Police Integrity Lost: Police Crime in the United States

Philip M. Stinson

Bowling Green State University, stinspm@bgsu.edu

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Police Integrity Lost:
Police Crime in the United States

Philip Stinson, J.D., Ph.D.
Bowling Green State University

Presented at Porcfest XII
Lancaster, New Hampshire
June 27, 2015

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Police Crime – Literature Review

• Independent Commission Reports:
  • Knapp Commission (1972)
  • Mollen Commission (1994)
• Newspaper Investigative Reporting:
  • New York Times (1970s)
  • Boston Globe (1980s)
  • Philadelphia Inquirer (1990s and 2006)
• Research in Criminology / Social Sciences:
  • The Police and the Public (Reiss, 1971)
  • Scandal and Reform (Sherman, 1978)
  • Forces of Deviance (Kappeler, et al., 1998)
  • Driving while Female (Walker, 2002, 2003)
  • Bad Cops: A Study of Career-Ending Misconduct Among New NYPD Officers (Fyfe & Kane, 2006)
  • Police Integrity Lost (Stinson, et al., 2014)
Method

• Multiyear study on police crime.
• Content analysis of news articles.
• Use Google News search engine and Google Alerts email update service.
• The unit of analysis is criminal arrest case.
• This presentation summarizes the criminal arrest cases of nonfederal sworn law enforcement officers across the United States during the years 2005-2011.
• Intercoder reliability overall simple agreement between two coders exceeded 97.7% across all variables. Krippendorf’s Alpha coefficients are strong ($\alpha=0.9153$).
Strengths & Limitations

• Google News is a preferred method to conduct news-based content analysis research.

• The research is limited by the content and quality of information provided on each case.

• The data are limited to cases that involved an official arrest.

• These data are the result of a filtering process that includes the exercise of discretion by media sources in terms of types of stories covered and the nature of the content devoted to particular stories.
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## CRIMINAL JUSTICE - POLICE CRIME RESEARCH PROJECT
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**Cop holds wife hostage over cake**

By **Trench Reynolds**  •  Nov 23rd, 2005  •  Category: **New York**

**New York**

**Cop accused of threatening wife at his birthday bash:**

Reason to Blow Up the World:

Cop who once headed a domestic violence unit held an ax to his wife's head and twice threatened to shoot her - all because he didn't like the birthday cake she bought him, sources said yesterday. "He was not a satisfied customer," a law enforcement source said. "He wanted ice cream cake."

Lt. William Doyle was released yesterday on $1,000 bond after being charged in the alleged five-hour barrage of threats at his 47th birthday party in the couple's Staten Island home Monday.
Case 1:08-cv-01170-SLT-JO Document 43 Filed 07/20/10 Page 1 of 5 PageID #: 185

Case 1:08-cv-01170-SLT-JO Document 42-1 Filed 07/14/10 Page 1 of 5

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

GUARDIAN ALACEDER, Plaintiff,

-against-

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, ET. AL.,

Defendants.

STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT AND ORDER OF DISMISSAL

CV 08-1170(SLT)(JO)

FEDERAL COURTROOM 148
BROOKLYN OFFICE

U.S. DISTRICT COURT, E.D. N.Y.
JUL 20 2010

FILED
SEX OFFENSES, FORCIBLE:
V53 FORCIBLE RAPE (11A)
V54 FORCIBLE SOCCOMY (11B)
V55 SEXUAL ASSAULT WITH AN OBJECT (11C)
V56 FORCIBLE FONDLING (110)

SEX OFFENSES, NONFORCIBLE:
V57 INCEST (36A)
V58 STATUTORY RAPE (36B)
V69 INDUCEMENT EXPOSURE
V69 ON-LINE SOLICITATION OF A CHILD
V61 OTHER SEX CRIME
V62 STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES (RECEIVING, ETC.) (280)
V63 WEAPONS LAW VIOLATIONS (300)

V64 BAD CHECKS (90A)
V66 CIVIL RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
V66 DISORDERLY CONDUCT (60C)
V67 DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE (90D)
V68 DRUNKENNESS (90G)

V69 EVIDENCE, DESTROYING / TAMPERING
V70 FALSE REPORT / STATEMENT
V71 FAMILY OFFENSES, NONVIOLENT (90F)
V72 HIT & RUN
V73 LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS (90G)

V74 OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE
V75 OFFICIAL MISCONDUCT / OFFICIAL OPRESSION / VIOLATION OF OATH
V76 PEPTING TOM (90H)
V77 RESTRAINING ORDER VIOLATIONS
V78 TRESPASS OF REAL PROPERTY (90J)
V79 WIRETAPPING, ILLEGITIMATE
V80 ALL OTHER OFFENSES (902)
Prefilled by OnBase

N-Number:
N00022

FIPS County:
710

County:
Lee County

State:
NC

Agency:
Lee Co. Sheriff

Middle Name:
A.

