

INTER-NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINOLOGY OF
THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY
WINTER 2021 EDITION

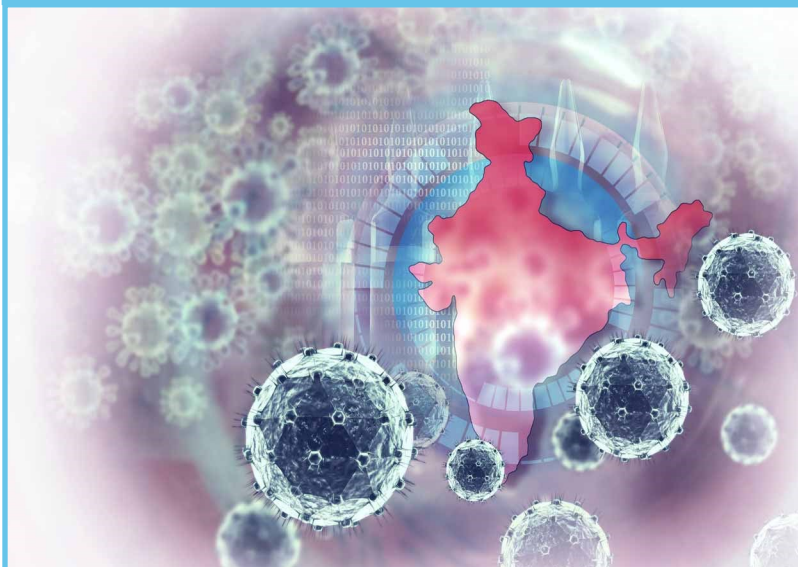


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INSIDE THE ISSUE:

Note from DIC Chair (pg. 2)
Interviews with Accomplished Scholars (pg. 4)
International Students and Trump's Ban (pg. 6)
Migration and Immigration Detention in Australia (pg. 7)
Empowering Students as Difference Makers (pg. 8)
If a Professor Records a Lecture and No One Listens (pg. 9)
Challenges of Comparative Research in Global Pandemic (pg. 10)
Interviews with Award Winners (pg. 11)
Graduate Student Fellow (pg. 13)
Outstanding Book Award (pg. 14)
Freda Adler Distinguished Scholar Award (pg. 16)
Webinar (pg. 18)
Division Announcements (pg. 20)
Research Snapshot (pg. 23)
The DIC International Criminology Journal (pg. 25)
Book Corner (pg. 26)
DIC Board Members and Committee Volunteers (pg. 27)

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the Winter issue of *Inter-News*. It is filled with current information, challenging ideas, suggestions for action, and overview of parts of international criminology that may be new to you.

2020 was marked by unprecedented circumstances, but the year of world-changing, paradigm-shifting developments is almost over. Unfortunately, there is no time to be exhausted: with a pandemic still ongoing, waves of inequalities and injustices around the globe, there is still a lot of work to be done.

As criminologists, this issue highlights some of the work that we have already accomplished to address some of the inequalities across the globe. This issue's theme is, "Inequality, Society, and Crime." Two experts on this topic include Dr. Steven Messner and Dr. Jukka Savolainen. Read about their contributions in "Interviews with Accomplished Scholars."

We truly hope this issue brings assurance that we have already weathered many storms and even though the future feels uncertain, one thing has never been more clear: To change anything, we have to come together, work together, and support each other in a brighter future.

Please enjoy!

Marijana Kotlaja

Editor and DIC Executive Councilor

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NOTE FROM THE DIC CHAIR

Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovich
Michigan State University



Dear DIC Friends and Members,

Greetings from the snow-covered Michigan and best wishes in the new year!

Welcome to the 2021 Winter Newsletter! This newsletter has been edited by Marijana Kotlaja (Missouri State University; Editor-in-Chief), Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University; Copy Editor), and Dragana Derlic (University of Texas at Dallas; Design and Social Media). The editorial team has put together a thought-provoking and inspirational edition of our Newsletter!

The topic of this newsletter is "Inequality, Society, and Crime." The Newsletter opens with interviews with two accomplished scholars: Steven Messner (University of Albany, U.S.A.) and Jukka Savolainen (Wayne State University, U.S.A.). They discuss their research on inequality and crime. It continues with a discussion by Felipe Salazar-Tobar (Rutgers University, U.S.A.) about the status of international students in the U.S.A. and the Trump administration international student ban, followed by a story about migration and immigration detention in Australia by Lorena Rivas (Griffith University,

Australia). Jared Dmello (Texas A&M International University, U.S.A.) outlines his award-winning pedagogical approach to empowering students as difference makers in their community. In her teaching column, Nadine Connell (Griffith University, Australia) discusses the trials and tribulations of online teaching. Jon Maskaly, Peter Neyroud, and I share our own trials and tribulations of doing research on policing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The winter issue would not be complete without the *interviews with our award winners*! Jennifer Peirce (John Jay College of Criminal Justice, U.S.A.), the 1st place winner of the Graduate Student Paper Award, discusses her research exploring the protection of prisoners' human rights in the Dominican Republic. Alyssa Mendlein (Temple University, U.S.A.), the 2nd place winner of the Graduate Student Paper Award, utilized the UN Surveys of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems to explore the relation between a country's incarceration rates and the size of its criminal justice personnel. Lina Marmolejo (George Mason University, U.S.A.), winner of the Division of International Criminology's Global Fellowship, outlines her plans to study the applicability of criminological theories on the pretrial detention in the Caribbean. Dirk Van Zyl Smith and Catherine Appleton (University of Nottingham, United Kingdom), winners of the Outstanding Book Award for their book *Life Imprisonment: A Global Human Rights Analysis* (Harvard University Press, 2019), discuss the challenges of studying life imprisonment—the most severe penalty in many countries across the world. Finally, as the 2020 Freda Adler Distinguished Scholar Award was awarded posthumously to Cindy Smith (UNICRI), her former friends and colleagues share their cherished memories with Cindy.

Although we were not able to get together in person for our annual meeting, we held our award ceremony virtually (<https://internationalcriminology.com/international-criminology-journal/>). At the same time, we launched virtually our own journal—*International Criminology* (<https://www.springer.com/journal/43576>). Ineke Marshall (Northeastern University, U.S.A.), who serves as the inaugural Editor-in-Chief, has provided an update about the journal in the newsletter. The journal is open for submissions (<https://www.springer.com/journal/43576>).

One of the duties of the DIC Chair is to announce the DIC committee membership at the ASC annual meeting. Instead of doing so in person, I am happy to announce the list of our 2020-2021 committees in this Newsletter:

DIC Student Paper Awards Committee:

Stephanie Di Pietro, *University of Iowa*, Chair
Jennifer Gibbs, *Penn State University – Harrisburg*
Maria Joao Antunes, *Towson University*
Avi Brisman, *Eastern Kentucky University*
Popy Begum, *American University*
Ahmet Kule, *University of Tennessee at Chattanooga*

DIC Graduate Fellowship for Global Research Committee:

Erin Kearns, *University of Alabama*, Chair
Camille Gibson, *Prairie View A&M University*
Jennifer Gibbs, *Penn State University – Harrisburg*
Jared Dmello, *Texas A&M International University*
Laura Iesue, *University of Miami*
Jordan Hyatt, *Drexel University*

NOTE FROM THE DIC CHAIR, CONT.

Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovich

Michigan State University

Outstanding Book Award Committee:

Nadine Connell, *Griffith University*, Chair
Melanie-Angela Neuilly, *Washington State University*
Cory Lepage, *California State University*
James Tuttle, *University of Montana*
David Johnson, *University of Hawaii*

Adler Distinguished Scholar Award Committee:

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Alida Merlo, *Indiana University of Pennsylvania*
Melanie-Angela Neuilly, *Washington State University*
Jackie Schneider, *Illinois State University*
Rob White, *University of Tasmania*
Yue Zhuo, *St. Joseph's University*

Membership Committee:

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Kate Burmon, *Mount Saint Mary College*
Jared DMello, *Texas A&M International University*
Avi Brisman, *Eastern Kentucky University*
Scott Thomas Jacques, *Georgia State University*
Jon Maskaly, *University of North Dakota*

Social Media Committee:

Marijana Kotlaja, *Missouri State University*, Chair
Dragana Derlic, *University of Texas at Dallas*
Divya Ramjee, *American University*
Poppy Begum, *John Jay College of Criminal Justice*
Jared Dmello, *Texas A&M International University*

Thank you all for your willingness to serve and for the contributions you are making to the DIC!

Lastly, please check our webpage (<http://internationalcriminology.com/>) on a regular basis. Thanks to our Social Media Committee, our webpage is very active. It is updated regularly, featuring job postings, conference announcements, calls for papers, and many other interesting items. We also maintain presence on several other platforms, from Facebook to Twitter. Consider sharing your new publications and any other professional news with our members via these social media platforms.

Sincerely,

Sanja Kutnjak Ivković,

DIC Chair

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INTERVIEWS WITH ACCOMPLISHED SCHOLARS

Steven F. Messner, Ph.D. *University at Albany, USA*

Interviewed by Marijana Maja Kotlaja Missouri State University, USA



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[Faculty Profile](#)



[Google Scholar](#)



[Interview on behalf of the American Society of Criminology.](#)

Maja: When it comes to Institutional Anomie Theory (IAT), what similarities and/or differences do you find by looking at the United States and other countries?

