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Law



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Submitted by: XXXXXXXX Number: XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XX - XX - of
XXXXXX Roles of Police - Chapter 7 Summary

Majority of the arrests made by the police, i. e. 1/3 of the crimes are smaller crimes, while around 10% of crimes are for drugs related issues. Only 20% of the crimes involve more serious issues. The police play several roles including enforcers, investigators and traffic controllers. Police also serve quasi-judicial functions, i. e. identifying whether or not a crime has been committed.

The police departments tend to use a bureaucratic structure on a military model and all the large police organizations are sub divided into chains and units of commands which have a militaristic nature. These police organizations are mainly derived from a punitive model of administration and control and here any deviation from the rules and regulations can lead to punishments based within ranks. The police organizations have three main services, i. e. line services, administrative services and auxiliary services. The main functions of the police department include protect public safety, enforce the law, control traffic, conduct criminal investigations and interpret the law.

Considering the patrol elements of the job, there has been immense evolution from night watch systems, to motorized patrols, however in the recent times this has moved on to be more focused on foot patrolling thereby increasing the contact with citizens. To ensure the overall effectiveness of the patrolling system, the Kansas experiment was conducted. Here this included a normal group, which involved a car cruising, a proactive group, where there was a higher level of patrol and more number of cars and finally the reactive group where the police response was only

based on requests. There was not much difference with the three groups and the presence or absence of the police was in no manner a deterrent to crimes.

In terms of the detective force approach, the main focus includes identification, arresting criminal offenders, collecting and preserving physical evidence, locating and interviewing witnesses and also the recovery and return of stolen properties. However the overall proportion of arrests is relatively much lesser. There are however several other issues that are present, which includes abuses, reclassification, low clearance rates, etc. The police department however also have a number of specific types of enforcement situations which include surveillance, decoy operations, intelligence gathering, and other enforcement activities. There are also other assigned officers to SWAT teams which deal with high risk situations. Another group of police officers are known to be focused on the web patrol aspect.

In the US, there is a legislation which mandates that women officers have the same professional opportunities as men and the recruits are based on the physical standards and competitive exams rather than based on the gender. However there is a continuous issue of gender problems in the police teams. All individuals however tend to gain the police subculture which includes a personality which is suspicious, routine, predictable and based on social isolation.