



Research Spotlight: Crime, Risk and Security

Criminology at Monash includes scholars with leading international reputations in risk and security. The research concentration in these areas translates into a strong and vibrant research culture, outstanding undergraduate teaching and a productive, dynamic and supportive post-graduate environment.

Security has become a major issue in crime control in recent decades. While security was once considered primarily an issue for international relations scholars engaged in the study of war and foreign policy the impact of globalization and the pursuit of various ‘wars on crime’ has seen the division between what were once considered external matters of security and internal matters of crime control diminish. Major shifts in crime governance have moved crime control from traditional post-crime approaches to more proactive and future focused strategies aimed at minimizing risk in pursuit of security. As a consequence security and risk are now a key focus of criminological attention. While risk and security are often presented as objective, our understanding of these concepts is highly politicised and shaped by prejudice and subjectivity which reflect and reproduce a range of hierarchical social, political and economic relationships domestically and globally.

Criminologists at Monash undertake cutting edge research in the areas of risk and security that is theoretically sophisticated, innovative and highly relevant to areas of pressing national and international concern. The discipline hosts two recipients of the Australian government’s prestigious Future Fellowship Award, Professor Sharon Pickering and Associate Professor Weber, both undertaking programs of research on border policing. Their jointly authored book *Globalization and Borders: Death at the Global Frontier* was awarded Australia’s most significant criminology publication award in 2013. The [Border Crossing Observatory](#) is the online repository of all border-related research undertaken by Monash Criminology and our national and international partners.

Criminologists at Monash have received multiple highly competitive Australian Research Council grants to investigate a host of risk and security related topics, amongst them, counter terrorism laws and policing, immigration and exploitive labour practices, deportation, regional security, and the gendered nature of border crossing and transnational law enforcement. Our risk and security research expertise includes the interrelated topics of borders, counter terrorism, state crime, transnational crime, irregular migration, human trafficking, risk and disability, and pre-crime. Some select examples of major publications on these topics include:

Pickering, S., & Ham, J. (2014). Hot Pants at the Border Sorting Sex Work from Trafficking. *British Journal of Criminology*, 54(1), 2
<http://bjc.oxfordjournals.org/content/54/1/2.short>

Pickering, S. and Ham, J. (Eds). (2014) *The Routledge Handbook on Crime and International Migration*

Segrave, M., Milivojevic, S., & Pickering, S. (2012). *Sex trafficking: International Context and Response* Routledge.

McCulloch, J., & Pickering, S. (Eds.). (2012). *Borders and Crime: Pre-crime, Mobility and Serious Harm in an Age of Globalization*. Palgrave Macmillan.

McCulloch, J., & Pickering, S. (2009). Pre-Crime and Counter-Terrorism Imagining Future Crime in the 'War on Terror'. *British Journal of Criminology*, 49(5), 628
<http://bjc.oxfordjournals.org/content/49/5/628.short>

Weber, L., & Bowling, B. (2008). Valiant beggars and global vagabonds Select, eject, immobilize. *Theoretical criminology*, 12(3), 355
<http://tcr.sagepub.com/content/12/3/355.short>

Pickering, S., McCulloch, J., & Wright-Neville, D. (2008). *Counter-terrorism Policing: Community, Cohesion and Security* Springer: New York.

Post-graduate research

Students with an honours degree in criminology or cognate discipline and who are interested in undertaking a higher degree research in a topic related to risk and security are invited to apply. A brief selection of current and completed research topics by post-graduates in the area of risk and security includes: *Supporting Victims of Human Trafficking: Examining the Design and Implementation of Victim Support Within Australia and the United Kingdom*, *Constructing Security: Examining the AFP International Mandate*, *The Securitisation of Migration and Refugee Women*, *Internal Immigration Control: Comparing Australia and Canada*. To enquire about higher degree opportunities please contact: Claire.Spivakovsky@monash.edu

Honours

Students who have completed a criminology major at Monash or similar outside of Monash and who have an interest in pursuing research on crime, risk and security are encouraged to undertake an honours year. For further information please contact Danielle.Tyson@monash.edu

Undergraduate Teaching

The Criminology major includes a third year capstone unit Crime, Risk and Security. This unit provides a theoretical background to the challenges facing contemporary criminology nationally and internationally, identifying and interrogating the narratives that make up the diverse perceptions of crime, the evolution of 'risk society', ideas of local and global security/insecurity and the impact this has on rights and liberties. It provides insights into contentious contemporary developments such as securitization of borders, counter-terrorism and surveillance. For further details see <http://www.monash.edu.au/pubs/2015handbooks/units/ATS3004.html>.