Entry into Jail: Accounting for Individual and Contextual Risk Factors

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Introduction
• Jail has negative effects on education, employment, health, and relationships
• Survey measures cannot separate jail from incarceration
• Average jail stay is less than 10 days
• Lack of temporal ordering of context and behaviors that precede an individual's first time in jail

Research Questions and Data
1. Does parental incarceration or school punishment increase risk of jail?
2. Does this hold true after accounting for prior behaviors and contexts?
Toledo Adolescent Relationships Study (TARS)
• Five waves of data collected 2001-2012
• Respondents ages 25-32 at fifth interview (n=1147)
• Respondent's county jail rates increase risk of jail

Variables and Figures
Figure 1. Respondents Jail Experience

Analyses
Table 1. Discrete-Time Logistic Regressions Predicting Odds of Jail

Table 2. Discrete-Time Logistic Regressions Predicting Odds of Jail

Discussion

Summary
• Accounting for prior behaviors and context, individuals who experienced parental incarceration or school punishment were significantly more likely to go to jail

Implications
• Parental incarceration and school punishment have distinct effects unrelated to behavior and context
• More research is needed to understand unique effects
• Policy cannot solely focus on behaviors or context