

POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS

A SURVEY AMONG
NEW YORK CITY PATROLMEN

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FOR YOUR FILES
- C.C.

A Confidential Research Report Prepared For
The New York City Police Department
and
The Vera Institute of Justice

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ABOUT THE STUDY

Introduction

The Office of Law Enforcement Assistance of the U.S. Department of Justice awarded a grant to the New York City Police Department for a police-community relations planning and development program. The grant provided for the employment of the Vera Institute of Justice as administrator of the program. Vera Institute commissioned Opinion Research Corporation to evaluate New York City patrolmen's perceptions of the attitudes of the people with whom they have the most daily contact toward the police and law enforcement.

This report presents the findings of ORC's study, conducted among 1,369 patrolmen. ORC would like to take this opportunity to thank the patrolmen who participated in the study for their cooperation and to acknowledge the support and assistance provided throughout the project by the New York City Police Department and The Vera Institute of Justice.

Objectives

The goal of the overall project was to assess present police-community relations programs and to lay the groundwork for future efforts to solve complex police-citizen problems.

As part of the larger project, the study among patrolmen was designed to accomplish the following purposes:

1. To determine which segments of the public are uncooperative in the eyes of patrolmen.
2. To isolate the factors which are the source of antagonism toward the police, as perceived by patrolmen.
3. To measure community acceptance of present and proposed community relations activities, as seen by patrolmen.
4. To determine patrolmen's own views toward the relationship between the police and the public in the areas they serve.
5. To explore patrolmen's attitudes toward the performance of their duties.

Questionnaire Development

The questionnaire was developed by ORC in consultation with the New York City Police Department and Vera Institute.

Initially, nine patrolmen from five different precincts took part in a test of the first draft questionnaire. The patrolmen filled out the self-administered questionnaire and, after all had finished, discussed their reactions. They also offered suggestions for new question areas, several of which were included in a new draft of the questionnaire.

After consultation with the Police Department and Vera Institute, ORC made further revisions of the questionnaire. The final draft was then tested on a second group of ten patrolmen to insure, insofar as possible, that the questions were clear, unambiguous, and neutrally worded.

The questionnaire itself was divided into two parts. In Part I patrolmen were asked to describe the attitudes of people with whom they have the most daily contact. In Part II patrolmen were given an opportunity to express their own views and opinions.

Interviewing

The interviewing was conducted at the Police Academy in six separate group sessions held during the period of July 24 - August 2, 1968. Patrolmen completed the self-administered questionnaires under the supervision of Urban Corps workers, as arranged by the Police Liaison Office.

Sampling

The sampling procedure was carried out by the Police Department in accordance with instructions from ORC. The overall plan was designed to obtain between 1,000 and 1,500 completed questionnaires from patrolmen selected in a statistically random manner from precincts representing high, average, and low hazard areas. 1,369 usable questionnaires were completed.

The Police Department sought and obtained the cooperation of the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association prior to the issuance of any orders relative to the conduct of the survey.

Thereafter all commands were notified by the Department to select every fifth name from an alphabetical roster of patrolmen assigned to the command to obtain the required number of participants. Members whose names were so selected were asked to volunteer to complete the questionnaire. If an insufficient number of "volunteers" were recruited, the selection procedure was repeated until each command had its full contingent.

An undetermined number of patrolmen, therefore, excluded themselves from participation in the study before the questionnaires were administered and were replaced by others (randomly selected from precinct rosters) who expressed their willingness to cooperate. The extent and direction of the bias, if any, thus introduced is not known.

Data Processing

Completed questionnaires were delivered to ORC, the information entered on punch cards, and the data processed on an IBM 1130 computer.

The data were tabulated by various subgroups,* as well as by total patrolmen. Distribution among the subgroups is as follows:**

Total Patrolmen	1,369
High Income Areas	245
Middle Income Areas	640
Low Income Areas	724
Irish Community	460
Italian Community	539
Jewish Community	656
Community of Other Whites	634
Negro Community	972
Puerto Rican Community	798
Oriental Community	169
Good Police-Community Relations	345
Average Police-Community Relations	525
Poor Police-Community Relations	431
High Hazard Precincts	457
Medium Hazard Precincts	440
Low Hazard Precincts	274
On Force Less Than 3 Years	356
On Force 3-4 Years	275
On Force 5-9 Years	329
On Force 10-14 Years	222
On Force 15 Years Or More	142
Very Often Active In . . .	
Keeping The Peace	966
Enforcing Traffic & Other Regulations	694
Protecting Life & Property	710
Enforcing Vice Laws	266
Fixed Post	88
Single Beat	135
Single Sector	399
Precinct-Wide	573
Flying	253
On Foot	629
In Car	619
Other	186

Complete tabulations have been provided in a separate book of computer tables.

*See Technical Appendix for further discussion of subgroups.

**The "income areas" subgroups total more than 1,369 because Patrolmen sometimes described their areas as being in more than one group. In the other subgroups, totals may be less than 1,369 because of no response.

Written Report

This report presents Opinion Research Corporation's analysis of the data. A summary of the results and some implications for police-community relations precede the reporting of detailed findings from the study. A technical appendix at the end of the report gives the reader a guide to the statistical analysis of the survey data. A copy of the questionnaire used in the study is appended.

The report presents tables primarily in terms of the views of the total patrolmen interviewed. Where they are considered meaningful, differences among various subgroups of patrolmen are discussed, but for further detail the reader is referred to the separate book of computer tables.

Throughout the report, where percentages total more than 100, it is because of multiple answers on the part of some respondents.

Percentages should be read across where per cent signs appear in the left-hand column. Percentages should be read down where per cent signs are shown at the top of the column.

The percentage base for Total Patrolmen is 1,369. Whenever data are presented for other subgroups, the percentage base is shown in the table.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE STUDY

Which segments of the public are seen as uncooperative?

The majority of patrolmen think that people in their area have at least a fair amount of respect for the police. On the other hand, patrolmen sense that the public is critical of a wide variety of enforcement activities, particularly of their handling of civil disorders and demonstrations.

In general, the higher the hazard area to which patrolmen are assigned, the more likely they are to see people as being critical and lacking in respect.

People in lower income areas and in Negro and Puerto Rican communities are more often seen as having a poor relationship with the police than people living in other areas of the city.

Wherever their assignment is, however, patrolmen see the public as critical of their handling of civil disorders and demonstrations and their failure to prevent serious crime.

What causes antagonism toward the police?

Patrolmen cite a wide variety of possible explanations for hostility toward the police. Chief among them are: a feeling people can be hostile and get away with it, a general hostility toward authority of any kind, a tendency to blame the police for many of society's problems.

Two-thirds of the patrolmen say people in their area are at least fairly critical of the police for difficulties experienced in getting action from other city departments. People in low income areas are also seen as being critical of the police for such unsatisfactory social and economic conditions as poor sanitation and housing.

While patrolmen in Negro and Puerto Rican communities are more likely than those in other areas to say that people there complain of unfair treatment of minority groups, police brutality, and failure to respect the rights of individuals, they are divided as to whether or not Negroes and Puerto Ricans want greater representation on the police force.

