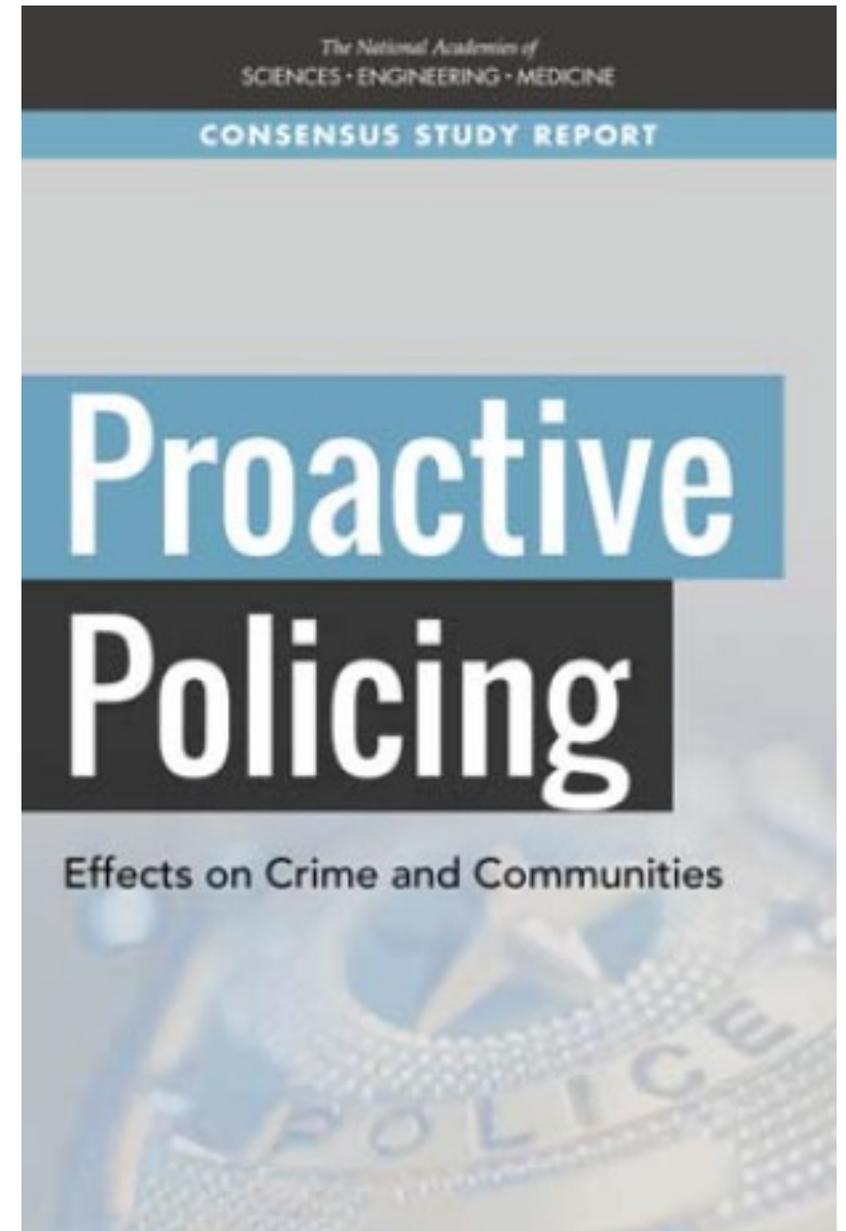


Evidence Recap: Proactive Policing, Illegal Gun Carrying, Clearance Rates

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“A number of proactive policing practices are successful in reducing crime and disorder, at least in the short term, and most of these strategies do not harm communities’ attitudes toward police. However, the effects of proactive policing on other important outcomes—such as on the legality of police behavior and on racially biased behavior—are unclear because of gaps in research... [More] research is needed.”



National Academies Report, 2018

FINDINGS FROM THE REPORT

- **Hot spots policing:** “Produces short-term crime-reduction effects without simply displacing crime into surrounding areas”
- **Problem-oriented policing:** “Small group of rigorous studies show that problem-oriented policing programs lead to short-term reductions in crime”
- **Predictive policing:** “Currently insufficient rigorous empirical studies to support a firm conclusion”
- **Community-oriented policing:** “Existing studies do not identify consistent crime-prevention benefit“
- **Third party policing:** “Small number of evaluations... supports a conclusion that third-party policing generates short-term reductions in crime and disorder”

