149441

CRIMINAL CAREERS: CRIMINAL VIOLENCE AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

FINAL REPORT

ERNST WENK
VISITING FELLOW

This narrative is part of the final report to the National
Institute of Justice.   Another part is the data tape
submitted containing our SAS system files and documentation.
Due to the nature of this project most of the analyses
results will emerge during the coming months when analyses
with the created systems files will be carried out.   Reports
will be made available as soon as they are finalized or
accepted for publication.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

BACKGROUND

The research accomplished under the Visiting Fellowship had its beginning in the early 1960's. California was developing innovative programs in juvenile justice, criminal justice and other areas in the human services. Three Reception Guidance Centers (RGC) provided intake functions for California Youth Authority (CYA) wards committed by the courts to the agency for custody and care. The Reception Guidance Center at the Deuel Vocational Institution (DVI) in Tracy, California processed the oldest group of CYA wards during this time and the original part of the data used in this work was generated and collected there.

The young adult offenders committed to the RGC-DVI spent six weeks at the center for diagnosis and assessment. During this time they were tested individually and in groups, were interviewed by their case worker, took medical and dental examinations and 1 in 10 was examined by a psychiatrist or a psychologist. The information generated during this assessment phase was systematically collected for research purposes by the clinical staff during 1964 and 1965. The information collected included case history data, history of delinquency and crime, intelligence, academic, vocational, personality and ¬sychiatric/psychological data.

The first major studies emerging from this large data collection examined the parole performance of these offenders during their first 15 months on parole. Later studies focused primarily on violence prediction. They found that prediction models developed lacked predictive power and were of little practical value. Efforts were undertaken to collect longer follow-up data. These efforts were successful in the early 1980's when the presently used long term follow-up data was collected. The history of the data base can be summarized as follows:

1	2	3			4	5	6	7
1960	1965	1970	1975	1980	1985			1990

Phase One

1   First pilot studies and designing of data collection.
2   Comprehensive data collection over a two year period.
3   Initial 15 month follow-up on parole leading to several important studies in criminal justice.

Phase Two

4   Collection of 20 year follow-up data during 1984-1985.
5   Developing of coding manual and coding of new data.
6   Application for research funds for new analyses.
7   Visiting Fellowship of Principal Investigator with NIJ.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Four major objectives were guiding our research. The first objective and most fundamental to our future research was an assessment of the validity of the data itself and an estimate of the usefulness of the data base regarding criminal justice policy. This objective, particularly the data editing, absorbed more time and resources than planned but could not be compromised. We could not compromise the integrity of the project. The objective was met and the integrity and usefulness of the data was established.

The second objective was to conduct preliminary investigations into the criminal career patterns of violent offenders. This objective was met. Preliminary results are available, however, several months of work lay ahead for publishable results to emerge.

The third objective was to attempt to apply event history analysis to our data. This objective was particularly impacted by the delay in the data editing. We investigated simple temporal patterns and computed various matrices. More sophisticated event history modeling will be carried out during the future months. The PC version of our data base will provide the basis for such investigations.

The fourth objective was to begin collaborative research with leading researchers from various disciplines. The pursuit of this objective led to the successful completion of a number of investigations that promise to contribute significantly to scientific advancement.

DATA PREPARATION

Data coding and data entry for the long term follow-up was accomplished at the School of Social Work, Arizona State University during 1987 and 1988. The editing and combining of the various data sets had to await funding and was not started until the grant from NIJ was received in 1990. At the direction of the P. I. the task of data editing of the follow-up data was undertaken with care and precision. It was the first time our data could be combined and checked for internal consistency. After initial computer runs we found an unusual number of cases with inconsistencies and a long and costly case by case analysis of follow-up records began that did not conclude until every case proved to be a valid and reliable part of our data. This edit was done by Sean Mulvenon, a doctoral student at ASU.

In addition to the editing of the follow-up data and because of the inconsistencies found and corrected the P.I. ordered a total edit that included the original data collected in 1964 and 1965 as well. The original data was processed at the time at the Computer Center of the University of California at Davis. After

2

transfer of the data to the Arizona State University, staff at ASU reprocessed the data and created their own data files. This process was closely analyzed at the University of Oklahoma by Dr. John Behrens. Recoding of some of the variables was carried out by Dr. Behrens and the edited follow-up data from ASU and the recoded data from the University of Oklahoma were combined on computer tape in SAS system data files. These files and their documentation are called the NIJ files and are part of the final report to NIJ.

A third major effort at data preparation was undertaken at NIJ by the P.I. assisted by Richard Lewis, M.S., a doctoral student at the University of Maryland. This effort was aimed at mastering the large data base with PC based computer technology. Two reasons led to this work: First, the P.I. invested his own resources in a top of the line computer and wished to obtain total independence in accessing the data for analysis. Future analyses will be possible for a long time to come and will be independent of future funding or access to outside computer facilities.

