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Correctional Service
Canada

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RESEARCH BRANCH - CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTION DE LA RECHERCHE - DÉVELOPPEMENT ORGANISATIONNEL

==== **Research Report** ====

**Dynamic and Behavioral Antecedents
to Recidivism:
A Retrospective Analysis**

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This report is also available in French. Ce rapport est également disponible en Français. It is available from the Communications Branch, Correctional Service of Canada, 340 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0P9.

**Dynamic and Behavioral Antecedents to Recidivism:
A Retrospective Analysis**

Research Report No. 17

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**A final report to the
Research Branch
Correctional Service of Canada**

April 1991

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DYNAMIC AND BEHAVIORAL ANTECEDENTS OF RECIDIVISM: A RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSIS

The prediction of both general and violent criminal recidivism of persons released from correctional institutions has received extensive study (for reviews see Gabor, 1986; Monahan, 1981; Quinsey, 1984; Waller, 1974). Enough work has been completed to establish a general consensus within the correctional research community about the classes of variables that are valid predictors of recidivism and the degree to which they are related to the criterion behaviors of interest.

We are fortunate to have a large number of Canadian follow-up studies of released inmates: Andrews and Friesen (1987), Carlson (1973), Gendreau, Grant, and Leipziger (1979), Gendreau, Madden, and Leipziger (1979; 1980), Hart, Kropp, and Hare (1988), Mandelzys (1979), Nuffield (1982), Porporino, Zamble, & Higginbottom (in process), Waller (1974), Wormith (1984), and Zarb (1978). Additional Canadian data come from follow-up studies of released mentally disordered offenders (e.g., Rice, Harris, & Quinsey, 1990; Rice, Quinsey, & Harris, in press; Quinsey & Maguire, 1986; Rice, Quinsey, & Houghton, 1990). American studies include: Adams (1983), Barton and Turnbull (1979), Beck and Shipley (1987), Brown, D'Agostino, and Craddick (1978), Gottfredson, Wilkins, and Hoffman (1978), Gottfredson, Mitchell-Herzfeld, and Flanagan (1982), Heilbrun, Heilbrun, and Heilbrun (1978), Holland, Holt, and Brewer (1978), and Rhodes (1986).

These studies agree that youthfulness and number of previous convictions are positively related to the probability of criminal recidivism. Other predictors, including age at first arrest, criminal versatility (variety of offending), alcohol abuse, and low educational attainment, are usually found to be positively but more weakly related to recidivism rates. Escape and escape attempts have also consistently been found to be related to higher recidivism rates.

A number of investigators have combined these and related predictors in various ways to obtain summary scores that are more closely related to recidivism than any predictor taken singly. Those developed in Canada include the general recidivism and violent recidivism scales of Nuffield (1982), the Level of Supervision Inventory (Andrews, Kiessling, Mickus, & Robinson, 1986; Bonta & Motiuk, 1985), and the Psychopathy Checklist Scale (Hare, 1985; Hare & Jutai, 1983; Hare & McPherson, 1984; Hart, Kropp, & Hare, 1988). Generally, each of these scales predicts recidivism far better than chance within its domain but there is still a great deal of room for improvement.

Limitations Of Previous Work

Regrettably, however, there is a great gap between the empirical predictive literature and practical needs of correctional management, such as aid in designing interventions, or selecting inmates for programs, or assistance in offender release policies (cf. Quinsey & Walker, in press). The empirical literature deals almost exclusively with static or "tombstone" predictors, such as age, offence history, length of institutionalization, etc. Because correctional program managers require information about predictors that they can modify in order to effectively plan interventions, the bulk of this empirical followup literature is essentially irrelevant to them, particularly because very few offenders are under indeterminate sentences.

This gap between the needs of program managers and the dominant focus of the empirical literature is most readily apparent in an area where one might least expect it: The prediction of violent reoffending among mentally disordered offenders. Mentally disordered offenders are typically dealt with by mental health professionals working in a psychiatric hospital system that explicitly espouses a treatment-rehabilitation model. Nevertheless, of 28 followup studies of released mentally disordered offenders identified in a review of this literature (Quinsey, 1988), 25 employed only static predictors and only three (of which two were essentially pilot investigations) attempted to predict recidivism from measures of therapeutic change.

Actuarial scales for predicting recidivism suffer from other limitations as well. Because they are empirically rather than theoretically derived, the level of prediction can only be improved by repeating the entire process of scale derivation. Moreover, many of the static factors commonly included in these scales are correlated with socioeconomic factors (Porporino, Zamble, & Higginbottom, in process); using such variables to determine release may be compounding inequity with injustice. For the vast majority of offenders, however, the question is not whether they will be released, but when. If the time of release is essentially determined at the beginning of a sentence, then imprisonment may provide little incentive for an inmate to change his current behavior patterns.

Thus, the bulk of the follow-up literature can provide very little information to guide correctional administrators in choosing appropriate programs for offenders or in making decisions based upon offender change. The paucity of well designed intervention evaluation studies carried out on prison populations further contributes to this problem. There is a need to redirect attention from the general determinants of recidivism (except to identify high risk groups for concentrated attention) to questions of how to reduce or prevent it in the community. All of the above leads to a consideration of the specific contemporaneous (dynamic) determinants of recidivism.

What is needed is a better understanding of the role of current factors in the causation of new offences. It is usually both empirically and conceptually unclear, as Mandelzys (1979) has pointed out, how much criminal recidivism is a result of unresolved problems within a released offender that could have been addressed during a period of imprisonment, and what proportion of new offences are caused by new environmental or offender problems. However, there have been some attempts to specify how the way in which offenders interact with their environment will determine future offenses (Zamble & Porporino, 1988) and it has been shown that one can predict recidivism using measures of current behavior as well as from static variables (Zamble and Porporino, in press; Porporino, Zamble, & Higginbottom, in process).

One factor that should obviously be considered is the effectiveness of supervision under early release. Unfortunately, the literature on the effectiveness of parole and mandatory supervision is quite small and it is replete with methodological problems (Nietzel & Himelein, 1987). In summarizing the best executed research on the issue of supervision versus no supervision, Gottfredson, Mitchell-Herzfeld, and Flanagan (1982) concluded that: "First, none of the studies indicates a lasting effect of parole supervision beyond the period of supervision itself. Second, the research seems to indicate an effect of parole supervision on recidivism during the course of the supervision, particularly in the initial period of release. Third, the effect indicated by the research does not appear to be very large."

The limited effectiveness of supervision follows from our arguments above, for it is difficult to know what sorts of parole programs to develop in the absence of knowing the antecedents of parole failure. By "antecedents" in this context, we mean specifiable dynamic conditions of the offender or identifiable environmental events that precede recidivism. Antecedent conditions are, therefore, variables that parole authorities or offenders themselves could potentially do something about in order to prevent the commission of a criminal act. Static personal characteristics of offenders are useful in this context as variables that define the risk group to which an offender belongs and as moderator variables, i.e., variables that determine the manner in which antecedents affect behavior. These static variables, however, must be supplemented by information about the dynamic antecedents of recidivism.

What do we know about the antecedents of parole failure? Not a great deal. With respect to general recidivism, Waller (1974) found that lack of employment, undesirable associates, fighting, not seeing one's children, and frequent drinking predicted reoffending. Hart, Kropp, and Hare (1988) similarly observed that instability in both employment and relationships during the followup period predicted reoffending.

New Work On Dynamic Factors

In terms of information about dynamic behavioral processes in reoffending, recent work from two sources offers the possibility of helping to fulfill some of the needs described above. The first comes from a relatively large scale Canadian study that attempted to specify how offenders interact with their environment, and especially how they cope with their problems (Zamble and Porporino, 1988). Although it was primarily designed to study behavior in prison, the study also included data on problems experienced by inmates prior to imprisonment, and the resulting coping attempts. Not only was the general level of coping disastrously poor, but there was also evidence of an association between poor coping and criminal behavior. For example, there were significant negative correlations between measures of the efficacy of coping and previous criminal history (retrospective); measures of coping and associated behavior from the original study were also useful in predicting recidivism (prospective) with accuracy in the same range as that for commonly used actuarial scales (Porporino, Zamble, & Higginbottom, in process).

These and other similar results led to the formulation of a "coping-criminality" hypothesis linking the repetition of criminal behavior to inadequate coping resources, along with a particular set of generalized behaviors, e.g., a large amount of time spent socializing in a diffuse network of casual acquaintances. Whether or not it is correct in detail, this hypothesis is supported by data, and some portion of it is very likely veridical. It represents a useful step in understanding the causes of recidivism because it emphasizes the role of deficiencies in ordinary behavioral interactions between the individual and his environment as a determinant of new criminal actions.

The second line of research of interest here is very similar, although it was developed as an explanation of relapses in addictive behaviors. Marlatt and Gordon (1980) have proposed that relapse is largely triggered by negative emotional states, interpersonal conflict, and social pressure.

Some work has already been done in applying relapse theory to one type of criminal behavior. Determinants of sexual reoffending among 136 child molesters and 64 rapists have been examined in some detail by Pithers, Kashima, Cumming, Beal, and Buell (1988). Nearly 90 percent of the sex offenders reported experiencing strong emotional states before relapse (the commission of a new sex offence): 94 percent of the rapists reported feeling anger, usually occasioned by interpersonal conflict; 46 percent of the child molesters reported experiencing anxiety and 38 percent reported depression (these emotional states appeared to be related to social disaffiliation). The chain leading to relapse seemed to begin with negative affect leading to paraphilic sexual fantasies, then cognitive distortions, and, finally, passive planning just prior to the offence.

Based on 550 interviews of 311 child molesters under supervision, Frisbie (1969) concluded that, in addition to alcohol abuse, factors predicting recidivism were "...the desire for and selection of physically immature children as sexual objects, unorthodox ethical

values, and grave difficulties in establishing meaningful relationships with adult females on a mature basis." (p. 223). The similarities between Frisbie's observations and those of Pithers et al., (fantasies, disaffiliation, and cognitive distortion) are striking. Planning and behavioral rehearsal as antecedents to serious sexual offences have also been noted by MacCulloch, Snowden, Wood, and Mills (1983).

Although they have been formulated quite independently and in different contexts, the coping-criminality hypothesis and relapse theory are clearly compatible, and probably even synergistic. The link between coping difficulties and criminal actions is likely emotional distress which triggers violent or irrational behavior, or which causes the individual to reduce his efforts at self-monitoring and self-control. Conversely for relapse theory, the precursors of the emotional responses preceding criminal recidivism are probably inappropriate or inadequate coping behavior.

The purpose of this research was to investigate the specific dynamic behavioral antecedents of criminal recidivism by interviewing offenders who had been returned to prison as release failures. This method raises questions concerning the informational value and reliability of information that can be obtained in this fashion. We would certainly not argue that offenders will tell openly or even know why it is they committed their offences. However, they can usually remember what their thoughts and feelings were when they committed a crime, and they will be willing to tell these to a researcher. Although offenders cannot be expected to have a theory that can explain their own criminal behaviors, they can report details of events preceding reoffending that will allow an investigator to construct a theory of reoffending. It is of interest in the present context that Frisbie (1969) was surprised at how much her interviewees would disclose to a project interviewer; indeed, the research team were often aware of impending relapse before the parole authorities.

The quality of the information appears to be dependent upon asking the right questions in the first place: for example, Quinsey & MacCulloch (in preparation) obtained detailed descriptions of antecedent conditions by asking minute questions in a lengthy clinical interview, whereas Quinsey (in preparation) frequently received logically unintelligible and extremely vague answers from offenders to the question "Why did this offence occur?" Similarly, Zamble and Porporino (1988) received detailed answers to questions about responses to specific situations but often only vague and self-contradictory answers to questions about the purposes of those responses.

Because most of the work described above has not dealt with serious offenders against persons (that is, those of most concern), this study concentrated on previously imprisoned men who had been returned to prison for violent offences.

