

The Encyclopedia of  
**Police Science**

THIRD EDITION

Volume 2  
**J-Z**  
INDEX

Jack R. Greene  
Editor

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# INTRODUCTION

*The Encyclopedia of Police Science, Third Edition*, elaborates and extends the discussion of its previous two volumes by deepening and broadening scientific knowledge about policing. The study of police science has undergone considerable change in the decade since the last publication of this *Encyclopedia* and the nearly two decades since the first edition. This advancement in knowledge about the police is linked to, yet separate from, the conceptual and methodological underpinnings of criminology and the administration of justice. These linkages and differences are important to highlight to better understand their contribution to “explaining” policing.

Criminology is focused on explanations of crime and society’s reaction to crime. As a social science that attempts to explain criminal behavior first, and then how justice and other systems react to crime, criminology has often been separated from the study of the police. For many years criminology rarely informed policing, except perhaps in macro level discussions about deterrence.

Since the early 1980s and continuing to the present, however, the overlap in criminological study with that of the police has substantially increased, making criminology more relevant to the study of the police, and policing more acceptable as a target of criminological research. This is particularly the case when considering recent emphases in criminology and policing on communities as major places for crime and partners in crime prevention, deterrence, or mitigation.

Similarly, study of the administration of justice has often focused on the serial ordering of offenders as they pass through criminal justice institutions, as well as how these same institutions react to victims and the public at large. And, while policing was included within the general purview of the administration of justice, much of that literature was at best distant from the range of decisions and actions police undertook to make cities and towns safer.

In recent years, police science has incorporated the best from both the criminological and administration of justice perspectives. From criminology, police science adopted a broader array of theory—theory about individuals, groups, communities, and institutions—that better informs our understanding of the question “why policing,” while also incorporating the advantage of a methodological revolution in criminology. From the administration of justice perspective police science has integrated a broader policy research viewpoint, as well as greater emphasis on evidence of what works through better and more systematic (and scientific) evaluation research.

By incorporating the best from the perspectives of criminology and the administration of justice, police science has greatly accelerated scientific knowledge about what constitutes policing, how it is made operational in a variety of social settings, how its institutions reflect or diverge from broader social and political values, what theoretical frameworks guide policing, and how police perform and their effect. So, today police science integrates the social theories of criminology with the institutional and systems perspectives of the administration of justice. In this respect police science has become more theory driven and

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evidence-led. *The Encyclopedia of Police Science, Third Edition*, reflects these important developments.

Even with the inclusion of criminological and administration of justice perspectives, police science still remains different in focus and in the use of other conceptual frameworks that inform our understanding about the police. Police science is concerned with policing in its broadest sense ranging from policing as an individual set of behaviors through the interconnections of policing across the world. It rests at the intersection of law, the physical sciences (in the case of forensics), psychology, social psychology, sociology, public policy, history, economics, and evaluation methods and statistical analysis, as well as criminology and the administration of justice. Variety is considerable in the domains of knowledge that informs our understanding of policing. The breadth of entries in this volume attests to the complexity of studying the police, and the multiplicity of perspectives used and indeed needed for such understanding.

### *The Evolution of Study on the Police*

The social, formal, and institutional nature of policing and police science has changed profoundly in the last half of the twentieth century, continuing into the twenty-first century. While yesterday's police were largely concerned with fighting crime and maintaining order in public places, today's police are confronted by the globalization and internationalization of crime and terrorism, their manifest connection with new and complicated technologies, the newly emerging networked and organized varieties of criminal enterprise, the shift toward new forms of crime and deviance, and the confounding effects these changes have on effectively providing public safety and security. At the same time, modern-day police agencies must continue to address and cope with their historical functions, including social regulation and the prevention and response to "ordinary crime." In most respects the police remain the foremost organization people call when they are confronted by life's crimes as well as its annoyances.

Policing in this modern era has changed its language, symbols, technology, and analytics, while also broadening its range of interventions, clients, and outcomes. Yet in some ways the police remarkably resemble their nineteenth-century predecessors, presenting themselves in symbolic and substantive ways as singularly responsible for public safety in its broadest sense, while often replicating bygone service delivery patterns. As much as the police are thought to have changed, they continue to present themselves in very consistent ways over time. To the general public the police continue to represent a visible, uniformed force charged with responding to citizens' crime, order, and safety concerns.

Perhaps the most strident changes that have occurred in policing over the past half century are: (1) the broader role the police play in providing public safety and in the reassurance of safety to the public through programs focused on community quality-of-life, the coproduction of safety with community and other institutional partners, and community policing; (2) the change in data-driven and intelligence-led models of policing, including such issues as problem solving, crime analysis, crime mapping, COMPSTAT, and other more empirical and technological approaches to understanding and then addressing crime and social disorder problems; (3) the reemergence of concerns with police ethics and accountability, including the need for assuring police legality and judicial oversight of police actions, the legitimacy they derive from their communities, and the all-too-often revelations about police misconduct, abuse of authority, and public trust; (4) the internationalization of policing to include issues of addressing terrorism (domestic and