

**Drug trafficking, the pressures of transnational organised crime on
the National Crime Agency (NCA) and Drug Enforcement
Administration (DEA), a comparative analysis of policing strategies
within the war against drugs.**

Author: Jamie Heslop

Supervisor: Hilary Miller

**A dissertation submitted in requirement for the degree of
BA Hons Criminology & Criminal Justice**

University of Essex

September 2017

Abstract

The following dissertation has been conducted to provide awareness into the prevalence of transnational organised crime in relation to the constant threat from drug trafficking. The study investigates the pressures drug enforcement agencies face within the war against drugs and how they currently implement strategies. . Currently, however, there is a void in research published comparing the NCA and DEA, and their transnational fight making this study imperative in analysing how these drug enforcement agencies are currently coping. As a result, the research was mainly retrieved from NCA and DEA documents which were processed within a rigorous systematic review of an inclusion and exclusion process to remove vast amounts of unnecessary literature. The research presented findings into criminological theory as to why drug traffickers exist such as social disorganisation and General Strain Theory. Such theories linked to strategies enforced to disrupt transnational drug supply through implementation of HIDTA's, National Control Strategies and the Southwest Border Initiative which findings show to be an imperative part of policing. It also became evident that current political restraints of Brexit and the Trump administration have become key areas of discussion which pose significant threats to the existence of current transnational strategies. The research concludes the importance of enforcement agencies policing strategies, presenting that without such policing skills, the transnational cartels would place the UK and U.S. communities in great detriment.

Acknowledgements

There are a few people I would like to thank for their support over the period while I conducted this dissertation. Firstly, I would like to thank my partner Nicola for her support, especially at times when I have been extremely stressed spending many hours locked away researching, and I am also thankful to her for supplying me with endless amounts of coffee, which was essential to function on most days.

I would like to also thank my dissertation supervisor Hilary Miller for the endless support I have received throughout the dissertation module, whom has been a fountain of knowledge in pointing me in the right direction when I have asked vast amounts of annoying questions regarding research.

List of contents

Abstract	i
Acknowledgements	ii
List of contents	iii
List of tables	v
List of figures	vi
List of abbreviations	vii

Chapters

1. Introduction	1
2. Literature Review	4
2.1 Introduction to literature purpose.....	4
2.2 Drug trafficking prevalence & theory.....	4
2.3 Review of strategies enforced.....	5
2.4 Literature on Political influence to policing strategies.....	8
2.5 Summary of literature.....	9
3. Methodology	10
3.1 Introduction to research philosophy.....	10
3.2 Research design.....	10
3.3 Sample.....	11
3.4 Data collection methods.....	12

3.5 Ethical Considerations.....	14
3.6 Limitations to research method.....	14
4. Findings.....	15
4.1 Results of criminological theory links to trafficking.....	15
4.2 Process of trafficking and effects.....	16
4.3 NCA's battle.....	17
4.4 DEA's fight for control of trafficking across borders.....	20
4.5 HIDTA's.....	21
4.6 Findings of political pressures.....	22
5. Discussion.....	23
5.1 Introduction.....	23
5.2 Making a trafficker, understanding criminological theory.....	23
5.3 Pressures of the trafficking process.....	24
5.4 Comparative analysis of policing strategies.....	25
5.5 Trump & Brexit, a political storm on the horizon.....	28
6. Conclusion & Recommendations.....	31
7. References.....	34
8. Appendices.....	42

List of Tables

Table 1	Level of Threat to UK from Class A Drugs.....	17
Table 2	NCA Comparative Class A Seizures.....	18

List of figures

Figure 1 Reasoning behind the behaviour in NCA.....15

Figure 2 General Strain Theory links to transnational trafficking.....15

Figure 3 Cycle of transnational drug trafficking.....16

Figure 4 Agent numbers over 4 consecutive years.....17

Figure 5 NCA disruptions to transnational trafficking 2015/16.....18

Figure 6 National Control Strategy (NCS).....19

Figure 7 4P's.....19

Figure 8 DEA 360 Strategy.....20

Figure 9 DEA HIDTA Initiatives.....21

Figure 10 Potential governmental threats.....22

List of abbreviations

DEA	Drug Enforcement Administration
EAW	European Arrest Warrant
EU	European Union
GST	General Strain Theory
HIDTA	High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
NCA	National Crime Agency
NCS	National Control Strategy
NDTAS	National Drug Threat Assessment Summary
ONDCP	Office of National Drug Control Policy
PRISMA	Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Review and Met-Analyses
SOD	Special Operations Division
SWBI	South West Border Initiative
TCO	Transnational Criminal Organisation
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Chapter 1

Introduction

Criminality has plagued mankind for many centuries, however, criminal activity adapts many forms and has evolved throughout time becoming more organised in its activities. Organised crime possesses many elements, however, one key area which possesses a prominent problem for a functioning society is the process of drug trafficking. Drugs have become one of most desired items of mankind for many centuries, and many individuals within society will do what they can to obtain them. The demand and supply has created a criminal sub group within the past from organised cartels such as Pablo Escobar's which supplies users with illegal means of transnationally trafficking illicit substances such as cocaine and heroin. It was former President of the United States Richard Nixon who first addressed traffickers with the notion 'War on drugs' in 1971 (Calderon, 2015:52). Richard Nixon stated the importance of the requirement of drug enforcement *"to strike at the 'supply' side of the drug equation – to halt the drug traffic by striking at the illegal producers of drugs, the growing of those plants from which drugs are derived, and trafficking in these drugs beyond our borders"* Nixon (1971) in (Keck & Correa-Cabrera, 2015:50).

The United Kingdom and the United states are currently at great risk from trafficking which is expressed by the current DEA director Chuck Rosenberg in Tasch (2015) who indicates that current trafficking places risk on functioning communities' due to heroin becoming cheaper and more accessible than prescription drugs, therefore it is critical that sufficient policing strategies are produced. With trafficking operating on an international scale, problems may arise for the National Crime Agency (NCA) and Drug Enforcement Administration in how they fight the war on drugs under current policing strategies enforced. These are prominent issues which require addressing, as current statistics provides negative results on both sides of the Atlantic that drugs are still entering communities on a large scale. Taking these issues into consideration provides motivation for this project in providing understanding of the pressures of transnational organised crime possesses on society by providing a

comparative analysis of policing strategies within the war against drugs which will determine if strategies within the UK and USA are adequate.

Observing criminological theory is also imperative to understand why individuals take part in such illicit activities, as Agnew (2012:35) suggests environmental strain theory influences may play a significant role. By providing investigation into such criminological theories, analysis can also be conducted to establish if such theory also plays a part in influencing decision making within drug enforcement policies. The main agenda surrounds policing strategies implemented by the NCA and DEA, therefore it is of great importance that modern literature such as the 2017 NCA National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime and the NCA Annual Plan (2016) be analysed and compared against the DEA's U.S. National Drug Threat Assessment Summary (2016). With this project being a modern study, there are current political implications which could hinder the progress of such drug enforcement agencies, as Jacobs (2017) suggests the Trump administration could dismantle past policies which have led to possible progress of tackling the war on drugs. From the UK's perspective, there is the dawning implication of Brexit which could be a possible disaster for the NCA's ability to apprehend drug traffickers through European arrest warrants. Political influences may seem speculation, however, this investigation will provide analysis of such accusations, as they pose possible risks to reducing drug enforcement efforts. To address such issues a set of objectives will be followed;

Objectives

1. Exploration and evaluation into criminological theory and how this may create traffickers and aid thinking in implementing enforcement strategies.
2. Identification of drug trafficking in relation to organised crime and the implications it poses on society.
3. Provide a comparison and evaluation of current policing strategies and policies used within the NCA and DEA.

4. Provide analysis of the current implications of the Trump administration on the DEA and Brexit on the co-operation of EU with NCA.
5. Conclusion of analysis and recommendations for future research.

These objectives are crucial in providing an understanding of current drug trafficking pressures, however, this can only be established through analysis of current literature which will be presented within the next chapter within the form of a literature review to express the true nature of the war on drugs.

Chapter 2

Literature Review

2.1 Introduction to literature purpose

This chapter explores how enforcement agencies cope with the process of organised criminality in relation to drug distribution. The review projects the scope of literature available regarding transnational drug trafficking and policing techniques currently adopted. Investigations into current literature will be established, conducting comparative analysis of agencies and how they adapt under the pressures of the illicit drug trade. Literature research conducted into the pressures of drug trafficking is imperative, as past and current pressures are factors in which could contribute to the implementation of policing strategies to address transnational organised crime and how it could evolve if not attacked by such agencies. Political literature will also be analysed, as current and future policies possess the potential to destabilise current enforcement strategies.

2.2 Drug trafficking prevalence & theory

Hall (2012:61) explains transnational trafficking through Globalisation of trade where criminalistics opportunities arise hiding drugs within shipments. Winterdyk & Miller (2014:399) express that traffickers weigh up pleasure against the pain and pursue the pleasure route of trafficking. However, social disorganisation theory literature in (Da Silva:221) suggests the possibility of the zones of transition causing trafficking due low economic status. This links to literature within Martinez et al (2008:13,14) that the illicit drug trade exists within Miami due to ethnic neighbourhoods within the inner-city area possessing highest rates of drug trafficking due to social disadvantages. Vlassis & Williams (2001:119) suggests Strain theory prompts transnational trafficking due to the prospect to succeed and become wealthy. NCA National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime in NCA (2017a:8) backs up strain theory in relation to organised criminals commencing their drug

trafficking career through greed. Agnew (2012:35) presents modern interpretations that drug trafficking occurs from strains of environmental influences. Understanding theory should prompt strategies based on prevention. This is essential as United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Srubar (2015:199) present a net annual figure of \$435 billion made by transnational organised crime. Pietschmann & Walker (2011:5) also present objective data from (UNODC) stating that most income from transnational organised crime derives from illicit drug trafficking, with figures doubling in relation to socio-economic effects, comparing the USA against the UK with a ratio of 3:1. Problems occur here within the U.S. and UK, as ratios present disastrous socio-economic effects caused by trafficking. The literature is credible, however, possesses minimal research into policing. NCA (2017b) provides accurate data, stating the cocaine trade traffics between 25-30 tonnes annually into the UK through transnational routes from Columbia by cargo vessels. Srubar (2015:200) validates that cocaine remains the main illicit substance trafficked into the USA and Western Europe by observing current statistics. Understanding the most common drug within Srubar (2015) is essential for policing strategies, however, the study requires more research into the agencies themselves.

