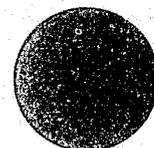*108/03*

Pre-assigned

NATIONAL SURVEY ON PUNISHMENT FOR CRIMINAL OFFENSES

Executive Summary

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ACQUISITIONS

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The Survey

Between August and October 1987 interviewers at the Population and Society Research Center at Bowling Green State University interviewed a representative sample of 1,920 American adults in a telephone survey of attitudes toward punishment of criminal offenders.

Each respondent was read eight brief crime vignettes which included information on a type of crime (e.g. theft, assault, drugs), the amount of harm or injury, and characteristics of the offender and victim. These vignettes were unique combinations of offense, offender and victim characteristics randomly generated by a computer program in a factorial survey design.

After hearing an interviewer read a vignette, the respondent was asked for his/her opinions regarding: (1) The seriousness of the offense, (2) the type and amount of punishment that the offender should receive, and (3) the reasons for selecting that particular punishment.

Punishment Preferences

The respondents overwhelmingly supported the use of imprisonment as the most appropriate punishment for criminal offenses. Over all offense types, 71 percent of respondents said the appropriate punishment included prison. Other types of punishments (probation, a fine, or restitution) were most often combined with imprisonment, rather than being substitutes for

imprisonment. For example, though 30 percent of responses included probation as one of the sanctions for offenses, only 17 percent chose probation as the most severe sanction. Fines and restitution were selected even less frequently as the most severe sanction, though they were common "add-ons".

The selection of preferred sanctions varied considerably according to the type of offense and amount of harm done. Imprisonment was most strongly favored for violent sex offenses and for serious assaults, but it was also favored by at least a majority of respondents for all offenses except petit theft. No alternative to imprisonment was favored over imprisonment as the most severe penalty for any offense.

Respondents who chose imprisonment as a punishment for an offense were asked how long the prison sentence should be. Sentences given ranged from a few days to "life", with sentences tending to be much longer than sentences actually served currently. Offenses resulting in greater harm tended to receive longer preferred sentences, though there was much dispersion among the responses in the distribution of sentences for each offense. People agree on which offenses should be mildly or severely punished, but not on the most appropriate length of the prison sentence for any specific offense.

Preferred sentences varied significantly by certain characteristics of the respondent. Older respondents, white respondents, and respondents with less education tended to prefer more severe sanction types.

Various characteristics of the victim and offender were related to sanction preferences. Crimes involving offenders aged 22-45, male offenders, very young or very old victims, and female victims were likely to receive harsher sanctions. Offenders who made their living by committing crimes, committed the crime to buy drugs, had three or more prior convictions, and had served three or more prior prison sentences were more likely to receive prison sentences. Prior conviction and prison sentence records were also significantly associated with longer prison terms.

The core element that was most influencial in the choice of sanction type and prison sentence length was type of offense. When the relative impacts of all the characteristics of offense, offender, victim and respondent were evaluated, the type of offense (i.e. larceny, burglary, assault, etc.) was the most important consideration. An integral quality of offense type is offense seriousness. After offense type, the one quality of an offense that appears to be most strongly related to the choice of prison sentence length is the perceived seriousness of the offense. When the means of sentence length and seriousness are correlated, some 92 percent of the variance in sentence lengths is explained by offense seriousness.

Purposes of Punishment

After they gave their preferred sanction for an offense, respondents were presented with a series of eight common purposes or justifications for punishment. They were then asked if each

one of these purposes was important in choosing the sanction for the particular offense they were discussing.

Overall, special deterrence was the most favored justification, with 79 percent of respondents saying this was "very important" in their choice of punishments. People tend to believe that punishment is most appropriately used to scare or educate the offender about the likely consequences of continuing to commit crimes. Boundary setting (i.e. making a public statement that crime will not be tolerated) was the next most popular choice, followed by rehabilitation, desert, general deterrence, incapacitation, morality or religion and retribution.

The popularity of these justifications varied by offense type and according to the sanction type selected. Respondents who chose to impose probation emphasized rehabilitation and special deterrence somewhat more than did other respondents. People who favor imprisonment tended to emphasize incapacitation somewhat more than those who favor other justifications. Alternatives to imprisonment are least favored by those who emphasize incapacitation and retribution.

Conclusion

The public wants long prison sentences for most crimes, with other sanctions used for minor infractions of the law or as add-ons to imprisonment. The major factors in determining sentence length are offense type and seriousness of offense.

Other characteristics of the offense and offender have less influence.

It is noteworthy, given the contemporary public emphasis on retribution, that other justifications appear to be more salient for the public. Our respondents claim that many other purposes of punishment--deterrence, boundary setting, rehabilitation, incapacitation, morality--are more important than retribution. Furthermore, the importance which people attach to the various justifications is significantly associated with sentence type and length. Despite these associations, punishment philosophy is still much less important than are offense type and seriousness in the sanctioning decision.

In choosing an appropriate punishment for a crime, people actually use a philosophy emphasizing social harm. While people want the sanctioning system to accomplish a variety of other ends, they mostly want offenders punished in proportion to the harmfulness of the offenses they commit.

Offense Scenario Dimensions and Levels

Scenario Construction Procedures:

1. One level is randomly selected from each dimension specified below.

2. For each respondent, every dimension except the Offense Dimension is sampled with replacement (i.e. All characteristics, except offense type, can be repeated in scenarios posed to a single respondent).

3. Within each dimension--except Offender's Sex, Offender's Employment History, Offender's Mental Condition and Offender's Drug and Alcohol Abuse--every level has an equal probability of being selected for every scenario. The proportionate distribution of levels within the four excepted dimensions is specified below.

4. The computer is prohibited from choosing certain combinations of levels which are unlikely to occur in real situations (e.g. a female offender committing a forcible rape) or are logically impossible (e.g. an offender who had never been convicted having prior prison sentences).

Offender's Age Dimension
1--The offender, a 14 year old
2--The offender, a 18 year old
3--The offender, a 22 year old
4--The offender, a 28 year old
5--The offender, a 32 year old
6--The offender, a 45 year old
7--The offender, a 65 year old
8--The offender, a BLANK

Offender's Sex Dimension
1--male,   (70%)
2--female,   (30%)

Offense Dimension
Larcenies
1--stole property worth $10 from outside a building.
2--stole property worth $50 from outside a building.
3--stole property worth $100 from outside a building.
4--stole property worth $1,000 from outside a building.
5--stole property worth $10,000 from outside a building.

Burglaries

6--broke into a building and stole property worth $10.
7--broke into a home and stole $1,000.

Robberies

8--did not have a weapon. He/she threatened to harm a victim
   unless the victim gave him money. The victim gave him/her $10
   and was not harmed.
9--threatened a victim with a weapon unless the victim gave
   him/her money. The victim gave him/her $10 and was not
   harmed.
10--robbed a victim of $1,000 at gunpoint. The victim was
   wounded and required hospitalization.
11--robbed a victim at gunpoint. The victim struggled and was
   shot to death.

Assaults

12--[INSERT ONE LEVEL FROM WEAPON DIMENSION] intentionally
   injured a victim. As a result, the victim died.
13--[INSERT ONE LEVEL FROM WEAPON DIMENSION] intentionally
   injured a victim. The victim was treated by a doctor and
   was hospitalized.
14--[INSERT ONE LEVEL FROM WEAPON DIMENSION] injured a victim.
   The victim was treated by a doctor but was not hospitalized.
15--intentionally shoved or pushed a victim. No medical
   treatment was required.

Forcible Rapes

16--forcibly raped a victim. No other physical injury occurred.
17--forcibly raped a victim. As a result of physical injuries she
   died.
18--forcibly raped a victim and forced her to perform oral sex on
   him. No other physical injury occurred.

Drunk Driving

19--drove his/her car while drunk, but did not cause an accident.
20--drove his/her car while drunk, and caused a traffic accident
   where a victim was killed.

Motor Vehicle Theft

21--stole a car worth $5,000 and sold it.

Arson

22--intentionally set fire to a building, causing half a million
   dollars worth of damage.

Drugs

23--sold cocaine to others for resale.
24--used cocaine.

