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The Unintended Consequences of Proposition 47

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The Unintended Consequences of Proposition 47

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for

EMPA 396 Graduate Research Project in Public Management

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Abstract

Proposition 47 downgraded many non-serious and non-violent property and drug crimes from felony crimes to misdemeanors. As a result offenders are getting cited for certain crimes and being released. Proposition 47 was developed with intended goals and consequences. Since the passing of Proposition 47, it has also created some unintended consequences. A literature review provides a summary of scholarly data on Proposition 47 and a review of themes associated with Proposition 47. Data was collected from an Anonymous Northern California Police Department, including key informant interviews, and a peace officer survey. A community survey questionnaire was also distributed to collect data from local residents of the Anonymous City. The city name is to remain anonymous to protect the identity of the Police Department involved in the research. The research data focuses on property crimes in an Anonymous Northern California City before and after the passing of Proposition 47. The results of this study may help the City of Anonymous including local law enforcement, the community, and public officials. This study will attempt to determine if Proposition 47 is working as intended to in the City of Anonymous.

Chapter 1 – Introduction

Historical and Current Background

On November 4, 2014, the voters of California passed Proposition 47, also known as the Safe Neighborhood and Schools Act. According the Judicial Council of California the stated intent of Proposition 47 was to “ensure that prison spending is focused on violent and serious offenses, maximize alternatives for non-serious, nonviolent crimes, and invest savings generated from this Act into prevention and support programs in K–12 schools, victim services, and mental health and drug treatment (JCC, 2016). In order to accomplish the intentions of Proposition 47, the initiative pursued to accomplish these goals through four main strategies:

1. Reclassification of six theft and drug possession offenses from felonies to misdemeanors: Receipt of stolen property under \$950, Simple drug possession, Petty theft under \$950, Shoplifting under \$950, Forging a check under \$950, Writing a bad check under \$950.
2. Allowed resentencing to anyone serving a sentence for a felony offense that now qualifies as a misdemeanor under Proposition 47. Defendants are authorized to petition California courts for resentencing under the provisions.
3. If a felony conviction qualified as a misdemeanor under Proposition 47, a defendant can apply for reclassification to change the felony conviction to a misdemeanor.
4. The resentencing laws generated savings will go directly to the safe neighborhoods and schools fund.

Proposition 47 is major criminal justice reform that significantly reduced the number of individuals incarcerated in California. Before the reform, California had the nation's highest return-to-state-custody rate. More than 40 percent of released offenders were back in prison within a year. Proposition 47 brought down the prison population by about 8,000 inmates below the mandated target of 137.5 percent of design capacity (Loftstrom and Martin, 2015). The prison and jail realignment implemented by Proposition 47 gave the counties of California new responsibilities and protocols for managing the shift in release for parolees and felons convicted of non-serious crimes. Although Proposition 47 has met its intended consequences, it has also created some unintended consequences. The research conducted in this paper will address:

Research Question:

Is the passage of Proposition 47 working as intended in the City of Anonymous? The research question was created from the continuous cycle of increasing property crimes in my neighborhood and the City of Anonymous. For the purpose of the research, property crimes will be researched and evaluated for three years before and after the passing of Proposition 47.

Sub Questions:

1. What have been the unintended consequences of Proposition 47 for the City of Anonymous? Determining the unintended consequences of Proposition 47 for the City of Anonymous was an important part of this researcher needed to identify what other effects besides reducing inmate jail populations occurred to the City of Anonymous.

2. Is Proposition 47 creating unsafe neighborhoods for the community of Anonymous? Proposition 47 was presented to voters as the Safe Neighborhoods and

Schools Act. The researcher needed to identify if the passage of Proposition 47 is creating safer neighborhoods in the City of Anonymous.

3. Are field police officer less likely to initiate a contact of a misdemeanor crime due to the time spent on the contact not being worth the end result? Due to secondary data reporting officers are decreasing initiating contact with less serious crimes, the question seeks to determine if the Anonymous Police Department officers agree with this question.

4. Based on Proposition 47 what is the Anonymous Police Departments philosophy to initiate contact. The researcher needs to determine if the Anonymous Police Department changed protocols on initiating contact after the passage of Proposition 47.

Research Hypothesis:

Hypothesis 1: The passing of proposition 47 has caused an increase in crime rates in the City of Anonymous. The hypothesis was created from personal work experience, general knowledge received from neighborhood crime applications, and local news. The Proposition seems to be reducing prison numbers, but is it reducing overall crime and keeping the public safe?

Hypothesis 2: Proposition 47 tends to make law enforcement initiate less contact with misdemeanor crimes. The hypothesis was created from Proposition 47 reducing six felony crimes to misdemeanors. My assumption is the time it takes a peace officer to make an arrest, to bringing a subject who committed a misdemeanor down to the police station, only to get cited and release is less beneficial than focusing on more serious crimes. The research survey data will assist in researching this hypothesis.

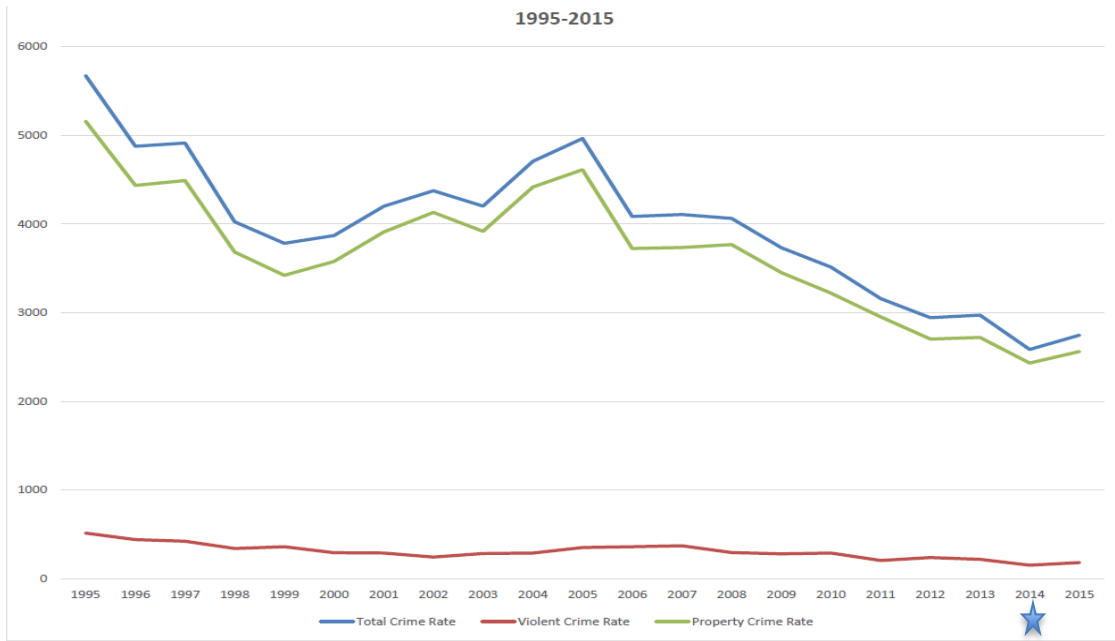
Hypothesis 3: Proposition 47 has created unintended consequences after successfully reducing jail and prison populations. My assumption is unintended consequences have been created for California's criminal justice since the passing of Proposition 47. Research in the literature review will address issues raised since the passing of Proposition 47 in 2014.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to focus on the effects of Proposition 47 in the local community of Anonymous and how the passage of Proposition 47 affects the public's neighborhood safety and local law enforcements daily operations. The intent of the research will also examine local law enforcement strategies and other factors that could be creating unsafe communities. Although other counties and jurisdictions have different results or statistics in crimes, the research is designed to correlate Proposition 47 to the City of Anonymous. The impact of the research can potentially lead to reform measures or additional clauses to assist Proposition 47 fix its weaknesses. The research will add value to other factors that are leading to increased property crime rates in addition to Proposition 47. Proposition 47 appears to be beneficial in reducing prison numbers, but other viewpoints show Proposition 47 might account in some way for the increase in property crimes in the City of Anonymous. An investigation is needed for practical research data.

Secondary Data of Anonymous City crime rates from 1995- 2015. The crime rates were higher before the passage of Proposition 47. In the year Proposition 47 was implemented crime rates lowered and now are slowly back on the rise in this Anonymous

City.



The property crime rates collected in the secondary data below shows larceny increased after the passing of Proposition 47 and continues to slowly raise. Burglary data shows the numbers have decreased in the City of Anonymous.



Scope and Limitations

Due to the sensitivity of the topic surrounding Proposition 47, the specific police department will be referred to as the Anonymous Police Department. The name of the specific agency will not be released. The city surveyed also will remain anonymous since it was in the same location as the Anonymous Police Department. The scope of this study is limited to the City of Anonymous, and Anonymous Police department, located in Northern California. The Anonymous Police department has 118 sworn police officers and 71 general employees providing public safety and resources for the Anonymous City. The study will focus on crime statistics in Anonymous and the arrests made in the Anonymous Police Department's area of jurisdiction. The time period reviewed will be three years before the passing and three years after the passing of Proposition 47. Police Officers questioned will be Officers with day-to-day operations in the field enforcing laws. The study focuses on property crimes in the City of Anonymous and does not focus on the whole state of California due to study time frame limitations. The author who is a student of Golden Gate University has completed the study.

Definition of Terms

Unintended Consequences – results created that are not part of the initial goals of the Proposition 47 initiative.

Anonymous Police Department – Located in Northern California. The Police Department requested to remain anonymous after the key informant interviews were conducted.

Anonymous City – To keep the identity of the Northern California Police Department safeguarded, the city studied remains anonymous. The Northern California Police Department is located in the city studied.

Operational Definitions

Proposition 47 – Referendum passed by voters in the state of California that categorized nonviolent offenses as misdemeanors instead of felonies, as they were previously classified. Also known as the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act and Prison Reform Initiative became effective in November 5, 2014.

