

HISPANIC/LATINO(A)S FEAR OF CRIME IN COMPARISON TO WHITE MALES  
AND FEMALES

by

Karina Alexandra Grajeda, B.S.

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Committee Members:

Scott W. Bowman, Chair

Sean P. Roche, Co-Chair

Bob E. Vasquez

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## **DEDICATION**

To the minority students that have felt as if they do not belong in higher education, this  
one is dedicated to show you; you do belong.

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I would like to thank all those whose assistance and patience proved invaluable in this process, especially to my committee, who believed in me. As they guided and gave me constant reassurance while overcoming my insecurities. Dr. Bowman, thank you for always remaining blunt and direct I needed that. Dr. Roche, thank you for allowing me to come to your office and continuously walking me through all the minor things that I felt were major. Dr. Vasquez, thank you for keeping in contact with me, meeting with me when I had any questions, and guiding me through all the statistics. To my parents, who encouraged me every step of the way. My friends, Aimee, Ranisha, Vincent, and Jose who stood by my side. I could not have done it without you four. Thank you for never letting me give up, even when I thought I was not capable of completing this thesis. You all were right, Si se Puede!

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## **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this research was to examine if the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population expressed higher levels of fear of crime in comparison to their Non-Hispanic (White) counterparts. A total of 488 Hispanic/Latino(a)s and Non-Hispanic (White) participants were self-selected to participate in this study. The independent measures include education, past victimization, neighborhood incivilities, perceived informal social control, race/ethnicity, and gender. The only dependent measure used in this study was fear of crime. Results indicated that Hispanic/Latinos(a), neighborhood incivilities, and gender were significant predictors of fear of crime. Vulnerability theory was used in tandem to explain why fear of crime occurs within the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population.

*Keywords: Race, ethnicity, fear of crime, gender, Hispanics, Latinos*

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

### **Background**

Most scholarly research on fear of crime conducted in the United States has focused on perceptions of Blacks and Whites (Madriz, 1997; Quillian & Pager, 2001; Ramirez, 2015; Skogan, 1995; Wyant, 2008). For example, research has indicated that Blacks are exposed to higher levels of crime and, therefore, report having higher levels of fear of crime than their White counterparts (Garofalo, 1979; Skogan & Maxfield, 1981). Only recently, there has been literature regarding fear of crime within the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population (Luo & Zhao, 2017), demonstrating that Hispanic/Latinos(a) tend to experience increased levels of fear of crime when in comparison to their Black and White counterparts (Eitle & Taylor, 2008).

However, having a reduced amount of information on this topic raises some concern, as the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population is projected to become the largest minority group in the United States over the next few years (Gallo et al., 2014). For example, Mexico currently accounts for the largest group of immigrants residing in the United States, including those individuals that are either legal or illegal (Hoefer et al., 2012). As of 2015, they have accounted for 3.3 million legal and 6.6 million illegal Hispanic/Latino(a)s residents (United States Department of Homeland Security, 2018). As the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population continues to expand in the United States, it is yet to be extensively researched and fully understood. Problematically, the lack of research devoted to this specific population might assume that fear of crime is homogeneous to different, non-White minorities, such as the Black community (Parker et al., 1993).

Prior research has also considerably been focused on the relationship gender has on fear of crime (Fox, Nobles, & Piquero, 2009). Overwhelmingly, research on the relationship between gender and fear of crime has indicated a significant difference in how fear of crime is affected (Fox, Nobles, & Piquero, 2009). Scholars have recognized the paradox regarding the correlation between women and their perceived risk of becoming victimized (Fox, Nobles, & Piquero, 2009), where males are ironically more likely to be victimized than females (Fisher, 1995; Jennings et al., 2007; Warr, 2000). This is explained according to the activities males tend to surround themselves in when out in public, as well as male over-representation in most all criminal activities. Females' fears are impacted by the shadow of sexual assault hypothesis established by Ferraro (1996) to explain the overwhelming fear of sexual assault. Although this explanation is directed towards women, it is not limited solely to women, as men can vicariously experience the same fear (Lane & Meeker, 2004).

This study aims to address a gap in the literature regarding the differences between Hispanic/Latino(a)s and White males and females in their perceptions of fear of crime. Specifically, this study sought to examine the differences between gender, race/ethnicity, and fear of crime to contribute to the low quantity of literature and further the understanding of different ethnicity.

### **Research Design**

The proposed research is using secondary data analysis from the East Austin Community Survey (EACS) data set. The study design was primarily a paper survey. This survey was approached in a face-to-face scenario to increase the chances for higher levels of data collection. As we knew, the targeted population was Hispanic/Latino(a)s.

The survey was created in both English and Spanish to accommodate language-diverse participants.

Further, the same survey was made into an online survey for students at ACC/Riverside campus (in both languages) to partake. An email was sent to students at ACC/Riverside to expand the number of responses the study could receive. This decision was made to exhaust all feasible possibilities to reach maximum participation. The survey consisted of 88 questions regarding police legitimacy, police use of force, police procedural justice, police misconduct, fear of crime, perceptions of neighborhood incivilities, and personal demographics. This study only focuses on questions regarding fear of crime, education, neighborhood incivilities, perceived informal social control, gender, and race/ethnicity. This study does not intend to use this information for training purposes, but rather expand the growing body of literature of fear of crime with this population.

### **Research Question and Hypotheses**

Backed by vulnerability theory, this study's main research question goes as followed: *Is fear of crime experienced at a higher level by Hispanic/Latinos(a) than White males and females?* This research question produced four hypotheses and they are as followed:

- (1) Women will have higher fear of crime than men;
- 2) Hispanic/Latino(a)s will have higher fear of crime than Whites;
- (3) Hispanic women will have higher fear of crime than White women;
- (4) Hispanic men will have higher fear of crime than White men.

The following chapters will include an overview of existing literature, methodology section, discussion of the results, conclusions, limitations, and future directions for research.

## **II. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Theoretical Framework**

Consistent with prior research, vulnerability theory has been a large part of the literature by explaining why fear of crime occurs (Hale, 1996; Radar et al., 2012). The theory states that individuals who tend to experience the most anxiety or the inability to protect themselves from crime if it presented itself potentially, are also expected to be more fearful of crime and others around them (Hale, 1996). In literature, vulnerability is separated and categorized into two groups — social and physical vulnerability (Skogan & Maxfield, 1981). Physical vulnerability is explained as physical characteristics that would make an individual perceive themselves as more vulnerable, such as gender and age (Radar et al., 2012).

Women and the elderly are physically vulnerable because they may be, or believe themselves to be, physically less able to defend themselves from an offender (Radar et al., 2012). Nevertheless, research suggests females are far less likely to be victimized than men (Nellis, 2009). For example, in 2014-2015, 2.6% of men were victimized to violent crimes in comparison to 1.4% of women (Rossetti et al., 2017). These findings are found to be true throughout distinct forms of victimization (Pryor & Hughes, 2013). Furthermore, the same paradox occurs within the elderly community, although crimes committed against elders (compared to any other age group) are far less likely to be victimized (Bernat, Aleman, & Gitelson, 2003; Craig, 2003). Even though this may counteract the high levels of reports towards fear of crime elders project, it is still known

their younger populations continue to run a higher risk of victimization (Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2005; Iutovich & Cox, 1990).

The same feeling of fear among women is also described as psychological and is self-perceived that they are weaker than men, and the odds of them protecting themselves is inadequate (Killias & Clerici, 2000; Smith & Torstensson, 1997). Although, as the nation evolves and modernizes itself, feminist activists have taken this opportunity to continue to lead a significant improvement in how women are involved and viewed in society (Inglehart & Norris, 2003; Lo, Ash-Houchen & Gerling, 2017). Feminist activists have led empowering protests regarding the victim-blaming and “slut-shaming” of other female victims (Carr, 2013), implying to females around the world to refute the belief that women should be made to feel vulnerable (Cole, 2018).

On the other hand, social vulnerability is prominently categorized within a race and socioeconomic status (Radar, Crossman & Porter, 2012; Scarborough, Like-Haislip, Novak, Lucas, & Alarid, 2010). Studies show that individuals that come from a lower class-status are more fearful of crime than those that come from a middle or upper class (McKee & Milner, 2000; Pantazis, 2000). Minorities are also believed to be more vulnerable and run a higher risk of becoming a potential victim of a crime (Radar et al., 2012). Regarding racial composition, minorities are generally prone to higher crime interactions because they have fewer resources than their more affluent counterparts. Skogan (1986) reported that without proper maintenance of neighborhoods, or buildings could cause a collapse in the neighborhood fluidity.

Additionally, the fear of being victimized can prove to be a dreadful thought to carry around in one's day-to-day life, making many Americans change their routine(s) due to fear. That fear may lead them to avoid strangers, stay off the streets or locations that are unknown to them, and purchase firearms to enhance their safety (Clemente & Kleiman, 1977). A haunting feeling that at any moment a stranger could unexpectedly be attacked, robbed, assaulted, murdered, or for many women's cases being raped, goes beyond the basic feeling of anxiety (Box, Hale, & Andrews, 1988).

