Discussion 13

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# Answer 01

To answer the research question, potential sources include Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program, Bureau of the Census, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) and other surveys conducted by an organization or individual as secondary information sources. The crime researchers also gather information from the prisons, parole and probation officers, communal agencies, detention centers, courts and police records. One of the data sites to access criminal data record is Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) (“Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)—National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS),” n.d.).

## Answer 02

The trend of ‘Homicide’ in New Hampshire from 1985 to 2018 is analyzed. From observation, it is concluded that despite the decrease in homicides in the US, the rate in New Hampshire is on the rise from 2017 to 2018. The overall record for New Hampshire suggests that the frequency of homicide cases is continuously fluctuating. In 1991, New Hampshire has faced the greatest number of homicide cases and trend for the US is the same. FBI has collected this data through Uniform Crime report Program. The collected data is shown in form of **Rate per 100,000 people each year** (“CDE :: Explorer,” n.d.).

**Answer 03**

In New York, rape crime is judged according to three degrees. According to definition of first-degree rape, rape is sexually offending another person by aggressive compulsion, or someone with a physical disability, or someone with age less than 11 years, or less than thirteen years, in case the guilty is more than eighteen years old. The crime is considered the second degree if the criminal is aged eighteen plus and the victim is less than fifteen years old.

The court considers the background and personality of a criminal, the conditions and nature of crime and if they believe that the definite punishment is excessively strict, they give a definite punishment for a class D or E crime. The court can set definite punishment for up to one year. Rape is ruled Third-degree when the victim is not able to give consent because of any reason other than young age (less than seventeen years), and actor is twenty-one or more years old.

In definition of rape in California, the law does not precisely outline “sexual intercourse”, it rather, interprets actions involved in rape. Every sexual assault without consent is judged as rape where the victim is unable to give consent due to mental illness. The offender is ruled guilty based on what the victim faced (“RAINN | Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network,” n.d.).

Different definitions of rape impacts on data and records, which is collected by agencies and secondary data analysis. Definition of one state may not charge the guilty because of definition coined by its state, but the same extent of a crime if committed in another state may result in severe punishment. The data is recorded by any of the above-stated sources according to how crime is perceived, and the criminal is convicted in that state. Each state judges and punishes guilty people according to rule of that state. Agencies and secondary data sources refer to original data collection by authorities. Due to which, the impact created by difference in definitions, now also effects the data agency records and secondary analysis data. For example, the punishment for rape in California can be up to 14 years if the victim is less than 14 years old. However, in New York, the punishment is imprisonment of 5 to 25 years for first degree, 2 to 7 years for second degree and 1.5 to 4 years for third degree rape cases.

References

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