Property Crime - The FBI's Uniform Crime and Reporting Program defines property crime as the object of theft type offenses is the taking of money or property, but there is no force or threat against the victims (FBI, 2018)

Expected Impact of Research

The potential impact of the information can assist the Anonymous Police Department and Anonymous City, but also other cities in the state of California by understanding the need for future study on Proposition 47. The study may determine the unintended consequences Proposition 47 brings to cities and the need for initiative revisions. The study does not intend to initially find negative results. The researcher's goal is to study Proposition 47 and to create recommendations to benefits everyone from law enforcement, local government, residents and even offenders.

Chapter 2 - Literature Review

Prior to 1980, California had no major prison crowding or escalating imprisonment rate. In fact, since the 1960s, California's incarceration rate had been steadily decreasing, and it reached a low of 90 prisoners per 100,000 with a prison population of only 19,623 in 1977 (Doob, Gartner, and Zimring, 2011). Since then it has been all uphill with the prison population reaching a peak of 175,512 by 2006 and rate of imprisonment of 478 prisoners per 100,000 (Austin, 2016). In 2011, California enacted Assembly Bill 109, also known as "Public Safety Realignment. AB 109 devolves the supervision of most nonviolent offenders to the county level and, notably, delegates unprecedented discretion to local practitioners to either incarcerate those previously sent to state prison in local jails or to use alternative, community-based sanctions that do not entail incarceration (Verma, 2015). AB 109 reduced the population, but the state did not reach the court-mandated population target until after the passage of Proposition 47 (Loftstrom, Martin, 2015). Proposition 47 was presented to voters with the intended purpose of reducing overcrowded prisons by ensuring prison spending was focused on violent and serious offenses. The money generated from the savings is put into programs such as K-12 schools, drug rehabilitation, and mental health. The intended goal of prison and jail reductions happened almost instantaneously. After Proposition 47 passed the average daily population (ADP) dropped to 72,894 from 82,923 with the assistance of reducing charges to misdemeanors (Grattet, Bird, Nguyen, Tafoya, 2017). This literature review includes prior research and analysis of scholarly publications and reports conducted on Proposition 47. The following literature review will look at three common

themes found under the passage of Proposition 47: 1) Realigned California Drug Courts
2) Law Enforcement Limitations 3) Public Safety Concerns

Realigned California Drug Courts

While voters are made aware of the general principles of a proposition or bill, initiatives do not always provide valuable information of intended consequences. California's Drug Courts are specially designed court calendars that provide an alternative to traditional criminal justice prosecution for non-violent drug related offenses (CA Courts). The CA Drug Courts have two intended goals; reduce recidivism and substance abuse, and increase rehabilitation of offenders. Substance abuse treatment reduces crime, and for many, the criminal justice system affords the first opportunity for such treatment. For these offenders, "the arrest and incarceration are part of a recurring cycle of drug abuse and crime (Baca, Cooper, 2013). The passage of Proposition 47 has reduced the majority of felonies, which has consequently blocked many offenders from entering Drug Courts. By passing Proposition 47, California did not intend to ignore substance abuse, but there has been an initial decline in prison and some jail populations; too many serious addicts are not receiving the treatment they need to permanently change their behavior (Woods, 2016). Criminal offenders need to be deterred from drugs and guided through treatment or they will continue to reoffend. In 2015, the first full year after Prop 47, felony drug arrests fell by over 92,000 while misdemeanor drug arrests increased by only 70,000 (CJCJ). Combining the numbers shows a ten percent decline in total drug arrests. Opponents of Proposition 47 believe the Act encourages those who are charged to plead out and never seek treatment because they will not be eligible to serve

serious prison time (Nguyen, 2015). Drug use has been an increasing problem in the United States. Abuse of tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs is costly to our nation, exacting over \$600 billion annually in costs related to crime, lost work productivity, and healthcare (Nyguen, 2015). The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) provides the following overview of drug abuse and its implications on the criminal justice system:

Drug abuse is implicated in at least three types of drug-related offenses: (1) offenses defined by drug possession or sales, (2) offenses directly related to drug abuse (e.g., stealing to get money for drugs), and (3) offenses related to a lifestyle that predisposes the drug abuser to engage in illegal activity (for example, through association with other offenders or with illicit markets). Individuals who use illicit drugs are more likely to commit crimes, and it is common for many offenses, including violent crimes, to be committed by individuals who had used drugs or alcohol prior to committing the crime, or who were using at the time of the offense (NIDA, 2014)

Drug users need money to buy drugs and obtaining a conventional job is not always an option. More often than not drug users will turn to crimes, more specifically property crimes.

Law Enforcement Conflict and Limitations

The downgrading of drug possession and theft crimes to misdemeanors created new issues for law enforcement. Los Angeles County Sheriff Jim McDonnell is among the law enforcement officials who believe that Proposition 47 has led to more crime while forcing fewer addicts into treatment [...] Sheriff's deputies are sometimes passing

up narcotics arrests altogether, since it can take hours to book a suspect they believe is unlikely to incur much of a penalty (Chang, Gerber, Poston, 2015). Individuals booked into jail for Prop 47 offenses are more likely to be eligible to be cited and released before arraignment or to receive other forms of pretrial release, as a result, we might expect this change in the likelihood that an individual will be held in jail custody to reduce the incentive to book individuals into jail for Prop 47 offenses (Bird, Tafoya, Grattet, Nguyen, 2016). The RAND Corporation conducted a study of Proposition 47 in Los Angeles County and learned that Los Angeles Patrol training efforts for Proposition 47 included an information briefing as well as working with IT to change the necessary items in databases to track Proposition 47 (Davis, Hunter, Smart, Turner, 2017). Representatives also noted that they had experienced increased calls for service in the county after Proposition 47. At the same time, they indicated that small businesses were not requesting calls for service due to the perception that it was “no longer worth it” to request assistance for charges that would now be considered petty theft (Davis, Hunter, Smart, Turner, 2017). Despite setbacks, law enforcement offers have larger issues with Proposition 47. Law enforcement has used DNA of criminal offenders in the past to accurately identify unsolved serious and violent crimes. The passage of Proposition 47 created an unintended consequence by limiting the ability of law enforcement to solve rapes, murders, robberies and other serious and violent crimes through reliable DNA evidence (Kail, 2017). The reclassification of felonies to misdemeanors under Proposition 47 results in a significant reduction in DNA samples because DNA is not authorized upon arrests for misdemeanors (Kail, 2017).

Public Safety and the Community

A national survey indicated that overwhelming consensus of Americans are in support of criminal justice reform [...] California, voters approved Proposition 47, a ballot initiative to reduce penalties for low-level crimes (Calpers, 2016). Nationwide polling shows that Americans now favor treatment, rather than punishment, for many drug offenses (Capers, 2016). An assumption can be made that Proposition 47 is responsible for the increase in crimes in California. The RAND Corporation conducted an independent operational and fiscal analysis of Proposition 47 for the Los Angeles County Chief Executive. They found that Proposition 47 resulted in an increase in crime, suggesting a relationship between the passage of Proposition 47 and an approximately 11-percent increase in crime in the year after Proposition 47 (Davis, Hunter, Smart, Turner, 2017). Numerous newspaper publications showcase the increase in property crimes throughout California. Is it because Proposition 47 is not keeping the public and community safe by not providing the proper treatment for offenders out from the downgrade of felony crimes to misdemeanor crimes. A recent study conducted by researchers at the University of California, Irvine stated that Proposition 47 is not responsible for the increase in crime in California and has had no effect on violent crimes, including homicide, rape, aggravated assault and robbery. Increases in property offenses such as larceny and motor vehicle theft appear to show that Prop. 47 was the cause, but the UCI researchers have found that these findings do not withstand more rigorous statistical testing (Devoe, 2018). Proposition 47 raises several important safety issues for the residents of California: (1) making community-based sentencing options

available in lieu of incarceration in jail or state prison, (2) increasing familial access to incarcerated family members as a result of local, rather than state, incarceration, and (3) reducing the collateral consequences that individuals face following completion of their sentences for reclassified crimes (calbudgetcenter). While police officers turn to more serious crimes, the focus shifts away from non-serious crimes.

Conclusion

Proposition 47 reduced overcrowding in California Prison systems, yet it, created unintended consequences for offenders who were released based changes to the law from the passage of Proposition 47. Offenders released from jail or prison that should be under rehabilitative treatment under Proposition 47 is not getting the proper treatment.

Proposition 47 diminished the California Drug Court system. A correlation for drug users and property crimes is present. Proposition 47 has changed the way law enforcement process misdemeanor arrests. The public throughout California is dealing with safety issues created from the passage of Proposition 47. The next chapter will take look at the methods used to collect data and finds for this research project.

Chapter 3 - Research Methods

Overview of Methodology

The research methodology for this paper consisted of gathering both primary and secondary data to create a quantitative and qualitative mixed research method approach. The primary data consists of results and analysis from key informants and surveys. Descriptive interview questions were designed to gain a perspective from the Anonymous PD leadership; a survey was created for Anonymous Police Officers to gain background from first-hand experience of peace officers making arrests and responding to misdemeanor crimes. A survey was created for the residents of Anonymous to gain information on Proposition 47 and property crimes occurring in the city. The secondary data is collected from statistical data, scholarly literature, and completed researched case studies. The data collected from the surveys and interviews will be analyzed in the findings chapter.

Research Question:

The research question examined in this study was: Is the passage of Proposition 47 working as intended in the City of Anonymous? The research question was created to examine the unintended consequences from the passing of Proposition 47. The purpose of the study is to exam the passage of Proposition 47 and gain a perspective from local law enforcement and the local community. Based on statistical data gathered from Anonymous PD alone, property crimes overall have stayed consistent with a slight increase since the passage of Proposition 47. The researcher selected personnel from the Anonymous PD who are involved with responding to property crime incidents before and

after the passing of Proposition 47. The researcher also gathered information from the residents of Anonymous in a survey form to gather valuable data on public opinion on Proposition 47 and property crimes within the community.