Ultimately, the topic of fear of crime will always be a topic of interest and has yet to hold a specific study to answer all questions regarding the topic. As researchers have long before stated new research as time evolves will always want to know more, and test new hypotheses (Garofalo, 1981). This occurs due to the extensive amounts of questions used to measure fear of crime that researchers discover (Ferraro, 1995). Some of the fear of crime questions used in previous literature include questions of fear at night, during the day, at home, or in their neighborhood (Warr, 2000). Other researchers have taken a different approach by asking participants their fear in general or specific offenses; some of these offenses included violent crimes, property crime, and public order offenses (Warr & Stafford, 1983). Indicating that fear was attached to prevalent crimes and the likelihood that it could happen (Warr, 2000), as fear is an internalized reflection of their vulnerability to crime around them (Skogan, 1995).

### **Fear of crime**

Researchers through the years have given simplistic definitions, others have given more extensive and complicated definitions of what they believe the fear of crime means



(Henson & Reyns, 2015). For example, Garofalo (1981) defined fear of crime by breaking the concept down into two separate definitions, starting with fear and defined as an emotional reaction marked by an individual's sense of danger and anxiety. He defined crime as the actual act of criminal activity taking place (Garofalo, 1981). Additionally, constituting that fear of crime came from perceived environmental cues that the specific person attached to their personal views on crime (Garofalo, 1981).

On the other hand, Ferraro and LaGrange (1987) later defined fear of crime as a negative emotion due to reactions caused by the crime itself, or personal cues that the individual associates with a crime. Sacco (1993) has defined fear of crime as psychological distress, causing citizens to change their way of life, restricting themselves from social activities, and reducing their communication with the outside world. While War and colleagues (2015) defined fear of crime as a reflection perceived from danger or risk that people feel regarding their surroundings. Overall, making the task of defining fear of crime as a complicated task to achieve (Henson & Reyns, 2015).

## **Media**

Even though this study does not directly consider media consumption, it is still recognized that media is an influencer to citizen's perceptions of fear of crime. Media influences could include personal crimes or vicarious experiences. It has been argued that anyone who watches television, listens to the radio, or surfs the internet is exposed to criminal information (Pryce et al., 2018). The media is a primary source of information for the public (Skogan & Maxfield, 1981). Daily, the average adult spends around 5.9

hours online exposed to all form of media (Marvin, 2018). Cultivation theory suggests that higher exposure to media reports are correlated with higher anxiety, viewing the world as a “scary” place, and stronger punitive beliefs (Callanan & Rosenberger 2011; Gilliam & Iyengar 2000; Goidel et al., 2006; Kort-Butler & Sittner Hartshorn, 2011). The overdramatized reporting of offenders can potentially bring fear to communities and therefore makes perceptions of crime inaccurate (Shi, Roche & McKenna, 2019). The over broadcasted amount of media coverage, for the most part, tend to involve crimes correlating Non-Whites as the offenders (Dixon & Linz, 2000; Gilliam & Iyengar, 2000), and officials as incapable of establishing order (Beckett & Sasson, 2004). Citizens usually tend to have the misconception that crime is always on the rise (Roberts & Stalans, 1997), when in face crime in the U.S. has been decreasing or remained unchanged since the late 1990s (Shi et al., 2019).

Violent crimes include but are not limited to burglary, arson, larceny (Cauldwell, 2012). Although 1.2 million appears to be a terrifying number of violent crimes has decreased by 6% since 2009 (U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2010). Additionally, the NCVS data set from 2010 stated to have findings of a decrease in violent crimes since the early 1990s (Cauldwell, 2012). The data showed a decrease in violent crimes from 49.9 per 100 people in ages ranging from 12 and older, to 14.9 per 100 people in ages 12 and older in 2010 (Cauldwell, 2012). This decline proved to show a 70% decrease in seven years (Truman, 2011). Once again, the media-based presentation of crime is deceiving and tends to give citizens the misconception that crime is still and will always be on the rise when the contrary has occurred.

## **Gender**

Studies of fear of crime have frequently focused on the demographic attributes of an individual and how that plays a role in perceptions of fear of crime (Pleggenkuhle & Schafer, 2018). Within the studies of fear of crime, gender has been the most consistent indicator of why fear of crime occurs at a higher rate within women than men (Covington & Taylor, 1991; De Donder, Verté, & Messelis, 2005; Cops & Pleysier, 2011; Zhao, Lawton, & Longmire, 2015). This gender difference appears to be especially pronounced among adolescent and the young adult populations (Cicirelli, 1998; Henrie & Patrick, 2014), and although this effect has been widely observed and documented, researchers have struggled to explain it (Ensbaugh & Henninger, 2013; Templer, 1991). With the distinguishable difference between men and women when it comes to perceptions of fear, it has been shown to hold true across race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, time, and place (Hale, 1996).

Fear has been explained as a response in time, of having contact with criminal events, either directly or vicariously (Lewis & Salem, 1986). However, although men may encounter with more situations of personally being criminally victimized, women are known to hold the “sexual assault hypothesis” (Ferraro, 1995). The sexual assault hypothesis (Ferraro, 1995, 1996) argues that in face-to-face confrontations with a potential offender, women fear that a rape may occur. This fear “shadows” their fear of other forms of personal victimization that may not involve an actual or attempted rape or sexual assault. Women may experience the same intimate feeling of victimization from robbery or burglary occurring while the victim is at home (Fisher & Sloan, 2003). The

shadow of sexual assault helps provide a deeper understanding on the reasons why women are more fearful than men of being the victim of a potential crime.

Another possible explanation goes back to vulnerability theory, which explains why fear of crime within females occurs at a higher rate than males (Nellis, 2009). Vulnerability theory states that gender has been known to play a significant role in fear of crime. It states women and elders are known to feel higher levels of fear and feel they are less able to defend themselves from an offender if a crime presented itself (Radar et al., 2012). This occurs due to the psychological belief that they are weaker than men, and the odds of successfully escaping or protecting themselves from an offender is limited (Killias & Clerici, 2000; Smith & Torstensson, 1997). Women, by anatomy, are physically vulnerable (Mellgren & Ivert, 2019). Being physically weaker, women are therefore more susceptible to be targeted, and the consequences of victimization are higher than men. This feeling of vulnerability can cause heightened negative emotions in a woman's perceived daily lives and, therefore, can be a possible explanation for the fear that "shadow" women in their everyday lives. The vulnerability can be interpreted in two ways: objectively and subjectively (W. Smith, Torstensson, & Johansson, 2001). The objective interpretation indicated that owing to general disparities in height, weight, and muscle mass between men – who make up most offenders—and women, women are less able to defend themselves. However, it has been statistically demonstrated that females are less likely to be victimized compared to their male counterparts (Nellis, 2009).

Compared with men, women's higher fears reflects their location in a gender-orientated world (Stanko, 1995). According to this explanation, people's daily lives are strongly influenced by gender roles, and these gender roles might affect how women

imagine that they will act as a victim to a crime and the chances they will have to defend themselves (Hollander, 2001). Similarly, Rohe and Burby (1998) argue that women view themselves as less able to protect themselves, which causes them to experience higher levels of fear. The explanation is that women are socialized to be fearful and are, therefore, more open about it and tend to report it to a greater extent than men (Smith & Uchida, 1998).

One potential explanation for this occurring is females are socialized to fear victimization (Fox, Nobles, & Piquero, 2009; Kimmel, 2004; Rader & Hayes, 2011), while males are taught to be brave and suppress their fear (Goodey, 1997; Lane et al., 2014). In support of this hypothesis, Hollander (2001) found that, regardless of the environment, males were consistently perceived as threatening, whereas females were perceived as physically more vulnerable than their counterparts. On the other hand, Cook and Fox (2012) found that fear of physical harm was a more significant predictor of suspicion of home invasions, robbery, and murder from men and women than fear of sexual assault. Additionally, females are at a higher risk to become a victim of intimate partner violence, rape, and sexual assault (Lane et al., 2014). However, men have been found to underreport their anxiety due to social desirability and expectations of masculinity (Sutton, Robinson, & Farall, 2011).

Although men have been known to underreport their victimization and fear of crime (Pain, 1997; Valentine, 1992; Warr, 1990), this phenomenon has not withstood modern analysis. Researchers recently have found that gender identity has been identified as a predictor of fear of crime (Cops & Pleysier, 2011). For example, men who have identified with attitudes that are more feminine are also shown to be more fearful. In

contrast, women identifying with more masculine attitudes expressed to be less fearful (Pleggenkuhle & Schafer, 2018).

