As I write this article at 6:00 AM on August 20th in Phoenix, it is currently 90 degrees. When I play golf in seven hours, it will be 114 degrees. Dry heat or not—that is still damn hot! Though most of us dread the end of summer, it does have a silver lining in the Valley of the Sun... And more good news. When you come to Phoenix for the WSC conference on February 6-8, 2020, it will be absolutely beautiful here! The average high temperature in February is 72 degrees. So leave that miserable, cold weather behind in the Pacific Northwest, the Midwest, the Northeast, northern California, southern California, and come to Phoenix in early February for the WSC conference! (Ok, maybe things won’t be so bad in southern California).

But there are more important reasons than weather to attend our upcoming conference. There are immediate and serious problems that need our attention. For example, in each of the last three years, officer suicides have outnumbered line-of-duty deaths.1 By mid-August, nine NYPD officers have committed suicide in 2019 alone.2 There is a mental health crisis in policing. Why? In addition, police departments are currently spending thousands of dollars (in some cases, millions) to train officers in de-escalation and implicit bias, yet there is virtually no research demonstrating that either type of training has any effect on officer attitudes or behavior. How can that be in 2019?

By early August, there have been more mass shootings in the U.S. than days in the year.3 Why? Private prisons are playing an increasingly large role in American corrections without a clear understanding of the impact of privatization on correctional programming, as well as both inmate and correctional officer health and safety.4 And let’s not forget questions about immigration and crime, marijuana decriminalization, the opioid crisis, police use of deadly force, and mass incarceration. The list of controversial issues in criminal and criminal justice goes on and on.

So I urge you to present your findings on these and other important issues at our upcoming WSC meeting in Phoenix. The abstract submission portal is now open.5 The conference is being held at the Camby, a beautiful hotel in the Biltmore section of Phoenix.6 Conference registration fees include a President’s reception on February 6th (with food and an open bar [my two favorite words when used together]), breakfast and lunch on February 7th, and a brunch on February 8th, all a result of the generosity of our conference sponsors. In addition, you will have the opportunity to hear about research exploring many of the critical issues described above. Take this opportunity to share your own research at our conference. We hope to see you in Phoenix!

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5 https://westerncriminology.org/conference/
6 https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=155775044807&key=GRP&app=resvlink
Welcome to the Fall 2019 issue of *The Western Criminologist!* This issue is especially exciting because we have a new look! Please let me know if you have suggestions for improving future issues. We are also pleased to announce the 2020 WSC award winners who will be celebrated at our upcoming conference in Phoenix, AZ!

The WSC Executive Board is still accepting student applications to the June Morrison scholarship fund as well as the Miki Vohryzek-Bolden student paper competition. The deadline for these awards is fast approaching (Friday, October 11). Detailed instructions on how to apply can be found in the advertisement below. Also, the Executive Board is seeking sponsors for our 2020 conference at the Double Diamond, Diamond, Platinum, Gold, and Silver levels. Please encourage your institution to become a sponsor so that we can continue to provide food and beverages for our conference attendees, as well as publish in an open-access journal.

Three short articles are also included in this issue: the parent-doctoral student experience, California's new police use of deadly force law, and strategies used by the Spokane Police Department to reduce domestic violence. In addition, this issue highlights two recent publications: a state-of-the-art review on current research on women of color in policing (forthcoming in *Policing: An International Journal*), and *Punishing Poverty*, the first book-length treatment to analyze how bail reproduces racial and economic inequality throughout the criminal justice system.

Lastly, I am happy to announce that Dr. Victoria Terranova (University of Northern Colorado) will be assisting me with future issues of *The Western Criminologist!* In the meantime, I hope you will consider submitting an abstract to our upcoming conference by October 4th, and I look forward to seeing you in sunny Phoenix in February!

**AN INVITATION TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS**

We invite both practitioners as well as academics in the field of criminology and criminal justice to consider contributing your thoughts on a topic that is of interest to you and the WSC readership to be included in the Spring 2020 issue of our newsletter. Please send your article, or any questions, to:

**Dr. Ashley N. Hewitt**  
School of Criminal Justice, Texas State University  
ashley.hewitt@txstate.edu

**Dr. Victoria A. Terranova**  
Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Northern Colorado  
victoria.terranova@unco.edu
RUN FOR ELECTION TO THE WSC EXECUTIVE BOARD

Each year, the Western Society of Criminology elects two or three Executive Counselors to serve three-year terms. And, each year, the WSC also elects one person to serve three consecutive years in the offices of Vice President, President, and Immediate Past President, respectively.

Board Members:

- Form the policies of the WSC;
- Determine the date, location, and general program of the Annual Meeting;
- Ratify the budget for the WSC;
- Review the accounts and disbursements of the WSC;
- Act on resolutions submitted by the Resolution Committee;
- Coordinate a book exhibit to raise scholarship funds for students each year;
- Select editors for our journal, *Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society*; and,
- Select award recipients from the slate of people nominated by the general membership of the Society.