Research Sub-Questions

1) What have been the unintended consequences of Proposition 47 on the City of Anonymous? Research collected has brought up unintended consequences such as increased property crimes in major California cities, CA drug courts being over impacted, and inmates released under Proposition 47 that are supposed to seek drug treatment, but are not being accounted for or following up treatment on their own.

2) Is Proposition 47 creating unsafe neighborhoods for the community of Anonymous? Not enough research and data has been collected on Proposition 47 to determine the passage alone is creating unsafe neighborhoods in California. Due to the unintended consequences of the fallout of drug treatments, informed criminals of Proposition 47 understand the cycle of cite and release. A link of criminals to property crimes would prove this statement.

3) Are field police officer less likely to initiate contact of a misdemeanor crime due to the time spent on the contact not being worth the end result? Due to the time and processing involved in cite and release, officers may start to decrease contact on misdemeanor crimes. Feedback from Anonymous PD peace officers will assist the findings.

4) Based on Proposition 47, what is the Anonymous Police Departments philosophy to initiate contact? Changes throughout California's criminal justice system occurred the day after the passing of Proposition 47. The interviews with Anonymous PD leadership are needed for further findings.

The research consists of one main and two sub-hypothesis different hypothesis for this study:

Hypothesis 1: The passing of Proposition 47 has caused an increase in property crime rates in the City of Anonymous. The hypothesis is derived from the reports from data collections and local news reports of property crimes.

Hypothesis 2: Proposition 47 tends to make law enforcement initiate less contact with misdemeanor crimes. The hypothesis was created from collected literature review and data collection peace officers not in favor of the proposition.

Hypothesis 3: Proposition 47 has created unintended consequences after successfully reducing jail and prison populations. The research collected highlights unintended consequences exist after the passing of Proposition 47.

Independent Variable and Dependent Variables

The independent variable for this study is the passing of Proposition 47. The dependent variable is Proposition 47 working as it was intended in the City of Anonymous. Proposition 47 reclassified many crimes from felonies to misdemeanors. The release of thousands of inmates from the reductions of prison populations has created unintended consequences under Proposition 47. The unintended consequences create variables. The study examines whether or not the initiative led to increased property crimes ultimately creating unsafe neighborhoods in the City of Anonymous. The study also examines the perspective from law enforcement and the community.

Operational Definitions

Proposition 47 – Referendum passed by voters in the state of California that categorized

non-violent offenses as misdemeanors instead of felonies, as they were previously classified. Proposition 47 is also known as the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act and Prison Reform Initiative that became effective on November 5, 2014. The measure requires misdemeanor sentencing instead of felony for the following crimes:

- Petty Theft and Shoplifting – Any type of property theft if value of property is \$950 or less (PC §490.2)
- New crime of Shoplifting by entering a business during regular business hours with intent to commit larceny (PC §459.5)
- Receiving Stolen Property where value is \$950 or less (PC § 496) •
- Forgery where the check/instrument is \$950 or less [unless person also convicted of identity theft] (PC § 473)
- Insufficient Funds/Passing Bad Checks where total amount is \$950 or less and person does not have 3 or more disqualifying priors (PC § 476a)
- Petty Theft with a Prior eliminated except for narrow category of sex offenders and those convicted of theft from elders or adult dependents (PC § 666)

Proposition 47 requires misdemeanor sentence instead of felony for certain drug possession offenses.

- Possession of a controlled substance (HS § 11350)
- Possession of concentrated cannabis (HS § 11357(a))
- Possession of methamphetamine (HS § 11377)

The stated purpose:

“Ensure that prison spending is focused on violent and serious offenses, to maximize alternatives for non-serious, nonviolent crime, and to invest the savings generated from [the proposition] into prevention and support programs in K-12 schools, victim services, and mental health and drug treatment” and to ensure “that sentences for people convicted of dangerous crimes like rape, murder, and child molestation are not changed.” The proposition states that it “shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purposes (CA Courts).”

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Net state criminal justice system savings that could reach the low hundreds of millions of dollars annually, which would be spent on truancy prevention, mental health and substance abuse treatment, and victim services. Net county criminal justice system savings that could reach the low hundreds of millions of dollars annually (CA.Gov, 2018).

Increase – Total increase in property crimes in the City of Anonymous, CA.

Property Crime - The FBI's Uniform Crime and Reporting Program defines property crime as the object of theft type offenses is the taking of money or property, but there is no force or threat against the victims (FBI, 2018). Property crime categories include burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Peace Officers – a civil officer appointed to preserve law and order. Anonymous Police Department consists of 117 sworn active peace officers. The Anonymous Police Department mission statement has an enduring commitment to improving the quality of life in our community.

Data Collections Plan Overview

Primary Data

Primary data was collected from the Anonymous Police Department's crime and arrest information to analyze the property crime rates prior and after the enactment of Proposition 47. The time period researched will be three years prior (2011) to Proposition 47 passing compared to up to now (2018). The dates will be used for the changes in property crime statistics and activity. Key information interviews of Anonymous PD

leadership was conducted to gain a leadership law enforcement perspective on Proposition 47. Surveys were used to gather data from Anonymous PD peace officers that work in the field and respond to property crimes. The goal is to get enough surveys back from the 117 sworn officers. Surveys will be also used to gather data from residents of Anonymous and victims of property crimes. In order to obtain a sample of the population a survey will be distributed to different neighborhoods. (See Appendix for copies of interview questions and surveys).

Internal and External Validity

Internal Validity: The factors that can affect the internal validity of this research can include an increase of property crimes from proposition 47, substance abuse, unemployment rates, police staff levels, CA budget cuts and homeless rates. Community interaction could have an influence on research. Internal validity can also be threatened from changes in stakeholders such as city or law enforcement leadership.

External Validity: The external validity should be associated with a police department of similar size and a city population of similar size. The scope of the study included peace officers from Anonymous PD, Anonymous PD upper management, and the residents of Anonymous. A total of (24) respondents provided survey responses.

Limitation on Research

The collection of all crimes before and after the passing of Proposition 47 is important to study the cause and effect, but due to the scope of the study data will not be collected on all crimes. Data collected from Anonymous PD was limited to what was posted on the City of Anonymous website. Comparison of major California crime data could highly influence the study of effectiveness of Proposition 47. Due to research

completion limits, the study was restricted to one city and not compared to other major cities in California.

Conclusion

The research used literature review, key informant interviews, and surveys to develop the data. The feedback from the interviews and surveys will help examine the emphasis placed on the main research and sub questions. The next chapter will display the findings from the research interviews and surveys.

Chapter 4 - Results and Findings

This chapter provides the results and findings from the data collected for this study on Proposition 47. Included below are the raw data, analysis and significant findings collected from interviews and surveys. The data collected from the interviews will include a review and analysis with key informants from an Anonymous Northern California Police Department. Two surveys were created, one for Peace Officers of an Anonymous Northern California Police Department and second survey for the residents of an Anonymous Northern California City. The data and analysis will include a summary of significant findings addressing the research questions, sub-questions and hypotheses from the researchers data collection.

Qualitative Data Results

Key Informant Interviews

Two (2) key informant interviews were conducted for this study from the Anonymous Police Departments. One Lieutenant from the Patrol Division and one Patrol Supervisor Sergeant from the Patrol Division. There were eight (8) questions answered by the leadership personnel. Both were conducted face-to-face to avoid conflicting the validity and accuracy of the transcription of data. (See Appendix A for a copy of the survey).

Interview Findings

Question 1: *“What significant field operation protocols have changed in your department since the passing of Proposition 47?”*

Respondent #1 stated, “Our most significant change has been the creation and implementation of our Social Services Unit. This unit specifically addresses the homeless and transient population that has greatly increased due to the passage of Proposition 47.” Respondent #2 stated, “In the past we would arrest people who were in violation of Proposition 47 laws (11377 HS, 459.5 PC, etc.). Now we simply issue them a citation and release them.

Interview Question 1 Analysis

The primary purpose of this question was to identify if any department protocols changed for the officers out in the field or if any department protocols shifted because of the passing of Proposition 47. Due to the changes under Proposition 47 reducing penalties from felonies to misdemeanors and reduction in the incarcerated, the Anonymous Police Department has seen an increase in the homeless population. The social services unit was created to assist field officers maximize and prioritize time for higher priority calls. Prior to the Passing of Proposition 47, the Anonymous Police Officers would make arrest for the current misdemeanor charges under Proposition 47. Now Officers are citing and releasing the offenders rather than arresting them. For example the violations stated above, 11377 HS is offenses involving controlled substances formerly classified as restricted dangerous drugs and PC 459.5 is shoplifting. Drug abusers getting cited and released are not getting the help they need and shoplifting continues to hurt the local community.

Question 2: *What strategies or standard operating procedures have you had to change since the passing of Proposition 47?*

Respondent #1 stated, “With the penalty reduction in many property and drug related crimes under Proposition 47, the department now issue citations or promise to appear notices, rather than making arrest. Respondent #2 stated, as mentioned in the first question, for the most part we just adjusted our procedures regarding arrest and jail bookings. Our policy to book was amended with the changes of felony crimes to misdemeanors. Our department still supports booking for these charges if needed, but standard protocol is a citation in the field.

Interview Question 2 Analysis

The purpose of this question was to find out what department shifts in strategies or procedures out in the field needed to change or had to change if any after the passing of Proposition 47. Similar to the first question, but the researcher alter the language to get additional findings on department changes under Proposition 47. As a result the first respondent shifted from the Social Services Unit to addressing the increase in cite and release for crimes committed under Proposition 47. Both respondents explained similar answers with the arrest and booking standard operating procedures changing after the passing of Proposition 47.

