



Research In the News

Questions
About
the Article ?

HOW TO REDUCE CRIME

Social science researchers are looking at New York City's decline in crime and incarceration rates to find the answer to "what works?" Researchers are trying to pull apart a number of possible explanations, from demographic shifts to policing strategies. Experiments reviewed by Anthony A. Braga, Andrew V. Papachristos, and David M. Hureau suggest that "hot spot" policing may be the solution to reducing crime and incarceration. Hot spot policing involves concentrating extra policing resources in narrowly defined areas with high rates of crime and then being very aggressive in issuing tickets and making arrests. However, there is as yet no consensus about how to implement this strategy.

1. If you were going to evaluate the effectiveness of hot spot policing, how would you design your study?
2. Pose a research question that would extend research on hot spot policing.