In this issue:

Welcome  1
President’s Message  2
2019-2020 Board Directors  3
Announcements  4
Good News from Members  5
Recent Publications  6

WELCOME
Welcome to the ACCCJUS Newsletter No. 16! This issue has the columns of “President’s Message”, “Announcements”, “Good news from members”, and “Recent publications” of the year of 2020. We are thankful for your support and contributions to ACCCJUS.
President’s Message

The November 2019 AGM in San Francisco was a well attended event, with an inspirational talk from Ruth Petersen, former President of ASC, and known for her work on race, inequality and crime. Ruth is Professor emerita at Ohio State University and she spoke very much from the heart on the importance of inclusiveness and diversity in all our work. As usual, we had a fine meal after the AGM, this year in San Francisco’s ‘Chinatown’. ACC CJ also had three full thematic panels at ASC, and I chaired all three. The presentations were engaging and detailed; thanks to everyone who participated. Furthermore, we had a joint ‘round-table’ with the ASC Division of Rural Criminology, and I’d like to thank Joe Donnermeyer for his planning and contribution.

As you know, activities were being planned for the ACCCJ 10th Anniversary celebration, which was to be held during 2020 ASC in Washington DC. In light of the ASC cancellation, the Board has agreed that the full ‘anniversary’ event would now be scheduled for ASC 2021, and the existing ad hoc planning committee would continue its work. The special anniversary issue of International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology is in progress, and scheduled for publication online in winter 2020 (under the guest editorship of myself, Liqun Cao, Hong Lu and Jonathan Lee). The Board decided that the 2020 ACCCJ Elections will go ahead as normal in the autumn via appropriate online procedures and the Board agreed to the setting up of an ad hoc committee to consider the potential in planning for an ACCCJ online conference (at some future date). We will keep you updated on these matters in due course.

The Board thank you for your continuing interest and membership of ACCCJ and wish you a good summer period. COVID 19 has caused havoc across the world, not only in human lives lost, but also in terms of impact on national economies. It looks like we are now entering a new period, so let’s all look to the future and brighter times ahead. My sincere best wishes to you and your family.

Finally, I wish to personally thank Li Luye for her work on producing such an informative newsletter!

Best wishes, Bill.

Bill Hebenton
University of Manchester, UK
2019-2020 Board Directors

President 会长:

Bill Hebenton 毕儿, University of Manchester

President-elect 当选会长:

Bin Liang 梁斌, Oklahoma State University

Treasurer 财务长:

Siyu Liu 刘思羽, Penn State Harrisburg

Directors:

Xiaojin Chen 陈晓进, Tulane University

Jessica Li 李紫媚, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Luye Li 李露叶, SUNY Polytechnic Institute

Shi Yan 严实, Arizona State University
Announcements

2020 Jiang-Land-Wang Outstanding Student Paper Award Calls for Submission

ACCCJ is accepting submissions for the 2020 Jiang-Land-Wang Outstanding Student Paper Award. This award is named after Dr. Shanhe Jiang of Wayne State University, Dr. Kenneth C. Land of Duke University and Dr. Jin Wang of Sun Yat-Sen University, who made a generous donation to ACCCJ. Established in 2014 to encourage scholarly work among graduate students, this award is given to recognize an outstanding student paper on a topic related to crime and justice in the greater China (e.g., mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau) or Chinese residents and immigrants and/or their communities overseas.

Eligibility: The competition is open to both published (after January 1, 2019) and unpublished article-length papers written in English by a student or a team of students who are currently enrolled on a full-time basis in a Master’s or Ph.D. program anywhere in the world. Each student can only submit one first-author paper for consideration in this competition. Multiple-authored papers are acceptable as long as all authors are qualified students, but no student-faculty collaborations will be accepted. When a winning paper is written by multiple graduate students, they may choose to share the award. ACCCJ membership is not required for this competition.