With the exception of traffic violations, patrolmen see criticism of various enforcement activities as stemming from the public's desire for more aggressive action, not from a feeling that the police act too quickly.

What is the public's reaction to police-community relations activities?

As patrolmen see it, none of fourteen different police-community relations activities studied wins a great deal of acceptance, but neither are any rejected by the community.

A majority of patrolmen who say they are in areas which have a Community Council Program think that it has at least a fair amount of acceptance from the community.

Sports leagues or clinics are seen as the most popular among various youth activities. A majority of patrolmen who say they have such sports activities in their area believe that they are at least fairly well received by the public.

Patrolmen think a variety of suggestions for improving police-community relations would get a fairly good response from the public.

Patrolmen think radio and TV programs would get the best reaction from the public, but ten other suggestions would also be considered fairly helpful, according to patrolmen. These include, among others, staging plays dealing with narcotic addiction, having community residents serve as interpreters where needed, better communications with foreign-language-speaking people, and discussions of mutual grievances between the police and people in the area.

Patrolmen think the public would not be receptive to using civilian volunteers to perform nonenforcement activities or to having children from the area visit patrolmen's homes over the weekend.

What are patrolmen's views toward police-community relations?

Patrolmen clearly feel misunderstood by the public. They also feel that present community relations programs are of little or no help in building understanding and cooperation between the police and the people in their area.

The patrolmen think police-community relations problems stem primarily from permissiveness toward lawbreakers. Overwhelmingly, patrolmen think it would be very helpful if the courts were less lenient. There is also widespread support for stricter enforcement of the law by the police and better mutual understanding by educating the public on the role of the police and longer assignments in one area so the police can get to know the people better.

Patrolmen think it would not be helpful to have more police involvement in housing and sanitation problems or to use name plates to identify the police.

What are patrolmen's views toward their job?

Patrolmen think leniency on the part of the courts hurts their effectiveness on the job as well as their relationship with the community. In particular there is very widespread dissatisfaction with the Mapp decision and the Miranda decision. Half the patrolmen also say the Civilian Complaint Review Board has impaired the efficient performance of their duties a great deal.

On the other hand, the "Stop and Frisk" law and the P.B.A. are widely seen as helpful in reducing the pressures of patrolmen's work. Fewer patrolmen see the formal and informal departmental grievance machinery as helpful.

All in all, there is a high level of dissatisfaction among patrolmen. Many feel strongly that they are not getting enough backing from the Department and lack the authority they need in order to do their job as they think it should be done and as most think the community wants it done.

IMPLICATIONS FOR
POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

The results of this study provide evidence that patrolmen believe there is a serious police-community relations problem in New York City, and that they want something done about it. The study also suggests some possible actions that patrolmen think might help alleviate the problem.

The public's view of police-community relations and the courses of action which they would like to see taken to alleviate any difficulties remain undetermined without additional research among New York City residents themselves. Insofar as the public is concerned, this present study covers their attitudes only as they are perceived by patrolmen.

The patrolmen's assessment of the relationship that exists between the police and the community is based, of course, in large part on their own experience with the people they contact on a day-to-day basis. It must be borne in mind, however, that other factors may also have a significant effect on their views, such as occurrences in other parts of the country and the present national debate about issues of "justice," "violence," and "law and order."

This study indicates that patrolmen perceive a general trend toward permissiveness throughout society, particularly with respect to leniency in the administration of justice, and they believe this undermines their relationship with the public and hampers the performance of their duties.

From the patrolmen's standpoint, the chief problem stems from their inability to take more aggressive action against those who create disturbances or commit crimes and do a better job of preventing serious crimes from occurring. In general, patrolmen believe that the public wants more aggressive law enforcement and they believe police-community relations would improve if more police protection could be provided, particularly by foot patrols.

Patrolmen think their role is misunderstood by the public throughout New York City. This belief may well underlie the feeling on the part of many patrolmen that a policeman receives less respect than others who serve the public. To overcome this, patrolmen believe it would be helpful for the Department to mount a substantial communications program via radio and television that would reach a wide segment of the public. They tend to see this as potentially more effective than working on a person-to-person basis with individuals or small groups.

Significantly, patrolmen believe that police-community relations efforts should be directed toward giving the public a better understanding of the policeman's role in maintaining law and order. There is a definite reaction against trying to convince the public that it should look upon the patrolman as a "friend" or that it should turn to the patrolman for advice on personal problems unrelated to law enforcement. Significant numbers of patrolmen perceive the public as directing criticism toward the police because of dissatisfaction over conditions or events which are outside the jurisdiction or control of the Police Department.

While the foregoing apply generally throughout the City, patrolmen recognize that there are certain groups who would benefit from particular actions. Many patrolmen, for example, think community relations activities should be aimed at young people, particularly teenagers. Among various suggested activities for youth, patrolmen react most favorably to those involving sports leagues or clinics. There is also an encouraging amount of favorable reaction to a program that would expose young people to what a policeman's job entails and to the difficulties (although not the dangers) that a policeman encounters in performing his job. This could be accomplished, of course, through discussions, presentations, pamphlets, movies, etc. But perhaps a more direct method, such as witnessing police work in action, should be given serious consideration.

In community areas where people speak a foreign language, patrolmen support the idea of having civilians serve as volunteer interpreters, and a majority also believe it would be helpful for patrolmen assigned to such areas to learn the language and customs of the people who reside there. In Negro and Puerto Rican areas, patrolmen are divided in their perceptions of whether or not the public wants greater minority representation among the patrolmen assigned in these precincts. Patrolmen are also divided in their own minds on whether or not it would improve police-community relations if policemen were of the same national and ethnic background as the people in their precinct.

Insofar as their own training is concerned, a majority of patrolmen say it would be helpful if they were provided with better grounding in human relations and psychology. This suggests that the extent to which these subjects are now part of the Police Academy curriculum and whatever subsequent training is provided be carefully examined, perhaps even with the thought of bringing in civilian personnel to instruct in these areas if such is not being done now.

As part of an overall project to assess present community relations programs and lay the groundwork for future efforts, this particular study aimed at evaluating patrolmen's attitudes in a number of areas, of which police-community relations was but one. The implications for further community relations activities stemming from this study, therefore, are limited. Furthermore, many of the patrolmen participating in this study have had no direct experience with any kind of community relations activities in their assigned precincts, and among those who testify to some experience, the actual extent of this experience is not known.

Consideration might be given to further investigations before committing valuable resources in police-community relations efforts. Some possible studies are:

1. A study of the reactions of patrolmen to specific community relations activities with which they have a known amount of contact. This would provide the Department with an evaluation of these activities, from the patrolmen's point of view, based on testimony from those who have been directly involved.
2. Before and after studies among patrolmen to measure the effect of exposure to community relations activities. This would measure what changes, if any, took place in patrolmen's perceptions of public attitudes toward the police and law enforcement and in patrolmen's own attitudes toward their role in the community.
3. A study among New York City residents as a whole or residents of certain specific areas to ascertain their attitudes toward current police-community relations and their opinion as to what steps they would like to see taken to improve these relations.
4. Before and after studies among segments of the public to evaluate the effectiveness of community relations programs.

I.