Steven: My views on the distinctiveness of the US and any associated implications for Institutional Anomie Theory (IAT) have evolved over time. When Rick Rosenfeld and I developed what has come to be known as IAT, we took as our point of departure from Robert Merton's classic work on Social Structure and Anomie. Merton set out to apply insights from general sociological theory to what he explicitly regarded as a special case. He was convinced of 'American exceptionalism,' characterizing the culture as one that approximated a 'polar type' with respect to the relative emphasis on goals and means. When he referred to the anomic features of the *American Dream*, he clearly had in mind 'American' in the literal sense. This is the vantage point from which Rick and I initially developed our explanation for the high levels of serious crime in the US when compared to other highly developed nations. I still think that there are features of the socio-cultural context in the US that are distinctive and that reflect its history. For example, as we discuss in *Crime and the American Dream*, historians have highlighted the fact that the capitalist economy emerged in the US in the absence of preexisting institutional frameworks, which might help account for the very strong individualism in the culture. I would now place greater emphasis on the view that processes identified in IAT can be applied beyond the borders of the US, reflecting features of market capitalist societies more generally.

My comparative research over recent decades has also made me appreciate more and more the extent to which all societies are influenced by their distinctive historical trajectories. Exceptionalism is manifested in many different forms.

Maja: What do you find the most challenging part of your research? Do you have any advice for junior scholars on how to tackle these challenges in their own work?

Steven: To some extent, my response to this question follows from my response to the first question. One important challenge for the future is to adapt IAT's general theoretical framework to accommodate the rich diversity of institutional and cultural contexts across the globe. Another challenge which I have been involved in over research years is to apply insights from IAT at the individual-level of analysis. The theory was originally designed to explain crime with reference to macro-level dynamics – properties of social systems. There has, of course, been a longstanding interest in the macro/micro linkage in criminology and the social sciences more generally, and this interest appears to be on the rise. I have found that collaboration with other colleagues has been extremely valuable in confronting both challenges.

I have benefited greatly from being able to work with researchers who have much greater expertise about different cultures and institutional structures than I could possibly develop on my own in my comparative studies. Similarly, when tackling the macro/micro challenges, working with colleagues trained in social psychology has been indispensable.

Maja: Your scholarly research has examined several different countries (Korea, China, Belgium, etc.) thus far. What plans do you have for your future research as far as the countries you will be looking at?

Steven: I am currently collaborating with Scandinavian colleagues (see above!) in research on the heterogeneity of immigrant offending in Norway. I continue to conduct research on crime and disorder in contemporary urban China, focusing specifically on the increasing influence of market dynamics on processes of neighborhood social control.

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INTERVIEWS WITH ACCOMPLISHED SCHOLARS CONT.

Jukka Savolainen, Ph.D. *Wayne State University, USA*

Interviewed by Marijana Maja Kotlaja Missouri State University, USA



Click on the logo links to find out more information!

[Faculty Profile](#)



[Google Scholar](#)



[@JukkaSavo](#)

Maja: Over the years, you have written about many topics spanning criminal justice and criminology. Can you tell us a bit about your work on inequality and crime? Is there a study you are especially proud of?

Jukka: I came to criminology as a sociologist interested in macro-level theories. I studied under Steve Messner in Albany, so naturally the literature on economic inequality loomed large in my training. My article "[Inequality, Welfare State, and Homicide](#)," published in 2000, is a good example of that line of research. It remains my most cited paper. My later work has been more focused on individual differences and how they interact with the social environment. By way of a recent example, my 2017 article "Antisocial and human capital pathways to socioeconomic exclusion", published in *Developmental Psychology*, used longitudinal data to examine causes of persistent poverty. It is criminological in the sense that it considers antisocial behavior, including participation in crime and delinquency, as one pathway to midlife exclusion from socioeconomic mainstream. If I had to pick my favorite contribution to the literature on inequality, I think that would be it. However, it appears to be one of my *least* cited publications.

Maja: What do you find the most challenging part of your research?

Jukka: Advancing multiple projects at the same time, together with teaching and administrative responsibilities, can be challenging at times. Thankfully, I have been able to work with many energetic and creative co-authors over the years. Being accountable to your colleagues helps move things forward. Working with these brilliant humans has been the most rewarding part of my research.

Another challenge is dealing with the review process. I say this in all seriousness. Although peer-review is, in many ways, an admirable part of the production of scientific knowledge, it is frustrating to be rejected based on evaluations that misrepresent your work. I know colleagues who have decided to stop writing articles for this very reason. Ultimately, good work gets published, but sometimes the process is way too arduous and arbitrary. My sense is that it is easier to publish work that affirms the paradigm and imitates whatever is fashionable. It is more difficult to publish work that presents challenging ideas and, thus, requires careful and sustained attention from the reviewers. I hope I'm wrong!

Maja: Tell us more about your future projects. Are you working on anything you are very excited about now?

Jukka: In the past few years, I have been focused on finishing several projects and papers that started years ago. In a sense, I have been busy cleaning my desk for new projects. I am currently planning a couple of such projects with colleagues in Finland and Norway. All of them exploit the rich administrative microdata available in those countries. I have been very impressed with how economists study crime; I like their attention to causal estimation and focus on policy relevant topics. It looks like my agenda is veering into that direction. In addition, I am investigating opportunities for doing similar research with administrative records in the United States, especially in my home state of Michigan.

New international publication, presentation, or field experience you want to share?

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Aliens amid a Pandemic: International Students and Trump's Ban During the COVID-19 Era

Felipe Salazar-Tobar, *Rutgers University*



Undoubtedly, 2020 has been a challenging year for everyone. The pandemic has affected public health, the economy, and social life in almost every country and community across the globe. On top of that, the Trump administration rolled out an international student ban this year, creating more uncertainty and fracturing trust and legitimacy in government institutions for thousands of students who moved to the USA to pursue their education.

The current administration pushed for the ban as part of a larger populist agenda, but the Department of Homeland Security and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) have also pushed for changes in regulations for international students. For instance, getting a *F Visa* under a conditional renewal of the Department of Homeland Security would constrain time and opportunities to develop skills and learning processes in schools, or even could face deportation process in some cases. Graduate school takes more time than the regulation would like to allot, increasing the difficulty of finishing a degree and potentially jeopardizing professional opportunities. Fortunately, a combined effort of many universities in the USA challenged those guidelines in court, finally made the government rescind the rule.

Additionally, international students face unique challenges in navigating the response to COVID-19. For instance, the COVID responses from many universities meant that international students' traveling is limited, but other challenges also include: adapting learning experiences in a virtual environment, students in different time zones altering their routines for taking classes online, and increased vulnerability due to financial instability, housing displacement, higher levels of social isolation, and stress.

For many international students who work in criminology and criminal justice, bridging the world is one of the motivations for attending school in the United States. We are mainly interested in connecting what we already know about the discipline with top-notch knowledge and practices developed in the USA. It is particularly relevant for students – like me – from countries in the Global South, where we are facing several challenges related to crime, violence, and justice. Building bridges in criminology requires a continuing dialogue with multiple actors in different settings and cultures. In that sense, if the policy affects international students' access to programs, it also affects our discipline's research development and the implications for criminal justice and social justice worldwide.

Currently, there are about 1 million international students pursuing graduate and undergraduate programs in the U.S (Smith, 2020). In some way or another, we have been impacted by both immigration concerns and the virus, producing more uncertainty during an already particularly stressful time in our career. The outcome of the Presidential election brings us some relief. We think a revamp of international students' immigration policy would be a relevant step to reducing the perception of risk in pursuing degrees in the USA. For instance, the reinstatement of Dreamers or flexibility for post-graduation employment opportunities would be a good start. We proudly contribute to the diversity of higher education not only demographically but also because of the knowledge, work experiences, and cultural background that we bring to our education, career, and research here. We make bridges, connecting our different local and regional realities to the USA context and interacting with the Global North's perspectives about crime and justice.



As international students living in this country, we hope the incoming Biden-Harris Administration brings fresh air to the ideals of democracy in the USA. We know there are urgent matters for the first days in office, but an in-depth reform of Trump's immigration policy is essential too. International students also understand that as students here, our situation is privileged compared to other immigrants, who are facing more difficult situations than we are. It is for them that we will continue to push for inclusive and fair treatment by this new administration. As a community of international scholars, we will continue to build more bridges instead of walls.

Smith, C. (2020). International Students and Their Academic Experiences: Student Satisfaction, Student Success Challenges, and Promising Teaching Practices. In *Rethinking Education Across Borders* (pp. 271-287). Springer, Singapore.

Source: <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/07/14/metro/harvard-mit-argue-foreign-student-ban-will-harm-universities-public-health/>

Migration and Immigration Detention in Australia

Lorena Rivas, Griffith University



My name is Lorena Rivas, and I am a doctoral candidate within the School of Criminology at Griffith University in Australia. I am the first in my family to attend university, and the first to pursue a doctoral degree. Whilst I have spent the majority of my life in Australia, my family are migrants from Spain, having left after the Spanish Civil War in search of what so many migrants seek, a better life and opportunity for themselves and their families. My grandparents have recounted so many of their experiences and hardships, both of their lives in Spain prior to leaving as well as once they arrived in Australia. These stories have always stayed with and influenced me and were one of the main reasons I ended up focusing on the area of migration, specifically immigration detention for my Ph.D.

The use of mandatory immigration detention, and in particular, its rising use by western nations such as Australia, is controversial. This has recently been highlighted by media reports, public debate and a growing body of research criticizing this policy approach, especially concerning the length of detention and the conditions detainees are subjected to. Even though the problems of immigration detention are widely accepted, the practice persists. Scholarly research on the topic has largely focused on the population of detainees as a whole, which predominantly consists of adult men. Significantly fewer detainees are women and children, and relatively little research has been concerned with the experiences of women. For this reason, my research specifically examines the experiences of women in Australian immigration detention and the impact these experiences have on their physical, mental and social well-being. The literature that is available on this topic, and the impact of immigration detention on women detainees' wellbeing is concerning. Reports and research in the area paints a dire picture for women in Australian detention facilities, with women experiencing physical and sexual assault, domestic violence, repeat victimization, and an overall deterioration in their mental health, with issues such as depression, anxiety and self-harming/ suicidal behavior being quite common (Rivas & Bull, 2018).