We hope that you will choose to get more involved with the WSC by running for election to the Board! Nominations, including self-nominations, are welcome. Please contact Dr. Edith Kinney, Chairperson of the Nominations Committee, for more information:

**Dr. Edith Kinney**  
Department of Justice Studies  
San José State University  
One Washington Square  
San José, CA 95192  
(408) 924-2946  
edith.kinney@sjsu.edu
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WSC AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR 2020!

Dr. Charis Kubrin
Paul Tappan Award: To honor outstanding contributions to the field of criminology

Charis Kubrin’s outstanding contributions to criminology include her research on neighborhood correlates of crime, with an emphasis on race and violent crime; her examinations of the immigration-crime nexus and assessments of the impact of criminal justice reform on crime rates; and her work on the intersection of music, culture, and social identity, particularly as it applies to hip hop and minority youth in disadvantaged communities. Dr. Kubrin has also contributed to the field via her work as a member of the Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice-Network.

Dr. William Sousa
Fellows Award: To honor a person generally associated with the western region who has made important contributions to the field of criminology

William Sousa is the Director of the Center for Crime and Justice Policy and a Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Dr. Sousa’s research focuses on crime and disorder reduction policies implemented by the police, including the New York City Police Department and the Los Angeles Police Department. He is also a leading expert on police body-worn cameras. Dr. Sousa’s research has substantially improved our understanding of the potential impact of police order-maintenance strategies, especially Broken Windows policing.

Arif Alikhan, J.D.
June Morrison – Tom Gitchoff Founders Award: To honor a person who, through scholarship and/or activism, has significantly improved the quality of justice in the United States

Arif Alikhan serves as the Director of Constitutional Policing and Policy at the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD). Director Alikhan has led the Department's efforts to develop new policies regarding the use of body-worn video cameras, immigration enforcement procedures, homelessness, and use of force. Prior to joining the LAPD, Director Alikhan held a number of senior law enforcement and homeland security positions with the U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, and Los Angeles World Airports. He served as a senior advisor to two U.S. Attorneys General during the Bush Administration, and he joined the Obama Administration as the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WSC AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR 2020!

Dr. Aili Malm
*Joseph D. Lohman Award: To honor a person who has provided outstanding service to the Western Society of Criminology*

Aili Malm is a professor of criminology and criminal justice at California State University, Long Beach. She has served for nearly a decade on the Board of the Western Society of Criminology in the positions of Executive Counselor, Vice-President, President, and now Immediate-Past President. During her tenure on the Board, Dr. Malm has taken on numerous work-intensive assignments, including chairing the Awards Committee and serving as the coeditor-in-chief of the society’s journal, *Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society*. She has helped to internationalize the society and the editorial board of its journal, while also working to build the Society’s membership base to include more practitioners.

Dr. Jennifer Eberhardt
*W.E.B. DuBois Award: For significant contributions to advancing awareness of racial and ethnic issues in criminology and criminal justice*

Jennifer Lynn Eberhardt is a Professor in the Department of Psychology at Stanford University. A social psychologist, she investigates the consequences of the psychological association between race and crime. Through interdisciplinary collaborations and a wide-ranging array of methods, Eberhardt has revealed the startling, and often dispiriting, extent to which racial imagery and judgments suffuse our culture and society, and in particular shape actions and outcomes within the domain of criminal justice. Dr. Eberhardt has recently begun to work with law enforcement agencies to design interventions to improve policing and to help agencies build and maintain trust with the communities they serve.

Dr. Cassia Spohn
*Meda Chesney-Lind Award: For significant contributions to scholarship or activism on the intersection of women and crime*

Cassia Spohn is a Foundation Professor and Director of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Arizona State University. Her research interests include prosecutorial and judicial decision making, the intersections of race, ethnicity, crime and justice, and sexual assault case processing decisions. In 2017, she was appointed to the Department of Defense Advisory Board on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces. Dr. Spohn’s research on sexual assault cases is groundbreaking, and has significantly influenced the handling of such cases in both the Armed Forces and in the “civilian” criminal justice system.
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WSC AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR 2020!

Dr. Kimberly Richman

Richard Tewksbury Award: For significant contributions to scholarship or activism on the intersection of crime and sexuality

Kimberly Richman is a Professor at the University of San Francisco. Dr. Richman's primary areas of research interest are law and society, criminology, and the effects of legal rights (or their lack) on social, civic, and personal aspects of life, including legal consciousness, identity, and civic personhood. Much of Dr. Richman's research has focused on the creation of legal and social meaning in legal processes involved with LGBT family law issues, as well as legal consciousness among same sex married (or would-be married) couples and parents. Dr. Richman’s work sits at the intersection of the law and sexuality, and her scholarship has significantly advanced our understanding of family legal issues facing the LBGT community.

