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## **09. Sociology**

Northeastern State University

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## **Abstracts from the 2015 Oklahoma Research Day**

**Held at Northeastern State University**

### **04. Liberal Arts**

### **09. Sociology**

#### **04.09.01 Silent Victims: Children Removed From Drug Homes and Professionals' Perceptions of their Treatment and Outcomes**

**David,Newton** *University of Central Oklahoma*

**Elizabeth,Maier** *University of Central Oklahoma*

**Kathryn,Letourneau** *University of Oklahoma*

**Kathy,Bell** *Tulsa Police Department*

**Rashi,Shukla** *University of Central Oklahoma*

Little is known about children from methamphetamine homes. While the health consequences of drug exposure are generally understood, less is known about indicators of abuse and neglect and children's perceptions of these indicators. This study examines types of information that can be learned from children about methamphetamine homes through forensic observation reports as well as the identification of treatment processes through a survey of professionals working with drug endangered children. Examination reports were obtained for 107 children (60 boys, 47 girls) who had been removed from dwellings in a Midwestern city where methamphetamine manufacturing was suspected of occurring. The children were at risk of trauma due to activities in the home, separation from caregivers, and experiences during police encounters. Common observations were inadequate clothing, hygiene, and nutrition. The subsequent survey of professionals working with drug endangered children illuminated a general lack of understanding among professionals of the processes involved in identifying and treating children. Due to the conditions to which they are exposed, these children may be at greater risk for antisocial and other deviant behaviors such as drug use and criminal activity. Lack of standardized identification and treatment responses compound these risks. Further research on the short- and long-term impacts of drug exposure on child development is needed, as is a standardized method for identi

#### **04.09.02 An Examination of Global Methamphetamine Trends**

**Brad, Watkins** *University of Central Oklahoma*

**Danielle, Stoneberg** *University of Central Oklahoma*

**Matt, Magness** *University of Central Oklahoma*

**Rashi, Shukla** *University of Central Oklahoma*

Methamphetamine is increasingly becoming a problem internationally. As the most widely manufactured amphetamine type stimulant (ATS), methamphetamine use ranks second only to marijuana as the most commonly used illicit drug worldwide. Few studies have examined methamphetamine from an international perspective. This study examines recent shifts in patterns of use, trafficking, and production occurring in regions around the world. Data were gathered from secondary sources including governmental drug assessments and media reports. Though the methamphetamine problem continues to be dynamic, recent indicators suggest it is becoming increasingly complex and expansive; various dimensions are appearing in new areas and shifts are being identified within and between countries around the world. Global trends and the limitations of sources of information currently available will be presented.

#### **04.09.03 Community partnerships in Juvenile Justice**

**Isabelle, Bidjanga** *University of Central Oklahoma*

This project aims at enhancing community collaboration with law enforcement and other community stakeholders for a safer and better environment for juveniles. In a bid to proactively prevent juveniles from getting involved in crime and help those who get in trouble, this project seeks to foster community development activities to sensitize youths both non-offenders and former offenders (reintegration into the society).

#### **04.09.04 Interstate Law Enforcement Aid**

**Austin, Ralstin** *University of Central Oklahoma*

**Holly, Hampton** *University of Central Oklahoma*

**Leslie, Terrell** *University of Central Oklahoma*

The graduate students in UCO's Crime and Intelligence Analysis master's program were asked to conduct research for members of the Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies (ASCIA) regarding interstate mutual aid. Students examined current state laws in regard to providing mutual aid across jurisdiction lines and from that research develop model legislation that can be considered for introduction in the respective state legislatures to achieve a consistent nationwide solution.

#### **04.09.05 Use of Deadly Force: In Low Income and Minority Communities**

**Jeremy, Kenaston** *Northwestern State University*

The use of force, especially deadly force by law enforcement, has been an extremely debatable topic within the United States for many years. Two of the latest large scale examples of the issue are the 1991 case of the Los Angeles police beating an African American man, Rodney King, and the most recent shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri in 2014. The disconnect between the public's perception and law enforcement's definition of proper use of force leads to mistrust and various issues between citizens and law enforcement, particularly among low income and minority populations. The deadly use of force in minority populations has created hyper-sensitivity among minorities and low income populations. The purpose of the study is to correlate deadly use of force by law enforcement among minority communities to suggest that a change of current training and procedures of law enforcement is necessary. The findings throughout the research process has suggested that over history the same issues continue to exist and that a proper definition of change has not yet been met.

#### **04.09.06 Fracking: A Danger from Underneath**

**Joy, Kirchubel** *Tulsa Community College*

In the last couple of years, Oklahoma has been experiencing an increase in earthquakes. Not only has frequency increased but the severity of these earthquakes has increased as well. Earthquake preparedness has never been a staple of the Sooner state. Whether the cause is artificial or man-made, the implications will be significant. The paper covers the specific causes of the earthquakes in Oklahoma. Fracking or hydraulic fracturing appears to be the main cause of earthquakes in the Sooner state. Much research has been done to determine the cause of these earthquakes. The paper will be examining various scientific studies. Fracking was found to indirectly cause these earthquakes through the use of wastewater wells. The wastewater is a mixture of water and various chemicals that make it non-potable. Deep wells are drilled and the wastewater mixture is injected deep under the earth. These wastewater wells eventually result in the earthquakes and cause pollution to the water table. The use of these wells opens up concerns about water usage, groundwater safety, chemical disposal, and state regulations. Other states have implemented strict wastewater well guidelines and have resulted in fewer earthquakes. Currently in Oklahoma, there are no regulations on where the wells are located nor is there any regulation on what chemicals are in the wastewater. Fracking companies are on an honor system to divulge the chemical composition of wastewater.

#### **04.09.07 Challenging Inequality Through Ritualized Enactments: The Case of Notting Hill**

**J. David, Knottnerus** *Oklahoma State University*

**Jennifer, Edwards** *Northeastern State University*

This study investigates the Notting Hill Carnival, an annual ritual event in London, United Kingdom. Building on our previous research, we contend that the Notting Hill Carnival represents a special collective ritual event that is used to bring attention to social problems, such as inequality, affecting the black population within the Notting Hill section of London. Employing content analysis, we examine the Notting Hill Carnival as an annual ritual event, providing an understanding of the ritual dynamics which define the event. Further, we analyze the extent to which the carnival has become a prominent event in London. We conclude that the Notting Hill Carnival is an important ritual practice that demonstrates various themes such as social identity, conflict, unity, and culture.