Victim's Age Dimension

1--The victim was a 10 year old
2--The victim was a 14 year old
3--The victim was a 20 year old
4--The victim was a 30 year old
5--The victim was a 45 year old
6--The victim was a 60 year old.
7--The victim was a 75 year old
8--The victim was a

Victim's Sex Dimension

1--male.
2--female.
3--BLANK

Offender's Employment History Dimension

1--The offender was unemployed for a long time, even though
   he/she had tried hard to get a job.   (10%)
2--The offender has never had a steady job.   (10%)
3--The offender has held a good-paying job for several
   years.   (10%)
4--The offender makes his living mostly from committing
   crimes.   (10%)
5--BLANK   (60%)

Offender's Mental Condition Dimension

1--The offender had a serious mental illness.   (10%)
2--BLANK   (90%)

Drug Dependence and Alcohol Abuse Dimension

1--The offender was under the influence of an illegal drug
   when he/she committed the offense.   (10%)
2--The offense was committed to get money to buy drugs.   (10%)
3--The offender was drunk when he/she committed the offense.   (10%)
4--BLANK   (70%)

Offender's Prior Convictions for Assault Dimension

1--The offender was never convicted before for a violent offense.
2--The offender was convicted once before for a violent offense.
3--The offender was convicted 3 times before for violent
   offenses.
4--The offender was convicted 6 times before for violent
   offenses.
5--BLANK

Offender's Prior Convictions for Property
Offenses Dimension
1--The offender was never convicted before for stealing money or
    property.
2--The offender was convicted once before for stealing money or
    property.
3--The offender was convicted 3 times before for stealing money
    or property.
4--The offender was convicted 6 times before for stealing money
    or property.
5--BLANK

Previous Incarcerations Dimension
1--The offender had never been sentenced to jail or prison
    before.
2--The offender had served 1 previous sentence
3--The offender had served 3 previous sentences
4--The offender had served 6 previous sentences
5--BLANK

Length of Previous Incarcerations Dimension
1--(of or totalling) 6 months in jail.
2--(of or totalling) 1 year in jail.
3--(of or totalling) 3 years in prison.
4--(of or totalling) 5 years in prison.
5--(of or totalling) 10 years in prison.
6--BLANK

Weapon Used in Assaults Dimension
1--used a gun to
2--used a knife to
3--used his/her fists to
4--used a lead pipe to
5--BLANK

Table 1.

Characteristics of Respondents vs. U.S. Population

Characteristic	Percent of Respondents	Percent of U.S. Population (1985)*
Age		
18-24	12.9	16.3
25-34	25.2	24.0
35-44	19.6	18.1
45-54	14.2	12.8
55-64	13.8	12.7
65-74	10.6	9.6
75+	3.6	6.5
Sex		
Male	36.6	48.7
Female	63.4	51.3
Race		
White	68.3	84.9
Black	25.6	12.1
Other	6.2	3.0
Education		
Elementary	1.2	5.9
Junior High	2.8	8.0
Some High School	8.6	12.2
High School Grad	31.5	38.2
Some College	32.8	16.3
College Grad	15.1	19.4 (College Grad +)
Post-Graduate	8.0	
Family Income		
Under $6,000	6.3	6.5
$6,000-13,000	11.5	12.9
$13,000-19,000	15.2	12.5
$19,000-29,000	25.5	19.8
$29,000-48,000	25.8	28.7
$48,000-75,000	11.7	19.6 (Over $48,000)
Over $75,000	4.0	
Region		
Northeast	19.3	20.9
Midwest	27.9	24.8
South	36.3	34.3
West	16.4	20.0

*Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Statistical Abstract of the U.S., 1987. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1986. Where appropriate, percentages are based on persons over age 18.

Table 2.

Offense Seriousness by Offense Type: Comparison of Present Survey with National Survey of Crime Severity

Offense	Present Survey			NSCS		
	Geometric Mean	Ratio Score	Rank	Geometric Mean	Ratio Score	Rank
Property Theft and Damage						
Arson-$500,000 Damage	220.699	8.09	1	487.652	22.29	1
Larceny of $10,000	124.423	4.56	2	239.281	10.93	2
Car Theft-Sale-$5,000	123.169	4.52	3	236.771	10.82	3
Larceny of $1,000	83.023	3.04	4	50.203	6.86	4
Larceny of $100	57.201	2.10	5	78.473	3.58	5
Larceny of $50	46.655	1.71	6	63.049	2.88	6
Larceny of $10	31.478	1.15	7	37.777	1.72	7
Burglary Offenses						
Burglary-Home-$1,000	133.506	4.89	1	210.012	9.60	1
Burglary-Building-$10	60.562	2.22	2	70.559	3.22	2
Robbery Offenses						
Robbery Gun-Death	629.941	23.10	1	946.181	43.24	1
Robbery-Gun-Hospital-$1,000	266.932	9.79	2	460.007	21.02	2
Robbery-Weapon-No Harm-$10	178.402	6.54	3	160.007	7.31	3
Robbery-Threat-No Harm-$10	91.264	3.35	4	144.752	6.62	4
Assault Offenses						
Assault-Death	441.672	16.19	1	778.374	35.57	1
Assault-Hospital	197.788	7.25	2	261.435	11.95	2
Assault-Doctor	140.023	5.13	3	186.039	8.50	3
Assault-No Injury	36.576	1.34	4	32.167	1.47	4
Forcible Rape Offenses						
Rape-Death	738.754	27.09	1	1155.335	52.80	1
Rape-Oral Sex-No Other Injury	414.000	15.18	–	--------	-----	–
Rape-No Other Injury	390.661	14.32	2	565.658	25.85	2
Drunk Driving Offenses						
Drunk Driving-Death	400.774	14.69	–	--------	-----	–
Drunk Driving--No Accident	95.940	3.52	–	--------	-----	–
Drug Offenses						
Cocaine-Sold for Resale	217.922	7.99	–	--------	-----	–
Cocaine-Used	89.125	3.27	–	--------	-----	–
Modulus--Larceny of $1*	27.275	1.00	–	21.827	1.00	–

*The modulus was computed from the regression of the log base 10 of the dollar amounts of the five larceny offenses on the geometric means of the seriousness scores corresponding to those offenses. The resulting regression equation was $Y = 30.8113 X - 3.5362$. When 1 is inserted for the value of X, Y = 27.275.

Table 3.

Punishment Preferences Across All Offenses

Punishment Type	Percent of Responses Including This Punishment	Percent of Responses Where This Was the Most Severe Punishment Chosen
Death*	36.4	36.4
Prison or Jail	71.4	71.4
Probation	29.8	16.6
Fine	24.3	3.8
Restitution	35.2	3.7

*In these interviews, respondents could choose the death penalty
 for only three offenses (homicides); therefore the percentages
 presented regarding the death penalty are for responses about these
 offenses only.

Table 4.

All Punishment Types Selected, by Offense Type

Offense Type	Death	Jail or Prison	Probation	Fine	Restitution
Property Theft and Damage					
Arson-$500,000 Damage	--	81.5	27.1	24.3	39.6
Larceny of $10,000	--	78.4	28.2	22.3	47.7
Car Theft-Sale-$5,000	--	72.9	36.1	26.3	59.8
Larceny of $1,000	--	67.7	34.4	17.9	43.9
Larceny of $100	--	62.3	33.5	22.4	46.1
Larceny of $50	--	55.3	38.8	24.0	49.6
Larceny of $10	--	45.6	41.9	24.0	48.5
Burglary Offenses					
Burglary-Home-$1,000	--	80.7	31.4	23.8	59.6
Burglary-Building-$10	--	56.5	46.8	30.7	47.7
Robbery Offenses					
Robbery Gun-Death	37.1	61.7	10.6	6.8	16.8
Robbery-Gun-Hospital-$1,000	--	92.1	22.5	22.5	47.6
Robbery-Weapon-No Harm-$10	--	74.5	33.4	26.5	34.7
Robbery-Threat-No Harm-$10	--	72.2	32.9	31.4	45.2
Assault Offenses					
Assault-Death	29.7	67.4	11.6	7.6	12.4
Assault-Hospital	--	82.3	29.1	19.9	42.4
Assault-Doctor	--	78.3	34.2	28.2	43.9
Assault-No Injury	--	55.4	39.5	34.3	16.7
Forcible Rape Offenses					
Rape-Death	41.7	57.0	5.0	5.3	11.6
Rape-Oral Sex-No Other Injury	--	94.7	18.8	19.6	27.0
Rape-No Other Injury	--	94.1	21.9	19.2	24.1
Drunk Driving Offenses					
Drunk Driving-Death	--	90.6	21.2	29.5	33.6
Drunk Driving--No Accident	--	54.1	40.2	57.8	8.0
Drug Offenses					
Cocaine-Sold for Resale	--	89.9	27.1	35.4	7.8
Cocaine-Used	--	57.9	49.0	33.9	7.3
Mean	36.4**	71.4	29.8	24.3	35.2

*Respondents were asked, serially, whether they thought the offender
(if arrested and convicted) should be made to pay a fine, pay
restitution, be placed on probation, be made to serve a jail or
prison sentence, or (for homicide offenses) be given the death
penalty. The entries in this table represent the percentage of
respondents who chose each punishment type for each offense type.
Respondents could choose as many punishment types as they wished,
so the rows do not add to 100 percent.

