

MODULE 4

Comparative Systems of Policing

**Focus Questions - What does policing look like in other parts of the world?
How does it compare to policing in Ontario?**

Overview

In this module, different international systems of policing are explored and compared to policing in Ontario. Students will consider a set of real-life scenarios and the range of possible reactions on the part of an officer – depending on the system of policing s/he belongs to. Students are then invited to determine how our system of policing compares to others around the world and encouraged to consider different possibilities for policing.

Learning Objectives

- To see that Ontario's approach to policing is only one of many around the world.
- To understand that there is no natural or universal system of policing and that each is chosen by a government or a society according to its needs, values and character.

ACTIVITY 1

Comparative Analysis of Different Systems of Policing

Materials

- Comparative policing handout (one per group)
- Computer lab space (optional)

Teaching and Learning Strategies

1. Ask students to reflect on whether or not they know about kinds of policing other than what exists in Ontario. Explain that policing is different around the world and that looking at other types of policing will help achieve a deeper understanding of policing in Ontario.

- If students don't know of other systems, ask them to consider what they have seen in movies, TV shows, etc. Are those kinds of policing similar or different to what we have in Ontario?
- If students do know of different kinds of policing, ask them to consider where they have seen this different kind of policing (e.g. living in another country or province, travelling, movies, etc.)

2. Divide students into five groups and assign

each group a system of policing from one of the following cities and time periods:

- People's Armed Police (PAP) - Beijing, China, 1980s
- Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) - Los Angeles, USA, 1990s
- Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) – London, UK, 2001
- State Military Police (SMP) - São Paulo, Brazil, 2006
- Dakota Ojibway Police Service (DOPS) – Manitoba, Canada, 2009

Provide the relevant handout to each group. Each handout includes a description of the police force, group activities, discussion questions and links to related resources. You may choose to book a computer lab to allow students to do additional research on their particular police force. Students should reflect on what interests each police force is balancing in order to carry out policing in their city and time period (e.g. victims' rights and increased violence vs. use of excessive force and brutality, anti-police sentiments vs. fairness, etc.)



Teacher's Key

Student answers will vary. Some possibilities include:

Policing System	Adjectives	Possible Newspaper Headlines
People's Armed Police (PAP) - Beijing, China, 1980s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerful • Authoritative • Vigilant • Protective • Tough on crime • Excessive • Brutal • Forceful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [February 17, 1985] China Backed by Giant Numbers: Shows off power with growing PAP force • [December 22, 1986] China Urges Students to End Protests • [January 3, 1987] China tells Police: Remain Vigilant • [May 14, 1987] Beijing Police Will not Tolerate Anti-Police or Anti-Government Actions • [November 1, 1987] Non-Existence of Domestic Violence: Police continually ignore instances of domestic violence, according to one refugee who has escaped from China • [March 13, 1988] Beijing Police Stick Firmly to Their Ideologies: Beijing's People's Armed Police most loyal to government • [March 13, 1988] Beijing Police Stick Firmly to Their Ideologies: Beijing's People's Armed Police most loyal to government • [February 19, 1989] Beijing Police Mobilized to Counter Growing Number of Student Protests

MODULE 4 - Comparative Systems of Policing

Activity 1: Comparative Analysis of Different Systems of Policing



Teacher's Key (cont'd)