Question 3: *What issues has Anonymous PD encountered based on the passage Proposition 47?*

Respondent #1 stated, “As previously stated, our biggest challenge has been the increase in the homeless population and how that has impacted local businesses and social services. Respondent #2 stated I don’t know if our Department has encountered “issues” but I would say that we often see the same people re-offending. Due to what I see as decriminalization of drugs, it has made it significantly more difficult to have an effective

tool to solve an issue. Criminals are not deterred from using or possession drugs as they know they are just going to get a ticket and go on their way. I do think the public is misinformed about Proposition 47 and people still don't realize what they voted for. People often are shocked when they hear that possession of heroin and other drugs are just a misdemeanor.

Interview Question 3 Analysis

The question was created to get details on issues or challenges the department has faced from the passage of Proposition 47. The reduction in jails and prisons has played a part in the increased homeless population. Reoffenders are not getting the assistance that they need to rehabilitate and most offenders end up homeless. Reoffenders getting cited and released are not getting deterred away from doing the same crimes. The second respondent did not feel confident that the public got all the details on Proposition 47 that has led to unintended consequences of Proposition 47 hurting the community.

Question 4: *What types of resources have you increased due to the passage of Proposition 47?*

Respondent #1 stated, "The Social Services Unit was implemented due to the passage of Proposition 47 as mentioned earlier. The social service unit was the main resource implemented after the realignment of California Prisons and jails under the measure AB 109 and Proposition 47 in late 2016. The social service unit's goal is to improve the quality of life for the whole community and to help the homeless/transients. The social service unit assists with the homeless, transients, drug users, and mental health crisis situations." Respondent #2 stated, "None to my knowledge." Nothing further to add to response."

Interview Question 4 Analysis

The second respondent never brought up the social service unit. An assumption can be made that the second respondent did not feel the social service was making enough of a difference as a solution to the cycle of reoccurring offenders. No follow up questions were made to respondent #2 so the researcher did not influence any responses. The first respondent has been consistent with keep the positivity in the Social Service Unit. The unit helps close the gap of services in the city and adds an experience social worker to lead this unit. The unit collaborates with other police departments, organizations, and non-profits. The unit is not just intended to help criminals, but also families who need assistance with getting back on their feet from hardships. The unit also assists patrol officers with mental health crisis incidents.

Question 5: *What, if any, have been a positive outcomes of Proposition 47?*

Respondent #1 stated, “We’ve been forced to think differently and in doing so, the department has come up with some creative solutions to combat the increase in property related crimes. We continue to maintain and build strong relationships with our community and work together to develop strategies to lower crime and assist those who need services.” Respondent #2 stated, “Nothing . . . It is very sad that due to the way politicians named Proposition 47, it misrepresented what would be the outcome. How can people think that decriminalizing drugs and making less severe punishments for drugs, guns, commercial burglary (i.e. shoplifting) would have any positive effect of making school and/or neighborhoods safer? I would argue (as would many others) that

due to the fact that people are less likely to go to jail now, they are actually making the neighborhoods less safe as we are releasing them back into the community to re-offend.

Interview Question 5 Analysis

The reality is the criminal justice system has changed and continues to change. Respondent #1 talked about the importance in building a stronger relationship with the community and educated the community about property crimes. The community needs to be more aware of surroundings, report unusual situations, and take safety precautions at homes and businesses (i.e. security alarms and cameras). The #2 respondent explained that the police officers cite drug offenders, but in the end they become more inclined to commit property crimes in order to steal so they can pay to buy more drugs. Politicians were also brought up in a misrepresentation of Proposition 47.

Question 6: *What, if any, have been a negative outcomes of Proposition 47?*

Respondent #1 stated, “There has been an increase in property related and drug related crimes, without the availability or willingness to seek services for addiction that may prevent future problems. In the past, drug offenders may have been mandated to attend drug counseling where that is no longer the case due to the reduction in classification.” Respondent #2 replied my positive outcomes were actually the negative outcomes in the last question. Like I mentioned in the last question, Proposition 47 has created more issues.

Interview Question 6 Analysis

A main issue that respondent #1 brought up was the lack of services for drug addiction offenders. The reduction in classifications of crimes under Proposition 47 has

led to an increase in property related and drug related crimes. The correlation of crime classifications under Proposition 47 and drug users is present. The #2 respondent responses suggest Proposition 47 has created more negative than positive outcomes.

Question 7: *What changes to Anonymous Police Department policy to initiate contact have changed since the passage of Proposition 47?*

Respondent #1 stated, “None, No changes to our department’s policy have been made since the passing of Proposition 47. Respondent #2 stated, “We have not changed our policy to initiate contact.

Interview Question 7 Analysis

The secondary data suggested that law enforcement officers were less inclined to initiate contact with misdemeanor crimes such as drug users due to the reclassifications under Proposition 47. Both respondents both explained that no changes to the department’s policy were made on initiated contact. All officers have a job to do no matter the reclassifications under Proposition 47 or how serious the crime is.

Question 8: *Based on your knowledge of criminal activity statistics in the past four years, what are your thoughts regarding intended or unintended effects of Proposition 47 on property crimes in the City of Anonymous?*

Respondent #1 stated, “As previously mentioned, the reduction in drug related offenses has moved these individuals to the county level or free from incarceration entirely.

Oftentimes, these individuals commit property crimes to support their drug dependency.

Without the disincentive of incarceration, or the motivation to seek rehabilitation, we’re seeing a revolving door of criminal activity that negatively impacts our communities.

Respondent #2 stated, “I am not informed enough on actual statistics to say. I can

assume that crime has gone up, but do not have any factual support for that. Crime will continue to be a continuous cycle under Proposition 47 reclassifications.”

Interview Question 8 Analysis

Both respondents concluded with the continuous cycle of crimes that will continue to occur in the community under Proposition 47. Proposition 47 reclassified many crimes from felonies to misdemeanors, decreasing the prison populations. In the end the prison population shifts to the offenders staying with the local jails or local community.

Findings: Key Informant Interviews

The key informant interviews with the leadership respondents had many common similarities, but overall respondent #1 kept a more positive outlook. Respondent #1 remained focused on the development of the social services unit and the engagement to build a stronger relationship with the community. Both respondents made it clear that a correlation exists from the reclassification of crimes under Proposition 47 have created unintended consequences for offenders and the Anonymous community.

Quantitative Data Results

The Anonymous Police Department provided me with a total of 58 peace officer email addresses to send the survey questionnaire too. The emails provided were strictly from the patrol division and in a non-supervisor ranking. A total of 58 surveys were sent with 6 email addresses not found and 4 email addresses with an out of the office response, dated past the survey deadline. The total number of respondents was brought down to 48 with an intended goal of at least 50% responses. 48 questionnaires were

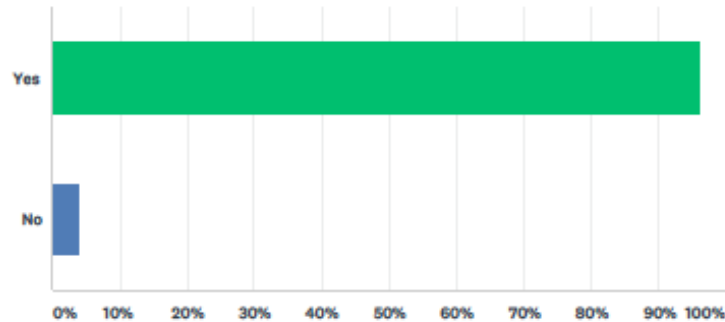
distributed from the dates 6-9-18 to 6-21-18 posted on Survey Monkey website. A total of 25 respondents or 52% of participating officers provided answers to this questionnaire. A review and analysis of the results are provided below. (See Appendix B for a copy of the survey).

Peace Officer Survey Results

Survey Question 1: Since the passing of Proposition 47 in Nov. 2014, have you been assigned to patrol field operations where and responded to property crimes as part of your daily patrol?

Q1 Since the passing of Proposition 47 in Nov. 2014, have you been assigned to patrol field operations where and responded to property crimes as part of your daily patrol?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



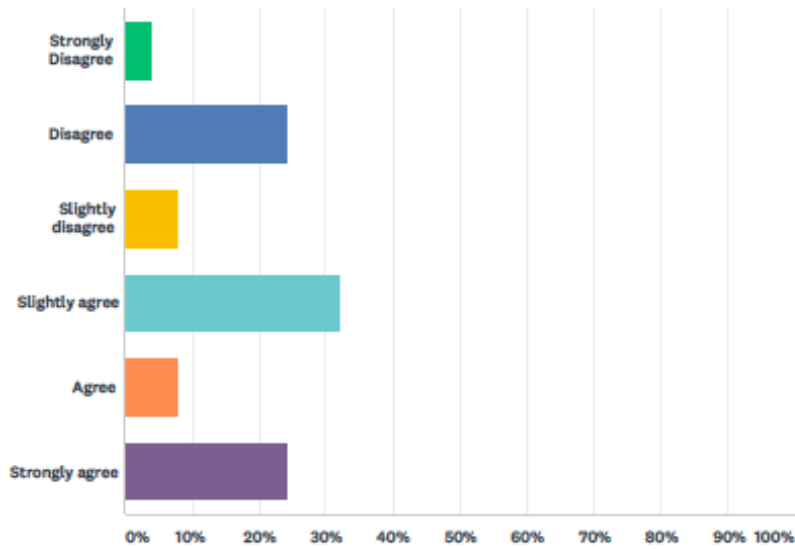
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	96.00%	24
No	4.00%	1
TOTAL		25

Question 1 Analysis: The researcher wanted data from the Anonymous Police Department peace officers that were assigned to patrol field operations after the passing of Proposition 47. 96% of respondents met the guidelines and the goal was met.

Survey Question 2: The classification of non-serious, nonviolent crimes as misdemeanors instead of felonies under Proposition 47 has made you less likely to initiate contact for misdemeanor crimes?

