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## Summer Research Projects

### 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

The Crime Victims' Institute (CVI) is excited to collaborate with a team of scholars to conduct research in various areas of victimization. All of the scholars come from various institutions, such as Sam Houston State University, Sacramento State University, and Cleveland State University.

Dr. Breanna Boppre, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Victim Studies at SHSU, will examine the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on families with incarcerated loved ones. She will also explore student survivors of crime.

Dr. Danielle Slakoff, an Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice at Sacramento State University, will examine media representation of victimization.

Dr. Miltonette Craig, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at SHSU, will examine defense-initiated victim outreach.

Dr. Mike Vaughn, Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at SHSU, and Ph.D. student Anne Wingert will examine mandated reporting and legality with respect to child maltreatment.

(cont.)

Dr. Eric Connolly, an Associate Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at SHSU, will explore violent victimization from adolescence to adulthood.

Dr. Meghan Novisky, an Associate Professor in the Department of Criminology Anthropology and Sociology at Cleveland State University, will examine prison violence and victimization.

## New CVI Advisory Council Appointments

On April 5, 2023, Governor Greg Abbott appointed new members to the CVI Advisory Council [1], including David Schwartz, a retired pharmacist and member of the Houston Area Pharmaceutical Association, Houston Promotional Products Association, Harris County District Attorney's Office Victim Advisory Panel, and Parents of Murdered Children, Inc. Additionally, the Governor appointed Representative Andrew Murr of Junction who serves as the chair for the House General Investigating Committee and serves on the House Committees on Corrections, Judiciary and Civil Jurisprudence and Redistricting. He previously served as Kimbe County Attorney and Kimble County Judge. Lastly, the Governor reappointed Hector Villareal (term expires January 2024), Abigail Brookshire, Libby Hamilton, Senator Joan Huffman, Emmitt Jackson, Jr., Brandi Reed, Erleigh Wiley, and Lee Ann Breading to the Council with terms set to expire in January 2025.



[1] For more information about the CVI Advisory Council appointments visit: <https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-appoints-10-to-texas-crime-victims-institute-advisory-council>



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

- *Legal Issues with Respect to Child Maltreatment* by Dr. Michael Vaughn and Anne Wingert
- *COVID and Impacts on Families with Incarcerated Loved Ones* by Dr. Breanna Boppre
- *Media Representation of Victimization* by Dr. Danielle Slakoff
- *Violent Victimization from Adolescence to Adulthood* by Dr. Eric Connolly

## Upcoming Events

37th Annual National Organization of  
Parents of Murdered Children  
Conference (Atlanta, GA)

July 20-23, 2023

National Organization for Victim  
Assistance--49th Annual Training  
Event (New Orleans, LA)

July 31-August 3, 2023

35th Annual Crimes Against Children  
Conference (Dallas, TX)

August 6-10, 2023

National Conference on Domestic  
Violence (Washington, D.C.)

October 22-25, 2023

# Crime Victims' Institute Advisory Board

**Rep. Andrew Murr, Junction**  
Texas State Representative  
District 53 & Chair of the Texas  
House General Investigating  
Committee

**Hector Villarreal, Alice**  
Assistant Professor of Criminal  
Justice & Interim Site Director,  
Coastal Bend College

**Libby Hamilton, Round Rock**  
Victim Liaison, Texas Board of  
Pardons and Paroles

**Senator Joan Huffman,  
Houston**  
State Senator for District 17  
& President Pro Tempore of  
the Texas Senate

**Hon. Lee Ann Breeding,  
Denton**  
District Judge, 462nd Judicial  
District Court

**Erleigh Wiley, Forney**  
Criminal District Attorney,  
Kaufman County

**Abigail Brookshire,  
Midlothian**  
Student, The University of  
Texas at Arlington

**Brandi Reed, Amarillo**  
Director of Education, Family  
Support Services of Amarillo,  
Inc.

**Chief Emmitt Jackson, Jr.,  
Argyle**  
Chief of Police, Argyle Police  
Department

**David E. Schwarz, Bellaire**  
Pharmacist

## Texas State University System Board of Regents

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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

