

Discussion Questions

Dishion, McCord & Poulin, (1999) - When Interventions Harm: *Peer Groups and Problem Behavior*.

- One of the most popular intervention programs being employed are gun violence intervention programs. If we were to conduct a study on this program, what are some strategies that could be used to reduce negative iatrogenic effects?
- One of the pieces of evidence the authors provide for intervention and developmental research is that “youth being actively reinforced through laughter, social attention, and interest for deviant behavior are likely to increase such behavior.” How might the role in the evolution of technology change this (e.g., reading text messages, social media, video games)?
- The authors tell us that deviancy training is associated with increases of delinquent behavior. What are the best network strategies to combat this deviancy either through network theory or the creation of policy?

Wood & Papachristos, (2019) - Reducing gunshot victimization in high-risk social networks through direct and spillover effects.

- Two years post intervention saw a reduction in victimization of about 98. Given that the intervention is primarily “word by mouth,” what do you think about the longevity of the intervention? What are some suggestions you can make to strengthen this intervention? [Hint]: 60,000 gun victims are recorded each year in the US.
- Crime diffusion across spaces is a popular observation in criminology. Participants may reduce gun assaults but may engage in other assaults of equal or higher magnitude. How might we account for this possibility with the idea of spillover effects?

Ouellet et al. 2019 - Network exposure and excessive use of force: *Investigating the Social transmission of police misconduct*.

- Should police departments actively seek to increase the proportion of female officers? How can departments improve recruitment and retention of women?
- What are some strategies for police departments to reduce exposure among officers, particularly new recruits coming in from the academy?
- Are there any interventions departments can make with training officers to ensure young, higher risk officers are learning the job as ethically as possible?

Bouchard et al. (2017) - Back to the core: A network approach to bolster harm reduction among persons who inject drugs.

- Is the idea of Articulation points (Aps) similar to or different from Granovetter's (1973) idea of strength of Weak ties? If yes/no, how and why?
- How might the network structure look like (hierarchical or decentralized) if peripheral nodes become of the core? What are some of the implications of your idea of the network structure to harm reduction interventions?