Dr. James J. Fyfe (posthumously)

President’s Award: For contributions to the field of criminology and positive influence on the current Western Society of Criminology president’s career

Dr. James J. Fyfe was a nationally recognized expert in police use of force, misconduct, and police accountability. Dr. Fyfe joined the NYPD in 1963, and he retired 16 years later as a Lieutenant. He received his Ph.D. in Criminal Justice from the State University of New York at Albany (SUNY Albany), and he served on the faculty at American University, Temple University, and John Jay College of Criminal Justice. He mentored numerous students over his career, including our current WSC President. He testified as an expert witness in dozens of police brutality civil cases, both for plaintiffs and defendants. He returned to the NYPD in 2002 as the Deputy Commissioner of Training, and in that same year Dr. Fyfe received the August Vollmer award from the American Society of Criminology. Dr. Fyfe died in 2005. WSC President Michael White and co-author Robert Kane dedicated their 2013 book, Jammed Up, to Jim. In their dedication, they said “Few scientists of any discipline can rightfully claim that their research ever saved a single human life. Jim Fyfe’s research has saved many human lives. Without a doubt, Jim left this world substantially better off than when he found it.”
WSC STUDENT AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

June Morrison Scholarship Fund: Using money raised from the Book Exhibit, the June Morrison Scholarship Fund provides supplemental funds to help defray the cost of student members' participation at the annual meeting, provided that they are presenting papers at the conference. Typically, one or two awards are made to students attending the annual meeting of the WSC. The amount of the awards varies by year (usually between $200 and $300), depending on the sales of books at the Book Exhibit the prior year. Please note that this scholarship is not related to the Student Paper Competition. All students attending the annual meeting are encouraged to apply.

- **Eligibility:**

  Any student currently enrolled full-time or part-time in an academic degree program at either the undergraduate or graduate level is eligible to apply for this award, provided that they are presenting a paper at the annual conference. Conference registration and student membership dues must be paid prior to the scholarship being awarded.

- **Submission Requirements:**

  o A résumé or curriculum vitae

  o A cover letter, indicating your intent to apply for the award, including the following information:

    1. your full contact information, including your name, address, phone number, and email address;
    2. the name of your school, department, and whether you are a graduate or undergraduate student;
    3. the title of your paper presentation;
    4. a summary of other funding sources available to you, if any;
    5. a brief explanation of how conference attendance will be valuable to your career development (including how it will relate to future career plans); and,
    6. a brief summary of how your presentation fits into your larger research trajectory (i.e., what, if any, are your plans for the project you plan to present at the conference, such as use in project, thesis, or dissertation; submission for publication to a specific journal; etc.).

  o An e-mail message from a faculty sponsor from your school to the Chairperson of the Awards Committee, Dr. Aili Malm, indicating his/her support of your request for travel funds.

  **Email the information to Dr. Aili Malm, by 5:00 p.m. PST on Friday, October 11, 2019.**

  Winners will be notified in writing by December 13, 2019.
WSC STUDENT AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Miki Vohryzek-Bolden Student Paper Competition: Students are invited to compete in the Miki Vohryzek-Bolden Student Paper Competition sponsored by WSC each year. Appropriate types of papers include, but are not limited to, policy analyses, original research, literature reviews, position papers, theoretical papers, and scholarly commentaries. Please note that papers co-authored by faculty will not be considered.

• Eligibility:

Any student currently enrolled full-time or part-time in an academic degree program at either the undergraduate or graduate level is eligible to submit a paper. Students from all majors are eligible, however, all entries must be related to criminology, criminal justice, or criminal law and society. Papers must not exceed 30 pages, including abstract, text, references, tables and figures, notes, et cetera. Papers exceeding this limit will not be considered. Papers must be double-spaced, typed in 12-point font on pages using one-inch margins, and conform to a standard format for the organization of papers and citation (e.g. APA, ASA, Bluebook). The WSC Awards Committee is responsible for evaluating papers meeting the guidelines described above.

• Award Prize:

Students selected for this award will be recognized at the WSC’s annual conference; will receive a reimbursement of student conference fees (less membership dues); and will receive a cash award of between $125 and $250 for first place, depending on whether the paper was sole-authored or co-authored. Additionally, if the award recipient desires, the best paper will be submitted for review to the journal of Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society. In rare circumstances, a cash award of up to $100 may be awarded to a second place paper. Please note that the cash award must be used to fund travel or hotel expenses for the award recipient to attend the WSC conference. An award winner who does not attend the conference will not receive the cash stipend.

• Please Note:

The paper that students submit to compete in Miki Vohryzek-Bolden Student Paper Competition need not be the same paper that they present at the conference. We recognize that conference presentations may be works in progress or may be a result of joint efforts with faculty mentors. In contrast, papers submitted for the Student Paper Competition must be completed papers that were written by a student (or co-authored by two or more students) without the assistance of faculty. Papers are welcome from students matriculated at any college or university anywhere in the world.