Previous studies have also failed to deal with the problem of base rates. What are we to make, for example, of the finding (Pithers et al., 1988) that most sex offenders report negative affect before they committed their offence? What is the base rate of negative affect among released offenders of any type and is it related to the probability or type of

reoffending? Perhaps more to the point, we are not even sure of the base rate of negative affect among demographically similar members of the general population. The observation that negative affect precedes sexual reoffending, therefore, may be correct but uninformative. Two types of comparisons are relevant here. The first is between reoffenders and those who successfully adapt to the free world after release; the second is among offenders who commit various different types of crimes, e.g., sex offenders vs. robbers.

METHOD

Subject Recruitment

Potential subjects in the recidivist group were selected from among men who had committed violent (Schedule 1) offences while on Parole or Mandatory Supervision for a previous offence. The previous term must have been imprisonment of at least 6 months and the new offence must have occurred within one year of the previous release (although a few exceptions were made to include longer periods when suitable subjects were not available).

Subjects were recruited from among men returned to federal institutions in the Ontario region after Parole or Mandatory Supervision revocation for either conviction or being charged with the new offence. It was stipulated in advance that subjects subsequently found not guilty of the new offense for which they were charged would be dropped from the study. No such cases were encountered.

Potential subjects were identified from lists of new admissions for convictions or charges for Schedule 1 offences obtained from Regional Headquarters (Ontario) at weekly intervals. Subjects identified as having been released from federal institutions were targeted first. In addition, names of other possible subjects were screened with the aid of institutional staff in order to identify those who had served provincial terms from RCMP FPS records. Most of the inmates were located in the Reception Unit of Millhaven Institution, although the sample included a few subjects from Collin's Bay and Joyceville Institutions.

Lists of potential subjects were submitted to contact persons in each institution for clearance according to the criteria for eligibility. Inmates were excluded if they showed evidence of active or florid psychosis, subnormal intelligence (I.Q. more than one S.D. below the mean), literacy level so low that they could not complete questionnaires even with assistance, insufficient competence in English or French to allow an interview, or if they were judged by security officials to present a likely danger to an interviewer. These criteria excluded fewer than 10 % of potential subjects.

The proposed comparison group of subjects will be comprised of men who have successfully completed at least one postrelease year under supervision. Initially, they will be recruited from a random sample of cases under supervision in the Kingston office of the Parole Service. Subjects will be recruited from other districts as necessary to fill the required number. This part of the research is funded by the Social Sciences and Research Council of Canada and is currently underway.

Interview Measures

Data were obtained from a variety of sources. However, the most important was a structured interview with subjects. The interview form is presented in the appendix.

Following from the work cited above on relapse prevention, many of the questions focussed on the events and the sequences of behavior that ultimately led to release failure, concentrating on the period immediately prior to the subject's revocation. Information was elicited on the level of psychosocial functioning, the nature and severity of life problems, and the relationship of these problems to reoffending. Similarly, following from previous work on the relationship between coping and criminal behavior, questions were asked for detailed information about how the inmate dealt with his problems.

All questions did not apply to every subject, as the details of offences and their precursors varied. For example, for robbers we explored expectations about the amount of money to be gained, while for sex offenders, precursors to sexual aggression such as deviant sexual fantasies were covered. For subjects in the comparison group there are no new offences to discuss, but a parallel form is used to deal with events in the month preceding the interview.

Questionnaire Measures

Subjects were also given a set of questionnaires to gather supplementary information on specific topics. Some of the measures that we have chosen were developed for use with other populations or in very different circumstances, and required adaptation for the present purpose. Other measures were developed and tested for this project. For these reasons, the first few months of this project were devoted to developing, adapting and testing the measures.

The questionnaire measures are presented in the appendix.

a) Alcohol and drug abuse is frequently found among offender populations and has also been found to predict reoffending (Waller, 1974). The Alcohol Dependence Scale (Skinner & Horn, 1984) as well as the Drug Abuse Screening Test (Skinner, 1982) were employed. These are brief self-report scales that measure the dimension of dependence on alcohol or drugs and the problems associated with it. Subjects were also be asked to answer in terms of their alcohol/drug use around the time of their release failure.

b) Emotional state prior to and at the time of release failure was measured in several ways. Subjects were asked in the interview about their mood and emotional state in the period preceding the events which resulted in revocation. In addition, several questionnaires were included to assess subjects' emotional reactions. The Beck Depression Inventory (Beck, 1967) was employed as a standard measure of depression

with good psychometric properties. Anger was measured with the Multidimensional Anger Inventory (Siegel, 1986). This inventory yields scores on anger arousability, range of anger eliciting situations, hostile outlook, as well as precipitants and expression of anger. It is internally consistent and has good test-retest stability. Anxiety was measured with the Spielberger Trait Anxiety Inventory (Spielberger, Gorsuch and Lushene, 1970). This scale's content, concurrent and construct validity compare favourably with other published tests of anxiety.

c) Ability to cope in various situations was measured with the Coping Situations Questionnaire (Zamble, unpublished). A variety of common life situations that individuals must cope with are described. The respondent was instructed to imagine that each situation is currently happening to him, and to describe how he would deal with it or work it out. He was also asked questions about his thoughts and feelings in each case. While this instrument has not been standardized, it is derived from those used successfully in the past (Porporino, 1983; Zamble, Porporino, and Kalotay, 1984; Zamble and Porporino (1988).

d) Other scales measured some specific behavioral patterns. A Socialization Questionnaire (Zamble, unpublished) asked subjects about relationships, leisure time and accommodation. Zamble and Porporino (1988) have found that offenders often depend on fluid and generally superficial relationships and that instability is found in most aspects of their lives, e.g., residences, activities and personal relationships. This questionnaire attempts to measure such a pattern. A Time Use Questionnaire (Zamble, unpublished) was also included. Developed from Zamble and Porporino's (1988) findings that many offenders often live in the present, without much concern for the past or future, this scale seeks to determine how people organize their time, and how they conceptualize time generally. The Social Desirability Scale from the PRF was used to assess the degree to which subjects attempted to "fake good".

File Data

Information on previous institutional behavior, primarily disciplinary offenses, and on problems seen during supervision by parole officers, were obtained from files. File data were also used for comprehensive information on previous criminal history.

Measures Of Risk

As discussed above, one purpose of this research was to examine and interpret dynamic risk factors in comparison with static antecedents of parole failure. The resultant information may be useful in improving the level of prediction of release failure possible from current instruments. Therefore, two of the best measures of risk that use static variables, each of them developed in Canada, will be included: The Nuffield General Recidivism Scale (Nuffield, 1982) and the Level of Supervision Inventory (LSI; Andrews, Kiessling, Mickus, and Robinson, 1986). Most of the items necessary for these scales were included in the interview, the others were taken from files.

Procedure

Because the quality of much of the information of interest is dependent on the accuracy of recall, candidates were contacted as soon as possible after they were identified, usually within the first two weeks after their return to the penitentiary, usually in the Reception Unit at Millhaven, but some of them had already been sent to their receiving institutions. All interviews took place within 60 days of the offence.

Over 80% of those asked agreed to participate. For those who agreed, the interview started immediately after consent was given. The interview took between 60 and 90 minutes. The interviews were held in the common room or in interview rooms at the Millhaven reception units. The interviews were conducted by a single interviewer under semiprivate conditions.

Questionnaires were given to the subjects after the interview, although in some cases, the questionnaires had to be read to the subjects. Completion of the questionnaires took about 45 minutes. File data were taken from a systematic search done after the interview.

Confidentiality Of Information

In accordance with the standards of professional research, and the requirements for clearance by our Ethics Review Committee, we guaranteed confidentiality to subjects (see the consent form in the appendix). They were asked to sign a consent sheet in which this condition was clearly stated, and the researcher also signed to establish the contract. Each subject was assigned a unique number and all records were identified only with this number. The list of assignments of names to numbers were stored under lock and were accessible only to the principal investigators and the research assistants.

Data Analyses

The purpose of this study was to identify dynamic antecedents of recidivism that can be measured in the postrelease period. In order to accomplish this aim, a large number of measures were examined simultaneously for their predictive value. These measures can be divided into several classes: historical (e.g., offence history), individual differences (e.g., anger proneness, intelligence, coping ability), general postrelease (e.g., self ratings of mood in the time before the reoffense or during a specified period of successful supervision), and specific postrelease (i.e., the particular events that preceded a specific arrest). The initial data analysis task was to reduce the number of variables within a given predictor domain. Measures that had intractable problems (e.g., missing data, extremely skewed distributions, no real variance) were eliminated. The remainder of the variables were examined for redundancy; highly intercorrelated variables were combined or eliminated.

The analyses in the present report are basically descriptive. In addition, we have compared offenders who were convicted of robbery to offenders who were convicted of serious assaultive offences on key variables.

When data from successful supervisees become available, hierarchical setwise analyses on the reduced data set using the measurement domains specified above as units will be employed to determine the best combination of variables for differentiating offender groups from each other and from the successful releasees.

Since the specific postrelease variable set provided a unique set of events for each subject, it will not be included in the above analyses. This variable set is nonetheless of great practical and theoretical interest; it allows us to examine what particular antecedent events recidivists reported (for example, whether an offence was planned and how far back this planning began). Such information is directly relevant to programming for recidivism prevention and for parole supervision. This information will also be useful in other comparisons and analyses, e.g., close inspection of subjects without previous history of violence.

RESULTS

Data were collected from 100 inmates; 39 of them had been convicted of robbery and 52 were convicted of violent or sex offences. The principal comparative analyses in this report contrast these two groups of inmates.

Personal And Criminal History

The inmates' background characteristics and life histories are what one would expect in a sample of core offenders. Their average age was 29.4 years, ranging from 19 to 60 years. On average, they had successfully completed 9.5 years of school.

There was clear evidence of a long history of personal instability. The longest time they had held any single job was only 30.6 months, and one-third had never held a job longer than 6 months. The longest relationship with a woman was only a little longer, with a mean of 38.1 months, and 26% of subjects had never had a relationship longer than 6 months. Forty-eight percent said that they had been previously treated for an alcohol or drug problem, and 40% claimed to have been treated for a psychological or psychiatric problem, other than alcohol abuse, while living in the community. As expected in light of these statistics, 32% said that they had seriously considered suicide and 22% reported actually attempting it.

These indicators of poor mental health are matched by long and extensive criminal histories. Subjects reported that they were, on average, 14.6 years of age when they first had trouble with the law. A majority (57%) had other family members who had criminal records. They averaged 24.4 previous convictions recorded on their FPS forms, with a range from 3 to over 100. Most had violent offences among those listed, even before the current offence: The mean total of violent offences was 5.2. Of course, all had previously served time in prison, because this was one of our selection criteria. Most had served their preceding term in Ontario, and for 75% their last release was from a medium-security institution, most commonly a federal penitentiary. Most (89%) had been under supervision and revoked for the current offence. The average time on the outside between the previous release and the new arrest was only 4.7 months, with a range of a few days to almost 19 months, with 96% reimprisoned within a year.

Thus, it can be concluded that we were successful in defining and recruiting a population of recidivists with serious criminal histories. In addition, because we had specified a new violent offence as a selection criterion, all (except one) had such offences. The most serious current offence is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Principal Current Offence

Robbery	39
Assault (general)	34
Homicide, or aggravated assault	9
Sexual assault (rape)	8
Sexual assault (pedophilia)	1
Other	9

The mean length of the aggregate current term was 52 months, with a range up to 14 years.

Behavior While On Release

The information we gathered was centered on the month before the occurrence of the current offence. The largest proportion of subjects (32%) lived in a nuclear family with wives and children, and another 8% lived with their parents; in contrast, 29% lived on their own, and another 18% lived with friends, situations likely to be somewhat less settled than living with family.

Looking at their living accommodations provides some further detail. Only 12% owned the accommodations in which they lived, while 59% resided in rented houses or apartments. Others lived in less stable places, 17% in rooming houses or institutions and 5% having no fixed address at all. At the time of their arrest, about as many (43%) were married or living in common-law relationships as were single (42%); the others were mostly divorced or newly separated from relationships.

