

# Police corruption – assignment

Law



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Informed discretion in all activities. Combination of power, authority, and discretion in police work produces great potential for abuse. Police corruption has been a problem in American society since the early days of policing. An ancient natural tendency of human beings is to attempt to placate or win over those in positions of authority over them. This tendency is complicated in today's materialistic society by greed and by the personal and financial benefit to be derived from evading law.

The temptations toward illegality offered to police range from free cup of coffee from a small restaurant owner in exchange for officers future goodwill, perhaps for something as simple as a traffic ticket, to huge monetary bribes arranged by drug dealers to guarantee that the police will look the other way as an important shipment of contraband arrives. As noted criminologist Carl B. Klockars says, policing, by its very nature, " is an occupation that is rife with opportunities for misconduct.

Policing is a highly discretionary, coercive activity that routinely takes place in private settings, out of the sight of supervisors, and the presence of witnesses who are often regarded as unreliable. " Ethicists say that police corruption ranges for minor offenses to serious violations of the law. Exactly what constitutes corruption, however, is not always clear. In Recognition of what some have called corruptions slippery slope most police departments now explicitly prohibit even the acceptance of minor gratuities.

Slippery slope perspective holds that even small thank you's accepted from members of the public can lead to more ready acceptance of larger bribes. An officer who begins to accept, and then expects, gratuities may soon find

that his or her policing becomes influenced by such gifts and a larger one soon follow. At that point, the officer may easily slide to the bottom of the moral slope, which was made slippery by previous small concessions.

Occupational defiance, they say, is motivated by the desire for personal benefit. Abuse of authority, however, occurs most often to further the organizational goals along for, including arrest, to you giving, and a successful conviction of suspects. Police defiance, according to Perry, is a precursor of individual and organizational corruption. It may eventually lead to a recursion unless police supervisors internal furnishings are open to the warning signs and actively intervene to prevent corruption from developing.

Police defiance consist of unprofessional on and off duty and misconduct, isolated incidents of misuse the position and proper relationships with informants criminals, sexual harassment, disparaging racial or sexual comments, embellished/falsified reporting, time and attendance abuse, insubordination, nepotism, cronyism, and no criminal unauthorized disclosure of information. In the early 1970s, Frank Serpico made headlines as he testified before the Knapp commission on police corruption in New York City.

Serpico, and under cover operative within the police department, revealed a complex web of corruption in which money and services routinely changed hands and protection rackets created by ethical officers. The authors of the noncommissioned report distinguished between two types of corrupt officers, which they termed grass eaters 10 m. Grass eaters, the most common form

of police corruption, was described as illegitimate activity that occurs from time to time and and or course of police work.

It involves mostly small bribes were relatively minor services offered by citizens seeking to avoid arrest or prosecution. Meat eaters say much more serious form of corruption, involving the active seeking a US of moneymaking opportunities by officers. The year solicit bribes through threat or intimidation, grass grass eaters make a simple mistake of not refusing cramps that are offered The police personality provides fertile ground for the growth of current practices. Police cynicism develops out of continued association with criminals and problem when people.

Cop who is streetwise is also rare for corruption. It is ago Edwin Sutherland apply the concept of differential association to the study of deviant behavior Southerland suggested that frequent, continued association with one type of person would make associates similar. Low pay may be a critical ingredient of the corruption. Salaries paid to police officers in this country have been notoriously low compared to that of other professions involving personal dedication, excessive training, I stress, and a high risk of bodily harm.

You matter how much police Pecos, however, it will never be able to compete with the staggering amounts of money to made through dealing and contraband. The difficulty is the chilling corruption can be traced several factors, including the reluctance of police officers report corrupt activities by their fellow officers, reluctance of police administrators to acknowledge the existence of corruption in the agencies, the benefits of corrupt transactions to the parties involved, the lack of immediate victims which report

corruption. As exchanging his a part of a reframing strategy that emphasizes integrity to target police corruption.

In 1997, for example, the national Institute of Justice released a report entitled in police integrity: public service and honor. The report, based on recommendations made by participants in a national symposium on police integrity, suggested one integrating exchange into the programs offered by newly funded regional community policing institutes that the country, 2 broadening research activities in the area of ethics throughout national Institute of Justice awarded grants for research on police integrity, and three conducting case studies of departments that have an excellent track record in the area police integrity.

Next paragraph While most from the beginning of form policing the United States, corruption of law enforcement officers has been a fact of life. Nothing is more distasteful to the public for a police officer or a whole department on gun. Throughout history, police officers have bought their positions and promotions , sole protection, and ignored violations of the law for money. Police have authority to enforce laws and to use power to make sure that those laws are made. On the other hand, else have discretion not to enforce the law.

The combination of those two features makes the police formal to bribes and other forms of corruption. Other features of police work at the potential for corruption: low-paying relation to important responsibilities, cynicism of the courts soft handling of criminals typically spend so much time trying to apprehend, societies Dillons about vice in the practice of recruiting officers

from working-class and lower class backgrounds, skepticism about the band law might be more prevalent. For as long as there have been police, there has been police corruption.

Corruption has long played the New York Police Department, as determined by the Knapp commission, which investigated police corruption there in the early 1970s. The nab commissions 1973 report stated that there are two primary types of corrupt police officers: meat eaters in the grass eaters. Meters, who probably constitute a small percentage of police officers, spent a good deal of the working hours rest of the seeking out situations that they can exploit for financial gain, including gambling, and products, and other lucrative enterprises.