A completed, final paper should be emailed to Dr. Aili Malm, by 5:00 p.m. PST on Friday, October 11, 2019.

Winners will be notified in writing by December 13, 2019.
THE PARENT-PH.D. STUDENT EXPERIENCE WHILE WORKING IN THE IVORY TOWER

CALLIE D. SHAW & TIFFANY GENTRY ROGERS, PH.D. STUDENTS
SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Like many new Ph.D. students entering the last leg of their academic careers, I was intimidated and scared of failure. Indeed, failure is a significant concern since only an estimated 50% of entering doctoral students complete their degree (e.g., Allum & Okahana, 2015; Cassuto, 2013). The new student orientation compounded my anxiety; informing new graduate students that to succeed, students must immerse themselves completely in study and research projects. To do otherwise, would be to invite failure. The doctoral student experience, however, is not uniform; it is shaped by each student’s individual circumstances, which for me, includes being a parent.

The parent-doctoral student experience is not often discussed nor addressed, and typically is regarded as a hindrance to a student’s success. Let me be clear, it is not a hindrance, it is a valuable asset to any doctoral program. Few students understand how to multitask better than the parent-doctoral student. For those doctoral students preparing to become parents, or those new students who are already parents, consider the advice below when balancing two of the greatest adventures in your life.

**One hat at a time.**

Wearing numerous ‘hats’ on a daily basis is the norm for the parent-doctoral student. Indeed, the wide range of daily responsibilities can be overwhelming. Class schedules, study loads, children, and one’s personal/spousal relationship, all require time. So, the question for the parent-doctoral student is: how does one successfully manage these varying roles and time commitments? Here are a few time-management tips that may alleviate some headaches and heartaches for the parent-doctoral student.

**Value and maintain a professional mentor.** Identify and reach out to faculty who share similar research interests. Once identified, develop a relationship, communicate and share ideas and concerns. A mentor provides guidance and support, which are critical components to one’s success in graduate school. Remember, a mentor is on your team and wants you to succeed, and it is essential to feel comfortable enough to make mistakes to gain valuable feedback. It is through this symbiotic relationship one grows personally and professionally. Indeed, it takes a village to raise a child, and it takes a team to nurture and develop a scholar-researcher.

**Value and maintain a student/peer mentor.** Just as finding a faculty member who shares and supports your research interest aids in your ability to succeed, so too, does the presence and support of a fellow peer. The Ph.D. academic journey is stressful, and as Helen Keller once said, “Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light.” Certainly, for the parent-doctoral student, having a peer who is also a parent can make a world of difference. He/she can provide support and insight on issues that non-parent doctoral students may not understand. In short, peers matter.
There is a value in creating daily “to-do” lists. There is a distinction that must be made between important tasks and tasks with specific deadlines. Identify those things that are important, such as personal health (e.g., exercise) as opposed to urgent tasks with deadlines. Seiden (1980) found that graduate student success hinges in large part, on the ability to identify long-range versus short-range priorities.

The top of one’s daily to-do lists should identify tasks due within that same week, followed by important tasks that can be done during designated blocks of time throughout the week. For example, as a parent, you identify short-term tasks, such as:

- dropping off your child at daycare at a specific daily time,
- going to the grocery store with a shopping list in hand,
- a 30-minute session with your graduate mentor.

Followed by blocked segments of time to complete long term projects:

- one hour to draft a literature review,
- one hour to run some statistical analysis,
- 30-minutes to prepare for a class.

Sticking to a designated schedule will alleviate the headache of forgetting tasks, or, feeling overwhelmed. Take heed of the old adage that “by failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail” (Jordan, 1919, p. 80). The moral of the story, consequently, is be prepared.

Daycare may be a resource to help you manage time.

As a parent-doctoral student, you will face challenges in balancing work and family. For me, these challenges often transformed into more difficult dilemmas due to unavailable university resources. I was seven months pregnant when I started the Ph.D. program, and I was fortunate enough to have supportive faculty and mentorship. There was, however, no available daycare, which was an almost insurmountable barrier. Attending classes, working as a graduate research assistant, and taking care of a newborn was quite the undertaking.

While universities increasingly provide on-site, high-quality daycare, it is expensive, and there is often a waitlist that never comes to fruition. For example, the on-site day-care charges for infants at the University of Michigan are approximately $14,000 a year, and at Harvard University they range from $19,000 to $24,000 a year (Khalil, McAllister-Grande, & Wesselhoeft, 2015). On-site daycare costs, as a result, are typically more than half the amount paid annually to graduate students.

If you are at a university or in an area that sets daycare costs on a sliding scale based on income, and space is available at those facilities, you are in a fortunate position. For those less fortunate, getting on waitlists as soon as you know you are expecting may allow you to take advantage of a local daycare. Additionally, university daycares may also provide a list of available certified nannies/babysitters. So, make sure you reach out to the university daycare for names of available childcare workers. For those with school-aged children, consider using after-school tutoring, clubs, and activities to gain extra time...
Program expectations.