In terms of employment, the greatest number (42%) were unemployed, an unemployment rate somewhat higher than found in previous samples of offenders. Only 39% were occupied in full-time jobs or school programs, with the others working part-time. The main source of income was from employment for 39%, while 33% were supported principally by government benefits including disability and welfare. In response to the same questions, 16% admitted that their principal income had come from illegal activities.

Much of the information on lifestyles is encapsulated in Table 2, which shows the amount of non-working time spent in a variety of categories. As can be seen, most subjects spent the greatest amount of time in unstructured activities, with the highest value in "Nonspecific activities with friends (hanging around)". In contrast, family duties and organized activities occupied on the average much less time.

Table 2: Time In Various Activities

Category	Mean Hours/Week	Percent with None (0)
Family	8.2	38
Hobbies	2.8	73
Listening to music	19.9	28
TV	11.0	27
Physical activities	6.0	54
Specific activity with friends	5.6	53
Nonspecific activity with friends	20.6	30
Other	10.3	65

We asked subjects about a variety of problems that they may have encountered. The highest percentage (59%) said that they had had some problem in their relationships with their wives or girlfriends, while other kinds of interpersonal problems, such as conflicts with work supervisors or co-workers, were far less frequently reported (7 and 6%, respectively). In response to specific questions aimed at assessing financial needs and motivations, many said that they had had money problems, but only 18% thought they had not had enough money to survive, while another 20% described their money problem as the (almost universal) gap between means and desires.

Given the offenders' perceptions of these problems, one might have expected subjects to look for assistance. However, only a minority said that they sought help anywhere. The greatest number (36%) asked for help from friends, most frequently loans when money was short. Only about half as many (19%) ever sought help from their wives. We had also asked whether they could have gone to any source for help, and about as many said that they could have gone to persons such as wives, parents, or friends (but did not) as actually did seek help. This appears to be confirmation of some of the Macho or "independent" descriptions of offender socialization patterns, although it may also be the result of prison experience.

Simply asking subjects to name areas in which they experienced difficulties can be misleading because problems vary in seriousness from trivial to overwhelming. Near the end of the interview, therefore, subjects were asked to rate the seriousness of any problems they had mentioned as occurring during the month before the current offence on a 10-point scale. The results can be seen in Table 3. The three highest ranked problem areas, substance abuse, physical and (mostly) emotional problems, and money, were also the most frequently mentioned, each cited in some form by about two-thirds of subjects, so it is evident that they had felt seriously troubled in some respects.

**Table 3: Mean Rated Seriousness
Of Selected Problem Categories**

Problem	Mean Seriousness
Alcohol/drug use	5.4
Money	5.0
Physical/emotional health	3.9
Wife/family	3.6
Housing, physical environment	3.5
Work/school (inc. unemployment)	3.4
Leisure time (inc. boredom)	2.8
Friends	2.7
Release supervision/conditions	2.7

Substance Abuse

On the basis of our theoretical expectations and prior knowledge, substance abuse and emotional dysphoria had been particularly targeted for detailed investigation. The resultant data are of some interest, and they also lead us into discussion of the precursors of the new criminal offences; they will be considered below.

It has been previously shown that offenders have substantial problems with alcohol and drug use, and that intoxication often accompanies the commission of criminal acts. For these reasons, prohibitions on drinking are a common condition of release supervision. Indeed, 78% of our subjects reported that they were under such restrictions during the last month before their new offence; this included most of those who were under supervision.

To determine how effective such restrictions were, we asked subjects when they first had violated any of their release conditions. The first conditions violated were almost always those prohibiting alcohol and drug use. To our surprise, 56% of those under supervision admitted to having violated their terms in the first week of release. When we asked for more specific information on how soon after release they had begun drinking, 44% said that they had at least one drink on their first day, and another 18% had drunk within the first week. Similarly, 31% had taken at least one illegal drug on the first day, and another 16% within the first week.

These figures are mutually supportive and they are strong evidence that the simple imposition of restrictions on alcohol and drug use had little effect. There was almost immediate violation of release conditions by a large majority of offenders. Given this, it is

interesting to consider the reasons for the violation. In general, the motivations provided by subjects are not very profound: "Social circumstances or pressure" was the reason most commonly cited (in 22% of the sample).

Additional detail is provided in Table 4, which summarizes answers to specific questions about the reasons for the resumption of alcohol and drug use. In general, the resumption of alcohol or drug use does not seem to have been in response to any particular environmental circumstances. Rather, it appears to be just a resumption of previous behavior, after the interruption of a term of imprisonment.

**Table 4: Reasons For (Re-)Starting Alcohol
And Drug Use After Release**

Description	Percent (Alcohol)	Percent (Drug)
Pleasant consequences	29	22
Social pressure	25	22
Response to problem	16	6
Habitual user	8	11
Don't know	4	3

In addition to information on first use, we also gathered a variety of data on the amount of drinking and drug use. Most of the sample drank some amount of alcohol, with only 15% claiming to abstain. The mean frequency of drinking occasions was 12.6 per month, i.e., almost half of all days. The mean quantity of drinks per occasion was 12.7. Combined, these figures yield a Frequency-Quantity Index (arguably the best single measure of consumption) with an average of 8.1 standard drinks daily for all subjects, including abstainers (or 9.6 excluding nondrinkers). This figure is very similar to the value of 8.0 found before (Zamble and Porporino, 1988).

Use of other drugs is harder to quantify, because the dosage and potency of street drugs varies so much, but we can at least show the frequency of use. Table 5 lists the percentages of subjects who said that they commonly used substances in each of a variety of categories. Overall, 65% of subjects used one of these substances. In general, the results are as expected, and as previously shown. However, the amount of use of cocaine seems much higher than in previous comparable surveys (Zamble and Porporino, 1988), providing confirmation for recent observations that cocaine use has increased considerably over the last decade. There appears to be compensatory decreases in some other categories, e.g., amphetamines and stimulants.

Table 5: Categories Of Drug Use

Drug Class	Percent Used
Cannabis	57
Amphetamines	1
Stimulants or hallucinogens	12
Sedatives or barbiturates	10
Opiates	5
Cocaine	28

It is important to consider not only the amount of substance use, but also the effects of those substances. The interview included questions asking about how frequently the respondent was verbally or physically aggressive, or, in contrast, socially withdrawn, after consuming alcohol or other drugs. About half of the subjects (from 47 to 53% for the respective effects) said that alcohol increased each of these behaviors. In the case of other drugs, about 30% reported aggression, while 73% said that they became withdrawn. Thus, subjects perceived a link between aggression and alcohol, but a smaller effect for other drugs, which they saw as more frequently linked with social withdrawal and isolation.

Some further information on alcohol and drug use was gathered using instruments developed by the Addiction Research Foundation. The mean score on the Alcohol Dependency Scale (ADS) was 9.6, with only 28% having scores of 0 (no evidence of dependency). On the Drug Abuse Screening Test (DAST) the mean was 5.7, with only 31% having scores of 0. These scores are useful as summary measures of substance abuse for comparison with other populations and for multivariate statistical analyses. In addition, information about the relationship between substance use and offending will be educed in a later section of this report.

Emotional States

Relapse theory argues that one of the primary antecedents of failure is the emergence of dysphoric emotional states, just as would be predicted from the failure of coping efforts, so the interview included items to measure emotional states. Overall, it was evident that subjects were far from enthusiastic about their lives in the period preceding their new offence.

Some summary evidence of this is available in answers to questions asking subjects to evaluate their lives in general for the relevant period. For example, 81% said that they had worried that their lives were not going the way they wanted. When we asked them to rate their lives in the community on a scale from 1 ("unbearable") to 100 ("all you'd ever want from life"), the mean was only 44.9, with about half of subjects giving ratings of below 50.

Much more detail can be seen in Table 6. A fairly comprehensive list of emotional states was presented to subjects and they were asked to specify which they had experienced in the final month before the offence. The emotions of principal clinical concern, i.e., depression, anxiety, and anger, had each been experienced by the majority of subjects. However, one might expect that a variety of states would be experienced by fairly high proportions of people over a period as long as a month, so the absolute numbers can be neglected, although the ordering of frequencies is probably meaningful.

**Table 6: Emotions Experienced
In The Month Preceding The Offence**

State	Percent Experiencing	Percent Strongest
Hopelessness	38	4
Depression	58	23
Moody/brooding	41	5
Anger	52	17
Frustration	57	9
General stress	41	5
Anxiety	54	15
Guilt	31	4
Loneliness	37	4
Boredom	31	1
Sexual frustration	14	1
Numbness	23	0
Positive emotions	51	8
Other	11	3

In addition, and more revealing for descriptive purposes, is the choice of which emotion predominated for each subject in the same period. As can be seen from the table, depression (23%) was the most frequent choice, followed by anger (17%) and anxiety (15%). Although a majority of subjects had reported feeling positive emotions during this period, such emotions were the strongest for only 8%. Other states, such as boredom and sexual frustration, although frequent, seem to be only relatively minor constituents of most subjects' palette of emotions.

Thus, it would appear that subjects' lives on the outside were often characterized by dysphoric emotions. This may have been reactive and specific to what they were experiencing at that time, the result of generalized personality dispositions, or, more likely, a mix of the two. Some additional information on emotional experiences closer to the time of the offence will be considered in the following section.

However, we have additional evidence that the dysphoria persisted, and that in many cases it may have been of clinical magnitude. Our set of questionnaires included the Beck Depression Inventory, the most widely used measure of clinical depression. The mean score was 16.9, substantially higher than even that for a random sample of inmates at the beginning of their terms (the mean in Zamble and Porporino (1988) was 13.0) and far higher than any non-clinical population norm. Almost half of the sample had scores higher than 15, a level used to indicate symptoms at a clinical level.

Similarly, scores on the Spielberger State Anxiety Index averaged 48.1. On this scale, a standardization group of patients diagnosed as suffering from anxiety reactions had a mean of 46.0, so the obtained scores indicate a very substantial amount of disturbance.

Thus, although concurrent information on the degree of disturbance experienced by subjects on the outside is not available, there is strong, if retrospective, evidence of major disturbances during their community tenure.

It is very likely that these emotional disturbances are linked to difficulties in coping with problems in the community. One of our questionnaires assessed the effectiveness of coping efforts, using a set of five common problem situations; the results ought to be comparable to those found previously when coping was assessed with each individual's unique set of problem situations. On this scale, the mean Coping Efficacy was 9.9, on a scale with a practical working range of 4 to 20. In contrast, the comparable value from a sample of correctional workers (Hughes, 1990) was about 16. (Moreover, the current values are very likely overestimates, since questionnaire administration requires that problems which the subject omits be counted as missing, while in face-to-face administration these are likely the cases that would have the lowest scores.) Only 12% were above the level of 12, considered the point of mediocre coping, and none were as high as the mean for the noncriminal sample. Although coping was not the focus of this study, it can be said that subjects had major deficiencies in the ability to cope with everyday problems.

Offence Precursors

Although the preceding sections have established the occurrence of certain behaviors and emotional patterns while subjects were on the outside, it remains to be seen whether such events were more closely involved with the commission of their new violent crimes. This was one of the primary purposes of the study, so much of the interview focused on experiences and events preceding the offence.

For many subjects, the beginning of the offence process seems to have been related to some exacerbation of their negative mood states. We surveyed their emotional responses in the last 48 hours preceding the offence, just as we had done for the longer period of a month reported in Table 6. The comparisons between these results, shown in Table 7, and those for the longer period, are instructive.

