

Current evolutionary and anthropological perspectives

Ethnographic Evidence: Third-Party Punishers Often Rare

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 - They further report: “We document rare instances of third-party punishment... (6.6% of offenses)” among the Kiowa.

- From Singh & Garfield (2022): “Across a sample of 444 transgressions [among Mentawi] we find no evidence of direct third-party punishment.”

• And from Wiesner (2020), Enga customary courts: “Results show that... third-party punishment is rare; rather, third parties help with compensation to reintegrate wrongdoers and resolve conflicts.”

- The ethnographic trend:
 - Third parties often mediate.
 - Compensation is common.
 - Direct punitive third-party enforcement is infrequent.

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The Emerging Alternative: Dyadic Enforcement & Restoration

- Given the apparent rarity of third-party punishment in small-scale societies: