Promoting the Growth of Comparative Criminology/Criminal Justice/Victimology (prison) research in the Balkans: Establishing an operational framework

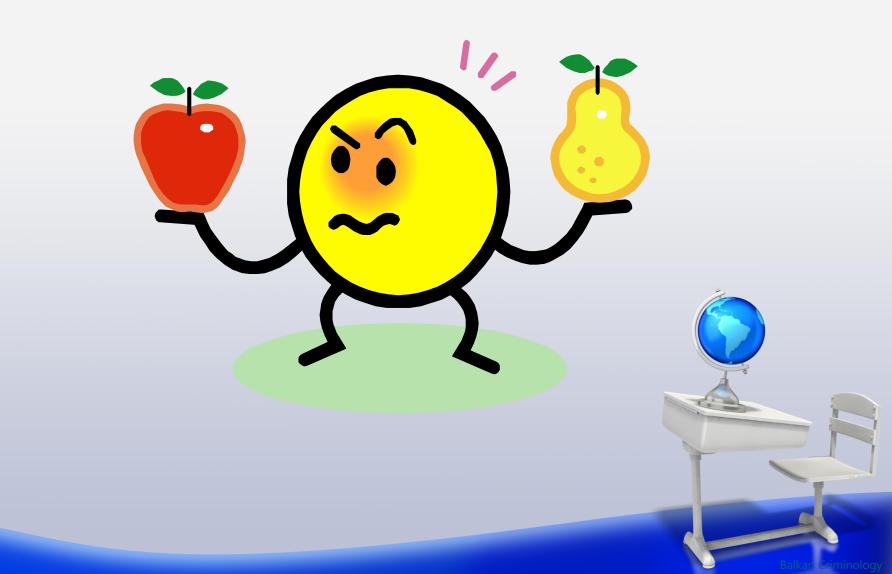
"Balkan Criminology: One-week Intensive Course" Oct. 22-27/17 - Dubrovnik, HR

By: Prof. John Winterdyk

A few quick questions – getting into the mood

- What are the some (main) aims of research?
- What are some of the aims of comparative research (CR)?
- What two key things should CR being trying to do?
- What are the practical benefits of comparative effectiveness research?
- What should be key to your comparative research design?

•"The art of comparing"



•Endless # of topics

- Solitary confinement
- Conjugal visits
- Intermittent sentences
- Death penalty
- Elderly victims
- Victims of human trafficking and support
- Alternative measures
- Prosecutors and defence attorneys
- Common law vs. civil law
- Types of defence insanity, emotional distress, etc.

•Four outcomes of the lecture

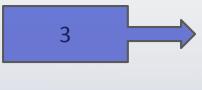
Upon finishing, learners will be able to ...



Describe and discuss the merits and limitation of international comparative research



Recognize and articulate the merits of engaging in comparative CCJ research within a Balkan context



Identify and describe the major typologies for conduction comparative CCJ research

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Recognize and articulate key advantages and/or limitations when engaging in comparative CCJ research

Students often come to comparative CJ courses knowing little of their own country, but they almost invariably come knowing even less of the rest of the world - D. Bracey '97:13

Brief history

- Older than most recognize
- Cultural anthropology late 1800s
- House et al.: '04 "a set of parameters of collectives that differentiate the collectives from each other in meaningful ways."
- What forces shape national culture:
 - Ecological forces
 - History
 - Language
 - Wars
 - Religions...in turn, influence
 - Values, beliefs, norms and behavioural patterns



- Herdotus (495 BC) compared behaviours between different societies
- Classic D. Warwick and S. Osherson 1973 "Comparative research methods." Prentice-Hall.