**Percentage of respondents who selected the death penalty was
averaged over only those three (homicide) offenses for which "death"
was an optional punishment.

Table 5.

Most Severe Punishment Preferred, by Offense Type

Offense Type	Death	Jail or Prison	Probation	Fine or Restitution
Property Theft and Damage				
Arson-$500,000 Damage	--	81.5	11.1	7.4
Larceny of $10,000	--	78.4	12.8	8.8
Car Theft-Sale-$5,000	--	72.9	19.3	7.8
Larceny of $1,000	--	67.7	23.0	9.3
Larceny of $100	--	62.3	23.0	14.7
Larceny of $50	--	55.3	29.0	15.7
Larceny of $10	--	45.6	34.6	19.9
Burglary Offenses				
Burglary-Home-$1,000	--	80.7	14.4	4.9
Burglary-Building-$10	--	56.6	32.6	11.0
Robbery Offenses				
Robbery Gun-Death	37.1	61.7	1.2	0.1
Robbery-Gun-Hospital-$1,000	--	92.1	5.6	2.2
Robbery-Weapon-No Harm-$10	--	74.5	19.5	6.1
Robbery-Threat-No Harm-$10	--	72.2	19.2	8.7
Assault Offenses				
Assault-Death	29.7	67.4	2.3	0.6
Assault-Hospital	--	82.3	14.4	3.2
Assault-Doctor	--	78.3	16.3	5.3
Assault-No Injury	--	55.4	28.1	16.6
Forcible Rape Offenses				
Rape-Death	41.7	57.0	0.9	0.4
Rape-Oral Sex-No Other Injury	--	94.7	4.3	1.0
Rape-No Other Injury	--	94.1	4.7	1.1
Drunk Driving Offenses				
Drunk Driving-Death	--	90.6	6.7	2.7
Drunk Driving--No Accident	--	54.1	29.4	16.5
Drug Offenses				
Cocaine-Sold for Resale	--	89.9	7.6	2.5
Cocaine-Used	--	57.9	35.3	6.8

*Respondents were asked, serially, whether they thought the offender
(if arrested and convicted) should be made to pay a fine, pay
restitution, be placed on probation, be made to serve a jail or
prison sentence, or (for homicide offenses) be given the death
penalty. The entries in this table represent the most severe
penalty chosen among all penalties given by each respondent for
each offense type.

Table 6.

Mean Prison or Jail Sentence Length Preferred, by Offense Type

Offense Type	Mean Sentence Lengths* (Months)	Standard Deviation	Number of Responses
Property Theft and Damage			
Arson-$500,000 Damage	99.9	76.7	420
Larceny of $10,000	67.8	84.5	532
Car Theft-Sale-$5,000	55.5	76.7	420
Larceny of $1,000	54.8	89.8	445
Larceny of $100	43.7	74.5	408
Larceny of $50	37.4	59.0	379
Larceny of $10	32.9	64.3	282
Burglary Offenses			
Burglary-Home-$1,000	53.4	72.4	442
Burglary-Building-$10	27.0	43.7	270
Robbery Offenses			
Robbery Gun-Death	365.2**	161.5	548
Robbery-Gun-Hospital-$1,000	123.4	129.3	482
Robbery-Weapon-No Harm-$10	68.0	91.0	339
Robbery-Threat-No Harm-$10	46.1	75.1	406
Assault Offenses			
Assault-Death	349.5**	174.5	536
Assault-Hospital	92.7	109.7	446
Assault-Doctor	67.3	100.2	403
Assault-No Injury	42.8	70.3	239
Forcible Rape Offenses			
Rape-Death	416.4**	132.9	616
Rape-Oral Sex-No Other Injury	202.1	173.3	529
Rape-No Other Injury	184.9	155.3	489
Drunk Driving Offenses			
Drunk Driving-Death	141.2	152.5	486
Drunk Driving--No Accident	27.4	53.8	258
Drug Offenses			
Cocaine-Sold for Resale	126.3	142.9	498
Cocaine-Used	66.5	104.4	262
All Offenses	135.7	167.7	10,131

*All sentence lengths over 40 years and all sentences of "life"
 were recoded to 40 years, which was considered to be,
 effectively, a life sentence.

**Sentences of "death" for these offenses were recoded to 40
 years.

Table 7.

Prison or Jail Sentence Length by Offense Seriousness

Offense Type	Sentence Length Mean (Months)	Rank	Offense Seriousness Geometric Mean	Rank
Rape-Death	416.4	1	738.8	1
Robbery Gun-Death	365.2	2	629.9	2
Assault-Death	349.5	3	441.7	3
Rape-Oral Sex-No Other Injury	202.1	4	414.0	4
Rape-No Other Injury	184.9	5	390.7	6
Drunk Driving-Death	141.2	6	400.8	5
Cocaine-Sold for Resale	126.3	7	217.9	9
Robbery-Gun-Hospital-$1,000	123.4	8	266.9	7
Arson-$500,000 Damage	99.9	9	220.7	8
Assault-Hospital	92.7	10	197.8	10
Robbery-Weapon-No Harm-$10	68.0	11	178.4	11
Larceny of $10,000	67.8	12	124.4	14
Assault-Doctor	67.3	13	140.0	12
Cocaine-Used	66.5	14	89.1	18
Car Theft-Sale-$5,000	55.5	15	123.2	15
Larceny of $1,000	54.8	16	83.0	19
Burglary-Home-$1,000	53.4	17	133.5	13
Robbery-Threat-No Harm-$10	46.1	18	91.3	17
Larceny of $100	43.7	19	57.2	21
Assault-No Injury	42.8	20	36.6	23
Larceny of $50	37.4	21	46.7	22
Larceny of $10	32.9	22	31.5	24
Drunk Driving--No Accident	27.4	23	95.9	16
Burglary-Building-$10	27.0	24	60.6	20

Results of bivariate regression (with sentence length dependent):

Intercept	-4.66
Slope	.557
Correlation Coefficient (r)	.956
Percent of Variance Explained (r-squared)	.915

Table 8.

Most Severe Preferred Punishment Type by Respondent Characteristics

Respondent Characteristic	Death — Capital Offenses Only	Death — All Offenses	Prison or Jail	Probation	Fine or Restitution
Age*					
18-24	30.4	3.9	71.3	17.6	7.3
25-34	33.2	4.6	69.9	18.0	7.6
35-44	35.7	3.9	71.0	17.5	7.5
45-54	41.2	4.4	72.1	16.1	7.5
55-64	41.0	5.6	70.4	16.0	8.1
65-74	36.1	4.7	73.8	15.2	6.3
75+	42.4	4.9	71.7	13.7	9.7
Sex					
Male	38.6	4.8	71.8	16.5	6.9
Female	34.4	4.2	70.9	16.8	8.0
Race*	#				
White	37.5	4.8	71.5	16.4	7.2
Black	25.1	2.5	69.8	18.3	9.4
Hispanic	41.8	5.4	72.3	14.6	7.7
Asian	16.5	1.5	63.6	28.3	6.6
Other	49.2	5.4	75.6	13.9	5.2
Education*	#				
Elementary	22.5	2.4	72.2	16.5	8.9
Junior High	43.6	4.3	75.3	13.2	7.3
Some High School	45.0	6.6	71.2	16.6	5.6
High School Grad	37.3	4.7	73.0	15.3	7.0
Some College	34.7	4.7	70.1	17.3	7.9
College Grad	32.9	4.1	69.3	19.2	7.4
Post-Graduate	29.4	3.7	62.8	22.9	10.7
Family Income	#				
Under $6,000	36.6	4.0	73.4	16.0	6.5
$6,000-13,000	28.8	3.6	72.9	17.0	6.5
$13,000-19,000	42.7	4.5	70.7	16.9	7.8
$19,000-29,000	28.8	3.9	70.4	17.5	8.2
$29,000-48,000	36.2	4.7	71.5	17.1	6.7
$48,000-75,000	46.1	5.8	69.5	16.0	8.5
Over $75,000	37.8	4.8	71.2	19.2	4.8
Region					
Northeast	34.1	4.2	70.7	17.7	7.4
Midwest	40.6	4.8	70.9	17.3	7.1
South	33.4	4.2	72.5	15.7	7.6
West	38.9	5.1	70.4	16.4	8.1

*Chi-Square over all offenses is significant at .01 level.
#Chi-Square for capital offenses only is significant at .01 level.

Table 9.

