

Pathways of Delinquency and Social Structure during Adolescence

Prof. Klaus Boers and Prof. Jost Reinecke

Institute of Criminology Public Seminar Series

Thursday 14th May 2009, 5.30pm
Seminar Room B3, Institute of Criminology,
Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA

The different pathways of delinquency and the explanation of their structural conditions are the major research topics of developmental and life-course criminology which have also strong implications for penal policy and crime prevention. These topics are the focal interest of the prospective panel study *Crime in the Modern City* which has been conducted annually since 2002 in Duisburg (Germany). The study is based on a Structural-Dynamic Model of delinquent development, which considers the dynamic interaction between etiological factors of the social structure and the impact of (formal) social control on delinquent behaviour during adolescence and early adulthood. The presentation focuses on the etiological aspects of the model using the first five panel waves of adolescents aged 13 to 17: (i) the existence of unobserved heterogeneity in self-reported delinquency rates is analysed by means of Generalized Growth Mixture Modelling techniques; (ii) the Structural-Dynamic Model is tested by estimating a combined Markov-/Growth-Curve Model to examine the relationships between distal structural components (social value orientations and bonds to socializing institutions), proximate individual characteristics (norm orientations), and the development of adolescent delinquent behaviour.

Klaus Boers and Jost Reinecke are co-directors of the Crime in the Modern City-study. Klaus Boers is Professor of Criminology and Director of the Institute of Penal Sciences at the Faculty of Law, University of Münster. Jost Reinecke is Professor of Quantitative Methods of Empirical Social Research at the Faculty of Sociology, University of Bielefeld.

This seminar is part of the IoC Public Seminar Series, and is open to all interested in attending.
If you wish to be added to the seminar mailing list, please contact: Joanne Garner, on:

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