

Family Support, Victimization and Recidivism

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Research Questions

- To what extent is **family support** related to **reoffending** for individuals recently released from state prisons?
 - Do recent **victimization** experiences influence this relationship?

Literature Review

- **Age-graded theory of informal social control**

(Laub & Sampson 2003, Sampson & Laub 1993)

- Obligation to family members → higher costs of crime
- Routine activities altered → less time spent with criminal peers
- Direct social control from family members

Literature Review

- **Social support** (Cullen 1994, Cohen & Wills 1985)
 - Main effects model: everyone benefits from social support regardless of stressful life events
 - Buffering model: social support most benefits individuals who are experiencing stressful life event

Serious & Violent Offender Reentry Initiative

- SVORI impact evaluation of 12 programs
 - Interviews with SVORI participants and comparison group

30 days Prior to Release (Wave 1)		3 Months Post-release (Wave 2)		9 Months Post-release (Wave 3)		15 Months Post-release (Wave 4)	
Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1,697	357	984	244	1,035	253	1,113	276

Dependent Variables

- National Crime Information Center (NCIC): any arrest
- Self report: any crime, violent crime, drug crime

	3 Months Post-release	9 Months Post-release	15 Months Post-release
Any arrest	16%	31%	29%
Any crime	23%	36%	36%
Violent	2%	5%	6%
Drug	16%	28%	26%

Key Explanatory Variables

- **Emotional family support** (10 items, $\alpha = .832 - .871$)
 - Sample items: I feel close to my family, I want my family to be involved in my life, My family understands me...
 - Mean: 21.56 – 22.34
- **Instrumental family support** (5 items, $\alpha = .888 - .891$)
 - I have someone in my family who would provide ...
 - help or advice on finding a place to live.
 - help or advice on finding a job.
 - support for dealing with a substance abuse problem.
 - transportation to work or other appointments if needed.
 - me with financial support.
 - Mean: 10.94 – 11.36

Key Explanatory Variables

- **Frequency of recent victimization** ($\alpha = .846 - .893$)
 - Threatened with being hit
 - 1 = never to 7 = several times / wk
 - Having something thrown at you
 - 1 = never to 7 = several times / wk
 - Pushed/grabbed/ shoved
 - 1 = never, 4 = once to 14 = several times /wk
 - Slapped/kicked/bitten/hit with fist
 - 1 = never, 4 = once to 14 = several times /wk
 - Threatened with a weapon or weapon used on you
 - 1 = never, 6 = once to 21 = several times / wk

Mean: .37 - .60

Control Variables

- Demographics: age, gender, race
- Criminal history
 - Number of prior convictions
 - Original offense type (property or other)
 - Original incarceration length
- SVORI participation
- Services received scale (0-10)
- Supervision
 - Frequency of in-person contact with PO (0-3)
 - PO case management scale (8 items; 0-1)
- Reoffending in previous period(s)
- Criminogenic neighborhood (5 items; 0-10)
- Antisocial family
- Legal cynicism
- Need mental health treatment
- Need substance abuse treatment

Methods

- Logistic regression – listwise deletion
 - $\text{Ln}(\text{3 months arrest}) = a + b(\text{W2 emotional support}) + b(\text{W2 instrumental support}) + b(\text{controls}) + e$
 - $\text{Ln}(\text{3 months arrest}) = a + b(\text{W2 ES}) + b(\text{W2 IS}) + b(\text{ES} * \text{victimization}) + b(\text{IS} * \text{victimization}) + b(\text{controls}) + e$

Reoffending 3 Months Post-Release

	Any Arrest <i>Exp (B)</i>	Any Crime <i>Exp (B)</i>	Violent Crime <i>Exp (B)</i>	Drug Crime <i>Exp (B)</i>
W2 Emotional support	.980	.923***	.944*	.882***
W2 Instrumental support	1.073	1.067	1.055	1.095
W2 Services received	.890	.989	1.000	1.022
W2 PO in person contact	.931	1.244***	.904	1.412***
W2 Criminogenic nbhd.	1.011	1.071*	1.076**	1.115***
W2 Victimization frequency	1.424***	1.479***	5.738***	1.374***
W2 Need mental health tx.	1.730	1.301	1.102	1.265
W2 Need AOD treatment	.725	3.085***	1.162	3.621***
Nagelkerke's R ²	.252	.329	.388	.361
Model χ^2	113.8***	214.3***	282.9***	204.1***

*** p<.01, ** p<.05, * p < .1

Other controls included in model, but not shown: age, gender, race, criminal history, SVORI, original incarceration length, PO case management, electronic monitoring, antisocial family, legal cynicism, current incarceration status

