




Jan 1st, 12:00 AM

07. Criminal Justice

Northeastern State University

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Abstracts from the 2015 Oklahoma Research Day

Held at Northeastern State University

05. Mathematics and Science

07. Criminal Justice

05.07.01 A Descriptive Analysis of Homicides from 1972 to 2013 in the City of Lawton, Oklahoma

Jonathan,Odo *Cameron University*

Moonki,Hong *Cameron University*

The objective of this research project is to describe patterns and temporal trends of homicides in Lawton from 1972 to 2012 by using the Supplementary Homicide Reports (SHR) of the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Data for Oklahoma. To accomplish this objective, we will conduct a descriptive analysis aimed at answering four questions: (1) What is the most common month for homicides occurred in Lawton, Oklahoma? (2) Who are the victims and offenders of homicides in Lawton? (3) What is the relationship between the victims and offenders of homicides? and (4) What are weapons used most in homicides in Lawton? Although this research project is very preliminary, the finding will advance our understanding of homicides in Lawton. And, local police department and policymakers may use this finding to develop their own public safety strategies. The finding is useful for Lawton residents who want to make the city a safer place to live in. Also, the finding is an important cornerstone for the future study, which identifies economic, social, other factors affecting homicide in Lawton.

05.07.02 Voting Rights of the Convicted

Richard,Williams *Northeastern State University*

Is felony disenfranchisement counter-productive to offender reentry? States have the ability to control the election polls by not allowing ex-offenders to vote. Only two states currently allow offenders to vote while in custody. The remaining states only allow offenders to vote at particular times within corrections (e.g. probation and parole), if allowed to vote at all. This research will gather current case law discussing the 8th and 14th Amendments and the Civil Rights Act of 1965 to discover the history of offender voting rights and how this impacts the offender's reentry.

05.07.03 Prosecutorial Misconduct & the Disclosure of Evidence

Stephanie, Girdner *Northeastern State University*

Stephanie C. Girdner Northeastern State University 2 February 2015 Prosecutorial Misconduct & the Disclosure of Evidence Abstract This research will examine the constitutional obligation of prosecutors to disclose certain types of evidence, specifically exculpatory evidence and impeachment evidence, in discovery proceedings or upon request by defendants during criminal proceedings. Some defense attorneys contend that some prosecutors violate defendants' due process rights guaranteed by the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution by withholding evidence that would impact or change the outcomes of criminal cases. By analyzing and outlining the court cases surrounding prosecutors' obligatory disclosure of evidence, this research will show how the U.S. Supreme Court interpreted and clarified the Brady rule that was established in *Brady v. Maryland*, 373 U.S. 83 (1963), and other rulings of subsequent cases. Furthermore, this research will attempt to determine if or when prosecutors can be held criminally responsible or liable for their prosecutorial misconduct of the nondisclosure of exculpatory or impeachment evidence to defendants during criminal proceedings.

05.07.04 The USA Patriot Act and Its Impact on Americans' Expectations of Privacy and the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

Christine, Crockett *Northeastern State University*

9/11 is a date that forever changed American history, and drastically impacted how the U.S. protects its citizens against terrorism. The USA Patriot Act had tremendous support in wake of 9/11, but years later its constitutionality is being called into question. This research will focus on how the Patriot Act conflicts with the Fourth Amendment protections against unreasonable searches and seizures. It will take a look at the definition of terrorism and how events such as 9/11 impact legislation along with the legislative history of a citizen's expectations of privacy. It will examine U.S. Supreme Court cases that look at how federal organizations investigate terrorism in the U.S. before and after 9/11. The question is how much governmental intrusion is socially accepted by Americans for the greater good of protecting and defending the U.S. against the threat of terrorism.