

APPLICATION OF SOCIAL DISORGANIZATION EXPLANATION TO GUN VIOLENCE IN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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ABSTRACT

This research applied social disorganization theory (SDT) to examined the problem of gun violence in United States of America and found that the SDT, despite its inherent flaws as a criminological model, to varying degrees it is parsimonious, has scope and logically consistent. Additionally, this study found that that the SDT can be tested against empirical evidence which ensure that it is scientific and therefore has useful policy implications. It is also a finding of this research paper that despite the fact that SDT is an appropriate theory to explain the problem of gun violence, no single theory can adequately explain the prevalence of gun violence and indeed other criminal behavior because of the diverse nature of etiology of criminal behavior such as gun violence. The study thus concludes that the society is moving away from the notion that people are born criminal and embracing the fact that one cannot tell who is a criminal by mere looking at the face.