Paper requirements: Papers may be theoretical or empirical but must be directly related to Chinese criminology and criminal justice or comparative criminology and criminal justice involving Chinese societies or Chinese and their communities overseas. Papers should use the APA format for the organization of text, citations, and references. The authors’ names, affiliations, acknowledgements, and any other "identifying" information should appear only on the title page, which will be removed prior to sending the manuscripts to the Award Committee members. The next page of the manuscript should include the title and an abstract.

Selection procedures: The 2020 Award Committee (composed of Shanhe Jiang, Ivan Sun, Nicole Cheung, Kevin Wang and Jessica Li) will conduct a blind review to rate and rank submissions according to criteria such as significance of the topic, quality of the conceptualization, clarity and effectiveness of the methods, quality of the writing, and contribution to the ACCCJ’s main interests. The ACCCJ Board will review and vote on the Committee’s recommendation. The ACCCJ Board may decide not to make the award in any given year.

Awards: The winning student(s) will receive a plaque and a $300 cash award, and will be recognized at the ACCCJ general member meeting.

Submission deadline: All papers should be submitted in electronic format by August 31, 2020 to Jessica Li at cmj.li@polyu.edu.hk

Questions should be addressed to cmj.li@polyu.edu.hk
Announcements

- The ACCCJ held an **Extraordinary Board Meeting** via ZOOM on May 19th, 2020 for the Association’s activities that were affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

- The **2020 ACCCJ Elections** will be organized in the fall via online procedures: four directors will be elected (President-elect, Treasurer, and two board directors).

- The Board agreed to set up an ad hoc committee to consider the planning for an **ACCCJ online conference**. More details on these two matters will be announced in due course.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic,

- The 2020 Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS) at San Antonio, TX in March was cancelled

- The 2020 American Society of Criminology (ASC) at Washington D.C. in November is cancelled

- The 2020 European Society of Criminology (ESC) at Bucharest, Romania is postponed to September 2021

- The 2020 Southern Criminal Justice Association (SCJA) at Biloxi, MS in September is cancelled

- The 2020 Midwestern Criminal Justice Association (MCJA) at Chicago, IL in September is cancelled

- The 2020 ACCCJ Summer Delegation is cancelled

- The 2020 ACCCJ Annual General Meeting (AGM) in November is cancelled

For the ACCCJ 10th Anniversary celebration,

- the Board has agreed that the full ‘anniversary’ event would be postponed to 2021; the existing ad hoc planning committee for planning the anniversary celebration will continue its work

- ACCCJ has kicked off its first fundraising in anticipation of its forthcoming 10-year anniversary celebration. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to an anonymous member who has donated $500. If you have a lead to any potential donors, please contact ACCCJ’s fundraising ad hoc committee chair, Dr. Bin Liang (bin.liang@okstate.edu)
Good News from Members

Congratulations to our members for their accomplishments and productivity! (The following is reported in the alphabetical order of the last names)

Grants and Awards
Irwin, Darrell
Grant: How are Surpluses in City Police Budgets Allocated after the Recovery Post-Recession?
2020 Scholarship Facilitation Fund, University of Connecticut, Office of Vice-President of Research

Wang, Shun-Yung Kevin
2020 Fulbright Scholar Award
U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
He is awarded the Fulbright Scholar to China in Spring 2021

Publications
Dong, Beidi


Irwin, Darrell

Jiang, Shanhe


**Liu, Siyu**


**Shi, Luzi**


**Wang, Shun-Yung Kevin**


**Wu, Guangzhen**


**Yan, Shi**


**Presentation**

**Cao, Liqun**

On May 31, 2019, Cao, Liqun, Ph.D. presented paper “Human rights and border crossing: The politics of cross-border” at the International Symposium on Cross-Border Criminal Justice under the Basic Law: International Experience and Legal Development in the Greater Bay Area organized by Chinese Law Program, Hong Kong Institute of Asia-Pacific Study (HKIAPS), and Faculty of Law of the Chinese University of Hong Kong (see the transcript of this presentation below).

