Qualitative and Quantitative Article Reviews

Student's Name

Institutional Affiliation

6-2 Assignment: Qualitative and Quantitative Article Reviews

Galanek, J. D., Duda, J., Flannery, D. J., Kretschmar, J., & Butcher, F. (2016). Fugitive Safe

     Surrender: A Qualitative Analysis of Participants' Reasons for Surrender and Anticipated

     Outcomes to Inform Program Evaluation. Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice &

     Criminology. https://doi.org/10.21428/88de04a1.f13ca015

Main Goal(s) of the Study

The primary goal of the study " Fugitive Safe Surrender: A Qualitative Analysis of

Participants' Reasons for Surrender and Anticipated Outcomes to Inform Program Evaluation"

was to explore and understand police officers' attitudes and perceptions when interacting with

individuals experiencing mental illness (Galanek et al., 2016). The authors aimed to identify the

challenges and strategies employed by officers during these interactions and examine how these

perceptions impacted their professional conduct and decision-making processes.

     The study addressed several research questions: How do police officers perceive

individuals with mental illness? What are the common challenges faced by officers during

interactions with mentally ill individuals? What strategies do officers use to manage these

interactions effectively?

     The study's goals are significant as they provide insights into the complexities of policing

mental illness. This understanding is crucial for developing training programs, policies, and

interventions that enhance officers' ability to manage such interactions humanely and effectively,

thereby potentially reducing incidents of violence and improving outcomes for mentally ill

individuals.

Research Design and Methods

The study utilized an ethnographic research design, which is well-suited for exploring the nuanced and contextual experiences of police officers in their natural environment. Ethnography involves detailed observation and interaction with participants to understand their behaviors, attitudes, and social interactions deeply (Galanek et al., 2016).

The researchers conducted participant observations and in-depth interviews with police officers. This immersive approach allowed the researchers to observe officers in action and gather rich qualitative data on their attitudes and perceptions.

To collect data, the researchers accompanied officers during their shifts, observing their interactions with mentally ill individuals. They conducted semi-structured interviews with the officers to investigate their personal experiences, attitudes, and perceptions. The data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify recurring themes and patterns in the officers' attitudes and strategies.

Results of the Study

The study revealed several key findings. Officers often viewed mentally ill individuals with a mix of empathy and frustration, acknowledging the complexities of their condition while feeling ill-equipped to manage them effectively. Common challenges included a lack of mental health training, limited resources, and the unpredictability of interactions with mentally ill individuals (Galanek et al., 2016). Officers employed various strategies to manage these interactions, such as de-escalation techniques and relying on mental health professionals.

Significant themes identified in the study included the necessity for better mental health training, the importance of inter-agency collaboration between police and mental health services, and the impact of officers' attitudes on their decision-making and professional conduct. The findings supported the hypothesis that police officers face significant challenges when dealing

with mentally ill individuals and that their perceptions can profoundly influence their interactions and outcomes.

Advantages and Disadvantages of Research Design

The ethnographic approach provided a rich, contextualized understanding of officers' attitudes and behaviors, enhancing the validity of the findings. Participant observation and in-depth interviews allowed for a comprehensive exploration of the officers' experiences, providing in-depth insights that other methods might not capture (Galanek et al., 2016).

However, the study's findings may not be generalizable due to the small, localized sample of officers. Additionally, the presence of researchers might have influenced officers' behavior (Hawthorne effect), potentially introducing bias. These factors highlight limitations in sample size and potential biases that can affect the generalizability and robustness of the study's design.

Moving the Study Forward

The methods used in this study, such as participant observation and in-depth interviews, can be adapted for researching other complex, context-specific interactions within law enforcement or other fields requiring deep qualitative insights. These methods are particularly relevant for studies aiming to understand the experiences and perceptions of frontline professionals in high-stress environments, such as healthcare workers, social workers, and emergency responders (Galanek et al., 2016).

Reflecting on the study's methods and design, future research could explore how police officers' perceptions of mentally ill individuals change after specialized mental health training. Another potential research question could investigate the long-term impacts of inter-agency collaboration on the outcomes of police interactions with mentally ill individuals. These questions extend the current research logically and offer practical avenues for further study.

Conclusion

The ethnographic study on policing the mentally ill provides crucial insights into the challenges and strategies employed by police officers. By understanding these dynamics, future research can develop targeted interventions to enhance police training and inter-agency collaboration, ultimately improving outcomes for mentally ill individuals and ensuring more humane and effective law enforcement practices.

Parker, K. F., Stansfield, R., & McCall, P. L. (2016). Temporal changes in racial violence, 1980

to 2006: A latent trajectory approach. Journal of Criminal Justice, pp. 47, 1–11.