Mean Prison or Jail Sentence Length Preferred
by Respondent Characteristics

Respondent Characteristic		Mean Sentence Length (Months)	Deviation from Mean	
			Months	Percent
Age*				
	18-24	135.0	-0.7	-0.5
	25-34	137.1	1.4	1.0
	35-44	122.2	-13.5	-9.9
	45-54	130.6	-5.1	-3.8
	55-64	153.2	17.5	12.9
	65-74	137.7	2.0	1.5
	75+	135.8	0.1	0.1
Sex				
	Male	134.8	-0.9	-0.7
	Female	136.4	0.7	0.5
Race				
	White	135.3	-0.4	-0.3
	Black	137.7	2.0	1.5
	Hispanic	125.6	-10.1	-7.4
	Asian	110.3	-25.4	-18.7
	Other	154.3	18.6	13.7
Education*				
	Elementary	138.8	3.1	2.3
	Junior High	137.6	1.9	1.4
	Some High School	145.7	10.0	7.4
	High School Grad	136.3	0.6	0.4
	Some College	138.3	2.6	1.9
	College Grad	123.4	-12.3	-9.1
	Post-Graduate	119.0	-16.7	-12.3
Family Income				
	Under $5,000	142.2	6.2	4.6
	$6,000-13,000	133.4	-2.6	-1.9
	$13,000-19,000	129.4	-6.6	-4.9
	$19,000-29,000	139.4	3.4	2.5
	$29,000-48,000	135.8	-0.2	-0.1
	$48,000-75,000	137.5	1.5	1.1
	Over $75,000	133.3	-2.7	-2.0
Region				
	Northeast	136.9	1.2	0.9
	Midwest	130.9	-4.8	-3.5
	South	136.8	1.1	0.8
	West	140.4	4.7	3.5

*F-test of differences between groups is significant at .01 level.

Table 10.

Most Severe Preferred Punishment Type
by Offender's and Victim's Age and Sex

Characteristic		Death — Capital Offenses Only	Death — All Offenses	Prison or Jail	Probation	Fine or Restitution
		#				
Offender's Age*	Blank	33.2	4.6	76.0	12.4	6.9
	14	21.2	3.4	37.5	46.0	13.1
	18	33.4	3.8	70.7	18.0	7.5
	22	40.3	4.7	76.7	12.3	6.2
	28	40.2	5.0	74.8	12.8	7.4
	32	41.5	4.6	75.1	13.8	6.4
	45	41.8	5.0	77.5	11.3	6.3
	65	38.4	4.6	70.6	16.7	8.0
		#				
Offender's Sex*	Male	39.1	3.3	71.6	16.8	8.3
	Female	28.6	2.6	67.4	21.5	8.5
Victim's Age*	Blank	38.4	2.5	73.7	17.4	6.4
	10	36.8	12.0	76.1	8.0	3.8
	14	39.3	11.5	72.9	12.3	3.4
	20	35.9	11.0	73.0	12.2	3.7
	30	32.4	9.0	77.8	9.1	4.1
	45	36.8	11.3	75.4	8.3	5.0
	60	34.1	8.9	77.7	8.9	4.5
	75	35.6	10.5	77.2	8.9	3.4
Victim's Sex*	Blank	36.5	1.2	73.4	18.4	7.0
	Male	32.8	8.2	72.6	13.2	6.0
	Female	37.8	9.2	76.3	10.7	3.9

Note: Because only males could be offenders and only females could be
  victims in sexual assault offenses, distributions of preferred
  punishments by offender's and victim's sex were computed excluding
  all sex offenses. Including sex offenses increases tne percentage
  of more severe punishments where the offender is male or the victim
  is female.

*Chi-Square over all offenses is significant at .01 level.

#Chi-Square for capital offenses only is significant at .01 level.

Table 11.

Most Severe Preferred Punishment Type
by Offender's Employment, Mental Health, Drug/Alcohol
and Criminal Record

		-----Most Severe Punishment Preferred-----				
		-----Death-----				
		Capital				Fine or
		Offenses	All	Prison		Resti-
Characteristic		Only	Offenses	or Jail	Probation	tution
Offender's	Blank	36.3	4.5	69.4	18.3	7.8
Employment	Unemployed	30.0	4.2	71.7	16.7	8.0
Record*	Never Had a Job	34.7	3.4	76.7	12.5	7.3
	Good-paying Job	36.5	5.1	71.6	15.5	7.9
	Lives by Crime	45.5	5.3	79.5	10.3	4.9
Offender's						
Mental	Blank	35.0	4.6	72.3	16.1	7.0
Condition*	Mentally Ill	36.5	3.8	60.2	22.6	13.4
Offender's	Blank	36.5	4.2	71.0	17.2	7.5
Use of	On Drugs	30.1	4.4	72.6	16.7	6.3
Drugs and	Crime to Buy Drugs	43.4	6.4	74.1	11.1	8.5
Alcohol*	Offender Was Drunk	35.6	5.4	70.5	16.5	7.6
Prior	Blank	36.4	4.9	59.7	24.9	10.5
Convictions	None	35.4	4.1	66.1	20.3	9.6
for	1	36.0	4.2	74.5	14.1	7.1
Violent	3	38.2	4.5	80.1	11.2	4.2
Offenses*	6	36.0	4.7	83.2	7.9	4.2
Prior	Blank	34.7	4.4	59.9	25.4	10.4
Convictions	None	38.3	4.6	67.5	19.3	8.6
for	1	39.5	4.4	76.6	13.3	5.8
Property	3	40.3	4.5	79.9	10.9	4.7
Offenses*	6	32.7	4.9	80.2	8.7	6.3
Number of	Blank	34.4	4.3	62.5	23.2	10.0
Previous	None	37.4	4.6	71.6	16.8	7.0
Prison or	1	36.3	4.6	78.7	11.2	5.5
Jail	3	36.9	4.0	83.7	7.6	4.8
Sentences*	6	43.5	6.1	82.7	6.5	4.7
Total Length	Blank	35.7	4.5	67.2	19.7	8.6
of Prior	6 Months	39.3	4.6	79.6	10.7	5.1
Prison or	1 Year	31.9	3.8	81.2	10.1	4.9
Jail	3 Years	32.8	3.5	82.5	7.8	6.2
Sentences*	5 Years	42.0	4.9	82.8	8.2	4.1
	10 Years	48.9	6.5	80.9	8.8	3.8

*Chi-Square over all offenses is significant at .01 level. None of the
differences for capital offenses only was significant at this level.

Table 12.

Mean Prison or Jail Sentence Length Preferred
by Offender's and Victim's Age and Sex

Characteristic		Mean Sentence Length (Months)	Deviation from Mean Months	Percent
Offender's	Blank	144.4	8.7	6.4
Age*	14	138.3	2.6	1.9
	18	119.6	-16.1	-11.9
	22	131.9	-3.8	-2.8
	28	142.3	6.6	4.9
	32	134.0	-1.7	-1.3
	45	135.0	-0.7	-0.5
	65	140.7	5.0	3.7
Offender's	Male	111.8	3.4	3.1
Sex*	Female	99.7	-8.7	-8.0
Victim's	Blank	206.2	0	0
Age*	10	228.6	22.4	10.9
	14	207.8	1.6	0.8
	20	213.0	6.8	3.3
	30	189.8	-16.4	-8.0
	45	206.8	0.6	0.3
	60	179.1	-27.1	-13.1
	75	221.7	15.5	7.5
Victim's	Blank	95.6	-31.4	-24.7
Sex*	Male	165.0	38.0	29.9
	Female	167.9	40.9	32.2

Note: Because only males could be offenders and only females could be
victims in sexual assault offenses, distributions of preferred
punishments by offender's and victim's sex were computed excluding
all sex offenses. Including sex offenses inflates the severity of
preferred punishments for vignettes where males are offenders or
females are victims.

*Chi-Square over all offenses is significant at .01 level.

Table 13.

Mean Prison or Jail Sentence Length Preferred
by Offender's Employment, Mental Health, Drug/Alcohol
and Criminal Record

Characteristic		Mean Sentence Length (Months)	Deviation from Mean Months	Deviation from Mean Percent
Offender's	Blank	134.2	-1.5	-1.1
Employment	Unemployed	139.8	4.1	3.0
Record	Never Had a Job	124.2	-11.5	-8.5
	Good-paying Job	144.2	8.5	6.3
	Lives by Crime	143.9	8.2	6.0
Offender's				
Mental	Blank	134.7	-1.0	-0.7
Condition	Mentally Ill	150.1	14.4	10.6
Offender's	Blank	134.4	-1.3	-1.0
Use of	On Drugs	142.5	6.8	5.0
Drugs and	Crime to Buy Drugs	137.6	1.9	1.4
Alcohol	Offender Was Drunk	137.9	2.2	1.6
Prior	Blank	134.5	-1.2	-0.9
Convictions	None	129.1	-6.6	-4.9
for	1	129.6	-6.1	-4.5
Violent	3	139.8	4.1	3.0
Offenses*	6	145.2	9.5	7.0
Prior	Blank	135.1	-0.6	-0.4
Convictions	None	143.0	7.3	5.4
for	1	128.6	-7.1	-5.2
Property	3	130.6	-5.1	-3.8
Offenses*	6	142.9	7.2	5.3
Number of	Blank	132.5	-3.2	-2.4
Previous	None	132.6	-3.1	-2.3
Prison or	1	135.7	0.0	0.0
Jail	3	137.5	1.8	1.3
Sentences*	6	159.1	23.4	17.2
Total Length	Blank	133.6	-2.1	-1.5
of Prior	6 Months	132.9	-2.8	-2.1
Prison or	1 Year	130.2	-5.5	-4.1
Jail	3 Years	132.6	-3.1	-2.3
Sentences*	5 Years	142.9	7.2	5.3
	10 Years	171.5	35.8	26.4

*Chi-Square is significant at .01 level.