During my doctoral studies, I have been fortunate enough to have explored all different aspects of the nature of immigration detention in Australia, including consulting for the Australian government on immigration detention facilities and processes, meeting with and interviewing service providers such as doctors and psychologists that have worked in these facilities, and interviewing women that were former detainees.



In a previous study, my coauthor and I (Rivas & Bull, 2018) noted the case of a woman who physically isolated herself in her room after being assaulted by another detainee because *"she did not feel safe in the detention environment"*. Another woman feared for herself and her children after her husband threatened to kill her if she disclosed any of the abuse she and her children were suffering at his hands whilst in detention. One of the service providers noted similarly that: *"They are living in a constant state of having to protect themselves and keep themselves safe...."* In that same study we also found that many women experienced despair, demoralization and hopelessness as a result of their lack of freedom, self-determination and in particular the prolonged nature of their detention. One woman went so far as to say that she had *"lost all hope for her situation"*

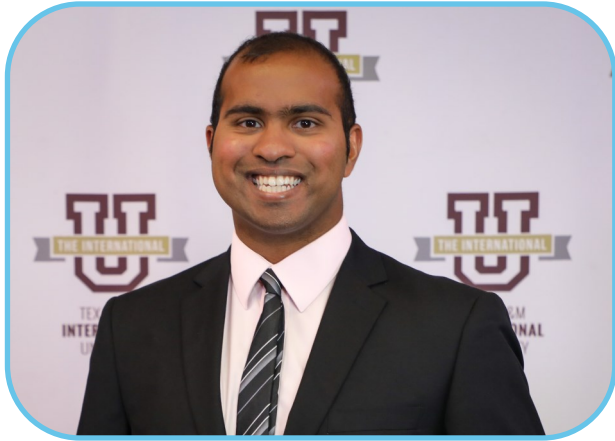
Whilst this research and my current Ph.D. program focuses on women in Australian immigration detention, it goes without saying that it is very likely that similar issues and experiences are being faced by women held in immigration detention facilities across the world. With irregular migration being seen as a bigger issue now more than ever for Western nations, I believe it is even more important that attention is given to how exactly these detention regimes are administered and the consequences of such processes, in particular for the more vulnerable individuals in society, women and children.

Rivas, L., & Bull, M. (2018). Gender and Risk: An Empirical Examination of the Experiences of Women Held in Long-Term Immigration Detention in Australia. *Refugee Survey Quarterly*, 37(3), 307-327.



Empowering Students as Difference Makers in their Communities through PhotoVoice

Jared Dmello, *Texas A&M International University*



In academia, much of our work focuses on the three core 'pillars': research, teaching, and service. While academic life emphasizes these three areas of work, what if we could integrate these perspectives together? Some, myself included, would argue that fusing the various dimensions of academic life leads to innovation and increased student success. In my fall 2019 senior seminar course, I integrated a PhotoVoice project that did just this! I received the 2020 Ken Peak Innovations in Teaching Award from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences for my integration of this project into my course.

Because this was the last course students took before graduation, I wanted to provide them with an opportunity to apply everything they had learned throughout their collegiate careers – including the realms of criminal justice, art, language, science, and beyond. Because Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) plays such a transformational role in the community and many students are native Laredoans, I thought engaging them beyond the classroom in the broader City could be an impactful pedagogical tool.

TAMIU has approximately 8,500 currently enrolled students, comprised of many under-represented categories. A vast 93.8% of the student body self-identifies as Hispanic, ranking the University as one of the highest concentrations of Hispanic students in the country. Nearly half (43.1%) of all full-time undergraduate students are first generation scholars. Sixty one point three percent self-identify as female. Just over 80 students report that they live in Mexico and cross to take courses at TAMIU; however, because of transitivity across the USA-Mexico border, obtaining accurate official data on how many students reside on each side proves to be challenging. The composition of the student body and the unique geographical context of this beautiful border town suggested that a PhotoVoice project could be a unique mechanism to empower students, uplift these under-represented voices, and interrogate how criminological theory aligns in a border context.

The goal was clear: investigating social disorganization in a contemporary border community. Students read Anderson's *Code of the Street* and instantly connected with the book, drawing parallels to what they experience here in Laredo. Motifs of a 'machismo culture' and stratification of neighborhoods really resonated with the students. However, the fun part was actually conducting the PhotoVoice project! Students went out into the community and documented the City as they lived it through photography, with the goal of identifying social disorganization or a lack thereof in Laredo. The students did a wonderful job and reported very much enjoying the project – several noted that they had visited parts of the City they had never seen before, while others described how the project deconstructed institutionalized biases associated with certain parts of Laredo. The photos also highlighted the unique beauty of our thriving border community, like the manifestations of art throughout the City (as shown in the photo above).

Overall, the students very much enjoyed this project, which empowered them to become difference makers in their communities by identifying strengths and crafting recommendations for improvement. I am even more thrilled about the outcome because it provided students identifying with several minority populations an opportunity to leave their legacy on our University as we continue our transformational presence in South Texas. By fusing teaching and research together through this project, students were able to innovate and develop a more holistic understanding of one of the key theories that has driven criminological research for the last few decades, all while having fun in the process!



Note: To view Dr. Dmello's more detailed lecture on the implementation of this PhotoVoice project in a classroom environment, please check out this link from the Sage/ACJS Faculty Development Series: [\[link\]](#).

If A Professor Records A Lecture And No One Listens To It, Are They Really Teaching?

Nadine Connell, *Griffith University*



When my university moved to remote learning back in March, I never imagined the magnitude of the changes around the world that have defined the last eight months. Here in Australia (Queensland specifically) our expected COVID-19 trajectories looked ominous out of the gate; my city was one of the first in the country to record a case. We went into lockdown quickly and a sense of camaraderie overcame academics and students alike. It was frightening, especially as I watched what happened in the rest of the world, but I took comfort in the fact that we were all in this together. We commiserated in online tutorials, set up a class Discord server to replicate the all-important campus coffee shop chats, and shared feel good memes not seen in such bulk since Successories was all the rage in American shopping malls (1995, in case you were wondering). While Australia may be one of the few public health success stories around the world, my classroom sure doesn't feel that way.

Students struggled. Academics struggled. Administrators struggled. Initial optimism that all would be well quickly turned to renewed fear as we watched Victoria go into prolonged lockdown and the realities of hard state border closures sunk in. Many were - and remain - isolated and far away from loved ones. Studying (and teaching) in those circumstances became a lesson in triage.

And let's be honest: we aren't going back to where things used to be. For me, that has been the biggest struggle. There are a lot of parts of teaching that aren't my favorite but working with students brings joy into my life. I love spontaneous classroom discussions that follow you into the hallways, eureka moments when you see all a student's hard work pay off, and those unexpected visits when students tell you about their new internship or grad school acceptance. Those are the things that get most of us through the day. And they were ripped away.

This is not to say that great innovation and great compassion has gone unnoticed. My colleagues did amazing things - and our students responded with grace, good humor, and a positive attitude. Despite the very real challenges (if you want to hear a good whinge, ask an Australian about the NBN), quality scholarship happened. Learning happened. Even with strict work from home regulations, internships happened. It was the best of a bad situation.

I've still never been so happy to say goodbye to a teaching year and I know most of you feel the same. You're counting down the days and I don't blame you. Because this is HARD. But I survived and so will you. I leave you with the famous catchphrase of 1995: Hang In There.

In the end, I finally got to meet one of my students. She was my barista one Saturday morning. She recognized my voice and I got my first (and only) celebrity recognition experience. Take that Chris Hemsworth!

So maybe it wasn't so bad after all.

But just in case, here's a sunrise. I'll see you at the beach.



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The Challenges of Doing Comparative Research in a Global Pandemic

Jon Maskaly, *University of North Dakota*

Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovich, *Michigan State University*

Peter Neyroud, *University of Cambridge*



There is an adage in policing: "Being the executive is like riding a bike on fire, except that the fire is on fire." After undertaking a comparative research project on changes in policing during the pandemic, we now have an even better appreciation for this saying. Since late April, we have been diligently working to understand [how the pandemic has affected change in police organizations](#).

As those who have undertaken a comparative research project may know, it is quite challenging even at the best of times to coordinate the administrative bureaucracy of multiple governments in addition to the subtle—and sometimes more dramatic—changes between the roles and responsibilities of criminal justice agencies between countries. However, this project—as most things have been recently—is complicated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, we were trying to develop measures applicable to the police in all countries even though the pandemic-induced conditions were changing from day to day and from country to country. Taken in conjunction with the rapid expansion in the knowledge and awareness produced globally, designing an effective instrument is akin to hitting a moving target. We would develop a questionnaire draft, only to alter it the next week in light of the evolving situation and constructive feedback from colleagues across the world.