ATTITUDES OF AREA RESIDENTS

AS SEEN BY PATROLMEN

THE MAJORITY OF PATROLMEN THINK THAT PEOPLE IN THEIR AREA HAVE AT LEAST A FAIR AMOUNT OF RESPECT FOR THE POLICE.

A sizable minority (43%), however, believe that the people in their area have little or no respect for the police. Patrolmen who serve what they characterize as low income areas are far more likely to think that the public has little or no respect for the police than are those who serve high or middle income areas.

About half the patrolmen say that the Negro and Puerto Rican communities have little or no respect for the police compared to less than a third of those who serve Irish or Italian communities.

Opinion varies by hazard level of the area -- 49% of patrolmen who are in high hazard precincts say that people they come in contact with have little or no respect for the police, 38% who are in medium hazard precincts, and 34% in low hazard precincts.

"How much respect do you think most people in your area have for the police?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>	
They have <u>a great deal</u> of respect for the police	6%	} 56%
They have <u>a fair amount</u> of respect for the police	50	
They have <u>very little</u> respect for the police	32	} 43
They have <u>no</u> respect for the police	11	
No opinion	1	

MANY PATROLMEN THINK A POLICEMAN RECEIVES LESS RESPECT THAN OTHERS WHO SERVE THE PUBLIC.

In general, patrolmen are far more likely to see those in other public service occupations as getting more, rather than less, respect from the public than they themselves receive. As shown opposite, 46% of the patrolmen say none of the nine occupations evaluated are held in lower esteem than that of a policeman.

Perceptions as to which occupations are more respected differ according to the income level of the people served. Patrolmen who work in low income areas are more likely to think people there have more respect for welfare and poverty workers, whereas patrolmen in higher income areas are more apt to name teachers, firemen, and politicians as the recipients of greater respect.

"Below is a list of occupations that people in your area might come in contact with. Which of these occupations, if any, do you think most people in your area respect more than that of a policeman?"

"Are there any of these occupations which most people in your area respect less than that of a policeman?"

	Total Patrolmen	
	Respect More	Respect Less
Teacher	42%	7%
Welfare worker	42	16
Fireman	40	7
Politician	38	14
Poverty group worker	35	13
Recreation worker	23	9
Sanitation worker	18	19
Probation officer	14	11
Correction officer	11	12
None	12	46
No opinion	2	5

THE VAST MAJORITY OF PATROLMEN THINK THE PUBLIC LACKS UNDERSTANDING OF A POLICEMAN'S JOB.

Patrolmen sum up what they consider to be their job by saying that, plainly and simply, they are to prevent crime and arrest perpetrators, not to be the friend of those who have no friends.

The feeling that the role of a policeman is misunderstood by the public is strong throughout the force regardless of what areas of the city they serve, the kind of duties they perform, or the length of time they have been on the force. Even among patrolmen who characterize their area as having above-average police-community relations, two-thirds say people do not understand a policeman's job.

"How well do you think most people in your area understand a policeman's job?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
They understand a policeman's job <u>very well</u>	3%
They understand a policeman's job <u>fairly well</u>	18
They <u>do not</u> understand a policeman's job <u>very well</u>	49
They <u>do not</u> understand a policeman's job <u>at all well</u>	29
No opinion	1

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MOST PATROLMEN FEEL THAT LACK OF UNDERSTANDING LEADS THE PUBLIC TO PLACE UNREALISTIC DEMANDS UPON THE POLICE.

Some patrolmen also comment that people in their area expect the police to be their personal servant and accede to any demand. Others feel that people make unreasonable demands because they enjoy harassing police officers.

"When people in your area make unrealistic demands upon the police, it is usually because ..."

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
They don't understand what a policeman's job is and expect him to do things that are not part of his responsibilities	71%
They understand what a policeman's job is, but expect him to do more than he can possibly do	18
Other	8
No opinion	3

WHEN PATROLMEN SPEAK OF UNREALISTIC DEMANDS, THEY REFER CHIEFLY TO BEING CALLED UPON TO SETTLE INTERPERSONAL DISPUTES AND COUNSEL PEOPLE ON PROBLEMS UNRELATED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.

Interestingly enough, there is not a great deal of difference in the perceptions of patrolmen who serve different areas or perform different duties as to what unrealistic demands people place upon the police. Overall, those patrolmen who characterize their areas as having good police-community relations have much the same complaints in this regard as those who say their areas have poor police-community relations.

As shown in the table opposite, patrolmen most resent being asked to intervene in personal quarrels, whether between family members, friends, or those having a business relationship, and being asked to give information about housing, sanitation, or other problems out of their area of direct responsibility.

"Sometimes people expect a patrolman to do things that go beyond his responsibilities as a policeman. In which, if any, of the following do people in your area make unrealistic demands upon the police?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
Settling disputes between family members, or between friends	45%
Giving information about problems not related directly to law enforcement, such as housing and sanitation problems	40
Settling disputes between customers and store- owners, cab drivers and passengers, etc.	37
Safeguarding a person's civil liberties and civil rights	22
Preventing felonies	18
Detecting and apprehending lawbreakers	18
Providing information about city services	15
Eliminating vice	13
Enforcing parking regulations	12
Providing emergency services to the community	11
Protecting derelicts from harm	11
Directing traffic	5
Aiding mentally disturbed persons	5
Other	11
None	9
No opinion	2

PATROLMEN SENSE PUBLIC CRITICISM OF A WIDE VARIETY OF ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES, BUT PRIMARILY OF THEIR HANDLING OF CIVIL DISORDERS AND DEMONSTRATIONS.

Nearly two-thirds of the patrolmen say that there is a great deal of criticism from people in their area about police handling of civil disturbances. This feeling is strong throughout the force.

The next most sensitive activity appears to be police handling of disorderly youths. Others which a majority of patrolmen think arouse at least a fair amount of criticism are: vandalism (63%), nonmoving traffic violations (62%), narcotics (61%), moving traffic violations (60%), muggings (58%), burglaries (57%), and larcenies (51%).

Patrolmen are much less likely to feel that the public is critical of their handling of other enforcement activities -- gambling, rape, barroom brawls, prostitution, violations of certain regulations, disorderly drunks, and family disputes.

"From your experience, how much criticism would you say there is from people in your area about the way police handle each of the following enforcement activities?"

	Total Patrolmen			
	<u>A GREAT DEAL</u> <u>OF CRITICISM</u>	<u>A FAIR AMOUNT</u> <u>OF CRITICISM</u>	<u>VERY LITTLE</u> <u>CRITICISM</u>	<u>NO</u> <u>CRITICISM</u>
Civil disorders and demonstrations	63%	14	9	9
Disorderly youths	45%	33	14	5
Moving traffic violations	36%	24	24	12
Nonmoving traffic violations	35%	27	24	10
Narcotics, drugs	31%	30	23	11
Vandalism	29%	34	23	9
Burglaries	28%	29	25	13
Muggings and robberies	27%	31	25	12
Larcenies	18%	33	28	15
Disorderly drunks	15%	22	37	21
Family disputes	13%	25	40	18
Violations of administrative and health code regulations	13%	17	40	25
Prostitution	13%	14	29	38
Rape	11%	13	34	36
Street fights, barroom brawls	10%	17	43	25
Gambling	10%	14	37	33

(No opinion omitted)

...of the public opinion...
...of the public opinion...
...of the public opinion...