**Griffin, Jennifer D.**

On February 27, 2020, Jennifer D. Griffin, Ph.D. presented “Law Enforcement Stress and Work-Family Conflict- Initiatives to Increase Wellness and Resiliency” at the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Officer Safety and Wellness Symposium, in Miami, Florida
Human Rights and Border Crossing: The Politics of Defining Border-Crossing a Crime

Professor Liqun Cao, Ontario Tech University, May 31, 2019

My presentation will be about cross-borders with an emphasis on human rights. The conference theme of “Cross-border crime and prevention” is consistent with a strong surge of conservative social movement in most developed and industrialized nations from Great Britain, to the continental Europe, to the United States, and here in Hong Kong. The anti-globalization has finally found its legitimacy as a defender of status quo. In the discourse, one of the long-time rhetoric against the so-called “cross-border crime” was totally silenced: Human rights.

This is one of the topics that has been ignored in the Chinese literature for too long. Probably everyone knows the western ideologies of democracy and science were introduced to China long before the May Fourth Movement in 1919, but it was the May Fourth Movement that has made these “Western” values more popular and more accepted in China, at least in principle. The other two important Western values that are missing are liberty and human rights. In the West, liberty and human rights are as important as science and democracy. That missing link is related to many of the problems that we are currently facing. I will briefly introduce the concept of human rights, using the definition of the United Nations and then talk about what a border is and more fundamentally whose border it is. Afterwards, I will look at legitimacy and policing by consent. My argument is that Hong Kong is an immigrant society and any strict policies to close its board will suffocate its economic vitality.

Globalization comes with the flow of people in and out of different nation-states as well as regions (such as Hong Kong). As global society becomes increasingly connected, the affluent nations or regions tend to attract a large number of new comers, and settling of immigrants in a host nation has emerged as a central focus of politics. Approximately 3.4% of the global population (258 million) is composed of immigrants who live in a nation where they were not born (The International Migration Report, 2017). People leave their home nation for employment, economic or for safety reasons. We cannot advocate globalization while opposing the movements of people, legally as well as illegally, domestically as well internationally. A dynamic society is one where people are able to make their choices to move freely in order to pursue their happiness. In reality, moving freely internationally remains difficult while moving freely within a nation is largely a social reality in most nations.

What is human rights?

According to the United Nations, “Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status. Human rights include the right to life and liberty, freedom from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, the right to work and education, and many more. Everyone is entitled to these rights, without discrimination” (UN, 2019). Of course, this is our common ideal and its realization depends on the awakening of people in each society, but the goal is technically and morally supported by all United Nations members, including its founding member and one of five permanent members of its Security Council: the People’s Republic of China, which replaced the Republic of China in 1971. As such, the Chinese government has an undeniable duty to act according to its obligation and commitment to its signed international document.

What is a border?

According to the online dictionary, a border is “a line separating
two political or geographical areas, especially between countries.” My definition is a little different: A border is a man-made demarcation of excluding people of political and economic others. Although we can also talk about a provincial border and county border, crossing those borders are defined largely as our right, not as a violation of the regulation or law. The highly restrictive border between Hong Kong and mainland China was set up since 1949. It made political sense when Hong Kong was under the British rule. Hong Kong was returned to China in 1997. Within a sovereign entity, does such a clear-marked uncrossable border still make sense, especially making such border-crossing a crime? Should a more inclusive society a better choice for both Hong Kong and China?

What is legitimacy?

Put it simply, “Legitimacy is the recognition of the right to govern” (Coicaud, 2002). This simple definition contains three elements. First, legitimacy is to be found where there is a positive recognition by citizens of power-holder’s moral right to exercise that power. Second, legitimacy explicitly incorporates the view that discussion of legitimacy must embrace both those who exercise power and those who are expected to obey. Third, legitimacy is seen as necessarily conditional or defeasible. Max Weber (1968), who was a German scholar, differentiated three types of authority: traditional, charismatic and the legal-rational authority. Contemporary democratic societies prefer, and largely rely on legal-rational authority. There is yet another type of authority, which is called “dull compulsion” (Bottoms and Tankebe, 2012). It can be a situation where a power holder or ruler is in an effective command of a territory but this claim is rejected by the audience (the residents); or it can be that the ruler’s claims to legitimacy are accepted by the public as technically “valid” yet this acceptance is not, a true “recognition of the right to govern.”

