



From Genes to Statistical Power: Thoughts on the Future of Criminological Research



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Institute of Criminology Public Seminar Series

Thursday 10th March 2016, 5.30pm Seminar Room B3, Institute of Criminology, Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA A drinks reception in the basement fover will follow this seminar for attendees

Behavioural science research—broadly speaking—is currently in the throes of a "crisis of confidence." The crisis began when loannidis (2005) famously claimed that, "Most published research findings are false." Yet, despite the upheaval in sister disciplines like psychology, the field of criminology has yet to confront the bleak reality facing it. This seminar will consider two ways in which the crisis of confidence has bearing on criminological research. Firstly, attention will be given to the level of statistical power observed in the average criminology study. Low statistical power raises the likelihood of a false-positive (read: "wrong") finding. Secondly, we will consider how biosocial criminology impacts the coming crisis of contemporary criminology.

J. C. Barnes is an Associate Professor in the School of Criminal Justice at the University of Cincinnati (United States). He is a biosocial criminologist whose research seeks to understand how genetic and environmental factors combine to impact criminological phenomena. Currently, he is writing a book titled 'Quantitative Genetics in Criminology'.

This seminar is free, and is open to all interested in attending, with no ticket required. If you wish to be added to the seminar mailing list, please contact: Joanne Garner, on: jf225@cam.ac.uk
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