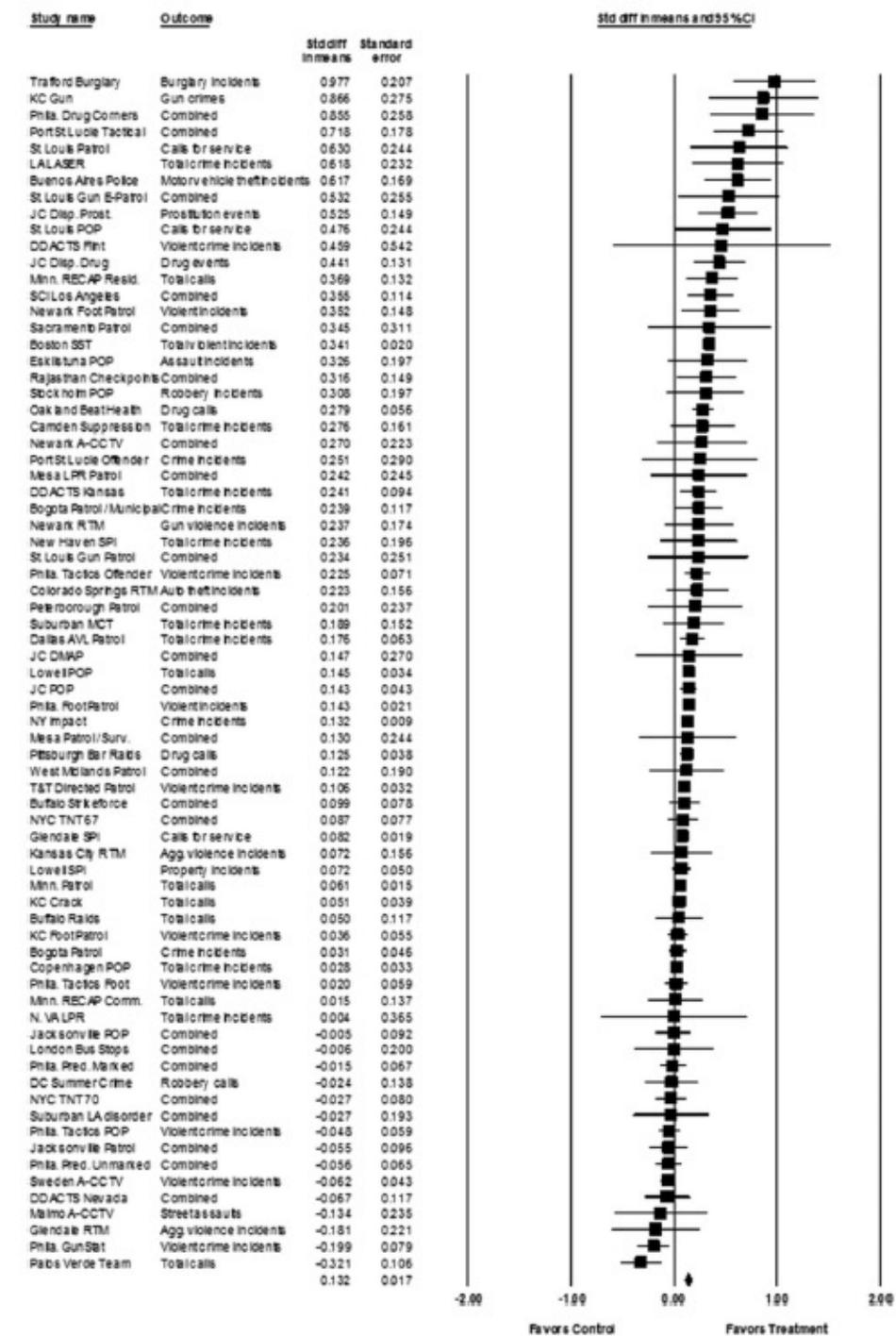
FINDINGS FROM THE REPORT

- **Stop-question-frisk policing:** “SQF targeting places with violence or serious gun crimes and focusing on high-risk repeat offenders consistently report short-term crime-reduction effects... evidence on... general, citywide crime control strategy is mixed”
- **Broken windows policing:** “[Aggressive] interventions generate little or no impact on crime... [Neighborhood-based problem-oriented] interventions reported consistent short-term crime-reduction impacts]
- **Focused deterrence:** “Evaluations... show consistent crime-control impacts in reducing gang violence, street crime driven by drug markets, and repeat individual offending”

“What the effective strategies have in common is their effort to more tightly specify and focus police activities. In contrast, generalized, aggressive enforcement tactics such as stop-question-frisk used indiscriminately across a city, or broken-windows policing programs that rely on a ‘zero tolerance’ generalized approach to misdemeanor arrests, do not show evidence of effectiveness.”

