

The Impact of Incarceration on Young Offender Development and Recidivism



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Incarceration of Youth in America

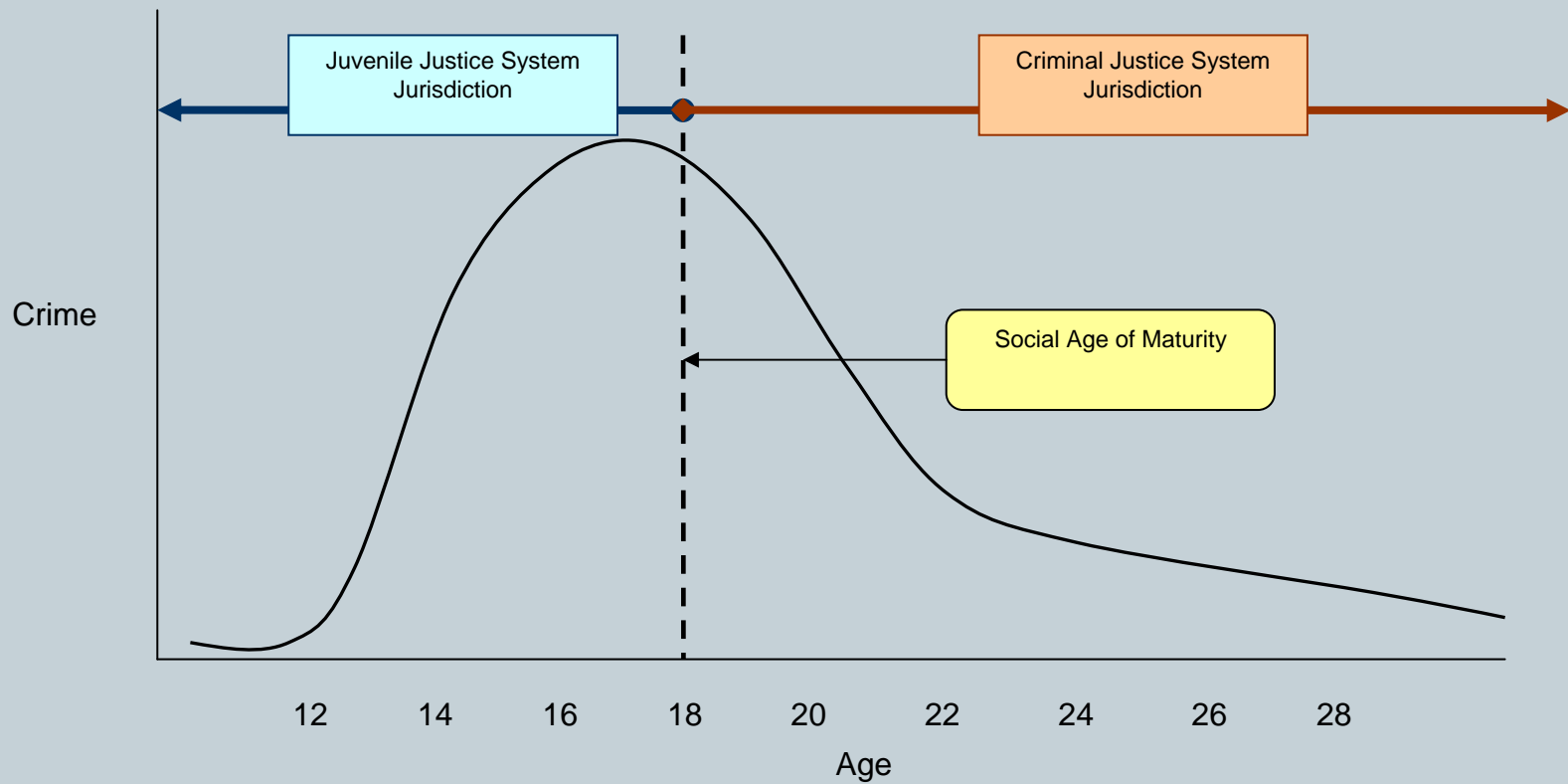


Purpose of Study

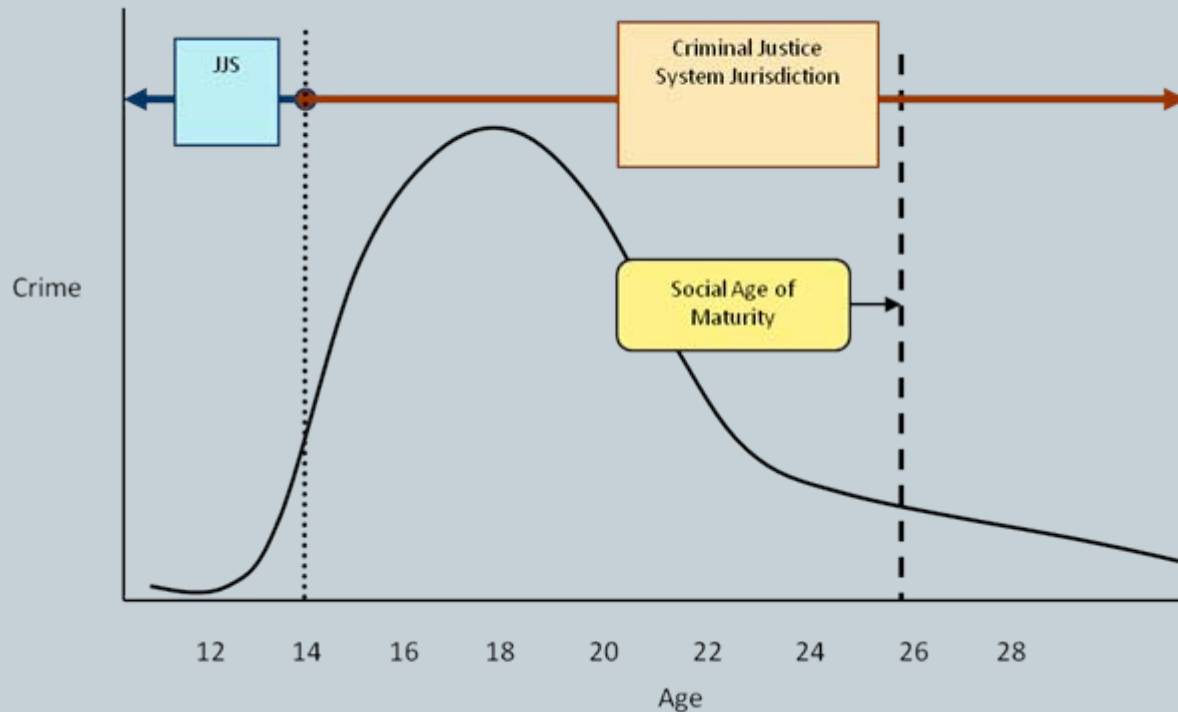


- Explore the impact of incarceration on the recidivism of young offenders.
- Research Questions:
