



David Binder Research

To: Interested parties

Date: August 1, 2017

Re: Crime survivors' views on Trump administration's criminal justice agenda

A recent national survey of crime survivors reveals that a majority feel less safe since Donald Trump became president. Most victims of crime oppose the Trump administration's criminal justice agenda and prefer investments in rehabilitation and treatment over increased incarceration and the deportation of immigrants. Overall, the survey results show broad disagreement between the Trump administration and crime victims on the causes of crime and priorities for public safety policy and spending.

David Binder Research conducted 3,000 interviews of a nationally representative sample in May 2017. Of the 3,000 respondents, 847 (28%) self-identified as victims of crime and answered the questions below. Respondents included both victims of nonviolent crime and victims of violent crime, including the most serious crimes of rape or murder of a family member. The margin of error for crime victims is 3.4%.



Victims of crime are more likely to believe the country is off on the wrong track.

Direction of Country

<i>Generally, do you think things in the country are going in the right direction, or are things off on the wrong track?</i>		
	Right Direction	Wrong Track
Total	36%	55%
Victims of Crime	37	58
Victims of Violent Crime	37	59

Direction of Country by Subgroup

	Total		Victims of Crime		Victims of Violent Crime	
	Right Direction	Wrong Track	Right Direction	Wrong Track	Right Direction	Wrong Track
Women	31%	60%	30%	66%	30%	68%
Men	42	50	45	49	46	49
White	39	52	40	55	39	58
Latino	31	58	34	62	35	63
Black	27	64	30	65	36	62
White Women	33	57	30	65	27	71
White Men	45	47	50	44	52	44
Trump Favorable	74	21	74	21	73	23
Trump Unfavorable	9	88	9	88	10	89

Half of crime victims feel less safe with Donald Trump as President.

Sense of Safety with Donald Trump as President, All Victims

<i>Did Donald Trump becoming President of the United States make you feel safer, or less safe?</i>	
Feel less safe	50%
Feel safer	37
Indifferent	11
Don't Know	2

Sense of Safety with Donald Trump as President, By Crime Victim Subgroup

	Safer	Less Safe
Women	30%	59%
Men	45	41
White	42	45
Latino	34	55
Black	21	65
White Women	32	56
White Men	52	34
Trump Favorable	78	6
Trump Unfavorable	6	86

Most crime victims believe the main driver of crime is drug and alcohol addiction. Very few victims believe undocumented immigrants or too few people in prison most contribute to crime.

Top 2 Factors Contributing To Community Crime, All Victims

<i>Which of the following factors do you believe most contribute to crime in your community?</i>	
Drug and alcohol addiction	54%
Poor parenting	31
Lack of job opportunities	25
Mentally ill people and lack of mental health treatment	23
Lack of good schools and programs for at-risk youth	22
International cartels and drug traffickers	14
Undocumented immigrants	12
Too few people in prison	4

Top 2 Factors Contributing To Community Crime, By Crime Victim Subgroup

	Drug and alcohol addiction	Poor parenting	Lack of job opportunities	Mentally ill people and lack of mental health treatment	Lack of good schools and programs for at-risk youth	International cartels and drug traffickers	Undocumented immigrants	Too few people in prison
Women	57%	24%	26%	27%	22%	15%	11%	4%
Men	50	37	23	18	21	13	13	4
White	58	31	24	23	18	14	12	4
Latino	51	33	17	25	25	12	17	5
Black	40	29	32	19	36	19	6	2
White Women	62	26	24	27	17	15	11	4
White Men	53	36	24	19	18	13	13	4
Trump Favorable	53	38	17	18	16	15	22	7
Trump Unfavorable	56	24	30	27	26	13	4	2

Most crime victims believe additional funding to reduce crime should go toward programs that provide rehabilitation, drug and mental health treatment.

Additional Funding To Reduce Crime, All Victims

<i>If there were additional funding to reduce crime, which one of the following should receive more funding?</i>	
Programs providing rehabilitation and drug and mental health treatment	54%
Police departments	22
Deportation of immigrants	9
Prisons and jails	6

Additional Funding To Reduce Crime, By Crime Victim Subgroup

	Programs providing rehabilitation and drug and mental health treatment	Police departments	Deportation of immigrants	Prisons and jails
Women	58%	19%	9%	6%
Men	51	25	9	7
White	52	24	10	6
Latino	56	18	9	8
Black	63	19	5	7
White Women	57	20	11	5
White Men	48	28	10	7
Trump Favorable	34	34	17	9
Trump Unfavorable	72	12	3	4

Crime survivors strongly support providing support to victims and increasing drug and mental health treatment programs for people in the justice system. Policies that would increase deportations, expand private prisons, and increase enforcement of drug laws are less popular.

Criminal Justice Priorities, All Victims

I'm going to read a list of actions related to crime and criminal justice that the Trump Administration could take. For each I read, please indicate if you support or oppose the proposal.

