The Caribbean Crime Study Group

The Gazette is a communication venue for the Caribbean Crime Study Group which is an off-shoot of the International Section of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. It meets at least twice per year at the American Society of Criminology and at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences conferences. It also supports the University of the West Indies Criminology Conference normally held biennially at one of its campuses. The current Chair of the group is Lorna Grant, faculty member at North Carolina Central University. The Vice Chair is Sherill Morris an assistant dean at Prairie View A&M.

THE CARIBBEAN CRIME STUDY GROUP’S NEXT MEETING:
Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Conference, Marriott Marquis, Times Square, New York, the Canton Room on the 9th Floor, Saturday, March 17, 2012, from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

The Effects of Fatherless Homes on Children

Lorna Grant

There are many questions that should be answered when analyzing the effect of the fatherless home on children: What is the father’s role in rearing a child? Does his absence negatively affect the child’s growth and development? What factors create the home with the absent father? How does being raised by a non-biological father affect a child’s life trajectory and turning points? Does the fatherless home predispose a child to delinquency?

In the Caribbean, many purport that the absence of the father leads to delinquency. Yet, delinquency exists among all family structures and other factors indubitably come into play. On the one hand, the child might be exposed to elements of delinquency. On the other hand, conforming values and attitudes might inhibit delinquency despite a negative community context. Such positive mediators seem to rely on the strength of the parent-child bond, in keeping with Travis Hirschi’s social bonding idea.

(continued page 3)

Lorna Grant, PhD
North Carolina Central University
303 Whiting Criminal Justice Building
1801 Fayetteville Street
Durham, NC 27707
678-327-5280
lgrant@nccu.edu
grant.lorna@gmail.com

(continued page 2)
Locating Reports

- Vision 2030 Jamaica National Development Plan: Gender Sector Plan by the National Gender Task Force 2009


- Caribbean Journal of Criminology and Public Safety: http://cjesp.com/

- Office of the Children’s Advocate - Jamaica
  http://www.ocajamaica.com/

- UNICEF Reports on Jamaica

- The Institute for Criminal Justice & Security, UWI
  http://www.mona.uwi.edu/government/icjs/staff.html


- Reducing Armed Violence in the Caribbean Challenges to Civil Society by Maribel Gonzalez, 2009
  http://www.ploughshares.ca/libraries/monitor/monj09b.pdf

Prof. Jose R. Cepeda Borrero, JD (continued from page 1)

Prior to joining Inter American University he returned briefly to public service as Education Coordinator for the Puerto Rico Civil Rights Commission.

He is a member of Amnesty International and served on the Board of the Puerto Rican Section for four years. Representing this organization, he attended their Biannual Meeting of the International Council, visiting the city of Dakar, Senegal in West Africa in 2001 and Morelos, Mexico 2005. He also attended the AI’s Latin American Human Rights Education forum in Mexico City, 2003 and the AI’s International Human Rights Education Forum in Marrakesh, Morocco 2004.

Currently, Mr. Cepeda is a frequent voice in the local media, where he participates mostly on radio talk shows and in newspapers commenting on the issues of crime, violence and drug trafficking. Last year he even participated in a news series by one of the major newspapers of the Dominican Republic.

He is an urban cyclist and an activist promoting alternate transportation in his home town of Ponce.

J. R. Cepeda
P. O. Box 493 Mercedita, PR 00715

http://josercepeda.spaces.live.com
http://www.myspace.com/jrcepeda_pr
http://www.facebook.com/jrcepeda

Te invito a leer mi Blog: "Pedaleando desde el sur" que me publican los amigos del periódico digital "El Sur a la Vista" encuentralo en http://www.elsuralavista.com/periodico


Professor Borrero may be reached at:

Recinto de Ponce

104 Pque. Industrial Turpó Carr. 1
Mercedita, Puerto Rico 00715-1602
Tel: 787.284.1912 extensión 2007
Fax: 787.841.0103
http://ponce.inter.edu
Fatherless Homes