Studies show that a program’s attrition and completion rates are influenced in large part on the department's cultural perspectives of what it takes to succeed (Gardner, 2009). Part of this equation is ensuring coursework and research opportunities align with the expectations set forth for incoming students, but this requires communication. Universities must ask and answer the critical questions of: what is your department's idea of success? And, what is the path designed for students to obtain it? For those ready to recruit, support, and hire parent-doctoral students, those answers may require an additional path. Success requires programs to recognize and address their diverse student population, including the parent-doctoral student population.

The graduate school environment is not yet “family friendly,” however, building and maintaining relationships with colleagues and professors will help you navigate this exhausting, arduous process. As more parents are successful in the doctoral programs, and students use more supporting resources, universities will hopefully recognize the unique needs of this subpopulation of students and the culture will adapt.

Conferences = family vacation.

Lastly, congratulations! Your annual family vacations are already planned for you. Attending conferences is one of the best means by which to make connections in your area of interest. You may consider adding a day or two to your schedule and seeing local sites as a family. Most universities are unable to fully cover a student's flight, hotel, food, and registration costs. In my family, that means we save one person's travel cost and enjoy the colloquial two birds by combining the conference and vacation. As a warning, the conference days are busy, and to garner the most benefit in the compacted amount of time, on those days your family time may be limited.

In recognition of the professional/parent, the larger conferences (like ASC) offer childcare. Sign up early!

Former First Lady of the United States, Michelle Obama (2015), once remarked that being a parent makes you a better professional because your family serves as a constant reminder of what you are working towards. Likewise, being a professional makes you a better parent, because by pursuing your dreams, you are modeling for your children how to pursue their dreams. Your journey is not a solo voyage but rather, a family adventure.

Ultimately, this is likely not new information. Instead, it serves as a reminder that as a parent, and as a doctoral student, you are part of two unique community groups. Resources are marketed as available, and though your access may vary, you are not alone.

Callie Shaw is currently an instructor and a doctoral student in the School of Criminal Justice at Texas State University. She earned a B.S. in Criminology, and an M.S. in Sociology with an emphasis in...
Criminology, from Texas A & M University- Kingsville. She also earned a J.D. from Loyola College of Law in New Orleans, Louisiana, and an L.L.M. in Energy and Environmental Law from Tulane Law School in New Orleans, Louisiana. Her research interests include female criminal behavior, green criminology, and white-collar crimes. Callie Shaw is the mother of Oliver Shaw, a three-year-old toddler, and Eleanor Shaw, a one-year-old infant. Both serve as her constant motivation and inspiration.

Tiffany Gentry Rogers is a doctoral student in the School of Criminal Justice at Texas State University. She received a B.A. in Psychology from Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas, and an M.A. in Criminal Justice from Texas State University. Her research interests include studies of violence, with a particular focus on crimes against animals and wildlife. She is the mother to Connor Rogers, an adopted four-year-old redhead who is heard before he is seen, and Charlie Rogers, a one-year-old who is growing all too quickly. Tiffany balances a full-time job, motherhood, and doctoral studies.

References


CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

47th Annual Conference
Phoenix, Arizona

February 6th – 8th, 2020

People wishing to present at the conference will be able to electronically submit proposals through the WSC's online Abstract Submission System by October 4th, 2019.

Panel Topics

- COURTS AND JUDICIAL PROCESSES (INCLUDING SENTENCING)
- CORRECTIONS
- CRIME ANALYSIS (INCLUDING GEOGRAPHY & CRIME AND SOCIAL NETWORKS & CRIME)
- CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY
- CYBERCRIME
- DRUGS/SUBSTANCE ABUSE & CRIME
- FORENSIC SCIENCE
- GENDER, SEXUALITY, & CRIME
- JUVENILE JUSTICE
- LEGAL ISSUES IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE (CRIMINAL LAW, CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, & EVIDENCE)
- ORGANIZED CRIME & GANGS
- PEACEMAKING CRIMINOLOGY
- POLICING
- SEX CRIMES
- TEACHING (PEDAGOGY & ASSESSMENT IN JUSTICE EDUCATION)
- TERRORISM
- WHITE COLLAR CRIME

In deciding the most appropriate topic area for your abstract, think about the main focus of your paper or presentation and how it might fit within a panel organized around a larger topical theme. For example, if your paper examines both race and juvenile issues, think about whether you would like to be placed on a panel with other papers discussing race issues or other papers dealing with juvenile issues and then submit it to the topic area in which you think it fits best.

All presenters are asked to submit an abstract of 1,100 characters or fewer to only one of the panel topics listed above. In addition to the abstract, please include the name, mailing address, email address, and phone number for all authors on the submission for the participant directory. Please note that all presenters are required to preregister and prepay the nonrefundable conference fees no later than Monday, January 6, 2020. Failure to do so will result in presentations being removed from the final program.

