

## **Crime in New York City**

### **Work cited**

**Southall, Ashley. “*Crime in New York City Plunges to a Level Not Seen Since the 1950s.*” *The New York Times*, 2017. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/27/nyregion/new-york-city-crime-2017.html>.**

### **Summary**

The article carried out an analysis of the trend of crime in New York City. Ashley Southall asserts that there has been a tremendous reduction of crime rates to the level that has never been witnessed before. The article says that in 1990, there were 2,245 murders recorded by the law enforcement authorities. However, in 2017, there were only 286 cases of crime reported in New York City. The paper proceeds to say that crime has not reduced only in the murder categories but also in other groups of a felony. One of the reasons for the reduced crime rates in New York is the new approach to fighting crime that the law enforcement authorities have adopted. Moreover, the recent reforms in the police department have made the services effective and responsive to the security challenges in New York City.

### **Quotations**

“One of the results is that police officers are using deadly force less often. As of Dec. 20, police officers intentionally fired their service guns in 23 encounters, a record low, down from 37 in 2016. The Police Department said officers were relying more on stun guns, which were

used 491 times through November, compared with 474 times during the same period in 2016” (Southall n.p).

“It would have seemed unbelievable in 1990, when there were 2,245 killings in New York City, but as of Wednesday there have been just 286 in the city this year — the lowest since reliable records have been kept” (Southall n.p).

“The continued declines are a boon to Mr. de Blasio, a Democrat elected on promises of police reform — promises that prompted warnings of mayhem to come by his opponents in 2013” (Southall n.p).

### **Evaluation**

The source is essential for this study since it justifies the thesis that the reforms in the police sector have been helpful in helping to change crime in New York City. The behavior or the ineffectiveness of the police has always been blamed for the increase of crime in New York City. However, the article has ascertained that the changes in the approach to crime by the police, coupled with some structural changes in the force, have been reducing the rates of crime. In the second quotation, the article focuses on the decreased rates of crime in a year. An example is decreased killings to 286 in a year. The decrease is the lowest ever recorded in the history of New York City which explains the sudden trend in the crime rate. Finally, the third quotation provides an insight into the beneficial aspect for the decline. A politician, Mr. de Blasio, had been elected as a result of his promises focusing on police reforms which would eventually change the crime rate. Ultimately, the promises led to his opponents prompting increased mayhem which explains the different future in crime as opposed to the one promised by the leader.

## **Work cited**

**Chauhan, Preeti, et al. "Race/ethnic-specific homicide rates in New York City: Evaluating the impact of broken windows policing and crack cocaine markets." *Homicide Studies* 15.3 (2011): 268-290. Retrieved from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3275435/>**

## **Summary**

In this paper, the authors have extensively analyzed the changes in crime in New York City between 1990 and 1999, especially with regards to the policies and strategies that the law enforcement agencies had established. The paper has used data to determine that crime in New York took a racial pattern, and it was necessary to adopt the most appropriate approaches that would address the racial elements, while some of the approaches that the police used could be seen as racial profiling, but they are scientifically proven to have been highly effective.

## **Quotations**

“Hispanic homicides paralleled the drop in Black homicides; White homicides exhibited the least change. The current study also found that the factors associated with changes in homicides varied by race/ethnic group and generally lend further support to the crack cocaine hypothesis but not the broken windows hypothesis. Black homicide decline was associated with a decrease in cocaine consumption while Hispanic homicide decline was associated with a decrease in firearm availability” (Chauhan, Preeti, et al. n.p).

“First, theoretically, the goal of misdemeanor policing in enhancing order and control should be beneficial across race/ethnicity. However, theory diverges from practice and this type of policing

has been more directly targeted toward minority groups and disadvantaged communities” (Chauhan, Preeti, et al. n.p).

“Long-standing racial disparities exist in homicide victimization, particularly in metropolitan areas. For instance, in New York City (NYC), Blacks have been far more likely to be victims of homicide than Whites” (Chauhan, Preeti, et al. n.p).

### **Evaluation**

The source outlines some of the factors that influence security. The paper outlines some of the approaches that the New York City police have been using in recent years to improve their operations. The paper is useful in the determination of some of the causes of security challenges and the various approaches that may be used to improve the management of security in a region. The strategies that the New York policing authorities used were appropriate and consistent with the uniqueness of their circumstances. The second quotation explains the perception of the police fraternity towards different groups about crime. The police department tends to relate crime to the minority groups compared other groups such as the native high class. However, misdemeanor policing requires beneficial maintenance of order to all races and groups. Lastly, the third quotation explains that Blacks have become prone to victims of crime. The latter spells the victimization of Blacks in homicide especially in the urban areas such as New York City.

