The Future of Evidence-Based Policing

Evidence-based policing (EBP) has become a key perspective for practitioners and researchers concerned with the future of policing. This volume provides both a review of where evidence-based policing stands today and a consideration of emerging trends and ideas likely to be important in the future. It includes comparative and international contributions, as well as researcher and practitioner perspectives. While examining traditional evidence-based methods and approaches, the book also identifies barriers to the advancement of evidence-based policing and expands the vision of evidence-based policing by critically examining ethical and moral concerns and questions. The book’s main focus is not on what has to happen in police agencies to advance EBP, but rather on an issue that has received far less attention – the science that is necessary to produce for EBP to be successfully integrated into policing.

David Weisburd is Distinguished Professor of Criminology, Law, and Society at George Mason University, and Walter E. Meyer Professor Emeritus of Law and Criminal Justice at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Tal Jonathan-Zamir is an Associate Professor at the Institute of Criminology, Faculty of Law, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Gali Perry is a Lecturer at the Institute of Criminology, Faculty of Law, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Badi Hasisi is Full Professor and Chair of the Institute of Criminology, Faculty of Law, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.
The Future of Evidence-Based Policing

Edited by

DAVID WEISBURD
George Mason University/The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

TAL JONATHAN-ZAMIR
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

GALI PERRY
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

BADI HASISI
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Contents

List of Figures vii
List of Tables viii
List of Contributors ix
List of Editors xii

1 The Future of Evidence-Based Policing: Introduction
   David Weisburd, Tal Jonathan-Zamir, Gali Perry, and Badi Hasisi

PART I TAKING STOCK OF EVIDENCE-BASED POLICING

2 Three Tiers for Evidence-Based Policing: Targeting
   “Minimalist” Policing with a Risk-Adjusted Disparity Index
   Lawrence W. Sherman

3 Re-inventing Policing: Using Science to Transform Policing
   Peter Neyroud and David Weisburd

4 A Way Ahead: Re-envisioning the Relationship between
   Evidence-Based Policing and the Police Craft
   James J. Willis and Heather Toronjo

PART II THE EVIDENCE FOR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICING

5 A Review of Systematic Reviews in Policing
   Cody W. Telep and David Weisburd

6 What Do We Know about Proactive Policing’s Effects on
   Crime and Community?: Drawing Conclusions from a National
   Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Report
   David Weisburd, Anthony A. Braga, and Malay Majmundar

7 Rethinking the Role of the Community in Proactive Policing
   Charlotte Gill

© in this web service Cambridge University Press & Assessment www.cambridge.org
vi

Contents

PART III INNOVATIONS IN TOOLS OF EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT

8 The Role of Randomized Experiments in Developing the Evidence for Evidence-Based Policing
Lorraine Mazerolle, Elizabeth Eggins, Lorelei Hine, and Angela Higginson

9 The Potential Contribution of Subjective Causality to Policing Research: The Case of the Relationship between Procedural Justice and Police Legitimacy
Gali Perry, Tal Jonathan-Zamir, and James J. Willis

PART IV CHALLENGES TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EVIDENCE-BASED POLICING

10 Practitioners’ Inclination to Rely on Experience: What Does This Mean for Evidence-Based Policing?
Tal Jonathan-Zamir and David Weisburd

11 Implementing Evidence-Based Policing: Findings from a Process Evaluation of the EMUN Reform in the Israel Police
Yael Litmanovitz, David Weisburd, and Badi Hasisi

12 Towards Implementing Evidence-Based Policing: Challenges in Latin America and Caribbean
Laura Jaitman

13 Evidence-Based Policing and the Law: The American Perspective
Rachel Harmon

PART V THE PRACTITIONER’S PERSPECTIVE

14 The Role of the “Super Evidence Cop” in Evidence-Based Policing: The Israeli Case
Simon Perry and Michael Wolfovicz

15 Looking Back on the Challenges to Evidence-Based Policing: A Chief’s Perspective
Darrel Stephens

16 Support for Evidence-Based Policing at the National Level: More Help Than Harm?
James H. Burch, II

17 Conclusions: Police Science and the Future of Evidence-Based Policing
David Weisburd, Tal Jonathan-Zamir, Gali Perry, and Badi Hasisi

Index
Figures

2.1 Homicide victimization rate per 100,000 for the age group 16–24, England and Wales 2008–2018 (reprinted from Kumar et al., 2020, Figure 2) page 25

7.1 Logic model for proactive policing and community outcomes (reproduced from Weisburd and Majmundar, 2018, Fig. 5.1, p. 180) 129

7.2 Illustration of the relationship between program, change lever, and outcome (adapted from Wilson, 2019) 137

7.3 Proposed simplified logic model for the role of community outcomes as change levers 138

8.1 Prisma 153

8.2 Types of design 155

8.3 Types of designs over time 156

11.1 Screenshots of the EMUN crime analysis computer system 217

12.1 Intentional homicide rates per 100,000 population, 1995–2018 237

12.2 Police personnel and homicide rates 242

12.3 (a) Citizen confidence in the police in LAC, 2018; (b) Perception of Proportion of police members involved in corruption in LAC, 2018 243