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2016.06.001

Main Goal(s) of the Study

The primary goal of the study "Temporal changes in racial violence, 1980 to 2006: A

latent trajectory approach" was to investigate how the nature of the victim-perpetrator

relationship and the strength of evidence influence the effectiveness of police responses to

domestic violence incidents (Parker et al., 2016). The authors aimed to assess how these factors

impact arrest decisions, victim cooperation, and the overall outcomes of domestic violence cases.

The study addressed several research questions: How does the victim-perpetrator

relationship affect the likelihood of arrest in domestic violence cases? How does the strength of

evidence influence policy decisions and case outcomes? What role does victim cooperation play

in the effectiveness of police responses?

The study's goals are significant as they provide critical insights into the dynamics of

domestic violence cases and the factors that influence police responses. Understanding these

elements is essential for developing more effective policies and practices to protect victims and

hold perpetrators accountable (Parker et al., 2016).

Research Design and Methods

The study utilized a quantitative research design, focusing on the analysis of domestic

violence incident reports and related data from a metropolitan police department. This approach

allowed the researchers to systematically examine the relationships between the

victim-perpetrator relationship, the strength of evidence, and police response outcomes.

The researchers conducted a retrospective analysis of domestic violence cases, examining police reports and case files. They used statistical methods to analyze the data, identifying patterns and correlations between the variables of interest.

To collect data, the researchers reviewed police incident reports, focusing on details such as the nature of the relationship between the victim and perpetrator, the strength of the evidence (e.g., physical evidence, witness statements), and the outcomes of police interventions (e.g., arrests, charges filed). They employed logistic regression analysis to assess the impact of these factors on arrest decisions and case outcomes.

Results of the Study

The study revealed several key findings. The likelihood of arrest in domestic violence cases was significantly influenced by the nature of the victim-perpetrator relationship and the strength of the evidence (Parker et al., 2016). Cases involving intimate partners were more likely to result in arrests compared to those involving other family members or acquaintances. More substantial evidence, such as physical injuries and eyewitness testimony, increased the likelihood of arrest and successful case outcomes.

Significant themes identified in the study included the critical role of evidence strength in shaping policy responses and the impact of the victim-perpetrator relationship on arrest decisions. The findings supported the hypothesis that both the nature of the relationship and the strength of evidence are pivotal factors in determining the effectiveness of police interventions in domestic violence cases (Parker et al., 2016).

Advantages and Disadvantages of Research Design

The quantitative approach provided a systematic and objective analysis of domestic violence cases, enhancing the validity of the findings. The use of logistic regression analysis

allowed for a detailed examination of the relationships between variables, providing robust insights into the factors influencing police responses.

However, the study's reliance on retrospective data analysis introduced certain limitations. The data was dependent on the accuracy and completeness of police reports, which could vary. Additionally, the findings may not be generalizable to other regions or police departments due to variations in policies and practices (Parker et al., 2016). These factors highlight potential biases and limitations in the generalizability of the study's results.

Moving the Study Forward

The methods used in this study, such as retrospective data analysis and logistic regression, can be adapted for researching other aspects of law enforcement responses to domestic violence or similar issues. These methods are particularly relevant for studies aiming to understand the impact of various factors on police decision-making and case outcomes.

Reflecting on the study's methods and design, future research could explore how specific training programs for police officers in handling domestic violence cases influence arrest decisions and case outcomes (Parker et al., 2016). Another potential research question could investigate the long-term impact of different types of evidence on the prosecution and conviction rates in domestic violence cases. These questions extend the current research logically and offer practical avenues for further study.

Conclusion

The study on the effectiveness of police responses to domestic violence provides crucial insights into the role of the victim-perpetrator relationship and the strength of evidence. By understanding these dynamics, future research can develop targeted interventions to enhance

police training and response strategies, ultimately improving outcomes for victims of domestic

violence and ensuring more effective law enforcement practices.

References

Galanek, J. D., Duda, J., Flannery, D. J., Kretschmar, J., & Butcher, F. (2016). Fugitive Safe

    Surrender: A Qualitative Analysis of Participants' Reasons for Surrender and Anticipated

    Outcomes to Inform Program Evaluation. *Journal of Qualitative Criminal Justice &*

    Criminology. https://doi.org/10.21428/88de04a1.f13ca015

Parker, K. F., Stansfield, R., & McCall, P. L. (2016). Temporal changes in racial violence, 1980

    to 2006: A latent trajectory approach. *Journal of Criminal Justice*, pp. *47*, 1–11.

    https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcrimjus.2016.06.001