Table 14.

Multiple Regression Analysis of Sentence Length With Legally Relevant Variables

Dimension	Level	Unstandardized Regression Coefficient b	Standard Error of b	Standardized Regression Coefficient beta
Log of Seriousness Score		24.0390	1.5265	0.1167
Property	Arson-$500,000	-282.2079	8.0623	-0.3136
Theft	Larceny of $10,000	-307.9579	7.4696	-0.3982
and	Car Theft-$5,000	-319.2333	7.7955	-0.3772
Damage	Larceny of $1,000	-309.4042	7.4656	-0.4014
Offenses	Larceny of $100	-308.8806	7.3578	-0.4129
	Larceny of $50	-308.0873	7.3276	-0.4164
	Larceny of $10	-298.1228	7.4094	-0.3954
Burglary	Home-$1,000	-322.5831	7.7858	-0.3813
Offenses	Building-$10	-322.7159	8.0251	-0.3584
Robbery	Gun-Death	N.S.	--	--
Offenses	Gun-Hospital-$1,000	-258.9692	7.9814	-0.2939
	Weapon-No Harm-$10	-308.5592	8.0546	-0.3432
	Threat-No Harm-$10	-321.4601	7.7223	-0.3857
Assault	Assault-Death	-22.5783	10.1166	-0.0259
Offenses	Assault-Hospital	-315.2366	10.1230	-0.3658
	Assault-Doctor	-311.8999	10.0156	-0.3840
	Assault-No Injury	-295.6710	7.9042	-0.3394
Forcible	Death	81.5731	7.8416	0.0984
Rape	Oral Sex-No Other In	-174.2574	7.8858	-0.2048
Offenses	Rape-No Other Injury	-195.7295	7.8945	-0.2285
Drunk	Death	-240.5627	7.9045	-0.2782
Driving	No Accident	-320.9323	7.8949	-0.3654
Offenses				
Drug	Cocaine-Sold/Resale	-251.9891	7.9031	-0.2882
Offenses	Cocaine-Used	Reference Category		--
Offender's	Blank	Reference Category		--
Employment	Unemployed	N.S.	--	--
Record	Never Had a Job	N.S.	--	--
	Good-paying Job	N.S.	--	--
	Lives by Crime	8.8152	3.7730	0.0154
Offender's				
Mental	Blank	Reference Category		--
Condition	Mentally Ill	25.4226	3.6384	0.4500

(Continued on Next Page)

Table 14. (Continued)

Dimension	Level	Unstandardized Regression Coefficient b	Standard Error of b	Standardized Regression Coefficient beta
Offender's	Blank	Reference Category		--
Use of	On Drugs	11.5569	3.9253	0.0194
Drugs and	Crime to Buy Drugs	11.2456	3.9960	0.0185
Alcohol	Offender Was Drunk	11.0297	3.9237	0.0185
Prior	Blank	Reference Category		--
Convictions	None	N.S.	--	--
for	1	N.S.	--	--
Violent	3	N.S.	--	--
Offenses	6	N.S.	--	--
Prior	Blank	Reference Category		--
Convictions	None	6.8736	3.3147	0.0161
for	1	N.S.	--	--
Property	3	N.S.	--	--
Offenses	6	7.9021	3.6709	0.0171
Number of	Blank	Reference Category		--
Previous	None	N.S.	--	--
Prison or	1	N.S.	--	--
Jail	3	N.S.	--	--
Sentences	6	13.8754	6.2178	0.0194
Length	Blank	Reference Category		--
of Prior	6 Months	N.S.	--	--
Prison or	1 Year	N.S.	--	--
Jail	3 Years	N.S.	--	--
Sentences	5 Years	N.S.	--	--
	10 Years	26.5393	6.3572	0.0332
Weapon	Blank	38.6318	9.8048	0.0357
Used in	Gun	Reference Category		--
Assault	Fists	35.8230	9.8980	0.0325
	Lead Pipe	23.0545	9.7598	0.0215

Constant	314.8142	
Multiple R	0.7706	
R Square	0.5938	
Standard Error	107.1661	

Table 15.

Multiple Regression Analysis of Sentence Length
By Legally Relevant Variables
Rank Ordered by Absolute Value of Beta

Dimension and Level	Unstandardized Regression Coefficient b	Standard Error of b	Standardized Regression Coefficient beta
Larceny of $50	-308.0873	7.3276	-0.4164
Larceny of $100	-308.8806	7.3578	-0.4129
Larceny of $1,000	-309.4042	7.4656	-0.4014
Larceny of $10,000	-307.9579	7.4696	-0.3982
Larceny of $10	-298.1228	7.4094	-0.3954
Rob-Threat-No Harm-$10	-321.4601	7.7223	-0.3857
Assault-Doctor	-311.8999	10.0156	-0.3840
Burg Home-$1,000	-322.5831	7.7858	-0.3813
Car Theft-$5,000	-319.2333	7.7955	-0.3772
Assault-Hospital	-315.2366	10.1230	-0.3658
Drive Drunk-No Accident	-320.9323	7.8949	-0.3654
Burg Building-$10	-322.7159	8.0251	-0.3584
Rob-Weap-No Harm-$10	-308.5592	8.0546	-0.3432
Assault-No Injury	-295.6710	7.9042	-0.3394
Arson-$500,000	-282.2079	8.0623	-0.3136
Rob-Gun-Hospital-$1,000	-258.9692	7.9814	-0.2939
Cocaine-Wholesale	-251.9891	7.9031	-0.2882
Drive Drunk-Death	-240.5627	7.9045	-0.2782
Rape-No Other Injury	-195.7295	7.8945	-0.2285
Rape-Oral Sex-No Other In	-174.2574	7.8858	-0.2048
Log Seriousness Score	24.0390	1.5265	0.1167
Rape-Death	81.5731	7.8416	0.0984
Mentally Ill	25.4226	3.6384	0.0450
Weapon-Blank	38.6318	9.8048	0.0357
Lngth of Prior Sent-10 Yr	26.5393	6.3572	0.0332
Weapon-Fists	35.8230	9.8980	0.0325
Assault-Death	-22.5783	10.1166	-0.0259
Weapon-Lead Pipe	23.0545	9.7598	0.0215
Offender On Drugs	11.5569	3.9253	0.0194
6 Prior Prison Sentences	13.8754	6.2178	0.0194
Crime to Buy Drugs	11.2456	3.9960	0.0185
Offender Was Drunk	11.0297	3.9237	0.0185
6 Prior Property Convict	7.9021	3.6709	0.0171
No Prior Property Convict	6.8736	3.3147	0.0161
Lives by Crime	8.8152	3.7730	0.0154

Constant	314.8142	
Multiple R	0.7706	
R Square	0.5938	
Standard Error	107.1661	

Table 16.

Purposes of Punishment Across All Offense Types

| | ----------Importance of Purpose---------- | | | |
Purpose	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not At All Important	Don't Know
Special Deterrence (1)	79.2	11.6	7.7	1.6
Boundary Setting (2)	77.5	13.1	8.1	1.3
Rehabilitation (3)	71.7	13.0	13.3	2.0
Desert (4)	69.8	19.5	9.0	1.6
General Deterrence (5)	69.1	18.3	11.3	1.2
Incapacitation (6)	58.2	13.3	23.4	5.1
Morality or Religion (7)	48.3	21.2	28.2	2.3
Retribution (8)	25.0	21.3	52.4	1.2

After the respondent had selected punishment types and amounts for a vignette, he/she was asked: "When you chose the sentence for this crime, how important was it for you [ENTER EACH REASON BELOW]? Was it very important, somewhat important, or not at all important?"

(1) "...to scare the offender so he/she will not do it again."
(2) "...to make a public statement that this kind of behavior will not be tolerated."
(3) "...to treat the offender to change whatever in him/her made him/her do the crime."
(4) "...to give the offender what he/she deserves."
(5) "...to scare off other people who might do the same thing."
(6) "...to lock up the offender so while he/she is in prison he/she won't be able to commit more crimes."
(7) "...to respond as my religion or morality requires."
(8) "...to get even with the offender by making him suffer for what he/she has done?"