ACCORDING TO PATROLMEN, THE PUBLIC IS CRITICAL BECAUSE IT WANTS
MORE AGGRESSIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT.

The obvious exceptions, of course, are traffic laws. Over-
whelmingly, those patrolmen who say the public is critical of
police handling of traffic violations cite too active police
enforcement as the cause.

Criticism in the other particularly sensitive area, police
handling of disorderly youths, is also seen by most patrolmen
as stemming from the public's desire to see the police take a
tougher stand.

In other areas where there is felt to be substantial criticism
the weight of opinion is clearly on the side of a perceived
desire on the part of the public for more active law enforce-
ment. These areas include: narcotics, vandalism, larcenies,
muggings, and burglaries.

"In question 8 you indicated which enforcement activities people in your area criticize a great deal or a fair amount. For each of these activities on which you said there was criticism on question 8 would you now indicate whether the people in your area are critical because they feel the police are too active in their enforcement or because they feel the police are not active enough. Omit any activities which on question 8 you said receive little or no criticism from people in your area."

	Percentage Base	Policemen Who Say People in Their Area are Critical of Enforcement Activities	
		Police Are Too Active	Police Are Not Active Enough
Moving traffic violations	(822)	82%	11
Nonmoving traffic violations	(856)	80%	13
Violations of administrative and health code regulations	(420)	46%	42
Civil disorders and demonstrations	(1056)	37%	57
Gambling	(330)	33%	57
Street fights, barroom brawls	(375)	31%	55
Family disputes	(527)	25%	66
Disorderly drunks	(512)	23%	70
Prostitution	(364)	19%	71
Disorderly youths	(1063)	19%	76
Rape	(334)	11%	77
Narcotics, drugs	(841)	11%	79
Vandalism	(868)	7%	80
Larcenies	(702)	7%	82
Muggings and robberies	(793)	6%	83
Burglaries	(776)	6%	84

(No opinion omitted)

ON BALANCE, PATROLMEN BELIEVE THE PUBLIC FINDS FAULT WITH THE SLOWNESS OF POLICE ACTION.

Almost half the patrolmen say the people they come in contact with think the police are often too slow to act.

Foot patrolmen and those in Negro and Puerto Rican communities, however, are somewhat more inclined to sense criticism for taking action too fast. Yet among these groups, only 21% feel this way while twice as many think the public wants faster police action.

"People in my area think the police . . ."

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
Are often too quick to act	16%
Are often too slow to act	(47)
Act with about the right speed	31
No opinion	6

THE PUBLIC WANTS LESS ATTENTION PAID TO MINOR VIOLATIONS, ACCORDING TO A MAJORITY OF PATROLMEN.

Over half the patrolmen say that people think the police pay too much attention to minor violations.

"People in my area think the police ..."

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
Pay too much attention to minor violations	57%
Pay too little attention to minor violations	13
Pay about the right amount of attention to minor violations	26
No opinion	4

MOST PATROLMEN THINK THE PUBLIC FAVORS LEGALIZED GAMBLING, BUT NOT MARIJUANA OR HOMOSEXUALITY.

As shown on page 11, however, the vast majority of patrolmen say there is very little or no public criticism of public enforcement of gambling laws. Further, among those who do think the public is critical on this point, only a third cite too active enforcement as the cause.

Most patrolmen think the public does not favor legalizing the smoking of marijuana. About one-third of the patrolmen say Negroes and Puerto Ricans would like to see the law changed -- a far greater proportion than among patrolmen in other areas of the city.

"Do you think most of the people in your area would like to see all gambling legalized?"

"Would most of the people in your area like to see smoking marijuana legalized?"

"Would most of the people in your area like to see homosexuality legalized when engaged in by consenting adults?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>		
	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
Gambling	(73%)	23	4
Marijuana	25%	(71)	4
Homosexuality	18%	(75)	7

OVERWHELMINGLY, PATROLMEN SEE THE PUBLIC AS SATISFIED WITH POLICE ASSISTANCE TO THE SICK OR INJURED.

Whatever their area or type of assignment, vast majorities of patrolmen think the people they come in contact with are satisfied with police performance in this kind of emergency.

"Are the people in your area satisfied with police assistance with respect to emergency aid for the sick or injured?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
Yes	80%
No	16
No opinion	4

THE VAST MAJORITY OF PATROLMEN THINK THE PUBLIC WANTS MORE POLICE ASSIGNED TO THEIR COMMUNITIES.

Over eight patrolmen in ten say people want more police assigned, while fewer than one in ten think people are satisfied with the number of police in their area or want the number reduced.

"Which one of the following statements best describes how most people in your area feel about the number of police assigned to the area?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
They feel <u>more</u> police should be assigned to the area	82%
They feel the number of police assigned to the area now is <u>about right</u>	9
They feel <u>fewer</u> police should be assigned to the area	8
No opinion	1

OVERALL, PATROLMEN CITE FAILURE TO PREVENT SERIOUS CRIME AS THE CHIEF CRITICISM THE PUBLIC HAS OF THE POLICE.

This feeling is widely shared by patrolmen in all parts of the city regardless of the kind of duties they perform. Even among patrolmen who characterize their area as having relatively good police-community relations, 46% say the public holds failure to prevent serious crime against the police. In most respects, however, patrolmen in areas with the poorest police-community relations are far more likely to report public criticism.

A majority of patrolmen say Negroes and Puerto Ricans complain of unfair treatment of minority groups -- far more than those who serve in other communities. They are also more likely than other patrolmen to say people in their area criticize the police for brutality (45%) and failure to respect the rights of individuals (33%).

Patrolmen in high hazard precincts are more likely to see the public as critical of these three (treatment of minority groups, brutality, and individual rights) than are patrolmen in medium or low hazard precincts.

"Which, if any, of the following do you think people
in your area hold against the police?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
Failure of the police to prevent serious crime	51%
Unfair treatment of minority groups by the police	44
Police brutality	37
Arbitrary enforcement of laws and regula- tions by the police	36
Failure of the police to respect the rights of individuals	28
Corruption in the Police Department	28
Other	13
None	13
No opinion	2

NEARLY HALF THE PATROLMEN SAY THE PUBLIC THINKS POLICEMEN SHOULD BE OF THE SAME RACIAL AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND AS THE COMMUNITY THEY SERVE IN, BUT JUST AS MANY DISAGREE.

Even patrolmen who are in Negro and Puerto Rican areas are divided in their perceptions of the community's feelings on this issue. Others, however, are more likely to feel the people in their areas do not think patrolmen should be of the same racial and ethnic background as the people of the precinct.

"In general, do people in your area think police officers should be of the same racial and ethnic background as the people of the precinct?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>	<u>Patrolmen in Negro Communities</u>	<u>Patrolmen in Puerto Rican Communities</u>
Yes	47%	48%	46%
No	47	46	48
No opinion	6	6	6
Percentage base:	(1369)	(972)	(798)

A MAJORITY OF PATROLMEN THINK PEOPLE IN THEIR AREA ARE SATISFIED WITH THE PRO-
PORTION OF NEGROES AND PUERTO RICANS NOW ON THE POLICE FORCE.