### **Work cited**

**Harcourt, Bernard E., and Jens Ludwig. "Broken windows: New evidence from New York City and a five-city social experiment." *The University of Chicago Law Review* (2006): 271-320. Retrieved from [https://www.jstor.org/stable/4495553?seq=10#metadata\\_info\\_tab\\_contents](https://www.jstor.org/stable/4495553?seq=10#metadata_info_tab_contents).**

## **Summary**

One of the methods that have been used to fight crime in America is the broken window theory. The paper have examined the broken windows theory with the primary aim of determining the level to which it has contributed to the fight against crime in New York. The authors have found that while there have been claims that the broken windows perpetuated racial discrimination, there is evidence to suggest that its application in New York City contributed massively to the improvement of security condition in the region.

## **Quotations**

"One broken window, if left unrepaired, attracts other broken windows. These progressively break down community standards and leave the community vulnerable to crime. In this way, disorder breeds crime: "Such an area is vulnerable to criminal invasion" (Harcourt et al. 281).

"In 1982, James Q. Wilson and George Kelling suggested in an influential article in the Atlantic Monthly that targeting minor disorder could help reduce more serious crime" (Harcourt et al. 3).

"More than twenty years later, the three most populous cities in the United States—New York, Chicago, and, most recently, Los Angeles—have all adopted at least some aspect of Wilson and Kelling's theory, primarily through more aggressive enforcement of minor misdemeanor laws" (Harcourt et al. 3).

## **Evaluation**

When there are changes in the trends of crime within a region, there are forces or factors that define the trends. In this case, the broken windows approach was effective in the fight against

crime in New York City. The source provides an analysis of the ways through which different groups respond to various policies. It makes it possible to determine the factors that contributed to the current security situation in New York City. Secondly, authors like George Kelling and James Wilson have suggested that if the focus would be turned to teaching the younger generation, then the same would help to curb crime in the future. The latter tries to provide a solution to changing the crime rate for a longer period of time in addition to guiding the minor ones. Finally, the last quotation explains that large cities such as New York among other have adopted the theory by George Kelling and James Wilson in their policies. The same has tremendously been of help. However, the laws implemented have experienced more aggressive enforcement than intended may be an attempt to increase the results over a short period.

### **Work cited**

**Messner, Steven F., et al. *"Policing, drugs, and the homicide decline in New York City in the 1990s."* Criminology 45.2 (2007): 385-414. Retrieved from [http://www.cmaxsports.com/ec228/\[Messner%20et%20al%202007\]%20Policing%20Drug%20Homicide%20Decline.pdf](http://www.cmaxsports.com/ec228/[Messner%20et%20al%202007]%20Policing%20Drug%20Homicide%20Decline.pdf).**

### **Summary**

The paper analyses the rapid decline of crime in New York City. In many cases, the decline of crime happens over a range of time, but in the case of New York City, the decline was very rapid, a fact that has brought attention on the security policies that were used in the state in the 1990s. Some scholars indicate that the general social changes in the region were responsible for the decline in the rates of crime in the region. The paper holds that the policin approaches that were developed by the law enforcement authorities led to the decline.

## **Quotations**

“Accordingly, the coefficient for misdemeanor arrests might of policing that was selectively adopted across precincts along with the intensive policing of the disorder. Research on the effectiveness of various forms of policing has revealed that the most successful innovations have been those that combine highly focused police efforts with “an expansion of the toolbox of policing beyond simple law enforcement” (Messner et al. 406).

“The decline in homicide levels in New York City over the course of the 1990s has been the source of intense scrutiny in the popular press and in the scholarly literature. The basic facts are well known. Levels of homicide fell abruptly and precipitously over a relatively short period of time” (Messner et al. 386).

“One of the most highly touted alternatives to the policing explanation involves changes in crack cocaine markets. Proponents of this position point to a temporal overlap between homicide trends and the spread of crack cocaine” (Messner et al. 387).

## **Evaluation**

The source confirms the policing approaches by the law enforcement authorities play an important role in determining the success of security policies in the region. The source supports the theory that the approach that law enforcement use in the fight against crime is critical in determining the extent to which they would affect crime rates. The source provides a background of crime in New York City and how crime has evolved in the Years. In the second source, explanation to the increased attention by the media on the crime rate in New York City is due to the high levels of the same. Crime levels have been the center of

focus for literature and the media which recoils to the trends hence the need to change the perception by the police department. The sources further ascertain that the levels have rapidly dropped over a short time frame. According to the third source, homicides increased when the crackdown on drug markets began to rise and eventually decline. Both policing as well as changes in activities related to drugs may have a significant contribution to the decrease in crime especially homicide in New York.



## Work Cited

- Chauhan, Preeti, et al. "Race/ethnic-specific homicide rates in New York City: Evaluating the impact of broken windows policing and crack cocaine markets." *Homicide Studies* 15.3 (2011): 268-290. Retrieved from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3275435/>.
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