

Week 4 Discussion Question 2
Due Day 5: Saturday

What communication changes do you foresee for criminal justice agencies and the criminal justice system over the next 10 years?

It is my belief that the biggest change in communication over the next 10 years is the recruitment and retention of bilingual officers. According to the United States census bureau there were 262.4 million people age 5 and up. Of those 47 million or 18% spoke a language other than english at home. (WWW.census.gov/language use and English Speaking Ability 2000). Therefore with statistics like this law enforcement in the United States must adapt our tactics and techniques so that we may address the needs of all community members.

The best way to do this in my opinion is either to recruit bilingual officer based on the population of the community rather than sending officer in the latter part of their career to language school unless the department offer some type of incentive and the officer showed an interest. The other suggestion I would make is contracting with various interpreters in the area that could respond to assist if needed. Another way to combat this language barrier is thru the use of computer technology. There is a computer program that the foreign language speaker speaks into and the computer program translates what is being said. This works in reverse as well with the officers words being translated into their native language.

Response 2

Currently, criminal justice still have open lines of communication. Especially when it comes to police officers who do majority of their communication via the net. Regardless of doing this, they still have meeting with their station commander from time to time. I foresee all of these types of communications falling by the waist side within the next 10 years. I expect to see more meeting held by video teleconference. The criminal justice system is more likely to revert to more internet driven communication.

The criminal justice system still utilize judges who are physically in the courtroom. I foresee this disappearing and video teleconference taking the place of actual individuals. In the next year, I see the up close and personal connection with the criminal justice system disappearing. Communication will become automated versus the interaction between individuals. I also think that trials will become done during a video teleconference. I think that will be exceptions to the policy for communication when there are cases which are more alarming. Again, I believe communication will begin to dissipated over the next 5-10 years and beyond into the future.