(Grant: continued from page 1)

Where did the father blame originate? Popenoe (1999) argued that the relationship between family structure and crime is strong enough to erase the relationship between race, low income and crime. He continued that, White, Black, rich and poor two-parent offspring all have far lower incarceration rates than their single parent fatherless counterparts. However, others argue that fathers contribute in a unique way to the family structure, providing things that are quite different from mothers. Horn (2002) argued that fathers are irreplaceable because when they are absent, children are said to suffer emotionally, intellectually, socially, and behaviorally. For him the contributions of fathers to a child's well being cannot be fully replaced by better programming, ensuring child support programs, or even by well-intentioned mentoring programs. Horn (2002) noted that findings from research pertaining to fatherhood reveal that, compared to children raised in two-parent homes, children who grow up with absentee fathers have on average, significantly worse outcomes on almost every measure of well-being.

Analyzing the literature regarding children who have experienced the absence of a father in the household for the last decade, the following findings were realized:

1) Children living in female-headed single parent homes are five times more likely to commit suicide, eight time more likely to be incarcerated, 20 times more likely to have behavioral problems and 20 times more likely to become a sex offender compared to children in a traditional two-parent household (Wilson, 2002).

2) Muehlenberg (2002) examined differences between single parent families, and two parent families. He concluded that mother-only families produce more delinquent children than two parent families. Additionally, the very absence of intact families makes gang membership more appealing. Relatedly, Flouri and Buchanann (2002) expressed concern about the lack of emphasis on the role of fathering as unfortunate given that there are several reasons why fathers should be involved in their children’s lives. For example, fathers have the potential to positively influence their sons who are deemed at-risk for delinquency.

3) The 2002 survey of the jail population in the US revealed that 46% had a family member who had been incarcerated; 20% had a father who was incarcerated and 39% were from a single mother home (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2004).

4) Ellis, John, Dodge, Fergusson, Horwood, Pettit, and Woodward’s (2003) research revealed that adolescents without fathers were twice as likely to be involved in early sexual activity and seven times more likely to get pregnant as others.

5) Anderson (2002) from her research on individual and contextual influences on delinquency found that boys, in single-parent families were at higher risk for status, property and
person offending. Furthermore, students attending schools with a high proportion of children of single parents are at increased risk for deviance.

6) Teachman, (2004) argued that being raised by a single mother raises the risk of teen pregnancy, marrying with less than a high school diploma, and forming a marriage where both partners have less than a high school diploma.

7) Harper and McLanahan (2004) from a longitudinal study of male participants measuring the likelihood of incarceration among male youths from fatherless households using data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (USA) argued that, while there were unfavorable circumstances, such as: teen motherhood, low parent education, urban residence, racial inequality and poverty, the incarceration of youth are associated with fatherless homes, and these youth are more likely to double the rate of delinquency when compared to their peers. They further contended that “youths from stepparent families are even more vulnerable to the risk of incarceration, especially those in father-step mother household, which suggests that re-marriage may present even greater difficulties for male children than father absence” (Harper & McLanahan, 2004, n.p.).

8) Data from the Center for Disease Control (2008) revealed that fatherless homes have a negative effect on children. Eighty-five percent of all children that exhibit behavioral disorders come from fatherless homes. Hirschi’s social control theory, in discussing the impact of social bonding on a child, highlighted four key elements of bonding: attachment, commitment, involvement and belief. According to Hirschi’s theory, attachment is the most important element because, the stronger the relationship between a child and his/her parents, the more likely it is that the child will conform. Booth, Ferrell, and Varano (2008) noted that another element of the bond, commitment, indicates the degree to which an individual has internalized the notion that values and norms are legitimate and worth emulating. Involvement indicates depth of interaction with the socializing agent or agencies. A child who is committed to conventional norms will be more involved in activities that do not threaten goal achievement (Booth, Ferrell & Varano, 2008). Belief, as posited by Hirshi’s theory, summarizes all of the elements of this theory, because if a child is attached, committed, and involved, the child will believe in prosocial behavior and be less likely to violate conventions.