2.3 Review of strategies enforced

HM Government (2013:9) provides foundations for NCA officers work within the Serious and Organised Crime Strategy which suggests how to deal with the pressures of drug trafficking. The literature explains how NCA agents are required to police trafficking through Pursue, Prevent, Protect and Prepare. The 4-p's strategy is objective due to its strategy to aid policing based on a fair analysis of past recorded data. The literature was produced within 2013 when the NCA was commencing its first duties, so by observing this literature, an indication can be made into how the NCA progressed into 2017 while facing pressures.

NCA Director Lynne Owens within National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime 2016 states '*The threat from serious and organised crime*

continues to evolve and has done so over the last year in ways that have attracted considerable and understandable public attention' (Owens 2016 in NCA, 2016a).

This quotation provides another justification to understand current policy and strategy of enforcement teams, especially when organised crime is evolving. NCA (2016a:9) provides figures of disruption through raids resulting in vast reductions of drugs entering the country equating to 275 arrests, 220 charges, and 250 disruptions. More successful data within this literature presents vital drug seizures in 2015 where NCA officers seized 3.2 tonnes of cocaine within the North Sea on its transatlantic route as part of the National Control Strategy (NCS) (NCA, 2016a:32). Recent literature also published by NCA (2017c) presents the disruption of 8 traffickers attempting to import vast amounts of heroin from Pakistan to London within industrial containers, and a Bentley vehicle holding large sums of cocaine trafficked from Belgium (NCA, 2017d).

NCA Annual Plan (2016:11) contains the National Control Strategy (NCS) which provides priorities in response to transnational threats of trafficking by adopting the 4 p's and the Risk, Response and Results framework. This literature explains how NCA enforcement officers should adapt policing skills to the ongoing drug war, linking well with literature in Holmes (2016:26) describing pressures enforcement face from terrorist links to drug trafficking. Holmes presents vital information that the USA National Security Council in 2011 reported 63 known OC groups including Hezbollah and al-Qaeda which were now conducting drug trafficking to fund terrorism. Taking this literature into consideration, it can be seen how critical transnational policing is of such trafficking activity, and the importance of U.S. policing strategies.

DEA policing became evident within the National Drug Threat Assessment Strategy in U.S. NDTAS (2016) providing an in-depth assessment of the pressure from Transnational Criminal Organisations (TCO's) such as Mexican drug cartels and how DEA agents disrupt underground tunnel supplies across borders. More policies are introduced regarding policing heroin through the DEA 360 strategy in (DEA, 2016). This is designed to hit drug traffickers hard by targeting all structure levels of TOC's

by supplying local authorities with necessary resources and community engagement (U.S. NDTAS, 2016:63). The 194-page literature seems to be well documented providing past and current DEA strategies, and will be an asset to understanding policing of transnational organised crime within this study.

The National Drug Control Strategy (2016) supports the DEA in reducing illicit drugs entering the US by working internationally to destroy cultivation and production (Whitehouse, 2016:1). Whitehouse (2016:52) also suggests that cocaine trafficking from the Andean Ridge is increasing despite the work of the DEA destroying coca cultivation. Analysis of literature possibly suggests these countries possess non-compliance with the DEA, however, it could suggest that the DEA are not adapting sufficient policing skills. However, an article by Rosenbaum (2015:46) provides further transnational analysis of confirming factual information that 13 DEA task forces work in Columbia in conjunction with Columbian police services to disrupt supply of the farm to arm process. Contrasting views within literature occur here, which presents validity of this research project to investigate further.

Sacco (2014) brings validity to information expressed due to possessing analyst skills within illicit drugs and crime policy, which is essential to studying this diverse area. Literature within Sacco (2014:17) describes that the DEA possesses 259 state and local task forces which include the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) which share a wealth of expertise and information within trafficking enforcement. Research by Sacco (2014:17) states HIDTA previously implemented 2,190 DEA Special Agents in the war against drugs. Agent numbers presented by the author provides an understanding of resources which have been implemented previously in 2014, and future analysis of this data may be able to determine success or failure in policing. However, literature within DEA (2017a) states there are only 600 special agents policing the HIDTA which differs greatly to the figures within Sacco (2014). Further comparative analysis of literature will be required to determine the difference in figures, as a dramatic drop in special agents in two years may possibly hinder policing strategies.

A longitudinal study within Keck & Correa-Cabrera (2015:57) provides data over a 10-year period of how increasing the numbers of transnational policing across the southern border of the U.S. possesses a significant correlation in advancing cocaine seizures. Researching longitudinal literature provides more validity in conclusions, and will help determine how certain strategies improve or deter policing initiatives over time, providing credibility. Such data led to the creation of the Southwest border initiative (SWBI) within DEA (2017b) which disrupts class A supply over the southwest area by attacking all levels of the cartels. Literature within DEA (2017a) also provides data to analyse, such as number of HIDTA units, and in which states (see *appendix 1*), then explains the recent annual budget they received of \$250 million in 2016 from the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Literature surrounding budgets is essential for understanding policing of transnational organised crime, especially within today's political climate.

2.4 Current literature on Political influence to policing strategies

Literature by the United States General Accounting Office in GAO (1998) possesses vital statistics showing progression of HIDTA programs from 5 in 1990 to 20 in 1998. DEA (2017a) presents an increase of 28 HIDTA's in 2017, when comparing these literatures, it opens the door for analysis that there's an essential need for more HIDTA programs. However, within Jacobs (2017) a detrimental analysis of the Trump administration is observed, as the author states President Trump seeks to cut 96% of the ONDCP budget from \$388 million to \$24 million affecting the HIDTA's progression. This author's information could be damaging for the DEA to police effectively, however, these changes have not come into effect, therefore leaves literature open to criticism. Recent critical literature has surfaced within Kleiman (2017:137) producing information that the Trump administration will scrap the Affordable Care Act within Obamacare which will leave 20 million drug users without substitution therapy. This article provides concerns, as it could increase pressures on the DEA when users do not receive treatment, as the drug epidemic will rise therefore requiring more effective policing strategies.

The Royal Institute of International Affairs in Gomis (2016) states the NCA are challenged by Brexit, due to the UK relying on an international cooperation, and Brexit would sever communication between European law enforcement agencies placing detriment on the issue of European arrest warrants. The author here provides reasoning for these suggestions, as literature produced by the NCA (2016b) produces statistical information (*see Appendix 2*) that over a 5-year period the UK requested warrants to extradite 1,424 organised criminals. Parliament (2017) also stresses Brexit concerns providing a report that the Extradition Act 2003 would be compromised, which could affect convictions, as 64% of arrests currently lead to prosecution. NCA project concerns stating, *“leaving the EAW would ... pose a huge public protection risk to the UK”* NCA (2017) in (Parliament, 2017). Comparing this literature allows an understanding into how damaging Brexit could be on the NCA and how it implements future policing strategies against drug traffickers.

2.5 Summary of literature

On evaluation of the literature, findings surrounding the NCA was minimal within academic material, due to this, analysis will be more dependent on the NCA websites and documents, which presents factual statistics. By analysing the NCA website reports, this study will create a unique way of interpreting the findings and add new literature to the academic field. However, there is a vast amount of literature surrounding the DEA presented in the DEA National Drug Threat Assessment Strategy 2016 which provides a detailed statistical account of how the DEA fight the war on drugs on a transnational level. However, hindrances are also prominent suggesting that due to current political influences of the Trump Administration and Brexit there could be a disastrous consequence to policing strategies looming. As the evaluation of literature ceased there are sufficient topics to analyse within this criminal justice project which will provide much discussion surrounding the comparative analysis of policing strategies.

Chapter 3

Methodology

3.1 Introduction to research philosophy

Information presented within the literature review suggests a sufficient need to investigate the pressures of transnational drug trafficking, due to identification of pressures in which enforcement agencies face when policing borders. However, to conduct sufficient research into the in-depth nature of transnational drug trafficking and policing strategies, the research required a thorough observation of research methods to assist in creating a sufficient research design which presents the necessary documents required to answer the hypothesis. By presenting a methodological approach to this study, a valid awareness can be created.

3.2 Research design

Research was conducted through a range of secondary sources, collated within articles, websites and books. Materials possessed academic standard from credible authors which provided the research with reliable information creating validity of where the information was retrieved reducing criticism of this study when results are comparatively analysed. Comparatively analysing secondary sources rather than primary sources is more efficient and accessible, as academic authors literature possesses more advanced summary skills with an objective approach in presenting data (University of Sunderland, 2013).

Quantitative and qualitative methods were analysed, as literature possessed both observational studies or numerical findings. Greetham (2009:181) states quantitative data is objective and empirical by analysing numerical data, and qualitative is written presenting feelings, beliefs and attitudes. This research possesses mostly qualitative sources, however, when referring to data surrounding drug seizures, quantitative methods were included. Bachmann & Schutt (2015) state secondary research can

surround either historical, comparative, or content analysis. Understanding these methods, allowed this research to adapt an efficient method based on a systematic literature review of secondary sources.

