# LEGITIMACY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE ORGANIZATIONS AND DEMOCRATIC STRUCTURES IN COUNTRIES OF AFRICA: A COMPARISON OF 33 NATIONS

By

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#### **ABSTRACT**

LEGITIMACY OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE ORGANIZATIONS AND DEMOCRATIC STRUCTURES IN COUNTRIES OF AFRICA: A COMPARISON OF 33 NATIONS

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Prior research on legitimacy in advanced (full) democracies suggests that procedurally just actions of criminal justice actors relate to higher levels of perceived legitimacy by citizens. The bulk of extant research on legitimacy usually focuses on policing, yet some researchers understand the importance of broadening this scope by studying a more thorough representation of the criminal justice apparatus. Conceptual frameworks using trust to measure legitimacy have yielded intriguing results. An important direction of legitimacy research is to inquire about how democratic structures effect legitimacy. In an age of rising globalization, democracy and governance have become increasingly important to citizens in less advanced countries. For historical reasons, Africa remains a unique continent to study concerning democracy and criminal justice organizations. The aim of this research is to examine perceived legitimacy in criminal justice organizations in less advanced democracies, specifically those that are considered flawed, hybrid, or authoritarian. More specifically the study examines how procedural fairness, corruption, social capital, and degrees of democracy effect trust in police and courts among African countries that differ significantly on various democracy metrics with data drawn from 33 African nations. The inquiry attempts to reconcile the implications of democratic society with perceptions of criminal justice organizations. Findings and implications are discussed.

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Dedicated to the people with the courage to follow their hearts.

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#### Chapter 1

#### Introduction

Legitimacy and its role in legal systems remains one of the most important discourses in studying the foundation of social order (Morris, 2008). Trust, a key construct of legitimacy, relates to a larger discussion on democracy and remains an important outcome measure for legitimacy research. Trust in institutions of government remains one of the most important principles in supporting a democracy (Damme, Pauwels, & Svensson, 2015). Consequently, a considerable increase in research utilizing trust as a key component of legitimacy has occurred (Bradford, Jackson, & Stanko, 2009; Cao, 2015; Hohl, Bradford, & Stanko, 2010; Murphy, Mazerolle, & Bennett, 2014; Tyler, 2011). Although trust and legitimacy are not synonymous, the former plays a key role in conceptualizing the latter.

Moreover, these concepts are increasingly important due to globalization. As globalization continues, democracy has become the means to increase global connectivity through information technology, trade, and security agreements (Bacevich, 2002).

Governmental structures that enhance economic growth and provide the foundation for increases in standards of living are desirable when traditionally impoverished citizenry are aware of better alternatives. The legitimacy of governmental entities, measured in part by citizen trust, remains an important topic in the context of criminal justice research. Police, courts, and other criminal justice organizations maintain order, in turn effectively allowing governmental structures to impose direction to society. Prior research on trust in the larger context of legitimacy, however, has mainly focused on advanced democracies (Mazerolle, Bennett, Davis, Sargeant, & Manning, 2013; Tyler, 2007a; 2011).

Considering the common predictors utilized in relation to legitimacy, researchers regularly neglect governmental structure. Variables encompassing political structures account for the theoretical importance context and environment play in explaining criminal justice operations. Shifts in political power, aimed at specific policy goals, can explain changes in regular criminal justice operations (Hagan, 1989). From this, a conclusion can be drawn that political context and structure of government have implications relevant to citizen views of legitimacy in criminal justice organizations. The inquiry of this connection between democratic structures and perceptions of legitimacy further stimulates discussions regarding the value of democracy. This is especially important in political climates that do not historically mirror the ideals of Western democracy. In other words, by using democracy variables as predictors of legitimacy one can gather a better understanding of democracy in practice. In addition, research less often inquires as to how governmental structures effect overall legitimacy within a criminal justice context (Anderson & Tverdova, 2003).

Democracy, in its ideal form offers the opportunity for citizens to pursue freedoms while protecting certain political rights (Boutros-Ghali, 1995). Increased global connectivity has allowed the spread of democratic ideals. Globalization has made democracy more pervasive throughout the world due to the hegemonic power of the United States (Bacevich, 2002) which seemingly provokes interest in the practical value of democratic systems. In other words, globalization increases the probability that citizens in less advanced nations will strive for improved governmental structures. Aside from increasing global connectivity, it seems imperative to elucidate the pragmatic value democracy has in bolstering legitimacy. Hence the importance of trying to identify the value of this form of government by asking whether or not certain political structures enhance legitimacy in key criminal justice entities permitted to

maintain order. Citizen trust in criminal justice organizations is one way to capture how democratic ideals affect legitimacy.

In general, most extant research on legitimacy focuses on a single criminal justice organization, like policing. Surprisingly, little research utilizes a more thorough representation of the criminal justice apparatus, especially beyond police, courts, and corrections (Holtfreter, 2016). Police commonly demand a major focus of such research, but court officials remain intertwined in the system (Skolnick, 1966). On one hand, police find a unique position in society due to the authority of utilizing force in administering legal systems (Kääriäinen, 2007). On the other hand, put simply, the criminal justice apparatus does not function solely due to the efforts of policing entities. Courts, the executive branch of government, congress or parliament, and local municipalities, although disjointed and dysfunctional at times, work collectively with police to promulgate, enforce, and carry out the implications of existing legal systems. For these reasons, police and courts are the focus of this study instead of using a singular approach and remain vital in maintaining social order (Tyler, 2007a). The study of additional criminal justice entities would have occurred if the dataset allowed.

Furthermore, researchers using the procedural justice model have supported the importance of trust as a measure of legitimacy (Murphy & Cherney, 2011; Tyler, 2011). In addition, both procedural justice and corruption have strong support for predicting trust in criminal justice organizations (Hinds & Murphy, 2007; Kääriäinen, 2007; Murphy, 2009; Tankebe, 2010; Tyler, 2004; Wu & Sun, 2009). Predicting trust, in the larger context of legitimacy, has commonly focused on variables dealing with demeanor and attributes of criminal justice practitioners and citizen perceptions of such individuals. More specifically, procedural justice, performance, professionalism, and demographic variables are common predictors used

by researchers studying trust and confidence in criminal justice organizations (Bradford et al., 2009; Jackson & Bradford, 2010; Hinds & Murphy, 2007; Kääriäinen, 2007; Murphy, 2009; Murphy & Cherney, 2011; Tyler, 2004). The present study uses procedural justice, corruption, social capital, and degree of democracy to identify differences in legitimacy of police and courts. A common tendency found in many studies is the use of citizen trust in police (Bradford et al., 2009; Jackson & Bradford, 2010; Kääriäinen, 2007; Murphy & Cherney, 2011) related to the concept of legitimacy. A thorough review of these predictors will be discussed in Chapter 3.

Due to the nature of the study, relevant extant research may fall outside the scope of traditional criminal justice problems. Therefore, pertinent political science research can effectively support some of the conceptual foundations necessary in studying such phenomena. Political structure and legitimacy are inherent in maintaining order and increasing the capacity for citizens to overcome the state of nature; this line of thought reveals major themes in political theory (Edmundson, 2013). Research in criminal justice oftentimes demands a multidisciplinary approach to adequately deal with theoretical assumptions (Bernard & Engel, 2001). This type of interdisciplinary approach is not new to criminal justice in consideration of its origins as a separate academic study (Payne, 2016).

Sparingly considered is comparative research on the subject (Kääriäinen, 2007) especially in less advanced democracies. Extant literature often focuses on a single country or traditionally western governments resulting in the dearth of studies relevant to less advanced nations. This line of thought relates directly to the focus or lack thereof, that academia has had on measuring democracy in Africa in conjunction with criminal justice themes. The discussion then turns to the history of democracy in Africa that remains pivotal when pursuing such a research topic. As a result, understanding the meaning of democracy and the role it has played

on the continent of Africa will allow a more accurate understanding of research findings. This demands, at least, a rudimentary historical account of the African nations utilized in approaching this research question.

The aim of this research is to focus on citizen perceptions of legitimacy in criminal justice organizations in democracies comparatively different from typical western (advanced) governmental structures. Research pertinent to legitimacy remains imperative given the position the criminal justice system has in regulating society. The determinants of legitimacy remain at the forefront of criminal justice research given the importance of the criminal justice apparatus and continue to uncover pragmatic methods for improving governance. One should note that democracy acts as a secondary background to understanding the determinants of perceptions relevant to legitimacy.

More specifically, this study will attempt to examine the importance procedural justice, corruption, social capital, and democracy play in shaping views of legitimacy. By studying this relationship within the context of African nations, less advanced democracies act as a basis for comparison. That is, if variations exist in perceptions of legitimacy, democracy level stands as a potential determinant of this effect. Utilizing the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) Democracy Standard, different governmental structures (flawed democracies, hybrid regimes, and authoritarian regimes) will be the standard for comparing (Economist Intelligence Unit [EIU], 2015) how democratic structures influence legitimacy. These governmental structures allow insight into the role degrees of democracy play in citizen perceptions of the legitimacy of criminal justice organizations. The value of this context creates an important foundation for learning the practical significance political structures have in influencing the legitimacy of criminal justice entities. One gathers whether or not these perceptions vary across different

international borders depending on the level of democracy of African nations. Africa is a continent that includes extremely diverse cultures and various forms of government (Uwizeyimana, 2012) that offers an important foundation for fruitful research. Given that trust remains fundamental in governing citizens, this concept acts as an effective measure of legitimacy (Tyler, 2011) requisite for the proper functioning of democratic nations (Damme et al., 2015). Citizens find methods of governance justifiable when trust exists in governmental constructs (Börzel & Risse, 2016). The criminal justice apparatus acts as a defining feature in governance, but can only exist as a justifiable establishment with the approval of citizens, hence the importance of legitimacy.

#### Chapter 2

## **Legitimacy and Democracy**

The study of legitimacy remains one of the most fundamental endeavors relevant to criminal justice (Tyler, 2007a) and has a long tradition within the discipline (Meško & Tankebe, 2014). The importance of legitimacy stems from fundamental discussions regarding the state and the populace. Public service provision does not principally rest on the monopoly of force attributed to the state, but on its legitimacy derived from the people (Tyler, 2007a). This line of thinking neatly fits into the logic of democracy and the responsibilities such a government has to its citizens.

Moreover, both the theoretical underpinnings of democratic ideals and the practical themes in the EIU Democracy Standard stem from the origins of democracy. It is widely known that democracy arose in the ancient world and continues to spark interest and application worldwide (Boutros-Ghali, 1995; Fleck & Hanssen, 2006). At the risk of oversimplification, democracy encapsulates the fact that "political legitimacy derives from the people" (Boutros-Ghali, 1995). The word democracy from its Greek origins means rule by the people (Fleck & Hanssen, 2006). In other words, democracy is fundamentally the extension of political involvement of the people, or masses, instead of a select few (Beckman, 2014). Even more, the corollary of such political involvement is to serve the interest of the people instead of only those in power (Bates, 2010). From this, themes like pluralism, citizen involvement in political affairs, and civil liberties derive and encompass the metrics used by the EIU Democracy Standard in describing levels of democracy (EIU, 2015). The parameters of the discourse now center on defining legitimacy and understanding the importance of the concept. Legitimacy and democracy, however, take on various forms depending on governmental structures.

Nevertheless, many researchers have focused their efforts on legitimacy within the context of criminal justice (Bottoms & Tankebe, 2012; Meško & Tankebe, 2014; Tyler 2007).

## 2.1 Legitimacy

To begin, many researchers have defined and measured legitimacy (Beetham, 1991; Zelditch, 2001; Mazerolle et al., 2013; Tyler 2007). This has made research on the matter difficult because consensus remains vexed. Consequently, an effort to study legitimacy necessitates a clear understanding of the concept. Common definitions of legitimacy regularly stem from Weber's notion of compliance as a key aspect resulting in deferral to authoritative institutions (Jackson & Sunshine, 2007). Further, legitimacy has very little to do with force, but mainly relates to the belief that an authority has the right to carry out certain actions (Zelditch, 2001). A strong foundation exists for researchers to build and adapt certain conceptualizations of legitimacy. Literature dealing with legitimacy, however, often lacks clear conceptualizations (Cao, 2015). Despite the convoluted nature of some research, there are common measures and definitions of legitimacy utilized by researchers and academics.

