

MEDIA VIOLENCE, GUN CONTROL, AND PUBLIC POLICY

Diana M. Zuckerman, Ph.D.

Public concern with the national level of violence is discussed, and the complexity of the issue delineated. Research findings in two key areas of the topic, media violence and availability of firearms, are examined, as is their applicability to public policy efforts and recommendations for the prevention of violence. An approach that combines efforts to counteract media violence with those aimed at effective gun control is outlined in terms of bringing about changes in attitudes toward violence and firearm possession.

Of the more than 25,000 yearly murders in the U.S. (*American Psychological Association [APA] Commission on Violence and Youth, 1993*), approximately 13,000 involve handguns. In contrast, 128 handgun murders occur each year in Canada, 97 in Switzerland, and 60 in Japan (*Handgun Control, 1995*). For many years, law enforcement professionals and social scientists have sought solutions to the growing epidemic of violence in America. A recent slight decrease in the number of murders and other violent crimes notwithstanding, levels in the U.S. remain unacceptably high. The fact that children and youth are extensively involved as both victims and perpetrators increases the pressure to understand why murders are increasingly the result of minor arguments and petty theft, and to reverse that trend.

During the last decade, violence has increasingly been defined as a public health problem, as well as a social one; as a result, the work of health care professionals and

policy makers has become increasingly involved ("Violence," 1993).

Thus far, however, solutions have been elusive, and the public's concern for the safety of our communities has grown. In response, the results of several decades of social science research have been translated into media sound bites in which policy makers have blamed media violence, video games, and rap music for teaching American youth that violence is an acceptable way to deal with life's problems. The data from these hundreds of studies clearly indicate an association between television viewing and aggressive behavior. In study after study, young children imitated specific violent behavior that they had just seen on television, and there is growing evidence that, even when such factors as social class are statistically controlled, children who watch violent television programs are more likely to be aggressive (*Huston et al., 1992*). Perhaps most persuasive, in the few existing longitudinal studies, children who

Invited for inclusion in this special section of the Journal. The author, currently with Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Washington, D.C., was at the Office of Science and Technology Policy during preparation of this article.

American Violence And Public Policy

Dennis W. Johnson



American Violence And Public Policy:

Crime, Communities, and Public Policy Chicago Assembly, 1995 Hardy management McGill U examines how Canadian university administrators responded to declining enrolment funding cutbacks and public demands for more accountability during the 1980s Citing six examples she argues that their efforts to centralize authority and reallocate resources have failed to account for the political realities of university life and conflict and recommends they take a broader view and seek consensus among competitors for scarce resources Canadian card order number C95 920993 X Annotation copyright by Book News Inc Portland OR **American Public Policy** Dennis W. Johnson, 2022-09-15 This is a sweeping narrative of American domestic public policy its triumphs struggles and failures over the past 120 years In a larger sense it is a reflection on how the United States has grown and matured faced challenges and opportunities and how its federal leaders and policymakers have responded or failed to confront pressing problems Moreover American Public Policy addresses the hurdles and challenges that still lie ahead Four critical questions are posed and answered First what were the most significant adversities endured by the American people Second what were the landmark domestic policies crafted by the president enacted by Congress or issued in Supreme Court decisions Third what did they fail to do Finally how well have federal policymakers met the key challenges facing America income inequality racism financial crises terrorist attacks climate change gun violence and other pressures And what do we still need to do This book reaches out to students of public policy American government US history and contemporary affairs as well as to citizens journalists and policy practitioners

Issues for Debate in American Public Policy CQ Researcher, 2020-08-27 Written by award winning CQ Researcher journalists this annual collection of nonpartisan and thoroughly researched reports focuses on 16 hot button policy issues The Twenty Second Edition of Issues for Debate in American Public Policy promotes in depth discussion facilitates further research and helps readers formulate their own positions on crucial policy issues And because it is CQ Researcher the policy reports are expertly researched and written showing readers all sides of an issue Because this annual volume comes together just months before publication all selections are brand new and explore some of today s most significant American public policy issues including Universal Basic Income Inequality in America The Healthcare Industry Economic Impact of Coronavirus Coronavirus and mental health Presidential Primaries Political Polling and Much more Package and save Issues for Debate in American Public Policy Selections from CQ Researcher Twenty Second Edition can be bundled with any SAGE CQ Press title at a savings for your students Contact your rep for more details **Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Black & Minority Health** United States. Department of Health and Human Services. Task Force on Black and Minority Health, 1985 [Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Black & Minority Health: Executive summary](#) United States. Department of Health and Human Services. Task Force on Black and Minority Health, 1985 Abstract A US Department of Health and Human Services DHHS report examines the impact of a broad range of behavioral societal and health care issues