Childs (2014:1) states a systematic approach allows rigorous methods of analysis by projecting what can be learnt from the results of relevant material, which was imperative when learning the effects of drug trafficking on policing strategies, as this research possessed no place for irrelevant material. A narrative review was considered, however, Patwari (2014) suggests narrative reviews are not rigorous in material selection, as the process mainly involves reading, reviewing and presenting a conclusion. Siddaway (2014:5) suggests a systematic approach provides the most relevant literature through a sifting process placing research into an inclusion or exclusion criteria after sampling. Inclusion criteria consisted of keeping relevant peer reviewed data such as statistical figures surrounding the quantity of drugs imported, arrest statistics from Europe, class A drugs of cocaine and heroin over recent years. Exclusion criteria became a common process, as a large quantity of governmental documents possessed irrelevant material such as past dates, irrelevant legislation and irrelevant drugs and classifications such as controlled prescriptions.

3.3 Sample

With implementing a systematic process, participants were not required which excluded questionnaires and interviews. The literature itself represented the sample providing key areas surrounding transnational drug trafficking. The main source of retrieval resided within the Kaplan University Online Library, National Institute of Health, Wiley Online Library, and Google search engine (reliable websites only) such as the NCA and DEA websites. Validity was the reason to make sure no unreliable information became part of the literature analysed within data collection. Duke University Medical Centre (2017) concurs with the use of reliable sources within peer reviewed articles and official websites suggesting that researchers should conduct a thorough review of related databases and official articles which relate to the research

question and not proceed on a tangent. Understanding validity and reliability within the samples was imperative, as a vast quantity of unreliable information presented itself online which possessed irrelevance. However, a rigorous sampling technique removed such undesirable literature.

3.4 Data collection methods

Data collection required systematic retrieval processes searching academic journals within university libraries where relevant screening commenced. On retrieval, research commenced by searching within government websites such as Parliament.co.uk, Gov.UK and official NCA and DEA websites. To retrieve official statistical information, the US Department of justice websites such as DEA.gov were heavily screened through a PRISMA process (*See appendix 3*). Gopalakrishnan & Ganeshkumar (2013) suggest once all the necessary literature is collated, there is the requirement of sifting, which requires a pre-screening stage involving decisions of which literature to retrieve in full. Pre-screening occurred within information retrieval such as the Kaplan Online library when retrieving articles by Agnew (2012) where validity assessments were carried out (*see appendix 4*), into author credentials, whom is a criminologist with vast readings into qualitative criminological research.

A repeat process occurred within Kleiman (2017) (*see appendix 5*) which was pre-screened by observing the authors past work. Many articles within journals did not suffice for this study even though they possessed academic reliability. Exclusion occurred in relation to relevance due to document age, as this study required recent figures to understand the current pressures. While obtaining statistical data surrounding drug enforcement policies, it was imperative that the official US and UK government websites were screened. Information within Sacco (2014) possessed irrelevance for this study due to policies ranging from the 1950's, however, the literature also provided recent data surrounding policies, therefore contained inclusion and exclusion material (*see appendix 6*). Obtaining statistics from 2016

required another systematic screening within the U.S. Department of Justice DEA 2016 National Drug Treat Assessment Summary which contained a large quantity of statistics over previous years to present day. To commence sifting, a PRISMA based inclusion and exclusion system was conducted (*See Appendix 7*) due to the document possessing 194 pages.

Implementation of PRISMA diagrams presented rigor within selection criteria, as PRISMA's indicated the process of inclusion and exclusion. Ham-Baloyi & Jordan (2015:123) express the requirement for a rigorous approach, as systematic reviews are more in-depth by searching, selecting and appraising the work for the study, compiling all literature to produce a synthesis worth discussing. Without rigour, the study would be a biased traditional literature review where the researcher selects what they prefer. The process was applied for the U.S. National Drug Control Strategy 2014, 2015, 2016 which all contained over 300 pages (*see appendix 8*). This research is focused on identifying the relation between the pressures of drug trafficking and policing strategies, therefore only essential information surrounding the most common illicit drugs such as cocaine and heroin trafficking across the US border was relevant, which placed other narcotic information within exclusion parts of the diagram.

Conducting the retrieval process within NCA documents was imperative, so a systematic process continued by sifting the agencies official documents within the NCA Annual Plan (2016) and NCA National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised crime (2016), as these were large documents containing various material which were part of the inclusion and exclusion process (*see appendix 9*). However, compared to the DEA documents, the NCA possessed a more lenient reviewing process due to minimal information being present, however, most of information retrieved was relevant. Minimal exclusions did occur within NCA documents due to irrelevance of crimes such as human trafficking and gun crime which possessed no place within this study.

3.5 Ethical considerations

With investigating such a complex and dangerous subject area, it was not ethical to conduct primary research due to the dangers organised crime could pose on the researcher. Secondary research was priority therefore ethical approval was granted by the University of Essex ethics board for a secondary research investigation. By implementing a systematic literature review of secondary research, the potential for bias was reduced where a certain result could not be coerced. Research Ethics Guidebook (n.d.) suggests ethical implications of implementing a systematic review in regards that authors literature used in the research may not have been ethical in their own research. However, information within this research analysis was rigorous where no literature passed the inclusion criteria if there were reasonable suspicion that primary researchers may contain unreliable results and cause possible ethical implications on any participants involved within the literature chosen.

3.6 Limitations to research method

Limitations to this approach was that no officers from the NCA or DEA would be used to provide input for this research due to the complexities of the subject area being investigated which could have been influential to the study providing experiences and extra information. Gopalakrishnan & Ganeshkumar (2013) state more limitations that the researcher must be aware not to just pick information that will provide the desired answer to the research question. Taking this into consideration the research question within this study did not specify a required outcome but to provide awareness and prominence of organised criminality on enforcement strategies, so minimal bias from the limitation can be observed here. Mallet et al (2012:449) also suggests that a systematic review can create bias by only possessing one researcher, as there is the temptation for subjectivity rather than objectivity. However, this research presented how the information was retrieved within PRISMA diagrams promoting the validity of the research through inclusion and exclusion presenting no requirement secondary approval.

Chapter 4

Findings

4.1 Results of criminological theory links to trafficking

When collating the information, it seemed that there was a critical need to present the behaviour behind why drug trafficking occurs, as suggested in (Figure 1);

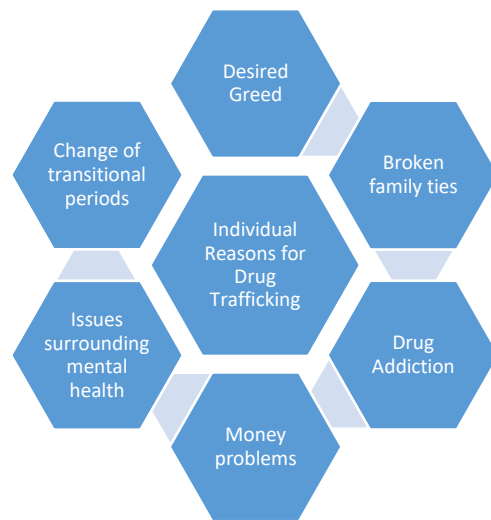


Figure 1. Reasoning behind the behaviour, NCA (2017a:8).

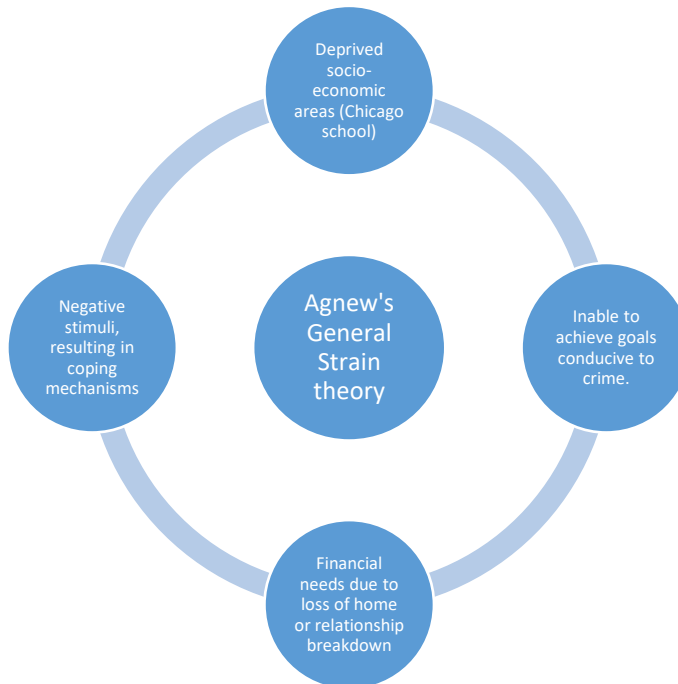


Figure 2. General Strain Theory links to transnational trafficking

Agnew (2012:34,35) within (Figure 2) presents how General strain theory emerges into drug trafficking behaviour. These behaviours links to criminological theory data within DEA.gov (2017) surrounding sentencing tariffs which presents the potential risk of being caught trafficking leads to a lengthy prison sentence, (see appendix 10). Bentham's utilitarian literature within Windterdyk & Miller (2014:399) suggests drug traffickers are based on hedonism and seek the pleasure over the pain of punishment. Social disorganisation theory (see appendix 11) relating to Chicago school of criminology within Martinez et al (2008:13,14) projects social disorganisation within inner city Miami where drug trafficking is rife due to unstable ethnic heterogeneity, not being able to succeed and remove themselves from peer influence of drug induced neighbourhoods.

