



Policing Gangs and Violent Youths: A Case Study of International Criminal Justice Policy Transfer

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Problem

- **Glasgow City**– Pop. 600,000
- **Greater Glasgow** – Pop. 2.5 million
- **West of Scotland** (170 gangs)
- **Glasgow** (55 gangs in the east end of the city alone – 600 members – age range 12-26)
- **Problems** (Patrick, 1973: Kintrea *et al*, 2008: Deuchar & Holligan, 2010)
- **New solution to the problem**
- **City wide partnership established**

Glasgow

- **Community Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV) – June 2008**
- **Partnership building**
- **Deliver key messages – Self Referral Session**
(Williams, Graham, Tombs, Donnelly, forthcoming)
- **Results over 3 years (CIRV Quarterly Reports)**
52% reduction in violent crimes; and an
82% reduction in weapons offences

Policy Transfer

- **Development over years**
- **Policy Diffusion (Walker, 1969: Eyestone, 1977)**
- **Lesson Drawing (Rose, 1991)**
- **Policy Convergence (Bennett, 1991)**
- **Policy Transfer developed out of a critique of the foregoing approaches (Dolowitz & Marsh, 1996, 2000)**
- **‘Voluntary’ and ‘coercive’ transfer**

Interviews – Initial Findings

- **Interviews with key informants (30 completed)**
- **Public health approach to violence adopted in Glasgow**
- **Degree of transfer – Either Copying: Emulation: Hybridisation/Synthesis: Inspiration or a mixture of some or all? (Dolowitz and Marsh, 1996, 2000: Evans, 2009)**

Partnerships

- **“For me the project showed where we do have true partnership working it does have an impact.” (Housing)**
- **“The biggest attraction for me was this was going to be a whole-systems approach. There was a whole load of agencies signed up, all agreeing if we do it this way we could make a difference.” (Social Services)**
- **“Because of the partnership approach. Because of the completely and utterly different approach and because of the outcome driven approach that it portrayed.” (Senior Police Officer)**

Doctoral Studies - Thesis

- Allows an examination of different issues – e.g. differences between Cincinnati and Glasgow in gang culture, policing, criminal, legal and socio-economic environment.
- Gap in criminal justice policy transfer research literature (Newburn and Sparks, 2004: Jones and Newburn, 2007)