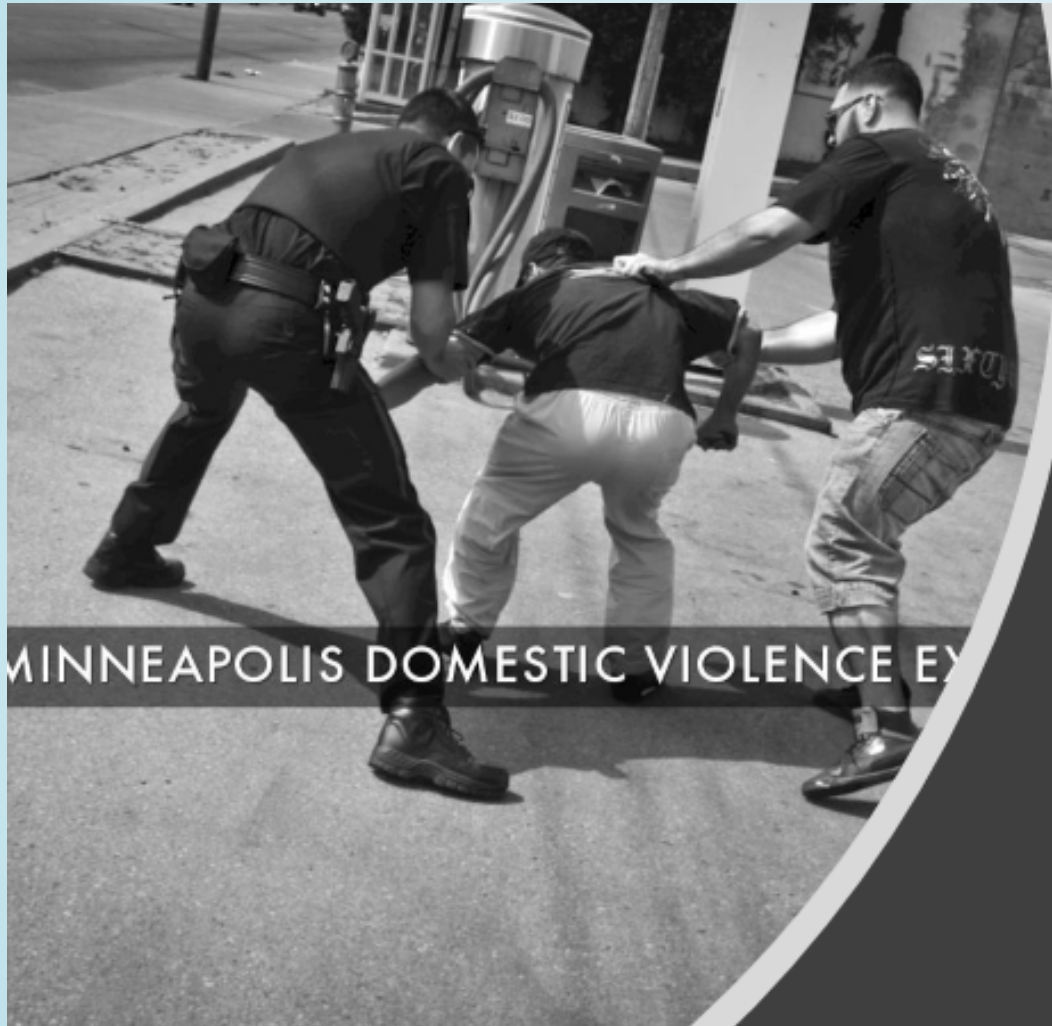


CHAPTER 2 - THE PROCESS AND PROBLEMS OF CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH

MINNEAPOLIS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EXPERIMENT



The Impact of
Arrest on
Domestic
Violence:

(image: Cornell University)

Research Abstract

THE PROCESS AND PROBLEMS OF CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH

CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- This is a question about some aspect of crime or deviance that the researcher seeks to answer through the **collection** and **analysis** of firsthand, verifiable, empirical data.