No change in attitude is likely to affect meters; their income is so large that the only way to deal with them is to get them off for us and prosecute them. Grass eaters constitute the overwhelming majority of those officers except payoffs; they are not aggressive but looks of creature you subcontractors, tow truck operators, camcorders, and the like. The Knapp commission also identified several factors that influence how much graft police officers receive, the most important of these being the character of the individual officer.

The branch of the department and the type of assignment also affect opportunities for corruption . Plainclothes officers have more varied opportunity than uniform patrol officers and uniformed officers located beats with, say, several vice dens club more opportunities for office another factor is ranked the amount of payoff received generally ascends proportionally

with rank. Please option can be defined broadly, from major forms of bleach one doing to the pettiest forms of improper behavior.

Another definition as the misuse of authority by a police officer in a manner designed to produce personal gain for officer or for others. Two theories a rotten apple theory and the environmental theory have been suggested to explain police corruption. A rotten apple theory holds that corruption is a result of having a few bad apples in the barrel who probably have character defects prior to employment. The environmental theory suggests that corruption is ore result of a widespread politically corrupt environment; politically corrupt cities create an environment in which police misconduct flourishes. Police corruption takes two basic forms: external and internal. The external form includes those activities such as gratuities and payoffs that occur from them through police contacts with the public. Internal corruption involves the relationships among police officers within the workings of the police department; this includes payments to join the police force, to get better shifter Simons, receive promotions, and the like.

Ellwyn Stoddard, who coined the term blue coat crime, describes several different forms of deviant practices among both police and citizens: mooching, chiseling, favoritism, prejudice, bribery, shakedown, perjury, premeditated theft. The most common and extensive form of corruption involves proceed by police officers of small gratuities or tips. Officers may regard discounts and free services is relatively unimportant, while a payment of cash bribery is a very different matter. Such please officials would argue that even the smallest victories can create an expectation of some patronage or favor in return.

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Retail establishments do not offer gratuities to other persons in professional positions poor performing their duties, and the argument can certainly be made that the police should be similarly viewed and treated. Withrow and daily proposed a model of circumstantial profitability, stating that the exchange of gifts is influenced by two elements the role of the giver and the role the receiver. The role of the gear it determines the level of profitability, and this model; beginner is either taking a position as a: presenter, contributor, capitulator.

The role of the receiver of the gift is obviously very important as well; the receiver can act as a scepter, expector , or conqueror to function in the mall is centered on the intersection of the giver and the receiver. For example, when the giver assumes the role of the presenter and the receiver is the scepter, the result is a giving exchange, and corruption is not occur. However, the giver and her senior occupied other roles, profitability and progress to higher levels of social harm, a hierarchy of wickedness.

Bribery results when something of value is given in the giver expect something in return, whether receiver agrees to perform his behavior to the desires of the giver. The code of silence, keeping quiet in the face of misconduct by other officers, has been well documented. Evidence of the fraternal bond that exists in policing is found by William Wesley as early as 1970, and more than 70 preference on to the officers surveyed said that they did not report another officer taking money from a prisoner, nor were they testify against novelist accused by a prisoner.



Federal powers and jurisdiction for investigating and prosecuting police corruption were significantly expanded to the hobby back in 1970 two important elements of the federal statute that allow the investigation police corruption or extortion and commerce. Whenever a police officer solicit's a payoff from a certain business owner to overlook law violations and extortion occurs, and I extortion affects legitimate commerce. The meaning of extortion has been expanded so that it now covers most payoff arrangements that involve public officials.

The only area police corruption that may be beyond the reach of the hall was our internal corruption and the acceptance of my syndicate to reduce.

Federal perjury statute and the federal false sworn declaration statute both the nights in 1970, have also become powerful weapons for prosecutors investigating public corruption. Those statutes do with false testimony under oath, and in an investigation of corruption they are pertinent to the grand jury stage. Police ethics In a broad sense, the police, being ethical should include holding themselves and others accountable for their actions.

Accountability, like character and ethics, is also a significant watchword for today's police, and certainly all citizens expect of their public servants three Campbell. Police officers will treat all persons with the unity and respect it in a lawful manner; they will not use more force than necessary; they will not demonstrate bias for or against any particular group of persons; they'll make every effort to ensure the all officers are well-trained to meet the highest standards of professionalism; and they will maintain adequate policies, procedures, rules, regulations.

General orders, and so forth for ensuring the public's trust, which includes procedures for investigating alleged incidents of bias and unprofessional behavior. At six usually involves standards of moral conduct and what we call conscience, the ability to recognize right from wrong and to ask in ways that are good and proper; it concerns choices of good and bad actions as well as moral duties and obligations. There are both absolute and relative ethics. Absolute ethics is a concept wherein an issue only has two sides: something is either good or bad, black or white.

The original interest in police ethics focus on such unethical behaviors as bribery, extortion, excessive force, and perjury. Relative ethics can be much more complicated and can have varying shades of gray. The problem here is this what is considered ethical behavior by one person may be deemed highly unethical by some as. I'll police ethical issues are clear cut. Noble cause corruption is a type of wrongdoing and stems from a crime control orientation is a type of means and thinking enough and crime control justifies the means, even if it means our otherwise unethical or illegal.