Eventually, we surveyed police administrators about policing during COVID-19 in 28 countries and are currently working on publishing the results. There are four findings we wish to highlight for the readers. First, police organizations in most countries in our study at least partly changed the way they do policing. Moreover, asking agencies to report these changes' valence yielded substantially deeper insights. Specifically, whereas most organizations reported changes, some agencies reported increases in a certain activity, while others reported decreases in that same activity. Second, preliminary results suggest that the pandemic intensity does not consistently predict change in policing practices across the world. It seems that other factors may be stronger predictors of the organizational and operational changes in policing. Third, we uncovered a great extent of heterogeneity in the perceptions of policing changes among respondents from the same country. In countries with decentralized police systems, like the United States, this is not surprising. However, we also saw considerable variation in at least several countries with centralized police systems from which we received multiple responses. Perhaps an explanation lies in the possibility that pandemic-related messages may have been communicated with varying levels of detail and various levels of intensity even within countries with centralized police systems, although additional research is still needed. Fourth, and most encouraging, not all the effects of the pandemic are necessarily adverse. Responses to open-ended questions suggest that agencies were forced to adopt new technology, policies, and systems to respond to the pandemic, at least some of which may reveal potential ways to enhance effectiveness and efficiency in the post-pandemic world (e.g., online crime reports, online training, remote work).

We would like to thank the respondents who participated in this survey. Inevitably, these police executives were even busier than normal, yet they took the time to help provide the data that made this project possible. We are eternally grateful for everything they have done in the most trying of times.

The next stage in our research project drills down into the issue further by surveying officers and citizens in an effort to assess the degree of organizational changes and the effects of these changes on police-community relationships. The plentiful challenges remain, from translating the questionnaires and selecting the sampling approach, to opening the doors and fielding the questionnaires. If you are interested in joining us or have questions, please feel free to contact us (Jon: jonathan.maskaly@und.edu; Sanja: kutnjak@msu.edu).

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Interviews with Award Winners

Graduate Student Paper Award Winners (1st Place)

Jennifer Peirce, *John Jay College of Criminal Justice*



Paper: “It was supposed to be fair here”: Human Rights Recourse Mechanisms and the Dominican Republic’s Prison Reform Process

I have been interested in life inside prisons for a long time and I have volunteered with different organizations that work inside prisons in Canada, the United States, and El Salvador. Prior to returning to academia for my Ph.D. program, I worked in the international development sector on transitional justice, crime reduction, and human rights issues in Central America. I started to notice that there was very little attention to the problems in prisons, compared to police and courts, despite the fact that poor conditions and management in prisons was driving some of the crime and violence. For my doctoral research, I decided to study prison reform initiatives in Latin America that take a progressive, rehabilitation-oriented approach in Latin America. The Dominican Republic’s experience has quite a high profile in the region: the country has built new “correction and rehabilitation centers” (CCRs), with extensive staff and programs, that now hold about a third of its incarcerated population; the rest live in “old” prisons run by police. However, there is not much research about this process. I did about six months of fieldwork (over two years), using surveys and interviews, to understand incarcerated people’s perceptions of their confinement and of the reforms. Human rights are at the core of the Dominican reform project, but I learned that incarcerated people are frustrated with the gap between the lofty claims and the reality they experience.

Latin America, given its history of authoritarian regimes, has a strong tradition of human rights advocacy against repressive state agencies. In this paper, I consider the array of recourse mechanisms that exist for prisoners and

their families or advocates when there is an incident of a rights violation in prison. These include top-down institutional mechanisms – like judicial oversight and official commissions – and bottom-up mechanisms – like advocacy through NGOs and the media, prisoners’ own organizing into committees, and the formal grievance process. Overall, awareness of rights issues is higher and the institutional mechanisms for oversight and transparency function better for the new (reformed) prisons than in the old ones. Yet, when the rights violations involve misconduct by staff in the CCRs, the institutional response is, in the view of prisoners, insufficient and sometimes prioritizes the external reputation of the institution. What’s more, prisoners in CCRs have less access to self-organizing or the press. This generates a gap between expectations of better rights and the actual experience of seeking remedies. The resulting sense of cynicism can undermine the other laudable achievements of the reform process.

The most challenging part of the research was trying to balance building a broad picture of various aspects of prison operations across the whole country with the details of particular facilities and situations and local politics. Of course, each prison has its own history and culture, and in writing about “old” and “new” prisons overall, some of these nuances disappear. Also, as an outsider who has not experienced incarceration myself, I tried to overcome the tendency of North American researchers to do “parachute” style projects (drop in and fly out) – but inevitably my analysis is infused with my own assumptions and blind spots.

I am currently completing my dissertation and preparing some articles for publication. I work as a researcher with the Vera Institute of Justice, with a focus on jails and pretrial detention, and it’s interesting to see how many common challenges prisons and jails face, whether in the USA or the Dominican Republic. I intend to continue to do research that is in partnership with local organizations and advocates, to try to make my work as relevant as possible to those who are trying to improve the well-being of people in conflict with the law.



Also, as an outsider who has not experienced incarceration myself, I tried to overcome the tendency of North American researchers to do “parachute” style projects (drop in and fly out) – but inevitably my analysis is infused with my own assumptions and blind spots.

Interviews with Award Winners

Graduate Student Paper Award Winners (2nd Place)

Alyssa Mendlein, Temple University



My research paper is titled “Justice System Size and Punishment Across Nations: The Relationship between Incarceration and Police, Prosecution, and Judicial Personnel in Forty-Seven Countries.” This paper explores whether there is a relationship between front-end justice system workforce size (police, prosecution, and judiciary) and incarceration rates cross-nationally. I have been interested in comparative crime and justice issues since my Master’s program at the University of Cambridge in the UK. During my studies there, I came to realize the value of exploring these topics outside of the US, as the field of criminology can be very US-centric. Back in the US, as part of my Ph.D. training at Temple University, I took an extra course called Crime and Justice Around the World, and became familiar with the United Nations Surveys of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS) dataset. The data on justice systems appeared to be underutilized, and I looked for a creative way to examine this data to address some of the questions I have been pondering regarding justice and punishment approaches from a comparative perspective. It struck me that justice system workforce size had rarely been examined in relation to incarceration, despite a sizeable body of research on incarceration rates within and between countries. My advisor helped me develop this idea and, ultimately, I felt that two theoretical perspectives (conflict and general systems theory) would support a link between a country’s justice workforce size and rate of incarceration, as shown in the conceptual model.

The key findings from my paper were the following: 1) prosecution workforce size was a positive predictor of incarceration rate, 2) judiciary workforce size was a negative but weak predictor of incarceration rate, and 3) there was no relationship between police workforce size and incarceration rate. In addition, the conflict controls (ethnic fractionalization, income inequality) also emerged as positive predictors of incarceration rates. I also conducted some mediation analyses, to see whether workforce size mediated the relationship between conflict and incarceration, and whether case processing mediated the relationship between prosecution workforce size and incarceration.

Although none of those paths proved to be significant, more work needs to be done to fully examine this and reach a more informed conclusion regarding the empirical support (or lack of) for the theoretical perspectives that informed the research.

The most challenging part in conducting the research was figuring out how to work with the missing data, which is a common problem in cross-national research. Although the UN-CTS has been collected regularly since the 1970s, there have been varying levels of data quality and participation, and so, for the moment, my best option was to average available data across the most recent collection time periods (2003-2017), rather than try to impute the missing data and also examine these relationships longitudinally. I believe the average relationships still provide us with important information about how parts of the justice system relate to one another, but I hope to analyze this relationship among some sample of countries longitudinally in the future. I plan to build upon this research for my dissertation, potentially also exploring the mediating and moderating relationships surrounding workforce size and incarceration and looking at these relationships at more local levels as well.

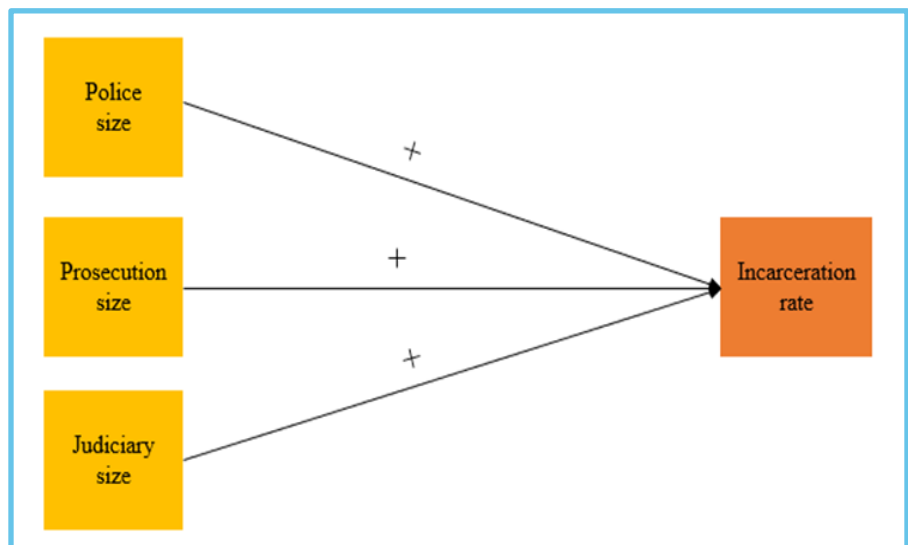


Figure 1. Conceptual Model Based on Conflict and Systems Perspectives

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Graduate Student Fellow

Lina Marmolejo, *George Mason University*



Tell us a little bit about your research.

My research interests focus primarily on criminal justice and security sector reform, pretrial justice, community corrections, and rehabilitation and reentry programs in the United States (USA), Latin America, and in the Caribbean.

Specifically, my dissertation research studies decision-making processes to release or detain individuals at preliminary stages of the judicial process and examines the incarceration experiences of people detained before trial in Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. It is grounded on a mixed-methods approach and it uses survey data from 3,120 incarcerated individuals, both sentenced or in pretrial status. These surveys were conducted by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in 2017 and 2018. In addition to the survey data, I am conducting semi-structured interviews with key judicial actors (i.e., judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys) to understand how they think about pretrial detention decisions, what factors influence such decisions, and the role of legal counsel in these processes. I am also interviewing people held in prison while waiting for trial, to explore their experiences and pains during their time in pretrial detention.