Patrolmen by no means perceive a concensus within the Negro or Puerto Rican communities for greater minority group representation on the police force. Over a third of all patrolmen (and more in minority communities), however, believe the people would like to see more Negroes and Puerto Ricans on the force.

"Whatever precinct you are in, do people in your area think there are enough Negroes or Puerto Ricans on the police force as a whole?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>	<u>Patrolmen in Negro Communities</u>	<u>Patrolmen in Puerto Rican Communities</u>
Yes	54%	48%	48%
No	36	44	43
No opinion	10	8	9
Percentage base:	(1369)	(972)	(798)

The question of minority representation does appear to be a problem in areas which patrolmen describe as having relatively poor police-community relations.

	<u>Patrolmen who are in areas with ...</u>		
	<u>Good Police- Community Relations</u>	<u>Average Police- Community Relations</u>	<u>Poor Police- Community Relations</u>
People in my area think police officers <u>should</u> be of the same racial and ethnic background as the people of the precinct	39%	43%	60%
People in my area think there are <u>not enough</u> Negroes or Puerto Ricans on the police force as a whole	17%	28%	60%
Percentage base:	(345)	(525)	(431)

THE PUBLIC IS SEEN AS HAVING NO QUARREL WITH THE HANDLING OF
CITIZEN COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS, ACCORDING TO A
MAJORITY OF PATROLMEN.

...of
... ..
... ..
... ..

THE PUBLIC IS SEEN AS HAVING NO QUARREL WITH THE HANDLING OF
CITIZEN COMPLAINTS AGAINST POLICE OFFICERS, ACCORDING TO A
MAJORITY OF PATROLMEN.

... ..
... ..

It is only in areas with relatively poor police-community re-
lations in general that a majority of patrolmen say people
think citizen complaints do not get a fair hearing.

"People in my area think citizen complaints
against police officers . . ."

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
Get a fair hearing	56%
Do not get a fair hearing	37
No opinion	7

OVERWHELMINGLY, PATROLMEN PERCEIVE LITTLE OR NO PUBLIC CRITICISM OF THE ACTIONS OF OFF-DUTY POLICEMEN.

Nowhere in the city do patrolmen see the public as being aroused by this issue.

"How much criticism is there from people in your area regarding the actions of off-duty patrolmen?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>	
A great deal of criticism	4%	} 9%
A fair amount of criticism	5	
Very little criticism	32	} 88
No criticism	56	
No opinion	3	

THE POLICE PERCEIVE THEMSELVES AS BEING BLAMED BY THE PUBLIC FOR DIFFICULTIES IN GETTING ACTION FROM OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS.

Two-thirds of the patrolmen say people in their area are at least fairly critical of the police for difficulties experienced with other city departments. Most patrolmen sense little or no public criticism of the police with respect to all other problem areas listed. (See Table opposite)

Not surprisingly, criticism of the police for unsatisfactory social or economic conditions appears to be concentrated mainly in low income areas.

Proportion of Patrolmen Who Say People in Their Area Express a "Great Deal" or a "Fair Amount" of Criticism of the Police for Unsatisfactory Social or Economic Conditions

	<u>Low Income Areas</u>	<u>Middle Income Areas</u>	<u>High Income Areas</u>
Poor sanitary conditions	54%	36%	35%
Poor housing conditions	48%	22%	16%
Inadequate recreation facilities	44%	31%	25%
Dissatisfaction with welfare	41%	28%	26%
Lack of jobs	32%	15%	14%
Poor health care	31%	15%	15%
Low quality education	29%	15%	14%
Percentage base:	(724)	(640)	(245)

"Sometimes people blame the police for conditions or events over which the Police Department has no jurisdiction or control. For each of the following, indicate how much criticism is directed toward the police by people in your area."

	Total Patrolmen			
	<u>A GREAT</u> <u>DEAL</u>	<u>A FAIR</u> <u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>VERY</u> <u>LITTLE</u>	<u>NONE</u>
Difficulties in getting action on problems by other city departments	35%	32	18	12
Dissatisfaction with welfare	21%	13	21	41
Poor sanitary conditions	18%	26	30	22
Inadequate recreation facilities	15%	21	28	32
Poor housing conditions	15%	18	25	27
Inadequate public transportation	12%	15	29	40
Low quality education	10%	11	28	47
Poor health care	9%	13	28	45
Lack of jobs	9%	13	27	46

(No opinion omitted)

...of
... ..
... ..

PATROLMEN CITE A WIDE VARIETY OF POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS FOR
HOSTILITY TOWARD THE POLICE.

As shown opposite, the chief reasons named as explaining hostility toward the police are a feeling that a person can be hostile and get away with it and a general hostility toward authority of any kind.

A majority of patrolmen also think hostility can be caused by a tendency to blame the police for many of society's problems and an unhappy personal experience with the police.

Hearing about unhappy experiences others have had with the police and being stirred up by outside agitators are both fairly often offered as explanations for hard feelings.

Quite a few patrolmen also say being under the influence of alcohol or narcotics and the inability of the police to prevent or solve more crimes are the best explanations for hostility toward the police.

"Which, if any, of the following do you think are the best explanations of any hostility, or hard feelings, which a person in your area might have toward the police?"

	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Patrolmen</u>
A feeling that they can be hostile toward the police and get away with it	71%
A general hostility toward authority of any kind	67
A tendency to blame the police for many of society's problems	61
A past unhappy experience with the police on the part of the individual concerned	52
Hearing about unhappy experiences others have had with the police	47
People are stirred up by outside agitators	42
People simply taking out their troubles on the police	36
The result of having had a few drinks	29
The result of being on drugs or narcotics	25
The inability of the police to reduce the number of crimes	23
The inability of the police to solve a greater percentage of crimes	22
Other	7
None	2
No opinion	2

ABOUT HALF THE PATROLMEN BELIEVE THE PUBLIC THINKS THE POLICE UNDER-
STAND THE PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS, BUT AS MANY DISAGREE.

Fifty-five per cent of patrolmen say Negroes and Puerto Ricans think the police do not understand their problems, while those in other areas are less likely to see this as a problem. A perceived lack of understanding on the part of the police is also considered more of a problem in low income areas than in middle or high income areas.

The higher the hazard level of the precinct, the more likely patrolmen are to cite this as a problem.

"Do people in your area think the police understand the problems that the people have to face?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
Yes.	48%
No	48
No opinion	4

Lack of understanding is widely ascribed to the public by patrolmen in areas which they characterize as having poor police-community relations in general.

	<u>Good Police-Community Relations</u>	<u>Average Police-Community Relations</u>	<u>Poor Police-Community Relations</u>
Yes	73%	51%	25%
No	23	45	(72)
No opinion	4	4	3
Percentage base:	(345)	(525)	(431)

FEW PATROLMEN THINK THE PUBLIC IS VERY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT ANY OF THE POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES LISTED.

