CAN INCREASED SHORT-TERM MINDSETS AFTER OFFENDING EXPLAIN FUTURE INVOLVEMENT IN CRIME?

Sebastian L. Kübel

zIReN meeting 2023
s.kuebel@cs1.mpg.de

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CRIME IS GREAT...

STRESS REDUCTION

GET RICH (or die tryin‘…)

THRILL

PRAISE BY PEERS

(...BUT…)

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 | SEBASTIAN L. KÖBEL | THE DELINQUENCY TRAP | ZIREN MEETING 2023
SHORT-TERM MINDSETS

„a focus on immediate gratification while disregarding future consequences”

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SHORT-TERM MINDSETS – UPDATED

„a focus on immediate gratification while disregarding future consequences”

- environment
- life events
- maturation
- own behavior

[8] Steinberg et al. (2008)
THE DELINQUENCY TRAP

“When offending triggers processes that make subsequent offending more likely, this can be called a ‘delinquency trap’”

➢ Potential changes to:
  ➢ Behavior
  ➢ Societal responses
  ➢ Cognition

➢ Victim-Offender Overlap
SHORT-TERM MINDSETS AS EXPLANATION?

Can offending increase short-term mindsets?

➢ Reinforcement (rewards > costs)
➢ Future risks and uncertainty
➢ Identification with deviant self-concept

[9] Caspi et al. (2022)
SHORT-TERM MINDSETS AS EXPLANATION?

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➢ Reinforcement (rewards > costs)
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➢ Identification with deviant self-concept

Selection into criminogenic contexts

➢ Delinquent peers
➢ Unstructured unsupervised socializing

[16] Kübel et al. (under review)
SHORT-TERM MINDSETS AS EXPLANATION?

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Not just effect of sanctions

[17] van Gelder et al. (2020)
MODEL

**selection**
- delinquent friends
- delinquent peer group
- unstructured socializing

**short-term mindsets**
- impulsivity
- sensation-seeking
- future orientation

**offending**
(retrospective: past 12 months)

**victimization**
(retrospective: past 12 months)

**offending**
(retrospective: past 12 months)

wave 6
age 15

2 years

wave 7
age 17

3 years

wave 8
age 20
CONTROL VARIABLES

➢ Police contact in response to crime → sanctions
➢ Demographics: age, sex, nationality, SES
➢ Parental monitoring
➢ Prior delinquent friends, delinquent peer group and unstruct. socializ.
➢ Prior victimization
➢ Prior short-term mindsets
RESULTS
RESULTS

- offending
- victimization
- delinquent friends
- delinquent group
- unstructured socializing
- impulsivity
- sensation-seeking
- future orientation

Wave 6 to Wave 8:
- 2 years:
  - p < 0.10

- 3 years:
  - p < 0.05
  - p < 0.01
RESULTS

- delinquent friends
- delinquent group
- unstructured socializing

impulsivity
sensation-seeking
future orientation

offending

.05 < p < .10
p < .05
p < .01

2 years
3 years

wave 6
wave 7
wave 8

offending

victimization

September 14, 2023 | Sebastian L. Kübel | The Delinquency Trap | ZIREN Meeting 2023
RESULTS

offending

- delinquent friends
- delinquent group
- unstructured socializing

impulsivity

sensation-seeking

future orientation

victimization

wave 6 ← 2 years ← wave 7 ← 3 years ← wave 8

0.05 < p < 0.10

p < 0.05

p < 0.01
RESULTS

offending

- delinquent friends
- delinquent group
- unstructured socializing

impulsivity

sensation-seeking

future orientation

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offending

wave 6 ← 2 years ← wave 7 ← 3 years ← wave 8

.05 < p < .10

$p < .05$

$p < .01$
IN SIMPLE...

selection into deviant peer groups and risky activities

short-term mindsets

victimization

LEVEL OF SUPPORT
- low
- medium
- strong

offending

wave 6

wave 7

offending

wave 8
CONCLUSIONS

➢ Short-term mindsets affect crime and victimization…
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➢ … but they are dynamic over time …
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➢ … and themselves can be influenced by committing crime

➢ Increased short-term mindsets mediate the effect of crime on later victimization and reoffending
➢ effect does not depend on sanctions
SO WHY NO INFINITE TRAP?

- Susceptibility to peer influence decreases
- Relative comparison
- Maturation
- Turning points
THANKS TO MY COLLABORATORS

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Manuel Eisner
Denis Ribeaud
REFERENCES


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[14] Meldrum


Sebastian L. Kübel

Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law
Department of Criminology
Günterstalstr. 73, 79100 Freiburg
Phone: +49 761 7081-243
E-Mail: s.kuebel@csil.mpg.de
Internet: https://csil.mpg.de