4.2 Process of trafficking and effects

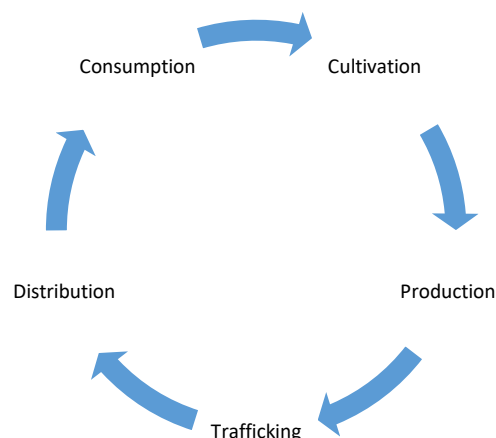
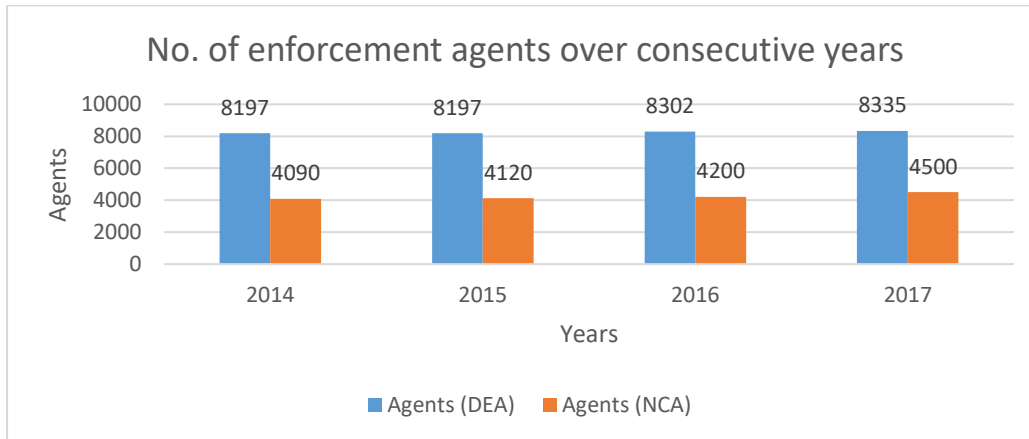


Figure 3. Cycle of transnational drug trafficking (Jenner, 2014:65)

Observing (Figure 3) presents the illicit process. Class A drugs trafficked costs the UK economy £10.7 billion annually (NCA, 2017b) and the U.S. \$330 billion NDTAS (2016). Currently the UK spends £443 million (NCA, 2017a) providing an extra £200 million between 2016-2020 (NCA Annual Plan, 2016:23), compared to the U.S. ONDCP which currently provides the DEA with \$2 billion (see appendix 12). Budgets

feed policing strategies which require NCA and DEA agents, as presented within (Figure 4).



Source: DEA (2017c), NCA (2016a)

Figure 4. Agent numbers over 4 consecutive years.

4.3 NCA's battle

Disruption to transnational drug trafficking occurred greatly over the past year due to the NCA's policing strategies, as NCA (2017c) presented results that eight heroin traffickers were pursued within Birmingham trafficking £10 million worth (165kg) of heroin within industrial containers from Karachi (Pakistan) to London Gateway port causing threats to the UK.

Table 1

Level of Threat to UK from Class A Drugs

	Cocaine	Heroin
2014/15	High	High
2015/16	Medium	Medium

Source: Home Affairs Committee (2014:42), NCA (2016a:8)

Information within (Table 1) data presents a decrease in policing priority compared to the previous year falling from high to medium risk. For more recent threat levels and policing counter strategies (see appendix 13).

Table 2

NCA Comparative Class A Seizures

Drug	Seized 2013/14	Seized 2015/16
Cocaine	69.8 tonnes	55.7 tonnes
Heroin	4.5 tonnes	3.8 tonnes

Source: NCA (2016a), NCA (2017b)

Information presented in the above table indicates a fall in the amount of drugs seized since the creation of the NCA in 2013 compared to latest statistics. More results of disruption are presented within (Figure 5).

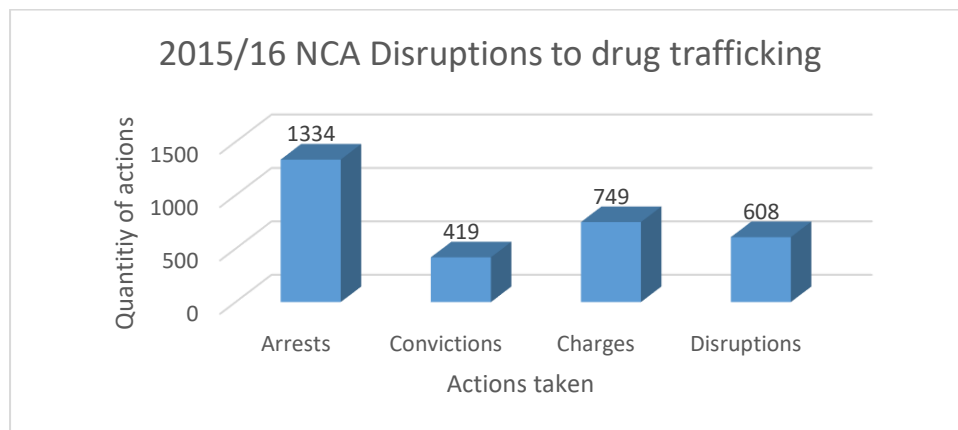


Figure 5. NCA disruptions to transnational trafficking 2015/16

The above data was retrieved within NCA (2016a:9). Results present disturbance through the NCA’s NCS, as presented within (Figure 6).

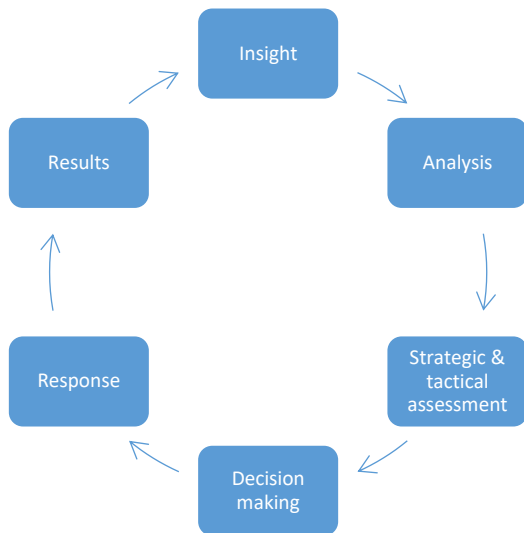


Figure 6. National Control Strategy (NCS) (NCA Annual Plan, 2016:12).

The NCS was implemented within the UK's southwest coast in joint forces with the French where 2.4 tonnes of cocaine were seized (NCA, 2015) and implemented in (NCA, 2017d) where NCA agents tracked and seized a Bentley vehicle with 30 kilos of cocaine trafficked from Belgium, (see appendix 14). Within this strategy also resides the 4 P's which have provided NCA agents with a progression tool.

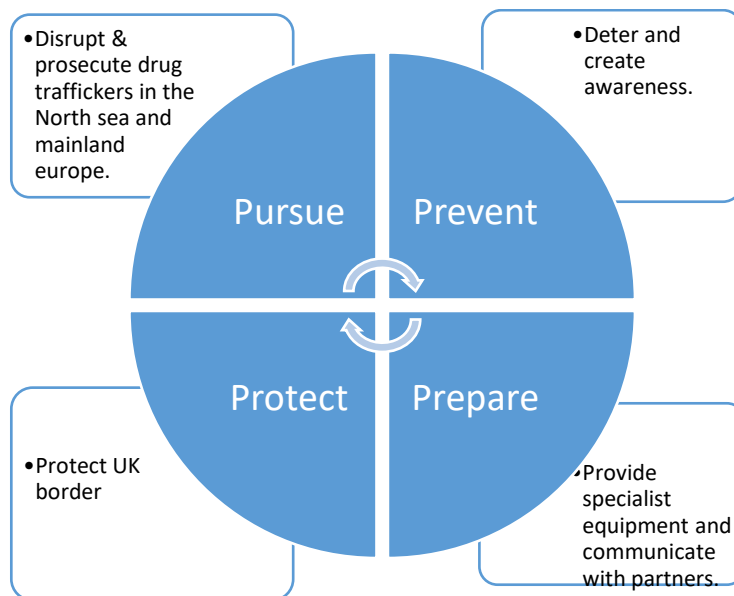


Figure 7. 4P's NCA (2016a)

4.4 DEA's fight for control of trafficking across borders

DEA agents work transnationally with Mexican and Columbian governments to reduce cocaine and heroin cultivation through implementation of the DEA Special Operations Division (SOD) conducting co-ordinated covert operations in Columbia and Mexico (Sacco, 2014:20). The U.S. NDTAS (2016) presents Transnational Criminal Organisations (TCO's) (see *appendix 15*) which traffic drugs from Mexico and Columbia over the southwest border where 33,000 gangs with 1.4 million members intercept products for distribution throughout the U.S. The DEA's awareness of TOC distribution led to the creation of the DEA Heroin 360 strategy which is still within its early stages with no results.

