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| **Title of Research Presentation** (Sentence case)How can the justice sector improve the social determinants of health and equity? Findings from an analysis of a census of Australian policy |
| **Maximum 2500 characters (including spaces but excluding title)****Background/Objectives**Crime occurs in a social context. Addressing the social determinants that are associated with crime is therefore vital as part of an agenda to create *peace and justice via strong institutions* (SDG 16). Given the interconnectedness of policy domains, actions to address the social factors that contribute to crime will also produce benefits for the promotion of health and equity (SDGs 3&10). Action on the common determinants of health and crime are particularly important for Indigenous populations who experience lower life expectancies and are over-incarcerated in Australia (imprisonment 13x more likely for Indigenous Australians than non-Indigenous people) and New Zealand (imprisonment rate 6x greater for Maori people than for non-Maori).**Methods**We used themes to analyse a census of all Australian justice sector policies (N=165) to determine how the policy goals, objectives and strategies are likely to address the social determinants of health and equity (SDH/E). We then selected two policies that provided examples of good practice in addressing SDH/E for case study analysis– one that focussed specifically on Indigenous Australians in Victoria, and one that focussed on all population groups in the Australian Capital Territory.**Results**Despite some promising examples, the analysis of the policies suggests that in general justice sector action on SDH/E only occurs occasionally, and is often overshadowed by a preoccupation with community safety, placing emphasis on punitive measures. The case studies indicate that justice sector action to promote health and equity is facilitated by: a focus on community strengths rather than deficits, a focus on social inclusion, integration of culturally relevant supports, action to change social contexts rather than only individual behaviours or illnesses, and leadership that supports sustained cross sectoral work.**Discussion**While a focus on community safety is essential, we argue that this should be balanced with efforts to stem the flow of offending and recidivism through action on the SDH/E. Without such action, incarceration rates will continue to increase, further disadvantaging Indigenous people, and placing further pressure on prison and health systems. This presentation will provide lessons about how the justice sector can progress action on SDGs 3, 10 & 16 via development of more robust and socially responsive policy.**Keywords**Policy, health promotion, justice sector, Sustainable Development Goals. |