**Criminology Comprehensive Exam POLICY**

**Doctoral Program in Criminology**

**School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences**

**University of Texas at Dallas**

**November 2021**

**Instructions**

You have six (6) hours to complete the Policy portion of the comprehensive exam.

Your answers will be evaluated on their organization, coherence, clarity, intellectual rigor, substantive validity, conceptual development, and application of relevant literature to the question at hand.

Answers must be emailed to scotch@utdallas.edu before 4:00pm today (11/6/2022).

We wish you success!

**POLICY QUESTIONS**

**Answer ONE of the following:**

Question 1

Identify a widely used strategy intended to prevent or reduce juvenile delinquency. Describe the components and requirements of the intervention and the extent to which it is guided by theory regarding what causes juvenile delinquency (no more than two pages for this part). Also, summarize evaluation research relating to its effectiveness and efforts to implement it in school, communities, and/or juvenile justice agencies. Based on all of these issues, critique whether or not this program “works” AND make suggestions for improving its research design, methodological issues, delivery methods, effectiveness, and usefulness to practitioners.

Question 2

At the core of any evidence-based policies and interventions is evidence from evaluations of pilot interventions or interventions that are similar and have been already implemented. Yet, there are many examples of policies/interventions that are evidence-based, such as Hawaii's Honest Opportunity Probation With Enforcement (HOPE) and Moving to Opportunity (MTO), that do not have the anticipated effects. They may have inconsequential effects or the effects are in the opposite direction. What factors, particularly methodological, may explain disparate findings between criminal justice policies and the evidence that it is based on? In your opinion, what is an example of a criminal justice policy that is most generalizable? In other words, what is a criminal justice policy that you think could be effectively applied elsewhere "as-is"? Support your answer with evidence.