Policing System	Adjectives	Possible Newspaper Headlines
People's Armed Police (PAP) - Beijing, China, 1980s (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Powerful • Authoritative • Vigilant • Protective • Tough on crime • Excessive • Brutal • Forceful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [March 22, 1989] China Uses Force to Stop Demonstrations: People's Liberation Army and People's Armed Police join together to stop protesters • [April 30, 1989] Students Push Through Police Lines but are Beaten by Beijing Police • [June 6, 1989] China Victorious Over Protesters: Bloody aftermath after army and police finally quell demonstrations in Tiananmen Square • [August 13, 1989] Police Crackdown on Those who Supported Protesters
Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) - Los Angeles, USA, 1990s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authoritative • Vigilant • Protective • Tough on crime • Excessive • Brutal • Forceful • Violent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Jan 10, 1990] LA Crime Rises by 8.2%: A department spokesman calls level of violent offences intolerable and promises for tougher police action on crime • [March 3, 1990] Police now Tougher on Crime – Victims Welcome Tougher Stance • [April 12, 1990] LAPD not Corrupt - just Brutal in their Mission to end Gang Violence • [October 1, 1990] Police to Reduce all Violence – including Violence Against women • [March 5, 1991] World Shocked at Brutal Police Beating of Rodney King • [March 12, 1991] Public Outcry at Police Brutality: Public calls for resignation of Police Chief and for prosecution of officers • [April 29, 1992] Public Outraged at Acquittal of Officers for Beating of Rodney King: Public take justice into their own hands by rioting • [April 30, 1992] All of LA Paralyzed by Widespread Violence and Rioting: Government claims LA is in a state of anarchy • [May 1, 1992] Anger Against the Police Only Rising but Police told to use as much force as necessary to quell violence and to restore order • [May 2, 1992] Army and Marines arrive to help restore order to LA • [June 26, 1993] Use of Force now a Gray Area for LAPD: Confusion over rules persists, altering performance of duties
Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) – London, UK, 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tough on crime • Forceful • Vigilant • Pro-victims' rights • Powerless (due to increasing numbers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [January 17, 2001] Problems with Police Recruitment: Low morale said to be one of the many problems facing the police • [February 3, 2001] Met Wants Special Courts for Violence in Home: Met claims that this will encourage more victims to come forward • [March 6, 2001] Met to Crackdown on Domestic Violence • [March 27, 2001] Crime Rates Increase but Police Powerless to Fight Crime: Another look at the low numbers in police recruitment • [April 2, 2001] Met says, We're Ready to be Tough for May Day Trouble

MODULE 4 - Comparative Systems of Policing**Activity 1: Comparative Analysis of Different Systems of Policing****Teacher's Key** (cont'd)

Policing System	Adjectives	Possible Newspaper Headlines
Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) – London, UK, 2001 (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tough on crime • Forceful • Vigilant • Pro-victims' rights • Powerless (due to increasing numbers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [April 11, 2001] Concern over Police Tactics to be Used on May Day: Police considering use of rubber bullets on protesters • [April 20, 2001] Blair Backs May Day Police: Says that there must be zero tolerance policy for violence and anarchy • [April 22, 2001] Police Raids Anarchists' Training Site to Prevent Repeat of May Day Riots • [May 1, 2001] Police Tactics Stop Anarchists From Taking Over City • [May 2, 2001] Outrage at Detention of Innocent Non-Violent Protesters • [May 3, 2001] Met may face Legal Action over May Day Tactics
State Military Police (SMP) - São Paulo, Brazil, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tough • Violent • Aggressive • Corrupt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [January 3, 2006] Increasing Gang Activity: SMP to crack down on gangs • [February 12, 2006] Domestic Violence Unnoticed as SMP Focuses all Attention on Crackdown of Gangs • [March 5, 2006] Police Accused of Accepting Bribes During Arrests: SMP denies this accusation despite accounts of civilian witnesses • [April 19, 2006] Government has no control over the SMP: No investigations conducted for police corruption • [April 26, 2006] Increasing phone calls at SMP stations for incidents of domestic violence: Police too busy with gang violence to respond • [May 12, 2006] Violence Erupts in São Paulo: Gangs Take Over Police and Bring Chaos to Streets of São Paulo • [May 13, 2006] Government Urges Police to Gain Control at all Costs • [May 14, 2006] Bloodied Brazilian police strike back at gangs: SMP vows not to back down after gang attacks • [May 17, 2006] Police Strike Back in São Paulo; More Than 30 Suspects Killed in Raids Aimed at Ending Wave of Gang Violence • [May 18, 2006] Government Accused of Giving Police License to Kill • [May 21, 2006] Police Forces Criticized over "Revenge" Killings in São Paulo
Dakota Ojibway Police Service (DOPS) Manitoba, Canada, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative • Culturally-sensitive • Pro-victims' rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [Jan 10, 2009] Native Police Force Competes with RCMP: Native communities prefer Native police force over RCMP • [Feb 13, 2009] Zero Tolerance Policy for Domestic Violence strictly enforced by DOPS • [March 1, 2009] Communities praise DOPS for sensitivity when dealing with Native young offenders • [March 23, 2009] DOPS need more officers: Government refusing request for expansion • [April 19, 2009] DOPS to tackle rise of domestic violence in Manitoba

MODULE 4 - Comparative Systems of Policing**Activity 1: Comparative Analysis of Different Systems of Policing****Teacher's Key** (cont'd)