International comparative research

- "...cross-national research is valuable even indispensable for establishing the generality of finding and the validity of interpretation from single-nation studies." Kohn '87:713
- What does it mean to you? Why are/might you be interested?
- Undertaken any related projects?
- The muted joy of inquiry
- Better integration of theory and methodology
- 'nut shell'
 - Similarities and differences between the unit(s) of example(s)
 - Youth justice systems; prison models; legal systems; etc.
 - Takes acct of socio-cultural settings

Two distinctive goals

- 1. testing the universality of a proposition (theory testing)
- 2. determine specifications of a proposition (theory construction)
- **!!!** Comparative BEST for determining *generalizability*
- crime and justice universal
- Caution importance of cultural context (universality vs. relativism)
 - Conceptual equivalence 1. dimension of universality (detention) definitional comparability (life is not life), 3. identifiability (mental deficiency)

General intention of comparative research

- Similarities and differences between UoA
 - Youth justice models (Winterdyk '16)
- ID aspects of the IV common across cultures
 - Social life vs. cultures
 - EU/non-EU vs. crime control
 - Economy and correctional practices
- CAUTIONS
 - Language, culture barriers
 - More costly, managing, & funding cross-cultural
 - More time consuming
 - Reliability and/or validity of data
 - Availability of data...uniformity
 - Sampling...convenience vs. probability....generalizability

Improve measurement and conceptualization.

Raise questions and stimulate theory building.

Balkans context

COMMON RESEARCH CONCERNS

- Research limited
- Limited process for sharing &/or dissemination
- Rich history but the aftermath the 3rd Balkan Wars '90s
- Certain brain drain
- Crime relative and evolutive
- Priorities
 - Conventional vs. nonconventional

COMMON CCJ CONCERNS

- Transnational diverse and emerging
- Non-conventional response mechanisms
- Cooperation and collaboration
- Minimum UN standards
 - Treatment of prisons
 - Treatment of ethnic minorities
 - Alternative measures
 - Crime prevention

Four types of comparative research designs

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- Culture-context
- Study themes or issues in cultural context...explain similarities/differ ences re how different cultures deal with matters
 - E.g., how/why
 different social,
 political, and
 economic
 variables affect
 differential
 responses

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 E.g., outcome not countries per se **Cross-national**

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- How grps of nations compare & contrast on one or more unique variables –
- E.g., crime rates, victimization, social inequality, political corruption, etc.

- Transnational
- Multi-national unit
- Focus on key issues/themes among blocs of nations
- Globalization perspective
- Possible within international context
- E.g., analysis of the capitalist world-system re crime control ; countries with juvenile welfare models

- Case study
- most common
- Countries as 'object' of study
- Generalization restricted to UofA
- E.g., how ICTR compare to ICTY; policing in SA vs. USA; economic crime case in Croatia (INB?)

Balkan Criminology

- Culture comparison –oldest
- G. Tarde Italian vs. French criminology (late 1800s)
- C. Lombroso male/female offenders Italy vs Germany
- Cross-national
- homicide --- CDN and income inequality (V. Sacco)
 - Croatia -- ?family 'unity'
 - Crime rates ---- Anglo countries (Farrington)
 - Juvenile justice systems (Winterdyk)
 - Correctional practices (Winterdyk, Walmsley....)
- Transnational....'hot topic'
 - Human trafficking, cybercrime, prison models, etc.
- Case study
 - Ivica Todoric Agrokor
 - Homicide...cybercrime, juvenile delinquency Croatia



Typology of studies of crime and justice

Analytic Analytic multination quantitative longitudinal	APPROACH➢ Description➢ Analytic	SCOPE → National → multination	DATA → Qualitative → quantitative	DESIGN → Cross-sectional → longitudinal
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Historical - anthropological (van Dijk's ICVS) Political – e.g., how legal system impacted by politics (R. Terrill '12) Descriptive – institutional-structural approach Socio-philosophical – trying to understand a society's (lack of) consensus regarding crime (e.g., youth crime, human trafficking, policing) Analytical-problems – challenging – testing theory/concepts within comparative context (communitybased policing)

•Putting the process together...

Area 6 – 'other notable features

Area 5 – Comparative approach

> Area 4 – Methodological features

Area 1 – articles – P/S/T

> Area 2– Typology

Area 3 – Approach

A few sources:

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Minkov, M. (G. Hofstede) (2013) *Cross-Cultural Analysis: The Science and Art of Comparing the World's Modern Societies and Their Cultures.* SAGE.

Winterdyk, J., Reichel, P, & Dammer, H. (eds.) (2009) *A* guided reader to research in comparative criminology/criminal justice. Brockmeyer, Bochum.

Warwick, D.P. & Osherson, S. (1973). *Comparative research methods*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.



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