Households have also shown to be a contributor to fear of crime when it is applied to males and females who have children (Pleggenkuhle & Schafer, 2018). Individuals who have children are not only concerned for their own well-being, but they are also concerned for the dependents of who they are responsible for (Snedker 2006; Warr & Ellison, 2000). Although single mothers reported a higher level of fear of crime and vulnerability (Rader, 2008; Snedker, 2006). Women have also reported that being with a male reduces the anxiety of potential victimization because they see a male as a safety factor (Pleggenkuhle & Schafer, 2018). On the other hand, it has been shown heterosexual men who are married or with their significant other have an increased sensitivity to fear and risk (Pleggenkuhle & Schafer, 2018). While heterosexual men adopt the gender role, they may feel responsible for the safety of their female partners (Rader, 2012).

## **Education**

In addition to the main variables, there are other factors than can also possibly influence a person's perception towards fear of crime (Cauldwell, 2012). Regarding education, Keane (1992) found that those with higher education expressed to have higher levels of fear of crime, in specific fearful of property crimes than their less-educated counterparts (Cauldwell, 2012). Rountree (1998) found that those with wealthier characteristics were less fearful of being victimized. Those with less education were more fearful of their community than their wealthier counterparts (Cauldwell, 2012). One

possible explanation for this occurring is due to the belief that many have in believing the wealthier someone is, the safer they are going to be. Therefore, inferring that those of less wealth view crime at higher levels (Rountree, 1998). Nevertheless, there is limited research done to determine if education is a significant variable in predicting fear of crime.

### **Race and Fear of Crime**

There is the knowledge that perceptions of fear of crime are higher for Blacks compared to Whites (Ramirez, 2015), as Blacks are more likely to be encircled in environments that are surrounded with high rates of crime (Wilson, 2012). Around 62% of all Blacks in the United States live in highly segregated low socio-economic neighborhoods in comparison to the 15% of Whites (Krivo et al., 2009; Logan, Stults, & Farley, 2004), and index crimes are substantially more likely to occur for Blacks than any other racial group (Truman et al., 2010; Walker et al., 2011). Inside the Black community, criminal activity is impacted by the support of vandalism and gang activity (Johnson & Bowers, 2008; Skogan, 1990,1995). Evidence has suggested that Blacks are twice as likely as Whites to be concerned about crime happening around them in their life (Peffley & Hurwitz, 2010).

The majority of the time, Whites are residing exclusively in highly affluent, racially homogenous, or socially organized suburban neighborhoods. At the same time, Blacks and Hispanic/Latinos(a) are more likely to live in low socio-economic neighborhoods (Krivo et al., 2009). Although Blacks are exposed to higher volumes of

crime and experience higher levels of concern, Whites are still hesitant to live in neighborhoods where it is predominately Black (Quillian & Pager, 2001). Even though racial segregation between communities has declined slightly, it is known through history that Blacks and Whites tend to segregate to different neighborhoods (Reskin, 2012).

One possible explanation to the avoidance that Whites have towards integrated neighborhoods is not the hatred towards Blacks, but the perception and/or knowledge that Black neighborhoods on average tend to have a higher level of criminal activity, and that could potentially occur in their neighborhood (Liska & Bellair 1995; Wyant, 2008). Therefore, White individuals tend to view crime as a problem among Blacks or other racial/ethnicity minorities (Quillan & Pager, 2001), and will seek to live in neighborhoods with a high volume of Whites residing neighbors that show low levels of poverty (Charles, 2003; Quillian & Pager, 2001). Ultimately, suspecting that racial stereotypes linked to perceptions of fear of crime are heightened with the presence of neighbors that match the characteristic of the profile of a criminal (Quillian & Pager, 2001).

Although basing stereotypes simply due to an individual's race is disapproved by many it is still known to play a role in the way society views one another (Harris, 2012). Positive characteristics such as intelligence, beauty, and coming from a middle class are still correlated to being White. In contrast, negative traits such as gangs, lower class, and welfare recipients continue to be attached to being Black (Billings, 2004). Placing people into such categories and attaching specific attributes to them suggest to society that being White is normative, and everything else is not (Billings, 2004). Additionally, making it



difficult for minorities to move away from the unfortunate stigma that was placed on their race/ethnicity. However, associating criminal activity and negatively attaching stereotypes to a Black individual causes fear to increase, among others (Pickett, Chiricos, Golden & Gertz, 2012).

### **Ethnicity and Fear of Crime**

On the other hand, there is emerging research where citizens believe Hispanics/Latinos(a) are the new potential criminal threat, next to Blacks (Eitle & Taylor, 2008). The feeling is amplified in areas with a larger population of Hispanic/Latinos(a) rather than Blacks (Eitle & Taylor, 2008). It is known as Hispanic/Latino(a)s immigrants come to the United States in search of the American Dream and advancing beyond their past accomplishments (Alba, 2006). While most Americans have positive attitudes towards immigrants and believe that they strengthen the country through their hard work (Jones, 2019; Radford, 2019), others negatively connote immigrants with crime and violence. After facing negative attitudes from their peers Hispanics/Latinos(a) are also faced with obstacles such as lack of legal documents, the absence of economic or educational opportunities, language barriers, or racial and ethnic discrimination (Alba, 2006, p. 289), making Hispanic/Latinos(a) experience a higher level of fear of crime than Whites and Blacks (Eitle & Taylor, 2008).

Often Hispanic/Latinos(a) shape their views on what life in a new country will be like by the perceptions of those who have lived in the area (Menjivar and Bejarano, 2004). Even though recent years have brought a large amount of attention to anti-immigrant opinions of threats in the United States (Jacobs, Hooghe & Vroome, 2017),

and often portraying Hispanics/Latinos(a) negatively on television as “thugs” or member(s) of a drug cartel (Roman, 2000). Hispanic/Latinos(a) are the largest growing population and currently account for about 17% of the United States population (Hispanic Population Trends Project, 2014). When accounting for the growth the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population in the United States, it is perceived that many Hispanics/Latinos are adults and do not speak the native language and must adapt to their new home (Luo & Zhao, 2017). As the language barrier is a characteristic that many Hispanic/Latinos(a) find as a complication to their integration in the United States challenging (Miller & Gibson, 2011).

### **Victimization Influence on Race and Gender**

Victimization has known to cause an effect on the way citizens live their everyday lives. The clear separation between men and women's perception, when related to fear of crime and potential victimization, has been prevalent. Researchers have all agreed with victimization influences gender in specific women at a higher rate (Ferraro, 1995; Pain, 2001; Valentine, 1989). This is due to the belief women run a higher risk of personally being victimized, more specifically sexually assaulted than men are (Riger, Gordon, & Le Bailey, 1978; Stanko, 1990; Valentine, 1989; Warr, 1984).

Women's fear of victimization may cause them to modify their behavior and everyday life, resulting in reducing their interactions with others (Sacco, 1990; Valentine, 1989) and making reports by women to be experienced at twice the rate than men (Haynie, 1998). Even though this is true, this does not mean all men are fearless and all women fearful (Goodey, 1997; Warr, 1985). Males still report crimes; they tend to report them at a much lower rate than women.

Recent studies have indicated that the individuals' neighborhood characteristics mediate fear of crime and hold across all races and ethnicities (Chiricos et al., 1997; Covington & Taylor, 1991; Lane & Meeker, 2000; Liska, Lawrence, & Sanchirico, 1982; Pain, 2001; Parker, 1988). Although, there is always room for more research to is required regarding the relationship of fear of crime and ethnicity for clarification (Cook & Fox, 2011).

### **Victimization Influence on Fear of Crime**

With the knowledge of others' victimization experiences, it can later affect one's perception of fear of crime (Cook & Fox, 2011). Victimization is also explained in two viewpoints: personal victimization or indirect exposure. The literature explains vicarious victimization as the knowledge of a stranger's past victimization experience (Cook & Fox, 2011). Being victimized represents a negative experience and leaves the individual with a sense of assumption of their safety (Janoff-Bulman & Frieze, 1983; Macmillan & Hagan, 2004), and becomes a negative enforcer, encouraging avoidance among others (Hraba, Lorenz, Pechacova, & Bao, 1999). These exposures can cause anxiety, anger, stress, or trauma, which can negatively affect an individual's mental health (Janoff-Bulman & Frieze, 1983; Macmillan & Hagan, 2004). There has also been an extensive amount of research supporting this belief (Akers et al., 1987; Box et al., 1988; Ferraro, 1996; Skogan & Maxfield, 1981), as well as researchers who have also questioned that same belief (Cook & Fox, 2011). The latter researchers believe that those who had experienced victimization vicariously were not more likely to be fearful of crimes than those who do not (Fisher et al., 1995; Fox et al., 2009; Kirk, 1988; Mesch, 2000).