**Table 7: Emotions Experienced Within
48 Hours Prior To The Offence**

State	Percent Experiencing	Percent Strongest
Hopelessness	24	5
Depression	37	17
Moody/brooding	24	2
Anger	43	22
Frustration	37	4
General stress	28	2
Anxiety	38	14
Guilt	16	3
Loneliness	25	4
Boredom	15	1
Sexual frustration	9	1
Numbness	14	3
Positive emotions	32	14
Other	15	7

As one would expect, the numbers of subjects who reported experiencing various emotions was generally lower in the shorter period, with the numbers decreasing overall by about one-third. However, the percentage of those reporting some anger fell by less than the others, from 52 to 43. At the same time, the frequency of feelings of guilt and boredom dropped more than the others. From this, one might infer that the approach of the offence was characterized by a relative shift from general dysphoria to anger. The occurrence of events and thoughts that might lead to an offence would likely drive out boredom and suppress guilt feelings.

The above reasoning is quite speculative, and the figures in the tables make it clear that no dramatic shift was visible for most inmates. However, the argument is strengthened somewhat when one looks at the mood states named by subjects as the strongest they had experienced in the two periods. The percentages increased in only two categories: Anger, and positive mood. Again there seems to be a shift to anger, although the significance of the corresponding increase in positive mood states is unclear.

Regardless of the validity of the above interpretation, the evidence does show that dysphoric emotional states predominated in the period immediately preceding the offence. Anger (22%) was clearly the most common state at that time, followed by depression and anxiety. This supports the argument that such states are linked with the occurrence of

criminal acts, although the strength of the argument must be limited by the present lack of baseline or comparative data.

The argument for links between mood state and offending is also strengthened by other results. We asked subjects to tell us whether they thought that something in particular had happened just before their first thoughts of the offence. Most of them (76%) responded affirmatively. Such a recognition is of course retrospective and may contain some elements of self-justification, but it is interesting nevertheless.

Much more direct was a question asking subjects to specify what they thought had led them to the offence. For this, we had a set of categories established in advance, with the results shown in Table 8. Although financial gain is the single most frequently chosen motive, it was cited by only one-quarter of subjects, and the two anger categories together contain the same proportion. Over a third of the sample gave reasons that were definitely linked to emotional or mood states. Interestingly, the numbers citing social or peer pressure, or boredom and the need for excitement, were low. One might conclude that there were several subpopulations of offenders here, one acting for financial gain, and the other precipitated by poor coping and emotional states. Together, these categories account for about three-quarters of the known reasons.

Table 8: Thoughts About What Led To Offence

Category	Percent
General anger or frustration	12
Specific anger	14
(Emotionally) out of control	11
Boredom	3
Money	25
Sexual frustration	1
Peer pressure	6
Don't know	19
Other	7

This perceived motivation is strongly related to the type of offence. Financial gain was cited for 88% of robbers, while it was rarely listed for other types of offenders. Statistically, the association is significant at the most stringent level of confidence ($X^2 = 40.68$, $p < .001$). This provides some evidence that offenders' cognitions are differentially associated with the nature of their offences.

In addition to emotional difficulties, the preceding sections had indicated the possible contribution of substance abuse to the occurrence of the new offence. Information on drinking and drug-taking in the 24 hours before the offence is presented in Table 9.

Table 9: Drugs In The 24 Hours Preceding Offence

Drug Class	Percent Using
Alcohol	67
Cannabis	22
Amphetamines	0
Stimulants or hallucinogens	1
Sedatives or barbiturates	10
Opiates	3
Cocaine	17

For those who were drinking, the mean number of drinks in the 24-hour period was 11.2, somewhat higher even than the overall daily average for drinkers. It is interesting that only a minority of those who commonly used cannabis or hallucinogens reported use just before the offence, while all of those using "downers", two-thirds of the cocaine users, and most of the alcohol drinkers had used their respective substances in that period. This may reflect differences in addictiveness between these types of drugs, or it may show some relationship to the occurrence of violent behavior.

There are also some relationships between substance abuse and the type of offence committed. For purposes of comparisons, all offences clearly involving personal attacks, i.e., homicide, assault, rape, etc., were combined into a single category, and contrasted with robbery and with a third category (other) where the nature of the interaction between offender and victim was unclear, e.g., pedophilia. Measures of substance abuse were also reduced to two or three categories to increase the power of nonparametric statistical analyses.

These analyses showed that robbers used (nonalcohol) drugs more frequently than others ($X^2 = 9.81, p < .05$) and also that they used more types of drugs ($X^2 = 10.88, p < .05$). In contrast, robbers seemed to use alcohol less than the other subjects, and, although the results did not quite reach statistical significance for any single measure (e.g., for the Frequency-Quantity Index, ($X^2 = 5.40, p < .07$)) the various measures all show the same tendency.

In summary, there is evidence that some of the features evident in offenders' lives on the outside continued until the time of their most recent criminal behavior. There is also

(weaker) evidence of shifts in emotional state just before the offence, and some indication of heavy substance abuse at the same time. The type of substances used may be differential across offences. Many subjects themselves thought that emotional difficulties were the cause of their offences, and that their substance abuse was linked to aggressive and violent behavior. If these are truly precursors of a relapse into recidivism, then we ought to be able to link them to events in the offence process, so we are led to consider some evidence on just what happens during that process.

Offence Process

In addition to looking for the situational and internal precursors of offences, we wanted to be able to describe the progression of events actually involved in the offence itself. This is important for a number of reasons: For example, it can tell us about the realistic chances of being able to intervene just before an offence, or at least how to recognize that a critical series may have begun. Therefore, much of this study was concerned with offenders' actions and thoughts that were directly involved in the offence.

One can think of a criminal offence as the endpoint of a decision process that progresses from casual thoughts to a definite commitment to action. Therefore, we plotted a series of six landmarks: The first passing or fleeting thought of committing an offence; the first longer thought, defined as lasting a minute or more; the first time the person considered that he might actually carry out an offence; the first casual plans; the first specific or detailed plans; and, finally, the point of no return, where carrying out the offence was inevitable.

One would expect that not every offence would include each of these stages. For example, the first two stages might occur together, or the planning stages might also be combined; in very impulsive or spontaneous cases, the planning stages might be abbreviated or even eliminated. Therefore, during the interview, we asked subjects whether - and, if so, when - they had experienced each stage.

To help maintain consistency and to make the task simpler, subjects were given a visual image of a time line (p. 19 of the Interview Protocol, see Appendix). The time represented spans the time from several months before the offence up to its occurrence, in "psychological logarithm" units that telescope the entire period backward from the offence, so that short periods close to the offence are represented by the same lengths as longer periods further away. Subjects were asked to place each of the critical sequence events on this line.

**Table 10: Thinking Landmarks In Offence Process
(Percentages Of Subjects)**

Time Interval	First	Longer	Consider
One month or more before offence	26	14	7
One week or more (but less than a month)	11	11	9
One day or more (but less than a week)	10	12	13
Hours (but less than a day)	8	11	13
Within an hour of the offence	6	10	8
At the time of the offence	38	44	50

First = First passing thought of offence

Longer = First longer thought (> 1 min.) of offence

Consider = First time considered might actually do it

The results can be seen in Tables 10 and 11, which show how long before the offence subjects located each of the landmarks. Overall, the lack of anticipation is impressive, whichever measure one considers. For close to half of the subjects, the entire process, from first passing thought to commission of the offence, was collapsed into an hour or so. While one can understand that the point of no return would be close to the event, it is somewhat surprising that so few did any real planning, e.g., only 26% say that they considered definite plans or rehearsed for more than an hour before the offence.

**Table 11: Planning Landmarks In Offence Process
(Percentages Of Subjects)**

Time Interval	Plan 1	Plan 2	No Return
One month or more before offence	4	3	0
One week or more (but less than a month)	5	3	0
One day or more (but less than a week)	10	11	6
Hours (but less than a day)	11	9	11
Within an hour of the offence	12	12	7
At the time of the offence	59	62	76

Plan 1 = First thoughts of planning offence

Plan 2 = First definite plans

No Return = When offence was inevitable

type of offence and perceived motivation, subjects' cognitions about the cause of their offence were also significantly related to the length of anticipation, i.e., those who acted for financial gain had thought of the offence earlier and planned longer than others. For example, 52% of subjects motivated by financial gain planned more than one hour, as compared to only 16% of the others ($X^2 = 10.92$, $p < .01$).

In addition, antecedent factors captured in some of our measures also affected the time line. Means for each of the landmarks (again, with the exception of the point of no return) were significantly shorter for subjects who consumed more than 3 standard drinks of alcohol in the 24 hours preceding the offence. Using again the time of first planning as representative, 11% of those consuming more than 3 drinks began planning more than an hour before the offence, as opposed to 38% of those who drank less or not at all ($X^2 = 7.43$, $p < .01$). Similarly, there was evidence of effects from the amount of drug use, although it was weaker.

Other analyses showed relationships between the offence time line and emotional events. Subjects who had felt angry during the final month were more likely to think of an offence earlier than others ($X^2 = 5.19$, $p < .05$) although they did not plan any earlier. However, those who felt generally stressed or anxious not only thought of offences earlier ($X^2 = 4.42$ and $X^2 = 7.31$ for the two respectively, $p < .05$) but they also decided significantly sooner that they might actually commit the offence ($X^2 = 3.99$ and $X^2 = 5.97$ respectively, $p < .05$) and differences for the other landmarks approach significance. In contrast, those who reported feeling positive emotions in the month before the offence were likely to enter into the critical sequence later, with significant differences visible up to the time of definite planning. Interestingly, feelings of depression or hopelessness show no suggestion of a relationship to the onset of the offence pattern.

Some further data provide significant additional detail about subjects' thought processes preceding their criminal acts. In addition to locating events on the time line, we asked them whether they had ever daydreamed or fantasized about a new offence. Most (86%) said that they had not entertained themselves with such thoughts. However, the more interesting question was the followup, which asked why they had not done so. Only 7 men answered that they had been worried about the possible negative consequences, and only 4 said that they had considered possible victims. In answer to a different question, which asked specifically and directly whether they had ever thought of the victim of their most recent offence before committing it, only 1 subject said yes, and the other 99 said that they had not.

When we asked whether they had ever fantasized about pleasant or rewarding consequences of possible offences, a much greater proportion (61%) of those answering admitted to having done so. For these, the most frequently cited anticipated reward was material gains (33%), while self-esteem or peer-esteem were very rarely cited (1% each). This strongly reinforces evidence considered earlier about perceived motivations.

In general, these results document the spontaneous nature of violent offences far better than anything we are aware of in the previous literature. Although the impulsive nature of habitual offenders had been widely reported for some time, this may be the first quantitative description of the process. The implications for models of rational considered decision making, on which most of the criminal law is based, would appear to be devastating.

It would appear that for many offenders the offence process has something of a ballistic nature: Once it is set off, it runs very quickly on its course. At the same time, the onset of the chain is affected by certain behavioral and emotional events. Thus, treatments or interventions that concentrate on criminal cognitions or habits of impulsive thinking are unlikely to succeed in the prevention of violent new offences. Rather, we would argue that intervention must deal instead with the priming events involved, e.g., mood states and substance use.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

To date, most of the information we have reported is descriptive in nature. We plan, however, to move forward on two fronts. The addition of data from a group of successful supervisees will permit us to draw sharper conclusions about the likely causal influence of the precursors to criminal offending that we have identified in the recidivist sample. Similarly, the addition of more recidivists, including nonviolent offenders, will allow finer grained analyses according to offence type.

After dealing with the task of specifying the dynamic aspects of the model more completely, we need to address some issues in the substantive interpretation of static risk factors and their possible relation to dynamic antecedents of parole failure. For example, how are static predictors to be interpreted in the present context? We know that they are related to recidivism and treatment failure but not by what mechanism. From a theoretical viewpoint, it is unsatisfying to rest with the identification of a group of miscellaneous variables that are empirically linked to outcome. However, it is not at all clear how relative risk is related to the sequence of events in the recidivism process. We will address these and similar questions by exploring the use of static risk factor scores as moderator variables.

