

The Impact of Racial Profiling By Police Among Indigenous People

Task Requirement (Question)

CRIMINOLOGY 1101

Introduction to the Criminal Justice System

INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR PAPER

This document provides a summary of the following: • The general criteria used for grading papers • Instructions for the written assignment – including topic choices • Paper guidelines • Suggestions regarding how to locate academic articles and newspaper articles for inclusion in your paper • Detailed instructions regarding referencing in your written assignment • Grading rubric

General Criteria for Grading Papers

1. Understanding and incorporation of course materials
2. Appropriate use of academic sources
3. Evidence of critical thought and analysis
4. Meets instructions re: Project Guidelines provided below
5. Grammar, syntax, spelling, organization
6. Proper referencing and citations (See Instructions for Referencing in Written Assignments below)

See the Grading Rubric below for more specific details on expectations and grading.

Instructions for Written Assignment

Your essay of approximately 700-1,000 words (not including title page and reference list) is due by the start of class in Week 13. Your essay is worth 17.5% of your final grade. Your paper should be an exploration of a subject from the course. You should select your own topic – I will not be assigning paper topics. You should find one or two Canadian newspaper articles that relate to your chosen topic and integrate them into your paper. The articles must be from within the last two years. You must also include a minimum of two academic sources in your paper. Your academic sources and newspaper articles must be correctly referenced using APA format. Information and help on locating and referencing academic sources and newspaper articles and on using APA format is provided below and on the course website.

Paper Guidelines

Papers should be submitted electronically through the Moodle course website. Do not submit printed copies. Late papers will be penalized 10% for each day they are late including weekends. Emailed assignments will not be accepted. Inability to meet deadlines requires advance notification to the instructor as well as appropriate documentation.

2 Paper Format: In addition to adhering to the above information, each of the following components should be included in your paper. You may choose to use headings but you are not obligated to do so. However, each of the below sections needs to be found within your paper:

Title Page The title of your paper should convey the subject matter in 15 words or less. Do not call it something like "Crim 1101" (this gives no information about content), or "Criminal Justice Paper" (not specific enough). Your title should capture what the paper is about. Your name, student number, title of the course and date should also appear on the title page.

Introduction The introduction should be just that – it introduces your topic and contextualizes it within the broader literature as appropriate, states your objective (thesis statement) and should provide an outline of what your paper discusses. Most importantly, it should provide a useful framework to the paper. My advice is to be specific about the topic you are addressing and, if appropriate, be sure to explain your approach to the topic. Make sure that you properly cite sources of the information.

Discussion The body of your paper should provide a discussion that addresses each component of the topic you selected. It should also include a discussion of the

newspaper article(s) you selected for inclusion in your paper and integrate the one or more academic sources you researched. Conclusion The conclusion should provide a summary of what you found. Having examined the literature and compared it to the media sources you found, what can you conclude about your topic? Are there questions that remain unanswered? If so, be sure to discuss them briefly. Including Academic Sources Outside research for your paper is required in addition to using the course readings and lectures (NOTE: you should only cite the lecture and the course text as required). At least two additional academic articles should be included as resources for your paper. Your paper should be referenced using APA style. This means using in-text citations and a reference list at the end of your paper. Information about APA style is available on the Kwantlen Library website: <http://libguides.kpu.ca/apa>. Academic references must be included throughout the paper; you must appropriately cite the sources of your information. Please note: wikipedia.com is not an academic source and should not be cited in a formal academic paper. How to Search for Academic Articles The KPU Library website includes an excellent Criminology Subject Guide. This is a great place to start when looking for Criminology-related material and information: <https://libguides.kpu.ca/crim/>. An important initial consideration is to ensure that the source you have located is academic or scholarly in nature. Academic or scholarly articles are different from articles in popular magazines or websites. They:

- are written by experts
- usually report on research
- always include many in-text citations and a list of references or works cited by the author(s)
- most importantly, have been rigorously critiqued and reviewed by experts for quality before being published. This is called peer-review.

To determine if your article is an academic source, please see the following resources:

- <http://www.kpu.ca/library/databases/scholarly-publications>
- <https://www.lib.ncsu.edu/tutorials/scholarly-articles/> (This is a useful interactive guide to identifying a scholarly journal article and its key features.)
- <https://vimeo.com/72665593> (This is an informative video on general principles for evaluating resources.)

To locate a relevant article, a good first place to look is the Summons search on the front page of the KPU Library website: <http://www.kpu.ca/library>. While Summons is a good general search tool, it is not comprehensive. Some material may be better located using specialized academic databases, many of which are also available through the library. These latter tools are also useful when you are starting with a particular topic or area of interest for which you want to find relevant material. Links to several of the major criminology research databases can be found under the Criminology Subject Guide: <https://libguides.kpu.ca/crim/articles#slg-box-15617838> How to Locate Newspaper Articles You may select articles from current newspapers, you may use current or archived on-line articles, or you may choose to search the library's on line resources – e.g., Canadian Newsstream can be found here: <https://search-proquest-com.ezproxy.kpu.ca:2443/canadiannews>. This Canadian newspaper database contains full-text articles. It could be a useful resource to find articles related to your topic or to find articles that specifically support (or refute) the arguments you make in your paper.