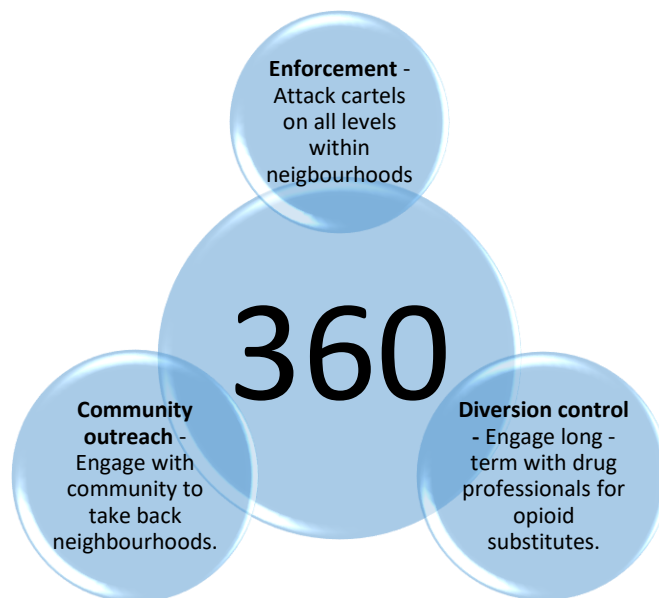


Figure 8. DEA 360 Strategy U.S. NDTAS (2017)

Sacco (2014:23) states heroin seizures within SWB increased by 320% between 2008-2013. U.S. NDTAS, (2016:17) also presents heroin seizure data equating 1016kg in 2010 to 2524kg in 2015 trafficked across Californian and Texan border, with 2120kg seized within the San Diego corridor quadrupling 2010 data of 229 kg seized. High seizures led to the creation of the Southwest Border Initiative (SWBI). DEA (2017b) literature suggests the SWBI disrupts heroin and cocaine trafficked over the southwest area (see *appendix 16*) by attacking the communication systems of drug cartels through wiretaps to understand where and how the drugs are

trafficked into the U.S. DEA (2017b) produce findings that the SWBI is effective with support of the Mexican and Columbian governments producing significant past seizures within Operation Zorro II and Operation Limelight resulting in 156 arrests and 22,000 kilos of illicit drugs equating to a sum of \$35 million. National Drug Control Strategy (2016:52) presented that there is cocaine resurgence within the U.S. with 5,415 cocaine related deaths in 2014 compared with 4,183 in 2010. Houston DEA field division reports the highest amount of cocaine used within 2015 (U.S. NDTAS 2016:90). The SWB was the main port for this cocaine in 2015 with 4130 kg seized in San Diego corridor, and 2056kg within the Rio Grande Valley, increasing by 41% between 2014-2015 (U.S. NDTAS 2016:98).

4.5 HIDTA's

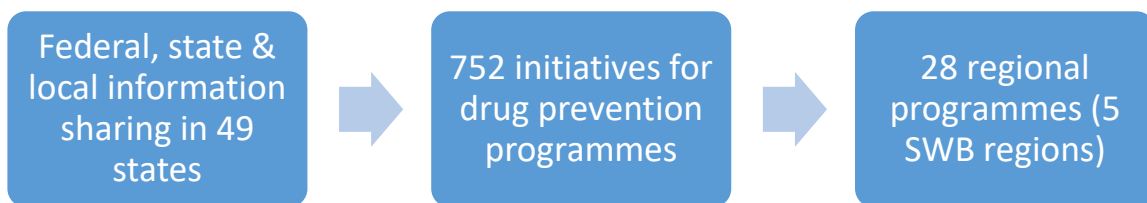


Figure 9. DEA HIDTA Initiatives (DEA, 2017a)

The Houston HIDTA Drug Prevention and Awareness Initiative reported recent successes, as the DEA worked closely with local police and treatment professionals to increase awareness of trafficking and substance (Whitehouse, 2017). HIDTA's are part of policing strategies, however, results show such initiatives may collapse due a declining budget (*see appendix 17*) and political influence.

4.6 Findings of political pressures

In 2015 32,000 U.S. citizens died from overdose by using drugs such as heroin and cocaine (Kleiman, 2017:135). The trump administration, however, plans to cut the ONDCP budget by 96% from \$388 million to \$24 million, seeking to eliminate the HIDTA program (Jacobs, 2017). More threats to policing strategies can be observed within (Figure 8).

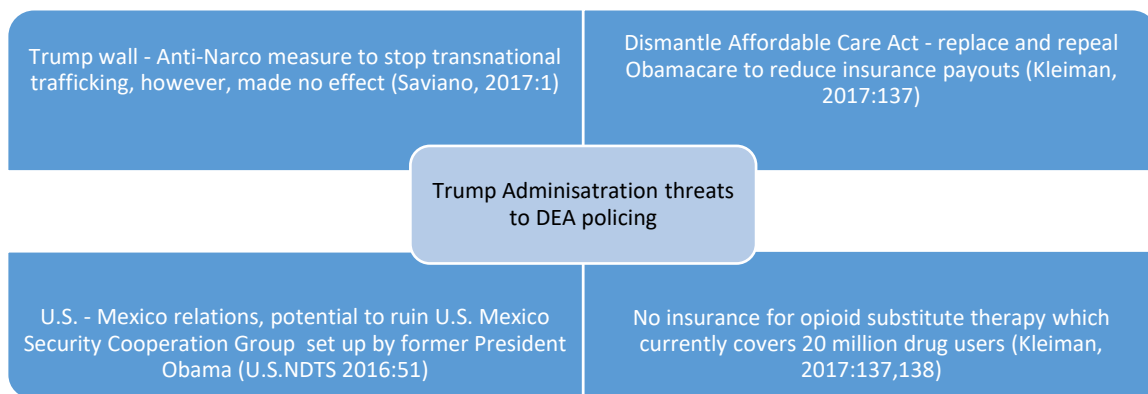


Figure 10. Potential governmental threats

In relation to Brexit Gomis (2016) suggests that the UK relies on cooperation with European law enforcement to conduct European arrest warrants, for NCA EAW data (see appendix 18). Results from NCA (2017a:11) within the latest National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime states Brexit causes uncertainty, however, may slow trafficking down due to closed borders.

As the chapter concludes there has been a range of information brought forward within these findings which will be analysed and discussed in more detail within the next chapter to gain a more in-depth understanding.

Chapter 5

Discussion

5.1 Introduction

The purpose of this study was to provide awareness of the pressures of transnational organised crime in relation to the rising influence of drug trafficking and how agencies police such criminality within modern society. This research was carried out through a systematic review of literature which presented awareness towards the pressures of transnational drug trafficking. Transnational drug trafficking has risen considerably for both the UK and U.S. therefore presenting the reasoning for this research to provide an understanding into which policing strategies are implemented. Once literature was analysed there was a range of results expressing positive and negative aspects towards current policing strategies. Within this chapter these results will be discussed in further detail through a comparative analysis of how policing agencies such as the NCA and DEA have coped under such pressures from highly structured drug cartels smuggling across the southwest border of the United States, and threats from European trafficking to the UK. As the discussion progresses the key policing strategies will be observed such as the 4 P's and National Control strategy, compared to the DEA's SWBI and HIDTA's programme to provide a true picture to the nature of transnational drug trafficking.

5.2 Making a trafficker, understanding criminological theory

Drug trafficking behaviour presented itself within a cycle in NCA (2017a:8) where a dominating factor surrounded a large desire for money leading to greed. On comparison of literature within Windterdyk & Miller (2014:399) Bentham's utilitarian principle adopted the greed principle suggesting drug traffickers seek pleasure, believing crime is worth the punishment. This suggests that traffickers believe punishments are worth incarceration (*see appendix 11*) for example possessing 28-279 grams of cocaine will result in 5-40 years' imprisonment (DEA.gov, 2016).

Literature expresses limited deterrence which pressurises agencies, as punishment possesses no bearings for traffickers to stop crossing the border, which will create more work for agencies. Individuals greed can be made content on commencement of the drug trade, due to high demand for illicit drugs due to addiction. Addiction became evident within National Drug Control Strategy (2016:52) presenting a resurgence of cocaine related deaths increasing from 4,183 in 2010 to 5,415 in 2014. In relation Kleiman (2017:135) presented data within 2015 that cocaine and heroin killed 32,000 U.S. citizens, compared to England and Wales death rate of 2,479 (NCA, 2017a:32). From these figures enforcement agencies can witness the scale of which these two illicit drugs possess on society and the possibility that policing strategies are inadequate leading to many deaths from not reducing supply.

Agnew (2012:34,35) implemented reasoning within General Strain Theory (GST) on the premise that low socio-economic areas may feel the strain of being unable to progress within society due to the ideal of the western dream of becoming wealthy. These low socio-economic areas breed negative stimuli relating to coping mechanisms where the negative stimuli are organised crime groups (Agnew, 2012:35). Martinez et al (2008:13,14) expressed negative stimuli's through research into deprived inner-city areas of Miami where social disorganisation is rife. Residing in socially disorganised areas may imprint on youths that drug trafficking is the way to gain wealth. This desire for wealth places pressure on enforcement agencies to produce sufficient policies to destroy cultivation and distribution before it reaches the UK or USA.

5.3 Pressures of the trafficking process

Jenner (2014:65) presented a cycle where cultivation leads to production within labs which are then placed into a range of items to be trafficked to the distributors/drug dealers which sell to addicts for consumption. This literature produced awareness to agencies of distribution methods, which in effect leads to the disruption of the transnational distribution. This was evident within NCA (2017d) when the NCA

disrupted a Bentley vehicle carrying 30 kilos of cocaine on route from Belgium. With NCA monitoring such supply processes they could disrupt distribution to dealers within the UK which reduces devastating effects on society.

An important objective to this study required understanding of pressures on enforcement agencies which was evident within NCA (2017b) presenting class A drugs create a negative equity of £10.7 billion. Concerns, arise here as NCA (2017a) stated the UK government currently funds the NCA with £443 million, with a further proposed £200 million up until 2020. Criticisms arise here, as figures did not provide reasoning that proposed funding will be enough to secure the UK border. The same notion occurred for drug enforcement across the Atlantic, as class A drugs damage the U.S. economy by \$330 billion when the DEA budget equates to a \$2 billion budget (DEA, 2017c). The budgets may be enough to address the transnational pressures; however, the literature provides no certainty that it will suffice to employ enough agents to police the war on drugs. However, data retrieved within (Figure 4) of the results section did possess a positive prospect that agent numbers are on the increase with the NCA employing 4090 in 2014 to 4500 in 2017, compared to the DEA which has only increased by 138 agents which is concerning considering the U.S. possesses significant economic damage and a transnational epidemic on their southwest border from cartels. Regardless of the data provided within the literature, for both agencies to win the war on drugs they will both require implementation of sufficient policing strategies.