In personal victimization, there is direct exposure to a violent crime or exposure to a criminal event. Personal victimization suggests that those who have been the victims of a crime report higher levels of fear than those who have not (Ferraro, 1995). There is an abundance of research supporting this belief (Akers et al., 1987; Balkin, 1979; Box, Hale, & Andrews, 1988; Culbertson, Vik, & Kooiman, 2001; Hough, 1985; Karakus et al., 2010; Scott, 2003). However, while this study considers past victimization as a possible influencer, it did not play a factor in determining fear of crime. Overall, personal and vicarious victimization continues to be examined by researchers due to the unresolved nature of the topic (Cook & Fox, 2011).

For example, a study conducted by researchers Wittebrood and Nieuwebeerta (2000) focused on previous victimization and the likelihood of becoming a victim again. The study was a qualitative study conducted in the Netherlands, and a total of 1,939 face-to-face interviews were collected. The study had questions regarding past victimization, demographics, and life changes that had recently occurred in their life within other variables. The overall results in this study showed that becoming a victim of crime once again was higher to those participants who had already been victimized in the past. Wanner and Caputo (1987) conducted a different study of fear of crime and perceptions of violence. The participants in this study that had reported having been victimized did not show increased fear of crime. However, what they did find was that the participants in that study reported higher levels of fear of crime when a friend or family member had been victimized.

## **Summary of Literature**

Overall, the unwanted thought fear of crime brings to citizens in the United States has remained a concern for many. It has brought many individuals in academia together to research and better understand why this negative sensation occurs. Many have given their interpretation of what fear of crime means to them, but there has yet to be a universal definition. Although a singular definition has yet to be established, researchers come to agree on the factors correlated with fear of crime. Researchers have established that factors such as gender, age, race, ethnicity, media, and socioeconomic factors are significant contributors to fear of crime.

Although we know these factors are correlated to fear of crime, most of the research has been focused primarily on two specific groups of populations. The groups that have been primarily focused and researched are the Black and White populations (Madriz, 1997; Quillian & Pager, 2001; Ramirez, 2014; Skogan, 1995; Wyant, 2008). This study intends to include the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population and a different ethnic group from what is currently in abundance in research. This study uses a small sample compared to a large number of Hispanic/Latino(a)s residing in the United States. However, it remains a contributor to the scarce body of literature. Researchers could use this methodology to expand the body of literature on the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population.

### **III. RESEARCH QUESTION**

Previous sections of this paper discussed previous extensive research done on fear of crime and specific characteristics that influence fear of crime, as well as the importance for including Hispanic/Latino(a)s populations in the overall examination of fear of crime. Prior research has directed an abundance of effort to Whites and Blacks' perception of fear of crime. This current study is focused on the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population regarding their perceptions of fear of crime. This research will begin including the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population and their perceptions as most studies have focused primarily on White and Black men and women. This study is only a small sample of the entire Hispanic/Latino population in the United States as it is only looking at a convenience sample of populations in Austin, but remains a contribution.

The research question for this study is:

Is fear of crime experienced at a higher level by Hispanic/Latinos(a) than White males and females?

The hypotheses for this study go as follows:

- H1: Women will have higher fear of crime than men;
- H2: Hispanic/Latino(a)s will have higher fear of crime than Whites;
- H3: Hispanic women will have higher fear of crime than White women;
- H4: Hispanic men will have higher fear of crime than White men.

## **IV. METHODOLOGY**

### **Introduction**

Between the summer and fall of 2019, Texas State researchers conducted the East Austin Community Survey (EACS) study and collected six hundred and eighty-four surveys. The survey was focused on the Hispanic/Latino (a) population. The study was conducted in Austin, TX, more specifically the East and Austin Community College (ACC) Riverside area. An Institutional Review Board approval was obtained for this study. This part of the larger study examined the men and women from the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population against the White population in their perception against fear of crime.

### **Procedure**

The initial contact was made with owners of the locations where researchers were planning on conducting the study. Once the approval of the owners was given, the researchers proceeded and approached the potential participants. The researchers chose the locations where the survey would be offered very methodically. Since the survey was 88 questions and some participants may consider that lengthy, going to laundromats- where participants would not be in a rush or have much to do while waiting for their belongings was deemed the most efficient way to approach the study. Initially, paper surveys were the chosen form of delivery. The surveys were handed out by Texas State Researchers in East Austin, and ACC Riverside areas, as well as an email blast that was sent to students attending ACC. The EACS study was designed in cooperation with the Austin Police Department to acquire information on the public perceptions of their community towards police officers. The intention of the study is that the results would

used for training purposes to improve how police officers patrolled and interacted with the citizens in that area.

This current study used the same data from the EACS, but only looked at questions regarding Gender, Race/Ethnicity, perceived informal social control, neighborhood incivilities, education, and fear of crime. This study was only interested in how men and women from Hispanic/Latino (a) descent in East Austin differentiate in their perceptions of fear of crime in comparison to Whites and not their perceptions of police legitimacy. The overall number of surveys collected was 684 surveys – out of those 684 surveys, a total of 488 were selected and used in this study. The reason the sample size was reduced was due to the amount of incomplete surveys. The researcher only used the cases that had a more than partial completion or full completion. Participants identifying as male and female were also included in this study.

The study was carried out in the summer and fall of 2019 in the East Austin and Riverside areas of Austin. The survey consisted of 88 survey questions, and participants were 18 years of age, or older when they participated<sup>1</sup>. The survey was created in both English and Spanish to accommodate participants in their preference in language.

Several individuals refused to participate, while others agreed and either completed the entirety of the survey, partially completed, or began the survey, but did not answer any questions. As an incentive, individuals who participated in the survey could enter a raffle that offered the opportunity to win one of the three \$150 gift cards to a local grocery chain.

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<sup>1</sup> In the course of the study, six versions of the survey instrument were used. First, an extended version administered on paper provided in English and Spanish. Second, a short version, administered on paper, provided in English and Spanish. Lastly, there was an online version in both English and Spanish.



## **Participants**

The sample group of participants was obtained through the EACS study. This sample was chosen out of convenience. It provided a wide range of responses from individuals of Hispanic/Latino (a) descent. The participants consisted of individuals who resided predominately in the East Austin, or ACC/Riverside areas. The focus was primarily minorities from the Hispanic/Latino (a) population. Even though anyone who resided in that area, was eighteen years of age or older was able to participate in the study. Although the compensation was not a guarantee to all participants that they would receive, it was still a motivator to take the survey. If the participant's names were drawn, they would be contacted through the phone number that the participant provided after completing the survey.

## **Measurement**

For the study, the researchers used a survey-based instrument to collect the data. The EACS survey questions went as followed: perceptions on police legitimacy, police use of force, police procedural justice, police misconduct, fear of crime, perceptions of neighborhood incivilities, and personal demographics. The reason questions were placed in such a way, was to obtain as much valuable information from the participants, at the beginning with the most time-consuming questions asked first. Then ultimately ending with the demographic questions at the end, with the anticipation if respondents did not answer the entirety of the survey, there would still be valuable data collected. Even though the focus for the EACS study was police legitimacy, for this study, questions that

are focused on are fear of crime, education, neighborhood incivilities, perceived informal social control, gender, and race/ethnicity were the only variables used.

### **Independent variables**

For this study, there were seven independent variables selected. The first of the seven variables used was *Gender*, which was broken down by three options: male, female, and other. For this study, I only used participants that answered male or female, because the number of participants who identified as something other than male or female was minimal ( $n=4$ ).

The second independent variable was constructed in a two-fold manner. Race was broken down into six categories: White, Black or African American, Asian, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, or other. Because the existing literature suggests their opinions are substantially different from the White majority, and the purpose of this study was to examine Hispanic/Latino(a)s in relation to Whites, participants who responded as African American ( $n=30$ ) were dropped from the analysis. Then, a dummy variable based on the questions asking whether the participant identified as *Hispanic/Latino(a)s* or not. Those who answered yes were coded as 1, and those who said no, were coded as 0.

The next independent variable was *Education* and was broken down into five categories: Less than high school diploma; High school diploma or equivalent (e.g., GED); Some college, no degree; Associate's degree; and Bachelor's degree or more (e.g., Masters, J.D.). *Past victimization* was based on a single item: "Over the past five years, have you personally been the victim of a crime?" Respondents who stated yes were coded as 1, no were coded as 0.

*Neighborhood Incivilities* is an eight-item index ( $\alpha = .87$ ) indicating the mean level of agreement of the magnitude of problems in the respondent's neighborhood (1 = "not at all a problem" to 5 = "a very big problem"). Each question asked participants to state how much of a problem each of the following was in their neighborhood: litter and trash, graffiti, rundown houses, vacant houses, noisy neighbors, teenagers hanging out on corners, public drinking, and beggars on the street were to their neighborhood (Jackson & Sunshine, 2007; Nix et al., 2015; Pickett & Roche, 2018). This variable was also recoded into a singular variable to facilitate the analysis of the data. By recoding the variable in SPSS, it generated a unique score according to how each participant answered all eight questions. The higher the score of the participant, the more neighborhood incivilities was perceived as an issue in their neighborhood. The lower the score indicated that neighborhood incivilities were not perceived as a significant issue in their neighborhood. These scores could ultimately influence how the participant reported to their levels of fear of crime.

