

Issues of trust and confidence in the Metropolitan Police Service from ethnic minority groups in London – a procedural justice approach

This project will carry out an ethnographic study which will test the effectiveness of Procedural Justice Approach when applied to ethnic minority groups in London.

Key details

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Police region	London
Level of research	PhD
Project start date	March 2018
Date due for completion	June 2023

Research context

Procedural justice theory (PJT) is now considered to be a key part of Metropolitan Police Service practice, which is reflected in PJT being an integral part of the police effectiveness, efficiency and legitimacy assessment and the new police degree entry holder programme.

Many studies have concluded PJT can lead to positive perceptions of police legitimacy, however research is scant and inconclusive when applied to ethnic minority groups. Moreover, PJT research is heavily reliant on quantitative cross-sectional survey data which divorces PJT from its true roots, and has participants which are from compliant members of the general population (Hough 2012; Harkin 2015; Radburn and Scott 2018).

This project will carry out an ethnographic study which will re-connect PJT to its true contextual roots and will test the effectiveness of PJT when applied to ethnic minority groups in London and their interactions with police. Ethnographic interviews will be conducted in the London Boroughs of Haringey and Hackney.

Research methodology

This study will employ a mixed methods approach.

- Ethnographic interviews
- Participant observation