As a foundation, Weber's work on legitimacy remains important for research on the subject (Tyler, 2004). Weber (1978) presented a typology that includes three distinct forms of legitimacy. The first, legal authority, is established by rules (Weber, 1978). The second authority stems from tradition, but mainly rests upon individual discretion to believe in the value of customs (Beetham, 1991). The final form of authority involves the charisma of an individual with agreeable qualities (Weber, 1978). Beetham (1991) argued how many researchers have adopted the foundation established by Weber's typology. Weber's work, despite its lasting effect, may include fundamental errors especially in consideration of the legitimacy of modern states (Beetham, 1991). This point is particularly important regarding democratic structure and

legitimacy of political institutions. Despite this argument, it seems fair to defend Weber's conception of legal authority that rests on rules and regulatory structure. This type of authority relates to legal systems and logically connects to establishing law to instill order. Weber was explaining that belief in authority by those in subordinate positions is also an important condition when regarding legitimacy (Sunshine & Tyler, 2003). Bottoms and Tankebe (2012) developed this thought, that legitimacy involves the subordinate, by arguing that legitimacy is dialogic or involves discourse between pertinent parties.

Contrary to Weber's approach, Beetham (1991) argued for legitimacy in a manner that reflected a multifaceted concept, not wholly dependent on belief. Legitimate political power only exists under certain conditions. Power attained and implemented by rule of law, applicable to laws accepted by a given community, and consented to by a populace ensures legitimacy (Beetham, 1991). By approaching legitimacy in this way Beetham (1991) overcomes the major flaw he portrayed in Weber's work that centered on belief in different forms of legitimacy. With this formulation of legitimacy, one is able to make a claim regarding the *actual* legitimacy of an entity (Beetham, 1991). Notwithstanding this advancement, belief or consent remains a necessary condition for political authority.

The relevant point from Beetham's analysis, for the purpose of this research, is twofold. Drifting from Weber's explanation of different forms of legitimacy, Beetham explained that legitimacy involved various levels or conditions. This advancement developed the concept in a manner to address illegitimate power (Beetham, 1991). Judgments regarding illegitimate power play a role in addressing the international community and evaluating political systems in countries with questionable regimes. Such accounts of legitimate power are increasingly important in the age of globalization because the international community has a better

opportunity to pressure less advanced governments to evolve toward advancements that favor citizens. Secondly, portraying legitimacy in a multifaceted manner elucidates its complexity (Beetham, 1991). This multifaceted manner, as discussed above, conceptualizes legitimacy in a way that includes necessary and sufficient conditions that must be present for a governmental entity to reach legitimacy. This idea, although anachronistic to Tyler's (1990) penultimate legitimacy research, allows insight for the issues that have plagued conceptualization of the term.

Moreover, the concept of legitimacy has developed over time and has led to various definitions. Despite variations and difficulties with clarity, extant research has supported useful conceptions of the term (Bottoms & Tankebe, 2012; Tyler, 2007a). In this context, researchers have come to understand legitimacy as recognition by the public of a right to impose authority (Bottoms & Tankebe, 2012; Tyler, 2006). Some claim it is a concept that deals with the present, the right to impose authority now as opposed to the future (Meško & Tankebe, 2014), but this temporal consideration only relates to legitimacy defined as a justified right. This discourse adopts the former definition of legitimacy centering on authorization from citizens (Kelman & Hamilton, 1989) and a collective perception that the activities of an entity are desirable (Suchman, 1995). This definition ostensibly develops the involvement of measures capturing expectations as a necessary part of authorizing, consenting, and desiring criminal justice service provision or governmental structures in general. The culmination of understanding legitimacy leads to its practical value in research. Legitimacy remains an important factor in attempting to increase authority pertinent to governing (Tyler, 1990). Given that legitimacy relates to a "power that is acknowledged as rightful (Beetham, 2013, p. 19)," beliefs from citizens about law enforcement officials clearly manifest as important measures.

Likewise, the measurement of legitimacy has been a major discussion in policing often leaving the state of academia in confusion. This consternation stems from inadequate and often imprecise theoretical language (Cao, 2015) and the numerous measures used to capture legitimacy (Gau, 2013; Jackson & Bradford, 2010; Reisig, Bratton, & Gertz, 2007; Tankebe, 2013). Tyler's (1990) original conception of legitimacy included institutional trust and the obligation to obey. Gau (2013), however, argued for the importance of moral authority in regards to understanding legitimacy. Bottoms and Tankebe (2012), although offering conceptual developments, focused on the dialogic nature of legitimacy that include different measures. Some studies have compliance and cooperation as dependent measures of legitimacy (Meško & Tankebe, 2014). Notwithstanding the issues found in conceptualization, there seems to be unanimity in the fact that legitimacy is a profound concept composed of fundamental and interrelated parts.

### 2.2 Trust as a Measure of Legitimacy

It is important to note that some researchers clearly identify trust and legitimacy as separate outcome measures. Although trust and legitimacy are separate concepts, the current research project does not attempt to focus on these separately. The aim of this research is to use trust as a measure of legitimacy, not as a separate theoretical concept as done in some research studies (see Hawdon, 2008). Many researchers have considered trust to be a critical part of legitimacy (Bradford, Murphy, & Jackson, 2014; Jackson & Bradford, 2009; Meško & Tankebe, 2014; Tyler, 1990) which plays a necessary and sufficient role in the research at hand. Trust also remains one of the most important principles in supporting democracy (Damme, Pauwels, & Svensson, 2015) and allows profound insight into legitimacy. From this, one can gather why

trust remains a major focus of legitimacy research in advanced democracies and the crucial role legitimacy plays in criminal justice activities.

Legitimacy is commonly understood by way of trust and confidence in police (Cao, 2015; Hinds & Murphy, 2007; Murphy et al., 2014; Sifrer, Meško, & Bren, 2015; Tyler, 2011). Using Cao's (2015) analysis one must keep in mind the importance of clarifying theoretical concepts. Despite the close connection of trust and confidence, these are undoubtedly separate concepts (Cao, 2015). It is important to note that in the event researchers conflate these terms, interchangeable usage leads to questionable results. Depending on the validity of the measures used by such studies, findings related to trust and confidence should undergo scrutiny to prevent conclusions stemming from theoretical errors. This type of conflation has inhibited criminal justice research on legitimacy due to the range and imprecise measurement of terms (Cao, 2015).

Of chief importance, in consideration of criminal justice research, Tyler's (1990) seminal study on legitimacy was the impetus for earnest inquiry of the matter (Meško & Tankebe, 2014) and led to the common adoption of trust as an important dependent measure. Utilizing a telephone survey, Tyler (1990) gathered insight regarding legitimacy and especially the effect procedural justice had in predicting the dependent measures used in his study (trust and the obligation to obey). Trust, or support for the police, was captured using four indicators related to respect, honesty, pride, and support (i.e. 'On the whole Chicago police officers are honest) (Tyler, 1990). This "general affective orientation toward authorities" (Tyler, 1990, p. 47) represented trust. Researchers like Wolfe and colleagues (2016) explained this by drawing on Tyler's (1990; 2004) approach portraying legitimacy as the obligation to obey and trust in the authority of law enforcement officials.

By returning to Tyler's (1990) original conception one can test measures that have been widely used. Following Wolfe and colleagues (2016) and others (Hinds & Murphy, 2007; Hohl et al., 2010; Murphy & Cherney, 2011; Murphy et al., 2014; Tyler, 2004; Tyler, 2011), using trust as a measure of legitimacy, despite several conceptual advancements, affords this study to compare results with a bulk of research on the subject. In addition, the arguments of several researchers, including Tyler (1990), Wolfe and colleagues (2016), and Murphy and Cherney (2012) will be used in supporting trust as a necessary measure of legitimacy. It should be noted again, however, that trust and legitimacy are indeed different concepts (Bottoms & Tankebe, 2012). In other words, since this project only uses trust as a measure of legitimacy, one should not confuse the terms as synonymous, but should understand that the former plays a role in explaining the latter. Legitimacy is a concept encompassing many components but this project only captured one component (trust) given certain limitations explained in Chapter 4.

More specifically, Wolfe and colleagues (2016) measured legitimacy by following

Tyler's original model involving the obligation to obey and trust. Trust was captured with a single indicator asking respondents if they agree or disagree (1 = strongly disagree to 4 = strongly agree) with "The police can be trusted to make decisions that are right for my community (p. 263)." Jackson and colleagues (2012) also adopted this process of trust in police by asking relevant questions regarding procedural justice and effectiveness. The specific indicators were not outlined in their study. In studying outcome measures related to legitimacy, Sargeant and associates (2014) measured trust in police with two indicators asking if respondents trust police in the community and if they have confidence in the police. Likert scales were used to capture responses ranging from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree) (Sargeant, Murphy, & Cherney, 2014). Murphy and Cherney (2012) also adopted the importance of trust in

capturing the concept of legitimacy. An argument consistent throughout the study mentioned the use of trust and confidence in measuring legitimacy (Murphy & Cherney, 2012). Murphy and Cherney (2012) used five indicators for legitimacy including "I have confidence in police" and "I trust police (p. 189)." Likert scales were used again to capture responses ranging from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree) (Murphy & Cherney, 2012).

The aforementioned researchers, among others, have adopted similar conceptual models used by Tyler (1990) which confirms the framework of the present study. Several studies based on Tyler's contribution focused on trust as a measure of legitimacy (Bradford et al., 2009; Jackson & Bradford, 2010; Murphy & Cherney, 2011; Sargeant et al., 2014; Murphy et al., 2014; Tyler, 2004; 2005; 2011). Trust has also become a major focus of researchers as an outcome measure in and of itself instead of a component of larger concept like legitimacy. The table below provides a thorough account of research using trust and/or confidence as a dependent variable. The studies found in the table have informed the conceptual model of studying the relationship between procedural justice predictors and trust as a dependent measure, some directly relate to the larger discussion on legitimacy.

**Table 1.** Summary of Studies Relevant to Legitimacy (Trust and Confidence)

Author(s)	IV	DV (Effects)	Measurement
Tyler, 2004	*procedural justice -police performance	Trust and confidence, Citizen cooperation	-Statements of agreement -"The police are generally honest; I respect the police; I feel proud of the police"
Tyler, 2005	-institutional trust, motive-based trust, distributive justice, performance measures, and demographics (for cooperation)  -different models	Trust and confidence, Citizen cooperation	Institutional trust (8-item scale) Motive-based trust (3-item scale)

Table 1. (cont'd)

Kääriäinen, 2007	-Individual level; social networks, experiences of corruption, among others -Country level variables	Trust	-score of 0-10 how much you personally trust police
Hinds & Murphy, 2007	-predicting legitimacy; procedural justice, distributive justice, police performance, education level, age -predicting satisfaction; legitimacy, procedural justice, distributive justice	*Confidence (legitimacy overall)	- Legitimacy; 4-item scale: 'I have confidence in the police, police do their job well, I have great respect for the police, people should always follow the directions of police officers even if they go against what they think is right'
Wu & Sun, 2009	Demographic variables, perceived political power	Trust	Trust in police (single measure): 1 (don't trust at all), 2 (don't really trust), 3 (trust to a degree), and 4 (trust a lot)
Bradford et al., 2009	-Police contact -Fairness (procedural justice model)	Trust and confidence	Trust and confidence  -3 indices to account for specific aspects of trust and confidence
Hohl et al., 2010	-Experiment; leaflet drop  *police communication/contact	*Confidence in local area policing	- 5 point scale ranging from 1 = 'very poor' to 5 = 'excellent'; e.g. how good a job do you think the police are doing in their local area - three components of trust and confidence in the police
Jackson & Bradford, 2010	trust in police effectiveness and fairness     trust in police effectiveness, trust in police fairness, and trust in police engagement and shared values	Trust and confidence -PSA23 confidence	Confidence (PSA23; global confidence or overall confidence) Single indicators; two measures
Murphy & Cherney, 2011	-procedural justice; various predictors	Trust and confidence, Citizen cooperation	-scale of five items; assess feelings of respect and confidence: e.g. 'I have confidence in the police'
Tyler, 2011	-Police performance is not found to be that strong of a predictor  *procedural justice	Trust and confidence	-Several national surveys use the 'trust and confidence' index -asks people to express confidence in the police as an institution or in the ability of the police to protect citizens against crime
Sun et al., 2012	-social capital and political participation	Trust	Trust in police: none at all (1), not very much (2), quite a lot (3), and a great deal (4), binary coding for analysis

