



Studies in the News

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

Implementing Juvenile Justice Reform: The Federal Role. National Academies Press. 2014. 123 p.

http://www.nap.edu/download.php?record_id=18753#

[Free registration required]

"In the past decade, a number of state, local, and tribal jurisdictions have taken significant steps to improve their juvenile justice systems.... These changes reflect heightening awareness of the ineffectiveness of punitive practices and accumulating knowledge about the implications of adolescent

development for reforming the juvenile justice system.... This report identifies seven hallmarks of a developmental approach to juvenile justice. [It] puts into practice what we know from research on adolescent development and on the effectiveness of juvenile justice interventions.”

CULTURE & DEMOGRAPHY

Coresident Grandparents and Their Grandchildren: 2012. By Renee R. Ellis, et al. U.S. Census Bureau. Oct. 2014. 35 p.

<http://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2014/demo/p20-576.pdf>

“About 3% of all households contain both grandparents and grandchildren. More than 60% of these households were maintained by a grandparent. About 2.7 million grandparents were ‘grandparent caregivers’ (those who had primary responsibility for grandchildren under 18 years living with them).... Grandparents who live with grandchildren are younger, less educated, and more likely to be divorced or widowed than grandparents who do not live with a grandchild. Coresident grandparents are also more likely to be in poverty and more likely to be unable to work due to illness or disability compared with grandparents who did not live with grandchildren.”

ECONOMY

Does Enforcement of Employee Noncompete Agreements Impede the Development of Industry Clusters? By David A. Price. Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. Nov. 2014. 7 p.

http://www.richmondfed.org/publications/research/economic_brief/2014/eb_14-11.cfm

“Employee noncompete agreements are widespread in technology companies. Policies regarding the enforcement of these agreements vary among states. However, the rise of the technology industry cluster in Silicon Valley and the car industry cluster in the Detroit region occurred during periods when California and Michigan courts did not enforce noncompete agreements.” This brief provides a literature review of the effects of state policies on noncompete agreements. It provides a brief overview of the similarities and growth patterns of the two clusters. With Michigan now enforcing such agreements since 1985, the brief also notes the effect on the decline in spinoff formation, which traditionally has been more successful than other startups and beneficial to the region’s economic viability.

EDUCATION

Sexual Violence at Institutions of Higher Education. By Gail McCallion, et al. Congressional Research Service. R-43764. Oct. 23, 2014. 30 p.

<http://fas.org/sqp/crs/misc/R43764.pdf>

“In recent years, a number of high-profile incidents of sexual violence at institutions of higher education (IHEs) have heightened congressional and administration scrutiny of the policies and procedures that IHEs currently have in place.... However, reported data on the extent of sexual violence at IHEs varies considerably across studies for a variety of methodological and other reasons. Victims of sexual violence may suffer from a range of physical and mental health conditions including injuries, pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, suicidality, and substance abuse.” The study reviews the Clery Act and Title IX and discusses federal efforts to improve these existing laws as they relate to campus sexual violence.

EMPLOYMENT

Understanding the Organization, Operation, and Victimization Process of Labor Trafficking in the United States. By Colleen Owens, et al. Urban Institute. Oct. 2014. 307 p.

<http://www.urban.org/publications/413249.html>

“This study chronicles the experiences of labor trafficking victims from the point of recruitment for work, their forced labor victimization, their attempts to escape and get help, and their efforts to seek justice through civil or criminal cases. The report finds that legal loopholes and lax enforcement enable labor traffickers to commit crimes against workers in major US industries: agriculture, domestic work, hotels, restaurants, and construction. Interview and case file data detail the ubiquity of trafficking, which occurs both in plain sight and behind lock and key. Detailed recommendations propose next steps for policy and practice.”

ENERGY

Environmental and Economic Benefits of Building Solar in California: Quality Careers—Cleaner Lives. By Peter Phillips. UC Berkeley Institute for Research on Labor and Employment. Nov. 10, 2014. 52 p.

<http://irle.berkeley.edu/vial/publications/building-solar-ca14.pdf>

“This report examines the current and potential emissions averted by newly-constructed utility-scale solar farms in California. It calculates the new construction, maintenance and operations jobs created by these recent projects.... The report estimates the income, health-insurance and pension benefits of utility-scale solar farm construction and subsequent plant operation and maintenance jobs, calculates the training investments ... estimates the impact of training on lifetime earnings of new workers, and presents case studies of four new apprentice workers employed on these projects. Finally, the report ... recommends four key policy actions to continue building on California’s leadership in creating high-quality jobs while decarbonizing the energy sector. (*Press release*, Nov. 2014).