Q2 The classification of non-serious, nonviolent crimes as misdemeanors instead of felonies under Proposition 47 has made you less likely to initiate contact for misdemeanor crimes?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly Disagree	4.00%	1
Disagree	24.00%	6
Slightly disagree	8.00%	2
Slightly agree	32.00%	8
Agree	8.00%	2
Strongly agree	24.00%	6
TOTAL		25

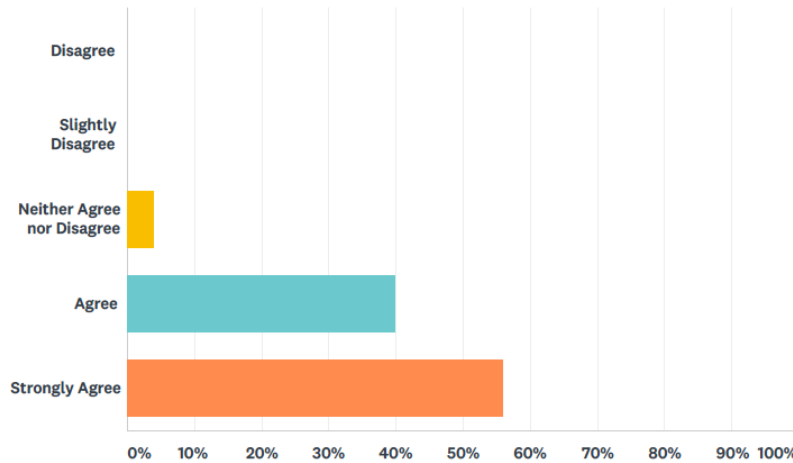
Question 2 Analysis: The question was created to gauge the Anonymous Police Department patrol officers and if initiating contact has shifted since the passing of Proposition 47. Mixed results were concluded, but the researcher was surprised to find

24% of the officers strongly agreed, 8% agreed, and 32% slightly agreed. The reclassifications under Proposition 47 have influenced 16 respondents initiating contact.

Survey Question 3: Standard operating procedures regarding former felony crimes have changed since the passing of Proposition 47?

Q3 Standard operating procedures regarding former felony crimes have changed since the passing of Proposition 47?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



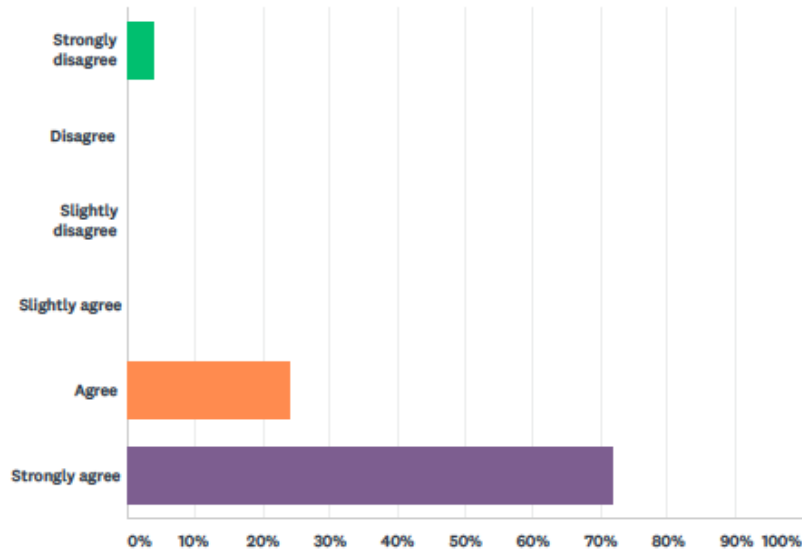
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Disagree	0.00%	0
Slightly Disagree	0.00%	0
Neither Agree nor Disagree	4.00%	1
Agree	40.00%	10
Strongly Agree	56.00%	14
TOTAL		25

Question 3 Analysis: Standard operating procedures have changed for the department under Proposition 47 with 56% of respondents strongly agreeing and 40% agreeing. The researcher recommends further study on the types of procedures changed under Proposition 47. Based on the interviews the research concludes cite and releases have increased and changed under patrol officer standard operating procedures.

Survey Question 4: Proposition 47 had led to increased property crime?

Q4 Proposition 47 had led to increased property crime?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



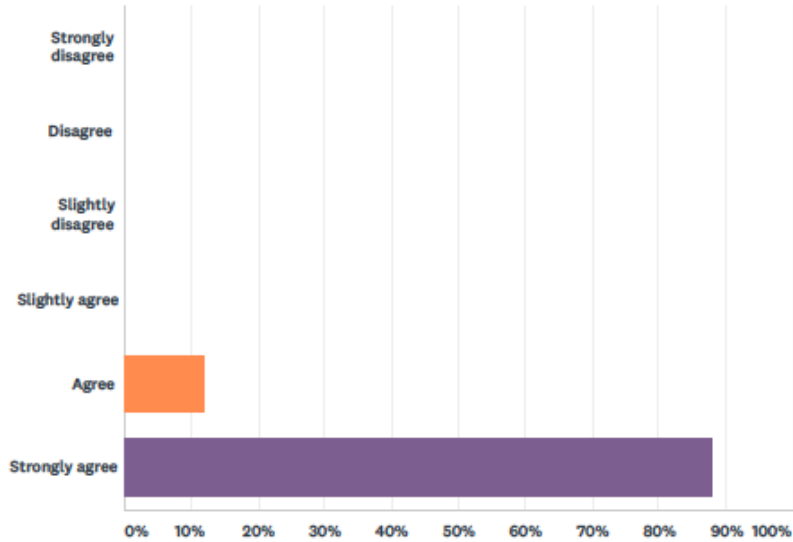
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	4.00%	1
Disagree	0.00%	0
Slightly disagree	0.00%	0
Slightly agree	0.00%	0
Agree	24.00%	6
Strongly agree	72.00%	18
TOTAL		25

Question 4 Analysis: The secondary data statistics collected show a minimal but present increase after the passing of Proposition 47 in the City of Anonymous. The survey response found 72% respondents strongly agreed that Proposition 47 has led to increased property crimes.

Survey Question 5: Proposition 47 enables repeat offenders to commit misdemeanor crimes with minor consequences.

Q5 Proposition 47 enables repeat offenders to commit misdemeanor crimes with minor consequences.

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



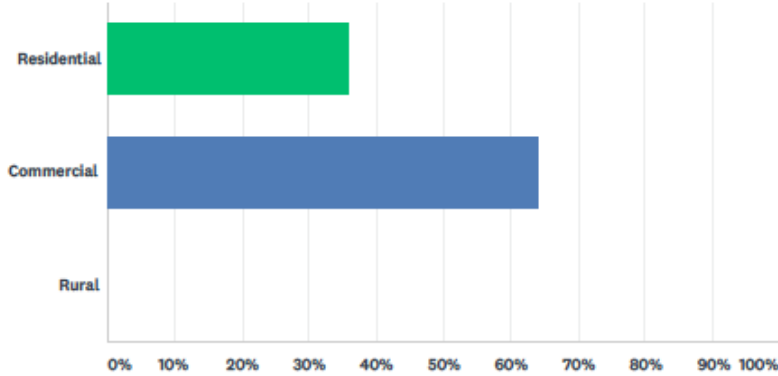
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Slightly disagree	0.00%	0
Slightly agree	0.00%	0
Agree	12.00%	3
Strongly agree	88.00%	22
TOTAL		25

Question 5 Analysis: The researcher concludes Proposition 47 enables repeat offenders commit misdemeanor crimes in the Anonymous City. 88% respondents strongly agreed.

Survey Question 6: Based on your experience in the field, offenders more likely to commit property crimes in which area:

Q6 Based on your experience in the field, offenders more likely to commit property crimes in which area:

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



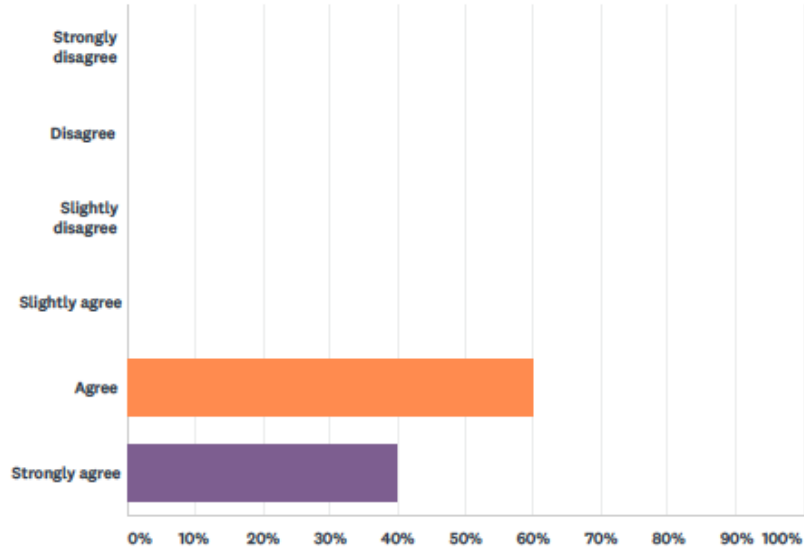
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Residential	36.00%	9
Commercial	64.00%	16
Rural	0.00%	0
TOTAL		25

Question 6 Analysis: Commercial areas are being hit with more property crimes than residential or rural areas. 64% respondents concluded commercial areas. Commercial areas include businesses, which are huge targets for shoplifting.

Survey Question 7: In general drug users commit property crimes to buy drugs.

Q7 In general drug users commit property crimes to buy drugs.