Legitimacy is the foundation for all sustainable orderly and peaceful governments because it makes both the governing and the governed happy and it makes police officers’ “impossible mandate” (Manning, 1997) possible. In most contemporary societies, police officers carry their duties through the means of policing by consent.

What is policing by consent? It was first advocated by Sir Robert Peel in 1829 and his theory of policing has become the ideal type of policing in democratic societies (Manning, 1997; Travis and Langworthy, 1994), but it is the most difficult and it is probably far from being a reality yet. This idea has travelled outside London, and has provided community policing with a philosophical foundation (Ren, Cao, Lovrich, & Gaffney, 2005).

There are two kinds of legitimacy: power-holder legitimacy and audience legitimacy (Bottoms and Tankebe, 2012). Power-holder legitimacy (or ruler legitimacy) refers to the self-belief that rulers have in their moral right to govern. Weber (1968a) contends that rulers are constantly persuading themselves that their fates are deserved and therefore rightful. Bottoms and Tankebe (2012) argued that legitimacy is a dialogue between audience legitimacy (the governed legitimacy) and power-holder legitimacy. Because these two types of legitimacy occupy different spaces in society, they see things very differently. Very seldom they will see things in the same way. So, legitimacy is a dialogue. This is basically a Western conceptualization of legitimacy, which forms the very foundation of rule of law and which is very different from the Chinese traditional sense of legitimacy. The Chinese concept of legitimacy is called the rule by law, and it is not a dialogue, but basically one-way ticket: normally without much of the dialogue between the audience and the power holders. The power-holders decide everything (定于一尊). That is why Weber (1968b) argues that there is no Western sense of rule of law in Chinese
tradition.

Hong Kong is an immigrant society. The majority of Hong Kong residents are first and/or second generation immigrants. Historically, there were many waves of illegal crossing into Hong Kong. According to the communist documents, there were four large-scale illegal crossing from Shenzhen to Hong Kong, namely in 1957, 1962, 1972 and 1979. The most famous one is called “the rescue of relatives in Hua-shan” (Fei, 2011). It happened in May 1962. The Hong Kong colonial government decided to abandon relocation of refugees and started arresting them instead. This was a very sad incident. Families were separated on both sides of the Hong Kong border.

In January 1967, Ma Si-chong, the most famous musician and composer of China, was smuggled into Hong Kong before transferring into the United States (He, 2018). These historic incidents suggest three lessons for us. The first is that the most powerful way to stop mainland immigrants into Hong Kong is the economic development within China. Second, the most effective means to prevent immigration is to wind up the gap between two places in terms of welfare benefits. People nowadays come to Hong Kong because of its better welfare systems as compared to Mainland China. Third, the dangers of porous borders are less serious than dangers of impenetrable borders. It’s not that we shouldn’t have any borders, but that the border should not be made impenetrable and crossing the border should not be made a crime.