Lastly, *perceived informal social control* is an index ( $\alpha = .84$ ) indicating the mean likelihood of four items, each on a five-point scale (1 = "very likely" to 5 = "very unlikely"). Each question asked participants their perceptions of how likely their neighbors would be to try to do something to stop each of the following if they occurred: teenagers were showing disrespect to an adult, teenagers were skipping school and hanging out on a street corner, teenagers were spray-painting graffiti on a local building, a fight broke out near your home (see Sampson, Raudenbush, & Earls, 1997). Higher values indicate less perceived informal social control. All original wording for the variables and questions used are found in Appendix A.

## **Dependent variable**

The dependent variable in this study questioned regarding fear of crime. The reason was to determine if Gender, Ethnicity/Race, Education, Past Victimization, Perceived Neighborhood Incivilities, and Perceived Informal Social Control play a role in individuals' perceptions of fear of crime. *Fear of Crime* was measured as a six-item index ( $\alpha = .92$ ) indicating a respondent's mean perceived fear (0 = least fear, 10 = most fear) of personally falling victim, or having a family member fall victim, to six crimes:

- Have your car stolen?
- Have someone break into your house when no one is home?
- Have someone break into your house when someone is home?
- Be robbed or mugged on the street?
- Be raped or sexually assaulted?
- Be murdered?

## **Ethics**

Initially, an overview of the study was explained to the participants verbally. The participants were then given a consent form (see Appendices A and B), which also explained the purpose of the study. Confidentiality was assured to the participants, and they were informed that no personal information would be asked of them, they were not obligated to participate, and they could withdraw from the study at any time without any consequences. By agreeing to take the survey, they consented to be a part of the study. All participants were eighteen years of age or older during the participation. The surveys collected were placed in a locked file cabinet in a locked office on the Texas State

campus, and the researchers were the only individual with access to the files. The surveys collected were manually coded into SPSS by the researchers working on this study on a password-protected computer. Once the paper surveys had been manually coded into SPSS, they were returned to the principal investigator. Again, the Institutional Review Board (IRB) at Texas State University approved this research project (see Appendix C).

## V. RESULTS

This study used a subset of survey responses from the EACS study ( $N=488$ ).

Approximately 60 percent of the sample was Hispanic/Latino(a)s. This study will only be using male ( $n=201$ ) and females ( $n=287$ ) from the sample as the number of participants that responded as Other ( $n=4$ ) were not sufficient enough to take into consideration and will be coded as omitted from the analysis. Four hypotheses were used for this study after manually coding each survey into SPSS:

H1: Women will have higher fear of crime than men;

H2: Hispanic/Latino(a)s will have higher fear of crime than Whites;

H3: Hispanic women will have higher fear of crime than White women;

H4: Hispanic men will have higher fear of crime than White men.

**Table 1. Descriptive Statistics ( $N = 488$ )**

Variables	Mean/%	SD	Minimum	Maximum
Fear of Crime	4.29	2.75	1	10
Female	0.59	—	0	1
Hispanic	0.60	—	0	1
Informal Social Control	2.82	0.66	1	5
Neighborhood Incivilities	2.00	0.74	1	5
Past Victimization	0.29	—	0	1
Education	3.01	1.14	1	5

*ABBREVIATIONS:* SD = Standard Deviation

Fear of crime was the dependent variable in all four regression models. The purpose of this study was to examine what factors predict fear of crime across the whole sample, and among Males and Females, particularly of Hispanic/Latino(a)s population in comparison to their Non-Hispanic counterparts. This study provided four models to better help understand which factors were deemed to have the most impact on fear of crime on the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population.

**Table 2. Regression Models Predicting Fear of Crime in Full Sample (N = 488)**

Variables	DV = Fear of Crime					
	Model 1: Gender			Model 2: Ethnicity		
	<i>b</i>	RSE	Beta	<i>b</i>	RSE	Beta
Female	0.772**	0.235	0.138	—	—	—
Hispanic	—	—	—	0.666**	0.239	0.119
Informal Social Control	-0.001	0.125	-0.001	-0.012	0.125	-0.004
Neighborhood	1.002***	0.148	0.323	0.951***	0.149	0.307
Past Victimization	0.097	0.244	0.016	0.133	0.247	0.022
Education	-0.181	0.105	-0.075	-0.092	0.110	-0.038
<i>R</i> -squared	0.133			0.125		

ABBREVIATIONS: *b* = unstandardized coefficient; Beta = standardized coefficient DV = dependent variable; RSE = robust standard error.

\**p* < .05; \*\**p* < .01; \*\*\**p* < .001 (two-tailed).

**Table 3. Regression Models Predicting Fear of Crime by Gender Subsamples**

Variables	DV = Fear of Crime					
	Model 3: Women Only ( <i>n</i> = 287)			Model 4: Men Only ( <i>n</i> = 201)		
	<i>b</i>	RSE	Beta	<i>b</i>	RSE	Beta
Hispanic	0.387	0.337	0.068	0.949**	0.341	0.177
Informal Social Control	0.017	0.164	0.006	-0.020	0.194	-0.008
Neighborhood	0.925***	0.196	0.290	1.012***	0.233	0.347
Past Victimization	0.139	0.331	0.023	0.025	0.362	0.004
Education	-0.124	0.149	-0.052	-0.103	0.166	-0.042
<i>R</i> -squared	0.103			0.173		

ABBREVIATIONS: *b* = unstandardized coefficient; Beta = standardized coefficient; DV = dependent variable; SE = robust standard error.

\**p* < .05; \*\**p* < .01; \*\*\**p* < .001 (two-tailed).

The effects of neighborhood incivilities on fear of crime is consistent in all four models. Each model, regardless of Race/Ethnicity or Gender, was shown to have a significant correlation to Neighborhood Incivilities when predicting fear of crime in participants in this study. It indicated that the appearance of these participants' neighborhoods affected the way they felt about their safety and crime around them. In Model 1 of Table 2, race was excluded from the analyses to isolate Gender. The findings in this regression indicated that being female ( $b=0.772$ ) was shown to have an association to fear of crime. Within that analysis, a strong association with neighborhood incivilities ( $b=1.002$ ) was an indicator to fear of crime regardless of race/ethnicity.

When *Gender* was excluded from the study (see Model 2) being Hispanic/Latino(a)s ( $b=0.666$ ) showed to have a statistically significant association with fear of crime. Neighborhood Incivilities ( $b=0.951$ ) continued to be a significant variable in predicting fear of crime. Furthermore, when race and gender were incorporated together in the model (see Model 3) being female and of the Hispanic/ Latina population showed to have no correlation with fear of crime. These results indicate that vulnerability theory was not a prevalent indicator in the Hispanic/Latina population — Hispanic/Latina women seemingly did not feel more vulnerable than White women. Neighborhood incivilities ( $b=0.925$ ) continuing to have a higher statistical significance. Lastly, in Model 4 of Table 3 being a male and of the Hispanic/Latino ( $b=0.949$ ) descent showed to have a correlation in indicating fear of crime — Hispanic/Latino men did seem to feel more vulnerable to crime than White men. Once again neighborhood incivilities ( $b=1.019$ ) persisted to indicate a significance to fear of crime showed to have a significance.



Interestingly, Education, Past Victimization, and Perceived Informal Social Control were not significant predictors of fear of crime in, as shown in all four models above. Education was negatively related to fear of crime in all four models, but did not reach statistical significance. However, in all four models, Age and Media Consumption was not taken into consideration and could have gave an alternative outcome in the signifance towards education, past victimization, and perceived informal control. Overall, the Hispanic/Latino(a)s expressed higher levels of fear of crime than their Non-Hispanic (White) counterparts, but only among men. Women are more afraid than men, regardless of ethnicity. The results from this study indicate that race/ethnicity, gender, neighborhood incivilities increased fear of crime within the targeted population in this study.

## **VI. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

The literature base and knowledge on the relationship between fear of crime and variables such as gender are vast. Studies have also greatly dived into the relationship between Blacks and Whites and their perception regarding fear of crime. Nevertheless, as mentioned several times, few studies have looked at the relationship between the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population and their perceptions towards fear of crime. Although to many, this population may not be a topic of interest with the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population proving to be expanding at a high rate, it is worth furthering the research. Before discussing the findings of this study, I will revisit the hypothesis used in this study. The hypotheses for this study go as follows:

- (1) Women will have a higher fear of crime than men;
- 2) Hispanic/Latino(a)s will have a higher fear of crime than Whites;
- (3) Hispanic women will have a higher fear of crime than White women;
- (4) Hispanic men will have a higher fear of crime than White men

The East Austin Community Survey (EACS) was a study used to become a contributor to the scarce body of literature in the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population in regard to their perceptions of fear of crime. The study could potentially have had a higher or no statistical significance due to the lack of consideration media could have had in this research. Each variable was chosen wisely. All seven independent variables were proven to affect correspondence with fear of crime due to the previous knowledge literature has taught us.