5.4 Comparative analysis of policing strategies

On analysis of literature, a range of factors presented how the NCA and DEA dealt with transnational pressures through implementation of policing strategies. These strategies differed between agencies due to location and threat level. Home Affairs Committee (2014:42) presented cocaine and heroin threat levels were high between 2014/15 corresponding with the pressure of death rates within the U.S., however, the NCA (2016a) in 2015/16 downgraded the threat level to medium. Confusion within

literature arises here, as the downgrading suggests that policing strategies must be efficient in reducing supply and distribution of class A drugs. However, the very same publication within NCA (2016a) (see *appendix 15*) when assessing threats suggested otherwise, as literature presented cocaine resurgence trafficking from Ecuador to Belgium, then onto the UK by freight. Resurgence evidence was published within NCA (2015) presenting NCA co-operation with the French intercepting 3.2 tonnes of cocaine within the North Sea.

Since the creation of the NCA in 2013 literature suggests the agency has adopted sufficient policing strategies based on a decrease from 69.8 tonnes of cocaine and 4.5 tonnes of heroin seized in 2013/14 compared with 55.7 tonnes of cocaine and 3.8 of heroin seized in 2015/16. The decrease could be due to minimal drugs being trafficked, or agents are not intercepting shipments. However, reduction may be caused through implementation of the National Control Strategy (NCS). In NCA Annual Plan (2016:12) the NCS provided agents with a process of identifying sufficient ways to police transnationally by gaining insight to the potential threat for analysis, drawing up a strategic and tactical assessment which allows agents to decide and then respond by tactical manoeuvres of disrupting the supply to the UK. NCA Annual Plan (2016) produced how policing occurs, however, to prove such strategies worked, literature within NCA (2016a:9) backed up successful policing skills with disruption figures within 2015/16 presenting 1334 arrests which led to 419 convictions with an overall disruption of 608 trafficking processes. This literature indicated success considering the pressures enforced on the NCA, however, the literature showed that the NCS could only work through implementation of the 4P's strategy.

The 4Ps occurs through Prevent, Prepare, Pursue and Protect. Literature presented how such a strategy has prevented further trafficking through awareness to deter people from drugs, which mirrors the DEA efforts within the HIDTA initiative, prepare by communicating transnationally, and pursue on land, sea and air to protect the UK borders. In which occurred within NCA (2017c) when the NCA prevented 165kg of heroin from entering the country from Pakistan by preparing a plan to intercept

industrial containers, then agents pursued the traffickers once they entered Birmingham and disrupted the shipment on route providing protection for the UK border. The 4P's shows an adequate disruption to transnational trafficking and an effective thought out policing strategy, however, across the Atlantic within the U.S. their own DEA agents are fighting another front of the war on drugs.

The U.S. like the UK faces a war against transnational traffickers on an even larger scale within its southwest border region from Mexican and Columbian cartels (see *appendix 18*). U.S. NDTAS (2016) investigated the DEA's work within the southwest region with vast detail providing figures that there has been an increase in heroin trafficked over the Californian and Texan border quadrupling in amounts between 2010 and 2015, especially within the San Diego corridor which stretches from Tijuana to San Diego where 2120kg of heroin was seized compared to 229kg in 2010, and 4150kg cocaine which has risen by 41% between 2014/15. Sacco (2014:23) backs up the importance to understanding the scale of the transnational threat within the border region, as the DEA has seen a 320% increase of heroin traffic from Mexico over 5 years.

As a result, the DEA Special Operations Division (SOD) created the Southwest Border Initiative (SWBI) to disrupt supply from numerous transnational routes from Mexico into California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. They did this by targeting the Mexican and Columbian drug cartels by implementing wiretaps on communication frequencies, removing the cartel leaders with help from the Mexican and Columbian government (DEA, 2017b). This DEA policing within the SWBI projects successful strategies which led to apprehension of 156 prominent cartel members such as Joaquín Archivaldo Guzmán-Loera (El Chapo) from the Sinaloa cartel, seizing 22,000 kilos of cocaine and heroin worth a street sale of \$35million with help from the Mexican and Columbian government. Literature shows the significance of the DEA policing strategies with crucial transnational co-operation, however, there is a cause for concern that the Mexican and Columbian government are not doing enough to reduce cultivation as the amount being seized is increasing,

and the amount which breaks through the border by TCO's (Transnational Criminal Organisations) is incomprehensible.

U.S. NDTAS (2016) presented that TCO's include 33,000 different gangs residing within the U.S. which include 1.4million drug distributors awaiting the illicit drugs arrival to feed supply. Taking this literature into consideration, there is relevance for administering the Hight Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA). DEA HIDTA's expressed the transnational war on home soil implementing 752 initiatives within 28 regional programmes sharing information on a federal, state and local level funded by the ONDCP. U.S. NDTAS (2016:90) Houston DEA field division reported the highest level of cocaine consumption over recent years. Whitehouse (2017) projected that the Houston initiative apprehended traffickers through co-ordinating with drug rehabilitation agencies and communication through local law enforcement. This presents how the DEA polices transnational trafficking on a different level by not only attacking cartels, but rather fight the war on drugs at home so that addicts do not require the supply. Cooperation from law enforcement feeding the DEA with information provides apprehension of local dealers which will most likely lead to which cartels are supplying in which the SOD can proceed over the southwest border. It seems the HIDTA has become imperative, however, literature within the results section presented possible hindrances for the DEA from political agendas.

5.5 Trump & Brexit, a political storm on the horizon

The past 12 months has witnessed vast political change within the UK and the U.S. causing a chain reaction of possible detrimental effects on the NCA and DEA. Results presented that Brexit and the Trump administration could dismantle work gained in disrupting transnational traffickers. Regarding Brexit there is great concern regarding the NCA being able to disrupt transnationally, as literature within Gomis (2016) suggested the NCA disruption of trafficking is built on the foundation of international co-operation with the EU by implementation of European Arrest Warrants (EAW), and Brexit could possibly dismantle these future apprehension

techniques. Other literature within NCA (2016b) presented the importance of the EAW, presenting a need for extradition of trafficker's from Europe to the UK, equating 150 wanted in 2015/16. However, NCA (2016b) presented a mutual requirement for NCA policing within Europe regardless of Brexit, as data presented that the EU requires a significant extradition of traffickers from the UK equating 1586 in 2014/15 increasing to 2102 between 2015/16. Considering these figures can justify the requirement for international policing cooperation regardless of political strains, as the EU needs the UK more than UK needs Europe for transnational policing.

Since the Trump administration transgressed into the oval office, Jacobs (2017) provided literature stating that the ONDCP budget will be severed by 96% creating a \$364 million shortfall from the previous year. Concerns arise here for the DEA policing strategies, as the ONDCP provides the budget for such imperative strategies such as the HIDTA programme. Kleiman (2017:137) suggested that Donald Trump plans to dismantle the Affordable Care Act in which former president Obama created to provide health insurance to citizens with drug addictions. Problems arise here if the current 20 million addicts within the U.S. cannot receive opioid substitutes through insurance they will fall back within the cycle of requiring demand from drug traffickers to feed their habit which will in effect require more police resources to reduce supply.

Saviano (2017:1) presents that Trump plans to construct a wall across the Southwest border to keep drug traffickers out, however, there is no data to support that a wall will work and only serves to create tensions. The notion of constructing a wall may seriously disrupt U.S. – Mexico relations which is most likely to dismantle former president Obama's work who worked closely with Mexico to create an alliance against drug traffickers within the U.S-Mexico security alliance group (U.S. NDTAS, 2016:51). Creating tension with Mexico will no doubt create problems for DEA policing strategies, as suggested within the objectives of this research. DEA special operations rely on transnational co-operation to attack cartels on the

Southwest border and destroy cultivation within Mexico, and this can only be done through transnational cooperation to deter the continuous transnational pressures.

Chapter 6

Conclusion & Recommendations

After analysis into the war on drugs, it has become evident that literature provided sufficient awareness into the dark world of organised criminality which seeks to disrupt society. This was portrayed within the literature review providing sufficient sources regarding pressures of transnational trafficking, which allowed the study to address the research hypothesis and objectives surrounding policing strategies implemented such as NCA's National Control Strategy and make comparisons to how the DEA police the same war. On progression of research, an individual's deviant attraction to the role of trafficking was explained through implementation of the criminological theory objectives to the study within the form of social disorganisation and strain theory due to poor conditions and the desire for wealth. Literature within the discussion chapter made connections to such theory, in how agencies adapt policing methods to address such problems, which was evident within the HIDTA striving to gain cooperation in deprived areas before new traffickers emerge. However, recommendations for further in-depth research would be advised by conducting primary research with past drug traffickers within a safe prison/probation setting to obtain actual accounts of why individuals become traffickers. Then adequate links to theory could be established.

The methodological approach to the study was based on a systematic premise which conducted a fair and rigorous inclusion and exclusion process within PRISMA, however, it would be sufficient to recommend up to three researchers within future systematic reviews to reduce the possible assumptions for bias from academic critics. However, positive aspects of this research's methodological approach contributed a new type of literature surrounding the NCA in which has not been produced at present. This research has added academic analysis of how the newly formed NCA is adapting to the war on drugs which makes this study unique due to minimal literature previously published.

