

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

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

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Optimising the value of Brazilian microdata

Building networks between UK and Brazilian researchers

Training and capacity building

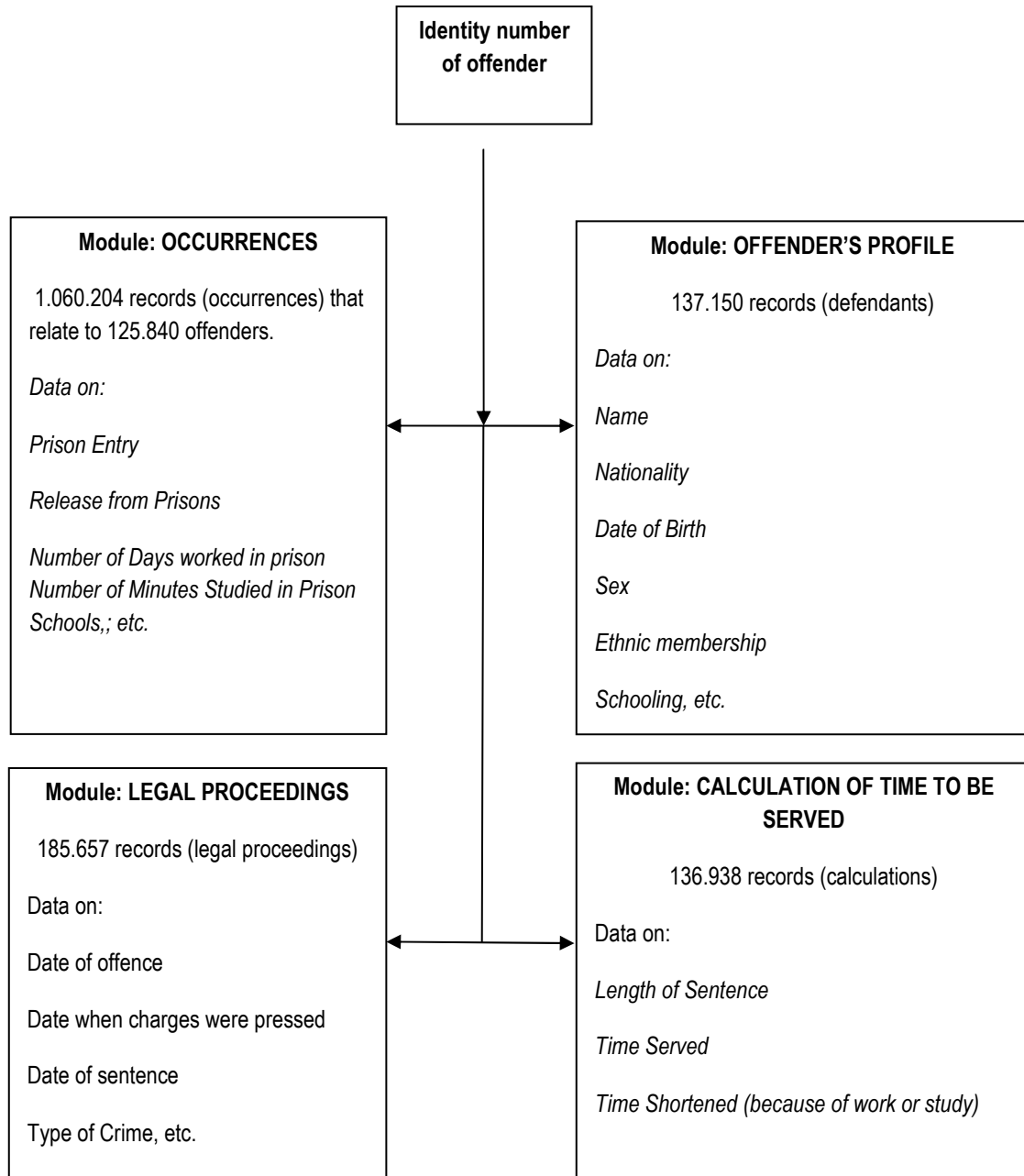
- Deliver a course for quantitative Brazilian criminologists

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