Report from the Center for Studies in Criminal Justice
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The Center for Studies in Criminal Justice was founded at the University of Chicago Law School in 1965. Operating in a relatively small academic unit of the University, the Center's primary goal has been to encourage and produce first-rate basic scholarship and to facilitate the advanced training of talented scholar-researchers.

Over the past eighteen months, five book-length manuscripts have been completed under the supervision of Center staff. Diverse in scope, subject matter, and authorship, these completed projects are representative of the Center staff's current interests and style of operation.

Wayne Kerstetter, Associate Director of the Center and Clarence Day Fellow during 1979, and Anne Heinz, Research Associate, have completed a report of a field experiment in Miami, Florida, which tested the effects of involving judge, defendant, and victim in the plea negotiation process by channeling all negotiation proceedings into a hearing. This report was published by the Government Printing Office.

The Director of the Center, Franklin Zimring, served as Rapporteur for the Twentieth Century Fund Task Force on Sentencing Policy Toward Young Offenders. The report of that Task Force, and Zimring's Background Paper, Confronting Youth Crime, were published in April of 1978.

Norval Morris and Michael Tonry, a research associate, edit a yearly compendium of essays on critical topics in criminal law and criminology. Funded by the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and guided by an outside advisory board, Morris and Tonry have completed the first volume of this work and have commissioned papers for the second. The series, entitled Crime and Justice: An Annual Survey of Research, is published by the University of Chicago Press. Two of the nine chapters in the first volume were written by research fellows of the Center.

The Limits of Law Enforcement, Hans Zeisel's definitive examination of the processing of felony arrests in New York City, was completed in early 1980. Using two separate samples of felony arrests, the book provides a comprehensive guide through the labyrinth of criminal case processing, jail detention, plea bargaining, and sentencing.

Center staff have also prepared teaching materials for use in American law schools. Compiled by Franklin Zimring and research fellow, Richard Frase, The Criminal Justice System exposes law students to empirical material dealing with crime, police, pretrial processes, plea bargaining, and sentencing. This book was recently published by Little, Brown and Company.

The history of these projects provides an interesting window into work patterns in the Center over the past few years. One common theme is cooperation with other research or policy-planning agencies. For example, the Zeisel manuscript is based on a study he initiated as Research Director of the Vera Institute of Justice in New York; the Task Force on Sentencing Policy Toward Young Offenders was established by the Twentieth Century Fund; the Annual Survey of Research in Crime and Justice was prepared in collaboration with the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice and the University of Maryland; and the pretrial settlement experiment will be replicated by other researchers in consultation with the Center.

A second theme of Center publications is collabo-
ration between authors. Three of these five major works involve co-authorship, and a fourth was written in collaboration with a task force. Typically, major research or editorial projects involve two authors, one with an academic affiliation at the University of Chicago and one with an academic appointment at another university.

Similar interinstitutional collaborations characterize recently undertaken research. Wayne Kerstetter is conducting a survey and analysis of team policing for the Center, partially supported by the Police Foundation in Washington, D.C. The Sentencing Guidelines Project, directed by Michael Tonry, is a joint undertaking with the University of Maryland Law School. Franklin Zimring is collaborating with the Rand Corporation on a study of sentencing policy toward young offenders in criminal courts. This cooperative effort is both necessary and healthy. Such arrangements have special value for the Center because they expand the scale of research without the burden of a large permanent staff, high overhead costs, or space requirements that would be inconsistent with the Center's affiliation with the Law School.

The financial history of these recent Center projects is also worth noting. The pretrial settlement experiment was funded by a large grant from the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. As usual, the funding period was shorter than the time required to complete the project report. Modest but critical supplemental support provided by the Clarence Day Foundation enabled Wayne Kerstetter to complete the monograph. The National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice will fund the replication of this study. Although the Twentieth Century Fund provided support for the work of its Task Force, no money was budgeted by that organization for empirical work. However, when the opportunity arose to explore the relationship between age and sentencing outcome in Washington, D.C., a grant from the Nancy and Raymond G. Feldman Fund made it possible to add an original research contribution to the work of the Task Force. The felony disposition study was originally funded through a grant from the National Institute to the Vera Institute of Justice. That grant represented 95% of the resources expended on the project, but funds were not available to support needed additional data analysis during 1977 and 1978. A modest grant from the Feldman Fund made possible the more refined analysis which has greatly enhanced the value of the book.

Support for the preparation of The Criminal Justice System came from the Arnold and Frieda Shure Fund for Research at the University of Chicago Law School.

These fiscal case histories illustrate both the mix of public and private funds that has supported the Center's work in the past and the important role of relatively small supplemental private funds in facilitating the completion of research. The Center depends on private funding to take advantage of opportunities for inexpensive but innovative research and for pilot projects. Thus, while private funding has represented less than half of the Center's total expenditures, it has been essential to the character and nature of the Center's work.

