact of domestic violence on victims is that prosecutors must commit sufficient resources and attention to ensure that domestic violence cases are handled efficiently and effectively. Given the severity of injuries and high risk for homicide in domestic violence cases, prosecutors must adopt policies that provide protection for victims, their children, other family members, and responding law enforcement officers, as well as to protect abusers from suicide. Another recommendation based on research findings is that prosecutors should encourage law enforcement agencies to arrest abuser suspects by filing charges and committing resources to the prosecution of those arrested. In cases where both intimate partners are arrested by police, prosecutors should independently determine who the primary aggressor was and proceed against only that suspect. Prosecutors should take all steps possible to have firearms removed by the court as soon as abusers are arrested and obtain guilty verdicts so that Federal firearm prohibitions apply. Prosecution deters domestic violence if it imposes appropriate intrusive sentences, including supervised probation and incarceration.

2009-WG-BX-0009:	Police Decision Making In Sexual Assault Cases: An Analysis of Crimes Reported to the Los Angeles Police Department, 2006-2008
Amount:	\$204,492
PI:	Cassia Spohn
Program Officer:	Carrie Mulford
Status:	Closed

The project is a collaborative effort involving the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), Arizona State University, and the University of California at Los Angeles. Researchers will obtain quantitative data from a subset of felony sexual offenses reported to the LAPD from January of 2006 through December of 2008 (total reports during this period, $N = 3,500$). The project also will entail the collection of qualitative data designed to identify informal decision rules that guide case processing decisions in a particular jurisdiction. Researchers will interview 100 police officers who investigated reports of sexual assault during the study period including those officers who made decisions to unfound cases that were reported to the LAPD in 2008. The project will result in a report on best practices in the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases, will inform criminal justice policy and practice and improve the response of the criminal justice system to crimes of sexual violence.

Product: NCJ# 244757

Impact of Differential Sentencing Severity for Domestic Violence Offenses and All Other Offenses Over Abusers' Life Spans (2013) – A. Klein, D. Centerbar, S. Keller, J. Klein

Unlike previous studies of the effectiveness of prosecutions of DV, the current study used a wider lens in examining the relative effect of differential prosecutions of DV offenses over time compared to prosecutions of all other types of offenses by DV abusers (non-DV offenses), testing the hypothesis that if sentencing for DV offenses was more severe than for non-DV offenses, then re-abuse would be deterred significantly. It found that abusers who were prosecuted and sentenced more severely for DV compared to their non-DV crimes during the first years of their adult criminal careers were less likely to be arrested for another DV offense. Also, the subset of abusers who were prosecuted for their DV offense but were not prosecuted for their non-DV offenses were significantly less likely to

commit new DV offenses. These findings suggest that prosecutors and courts have the means to deter DV reoffending significantly by enhancing sentences for repeat DV cases. The study sample consisted of 500 DV offenders who were on probation for DV in Rhode Island in 2002 and also were involved in non-DV cases during the first 6 years of their criminal careers. Also, they had at least one non-DV case that preceded a DV case. Researchers examined every adult criminal prosecution for both DV and non-DV offenses since age 18 through April 2012. The majority had active criminal careers of at least 8 years, as measured from first to last arrest. In order to determine the impact of sentencing for DV offenses, the study controlled for the most common independent variables associated with risk of re-abuse, including number of prior offenses, gender, and age at first offense.

For an index of all grants, go to <https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/nij/223572/223572-grants-index.pdf>.