

SOCA Undergraduate Symposium 2021
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
West Virginia University

Presentation 9

Types of Emotional Testing for Police Recruits

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ABSTRACT

Discrimination is something we are familiar with in the 21st century. As a mechanism of the criminal justice system, discrimination can be detrimental to any aspect of our lives. Whether we are directly affected or not, this mechanism can cause for many problems and alterations to our expectations. One expectation we should not have to stretch is that actors of the criminal justice system will protect us at all costs. This expectation is carried out through formal mechanisms such as police officers. However, because of the current social climate we have all lost some faith in this system. I am researching how the training and testing of officers is done because of the large increase in discrimination and misuse of discretion that has been happening. Because of these cases the public has been debating the allocation of funds that our officers receive. Where do I think these resources should go? They should be put into the mental and emotional testing done on police recruits. Testing our police recruits to the fullest extent before hiring them is one of the best ways to ensure they will perform to the best and most responsible of their abilities. In this paper I will discuss the current process of police recruitment testing, possible changes to be made, and why I believe this is crucial to fixing the issue of discrimination in America.