Policing System	Adjectives	Possible Newspaper Headlines
Dakota Ojibway Police Service (DOPS) Manitoba, Canada, 2009 (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborative • Culturally-sensitive • Pro-victims' rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [May 22, 2009] DOPS seek input from communities to better improve policing of youth • [July 5, 2009] Communities approve of culturally sensitive approaches by DOPS: Collaboration over use of force • [August 3, 2009] Continued problems with numbers: DOPS seeking to expand but no funding from government • [October 18, 2009] Rising crime rates in south-western Manitoba: DOPS hoping to contribute but lacking in numbers • [December 3, 2009] DOPS officers encourage youths at crime prevention education sessions

3. Draw a cross-grid graph on the board labelled with the following points: Aggressive, Passive, Fair, Unfair. Invite each group to select the point on the graph where their assigned policing system fits. As each group comes up, ask a spokesperson to give a brief description of the policing system they were assigned and explain why they have placed the system on the graph in that spot. Students may choose to include some of the newspaper headlines in their descriptions.

4. Debrief by discussing the following:

- Are any of these types of policing similar to the policing that exists in Ontario? If yes, how are they similar? If not, what type of policing exists in Ontario?

PEOPLE'S ARMED POLICE (PAP) BEIJING, CHINA, 1980s



The People's Armed Police (PAP) Force of China was officially established in 1982. However, its origins can be traced back to the People's Liberation Army, which was made up of demobilized soldiers and loyal citizens and whose mandate was to quash any resistance to the government. The main responsibilities of the PAP are to preserve social order and to maintain public security. In order to do this, the PAP enforces the strict social and economic policies of China's government.

The structure of PAP is similar to that of the army, which makes it a paramilitary force rather than a civilian law enforcement agency (like we have in Ontario). The PAP governs the Beijing area of China and is currently estimated to have between 1.1 and 1.5 million officers deployed in its service - making it one of the largest police forces in the world.

Throughout the 1980s, the PAP was an important governmental force to control any resistance and to enforce social policies. This was particularly important during the late 1980s since there was a growing democratic movement of students and intellectuals who opposed China's totalitarian government and communist economy.

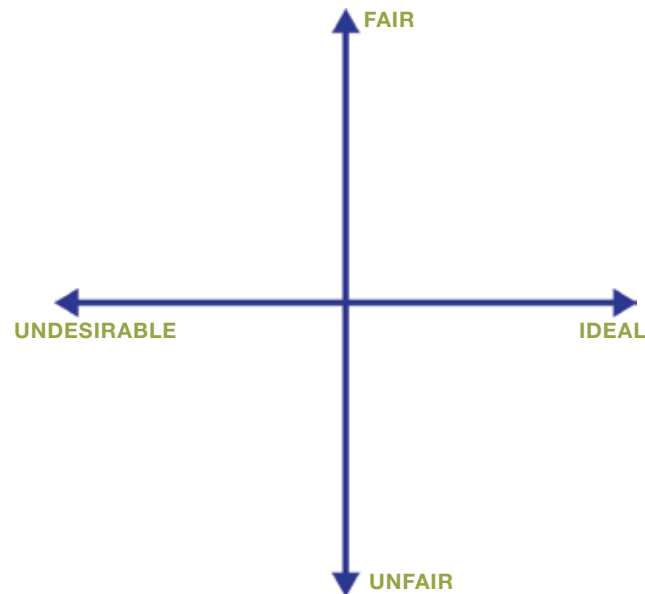
From April to June 1989, thousands of pro-democracy protesters made a series of demonstrations at Tiananmen Square, near the centre of Beijing. Over 100,000 people gathered to protest and millions of people all over China were also involved in calling for democratic reforms to the government.

During this time, there were many clashes between protesters and the PAP as the police attempted to retain the government's control over its people. On June 4, 1989, the government succeeded in retaining its control with the help of over 200,000 troops from the People's Liberation Army. This military response led to thousands of deaths (the exact number is unknown) of protesters and is internationally known as the Tiananmen Square Massacre.

After the protests ended, the Chinese government cracked down on any government resistance with the help of the PAP who conducted widespread arrests of protesters and their supporters.

MODULE 4 - Comparative Systems of Policing**ACTIVITY 1: Comparative Analysis of Different Systems of Policing****STUDENT HANDOUTS****PEOPLE'S ARMED POLICE (PAP) - BEIJING, CHINA, 1980s** (Cont'd)**Group Activities**

1. Make a list of 5-10 adjectives that describe the PAP during the late 1980s.
2. Label the graph with the adjectives, reflecting on how you would describe the PAP during the 1980s.