concerning the health of US blacks and minorities on current departmental program areas Six topics were identified as priority areas cancer cardiovascular disease and stroke chemical dependency alcohol illicit drugs cigarettes diabetes homicide and accidents and infant mortality Subcommittee summary reports are intended for each of these 6 areas Data also are presented on the social characteristics of minority populations mortality and morbidity indicators health services and resources an inventory of DHHS program efforts and a survey of non federal organizations Recommendations are provided for health information and education health services health professions development cooperative efforts data development and research needs wz

Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Black & Minority Health: Homicide, suicide, and unintentional injuries United States. Department of Health and Human Services. Task Force on Black and Minority Health, 1985 Abstract A US Department of Health and Human Services DHHS report examines the impact of a broad range of behavioral societal and health care issues concerning the health of US blacks and minorities on current departmental program areas Six topics were identified as priority areas cancer cardiovascular disease and stroke chemical dependency alcohol illicit drugs cigarettes diabetes homicide and accidents and infant mortality Subcommittee summary reports are intended for each of these 6 areas Data also are presented on the social characteristics of minority populations mortality and morbidity indicators health services and resources an inventory of DHHS program efforts and a survey of non federal organizations Recommendations are provided for health information and education health services health professions development cooperative efforts data development and research needs wz

Impacts of Incarceration on the African American Family Othello Harris, R. Robin Miller, The criminal justice system has driven a wedge between black men and their children African American men are involved in the criminal justice system whether through incarceration probation or parole at near epidemic levels At the same time the criminal justice system has made little or no institutional efforts to maintain or support continuing relationships between these men and their families Consequently African American families are harmed by this in countless ways from the psychological physical and material suffering experienced by the men themselves to losses felt by their mates children and extended family members The volume opens with an introduction and brief review by R Robin Miller Sandra Lee Browning and Lisa M Spruance outlining the impacts of incarceration on the African American family Brad Tripp explores changes in family relationships and the identity of incarcerated African American fathers Mary Balthazar and Lula King discuss the loss of the protective effect of marital and nonmarital relationships and its impact on incarcerated African American men and the implications for African American men and those who work with them in the helping professions Theresa Clark explores the relationship between visits by family and friends and the nature of inmate behavior In a research note Olga Grinstead Bonnie Faigeles Carrie Bancroft and Barry Zack investigate the actual costs families incur to maintain contact with family members be it emotional social or financial Patricia E O Connor uses data from sociolinguistic interviews of male inmates from a maximum security prison to study how some of these men manage to

continue to fulfill the fatherhood role long distance In a concluding chapter Sandra Lee Browning Robin Miller and Lisa Spruance focus on actions of the criminal justice system that undermine the black family on reasons that black male inmate fathers are studied so rarely and discuss the role restorative justice may play This insightful volume fills a void in the literature on the role of African American men in the functioning of families It will be of interest to students of African American studies social workers and policy makers

Report of the Secretary's Task Force on Black & Minority Health: Homicide, suicide, and unintentional injuries United States. Dept. of Health and Human Services. Task Force on Black and Minority Health,1985

The Oxford Handbook of Crime Prevention Brandon Welsh,David P. Farrington,2014

The Oxford Handbook of Crime Prevention is the most reliable and the only comprehensive source on research and experience on the prevention of crime in the United States and across the Western world

The Oxford Handbook of Crime and Criminal Justice Michael Tonry,2011-09-29 A comprehensive and accesible overview of the operation of the American criminal justice system This handbook s extensive coverage of the criminal justice system in the U S makes it an important reference for students and scholars in criminal justice law and public policy

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