Reoffending 3-9 Months Post-Release

	Any Arrest <i>Exp (B)</i>	Any Crime <i>Exp (B)</i>	Violent Crime <i>Exp (B)</i>	Drug Crime <i>Exp (B)</i>
W3 Emotional support	1.001	.967	.958	.973
W3 Instrumental support	.956	1.067	1.062	1.048
W3 Services received	1.220**	.959	.960	1.107
W3 PO in person contact	.897	.916	.935	.858
W3 Criminogenic nbhd.	.000	1.094**	1.036	1.100***
W3 Victimization frequency	1.229***	1.546***	5.816***	1.377***
W3 Need mental health tx.	.884	1.339	1.619	.747
W3 Need AOD treatment	1.736**	4.945***	.595	5.796***
Nagelkerke's R ²	.309	.462	.523	.443
Model χ^2	144.0***	240.3***	293.3***	206.1***

*** p<.01, ** p<.05, * p<.1

Other controls included in model, but not shown: age, gender, race, criminal history, SVORI, original incarceration length, PO case management, electronic monitoring, antisocial family, legal cynicism, current incarceration status

Reoffending 9-15 Months Post-Release

	Any Arrest <i>Exp (B)</i>	Any Crime <i>Exp (B)</i>	Violent Crime <i>Exp (B)</i>	Drug Crime <i>Exp (B)</i>
W ₄ Emotional support	.884**	.877***	.918*	.864***
W ₄ Instrumental support	1.138	1.062	1.039	1.094
W ₄ Services received	1.303*	1.190	1.120	.994
W ₄ PO in person contact	1.117	1.369*	.981	1.350*
W ₄ Criminogenic nbhd.	.000	1.126**	.960	1.082
W ₄ Victimization frequency	1.359**	1.393***	5.357***	1.116***
W ₄ Need mental health tx.	.516	.826	1.684	.643
W ₄ Need AOD treatment	1.882	4.305***	1.351	7.126***
Nagelkerke's R ²	.623	.458	.538	.406
Model χ^2	228.0***	163.6***	207.7***	127.4***

*** p<.01, ** p<.05, * p<.1

Other controls included in model, but not shown: age, gender, race, criminal history, SVORI, original incarceration length, PO case management, electronic monitoring, antisocial family, legal cynicism, current incarceration status

Takeaways from Direct Effects

- **Emotional support**
 - Reduces recidivism in some time periods
- **Instrumental support**
 - No direct effect
- **Victimization**
 - Large direct effect

Reoffending 3 Months Post-Release

	Any Arrest <i>Exp (B)</i>	Any <i>Exp (B)</i>	Violent <i>Exp (B)</i>	Drug <i>Exp (B)</i>
Main effect of emotional support	--	.910***	--	.862***
Main effect of victimization	1.308*	1.860***	2.231***	1.742***
Emotional support * victimization	--	1.074***	--	1.069***
Change in Nagelkerke R ²	.263 to .263	.329 to .348	.421 to .422	.362 to .380
Main effect of instrumental support	--	--	--	1.133**
Main effect of victimization	1.263*	1.713***	2.117***	.352***
Instrumental support * victimization	--	1.087***	--	1.084**
Change in Nagelkerke R ²	.263 to .266	.329 to .339	.421 to .422	.362 to .369

*** p<.01, ** p<.05, * p<.1

Reoffending 3-9 Months Post-Release

	Any Arrest <i>Exp (B)</i>	Any <i>Exp (B)</i>	Violent <i>Exp (B)</i>	Drug <i>Exp (B)</i>
Main effect of emotional support	--	--	--	--
Main effect of victimization	1.240**	1.621***	1.934***	1.407***
Emotional support * victimization	1.021*	--	--	--
Change in Nagelkerke R ²	.273 to .278	.411 to .412	.354 to .355	.350 to .351
Main effect of instrumental support	--	--	--	--
Main effect of victimization	1.209**	1.621***	1.904***	1.386***
Instrumental support * victimization	--	--	--	--
Change in Nagelkerke R ²	.273 to .275	.411 to .412	.378 to .391	.350 to .351

*** p<.01, ** p<.05, * p<.1

Reoffending 9-15 Months Post-Release

	Any Arrest <i>Exp (B)</i>	Any <i>Exp (B)</i>	Violent <i>Exp (B)</i>	Drug <i>Exp (B)</i>
Main effect of emotional support	.884***	.911***	.866*	.905**
Main effect of victimization	1.270**	1.486***	1.834***	1.242*
Emotional support * victimization	--	1.040*	--	--
Change in Nagelkerke R ²	.308 to .308	.413 to .417	.378 to .389	.359 to .359
Main effect of instrumental support	--	--	--	--
Main effect of victimization	1.271**	1.487***	1.904***	--
Instrumental support * victimization	--	--	--	--
Change in Nagelkerke R ²	.308 to .308	.413 to .417	.378 to .391	.359 to .359

*** p<.01, ** p<.05, * p<.1

Takeaways

- Interaction terms not significant and small improvements in model fit (Nagelkerke R^2)
- No support for buffering hypothesis

Implications for Post-Release Supervision

- Supervision officers assess support available
 - Encourage relationships
 - Direct releasees without supportive families to additional services
- Family-based programming
 - Family counseling services
 - Social services available to family
- Victimization
 - Improve screening
 - Expand services

Thank You!

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