Greater Manchester Combined Authority
Stronger and Safer Communities

Rosa Da Silva, BA (Hons) Sociology

Introduction

My role at GMCA was to be involved and support the Research and Strategy team, focusing on Police and Crime data. The Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) used, is a face-to-face victimization survey in which residents of households in England and Wales are asked about their experiences of a selected range of offences in the 12 months prior to the interview.

Crimes covered where vehicle-related thefts, burglary, other household theft, vandalism, bike theft, theft from the person, assault, wounding and robbery. The CSEW is a large nationally representative sample survey; this measure provides a substantial reflection of the true extent of crime experienced by the population residents

Objectives

The Purpose of this research was to explore victimisation of crime in relation to emotional impact and post-crime effects of crime in the Greater Manchester area. In doing this, I used a combination of data from The Crime survey of England and Wales 2007/8 and 2008/9 Nature of Crime Survey. In analysing regional datasets, the intended result is to inform the future design and delivery of effective services to prevent crime, react to crime, and support victims. Aiding the police and other partner services to tailor support to certain crimes and cohorts, in targeting most in need members of the Greater Manchester who have been victims of crime.

Method

Initially selecting 3 components of the online dataset from the ONS, relevant for our analysis. Variables utilized from the victim response data measured; seriousness of crime, type of emotional impact and degree of emotional impact 12 months prior to the interview. Excel was the main tool used in analysis throughout my internship. Transferring the online data and comprising new tables, configured of my selected variables. This data however, as measured annually came with several measure take across this time frame, then requiring averages to be calculated for each individual crime type.

Longevity of emotional impact is calculated from type of emotional response, as seen in Figure 1. This has translated from 9 different emotional categories, for analytical purpose in creating the graphs I organised these into long and short term. Short- term was comprised of anger, annoyance, shock, crying/tears. With Long-Term; fear, loss of confidence or feeling vulnerable, anxiety and panic attacks, difficulty sleeping, depression.

Emotional response had to be translated into a measurable scale to be compatible in excel, as figure didn't always sum to 100 as more than one response could be given by participant. Finally, when the original figures has been converted, cleaned and organised I used the Graph tool on Excel to produce Figure 1 and 2.

Results and Conclusions

Throughout the research project, is has been verified that there is a general trend in Greater Manchester that degree of emotional impact is linked to perceived seriousness of crime. Also figures not expected but which appeared in the data is the high emotional impact caused in burglary of all types, particularly high for theft from a dwelling. This is important as this reveals police need a more focused view on this cohort. With violence, as expected the highest emotional impact, with Domestic violence nearly 50% or participants were 'Very Much' emotionally effected, which in turn can contribute for sustained support and funding to services that cater to domestic/sexual/emotional violence victims.
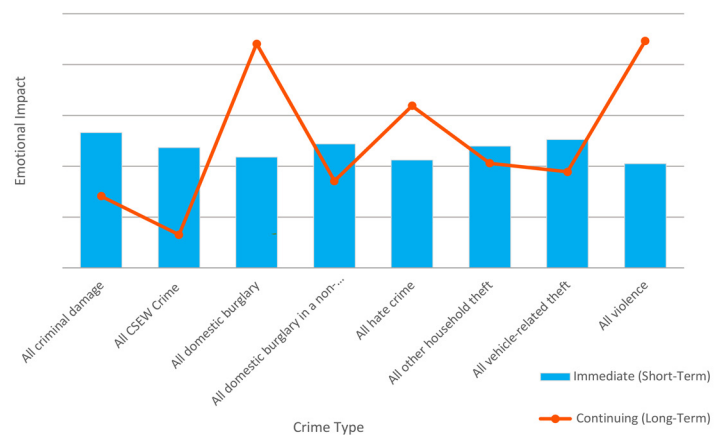

Figure 1 Longevity of emotional impact by averages of crime type.

The Long-term impact from crime, with a focus on certain types of crime highlights the demographic of the victims effected and in need of more catered and sustained support, that in turn can be used as a focus for post crime provision by police and accompanying victim services need to acknowledged. Within wider literature and research of victim's perceptions of crime, there is often support and advice wanted by victims and evidently a degree of unmet need. This data is essential and can be used as an empirical basis for policy formation to improve the lives of Greater Manchester residents.
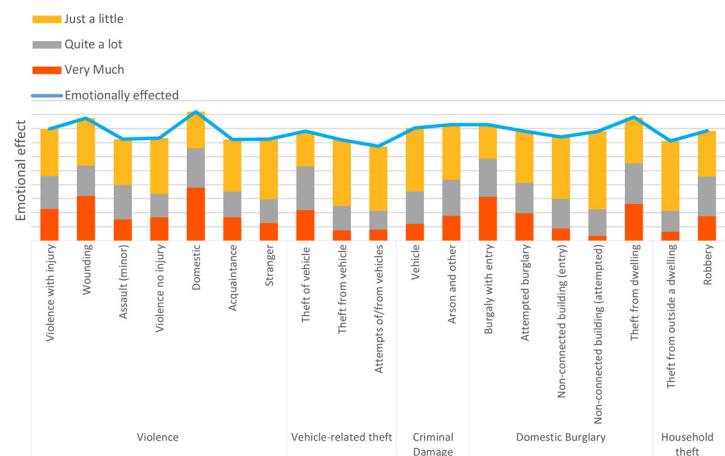

Figure 2 Degree of emotional effect

Key Skills Learnt

Sustained practical use and application of Excel has improved my skills and knowledge of this tool. Also completing a fully fledged research report, in this project and other that has been used in basis for GMCA policy making.

GMCA GREATER MANCHESTER COMBINED AUTHORITY

Contact
rosa.dasilva@student.manchester.ac.uk

Q-Step

A step-change in quantitative social science skills

Funded by the Nuffield Foundation, ESRC and HEFCE