Fear within gender was expected in females to rise, as gender is a significant variable in predicting fear of crime but was not expected within the males to have the same effect. Overall, women were equally or more fearful of crime than their male counterparts (Ferraro, 1996; Fisher & Sloan, 2003; Warr, 1984). Prior literature has also consistently stated that males typically underreport their victimization and are trained by society to believe they (males) are to be fearless. The results went against the beliefs of past literature. The reason behind that remains unknown, but the sample size could have been a factor (N=240). A further study with solely male Hispanic/Latino participants, would need to be conducted to see the causation.

On the other hand, the sample proved that past victimization was not a significant variable in predicting fear of crime in both genders. This study considered past victimization and was deemed not statistically significant within the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population in this study. Further research would need to be conducted to grasp a better understanding of the reasoning of why past victimization was not correlated in predicting fear of crime in the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population. The question remains on why vicarious experiences or past victimization was an irrelevant variable in both genders in this study.

Lastly, neighborhood incivilities were found to be a moderate predictor in both genders in the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population in predicting fear of crime. It seemed that although the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population was not affected with past victimization, the appearance of their neighborhood caused a sense of threat and fear of crime. Further

studies would have to be conducted to have a better understanding of why that population resonates stronger with neighborhood incivilities rather than past victimization.

Additionally, through the data collection process, over half of the participants that were approached felt more comfortable verbally expressing their thoughts and opinions about the topic rather than answering a survey. The findings later showed that this occurred due to comfortability and due to the illiteracy barrier presented in the majority of the participants who took the survey. Although switching over to a qualitative approach would require more time, it will overall capture more in-depth information than a quantitative study would be able to capture. The qualitative study would be best if it were approached as a focus group, “platica” or also known as an expressive cultural way of listening, inquiry, storytelling, and story-making (Guajardo & Guajardo, 2013). In the Hispanic/Latino(a)s heritage, the process of platica is implemented at such a young age not only to think critically but to read people, and learn how to ask questions that lead to more information (Guajardo & Guajardo, 2013).

Platica teaches the individual how to pay attention to the person, the story, and the setting in which it is taking place (Guajardo & Guajardo, 2013). Platica for this type of study would be extremely beneficial because platica requires a level of relationship building with the individual you are having a conversation with (Guajardo & Guajardo, 2013). By approaching a Hispanic/Latino(a)s neighborhood and communicating with them in a way that feels normal, rather than approaching the study through the classic approach of extracting information would be beneficial to the data collecting quality (Guajardo & Guajardo, 2013).

Overall, the EACS dataset informed us that the Hispanic/Latina population expressed higher levels of fear of crime in comparison to their White counterparts. As mentioned, these findings contribute to what is already known regarding the relationship between genders and fear of crime—confirming Hypothesis 1, indicating women who identified as Hispanic/Latina experienced higher levels of fear of crime than White females. Although going against prior literature, Hispanic/Latinos who identified as male also experienced higher levels of fear of crime than their White male counterparts.

They are signifying the overall findings as to the importance of the understanding of the fear of crime within males and females in the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population. Expressly, fear of crime within the males and females of the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population that has yet to be thoroughly researched as well as perceptions of neighborhood quality (Schafer et al., 2006). This study indicated that participants who reported high levels of neighborhood incivilities also reported more concern with crime and victimization—suggesting that improving the quality of life in specific neighborhoods could be a more determining factor in reducing fear of crime for people, especially for the Hispanic/Latino population. These results suggest that improving neighborhood incivilities could yield an individual's fear of crime, although it is not a determining factor (Lane & Meeker, 2000).

## **VII. FUTURE RESEARCH**

This research, however, is subject to several limitations. First, by acquiring data by doing in-person paper surveys, it required an abundance of time and required an abundance of time to code all data collected manually. Researchers took from the summer to the late fall of 2019 to collect enough quantity of surveys for the study. If more time had been available to this project, the researchers would have been able to collect more data, and potentially could have impacted the results. If more time were available, it would have allowed the researchers to reach out to different areas in Austin. Surveying more subjects and would have created a more robust data set. In the future, researchers should focus on a more potent communication tactic, go directly to organizations before the data collection to increase the number of potential participants, and create a more reliable data set.

Second, there was a moderate level of uncertainty in which participants would decline to take the survey or complete it in its entirety, because of the sensitivity of the study. In the future, to strengthen the data set, researchers may take a mixed-methods approach, as participants felt more comfortable talking about these issues rather than filling out the paper survey. However, paper surveys would still be available if the participant felt more comfortable doing so. Third, by acknowledging that the targeted population may not have high levels of education, it increased the chances of potential misinterpretation while reading the question, and instead, use the time to voice their opinion. Fourth, the survey did not include questions about participants' media consumption. It is known that the media plays a significant role in the way people perceive crime and, ultimately, people's perceptions of fear of crime (Shi et al., 2019).

There could have been a possible impact on the data collected, and the way participants answered the questions regarding fear of crime. In the future, the researchers would implement questions regarding media to strengthen the dataset.

Although the respondents were guaranteed anonymity in the consent form, they were allowed to provide their phone number to be entered in a drawing for a gift card. Some of the participants may not have participated in the study as seriously or answered as carefully as other participants. The survey did not include a measure to account for the possibility of response bias; thus, the analysis did not consider that. The sample used was also a convenience sample and those results could have impacted the results differently.

Lastly, the study results would not be generalizable to the entire Hispanic/Latino(a)s or White population because the sample was small and only looked at a small population in Austin. For future purposes, researchers should carry out this study in more significantly populated places in Texas, such as Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio, to make this study more generalizable. Overall, these findings could be used to strengthen the lack of literature on the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population regarding fear of crime.

Overall, this research could evolve and be expanded much further. There is much more to learn about the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population and their perception towards fear of crime. A more qualitative approach would work best as “platicas” made participants more willing to share about their experiences. As of the data collected in this study the Hispanic/Latino(a)s population experienced higher levels of fear of crime than their white

counterparts. A recreation in a much larger scale would be needed to see if the same shared experiences occurred.



## APPENDIX SECTION

### Appendix A

#### East Austin Community Survey 2019

Dear Participant,

This is a non-profit survey being conducted on behalf of researchers at Texas State University in cooperation with officials of the City of Austin. It asks individuals to provide their opinions about crime and criminal justice issues, and specifically, police-citizen interactions. Your participation would be greatly appreciated.

Participation is voluntary, and you may withdraw your participation at any time. There are no consequences for choosing to discontinue your participation. Your answers will be anonymous to the researchers. Thus, it will be impossible for them to link your answers back to you.

The survey should take approximately **10 minutes** to complete. This study involves no more than minimal risks. We ask that you try to answer all questions; however, if there are any items that make you uncomfortable or that you would prefer to skip, please let us know.

The results of the survey will be used solely for instructional purposes and academic research and may be used to improve government policies.

**If you do NOT consent to participate in the survey, return the questionnaire to researcher at this time.**

If you have any questions about the survey or would like a copy of the results, please contact the Principal Investigator of the study, **Dr. Sean Patrick Roche**, at **sean.roche@txstate.edu**.

This project (#6545) was approved by the Texas State IRB on June 21, 2019. Pertinent questions or concerns about the research, research participants' rights, and/or research-related injuries to participants should be directed to the IRB chair, Dr. Denise Gobert 512-245-8351 (dgobert@txstate.edu) or to Monica Gonzales, IRB Regulatory Manager 512-245-2334 (meg201@txstate.edu).

1. What should be the top three priorities of police in your neighborhood? (Select **THREE**)

- ☐ Enforcing drug laws
- ☐ Investigating property crime and robbery
- ☐ Enforcing traffic laws
- ☐ Providing guidance and social services to people
- ☐ Enforcing public nuisance laws (e.g., loitering, disorderly conduct)
- ☐ Protecting people like me from being victims of crime
- ☐ Investigating murder, assaults, and domestic violence

2. Would you say the amount of police presence in your neighborhood is...(choose **ONE**)

- ☐ Too little
- ☐ About right
- ☐ Too much

For the following statements, how much do you disagree or agree...

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
4. Police stand up for values that are important to me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. I generally support how the police act in my community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. The police and I want the same things for my community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

In your opinion, how acceptable do you think it is for POLICE to act in the following ways?