The number and variety of research interests pursued by Center staff defy the discipline of an organizational chart. Norval Morris is principally concerned with the jurisprudence of sentencing convicted offenders, the proper role of imprisonment in criminal law, and the relationship between the state's mental health power and the administration of criminal law; Morris and Michael Tonry serve as editors of the Annual Survey, and Morris continues as general editor of the Studies in Crime and Justice. Professor Morris also plays an active role in monitoring the progress of the prison program he designed at the Butner, North Carolina, federal prison.

Wayne Kerstetter has undertaken an ambitious series of studies on police patrol, police management, and the assessment of efforts to reform urban police departments.

A grant from the Chicago Bar Foundation enabled the Center to award visiting fellowships to Gordon Hawkins in 1978 and James B. Jacobs in 1979. Hawkins is now completing an analysis of movements in the American prison population over the last decade. Jacobs plans a follow-up study of Stateville Penitentiary, the setting of his 1977 book, Stateville: The Penitentiary in Mass Society. He is also studying trends in the use of coercive social control in the United States since World War II.

Richard Block recently completed a comparative analysis of crime and criminal justice in the United States and the Netherlands. Hans Zeisel is pursuing studies on the relationship between race, discretion, and the death penalty. Michael Tonry continues to supervise the activities of the model federal sentencing commission. Franklin Zimring is involved in a series of empirical studies relating to violence, young offenders, and the general deterrent effects of criminal sanctions. One pending study, an attempt to assess the impact of the New York Legislature's 1978 "crackdown" on violent youth
crime, combines all three of these research interests. Finally, Hans Zeisel and Ellen Fredel are studying the reliability and utility of arrest statistics reported by municipal police departments to the Uniform Crime Reporting Section of the F.B.I.

Almost all of these research activities reflect long-standing commitments of Center fellows to particular areas and study topics. Many of the subjects of current projects have been part of the Center's research agenda since 1965: sentencing, deterrence, the prison, mental health, and criminal law. The sequence of studies in violence is now entering its eleventh year. These sustained research programs provide the continuity and flexibility necessary for the informed empirical study of crime and the criminal law. Recent productivity of Center staff is due, in no small measure, to the momentum generated by our work in earlier years.

The majority of Center fellows now hold academic appointments at institutions other than the University of Chicago. One result is that the Center's population is subject to the same kind of seasonal variation as Martha's Vineyard—far larger in the summer than in the winter months.

It is easy to over-estimate the role of premeditated design in the development of the Center. However, the staff is pleased with the result of this evolutionary pattern. Plans for the Center's future owe much to the fortuitous but satisfactory events of recent years.

The staff's ambition is to remain a small research and training institution that serves as an intellectual clearing house for empirical studies in the administration of the criminal law. To achieve that end, research professionals engaged in the Center's activities might be divided into four categories: Faculty Fellows, Research Associates, Visiting Fellows, and Fellows. Faculty Fellows are full-time faculty members at the University of Chicago who are continually involved in the research activities of the Center. At present, Professors Morris, Zeisel, and Zimring fit that definition.

Research Associates are resident scholars engaged in Center research. Typically, a Research Associate comes to the Center shortly after completing doctoral work in law or social science and stays for a period of two to four years, sharpening substantive and methodological skills while contributing to Center-sponsored research. We anticipate that Research Fellows will "graduate" from this status into faculty positions at other major American universities. This pattern has already characterized the careers of James Jacobs (Cornell University), Richard Frase (University of Minnesota), Michael Tonry (University of Maryland), and Wayne Kerstetter (University of Illinois). The Center usually employs two or three such resident professionals.

Visiting Fellows are typically older and more experienced academic research professionals who come to the Center to pursue research projects of their own choosing. Such persons find the Center an attractive place to visit because of the individual skills of other Center personnel and because our numbers, while small, constitute impressive depth in an area where most individuals work in isolation. Our Visiting Fellows have included Johannes Andreæas (Oslo), George Sturup (Denmark), and Mark Haller (Temple University). Their work has ranged from seminal studies on deterrence to a history of organized crime.

Fellows are those individuals who maintain continuous research ties with the Center for Studies in Criminal Justice but have academic appointments elsewhere; they are physically in residence only occasionally. Usually, Fellows are recruited from former Research Associates or Visiting Fellows, and Visiting Fellowships are offered to active Fellows. Some obvious examples include Hawkins, Jacobs, Frase, and Tonry.

The advantages of this structure are economy, flexibility, continuity, and an enhanced capacity to influence the course of research at other institutions. With such a structure, the Center will continue to finance large-scale research with federal funds; however, visiting fellowships and pilot project support must come from private funds if the Center is to continue activities on the same scale that has characterized it in recent years.

While this pattern of organization is appropriate for the work of the Center, it may also serve as a model for research and training in other law-related research endeavors. The lack of explicit empirical training for future legal academics, the absence of legal scholars in many law-related specialties, and the outright loneliness of the research process have stunted the growth of empirical research in American law. Ultimately, this Center may be more important to the Law School as an experiment in organization for research and teaching than as a research agency in criminal justice. If this is the case, the Center's four years of operation without major foundation support are of special value. The question of whether research centers such as this can be established for short periods of time with large external grants is rather less important than whether such centers can mature into important constituents of the academic legal enterprise.