In an important but often neglected study, Chaiken and Chaiken (1984) gathered self reported and officially recorded-offence data from 2,200 inmates in American prisons from three states. These investigators succeeded in identifying 15% of their sample as a type of criminal that they labelled "violent predators" who reported committing robbery, assaults, and illegal drug deals. Violent predators turned out to have committed crimes of all types much more frequently than other offenders, most of whom committed crimes at quite low rates. Because of the greatly disproportionate share of serious crimes committed by violent predators, their identification and study is a high priority. Unfortunately, they cannot accurately be identified by officially recorded offence data alone.

Because the group of offenders we have selected for study are already recidivists, a substantial proportion of them are likely to be violent predators whom we can identify with the interview and LSI data we have collected. These offenders will be young, unmarried, have previous robbery convictions, have very poor employment records, demonstrate criminal versatility, have very high LSI scores, drug and alcohol problems, and a juvenile history of frequent violent crimes (Chaiken & Chaiken, 1984). Many, if not all of these inmates, will meet Hare's criteria for psychopathy.

Based upon our knowledge of violent predatory psychopathic criminals, we predict that the conditions leading to their criminal offences will be markedly different from those leading to the criminal acts of other offenders. Based upon the work of Newman and his colleagues (Newman, 1991; Newman, Patterson, Howland, & Nichols, 1990; Wallace & Newman, 1991), we expect that violent predatory criminals will be less likely to consider the possible negative consequences of criminal behavior because they are "reward driven". In addition, their offences will be more impulsive, occur earlier in their supervision, and be less tied to

dysphoric emotional states. The personality of these offenders will be relatively more responsible for the criminal act than environmental precipitants. Situational phenomena and dysphoric mood are predicted to be more important precipitants of criminal behavior among other offenders.

The separation of our recidivists into violent predator and other inmate groups should permit the more accurate delineation of the relationship of emotional and environmental precipitants to criminal acts in both types of offenders. These results will have direct implications for the development of more effective programs of treatment and supervision. Similarly, we expect that we will be able to separate the "other offenders" into several groups that will differ according to precipitants and motivations, as some of the results presented above imply. These differentiations may lead to some very useful guidelines for supervision.

The principal threat to the inferential value of the information acquired in this study is posed by retrospective bias. Newly arrested releasees could very well distort their recall of events through the filter of their current difficulties. To the extent that this is operative, it changes the status of many of the measures from predictive to postdictive, i.e., measures that might appear to have predictive validity could have no validity when used in prediction. Partly, this problem can be circumvented by the comparisons between different types of recidivists because the issue of retrospective bias will be identical for violent predators and other inmates and among inmates who have committed different types of offences. The ultimate method of addressing this methodological problem, is our plan to conduct a followup of the comparison group of releasees who have not yet reoffended, because the model generated using data collected from the recidivist group can be used to predict subsequent offending within this group.

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INTERVIEW PROTOCOL

**Recidivism Project
Face Sheet**

----- DETACH AND STORE SECURELY AFTER COMPLETION -----

Name _____

FPS _____

Subject Number _____

Date Consented _____ **By** _____

Date Interviewed _____ **By** _____

Date Tested _____ **By** _____

Recidivism Project

Interview Form Final Working Version - May 31, 1990

Notes:

Scoring/coding is generally indicated. If an item is omitted because it is not relevant or does not apply, it should be scored -3. Other missing data should be scored as -2. If the subject refuses to answer, score as -1. For dichotomous "yes/no" questions, no = 0, yes = 1.

Instructions are in parentheses in italics. Optional dialogue is in italics. Additional questions to clarify answers are always permissible. In general, answers should be recorded verbatim as much as possible, even if categories are supplied in the text, to allow later (re)categorization. However, the interviewer should keep possible categories in mind in seeking clarification.

Identification (fill in from files)

1. D.O.B. _____
2. Age: _____
3. Location of interview _____ Date _____
By _____
4. New offence(s) _____
5. Aggregate Term (mos) _____
6. Last release: Date _____
From _____
Type (1 Parole; 2 MS; 3 WED) _____
7. Time out before revocation (mos) _____
8. Previous record: Number of prior convictions _____
Number of prior violent (schedule 1) _____

Introduction

As we explained before, what we are trying to do is to find out what is happening in men's lives while they are out on the street after being in prison. We are trying to find out what sorts of things happen before a new offence, so that in the future we might be able to predict recidivism or maybe even prevent it.

Given what we're interested in, you should be able to see why we're asking most of the questions that follow. ; If not, you can ask for an explanation, and I'll try to explain although it may not be until we're finished the interview because it's very important that we finish in the time we have available. Also, if you have other information that you think is important that I don't ask about, please tell me. This is really the first time that anybody has tried to do this study, so we know it's not perfect.

The last thing I want to say before we get started is to remind you that you have the right to refuse to answer any particular question, although I'd appreciate you telling me why if there's anything you don't want to answer. Do you have any questions now?

A. BACKGROUND

Let me start with some general stuff. I want to know a bit about your background generally, so these questions do not apply to just to the last time you were outside. This set of questions is sort of a grab bag, but I'm asking them all now because they may be hard to find in your file and they may not fit anywhere else.

1. How far did you go in school before you left? _____
(Distinguish from upgrading in prison)
2. Were you ever suspended or expelled from school? (Y/N) _____
3. How old were you when you left school? _____
4. What was the reason you left? _____
(Want to be able to characterize degree of interest and participation)
5. How well did you get along with other students?
 - 1 Very well
 - 2 Satisfactorily
 - 3 Not so well
 - 4 Poorly
6. How well did you get along with the teachers?
 - 1 Very well
 - 2 Satisfactorily
 - 3 Not so well
 - 4 Poorly
7. How old were you the first time you ever got into trouble with the law? _____
8. What's the longest time you've ever lived in the same place, since you've been on your own?
(mos) _____
9. What was the longest time you ever worked in the same job? (mos) _____
10. Have you ever been fired from a job? (Yes/No) _____
 - a. (If yes) Explain _____

11. What is the longest time you've ever lived with a woman? (mos) _____

12. Have you ever had an alcohol or drug problem? (Yes/No) _____

a. (If yes) When? (time before present) _____

b. At what age did your alcohol/drug use become a problem?

*Drug or alcohol use can cause a variety of problems for people.
Did it cause problems for you in any of the following:*

No 0 alcohol 1 drugs 2 both 3

(Regardless of answer, ask each of the following.)

- b. health, (e.g., D.T.'s, liver) _____
- c. family (fights with spouse, parents) _____
- d. relationships with friends/others _____
- e. legal (getting into trouble) _____
- f. employment/school _____
- g. financial situation _____
- h. other _____

13. Even if you didn't have a problem, did other people ever say anything about your alcohol/drug use? (If yes, get details).

14. Have you ever been treated for an alcohol or drug problem? (Yes/No) _____

15. Have you ever had any problems, which for example could have been treated by a psychologist or psychiatrist? (Yes/No) _____

a. (If yes) Did you ever have treatment for it on the outside? (Yes/No) _____

b. (If yes, get details: diagnosis, length and type of treatment).

c. Did you ever get any kind of treatment for emotional problems while you were in prison? (Yes/No) _____

d. (If yes, get details: diagnosis, length and type of treatment).

16. Have you ever seriously considered suicide? (Yes/No) _____

(If yes) a. When? (Time before present) _____

b. Did you actually attempt it? _____

B. GENERAL PROBLEMS

OK, let's move on to more recent things. What I am going to ask you about in most of the rest of my questions will focus on the period before your new offence, let's say mostly the last month. As much as possible, I'd like you to recall what was happening then, especially in the last few days before your new offence. Unless I tell you otherwise you should answer with what was happening around that time. Is that clear?

1. Let's start with a very general question. Were there any particular problems that you remember in the month before your offence? *(If "yes" get specific descriptions)*

(If "no" to above, repeat in a different form.)

Well, were there things that made your life difficult, or that you were having trouble dealing with? *(Specify)*

(Make sure that each of the general areas in the rest of the interview is covered. Questions that were answered in response to the general inquiry may be omitted.)

Well, we know from talking to other guys that there are a number of things that they often have trouble with. Let me ask you about them.

C. ACCOMMODATION

First, let's get some information about where you were living and who you were living with in the month before your last offence.

1. So who were you living with? *(Circle each one that applies, if changed during month.)*

- nuclear family (wife, common-law, children) 1
- family of origin (parents) 2
- other family (siblings, aunt/uncle, cousins) 3
- friends 4
- on your own 5

2. What kind of a place were you living in?

- own house/condominium 1
- rented house/apartment 2
- room 3
- shelter/hostel 4
- institution 5
- no fixed address 6
- other (specify) 7

3. Including that one, how many different places had you lived in during the previous year? _____
4. Would you say that where you lived was in a high crime neighbourhood? _____
5. What sort of problems did you see with your living arrangements?
crowded
poor condition
other physical (noisy, location, etc.)
interpersonal: neighbours
interpersonal: living companions
6. (*If not already answered*) Did you have any problems with the other people you were living with? _____

(*If yes*) What? (*Specify*)

D. SUPERVISION

1. You were under supervision by a Parole Officer?
2. What special terms were attached to your release, e.g., having to abstain from alcohol?
 - a. (*If yes*) When was the first time you broke any of those rules?
 - b. Was there anything that you can remember that was happening in your life at that time that might have led you to break your terms? (*Generally want antecedents and consequences, here as well as elsewhere.*)
 - c. Did your release terms create any difficulties for you?
3. How well did you get along with your Parole Officer?
 - 1 Excellent
 - 2 Good
 - 3 OK
 - 4 Not so good
 - 5 Poor, terrible
4. Do you think that he/she helped you to get along on the outside, or did he/she maybe make no difference, or even make it harder for you? (Explain)
5. What could he/she have done differently so that you wouldn't be here today?

E. FINANCIAL

I want to ask you now about your financial situation, still for the last month before the offence.

1. What was your main source of income?

employment	1
U.I.C. or disability	2
welfare	3
spouse/family	4
friends	5
illegal activities	6
other (specify)	7

2. Did you have any money problems? (Specify)

3. Were you able to make ends meet or were you running up debt?

4. Did you have a bank account?

5. How about credit: had you borrowed any money from a bank or loan company, or anyone else? *(If yes, get details)*

6. Did you have a charge card or credit card?

7. Did you have any debts that you couldn't pay, or have problems like cheques bouncing or credit cards cut off?

F. EMPLOYMENT

Now I would like to ask you some questions about work during the period we're interested in.

1. Were you working?
 - a. *(If not working)* Were you doing something else, like going to school?

unemployed/not in school	1
student (<u>any</u> program)	2
employed full time	3
employed part time	4

2. How long had you been doing that?

3. *(If working)* Was there any change that you were going to lose your job?

4. How well did you like your job (program)?

very well	1
somewhat	2
neutral	3
disliked some	4
strongly disliked	5

5. How did you obtain your job? (specify)
 - a. on your own (newspaper etc.)
 - b. through a friend
 - c. through an employment agency (specify)
 - d. other
6. Would you say that you worked hard at it?
7. Did you find it hard to get up every morning to go to work/school?
8. How often were you late or absent?
9. Were you having any problems with work/school?
 - a. (If yes) What?
10. (If not already answered) How well did you get along with your boss/teachers? Were there any problems there?
 - a. (If yes) What? (specify)
11. How about with the other people you worked with (the other students/trainees)? How did you get along with them?
 - a. (If any problems) (Specify)

G. LEISURE/RECREATION

Alright, now I am interested in what you did in your spare time. Remember, we're still in that last month.

1. What did you usually do in your spare time?

(Try to specify activities within each category, and get number of hours/week.)

Ever? Yes No Hrs/Wk _____

- a. Family activities, including housework
- b. Hobbies/crafts
- c. Listening to music
- d. Watching TV
- e. Physical activities: sports/recreation
- f. Specific activities with friends
- g. Hanging around with friends
- h. Other (Specify)

2. How often did you feel bored?

- 1 Never
- 2 Rarely
- 3 Sometimes
- 4 Often
- 5 All the time

3. Did you have enough friends?

- a. If you had a personal problem about something, could you go to them for help?
- b. Did you?
- c. *(If no to either of the preceding) Why not?*

4. What sort of problems did you have with your friends?

H. MARITAL/FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS

I want to ask now about family.