THE PROCESS AND PROBLEMS OF CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH

HOW DO WE GET THERE?



(image: giphy.com)

THE PROCESS AND PROBLEMS OF CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH

IDENTIFY A QUESTION

- Personal
- Vicarious
- Theory
- Request for Proposals
- Sometimes, we also just need to replicate a study
 - Why?

THE PROCESS AND PROBLEMS OF CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Let's think of some questions!

THE PROCESS AND PROBLEMS OF CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH

REFINE THE QUESTION

- Read
- Develop a list
- Read
- Narrow your list
- Read
- Repeat

THE PROCESS AND PROBLEMS OF CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH

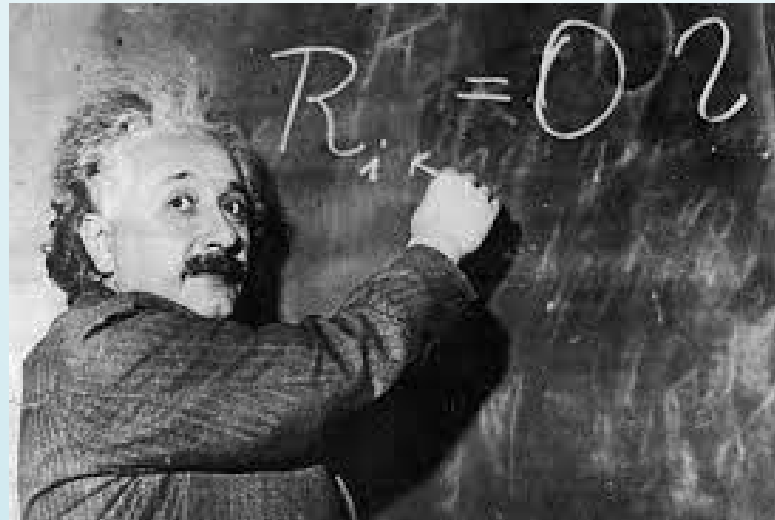
EVALUATING THE QUESTION

- Feasibility
- Social Importance
- Scientific Relevance

THE ROLE OF CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY

WHAT IS A THEORY?

- It's a logical interrelated set of propositions about empirical reality.
- What are the elements of a theory?



(image: Wired UK)

THE ROLE OF CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY

Are you familiar with any theories about criminal or deviant behavior?



(image: Swoop Analytics)

THE ROLE OF CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY

DETERRENCE THEORY

Cesare Beccaria

People are at least marginally rational; they weigh the expected costs and benefits of their actions.



(image: New World Encyclopeedia)

THE ROLE OF CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY

LABELING THEORY

Frank Tannenbaum

Distinguishes between **primary** (the act of individuals that lead to public sanction) and **secondary** (the deviance that occurs in response to the public sanction) deviance.

