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New Addition to the CVI Team

Our Mission

The mission of the Crime Victims' Institute is to:

- Conduct research to examine the impact of crime on victims of all ages in order to promote a better understanding of victimization
- Improve services to victims
- Assist victims of crime by giving them a voice
- Inform victim-related policymaking at the state and local levels

Graduate Research Assistant: Akiura Kelly began the master's program in the Department of Victim Studies at Sam Houston State University in the Fall of 2021. She received a B.S. in Victim Studies with a minor in Forensic Science in May of 2021 at SHSU. She also received an A.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies from Central Texas College in Killeen, TX in May of 2019. In addition to joining the CVI team, she works as a Residential Advocate at SAAFE House in Huntsville, TX. Her research interests are in family violence and the psychological impact resulting from participating in assistance programs.

New Research Coordinator

Dr. Breanna Boppre is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Victim Studies at Sam Houston State University. Previously, she was a faculty member in the School of Criminal Justice at Wichita State University. Recognized as an outstanding graduate, she earned her Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 2018. Dr. Boppre's research assesses how victimization and trauma lead to system-involvement. She critically examines the impacts of legal and carceral responses to victimization. Her research appears in numerous top peer-reviewed outlets including *Justice Quarterly*, *Criminal Justice and Behavior*, *Feminist Criminology*, the *International Journal of Offender Therapy and Comparative Criminology*, *Corrections: Policy, Practice, and Research*, and *Victims & Offenders*. Her early work received the American Society of Criminology Division on Women and Crime (DWC) graduate student paper award and she recently was recognized as the DWC New Scholar Award recipient.



Beyond her research, Dr. Boppre is an award-winning innovative educator. She has been recognized by the ASC Division of Victimology as 2021 Faculty Teacher of the Year and by ACJS with the 2022 Ken Peak Innovations in Teaching Award. She often engages students in service-learning projects to help the campus and local community. Dr. Boppre's service work is focused on mentorship, pedagogy, inclusivity, and community engagement. She is actively involved in several national organizations in leadership roles. She also delivers numerous trainings, workshops, and webinars using interactive and engaging presentation techniques to connect her scholarship to the public.

Since coming to SHSU in Fall of 2021, Dr. Boppre has helped organize campus events, cultivated new community partners, and started innovative research projects here in Texas. Dr. Boppre recently won an internal grant to examine the implications of COVID-19 for prison conditions and reentry in Texas.

Dr. Boppre is very excited to take on her new role as Research Coordinator for CVI.

Texas Victim Services Association Annual Symposium

On October 27th and 28th, 2022, in College Station, Texas, the Texas Victim Services Association (TVSA) will host their 2022 research symposium [1] titled From Theory to Practice: Victimization, Justice, and Healing. This two-day event provides an opportunity for researchers and practitioners to discuss trauma-informed and survivor-centered practices and responses in different settings and disciplines. Workshops are designed to inform victim advocates, law enforcement, members of the judicial process, and mental health service providers. These workshops include discussion on intimate partner homicides and domestic violence, burnout for victim service professionals, impacts of COVID-19 on victimization patterns, child exposure to domestic violence, survivor sex trafficking experiences and more!



[1] To register for the TVSA conference visit <https://www.txvsa.org/event-4830733>

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Events



In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Department of Victim Studies at Sam Houston State University, the CVI, and various student and community organizations will host community-engaging events to assist survivors. It is our hope that these events raise awareness for domestic violence victimization and the diversity in survivors. Join us Wednesday, October 19, 2022, from 2-3pm in the Criminal Justice Courtroom for an interactive panel -- Understanding Family Violence - in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month!

Look for upcoming publications, CVI Talks episodes, webinars, and fact sheets from the Crime Victims' Institute:

- Special Topics: Media Depictions of Black Women's Elevated Risk for Intimate Partner Violence by Dr. Miltonette O. Craig
- Victimization of Hispanic/ Latinx Populations Fact Sheet
- School Discipline and Victimization in Adulthood: An Examination of Mediating Mechanisms by Dr. Peter S. Lehmann, Dr. Andia M. Azimi, and Dr. John C. Navarro
- Types of Advocacy Fact Sheet
- Terrorism Victimization Fact Sheet
- Diversity Webinar
- Victim Services Career Panel

Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Board

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Support Services of Amarillo,
Inc.

Melissa Carter, Bryan
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Chief of Police, Argyle Police
Department

**Hillary England,
Pflugerville**
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Resources

- Texas Abuse Hotline (suspicions of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of children, adults with disabilities, or people 65+) <https://www.txabusehotline.org/Login/>
800-252-5400
- Texas Council on Family Violence <https://tcfv.org/survivor-resources/>
- Texas Association Against Sexual Assault <https://taasa.org/get-help/>
- National Domestic Violence Hotline 800-799-7233
- National Sexual Assault Hotline 800-656-4673
- National Human Trafficking Hotline 888-373-7888
- Aging and Disability Resource Center 855-937-2372
- Victim Connect Resource Center 855-484-2846
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 988