	Very Acceptable	Somewhat Acceptable	Slightly Acceptable	Not at All Acceptable
7. Use deadly force against a person who is armed and believed to pose a threat to other people's lives.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Strike a citizen who uses his fists to attack a police officer.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Use physical force against an offender who is handcuffed and in police custody.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Use force to arrest an unarmed person who is not offering violent resistance.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

These next questions are about interactions between MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.  
Please think about how people in society generally treat other people. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree or Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
19. Most people treat other people with dignity and respect	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
20. Most people are polite when dealing with others	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
21. Most people show concern for other people's rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
22. Most people treat other people fairly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
23. Most people treat other people equally, regardless of their race, gender, or sexuality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
24. In a dispute or argument, most people will give the other person the opportunity to express his or her views before making decisions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
25. In a dispute or argument, most people will listen to the other person	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
26. In most cases, people will try to explain the reasons for their actions if they do something that upsets someone else	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Now we would like to know about your personal experiences with the POLICE. How often have the police done each of the following?

	Never	Once	Twice	Three times or more
27. Stopped you on the street without good reason?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
28. Stopped your close friends or family members on the street without good reason?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
29. Used insulting language toward you?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
30. Used insulting language toward your close friends or family members?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
31. Used excessive force against you?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
32. Used excessive force against your close friends or family members?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How much do you agree or disagree that the police in YOUR COMMUNITY do the following?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
38. Treat everyone equally	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
39. Clearly explain the reasons for their actions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
40. Treat people with dignity and respect	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
41. Treat people fairly	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
42. Respect people's rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
43. Listen to suspects before making any decisions about how to handle a case	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with how well the police in YOUR COMMUNITY do each of the following?

	Very Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Neither Satisfied nor Dissatisfied	Somewhat Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
44. Respond quickly to calls for help and assistance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
45. Solve the problems of those who call them	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
46. Support victims and witnesses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
47. Patrol the streets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
48. Prevent crimes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
49. Catch people who break the law	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

These next few questions are about your **CURRENT NEIGHBORHOOD**. How much of a problem is each of the following in your neighborhood?

	Not a Problem	A Small Problem	A Problem	A Big Problem	A Very Big Problem
50. Litter and trash	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
51. Graffiti	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
52. Rundown houses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
53. Vacant houses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
54. Noisy neighbors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
55. Teenagers hanging out on corners	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
56. Public drinking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
57. Beggars on the street	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Please think about the people who live in your neighborhood. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following?

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
58. This is a close-knit neighborhood.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
59. People in this neighborhood get along with each other.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
60. People around here are willing to help their neighbors.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
61. People in this neighborhood share the same values.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
62. People in this neighborhood can be trusted.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If the following things were happening in your neighborhood, how likely or unlikely is it that your NEIGHBORS would do something to try to stop it?

	Very Likely	Likely	Neither Likely nor Unlikely	Unlikely	Very Unlikely
63. Teenagers were showing disrespect to an adult.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
64. Teenagers were skipping school and hanging out on a street corner.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
65. Teenagers were spray-painting graffiti on a local building.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
66. A fight broke out near your home.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

On a scale from 1 to 10, where 1 represents the LEAST FEAR and 10 represents the MOST FEAR, how much do you FEAR that you or a member of your family will:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
67. Have your car stolen?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
68. Have someone break into your house when no one is home?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
69. Have someone break into your house when someone is home?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
70. Be robbed or mugged on the street?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
71. Be raped or sexually assaulted?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
72. Be murdered?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

79. What is your approximate annual household income in U.S. dollars?

- ☐ Less than \$10,000
- ☐ \$10,000 - \$19,999
- ☐ \$20,000 - \$29,999
- ☐ \$30,000 - \$49,999
- ☐ \$50,000 - \$69,999
- ☐ \$70,000 - \$99,999
- ☐ \$100,000 - \$149,999
- ☐ More than \$150,000

80. What is your gender?

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

81. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent?

- ☐ Yes, Hispanic or Latino
- ☐ No, not Hispanic or Latino

82. What is your race?

- ☐ White
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

83. In what year were you born?

Please enter a 4-digit birth year (YYYY):

\_\_\_\_\_

84. What is the highest level of school or the highest degree that you have received?

- ☐ Less than high school diploma
- ☐ High school diploma or equivalent (e.g., GED)
- ☐ Some college, no degree
- ☐ Associate's Degree
- ☐ Bachelor's Degree or more (e.g., Master's, J.D.)

85. How would you describe yourself politically?

- ☐ Very Liberal
- ☐ Liberal
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Conservative
- ☐ Very Conservative

86. Over the past five years, have you personally been the victim of a crime?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

87. Over the past five years, has anyone in your household been the victim of a crime?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

88. What is the ZIP Code for the address where you live?

Please enter a 5-digit number (XXXXX): \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your time!**

## Appendix B

### East Austin Community Survey 2019

Querido (a) participante,

Esta es una encuesta sin fines de lucro realizada por investigadores en la Universidad de Texas State, en colaboración con oficiales de la ciudad de Austin. La encuesta les pedirá a los participantes que den sus opiniones sobre el crimen, así como asuntos relacionados con la justicia criminal y, en concreto, la interacción entre policía y ciudadano. Su participación se aprecia enormemente.

Su participación es voluntaria y si usted desea retirarse en cualquier momento no habrá ninguna consecuencia. Sus respuestas a la encuesta serán anónimas para los investigadores. Por lo tanto, resultará imposible relacionar las respuestas con su identidad.

Esta encuesta tomará aproximadamente **10 minutos** para completar. Este estudio no implica más que un riesgo mínimo. Se le pide que intente contestar cada pregunta. Si hay algunas preguntas que le hagan sentir incómodo(a) o prefiere no contestar, favor de avisarnos.

Los resultados de esta encuesta solamente se utilizarán para fines académicos y pedagógicos y podrían ayudar a mejorar las políticas gubernamentales.

**Si usted NO consiente en participar en esta encuesta, favor de devolver el papel al investigador en este momento.**

Si tiene alguna pregunta acerca de esta encuesta o desea una copia de los resultados, favor de comunicarse con el investigador principal del estudio, **Dr. Sean Patrick Roche**, por email a **sean.roche@txstate.edu**.

Este proyecto (#6545) ha sido aprobado por Texas State IRB el 21 de junio, 2019. Cualquiera preguntas o preocupación sobre el contenido de la investigación, los derechos de los participantes de la investigación, y/o heridas relacionadas con la investigación podrán dirigirse a Dr. Denise Gobert, Silla del IRB, 512-245-8351 (dgobert@txstate.edu) o a Monica Gonzales, Coordinadora del IRB, 512-245-2334 (meg201@txstate.edu).

3. ¿Cuáles deberían ser las tres prioridades de las policías dentro su comunidad?  
(seleccione **TRES**)

- ☐ Hacer cumplir las leyes acerca de las drogas
- ☐ Investigar crímenes relacionados con robos o propiedades
- ☐ Hacer cumplir las leyes acerca del tráfico
- ☐ Proporcionar dirección y servicios sociales a las personas
- ☐ Hacer cumplir las leyes acerca de la alteración del orden público o el vagabundeo
- ☐ Proteger a la gente como yo de ser víctimas de crímenes
- ☐ Investigar asesinatos, asaltos y violencias doméstica

2. Según usted, el tiempo que la policía está presente en su comunidad es... (seleccione **UNO**)

- ☐ Muy poco
- ☐ La medida adecuada
- ☐ Demasiado

En las siguientes afirmaciones, seleccione en qué grado de desacuerdo o de acuerdo está...



	Muy en desacuerdo	En desacuerdo	Ni de acuerdo ni en desacuerdo	De acuerdo	Muy de acuerdo
4. La policía defiende los valores que son importante para mí.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Por lo general apoyo la conducta de la policía actúa en mi comunidad.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. La policía y yo queremos lo mismo para mi comunidad.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

En su opinión, qué tan aceptable piensas usted que la POLICIA actúa en los siguientes.

	Muy aceptable	Algo aceptable	Ligeramente aceptable	De ningún modo aceptable
7. Usar fuerza letal contra otra persona que está armada y pinta una amenaza a otras vidas.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Golpear a un ciudadano que atacó con sus puños al oficial.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Uso de fuerza física contra un delincuente esposado y custodia policial.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. Uso de fuerza física para arrestar a una persona desarmada que no está resistiendo.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Las siguientes preguntas tratan sobre la interacción entre MIEMBROS DEL PUBLICO.  
Por favor piense en cómo la gente en la sociedad trata a otras personas. ¿En qué grado  
estás de acuerdo o en desacuerdo con las siguientes declaraciones?

	Muy de acuerdo	De acuerdo	Ni de acuerdo ni en desacuerdo	En desacuerdo	Muy en desacuerdo
19. La mayoría de la gente trata a los demás con dignidad y con respeto.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
20. La mayoría de la gente es amable cuando trata con las personas.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
21. La mayoría de gente se preocupa por los derechos de los demás.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
22. La mayoría de la gente trata a los demás de manera justa.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
23. La mayoría de la gente trata a otras personas igual, sin importarle su raza, género, o sexualidad.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
24. En una disputa o discusión, la mayoría de la gente le dará la otra persona la oportunidad para expresar sus puntos de vista antes de tomar una decisión.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
25. En una disputa o discusión, la mayoría de gente escuchara a la otra persona.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

26. En la mayoría de los casos, la gente lo atentarían de explicar la razón de por sus comportamientos si hacen algo que les molesta a las personas.