Table 1. (cont'd)

Sargeant et	-procedural justice, police	Trust and	Trust: 2 items capturing
al., 2013	performance, demographics	cooperation	institutional trust ('I trust the
un, 2015	performance, demographies	cooperation	police in my community' and 'I
			have confidence in the police in
			my community'); Likert
Mazerolle et	-forms of legitimacy policing	Trust/confidence	Trust police, confidence in police,
	-forms of legitimacy policing		
al., 2013		in police	satisfied with the way police do
(review of	-police-led legitimacy interventions		their job; perceived legitimacy
literature)			(many measures)
Murphy et	-various elements of procedural	Trust &	Likert scale, 1-5, higher meant
al., 2014	justice; demographics, general	confidence,	more trust and confidence; four
	procedural justice, police effectiveness	cooperation	items; e.g. 'I felt that the police
			officer was trustworthy')
Cao, 2015	Conceptual study	Confidence, trust,	Satisfaction is internal; trust and
		and satisfaction	confidence are external
		with the police	-trust is viewed as synonymous
		_	with social capital
			-confidence part of political trust
			and used to mean a generalized
			support for police
Damme et	-path model on pgs. 21 & 24	-*moral alignment	'The police generally have the
al., 2015		used to represent	same sense of right and wrong as
un, 2010	-trust in police effectiveness and	trust	I do' (D21), 'The police stand up
	procedural fairness leading to moral	-cooperation is the	for values that are important to
	alignment leading on to obey the	main DV in the	people like me' (D22) and 'I
	police and cooperation	study	generally support how the police
	ponee and cooperation	study	usually act' (D23). Respondents
			were asked to score the extent to
			which they agreed with these
			statements on a range from 1,
			agree strongly to 5, disagree
			strongly
			541011513

With this in mind, trust commonly means an expectation that relates to how an entity will operate favorably in the future (Barbalet, 2009). This idea of expectations stems from values and beliefs about an entity. Trust, however, is not relegated to future upshots. Trust in an entity concerns expectations of current *and* future behavior (Jackson & Gau, 2015). Some researchers have argued that this future orientation creates a separation between trust and legitimacy (Tankebe, 2013). Therefore, the argument is that trust does not represent an effective measure of legitimacy. Attempting to disassociate trust from legitimacy based on present and future actions

seems faulty. The fallacy here, one can argue, stems from overlooking legitimacy as an attribute entrusted, in part, by an audience. The concept of legitimacy equally concerns the future because subordinates, assuming similar agreeable processes, *believe* in the authority. These conceptual components stem directly from definitions of legitimacy concerned with general perceptions and authorization by citizens of allowing authority and order, which is why trust remains an important component.

In other words, trust is a key aspect of legitimacy and permits authority to exercise power. A belief in authority deals with the present and the future, unless something occurs to change that belief. If one holds a belief regarding the existence of legitimacy now, then this also implies future existence in the context of social order. For example, if one believes in the electoral process to appoint *legitimate* (in part, trustworthy) officials, then after an election the officials voted into office are viewed as legitimate throughout their terms unless proven otherwise. Due to belief in the electoral process, implications regarding future expectations related to the legitimacy of the officials arise. The belief in the legitimacy of the officials is not limited to the present; these beliefs also concern the future and continue to exist unless something corrupts these views. The belief in overall legitimacy operates in the same manner and, more importantly, the right to exercise power comes from belief or trust. The distinction mentioned earlier, between the belief to impose authority and the right to rule is important. The temporal position of legitimacy may depend on the definition used by researchers. In the abstract, legitimacy envelops profound concepts related to social order that apply to the present and the future, unless the status quo shifts. This temporal issue may stem from applications of trust. The legitimacy of political authority does not fade away because one individual no longer adheres to this belief.

Put elegantly, "One can believe that something is the case, or one can simply conceive of its being the case without assenting to it" (Gorman, 1993, p. 90). The belief in legitimate political authority is collective, especially in a democratic society. Such belief rests on a tacit agreement that can be traced back to Socratic philosophical traditions discussing obligations to the state (Medina, 1990). This point is fundamental in consideration of social contract theory and regards some form of consent from the populace. To reiterate, however, trust and legitimacy are not synonymous terms (Kaina, 2008). The argument, based on previous research, establishes trust as an important part of legitimacy and exists as a common measure.

Tyler (2005) attempted to explain two distinct forms of trust. The first, motive-based trust, relates to assumptions about the motives and intentions of an entity (Tyler, 2005). The second, institutional trust, centers on beliefs regarding the amount of probity and care an entity possesses (Tyler, 2005). For the purposes of this study, institutional trust stands as the measure of legitimacy. The reason for this adoption finds clarification in the measurement section. As a note, the use of institutional trust overcomes the arguments above questioning the utility of trust in measuring legitimacy. Institutional trust clearly identifies the importance belief plays in the legitimacy of political institutions.

In like manner, the inquiry regarding the origins of trust remains pivotal. Additionally, trust also theoretically relates to the antecedent discussion of belief in authority. In other words, in framing a discussion of the origins of trust one can explain the importance of the term in conceptualizing legitimacy and in terms of its theoretical utility in explaining the foundation of society. In democratic society, trust exists as one of the most important principles (Damme, Pauwels, & Svensson, 2015; Mishler & Rose, 2001). The question then arises concerning the origins of trust in society.

Competing political theories regarding trust explain its origins (Mishler & Rose, 2001). One can argue that cultural and institutional explanations of the origins of trust are not exactly competing theories. The former highlights the importance of trust as a learned behavior in early stages of life and the latter focuses on the consequences of political performance (Mishler & Rose, 2001). It seems both of these theories can simultaneously explain the origin of trust, albeit in different forms. To clarify, a cultural explanation of trust concerns an innate feature of society. This feature concerns the aforementioned collective trust in the fabric of society; this is the tacit agreement found in the tenets of social contract theory. The basic conditions of society demand trust insofar as such belief will enhance quality of life (Tyler, 2007a). This collective trust often influenced by individual occurrences, relates mainly to interactions with political institutions (Mishler & Rose, 2001). An institutional explanation of trust stems from these interactions. Beliefs about the care and honesty of public servants can change which either increase, decrease, or deteriorate to a stage of complete disapproval from the populace.

Both cultural and institutional theorists agree that trust is endogenous, but the latter adds the critical nature of performance in creating and enhancing trust (Mishler & Rose, 2001). This agreement is enough to utilize both theories in explaining that the origin of trust stems from the basic conditions of social life (Tyler, 2007a) which are learned at an early age, but enhanced or diminished by interactions with political institutions (Mishler & Rose, 2001). Consequently, the study of trust not only remains theoretically interesting due to its profound nature regarding the relationship shared between governments and citizens, but it actually leads to practical benefits (Bradford, Jackson, & Stanko, 2009; Sunshine & Tyler, 2003). Democracy begins to deteriorate when trust is lacking. This is mostly due to the lack of legitimacy that results from little trust (Damme et al., 2015).

Based on this section dealing with trust as a measure of legitimacy, a note of caution seems necessary. This project focuses on the predictors relevant to influencing legitimacy. Trust is the only output measure of legitimacy used by the present study. Therefore, it may at times, be used interchangeably but does not exist as lexically equivalent to legitimacy. Trust, in the proper context, only acts as a matter of linguistic convenience given its place in the current project as a measure of legitimacy. Clearly defined, trust is a component of legitimacy and deals with expectations of how an entity will operate favorably in the future (Barbalet, 2009). Legitimacy is a broader concept encompassing trust that deals with the belief in legally constructed rules and the right of political institutions to instill authority by way of the established legal constructs (Weber, 1978). Legitimacy deals with the role of certain individuals in the social order as opposed to trust, which deals with expectations of behaviors (Hawdon, 2008).

#### Chapter 3

# **Predicting Legitimacy**

Procedural justice theory has become a popular approach commonly adopted by academics focused on studying predictors of legitimacy (Bottoms & Tankebe, 2012). Rarer have been studies utilizing procedural justice theory to explain the legitimacy of the criminal justice apparatus, or at least a more thorough representation of the criminal justice system (Tyler, 2007b). That is to say that most studies solely focus on policing (Mazerolle et al., 2013; Murphy et al., 2014; Murphy & Cherney, 2011; Sargeant et al., 2014; Tyler, 2011). Policing may well be the most distinct feature of the criminal justice system due to force (Kääriäinen, 2007), but it does not represent the other critical entities involved in the complex endeavor of maintaining order (Skolnick, 1966). Criminal justice systems vary throughout the world and, at times, influence how citizens trust the organizations that compose such systems (Kääriäinen, 2007). There are, however, similarities found within the different criminal justice systems seen in various countries, mainly to protect citizens and control crime (Kääriäinen, 2007). Regardless of the degree of democracy in the nations included in this study, all have some form of policing and court system. It is possible, and all the more likely in consideration of some nations in Africa, that instability prevents conditions of *normal* political order. In other words, hybrid and authoritarian regimes produce political institutions vastly different from full or flawed democracies. Therein lies one of the most important parts of the study, which Chapter 4 discusses at a greater length.

Considering the popular approach of procedural justice predictors, a brief outline of procedural justice theory is important. Procedural justice theory was born out of Tyler's (1990) work attempting to discover relevant predictors of legitimacy (Harkin, 2015). The model Tyler

(1990) adopted utilized two indicators for legitimacy, trust and the obligation to obey and focused on independent variables that related to fairness in treatment by criminal justice officials. His work created the foundation for explaining the role procedural justice plays in influencing legitimacy. The theory outlines the potential for criminal justice practitioners to increase legitimacy by operating in a fair manner (Tyler, 2004; 2011). Procedural justice essentially means "...judgments about the fairness of the processes by which people are treated (Tankebe, Reisig, & Wang, 2016)."

Put differently, procedural justice involves perceptions about fair procedures and the treatment citizens receive from authority figures (Murphy et al., 2014). The practical implications of procedural justice theory have led to many studies attempting to improve different dimensions of public life (Bradford et al., 2009; Skogan, 2006; Sunshine & Tyler, 2003; Tyler, 2004). For example, enhancing community relationships with police (Murphy & Cherney, 2011; Sunshine & Tyler, 2003; Tyler 2004, 2005), increasing legitimacy in courts (Canada & Watson, 2013; Laxminarayan, 2012; Sprott & Greene, 2010), and changing the treatment of prisoners (Beijersbergen, Dirkzwager, Eichelsheim, Van der Laan, & Nieuwbeerta, 2015; Beijersbergen, Dirkzwager, & Nieuwbeerta, 2016). Procedural justice theory also implies an important connection to the discourse regarding legitimacy. In connection to legitimacy, the theory indicates that beliefs in authority "...are reasonable, honest, deduced autonomously and generally smart and well informed (Harkin, 2015)."

Researchers have produced numerous models in attempting to capture the importance of procedural justice in predicting legitimacy. In reviewing research, as established previously, trust – although not synonymous with legitimacy – was repeatedly used as a dependent variable (Kääriäinen, 2007; Sun, Hu, & Wu, 2012; Wu & Sun, 2009). The discussion now turns to

specific independent variables that researchers have used in testing a relationship with legitimacy. For example, Tyler and Huo (2002) conducted research that strongly supported procedural fairness as a main predictor of the reactions people have of police. Bottoms and Tankebe (2012) also found that perceived procedural fairness played an important role in determining compliance.

Further, researchers have used numerous predictors that build on the aforementioned work by Tyler (1990) by implementing the logic of procedural justice. Born out of the multitude of measures used by researchers outside of the procedural justice model, the endeavor of attempting to study predictors of legitimacy is often confusing, yet some measures have successfully supported consistent findings. Measures that have repeatedly shown promise are analytical components of procedural justice (Bradford et al., 2009; Murphy et al., 2014; Tyler, 2004; 2011). The procedural justice model holds that citizens assess the fairness of criminal justice organizations when providing public services (Tyler, 2004). For example, Murphy and Cherney (2011) found that views of fairness affected police legitimacy. One indicator in the scale for procedural justice stood for equality of treatment (Murphy & Cherney, 2011). These consistent findings support that the foundation of trust comes from views about how entities exercise authority (Tyler, 2004). A strong connection for studying the relationship between procedural justice variables and indicators of legitimacy exists in extant research (Bradford et al., 2009; Jackson & Bradford, 2010; Mazerolle et al., 2013; Murphy & Cherney, 2011; Murphy et al., 2011; Sargeant et al., 2013, Tyler, 2004; 2011).