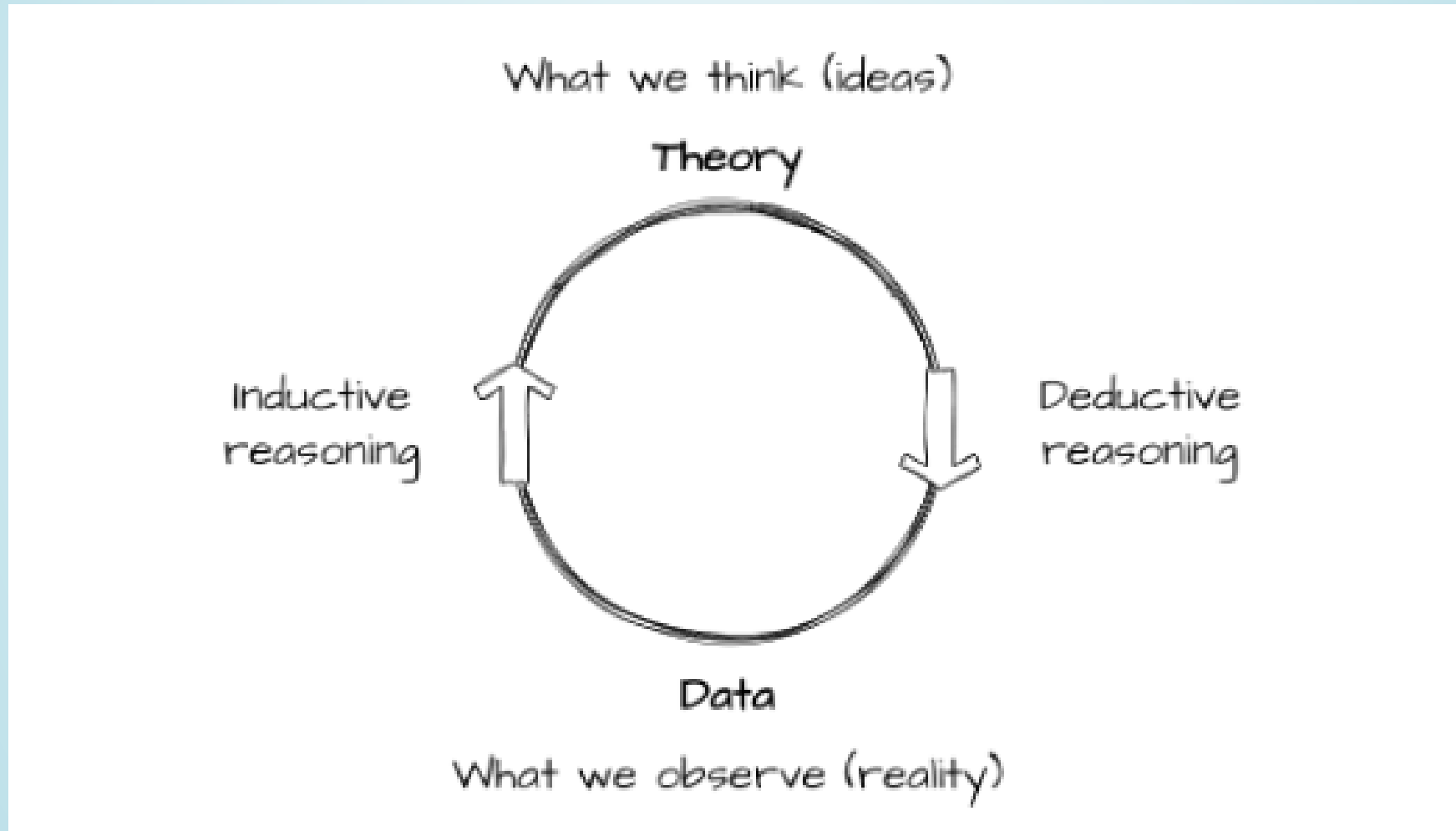


RECAP

- How do we answer criminological research questions?
- What are the elements of a theory?
- What theories did we discuss?

SOCIAL RESEARCH STRATEGIES

The 'research wheel'



(image: Justin Nix's Lecture 2)

MNEMONIC DEVICES



(image: Psych Central)

SOCIAL RESEARCH STRATEGIES

VARIABLES

A **variable** is a characteristic or property that can **vary** (e.g., eye color, age, height, general happiness, etc.).

