

CRJ 523: Network Criminology

Discussion Questions for Peer Influence, Co-Offending, and Gangs

Questions:

1. What is the problem the authors' are trying to solve? What are they trying to understand about peer influence/co-offending/gangs? What are the empirical facts they are seeking to understand?
2. How does the network matter? How are they using network ideas or methods to try and address their problem?
3. Is there a causal model? If so, what is it? If not, is the study primarily focused on a single variable?
4. Would the article be described as "network theory" or a "theory of networks" approach? If "network theory," what is the mechanism (i.e. contagion, convergence, capitalization, or cooperation)?
5. What are the dependent and independent variables and how are they operationalized? And/or, what are the data?