1. During that last month, were you married or living with a woman?

(Alternative questions may be used to arrive at classification below).

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Legally married | 1 |
| Common-law | 2 |
| Separated or divorced | 3 |
| Single | 4 |
| Other (specify) | 5 |

- a. *(If married)* How well was the relationship working out?
- b. If you had a personal problem about something, could you go to her for help?
- c. Did you?

- d. *(If no to either of the preceding)* Why not?
- 2. Even if you were satisfied with your marital arrangement, did it give you any problems?
 - a. *(If yes)* What? (specify)

How about other family relationships now.

- 3. Were you in contact with your parents?
 - a. How often did you see them or talk to them on the phone?
 - b. Generally, how well did you get along with them?
 - c. If you had a personal problem about something, could you go to them for help?
 - d. Did you?
 - e. *(If no to either of the preceding)* Why not?
- 4. What sorts of problems did you have with your parents?
- 5. How about brothers and sisters? Do you have any?
 - a. *(If yes)* How well did you get along?
 - b. If you had a personal problem about something, could you go to them for help?
 - c. Did you?
 - d. *(If no to either of the preceding)* Why not?
- 6. What problems if any did you have with your brothers and sisters?
- 7. Has anyone else in your family been convicted of a criminal offence? *(If yes, who?)*

I. ALCOHOL/DRUG USE

Alright, now I want to ask you a few questions about your use of alcohol and/or drugs in the period I care most about, that is in the last month.

- 1. First, did you drink or use drugs during that time?
No 0 Alcohol 1 Drugs 2 Both 3

2. How much did you drink on a usual drinking day?

Type Standard drinks

3. On how many days during that last month (week) did you drink your usual amount?

4. Before that, how soon did you start drinking after your last release?

5. Can you remember what led you to start drinking in that period?

6. What drugs did you do?

7. How often did you take (each of above)?

8. On how many days during the last month (week) did you take your average amount of drugs?

9. How soon after your last release did you start taking drugs?

10. Can you remember what led you to start?

11. How would you describe your behaviour when you had been drinking?
(Specify; include all below if not clearly stated in answer.)

a. Did you get into arguments, or become verbally abusive?

never 1 sometimes 2 often 3 most of the time 4 always 5

b. Did you become physically aggressive, violent?

never 1 sometimes 2 often 3 most of the time 4 always 5

c. Did you become withdrawn, isolated or moody?

never 1 sometimes 2 often 3 most of the time 4 always 5

d. Did you ever become physically aggressive or violent when not drinking or using drugs?

never 1 sometimes 2 often 3 N/A 9 R/A 0

12. Were you drinking in the 24 hours just before the new offence?
- a. (If yes) How much?
 - b. For how many days in a row?
13. How would you describe your behaviour when you had been taking drugs?
(Specify; include all below if not clearly stated in answer.)
- a. Did you get into arguments, or become verbally abusive?
never 1 sometimes 2 often 3 most of the time 4 always 5
 - b. Did you become physically aggressive, violent?
never 1 sometimes 2 often 3 most of the time 4 always 5
 - c. Did you become withdrawn, isolated or moody?
never 1 sometimes 2 often 3 most of the time 4 always 5
14. Did you take any drugs in the 24 hours just before the new offence?
- a. (If yes) Which?
 - b. How much (of each)?
 - c. How many days in a row just before the offence?
15. This may seem like a dumb question, but can you tell me why you were drinking/doing drugs?
- a. Did you look forward to it when you weren't doing it?
 - b. What went through your mind when you thought about getting a drink/hit?

J. EMOTIONAL/HEALTH PROBLEMS

1. In that last month, did you have any problems with your feelings or moods?
 - a. *(If yes)* What?
 - b. *(If yes)* What was the problem, and what help did you get?
2. During the whole month before your new offence, what kind of strong emotional feelings did you have? (Cue if subject does not respond)

(Specify and get information on each, i.e., degree and overall effect.)

- a. hopelessness
 - b. depression
 - c. moody or brooding
 - d. anger
 - e. frustration
 - f. general stress
 - g. anxiety/worry/fear
 - h. guilt
 - i. loneliness
 - j. boredom
 - k. sexual frustration
 - l. feel nothing - numb
 - m. positive/happy
 - n. other
3. How about in the 48 hours preceding the offence - what were you feeling then?
 - a. hopelessness
 - b. depression
 - c. moody or brooding
 - d. anger
 - e. frustration
 - f. general stress
 - g. anxiety/worry/fear
 - h. guilt
 - i. loneliness
 - j. boredom
 - k. sexual frustration
 - l. feel nothing - numb
 - m. positive/happy
 - n. other

4. Do you remember at all what set off those feelings? (specify - what sequence of actions, events, and thoughts)
 - b. Did you do anything about it? (If yes, what?)
5. Were there any particular problems that were bothering you then, even some that we've already discussed.
 - a. Did you ever worry that your life wasn't going the way you wanted it to?
6. How would you rate your life, on a scale of 1 to 100, where 1 is unbearable and 100 is all you'd ever want from life?
7. Before you got into trouble, how confident were you that you could succeed on the outside?
 - 1 Completely confident
 - 2 Fairly confident
 - 3 Halfway confident
 - 4 A little lacking in confidence
 - 5 Completely lacking in confidence

K. OFFENCE INFORMATION

Now I would like to ask you some specific questions about the offence. Remember that what we say is confidential.

1. When did the thought of committing an offence like it first pass through your mind?
 - a. Had anything in particular happened to you just before that? (Specify)
 - b. (If no) Was there anything new that was happening in your life then, or some problem that was bothering you? (Specify)
2. When you first thought about it, what did you do? (Specify)
 - Ignore it or forget about it
 - Thought about it a lot
 - Started planning
 - Acted on it
 - a. Did you try to resist the thoughts?
 - b. (If yes) How?

(The following questions may be omitted if obviated by answers to above, e.g., if he acted on first

impulse.)

3. Looking back at it now, when was the first time there was any serious chance that you might really commit an offence?
 - a. Where you aware at the time that something might be happening?
 - b. *(If yes)* What did you do about it?
4. Did you ever daydream or fantasize about the offence before committing it?
 - a. *(If yes)* When was the first time?
 - b. How often? *(Total frequency)*
 - c. *(If no)* Why didn't you?
 - Considered victim
 - Worried about getting into trouble
 - Just never happened
 - Other

(Use next question for those who are not sex offenders)

- d. Did you ever think about all the good things that might come from it, e.g., respect from other guys, or lots of money, or maybe release from tension? (Specify)
-

(Following alternatives are for sex offenders only)

- e. Did thinking about doing it get you sexually aroused?
 - f. Did you ever masturbate while you thought about it?
 - g. *(If yes)* How often?
-
- h. Did you ever think about the bad things that might happen if you acted, e.g., return to prison? (Specify)

5. Did you ever rehearse, or make definite plans as to how you might carry out the offence?

a. (If yes) When did you start?

b. For how long altogether did you plan?

6. Did you do your offence alone or with some other guys?

a. (If with others) Whose idea was it originally?

Subject	1	Others	2
---------	---	--------	---

7. What do you think really led you to do this offence?

emotional state - general anger or frustration	1		
emotional state - specific anger, to get even	2		
emotional state - out of control, stressed out	3		
boredom, need for excitement	4		
need for money (day to day needs or other)	5		
sexual frustration or needs		6	
peer pressure			7
just happened - never thought about it	8		
other (specify)		9	

8. Did you ever consider that you might be hurting somebody, that is did you think of the victim?

a. (If yes) How often?

b. When did this first occur to you?

9. Was there a point in the whole sequence where you could have stopped and just forgotten about the whole thing?

a. (If yes) Did it ever get to the point that you weren't in control any longer?

b. (If yes) When did it switch?

c. (If no) Does that mean that you were in control even at the end?

OK, now we've probably covered just about everything. You can see that what we're trying to do is to get a picture of what was happening in your life before the offence, and how it all fits together. Now there might be things that you forgot to mention or that I didn't think to ask about, so I want to get a couple of real pictures.

First, I have here a sheet of paper with a time-line drawn on it. (show) As you can see, the endpoint here is the offence, and we've set up this way to see how other things relate to it in time. We've drawn the line telescoped leading away from the offence, so you can see that near the end we have things divided in terms of minutes, and further back it's days or even months.

Now what I'd like you to do is to mark on the line when certain kinds of things happened. Some of these things may not have happened to you at all, and you can just tell me that instead of having to find a place for each event.

10. *Mark on the line:*

- a. *First passing thought of offence;*
- b. *First time you thought about it for at least a minute;*
- c. *First time you considered that you might actually do it;*
- d. *First time you thought about details or means;*
- e. *First time you started definite planning;*
- f. *Point of no return - when it couldn't be stopped.*

11. *You can see I am trying to come up with some information to help me get an idea why you have come back here. Do you have any ideas yourself why you are here again?*

You have indicated some problems in the areas of: (Circle areas mentioned previously)

FOR EACH PROBLEM AREA IDENTIFIED:

How much did each of these difficulties bother you, i.e., how much were they a pain or hassle for you? (Use 1 - 10 ratings)

12. Housing
13. Releases supervision
14. Money
15. Work or educational program
16. Leisure time
17. Friends
18. Wife or family
19. Alcohol or drug use
20. Physical or emotional health

21. *I have here another timeline, representing the month before the offence. You can see we have it marked off in days and weeks. I would like you to mark on the top line, called "events", any important things that were happening to you at the time, especially problems, including those we've just talked about. Then below, on the lines called "feelings" and "thoughts" I'd like you to mark what you remember about what you were thinking and feeling at those times. (Check that he understands, and demonstrate if necessary. Generally, the interviewer might do most of the actual writing on the timeline, as directed by the subject. At the end, the interviewer should compare the*

two timelines and attempt to establish correspondences and order of events, despite the differences in scaling.)

22. Now we've listed some of the problems you were facing in that period, and the order in which things happened. Do you think that these difficulties have anything to do with you committing your offence?

(If yes) How? (Specify)

23. Thank you, that's all of the questions that I have for you. Now, is there anything else that you can think of that might be important here that I haven't asked you about?

LSI SCORING

SECTIONS:	Criminal History -	# 1 - 10	See files
	Companions	# 32 - 36	Socialization Questionnaire
	Attitudes/ Orientation	# 51 - 54	Andrew's Scale - CU I

SCORE TOTALS

1. Level of Supervision Inventory _____
 2. S.I.R.
-

Confidential Research Questionnaire #1

(Beck Depression Inventory)

On this questionnaire are groups of statements. Please read each group of statements carefully. Then pick out the one statement in each group which best describes the way you were feeling during the LAST WEEK BEFORE YOUR OFFENCE. Circle the number beside the statement you picked. If several statements in the group seem to apply equally well, circle each one. Be sure to read all the statements in each group before making your choice.