HOT SPOTS POLICING

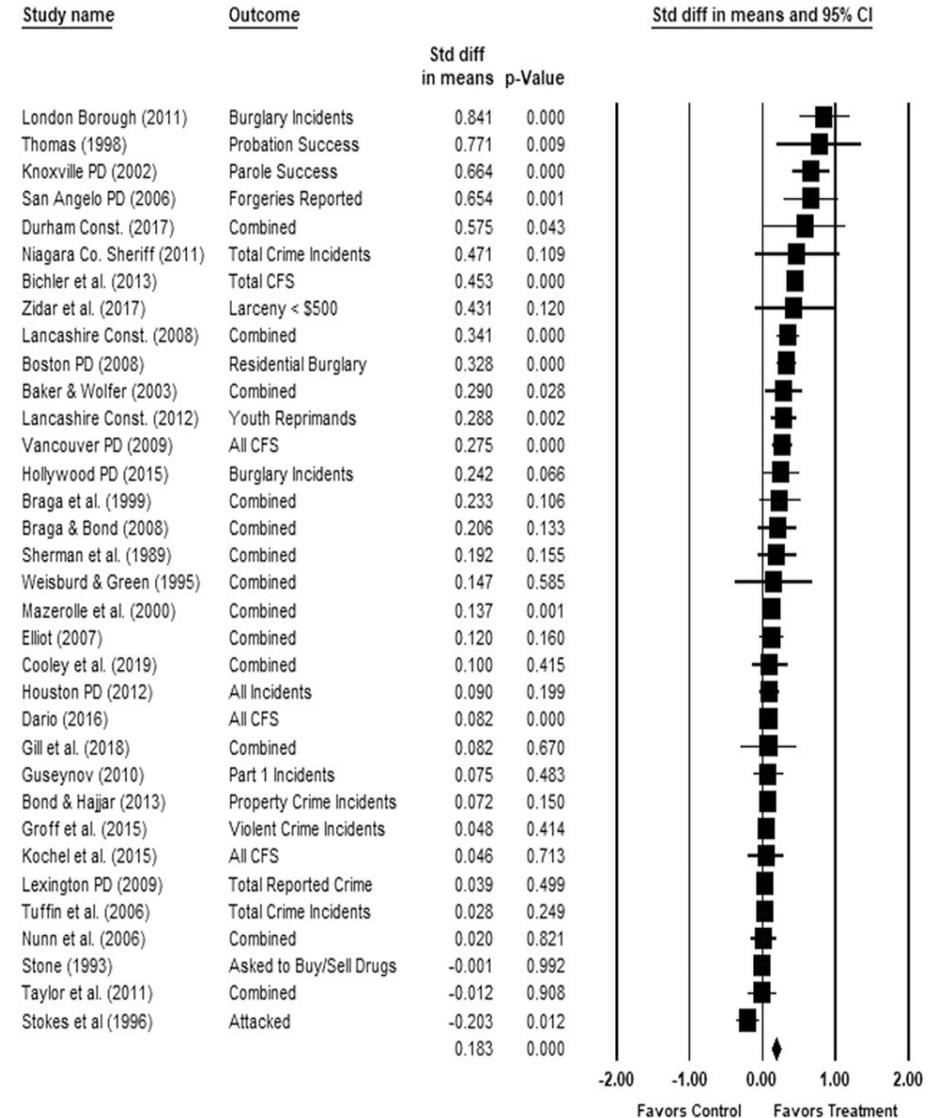
- Braga et al. (2019) performed updated systematic review, identifying 78 tests (10 RCTs)
- Vote-counting: 62 of 78 had “small but meaningful” positive effects
- Modest effect size overall (.132) and for violent crime (.102) suggests strategy can’t be the only solution



PROBLEM-ORIENTED POLICING

- Hinkle et al. (2020) performed updated systematic review, identifying 34 tests (9 RCTs)
- Vote-counting: 31 of 34 had positive effects, 13 of which were statistically significant
- Effect size overall (.183) and for violent crime (.067 *not significant*) similar to hot spots policing

(a)



GUN CARRYING, NOT GUNS GENERALLY

- Percentage of homicides involving firearms increasing, reached peak of 77% in 2020 (CCJ, 2021)
- Police data from Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington suggests increases in illegal gun carrying during pandemic (Arthur and Asher, 2021)
- Also more gun purchases, but evidence suggests purchases not driving homicide increases (Schleimer et al., 2021)
- Suggested focus: illegal gun carrying by highest risk people and places
 - Only 1 in 6 crime guns legally obtained (Braga, 2017)
 - “Illegal gun carrying is perhaps the most important proximate cause of urban homicide today.” (Abt, 2019)

DEMAND AND SUPPLY – TWO EXAMPLES

- Koper and Mayo-Wilson et al. (2012) performed systematic review, identifying 9 tests (no RCTs) of police strategies to reduce gun crime, 7 of which involved directed gun patrols
 - “Six of the seven tests (not all of which were independent) suggest that directed patrols reduced gun crime in high-crime places at high-risk times.”
 - “American studies found that gun crime declined by 29% to 71%, depending on the outcome measures and statistical techniques used ”
- Permit-to-purchase (PTP) laws require person to have a permit before purchasing firearms
 - Connecticut’s 1995 PTP law associated with 40% reduction in homicide rate (Rudolph et al., 2015)
 - Missouri’s 2007 repeal of PTP law increased firearm homicide rates by 23% (Webster et al., 2014)
 - In large urban US counties, PTP laws associated with 11% reduction in firearm homicides (Crifasi et al., 2018)

“IMPUNITY” FOR GUN OFFENSES?