Table 17.

Purpose of Punishment, by Offense Type

----Percent of Respondents Who Said the Purpose Was "Very Important"----

Offenses Grouped by Type	Special Deterrence	Boundary Setting	Rehabil- itation	Desert	General Deterrence	Incapaci- tation	Morality	Retri- bution
Property Theft and Damage								
Arson-$500,000 Damage	84.2	76.5	85.2	60.9	78.3	72.1	48.6	21.3
Car Theft-Sale-$5,000	84.8	78.4	77.8	71.6	69.8	54.9	49.3	24.7
Larceny of $10,000	74.0	76.1	77.9	84.5	66.7	54.4	55.7	22.5
Larceny of $1,000	86.1	72.6	70.8	62.1	66.4	47.7	44.9	19.2
Larceny of $100	65.9	69.4	72.6	64.9	58.1	44.6	45.2	17.3
Larceny of $50	84.0	72.7	80.1	76.9	68.6	40.2	52.1	32.8
Larceny of $10	75.1	64.2	77.7	67.2	54.8	40.7	55.3	15.5
Burglary Offenses								
Burglary-Home-$1,000	81.5	75.7	75.1	67.1	57.6	54.9	37.2	21.2
Burglary-Building-$10	80.0	70.6	80.7	57.4	60.7	35.4	44.4	15.5
Robbery Offenses								
Robbery Gun-Death	79.1	85.2	66.8	80.9	82.7	81.5	53.8	32.0
Robbery-Gun-Hospital-$1,000	80.4	79.1	77.0	76.7	73.7	72.5	54.6	26.4
Robbery-Weapon-No Harm-$10	87.6	85.0	58.1	54.8	65.6	61.4	40.0	18.2
Robbery-Threat-No Harm-$10	75.6	74.3	74.6	71.0	63.5	47.2	43.9	21.4
Assault Offenses								
Assault-Death	84.2	83.6	64.9	76.0	78.9	85.0	47.6	38.2
Assault-Hospital	86.5	83.1	79.0	76.4	75.6	69.1	55.0	30.9
Assault-Doctor	84.6	81.8	74.8	71.5	69.5	67.0	41.0	20.2
Assault-No Injury	66.8	74.6	61.6	73.7	46.8	51.9	43.1	13.9
Forcible Rape Offenses								
Rape-Death	70.2	88.2	50.8	82.9	75.4	76.6	53.6	37.6
Rape-Oral Sex-No Other Injury	75.2	84.5	71.4	76.3	77.1	86.4	63.2	34.9
Rape-No Other Injury	86.6	82.8	71.8	79.5	73.2	83.0	67.4	32.2
Drunk Driving								
Drunk Driving-Death	88.8	88.9	70.1	70.8	86.6	68.8	50.4	29.7
Drunk Driving--No Accident	83.9	74.1	83.4	67.8	76.8	43.0	49.4	23.9
Drug Offenses								
Cocaine-Sold for Resale	85.0	88.7	72.6	80.3	86.8	76.5	48.3	31.8
Cocaine-Used	75.0	68.3	84.9	47.7	63.5	43.8	42.0	19.5
All Offenses	79.2	77.5	71.7	69.8	69.1	o 58.2	48.3	24.0

Table 18.

Purposes of Punishment by Most Severe Punishment Type

Percent Who Said Purpose Was "Very Important"
and Chose Penalty as Most Severe Punishment

Purpose		------Death------ Capital Offenses Only	All Offenses	Prison or Jail	Probation	Fine or Resti- tution
Special Deterrence*	a	75.6#	75.6	83.7	75.3	75.4
	b	35.6	4.2	72.3	16.0	7.4
Boundary Setting*	a	91.6#	91.6	82.9	68.7	63.6
	b	40.0	5.5	73.1	14.9	6.5
Rehabilitation*	a	46.3#	46.3	75.1	74.9	75.3
	b	28.8	2.9	71.1	17.8	8.2
Desert*	a	91.9#	91.9	76.8	54.2	68.6
	b	42.8	6.0	73.5	12.9	7.6
General Deterrence*	a	86.0#	86.0	75.3	53.5	55.2
	b	41.2	5.8	74.7	13.2	6.3
Incapacitation*	a	74.3#	74.3	77.9	10.1	9.5
	b	34.0	5.8	90.6	2.6	1.0
Morality or Religion*	a	52.5	52.5	52.2	43.7	50.0
	b	36.5	4.7	72.2	14.9	8.1
Retribution*	a	48.7#	48.7	28.4	14.5	19.2
	b	50.1	8.8	75.6	9.6	5.9

Entries in rows "a" are the percentage of respondents who first chose
this punishment type as the most severe punishment, and then said the
corresponding purpose was "very important" (e.g. 83.7 percent of
the respondents who chose "prison" as the most severe punishment
type for an offense, then said special deterrence was a "very
important" purpose of punishment for that offense).

Rows "b" contain the distribution of most severe punishment types
chosen by respondents who indicated that the corresponding
purpose was "very important" (e.g. 72.3 percent of respondents
who said special deterrence was a "very important" punishment purpose
for a particular offense chose "prison" as the most severe
punishment for that offense.

*Chi-Square over all offenses is significant at .01 level.

#Chi-Square over capital offenses only is significant at .01 level.

Table 19.

Purposes of Punishment by Prison Sentence Length

| | ------Importance of Purpose------- | | |
Purpose	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not At All Important
Retribution*	181.6	101.3	124.6
Incapacitation*	151.9	49.2	163.9
Morality or Religion*	149.7	118.6	124.8
General Deterrence*	149.1	101.7	94.4
Desert*	147.8	96.9	102.4
Boundary Setting*	145.0	86.6	117.3
Special Deterrence*	132.3	97.1	224.5
Renabilitation*	115.9	135.7	236.8

Note: Entries are mean sentence lengths in months according
       to the importance attributed to each purpose of
       punishment.

*Indicates F-ratio between groups is significant at .01 level.

Table 20.

Purpose of Punishment, by Respondent Characteristics

Respondent Characteristic		Percent of Respondents Who Said the Purpose Was "Very Important"							
		Special Deterrence	Boundary Setting	Rehabilitation	Desert	General Deterrence	Incapacitation	Morality	Retribution
Age	18-24	78.7	67.1*	72.3*	69.5*	64.4*	56.4*	39.4*	28.1*
	25-34	79.1	74.8	76.7	64.8	64.5	54.6	42.7	25.1
	35-44	80.8	78.9	71.0	61.8	65.3	59.7	42.4	21.4
	45-54	80.4	81.3	77.3	73.7	69.1	62.4	49.0	25.2
	55-64	82.1	81.5	73.6	74.6	75.6	66.0	61.8	23.5
	65-74	82.4	86.5	66.8	80.8	80.2	69.7	60.8	27.2
	75+	78.2	78.2	73.1	85.3	78.3	63.1	59.4	33.9
Sex	Male	75.8*	77.3	64.9*	68.5*	63.4*	59.0	40.5*	24.4
	Female	84.6	79.5	80.4	73.2	75.9	63.3	57.4	26.1
Race	White	79.5	78.2	72.8	69.5*	67.5*	60.4	47.1*	24.1*
	Black	85.5	81.5	75.1	80.1	83.9	67.3	63.5	31.5
	Hispanic	90.6	72.5	74.4	82.1	78.2	71.3	60.0	26.4
	Asian	82.0	48.0	67.8	56.7	58.4	37.4	41.4	30.5
	Other	80.0	80.4	76.9	70.0	86.5	60.3	53.0	42.8
Education	Elementary	82.6*	90.5*	58.7*	61.0*	76.6*	78.5*	53.3*	22.5*
	Junior High	93.6	87.0	63.4	86.8	94.7	73.2	61.1	36.7
	Some High School	85.3	80.6	77.9	81.4	81.8	65.9	59.2	34.6
	High School Grad	83.0	79.4	75.9	75.3	73.7	64.8	50.7	2 7
	Some College	75.4	76.0	76.1	67.0	61.6	55.3	45.7	17 7
	College Grad	71.8	70.3	69.9	57.1	54.0	46.1	37.0	15.6
	Post-Graduate	65.3	66.7	74.4	50.8	36.9	42.8	36.8	12.8
Family Income	Under $6,000	86.6*	81.5*	79.3*	74.3*	88.8*	74.0*	64.9*	30.5*
	$6,000-13,000	83.0	78.3	69.8	81.4	73.7	60.8	50.5	29.9
	$13,000-19,000	80.0	80.8	76.6	74.5	75.2	63.6	53.9	27.9
	$19,000-29,000	81.8	77.5	67.2	64.5	67.4	55.5	44.3	20.0
	$29,000-48,000	81.2	78.0	80.2	70.6	63.6	59.1	45.1	20.7
	$48,000-75,000	74.5	74.8	75.8	65.6	57.1	54.8	38.0	22.2
	Over $75,000	71.3	73.3	74.3	55.1	55.3	63.4	42.1	17.7
Region	Northeast	82.5	76.4*	76.1	70.9*	70.2	59.4	48.2*	26.0*
	Midwest	79.3	75.5	74.1	72.3	70.1	61.3	50.0	22.8
	South	80.5	82.3	72.3	72.1	70.2	62.2	52.4	27.0
	West	80.2	77.4	70.2	66.5	69.2	61.4	43.3	23.5

*Indicates the Chi-Square is significant at the .01 level.