 - Does sentencing court or correctional jurisdiction better inform recidivism?
 - What importation and deprivation factors significantly explain recidivism? (Not discussed today)
 - Are there age-graded/developmental differences on the impact of post-release behavior? And, is it affected by incarceration?

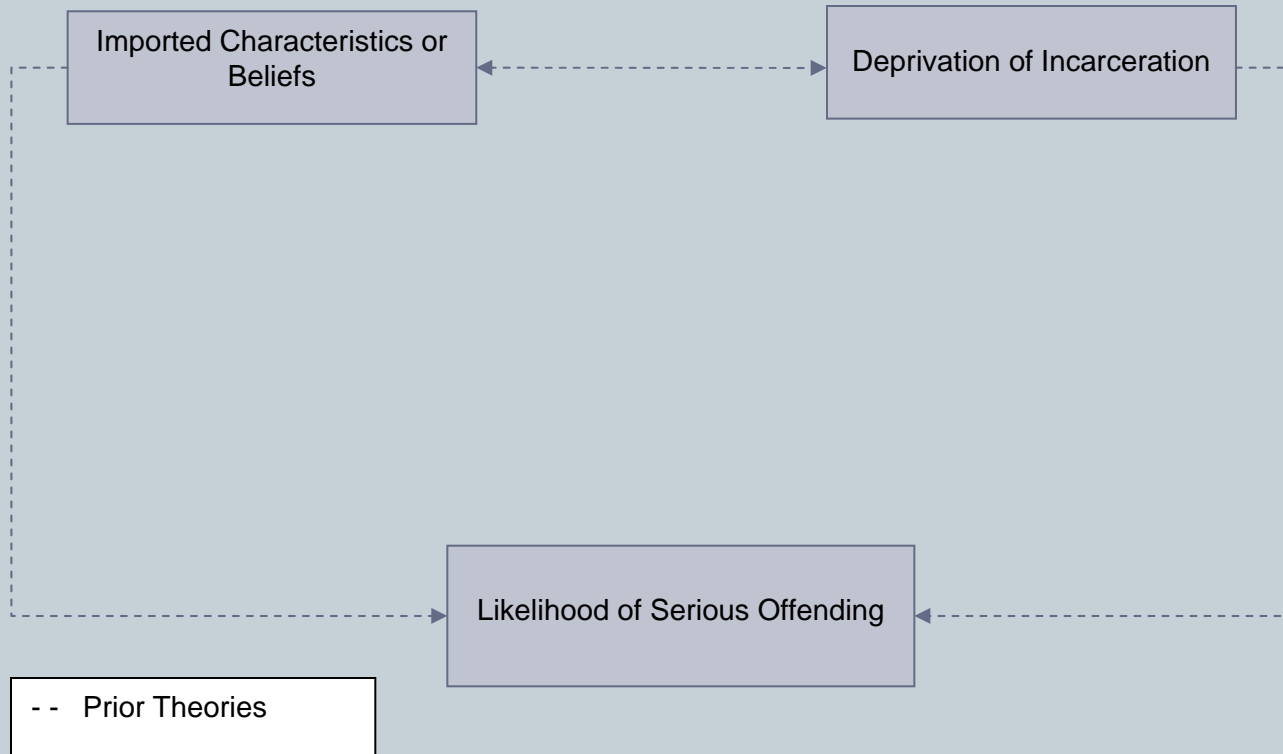
Constructing the “Young Offenders”: Pre-World War II



