Applying Procedural Justice In Criminal Justice

Name

Institutional Affiliation

In the year two thousand and fourteen, the acting president at the time, approved an executive order which saw the appointment of eleven members into the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing. Their main goal was to find the best practices and make approbations to the president in the spirit of how to build public trust and cut down or criminal activities. In three months the task force used its special mandate to engage one hundred and forty witnesses and analyze written testimonies based on the foundations of ensuring the safety and wellness of an officer, good policy and crime reduction within communities', the use of social media and technology, oversight and policy, good education and training and finally, capacity to build trust and create validity (Smoot, 2016).

The expectations of justice include fair trail and transparency. Under the pillar of trust-building and legitimacy, the expectations of society within criminal justice is that the law enforcement community should be able to adhere to and assimilate procedural just. Procedural just is defined as ensuring that human beings have a voice and having the ability to treat them with dignity and respect while being neutral and transparent when making decisions and declaring your motive. The importance of partnerships and accountability between the police agencies and the communities define the level of trust and legitimacy. This recommendation came with the proposal that the enforcement community should be trained in procedural justice.

The law enforcement agencies should also consider reconciling past injustices. The criminal justice system faces and discrimination and bias as there has been a rise in convictions of African-Americans. Within the framework of criminal justice, measures have to be placed to prevent undue arrests and undue indictments of citizens of colour without probable cause. The law enforcement community have the burden to ensure that credible investigations should be done before any charges are filed. The patterns of discrimination and injustice cannot be cut-off when such procedures are not implemented.

The ability to embrace transparency in the criminal justice system requires a total commitment of the law enforcement community to ensure high standards of accountability are met. These standards include a review of policies by the public. The importance of educating the public on procedural process of effecting summons, arrest warrants, search warrants, confidential information, and reporting crimes within their vicinity, will give the public law enforcement awareness and this will enable the public and the law enforcement communities to be accountable for their own actions. The simple ways of ensuring this is done are by having the criminal justice community publish data and reports for the society to be aware. The importance of data is to allow the readers to be well informed of issues in order the communities can take precaution or give attention to the areas that have been ignored.

The criminal court justice system should look to implement the recommendations for promoting the legitimacy of the system. The legislatures need to review the requirements of the police academies in light of the task force recommendations. It has been on numerous occasions that the criminal justice system has failed to hold the law enforcement accountable for excessive force cases. The courts have to ensure that the implementation of legitimacy recommendations will lead to the improvement of legal mechanisms that will protect the minority groups from discrimination and brutal violence.

In conclusion, the courts should look to improve the avenues of independent investigations and prosecution. The goal is to have an independent vie and hold the right parties accountable. Requiring the law enforcement agencies to uphold new legislation to legal searches, warrant and summons would ensure the public will have confidence in the justice system.

References

Smoot, S. M. (2016). *The President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing: Procedural Justice, Policing, and Public Health. Southern Illinois University Law Journal,* 40, 427-561.

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