In my research, I integrate legal, sociological, and criminological scholarship to study pretrial justice, its drivers, and consequences in Caribbean communities. I am also interested in understanding if and how theories and findings of the pretrial literature produced in the global North apply to developing countries in the Caribbean and in Latin America. These countries are socially, racially, and ethnically distinct, and I would like to know what their experiences in issues related to pretrial detention, alternatives to incarceration, and the rule of law can teach us about how to further advance the field of comparative and international criminology.

How did you get interested in researching pretrial detention in the Caribbean?

My motivation and interest in criminology, and particularly in sentencing, and correctional issues has been shaped by my professional experience in international development. For more than ten years, I have had the opportunity to work for different multilateral organizations devoted to reducing poverty and inequality, promoting public safety, and achieving sustainable development in the Latin America and Caribbean region. While performing different roles, I have been able to work with correctional authorities in a variety of countries in the region. I have also spent time talking to individuals deprived of their liberty about their needs and concerns regarding new policies and how they affect them. I visited prisons, courts, vulnerable communities affected by high levels of crime. These experiences provided hands on experience in understanding the complexity of violence dynamics in the region and a direct view into the humanitarian crisis that many prisons of the region are facing, such as precarious infrastructure conditions, overcrowded cells, limited access to basic goods and services, and violence. I knew that if I was going to work in criminal justice, I wanted to contribute to improve the lives of incarcerated individuals with actionable research that could lead to reduce prison populations and pretrial detention, expand opportunities for rehabilitation and promote reintegration services for individuals involved in the criminal justice system.

What were some of the key findings from your award-winning proposal? What was the most challenging part of your research?

The Division of International Criminology Graduate Fellowship for Global Research will support the last phase of data collection of my dissertation research. My next steps are to begin the data analysis process and writing of findings, towards the goal of completing my dissertation in 2021. I believe this fellowship will allow me to not only complete my fieldwork and my dissertation, but will also provide me with the network and access to other scholars and professionals in the field to share my research findings and my experiences of working and conducting comparative research in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Despite its high presence in the criminal justice system, the pretrial population is often neglected in the criminological research literature emanating from developing countries. Therefore, it has been challenging to find prior criminological research on pretrial populations in Caribbean countries. Also, there is limited administrative data (from police, courts, and prisons) that it is publicly and easily available for me to construct a complete and more nuanced picture of pretrial processes and outcomes. The paucity of empirical research of pretrial populations, especially in Caribbean countries, severely limits our understanding of this phenomenon in the region.

What are your next steps and future plans?

I am in the last phase of my Ph.D. journey and my time is devoted to finishing my dissertation research. I am at a critical point in both my educational and professional career. I am preparing to go into the job market and exploring options of what would be the next step. I would love to continue conducting policy-relevant research that affects practice, expanding my research portfolio and submitting my work to journals and conferences. Also, I would like to develop new and strengthen existing multidisciplinary research networks with scholars and practitioners from Latin America and the Caribbean that can help bridge current divides and inequities in the production of knowledge in criminology.

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Outstanding Book Award

Dirk Van Zyl Smith, *University of Nottingham, United Kingdom*

Catherine Appleton, *University of Nottingham, United Kingdom*



Life Imprisonment a Global Human Rights Analysis (Harvard University Press, 2019)

How did you become interested in researching this topic?

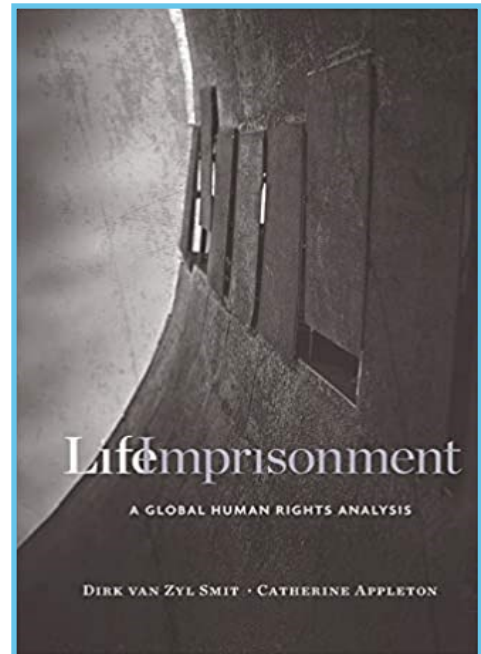
We originally became interested in life imprisonment as a global phenomenon because we surmised that a life sentence was the most widely used 'ultimate' penalty in the world. It was, therefore, important to study life imprisonment in its own right, and not merely as an alternative to capital punishment. Moreover, it was necessary to develop a framework for critiquing life imprisonment, using a more sophisticated set of tools than the outright moral condemnation which is often expressed about the death penalty.

Tell us about the methodology you applied to conduct the research. What did you find to be the most challenging part of your research? Anything you would have done differently if you had a chance?

First, we now can say confidently that life imprisonment, rather than the death sentence, is the ultimate penalty used most often worldwide. Formal life imprisonment is the most severe penalty that can be imposed in 149 out of 216 countries and territories. It is also the most severe penalty in current international courts and tribunals. We estimate that there are about 500,000 prisoners serving formal life sentences worldwide, compared to about 20,000 prisoners on death row, most of whom will never be executed and many who will have their sentences converted into life imprisonment.

Secondly, what we learnt is that studying as complex a topic such as life imprisonment on a global scale requires modesty. In addition to formal life sentences, there are thousands more prisoners who are serving indeterminate sentences which are not labelled life imprisonment, but which give the state the power to keep them in prison until they die there – our definition of life sentences. Add to these others that have fixed term sentences, but for very long terms, in some instances of a hundred years or more that offer no realistic prospect of release. The result is that we are talking about a significant part of the world population of sentenced prisoners, but we are not yet able to estimate how many.

Thirdly, we sought to produce a human rights based critique of life sentences, but again we were confronted by the complexity of our subject matter as, in practice, life imprisonment may mean a life sentence from which release is all but guaranteed after ten or fifteen years, to a sentence where eventual death in prison is the most likely outcome. Moreover, human rights law on life imprisonment is not yet fully formed. The view that human rights require that there should be no life sentences at all is still a minority one worldwide and is official policy in only 32 countries.



Here more about the award winning book in the DIC Awards Ceremony webinar ([click here](#))!

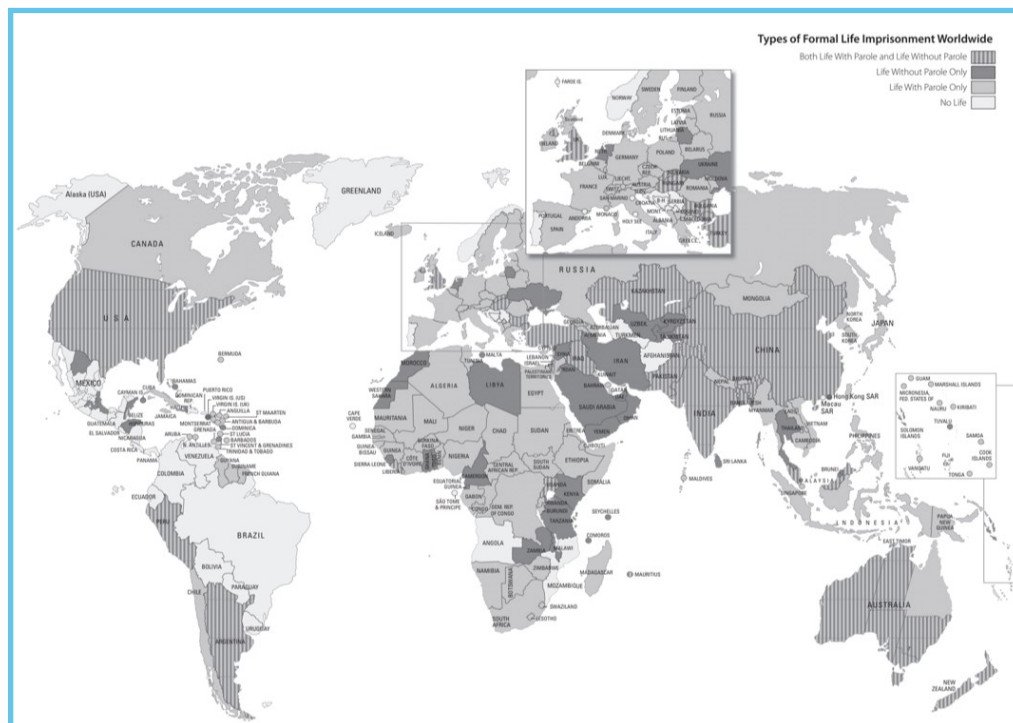
Cont on pg. 14.

Outstanding Book Award Cont.

Dirk Van Zyl Smith, *University of Nottingham, United Kingdom*

Catherine Appleton, *University of Nottingham, United Kingdom*

What we did was collect a wide range of empirical data, that would allow us to understand the types of life sentences, if any, imposed world-wide:



From this basis, we ask a series of questions: If one has life imprisonment, on whom can life sentences legitimately be imposed? For what can they be imposed? How should lifers be treated? Importantly, how should their release be considered? And what should happen to them after they have been released?

What are the key aspects of the book that you'd like conveyed to your readers?