Table 21.

Multiple Regression Analysis of Sentence Length
With Offense, Offender, Victim, and Respondent Characteristics

Dimension	Level	Unstandardized Regression Coefficient b	Standard Error of b	Standardized Regression Coefficient beta
Log of Seriousness Score		25.5161	1.4934	0.1238
Property	Arson-$500,000	-281.4843	7.7269	-0.3128
Theft	Larceny of $10,000	-315.5855	7.1814	-0.4080
and	Car Theft-$5,000	-320.8402	7.4630	-0.3791
Damage	Larceny of $1,000	-314.9739	7.1616	-0.4086
Offenses	Larceny of $100	-314.9536	7.0526	-0.4210
	Larceny of $50	-317.5762	7.0297	-0.4293
	Larceny of $10	-305.2026	7.1054	-0.4048
Burglary	Home-$1,000	-322.8909	7.4596	-0.3816
Offenses	Building-$10	-325.8923	7.6854	-0.3619
Robbery	Gun-Death	-40.1530	8.2118	-0.0472
Offenses	Gun-Hospital-$1,000	-295.2871	8.1934	-0.3351
	Weapon-No Harm-$10	-357.2080	8.3250	-0.3973
	Threat-No Harm-$10	-370.1115	7.9950	-0.4441
Assault	Assault-Death	-71.7515	10.1312	-0.0873
Offenses	Assault-Hospital	-362.4111	10.1396	-0.4205
	Assault-Doctor	-378.4113	10.0533	-0.4378
	Assault-No Injury	-345.6833	8.1965	-0.3968
Forcible	Death	27.7096	8.1033	0.0334
Rape	Oral Sex-No Other In	-221.9191	8.1203	-0.2609
Offenses	Rape-No Other Injury	-238.3326	8.0732	-0.2782
Drunk	Death	-244.7351	7.5864	-0.2830
Driving	No Accident	-326.3744	7.5682	-0.3716
Offenses				
Drug	Cocaine-Sold/Resale	-256.7057	7.5907	-0.2936
Offenses	Cocaine-Used	Reference Category		--
Offender's	Blank	Reference Category		--
Employment	Unemployed	N.S.	--	--
History	Never Had a Job	N.S.	--	--
	Good-Paying Job	N.S.	--	--
	Lives by Crime	8.0688	3.6466	0.0141
Offender's				
Mental	Blank	Reference Category		--
Condition	Mentally Ill	24.7403	3.4910	0.0438

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Table 21. (Continued)

Dimension	Level	Unstandardized Regression Coefficient b	Standard Error of b	Standardized Regression Coefficient beta
Offender's	Blank	Reference Category		--
Use of	On Drugs	12.3987	3.7661	0.0208
Drugs and	Crime to Buy Drugs	11.3798	3.8386	0.0188
Alcohol	Offender Was Drunk	10.9684	3.7649	0.0184
Number of	Blank	Reference Category		--
Prior	0	N.S.	--	--
Convictions	1	-7.2812	3.4326	-0.0171
for Violent	3	N.S.	--	--
Offenses	6	N.S.	--	--
Number of	Blank	Reference Category		--
Prior	0	N.S.	--	--
Convictions	1	N.S.	--	--
for Property	3	N.S.	--	--
Offenses	6	N.S.	--	--
Number of	Blank	Reference Category		--
Previous	None	N.S.	--	--
Prison or	1	N.S.	--	--
Jail	3	N.S.	--	--
Sentences	6	14.5438	5.9649	0.0204
Total	Blank	Reference Category		--
Length of	6 Months	N.S.	--	--
Prior	1 Year	N.S.	--	--
Prison or	3 Years	N.S.	--	--
Jail	5 Years	N.S.	--	--
Sentences	10 Years	24.2895	6.1627	0.0304
Weapon	Blank	33.6379	9.3995	0.0311
Used in	Gun	Reference Category		--
Assault	Knife	30.4011	9.9330	0.0253
	Fists	39.1825	9.4896	0.0356
	Lead Pipe	20.8381	9.3720	0.0195
Offender's	Blank	Reference Category		--
Age	14	-15.5665	5.5128	-0.0280
	18	-10.1523	4.2160	-0.0202
	22	-8.1590	4.0909	-0.0166
	28	N.S.	--	--
	32	N.S.	--	--
	45	-8.2648	4.0804	-0.0166
	65	N.S.	--	--
Offender's	Male	13.0753	2.4124	0.0343
Sex	Female	Reference Category		--

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Table 21. (Continued)

Dimension	Level	Unstandardized Regression Coefficient b	Standard Error of b	Standardized Regression Coefficient beta
Victim's Age	10 Years Old	55.7777	5.8058	0.0711
	14 Years Old	59.7900	6.0284	0.0722
	20 Years Old	59.2313	5.7137	0.0773
	30 Years Old	43.0370	5.7404	0.0551
	45 Years Old	45.9363	5.6961	0.0592
	60 Years Old	31.0686	5.7036	0.0401
	75 Years Old	62.1260	5.8374	0.0774
	Blank	Reference Category		--
Victim's Sex	Male	18.9108	3.9241	0.0352
	Female	Reference Category		--
Respondent's Age	18-24	Reference Category		--
	None Significant	--	--	--
Respondent's Sex	Male	N.S.	--	--
	Female	Reference Category		--
Respondent's Race	White	-32.7383	9.2397	-0.0711
	Black	N.S.	--	--
	Hispanic	-35.6173	13.2525	-0.0230
	Asian	N.S.	--	--
	Other	Reference Category		--
Respondent's Education	Elementary	Reference Category		--
	Junior High	-8.0892	3.7975	-0.0193
	Some High School	-11.8959	3.8849	-0.0273
	High School Grad	N.S.	--	--
	Some College	12.2120	4.0515	0.0259
	College Grad	N.S.	--	--
	Post-Graduate	N.S.	--	--
Respondent's Family Income	<$6K	Reference Category		--
	$6-13K	N.S.	--	--
	$13-19K	-13.0825	3.6486	-0.0255
	$19-29K	-8.6798	3.1832	-0.0209
	$29-48K	-10.1950	3.2666	-0.0238
	$48-75K	N.S.	--	--
	$75K+	-15.5280	6.2608	-0.0162
Retribution	Very Important	24.1065	5.4345	0.0348
	Somewhat Important	N.S.	--	--
	Not At All Important	Reference Category		--
Incapaci-tation	Very Important	-61.9441	5.1443	-0.1302
	Somewhat Important	-112.0108	7.0845	-0.1199
	Not At All Important	Reference Category		--

(Continued on Next Page)

Table 21. (Continued)

Dimension	Level	Unstandardized Regression Coefficient b	Standard Error of b	Standardized Regression Coefficient beta
Morality	Very Important	15.0550	5.2125	0.0293
	Somewhat Important	N.S.	--	--
	Not At All Important	Reference Category		--
General	Very Important	30.1221	7.4378	0.0679
Deterrence	Somewhat Important	N.S.	--	--
	Not At All Important	Reference Category		--
Desert	Very Important	47.5396	7.2386	0.1076
	Somewhat Important	37.0057	7.8705	0.0476
	Not At All Important	Reference Category		—
Boundary	Very Important	27.5778	7.4995	0.0650
Setting	Somewhat Important	22.2684	8.6314	0.0237
	Not At All Important	Reference Category		--
Special	Very Important	N.S.	--	--
Deterrence	Somewhat Important	N.S.	--	--
	Not At All Important	Reference Category		--
Rehabili-	Very Important	-55.5629	5.8699	-0.1271
tation	Somewhat Important	-31.1188	7.8532	-0.0329
	Not At All Important	Reference Category		--

Constant	357.9607
Multiple R	0.7944
R Square	0.6310
Standard Error	102.4017

Table 22.

