

## Gender and Ethnic Bias in Sentencing – a Study using Brazilian Microdata

---

### ✚ Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) 'Pathfinder' project

- Brian Francis (Lancaster University, UK)
- Ignacio Cano (UERJ)
- Les Humphreys (Lancaster University, UK)
- Eduardo Ribeiro (UERJ)

### ✚ Optimising the value of Brazilian microdata

### ✚ Building networks between UK and Brazilian researchers

### ✚ Training and capacity building

- Deliver a course for quantitative Brazilian criminologists

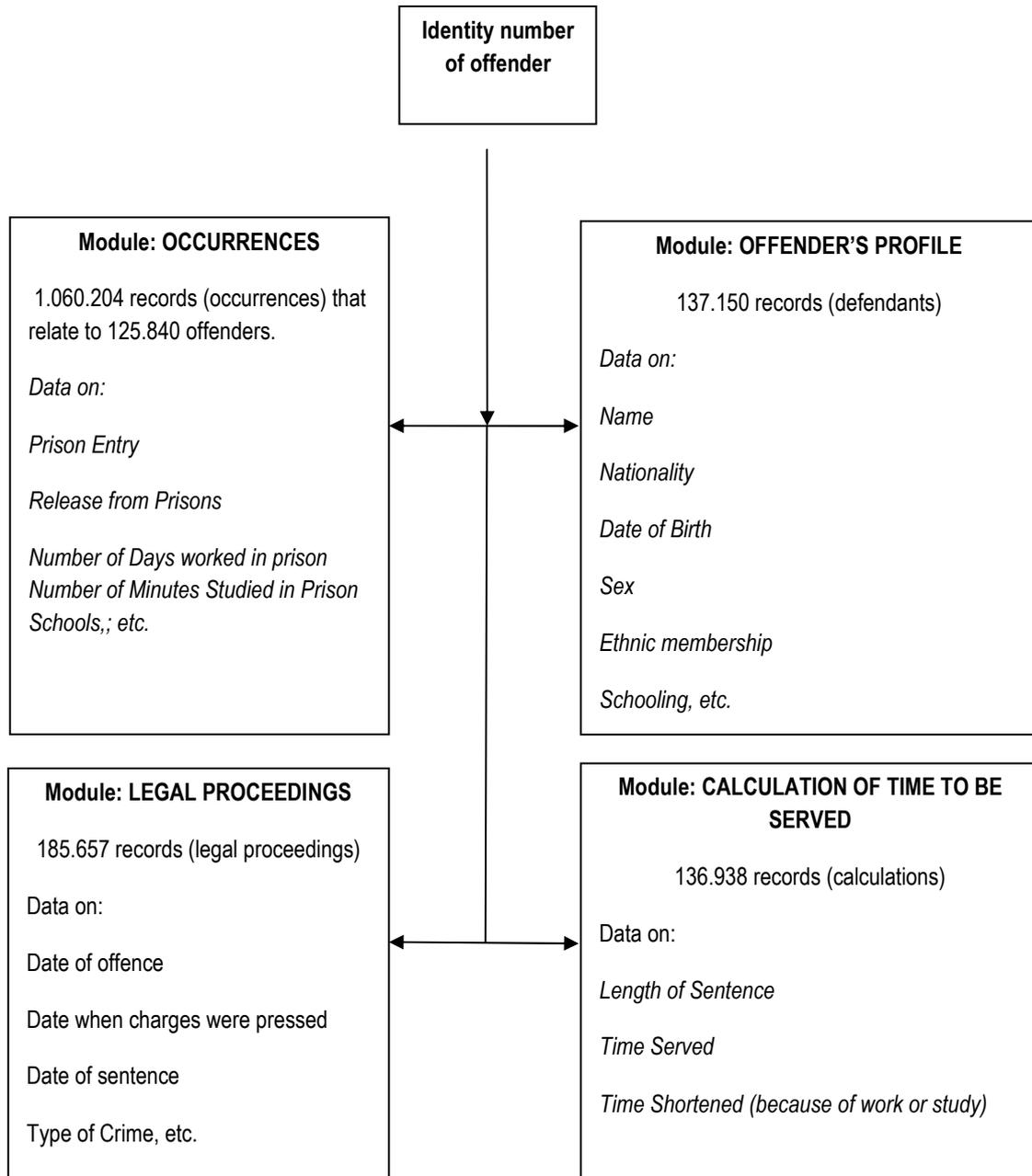
## Substantive Work – Outline

---

- ✚ Measure racial and gender bias in custodial sentence length
  - Focus on state of Rio de Janeiro
  - Previous work in Brazil suffers from methodological inadequacies
- ✚ Measure differences that exist between these groups in terms of attitudes to sentencing fairness
- ✚ This will provide valuable insights into the relationship between treatment by the Criminal Justice System and attitudes to it

## Substantive Work – Data

### 🚧 Sentencing data:



## Substantive Work – Data

---

✚ Attitudinal data:

- ILANUD Victimization Survey (United Nations Latin American Institute for Crime Prevention and Delinquent Treatment)

## Substantive Work – Methodological Challenges

---

### ✚ Understanding the data banks

- We have no documentation! It is not always easy to understand what the variables in the banks mean

### ✚ Linking data banks

- Some of the information relating to an offence can vary between one bank and another

### ✚ Careful statistical modelling

- Multi-level models to allow modelling of within and between-individual variation
- Controlling for a wide range of important factors – E.g. type of crime; previous criminal history

✚ By meeting these challenges this work will provide a blueprint for further research in this field