	Support	Oppose
Providing support to victims of crime	86%	8%
Increasing drug and mental health treatment programs for people in the justice system	84	12
Increasing education and rehabilitation services for people in the justice system	82	11
Increasing illegal reentry punishment with a mandatory two-year sentence	47	45
Requiring prosecutors to seek the maximum sentences	45	47
Withholding federal funding from sanctuary cities	41	50
Increasing deportation of immigrants	40	51
Decreasing federal oversight of police departments	35	54
Providing police with military-grade weapons and artillery	34	58
Expanding the use of private prisons	32	57
Enforcing federal drug laws in legalized states	29	63
Reducing funding for the Violence Against Women Act	20	72
Allowing health insurers to consider sexual assault as a preexisting condition and deny coverage	17	76

Criminal Justice Priorities, By Crime Victim Subgroup

	Providing support to victims of crime		Increasing drug and mental health treatment programs		Increasing education and rehabilitation services		Increasing illegal reentry punishment with a mandatory 2 year sentence		Requiring prosecutors to seek the maximum sentences		Withholding federal funding from sanctuary cities		Increasing deportation of immigrants	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Women	87%	8%	86%	10%	84%	9%	42%	49%	47%	44%	34%	57%	36%	55%
Men	86	8	81	13	81	13	52	41	44	50	49	43	43	47
White	87	8	84	12	83	11	51	41	47	45	44	48	45	46
Latino	84	11	78	17	76	14	40	53	43	47	38	52	31	57
Black	82	14	87	7	85	10	36	55	39	54	31	62	21	66
White Women	88	7	87	9	84	9	45	46	47	43	35	56	40	52
White Men	86	8	80	14	81	13	57	36	46	47	54	39	51	40
Trump Favorable	83	11	79	16	77	16	76	20	65	28	75	18	70	22
Trump Unfavorable	90	6	89	8	88	7	25	66	30	62	15	77	15	76

Criminal Justice Priorities Continued, By Crime Victim Subgroup

	Decreasing federal oversight of police departments		Providing police with military-grade weapons and artillery		Expanding the use of private prisons		Enforcing federal drug laws in legalized states		Reducing funding for the Violence Against Women Act		Allowing health insurers to consider sexual assault as a preexisting condition	
	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose	Support	Oppose
Women	32%	56%	33%	58%	31%	58%	28%	64%	18%	74%	14%	79%
Men	39	52	35	57	34	57	30	62	22	71	19	72
White	36	52	35	56	33	56	30	63	19	73	16	78
Latino	34	56	34	58	35	57	27	61	23	70	17	73
Black	37	56	24	71	30	66	27	64	24	69	23	67
White Women	33	52	35	54	32	55	27	66	17	74	14	81
White Men	38	52	35	57	34	56	32	60	20	72	19	74
Trump Favorable	46	44	52	40	50	40	45	49	30	61	25	67
Trump Unfavorable	28	62	19	74	19	72	17	75	13	81	11	84

Most crime victims believe additional law enforcement funding should go to police training and diversion programs. Less than 10 percent prioritize more prisons or police militarization.

Top 2 Law Enforcement Funding Priorities, all victims

<i>If there were additional funding specifically for law enforcement, which two of the following should receive more funding?</i>	
Providing trainings for police on how to deescalate situations with people with mental illness	49%
Providing diversion programs for people with drug addiction issues	36
Increasing the number of police	26
Creating neighborhood policing programs	24
Increasing the pay and benefits for police officers	22
Building more prisons and jails	8
Buying more military grade equipment and artillery	7

Top 2 Law Enforcement Funding Priorities, by crime victim subgroup

	Providing trainings for police on how to deescalate situations with people with mental illness	Providing diversion programs for people with drug addiction issues	Increasing the number of police	Creating neighborhood policing programs	Increasing the pay and benefits for police officers	Building more prisons and jails	Buying more military grade equipment and artillery
Women	52%	37%	27%	26%	21%	7%	7%
Men	47	35	24	22	23	10	7
White	47	35	26	23	25	9	8
Latino	48	34	34	16	18	5	8
Black	65	36	15	34	16	9	6
White Women	47	38	28	25	25	7	8
White Men	46	33	23	22	24	10	8
Trump Favorable	35	27	33	23	29	14	13
Trump Unfavorable	61	45	19	25	17	4	3

Most crime victims believe Trump’s comments about increasing crime rates are deliberate misinformation for political gain.

Comments on National Crime Rate, all victims

President Trump has said that crime is at an all-time high. This claim has been disputed by national media outlets that cite FBI statistics that say crime is near historic lows.

Which of the following statements come closest to your views?

President Trump is using misinformation and fear for political gain.	52%
The mainstream media can’t be trusted. President Trump is telling the truth when no one else will.	36
Don’t Know / Prefer Not to Say	12

Comments on National Crime Rate, by crime victim subgroup

	President Trump is using misinformation and fear for political gain	President Trump is telling the truth when no one else will
Women	56%	33%
Men	48	40
White	48	42
Latino	52	35
Black	74	15
White Women	52	36
White Men	43	47
Trump Favorable	16	72
Trump Unfavorable	81	11