CrimeSolutions: What Works, What Doesn't, What's Promising?



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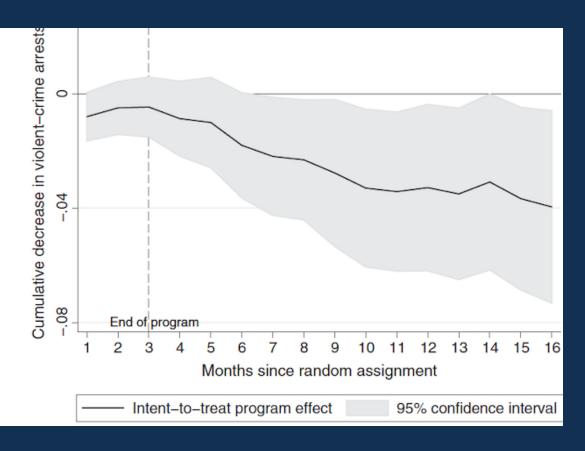
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Based on the study, how would you characterize the evidence for this program?

Program model offers promise!

Fig. 2. Time path of violence decrease.

Shown is the regressionadjusted cumulative difference in the number of violent-crime arrests between treatment and control youth by month. Random assignment lottery occurred at month 0; program ended at month 3. Regressions include baseline covariates and blocking variables. Confidence intervals were calculated by using heteroskedasticityrobust SEs.



What rating would you assign it?

Program model = Promising, but nuance needed

- One study, but well designed
- Program model's findings: Medium ES & significant in important and relevant area
 - Combined vs. singular intervention model
- View from perspective of consumers
 - Dangerous to say "no effect"

Strengths of Scoring Instrument



Many relevant questions

Excellent criteria for study evaluation

Value of accessible, digestible repository

Weaknesses of Scoring Instrument

weaknesses

Complex and confusing criteria

Misses nuance when:

Multiple outcomes, mixed findings (outcomes & subgroups), program and study goals differ

Dangerously misleading:
Single category of
"ineffective" and "null" effects

Scoring Instrument Takeaways



Assesses lots of great info for *study* evaluation

BUT

Misses big picture info for program/policy review



> Needs clarity, transparency, & nuance



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