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

COST-IPTI Scorecard on State and International Property Tax Administrative Practices.

By Frederick Nicely, et al. Council on State Taxation. Sep. 2014. 59 p.

<http://www.cost.org/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=88125>

The purpose of this scorecard is to provide tax policymakers an international perspective on the “best practices and a comparative measure of the fairness and efficiency of their property tax administrative practices.” It evaluates “multiple criteria in three primary subject areas:” (1) Transparency; (2) Simplicity & Consistency; and (3) Procedural Fairness. California’s overall grade is a C. The state scored a B in Transparency, a C in Simplicity & Consistency, and a D in Procedural Fairness. This grade ranks California among states such as Arkansas, Arizona, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, and Mississippi, in which Procedural Fairness (appeals or arbitration processes) appears to be a common area of concern.

HEALTH

“Vital Signs: Cervical Cancer Incidence, Mortality, and Screening—United States, 2007-2012.”
By Vicki B. Benard, et al. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, vol. 63, no. 44 (Nov. 7, 2014) pp. 1004-1009.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/wk/mm6344.pdf>

“Cervical cancer screening is one of the greatest cancer prevention achievements, yet some women still develop or die from this disease.... In 2012, the percentage of women who had not been screened for cervical cancer in the past 5 years was estimated to be 11.4%; the percentage was larger for women without health insurance (23.1%) and for those without a regular health care provider (25.5%). From 2007 to 2011, the cervical cancer incidence rate decreased by 1.9% per year while the death rate remained stable.” This report recommends that health policies focus on reaching certain subcategories of women who may be at risk due to their lower levels of screening for cervical cancer.

HUMAN SERVICES

Creating Opportunity for Families: A Two-Generation Approach. The Annie E. Casey Foundation. Nov. 2014. 20 p.

<http://www.aecf.org/resources/creating-opportunity-for-families/>

Some of the federal and state programs “designed to help low-income families overcome their daily challenges operate in isolation from one another. These programs, which include child care assistance and job training, among others, tend to focus on either children or parents—but generally not both.” This study details the three key components of this two-generation strategy: “1) Provide parents with multiple pathways to get family-supporting jobs and achieve financial stability; 2) Ensure access to high-quality early childhood education and enriching elementary school experiences; and 3) Equip parents to better support their children socially and emotionally and to advocate for their kids' education.”

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

The U.S. Health Workforce: State Profiles. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Aug. 2014.

<http://bhw.hrsa.gov/healthworkforce/supplydemand/usworkforce/stateprofiles/index.html>

This site provides “data on 35 types of health workers—from physicians, nurses, and dentists to counselors, physical therapists, laboratory technicians, nursing assistants, and others. They are companion documents to the U.S. Health Workforce Chartbook and were developed to make data on the U.S. health workforce more readily available to diverse users.” There are nearly 250,000 registered nurses in California and approximately 95,000 physicians.

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

Mapping Freight: The Highly Concentrated Nature of Goods Trade in the United States. By Adie Tomer, et al. The Brookings Institution. Nov. 4, 2014. 38 p.

http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Research/Files/Reports/2014/11/freight%20networks/Srvy_GCI_Freight_Networks_Oct24.pdf

“The United States is the world’s largest economy, as well as its preeminent trading power. Each year the country exports and imports over \$3 trillion worth of international goods, while the domestic market

encompasses an astonishing \$17 trillion in goods trade between regions—amounting to a combined \$20 trillion.... Just 10% of the country's trade corridors move 79% of all goods, the most valuable of which are concentrated in the country's 100 largest metropolitan areas. The vast majority of the nation's goods trade tends to be highly concentrated in corridors between the largest metropolitan areas. For example, New York and Philadelphia (\$55.9 billion), Los Angeles and Riverside (\$51.0 billion), and San Francisco and San Jose (\$29.8 billion) are among the single largest corridors within the national network."

VETERANS

***Employment Status and Occupations of Gulf War-Era Veterans.* By Kelly Holder. U.S. Census Bureau. Nov. 2014. 13 p.**

<http://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2014/acs/acsbr13-22.pdf>

"Gulf War-era veterans who served since 1990 are the most recent cohort of wartime veterans and make up about 35% of the current working-age veteran population.... They are also a large and growing segment of the veteran population, making them ... of particular interest, but about which minimal economic research has been done." Census data finds that "Overall, a higher percentage of all working-age Gulf War-era veterans were employed in 2011–2013, compared with working-age non-veterans. Gulf War-era veterans, both men and women, were more likely to work full-time, year-round than their nonveteran counterparts."

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