Korean Crime Victimization Survey
: 25 years of experience

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Introduction to the history of crime victimization survey in Korea over the past 25 years

Explanation of methodology and contents of the crime victimization survey which was redesigned in 2009

Review the problems faced by the crime victimization survey after redesign
1990, Publication of “Introduction to Victimization Survey”

- A groundwork to conduct a crime victimization survey
- Major contents
  1) the background and development of crime victimization survey in foreign countries
  2) its usefulness and limitations
History of crime victimization survey at KIC

- 1991, Crime Victimization Survey in Seoul
  - The first crime victimization survey in Korea
  - As a kind of pilot survey for nationwide survey
  - Telephone interview
HISTORY OF CRIME VICTIMIZATION SURVEY AT KIC

- **1994, 1st National Crime Victimization Survey**
  - The first nationwide survey

- **1994~2006, 1st~5th National Crime Victimization Survey**
  - Survey Interval: every 3 years
  - Using the same sampling design and questionnaire
  - Maintaining the same sample size (N = 2,000)
History of crime victimization survey at KIC

- **2001, Participation in the International Crime Victim Survey**
- **2002~2006, Discussion on methodological problems of the crime victimization survey in Korea**

  - Participants: KIC's former and present researchers who participated in the crime victimization survey
  - Purpose: Finding the methods to ensure the validity and reliability of the crime victimization survey
History of crime victimization survey at KIC

- 2008, Launching “the Committee for the Redesign of crime victimization survey”
  - 12 experts from inside and outside of KIC
  - Main focus of redesign
    - Redesigning sampling
    - Increasing sample size
    - Increasing the reporting of crime events
    - Obtaining more detailed information on crime events
History of crime victimization survey at KIC

- 2009, 1st Korean Crime Victimization Survey (official name of national approved statistics after redesign)
  - accredited as the national statistics by the National Statistical Office

- May, 2017, 5th Korean Crime Victimization Survey in progress
History of crime victimization survey at KIC

- 2009~present,
  - Periodical diagnosis on quality of statistics by National Statistical Office
  - Several research on the effects of redesign
  - Increasing the reporting of all crime types except sex related crime
Introduction to KCVS - sampling design

- **Target population**
  - Household and household members aged 14 and older in Korea at the point of survey

- **Sampling frame**
  - The Population and Housing Census (every 5 years)
  - Disadvantage: Risk of sampling frame error
  - Advantage: The most complete list of household in Korea
    Including many useful information needed for stratification
Introduction to KCVS - Sampling design

 muestra size

- Consideration to deciding sample size: the relative standard error, the monetary resource available for the survey, the survey period
- Sample size and budget by year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>household</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Budget (KRW)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>4,710</td>
<td>10,671</td>
<td>100,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>7,550</td>
<td>16,557</td>
<td>500,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>6,300</td>
<td>13,317</td>
<td>480,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>6,960</td>
<td>14,976</td>
<td>480,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction to KCVS - Sampling design

- **Sampling Method**
  - multistage sampling
  - Step
    - Dividing into 25 regions
    - Extracting enumeration districts (the first sampling unit) within each regions by using Probability Proportional to Size (PPS)
    - Extracting the 10 households (the second sampling unit) in the extracted enumeration district by using systematic sampling
Introduction to KCVS - sampling design

- **Observational unit**
  - households
  - all household members aged 14 and older within the extracted households

- **Multiple interview per household**
  - Advantage: Possibility to increase the reporting of crime events
  - Disadvantage: The risk that multiple family members will report the same incident in duplicate
  - Comparing various information to assess whether the experiences reported by different household members are a single incident
Introduction to KCVS - sampling design

- **Frequency of enumeration**
  - every two years

- **Length of reference period for victimization**
  - the last 12 months

- **Definition of reference period for victimization**
  - ‘the last calendar year’ (example: January 1~December 31, 2016)
Introduction to KCVS: Questionnaire design

✧ Separating into two questionnaire
  • crime victim screening questionnaire
  • incident questionnaire

✧ Crime screening questionnaire
  • Crime screening question
  • The socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents
  • Physical and social incivility, collective efficacy, police activities
  • Routine Activity and lifestyle of the respondents
  • Activities for crime prevention
  • The fear of crime and perception of crime problem
Introduction to KCVS: questionnaire design

- The incident questionnaire
  - Location and time of crime occurrence
  - A modus operandi
  - Characteristics of offender
  - Extent of material, physical, and psychological damage
  - Extent of time loss
  - Whether compensation was given by offender
  - Whether to report to the police and satisfaction with police processing
Introduction to KCVS: questionnaire design

- Crime victim screening question
  - Avoid legal terminology
  - Ask whether certain incidents happened to them
  - Provide wide range of clues: type of weapon, type of criminals, relationship of the victim and offender and crime location
  - Provide instructions: answer although they may not think it is a criminal act
Introduction to KCVS : questionnaire design

- **Rules for the creation of the incident questionnaire**
  - Principle: Completion the incident questionnaire as many times as respondent have experienced.
  - If the respondent has experienced more than 5 crime incidents, respondent makes only 5 incident questionnaires based on the 5 most severe cases.
  - If the respondent has experienced the same type of crime more than twice but cannot differentiate the incidents, respondent makes one incident questionnaire based on the most recent case.
Introduction to KCVS: questionnaire design

- **13 types of crime**
  - household targeted crimes: 
    - ① burglary, 
    - ② housebreaking robbery, 
    - ③ vandalism 
    - ④ housebreaking, 
    - ⑤ car related theft 
  - individual targeted crimes: 
    - ⑥ theft, 
    - ⑦ robbery, 
    - ⑧ injury, 
    - ⑨ violence, 
    - ⑩ rape, 
    - ⑪ indecent act by force, 
    - ⑫ threat, 
    - ⑬ fraud 

- **Deciding type of crime**
  - Deciding by the analyst 
  - In case of multiple crimes combined in one case: according to the hierarchy of severity
Introduction to KCVS: Data collection

- Face-to-face interview (in principle)
- Self-administrated interview (only respondent wants)
- Writing A para-data for every original and substituted sample by all interviewers
Introduction to KCVS: Dissemination and use of data

- **Publication of report**
  - Detailed explanation of methodology and procedure of the survey
  - Descriptive analysis of the survey data

- **Construction a DB system on crime victimization survey**

- **DB system open to public at Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics (CCJS), a crime statistics portal operated by KIC**

- **“National Crime Victimization Survey Conference” (every two years)**
  - To improve the academic and policy utilization of crime victimization survey
  - To improve data quality
KCVS challenges and improvement measures

- The needs to expand crime types
  - Continuous decreasing in street crime rate
  - Including a new crime type such as stalking, cyber crime
KC VS challenges and improvement measures

• **Methodological measures for costs reduction**
  • The costs of research continues to rise due to an increase in labor costs while the budget is fixed
  • A combination of face-to-face interview and online survey should be considered
KCVS challenges and improvement measures

- The needs to switch into panel survey method
  - Non-panel periodic survey
  - Limitation to measuring and analyzing repeat victimization
  - Switch into panel survey method
KCFS challenges and improvement measures

- The need to conduct various forms of victimization survey with special purposes
  - The need to consider the use of periodic supplementary surveys with special purposes, as well as an omnibus-type victimization survey to investigate all forms of crime victim as it is now
  - Commercial victim survey, Children and youth crime victimization survey
Thank you for your attention.