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Guest Editor's Notes

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GUEST EDITOR'S NOTES

I am happy to present this special issue of the *Journal of Rural Social Sciences*. This is an update to the *Southern Rural Sociology* issue published eight years ago (See *SRS* Vol 23, Issue 2). This issue has five articles focused on the specific problem of Rural Crime. Crime happens in a specific cultural and economics context so it is of no surprise that crime would be different in a Rural v. Urban environment.

The first article, "Judging the Effectiveness of Anti-Poaching Hotlines," presented by Green focuses on the efficacy of toll-free hotlines to report wildlife criminals. The findings of this pilot study provide recommendations as to ways to better publicize wildlife crimes. Biggar, Chen, and Forsyth use eight categories to explain the difference between Rural and Urban delinquency in their article entitled, "Criminal Futures on the Ruralside." Johnson and May in "Rural/Urban Difference in Inmate Perceptions of the Punitiveness of Prison" examine the Urban and Rural difference of the perception of punitiveness of prison by prisoners. Next, May et al. look at school resource officers (SROs) and the issues of widening the net in the article "Do Rural School Resource Offices Contribute to New-Widening? Evidence from a Southern State." SROs may encourage the widening of the net and this difference varies by Urban and Rural settings. Finally, Vazsonyi et al. look at online and offline bullying in their article "Online and Offline Bullying Perpetration in a Rural Development Context."

I want to thank my co-editor, Dr. Richard Hunley, for his hard work on this issue. Richard, unfortunately, passed away on June 26, 2016, before the Special Issue was completed. Richard grew up in Leslie County, Kentucky in Central Appalachia. Richard understood the nature of rural life. Richard worked for Berea College at the time of his death, a college that supports the mission of educating first-generation college goers. Richard was only 36 and had just completed a doctorate from Liberty University. He and I had published and helped students to publish. Richard leaves behind a spouse, Keisha, and many friends and co-workers who loved Richard.

Daniel W. Phillips III, Ph.D.