To conclude, the world has been changing. Since the beginning of this century, more walls have been built up and more open societies started to close its doors. International refugees have been hard to find a home anywhere. Those who intend to emigrate, legally or illegally, have found more and more barriers. At the same time, we are bombarded with the conservative messages that our system is eroding by poor and helpless people and our nation is being destroyed. Exclusive thinking (Young, 1999) has prevailed. The study of border-crossing, for which immigrants are a key part, is important (Esses, Jackson, & Armstrong, 1998; Phillips, Hagan, & Rodriguez, 2006; Wang, 2012; Xie & Baumer, 2019) and the field has been growing with globalization. Tom Tyler (1990) in his seminal book “Why people obey the law” concluded “people comply with the law not so much because they fear punishment as because they feel that legal authorities are legitimate and that their actions are generally fair.” Thus, increasing your severity of punishments does not help make you more legitimate. Passing the exclusive laws does not make police officers’ work easier. Human rights is one of the super-eminent principles of rule of law (David & Brierley, 1978). You can enlarge your law net by criminalizing border-crossing, and you can also deal with it by absorbing immigrants into a dynamic economy. In the final analysis, we should move toward a more inclusive, not exclusive, society (Young, 1999) and we should dream of a borderless good society for all (Bella et al., 1991). A more inclusive, fairer and more just society should be for all human race. “The Internationale will be the human race” (Eugène Pottier, 1871). Human race should eventually enjoy a borderless globe.

References


Coicaud, J. (2002). Legitimacy and Politics: A Contribution to


Recent Publications

The Patterns and Influencing Factors of Help-Seeking Decisions among Women Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence in China


Although there has been a growing body of empirical research that examines the prevalence rates of intimate partner violence (IPV) and associated factors in Chinese societies, few studies have examined IPV survivors’ help-seeking patterns. Drawing on data from a nationwide survey among the general public in mainland China, the present study sought to investigate help-seeking decisions and associated factors among Chinese women survivors of IPV. The sample consisted of 488 IPV survivors who self-identified as heterosexual women in China. Logistic regression analyses were conducted to identify factors influencing participants’ help-seeking decisions (help-seeking versus non-help-seeking) and non-help-seeking reasons. A latent class analysis (LCA) was used to explore help-seeking patterns among those who sought help. Multinomial logistic regression analyses, as part of the 3-step LCA approach, were employed to locate significant factors associated with distinct help-seeking patterns identified in the LCA. Over two-thirds of the survivors (73.4%) did not seek help. Among the 26.6% of survivors who sought help, the majority sought support from family and friends, rather than professional services. The main reasons for not seeking help include (a) the belief that they could handle the situation by themselves, (b) not knowing to whom they could turn for help, and (c) the belief that the violence experienced was not severe. IPV type and several relationship-related factors stood out as key predictors for different help-seeking decisions. Implications for future research and practice in the context of China are discussed.

Social capital and public willingness to cooperate with the police in China


Purpose. Public cooperation with the police is of great significance in the maintenance of social security and social harmony, but studies investigating the mechanisms of public cooperation with the police in China are scarce. Using survey data obtained from Xiamen, China, the purpose of this paper is to examine the effects of social capital on willingness to cooperate with the police and their mediating mechanisms.

Design/methodology/approach. Data with 938 respondents were used in this study. Ordinary least squares regression models were used to test the influence of social capital on the willingness of the Chinese public to cooperate with the police and its mediating mechanisms. Findings. The results show that associational life participation, social trust and neighborhood cohesion can all enhance public willingness to cooperate with the police by cultivating public spirit or trust in government, whereas
participation in community collective resistance is negatively correlated with willingness to cooperate with the police. Theoretical explanations are offered to understand different effects of social capital elements on public cooperation with the police, and possible ways to foster such cooperation are discussed. **Originality/value.** This paper takes the lead in examining the effects of social capital on willingness to cooperate with the police and their mediating mechanisms in China.

**Chinese Practice of Foucault’s ‘Disciplinary Power’ and its Effects on the Rehabilitation of Female Prisoners in China**


The prison system of the People’s Republic of China (PRC) has been viewed by some scholars as effective in achieving the primary target of Chinese imprisonment: rehabilitation. This article aims to redress this argument. Drawing on interviews undertaken with 30 female parolees/ex-prisoners and 10 prison officers, this article argues that the Jifen Kaohe System in prison, which is strongly imprinted with Foucault’s theory of ‘disciplinary power’, is ineffective and is unable to make accurate judgements on the achievement of prisoners’ rehabilitation at selected women’s prisons. This article suggests that Foucault’s disciplinary power is theoretically problematic in producing a ‘new person’, not the least of its unawareness of contextualized culture, values and situations, and women’s agency in prison.