Suffix:

Last Name:
Family Violence

Weapon: Gun-dept-issued
  - No
  - Yes

Weapon: Gun-personal
  - No
  - Yes

Weapon: Chemical Sprays
  - No
  - Yes

Weapon: CED / TASER
  - No
  - Yes

Weapon: Nightstick / Baton
  - No
  - Yes

Weapon: Flashlight
  - No
  - Yes

Weapon: Other police weapon
  - No
  - Yes

Weapon: Knife
Police Crime Arrest Cases, 2005-2011

- 2,529 Employing Agencies
- 6,724 Arrest Cases
Stinson’s Typology of Police Crime

• Alcohol-related Police Crime
• Drug-related Police Crime
• Sex-related Police Crime
• Violence-related Police Crime
• Profit-Motivated Police Crime
Officers Arrested for DUI, 2005-2010

- DUI with Accident: 410 (54%)
- DUI - No Accident: 350 (46%)
Police Officers Arrested for Sex Crimes

Location of Violence
- Highway/Road; Other Public Place; Parking Lot/Garage; Other Commercial Place; Near Victim’s Residence; Bar, Nightclub, or Restaurant; Near Other’s Residence

Is the Victim a Child?
- Adult (n = 382, 49.5%)
- Child (n = 380, 50.5%)
- Total (n = 772, 100%)

Years of Service
- Node 1: Adult (n = 150, 33.7%)
- Child (n = 295, 66.3%)
- Total (n = 445, 57.7%)
- 21-23 years; 24-26 years; 0-2 years
- 3-5 years; 12-14 years; 18-20 years; 9-11 years; 27 or more years; 6-8 years

Agency Size
- Node 2: Adult (n = 232, 71.2%)
- Child (n = 94, 28.8%)
- Total (n = 326, 42.3%)
- 500-999 FT officers; 1000 or more FT officers; 250-499 FT officers; 25-49 FT officers; 50-99 FT officers; 10-24 FT officers; 0-1 FT officers

Node 3: Adult (n = 63, 52.5%)
- Child (n = 57, 47.5%)
- Total (n = 120, 15.8%)

Node 4: Adult (n = 87, 26.8%)
- Child (n = 238, 73.2%)
- Total (n = 325, 42.2%)

Node 5: Adult (n = 21, 36.8%)
- Child (n = 36, 63.2%)
- Total (n = 57, 7.4%)

Node 6: Adult (n = 211, 78.4%)
- Child (n = 53, 21.6%)
- Total (n = 265, 34.9%)
Violence-related Police Crime

• Stinson -w- The Washington Post study of on-duty shootings
• Bizarre Violence – off-duty gun-involved criminal events
• Criminal Misuse of Conductive Energy Devices (e.g., Tasers)
• Officer-involved Domestic Violence (OIDV) – Lautenberg Amendment
OIDV Criminal Case Dispositions by Weapon

- Hands/Fist: 54% Officer Not Convicted, 46% Officer Convicted
- Other Body Parts: 13% Officer Not Convicted, 87% Officer Convicted
- Personally Owned Gun: 12% Officer Not Convicted, 88% Officer Convicted
OIDV Criminal Case Dispositions by Offense

- Simple Assault: 56% Officer Not Convicted, 44% Officer Convicted
- Forcible Rape: 12% Officer Not Convicted, 88% Officer Convicted
- Vandalism: 100% Officer Convicted
- Murder: 87% Officer Convicted

Legend:
- Green: Officer Not Convicted
- Red: Officer Convicted
Officers Arrested and 42 U.S.C. §1983

Never sued under §1983: 5,114 (76%)

§1983 Defendant: 1,610 (24%)
Late-Stage Police Crime

Diagram showing the percent of police crime over years of service.
Monthly Podcast Episodes are Available on iTunes

For more information on this research project, go to: www.bgsu.edu/policeintegritylost