Program Chairs:

- Dr. Natalie Todak, University of Alabama at Birmingham, 1202 University Boulevard, UBOB 213, Birmingham, AL 35294-4562, ntod@uab.edu;
- Dr. Danielle Wallace, Arizona State University, 411 N. Central Avenue, Room 600, Phoenix, AZ 85004, danielle.wallace@asu.edu;
- Dr. Megan Welsh, San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego, CA 92182-4505, mwelsh@mail.sdsu.edu
47th ANNUAL CONFERENCE HOTEL INFORMATION

The Camby
A Marriott Autograph Collection
2401 E. Camelback Road
Phoenix, AZ 85016 USA
(602) 468-0700

Dates: February 6, 2020 through February 8, 2020

Room Rate: $199 USD per night, plus taxes and fees

Reservations: Press here to be taken to a special portal for WSC guests to register at The Camby hotel using this special, reduced conference rate.

For additional membership or conference information, visit us online at: http://westerncriminology.org/

Submission Deadline for Abstracts – October 4, 2019
WE NEED INSTITUTIONAL SPONSORSHIPS FOR 2020!

The WSC could not afford to provide food and beverages for our conference attendees, or to publish an open-access journal, without the generous support of institutional sponsors. Please ask your college or university to purchase one of the following sponsorships:

- **Double Diamond Sponsor**: A contribution of $5,000 or more.
  - Sole sponsorship of a major event at the annual conference (e.g., Plenary Breakfast, Awards Luncheon, Keynote Brunch, or a reception) and named sponsorship of the journal, *CCJLS*;
  - A two-page advertisement in the conference program;
  - Two faculty hiring position announcements distributed to all WSC members via email;
  - A year-long online advertisement on our website; and
  - Two complimentary conference registrations for people from the sponsoring institution.

- **Diamond Sponsor**: A contribution of $2,500 to $4,999.
  - Sponsorship of a major event at the annual conference (e.g., Plenary Breakfast, Awards Luncheon, Keynote Brunch, or a reception) or named sponsorship of the journal, *CCJLS*;
  - A two-page advertisement in the conference program;
  - One faculty hiring position announcement distributed to all WSC members via email;
  - A year-long online advertisement on our website; and
  - One complimentary conference registration for a person from the sponsoring institution.

- **Platinum Sponsor**: A contribution of 1,000 to $2,499.
  - Sponsorship of a major event at the annual conference (e.g., Plenary Breakfast, Awards Luncheon, Keynote Brunch, or a reception);
  - A one-page advertisement in the conference program;
  - One faculty hiring position announcement distributed to all WSC members via email; and
  - A year-long online advertisement on our website.

- **Gold Sponsor**: A contribution of $500 to $999.
  - Co-sponsorship of a reception at the annual conference;
  - A one-half page advertisement in the conference program;
  - One faculty hiring position announcement distributed to all WSC members via email; and
  - A year-long online advertisement on our website.

- **Silver Sponsor**: A contribution of $250 to $499.
  - A half page advertisement in the conference program;
  - A year-long online advertisement on our website.
Stephon Clark shooting.

In 2018, Stephon Clark, a 22-year old unarmed black man, was fatally shot in his grandmother’s backyard by Sacramento police when they were dispatched to a call regarding a male subject breaking car windows. To the dismay of frustrated citizens, the attorney general decided not to file charges against the officers who shot Clark. The shooting death of Stephon Clark has become a rallying cry for several community groups, including the Black Lives Matter movement, demanding police accountability. His death has also served as a catalyst for several California lawmakers to push for reform by introducing several new police use-of-force bills in hopes of easing the strained relations between law enforcement and the community (Cole, 2019).

AB 392 introduced.

Assemblywoman Shirley Weber (D-San Diego) introduced Assembly Bill 392. In the language of the bill, officers must utilize “other available resources and techniques” to address threats instead of using lethal force. Also, deadly force can only be used when “necessary” instead of the current standard of “reasonable.” This means that lethal force could only be used if it would prevent a suspect from killing or harming the officer or another person. Currently, prosecutors can only consider the moment lethal force was used to determine if the officer acted within the law. Conversely, in this new bill, the actions of officers and victims leading up to a deadly interaction can be used to determine if the officer acted within the law, policy, and training (Chabria, 2019). Assemblywoman Weber believes this could be a model for other states (Chabria, 2019).

Compromise. When the AB 392 was first introduced, law enforcement groups were largely opposed to the bill but were largely in favor of a related bill, Senate Bill 230. This bill, authored by Senator Anna Caballero (D-Salinas), largely left the current use of force standard alone but focused more on training and providing funding for more resources for officers. During the committee process, SB 230 was amended so that it could only pass if AB 392 passed as well.