Indubitably, children who grow up in fatherless homes are at much greater risk for major challenges in life than those who grow up with a functional father in the household. Attachment enhances the path of positive growth and development. When that connection is broken, the impact is also evident that something substantial has been lost.

References


Image:openheartsopenminds.org.uk
At the meeting in Washington DC:

1. Welcome was extended to all present by the chair
2. Introduction
   - Participants introduced themselves.
3. Membership
   - Committee decided to undertake a vigorous membership drive.
   - Jose Cepeda Borrero from Puerto Rico said he knew members of his group would be interested in being a part of the group.
4. Section Activities
   (a) Gazette Publication
      - The chair encouraged more submissions for the gazette. She noted that in the long term she would like to see it developed into a journal.
      - Members were asked to submit articles for upcoming issues.
   (b) Tour of Juvenile Facility- ACJS Conference – Canada
      - Report was given on the tour to the juvenile facility in Canada.
(c) Constitution
- There were queries and discussion about a draft of the constitution and plans for a committee to assume the task.

(d) Dr. Dionne Jones spoke about at the general meeting of the Division on People of Color and Crime section. The chair noted that there were travel grants available even to have a symposium. The African group suggested that we join them in soliciting the grant in order to have a symposium. It was suggested that if we get the grant, a university could provide accommodations. The Chair (Grant) suggested that she would look into the possibility of her university hosting. The chair will get in touch with Dr. Jones to get more information on the grant. Membership will be informed on the progress.

5. New Officers
- After much discussion, it was decided that the current executive continue to serve the group until specific tasks are completed.

6. Announcements
- The group from the University of Puerto Rico is planning a conference. Information forthcoming.

7. Adjournment

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Setting the Research Agenda for the Future: A Symposium on Gangs and Gang Violence in the Caribbean
Hosted by the:
Inter-University Consortium for Caribbean Gang Research
Arizona State University ~ American University.
University of the West Indies-Mona ~ Sam Houston State University

This international symposium – to be held at American University – will bring together leading scholars who study the gang problem in the Caribbean. The symposium will be open to guests, including scholars, analysts, policy makers, development experts, and others with an interest in this important regional issue. Representatives from universities, government agencies, embassies and consulates, non-governmental organizations, and development banks are all welcome to attend.

Participants will examine the latest findings related to gangs and responses to gangs to better understand the Caribbean region’s gang-related problems; and their potential threat to the United States and to democratic governance in the Caribbean. The symposium will cover a range of gang types, from inexperienced and disorganized neighborhood youth gangs engaged in petty property crime, to more serious and violent adult street gangs that represent a serious threat to public order in some nations. The symposium will also focus on the causes, correlates, and consequences of the gang problem, including the destabilizing effects of gangs on legitimate governance in Caribbean states. Given the paucity of
systematic knowledge on the Caribbean gang problem, the theme for this year’s symposium is 'Setting the Research Agenda for the Future.'

**When:** Friday, February 17, 2012

**Where:** American University Mary Graydon Center Mary Graydon Center Room 4 and 5
4400 Massachusetts Ave, NW Washington, DC 20016

Suggested Parking: Nebraska Avenue Parking Lot

---

**Setting the Research Agenda for the Future: A Symposium on Gangs and Gang Violence in the Caribbean**

Hosted by the:

*Inter-University Consortium for Caribbean Gang Research*

---

**DRAFT AGENDA**

**8:30-9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**9:00-9:30 Opening Remarks**

Professor Richard Bennett, American University (Washington, DC)
Dean William LeoGrande, American University (Washington, DC)
Professor Charles Katz, Arizona State University (Phoenix, AZ, USA)

**9:30-10:00 Human security in the Caribbean – the UNDP regional development report**

Professor Anthony Harriott, University of the West Indies-Mona Campus (Jamaica)

