Criminal Careers in Transition: The Social Context of Desistance from Crime

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Abstract
Continuing previous work exploring why people stop offending, and the processes by which they are rehabilitated in the community, Criminal Careers in Transition: The Social Context of Desistance from Crime follows the completion of a fifth sweep of interviews with members of a cohort of former probationers interviewed since the late-1990s. The research undertaken since the inception of the project in 1996 has focused on developing a long-term evidence base, rather than a rapid assessment, examining whether (and how) probation supervision assists desistance from crime. Building on interviews from previous sweeps, the authors continue their exploration into the needs identified by probation officers and probationers, the extent to which these have been successfully met over the medium to long-term, and whether this suggests that probation helps probationers to desist. The authors argue that probation supervision did indeed help the probationers, but that this had taken a long time to ‘bear fruit’ and was related to other social and personal changes. There is discussion of a number of key topics, including sample members’ continued social and personal development (including the impact of parenthood on them) and their motivation to change and maintain a law-abiding lifestyle, as well as their experiences of dealing with the stigma of a criminal record and the long-term process of ‘remaking’ themselves. This core empirical research and analysis is framed by a comprehensive review of not only the contemporary literature on desistance and reoffending, but also what constitutes a successful and effective research design in this field. Whilst there have been several attempts to develop theories of desistance, few have attempted to understand and theorise the long-term impacts of probation supervision. Criminal Careers in Transition addresses this by building an account of the processes which help to shape the speed, nature, and direction of an individual's efforts to avoid further offending and, thus, develop a theory of assisted desistance. The book continues the authors' exploration of the emotional trajectories of crime, victimisation, and desistance and the role of citizenship values in pathways out of crime, as well as original research into the spatial dynamics of desistance.

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Describe the role of social context and developmental changes in promoting these positive changes. Compare the effects of sanctions and interventions in promoting these changes. Characteristics of Study Participants. If it is true that desistance from crime during the transition to adulthood is due, at least in part, to normative psychosocial maturation, then there should be a connection between patterns of offending and patterns of psychosocial growth. Juvenile offenders vary in their patterns of offending and their patterns of psychosocial development. Age, criminal careers, and population heterogeneity: Specification and estimation of a nonparametric, mixed Poisson model. Criminology 31:327–362. Piquero, A.R. 2007. Criminal Careers in Transition: The Social Context of Desistance from Crime. Book. Jan 2014. Gilly Sharpe. Ben Hunter. Adam Richard Calverley. Stephen Farrall. Finally, the habit of using illicit drugs impedes the social adaptation of former juvenile delinquents. In fact, drug use during adulthood is the best predictor of a continuing adult criminal career. Copyright © 1996 Whurr Publishers Ltd. View. Show abstract. Making Good: How Ex-Convicts Reform and Rebuild Their Lives. Article. Full-text available. In contemporary society, crime is a phenomenon most commonly studied in relation to certain types of offenders. Criminal offenders who are of particular interest to social scientists are sex offenders. Given that the unique characteristics of the criminal career of sex offenders are still largely unexplored, this poster will show results of the study conducted on criminal careers of Croatian sex offenders. The investigation was conducted on a sample of 49 perpetrators of sex offenses who are either currently serving or have served their sentence in one of the maximum security prisons in Croatia.