Criminal Justice Data Analysis

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**Introduction**

For any organization to meet its set goals and visions, it becomes necessary to set a leadership framework which is tasked with the mandate to efficiently run the institution. There are different departments in an organization and each contributes to the success of an institution. As a criminal justice leader, one should aim at motivating and inspiring the subordinates also keeping a close check on their progress as the team advanced towards a common vision. A leader in various fields should also have strong skills needed when obtaining and analyzing data to come up with a sound decision. In recent years, change in crime trends has been caused by advancement in technology since criminals have invented new approaches to committing a single crime. New laws, procedures, and policies surrounding the entire field have continued to be a challenge while leaders are formulating solutions for different situations facing organizations. However, having an environment that aims at addressing these challenges makes it easy for any criminal justice leader to arrive at a solution that favors their institution

**Theory and Methods**

Crime is a phenomenon that is very complex and dynamic. Activities legally carried out in a particular state or country could be viewed as illegal in other parts of the world. This is due to the diversity of cultures which change with time causing some acts which were viewed as criminal activities de-criminalized and vice versa. There are different factors are observed to causing crime but they can easily be understood when one has a background knowledge to criminal theories present. These theories portray weaknesses and strengths while they are being used by diverse institutions (Amundson, 2017). The theories my organization covers as described below.

**Biological theories**

These theories state that there are people born as criminals. These factors could be inherited from their families which render them unable to follow and learn rules which have been set by government agencies. This leads them to conduct criminal activities. Biological theories can be divided into two categories. These are Lombroso theory and Sheldon’s theory.

**Lombroso theory**

Lombroso was a criminologist who was based in Italy who based a belief that some people were born criminals. He conducted in research in examining the physical characteristics Italian prisoners and soldiers had (Fishburn, 2015). The different physical evaluations he made were the shape of the ears, nose, and size of their arms and the presence of wrinkles on their skin.

**Conflict theory**

This theory proposes that people become defiant due to various factors brought about by material, political and social inequalities. A group of people will be deviant in following certain rules and regulations because they feel like the authorities are targeting their weaknesses. The main causes of crime in this theory are economic and social forces that various social classes go through. Policies set by the system of criminal justice are viewed differently by various social groups (Hom, 2015). The poor people feel as if these policies are to control them in their social class as the elite in the community gets favored. The middle class takes the side of the elite thinking that they will eventually climb the top ladder as they support the rich. This is the reason street criminals are severally punished while those people who steal ransom amounts in business and financial institutions walk freely.

**Choice theory**

This theory believes that people make choices of committing a crime by evaluating the opportunities at hand, weighing them and then they decide whether they will proceed to commit them or not. Conducting this analysis means that any criminal has the mandate to make a choice without the pressure of external factors. When someone evaluates the punishment that would face after committing a single crime, they can opt not to go ahead.

**Communicating With a Diverse Audience**

As a leader, one will come across employees who come from different parts of the world. There could language and cultural difference among these people but it is the mandate of a leader to ensure that everyone’s positively contributes to the organizations. Every individual is talented differently and their strengths should be effectively tapped so that an institution meets its mission, vision, and objective. Discussed below are steps in which a criminal justice leader can take to address this challenge.

**Regular training of international employees**

The misunderstanding may occur when an international employee has not gone through the required training session during the orientation period and they are required to perform a task. Any confusion should be avoided by training these individuals on a regular basis until they adapt to the company’s culture and that of fellow employees. Foreign employees often experience culture shock because they are placed in an environment they were not used to hindering their performance (Maguire, & Duffee, 2015). When a leader is well aware of this, he or she will ensure that this kind of employee has been assigned to the best team during orientation sessions.

**Training non-foreign employees**

Even when people are members of the same country, there arise some cultural differences which need to be addressed at workplaces. Employees should not only understand the company’s mission and vision but they should also ensure that there is diversity among themselves and the clients they serve.

**Careful practice of open-door communication**

A productive leader does not wait for the subordinate staff to reach to their offices while they need help or any clarification. They should instead get to these employees and ask them whether are experiencing any challenges with an aim to help them adapt to a different environment.

**Literature Review**

In my research, I have been able to obtain data from various police departments in regard to criminal incidences that police officers responded to. I also obtained the data for the total number of officers present when these incidences were happening and the assignments each of them was able to accomplish. Data collected also included the number of incidences that were reported to have been conducted by police departments against the will of citizens.

**Data Analysis**

According to the data collected within 2009-2016 from the police departments, there is a sequence of increase and decrease of incidences reported every two years. For instance, in the year 2014, 252 incidences were reported compared to 249 cases in 2012. This shows a slight decrease in criminal activities.

**Research**

The trend of increase and decrease of criminal activities over the years could be as a result of new technological inventions which have helped criminals monitor organizations through the cyberspace. Almost every home has a computer, a Smartphone or a tablet which can allow someone to get involved in research for new criminal trends in the technology age and eventually aim at practicing some of it. Organizations should come up with frameworks that can enhance data security and guard them against manipulation.

**Root Causes**

I believe that the root causes of the presence of more criminal activities are the rise of high levels of unemployment among the younger generation. This group of people has learned various computing skills which enable them to engage even in more dangerous criminal activities such as cybercrime. This is evident to from the recent hack to U.S elections by Russian hackers which posed a great threat not only to the United States but to other parts of the world. Financial institutions could lose ransom amounts when they fail to address this issue.

References

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