**10:00-10:30 An overview of gangs and gang violence in the Caribbean**

Professor Charles Katz, Arizona State University (Phoenix, AZ, USA)

**10:30-10:45 Break**

**10:45-11:15 Gang homicide in the Caribbean**

Sheridon Hill, Organization of American States (Trinidad and Tobago)

**11:15-11:45 Neighborhood Social Structure and Gang Violence in Jamaica**

Professor Patrice K. Morris, East Carolina University (Jamaica)

**11:45 – 1:00 Buffet lunch**

**1:00-1:30 Police Investigation of gang homicide in the Caribbean**

Professor William King, Sam Houston State University (Huntsville, TX)

**1:30-2:00 USAID-funded prevention programs in the Caribbean and their implications for reducing gang violence**

E. Brennan Dorn, USAID (Washington DC)
2:00-2:30 Preventing gang violence in the Caribbean: Problems and prospects
Professor Edward Maguire, American University (Washington, DC)

2:30-2:45 Break

2:45-3:45 Roundtable discussion: “Where do we go from here?”

3:45-4:00 Closing remarks

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Tenth John Jay International Conference, June 6-9, 2012

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing to invite you to attend the tenth John Jay International Conference to be held June 6-9, 2012 in our new building!

I am Co-Chairing this conference with my colleague Dr. Michele Galietta, co-Director of the Forensic Psychology PhD Program. I have already spoken to some of you about submitting papers, panels and symposia and/or attending the conference. If I haven't, I'll likely be tracking you down soon! Please take a moment to read the call to see if any of your work is relevant, or if you can think of colleagues of yours who might contribute.

The theme of the conference is Global Perspectives on Justice, Security and Human Rights. We are interested in a wide variety of topics relating to criminal justice, psychology, criminal justice and human rights. Topics include prison conditions, treatment in forensic settings, treatment of torture survivors, human trafficking, the death penalty, dissemination of evidence-based treatment in forensic settings, racial bias, poverty, ethical issues related to psychology and law, mental health disability law, therapeutic jurisprudence. We are interested in presentations from practitioners, as well as scholars. A significant aim of the conference is to provide networking opportunities that will invigorate science/practice research and practices. Please send to your colleagues. See the following link for information about the John Jay International Conference:

http://johnjay.jjay.cuny.edu/ic_ny/

Thank you all very much for your consideration. Hope to see many of you there!

Best,

Josh.

Joshua D. Freilich, J.D.; Ph.D.
John Jay College and The Graduate Center
The City University of New York
899 10th Avenue
New York, NY 10019
CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Edition, Summer 2012, Volume 10(1) Title: Terrorism and Globalization

Special Issue Editors:
Michael J. Stevens, Illinois State Univ, USA, & The Lucian Blaga University, Romania
Harold Takooshian, Fordham University, USA

Outline: Social Change Review (http://socialchangereview.ro/) is seeking to publish a special issue comprised of original scholarship on terrorism and globalization that will enrich current understanding of the relationship between these phenomena. Terrorism has a complex etiology that is partly situated in the global context of economic and political integration. Globalization reflects interconnected economic and political forces associated with the transnational movement of capital and goods, migration of large numbers of people(s), concern with representative governance and human rights, and rapid exchange of information. Terrorism and globalization combine to yield profound effects on the person and society that are direct and indirect, immediate and enduring. Given that terrorism entails deliberate violence intended influence a country’s policies and actions, it follows that such violence may be linked to the effects or even prospect of globalization.

Themes: Social Change Review is soliciting rigorous, interdisciplinary research that involves conceptual analyses; quantitative, qualitative, or mixed-method studies with a basic or applied focus; and science-informed evaluations that represent diverse views on current or proposed policies or interventions. In particular, the special issue seeks to further the understanding of key questions on the interface of terrorism and globalization:

- What global economic and political conditions give rise to terrorism and why (e.g., how are regional differences in responses to globalization explained)?
- What variables moderate or mediate the impact of global economic and political conditions on individuals and society (e.g., traditionalism, cultural and national identity)?
- How can a country move toward global economic and political integration without fostering terrorism (e.g., minimizing psychosocial and sociocultural disruption)?
- What is the impact of a terrorist attack on a country’s response to pressure for global economic and political integration?
- What are commonly accepted myths about the relationship of globalization to terrorism that rigorous scientific inquiry can expose (e.g., globalization reduces transnational trust and cooperation)?