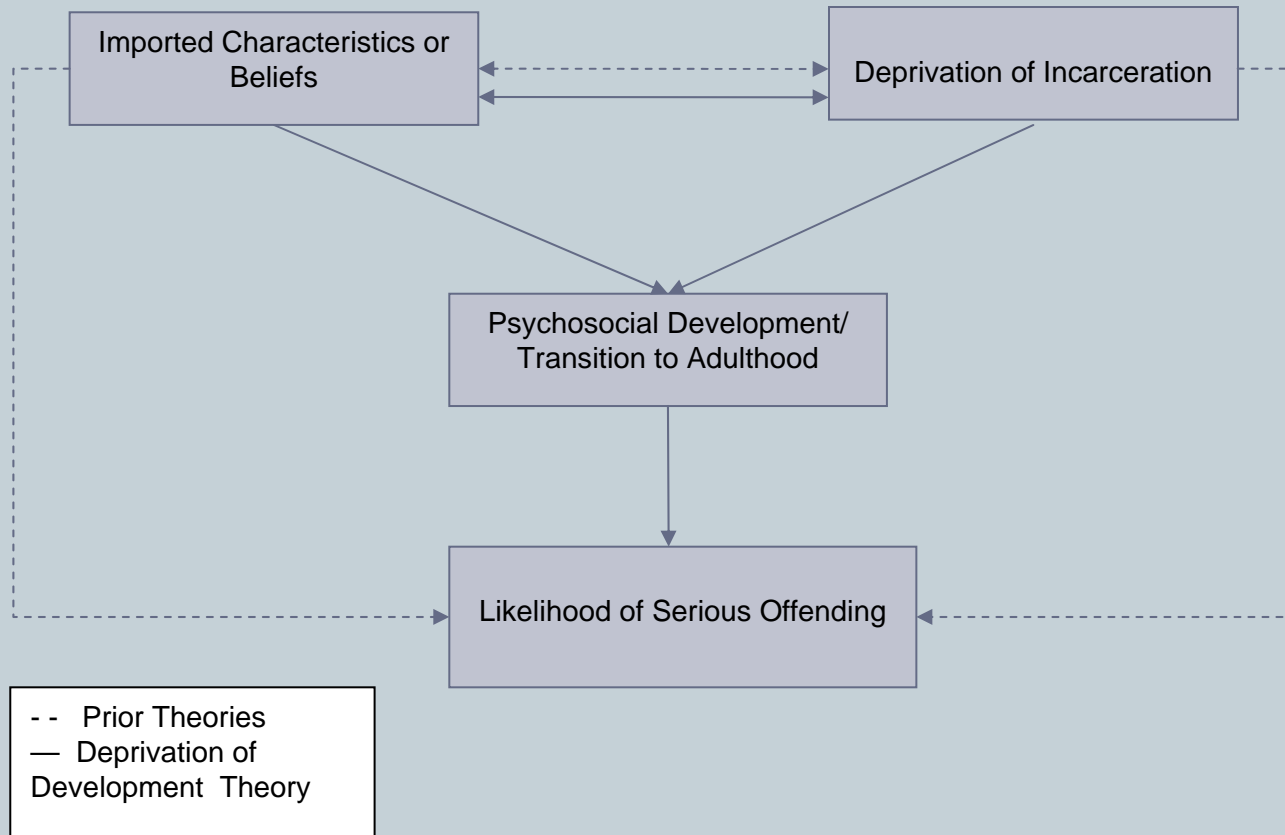
Constructing the “Young Offender”: Modern