1. 0 I did not feel sad
 1 I felt sad
 2 I was sad all the time and I couldn't snap out of it
 3 I was so sad or unhappy that I couldn't stand it

2. 0 I was not particularly discouraged about the future
 1 I felt discouraged about the future
 2 I felt I had nothing to look forward to
 3 I felt that the future was hopeless and that things could not improve

3. 0 I did not feel like a failure
 1 I felt that I had failed more than the average person
 2 As I looked back on my life, all I could see was a lot of failures
 3 I felt I was a complete failure as a person

4. 0 I got as much satisfaction out of things as I used to
 1 I didn't enjoy things the way I used to
 2 I didn't get real satisfaction out of anything anymore
 3 I was dissatisfied or bored with everything

5. 0 I didn't feel particularly guilty
 1 I felt guilty a good part of the time
 2 I felt quite guilty most of the time
 3 I felt guilty all of the time

6. 0 I didn't feel I was being punished
 1 I felt I might be punished
 2 I expected to be punished
 3 I felt I was being punished

7. 0 I didn't feel disappointed in myself
 1 I was disappointed in myself
 2 I was disgusted with myself
 3 I hated myself

8. 0 I didn't feel I was any worse than anybody else
1 I was critical of myself for my weaknesses or mistakes
2 I blamed myself all the time for my faults
3 I blamed myself for everything bad that happened
9. 0 I didn't have any thoughts of killing myself
1 I had thoughts of killing myself
2 I would have liked to kill myself
3 I would have killed myself if I had the chance
10. 0 I didn't cry any more than usual
1 I cried more than I used to
2 I cried all the time
3 I used to be able to cry, but couldn't cry then even if I had wanted to
11. 0 I was no more irritated at that time than I ever was
1 I got annoyed or irritated more easily than I used to
2 I felt irritated all the time then
3 I didn't get irritated at all by the things that used to irritate me
12. 0 I had not lost interest in other people
1 I was less interested in other people than I used to be
2 I had lost most of my interest in other people
3 I had lost all of my interest in other people
13. 0 I made decisions about as well as I ever had
1 I put off making decisions more than I used to
2 I was having greater difficulty in making decisions than before
3 I couldn't make decisions at all at that time
14. 0 I didn't feel I looked any worse than I used to
1 I was worried that I was looking old or unattractive
2 I felt that there were permanent changes in my appearance that made me look unattractive
3 I believed that I looked ugly
15. 0 I could work about as well as before
1 It took an extra effort to get started at doing something
2 I had to push myself very hard to do anything
3 I couldn't do any work at all
16. 0 I couldn't sleep as well as usual
1 I wasn't sleeping as well as I used to
2 I was waking up 1-2 hours earlier than usual and finding it hard to get back to sleep
3 I was waking up several hours earlier than I used to and couldn't get back to sleep

17. 0 I didn't get any more tired than usual
1 I was getting tired more easily than I used to
2 I was getting tired from doing almost anything
3 I was too tired to do anything
18. 0 My appetite was no worse than usual
1 My appetite was not as good as it used to be
2 My appetite was much worse at that time
3 I had no appetite at all at that time
19. 0 I hadn't lost much weight, if any at that time
1 I had lost more than 5 pounds
2 I had lost more than 10 pounds
3 I had lost more than 15 pounds
20. 0 I was no more worried about my health than usual
1 I was worried about physical problems such as aches and pains, or upset stomach, or constipation
2 I was very worried about physical problems and it was hard to think of much else
3 I was so worried about my physical problems, that I couldn't think about anything else
21. 0 I had not noticed any change in my interest in sex
1 I was less interested in sex than I used to be
2 I was much less interested in sex than I used to be
3 I had lost interest in sex completely

Confidential Research Questionnaire #2
(Spielburger State Anxiety Inventory)

Below is a list of statements that people sometimes use to describe how they feel. Read each statement and then circle the number beside it on the right that best tells how you felt in the week before the offence.

If the statement is not at all like you felt, circle the 1 beside it;

If it is a little like the way you felt, circle the 2;

If it is much like the way you felt, circle the 3; and

If it is very much the way you felt, circle the 4.

	Not at all	Somewhat	Moderately	Very much
1. I felt calm.....	1	2	3	4
2. I felt secure.....	1	2	3	4
3. I was tense.....	1	2	3	4
4. I was regretful.....	1	2	3	4
5. I felt at ease.....	1	2	3	4
6. I felt upset.....	1	2	3	4
7. I was worrying over possible misfortunes.....	1	2	3	4
8. I felt rested.....	1	2	3	4
9. I felt anxious.....	1	2	3	4
10. I felt comfortable.....	1	2	3	4
11. I felt self confident.....	1	2	3	4
12. I felt nervous.....	1	2	3	4
13. I was jittery.....	1	2	3	4
14. I felt "high strung".....	1	2	3	4
15. I was relaxed.....	1	2	3	4
16. I felt content.....	1	2	3	4
17. I was worried.....	1	2	3	4
18. I felt over-excited and "rattled"...	1	2	3	4
19. I felt joyful.....	1	2	3	4

**Confidential Research Questionnaire #3
(ADS)**

Please answer each question by circling the ONE choice that is most true for you.
Please answer ALL questions. The word "drinking" here means "drinking of alcohol".

These questions refer to the last month before your offence, unless a different time is mentioned.

1. How much did you drink the last time you drank in the last month before your offence?
 - a. enough to get high or less
 - b. enough to get drunk
 - c. enough to pass out

2. Did you often have hangovers on Sunday or Monday mornings?
 - a. no
 - b. yes

3. Did you have the "shakes" when sobering up (hands tremble, shake inside)?
 - a. no
 - b. sometimes
 - c. almost every time I drank

4. Did you get physically sick (e.g., vomit, stomach cramps) as a result of drinking?
 - a. no
 - b. sometimes
 - c. almost every time I drank

5. Did you have the "DTs" (delirium tremens) - that is, seen, felt or heard things not really there; felt very anxious, restless, and overexcited?
 - a. no
 - b. once
 - c. several times

6. When you drank, did you stumble about, stagger, and weave?
 - a. no
 - b. sometimes
 - c. often

7. As a result of drinking, did you feel overly hot and sweaty (feverish)?
 - a. no
 - b. once
8. As a result of drinking, did you see things that were not really there?
 - a. no
 - b. yes
9. Did you have blackouts ("loss of memory" without passing out) as a result of drinking?
 - a. no, never
 - b. sometimes
 - c. often
 - d. almost every time I drink
10. Did you carry a bottle with you or keep one close at hand?
 - a. no
 - b. some of the time
 - c. most of the time
11. After a period of abstinence (not drinking), did you end up drinking heavily again?
 - a. no
 - b. sometimes
 - c. almost every time
12. In the 12 months before the offence, did you pass out as a result of drinking?
 - a. no
 - b. once
 - c. more than once
13. Did you have a convulsion (fit) following a period of drinking?
 - a. no
 - b. once
 - c. several times
14. Did you drink throughout the day?
 - a. no
 - b. yes

15. After drinking heavily, was your thinking fuzzy or unclear?
- a. no
 - b. yes, but only for a few hours
 - c. yes, for one or two days
 - d. yes, for many days
16. As a result of drinking, did you feel your heart beating rapidly?
- a. no
 - b. once
 - c. several times
17. Did you almost constantly think about drinking and alcohol?
- a. no
 - b. yes
18. As a result of drinking, did you hear "things" that were not really there?
- a. no
 - b. once or twice
 - c. often
19. Did you have weird and frightening sensations when drinking?
- a. no
 - b. once or twice
 - c. often
20. As a result of drinking, did you "feel things" crawling on you that were not really there (e.g., bugs, spiders)?
- a. no
 - b. once
 - c. several times
21. Did you have blackouts (loss of memory)?
- a. never
 - b. blackouts that lasted less than an hour
 - c. blackouts that lasted for several hours
 - d. blackouts that lasted for a day or more

22. Did you try to cut down on your drinking and fail?
- a. no
 - b. once
 - c. several times
23. Did you gulp drinks (drink quickly)?
- a. no
 - b. yes
24. After taking one or two drinks, could you usually have stopped?
- a. yes
 - b. no
25. Did anyone ever tell you that you had an alcohol problem?
- a. yes
 - b. no
26. Do you believe that you had an alcohol problem?
- a. yes
 - b. no

**Confidential Research Scale #4
(DAST)**

The following questions concern information about use of drugs not including alcohol, during the month before your new offence. After you read each question, circle "Yes" or "No".

When we say "drug abuse" here, it means (1) the use of prescribed or over the counter drugs in excess of the directions and (2) any non-medical use of drugs. Please answer every question. If you have trouble answering a question, then choose the response that is mostly right.

These questions refer to the month before the new offence.

Circle Your Answer

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| 1. Did you use drugs other than those required for medical reasons? | Yes | No |
| 2. Did you abuse prescription drugs? | Yes | No |
| 3. Did you abuse more than one drug at a time? | Yes | No |
| 4. Could you get through the week without using drugs? | Yes | No |
| 5. Were you always able to stop using drugs when you wanted to? | Yes | No |
| 6. Did you have "blackouts" or "flashbacks" as a result of drug use? | Yes | No |
| 7. Did you feel bad or guilty about your drug use? | Yes | No |
| 8. Did your spouse (or parents) complain about your involvement with drugs? | Yes | No |
| 9. Did drug abuse create problems between you and your spouse or your parents? | Yes | No |
| 10. Did you lose friends because of your use of drugs? | Yes | No |
| 11. Did you neglect your family because of drug abuse? | Yes | No |
| 12. Were you in trouble at work because of drug abuse? | Yes | No |
| 13. Did you lose a job because of drug abuse? | Yes | No |
| 14. Did you get into fights when under the influence of drugs? | Yes | No |
| 15. Did you engage in illegal activities in order to obtain drugs? | Yes | No |
| 16. Were you arrested for possession of illegal drugs? | Yes | No |
| 17. Did you experience withdrawal symptoms (feel sick) when you stopped taking drugs? | Yes | No |

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 18. Did you have medical problems as a result of your drug use
(e.g., memory loss, hepatitis, convulsions, bleeding, etc.)? | Yes | No |
| 19. Did you go to anyone for help for a drug problem? | Yes | No |
| 20. Were you involved in a treatment program specifically related to drug use? | Yes | No |

Confidential Research Questionnaire #5

(Coping Situation)

In this questionnaire we describe some common situations that happen to people on the outside. For each situation we would like you to pretend that it is actually happening to you. After you think about it, we would like you to tell us how you would react to it and how you would deal with it or try to work it out. Use your own words to describe what you would think and do. Then, Answer the other questions about your thoughts and feelings in each case.

Situation 1

You're living on the outside and having troubles with your old lady. She wants you to do half of the housework, but you're working full time and you're pretty tired every day after you get home.

1. Aside from what you would do, how would you feel in this situation?
(Please circle that best choice)

- a. angry
- b. depressed, down, low
- c. anxious, uptight
- d. guilty, ashamed
- e. lonely
- f. other (name it) _____

2. How strongly would you feel that way? (circle the number that shows how much)

Just a bit A great deal

-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----

3. If this situation happened to you, how would you deal with it? (If you would do more than one thing, write them all down).

4. How well do you think you would handle this situation? (Circle the number that fits).

Not well at all Very well

-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----

5. How much would the whole situation bother you? (Circle the number that fits).

Not at all Very much

-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----

Situation 3

You've been living on the outside for several months. Things are going fine, except that you never have enough money for the things you want. Now it's just after the middle of the month and you know you're going to run out of money in a week, but you don't get paid until the end of the month.

1. Aside from what you would do, how would you feel in this situation? (Please circle the best choice.)

- a. angry
- b. depressed, down, low
- c. anxious, uptight
- d. guilty, ashamed
- e. lonely
- f. other (name it) _____

2. How strongly would you feel that way? (Circle the number that shows how much)

Just a bit A great deal

-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----

3. If this situation happened to you, how would you deal with it? (If you would do more than one thing, write them all down.)

4. How well do you think you would handle this situation? (Circle the number that fits.)

Not well at all Very well

-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----

5. How much would the whole situation bother you? (Circle the number that fits.)

Not at all Very much

-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----

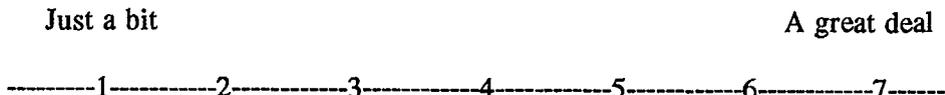
Situation 4

While you are living on the outside, a friend you have known for several years comes over to visit. He invites you to a party in the house of a guy he knows (but you don't know him). Your friend says that it will be a really wild party. You're not sure you want to go with this person; you were never very close to him, and you have to work tomorrow.

1. Aside from what you would do, how would you feel in this situation? (Please circle the best choice.)

- a. angry
- b. depressed, down, low
- c. anxious, uptight
- d. guilty, ashamed
- e. lonely
- f. other (name it) _____

2. How strongly would you feel that way? (Circle the number that shows how much)



3. If this situation happened to you, how would you deal with it? (If you would do more than one thing, write them all down.)

4. How well do you think you would handle this situation? (Circle the number that fits.)



5. How much would the whole situation bother you? (Circle the number that fits).



Situation 5

You really want to stay out of trouble on the outside, so you stay away from all the people you used to hang around with. You get along fine with the people at work, but you find it hard to make new friends, and lately you've been feeling all alone. Last night you felt it a lot, and it kept you awake most of the night.

1. Aside from what you would do, how would you feel in this situation? (Please circle the best choice.)

- a. angry
- b. depressed, down, low
- c. anxious, uptight
- d. guilty, ashamed
- e. lonely
- f. other (name it) _____

2. How strongly would you feel that way? (Circle the number that shows how much)

Just a bit A great deal

-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----

3. If this situation happened to you, how would you deal with it? (If you would do more than one thing, write them all down.)

4. How well do you think you would handle this situation? (Circle the number that fits.)

Not well at all Very well

-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----

5. How much would the whole situation bother you? (Circle the number that fits).

Not at all Very much

-----1-----2-----3-----4-----5-----6-----7-----

Confidential Research Questionnaire #6

(Time Use/Time Planning)

This set of questions is designed to measure how different people handle time, the present, the past, and the future. Next to each of the statements below, mark True (T) if it fits you, or False (F) if it doesn't fit you. This will apply to the last month before your new offence.

1. _____ I almost always knew what I was going to do next.
2. _____ I figure that the past was gone, so why worry about it.
3. _____ My time was fairly well organized.
4. _____ I just let things happen when they happened.
5. _____ The past and the future were very important in my life.
6. _____ I tried to have my life planned several years ahead.
7. _____ Sometimes my life was very boring.
8. _____ I frequently thought about what I was going to do tomorrow.
9. _____ I often wished that time would go faster.
10. _____ I figure that there would always be enough time for things.
11. _____ Usually I had a plan for each day in the morning.
12. _____ I often reviewed the events of the day before I went to sleep.
13. _____ I sometimes daydreamed about the future to make myself feel good.
14. _____ Mostly I lived moment to moment.
15. _____ I rarely fantasized or daydreamed about the future.
16. _____ I was never or rarely bored.
17. _____ I felt that time was valuable and had to be used carefully.
18. _____ The present moment is all that I care about.
19. _____ I didn't bother about long-term plans.

20. _____ Boredom was often a problem for me.
21. _____ I never planned my next day.
22. _____ Sometimes I liked to think over the meaning of things in my past.
23. _____ I didn't usually know what I was going to do next.
24. _____ Once I was through a day I forgot about it.
25. _____ I rarely thought about the next day.
26. _____ I often wished that there had been more hours in each day.
27. _____ If I was bored I could easily have found something to do.
28. _____ I sometimes recalled things that happened to me in my childhood.
29. _____ I usually tried to have my time planned at least a day in advance.
30. _____ As far as I could see, there was no point in ever dwelling on the past.

Confidential Research Questionnaire #7

(Criminal Socialization)

Check the answer that fits you best for each question.

1. How many close friends did you have on the outside?

- 5 or more
- 1 to 4
- none

2. On the outside, how did you prefer to socialize?

- I preferred to live mostly on my own
- I preferred to socialize with a few close friends
- I preferred to socialize as part of a large group

3. How much time did you spend socializing on the outside?

- All or almost all of the time
- Some of the time
- Not much or none

4. Who did you live with on the outside?

- By myself
- With my family
- With friends

5. How many times have you been "married"? (This includes common-law relationships, or any arrangement where you lived together.)

- Three times or more
- Once or twice
- Never

6. How long did you know your most recent wife (or girlfriend) before you started living together?

- Wasn't living with a woman
- Longer than a month
- One month or less

7. How often were you lonely on the outside?

- Never or hardly ever
- Sometimes
- Often or all of the time

8. On the outside, what percentage of your acquaintances would you say were involved in criminal activities?

- Few (under 10%)
- Some (10 - 49%)
- Most (50% or over)

9. On the outside, how many of your close friends would you say were involved in criminal activities?

- All
- Some
- None

10. If you have the choice, what sort of physical activity would you choose?

- Get into a casual game with friends and acquaintances
- Get into an organized sport
- Run or work out on my own

11. If you have the time, which of the following would you choose?

- Watch TV or listen to music in my cell
- Watch TV or listen to music on the range
- Just pass the time on the range

12. How many close friends do you have here (in prison)?

- 5 or more
- 1 to 4
- None

13. How do you prefer to socialize in prison?

- I prefer to live mostly on my own here
- I prefer to socialize here with a few close friends
- I prefer to socialize here as part of a large group

14. What do you do when you have the choice of staying in your cell or not?

- I often stay in my cell
- I sometimes stay in my cell
- I never stay in my cell

15. When you have free time in here, how much of it do you spend socializing?

- All or almost all of the time
- Some of the time
- Not much or none

16. How often are you lonely here?

- Never or hardly ever
- Sometimes
- Often or all of the time

Confidential Research Scale #8

(Siegel Anger Inventory)

Instructions: Everybody gets angry from time to time. A number of statements that people have used to describe the times that they get angry are included below. Read each statement and circle the number below the statement that best describes you. There are no right or wrong answers.

If the statement is completely unlike you, circle a 1.

If the statement is mostly unlike you, circle a 2.

If the statement is partly unlike and partly like you, circle a 3.

If the statement is mostly like you, circle a 4.

If the statement is completely like you, circle a 5.

1. I tend to get angry more frequently than most people.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

2. Other people seem to get angrier than I do in similar circumstances.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

3. I harbor grudges that I don't tell anyone about.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

4. I try to get even when I'm angry with someone.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

5. I am secretly quite critical of others.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

14. I am surprised at how often I feel angry.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

15. Once I let people know I'm angry, I can put it out of my mind.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

16. People talk about me behind my back.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

17. At times, I feel angry for no specific reason.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

18. I can make myself angry about something in the past just by thinking about it.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

19. Even after I have expressed my anger, I have trouble forgetting about it.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

20. When I hide my anger from others, I think about it for a long time.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

21. People can bother me just by being around.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

22. When I get angry, I stay angry for hours.
- 1 2 3 4 5
- Completely unlike me Completely like me
23. When I hide my anger from others, I forget about it pretty quickly.
- 1 2 3 4 5
- Completely unlike me Completely like me
24. I try to talk over problems with people without letting them know I'm angry.
- 1 2 3 4 5
- Completely unlike me Completely like me
25. When I get angry, I calm down faster than most people.
- 1 2 3 4 5
- Completely unlike me Completely like me
26. I get so angry, I feel like I might lose control.
- 1 2 3 4 5
- Completely unlike me Completely like me
27. If I let people see the way I feel, I'd be considered a hard person to get along with.
- 1 2 3 4 5
- Completely unlike me Completely like me
28. I am on my guard with people who are friendlier than I expected.
- 1 2 3 4 5
- Completely unlike me Completely like me
29. It's difficult for me to let people know I'm angry.
- 1 2 3 4 5
- Completely unlike me Completely like me

30. I get angry when someone lets me down.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

31. I get angry when people are unfair.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

32. I get angry when something blocks my plans.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

33. I get angry when I am delayed.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

34. I get angry when someone embarrasses me.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

35. I get angry with I have to take orders from someone less capable than I.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

36. I get angry when I have to work with incompetent people.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

37. I get angry when I do something stupid.

1 2 3 4 5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

38. I get angry when I am not given credit for something I have done.

1

2

3

4

5

Completely unlike me

Completely like me

Confidential Research Questionnaire #9

(PRF(E) Social Desirability Scale)

Consider each of the following statements, and circle "T" (for true) if it applies to you, or "F" (for false) if it does not.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. I am quite able to make correct decisions on difficult questions. | T | F |
| 2. I am never able to do things as well as I could. | T | F |
| 3. My life is full of interesting activities. | T | F |
| 4. I believe people tell lies any time it is to their advantage. | T | F |
| 5. If someone gave me too much change, I would tell him. | T | F |
| 6. I would be willing to do something a little unfair to get something that was important to me. | T | F |
| 7. I get along with people at parties quite well. | T | F |
| 8. I did very many bad things as a child. | T | F |
| 9. I am glad I grew up the way I did. | T | F |
| 10. I often question whether life is worthwhile. | T | F |
| 11. I am always prepared to do what is expected of me. | T | F |
| 12. My daily life includes many activities I dislike. | T | F |
| 13. I am one of the lucky people who could talk with my parents about my problems. | T | F |
| 14. Many things make me uneasy. | T | F |
| 15. I am careful to plan for my distant goals. | T | F |
| 16. I find it very difficult to concentrate. | T | F |

OFFENDER RELEASE PROJECT

Information Form

This study is aimed at finding out what happens in offenders' lives after release on parole or mandatory supervision. It involves some men who have been returned to the penitentiary after being on supervision, and some who are still on the outside. We hope that it will help us to understand better what leads men to commit new offenses and to return to prison. This information would be helpful in improving treatment programs in the institutions and might also help in improving supervision after release.

The study is being carried out in the Department of Psychology at Queen's University, under the direction of Dr. Edward Zamble and Dr. Vern Quinsey. We have some funding from the Research Branch of CSC, and we hope to get funds from the Social Science and Humanities Research Council of Canada to continue the work.

Each man who takes part in the study will be interviewed and will also be asked to fill out some questionnaires. We expect that the interview will take from 1 to 1 and 1/2 hours, and that the questionnaires will take another hour. Most of the questions are about their experiences on the outside, including the sorts of problems they have to deal with, how they react to things, and other similar areas. We would also like to get some information from institutional and parole files.

If you agree to participate, you will be helping us and perhaps also other inmates. And should understand that we are only collecting information, and that we have no official positions within CSC, so if you have any problems now, we cannot change anything for you. At the same time, whatever you tell us will be strictly confidential, and all information will be coded in our reports so that no person's answers could be identified. This confidentiality is guaranteed by the Canadian Human Rights Act, and we will also give our personal guarantees that it is respected. Also, the data will be used only for research purposes. We will need your written consent before we give any information to anyone else about your answers.

Whether or not you agree to participate will not count for or against you with CSC. However, if you do agree to take part we will try our best to listen to what you have to say. If you want it, we will try to supply you with a summary of results when we are finished.

If you have any questions now, please ask them. If you have any complaints or questions about this study later, you should call either Dr. Zamble (545-2892) or Dr. Quinsey (545-6538) or write to them at the Department of Psychology, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 3N6. If you are still not satisfied, you should call or write the Chairman of the Psychology Department, Dr. R. Kalin (545-2492).

OFFENDER RELEASE PROJECT

Consent Form

I, _____ have been asked to take part in a study of behaviours by offenders under supervision, which is being done under the direction of Dr. Edward Zamble and Dr. Vern Quinsey from the Department of Psychology of Queen's University. I have read an "Information Form" describing the study.

I agree to take part in this study, and to be interviewed by a researcher about my experiences on the outside. I will try to answer the questions to the best of my memory. However, I understand that my participation in this study is purely voluntary. I am free to refuse to answer any specific questions, and I may withdraw from the study at any time. I understand that my participation in the study will not count against me in any way with CSC.

I also agree to fill out some questionnaires about my behaviour and experiences after the interview. Finally, I agree to allow the researchers to obtain additional information from my institutional and parole files.

I understand that any information I give will be strictly confidential. My answers will be used for scientific purposes, in order to better understand what factors may lead people to be returned to prison after their release. I have been told that answers will be coded or changed so that I cannot be identified in any report of the results.

My signature below indicates that I have read the above, and that I agree to take part and give my consent to the researchers having access to my institutional and parole files. The interviewer will also sign to guarantee the conditions stated above.

date

signature

interviewer's signature