3. Create 5 possible newspaper headlines from the late 1980s that demonstrate how you would describe the PAP.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

Discussion Questions

- What were the underlying values in 1980s China that caused the PAP to act as they did?
- Whose rights were the PAP most concerned about protecting at that time?
- During the 1980s, how much control did the government have on the PAP?
- Throughout the 1980s, how much discretion did the PAP have in carrying out their policing duties?

Resources (for additional information):

<http://www.globalsecurity.org/intell/world/china/pap.htm>

<http://www.springerlink.com/content/5088701582025787/>

<http://www.sinodefence.com/army/organisation/pap-internal.asp>

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT (LAPD) – LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, USA, EARLY 1990s



The first Los Angeles Police Force was founded in 1853. Today, it is one of the largest law enforcement agencies in the United States. The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) operates in the city of Los Angeles, in the state of California. It is governed by the Los Angeles City Council and overseen by the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners. The nature of the LAPD is a law enforcement agency made up of local civilian police officers.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s, street gangs and gang-related violence swept the streets of Los Angeles. To crack down on the increase in gang violence, the LAPD introduced what was called “Operation Hammer” in 1987, which resulted in an unprecedented number of arrests - mostly of people from African-American and Hispanic backgrounds.



According to the LA Times¹, 1988 was a year of large-scale raids carried out by the LAPD. During one such raid, the LAPD caused massive property damage to apartment buildings – even going so far as spraying a graffiti message that read “LAPD rules”. The property damage was so great that the Red Cross had to offer assistance to 10 adults and 12 minors who had become homeless as a result of the LAPD’s actions. The LAPD claimed that this was the only way to deliver a message to gang members that there would be a price to pay for being in a gang. By 1990, over 50 000 people had been arrested in raids.



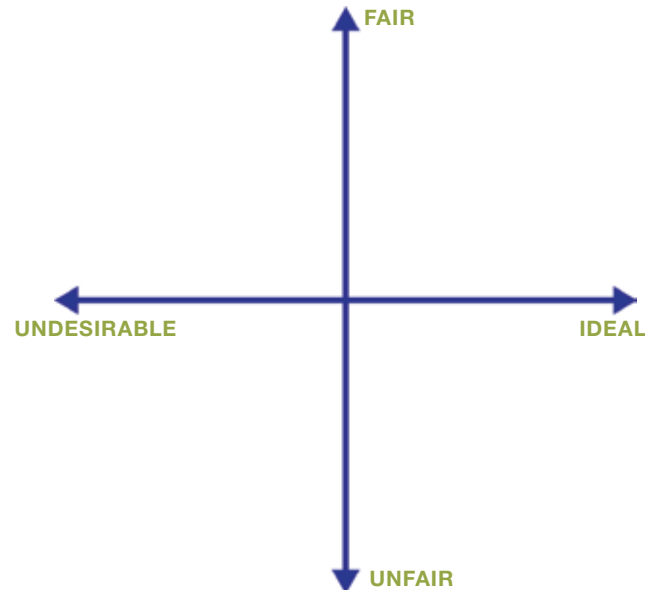
On March 3, 1991, four members of the LAPD apprehended Rodney King and two passengers in his vehicle. King had led the officers on a high-speed chase through residential neighbourhoods for fear of being caught in violation of his parole. However, once caught, King was tackled, tasered and heavily beaten with clubs. This beating of Rodney King by LAPD officers was captured on a neighbour’s camcorder and attracted worldwide attention by the media. There was an international outcry at this demonstration of police brutality.

The four officers were eventually charged with the use of excessive force, but were acquitted on April 29, 1992. This sparked what is known as the Los Angeles Riots, where thousands of people rioted and took anti-police actions to show their anger about the acquittal of the officers. Overall, 53 people died during the riots and over 2000 are estimated to have been injured. It took a deployment of US army soldiers and members of the United States Marines to take control of the situation and to stop the rioting.

¹See <http://www.mapinc.org/newscsd/v01/n450/a05.html>

MODULE 4 - Comparative Systems of Policing**ACTIVITY 1: Comparative Analysis of Different Systems of Policing****STUDENT HANDOUTS****LAPD – LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, USA, EARLY 1990s** (Cont'd)**Group Activities**

1. Make a list of 5-10 adjectives that describe the LAPD during the early 1990s.
2. Label the graph with the adjectives, reflecting on how you would describe the LAPD during the early 1990s.



