Separate and unequal risks for victimization?
An examination of city-level conditions on victimization risks

Ph.D Dissertation

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Abstract

The relationship between city conditions and risks for non-fatal victimization has been relatively ignored in the victimization literature. Little is known about the risks for victimization at the city-level or whether 'known' correlates of victimization at the individual- and neighborhood-level vary across city context. This study examines the relationship between city conditions and non-fatal victimization. Furthermore, the risks for victimization at the individual-, neighborhood-, and city-level are considered simultaneously. Because the study includes twelve different cities, examinations of individual and neighborhood factors across cities can also be examined. Lastly, macro-level research has suggested that risks for victimization vary across race and ethnicity. Therefore, the importance of these relationships among non-Hispanic whites, non-Hispanic blacks and Hispanics is considered. The findings reveal that city context is indeed associated with non-fatal victimization among cities. However, there appear to be no substantive differences in the relationship between individual and neighborhood factors and non-fatal victimization across cities. Individual and neighborhood risks for non-fatal victimization are similar regardless of the city being studied. However, there does appear to be substantive differences in risks for non-fatal victimization across racial/ethnic groups. The relevance of these findings to victimization research and theory and the policy implications of the results are also discussed.