**The spillover mechanisms linking family conflicts and juvenile delinquency among Chinese adolescents**


The mechanisms through which conflicting parental relationship and parenting practices influence adolescent antisocial behavior have not been adequately understood. To bring more understanding to the mechanisms, this study investigates how marital discord interrelates with interparental inconsistency in parenting practices, and how these family conditions influence juvenile delinquency through their spillover effects on mental health problems, parental attachment and delinquent peer association among Chinese adolescents. Findings obtained from a structural equation modeling analysis of survey data collected from a probability sample of 2,496 adolescents (mean age = 15.16 years) are generally consistent with the spillover effect hypothesis. The results demonstrate that mental health problems, parental attachment, and delinquent peer association operate as critical mediators linking marital discord and interparental inconsistency to juvenile delinquency.

**The Role of Perceived Legitimacy and Its Effect on Prison Adaptation: A Longitudinal Study on a Chinese Juvenile Prison**

Research into offenders’ adaptation to prison environment has been a topic of enduring interest. Recently, perceived legitimacy in corrections has attracted considerable attention and emerged as an important area of research in the prison settings. The purpose of this study is to examine the factors associated with perceived legitimacy in corrections, and document its effect on juvenile offenders’ adaptation to the institutional environment of a Chinese youth prison. Data for the analysis were collected from the lone youth prison located in an autonomous region with more than 47 million persons of varying ethnicity. Using structural equation modeling (SEM), the findings suggest a significant effect for perceived legitimacy on juvenile offender adaptation to prison programs. The final model was able to explain 61% of variation in the outcome variable and identify several prominent contributors to perceived legitimacy. Policy implications were highlighted in the “Discussion and Conclusion” section.

**Judges’ gender and sentencing in China: An empirical inquiry**


Although mixed results regarding judges’ gender disparity in sentencing have been uncovered globally by comparatists, China has yet to be considered. Based on documents of adjudication decisions collected from two cities, we examined district court judges’ sentencing decisions. Multilevel-multivariate analysis reveals negligible differences between male and female judges. We conclude that the similarities in the decision to incarcerate can be explained by the harmonious “Iron Triangle” relationship among the police, the procuratorate, and the court. We also indicate that the Sentencing Guidelines and the Adjudication Committee are mechanisms that shape judicial behaviors in the same direction.

**Peer Victimization and Nonsuicidal Self-Injury Among Chinese Left-Behind Children: The Moderating Roles of Subjective Socioeconomic Status and Social Support**


Peer victimization is a serious issue among school-aged children. Chinese left-behind children tend to experience peer victimization and associated nonsuicidal self-injury (NSSI) behavior. However, the possible improvement of subjective socioeconomic status (SES) based on increased family income may serve to buffer the relationship between peer victimization and NSSI, and this buffering effect may differ by level of social support. Thus, the current study aimed to examine the moderating effect of subjective SES on the relationship between peer victimization and NSSI by the level of social support among Chinese left-behind children. A total of 431 left-behind children and 447 non-left-behind children (comparison group) completed self-report scales measuring peer victimization, NSSI, subjective SES, and social support. Results showed that peer victimization was positively related to NSSI among left-behind children, but not among non-left-behind children. Moreover, for left-behind children with low levels of social support, high subjective SES
intensified the association between peer victimization and NSSI; peer victimization was positively associated with NSSI among left-behind children who reported high subjective SES, but not among those with low subjective SES. However, high levels of social support seemed to protect the left-behind children with high subjective SES who experienced peer victimization from NSSI. For non-left-behind children with both parents present, high subjective SES played a protective role in the association between peer victimization and NSSI, regardless of the levels of social support they enjoyed. These findings contribute to an understanding of subjective SES as a moderating mechanism in the association between peer victimization and NSSI among left-behind children. Social support proved central to the protective role of subjective SES. Intervention programs to enhance social support can help to strengthen the protective effect of subjective SES on NSSI among left-behind children who experience peer victimization.