Two Types

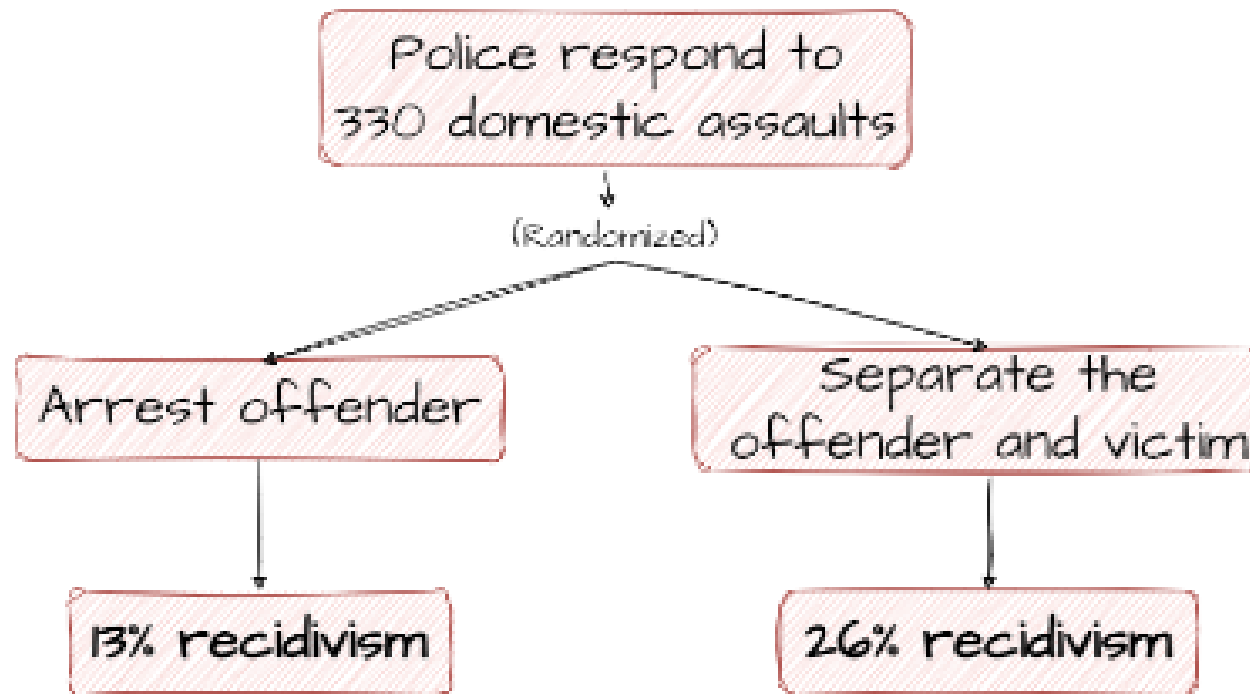
- **Independent Variable**
 - The characteristic that **influences**
- **Dependent Variable**
 - The **outcome** that changes