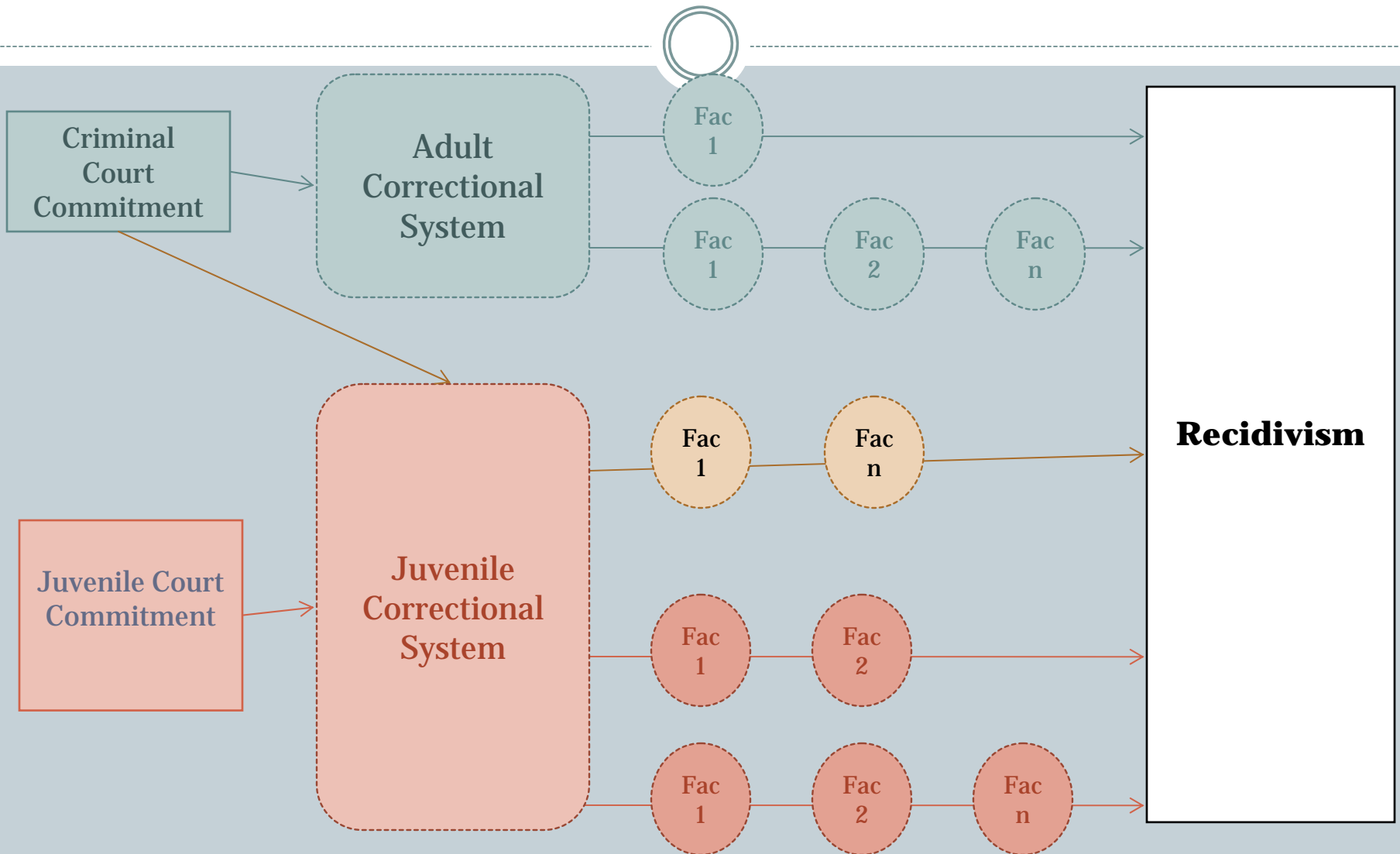
Previous Theories of Incarceration



Previous and Current Theories of Incarceration



Current Study Design



Sample Selection



- **Males**
- **Released between ages 16-25**
- **Admitted at ages 16-21**
- **Released in years 1995-1996**
- **Served at least 30 days in a state-run facility**
- **Not transferred out of state during incarceration or upon release**
- **New commitments**

Data



- **Official data from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR)**
 - **Two sources:**
 - ✦ Research office of the Division of Adult Operations (former CA. Department of Corrections “CDC”)
 - ✦ Research office of the Division of Juvenile Justice (former CA. Youth Authority “CYA”)

Data Collection and Measures

CYA

Offender Information

Institutional
Movement

Facility Level
Information from
CYA Reports

Dependent Variable:
Recommitment



Age at Admission
Race/Ethnicity
Court of Commitment
Commitment Offense
Age Released

Correctional Jurisdiction
Institutional Movement
Months Incarcerated
Distance from Home
Participate in Camp

Ever in Adult
Prison (n=89)

Percent Crowded
Median Age of Facility
Percent Racial/Ethnic "Like You"
New Commitments
Percent Violent Offenders