3. Create 5 possible newspaper headlines from the early 1990s that demonstrate how you would describe the LAPD.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

Discussion Questions

- What were the underlying values in 1990s LA that caused the LAPD to act as they did?
- Whose rights were the LAPD most concerned about protecting at that time?
- During the 1990s, how much control did the government have on the LAPD?
- Throughout the 1990s, how much discretion did the LAPD have in carrying out their policing duties?

Resources (for additional information):

http://www.lapdonline.org/history_of_the_lapd

http://www.lapdonline.org/assets/pdf/violent_crimes_in_la.pdf

http://www.parc.info/client_files/Special%20Reports/1%20-%20Christopher%20Commision.pdf

<http://jurist.law.pitt.edu/trials24.htm>

http://www.usnews.com/usnews/news/articles/930531/archive_015229.htm

METROPOLITAN POLICE SERVICE (MPS) LONDON, UK, 2001



The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS or the Met) is the civilian law enforcement agency responsible for policing within Greater London (excluding the square mile of the city of London – which is under the responsibility of the City London Police) in the United Kingdom. The MPS is also referred to as the Scotland Yard after the location of its original headquarters. It is the largest police force in the United Kingdom and one of the oldest police forces in the world. The Met was officially established in 1829 when the first Metropolitan Police Act was passed. It is currently governed by the Metropolitan Police Authority.

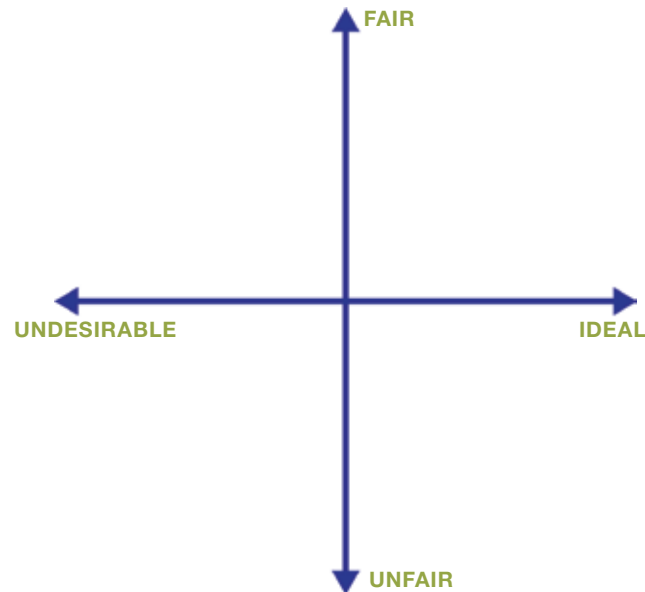
In recent years, London has been the site of many mass public demonstrations against capitalism, police brutality and other social issues. One of the most famous demonstrations was May Day protest. Historically, May Day was celebrated in many countries as International Workers' Day or Labour Day, and was a day of political demonstrations organized by unions and pro-labour groups. In 2000, the May Day protest became a violent affair and as a result the British government called upon the MPS to take a tougher stance during protests, especially when they became violent.

In May 2001, the police made use of these new 'tougher' tactics during the May Day protest. In addition to a zero tolerance policy on violence and an increased number of arrests, the MPS employed a controversial tactic known as "kettling" in an attempt to control the crowds. Kettling involves the formation of large rows of police officers who then move to contain a crowd within a limited area. Protesters were prevented from leaving the area for several hours and were denied access to food, water and toilet facilities. A large number of innocent bystanders were detained for long periods of time and the MPS was severely criticized for their actions.

This was the first use of kettling by the police and two people sued the MPS for wrongful detention, alleging a breach of the European Convention of Human Rights. The pair lost their court action in 2005 and their appeal failed in 2007 when the Court of Appeal backed the High Court ruling.

MODULE 4 - Comparative Systems of Policing**ACTIVITY 1: Comparative Analysis of Different Systems of Policing****STUDENT HANDOUTS****METROPOLITAN POLICE SERVICE (MPS) LONDON, UK, 2001 (Cont'd)****Group Activities**

1. Make a list of 5-10 adjectives that describe the MPS in 2001.
2. Label the graph with the adjectives, reflecting on how you would describe the MPS in 2001.



3. Create 5 possible newspaper headlines from 2001 that demonstrate how you would describe the MPS.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

Discussion Questions

- What were the underlying values in the UK in 2001 that caused the MPS to act as they did?
- Whose rights were the MPS most concerned about protecting at that time?
- During 2001, how much control did the government have on the MPS?
- Throughout 2001, how much discretion did the MPS have in carrying out their policing duties?

