



Long-Term Adverse Outcomes of School Bullying and Victimization

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Institute of Criminology Public Seminar Series

Thursday 29th November 2012, 5.30pm

Seminar Room B3, Institute of Criminology, Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, CB3 9DA

A drinks reception in the basement foyer will follow this seminar for attendees

In this seminar, the main results from a British Academy funded project directed by Dr Ttofi, in collaboration with Professors Farrington and Lösel, will be presented. The project is based on about 30 major prospective longitudinal studies and involved the investigation of early risk factors for the development of conduct problems, crime and violence through the life-course. Results from a series of inter-connected systematic reviews and meta-analyses will be presented supporting the significant link between school bullying (perpetration and victimization) and various adverse outcomes, such as violent and criminal offending, drug use, and depression in adult life. Based on the results of the adjusted effect sizes (i.e. after controlling for other major childhood risk factors) it will be argued that school bullying is a risk factor with a unique contribution to later outcomes, although this does not necessarily imply any causal or 'stepping stone' relationship. Bullying prevention programs (and other multiple component programs) may have the potential to interrupt this anti-social path and reduce subsequent health and drug-related problems. The last part of the seminar will present initial findings from an ongoing Jacobs Foundation project on protective factors that offer resiliency to youth against the detrimental effects of school bullying and victimization. This project is again based on coordinated research efforts across a number of prospective longitudinal studies. Implications arising from this project for future intervention initiatives will be discussed.

Dr Maria Ttofi is a Lecturer in Psychological Criminology at the Institute of Criminology, University of Cambridge. Her research interests fall under the areas of psychological and experimental criminology.