15.1 Directed patrol: A concept in community-specific, crime-specific, service-specific policing 296

15.2 Problem solving: Problem-oriented policing in Newport News 303
3.1 Changing to a science-based policing paradigm  page 56
5.1 Systematic reviews identified by Telep and Weisburd (2016)   87
5.2 Summary of newly identified reviews and main outcomes organized by year  92
5.3 Eligible studies and randomized experiments by review sorted by proportion of randomized experiments  93
5.4 Summary of community outcome findings from the reviews  95
6.1 Four approaches to proactive policing  110
6.2 Innovations adopted by departments, with and without formal policy, from the 2013 NPRP Survey (N = 76)  112
6.3 Prevalence of use of proactive policing strategies by percentage of agencies responding to the 2012 Future of Policing Survey (N = 200)  112
6.4 Crime outcomes of proactive policing strategies  113
6.5 Effects of police innovation on communities  117
8.1 Types of interventions by study design (N = 1,149)  161
8.2 Number of studies and RCTs by country  162
Contributors

Anthony A. Braga  
Department of Criminology  
School of Arts and Sciences  
University of Pennsylvania

James H. Burch, II  
National Policing Institute (Washington, D.C.)

Elizabeth Eggins  
Menzies Health Institute  
Griffith University

Charlotte Gill  
Department of Criminology, Law and Society  
George Mason University

Rachel Harmon  
School of Law  
University of Virginia

Badi Hasisi  
Institute of Criminology  
Faculty of Law  
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Angela Higginson  
School of Justice  
Queensland University of Technology
List of Contributors

Lorelei Hine
Australia’s National Research Organization for Women’s Safety (ANROWS)

Laura Jaitman
Centre for Economic Performance
London School of Economics

Tal Jonathan-Zamir
Institute of Criminology
Faculty of Law
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Yael Litmanovitz
Institute of Criminology
Faculty of Law
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Myers-JDC-Brookdale Research Institute

Malay Majmundar
National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

Lorraine Mazerolle
School of Social Science
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
The University of Queensland

Peter Neyroud
Institute of Criminology
University of Cambridge

Gali Perry
Institute of Criminology
Faculty of Law
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Simon Perry
Institute of Criminology
Faculty of Law
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Lawrence W. Sherman
Metropolitan Police
List of Contributors

Darrel Stephens
Policing, Security Technology and Private Security Research
Policy Institute
College of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Florida State University

Cody W. Telep
School of Criminology and Criminal Justice
Arizona State University

Heather Toronjo
Schar School of Policy and Government
George Mason University

David Weisburd
Department of Criminology, Law and Society
George Mason University
Institute of Criminology
Faculty of Law
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

James J. Willis
Department of Criminology, Law and Society
George Mason University

Michael Wolfowicz
Institute of Criminology
Faculty of Law
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Editors

David Weisburd is Distinguished Professor of Criminology, Law, and Society at George Mason University, and Walter E. Meyer Professor Emeritus of Law and Criminal Justice at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Professor Weisburd is well known for his research on policing and crime hot spots. He has received many international prizes for his work including the Stockholm Prize in Criminology (2010), the Sutherland (2014) and Vollmer Awards (2017) from the American Society of Criminology, the Israel Prize (2015), the Robert Peel Medal (2022), and the Rothschild Prize in the Social Sciences (2022). He was the Chair of the National Academy of Sciences Panel on Proactive Policing.

Tal Jonathan-Zamir is an Associate Professor at the Institute of Criminology, Faculty of Law, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Her work focuses on policing, particularly on police-community relations and evidence-based policing. She has investigated police legitimacy and procedural justice from the perspective of citizens, communities, police officers, and neutral observers, in diverse contexts such as routine encounters, security threats, protest events, and airport security. She has also examined the psychological mechanisms underlying police officers’ orientation to evidence-based policing and, more recently – the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on police-community relations in Israel. Tal is the recipient of the 2010–2011 Fulbright Visiting Scholar Program and the 2015 Early Career Award from the Division of Policing of the American Society of Criminology.
List of Editors

Gali Perry is a Lecturer at the Institute of Criminology, Faculty of Law, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Her research focuses on political violence and the policing of protest, political extremism, and terrorism. She has studied protesters’ perceptions of and cooperation with the police, the effect of police militarization on public attitudes toward the police, developmental pathways to political extremism, lone-actor terrorism, and aviation security. Recently, she examined the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on police and public relations. Gali is the recipient of the 2017 Golda Meir fellowship for early-career scholars and the 2019 Ellis and Alma Birk Prize in Law.

Badi Hasisi serves as Full Professor and Chair of the Institute of Criminology, Faculty of Law, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His work focuses on the interaction between the community and the criminal justice agencies, with specific emphasis on the particular problems faced by minority groups within the criminal justice system. He also specializes in response to violence, homeland security, and terrorism, evaluating innovations in the criminal justice system, and law and society. He received the 2018 best article prize from the Israeli Organization of Law and History and the Fattal Prize for Excellence in Legal Research and Criminology. Prof. Hasisi also serves as the chair of the Israeli Society of Criminology.