Resources (for additional information):

<http://www.met.police.uk/history/>

<http://www.statemaster.com/encyclopedia/Metropolitan-Police-Service>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2001/may/01/mayday.immigrationpolicy>

STATE MILITARY POLICE (SMP)

SÃO PAULO, BRAZIL, 2006



The Polícia Militar do Estado de São Paulo (São Paulo State Military Police or SMP) is a law enforcement agency in the state of São Paulo, Brazil. It is the largest state police force in the country, with over 100,000 personnel in its rank. The SMP is made up of armed forces and civilians in its personnel and was officially established in 1831. The primary function of the SMP is to patrol public places, such as city streets and state highways, in the entire state.

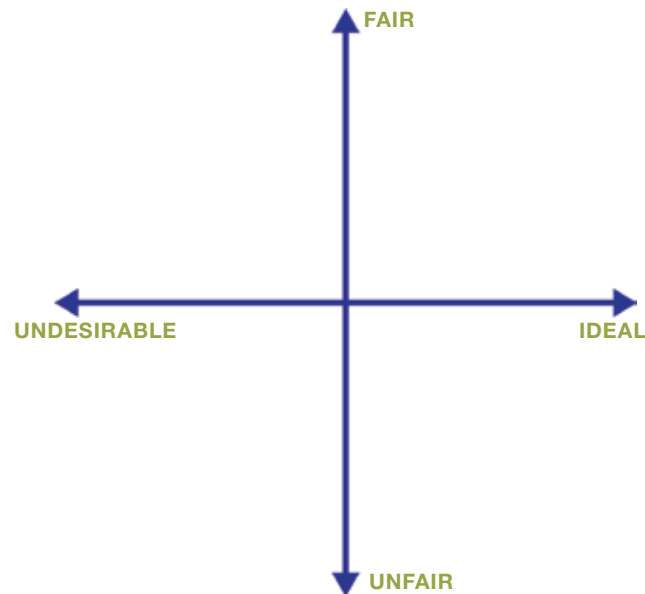
In 2006, São Paulo experienced the worst outbreak of violence in Brazilian history. The violence was allegedly initiated by Primeiro Comando da Capital (PCC) – a renowned prison gang - and began on the night of May 12, 2006 when gang members attacked police officers. The attacks eventually became directed not only at police officers, but security forces and civilians as well. This eruption of violence became known as the May 2006 São Paulo violence.

On May 14, 2006, the police began to quell the violence by taking the offensive and allegedly killing up to 33 suspects a day. Throughout the violence, there was much controversy over police tactics, as many police officers were enraged at gang members and sought retribution against gang members who had caused the deaths of over 40 officers. This violent clash between the officers and gang members ended up taking the lives of over 150 people.

This wave of violence received broad national and international media coverage and shocked people around the world.

MODULE 4 - Comparative Systems of Policing**ACTIVITY 1: Comparative Analysis of Different Systems of Policing****STUDENT HANDOUTS****STATE MILITARY POLICE (SMP) SÃO PAULO, BRAZIL, 2006 (Cont'd)****Group Activities**

1. Make a list of 5-10 adjectives that describe the SMP in 2006.
2. Label the graph with the adjectives, reflecting on how you would describe the SMP in 2006.



3. Create 5 possible newspaper headlines from 2006 that demonstrate how you would describe the SMP.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

Discussion Questions

- What were the underlying values in São Paulo in 2006 that caused the SMP to act as they did?
- Whose rights were the SMP most concerned about protecting at that time?
- During 2006, how much control did the government have on the SMP?
- Throughout 2006, how much discretion did the SMP have in carrying out their policing duties?

Resources (for additional information):

<http://www.drclas.harvard.edu/revista/articles/view/951>
<http://www.hrw.org/en/node/86987/section/4>
<http://www.country-data.com/cgi-bin/query/r-1809.html>
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/4770469.stm>
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2006/may/18/brazil.mainsection1>

DAKOTA OJIBWAY POLICE SERVICE (DOPS) MANITOBA, 2009



The Dakota Ojibway Police Service (DOPS) was established in 1977 by the Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council. It is one of the longest operating First Nation Police Services in Canada and a recognized stand-alone community police agency in southwestern Manitoba. The DOPS was established in order to change the emphasis from law enforcement to crime prevention. As such, a community policing model was adopted and the DOPS has sought to increase dialogue between its communities and the police service. DOPS is directed by the DOPS Police Commission and its mission is to ensure the safety, security, trust and protection of the First Nation Communities it serves by honouring the beliefs, traditions and history of the First Nations people.

