



Contemporary Developments in Attitudes and Interactions with Victims of Crime

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Message from the Guest Editors

Victims of crime are subjected to traumatic ordeals that can have long-lasting impacts on their health and wellbeing. These experiences will also create further difficulties for victims to give evidence and seek appropriate help. It is therefore imperative for professionals interacting with victims (e.g., police, healthcare professionals, support workers, jurors) to approach these interactions professionally and ethically. However, research continues to demonstrate that many professionals, as well as society in general, will approach cases unempathetically and problematically, drawing on cognitive biases or inaccurate pre-conceived beliefs. Research has come a long way in helping to identify and dispel problematic victim attitudes, as well as informing best practise for those working with crime victims (e.g., trauma-informed support). Despite this surge in empirical enquiry, the problem with negative victim attitudes persists. The following Special Issue calls for contemporary explorations into the treatment and perception of crime victims.

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