Answer

Introduction

Native American communities in Canada are coping with a disproportionately high percentage of Indigenous prisoners, probationers, or individuals on the brink of prosecution. This is a serious issue that impacts all of them. Many indigenous people have run into trouble with the law, and this number will likely continue to rise (Un.org, 2022). In the last five years, 33% of indigenous individuals have been victims of racial profiling at least once (150.statcan.gc.ca, 2022). In particular, among individuals who are not part of a visible minority, this number is substantially higher than the non-Indigenous population in general. For 44% of individuals from First Nations groups, 24% from the Métis community, and 29% of individuals from the Inuit community, racism is a reality (150.statcan.gc.ca, 2022). Several additional obstacles exist for Indigenous and racially marginalized individuals, including the absence of police protection from systemic racism and homicide and an incapacity to appropriately investigate and react to criminal victimization compared to non-indigenous persons (McKay, 2022, p. 45). This is partly because police are not held accountable for their actions, which gives them the license to act according to their will. Racial profiling negatively impacts indigenous people since it makes them feel unprotected, impacts their psychological and emotional well-being, and leads to a loss of trust in state government authorities.

Main body

One of the long-term effects of racial profiling among indigenous people is feeling unprotected, which further restricts their social movement, making them withdraw from society. According to Plümecke et al. (2022, p. 9), the threat of everyday police stops alters the safety perspective of Indigenous people and changes how they behave and move in

public. Even some Aboriginal people avoid specific streets or places to lower the risk of being spotted. Indigenous people who have been the target of racial profiling may experience feelings of loneliness and social isolation due to the lack of assistance they receive from family and loved ones. One such incident has been reported by Hoyer (2022), where it was mentioned that a Peguis First Nation man was wrongfully detained by the Winnipeg Police Service and was handcuffed while performing a patrol as part of his job. It was quite shocking for them, and it was a severe case of racial profiling when they cornered him only because he belonged to the Indigenous group. In the framework of police procedures, interpersonal ties, and the self-image of the Indigenous individual in question, the apparent physical differences are of enormous consequence. Therefore, no location can be considered secure for an Aboriginal person regarding these interactions; this is true even in settings with a low likelihood of a discriminatory response from law enforcement. Hence, it is undeniable that such circumstances make Aboriginal people feel unsafe and maintain social distance.

Racial profiling by police also impacts Indigenous people while hampering their psychological and emotional well-being. Law enforcement bias can make building and maintaining healthy social networks more difficult, worsening psychological problems. As per the view of Hautala & Sittner (2019, p. 6), racial profiling and the messages of inferiority it sends, especially when it starts with the police, do not have to exacerbate depressive symptoms. Discrimination is one of the most reliable predictors of poor emotional and psychological health outcomes for Aboriginal people. Undeniably, incidents such as absconding someone from the road or false accusations may lead to mental distress among Indigenous people, especially when they are wrongfully accused, which further can impact the sentiments of the Indigenous community. This has been seen in the case of the Peguis First Nation man, as he did not get a proper apology from one of the police inspectors who wrongfully detained him, and it impacted the mental peace of The First Nations Health and

Social Secretariat of Manitoba since she mentioned that they were angry and hurt and want to really let others know what happened in the racial profiling case (Hoye, 2022). Therefore, it is undeniable that such incidents leave a deep scar on the minds of indigenous people, leading to long-term psychological distress.

Most importantly, indigenous people lose trust in the police as they know that even if they are the victims, they will be detained due to racial profiling and discrimination. They believe the police officers are treating them differently because they are of different races. These individuals see members of law enforcement with contempt and disdain as a direct result of the factors above. In compliance with Samuels-Wortley, K. (2021, p. 1154), it can be said that even in indigenous communities, there is pervasive hostility and mistrust toward law enforcement. Recently, a newspaper article mentioned that Aboriginal people are disproportionately detained for drug possession rather than non-Aboriginal people; in fact, they are likely to be arrested eight times higher than White people (Browne, 2022). It was further mentioned that these disparities could be seen because of racial profiling by police departments and targeting specific racial communities by the drug police. Incidents and data like these make Indigenous people distrust the police and criminal justice system.

Conclusion

Overall, it is undeniable that Indigenous people are subject to racial profiling by the police and law enforcement that subsequently impacts their minds and how they act in society. It comes from a deep-seated mistrust and lack of safety they feel despite having law enforcement. Racial profiling and discrimination sometimes led them to be confined to a mental state that further built psychological challenges while restricting their movements. Therefore, it is undeniable that racial profiling has become a nightmare for these groups of people.

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