CASE STUDY

UNO'S HYPOTHETICAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EXPERIMENT

CASE STUDY

PHASE 1: DEDUCTIVE REASONING



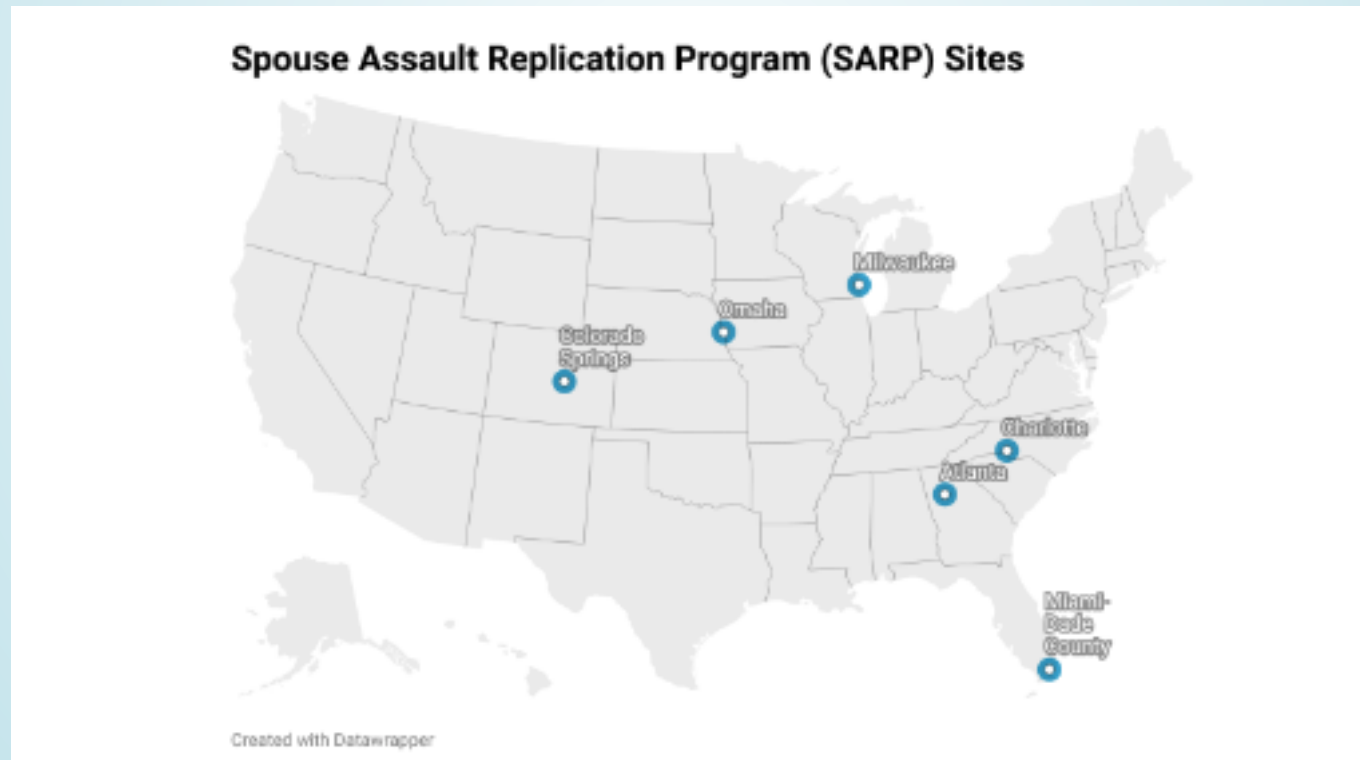
Sherman & Berk (1984)

(image: Justin Nix's Lecture 2)

CASE STUDY

PHASE 2: DEDUCTIVE REASONING

- We need to **replicate**!