Our conclusions are nuanced but overall, we found that: "Life sentences are too easily and too often imposed, including on children and for crimes that are not the most serious. They result in excessive detention, and often encompass appalling treatment, unjust release procedures and inadequate support in the community" (p.325). In an ideal world there may eventually be no life sentences; but given how drastic they are, if they remain on the statute book they should be used less frequently and implemented according to international human rights standards. We argue strongly that in every case a person sentenced to life imprisonment has a human right to a reasonable prospect of release, which implies a prison regime that gives them opportunities to improve themselves before facing a fair process for considering their release.

What should other researchers who are interested in focusing on Life Imprisonment and Human Rights study? Any advice?

We believe that our book provides a basis for a radical reductionist programme. However, going forward, more work will be required to develop human rights based strategies, supported by further empirical information on what is happening internationally. We should recognise too that worldwide there are powerful countertendencies, in the USA, the UK, Eastern Europe and elsewhere, that would deliberately increase rather than reduce the use of LWOP - life sentences without the prospect of parole. LWOP, the most drastic form of life LWOP is really a delayed death in the arms of the state, which, we conclude, should be combatted with as much vigour as capital punishment.

New international publication, presentation, or field experience you want to share?

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The Freda Adler Distinguished Scholar of the Year is Awarded to Cindy J. Smith, 1954-2020

Friends and Mentees Share Memories



"I first met Cindy when I was hired to be her Graduate Assistant in the Center for Legal Studies at the University of Illinois Springfield. She saw something in me and had the confidence in me that I did not have in myself. By taking a chance on me, she changed my life both professionally and personally. Cindy gave me my start in higher education and we worked together doing research for many years, becoming great friends in the process. After 25 years in the field - and in my personal life - there is not a day that goes by that I do not use a professional, technical, or people skill that Cindy helped me to develop. It is thanks to Cindy that I make mentoring students and younger colleagues a top priority. I hope to pay it forward in a way that would make my mentor - and very dear friend - proud."

Kimberly Craig, University of Illinois Springfield

"Cindy was the defining professional presence in my life. She had the ability to see the inherent value in anyone and then would go out of her way to provide them with the opportunity to show that value. She is the reason why I was able to take my academic interest in international criminal justice and turn it into a career. Without her I would not be where I am today and, for that, I will always be eternally grateful."

Leonid Lantsman, Department of State

"Cindy was a great friend and mentor, and I was honored to have her be my boss for a few years at the State Department. While Cindy obviously had a great deal of academic smarts and research experience, it is her wisdom about life and love and family that stays with me. She was a tremendous support to me during a difficult time professionally and personally, and I looked up to her for her steadfast faith that it's always right to do the just thing, even when it's hard, and that taking care of the ones you love is the most important gift of yourself you can give. I wish I had met her sooner in life, and I miss her dearly."

Marisa Ferri Light, Department of State

"Cindy was more than a boss: she became a mentor and a good friend. She always said that work should be fun, which thanks to her, it became for me. I will never stop being grateful for how much she believed in me and for all the incredible opportunities she gave me to grow professionally; I gained renewed passion for the work that I did and learned so much from her. Cindy had a great heart and a fantastic sense of humor! She was understanding, compassionate and always ready to stand by you. I turned to her even in my most difficult personal times, where she offered me support and great advice. I truly miss her and cherish the moments we shared together."

Chiara Bologna, UNICRI

"Work trip to Bangkok, after a meeting with The Netherlands Embassy out in the rain, but always having fun." (Picture to Right)



New international publication, presentation, or field experience you want to share?

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The Freda Adler Distinguished Scholar of the Year is Awarded to Cindy J. Smith 1954-2020



"I had met Cindy a few times - at ASC and in her capacity as International Director at NIJ. In 2009, we were both invited to participate in a very exciting international initiative, developing human rights protections for women in prison. I was VERY new to this world and Cindy held my hand throughout the entire process. She taught me about the UN processes and the role of Program Network Institutes in developing these human rights standards. She was both kind and fun in helping me understand this world. Any table was the fun table when she was holding court. Cindy also introduced me to many of my dear friends in this international arena. I was always so impressed about how much she knew and how willing she was to help out a rookie. I miss her so much and am very grateful that I knew her."

Barbara Owen, Retired Professor USC-Fresno

Cindy hard at work and play with the ELFI Project In Bangkok, the Kingdom of Thailand--2009. Enhancing the Lives of Female Inmates was the first step in developing the Bangkok Rules--human rights guidance to reforming women's prisons.



Here more about Cindy's incredible legacy in the virtual DIC Awards Ceremony webinar ([click here](#))!

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Successful Virtual DIC Award Ceremony and Webinar Launch of International Criminology

Ineke Marshall, Northeastern University



Many of us have good memories of the DIC Award Luncheon, traditionally held on Friday during the Annual American Society of Criminology meeting: Interesting food, conversations with table partners from across the globe, business updates and, importantly, recognition of the different award recipients. This year, the COVID-19 pandemic did not only prevent this event from happening in Washington DC as originally planned, but it also interfered with our plans to use the ASC meeting as the venue to launch DIC's new official publication *International Criminology*. The best alternative was to arrange a virtual meeting instead; combining the DIC awards ceremony with the launch of the journal through two panels on the theme of the inaugural issue of the new journal: *The Future of International Criminology*.

Looking back on this event, I am happy to report that the virtual meeting (November 20) was quite successful, attended by a wider range of colleagues from outside the USA than would have been possible if the event had taken place in DC, and providing a space for brief but thought-provoking discussions on international, global, and comparative criminology. Obviously, zoom-meetings have their limitations, but through this cyber-event, we have laid a strong foundation for a continuing debate on key issues related to international criminology - through the journal, as well as through in-person meetings and panels in the years to come.

For the Inaugural issue, we asked nine international scholars to respond to two questions:

- (1) Looking at the present situation, is the internationalization of criminology fact or fiction?
- (2) Looking towards the future, will international, comparative, and global criminology become more prominent – and if so, in what way?

You soon will be able to read the responses to these questions in *International Criminology, Volume 1, Issue 1 (March 2021)*, but for the virtual event, we asked the authors to prepare a brief presentation highlighting their thoughts on these questions. The imaginative titles of the presentations (see below) illustrate the wide range of perspectives and approaches taken by our panelists.

John Braithwaite (Australian National University) *Glimmers of cosmopolitan criminology*

John Hagan (Northwestern University) *International law and American criminology: Lessons of racist torture and reparation from Geneva to Chicago*

Amy Nivette (University of Utrecht) *Shrinking the world through international data*

Sappho Xenaxis (Birkbeck, University of London) *International criminology and international connectivity: Reflections at a pivotal juncture*

Steven Messner (University of Albany) *The glass is at least half-full: Reflections on the internationalization of criminology*

Katja Franko (University of Oslo) *Lives that matter: Criminology and global security inequality*

Leandro Ayres Franca (Pontificia Universidade Catolica do Rio Grande do Sul) *How international should international criminology be?*

Michael Gottfredson (University of California at Irvine) *The essential role of cross-national research in assessing theories of crime: Illustrations from modern control theory*

Gary LaFree (University of Maryland) *Progress and obstacles in the internationalization of criminology*

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Successful Virtual DIC Award Ceremony and Webinar Launch of International Criminology Cont.

Ineke Marshall, *Northeastern University*

I was pleasantly surprised when all nine contributors to the first issue of the journal immediately agreed to participate in one of the two 'live' panels. [Steve Messner participated through a pre-recorded video because of teaching obligations at the time of the panels.] Although we are by now used to instant electronic communication with our friends and colleagues across the globe, there still is the reality of different time zones, which makes organizing synchronous panels a big challenge. A big thank-you goes to John Braithwaite, for example, who was willing to participate in the first panel at 1:00 AM (Australia), together with John Hagan, who had to be ready to participate at 8:00 AM (Illinois, USA).

Virtual panels run into the same frustrating time constraints as in-person panels: never enough time for both in-depth and nuanced presentations and give-and-take between panelists and audience. Nonetheless, the panelists managed to provide us with a wonderfully varied, well-prepared and engaging set of presentations (with a minimum of zoom-related technical hick-ups), allowing some time for discussion among themselves as well as fielding questions from the audience. My thanks go out to Associate Editor Janet Stamatel who skillfully and gracefully managed the Q and A via the chat box.

The DIC awards ceremony was pre-recorded into a 30-minute video (expertly assembled by Nadine Connell) introduced by DIC Chair Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovich. As some of the panelists commented later, this awards ceremony provided a welcome break between the two panels, and reminded us of the great work that is done in the field of international criminology by DIC members, students and faculty alike. The DIC Social Media Team (Marijana Kotlaja, Nadine Connell, and Dragana Derlic) managed the promotion of the webinar through Twitter and Facebook and should be thanked for their ability to invite so many of our national and international colleagues to the November 20 event.

A recording of the panel presentations as well as the DIC award ceremony will be available soon through the DIC website.

Finally, I would like to invite you to consider [International Criminology](#) as the premier outlet for your work. Next to thematic issues (such as the inaugural issue on the *Future of International Criminology*), the journal will publish a variety of articles on a range of themes pertaining to international, global, and comparative criminology. We have an outstanding international editorial board and a network of peer-reviewers facilitating a quick turn-around time between submission and decision. If you are interested in serving as a peer-reviewer for the journal, we will be happy to include you in our list, and our book review section is open to proposals for books to review. Check our website for more information, and sign up for alerts.

We had a great kick-off of the new journal, and I am confident that our publisher Springer will be ready to fill our champagne glasses to celebrate the new official publication of the DIC at the next ASC meeting!