Ahora nos gustaría entender sus experiencias personales con la POLICÍA. ¿Con qué frecuencia ha hecho lo siguiente la policía?

	Nunca	Una vez	Dos veces	Tres veces o más
27. ¿Lo/la ha detenido en la calle sin buen motivo?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
28. ¿Ha detenido a sus amigos cercanos o a miembros de la familia sin buen motivo?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
29. ¿Ha usado lenguaje ofensivo hacia usted?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
30. ¿Ha usado lenguaje ofensivo a sus amigos cercanos o miembros de la familia?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
31. ¿Ha usado fuerza excesiva contra usted?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
32. ¿Ha usado fuerza excesiva contra sus amigos cercanos o miembros de la familia?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

¿En qué grado estás de acuerdo o en desacuerdo que la policía dentro de SU COMUNIDAD haga lo siguiente?

	Muy de acuerdo	De acuerdo	Ni de acuerdo ni en desacuerdo	En desacuerdo	Muy en desacuerdo
38. Tratar a todos por igual	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
39. Explicar claramente las razones de sus acciones	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
40. Trata a la gente con dignidad y con respeto	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
41. Tratar a la gente de manera justa	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
42. Respetar los derechos de la gente	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
43. Prestarles atención a los sospechosos antes de tomar cualquier decisión de cómo manejar su caso	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	Muy satisfecho	Algo satisfecho	Ni satisfecho ni insatisfecho	Algo insatisfecho	Muy insatisfecho
44. Responder rápidamente a llamadas de ayuda y asistencia	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
45. Resolver los problemas de los que les llaman	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

46. Apoyar a las víctimas y a los testigos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
47. Patrullar las calles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
48. Prevenir los crímenes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
49. Atrapar a la gente que rompe la ley	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

¿Qué tan satisfecho o insatisfecho está usted con el trabajo de la policía en en SU COMUNIDAD?

	Muy satisfecho	Algo satisfecho	Ni satisfecho ni insatisfecho	Algo insatisfecho	Muy insatisfecho
44. Responder rápidamente a llamadas de ayuda y asistencia	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
45. Resolver los problemas de los que les llaman	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
46. Apoyar a las víctimas y a los testigos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
47. Patrullar las calles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
48. Prevenir los crímenes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
49. Atrapar a la gente que rompe la ley	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Las siguientes preguntas tratan sobre su VECINDARIO ACTUAL. ¿Qué tamaño de problema son los siguientes en su vecindario?

	No es un problema	Es pequeño problema	Es problema	Es gran problema	Es problema demasiado grande
50. Basura	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
51. Grafiti	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
52. Casas en ruinas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
53. Casas vacantes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
54. Vecinos ruidosos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
55. Adolescentes que andan en la calle	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
56. Beber en público	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
57. Limosneros en la calle	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Considera a las personas que viven en su vecindario. ¿En qué grado de acuerdo o de desacuerdo está usted con las siguientes afirmaciones?

	Muy de acuerdo	De acuerdo	Ni de acuerdo ni en desacuerdo	En desacuerdo	Muy en desacuerdo
58. Este es un vecindario unido.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
59. La gente del vecindario se llevan bien.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
60. La gente por aquí se ayudan.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
61. La gente del vecindario comparte los mismos valores.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
62. La gente de su vecindario es de confianza.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

¿Si las siguientes cosas ocurrieran en su vecindario, qué tan probable o improbable sería que sus VECINOS hicieran algo para impedirlo?

	Muy probable	Probable	Ni probable ni improbable	Improbable	Muy improbable
63. Adolescentes que le faltan el respeto a un adulto.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
64. Adolescentes que falan a la escuela para andar en la calle.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
65. Adolescentes que pintan con pintura de aerosol un edificio local.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
66. Una pelea cerca de su hogar.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

En una escala del 1 al 10, donde 1 representa el menor miedo y 10 representa el mayor miedo. ¿Cuánto miedo tiene usted o algún miembro de su familia?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
67. Que se roben su coche	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
68. Que entren a su casa a robar cuando nadie esté	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
69. Que entren a su casa a robar cuando alguien sí esté	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
70. Que sea asaltado(a) en la calle	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
71. Que sea violado(a) o asaltado(a) sexualmente	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
72. Que sea asesinado(a)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

79. Aproximadamente cuál es su ingreso anual del hogar (cuánto gana al año) en dólares?

- ☐ Menos de \$10,000
- ☐ \$10,000 - \$19,999
- ☐ \$20,000 - \$29,999
- ☐ \$30,000 - \$49,999
- ☐ \$50,000 - \$69,999
- ☐ \$70,000 - \$99,999
- ☐ \$100,000 - \$149,999
- ☐ Más de \$150,000

80. Cuál es su sexo?

- ☐ Mujer
- ☐ Hombre
- ☐ Otro \_\_\_\_\_

81. ¿Es usted de origen hispano(a) o latino(a)?

- ☐ Sí, soy hispano(a) o latino(a)
- ☐ No, no soy hispano(a) o latino(a)

82. ¿Cuál es su raza?

- ☐ Blanco(a)
- ☐ Negro(a) o Afroamericano(a)
- ☐ Asiático(a)
- ☐ Nativo(a) americano(a) o nativo(a) de Alaska
- ☐ Hawaiano(a) nativo(a) o isleño(a) del Pacífico
- ☐ Otro \_\_\_\_\_

83. ¿En qué año nació usted?

Por favor ingrese los 4 dígitos de su año de nacimiento (AAAA):

\_\_\_\_\_

84. ¿Cuál es el nivel más alto de educación que ha terminado?

- ☐ Menos de un diploma de escuela secundaria
- ☐ Diploma de escuela secundaria o equivalente (GED)
- ☐ Estudios universitarios sin título
- ☐ Título Asociado (Associate's)
- ☐ Título de licenciatura (Bachelor's) o más (ej., Master's, J.D.)

85. ¿Cuál es su afiliación política?

- ☐ Muy Liberal
- ☐ Liberal
- ☐ Moderado(a)
- ☐ Conservador(a)
- ☐ Muy conservador(a)

86. ¿En los últimos cinco años, ha sido víctima de un crimen?

- ☐ Sí
- ☐ No

87. ¿En los últimos cinco años algún familiar ha sido víctima de un crimen?

- ☐ Sí
- ☐ No

88. ¿Cuál es el código postal de su residencia actual?

Por favor ingrese los 5 dígitos

(XXXXX):\_\_\_\_\_

**Gracias!**

## Appendix C



In future correspondence please refer to 6545

June 21, 2019

Sean Roche, Ph.D.  
Texas State University  
601 University Drive  
San Marcos, TX 78666

Dear Dr. Roche:

Your IRB application titled "East Austin Community Survey 2019" was reviewed and approved by the Texas State University IRB. It has been determined that risks to subjects are: (1) minimized and reasonable; and that (2) research procedures are consistent with a sound research design and do not expose the subjects to unnecessary risk. Reviewers determined that: (1) benefits to subjects are considered along with the importance of the topic and that outcomes are reasonable; (2) selection of subjects is equitable; and (3) the purposes of the research and the research setting is amenable to subjects' welfare and producing desired outcomes; that indications of coercion or prejudice are absent, and that participation is clearly voluntary.

In addition, the IRB found that you need to orient participants as follows: (1) signed informed consent is not required as participation implies consent; (2) Provision is made for collecting, using and storing data in a manner that protects the safety and privacy of the subjects and the confidentiality of the data; (3) Appropriate safeguards are included to protect the rights and welfare of the subjects. (4) Participants will not be directly compensated for their participation in the study. However, they will (if they choose) be entered into a drawing for \$100 gift cards to either H-E-B or Fiesta Mart (depending on location). Three total gift cards will be awarded.

**This project is therefore approved at the Exempt Review Level  
Category 2 Surveys, Interviews, or Public observation**

Please note that the institution is not responsible for any actions regarding this protocol before approval. If you expand the project at a later date to use other instruments, please re-apply. Copies of your request for human subjects review, your application, and this approval, are maintained in the Office of Research Integrity and Compliance.

**Report any changes to this approved protocol to this office. All unanticipated events and adverse events are to be reported to the IRB within 3 days.**

Sincerely,

Monica Gonzales  
IRB Specialist  
Office of Research Integrity and Compliance

CC: Dr. Angela Jones  
Dr. Mark Stafford

Karina Grajeda  
Jose Hernandez

Iliana Figueroa  
Christian Fritz

OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH  
601 University Drive | JCK #489 | San Marcos, Texas 78666-4616  
Phone: 512.245.2314 | fax: 512.245.3847 | WWW.TXSTATE.EDU

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