Patrolmen were asked to rate what they believe to be the level of community acceptance given to each of fourteen different police-community activities operating in various precincts across the city. Ratings by these patrolmen who say they have such an activity in their precinct are shown below and on page 33.

As patrolmen see it, none of the activities wins a great deal of acceptance from the community, but none is rejected either. While the Community Council Program is the only community-wide program which a majority of patrolmen think wins at least a fair amount of acceptance, each of the others are close behind.

"Listed below are some types of community relations activities in which the Police Department is involved in various precincts across the city. As far as you know, how much acceptance does each of the following police-community relations activities have among people in your area?"

	Patrolmen Who Have Such An Activity in Their Precinct				
	Percentage BASE	A GREAT DEAL	A FAIR AMOUNT	VERY LITTLE	NO ACCEPT- ANCE
Community Council Program -- involving "grass roots" people in discussions with the Police Department to bring about changes in attitudes	(1065)	19%	34	15	3
Cultural Exchange Program -- neighborhood festivals, block parties, group discussions, outings, exchange programs, etc.	(884)	18%	28	22	5
Community Education Programs -- meetings with the public, publi- cations, etc., designed to reduce problems such as glue sniffing, teenage smoking and drinking	(1020)	14%	31	24	6
Crime Prevention Orientation -- meetings with the public, dis- plays, open houses, etc.	(963)	14%	31	22	5

("Don't know how they feel" omitted)

AMONG VARIOUS ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH, SPORTS LEAGUES ARE SEEN AS WINNING THE MOST ACCEPTANCE FROM THE PUBLIC.

Shown opposite are the ratings of perceived community acceptance of various police activities involving youth, as given by patrolmen who say they have such activities in their precinct.

A majority of patrolmen think sports leagues or clinics win at least a fair amount of acceptance from the community. However, less than one patrolman in four see them as getting a great deal of acceptance.

The Youth Council Program is perceived as next most popular with the public. Almost half the patrolmen say these activities receive at least a fair amount of acceptance.

Many patrolmen also say that activities to develop better understanding of police functions and various social and cultural activities get at least a fair reaction from the public.

A third or more patrolmen believe the following activities receive little or no acceptance from the public: educational activities, service by young people, community service, shows, and Junior Youth Councils.

"Listed below are some types of community relations activities in which the Police Department is involved in various precincts across the city. As far as you know, how much acceptance does each of the following police-community relations activities have among people in your area?" (continued)

	Patrolmen Who Have Such an Activity in Their Precinct				NO ACCEPT- ANCE
	Percentage Base	A GREAT DEAL	A FAIR AMOUNT	VERY LITTLE	
<u>YOUTH ACTIVITIES</u>					
Sports Leagues or Clinics -- baseball, basketball, track, bowling, etc.	(1017)	22%	34	16	3
Youth Council Program -- involving local youth in discussions with the Police Department to bring about changes in attitudes	(1035)	15%	31	23	5
Giving presentations on the Police Department at schools, sponsoring field trips for children to the Police Academy, etc., to develop understanding of police functions	(979)	14%	27	24	5
Social activities -- dances, holiday parties, movies, etc.	(876)	13%	30	22	4
Cultural activities -- arts and crafts, drum and bugle corps, trips to places of educational interest, etc.	(881)	13%	27	25	5
Community Service -- clean-up campaign, job placements, summer and day camp placements	(874)	11%	23	29	7
Educational activities -- poster, art, essay contests, stay-in-school incentives	(848)	10%	19	28	8
Shows -- fashion, talent, hobby, etc.	(796)	9%	21	28	6
Junior Youth Councils -- citizen training programs, etc.	(841)	8%	20	27	6
Service by young people -- visiting shut-ins, tutoring, etc.	(725)	5%	12	26	11

("Don't know how they feel" omitted)

PATROLMEN THINK THERE WOULD BE A FAIRLY GOOD RESPONSE FROM THE PUBLIC TO A WIDE VARIETY OF SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS.

Patrolmen were asked to appraise the reaction of people in their area to 20 specific suggestions for improving police-community relations. Overall, none of the suggestions stand out as winning widespread acceptance or rejection by the public, according to patrolmen.

A majority of patrolmen think the public would view each of the suggestions shown opposite as at least fairly helpful in promoting better police-community relations. Suggestions seen as winning less support from the public are shown in the table on page 36.

Radio and TV programs about the police are thought to arouse the best reaction from the public, but only 38% of patrolmen say people in their area would consider these to be very helpful.

Only two suggestions would be viewed as being of little or no help by the public, according to at least six patrolmen in ten. These are using civilian volunteers to perform nonenforcement activities and having children from the area visit patrolmen at their homes.

"Listed next are some specific suggestions for improving police-community relations. How do you think people in your area would react to an activity of this kind in terms of its helpfulness in building better relations between the police and the community?"

	Total Patrolmen			
	VERY HELPFUL	FAIRLY HELPFUL	NOT TOO HELPFUL	NOT AT ALL HELPFUL
Radio and TV programs about the police to build understanding and cooperation between the police and the community	38%	31	16	9
Staging plays dealing with the evils of narcotic addiction in cooperation with local youth	31%	30	20	12
Having community residents serve as volunteer interpreters in local precincts where there is a language problem	31%	33	14	16
Learning the language, cultural background, etc., of foreign-language-speaking people who live in the area	29%	30	18	17
Discussing mutual problems, grievances, etc., with adults and young people from the area	25%	40	17	12
Inviting clergy to programs at which various police speakers and community speakers outline current programs and areas in which cooperation is possible	25%	34	22	13
Inviting local residents into the station house to view special exhibits, hear talks on police work and community cooperation	24%	34	23	13
Weekend camping trips with youngsters from the area	22%	34	21	17
Obtaining employment for hard-to-place youth by working with labor unions, employers, etc.	22%	33	21	18
Arranging meetings to acquaint precinct personnel with representatives of community organizations, especially those maintaining storefront operations	21%	33	24	16
Using civilian volunteers to solicit funds to sponsor summer camp for youths under the Fresh Air Fund	20%	31	25	18

(No opinion omitted)

"Listed next are some specific suggestions for improving police-community relations. How do you think people in your area would react to an activity of this kind in terms of its helpfulness in building better relations between the police and the community?" (continued)

	Total Patrolmen			
	<u>VERY HELPFUL</u>	<u>FAIRLY HELPFUL</u>	<u>NOT TOO HELPFUL</u>	<u>NOT AT ALL HELPFUL</u>
Cooperating with other institutions in issuing summonses instead of arrests for persons charged with minor violations of the law	18%	26	23	26
Having civilian women from the community given special training and serving as precinct receptionists to deal with social problems, children, etc.	18%	25	25	26
Having newly assigned personnel and recruits listen to talks by community residents on the customs and mores of the community	16%	29	29	19
Job training and development for minority group youths in cooperation with educational and other institutions, including training on Police Department sites	16%	25	27	25
Cooperating with other institutions in the treatment of alcoholics, on a voluntary basis, in a noncriminal manner	15%	29	29	19
Having all police personnel in the area listen to talks given by community residents on the customs and mores of the community	15%	24	31	22
Special projects such as police-community art shows, bicycle festivals, kite flying contests, coloring contests, etc.	14%	31	29	19
Using civilian volunteers to perform a variety of nonenforcement activities for the police	13%	21	29	31
Having children from the area in which you work spend weekend visits at the homes of patrolmen	10%	15	27	42

(No opinion omitted)

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE OFFICERS AND PATROLMEN
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE OFFICERS AND PATROLMEN
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

[Illegible text]

II.