Watch Now:

[DIC Virtual Awards Ceremony 2019-2020](#)



[Webinar & Launch of International Criminology Journal – November 17th, 2020](#)



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DIVISION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friends,

Amanda and I are co-editing a special issue of *Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice* scheduled for publication in May 2021. This special issue highlights efforts to improve justice by connecting research, policy, and advocacy. The goal of this issue is to share information that can serve as a reference for academics looking to engage more directly with policy work, and for policy-makers seeking ways to engage with researchers.



We are requesting a 500 word response (in total) to the two questions below for possible inclusion in our lead article for this special issue:

As we look ahead to 2021, please tell us: (1) What do you see as the *most pressing crime and justice issues* that require the attention of researchers, practitioners, and policymakers? (2) What do you see as the *most promising strategies* for connecting research, policy, and advocacy to improve justice?

We welcome responses from scholars, advocates, policy makers, practitioners and thinkers from any discipline and at any stage in their career. Amanda and I will select 15 to 20 responses that span a range of issues and strategies to be organized thematically in the lead article along with our commentary. Your responses, if selected for inclusion, will include your name, title, and affiliation.

Deadline: January 15th, 2021. Please submit your responses as a Word document with your name, title and affiliation to this [link](#).

We request you to share this prompt among your networks.

Amanda Burgess-Proctor & Sheetal Ranjan



DIC Sponsors CSW65 Panel for Virtual UN Meeting Held in March 2021

In 2013, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) adopted, by consensus, the Agreed Conclusions on The Elimination and Prevention of All Forms of Violence Against Women and Girls, solidifying the issue of violence against women. One of the conclusions in the landmark document clearly recognized the important role of the community in efforts towards eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls. This parallel event aims at highlighting community mobilization activities around the world using the coordinated community response (CCR) approach. CCR refers to community wide efforts to bring together relevant stakeholders to address complex social problems.

Date of Event: Thursday, 18 March 2021

Panel Title: International Approaches to Coordinating Community Responses: Violence Against Women

For more information, please visit; UN Commission on the Status of Women (<https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw65-2021>)

Dear colleagues of the International Division of the American Society of Criminology, from Mexico, we invite you to consult the academic journal *Criminology, Private Security and Forensic Files* (ISSN 2007-2023), is open access, downloadable more than 300 PDF articles, useful for thesis, research and reading. Can also submit your work to apply according to APA 6 standards. The site is: <https://acspyc.es.tl/>

Rolando Granados Muñoz

Editor in Chief

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DIVISION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call For Papers Covid And Conflict: Local Impacts And Global Questions *Journal of Conflict and Violence*

Coordinating Editor, Andres F. Rengifo Rutgers University, School of Criminal Justice, NJ, United States

The health crisis triggered by COVID-19 has upended billions of lives from the staggering ranks of those directly exposed to illness and tragedy, to others affected by record levels of unemployment and the realignment of government operations and other services. The progression of the pandemic and its associated responses in government and society have fueled old conflicts and created new ones, many of which have amplified the potential for violence, abuse and other crimes. These twin forces have also recast broader tensions involving the role of local vs. global authorities, the integration of state vs. private strategies, and the priority given to short vs. long-term policies of mitigation and reconstruction. To study these contrasts empirically and substantively, IJCV seeks submissions documenting the impact of COVID-19 across key topics related to conflict and violence. This encompasses the tracing of local problems linked to the outbreak and their range of intended and unintended consequences, as well as the critical assessment of global questions emerging in a post COVID-19 world. Consistent with the multi-disciplinary nature of the journal, we welcome empirically grounded submissions from social sciences, human rights, law, and health/public health research and related fields.

Topics of particular interest are:

- Impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable populations (refugees, displaced persons, people incarcerated, first-responders, elderly people).
- Impact of social-distance measures on recorded levels of crime/violence (including, for example, homicide, and domestic violence), policing practices (staffing levels, deployments), and criminal sanctions (pre-trial detention, community-based sanctions).
- Disparities in the enforcement of social-distance measures across race/ethnicity/gender and in terms of health-care provision or access to statesponsored reconstruction programs.
- Structure of responses to COVID-19 in the Global North vs. Global South (local vs. national/federal responses, role of security/law enforcement agencies, approaches to testing and containment, border controls, etc.), and associated conflicts over redistribution of wealth across or within countries.
- COVID-19 and crimes such as price-gouging, theft of medical supplies, counterfeited goods/ smuggling, corruption) or more general forms of vigilantism, stigma, and other evolving mechanisms of "social control" targeting suspected COVID-19 victims and first-responders.

Submissions: Papers for this focus section must be submitted via email at ijcv@uni-bielefeld.de no later than **May 31, 2021**. All papers must conform with IJCV's author guidelines and may not exceed 6,000 words excluding references and tables/figures. For more information, see <https://www.ijcv.org/index.php/ijcv/about/submissions>. For questions about this call for papers, please contact Andres F. Rengifo, IJCV Editor coordinating this special issue at arengifo@rutgers.edu.

International Journal of Conflict and Violence Since 2007 IJCV has provided a forum for scientific exchange and public dissemination of up-to-date scientific knowledge on conflict and violence. The IJCV is independent, peer reviewed, open access, and included in the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) as well as other relevant databases (e.g., SCOPUS, EBSCO, ProQuest, DNB.). The topics on which we concentrate — conflict and violence — have always been central to various disciplines. Consequently, the journal encompasses contributions ranging from criminology, economics, education, ethnology, history, political science, psychology, social anthropology, sociology, the study of religions, and urban studies, among others.

For more information visit us at: <https://www.ijcv.org/>

Editors: Leena Malkki, University of Helsinki, Finland; Sarah Marsden, Lancaster University, Lancaster, United Kingdom; Steven F. Messner, University at Albany, NY, United States; Andres F. Rengifo, Rutgers University, School of Criminal Justice, NJ, United States; Philipp Süssenbach, University of Applied Sciences of SMEs (FHM), Bielefeld, Germany.

Associate Editors: Heiko Mata Bielefeld, University, Germany; Kurt Salentin, Bielefeld University, Germany.

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DIVISION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Conferences and Seminars;

LAW AND HUMANITIES IN A PANDEMIC: THE LOCAL MEETS THE GLOBAL: NATIONAL RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC.

January 21, 2121 <https://ials.sas.ac.uk/events/event/22839>

CENTRAL VALLEY ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING

January 27, 2021 [Website](#)

THE SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH

March 22 – 24, 2021 [Website](#)

ASIAN CRIMINOLOGICAL SOCIETY

June 18 – 21, 2021 [Website](#)

2021 INTERNATIONAL CRIMINOLOGY CONFERENCE

Friday, November 5, 2021 [Website](#)

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

International Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

On behalf of the committee and staff of GPE, it is great pleasure and honor to extend to you a warm invitation to attend the next International Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect to be held from January 19 to 22 – 2021 in Washington, DC at The Walter E. Washington Convention Center Washington, DC 20001, the United States of America.

The second edition of the conference will be held from **January 25 to 27, 2021** in Dakar, Senegal, at the King Luxury Hotel Convention Center.

The CAN 2021 is been organize by “Global Partnership for Education” (GPE) in partnership with “End Violence Against Women International” (EVAWI).

Great speakers with being experts from around the world, come and learn new skills, be inspired by ideas, and walk away connected, informed, and better equipped to address the issue of human rights in your community.

CAN 2021 is a kind learning and networking platform from across the globe to discuss issues related to Child Abuse and Neglect, in a culturally and professionally diverse environment. This top research conference attracts more high-profile researchers from around the world than any other similar event in the United States & Africa.

Registration is free and delegates are entitled to free the United States Visa arrangements by the Organizing Committee, that including your round trip Air tickets... Delegates will only be responsible for his/her hotel accommodation at the host King Luxury Hotel.

Contact the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) for details on registration via Email: **(CAN2021@usa.com)**. Do inform them that Christina Chilimba, a staff member of (GPE), recommended you, and for further assistance do not hesitate to contact me at **(christina.chilimba@aol.com)**.

