A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The broad spectrum of the interdisciplinary field of criminal justice is well demonstrated in this issue of the Southern Journal of Criminal Justice, which includes articles about police, judicial services, comparative juvenile law, and criminal justice education, as well as reviews of books concerning criminal justice planning, victimology, criminology, and judicial processes.

Brown's research provides further evidence that there may indeed be a relationship between a high level of certainty of punishment and a low level of crime in a community, although he warns this finding "should be viewed cautiously and in the context of theory development rather than policy research."

Osterhoff, McCreedy and Barker reinterpret an earlier Southern Journal article on police cynicism and anxiety which had concluded that less experienced law enforcement officers are more anxious and cynical than veteran officers. Osterhoff et al suggest that conclusion was not consistent with the data presented in the earlier article; and they suggest that the broad question of police job satisfaction and role perception is so complex that new methodological approaches and a reconsideration of significant variables might be in order.

Adams reports that while education has not yet arrived as an essential element of law enforcement "professionalism," such a concept is emerging, and among law enforcement officers seeking higher education, criminal justice curricula are "overwhelmingly" preferred over other disciplines.

Giacopassi and Sparger retrospectively examine the 1978 Memphis police strike to try to determine the long-term effects the action may have on the Memphis Police Department and the police union.

Lee-jan Jan provides a descriptive analysis of juvenile law in Taiwan and examines some significant differences and similarities in the treatment of youth in

Taiwan and the United States.

Finally, Mabry's analysis of judicial costs concludes that state and local judicial services are provided at constant unit cost and thus "after accounting for wage rate differentials, variations in per capita expenditures across states for judicial services are due to differences in demand."

These authors deserve special commendation, as their manuscripts received especially high ratings from a group of very critical reviewers. Some appear only after a great deal of additional research and rewriting and thus represent a tenacity indicative of true scholarship.

Gene Stephens