The main objective of the study was to comparatively analyse policing strategies; however, certain pieces of literature were more valuable than others such as the U.S. DEA National Drug Threat Assessment Summary and DEA.gov which possessed vast amounts of current qualitative evidence to analyse with the current pressure from cartels and the Southwest Border Initiative. However, when compared to the NCA there was minimal data sets published, therefore it would be recommended that the NCA should publish actual longitudinal data of the effects of strategies implemented such as the 4P's and the progress it possesses on apprehension and disruption of the transnational drug trade. Then secondary researchers could conduct efficient comparative analysis and met-analysis of large data sets to present significance. Research within this project, however, has proven significant in relation to analysis of policing strategies with minimal documentation from the NCA, as EAW and current seizures of cocaine and heroin data was retrieved to provide awareness of success from transnational strategies, providing enough data to compare to DEA seizures. One recommendation which could be made for the future is to contact the agencies themselves to obtain agent interviews through questionnaires so that experience within the field can be analysed.

In relation to the research objectives, the study required investigation of politics in which findings presented vast pressures on policing strategies. However, at present literature within this research has been speculation, as these chain of events are currently not in action. To analyse Brexit and Trump policies efficiently, further longitudinal research would be adequate within the future once policies are in place then a sufficient analysis can be carried out over a certain period to observe any effects towards agencies.

In conclusion, it would be fair to suggest this research has met the research objectives criteria, and established an imperative and unique grounding in producing awareness of the current pressures of transnational organised crime and how policing agencies adopt strategies within the everlasting war on drugs. A study such as this is not just for academic awareness but a way in which society can observe the true in-depth effects organised crime and drugs seek to destroy the moral

foundations of how society functions, therefore the war on drugs is a continuous battle in which the NCA and DEA will always continue to fight.

Chapter 7

References

Agnew, R (2012) Reflection on “A Revised Strain Theory of Delinquency”. *Social Forces* 91(1): 33-38. Online via Kaplan University Online Library at <http://eds.a.ebscohost.com.lib.kaplan.edu/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=1&sid=56878ea2-25fe-4ee1-a271-2e9cddb2a87e%40sessionmgr4006&hid=4205> [Accessed 29th May 2017]

Bachman, R. Schutt, R.K (2015) *Fundamentals of Research in Criminology and Criminal Justice*. London: SAGE

Childs, S (2014) Systematic Literature Review Methodology. Online via Northumbria University at <https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/static/5007/2008pdf/SLRmethodology.pdf> [Accessed 03rd July 2017]

De Silva, B.F.A (2014) Social Disorganisation and Crime: Searching for the Determinants of Crime at the Community Level. *Latin American Research review* 49(3): 218-230. Online via Kaplan University Online Library at <http://eds.a.ebscohost.com.lib.kaplan.edu/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=3&sid=542fdc90-e285-4e66-b5c6-e9709cdbe23e%40sessionmgr4007> [Accessed 20th July 2017]

DEA.gov (2016) Federal Trafficking Penalties. Online via Drug Enforcement Administration at <https://www.dea.gov/druginfo/ftp3.shtml> [Accessed 03rd June 2017]

DEA (2016) 360 Strategy. Online via Drug Enforcement Administration at <https://www.dea.gov/prevention/360-strategy/360-strategy.shtml> [Accessed 20th May 2017]

DEA (2017a) DEA Programs: High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTAs). Online via Drug Enforcement Administration at <https://www.dea.gov/ops/hidta.shtml> [Accessed 19th May 2017]

DEA (2017b) DEA Programs: Southwest Border Initiative. Online via United States Drug Enforcement Administration at <https://www.dea.gov/ops/sbi.shtml> [Accessed 14th July 2017]

DEA (2017c) FY 2017 Budget Request at a Glance. Online via Drug Enforcement Administration at <https://www.justice.gov/jmd/file/822096/download> [Accessed 05th July 2017]

Duke University Medical Centre (2017) Introduction to evidence based practice: Evaluating a Systematic Review. Online via Duke University at <http://guides.mclibrary.duke.edu/c.php?g=158201&p=1036073> [Accessed 11th July 2017]

GAO (1998) Drug Control: Information on High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program. *United States General Accounting Office*. Online via Kaplan University Online Library at <http://eds.a.ebscohost.com.lib.kaplan.edu/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=cc8e0e13-b88d-441a-a474-76a1bea97d22%40sessionmgr4009&vid=2&hid=4210> [Accessed 19th May 2017]

Greetham, B (2009) *Palgrave Study Skills: How to Write Your Undergraduate Dissertation*. Hampshire: Palgrave macmillan

Gopalakrishnan, S. Ganeshkumar, P (2013) Systematic Reviews and Meta-analysis: Understanding the Best Evidence in Primary Healthcare. *Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Care* 2(1): 9-14. Online via PMC at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3894019/?report=reader> [Accessed 03rd July 2017]

Gomis, B (2016) Brexit Would Impair Britain's Ability to Tackle Terrorism and Organized Crime. Online via Chatham House: The Royal Institute of International Affairs at <https://www.chathamhouse.org/expert/comment/brexit-would-impair-britain-s-ability-tackle-terrorism-and-organized-crime#> [Accessed 20th May 2017]

HM Government (2013) Serious and Organised Crime Strategy. *Cm 8715*. Online via HM Government at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/248645/Serious_and_Organised_Crime_Strategy.pdf [Accessed 16th May 2017]

Hall, S (2012) *Theorizing Crime and Deviance: A New Perspective*. London: SAGE

Holmes, L (2016) *Advanced Introduction to Organised Crime*. Cheltenham: Elgar

Ham-Baloyi, W.T. Jordan, P (2015) Systematic review as a research method in postgraduate nursing education. *Health SA Gesondheid* 21: 120-128. Online via University of Johannesburg at

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1025984815000228> [Accessed 11th July 2017]

Home Affairs Committee (2014) The work of the National Crime Agency. Online via Parliament.UK at <http://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/home-affairs/NCA-written-evidence.pdf> [Accessed 11th July 2017]

Jenner, M.S (2014) 'Drug Trafficking as a Transnational Crime', in P. Reichel & J. Albanese. *Handbook of Transnational Crime and Justice* (eds). London: SAGE, pp65-85. Online via Kaplan University Online Library at <http://eds.a.ebscohost.com.lib.kaplan.edu/eds/ebookviewer/ebook/bmxlYmtfXzk4Njc4NV9fQU41?sid=625e673e-2557-433f-99ac-cbeea8f87f7f@sessionmgr4008&vid=1&format=EB&rid=12> [Accessed 20th July 2017]

Jacobs, H (2017) Trump is planning to effectively kill the office that has traditionally spearheaded the 'War on Drugs'. Online via Business Insider UK at <http://uk.businessinsider.com/trump-ondcp-war-on-drugs-director-2017-5?r=US&IR=T> [Accessed 19th May 2017]

Kleiman, M.A.R (2017) High Stakes: The Future of U.S. Drug Policy. *Foreign Affairs* 96(2): 130-139. Online via Kaplan University Online Library at <http://eds.b.ebscohost.com.lib.kaplan.edu/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=4841779f-f704-4112-be42-812aa254a047%40sessionmgr120&vid=3&hid=117> [Accessed 28th May 2017]

Keck, M. Correa-Cabrera, G (2015) U.S. Drug Policy and Supply-Side Strategies: Assessing Effectiveness and Results. *Norteamérica* 10(2): 47-67. Online via Kaplan

University Online Library at

<http://eds.b.ebscohost.com.lib.kaplan.edu/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=a3448ae3-13d8-423c-b26f-30731a8e50bb%40sessionmgr120&vid=2&hid=121> [Accessed 19th May 2017]

Martinez, R. Rosenfeld, R. Mares, D (2008) Social Disorganization, Drug Market Activity, and Neighborhood Violent Crime. *National Institute of Health* 43(6): 846-874. Online via ncbi at

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2719901/pdf/nihms116324.pdf> [Accessed 22nd July 2017]

Mallet, R. Hagen-Zanker, J. Slater, R. Duvendack, M (2012) The benefits and challenges of using systematic reviews in international development research.

Journal of Development Effectiveness 4(3): 445-455. Online via Routledge at <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/19439342.2012.711342> [Accessed 09th July 2017]

NCA (2015) Direct from Colombia: 2.4 tonnes of cocaine seized in the English Channel. Online via National Crime Agency at

<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/778-direct-from-colombia-2-4-tonnes-of-cocaine-seized-in-the-english-channel> [Accessed 01st June 2017]

NCA (2016a) National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime 2016. Online via National Crime Agency at

<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/731-national-strategic-assessment-of-serious-and-organised-crime-2016/file> [Accessed 16th May 2017]

NCA (2016b) European Arrest Warrant Statistics: Wanted by the UK: European Arrest Warrant statistics 2009 - May 2016 (Calendar Year). Online via National Crime Agency at

<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/european-arrest-warrant-statistics/wanted-by-the-uk-european-arrest-warrant-statistics/690-wanted-by-the-uk-european-arrest-warrant-statistics-2009-may-2016-calendar-year> [Accessed 20th May 2017]

NCA (2016c) NCA DG at Five Eyes Law Enforcement Group meetings in Washington. Online via National Crime Agency at

<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/875-nca-dg-at-five-eyes-law-enforcement-group-in-washington> [Accessed 07th July 2017]

NCA Annual Plan (2016) NCA Annual Plan 2016-17. Online via National Crime Agency at <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/683-nca-annual-plan-2016-17/file> [Accessed 16th May 2017]

NCA (2017a) National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime. Online via National Crime Agency at <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/807-national-strategic-assessment-of-serious-and-organised-crime-2017/file> [Accessed 20th July 2017]

NCA (2017b) Drugs. Online via National Crime Agency at <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/crime-threats/drugs> [Accessed 15th May 2017]

NCA (2017c) Eight facing jail over £10m Pakistan smuggling plot. Online via National Crime Agency at <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/1142-eight-facing-jail-over-10m-pakistan-smuggling-plot> [Accessed 02nd August 2017]