This meant that AB 392 had to become more palatable for law enforcement groups. After months of negotiations, law enforcement groups removed their opposition to AB 392 and became neutral on the bill. The updated version removed language requiring the usage of de-escalation tactics and a definition of what “necessary” force is. The updated version also removed language about potential “criminal negligence” of officers involved in fatal incidents. Although law enforcement groups removed their opposition from this watered-down version of the bill, it lost the support of the Black Lives Matter movement.
Newsom signs AB 392 into law. On August 19, 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 392 into law. However, it will be up to the prosecutors and courts to decide what “necessary” means in the newly minted law. Several police groups, including the Peace Officers Research Association of California, the California Association of Highway Patrolmen, and the California Police Chief’s Association, stated that the success of this law is contingent on the passage of the AB 392’s sister bill, SB 230, which would provide funding for law enforcement training and tools (Cole, 2019). As it currently stands, SB 230 is stuck in committee in the Assembly. Law enforcement groups support the wording that requires de-escalation only when it is “feasible,” however, several community groups oppose this language as it may weaken the new law (Chabria, 2019). Although 392 does not go as far as some would like, remaining supporters are hopeful that this is a step in the right direction to change the culture of policing in California (Chabria, 2019).

Necessity for evaluation.

According to data collected by California’s attorney general, there were 628 instances of use of force that resulted in either serious bodily injury or death in California in 2018 which represents a decline from previous years (California Department of Justice, 2019). As with other use of force databases, the attorney general’s data has several limitations. The data only reports instances where use of force resulted in serious bodily injury or death or the discharge of a firearm (California Department of Justice, 2019). In an era where evidence-based policing is on the rise and calls for a national use of force database increase (Alpert, 2015; Klinger, Rosenfeld, Isom, & Deckard, 2016; Nix, Campbell, Byers, & Alpert, 2017), we need more robust data, particularly at the situational-level that captures the moments leading up to an officer using force, if the new law is to be evaluated properly. We also need to know if there is a “displacement” effect in the use of force. For instance, are more serious forms of force decreasing, but are being replaced by less serious forms of force?

The current data limits the ability of this new law to be properly evaluated. It seems more feasible than ever to establish more accessible and comprehensive data systems, at least in California. It has been reported that Governor Newsom has been reaching out to academic researchers for guidance in using data in policy decision-making (VanSickle, 2019). If California wants to serve a model of police accountability for other states, it should use this as an opportunity to be a leader in data transparency and comprehensiveness in order to evaluate the effectiveness of this new law properly.

References


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Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society (CCJLS) is the official journal of the Western Society of Criminology. This open-access, peer-reviewed journal builds on the mission of its predecessor, Western Criminology Review (WCR), by promoting understanding of the causes of crime; the methods used to prevent and control crime; the institutions, principles, and actors involved in the apprehension, prosecution, punishment, and reintegration of offenders; and the legal and political framework under which the justice system and its primary actors operate.

CCJLS invites all of the following:
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Historical and contemporary perspectives are encouraged, as are diverse theoretical and methodological approaches.

Manuscripts must be submitted electronically through the journal’s portal on Scholastica. Submissions should be formatted according to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition (2009). All correspondence is conducted online to speed the review process. There are no page, color, or appendix restrictions, although a 30-page upper limit for the body of papers is recommended. Additionally, authors may, at their discretion, include images (in .jpg or .gif formats), as well as hyperlinks to web pages, source documents, YouTube videos, and similar multimedia materials on the Internet to take full advantage of the digital nature of the journal. Our evaluation process involves an internal review by editorial staff, followed by a blind assessment by two external reviewers. Inquiries about CCJLS should be directed to the editors—Jacqueline Helfgott and Elaine Gunnison—via email at CCJLS@WesternCriminology.org.

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Todak and Brown’s (forthcoming) state-of-the-art review, published in *Policing: An International Journal*, delves into the current research on women of color in policing. The existing research consists of twelve published articles, each citing issues of tokenism, attrition, racism, sexism, and isolation as constant challenges for minority female officers. While the literature does suggest that female minority status has a few positive implications for police-community relations (e.g., black female officers being more in tune with social issues; see Dodge & Pogrebin, 2001) it also shows minority status to potentially exacerbate hostility from citizens of the same gender and race. More broadly, Todak and Brown determined the empirical literature on the topic is significantly outdated, and minority females are drastically underrepresented in policing, particularly in supervisory and middle-management positions. More often than not the studies focus on black female officers, failing to examine women of other races, ethnicities, and sexual/gender orientations in policing. The lack of research has consequences for the conclusions that can be drawn regarding the representation of minorities in policing, the impact of diversity on legitimacy and police-community relations, and the workplace experiences of policewomen of color. The authors discuss the need for more updated research investigating the role of minority female officers in policing.

References


Most people in jail have not been convicted of a crime. Instead, they have been accused of a crime and cannot afford to post the bail amount to guarantee their freedom until trial. *Punishing Poverty* examines how the current system of pretrial release detains hundreds of thousands of defendants awaiting trial. Tracing the historical antecedents of the U.S. bail system, with particular attention to the failures of bail reform efforts in the mid-to late-twentieth century, WSC Executive Board Officers Christine S. Scott-Hayward and Henry F. Fradella describe the painful social and economic impact of contemporary bail decisions.