PATROLMEN'S OWN VIEWS

PATROLMEN TEND TO RATE THE POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS IN THEIR AREA AS "AVERAGE" COMPARED WITH OTHER AREAS OF THE CITY.

Patrolmen in low income areas and in Negro and Puerto Rican communities, however, are more likely than those in other areas to say police-community relations where they work are worse than those in other parts of the city.

"Overall, how would you rate the relationship between the police and the community in your area compared to police-community relations in other areas of the city that you may know about?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
One of the best	6%
Above average	19
Average	38
Below average	20
One of the worst	12
No opinion	5

THREE PATROLMEN IN FOUR THINK THE PUBLIC HAS REASON TO COMMEND THE POLICE ON THE WAY THEY HANDLE THEIR JOB.

"In general, how much reason do you think people in your area have for commending the police on the way they do their job?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>	
A great deal of reason	29%	} 75%
A fair amount of reason	46	
Very little reason	18	
No reason	4	
No opinion	3	

FURTHERMORE, MOST PATROLMEN FIND LITTLE OR NO REASON WHY THE PUBLIC SHOULD BE CRITICAL.

"In general, how much reason do you think people in your area have for being critical of the way the police do their job?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>	
A great deal of reason	7%	
A fair amount of reason	20	
Very little reason	60	} 71
No reason	11	
No opinion	2	

MOST PATROLMEN EXPECT THEY WOULD RECEIVE LITTLE OR NO HELP FROM THE PUBLIC IF THEIR LIVES WERE IN DANGER.

However, four patrolmen in ten believe they would receive at least "a fair amount" of help, if it were needed.

Patrolmen assigned to low income areas and Negro and Puerto Rican communities are more likely to see themselves as getting little or no help from the public than are patrolmen who work in other areas of the city.

"If you were in a situation in which your life was in danger, how much help do you think you would get from people in your area?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
A great deal of help	8%
A fair amount of help	33
Very little help	39
No help	16
No opinion	4

} 55

PATROLMEN TEND TO THINK PRESENT COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAMS ARE OF LITTLE HELP IN BUILDING UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE POLICE AND PEOPLE IN THEIR AREA.

Half of the patrolmen in low hazard precincts, however, consider present efforts at least fairly helpful. Moreover, about two-fifths of those in Negro and Puerto Rican communities would agree.

On balance, however, most patrolmen say that present community relations activities are bringing poor to fair results.

"In general, how helpful are present community relations programs in building understanding and cooperation between the police and people in your area?"

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
Very helpful	9%
Fairly helpful	34
Not too helpful	39
Not at all helpful	14
No opinion	4

} 53

HALF OF THE PATROLMEN THINK COMMUNITY RELATIONS EFFORTS IN THEIR AREA SHOULD BE AIMED PRIMARILY AT TEENAGERS.

A third of the patrolmen think the major emphasis should be placed on working with children not yet in their teens. Patrolmen in low income areas (38%) are more likely to say the stress should be on working with young children than are those in higher income areas (29%).

"The major emphasis of community relations programs in my area should be placed on . . ."

	<u>Total Patrolmen</u>
Working with teenagers	49%
Working with children not yet in their teens	32
Working with adults	22
No opinion	6

PATROLMEN SEE LESS PERMISSIVENESS TOWARD LAWBREAKERS AS THE MOST HELPFUL STEP TOWARD IMPROVED POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS.

Patrolmen were asked to rate the helpfulness of ten ideas for improving relations between the police and people in their area. The desire for a tougher stand toward offenders is indicated by the fact that eight patrolmen in ten say less leniency on the part of the courts would be very helpful and, six patrolmen in ten think stricter law enforcement would be very helpful.

Patrolmen also think it would be very helpful to educate the public on the role of the police and to give patrolmen longer assignments in one place so that they, in their turn, could get to know the people better.

The strongest opposition among patrolmen is toward the use of name plates and more involvement on their part in housing and sanitation problems, as indicated by the fact that majorities think these ideas would not be of any help at all in improving police-community relations.

Throughout the city, patrolmen are divided in their views toward having policemen of the same racial and ethnic background as the people in their area, with about half saying this would be at least fairly helpful and half disagreeing.

Patrolmen are more inclined to see assigning more police to the area as being helpful. This feeling among patrolmen is probably related to their widespread belief that the people in their area want more police to be assigned there (see page 19).

Reacting to community relations programs in general, most patrolmen see them as very or fairly helpful.

"In view of the attitudes you have described and your own experience as a policeman, how helpful do you think each of the ideas listed below would be in improving relations between the police and the people in your area?"

	Total Patrolmen			
	<u>VERY HELPFUL</u>	<u>FAIRLY HELPFUL</u>	<u>NOT TOO HELPFUL</u>	<u>NOT AT ALL HELPFUL</u>
Less leniency on the part of the courts	82%	5	2	8
Educating the public on the role of the police	60%	24	8	5
Stricter enforcement of the law by the police	60%	20	12	5
Longer assignments in one area so the police can get to know the people better	49%	25	13	10
Assigning more police to the area	34%	29	20	13
Having policemen of the same racial and ethnic background as the people in their area	23%	25	27	22
Community relations programs	21%	49	19	8
Giving police more training in human relations and psychology	16%	36	28	17
More police involvement in housing and sanitation problems	4%	7	30	56
Use of name plates identifying the police	2%	3	16	76

(No opinion omitted)

PATROLMEN THINK LENIENCY ON THE PART OF THE COURTS HURTS THEIR EFFECTIVENESS ON THE JOB, AS WELL AS THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY.

Over eight patrolmen in ten say a tendency toward leniency on the part of the courts impairs the efficient performance of their duties to a great extent.

Half of the patrolmen also say the Mapp decision and the Civilian Complaint Review Board hamper their job performance a great deal.

Feeling is not as strong with respect to the Miranda decision. Nevertheless, two-thirds of the patrolmen say the Miranda decision restricts them on the job either a fair amount or a great deal.

Patrolmen have much the same views with respect to the effect which these developments have upon their job performance regardless of where they are assigned or the kind of duties they perform.

"In your opinion, to what extent, if any, does each of the following impair the efficient performance of your duties?"

	Total Patrolmen			
	<u>A GREAT DEAL</u>	<u>A FAIR AMOUNT</u>	<u>VERY LITTLE</u>	<u>NOT AT ALL</u>
A tendency toward leniency on the part of the courts	84%	8	2	2
The Mapp decision which forbids the use of illegally obtained evidence; i.e., evidence secured during an illegal search or seized under illegal circumstances	52%	24	13	6
The Civilian Complaint Review Board	52%	21	15	8
The Miranda decision which requires police to advise those in custody of their right to remain silent and to have an attorney	41%	25	18	11

(No opinion omitted)

THE "STOP AND FRISK" LAW AND THE P.B.A. ARE SEEN AS BEING OF MORE HELP TO PATROLMEN THAN THE FORMAL OR INFORMAL DEPARTMENTAL GRIEVANCE MACHINERY.