All members of the DOPS are sworn peace officers within the province of Manitoba and have jurisdiction throughout the province. DOPS employs not only officers, but also guards, maintenance personnel and matrons from within the communities. There are five detachments within the DOPS and each detachment is required to meet regularly with the local chief, band council and police committee to ensure that the police services being provided meet the needs of the community.

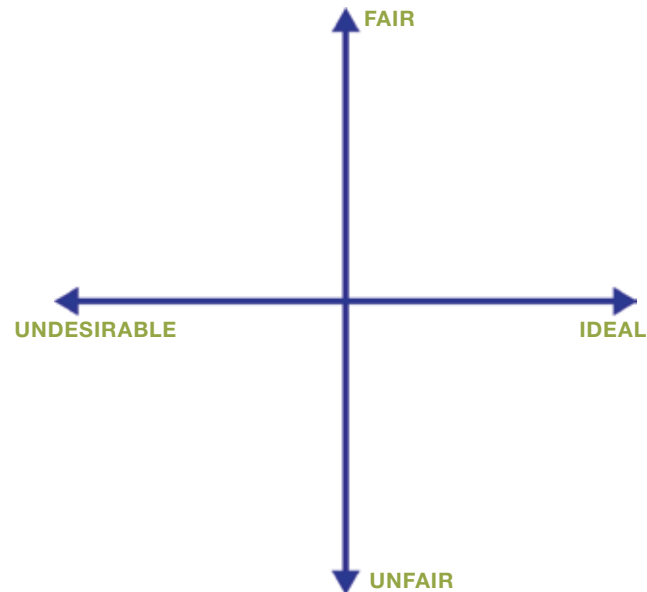
In 1990, the federal government of Canada reviewed Aboriginal policing initiatives across the country and determined that Aboriginal communities required more sensitive policing arrangements that respected their cultures and history. The First Nations Policing Policy (FNPP) was announced by the federal government in 1991 and has led to community tripartite agreements between the federal government, the provincial government and the band council of a First Nations community.

In 1995, one such agreement was signed and the DOPS was commissioned to provide long-term, full-time policing services to the communities it served. However, many chiefs and band councils across Manitoba have felt that despite the quality and professional services being provided by DOPS, there has been resistance from the federal and provincial governments to expand the DOPS.

Throughout 2008-2009, communities and members of the DOPS expressed a growing dissatisfaction with the lack of expansion of the DOPS. Aboriginal communities in southwestern Manitoba have appreciated the culturally sensitive approach to policing being used by DOPS officers and support the expansion of DOPS. This culturally sensitive approach includes an emphasis on collaboration and peacekeeping methods over the use of force. Such an approach is particularly important given that police work in Aboriginal communities is often less about formal law enforcement and serious crime and more focused on the link between social problems and public order maintenance, including the settlement of disputes and interpersonal conflicts. Although the DOPS has been appreciated by many of the Aboriginal communities in south-western Manitoba, crime rates have been steadily increasing in this region. Some aboriginal communities claim that the effectiveness of the DOPS is compromised by its under-funding and consequent limited resources.

MODULE 4 - Comparative Systems of Policing**ACTIVITY 1: Comparative Analysis of Different Systems of Policing****STUDENT HANDOUTS****DAKOTA OJIBWAY POLICE SERVICE (DOPS) MANITOBA, 2009** (Cont'd)**Group Activities**

1. Make a list of 5-10 adjectives that describe the DOPS in 2009.
2. Label the graph with the adjectives, reflecting on how you would describe the DOPS in 2009.



3. Create 5 possible newspaper headlines from 2009 that demonstrate how you would describe the DOPS.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.

Discussion Questions

- What were the underlying values in 2009 that caused the DOPS to act as they did?
- Whose rights were the DOPS (in 2009) most concerned about protecting at that time?
- During 2009, how much control did the government have on the DOPS?
- Throughout 2009, how much discretion did the DOPS have in carrying out their policing duties?