#### 3.1 Social Capital

Similar to the concept of legitimacy, social capital tends to vary by definition (Sun et al., 2012). Pierre Bourdieu is often cited as a major contributor to research on social capital (Ihlen,

2005). Based on Bourdieu's original definition, social capital emerges as a resource in society utilized for instrumental goals, often securing power in various forms (Ihlen, 2005). Definitions that are more common explain social capital as connections involving norms and trust that allow stakeholders to reach mutual goals (Putnam, 1995). In considering this definition, trust in community members or facets of private societal structures, builds cohesiveness and allows for greater success in reaching a highly functional society. In the same way, agreeable relationships with criminal justice officials play a role in creating the effective means for the pursuit of individual and collective goals. Social capital variables are relevant in the context of this research given the effect social capital has on legitimacy. The effect, in general, reveals that higher social trust in community members (a common measure of social capital; see Hawdon, 2008; Macdonald & Stokes, 2006) leads to favorable views of local police (Macdonald & Stokes, 2006). Social capital is also commonly measured by way of community membership and activity (Sun et al., 2012) – which likely leads to higher levels of social trust. Social connections that transcend individual perceptions often lead to favorable views of political structures (Putnam, 2000) hence the connection of utilizing social capital as a potential influence in the perceived legitimacy of police and courts.

Several relevant studies focused on community trust that relates to the larger discussion of legitimacy. Research on forms of social trust supports the current project given the use of trust as a measure of legitimacy. Trust comes in different forms and is not relegated to belief in certain entities. That is, in dealing with social capital, one can learn whether trust in community members leads to higher levels of perceived legitimacy; in the present study, this would mean higher levels of trust. Social trust or bonding social capital, as Hawdon (2008) outlines, theoretically relates to community memberships and various connections at the individual level.

Social capital has also gained attention in recent years producing favorable results in predicting trust (Kääriäinen, 2007; Sun et al., 2012). In attempting to explore the variation of trust between neighborhoods, Hawdon (2008) provided a theoretical argument for the importance of social capital in determining legitimacy.

Kääriäinen (2007) found support for using social capital as a predictor for trust.

Kääriäinen (2007) noted that trust is "related to a larger debate on social capital" (p. 412). This conclusion points toward a theoretical connection between the two concepts. In attempting to explain the variation between racial and community variation in trust of police, Macdonald and Stokes (2006) discovered that social capital in various community forms leads to higher levels of trust in police. Finally, Sun and colleagues (2012) also utilized social capital in attempting to predict trust. The researchers argued for the importance of this variable based on governmental changes occurring in a "post-Mao era of economic reform..." (Sun et al., 2012, p. 90). The study supported the strength of using social capital as a predictor for trust in police and highlighted the importance of studying political context. The present study benefits from research that has explained the inherent connections between social capital and components of legitimacy.

#### 3.2 Democratic Structure

Procedural justice research focuses on several indicators relative to fairness in procedures. This approach, however, does not account for governmental constructs. Most legitimacy research reflects the context of the American criminal justice system (Tyler, 2007). This is important because the United States is a democratic nation, often ranking favorably in democratic metrics (EIU, 2015). Further, procedural justice research mainly focuses on English speaking nations with specific legal systems (Hough, Jackson, Bradford, Myhill, & Quinton,

2010). Prior research indicates that political institutions operating in democratic societies receive trust (Booth & Richard, 1998; Zmerli & Newton, 2008). This is an important finding relevant to police and court entities. Consequently, democratic structure remains important because overall governmental styles might play a role in how citizens view criminal justice organizations. In an exploratory manner, as a nuance to the procedural justice model, type of government allows important insight into determinants of legitimacy.

Prior research has also used democratic structure to predict confidence in private security guards (Nalla, Maxwell, & Mamayek, 2017). Nalla, Maxwell, and Mamayek (2017) created an index of democracy composed of four indicators representing overall democracy ranking, state legitimacy, public service indexes, and age of democracy. Future research on the subject of legitimacy should consider measures like this. Despite this example, democratic structure has not been a focus of research on the legitimacy of traditional criminal justice organizations. Zmerli and Newton (2008) studied the effect of social trust on satisfaction with democracy. In capturing satisfaction with democracy, democratic structure is not the main focus. To this end, studies relevant to legitimacy, studying democratic structure as a predictor are either non-existent or unknown which supports one of the major values offered by the present study.

Nalla and Mamayek (2013) offered a gateway to creating a proxy measure for democratic structure. Using the EIU's (2015) standard for ranking democracies around the world, Nalla and Mamayek (2013) studied democratic police, accountability, and citizen oversight in Asia.

Democratic structure played a role in displaying how a country ranked from full democracy to authoritarian regime (Nalla & Mamayek, 2013). This framework for comparing democratic structure provides a basis for creating a proxy measure to gauge how political context may influence perceived legitimacy. Given the amount of research on legitimacy and democracy, it

seems relevant to begin studying democratic structure as a predictor. The present study aims to provide further insight regarding the importance of a macro variable like democratic structure.

# 3.3 Corruption

Corruption has also become a major focus in attempting to predict the legitimacy of political institutions (Delhey & Newton, 2005; Kääriäinen 2007; Kubbe, 2013; Madan & Nalla, 2015). In addition, corruption, like other indicators related to procedural justice, exists as an important concept relevant to government (Kääriäinen, 2007). Kääriäinen (2007) argued, "A corrupt system of government is not able to fulfill the requirement of equality... (p. 413)." Corruption has been defined as, "the misuse of public office for private gain" (Sandholtz & Koetzle, 2000, p. 32). In many ways, corruption exists as procedural justice in the negative. That is to say, corruption exists as the opposite of what one would expect in dealing with trustworthy and fair servants of the state. To clarify, corruption is the opposite of fairness and represents a form of unequal treatment. Corruption not only grasps an important indicator of legitimacy, but also acts as a strong measure for the quality of a given government (Uslaner, 2008). The importance of this connection remains self-evident and will aid in explaining the variation between perceptions regarding legitimacy and levels of democracy.

The value of legitimacy research is apparent, but increasing our understanding only occurs by approaching research in new and interesting ways. Most of the aforementioned articles attempt to understand what predictors affect indicators of legitimacy in the affirmative (Hinds & Murphy, 2007). In other words, researchers tend to study how legitimacy is increased. This is logical considering the practical implications of studies with positive results. In attempting to increase legitimacy, researchers are usually trying to find ways to enhance the relationship between policing entities and citizens (Sunshine & Tyler, 2003; Tyler, 2004).

Corruption, or a variable representing the potential for decreases in legitimacy, (Kääriäinen, 2007) are not studied as often.

Consequently, this remains a strong avenue for future research to enhance the study of legitimacy. New ways to add to the discipline in regards to the legitimacy of criminal justice organizations remains imperative. Different research angles provoke the advancement of legitimacy research. Some researchers have already begun plunging into this method utilizing perceived corruption as a pathway to studying relationships to legitimacy. For example, Sunshine and Tyler (2003) argued that when negative perceptions of police exist it is more difficult to achieve citizen cooperation. Tankebe et al. (2016) also mentioned the concept of corruption utilizing the Global Corruption Barometer to compare the United States to Ghana. Damme et al. (2015) mentioned corruption and historical antecedents that have decreased legitimacy in Ghana, as well. Wu and Sun (2009) mentioned the issue of corruption in Chinese policing, arguing that corruption leads to lower trust in police. Madan and Nalla (2015) reported corruption as a useful predictor in police satisfaction. Kubbe (2013) provides a thorough account of corruption, trust, and democracy, but the study mainly aims at themes relevant to political science. In spite of these studies concerning corruption, the majority of extant research has implemented other variables.

Kääriäinen (2007) provides a strong foundation for considering corruption as a predictor of trust. This research centered on the quality of government in relation to corruption. The degree of government corruption is an essential measure of the quality of government (Kääriäinen, 2007). The main assumption resulting from this is that the general level of government corruption will explain lack of public trust in police (Kääriäinen, 2007). Corruption in general government influences the views citizens have of individual political institutions. In

addition to other procedural justice variables, corruption allows further understanding of how trust varies in criminal justice organizations. Filling major gaps in research necessitates utilizing a comprehensive approach. In other words, attempts to understand what decreases legitimacy in policing and courts augments explanatory value instead of consistently focusing on traditional predictors that increase legitimacy. This topic seems to reinvigorate a complicated search for predictors that increase legitimacy and important components like trust in criminal justice organizations.

### 3.4 Demographic Variables

Finally, demographic variables influence perceived legitimacy of criminal justice organizations and officials. Age, gender, education, and employment have been associated with legitimacy and outcome measures encompassed by legitimacy like trust and confidence (Damme et al., 2015; Kääriäinen, 2007; Murphy, 2009; Sargeant et al., 2014; Tankebe et al., 2016; Tyler, 2005; Wolfe et al., 2016). In the context of legitimacy related research, Murphy (2009) found that demographic variables play a small role in determining outcome measures, however, included age, educational level, and gender as control variables. Murphy's (2009) findings relate to research using perceived legitimacy and procedural justice as predictors of satisfaction, but remain relevant to the context at hand.

Wolfe and researchers (2016), however, found that gender was significant in studying the effect of procedural justice on evaluations of police legitimacy. Yet age and education were not significant (Wolfe et al., 2016). A study by Tyler (2005) focused on factors relevant to cooperation and institutional support, found a similar finding for education, but age was significant indicating that older respondents cooperate with police and support institutions at higher levels compared to younger respondents. Kääriäinen (2007), in comparison to Murphy's

(2009) study, found age, gender, education, and employment to significantly influence public trust in police. Males tended to have less trust along with unemployed individuals (Kääriäinen, 2007). In addition, older and more educated individuals had more trust in police (Kääriäinen, 2007).

Other studies using demographic variables have confirmed the use of those in the present study. Sargeant and colleagues (2014) used age, sex, and education in studying trust in police. Their first model revealed the significance of all three, but after adding variables relevant to procedural justice and police performance, only sex remained indicating that males have less trust in police. Tankebe, Reisig, and Wang (2016) indicated that levels of cooperation and compliance vary with individual characteristics. Their study used police legitimacy as an independent variable in attempting to predict cooperation with police and compliance with the law. The research by Tankebe and associates (2016), although different from the present study, fits into the bulk of research on legitimacy given the arguments therein.

Tankebe, Reisig, and Wang (2016) only used three demographic variables, two of which the present study adopted. Their study revealed that males tend to have lower levels of cooperation and compliance and older respondents tended to have higher levels of both outcome measures. Based on previous research, demographic variables are not a major focus of studies on legitimacy and outcome measures relevant to themes related to legitimacy. Researchers, however, often include these as control variables to find the importance sample characteristics may play in this research. The previous examples studying legitimacy and relevant themes support the use of the demographic variables used in the present study.

In summary, this review of research has revealed two major apertures. One stems from the lack of research focused on two dependent variables related to separate entities of the

criminal justice apparatus. Police and courts are the focus of this study. The other stems from research commonly focused on advanced democracies. This study attempts to elucidate findings in the context of emerging democracies that has potential to produce insightful research on legitimacy.

# Chapter 4

# **The Present Study**

## 4.1 Context: Africa

To begin, the aforementioned stressed the importance of the components of procedural justice in democracy. To be clear, the notions of legitimacy and equality of treatment are fundamental in democratic thinking. In addition to the components of procedural justice, democracy also encompasses other important principles. These principles are important in identifying what political systems qualify as democracies. The measurement of democracy includes several different metrics including the amount of citizen participation in government, the protection of citizen rights, maintenance of social order, quality of public services and ability to operate devoid of severe political pressure, and equality in the implementation of the rule of law (Nalla & Mamayek, 2013). The EIU Democracy Standard (2015) adequately captures the aforementioned categories by highlighting pluralism, political culture, and civil liberties as important practical themes.

In consideration of the metrics used to gauge democracy, countries are classified into four categories, but only flawed democracies, hybrid regimes, and authoritarian regimes (EIU, 2015) are considered. **Table 2** shows what countries fall into each category included in the study. An authoritarian regime, in a certain sense, stands as the antithesis of a full democracy. Researchers usually focus on full democracies and are not the focus at hand. Flawed democracies are similar to full democracies regarding civil liberties and electoral process, but have several weaknesses. These weaknesses include considerations of governance, immature political culture, and lower levels of political participation (Nalla & Mamayek, 2013). Hybrid regimes have significant

shortcomings hampering electoral process and major issues relating to flaws in political culture, citizen participation, and overall government function (EIU, 2015; Nalla & Mamayek, 2013).

