

I. Topic Identification

Problem-oriented policing strategies, which used non-traditional strategies and involved multiple other city agencies, were effective at reducing serious crime.

II. Importance

This is important for current and future policy implications because instead of law enforcement's traditional crime-fighting approach, these types of non-traditional strategies are more effective and should be employed more often.

III. Support

A case study of different problem-oriented policing strategies focused on the Jersey City Police Department. The department first identified 12 pairs of hotspot areas in the city and analyzed which specific crimes plagued each area. The department then split the pairs and one half became the control, while the other served as the experimental area. The department used 28 different experimental strategies; however, 8 of the most common strategies involved partnerships with other city agencies. For example, the Public Works Department was called upon to reduce the amounts of trash in the streets. Finally, an evolution of the program actually found that the rates of violent and property crimes were reduced in the experimental area when compared with the rates in the control area (Braga, Weisburd, Waring, Mazerolle, Spelman, & Gajewski, 1999).

IV. Reference

Braga, A. A., Weisburd, D. L., Waring, E. J., Mazerolle, L. G., Spelman, W., & Gajewski, F. (1999).

Problem-oriented policing in violent crime places: A randomized controlled experiment.

Criminology, 37, 541-580.