*Time to Recommitment to Any
Facility*

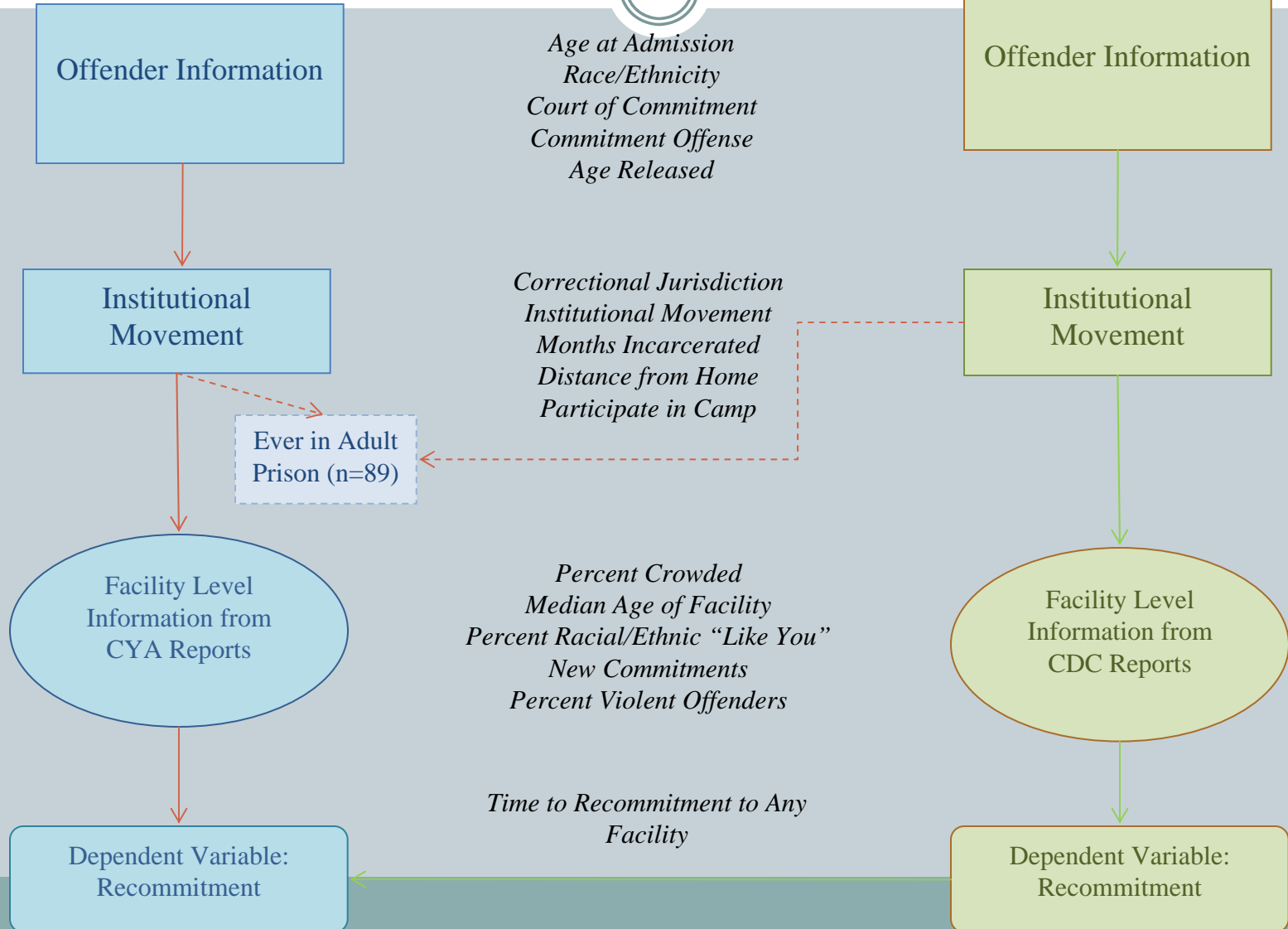
CDC

Offender Information

Institutional
Movement

Facility Level
Information from
CDC Reports

Dependent Variable:
Recommitment



The Sample



- **Total Sample: 9,892**
 - Race/Ethnicity
 - ✦ Black (n=2984)= 30.2%
 - ✦ White (n=1589)= 16.1%
 - ✦ Latino (n=4579)= 46.3%
 - ✦ Asian (n=448) = 4.5%
 - ✦ Other (n=292)= 3.0%
 - Age at Admission = mean=19.4 (1.43)
 - Court of Commitment
 - ✦ Sentenced by Juvenile Court (n=1806) = 18.3%
 - ✦ Sentenced by Criminal Court (n=8086) = 81.7%
 - Correctional Jurisdiction
 - ✦ CYA (n=3198) = 32.3%
 - ✦ CDC (n=6694) = 67.7%

Recidivism Rates



- **Recommitment to either juvenile or adult facility within 5 years**
 - No (n=4197) = 42.4%
 - Yes (n=5695) = 57.6%

- **For Recidivists: Days to Recommitment**
 - Min: 8 days Max: 1821 days
 - Mean: 487.40 (358.58)

Does sentencing court or correctional jurisdiction better inform recidivism?



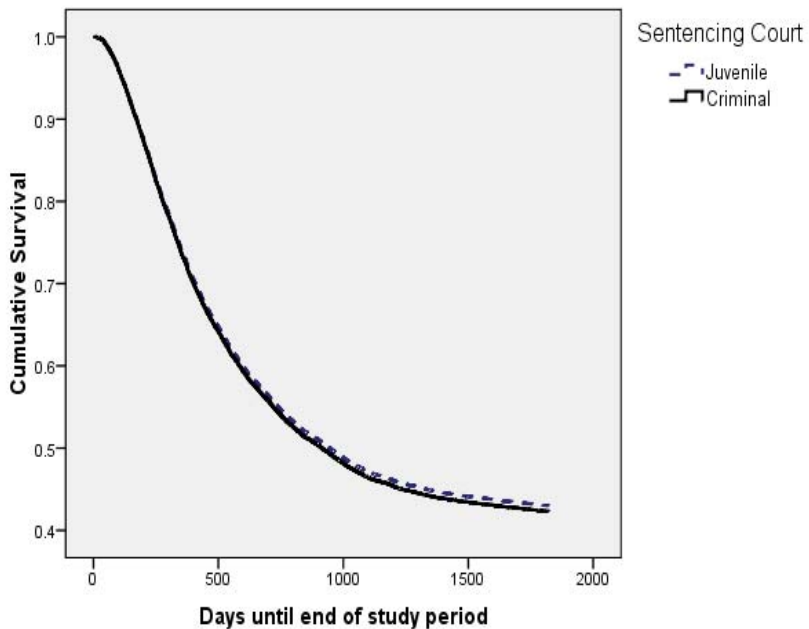
| Sentencing Court | No Recommitment | Recommitment |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Juvenile Court | 42.1% | 57.9% |
| Superior Court | 42.5% | 57.5% |

| Correctional Jurisdiction** | No Recommitment | Recommitment |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| CYA | 49.2% | 50.8% |
| CDC | 39.2% | 60.8% |

