

What Victimology Studies

Criminal Justice

Who is harmed by crime, what follows from it, and how systems respond.

Victimology studies patterns of harm, the needs that follow, and the response of institutions.

THREE STRANDS

Patterns · needs · system response

DATA SOURCES

Surveys, service records, case files

- Emerged as a distinct field from the 1940s
- Early victim precipitation work was heavily criticised
- Now covers harm, support and system response
- Victims are not a single homogeneous group
- Many victims are also offenders at other times

LOOK FOR IT

The victim-offender overlap is among the most consistent findings in the field.

Educational reference. Early victim precipitation research is now widely criticised for shifting responsibility onto victims.