Table 2. Economist Democracy Rankings

Flawed democracy	Hybrid regime	Authoritarian regime
1. Botswana (28)	10. Benin (87)	23. Algeria (118)
2. Cabo Verde (32)	11. Mali (88)	24. Niger (121)
3. South Africa (37)	12. Tanzania (91)	25. Cameroon (126)
4. Ghana (53)	13. Malawi (92)	26. Togo (130)
5. Tunisia (57)	14. Kenya (93)	27. Côte d'Ivoire (132)
6. Lesotho (64)	15. Uganda (96)	28. Egypt (134)
7. Namibia (72)	16. Liberia (100)	29. Guinea (136)
8. Zambia (73)	17. Madagascar (103)	30. Swaziland (138)
9. Senegal (75)	18. Burkina Faso (106)	31. Zimbabwe (141)
	19. Morocco (107)	32. Burundi (150)
	20. Nigeria (108)	33. Sudan (151)
	21. Mozambique (109)	
	22. Sierra Leone (111)	

<sup>\*</sup>EIU rankings in parentheses (out of 167 countries) (EIU, 2015)

Another major issue stems from widespread corruption in political institutions (Nalla & Mamayek, 2013). Authoritarian regimes rank lowest for reasons stemming from oppressing political pluralism, controlled elections; abuse of civil liberties; and ominous consequences for political dissent (Nalla & Mamayek, 2013). Authoritarian regimes create the foundation for unequal society and typically operate with little resources (Goldsmith, 2005). Yet these governments remain strong enough to impose a police state on its citizens (Kääriäinen, 2007).

When confronting issues involving political institutions, criminal justice systems, and government structures, some historical accounts are necessary to consider. Neglecting context is a grave mistake in attempting to grasp why certain views of government arise or ways in which particular political structures operate. Africa, in the context of democracy, remains one of the most interesting continents in the world. Nations in Africa have a long history of colonization and civil wars (Bates, 2010; Mattes & Bratton, 2007) that provoke intriguing studies. A

rudimentary background of democracy in Africa will allow for a better understanding and insight into some of the perceptions and democracy rankings of the countries included in the study.

Furthermore, countries like the United States are important to mention here due to globalization and the imposition of democracy on nations with other political systems. World history shows that colonization, the World Wars, and the Cold War significantly influenced global adoption of democratic principles (Bacevich. 2002; Rappaport, 1975). Africa is no exception to outside forces, which remain imperative to consider when studying political structures. The involvement of the international community in aiding nations with building democratic systems deserves discussion in further detail, but falls outside the scope of this study.

To emphasize rudimentary concepts of historical accounts relevant to Africa, three points are critical. The first accounts for the fact that most African countries have relatively young democratic structures (Bates, 2010). In addition, colonization did not lead to the implementation of democratic systems, even if the power-holders were European nations with varying degrees of democracy during the colonization period (Uwizeyimana, 2012). This can account for many of the issues African countries have in attempting to establish democratic criminal justice systems. In short, these countries have not had the opportunity to evolve the foundation of democratic principles into functional practices. **Table 3** shows the years of independence. One can see the majority of these countries are still relatively new regarding sovereignty.

Next, during the age of enhanced globalization, the neglect of Africa resulted from the inability of foreign markets to establish lucrative enterprises and trade agreements on the continent (Bacevich, 2002). A corollary of this results in capital flight due to many unstable governments and corrupt practices (Nega & Schneider, 2012). The inability to control economic foundations inhibits many African nations to overcome authoritarian regimes that are often

corrupt (Nega & Schneider, 2012). It seems paradoxical, but authoritarian regimes with weak economies temporarily increase political power (Bates, 2010).

Table 3. Years of Independence

Flawed democracy	Indepen. <sup>2</sup>	Hybrid regime	Indepen.	Authoritarian regime	Indepen.
Botswana	1966	Benin	1960	Algeria	1962
Cabo Verde	1975	Burkina Faso	1960	Burundi	1962
Ghana	1957	Kenya	1963	Cameroon	1960
Lesotho	1966	Liberia	1847	Cote D'ivoire	1960
Namibia	1990	Madagascar	1960	Egypt	1960
Senegal	1960	Malawi	1964	Guinea	1958
South Africa <sup>1</sup>	1961	Mali	1960	Niger	1960
Tunisia	1956	Morocco	1956	Sudan	1956
Zambia	1964	Mozambique	1975	Swaziland	1968
		Nigeria	1960	Togo	1960
		Sierra Leone	1961	Zimbabwe	1980
		Tanzania	1964		
		Uganda	1962		

<sup>\*</sup>CIA – The World Factbook (https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/)

Lastly, democracy varies on the continent, but one must bear in mind that claims of democratic structure do not equate to views of liberal democracy seen in many western countries (Uwizeyimana, 2012). Countries have firmly established cultures and views that invariably influence the creation of political structure (Uwizeyimana, 2012). The conclusion based on these premises is that Africa does not have a unique form of democracy, but varying degrees of liberal democratic structures (Uwizeyimana, 2012). This line of thinking plays a role in addressing the United States, globalization, the international community, and democracy building, but falls outside the scope of this research.

### 4.2 Method and Data

This study will examine how procedural fairness, corruption, social capital, and degrees of democracy influence citizen perception of legitimacy in police and courts in African nations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Majority rule occurred in 1994, but 1961 a republic was declared

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Indepen. = Independence

Using an additional external democracy standard as a basis for comparison, the research aims at gaining insight regarding the effect democratic structure has on legitimacy. Nalla and Mamayek's (2013) study of democratic policing in Asian countries employed the use of EIU Democracy Standard. Building on this foundation of studying non-traditional governments outside of the western world, the EIU standard will aid in making conclusions about less advanced governments. This external standard will allow for a more accurate depiction of how government structure affects legitimacy. In addition, the standard acts as the major contextual basis for predicting perceptions related to legitimacy.

#### 4.3 Dataset

Variables relevant to procedural justice, social capital, and type of government are tested to see their influences on trust in police and courts using data from the Afrobarometer. Round 5 of the Afrobarometer was conducted between late-2011 and mid-2013 in 34 African countries and finalized by 2015 (Afrobarometer Network, 2015). This particular study, however, only uses 33 countries. Due to the high democracy ranking of Mauritius, it was discarded. The data originally collected by Afrobarometer was used to measure "citizen attitudes on democracy and governance, the economy, civil society, and other topics" (Afrobarometer Network, 2014). The data for each country result from nationally representative random, multi-cluster samples (a minimum of 1,200 respondents) (Afrobarometer Network, 2014). Mattes and Bratton (2007) argued that the Afrobarometer has several flaws including the lack of a holistic representation of Africa, under-sampling certain countries and ignoring unreformed authoritarian regimes. Afrobarometer has arguably confronted the final issue mentioned above including 11 authoritarian regimes in Round 5. Despite some of the qualms, the Afrobarometer collects useful data that can lead to interesting research on less advanced democracies.

The data was collected utilizing face-to-face interviews with a randomly selected sample (Afrobarometer Network, 2014). Various sampling methods were used to ensure representative results. The countries in this current project utilized multi-cluster stage sampling with stratification when necessary (Afrobarometer Network, 2015). All interviewers attend a five-day Afrobarometer training seminar to gain familiarity and confidence in the survey method (Afrobarometer Network, 2014). Teams of four interviewers and one field supervisor travel to the survey sample area within 48 hours of the training (Afrobarometer Network, 2014). On average interviews usually took one hour and only conducted after consent of the participant (Afrobarometer Network, 2014).

Funding for Afrobarometer research comes from various sources including Mo Ibrahim Foundation, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Department for International Development, United States Agency for International Development, and World Bank (Afrobarometer Network, 2016).

#### 4.4 Research Model

The conceptual model used for this research is portrayed in **Figure 1**. The figure explains the factors that potentially contribute to citizen perceptions of legitimacy. Once again, the present study captures legitimacy by using a single indicator for each criminal justice organization (trust in police and trust in courts).

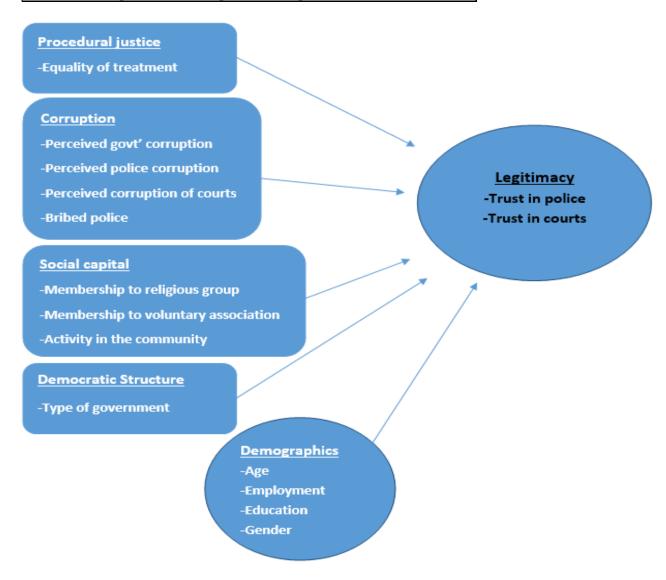
The following hypotheses are tested in this study:

*Main Hypothesis*: Favorable citizen perceptions of procedurally just officials and increased social involvement will be significantly associated with higher levels of trust in the police and courts. *Null*: Favorable citizen perceptions of procedurally just officials and increased social

involvement will not be significantly associated with higher levels of trust in the police and courts.

Secondary Hypothesis: It is anticipated that higher degrees of democracy (flawed) will lead to greater trust in police and courts. Null: It is anticipated that higher degrees of democracy (flawed) will not lead to greater trust in police and courts.

Figure 1. Conceptual Model – dependent, independent, and control variables



### 4.5 Measurement

Each variable included in the conceptual model is outlined in **Table 4**.

Table 4. Variables in Conceptual Model

<u>Variables</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	Mean/SD
Dependent Variables <sup>1</sup>			•
Trust in Police	0	1	.78/.42
Trust in Courts	0	1	.86/.35
Independent Variables			
Procedural justice <sup>2</sup>			
Equality of treatment	0	3	1.52/.99
Corruption			
Perceived government corruption <sup>3</sup>	1	3	2.08/.41
Perceived police corruption <sup>4</sup>	0	3	1.58/.88
Perceived corruption of courts <sup>4</sup>	0	3	1.25/.84
Bribed police <sup>5</sup>	0	3	.40/.85
Social Capital			
Member of religious group <sup>6</sup>	0	1	.45/.50
Member of voluntary association <sup>6</sup>	0	1	.35/.48
Activity in the community <sup>7</sup>	0	1	1.66/.47
Democratic Structure			
Type of government (Authoritarian ref.) <sup>8</sup>	1	3	2.02/.74
Demographics			
Age - Continuous	18	105	37.19/14.59
Employment (Employed)	0	1	.33/.47
Education <sup>9</sup> (No formal schooling/Primary school ref.)	1	3	1.55/.63
Gender (Male)	1	2	1.50/.50

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Value Labels: 0=Not at all, 1=Some/A lot

# **4.5.1 Dependent Variables**

In the past prior research has used several measures to capture legitimacy. Many include the component of trust (among other indicators). Trust was the only component of legitimacy available given the limits found in the dataset. Ideally, keeping in mind that this project adopted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Value Labels: 0=Never, 1=Rarely, 2=Often, 3=Always

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Value Labels: 1=None, 2=Some, 3=All (\*=Not asked in Madagascar)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Value Labels: 0=None, 1=Some of them, 2=Most of them, 3=All of them

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Value Labels: 0=Never, 1=Once or twice, 2=A few times, 3=Often

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Value Labels: 0=Not a member, 1=Member/Leader

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Value Labels: 0=No, 1=Yes

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Value Labels: 1=Flawed, 2=Hybrid, 3=Authoritarian

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Value Labels: 1=No formal schooling/Primary school completed, 2=Secondary school/Post-secondary

qualifications, 3=Some university/Post-graduate

Tyler's (1990) original conception of legitimacy, trust and obligation to obey would have offered a robust operationalization of the concept. Following Wu and Sun's (2009) and Sun and colleagues (2012) use of a single measure for trust, this study adopted a similar basic operationalization. In addition, Wolfe and colleagues (2016) only used a single indicator for trust, but offered a robust measure of legitimacy by adding indicators for the obligation to obey. Jackson and Bradford (2010) also use single-item measures for the relationship between confidence in police and indicators for trust. However, Jackson and Bradford (2010) tested single-item measures for independent variables; trust was composed of three items. Other researchers commonly use single measure dependent variables. For example, Kääriäinen (2007) used a single item measure for citizen trust in police using a scale from 0 to 10 ranking levels of trust in certain institutions.