The first book-length treatment to analyze how bail reproduces racial and economic inequality throughout the criminal justice system, *Punishing Poverty* explores reform efforts, as jurisdictions begin to move away from money bail systems, and the attempts of the bail bond industry to push back against such reforms. This accessibly written book gives a succinct overview of the role of pretrial detention in fueling mass incarceration and is essential reading for researchers and reformers alike.

**Reference**


ISBN: 9780520298316
USING EVIDENCE-BASED, COLLABORATIVE STRATEGIES TO
REDUCE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THE SPOKANE POLICE
DEPARTMENT

M. JORDAN FERGUSON, SERGEANT
SPOKANE (WA) POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Spokane Police Department (SPD) Domestic Violence (DV) Unit has adopted an evidence-based
approach to reducing and preventing DV. The unit’s responsibility is to investigate cases of DV with a
particular emphasis on Intimate Partner Violence (DV between romantic partners). The unit adopted a
focused deterrence model, following the lead of police agencies in High Point, North Carolina and Chula
Vista, California. Members of the DV unit contact defendants in jail and provide them with a letter warning
against contacting their victims and explaining the gun surrender process. Police officers also reach out to
victims to offer them access to additional resources, and conduct routine victim home checks to ensure
their safety and defendant’s compliance with orders of protection.

The DV Unit is housed in a Family Justice Center, co-located with victims’ advocates and prosecutors,
allowing for a synergistic relationship between the three groups who are all dedicated to assisting DV
victims and prosecuting offenders. Officers will often take advocates with them to interview victims.
Prosecutors have the ability to ask officers for help in locating witnesses and victims. Advocates have the
ability to access law enforcement when victims want to disclose crimes. Advocates and officers have also
developed a presentation titled “A Case Study in Collaboration,” which has been presented at several
conferences. The presentation details a real-life case handled by the Family Justice Center that would
have been dismissed due to lack of victim cooperation. However, through our collaboration, we learned
that the offender was orchestrating the victim’s lack of cooperation and ended up being charged.

Officers of the DV Unit ensure patrol officers are trained in the use of the Lethality Assessment Program
(LAP; aka the Maryland Model), which is grounded in research by Dr. Jacquelyn Campbell of The Johns
Hopkins University School of Nursing. Her research has produced three significant findings: 1) only 4% of
DV murder victims nationwide had previously made use of DV programs and services; 2) in 50% of DV-
related homicides, officers had previously responded to a call on the scene; and 3) the re-assault of DV
victims rated as high danger was reduced by 60% if they went to a shelter. Accordingly, the goal of the
LAP is to prevent DV-related homicides, serious injury, and re-assault by encouraging more victims to
utilize the support and shelter services\(^7\). DV unit officers also have supplemental training in Strangulation
Investigation.

Dr. Campbell’s research has shown that one million women alive today can report being shot or shot at by
an intimate partner, and 4.5 million can say that an intimate partner has threatened them with a gun. Due
to the common involvement of firearms in DV-related crimes, The SPD DV Unit, partnering with the YWCA,

\(^7\)https://www.nationalpublicsafetypartnership.org/Documents/Lethality%20Assessment%20Program%20Maryland%20Mod
el%20For%20First%20Responders.pdf
the Spokane County Domestic Violence Coalition, and numerous other agencies has been selected by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges as one of six sites to participate in the Firearms Technical Assistance Project (FTAP)\(^8\). The project is designed to help communities implement policies, protocols, and promising practices to prevent abusers from having access to firearms in DV cases. This program will be empirically evaluated using both quantitative and qualitative methods. We will be looking at changes in DV Homicide Rates and using surveys and interviews to determine unreported, non-fatal DV incidents and victimization rates. Additionally, the Spokane Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit has an ongoing relationship with researchers from the Washington State University Department of Criminal Justice, and are always exploring possible research opportunities. We are currently examining officer interactions with DV victims and offenders.

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR: FUTURE WSC ANNUAL MEETINGS!**

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\(^8\) [https://www.ncjfcj.org/Firearms-TA-Project](https://www.ncjfcj.org/Firearms-TA-Project)
Join thousands of industry and academic professionals at the ACJS 57th Annual Meeting, March 24 - 28, 2020 in San Antonio, Texas for an experience unlike any other. Bursting with relevant, timely, and thought-provoking educational sessions, this meeting provides attendees the opportunity to learn, grow, network and rejuvenate in a location that embodies the charm of a treasured city.

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Dr. Natalie Todak is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and is the social media director for the WSC. If you come across a story that you would like Dr. Todak to post or tweet, please send her an email at ntod@uab.edu. Furthermore, Dr. Todak can be contacted regarding job opportunities to circulate, new research or books by WSC members, or any other announcements or questions that you may have for the WSC.

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