

CRJ 201 - POLICING

Police Roles & Strategies

INTRODUCTION

- Discuss Various Police Roles
- List and Describe Goals and Objectives of Policing
- Describe Police Discretion
- Explain Community Policing

POLICE ROLES

CRIME FIGHTERS?



ORDER MAINTENANCE?



POLICE ROLES

SERVICE PROVIDERS?



INVESTIGATORS?



POLICE ROLES

ANTI-TERRORIST?



ROLE MODEL?



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Review Policing Strategies Reading

- **Primary Goals:**
 - Protection of life, and
 - Protection of property
- **Secondary Goals:**
 - Preventing crime
 - Preventing terrorism
 - Arresting and prosecuting offenders
 - Recovering stolen and missing property
 - Assisting the sick and injured
 - Enforcing regulations
 - Delivering Services not available elsewhere

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Policing Styles:
- Many scholars view policing styles differently, but the most classic and widely used is by James Q. Wilson
 - Watchman Style: Primarily concerned with order maintenance. Controlling illegal and disruptive behavior.
 - Legalistic Style: Enforcing the letter of the law strictly by issuing citations, and making many arrests.
 - Service Style: Serving the needs of the community.
- Which do you think is the most effective style?

Review Video: “This is what community policing looks like”

POLICE DISCRETION

- Discretion: An availability of choices options or actions one can take in a situation; deciding on one's own; professional judgement.
- The CJ system uses a tremendous amount of discretion, none more than the police.
- Police discretion is arguably the most important form of discretion in the CJ system.

POLICE DISCRETION

- How Police Discretion is Exercised?
 - Arrest / *not arrest*
 - SQF / *when is it reasonable?*
 - Use of force / *when, what type, how much?*
 - Use deadly force / *the ultimate use of discretion*
 - Writing a summons / *warn or admonish*
 - Investigating a crime / *just taking a report*
 - Enforcing certain laws / *and not others*

POLICE DISCRETION

- What influences discretion?
 - Characteristics of the crime
 - Felony / Misd / Violation
 - Relationship between the alleged criminal and victim
 - Family members? Neighbors?
 - Relationship between police and the criminal or victim
 - Past arrests?
 - Department policies
 - Zero tolerance?

POLICE DISCRETION

- Scenario 1:
 - A police officer pulls over a motorist for going through a red light, but decides to “look the other way” because the driver has a PBA card from his brother (who is a police officer)
- Scenario 2:
 - A police officer makes a lawful arrest 20 minutes before their shift ends knowing that he will make a lot of overtime.
- Scenario 3:
 - A police officer stops a person who jumps over the turnstile at a subway entrance. The person has valid identification. Instead of issuing a summons the officers places the person under arrest for “being a jerk”.

POLICE DISCRETION

- Scenario 4:
 - At a large parade, the police department directs their officers to “look the other way” for all violations.
- Scenario 5:
 - Police pursue a man who refuses to pull over, it’s three o’clock in the afternoon on a weekday and the man is headed towards a school. Should the police continue to pursue him?
- Scenario 6:
 - A man is stopped by security at a drug store for attempting to steal candy, the police are called to the store. The store manager demands the person be arrested. It was less than \$5 worth of candy.

POLICE DISCRETION

- How is discretion controlled?
 - Laws:
 - Must arrest for felonies, DV crimes (state laws)
 - Use of Deadly Physical Force (case law)
 - SQF (case law)
 - Police department policies:
 - Shoot / Don't Shoot
 - Must arrest
 - Zero tolerance
 - Individual choice:
 - Empower the officers to make decisions
 - Officer's professional judgement

COMMUNITY POLICING

Review Community Oriented Policing Reading

- Community Policing: Philosophy of empowering citizens and developing a partnership between the police and the community to work together to solve problems.
- Objectives:
 - To have officers seen as members of the community, not as an occupying army.



COMMUNITY POLICING

- Objectives cont..
 - To apply long term problem solving to the underlying causes of crime.
- *Question:What are the underlying causes of crime, and can the police address them?*
 - Reduce violence in the community
 - Reduce civil unrest
 - Eliminate police brutality
 - To involve the community in the police decision making process.
- Using a community police officer who acts as a problem solver and refers members of the community to other services.
- Bringing back the “Beat Officer”
- Foot posts – interacting with people who live and work in a neighborhood – began in the 1970s.

Review Video: “Neighborhood policing in the 79th precinct”

PROBLEM-SOLVING POLICING

- Herman Goldstein (1979)
 - Traditional policing – incident driven
 - Problem-Solving attempts to find the underlying issues that connect various incidents (e.g. patterns of burglaries, robberies, etc.)
 - Attempt to address the larger problem through a systematic approach.
1. SARA Model
 2. Scan – Identify the neighborhood crime and disorder problem.
 3. Analysis – Understand the conditions that cause problems to occur.
 4. Response – Develop and implement solutions.
 5. Assessment – Determine the impact of the solutions.

PROBLEM-SOLVING POLICING

- Problem – Solving or Problem – Oriented policing is often a component of Community Policing.
- However, Problem-Solving/Oriented Policing is police focused, whereas, community policing is community focused.