**Relationship Dynamics and Perpetration of Intimate Partner Violence Among Female Chinese College Students**


In China, most intimate partner violence (IPV) research focuses on male perpetration and female victimization, whereas studies on dating violence and female IPV perpetration are less common. Although research on female IPV perpetration in China has surfaced recently, there have been limited studies examining factors related to female perpetration in dating relationships in China. In the current research, we sought to examine how relationship factors, including anger management, communication problems, relationship conflict, and relationship distress, are linked with female physical and psychological IPV perpetration. We included 857 female college students in three regions in China from the International Dating Violence database. We found that Chinese women’s anger management skills and communication problems were both significantly associated with physical and psychological IPV perpetration on both minor and severe levels. Furthermore, we found that relationship conflict was significantly associated with minor and severe physical abuse perpetration and severe psychological abuse perpetration. Anger management skills moderated the negative effects of relationship conflict on minor physical IPV perpetration as well as minor and severe psychological IPV perpetration. Anger management skills also moderated the negative effects of relationship distress on minor and severe physical IPV perpetration among Chinese women. Our findings suggest that it may be important to explore the role of college women’s anger management skills, communication problems, and conflict resolution skills in their dating relationships, as well as to develop female-based intervention programs to increase Chinese college women’s relationship skills to reduce their levels of IPV perpetration.

**Elder Abuse in Chinese Populations**


The number of older persons exposed to domestic violence is

Politics of crime control: how campaign-style law enforcement sustains authoritarian rule in China


How does campaign-style law enforcement sustain authoritarian rule? Drawing on fieldwork data and published materials, this article enhances the understanding of law and politics in authoritarian regimes by investigating the role of the ‘sweep away black’ campaign—designed to combat organized and gang crime—in strengthening China’s authoritarian regime. It argues that the campaign helps the party-state enhance its authoritarian rule by resolving the legitimacy crisis caused by economic slowdown, gangs’ infiltration in grassroots political structures and problems of police corruption and shirking. But the campaign distorts the criminal justice system by demanding that criminal justice organs deliver severe and swift justice. It also harms China’s private sector because local governments may expand the targets of repression to include private enterprises.

Corruption in the United States and China: codes of conduct vs. crackdowns


Previous research on China’s corruption and its continued, tolerated existence tended to focus on guanxi wang networks (informal gift-giving) and baohu san (protective “umbrellas” from enforcement). This article compares China with the United States and argues that enforcement results between the two countries are similar even though the mechanisms are distinct. Issues of system capacity and non-issue making explain the similar effects of these disparate methods (codes of conduct in the U.S. and anti-corruption crackdowns in China).

Human Trafficking in China


Identified as a source, transit, and destination country for
human trafficking, issues of human trafficking in China range from forced marriage to forced labor, forced sex work, sale and profitable adoption of babies, and human smuggling. Internationally, the illegal, undocumented migrant status of North Korean defectors has made them easy targets for kidnap and abduction, forced sex work, forced marriage, and forced labor in factories and agriculture. Although forced labor, forced marriages, and forced sex work are significant human trafficking issues in China, the current Chinese laws and campaigns have failed to emphasize these issues. The government should replace the top-down crackdown strategy with a partnership with grassroots organizations and women’s groups to help prevent forced labor and identify trafficked victims, while at the same time providing legal redress to the victims of forced labor, forced marriages, forced sex work, and the sale of children for the abuse they have endured.

Intervening paths from strain to delinquency among high school and vocational school students in China


Chinese education system comprises high schools and vocational school, and their differences on delinquency have seldom been investigated. From the perspective of general strain theory, the present study examined the differences among high school and vocational school students for delinquency, strain, and other explanatory variables. General strain theory delineates the effect of strain on delinquency or deviance and presents the paths from strain to delinquency or deviance through social control and social learning variables. Using a sample of 1,852 tenth-grade students in Guangzhou City, the present study tests the intervening paths from strains to deviance among high school and vocational school students. Results indicated that vocational school students have higher likelihood to be strained and delinquent, and have lower social control and higher interactions with delinquent peers. School type is a significant predictor for strain, as well as social control and delinquent peers.