- Many anecdotal reports of gun offenders “getting off easy”
- But no clear connection between releases/reforms with increased gun violence (CCJ, 2021)
- Is there “impunity” for gun offenses? Is it increasing? If it is happening, where is it happening (arraignment, sentencing) and who is responsible (prosecutors, judges)?

“Like the schoolyard bully, our criminal justice system harasses people on small pretexts but is exposed as a coward before murder. It hauls masses of black men through its machinery but fails to protect them from bodily injury and death. It is at once oppressive and inadequate.”



GHETTOSIDE

A TRUE STORY OF MURDER IN AMERICA

JILL LEOVY

“A serious and kaleidoscopic achievement.” —*The New York Times*

“Masterful.” —*Los Angeles Times*

“Moving and engrossing.” —*San Francisco Chronicle*

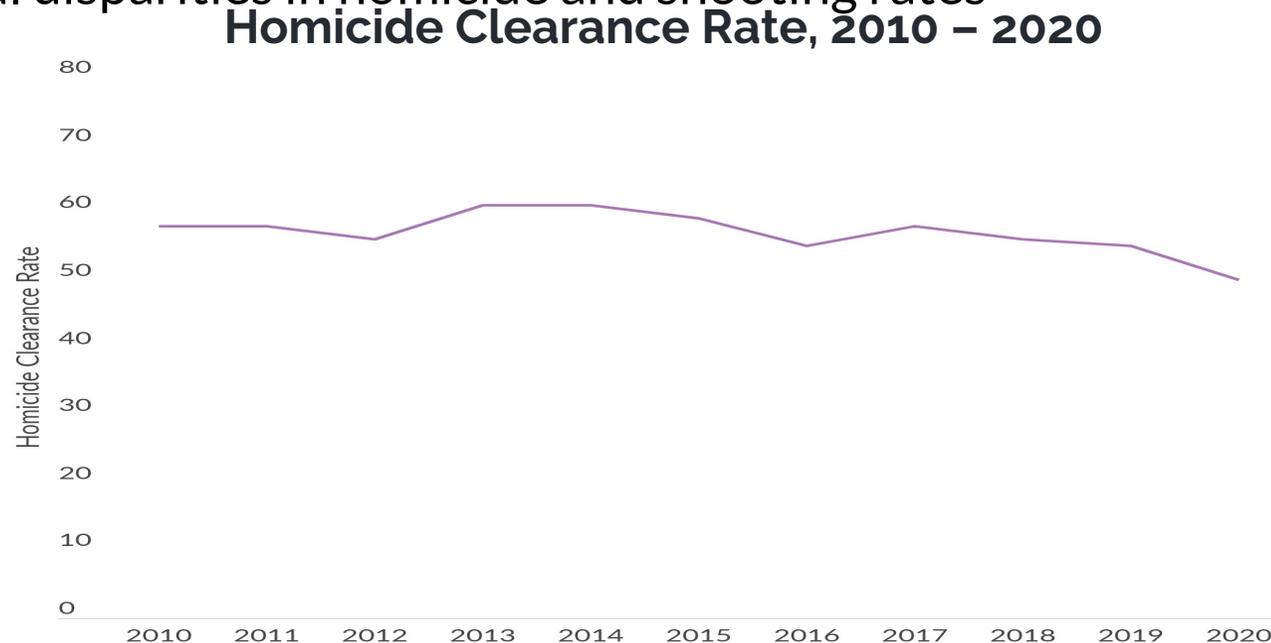
“Penetrating and heartbreaking.” —*USA Today*

“Searing.” —*The Boston Globe*



SHOOTING CLEARANCE RATES

- Homicide clearance rates declined in 2020, continuing trend beginning in 1970s
 - Homicide clearance rate was 82% in 1976, 50% in 2020
 - Clearance rates for non-fatal shootings are approximately half those for homicides
 - Large racial disparities in homicide and shooting rates



Source: Council on Criminal Justice, October 2021

SHOOTING CLEARANCE RATES

- Not much evidence in this area – more focus on patrol than investigations
- Declining rates due to more shootings being “gang or drug-related” (Wellford et al., 2019); “street code” also prevents cooperation (Brunson and Wade, 2019)
 - Witness protection also an issue
- “Research indicates that enhanced investigative resources, improved management structures, and oversight processes can increase homicide clearance rates and improve the chances that murderers are apprehended in even the most difficult cases to clear.” (Braga, 2021)