Risk and protective factors for entering organized crime groups
A systematic review

Ida Adamse,
Veroni Eichelsheim,
Arjan Blokland
Risk and protective factors

Entry mechanisms
Studies screened
N = 2,671

Studies excluded
N = 2,621

Studies included
N = 19

Studies uploaded in ASReview
N = 35,446*

Step 1 — Identification

Studies identified through search strategy
N = 45,189 → Deduplication → N = 35,353

Scopus
N = 6,796
N = 2,951

Web Of Science
N = 27,048
N = 27,005

Psychinfo
N = 4,547
N = 2,342

IBSS
N = 3,486
N = 1,642

Crim. Justice Abstracts
N = 3,312
N = 1,414

Step 2 — Input for ASReview + Screening

Studies screened
N = 2,671
N = 2,640

Studies included
N = 19

Studies excluded
N = 2,621

Input for ASReview

Studies uploaded in ASReview
N = 35,446*

Studies excluded
N = 2,879

Not screened
N = 32,538 (91.8%)

Studies included
N = 29

Step 3 — Reference check

Total included studies
N = 51

Step 4 — Review reference check

Studies identified by included studies in other reviews
N = 75

Additional included studies
N = 9

Already included studies
N = 13

Excluded studies
N = 49

Not in search-results
N = 7

In search-results
N = 8

Not in search-results
N = 5
Studies screened  
N = 2,671  
N = 2,640  
Studies excluded  
N = 2,621  
Studies included  
N = 19  
Studies uploaded in  
ASReview  
N = 35,446*  
Studies included  
N = 29  
Studies excluded  
N = 2,879  
Not screened  
N = 32,538 (91.8%)  

Step 1 – Identification  
Input for  
ASReview  

Step 2 – Input for ASReview +  
Screening  

Step 3 – Reference check  
Additional included studies  
N = 9  
In search-results  
N = 2  
Not in search-results  
N = 7  

Step 4 – Review reference check  
Studies Identified by included studies in other reviews  
N = 75  
Excluded studies  
N = 49  
Already included studies  
N = 13  
Additional included studies  
N = 13  
In search-results  
N = 8  
Not in search-results  
N = 5  
Total included studies  
N = 51
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entering mechanisms</th>
<th>Individual factors</th>
<th>Family factors</th>
<th>Peer group factors</th>
<th>School factors</th>
<th>Community factors</th>
<th>Potential other factors</th>
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<td>Active recruitment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Growing into</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soliciting for membership</td>
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<tr>
<td>Potential other mechanisms</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Figure 2

Distribution of average age of criminal onset and first OC-offense across studies

Criminal onset

First OC-offense
Active recruitment  Soliciting for membership  Growing into  Self set-up
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Active recruitment</th>
<th>Soliciting for membership</th>
<th>Growing into</th>
<th>Self set-up</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td><img src="image2" alt="Soliciting for membership icon" /></td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Growing into icon" /></td>
<td><img src="image4" alt="Self set-up icon" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Active recruitment

Soliciting for membership

Growing into

Self set-up
It will not suffice to create a general set of risk and protective factors for all OC offenders as a whole. Instead, it is important to consider that risk profiles vary across different subgroup (e.g. entry mechanisms, cultures).

Lists of risk and protective factors must only be seen as a guideline, not as a definitive checklist.

There is more than just active recruitment.
Questions?

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