Deadline:
The deadline for initial receipt of manuscripts is April 30, 2012. The final notification of acceptance will be made by June 1, 2012. More information is available from Michael J. Stevens (mjsteven@ilstu.edu) or Harold Takooshian (Takoosh@aol.com).
THE CARDIFF SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AT CARDIFF UNIVERSITY

The Cardiff School of Social Sciences at Cardiff University in the UK has been given a donation from the family of the late Prof. Howard Jones, Head of the Department of Social Administration 1969-84. At their request, Cardiff University is providing a funding package for a PhD studentship in Criminology and Criminal Justice for applicants from the Caribbean and Guyana. Cardiff is internationally recognised as being among the very top tier of Britain's research intensive universities and is a member of the prestigious Russell Group of leading universities.

Applicants must be interested in pursuing the highest standards of research in the fields of criminology and criminal justice.

Applicants must have an upper second class honours degree or equivalent qualifications. Candidates will be considered for entry onto the MSc in Social Science Research Methods (Criminology Pathway) in 2011/12 in the first instance, with a view to progressing to doctoral training from 2012/13 to 2014/15.

Funding Package
Tuition fees for the Research Masters and PhD will be covered by the School of Social Sciences. The Professor Howard Jones Bursary will provide the successful candidate with an annual stipend of £13,590 for the one year of the Research Masters (2011/12) and for each of the 3 years of the PhD (2012/13 – 2014/2015).

How to Apply
Applicants must complete Cardiff University’s Postgraduate Application Form, which can be found at: http://www.cf.ac.uk/for/prospective/pg/apply/sendingapplication/index.html
Informal Inquiries:
Please contact: Dr. Matthew Williams in the School of Sciences via email at WilliamsM7@cf.ac.uk or telephone +44 (0)29 208 74853.
Cardiff Centre for Crime, Law & Justice, School of Social Sciences
Cardiff University
Glamorgan Building
King Edward VII Avenue
Cardiff
CF10 3WT, UK

The Homeland Security Summer Scholars Academy offers undergraduate students from various disciplines an intensive, hands-on, ten-week summer research experience in a realistic and meaningful environment. This program/opportunity is open nationwide (in the US) to academically inclined undergraduate students with an interest in future careers within DHS and other related industries. The program runs June 4 through August 10, 2012.

The application deadline is March 19, 2012. Opportunities are limited. To learn more details about available research opportunities, application requirements, and to apply, please visit: http://osi.utep.edu/NCBSI/ncbsi_studentopports.html or http://osi.utep.edu/ncbsi/student_opportunities.html. Please submit questions to ncbsi@utep.edu.
The Literature

February 2012

Books:


Group Member Publication:


Available at:

**CAMILLE GIBSON, PHD, CRC**

Editor, *Caribbean Diaspora Crime Prevention Gazette*

College of Juvenile Justice & Psychology

Prairie View, A&M University,

P.O. Box, 519, MS 2600

Prairie View, Texas 77446

cbgibson@pvamu.edu

Tel 936-261-5228

Fax 936-261-5249

Caribbean Diaspora Crime Prevention Gazette

Next submission date 2011: March 30th for the April 15th issue.

Interested in a PhD in Juvenile Justice or a PhD in Clinical Adolescent Psychology

Consider Prairie View A&M University just outside of Houston, Texas

Financial support available if eligible.

For details visit
http://www.pvamu.edu/pages/610.asp

Or call 936-261-5207 or 5234

E-mail: svmorris@pvamu.edu