



Research on the Implications of Financial Sanctions for Justice Policy

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Message from the Guest Editors

As many countries move to limit or reduce the size of prison populations or to develop more adaptable punishment policies, noncustodial sanctions have taken a more prominent role in punishment policy. As a result, financial sanctions, including fines and restitution, are more prevalent now than ever before. In some cases, though such sanctions may serve as a viable alternative to more overtly punitive sanctions such as incarceration, emerging research has shown that they may also increase disparities based on wealth or socioeconomic status. Other financial penalties such as supervision fees are used to generate revenue or to offset the costs of administering the justice system. Finally, there is a high degree of variability in how and why financial sanctions are levied, both within and between local- and national-level jurisdictions. In this issue, we seek to explore new empirical research related to these issues, with an emphasis on better understanding the justice, social, and economic impacts on people, places, and communities.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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