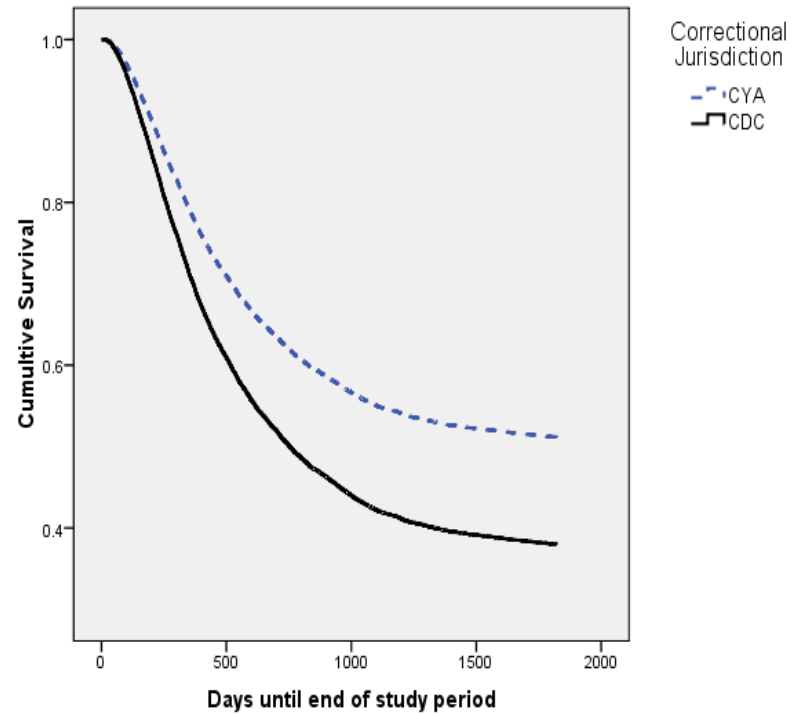
* $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$

Does sentencing court or correctional jurisdiction better inform recidivism?

Sentencing Court



Housing Jurisdiction



Three Group Comparison

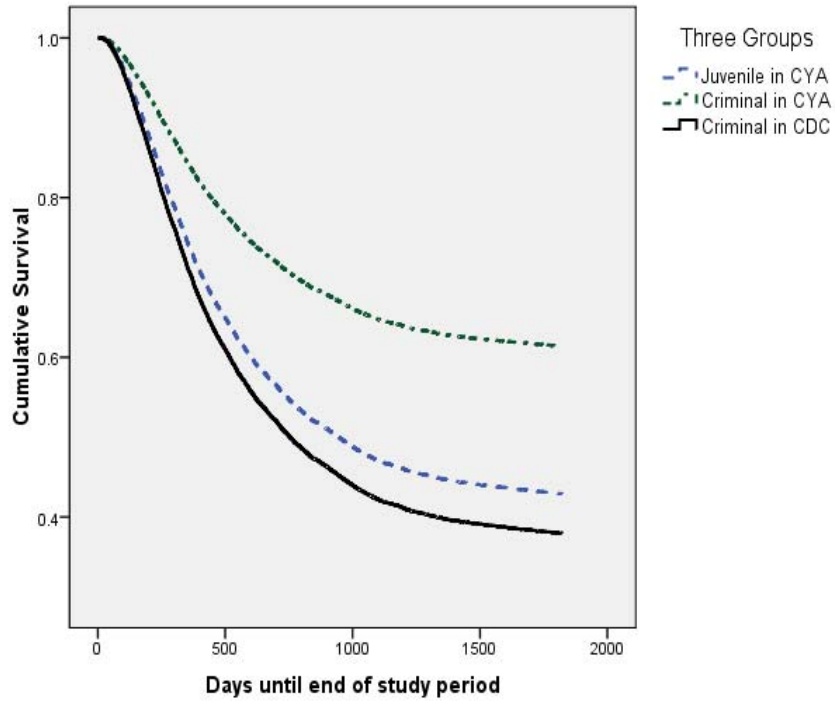


| Court and Correctional Jurisdiction * | No Reccommitment | Recommitment |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Juvenile & CYA | 42.1% | 57.9% |
| Criminal & CYA | 58.4% | 41.6% |
| Criminal & CDC | 39.2% | 60.8% |

* $p < .01$

Three Group Comparison

Survival Curves



Time to Failure

| | 25% | 50% |
|--------------|-----|------|
| Juv. in CYA | 351 | 1040 |
| Crim. in CYA | 874 | * |
| Crim. in CDC | 299 | 702 |

