Build and Broaden 2.0: Understanding Barriers to Equity in Public Safety Policies

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NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION AWARD
#2126938

National Louis University
• **Context**
  - inequity in criminal court system
  - policy change
  - police reform in the US

• **Goal:**
  - Understand resistance to equity focused policy change
    - "Studying up"

• **Mixed methods**
ILLINOIS SAFE-T ACT (1 of 2)

- Passed in January 2021
- Expands *individual rights*
  - Eliminates cash bail and bond
  - Entitles individual to three phone calls within three hours after arrest
  - Eliminates obstruction arrest for resisting arrest exclusively
  - Eliminates driver's license suspension for failure to pay fines and fees
ILLINOIS SAFE-T ACT (2 of 2)

- Increases **police accountability**
  - Requires public misconduct database and records
  - Felony conviction bars service in law enforcement
  - Curbs excessive use of force
  - Adds duty to intervene
  - Funds training
OTHER POTENTIAL EQUITY FOCUSED REFORMS

• Remove police officer protection from lawsuits
• Reform police purchasing procedures of military equipment
• Require reporting of arrest by race and national origin
SURVEY DEVELOPMENT

- Collaborative, iterative process
- Pilot study
- Sections:
  - Perceptions of public safety
  - Perceptions of police and police actions
  - Experiences with police
  - Neighborhoods
  - Prejudice and racism
  - Demographics
  - Personality
  - Sense of community and extremism
  - News and social media
  - Political behaviors and ideology
  - Trust in research
To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the police.

The police...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Treat people respectfully.
- Are concerned about community problems.
- Are NOT competent in my community.
- Do a good job keeping people safe.
- Do NOT provide the services people want.
- Work together with local community members to solve local problems.

There have recently been some policy changes in Illinois related to individual rights.

Do you think that the following policy changes **improve** our criminal justice system?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- An individual’s driver’s license will no longer be revoked for failure to pay fines or penalties.
- Unless an additional crime is suspected, an individual will no longer be arrested for obstructing or resisting a police officer.
- An individual will now be entitled to three phone calls within three hours after an arrest.
- Individuals will now be able to file anonymous complaints against police officers.
- Bailbond will no longer be required for people awaiting trial for crimes categorized as low risk.
- Corrections officers will now receive training on caring for pregnant prisoners.
- Prisoners who give birth will now remain with their infant for at least 72 hours, unless there is a safety issue.

Overall, I believe the policy changes in Illinois related to individual rights...

- Go too far in limiting the police
- Seen fair
- Do not go far enough in expanding individual rights

If you would like to provide specific comments on the Illinois policy changes related to individual rights, please use the space below:
ONLINE RECRUITMENT

- IL representative of US demographics
- Cluster analysis for recruitment
- Recruiting through Meta
This ad reached 2,644 people in your audience.

Audience details
Only the person who created this ad can see audience details.
What's it like living in America today?

Take the survey to tell us more
Participants will receive a $10 gift card

Have Your Say About Public Safety in IL

Take the Public Safety Survey
Tell us what will make IL safe for EVERYONE

Justice is blind...
Is our criminal justice system?

Take the survey to receive a $10 gift card.
BOT PREVENTION AND DETECTION

- Search for duplicate respondents (i.e., IP address, location coordinates, email address)
- Determine consent and completion of survey
- Review duration
- Check RecapTCHA score
- Qualtrics bot checks

- Each round of data collection resulted in <1-30% of usable data
PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS

• Monitoring survey responses
• Targeted marketing to oversample for various populations
  ○ <35 yrs old
  ○ Black/African American
  ○ Hispanic/Latino/a
### How would you describe your political beliefs related to economics?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Valid Percent</th>
<th>Cumulative Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly conservative</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>18.1</td>
<td>18.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>27.9</td>
<td>27.9</td>
<td>46.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>78.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>89.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly liberal</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>387</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### How would you describe your political beliefs related to social issues?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Valid Percent</th>
<th>Cumulative Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly conservative</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>14.5</td>
<td>14.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>21.7</td>
<td>36.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>32.3</td>
<td>68.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>86.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strongly liberal</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>387</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Age & Religiosity inversely related to support of:
  ○ Individual rights items: -.43*, -.13*
  ○ Policing changes and accountability items: -.17*, -.16*
  ○ Potential reforms: -.17*, -.24*
PRELIMINARY RESULTS-CORRELATIONS (2 of 4)

• Individuals who report being more economically liberal-leaning & Socially liberal show greater support for:
  ○ Individual rights items: .44*, .42*
  ○ Policing changes & accountability items: .42*, .44*
  ○ Potential reforms: .31*, .36*
PRELIMINARY RESULTS-CORRELATIONS (3 of 4)

- Individuals who have greater **trust in the government** have greater support for:
  - Individual rights items: .17*
  - Policing changes & accountability items: .19*
  - Gov't trust not related to support for other potential reforms
• Individuals who report greater **trust in research** findings related to disparities in the legal system have greater support for:
  
  ○ Individual rights bill items: .42*
  ○ Policing changes & accountability items: .30*
  ○ Potential reforms: .23*
PRELIMINARY RESULTS - 3 REGRESSIONS

• Age, *Economic* political beliefs, & *Research Trust* Predict support for Individual Rights provisions. Model accounts for 35% of the variance in scores.

• *Social* & *Economic* political beliefs, Gov't Trust predict policing changes. Model accounts for 24% of the variance in scores.

• *Social* Political Beliefs predict support for other potential reforms. Model accounts for 15% of variance in scores.
PREPARING FOR INTERVIEWS

• Develop interview protocol
• Determine recruitment parameters
• Qualitative analysis
  ◦ Unconscious racism
  ◦ Unified theory of value-based reasoning
  ◦ Communication and value pluralism
  ◦ Theory of law
  ◦ Self-reflection related to overcoming barriers to equity
QUESTIONS AND CONTACT INFO

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