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Chaid Analysis of Drug-Related Police Corruption Arrests

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CHAID ANALYSIS OF DRUG-RELATED POLICE CORRUPTION ARRESTS

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RESULTS

• CHAID procedures were employed to determine causal relationships between the statistically significant variables.

• Classification estimates were created for the most frequent forms of misconduct including: drug trafficking, the three most prevalent types of thefts/shakedowns, and drug use.

• Specific drugs that displayed the strongest predictive value were selected as “splitting criterions” for the data.

• Cocaine was the strongest predictor where specific drugs were independent variables.

• The CHAID models for specific drugs had varying levels of predictive power. The models that examined the types of thefts/shakedowns had the highest levels of predictive power.

• The tree predicting thefts/shakedowns of drug couriers and thefts/shakedowns that occurred during car stops had the highest predictive power. The tree identified cocaine as the most influential predictor in these cases.

• Marijuana also displayed statistically significant predictive power, particularly for cases in which cocaine was present. The CHAID tree also determined phencyclidine & analogs as a predictor for cases that involved marijuana and cocaine.

DISCUSSION & POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The CHAID analysis determined causal pathways between specific drugs and types of drug corruption. The findings suggest that drug-related corruption is a multidimensional phenomenon that involves multiple forms of misconduct and multiple types of drugs.

Specific drugs are present across various patterns of drug-related corruption. The presence of cocaine maintained the highest levels of predictive power within the CHAID analyses of thefts/shakedowns, drug use, and drug trafficking.

The empirical validity of these findings is supported by the descriptive elements of the Mollen Commission (1994) report that emphasized the emergence of crack and cocaine within the NYPD almost two decades ago. While it is unclear at which point such drugs began infiltrating the domain of law enforcement, it is apparent that crack and cocaine continue to compromise the integrity of police agencies across the nation.

The study indicates that specific drugs are best at predicting acts of drug-related corruption that involve thefts/shakedowns, and factors other than drugs are more important in predicting cases of drug-related corruption that involve drug use and/or facilitation of the drug trade.

The development of effective policies to mitigate drug-related corruption will likely depend on research designed to further disentangle the relationship between specific drugs and various forms of misconduct.