**Criminal Justice System Reflection Paper**

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**Question 1**

In the United States, Racial disparities within the criminal justice system are rooted in the long history of subjugation and biased decision-making processes that have intentionally targeted the black community and helped establish a bad depiction of crime that deviously relates them with criminality. Moreover, since the criminal justice system that was established following the Civil War to reapply force and control over black people is operational today, incarceration remains to be utilized as a weapon or deterrent to control African Americans and other people of color in means that are not applied to the white community. However, racial disparities in the criminal justice system are apparent in the over-policing of African Americans, in the crack-cocaine verdict discrepancy, in the unequal criminal fines and charges levied on African American defendants, including imbalanced bail or bond system that depends on payment to uphold one’s freedom (Kovera, 2019).

**Question 2**

Community perspectives regarding law enforcement are shifting. As such, law enforcement officers are encountering more challenges in their communities because of the growth of multiculturalism. Further appropriate training is needed for officers to effectively relate with diverse community members and escalate issues within the community (Todak et al., 2018). The multicultural population has triggered societal changes, thus increasing the need for training law enforcement officers in soft skill capabilities. Training in interpersonal communication and critical thinking skills allows officers to improve their decision-making abilities.

**Question 3**

In contemporary society, more significance is placed on diversity, inclusion, and equity, including within the law enforcement agencies. According to Todak et al. (2018), having more accountability and transparency in community policing influences the police-community relationship and can assist in minimizing recidivism and mitigating criminal activities. Moreover, when debated, diversity, inclusion, and equity are not equally exclusive as they are integral to better policing. Diversity concentrates on perspectives and representations, inclusion fosters an atmosphere conducive to response openness, and equity advocates to fir treatment counting impartiality of opportunity. Therefore, establishing equity proves that law enforcement agencies that value diversity and inclusion, thus improving the relationship of mutual trust between the police and the community.

**Question 4**

Almost half of the minority groups have scanty or no confidence that law enforcement officers within their communities treat individuals with diverse skin color equally. As such, they perceive that the police-citizen relationship does not bring much change but more damage to their livelihoods. Moreover, over the last several years, the police-citizen trust amongst the minority communities has eroded since police-linked killings of people of color; for instance, the brutal killing of George Floyd has triggered countrywide attention sparking pain, mistrust, and outrage. Besides, the minority perceives that law enforcement officers' excessive force mainly agitates the issue and creates a broader gap between the minority citizens and the law enforcement officers. Therefore, in the eyes of the minority citizens, police are not protectors but killing agents, a notion that has intensified their fears not only regarding crimes within their communities but from the law enforcement officers too.

**Question 5**

Various ways can be ensured to improve police-citizen interactions. First, law enforcement leaders should support the practice changes of the agency to support relations. They must support the agencies’ relationship with citizens by developing policies that outline community predicaments and establish appropriate solutions to foster significant results. Moreover, law enforcement leaders must support the prosecutors’ agencies in implementing rules knowledgeable by citizens' concerns about criminality. Besides, to understand these concerns, the prosecutors must operate within communities and encourage open discourse on the best approaches to serve the community. Therefore, to successfully enact these guidelines, Law Enforcement Leaders recommend local, state, and federal agencies provide adequate training to prosecutors and officers in practical justice and police officer's legitimacy and sincerity to further successfully interact with citizens (Todak et al., 2018).

**Question 6**

Domestic terrorism entails violence towards citizens or the infrastructure of country-regularly but not constantly the citizens of that country and regularly coerces, influence, or intimidate national policy in the US (Graham, 2021). White supremacist has utilized such racial profiling terms throughout diverse times in the history of the US to intimidate others when there are issues of economic interests or national security. Lastly, the prevalence of guns, including assault and automatic rifles, has intensified this issue. White supremacists like the ku Klux klan have taken advantage of various situations, for instance, Black Lives Matter demonstrations to target African Americans, Jews, Latinos, and Muslims (Graham, 2021). However, the authorities have covered many of these instances when committed by whites, unlike other people of color. For instance, there are many cases of mass shootings by white people that have not been dealt with the weight that they deserve.

References

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