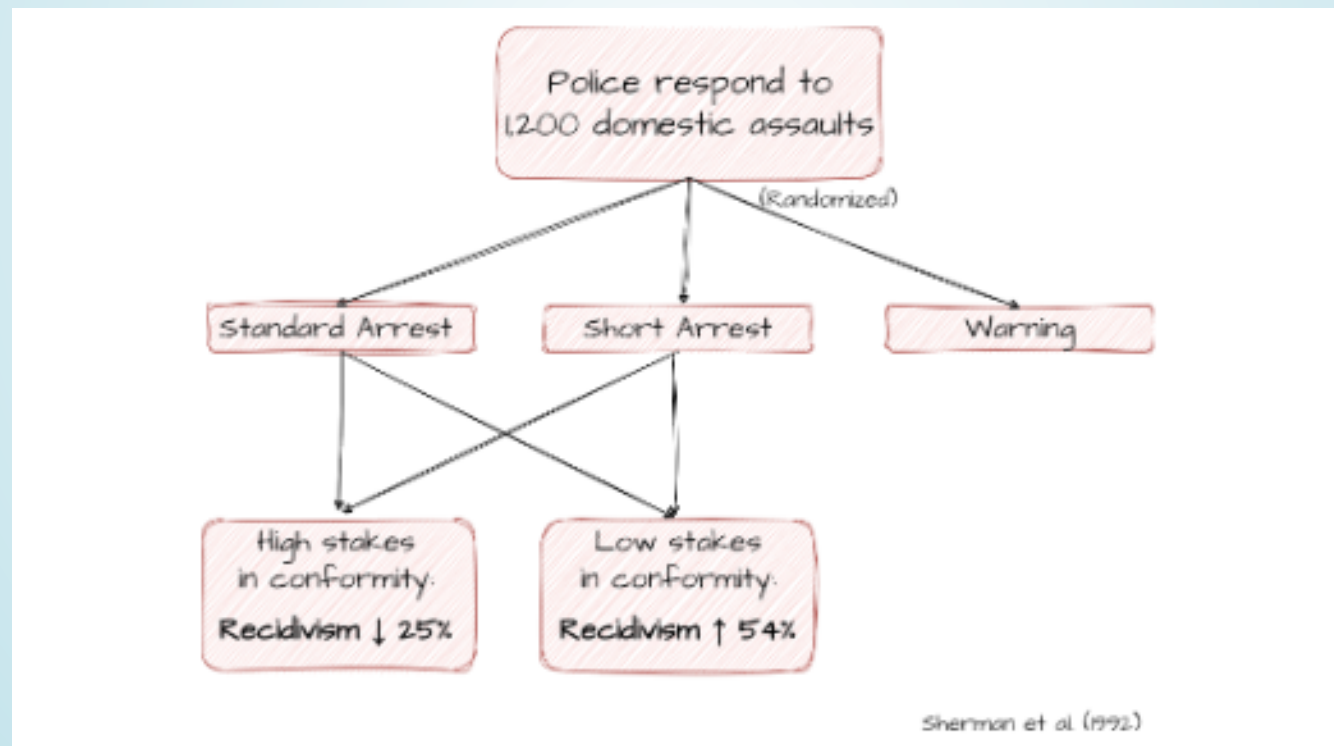


(image: Justin Nix's Lecture 2)

CASE STUDY

PHASE 3: INDUCTIVE REASONING

What do you think might explain why the replication studies were so inconsistent?



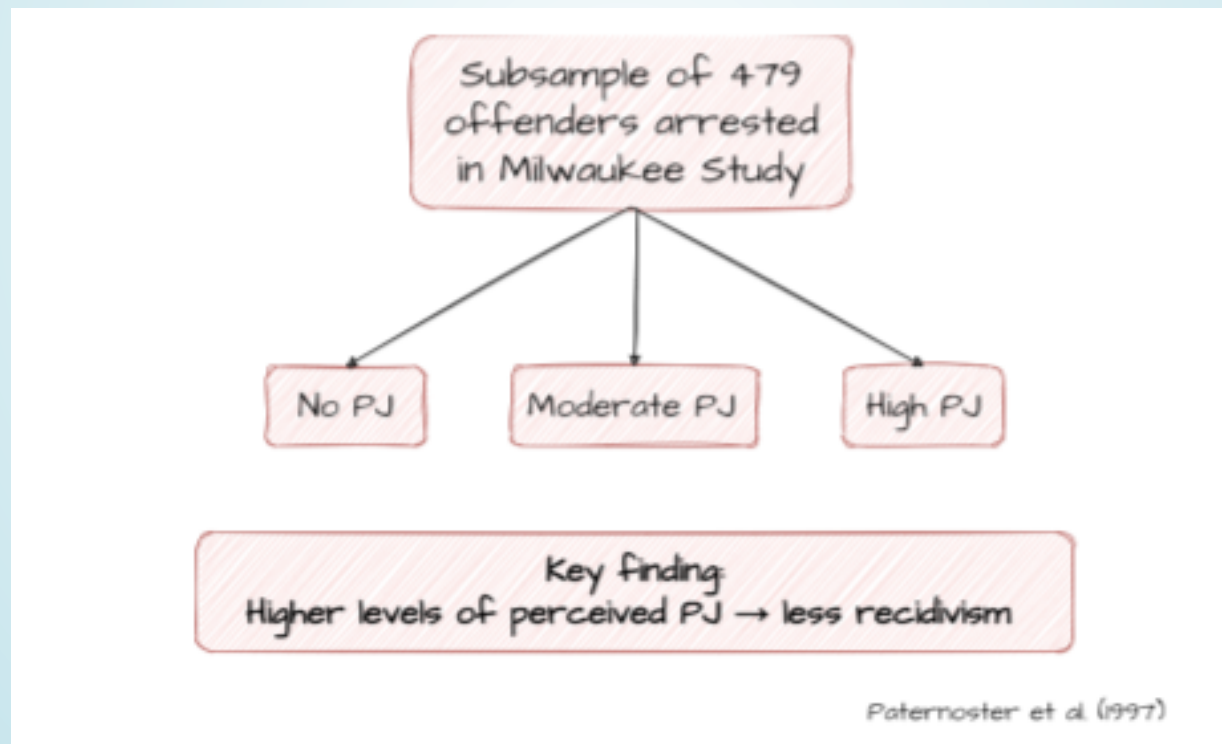
(image: Justin Nix's Lecture 2)

