Juvenile Justice Simulation Model

Scenarios
Baseline

- Projection of finalised appearances in Queensland Juvenile Courts to 2010
- Offending behaviour consistent with 1999-2001 profile
Finalised appearances by year

Baseline

<table>
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<th>Financial Year</th>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>4400</td>
</tr>
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</table>

LEGEND
- Baseline - Non-Ind.
- Baseline - Ind
Scenario 1
Developmental Crime Prevention Program

Program Description:
Family based program aimed at 5 to 10 year olds to be implemented across entire state. Evaluations of similar programs have demonstrated a 12% reduction in initiation of juvenile criminal careers. It is assumed that a child requires at least 6 months exposure to the program to benefit from the results.

As a developmental program this intervention will only prevent the initiation of criminal careers. Therefore it will only act on young people who have had no prior exposure to the JJ system. (If the program is to reduce the overall rate of offending it should be identified as a “community” program.) Because the program stops initiation young people who benefit from it are removed from the system (hence the use of an exit block).

Parameter estimates are based upon the Farrington Meta Analysis of Family Based Programs
Notes: For non-Indigenous persons this program does not appear to show an impact until 2007. The program is aimed at 5 to 10 year olds. It will take at least 5 years for this group to reach the typical age for juvenile offending. On the other hand it appears that the program may be beginning to have an earlier impact for Indigenous young persons. This is consistent with the trend towards earlier commencement of offending for this group.
Scenario 2
Youth Justice Conferencing

Program Description:
• Police referral of young offenders to youth justice conferencing as an alternative to court.
• Referrals favour property offences and young people who have not had prior court appearances.
• A referral to the program will reduce the likelihood of recidivism by 20%.

Parameter estimates are based on the evaluation of the NSW conferencing program and the QLD pilot programs.

Diversion Rates:
1\textsuperscript{st} contact: divert 28\% of theft, 16\% violent and 10\% other (not including those already cautioned)
2\textsuperscript{nd} contact: divert 5\% of theft, 4\% violent and 2.5\% other offences
Program has immediate effect for both Indigenous and Non-Indigenous young persons. Over the 10 year period there is on average 15% fewer finalised appearances for non indigenous young persons and 13% fewer appearances for Indigenous young persons.

The bulk of the reduction in court appearances can be attributed to the diversion of matters to conferencing. Some of the reduction, however, will be due to the crime prevention effect of the program.
Scenario 3
Court ordered program

**Program Description:**

- All young people on community supervised orders are supervised through new youth justice services which are providing specialised support based on Multi-Systemic Therapy framework.
- A reduction in recidivism of 15% is anticipated.

Program Length has been set to 12 weeks for this simulation. If after receiving the program the young person re-appears within 12 weeks they do not lose the efficacy of the program, and the likelihood of them reappearing again continues to be 15% less than average. However, if they reappear after 12 weeks the efficacy value of the program is taken to be zero.
There is on average a 5% reduction in appearances each year for non-Indigenous young persons and a 15% reduction in appearances for Indigenous young persons over the 10 year period. This reflects the higher representation of Indigenous young persons on community supervised orders which this program is targeted at. It also probably represents an un-intended artefact of the program length (12 weeks) and the shorter time between reappearances for Indigenous young persons. It is difficult to know how to interpret / manage this effect.
Scenario 4

- This scenario simulates the impact of the three programs implemented together
This program combination will lead to a 31% reduction in appearances by non-Indigenous young persons and a 32% reduction in appearances of indigenous young persons at 2010.