

Abstract

The thesis named *The influence of training program structures on police brutality in the USA*, presents a content analysis of the textual training manuals that accompany both cadets and their instructors throughout the duration of training. The manuals represent the backbone of all training programs, encoding not only operational procedures, but also the ethical standards and moral values that police officers should adhere to in the performance of their duties. How these values are presented is a determining element in shaping an officer's perception of the police mission as well as his or her approach to the use of physical force as a tool for law enforcement. A neglectful interpretation of physical intervention in a crackdown on civilians has far-reaching implications for officers who, as a result, may resort to abuses of police authority and the perpetration of police violence. The main objective of this thesis is to demonstrate that there is a correlation between the content of training manuals designed for cadets in police academies and the rate of occurrence of police violence. The thesis devotes considerable space to the identification of the key factors behind the emergence of police violence, through the unification of current theoretical research on this issue. However, most space is devoted to the content of training manuals and the actual qualitative analysis of it. As a result, the thesis offers a compact overview of the relationship between police training and police violence.