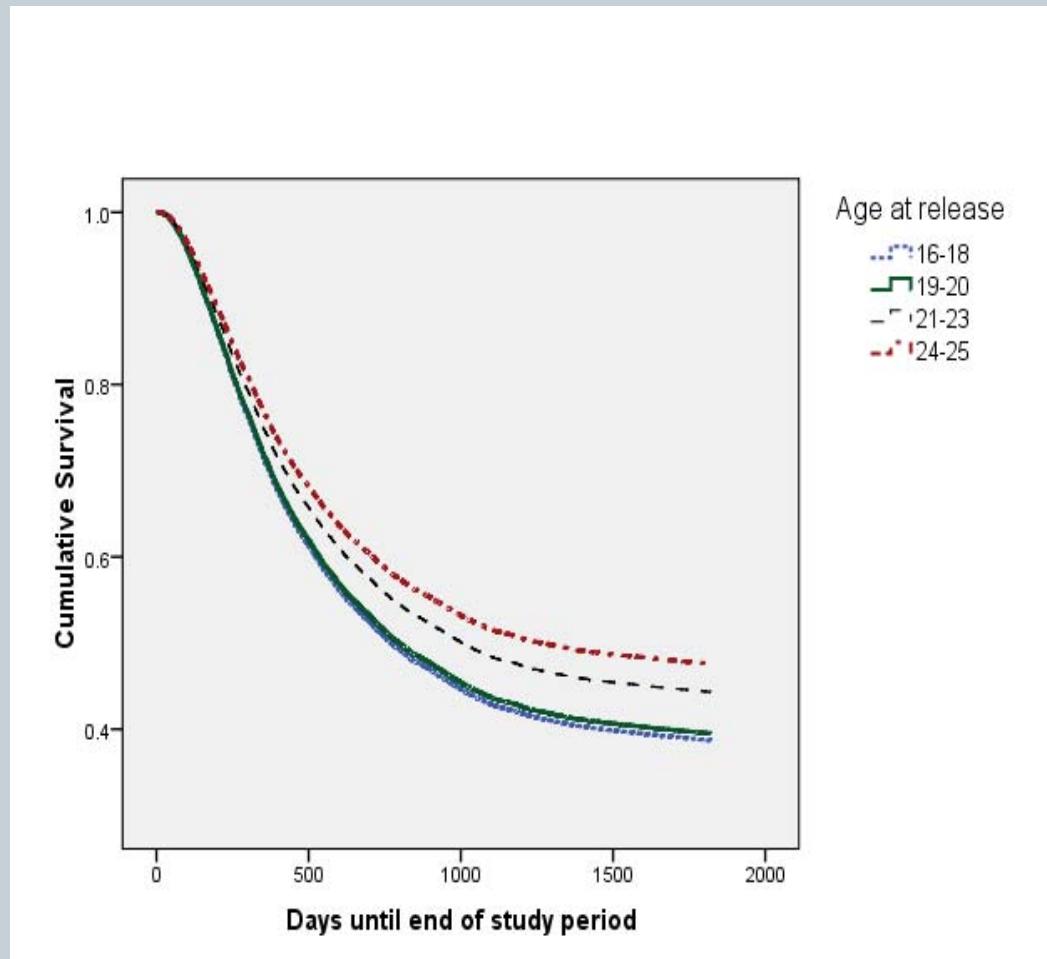
| IMPORTATION | TOTAL (n=9892) | Juv, in CYA (n=1806) | Crim. in CYA (n=1392) | Crim. in CDC (n=6694) |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Age at Admission* | 19.40 | 17.16 | 18.68 | 19.77 |
| Race/ Ethnicity* | | | | |
| White | 16.1% | 15.9% | 15.6% | 16.2% |
| Black | 30.2% | 26.4% | 31.0% | 31.0% |
| Latino | 46.3% | 48.8% | 42.6% | 46.4% |
| Other | 7.5% | 9.0% | 10.8% | 6.4% |
| Commitment Offense* | | | | |
| Person | 50.7% | 51.1% | 80.9% | 44.3% |
| Property | 24.3% | 31.8% | 12.5% | 24.7% |
| Drug | 17.9% | 10.2% | 4.2% | 22.9% |
| Other | 7.1% | 6.8% | 2.4% | 8.2% |
| Region of California* | | | | |
| Bay Area | 12.8% | 17.2% | 16.3% | 10.8% |
| Other Nor. CA | 20.4% | 28.1% | 21.9% | 18.0% |
| Los Angeles | 39.1% | 32.4% | 38.5% | 41.1% |
| Other So. CA | 27.8% | 22.3% | 23.3% | 30.2% |