Such analyses by the P.I. will be important because he is the person most familiar and knowledgeable about the data. Analyses will continue as soon as the P.I. is resettled in his home in Davis. The second reason is the practical application and use of the data base for teaching and information development in the criminal justice field. After the data is fully streamlined and all major analyses software work flawlessly with the system files, this data will be made available to practitioners in the field and to academicians in University settings for teaching and research. Such a level of development should be reachable before the end of this year.

Richard Lewis performed data preparation and analyses exceptionally well. He contributed a great deal to the overall success of the project. His work was carried out using the PCs at NIJ, the new PC at my home in Crystal City and the PCs and mainframe computer at the University of Maryland. His computer skills allowed him not only to perform his assigned duties, but to teach me some of these skills as well.

The results of the data preparation efforts include a clean data base with documentation on computer tape. Diskettes can easily be prepared from this tape. At a later time, when the PC version is perfected and flawlessly operational, diskettes will be available from the P.I. This should be the case by the end of this year or earlier.

FINDINGS TO DATE

The results to date are primarily the results of descriptive statistics analyses. Frequencies on 181 selected original

variables and 52 follow-up variables were computed. More than
100 variables were not included in the analyses at this time.
These latter variables will be available for studies of special
issues, such as career patterns of persons with diagnosis of
mental illness, etc. The presently available variables do not
contain the new scores of the revised California Psychological
Inventory. These scores will be transferred to the project in
June of 1992 when the P.I. will meet with the staff of the
Institute for Personality Assessment and Research at UC Berkeley.

During the next months major reports will present the
generated data in a organized fashion. This report will present
a few select data features. There are 4,146 subjects in our
study. For 3,652 of these we received arrest records from the
California Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation.
Missing records are missing because of records purging and
records sealing in the case of subjects who died. The 3,652
subjects remaining in our study were arrested 54,176 times. The
primary offenses charged were as follows:

	Number of Arrests
Homicide	243
Assault with a deadly weapon	1411
Assault with force	370
ADW on peace officer	849
Arson	61
Kidnap	178
Forcible Rape	312
Robbery	2742
Weapons Violations	1003
Battery	1486
Escape	350
Burglary	5477
Hit and run	251
Drunk driving	3074
Possession of narcotics or drugs	6947
Sex offenses, others	603
Grand theft or fraud	9336
Disorderly conduct	1645
Vagrancy	577
Drunk/disorderly conduct	2638
Traffic violations	3837
Miscellaneous offenses	2074
Adjustment failures	2317
(Administrative status changes	1040)

Violence was involved in 10,374 arrests. 25,559 arrests
were for offenses that endangered others, such as in drunk
driving offenses, burglary offenses, etc. 4,477 arrests involved
the use or presence of firearms. Peace officers were the targets
of assaultive behavior in 1,395 arrests. 454 arrests involved

violent sexual behavior. 1,363 arrests included behavior considered clinically significant to warrant further special study. 6,614 arrests were alcohol related, 2,676 arrests were marijuana related and 6,354 arrests were narcotic or drug related. The following tables give the frequencies of the arrests per subject and the frequencies for the arrests involving violence.

Frequency Distribution of Number of Arrests During an 18-year Period for 2,473* Youth Authority Wards

No	f	No	f	No	f	No	f	No	f
1	61	17	84	33	12	49	3	65	0
2	88	18	75	34	17	50	1	66	1
3	90	19	55	35	12	51	1	67	1
4	93	20	52	36	12	52	2	68	0
5	105	21	56	37	12	53	0	69	1
6	105	22	58	38	9	54	1	70	0
7	108	23	47	39	8	55	0	71	0
8	120	24	43	40	6	56	1	72	0
9	120	25	44	41	4	57	0	73	0
10	127	26	38	42	6	58	0	74	0
11	94	27	47	43	11	59	0	75	0
12	104	28	33	44	1	60	0	76	0
13	109	29	28	45	2	61	0	77	0
14	91	30	18	46	2	62	0	78	1
15	110	31	30	47	3	63	1		
16	95	32	14	48	0	64	0		

Mean = 14.52, SD = 9.82

Frequency Distribution of Number of Arrests for Crimes Involving Violence, in a Sample of 2,473* California Youth Authority Wards

No	f	No	f
0	555	10	30
1	517	11	16
2	382	12	10
3	283	13	6
4	214	14	4
5	163	15	2
6	116	16	1
7	79	17	1
8	58	18	1
9	35		

Mean = 2.68, SD = 2.72

*Includes all subjects with valid CPI scores and follow-up.

5

The total raw data output from the analyses is enormous and will take months to interpret and organize for coherent presentations. There will be information for a number of scientific papers as well as data summaries such as used for the NIJ publication "Research in Brief." These reports will be created over the next few years by the P.I. and some of his collaborators.

JOINT RESEARCH WITH PROFESSOR HARRISON GOUGH

Harrison Gough Ph.D., University of California at Berkeley, is the author of the California Psychological Inventory. He is collaborating with the P.I. on studies employing the revised CPI. Dr. Gough developed his personality test into a major personality assessment tool that is based on personality theory. The revised version features in addition to the 20 individual scales three vector scales that allow classifying a person into one of four lifestyle categories and to assign a person to a level of personal functioning that reflects his or her achieved level of self-realization.