In Search of Activist Lawyers in China: A Time Machine Back to the Heyday of Political Activism in the Chinese Legal Profession


An analysis of a large corpus of online discussions—posted mostly in 2004—amongst members of the largest online community of lawyers that ever existed in China supports much of the existing literature about Chinese lawyers’ politically liberal values. At the same time, it reveals that Chinese lawyers’ political discourse was far from monolithic. By bringing into high relief the plurality of Chinese lawyers’ voices, this article contributes an unprecedented effort to disaggregate their worldviews. Previous research suggests that lawyers’ online discourse was an important catalyst of politically liberal activism in China. Findings reported in this article reveal for the first time that Chinese lawyers also called for mobilization in support of pro-regime, illiberal, and nationalistic causes. Finally, at
precisely the moment of the alleged heyday of China’s so-called “weiquan movement,” there was scarcely a trace of political activism under the mantle of weiquan, or “rights defense,” in the Chinese legal profession.

The impact of two different cultures on juvenile attitudes toward the police in China


This study examines juvenile attitudes toward the police (JATP) from an unconventional angle by examining the possible effect of two different cultures along with more conventional factors typically associated with youth attitude formation. A unique feature of this study is the inclusion of measures of attachment to both the traditional Chinese culture and Western popular culture. The data were collected from 30 minority middle schools with more than 6,500 students in a southern autonomous region in China in 2014. The primary findings indicate that juveniles who are more firmly attached to the traditional Chinese culture and who show respect for parents/teachers tend to hold a more positive view of the police. In contrast, juveniles who endorse Western popular culture and are perceived as a fan of that culture are more likely to hold a negative view of the police, societal actors who are viewed as primary representatives of the mainstream culture.

Environmental Legal Mobilization in China


This article examines the relationship between law and social movements by analysing civil environmental public interest litigation in China after 2015. Based on the fieldwork in China, this research examines the dynamics of environmental legal mobilization and identifies the support structure that mobilizes legal actions. This article finds that three main frames will impact the support structure in a way that social groups need to construct a consensus with state authorities: (1) assisting the government; (2) advocating policy change and promoting legal reforms; and (3) resolving local environmental problems. This research sheds new light on legal mobilization theory and argues that China’s legal reform will open new pathways for robust social participation and signify a more formal rule of law.

Social Disorganization Theory in Contemporary China: a Review of the Evidence and Directions for Future Research


This paper assesses and synthesizes the cumulative results from the empirical research on social disorganization and crime-related phenomena at the neighborhood level in China. Our review identified 17 relevant quantitative, qualitative, and mixed method studies published in journals and books from the late-
1990s to date. Our goal is to take stock of the cumulative knowledge to inspire future research in China, thereby advancing social disorganization theory. We synthesize the main findings about the effects of structural factors and intervening mechanisms from quantitative studies, summarize briefly conclusions from qualitative and mixed methods research to crosscheck our synthesis, and identify methodological and theoretical limitations. Our conclusions point to promising directions for future research with special attention to prospects for theory development through comparative criminological inquiry.


Though more than three decades have passed since the launch of Strike Hard in 1983, its impact on crimes remains. Most of the literature on the campaign so far has been theoretically and methodologically limited. Using historical materials and interview data, this paper establishes an integrated theoretical framework and aims at investigating whether and how a moral panic was constructed. This study argues that the top leader played a decisive role in engineering the moral panic during the 1983 Strike Hard operated through a top-down approach under the Chinese political structure. In short, exploring events from the perspective of moral panic, this study gives a deep insight into the Chinese criminal justice system in response to crimes

Books


Editor: Luye Li
Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences
SUNY Polytechnic Institute