

What We Know (and Don't Know) About Criminal Justice Policy

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I. Why Should We Care...

a. ...about crime and punishment?

b. ...about the economics?

i. Theory that works: Rational Choice Model of Crime

ii. Careful Empirics: correlation \neq causation

II. What We Know

a. Making something illegal doesn't eliminate it

b. Ban-the-Box Policies

c. Effects of sentences on recidivism

III. What We Don't Know

IV. Application: The First Step Act

a. Key Provisions

b. Analysis

V. Conclusion: What Can You Do?