The four lifestyles express the person's basic orientations towards people and towards norms or rules. The level of self realization reflects the way the person feels about his or her accomplishments. It is also an expression of how others feel about the person's competence or how a clinician would evaluate the level of ego integration of a particular individual. A brief description of the lifestyles and levels of ego integration follows and includes a table showing the characteristics of our study population as compared to the norms for these measures.

The Four CPI Types Based on the v.1 and v.2 Scales

Alphas: Their cathexes are centered on the shared, interpersonal world, and on adherence to norms. Alphas are doers, the people who carry out the sanctioned mandates of the culture. At their **best**, they are charismatic leaders, and instigators of constructive social action; at their **worst**, they are self-pitying, defensive, apathetic, and manipulative.

Betas: Their cathexes are centered internally, and on the acceptance of norm and precepts. Betas are the preservers of value, sources of wisdom, and the nurturers and restorers of the tribal law. At their **best**, they are inspirational models of goodness and insight; at their **worst**, they are conformist, constricted, fearful and anergic.

Gammas: Their cathexes are centered on the shared, manifest world, and on personal as opposed to revealed or traditional values. Gammas are the doubters, the skeptics, those who see and resist the imperfections and arbitrary features of the status quo. At their **best**, they are innovative and insightful creators

of new ideas, new products, and new social forms; at their **worst**, they are rebellious, intolerant, self-indulgent, and disruptive.

Deltas: Their cathexes are centered on a private, internal world, and on a personal as opposed to a traditional or sanctioned system of values. Deltas are reflective, idiosyncratic, and detached. At their **best**, they are ideationally and imaginatively creative, esthetically perceptive, and visionary; at their **worst**, they are fragmented, conflicted, withdrawn, and prone to decompensate.

The function of level as indexed by scores on the v.3 scale

    7 = superior integration and realization of the positive
          potential of the type
    6 = distinctly above average integration and realization of
          potential
    5 = above average integration and realization of potential
    4 = average integration and realization of potential
    3 = below average integration and realization of potential
    2 = distinctly below average integration and realization
    1 = poor integration and little or no realization of the
          positive potential of the type

Lifestyle and Ego Integration Description of 2,473* California Youth Authority Wards on the California Psychological Inventory

| Life-styles | Levels of ego integration | | | | | | | | Percentages | |
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Sum	Sample	Norms
Alpha	36	68	71	80	39	18	10	322	13.0	24.4
Beta	59	124	131	105	35	10	10	474	19.2	23.6
Gamma	108	156	142	79	37	13	5	540	21.8	26.8
Delta	256	347	351	135	335	12	1	1,137	46.0	24.2
Sum	459	695	695	399	146	53	26	2,473		
Sample	18.6	28.1	28.1	16.1	5.9	2.1	1.1		Percentages	
Norms	7.6	12.4	18.6	21.8	18.6	12.2	8.6			

*Includes all subjects with valid CPI scores and follow-up.

Various analyses were carried out including comparisons of nondelinquents with our CYA wards, comparisons of means and standard deviations for the three racial groups, analysis of variance for scales of the CPI versus number of arrests and number of arrests for crimes involving violence, and multiple regression analyses of scales of the CPI against total number of arrests and against number of arrests for crimes involving violence. Additional analyses will be planned during our scheduled June meeting in Berkeley.

JOINT RESEARCH WITH PROFESSOR ROBERT BARNHILL

This research carried out in collaboration with faculty of the Computer Sciences Department at Arizona State University seeks to apply advanced computer data visualization techniques to our data. Two phases were successfully competed and the third phase is in progress. The first phases used personality data to explore a violence prediction visualization. The dependent variables used was the Sc self control scale of the CPI. The independent variables were the Ma (manic/depressive) scale and the Pd (psychopathic deviance) scale of the MMPI as well as some intelligence measures. The model developed was recently (April 1992) featured in an article in the MIT publication "TECHNOLOGY REVIEW."

Phase two explored models using real outcome data such as the data presented earlier on arrests and arrests involving violence. Phase three getting started now will employ the scores from the revised CPI including the 3 vector scores now available for analyses. The work with Dr. Barnhill will continue using our data base as well as other data to determine the feasibility of such models for novel ways of data interpretation for policy makers and administrators of public programs.

OTHER COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

Several projects will now receive the newly created data from the revised CPI and portions of the recently finished SAS system files and will then be ready to start their work. Professor Alfred Heilbrun, Emory University, will receive the data for joint studies using interactive psychological prediction models based on his developed dangerousness index. Professor Kriss Drass, Southern Methodist University, will be able to start the joint studies of Boolean algebra models. Professor Robert D.Hare, University of British Columbia, will begin joint investigations into psychopathy assessments and several collaborators will be able to get the completed data for planned statistical studies using various advanced models they are developing. 1992 and 1993 will see several seminal papers published as a result of these efforts. The National Institute of Justice will receive proper credit for support of this important work.

8