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



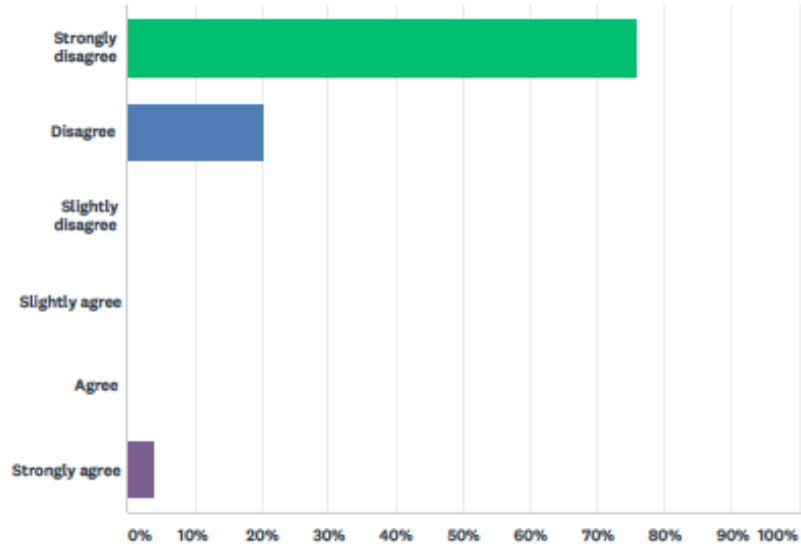
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	0.00%	0
Disagree	0.00%	0
Slightly disagree	0.00%	0
Slightly agree	0.00%	0
Agree	60.00%	15
Strongly agree	40.00%	10
TOTAL		25

Question 7 Analysis: The question was created to find a correlation between drug users and drug users committing property crimes to buy more drugs. Secondary data and informant interviews show reoffenders under Proposition 47 are not getting the drug addiction treatment they need. By not getting the proper treatment property crimes increase. 40% respondents strongly agreed and 60% agreed that drug users commit property crimes to buy drugs.

Survey Question 8: Proposition 47 has created a safer community?

Q8 Proposition 47 has created a safer community?

Answered: 25 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	76.00%	19
Disagree	20.00%	5
Slightly disagree	0.00%	0
Slightly agree	0.00%	0
Agree	0.00%	0
Strongly agree	4.00%	1
TOTAL		25

Question 8 Analysis: The researcher was not surprised with data results. Secondary data shows Proposition 47 has created negative unintended consequences. 76% respondents strongly disagree that Proposition 47 has created a safer community and 20% disagree.

Survey Question 9: In what ways, if an, have you seen Proposition 47 benefit the community?

Q9 In what ways, if any, have you seen Proposition 47 benefit the community?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 5

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Proposition 47 has somewhat reduced the prison population.	6/21/2018 12:06 AM
2	It hasn't	6/14/2018 9:11 AM
3	NONE!!	6/14/2018 1:11 AM
4	I haven't	6/13/2018 4:04 PM
5	No benefits observed	6/13/2018 3:29 PM
6	None	6/13/2018 2:42 PM
7	In my opinion, Proposition 47 had zero benefits to the safety of our community.	6/13/2018 12:27 PM
8	It releases criminals early... So if your family member or friend is released its a benefit for that small group. I have not witnessed any other benefits.	6/12/2018 1:27 PM
9	NOTHING. IT HAS PUT COMMUNITIES AT GREATER RISK.	6/11/2018 12:56 PM
10	None at all.	6/11/2018 8:57 AM
11	None.	6/11/2018 7:26 AM
12	None	6/10/2018 6:32 PM
13	None	6/10/2018 12:39 AM
14	Prop 47 has only hurt our community.	6/9/2018 8:06 PM
15	none	6/9/2018 7:29 PM
16	The only benefit I've seen is to the suspect/offender. If you don't include them in the community, I have not seen any benefit to the community.	6/9/2018 6:31 PM
17	I cannot think of any benefits that I have seen in the community as a result of the passing of prop 47.	6/9/2018 11:32 AM
18	I haven't seen any benefit to the community.	6/9/2018 11:28 AM
19	NO BENEFIT	6/9/2018 11:14 AM
20	Literally none.	6/9/2018 10:35 AM

Question 9 Analysis: 20 respondents provided feedback that Proposition 47 has not benefited the community. In an incident that a family member has committed a misdemeanor, they are released back to the family immediately. No other benefits were reported at this time. 5 respondents skipped question #9.

Survey Question 10: In what ways, if any, have you seen Proposition 47 not benefit the community?

Q10 In what ways, if any, have you seen Proposition 47 not benefit the community?

Answered: 20 Skipped: 5

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Property crimes are more prevalent. Offenders are no longer scared to be in possession of controlled substances. Offenders are issued citations on scene and not booked into jail. Local jails are overcrowded.	6/21/2018 12:06 AM
2	Since Heroin was changed to a misd we have seen more heroin overdose deaths.....we have also seen more organized retail crimes, more petty thefts, more auto thefts, since these criminals aren't doing jail time due to prop 47.	6/14/2018 9:11 AM
3	It has embolden career criminals to commit more crime. It has caused officers to not be as proactive or cite/arrest suspects that we used to. Crime has gone up, but people are not being cited/arrested anymore so it make crime appear to be going down.	6/14/2018 1:11 AM
4	Repeat shoplifting without serious penalty, commercial burglary charges reduced to misdemeanor, increased drug possession, reduced fear among criminals regarding going to jail	6/13/2018 4:04 PM
5	Increased larceny offenses	6/13/2018 3:29 PM
6	Too much too list.	6/13/2018 2:42 PM
7	I believe our population was successfully manipulated by this proposition's title of "safe neighborhood/schools." Since passing, theft and drug related crimes have increased; and those contacted with drugs such as meth/heroin are given a ticket rather than booked in jail.	6/13/2018 12:27 PM
8	Higher more frequent crime by the same subjects. We lost our ability to solve problems. We now put a bandaid on problems and hope it gets fixed...	6/12/2018 1:27 PM
9	INCREASED CRIME, PEOPLE ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE VICTIMIZED.	6/11/2018 12:56 PM
10	Less consequences for drug and theft related crimes has created an increase in property and drug related crimes. When caught, these criminals get very minimal consequence. This causes the criminal to increase their activity and decrease the officer's desire to seek these criminals for prosecution. This also creates an unsettling feeling within the communities that are victimized by these types of crimes.	6/11/2018 8:57 AM
11	For the law abiding community, it has cause more property crime. For the drug users, there is now no incentive to stop using drugs or to go to treatment. When drug crimes were felonies, those arrested had a choice to attend treatment to have their sentences reduced. Also, incarceration causes a drug user to stop using, although briefly. With drug crimes as misdemeanors, they get a ticket and go right back to using. More drug users equals more property crime.	6/11/2018 7:26 AM

12	Prop 47 has emboldened offenders, as they now know that there is little consequence for their actions. Many offenders now strategically work within Prop 47 to maximize their gains. An example would be specifically targeting unlocked vehicles to rummage through as opposed to locked vehicles, knowing that if they are caught they will be charged with misdemeanor petty theft rather than felony burglary. Another example is shoplifting. Prior to Prop 47, entering a business with the intent to commit theft was a felony burglary. Now, as long as the value of the theft is under \$950, the offender is charged with misdemeanor shoplifting. In these examples, not only will the offender face lighter penalties if caught, but the lower level of criminal offense limits what actions officers can lawfully take in attempting to apprehend those suspects (i.e. - engage in pursuit, use force). I have interviewed many offenders in working cases, and a large number admit that they specifically plan their crimes to fit within Prop 47 to reduce their exposure to penalty. Above all of the things mentioned so far, the biggest and most serious detriment to the community is that Prop 47 has made people feel less safe. Of all of the conversations that I have had with citizens regarding Prop 47 (safe to say over 50), not a single one demonstrated that citizen being in favor of Prop 47. In fact, the vast majority of people were completely unaware of the changes brought by Prop 47 prior to my conversation with them. Many of them recall Prop 47 being the "Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act", and are surprised to hear the various crimes that have been reduced in severity. Many of them leave our conversation feeling uneasy about the future of the community because criminals have more freedoms than ever before.	6/10/2018 6:32 PM
13	Increased theft	6/10/2018 12:39 AM
14	The community suffers from property crime and the offenders do not get the help they would if they were incarcerated.	6/9/2018 8:06 PM
15	all	6/9/2018 7:29 PM
16	Before Proposition 47, people were not going to prison for years because of a charge of possession for personal use of drugs. The benefit of possession of drugs being a felony was that it allowed officers to temporarily remove the offender from the community by taking him/her to jail. Now if someone is found with drugs, his/her drugs are taken away and he/she is given a ticket. The offender now remains in the community and has even more reason to steal (officer confiscated the drugs and the offender wants to steal to buy more drugs). In the case of 459 PC versus 459.5 PC, there was already a difference between petty theft and burglary. There are numerous people who steal on a daily basis as part of organized retail crime rings. The "job" of those people is to go to stores and steal. If there is evidence that the person went into the store with the intention to steal, they should be able to be arrested for burglary. The addition of shoplifting (459.5 PC) makes it more likely for these people to continue stealing. That continued theft increases costs for everyone in the community.	6/9/2018 6:31 PM
17	I have seen drug users more openly and flagrantly use narcotics in public places. Drug users also persist in the community because in most cases we do not have a means to remove drug addicts from the streets. This can especially be seen in the homeless and mentally ill population.	6/9/2018 11:32 AM
18	Increased property crime and an indirect increase in crimes against persons which is difficult to quantify.	6/9/2018 11:28 AM
19	It decriminalizes drugs. Individual's who previously shoplifted or had possession of dangerous drugs were taken to jail and "removed" from the community (at least temporarily). Now people receive a ticket and are on their way. There are no consequences.	6/9/2018 11:14 AM
20	Offenders are issued citations in the field rather than being transported to jail which used to cease whatever crime they were committing. Now they get a ticket and go right back to committing crimes.	6/9/2018 10:35 AM

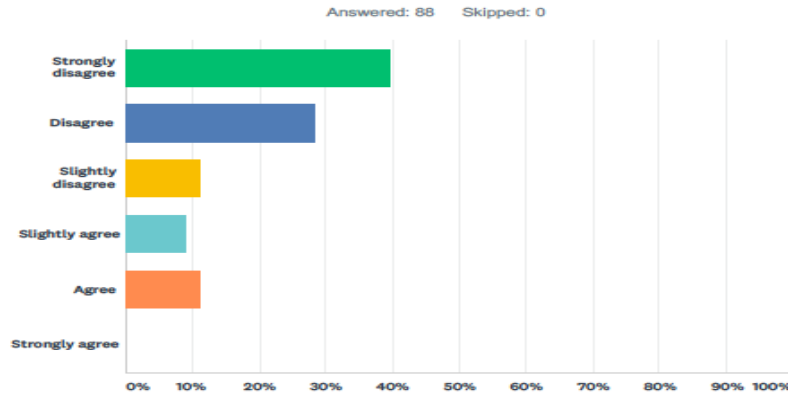
Analysis: A reoccurring theme from the Anonymous Police Department is that Proposition 47 is not helping drug user offenders rehabilitate, creating more issues for the community. The community residents were also not properly informed of the unintended consequences under Proposition 47. Proposition 47 has unintended consequences that are present and affecting the community of Anonymous.

