

Young people's experience of and involvement in violent crime *Findings from the longitudinal Peterborough Adolescent and Young Adult Development Study (PADS+)*

Young people's involvement in violent offending and victimization remains a key topic for criminologists, and a key issue for criminal justice practitioners, a fact made all the more evident by the recent rise in knife crimes amongst young people in cities like London. This panel explores trends in young people's violent crime using data from the first six annual waves of PADS+ (2002-2008). PADS+ is an ongoing ESRC-funded longitudinal study of a random sample of young people who entered year 7 in Peterborough schools in 2002. The data presented in this panel covers a key developmental period in the sample (ages 11 to 17) and includes individual data from young people and their parents, environmental data on the areas in which young people spend their time (and offend), and criminal records data from the police and Youth Offending Service. The aim of this panel is to demonstrate the unique advantages of PADS+ data for analysing trends in young people's experience of violent crime and testing a Situational Action Theory to advance our knowledge about the causes of young people's violent crime, and highlight possible solutions.

Violence as situational action: A theoretical framework

Kyle Treiber
Per-Olof Wikström

This paper introduces Situational Action Theory (SAT), which provides the theoretical underpinnings for PADS+, and applies the theory to the explanation of violence, highlighting testable implications which the following papers address. It also provides a brief introduction to PADS+ and its unique individual and environmental-level data.

Young people's reported and recorded violence: Trends in longitudinal self-report and official data

Harsha Brooks
Kyle Treiber

Violence is the most common self-reported offence in the PADS+ sample; this paper looks into this and other dimensions of self-reported and official data on young people's violent offending to identify possible causes and implications. It highlights key issues relating to the validity and comparability of self-reported and officially recorded data, and discusses similarities and differences between PADS+'s reported and recorded violent crime data, and that of other major longitudinal studies.

Is there a place and time for violence? Using a Space-Time Budget to analyze young people's violent activity patterns

Beth Hardie

The majority of research into violent offending focuses on the individual and individual-level explanations. The paper presents an innovative methodology - the Space-Time Budget (STB) - designed and employed by PADS+ to measure young people's exposure to different social environments, and shows how the STB may be used to analyse more situational aspects of young people's involvement in violent crime, including where young people commit acts of violence (settings), the temporal and spatial distribution of young people's violence (activity fields), and the nature of violent crime experienced and committed by young people.

Love-hate relationships: An exploration of young people's self-reported partner violence

Neema Trivedi

Per-Olof Wikström

Most studies of violence amongst young people focus on violence between acquaintances and strangers (for example, bullying and gang-related violence); fewer studies look at patterns of violence amongst more intimate acquaintances (e.g., partner violence), although such violence may be more prevalent and persistent. Most studies which do address partner violence are cross-sectional and focus on adults using officially recorded crime. This paper describes the unique contributions which PADS+ can make to the study of partner violence through the collection of self-reported data on partner violence from a random sample of adolescents. It explores the relationship between partner violence and more general forms of violence and, drawing upon its longitudinal framework, analyses the link between partner violence and early life experiences.