Lecture 12: Juvenile Justice, Gender, and Policing

Gender gap: Male juvenile case rate still higher, but falling faster than female (females now 28%)

[Graph showing comparison of male and female juvenile case rates]

[review] Miller & Mullins on Feminist Theories in CWB

- Femcrim aims to reduce gender inequality, crime, and inequitable treatment of offenders, victims, and workers emerging from androcentric (male-centered) policies and practices in gendered institutions.
  - androcentric to ask why women commit less, (v. why men commit more)
  - “not particularly successful” in creating general theories
- Doing gender: crime as resource for performing & accomplishing gender (see Rios)
- Blurred boundaries of victimization and offending
  - E.g., male violence as direct, instrumental, physical; female violence as indirect, expressive, relational
  - Role of romantic connection in gaining entree to associates
- P. 236 – masculinities (Cohen subcultural approach)
Zahn et al. – What works for GIRLS in JJS (2009)

- Girls > Boys in mental health problems & abuse histories, < in criminal history
- Gender-specific may help education, relationships, self but not crime
  - RYSE (AfAm) – only reduced for AfAm girls
  - WINGS – also probation RC, no effect
- Non-gender-specific reduced crime
  - Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care (MTFC) reduced girls’ crime
  - Multisystemic Therapy (MST) works equally well for girls/boys
- Good programs are good for girls

Police

- Juvenile attitudes toward police:
  - improved 1993-2003, then flat or declining in last 10 years (again, peak juvenile crime in early 1990s)
  - Big race gap (36% white and 23% African American say police doing a good or very good job)
- Some estimate ~12% of urban police stops result in arrest; Key factors in discretion:
  - Offense seriousness
  - Presence or wishes of complainant
  - Community preferences/pressures
  - Demeanor/Interaction in situation (tied to race/sex/class)
  - Gender (males for serious, females for status)
  - Race (much more likely to stop, maybe arrest)
  - Class (geography of police patrol in low-income)
Juvenile Violent Arrest Rate per 100,000, 1980-2014

Stop and Frisk (“Field Inquiries”)
• 4th Am (Terry v. Ohio 1968) Police need “reasonable suspicion” that a crime has been or will be committed, to stop and question. They may frisk for weapons if reasonable suspicion they are armed & dangerous.
• NYC and “Broken Windows” policing – from 700,000 stops to almost zero (de Blasio elected in 2013)

Stop and Frisk (NYC - Jeff Fagan)
• How would Rios interpret?
  – African Americans & Latinos 9 times more likely to be stopped by NYPD, but, once stopped, no more likely to be arrested (685,724 stopped in 2011)
Policing Youth - Discretion

• Release
  – CWR (counsel, warn, & release)
  – “Station adjustment” (informal, but still recorded in some states (IL))

• Referral
  – Diversion
  – Juvenile Court intake
    • Case-processing: probation as likely outcome
    • “leaky funnel” of processing

• Hot Topics: Implicit bias, body cameras, and procedural justice

Juvenile court processing 1,058,500 cases in 2013; Gender diff in placement

• 55% petitioned
  – 1% waived
  – 55% adjudicated
  • 64% probation
  • 24% placed (decline)

• 45% non-petitioned
  – mostly dismissal or probation

• Female
  – 48% petitioned (.1% waived; 49% adjud.)
  • 66% probation
  • 20% placed

next

• Week 13 – 11/27 & 11/29:
  • Probation and Institutionalization – distribute final study guide
    – A. Probation
      – Lane, Jodi, Susan Turner, Terry Fain, and Amber Sehgal. 2007.  

  – B. Institutionalization
    – Michelle Inderbitzin, Trevor Walraven, and Joshua Cain. 2014.  