Use of Force

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There are various measures to define the force and its excessive use by police, which is a group that is autonomous in its authority.

“If there is no resistance to certain police actions, such as handcuffing or the use of firm grips and the phrase “come along” holds, the use of force may be inconsequential and negligible and no record of the activity need be made (Alpert, 2004, p. 21).”

Miami-Dade Police Department made an excellent approach and instructed its officers to file reports under various circumstances. These include any possibility of injury or complaint if force is applied, use of a baton, complaint of any injury, use of the neck restraint or complaint of an injury resulting from resistance (Alpert, 2004, p. 21).

### Force

“Force can be defined as physical action taken to control the movement or freedom of another individual (Alpert, 2004, p. 20).”

## Observational Research of Police Behavior

Observational research is a technique for the determination of excessive or unjust police use of force and the citizen resistance in its response (Alpert, 2004, p. 29).

## Advantage of this research

This research has an advantage compared to other methods of research as it provides a detailed account of the interaction between the police and citizens. Official records tend to stress on the police officer’s viewpoint whereas the citizen’s narrative may be a little too defensive and chiefly focus on the citizen’s perspective (Alpert, 2004, pp. 29-30). Therefore, a third party, specifically, a trained observer can provide their perspective which is impartial and helpful in the research.

# References

Alpert, G. P. (2004). Understanding police use of force: Officers, suspects, and reciprocity. In G. P. Alpert, *Some Definitions of the Use of Force* (pp. 3-48). Cambridge University Press.