The "Stop and Frisk" law and representation by their line organization are each rated very or fairly helpful in reducing work pressures by seven patrolmen in ten.

Informal discussions of patrolmen's problems with supervisors or commanding officers are considered at least fairly helpful by a majority of patrolmen.

On the other hand, most patrolmen think the formal departmental grievance machinery is not helpful to them.

"How helpful do you think each of the following is in reducing the pressures of your work?"

	Total Patrolmen			
	<u>VERY HELPFUL</u>	<u>FAIRLY HELPFUL</u>	<u>NOT TOO HELPFUL</u>	<u>NOT AT ALL HELPFUL</u>
The "Stop and Frisk" law	42%	28	16	8
Representation by your line organization	41%	29	17	7
The informal means afforded of discussing your problems with your supervisors and commanding officer	24%	31	21	17
The formal departmental grievance machinery	19%	20	30	25

(No opinion omitted)

TECHNICAL APPENDIX

DETAILS OF RESEARCH DESIGN

Data from the total patrolmen were analyzed by the various subgroups outlined below:

Income of the Area

High income areas are those which patrolmen characterize as having people with very high incomes or fairly high incomes; middle income areas as those having people with middle incomes; and low income areas as those having people who have fairly low incomes or very low incomes (Question 26).

Racial or Ethnic Background of the Community

Patrolmen were asked to describe the racial or ethnic background of the people whose attitudes they discussed in the first part of the questionnaire. These subgroups were derived from responses to this question (Question 28).

Level of Police-Community Relations

Areas with good police-community relations are those which patrolmen characterize as one of the best or above average compared to other areas of the city; areas with average police-community relations are those described as average by patrolmen; and areas with poor police-community relations are those which patrolmen say are below average or one of the worst in the city (Question 38).

Hazard Level of the Precinct

Patrolmen were asked for the precinct number to which they are assigned. Precincts were grouped into high, medium, and low hazard areas based upon classifications supplied by the Police Department. The Tactical Patrol Force is not assigned to any precinct and is analyzed separately (Question 43).

Length of Time on the Force

Groupings were derived from responses to Question 42.

Activities Engaged in Most Often

Patrolmen who said they were very often involved in family disputes, disorderly youths, disorderly drunks, civil disorders and demonstrations, or street fights, barroom brawls were grouped under "Keeping the Peace." Those who were very often involved in moving or nonmoving traffic violations or violations of administrative and health code regulations were grouped under "Enforcing Traffic & Other Regulations." Those who were very often involved in larcenies, burglaries, muggings and robberies, rape, or vandalism were grouped under "Protecting Life and Property." Those who were very often involved in gambling, prostitution, narcotics, or drugs were classified under "Enforcing Vice Laws" (Question 39).

Type of Assignment was derived from Question 40 and Duty from Question 41.

SAMPLING TOLERANCES

The sampling method employed in this study was designed to give a representative cross section of patrolmen in the New York Police Department. All survey results, however, are subject to some variation arising from the fact that findings are based on a sample rather than on interviews with all members of the survey population. The size of the sample, as well as the level of the survey percentages, affect possible sample variations, as illustrated in the table below.

Approximate Sampling Tolerances for a Survey Percentage At or Near These Levels
(95 in 100 confidence level)

Size of Sample on which Survey Result is Based	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%
	or 90%	or 80%	or 70%	or 60%	
1369	2%	3%	3%	3%	3%
700	3%	4%	4%	5%	5%
600	3%	4%	5%	5%	5%
300	4%	6%	6%	7%	7%
200	5%	7%	8%	8%	9%

For example, on the question, "How much respect do you think most people in your area have for the police?" 50% of New York City patrolmen interviewed said they think the people in their area have a fair amount of respect for the police. In this case, the sampling tolerance based on 1,369 interviews is plus or minus 3%. In other words, the chances are 95 in 100 that if all New York City patrolmen, rather than just a sample of them, had been interviewed, the proportion saying people in their area have a fair amount of respect for the police would be between 47% and 53% (50%±3%).

Sampling tolerances are involved in the comparison of different subgroups of a sample, as well as in the reliability of a single survey percentage. A difference between two samples or subgroups must be of at least a certain size to be considered statistically significant rather than having occurred simply through chance. The table below is a guide to the sampling tolerances applicable to the comparisons made in this study.

Size of Samples Compared	Approximate Sampling Tolerances for Differences Between Two Survey Percentages at or Near These Levels				
	10% or 90%	20% or 80%	30% or 70%	40% or 60%	50%
1369 - 1000	3%	4%	5%	5%	5%
1369 - 800	3%	4%	5%	5%	5%
1369 - 100	8%	10%	12%	12%	13%
1000 - 800	3%	5%	5%	6%	6%
700 - 650	4%	5%	6%	6%	7%
700 - 250	5%	7%	8%	9%	9%
650 - 250	5%	5%	8%	9%	9%
500 - 400	5%	7%	8%	8%	8%
500 - 350	5%	7%	8%	8%	9%
400 - 350	5%	7%	8%	9%	9%
450 - 450	5%	7%	7%	8%	8%
450 - 300	5%	7%	8%	9%	9%
450 - 100	8%	11%	12%	13%	14%
300 - 100	9%	11%	13%	14%	14%

For example, 25% of patrolmen in areas characterized as having poor police-community relations are of the opinion that the people think the police understand the people's problems, compared with 73% of patrolmen in areas characterized as having good police-community relations. This difference is statistically significant, since there are 95 chances in 100 that any difference of 48 percentage points or more for these two groups of 431 and 345 interviews represents an actual difference in opinion and is not due to chance.

QUESTIONNAIRE

ABOUT THIS SURVEY

The Office of Law Enforcement Assistance of the U.S. Department of Justice has awarded a grant to the Police Department to conduct a survey among patrolmen. Vera Institute of Justice has worked closely with the Police Department at the Department's request in the preparation of this questionnaire.

The purpose of this survey is to find out how patrolmen think people view the police and law enforcement. The questions concern attitudes and conditions in the specific area or areas in which you work, not in the city as a whole or in any other part of the city.

In Part I of the questionnaire you are asked to describe the attitudes of people in your area toward the police and law enforcement. In some cases you may share their views and in others you may not. Just tell us what you believe to be their views, whether or not you agree.

No doubt there are different types of people in your area with different attitudes toward the police. When you answer the questions, keep in mind the attitudes of most of the people in your area, or the largest group you come in contact with, regardless of whether they tend to be favorable toward the police or not. It does not matter that all viewpoints in your area may not be covered.

In Part II of the questionnaire you are given an opportunity to express your own views and opinions.

Your cooperation in filling out this questionnaire is requested, but participation is completely voluntary. Your answers will not be identified with you in any way, but will be combined with those of other patrolmen who fill out the questionnaire. At no point in the questionnaire are you asked to give your name or any other information which would identify your answers with you as an individual. We therefore ask you to answer each question as frankly as you can.