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE WE BEEN
AROUND THE RESEARCH WHEEL?
WHAT DID WE FIND OUT?

CASE STUDY

PHASE 4: DEDUCTIVE REASONING AGAIN

Ray Paternoster and colleagues (1997) reexamined the Milwaukee data to test procedural justice theory.

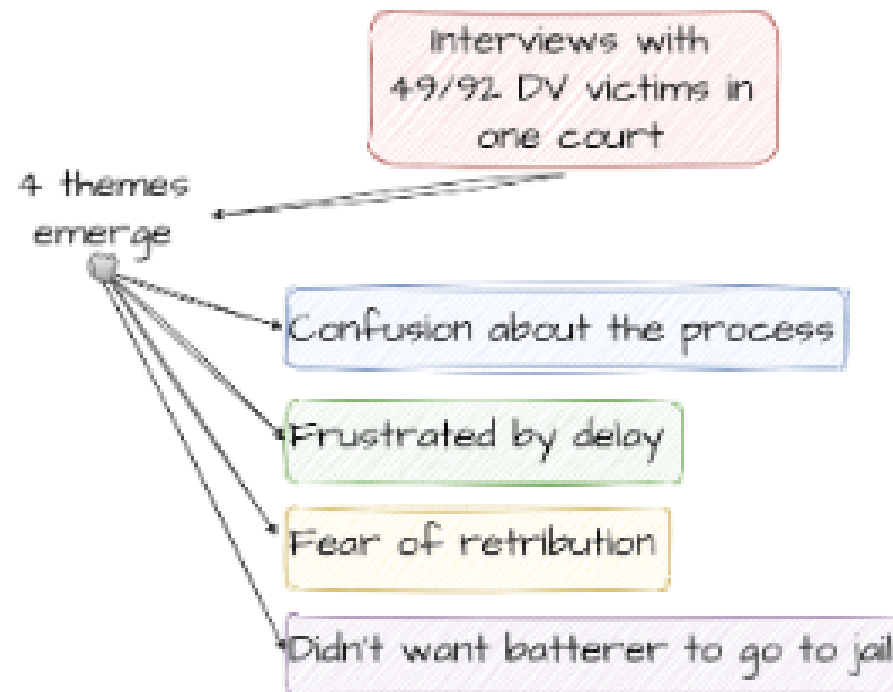


(image: Justin Nix's Lecture 2)

EXPLORATORY RESEARCH

WHY DO VICTIMS NOT PRESS CHARGES?

Why do victims often choose not to press charges?



Bennett et al (1999)

(image: Justin Nix's Lecture 2)

GUIDELINES FOR CRIMINOLOGIST

- 1.) Test ideas against empirical reality without becoming too invested in an outcome.
- 2.) Plan and carry out investigations systematically.
- 3.) Document all procedures and disclose them publicly.
- 4.) Clarify assumptions.
- 5.) Define your terms.
- 6.) Maintain a skeptical stance.
- 7.) Replicate research and accumulate knowledge.
- 8.) Maintain interest in theory.
- 9.) Search regularities or patterns.

HAVE A GOOD DAY!

AND STAY SKEPTICAL



(image: giphy.com)

