

Plural policing research reviewed

Recently, the use of systematic reviews has undergone an important growth. Systematic reviews add to academic knowledge through the systematic and thorough gathering of empirical research results on the basis of specific research questions, departing from a body of knowledge and literature on a certain topic. In this paper, we present the results of a systematic review on the topic of 'plural policing'. Plural policing is conceptualized as a '*network of power*' in which different policing actors are gathered for the provision and supervision of policing by governments, private parties, transnational policing institutions, political arrangements, markets in policing and security services, and by policing activities by citizens (Loader, 2000, 323).

That this pluralization carries certain dangers, has been subject of academic debate for years: blurring boundaries, in transparency and lack of (end)responsibility are a few examples of these debates (Bayley & Shearing, 1996; Loader, 2002). But never have these questions been dealt with systematically. In this paper, we aim to gather empirical research on exactly these questions and go into (1) dangers of blurring boundaries and if and how they are dealt with; (2) effects of plural policing on core tasks of the public police and (3) what does this imply for discretionary space of each policing actor.