For this study, the following question was used for police and courts: *How much do you trust each of the following, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: The Police?* The question regarding *Courts of law* utilized the same format. The original questions were measured on a 4-point Likert scale, ranging from Not at all to A lot. Following Sun and colleagues (2012) use of a dummy variable, trust was dichotomized into 0 = Not at all and 1 = Some/A lot. This binary coding allows binary regression analysis. This is necessary because "the parallel lines assumption required for ordinal regression is violated" (Sun et al., 2012, p. 93). The weakness of using trust as a single indicator (Bradford et al., 2009) is openly acknowledged; however remains the only method to test the influences of legitimacy using Tyler's (1990) original conception. The existing dataset did not offer more complex representation of legitimacy as found in pertinent studies (see Bradford et al., 2009; Tankebe et al., 2016; Wolfe et al., 2016).

# 4.5.2 Independent Variables

Equality of treatment, variables involving corruption, social capital, type of government, and demographics are the main independent variables. Previous research on the subject informed the use of these variables as predictors for legitimacy.

It has been argued that operationalization of procedural justice captures how fairness affects decisions and the treatment of citizens (Reisig et al., 2007). Researchers commonly measure procedural justice as a two-dimensional concept (Reisig et al., 2007). The dataset was extremely limited in regards to adequate indicators for procedural justice. Murphy and Cherney (2011) created a six-item scale including 'Police treat everyone equally.' This study only adopted one indicator similar to their measure: In your opinion, how often, in this country: Are people treated unequally under the law? This indicator is similar to the indicator in Murphy and Cherney's (2011) six-item scale and captures one dimension that was mentioned in many measures of procedural justice. A 4-point Likert scale was used ranging from Never to Always.

Four variables captured corruption including three dealing with perceptions of police, courts, and general government. Perceptions of corruption involve views related to fairness. The final corruption variable dealt with bribing police to avoid punishment. Research also supports the connection between corruption and predicting trust in political institutions (Anderson & Tverdova, 2003). Variables capturing corruption dealt with respondents that experienced an act of corruption and their perceptions of the existing corruption in police, courts, and the government in general. For perceptions of corruption in police and courts (judges and magistrates), the following question was used: *How many of the following people do you think* are involved in corruption, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: Police? The

question regarding *judges and magistrates* utilized the same format. A 4-point Likert scale was used ranging from None to All of them.

A 5-item scale was created to capture government corruption including office of the President/Prime Minister, government officials, local government councilors, tax officials, and members of parliament. The above question was also used for these offices. A 3-point Likert scale was used for general government corruption ranging from None to All of them.

A single indicator was used to capture acts of corruption: *In the past year, how often, if* ever, have you had to pay a bribe, give a gift, or do a favor to government officials in order to:

Avoid a problem with the police (like passing a checkpoint or avoiding a fine or arrest)? A 4point Likert scale was used ranging from Never to Often. The aforementioned measures
encompass different components of concepts relevant to procedural justice theory.

Sun, Hu, and Wu (2012) tested social capital as a predictor of citizen trust in police. Kääriäinen (2007) also used social capital, mainly centered on social networks, as a predictor of trust. Following Sun and colleagues (2012) and Kääriäinen (2007) ideas concerning social capital, scales were made for two social capital variables, member of a community group and activity in the community. The 2-item scale for member of a community group included this question: Let's turn to your role in the community. Now I am going to read out a list of groups that people join or attend. For each one, could you tell me whether you are an official leader, an active member, an inactive member, or not a member: A religious group that meets outside of regular worship services? The second question used the same format, but asked about 'Some other voluntary association or community group.' The original Likert scale included four categories, but was dichotomized into Not a member and Member/Leader. This scale returned

an unfavorable Cronbach's alpha of .496. Therefore, each of the variables that were used to make the scale were utilized in the final model as separate variables.

The 2 item scale for activity in the community included this question: Here is a list of actions that people sometimes take as citizens. For each of these, please tell me whether you, personally, have done any of these things during the past year. If not, would you do this if you had the chance: Attended a community meeting? The second question used the same format, but asked 'Got together with others to raise an issue?' A dichotomized variable was also created including two categories, No and Yes.

Following Nalla and Mamayek's (2013) use of the EIU Democracy Standard for democratic policing, this study grouped the 33 countries into three categories: flawed democracies, hybrid regimes, or authoritarian regimes. Type of government was a proxy measure for the EIU Democracy Standard. A variable was created for this proxy measure combining the countries into a 3-point Likert scale ranging from Flawed to Authoritarian.

Demographic variables included in the model are gender, age, education, and employment. Age was left as a continuous variable, while employment was dichotomized between Not employed and Employed. There was substantive reason for creating dummy variables for education given the information included in the original categories. The categories were condensed as follows: 1=No formal schooling/Primary school completed, 2=Secondary school/Post-secondary qualifications, 3=Some university/Post-graduate. This research model is supported by existing studies concerning procedural justice (Bradford et al., 2009; Murphy et al., 2014; Tyler, 2004; 2011), social capital (Kääriäinen, 2007; Sun et al., 2012), corruption (Delhey & Newton, 2005; Kääriäinen 2007; Kubbe, 2013; Madan & Nalla, 2015), and important

discussions regarding democratic government and trust (Booth & Richard, 1998; Hough,

Jackson, Bradford, Myhill, & Quinton, 2010; Tyler, 2007; Zmerli & Newton, 2008).

Table 5. Summary Table of Survey Questions for Afrobarometer

## Trust (0=Not at all, 1=Some/A lot)

How much do you trust each of the following, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: The Police?

How much do you trust each of the following, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: Courts of Law?

## Equality of Treatment (0=Never, 1=Rarely, 2=Often, 3=Always)

In your opinion, how often, in this country: Are people treated unequally under the law?

### Corruption (1=None, 2=Some, 3=All); (0=None, 1=Some of them, 2=Most of them, 3=All of them)

How many of the following people do you think are involved in corruption, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: Office of the President/Prime Minister, Members of Parliament, Government officials, Local government councilors, Tax officials (General government)

How many of the following people do you think are involved in corruption, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: The Police?

How many of the following people do you think are involved in corruption, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: Judges and Magistrates?

In the past year, how often, if ever, have you had to pay a bribe, give a gift, or do a favor to government officials in order to: Avoid a problem with the police (like passing a checkpoint or avoiding a fine or arrest)?

\*(0=Never, 1=Once or twice, 2=A few times, 3=Often)

#### Social Capital (0=Not a member, 1=Member/Leader); (0=No, 1=Yes)

Let's turn to your role in the community. Now I am going to read out a list of groups that people join or attend. For each one, could you tell me whether you are an official leader, an active member, and inactive member or not a member: A religious group that meets outside of regular worship services?

Let's turn to your role in the community. Now I am going to read out a list of groups that people join or attend. For each one, could you tell me whether you are an official leader, an active member, and inactive member or not a member: Some other voluntary association or community group?

Here is a list of actions that people sometimes take as citizens. For each of these, please tell me whether you, personally, have done any of these things during the past year. If not, would you do this if you had the chance: Attended a community meeting?

Here is a list of actions that people sometimes take as citizens. For each of these, please tell me whether you, personally, have done any of these things during the past year. If not, would you do this if you had the chance: Got together with others to raise an issue?

Given the limits of the dataset, courts were the only additional criminal justice entity that could be used to represent a more thorough representation of the criminal justice apparatus.

Admittedly, secondary data often limits the ability of researchers to bridge the gap between conceptualization and measurement. Two issues arise from this division. One is that many measures used in this study would benefit by additional indicators. Next, this easily complicates studying a more thorough representation of the criminal justice apparatus when only certain political institutions were represented by the data. Nevertheless, this study aims at providing an insight into less advanced democracies in the context of criminal justice service provision.

A critical point also rests on explaining the limitations of the measure for legitimacy. To reiterate, an ideal model testing legitimacy in criminal justice organizations would include robust measures. Utilizing Tyler's (1990) conception, the current project would benefit by having variables that represent obligation to obey, the other crucial measure used to capture legitimacy. Single variables related to trust in police and trust in courts were the only available measures that fit within the context of legitimacy. The present study, however, still offers a valuable framework for discovering new insights regarding the legitimacy of criminal justice organizations.

Based on the variables, the statistical approach will be informed by Sun and colleagues (2012) study of trust. The measurement of trust in the dataset, like Sun and colleagues (2012), requires binary regression analysis. The dependent variables can be dichotomized into responses of "Not at all" and "Some/A lot." This statistical analysis will elucidate whether or not the null form of the hypotheses can be rejected. It also allows insight into how the independent variables influence trust in police and courts. It is expected that favorable views of officials based on procedurally just perceptions, views of lower levels of corruption and less experience with corruption, increased involvement in social capital, and higher levels of democracy will lead to

higher levels of trust in police and courts. More specifically, flawed democracies should have the highest level of citizen trust as opposed to authoritarian regimes.

# Chapter 5

## **Analysis**

The purpose of the present study was to elucidate the determinants of legitimacy in nations with varying democratic structures. Notwithstanding democratic structure as a basis for comparison, the focus of the study is to understand what contributes to the legitimacy of criminal justice organizations. Based on the dataset, to discover the relationship between predictors and legitimacy, binary coding was used for the dependent variables of trust in police and trust in courts of law. The original scale used by the Afrobarometer only allowed for a Chi square test since the dependent variables were categorical. Sun and colleagues (2012) had a similar problem, but dichotomized trust as to use binary regression analysis. Thus, the present study adopted this approach to find how various predictors influence legitimacy.

**Table 6** shows the category distribution for cases and descriptive statistics for predictors. This distribution of cases allows insight regarding how respondents answered survey questions. This information also ensures that each category had enough cases to produce relevant statistics.

**Table 6.** Descriptive Statistics for Variable Categories

Variable	Mean/SD	N	%
Trust in Police	.78/.42		
0 = Not at all		11,257	22.3
1 = Some/A lot		39,228	77.7
Trust in Courts	.86/.35		
0 = Not at all		7,075	14.4
1 = Some/A lot		42,014	85.6
<b>Equality of Treatment</b>	1.52/.99		
0 = Never		9,461	19.2
1 = Rarely		13,062	26.4
2 = Often		18,419	37.3
3 = Always		8,446	17.1
<b>Perceived Government Corruption</b>	2.08/.41	,	
1 = None		1,652	4.7
2 = Some		28,698	82.2
3 = Al1		4,542	13.0
Perceived Police Corruption	1.58/.88	1,5	
0 = None	1.00,100	4,380	9.3
1 = Some of them		19,066	40.6
2 = Most of them		15,562	33.1
3 = All of them		8,004	17.0
Perceived Corruption of Courts	1.25/.84	0,001	17.0
0 = None	1.25/.01	7,207	16.3
1 = Some of them		22,853	51.7
2 = Most of them		10,050	22.7
3 = All of them		4,098	9.3
Bribed Police	.40/.85	4,070	7.5
0 = Never	.40/.03	26,240	77.9
1 = Once or Twice		3,245	9.6
2 = A Few Times		2,191	6.5
3 = Often		1,996	5.9
Member of Religious Group	.45/.50	1,990	3.9
0 = Not a member	.43/.30	28,141	55.0
1 = Member/Leader		23,064	45.0
	25/ 10	23,004	43.0
Member of Voluntary Association	.35/.48	22 260	<b>65</b> 1
0 = Not a member		33,268	65.1
1 = Member/Leader	1 66/ 47	17,802	34.9
Activity in the Community	1.66/.47	17.050	22.0
0 = No		17,252	33.8
1 = Yes	2.02/74	33,829	66.2
Type of Government	2.02/.74	10.50	
1 = Flawed		13,204	26.2
2 = Hybrid		22,791	45.2
3 = Authoritarian		14,392	28.6

**Table 7** portrays information for bivariate logistic analysis for independent variables in the model.

**Table 7.** Bivariate Logistic Regression Summary for Selected Variables

		Courts						
	В	SE	ЕхрВ	N. R^2	В	SE	ЕхрВ	N. R^2
Procedural Justice								
<b>Equality of treatment</b>	357***	.012	.700	.031	420***	.014	.657	.035
Corruption								
Perceived govt. corruption	-1.047***	.030	.351	.051	-1.188***	.035	.305	.058
Perceived police corruption	881***	.014	.415	.137	532***	.016	.587	.046
Perceived corruption of courts	558***	.014	.572	.058	875***	.016	.417	.117
Bribed police	393***	.014	.675	.036	365***	.016	.694	.027
Social capital								
Member of religious group	019	.022	.981	.000	.140***	.026	1.150	.001
Member of voluntary association	078***	.022	.925	.000	038	.027	.963	.000
Activity in the community	.171***	.022	1.186	.002	.217***	.027	1.242	.002
Democratic structure								
Flawed	.255***	.030	1.105	.004	.255***	.035	1.291	.002
Hybrid	195***	.026	.823	.004	.113***	.030	1.120	.002
Authoritarian (ref.)								