Resources (for additional information):

<http://www.dops.org/>

ACTIVITY 2

Police Discretion

Materials

- Copies of *Police Discretion* handout from Module 2 (one per student)
- Copies of *Police Discretion Scenarios* (one per group)
- Copies of *Police Discretion Scenarios Organizer* (one per student)

Note: This activity builds on Module 2: Police Discretion. If it was not completed, the *Police Discretion* handout found in Module 2 can be given to students as background material.

Teaching and Learning Strategies

1. In small groups, ask students to review and discuss each case study from the handout, *Police Discretion Scenarios*. Students should list the discretionary factors an officer might consider, and which parts of the scenario are ones for which police might use discretion. Students can record their answer in the *Police Discretion Scenarios Organizer*.



Teacher's Key

The following is a list of possible discretionary factors that police might consider for each scenario.

Scenario 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggression and spitting • Perceived threat to officer • Further escalation of situation by the boy
Scenario 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determination of an "unlawful assembly" (by police management) • Public safety • Extent of damage to surrounding property • Perceived threat(s) to officers • Success of crowd management tactics • Possible escalation of violence by the crowd
Scenario 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officer's perception of danger to the victim • Safety of the victim • Results of a preliminary investigation and observations by the officer(s) • Rights of an individual not to have the police enter one's home without a warrant
Scenario 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officer's personal ethical standard • Professional standards as set out by the police force or police department

Scenario 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officer's personal ethical standard • Professional standards as set out by the police force or police department
Scenario 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officer's perception of the woman's truthfulness • Speed of vehicle before being pulled over • Public safety

2. Ask students to consider how the police in Ontario and from each of the policing systems discussed in Activity 1 would react in each scenario. Have students complete the final two columns of the *Police Discretion Scenarios Organizer*. They can select one of the police forces discussed in Activity 1 for the last column. You may choose to have students work in the same groups as in Activity 1 so they all have background information on the same police force.

3. Debrief the possible police reactions as a class and discuss the following:

- For each scenario, why do you think the police forces would react that way?
- Were there differences between the possible reactions of the Ontario police compared to the alternate police forces? If so, what were they?
- Whose rights were the police protecting?
- What interests did the police officer have to balance?
- Is there anything from the reactions of other policing systems that should be included in our system of policing? How can these be incorporated?
- In Ontario, whose interests are the police most interested in protecting? What interests do officers in Ontario have to balance?



Teacher's Key

There is no official answer key. Multiple reactions could occur in each scenario. You can make reference to the flow charts from Module 2: Police Discretion, which demonstrate some of the possible reactions in Ontario.

POLICE DISCRETION SCENARIOS

Outline the possible discretionary factors that the officers might consider in the situations below.

1. A young boy has just been caught after stealing from the local market. As he is being arrested, he is very aggressive with the officer. The boy starts to yell and even starts to spit at the officer. What are the discretionary factors? How should the officer react?
2. There is a mass protest going on at the city square. Police units from all over the city have been asked to come in and control the crowd. As the officers arrive on scene, the crowd starts to get out of hand. People are throwing cans and bottles at one another and some of the cans have landed on officer vehicles. What are the discretionary factors? How should the officers react?
3. Two officers are on patrol in a troubled neighbourhood. As they are walking, they start to hear loud voices arguing from one of the homes. There is also some loud banging and a woman crying very loudly. It appears that there is a physical altercation between a man and a woman taking place within the home. What are the discretionary factors? How should the officers react?
4. An officer has been called to investigate a serious physical assault at a local bar. When the officer arrives, s/he realizes that s/he knows the person who is accused of the assault. In fact, the person is a close family friend and the officer has known the person since they were kids. The family friend is happy when s/he sees the officer and thinks that the officer will help him/her because of their friendship. What are the discretionary factors? How should the officer react?
5. An officer has been called to investigate a serious physical assault at the local bar. When the officer arrives, s/he realizes that s/he knows the person who is accused of the assault. In fact, the person is someone who has once assaulted the officer's sister. This person is hated by the officer's family and s/he has always wanted to avenge the sister. What are the discretionary factors? How should the officer react?
6. An officer has just pulled a car over for speeding. As s/he approaches the vehicle to investigate the speeding and to issue a ticket, the woman in the car starts crying hysterically and starts to say that she was only speeding to get to the hospital where her child is in a state of emergency. What are the discretionary factors? How should the officer react?

POLICE DISCRETION SCENARIOS ORGANIZER

	Discretionary Factors	Ontario Police Reaction	Alternate Police Force Reaction
Scenario 1			
Scenario 2			
Scenario 3			
Scenario 4			
Scenario 5			
Scenario 6			