11-14-2019

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*Criminal Justice Faculty Publications*. 104.  
https://scholarworks.bgsu.edu/crim_just_pub/104

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Crime by Policewomen in the United States, 2005-2014
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Abstract
This study is a replication and extension of Stinson, Todak, and Dodge's (2015) study of crime by policewomen across the United States in years 2005-2007. The sample for the current study includes 597 arrest cases involving 555 female police officers, each of whom were arrested during the decade 2005-2014. The arrested female officers were employed by 353 state and local law enforcement agencies located in 273 counties and independent cities within 44 states and the District of Columbia. Findings indicate that crimes committed by policewomen are most often violence-related, alcohol-related, and/or profit-motivated offenses. Descriptive and bivariate statistics are reported on variables of interest. Additional findings report differences between crimes committed by policemen and policewomen.

Methods
The data for this project were collected as part of a larger research project on police crime. The data were compiled from multiple news sources and court documents from the years 2005-2014. The news sources used for this project were primarily discovered through Google News™ search engine and Google Alerts™ email update service. For this project, we narrowed the data from all nonfederal sworn law enforcement officers charged with any crime to solely sworn law enforcement policewomen.

Results
The majority (n=433, 72.5%) of the arrest cases are for crimes that were committed by policewomen while off-duty (Figure 4). The arrested policewomen are, on average, slightly above age 36, with 9 years of service as a sworn law enforcement officer (Figure 2-3). The most common offense for which policewomen are arrested is DUI (Table 1). Crimes for which policewomen are arrested are most commonly violence-related, alcohol-related, and/or profit-motivated (Table 2). Arrest cases of policewomen make up 5.8% of the cases in our data set of officers arrested nationwide in years 2005-2014 (Table 3). Policewomen are less likely to be arrested for sex-related offenses compared to policemen (Table 3). Victims of police crime arrest cases are less frequently female and/or children when the crime is committed by policewomen, compared to policemen (Table 3). Fellow police officers are more frequently the victim of crimes committed by policewomen, compared to committed by policemen (Table 3). Policewomen are convicted in 67.1% of the arrest cases where the criminal case disposition is known (Figure 5). Policewomen who have been arrested lose their job 51.3% of the time (Figure 6).

Discussion and Direction for Future Research
- Females account for only 5.8% of police crime although they make up about 12% of the entire police force in state and local law enforcement agencies nationwide.
- The patterns of criminal behaviors committed by policemen and policewomen are inherently different. Policewomen are often arrested for committing violence-related, alcohol-related, and/or profit-motivated crimes. Whereas, policemen who are arrested are much more likely to have committed a sex-related crime.
- Policemen who have been arrested lose their job 62.3% of the time, compared to the 51.3% of policewomen who lost their job. Future research should examine the difference by sex in agency reactions to officers who have been arrested.

Support for this project was provided by the Wallace Action Fund of Tides Foundation. This research was also supported in part by the Center for Family and Demographic Research, Bowling Green State University, which has core funding from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (P2CHD050995).