Multiple Regression Analysis of Sentence Length
With Offense, Offender, Victim, and Respondent Characteristics
Rank Ordered by Absolute Value of Beta

Dimension and Level	Unstandardized Regression Coefficient b	Standard Error of b	Standardized Regression Coefficient beta
Rob-Threat-No Harm-$10	-370.1115	7.9950	-0.4441
Assault-Doctor	-378.4113	10.0533	-0.4378
Larceny of $50	-317.5762	7.0297	-0.4293
Larceny of $100	-314.9536	7.0526	-0.4210
Assault-Hospital	-362.4111	10.1396	-0.4205
Larceny of $1,000	-314.9739	7.1616	-0.4086
Larceny of $10,000	-315.5855	7.1814	-0.4080
Larceny of $10	-305.2026	7.1054	-0.4048
Rob-Weapon-No Harm-$10	-357.2080	8.3250	-0.3973
Assault-No Injury	-345.6833	8.1965	-0.3968
Burglary-Home-$1,000	-322.8909	7.4596	-0.3816
Car Theft-$5,000	-320.8402	7.4630	-0.3791
Drunk Driving-No Accident	-326.3744	7.5682	-0.3716
Burglary-Building-$10	-325.8923	7.6854	-0.3619
Rob-Gun-Hospital-$1,000	-295.2871	8.1934	-0.3351
Arson-$500,000	-281.4843	7.7269	-0.3128
Cocaine-Sold/Resale	-256.7057	7.5907	-0.2936
Drunk Driving-Death	-244.7351	7.5864	-0.2830
Rape-No Other Injury	-238.3326	8.0732	-0.2782
Rape-Oral Sex-No Other In	-221.9191	8.1203	-0.2609
Incapacitation-Very Imp.	-61.9441	5.1443	-0.1302
Rehabilitation-Very Impor	-55.5629	5.8699	-0.1271
Log of Seriousness Score	25.5161	1.4934	0.1238
Incapacitation-Some. Imp.	-112.0108	7.0845	-0.1199
Desert-Very Important	47.5396	7.2386	0.1076
Assault-Death	-71.7515	10.1312	-0.0873
Victim 75 Years Old	62.1260	5.8374	0.0774
Victim 20 Years Old	59.2313	5.7137	0.0773
Victim 14 Years Old	59.7900	6.0284	0.0722
Victim 10 Years Old	55.7777	5.8058	0.0711
Respondent Race-White	-32.7383	9.2397	-0.0711
General Deterrence-Very I	30.1221	7.4378	0.0679
Boundary Setting-Very Imp	27.5778	7.4995	0.0650
Victim 45 Years Old	45.9363	5.6961	0.0592
Victim 30 Years Old	43.0370	5.7404	0.0551
Desert-Somewhat Important	37.0057	7.8705	0.0476
Robbery-Gun-Death	-40.1530	8.2118	-0.0472
Offender Mentally Ill	24.7403	3.4910	0.0438
Victim 60 Years Old	31.0686	5.7036	0.0401
Fists Used in Assault	39.1825	9.4896	0.0356
Victim Male	18.9108	3.9241	0.0352
Retribution-Very Imp.	24.1065	5.4345	0.0348
Offender Male	13.0753	2.4124	0.0343
Rape-Death	27.7096	8.1033	0.0334

Table 22. (Continued)

Dimension and Level	Unstandardized Regression Coefficient b	Standard Error of b	Standardized Regression Coefficient beta
Rehabilitation-Some. Impo	-31.1188	7.8532	-0.0329
Weapon in Assaults Blank	33.6379	9.3995	0.0311
10 Total Years in Prison	24.2895	6.1627	0.0304
Morality-Very Imp.	15.0550	5.2125	0.0293
Offender Age 14	-15.5665	5.5128	-0.0280
Respondent Ed-Some High S	-11.8959	3.8849	-0.0273
Respondent Ed-Some Colleg	12.2120	4.0515	0.0259
Respondent Income $13-19K	-13.0825	3.6486	-0.0255
Knife Used in Assault	30.4011	9.9330	0.0253
Respondent Income $29-48K	-10.1950	3.2666	-0.0238
Boundary Setting-Some. Im	22.2684	8.6314	0.0237
Respondent Race-Hispanic	-35.6173	13.2525	-0.0230
Respondent Income $19-29K	-8.6798	3.1832	-0.0209
Offender On Drugs	12.3987	3.7661	0.0208
6 Prior Prison Sentences	14.5438	5.9649	0.0204
Offender Age 18	-10.1523	4.2160	-0.0202
Pipe Used in Assault	20.8381	9.3720	0.0195
Respondent Ed-Junior High	-8.0892	3.7975	-0.0193
Crime to Buy Drugs	11.3798	3.8386	0.0188
Offender Was Drunk	10.9684	3.7649	0.0184
1 Conv for Viol Offenses	-7.2812	3.4326	-0.0171
Offender Age 22	-8.1590	4.0909	-0.0166
Offender Age 45	-8.2648	4.0804	-0.0166
Respondent Income $75K+	-15.5280	6.2608	-0.0162
Offender Lives by Crime	8.0688	3.6466	0.0141

Constant	357.9607	
Multiple R	0.7944	
R Square	0.6310	
Standard Error	102.4017	

TABLE 23. COMPARISON OF BJS 13 STATE INCARCERATION RATES, [Range],
AND CRIME SURVEY INCARCERATION RATES, IN PERCENTAGES

	BJS 13 STATES* (%)	BGSU SURVEY** (%)
Serious Violent Crime	59 (38.3-74.5)	88.5
No Priors		76.5
Any Priors		92.7
Serious Property Crime	34 (19.3-43.9)	73.1
No Priors		47.6
Any Priors		81.5
Homicide	78 (52.8-90.6)	98.2
No Priors		95.0
Any Priors		99.4
Rape	72 (27.2-97.8)	94.4
(BJS data includes other sex crimes)		
No Priors		85.3
Any Priors		97.7
Robbery	72 (56.1-100)	79.6
No Priors		61.2
Any Priors		85.5
Aggravated Assault	39 (30.8-50.7)	80.4
No Priors		57.4
Any Priors		88.2
Burglary	44 (36.5-61.3)	69.1
No Priors		44.2
Any Priors		78.1
Larceny	27 (24.6-33.7)	
Petty Larceny		54.7
No Priors		21.9
Any Priors		65.4
Grand Larceny		73.1
No Priors		43.5
Any Priors		81.0
Auto Theft	41 (33.7-46.9)	72.9
No Priors		44.8
Any Priors		84.5
Arson	40 (31.1-53.2)	81.5
No Priors		66.6
Any Priors		87.1
Drug Sale/Possession	31 (12.1-43.9)	75.2
No Priors		56.2
Any Priors		80.2

* Percent of convictions that resulted in sentences of incarceration.
** Percent of respondents whose most severe sentence was "jail or prison."

TABLE 24. COMPARISON OF BJS 13 STATE MEAN TIME SERVED, (Range), AND CRIME SURVEY SENTENCES, IN MONTHS

	BJS 13 STATES	BGSU SURVEY	SURVEY: ACTUAL RATIO
Serious Violent Crime	38 (28.3-50.5)	211	5.5
No Priors		200	
Any Priors		214	
Serious Property Crime	19 (10.3-26.1)	62	3.2
No Priors		37	
Any Priors		67	
Homicide	58 (39.3-78.6)	379	6.5
No Priors		341	
Any Priors		392	
Rape	43 (25.5-63.7)	194	4.5
No Priors		139	
Any Priors		211	
Robbery	38 (29.1-61.5)	83	2.2
No Priors		76	
Any Priors		84	
Aggravated Assault	26 (17.4-37.0)	81	3.1
No Priors		71	
Any Priors		83	
Burglary	22 (13.8-30.5)	43	1.9
No Priors		20	
Any Priors		48	
Larceny	15 (6.5-22.7)		
Petty Larceny		39	2.5
No Priors		31	
Any Priors		39	
Grand Larceny		62	4.1
No Priors		42	
Any Priors		65	
Auto Theft	17 (11.9-24.9)	55	3.2
No Priors		37	
Any Priors		59	
Arson	24 (9.4-35.6)	100	4.1
No Priors		54	
Any Priors		113	
Drug Sale/Possession	17 (10.4-24.0)	106*	6.3
No Priors		65	
Any Priors		110	

* Survey data referred only to cocaine sale and use.

TABLE 25

Main Emphasis (1970, 1981) or "Very Important" (1987) Reason for
Imprisonment, 1970, 1981, 1987

			1987[c]	
			Jail or	Other
Reason	1970	1981	Prison Sentence	Sentence
Punishment	8	17		
Retribution			30	16
Desert			78	59
Rehabilitation	73	49	73	75
Incapacitation	12	31	78	10
("Protect society from future crimes")				
	93[a]	97[b]		

(a) 7% not sure.
(b) 3% not sure.
(c) Percent responding "very important."
(d) Source: 1970 & 1981 data from Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics 1983, Figure 2.14, p. 261.