

# Factors Related to Police Brutality and the effects on Minority Communities

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## HYPOTHESIS

Negative policing experiences by African Americans leads to less favorable attitudes.



Historically African Americans have faced many injustices and trauma at the hands of police, which results in fear and lack of trust. Nearly 1,000 police involved kills occur each year in the U.S. There is very little evidence of the cause of the social effects of police brutality because the effects of racial bias are only given attention whenever there is a high profile murder by police of an African American. Assimilation with the white majority population by the African American community has resulted in the rise of conservative political views whereby some claim there is no institutional racism. Lower income and inner city African Americans have a very different opinion about institutional racism and policing.

## PARTICIPANTS

- ❖ 34 Students
- ❖ 24 Women/10 Men
- ❖ 24 Seniors/8 Juniors/2 Sophomores
- ❖ Race
  - ❖ African American (N =28)
  - ❖ Multiracial (N= 3),
  - ❖ Latino (N =1),
  - ❖ Unanswered (N =1), and
  - ❖ One participant indicated their race as Other.
- ❖ Experience with police discrimination 8 yes; 24 no
- ❖ Known of someone who experienced police discrimination 15 yes; 19 no



## MEASURES

- ❖ Single item indicators regarding ever experienced or personally knew of an individual who experience discrimination by the police (yes/no)
- ❖ Police Satisfaction Scale (Wu, 2010)



## RESULTS

1. Prior experience with police discrimination is related to less satisfaction with the police:
  - ❖  $t(30) = -1.87, p = .07$ ; Not significant but close
2. Knowing someone who has experienced police discrimination is related to less satisfaction with the police:
  - ❖  $t(29) = 2.35, p = .026$ ; Significant!



## DISCUSSION

The results of this study suggest the following:

- ❖ Discrimination at the hands of the police was almost significantly associated with lowered satisfaction with the police
- ❖ Knowing someone who was discriminated against by the police was related to lowered satisfaction with police
- ❖ Few students experienced discrimination which many have impacted results