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- Abtahi, H. (2020). The International Criminal Court during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Journal of International Criminal Justice*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jicj/mqaa058>
- Beirne, P. (2020). Wildlife Trade and COVID-19: Towards a Criminology of Anthropogenic Pathogen Spillover. *The British Journal of Criminology*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azaa084>
- Brisman, A. (2020). Immunity to Environmental Crime, Harm and Violence: An Ongoing Pandemic and a Possible Narrative Vaccine. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624X20970885>
- Buil-Gil, D., Medina, J., & Shlomo, N. (2020). Measuring the dark figure of crime in geographic areas: Small area estimation from the crime survey for england and wales. *The British Journal of Criminology*. <https://academic.oup.com/bjc/advance-article/doi/10.1093/bjc/azaa067/5924614?login=true>
- Byrne, J., Rapisarda, S. S., Hummer, D., & Kras, K. R. (2020). An Imperfect Storm: Identifying the Root Causes of COVID-19 Outbreaks in the World's Largest Corrections Systems. *Victims & Offenders*, 1-48. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azaa067>
- Campos-Delgado, A. (2020). Abnormal Bordering: Control, Punishment and Deterrence in Mexico's Migrant Detention Centres. *The British Journal of Criminology*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azaa071>
- Clark, K. J., Mitchell, M. M., Fahmy, C., Pyrooz, D. C., & Decker, S. H. (2020). What if They Are All High-Risk for Attrition? Correlates of Retention in a Longitudinal Study of Reentry from Prison. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624X20967934>
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- Dmello, J. R., & Ranjan, S. (2020). Lock Unlock: The Impact of COVID-19 on Health Security in Pakistani and Indian Prisons. *Victims & Offenders*, 1-18. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/15564886.2020.1822973>
- García Ruiz, A., South, N., & Brisman, A. (2020). Eco-Crimes and Ecocide at Sea: Toward a New Blue Criminology. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624X20967950>
- He, D., & Messner, S. F. (2020). Social Disorganization Theory in Contemporary China: a Review of the Evidence and Directions for Future Research. *Asian Journal of Criminology*, 15(1), 1-24. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11417-019-09291-2>
- Joachim J. Savelsberg. 2020. "Writing Biography in the Face of Cultural Trauma: Nazi Descent and the Management of Spoiled Identities." *American Journal of Cultural Sociology* <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1057/s41290-020-00125-8>
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- Brooke B. Chambers, and Joachim J. Savelsberg. 2020. "Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing." In *Oxford Encyclopedia of International Criminology*, edited by E. Erez and P. Ibarra. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press. <https://oxfordre.com/criminology/view/10.1093/acrefore/9780190264079.001.0001/acrefore-9780190264079-e-594>
- Joachim J. Savelsberg. 2020. "The Representational Power of International Criminal Courts." In: *Power in International Criminal Justice: Towards a Sociology of International Justice*, edited by M. Bergsmo, M. Klamberg, K. Lohne and C. Mahony. Brussels: Torkel Opsahl Academic EPublisher, pp. 281-323. https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Joachim_Savelsberg/publication/342009341_The_Anti-Impunity_Transnational_Legal_Order_for_Human_Rights/links/5ef922bd92851c52d6068e7a/The-Anti-Impunity-Transnational-Legal-Order-for-Human-Rights.pdf
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- Kutnjak Ivkovich, S., Sauerman, A., Faull, A., Meyer, M., and G. Newham (2020). *Police Integrity in South Africa*. London and New York: Routledge
- Kutnjak Ivković, S., Morgan, S.J., Cajner Mraović, I., and K. Borovec (2020). Does The Police Code of Silence Vary with Police Assignment? An Empirical Exploration of the Relation between the Code and Assignment. *Police Problems and Practices*, 21(2): 101-116. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15614263.2018.1537848>

New international publication, presentation, or field experience you want to share?

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Kutnjak Ivković, S., (Ed.). (2020). Studying Police Integrity. In Adam Graycar (ed.), *Handbook on Corruption, Ethics and Integrity in Public Administration*. Edward Elgar Publishing.

Kyprianides, A., Stott, C., & Bradford, B. (2020). 'Playing the game': Power, authority and procedural justice in interactions between police and homeless people in London. *The British Journal of Criminology*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azaa086>

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Parra, G. R., Patwardhan, I., Mason, W. A., Chmelka, M. B., Savolainen, J., Miettunen, J., & Järvelin, M. R. (2020). Parental Alcohol Use and the Alcohol Misuse of their Offspring in a Finnish Birth Cohort: Investigation of Developmental Timing. *Journal of youth and adolescence*. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10964-020-01239-5>

Peacock, R. Prpić, M. Kutnjak Ivković, S. Cajner Mraović, I., and V. Božović (2020). Shades of blue: Exploring the code of silence in Croatia and Serbia. *International Journal of Comparative and Applied Criminal Justice*. Online first <https://doi.org/10.1080/01924036.2020.1824872>

Pechorro, P., DeLisi, M., Quintas, J., Gonçalves, R. A., & Maroco, J. (2020). Investigating Sex-Related Moderation Effects and Mediation Effects of Self-Control on Delinquency Among Portuguese Youth. *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0306624X20981037>

Peirce, J., & Fondevila, G. (2020). Concentrated Violence: The influence of criminal activity and governance on prison violence in Latin America. *International Criminal Justice Review*, 30(1), 99-130. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1057567719850235>

Piatkowska, S. J., Messner, S. F., Gruner, C., & Baumer, E. P. (2020). The "New Fiscal Criminology": State-Level Changes in Crime Rates and the Structure of Tax Systems. *Justice Quarterly*, 1-23. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/07418825.2020.1731572>

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Wang, P., Su, M., & Wang, J. (2020). Organized crime in cyberspace: How traditional organized criminal groups exploit the online peer-to-peer lending market in China. *The British Journal of Criminology*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bjc/azaa064>

Zhang, L., Messner, S. F., & Zhang, S. X. (2020). Neighborhood Social Control and Disorder in Contemporary Urban China. <https://www.openicpsr.org/openicpsr/project/118905/version/V2/view;jsessionid=3F01BEDFEB3F2E29694E58D5C0F2ECB5>

Zhao, Y., Messner, S. F., & Liu, J. (2020). The influence of importation and deprivation factors on prison adaptation: Insights from Chinese prisons. *International Journal of Law, Crime and Justice*, 63, 100425. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1756061620300586>

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Submissions and inquiries

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Books Reviews

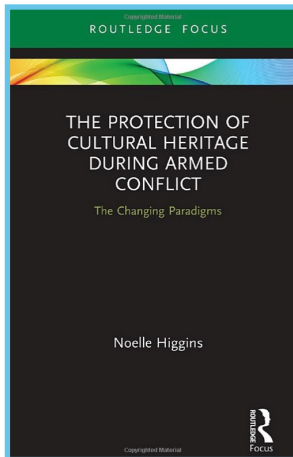
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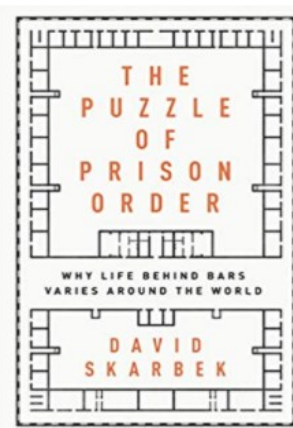
BOOK CORNER



Book: **The Protection of Cultural Heritage During Armed Conflict**

Author: Noelle Higgins

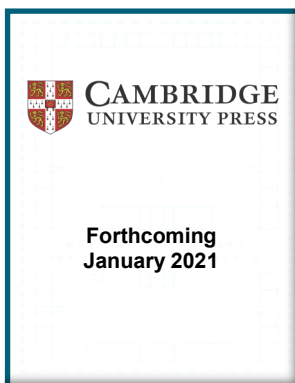
This book analyzes the current legal framework seeking to protect cultural heritage during armed conflict and discusses proposed and emerging paradigms for its better protection. Cultural heritage has always been a victim of conflict, with monuments and artefacts frequently destroyed as collateral damage in wars throughout history. In addition, works of art have been viewed as booty by victors and stolen in the aftermath of conflict. However, deliberate destruction of cultural sites and items has also occurred, and the intentional destruction of cultural heritage has been a hallmark of recent conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa, where we have witnessed unprecedented, systematic attacks on culture as a weapon of war. In Iraq, Syria, Libya, Yemen, and Mali, extremist groups such as ISIS and Ansar Dine have committed numerous acts of iconoclasm, deliberately destroying heritage sites, and looting valuable artefacts symbolic of minority cultures. This study explores how the international law framework can be fully utilised in order to tackle the destruction of cultural heritage, and analyses various paradigms which have recently been suggested for its better protection, including the Responsibility to Protect paradigm and the peace and security paradigm. This volume will be an essential resource for scholars and practitioners in the areas of public international law, especially international humanitarian law and cultural heritage law.



Book: **The Puzzle of Prison Order**

Author: David Skarbek

Many people think prisons are all the same—rows of cells filled with violent men who officials rule with an iron fist. Yet, life behind bars varies in incredible ways. In some facilities, prison officials govern with care and attention to prisoners' needs. In others, officials have remarkably little influence on the everyday life of prisoners, sometimes not even providing necessities like food and clean water. Why does prison social order around the world look so remarkably different? In *The Puzzle of Prison Order*, David Skarbek develops a theory of why prisons and prison life vary so much. He finds that how they're governed—sometimes by the state, and sometimes by the prisoners—matters the most. He investigates life in a wide array of prisons—in Brazil, Bolivia, Norway, a prisoner of war camp, England and Wales, women's prisons in California, and a gay and transgender housing unit in the Los Angeles County Jail—to understand the hierarchy of life on the inside. Drawing on economics and a vast empirical literature on legal systems, Skarbek offers a framework to not only understand why life on the inside varies in such fascinating and novel ways, but also how social order evolves and takes root behind bars.



Book: **Juries, Lay Judges, and Mixed Courts, A Global Perspective**

Authors: Edited by Sanja Kutnjak Ivković, Michigan, Shari Seidman Diamond, Valerie P. Hans, Nancy S. Marder

Despite the availability of professional judges in most countries worldwide, most of the countries in the world rely on lay citizens, untrained in law, to decide important legal cases. Participation of lay citizens effectively incorporates societal perspectives into legal outcomes and helps to provide greater legitimacy for the legal system and for verdicts. This book offers a comprehensive and comparative picture of how nations have tackled the issue of participation of lay persons in legal decision-making. It provides a much needed in-depth analysis of the different approaches to citizen participation, enabling comparison and contrast. The book marshals both theory and practice to study the ways in which lay participation is being embraced, rejected, or reformed in countries around the world.

Additional Books:

Fox, B.H., Farrington, D.P., Kapardis, A. and Hambly, O.C. (2020) *Evidence-Based Offender Profiling*. Abingdon, UK: Routledge.

Farrington, D.P., Jonkman, H. and Groeger-Roth, F. (2021, Eds.) *Delinquency and Substance Use in Europe: Understanding Risk and Protective Factors*. New York: Springer.

Jolliffe, D. and Farrington, D.P. (2021, Eds.) *Empathy versus Offending, Aggression and Bullying: Advancing Knowledge using the Basic Empathy Scale*. Abingdon, UK: Routledge, in press. .

Meini, B. (2020). *A Socio-Criminological Analysis of the HIV Epidemic*. Vernon Press.



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