Anonymous Community Survey Results

The Anonymous Community survey aimed with a goal of at least 100 respondents. The survey was created on the website Survey Monkey and posted on the neighborhood website Nextdoor. The researcher wanted to get results in all parts of the Anonymous City. To reach different areas friends in different areas posted the survey. A total of 88 residents of the Anonymous survey completed the questionnaire from (5-25-18 to 6-23-18). A review and analysis of the results are provided below. (See Appendix C for a copy of the survey).

Survey Question 1: The community of Anonymous is a safer place to live and work because of Proposition 47?

Q1 The community of Anonymous is a safer place to live and work because of Proposition 47?



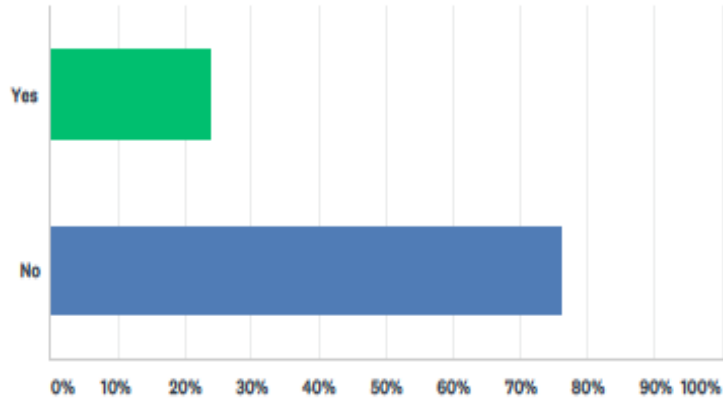
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	39.77%	35
Disagree	28.41%	25
Slightly disagree	11.36%	10
Slightly agree	9.09%	8
Agree	11.36%	10
Strongly agree	0.00%	0
TOTAL		88

Question 1 Analysis: The survey provided background information on Proposition 47 with a flyer of Proposition 47 from 2014. Mixed results from the survey with 36.59% respondents strongly disagree that the community of Anonymous is a safer place to live and work because of Proposition 47.

Survey Question 2: Have you been a victim of a property crime since the passage of Proposition 47 in 2014?

Q2 Have you been a victim of a property crime since the passage of Proposition 47 in 2014?

Answered: 88 Skipped: 0



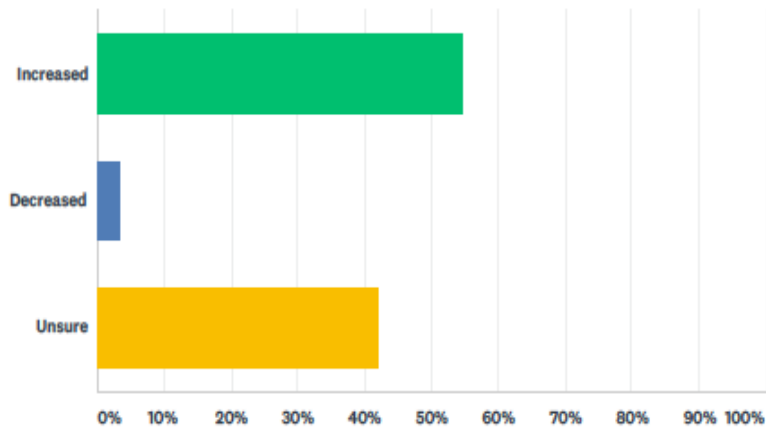
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	23.86%	21
No	76.14%	67
TOTAL		88

Question 2 Analysis: 76.14% have not been a victim of a property crime since Proposition 47 passed. 23.86% have been a victim of a property crime. The Anonymous City has significant lower crime ratings compared to nearby major cities. Property crimes are still present and further study would need to be generated on a bigger scale.

Survey Question 3: Property crimes have _____ in your neighborhood?

Q3 Property crimes have _____ in your neighborhood?

Answered: 88 Skipped: 0



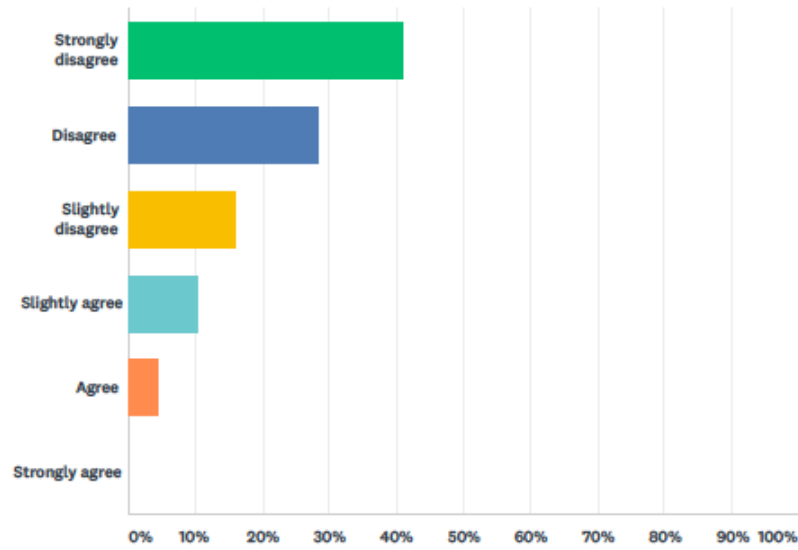
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Increased	54.55%	48
Decreased	3.41%	3
Unsure	42.05%	37
TOTAL		88

Question 3 Analysis: A different response was found with property crimes increasing in neighborhoods, with 54.55% increased. The researcher was surprised to find out that 42.05% of residents were unsure if property crimes increased in neighborhoods.

Survey Question 4: Proposition 47 working as intended to reduce crime?

Q4 Proposition 47 is working as intended to reduce crime?

Answered: 88 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly disagree	40.91%	36
Disagree	28.41%	25
Slightly disagree	15.91%	14
Slightly agree	10.23%	9
Agree	4.55%	4
Strongly agree	0.00%	0
TOTAL		88

Question 4 Analysis: 40.91% of respondents strongly disagree that Proposition 47 is worked as intended to reduce crime. The majority of residents do not feel the Proposition is reducing crime.

Survey Question 5: In what ways have you been affected by Proposition 47?

In my career as a law enforcement officer, I am finding that more and more repeat offenders are being released into the street, increasing the workload in law enforcement officers and reducing their ability to be proactive.

None that I know of. But people should not be held in prison for petty crime. It makes society worse of in the long run as prisons are not rehabilitating in any real way.

Since Prop 47 the number of minor crimes have increased in our community, crimes such as vehicle break ins and petty theft/unarmed robbery at retail stores with values all under the 47 monetary limits.

There seems to be more petty crimes around but it could be just measurement bias. My household has had one delivery stolen but we don't know who the thief was and if s/he was affected by Prop 47.

Without punishment, petty theft gets rewarded in that the small percentage that get caught don't have much disciplinary action making it a low risk compared to the potential value of stolen goods.

Thefts, increase in drug use in the neighborhood parks

More property crime in my neighborhood.

Less crime in my neighborhood. Personally I have not been affected by this proposition.

None

Retail theft has increased. Company loses are passed on to consumers.

Many users dwelling. I have personally seen it happen and been asked to use, which I have no interest. Kids bring them at school!

I live near the railroad tracks, 2 halfway houses, a food basket church, and a homeless center....the police don't bother arresting criminals that frequent these places because the criminal's will just be back on the street within a few hours. I live along an alleyway that these addicts that choose homelessness use as their campsite, they pee and poop along the houses side yards, throw their trash everywhere, dig through our trash cans, steal our property, just being generally disruptive to our neighborhood and we have no recourse. The police shew them away because arresting them is a waste of time...but they come right back because they know there isn't any punishment for crime now.

Renters around the corner were arrested on drug charges (possession and sales) but never convicted due to low limits set by Prop 47. A menace to the neighborhood. Also, we have seen an increase in homelessness.

None

Criminals realize that if they commit low impact crimes, there will be no consequences. We have seen a huge rise in delivery thefts to personal homes. These criminals know very well that they have stolen usually less than a few hundred dollars and there will be no consequences even if they are caught. Criminals need to understand that breaking the law has consequences and not just a problem for everyone else to deal with

Listening in to a neighborhood meeting, we were educated by the amount of theft that occurs, and the thieves know that if they shoplift at three different stores and steal up to \$950 at each store, they will just be given a citation and a misdemeanor so they will continue with their crimes.