* $p < .01$

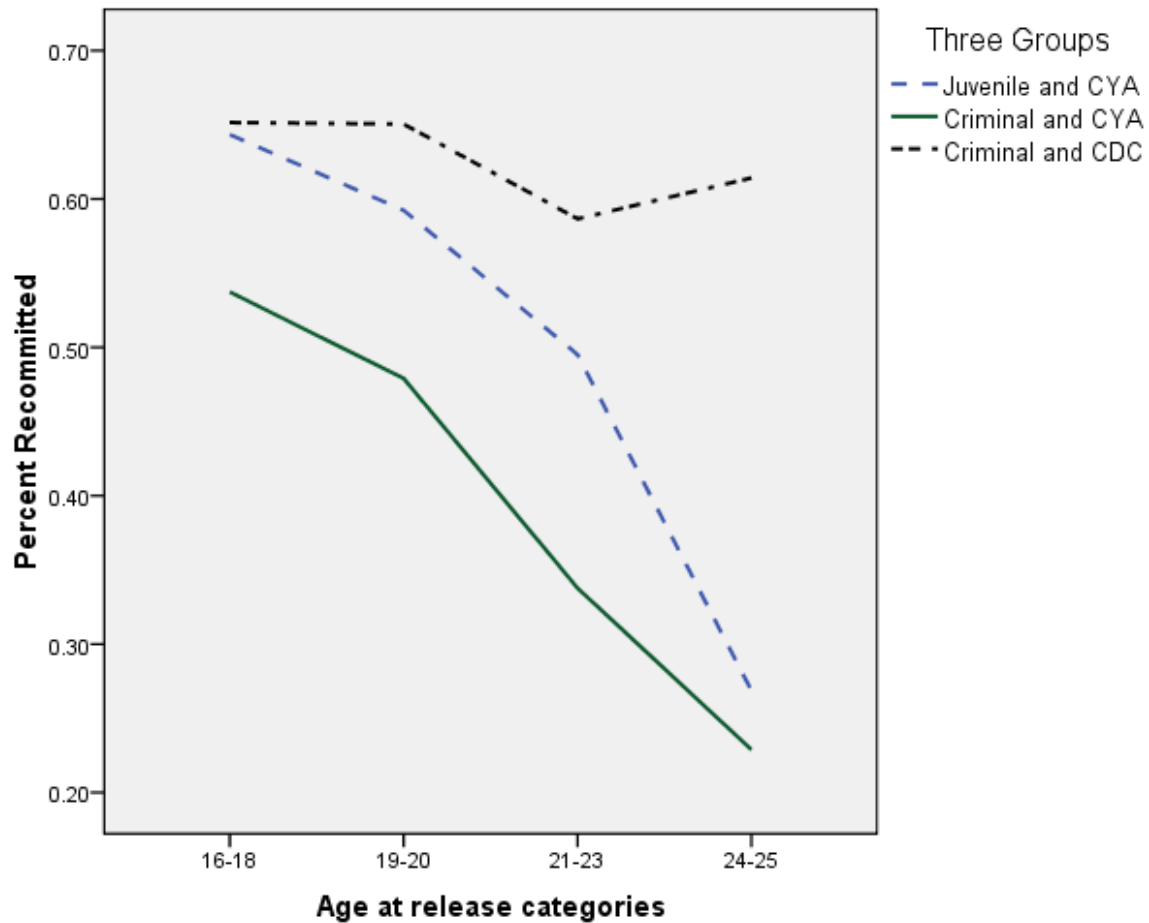
| | TOTAL | Juvenile in CYA | Criminal in CYA | Criminal in CDC |
|-------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| DEPRIVATION | | | | |
| Mos. Incarcerated* | 20.91 | 28.04 | 22.19 | 18.71 |
| Institutional Moves* | 2.70 | 3.04 | 2.53 | 2.64 |
| Crowding* | 172.11 | 134.22 | 140.67 | 188.86 |
| Violent Offenders* | 47.87 | 60.36 | 64.37 | 41.07 |
| Racial/ Ethnic “Like You”* | 32.42 | 34.26 | 32.74 | 31.86 |
| Age of Inmates* | 26.86 | 17.79 | 18.51 | 31.05 |
| New Admissions* | 68.51 | 85.37 | 81.44 | 61.27 |
| Distance from Home* | 189.16 | 147.54 | 139.28 | 210.81 |
| Participate in Camp* | 12.7% | 8.6% | 27.9% | 10.6% |
| DEVELOPMENT | | | | |
| Age at Release* | 20.86 | 19.41 | 20.48 | 21.33 |

* $p < .01$

Development: Recommitment by Age at Release



Rates of Recommitment by Age for Three Groups



The CYA = Adult Prison?

- **HARDER TIME:**
California Youth Authority Shifts from Rehab to Brutality
By Mark Gladstone and James Rainey, *Los Angeles Times*, January 9, 2000



Correctional Housing for Young Offenders



- **This study does not conclude that juvenile institutions are the best place to house and punish youth offenders.**
- It only asserts that it is better than housing in the general population of an adult prison.
 - California specific?
 - Variation in adult programming across nation?
 - Improvements to juvenile programming?

Limitations



- **Data limitations**

- No measure of treatment, gangs, and mental health.
- Reliance on official records (deidentified)
- Recommitment versus re-arrest

The Deprivation of Development



- **Development need not be necessarily deprived.**
 - Small delays in development may occur, but in general, aging-out of crime can continue in a correctional setting.
 - Under some conditions, however, development can be significantly delayed.

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| | Juveniles in CYA | Criminals in CYA | Criminals in CDC |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Age at Admission | .85** | .88* | .90** |
| Race/Ethnicity | | | |
| Latino | .59** | .59** | .81** |
| White | .73† | .57** | .91 |
| Other | .52* | .29** | .46** |
| Commitment Offense | | | |
| Property | 1.35** | 1.91** | .91† |
| Drug | 1.06 | 1.09 | .66** |
| Other | 1.36† | 1.12 | .84* |
| Region of California | | | |
| Bay Area | .64** | .85 | 1.63** |
| Northern CA | 1.03 | 1.17 | 1.53** |
| Southern CA | .99 | .93 | 1.37** |
| Mos. Incarcerated/ Sq. | .99** | .98** | .98**/1.00* |
| Institutional Movement | 1.02 | 1.18** | 1.04* |
| Crowding | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Violent Offenders | .99 | 1.00 | 1.01** |
| Race “Like You” | 1.01 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Age of Inmates | 1.03 | .94 | .97† |
| New Admissions | .99 | .98 | .99 |
| Distance from Home | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Participate in Camp | .89 | 1.22 | .95 |

† $p < .05$, * $p < .01$, ** $p < .001$