

NIJ's Program of Research on Violent Victimization: History and Next Steps

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Technical Working Group Meeting on Violent Victimization Research

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NIJ

What is NIJ?

- Research, development, and evaluation arm of USDOJ
- Nation's leader in scientific research on crime and justice
- The National Institute of Justice is dedicated to:
 - Improving knowledge and understanding of crime and justice issues through science.
 - Providing objective and independent knowledge and tools to reduce crime and promote justice, particularly at the state and local levels.

Terminology for this Meeting

- Violent crime
 - Person is harmed or threatened with violence
 - Rape, sexual assault, robbery, assault, homicide
- Research that strives to understand and reduce occurrence and impact of these crimes
 - How and when they occur
 - Consequences and victim impact
- Primary focus on adults
 - Emphasis on young adults

NIJ'S RESEARCH PROGRAM ON VIOLENT VICTIMIZATION



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Historical Overview

- Varied projects since 2000 on victimization and victim-offender overlap
- Majority are OVC funded evaluations on victim-specific programs, services, or policies
- Early funded work did begin to examine the overlap of criminality and violent victimization
- Since FY2012 have made an effort to make violent victimization more prominent in calls for proposals

Complementary Research Portfolios

- Children Exposed to Violence
- Violence Against Women (IPV, Sexual Violence, Dating Violence, Stalking)
- Gang Violence
- Crime Prevention
- Hate Crimes
- Trafficking in Persons
- Elder Abuse & Neglect

Program Status

- FY 2012
 - Race and Victimization Solicitation
 - Victim-Offender Overlap Solicitation
- FY 2013
 - Research on Violent Victimization Solicitation
 - Race, ethnicity, culture
 - Victim services
 - Victim/offender overlap
 - Sexual orientation and gender identity

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Ongoing Research Projects

- Program Evaluation of Vision 21 efforts
 - 2012: Wraparound Victim Legal Assistance Network
 - 2014: Systems of Care for Children
- Victim-offender Overlap
 - 2012: Situational factors and the victim/offender overlap
- Race and Victimization
 - 2012: The changing geography of American immigration and its effects on violent victimization
- General victimization
 - 2013: Person or place? A contextual, event history analysis of homicide risk

Ongoing Research Projects (cont.)

- Data Resources Program
 - Studies using NCVS and other secondary datasets to examine victimization issues
- W.E.B. DuBois Fellows
 - 2014: Enhancing knowledge of dispute-related violence
 - 2014: Victimization and fear of crime among Arab Americans in metro-Detroit
- Graduate Research Fellows
 - 2014: The age-graded consequences of victimization

Interagency Coordination

- Bureau of Justice Statistics
 - Crime Victim Services Survey
 - National Crime Victimization Survey
- Office for Victims of Crime
 - Vision 21
 - Program and Policy Evaluation
 - Crime Victim Services Survey

Future Plans

- Creation of a sustainable program through regular calls for proposals and other intramural and extramural research activities
- Continued and enhanced coordination with OVC, BJS, CDC, and other identified research agencies
- Continued input from the field through workshops, web-based forums, and white papers

This Meeting: Purpose Statement

“The objective of the technical working group is to bring together stakeholders from a variety of research, practice, and policy settings focused on violent victimization and form the foundation for NIJ’s development of intensive research on the populations that are most at risk for victimization and the system responses to victimization.”

This Meeting: Additional Goals

- Critical to the development of a strategic plan to support research in the field of violent victimization
- Four major areas of interest identified but that is only a starting point
- Assess for common themes and overlap across topics in the field of violent victimization

Your Role...Is IMPORTANT!

- Identify major areas of interest to the field and the readiness of topics for research and evaluation
- Assist in prioritizing key research areas within content specific topics
- Provide information on emerging challenges and innovation regarding research methods
- Highlight key issues related to dissemination, translation, and practitioner engagement with research in this field

Outline for the Meeting

- Background and context presentation
 - *Arthur Lurigio*, highlights from working paper in progress
- Brief presentation followed by full group discussion of each of the four topic areas
- Break outs: small group discussion in one of four topic areas
- Large group summary, wrap up and next steps