<sup>\*</sup>p < .05. \*\*p < .01. \*\*\*p< .001.

Demographic variables were not included in the bivariate analysis considering these were not the main focus of the study. Bivariate logistic regression allows one to gather the significance of an independent variable without the interaction effects of multivariate analysis. The results are promising revealing a statistical significance at the .001 for most variables. To avoid redundancy, a description of how these variables effect perceptions of legitimacy will be included in the multivariate analysis portrayed in **Tables 8** and **9**.

**Table 8** summarizes the results for respondents from the Afrobarometer dataset. This statistical analysis reveals many important findings relevant to the perceived legitimacy of criminal justice organizations. Before interpreting results several important issues emerge regarding the model used for analysis. Binary logistic regression requires that the dependent

N. R^2 = Negelkerke R^2

variable is dichotomous, hence the changes mentioned in the methods section. Logistic regression does not allow multicollinearity diagnostics. Therefore, independent variables were tested with a regular regression ignoring the overall results (coefficients and significance). Since multicollinearity concerns relationships among the predictors, the procedure was sufficient in determining that the model did not include any multicollinearity issues aiding in finalizing the logistic regression model.

**Table 8.** Logistic Regression Summary for Trust in Police (N = 21,640)

_	Model 1			Model 2			Model 3		
	В	SE	ЕхрВ	В	SE	ЕхрВ	В	SE	ЕхрВ
Background information									
Age	.005***	.001	1.005	.003*	.001	1.003	.002	.001	1.002
Employed	130***	.033	.878	070*	.035	.932	037	.035	.963
Mid-level Education	307***	.034	.736	251***	.037	.780	276***	.037	.759
Highest Education	314***	.059	.730	214***	.063	.808	268***	.063	.765
Lowest Education (ref.)									
Male	.007	.032	1.007	069	.034	.933	044	.035	.957
Procedural Justice									
Equality of treatment				240***	.018	.787	233***	.018	.792
Corruption									
Perceived govt. corruption				222***	.046	.801	213***	.046	.809
Perceived police corruption				710***	.023	.492	692***	.023	.501
Perceived corruption of courts				113***	.023	.893	120***	.024	.887
Bribed police				187***	.018	.829	191***	.018	.826
Social capital									
Member of religious group							.014	.036	1.014
Member of voluntary association							055	.038	.946
Activity in the community							.286***	.040	1.331
Democratic structure									
Flawed							029	.049	.972
Hybrid							291***	.041	.747
Authoritarian (ref.)									
Nagelkerke R^2	.(	)11			.171			.178	

<sup>\*</sup>p < .05. \*\*p < .01. \*\*\*p< .001.

In addition, some categorical variables were treated as dummy variables to allow for simpler interpretation and to reveal a clearer significance of certain coefficients. The scale for

general government corruption returned a Cronbach's alpha score of .846 indicating that the variables have an acceptable level of internal consistency. The two indicators for member to a community group revealed a Cronbach's alpha score of .496 indicating that the variables have a low level of internal consistency. Consequently, the two items were used independently as social capital variables. Separate models were tested, utilizing only one of the indicators from the member to a community group scale to see if the model could be enhanced. The final model included both indicators because excluding such variables can lead to higher levels of bias. Excluding variables in these situations often leads to model misspecification (Britt & Weisburd, 2014). The Nagelkerke R<sup>2</sup> was utilized to gain an understanding of the model's precision. It has been noted, however, that the use of Nagelkerke R<sup>2</sup> has not reached a scientific consensus (Britt & Weisburd, 2014).

Beginning with Model 1, testing the effects on trust in police, age, employment status, and education were statistically significant at the .001 level. Older respondents are more likely to have higher levels of trust in police. Similarly, employed individuals are likely to have less trust in police than individuals that are unemployed. Further, the coefficients indicate that those with higher levels of education are more likely to have lower levels of trust in police compared to those with less education. Put differently, one unit increase in age increases the odds of trust in police by a factor of 1.005. Similarly, employment decreases the odds of trust in police by a factor of .878 compared to unemployed individuals. On the other hand, one unit increase in education decreases the odds of trust in police by a factor of .736 for individuals with secondary school through post-secondary qualifications compared to those with less education.

Furthermore, one unit increase in education decreases the odds of trust in police by a factor of .730 for individuals with some university through post-graduate education compared to those with no schooling and completion of primary school. More education tends to lead to higher likelihoods of having lower levels of trust in police. The aforementioned statements deal with the odds of outcomes, which is the principle attribute of logistic regression, and are vital when portraying findings. The odds ratios are a measure of association that determine the odds that an effect will happen due to an independent variable chosen for the model (Britt & Weisburd, 2014).

In Model 2, age, employment status, and education were statistically significant, at various levels. Age and employment status decreased in statistical significance from the .001 level to the .05 level, respectively. Age and employment status disappeared in Model 3 indicating that an intervening explanation exists (Sun & Wu, 2015). Given that these variables were no longer statistically significant when adding social capital variables and democratic structure, one may suspect the intervening relationship may exist between these variables. The dummy variables for education were statistically significant at the .001 level. More importantly, Model 2 also revealed that stronger perceptions of unequal treatment, higher levels of perceived corruption in general government, higher levels of perceived corruption in police and courts, and persons that bribed police are more likely to have lower levels of trust in police. These findings remain consistent with research regarding procedural justice variables and legitimacy. For example, an increase of one unit in perception of unequal treatment decreases the odds of trust in police by a factor of .787. The corruption variables decrease the odds of trust in police by various factors ranging from .492 to .893.

Of greater importance, Model 3, which was the final model, included five new variables that attempted to capture a more macro perspective of society. With the disappearance of age and employment status, the dummy variables for education were the only demographic variables to remain significant at the .001 level. The education variables indicate that individuals with higher levels of education are likely to have lower levels of trust in police. Perception of unequal treatment and the corruption variables all remained significant at the .001 level. Once again, stronger perceptions of unequal treatment, higher levels of perceived corruption in general government, higher levels of perceived corruption in police and courts, and persons that bribed police are more likely to have lower levels of trust in police. Activity in the community returned a favorable Cronbach's alpha score of .744. Therefore, it remained in the model as one variable. It was also found to be statistically significant at the .001 level. This indicates that one unit increase in activity in the community increases the odds of higher levels of trust in police by a factor of 1.331. The fact that this variable was significant will be the impetus for discussion in the following chapter.

Finally, type of government, a proxy measure for democratic structure was dummied allowing a comparison of flawed and hybrid regimes to the reference category of authoritarian regimes. The variable for countries categorized as flawed democracies was not significant. On the other hand, countries categorized as hybrid regimes tend to decrease the likelihood of trust in police. Governments considered hybrid regimes will decrease the odds of trust in police by a factor of .747 for compared to authoritarian regimes. Model 3 had a Nagelkerke R<sup>2</sup> of .178 indicating that about 18% of the variation in the dependent variable is explained by the independent variables in the model. The increase of the Nagelkerke R<sup>2</sup> from the first to the second model portrays the importance of variables related to procedural justice in explaining

legitimacy as measured by trust. Note that the warning above remains relevant when considering the use of the Nagelkerke R<sup>2</sup>.

For trust in courts of law, Model 1 revealed very different results in comparison to trust in police. Age was not statistically significant, but gender was at the .05 level different from the previous logistic regression on trust in police. Men are more likely to have higher levels of trust in courts of law compared to women. The significance of gender, however, disappears in Model 2. Employment status was also significant at the .05 level and the dummy for education recording a significance for both variables at the .001 level. An interesting point of comparison shows that employed individuals are likely to have more trust in courts of law, but less trust in police. In Model 1, education, similar to its effect on trust in police, remained an important factor in decreasing the likelihood of having higher levels of trust in courts of law; this remained true for the final model. Employment status and education were also significant in Model 2. Moreover, Model 2 portrayed how stronger perceptions of inequality and variables related to views and experience of corruption, decease the likelihood of having higher levels of trust in courts of law.

For example, one unit increase in experience with bribing police deceases the odds of having higher levels of trust in courts of law by a factor of .861. Perceived corruption of police was significant at the .01 level, but the other corruption variables along with perception of unequal treatment were statistically significant at the .001 level. Perceived corruption of police was the only difference in comparison to the previous model. Like its counterpart, the model for courts of law reveals the importance of variables related to procedural justice.

Model 3 added the social capital variables along with type of government. This addition increased the Nagelkerke R<sup>2</sup> from .140 to .142. Even lacking scientific consensus on the

usefulness of the Nagelkerke R<sup>2</sup>, one can gather that other variables not included in the model account for much of the variability in the dependent variable.

**Table 9.** Logistic Regression Summary for Trust in Courts of Law (N = 21,459)

	Model 1			Model 2			Model 3		
	В	SE	ЕхрВ	В	SE	ЕхрВ	В	SE	ЕхрВ
Background information									
Age	.000	.001	1.000	001	.002	.999	002	.002	.998
Employed	.097*	.041	1.102	.108*	.043	1.114	.100*	.043	1.105
Mid-level Education	184***	.042	.832	160***	.044	.852	158***	.045	.854
Highest Education	309***	.070	.734	173*	.074	.841	150*	.075	.861
Lowest Education (ref.)									
Male	.085*	.039	1.088	.010	.041	1.010	.023	.042	1.024
Procedural Justice									
Equality of treatment				263***	.021	.769	261***	.022	.771
Corruption									
Perceived govt. corruption				358***	.051	.699	345***	.052	.708
Perceived police corruption				065*	.028	.937	069*	.028	.933
Perceived corruption of courts				703***	.028	.495	705***	.028	.494
Bribed police				149***	.020	.861	152***	.021	.859
Social capital									
Member of religious group							.046	.044	1.047
Member of voluntary association							026	.046	.975
Activity in the community							.205***	.048	1.228
Democratic structure									
Flawed							.134*	.058	1.144
Hybrid							.099*	.047	1.104
Authoritarian (ref.)									
Nagelkerke R^2		.003			.140			.142	

<sup>\*</sup>p < .05. \*\*p < .01. \*\*\*p< .001.

That said activity in the community was statistically significant at the .001 level while the dummy variables for type of government were significant at the .01 level. Given the positive coefficients, both variables increase the odds of having higher levels of trust in courts of law. This is very different from the previous model on trust in police. This will be an important point of contrast that requires attention in the following chapter. Individuals that are more active in the community, by way of informal interactions, are more likely to have higher levels

of trust in courts of law. For trust in courts of law, citizens in countries categorized as flawed democracies will most likely have higher levels of trust. Countries categorized as flawed democracies increase the odds of trust in courts of law by a factor of 1.144 compared to authoritarian regimes. Similarly, hybrid regimes increase the odds of trust in courts of law by a factor of 1.104 compared to authoritarian regimes. Flawed democracies clearly increase the log of odds in trust in courts of law by a greater factor than hybrid regimes.