None. Drug use is a personal thing. Property damage and theft affects other people and should be a part of someone's record and be punished.

I have police officer friends and they find it frustrating

More property crimes in area

Neighborhood has more car breakins due to druggies

Mostly been a target. Cops won't do anything about someone breaking into cars without seeing them in the act

Increased crime, local police reluctant to investigate crimes that once were felonies and now are misdemeanor. Increases in homeless population and drug abuse.

In my current neighborhood it feels crime ridden with petty theft and grand theft as I have witnessed both on separate occasions.

Directly, I am not sure

I haven't been affected by it. However, California made it harder for Law Enforcement to be proactive with their jobs and in some cases a DA won't even look at an arrest to prosecute if it was a simple drug arrest.

I have not personally been affected by the change in laws. But I work off of Douglas near Royer Park where the homeless population is rampant. My opinion is that allowing such life ruining crimes (drug related) to be minor punishments only perpetuates the problem and increases our homelessness.

Question 5 Analysis: A few posts were included to show what ways residents have been affected by Proposition 47. In the results residents mentioned increased theft, auto break-ins, stolen packages, and witnessed drug use. Business owners responded with increased shop lifting with organized crime rings. A police officer from the community responded with more offenders is being released onto the streets, overall increasing the workload for law enforcement.

Significant Findings – Qualitative and Quantitative

Key Informant Interview, Surveys, and Literature Reviews

The most prevalent throughout the key informant interviews and survey findings shows Proposition 47 has created unintended consequences after passing in 2014. The

unintended consequences of Proposition 47 have impacted the criminal justice system and law enforcement cannot do the same business out in the field. Increase resources such social service unit was created to help mitigate the homeless population. Increased homeless population increases crimes, specifically property crimes. Increased drug offenders continue to commit property crimes with the cycle of cite and releases. The community has seen the effects of property crimes after the passing of Proposition 47. Chapter 5 will include my recommendations and conclusions.

Chapter 5 - Conclusions and Recommendations

This final chapter of the study provides conclusions and recommendations in the form of an action plan. These conclusions and recommendations are based on the collection, analysis and evaluation of primary data, secondary data, key informant interviews and surveys.

Lessons Learned

The data collection from Anonymous Police was harder to obtain from the Anonymous Police Department that first assumed taking on the research. A common theme came up with a few peace officers declining to comment on the topic of Proposition 47. The researcher was surprised on how many officers did not take the survey, but understands the sensitivity of the subject.

Conclusions

Proposition 47, “The Safe Neighborhood and Schools Act,” was advertised to the residents of California to create significant benefits. The main goal of Proposition 47 was to reduce the criminal justice workload by cutting the prison population. Reduced penalties for non-serious, nonviolent property and drug offenses cut the prison population significantly. The end result was to save the state of California millions of dollars, allocate the savings to mental health, substance abuse treatment programs, reduce school truancy programs, and recovery services for crime victims. Proposition 47 achieved what the measure was intended to do and that was to reduce the prison populations. However, not enough data is present to determine credible costs of California state savings that Proposition 47 created.

The passage of Proposition 47 is not working as intended in the Anonymous City. The combination of key informant interviews and surveys were able to highlight that Proposition 47 has created unintended consequences after successfully reducing California State prison and jail populations. The passing of Proposition 47 has created a revolving door for offenders to cycle through the system under the reduction of felony crimes to misdemeanors. Anonymous PD workload has increased with reclassification of offenses of Proposition 47. The Anonymous Police Department has seen an increase in property crimes, homelessness, drug offenders, and mental crisis interventions. The Anonymous community feedback suggests they were not fully aware of underlying details of Proposition 47 at the time the initiative was presented to voters. Results from the survey data shows the community from the Anonymous city are aware of the increased property crimes in the area.

A benefit to the anonymous police department, after the passage of this proposition, was that the Anonymous City was able to create a Social Service Unit, to assist police officers in the field with homeless welfare and mental crisis incidents. The researcher fully understands the Anonymous Police Department had to change strategies on how work is conducted to after the passage of Proposition 47. Specifically arrests have decreased under the classifications and cite and releases have increased. The Anonymous Northern California Police Department is doing a good job working with the community and building relations. The community relations also extend to educating the public in taking proper safety precautions to protect themselves, families, and homes. In summary, Hypothesis (1) the passing of Proposition 47 has caused an increase in property crime rates in the City of Anonymous was supported by data collection, Hypothesis (2)

Proposition 47 tends to make law enforcement initiate less contact with misdemeanor crimes- came back inconclusive to support the hypothesis concluding with mixed results, Hypothesis (3) Proposition 47 has created unintended consequences after successfully reducing jail prison populations was supported by data collection. The next section details researcher recommendations to assist the local Anonymous Police Department, Anonymous city, other agencies, and future research on Proposition 47.

Recommendations:

1. By December 31, 2019, a study of a group of Proposition 47 individuals for a time period of a year by the Anonymous PD to gain better understanding of the need for increased services in the areas criminal justice and health service resources. Data can be used to assist other cities to improve offender services such as drug treatment programs, mental health counseling, and homeless assistance.
2. Law Enforcement Metrics in the Anonymous PD need to be created to measure the number of in the field cite and releases. No metrics were available at the time of collecting data on crimes and property crimes in the City of Anonymous. The researcher recommends the Crime Analyst creates a program by 2019 to implement. The data will collect information on reoffenders, type of offenders, and cite and release statistics.
3. Long Term Revisions under the initiative Proposition 47 – Proposition 47 has created unintended consequences that to do benefit the community of Anonymous. Future study on multiple cities may conclude the same findings. The raw data collection, interviews, and surveys shows the need for Proposition 47 initiative revisions. The classification of crimes under Proposition need to be revised or create an accountability

for the number of cite and releases. For example if an offender gets 3 cite and releases, the offender will be charged with a felony.

In the process of data collection the researcher learned that misdemeanor crimes do not require DNA collection. Only felony offenders require DNA collection. A major revision to Proposition 47 would be the mandate collection of DNA for all offenders, not just felony offenders. No changes made to Proposition 47 will continue to lead to increased law enforcement and community setbacks. The state should look to make revisions to Proposition 47 by 2021. The time frame provides sufficient time for further study. The object of the revision is to ultimately decrease workload for law enforcement, increase safety for law enforcement, and increase overall public safety in the State of California.

Further Study: Not a lot study has been conducted on Proposition 47 and the unintended consequences. Further study and data collection is needed on other California cities to determine the effectiveness of Proposition 47. The Further study is needed to create credible estimates of total cost savings from Proposition 47 showing how the money is allocated to different programs. Further study needs to be conducted on the correlation with drug offenders and property crimes. A major theme in the research was drug reoffenders committing property crimes to buy drugs.

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Appendix A

Anonymous PD Leadership Interview

1. What significant field operation protocols have changed in your department since the passing of Proposition 47?
2. What strategies or standard operating procedures have you had to change since the passing of Proposition 47?
3. What issues has Anonymous PD encountered based on the passage Proposition 47?
4. What types of resources have you increased due to the passage of Proposition 47?
5. What, if any, have been a positive outcomes of Proposition 47?
6. What, if any, have been a negative outcomes of Proposition 47?
7. What changes to Anonymous PD's policy to initiate contact have changed since the passage of Proposition 47?
8. Based on your knowledge of criminal activity statistics in the past four years, what are your thoughts regarding intended or unintended effects of Proposition 47 on property crimes in the City of Anonymous?

Appendix B

Peace Officer Survey

1. Since the passing of Proposition 47 in Nov. 2014, have you been assigned to patrol field operations where and responded to property crimes as part of your daily patrol?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

2. The classification of non-serious, nonviolent crimes as misdemeanors instead of felonies under Proposition 47 has made you less likely to initiate contact for misdemeanor crimes?
 - a. Strongly disagree
 - b. Disagree
 - c. Slightly disagree
 - d. Slightly agree
 - e. Agree
 - f. Strongly agree

3. Standard operating procedures regarding former felony crimes have changed since the passing of Proposition 47?
 - a. Disagree
 - b. Slightly Disagree
 - c. Neither Agree nor Disagree
 - d. Agree
 - e. Strongly Agree

4. Proposition 47 had led to increased property crime?

- a. Strongly disagree
- b. Disagree
- c. Slightly disagree
- d. Slightly agree
- e. Agree
- f. Strongly agree

5. Proposition 47 enables repeat offenders to commit misdemeanor crimes with minor consequences.

- a. Strongly disagree
- b. Disagree
- c. Slightly disagree
- d. Slightly agree
- e. Agree
- f. Strongly agree

6. Based on your experience in the field, offenders more likely to commit property crimes in which area:

- a. Residential
- b. Commercial
- c. Rural

7. In general drug users commit property crimes to buy drugs.

- a. Strongly disagree
- b. Disagree
- c. Slightly disagree

- d. Slightly agree
- e. Agree
- f. Strongly agree

8. Proposition 47 has created a safer community?

- a. Strongly disagree
- b. Disagree
- c. Slightly disagree
- d. Slightly agree
- e. Agree
- f. Strongly agree

9. In what ways, if an, have you seen Proposition 47 benefit the community?

10. In what ways, if any, have you seen Proposition 47 not benefit the community?

Appendix C

1. The community of Roseville is a safer place to live and work because of Proposition 47?

- a. Strongly disagree
- b. Disagree
- c. Slightly disagree
- d. Slightly agree
- e. Agree
- f. Strongly agree

2. Have you been a victim of a property crime since the passage of Proposition 47 in 2014?

- a. Yes
- b. No

3. Property crimes have _____ in your neighborhood?

- a. Increased
- b. Decreased
- c. Unsure

4. Proposition 47 working as intended to reduce crime?

- a. Strongly disagree
- b. Disagree
- c. Slightly disagree
- d. Slightly agree
- e. Agree
- f. Strongly agree

5. In what ways have you been affected by Proposition 47?