In addition to the previously mentioned logistic regression models, a filtering process allowed for the selection of cases from each democratic structure. For example, a logistic regression with the same predictors in the previous models was run for respondents from countries with flawed democracies. The same was done for respondents from hybrid regimes and authoritarian regimes. This allowed for a comparative analysis between the predictors based on respondents from each democratic structure. Comparative models were run for each dependent variable, trust in police and trust in courts of law. **Tables 10** and **11** portray the logistic regression results using democratic structure as the basis for comparison. One can see the disappearance of the significance of education within the flawed democracy model for police compared to the model shown in **Table 8**. The number of cases were still numerous enough to reveal any statistically significant variables. It seems reasonable to suspect that another explanation exists for the disappearance of this variable.

Similar to the previous overall logistic regression, respondents in flawed democracies are more likely to have lower levels of trust in police when they perceive higher levels of inequality, corruption of police, and experiences with bribing police. These variables were significant at the .001 level. General government corruption and corruption of courts were not significant in this model. Activity in the community was significant at the .01 level. This indicates that persons

more active in the community are more likely to have higher levels of trust in police.

Employment status was significant at the .05 level indicating that employed persons are more likely to have lower levels of trust in police.

**Table 10.** Logistic Regression Summary for Democratic Structure: Police

<u> </u>									
	Flawed (n= 5,631)			Hybrid (n= 9,789)			Authoritarian (n= 6,220)		
	В	SE	ЕхрВ	В	SE	ЕхрВ	В	SE	ЕхрВ
Background information									
Age	.003	.002	1.003	.003	.002	1.003	.001	.003	1.001
Employed	153*	.073	.858	010	.049	.990	.001	.075	1.001
Mid-level Education	.021	.077	1.021	400***	.049	.670	257***	.076	.774
Highest Education	.221	.145	1.248	460***	.095	.631	245*	.112	.783
Lowest Education (ref.)									
Male	056	.072	.946	059	.049	.945	028	.068	.973
Procedural Justice									
Equality of treatment	163***	.035	.850	205***	.025	.815	371***	.039	.690
Corruption									
Perceived govt. corruption	093	.108	.912	258***	.064	.773	179*	.085	.836
Perceived police corruption	637***	.048	.529	684***	.032	.504	732***	.046	.481
Perceived corruption of courts	.015	.048	1.015	113***	.033	.893	246***	.046	.782
Bribed police	318***	.047	.728	147***	.025	.863	199***	.032	.819
Social capital									
Member of religious group	.085	.075	1.089	013	.053	.987	.004	.070	1.004
Member of voluntary association	.090	.088	1.094	104	.054	.901	073	.073	.930
Activity in the community	.220**	.075	1.247	.341***	.059	1.406	.261***	.080	1.298
Nagelkerke R^2		.11			.165			.226	

<sup>\*</sup>p < .05. \*\*p < .01. \*\*\*p< .001.

In comparison, the same effect did not exist for authoritarian or hybrid regimes regarding employment status. Education, in the models for hybrid and authoritarian regimes, was significant at the .001 level and revealed that higher levels of education most likely lead to lower levels of trust in police compared to persons with less education. The variables akin to procedural justice played a stronger role in accounting for the likelihood of higher levels of trust in police in countries considered hybrid and authoritarian regimes. The Nagelkerke R<sup>2</sup> steadily

increased from flawed to authoritarian regimes. It increased from .11 to .226 indicating that the independent variables are more effective at explaining trust in police for authoritarian regimes.

The model for courts of law returned similar results with several nuances. Demographic variables did not play a role in flawed democracies and authoritarian regimes, but education was important for hybrid regimes insofar as individuals with secondary school and post-secondary qualifications are more likely to have lower levels of trust in courts of law compared to those with less education. One would think that corruption in police would influence trust in courts of law merely because both entities operate within the same larger system.

Table 11. Logistic Regression Summary for Democratic Structure: Courts of Law

	Flawed	d (n= 5,56	0)	Hybrid (n= 9,714)			Authoritarian (n= 6,185)		
	В	SE	ЕхрВ	В	SE	ЕхрВ	В	SE	ЕхрВ
Background information									
Age	.000	.003	1.000	002	.002	.998	002	.003	.998
Employed	073	.088	.929	.134	.061	1.143	.149	.086	1.161
Mid-level Education	.108	.093	1.114	291***	.064	.748	139	.086	.870
Highest Education	.066	.167	1.068	202	.118	.817	104	.126	.901
Lowest Education (ref.)									
Male	.039	.087	1.040	017	.061	.983	.042	.078	1.042
Procedural Justice									
Equality of treatment	142***	.042	.867	239***	.031	.787	405***	.092	.667
Corruption									
Perceived govt. corruption	214	.125	.807	467***	.073	.627	237**	.092	.789
Perceived police corruption	032	.060	.968	024	.040	.976	147**	.051	.863
Perceived corruption of courts	469***	.063	.626	703***	.041	.495	886***	.052	.412
Bribed police	209***	.055	.811	108***	.029	.897	183***	.036	.833
Social capital									
Member of religious group	.158	.092	1.172	130*	.066	.878	.234**	.079	1.264
Member of voluntary association	.047	.107	1.048	.015	.067	1.016	104	.082	.902
Activity in the community	.256**	.090	1.292	.189*	.074	1.208	.203*	.091	1.225
Nagelkerke R^2		.063			.133			.228	

<sup>\*</sup>p < .05. \*\*p < .01. \*\*\*p< .001.

This, however, was untrue for flawed and hybrid regimes. Respondents in authoritarian regimes mirrored closely to the overall logistic regression model. The conclusion being that one

unit increase in perceived corruption of police decreases the log of odds in trust of courts of law by a factor of .863. An important nuance was the effect of membership to a religious group.

This variable was not significant in the flawed democracies model, but was significant at the .05 level for hybrid regimes and at the .01 level for authoritarian regimes. Respondents in hybrid regimes that were members of religious groups are likely to have lower levels of trust in courts of law. This variable was more significant in authoritarian countries, but had the opposite effect; membership to a religious group increases the likelihood of having higher levels of trust in courts of law. The variations also show how democratic structure can influence views of legitimacy given the differences between each model. These comparative models lead to important implications.

### Chapter 6

### **Discussion and Conclusion**

Legitimacy of criminal justice organizations largely depends on how citizens view personnel. This exists as a major theme in previous research. Views of fairness and corruption strongly influence how individuals judge the legitimacy of criminal justice actors. Similar to perceptions, experience with corruption also decreases the likelihood of legitimacy of police and court officials. Findings involving these predictors remain consistent with previous research. In consideration of policy, focusing on affable behaviors will give criminal justice organizations a better opportunity for remaining effective in a given community. Social order depends on the enforcement and adjudication of laws, but in large part depends on the willingness of community members to work *with* criminal justice officials.

The purpose of this study was to reveal the relationship of various predictors with perceptions of legitimacy in two major criminal justice organizations. Previous research repeatedly shows the importance of procedural fairness in determining favorable views of legitimacy in police and courts. The findings in this research suggest the same that citizens view criminal justice officials more favorably when they are not corrupt and treat people equally. Certain types of social capital also influenced the odds of having higher levels of perceived legitimacy in police and courts. The interesting point here rests on how more structured types of social capital, like member of a religious group and member of a community group, did not influence legitimacy in either police or courts for the models including all cases. Membership to a religious group was significant on two occasions when limited to respondents from certain governmental regimes. The effect was different for hybrid regimes in comparison to authoritarian regimes. Respondents in authoritarian regimes with membership to religious

groups are more likely to have higher perceived legitimacy in courts of law. Theoretically, it seems possible that religion or religious activity, acts as a way to confirm power. One need not look any further than the standard of living in countries like Sudan, the seeming religious position dictators take in such governmental structures, and how citizens remain subdued. Religion in this situation potentially adds to the structure of control and leads to higher perceived legitimacy in courts of law.

On the other hand, respondents in hybrid regimes that were members of religious groups were more likely to have lower levels of perceived legitimacy in courts of law. Philosophically, religion acts as a basis to believe in something more and adhere to something abstract potentially leading to a decrease in legitimacy of governmental structures. Conversely, activity in the community led to the likelihood of higher levels of legitimacy in police and courts for hybrid regimes. It is possible that attending community meetings and getting together with community members to raise issues led to higher frequencies of interactions, direct or indirect, with criminal justice officials that happened to be favorable. These favorable interactions, then led to the likelihood of higher perceived legitimacy of police and courts. Clearly, perceived corruption of these agents of the state and experience with corruption counteract the likelihood of higher degrees of legitimacy. It makes sense that the opposite would be true for the influence of activity in the community on perceptions of legitimacy. Further research on different forms of social capital in relation to legitimacy seems beneficial.

Finally, a strong influence existed for democratic structure on the likelihood of levels of legitimacy. An interesting finding is that democratic structure effects legitimacy in police and legitimacy in courts of law differently. Hybrid regimes, in comparison to authoritarian regimes, decreased the likelihood of higher degrees of legitimacy in police. By contrast, flawed and

hybrid regimes, in comparison to authoritarian regimes, increase the likelihood of higher degrees of legitimacy in courts of law. Hybrid regimes have the same effect on levels of legitimacy, but to a lesser degree than flawed democracies compared to authoritarian regimes. Considering both models, the analysis suggests that respondents tend to have different perceptions of police and courts. Further examinations should study if differences between perceptions of police and courts are universal considering democratic structure and levels of legitimacy.

Studies like Madan and Nalla's (2015) research relevant to police legitimacy in India are an important foundation for extending research in this area. Legitimacy research generally focuses on respondents in advanced democracies and hardly ever account for democratic structure. Research on legitimacy tends to focus on micro predictors like perceptions and experience with fairness, moral alignment, and beliefs regarding obedience. Future studies should begin to develop the importance of macro predictors that might account for some of the variation in views of legitimacy. Despite the significance of this variable, future research must pursue ways of developing a more thorough operationalizion of democratic structure. When using comparative analysis for selected cases, respondents in flawed democracies differed greatly from those in authoritarian regimes. The explanatory power of the model for authoritarian regimes was higher for variations in perceptions of legitimacy. This indicates that different factors are more relevant for legitimacy when using democratic structure as a basis for comparison. More research seems requisite to clarify this relationship.

There were several limitations in the present study. The first, although not necessarily a limitation, was the use of secondary data. There are numerous advantages when using existing data, mainly lower costs and efficiency. At the same time, the variables in the dataset were rather limited in regards to legitimacy. This project provides a basis for original research

designed to capture robust predictors relevant to legitimacy of police, courts, and other criminal justice entities in less advanced democracies. The Afrobarometer dataset, however, offered sufficient information to approach the research questions and add to extant research on the subject.

Furthermore, one of the major limitations was operationalizing legitimacy. The variables in the dataset only allowed for the use of trust. Many researchers argue against the use of a single indicator for capturing the depth of variables like trust (see Bradford et al., 2009; Jackson & Sunshine, 2007; Sunshine & Tyler, 2003). Tyler's (1990) original conception of legitimacy, based on two indicators (trust and obligation to obey), was the conceptualization adopted by the current project. Given the limited variables, only trust could be captured as an indicator of legitimacy. Tyler's conception has received many criticisms with continued research on the legitimacy of criminal justice organizations (see Bottoms & Tankebe, 2012; Meško & Tankebe, 2014; Tankebe, 2013). The state of the research, however, remains vexed on two important points; the first relating to the conceptualization of legitimacy and the use of procedural justice predictors. It is safe, at this point, to continue investigating the relationship with Tyler's original model, especially in non-traditional countries. At some point in the future, research might definitively state that this model is obsolete and ineffective, along with Tyler's conception of legitimacy.

Although type of government returned favorable results in predicting views of legitimacy in criminal justice organizations, more research seems necessary to confirm the use of proxy measures in this area. This approach is questionable considering the proxy measure merely included cases for respondents in certain countries. In other words, it might behoove researchers to develop comprehensive measures for democracy in an effort to clarify validity. In the context

of private security guards, Nalla and colleagues (2016) created a more comprehensive measure for democratic structure. A thorough measure similar to the one used in their study would behoove future researchers studying the effect of democratic structure on legitimacy. This would also allow for a more complex statistical analysis, like structural equation modeling, leading to a more profound account of how democracy and perceptions of democratic structure influence legitimacy of criminal justice organizations. Future research might benefit from studying continents like Africa and less advanced democracies. Understanding the legitimacy of criminal justice organizations depends on several factors and improvements remain imperative. One possible improvement involves elucidating citizen views of legitimacy under different governmental structures as done in the current study.

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