NCA (2017d) Bentley was mobile bank and drug distribution hub. Online via National Crime Agency at <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/1062-bentley-was-mobile-bank-and-drug-distribution-hub-2> [Accessed 02nd August 2017]

Patwari, P (2014) Intro to Systematic Reviews & Meta-Analyses. Available at <https://lrweb.beds.ac.uk/guides/a-guide-to-referencing/how-to-cite-you-tube-videos> [Accessed: 03rd July 2017]

Pietschmann, T. Walker, J (2011) Estimating Illicit Financial Flows Resulting From Drug Trafficking and Other Transnational Organized Crimes: Research Report. Vienna: UNODC. Online via Kaplan University Online Library at <http://eds.b.ebscohost.com.lib.kaplan.edu/eds/ebookviewer/ebook/bmxlYmtfXzQ1MDgyMF9fQU41?sid=f0a89728-e501-466a-8a01-1ab390933d1e@sessionmgr102&vid=1&format=EB&rid=1> [Accessed 15th May 2017]

Parliament (2017) Criminal Justice: Extradition Arrangements. Online via House of Commons at

<https://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201617/cmselect/cmjust/750/75005.htm> [Accessed 28th May 2017]

Research Ethics Guidebook (n.d.) Literature reviews and systematic reviews. Online via The research ethics guidebook at <http://www.ethicsguidebook.ac.uk/Literature-reviews-and-systematic-reviews-99> [Accessed 11th July 2017]

Rosenbaum, B (2015) Crafting US Policy on Drug Trafficking: An Interview with William Brownfield. 36(4): 46- 49. Online via Kaplan University Online Library at <http://eds.b.ebscohost.com.lib.kaplan.edu/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=8f036e9a-b4e4-441b-9eb6-3277b3a83202%40sessionmgr101&vid=4&hid=119> [Accessed 17th May 2017]

Sacco, L.N (2014) Drug Enforcement in the United States: History, Policy, and Trends. Online via Congressional Research Service at <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R43749.pdf> [Accessed 17th May 2017]

Srubar, B (2015) Breaking Bad Policy: Shifting U.S. Counter-Drug Policy, Eliminating Safe Havens, and Facilitating International Cooperation. *Houston Journal of International Law* 37(1): 197-233. Online via Kaplan University Online Library at <http://eds.b.ebscohost.com.lib.kaplan.edu/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=f0a89728-e501-466a-8a01-1ab390933d1e%40sessionmgr102&vid=5&hid=4205> [Accessed 15th May 2017]

Siddaway, A (2014) What is a Systematic Literature Review and How do I do One? Online via University of Stirling at <https://www.stir.ac.uk/media/schools/management/documents/centregradresearch/How%20to%20do%20a%20systematic%20literature%20review%20and%20meta-analysis.pdf> [Accessed 03rd July 2017]

Saviano, R (2017) WALL OF LIES: Why a barrier along the Mexican border won't stop the drug cartels. *Newsweek Global* 168(10): 16-17. Online via Kaplan University Online Library at <http://eds.b.ebscohost.com.lib.kaplan.edu/eds/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=1&sid=9238731f-3693-4ba2-994a-372da0486b90%40sessionmgr103> [Accessed 16th July 2017]

Tasch, B (2015) DEA: Drug overdoses are the single leading cause of injury death in the US. Online via Business Insider at <http://uk.businessinsider.com/new-dea-report-2015-11> [Accessed 21st August 2017]

University of Sunderland (2013) Primary and secondary sources. Online via University of Sunderland at <https://my.sunderland.ac.uk/display/psystude/Primary+and+secondary+sources> [Accessed 02nd July 2017]

U.S.NDTAS (2016) National Drug Threat Assessment Summary. Online via US Department of Justice at <https://www.dea.gov/resource-center/2016%20NDTA%20Summary.pdf> [Accessed 17th May 2017]

Winterdyk, J. Miller, A (2014) 'Transnational Issues Related to Corrections', In P. Reichel and J. Albanese. *The Handbook of Transnational Crime and Justice* (eds). London: SAGE, pp397-419. Online via Kaplan University Online Library at <http://eds.b.ebscohost.com.lib.kaplan.edu/eds/ebookviewer/ebook/bmxlYmtfXzk4Njc4NV9fQU41?sid=b2d1cde3-b9e4-42a3-83cc-cd6e54d9b339@sessionmgr104&vid=2&format=EB&rid=12> [Accessed 20th July 2017]

Whitehouse (2014) FY 2015 BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE SUMMARY: Companion to the National Drug Control Strategy. Online via The White House at https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/ondcp/about-content/fy2015_summary.pdf [Accessed 07th July 2017]

Whitehouse (2015) FY 2016 BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE SUMMARY: Companion to the National Drug Control Strategy. Online via The White House at https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/ondcp/policy-and-research/fy_2016_budget_summary.pdf [Accessed 07th July 2017]

Whitehouse (2016) National Drug Control Strategy. Online via Obama Whitehouse Archives at https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/ondcp/policy-and-research/2016_ndcs_final_report.pdf [Accessed 16th May 2017]

Whitehouse (2016) FY 2017 BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE SUMMARY: Companion to the National Drug Control Strategy. Online via

https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/ondcp/policy-and-research/fy2017_budget_summary-final.pdf [Accessed 07th July 2017]

Whitehouse (2017) High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Program. Online via USA.gov at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/high-intensity-drug-trafficking-areas-program> [Accessed 15th July 2017]

Bibliography

DEA (2017) Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force. Online via United States Drug Enforcement Administration at <https://www.dea.gov/ops/ocdetf.shtml> [Accessed 14th July 2017]

NCA (2016) Serious and Organised Crime Strategy – 4p's. Online via National Crime Agency at <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/716-nca-annual-report-2015-16-at-a-glance/file> [accessed 15th July 2017]

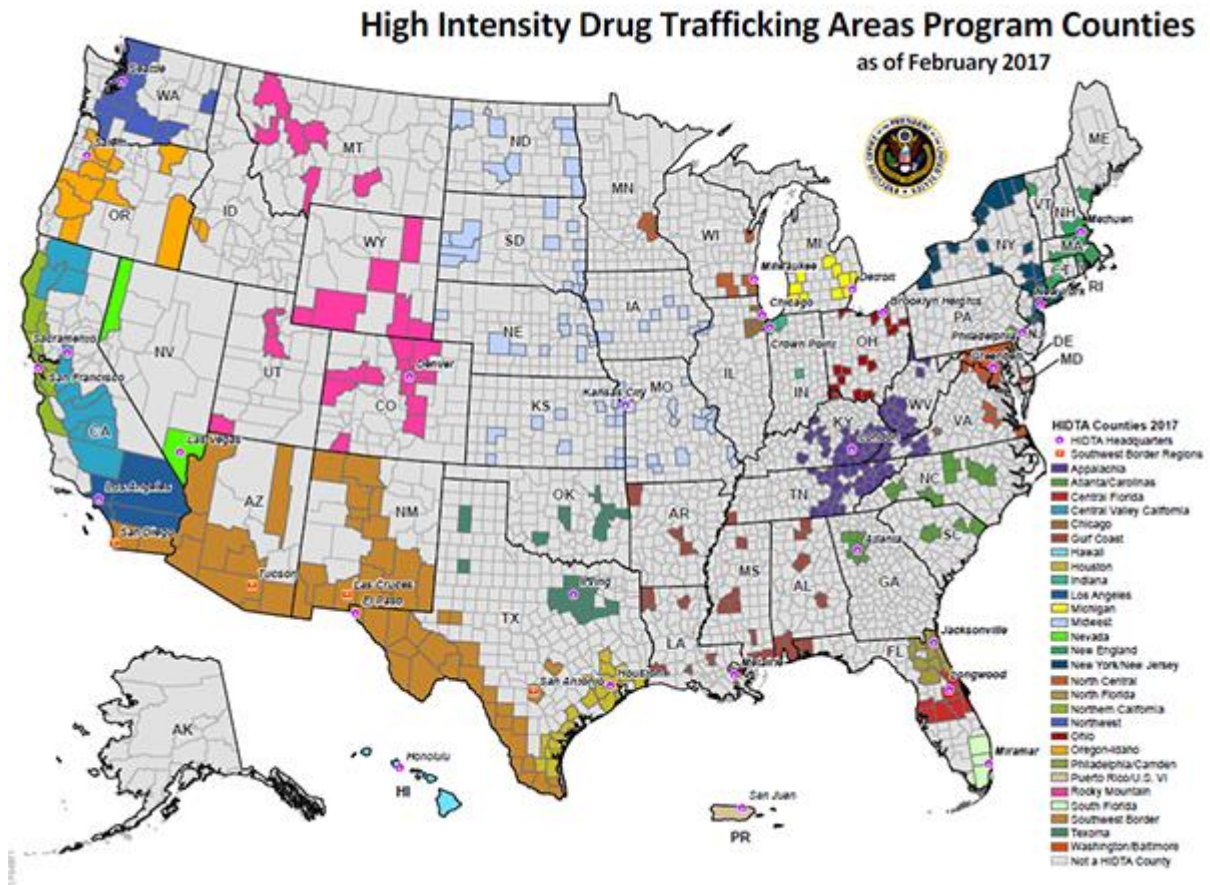
NCA (2017) About us. Online via National Crime Agency at <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/about-us> [Accessed 05th July 2017]

NCA (2017) Tracked through the Channel – fishing boat Bounty lands £200m cocaine haul. Online via National Crime Agency at <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/1131-tracked-through-the-channel-fishing-boat-bounty-lands-200m-cocaine-haul> [Accessed 20th July 2017]

Chapter 8

Appendices

Appendix 1



Map retrieved from DEA (2017) presenting all HIDTA areas in which the DEA currently fight on home soil.

Appendix 2

NCA European arrest warrants issued over 5 year period

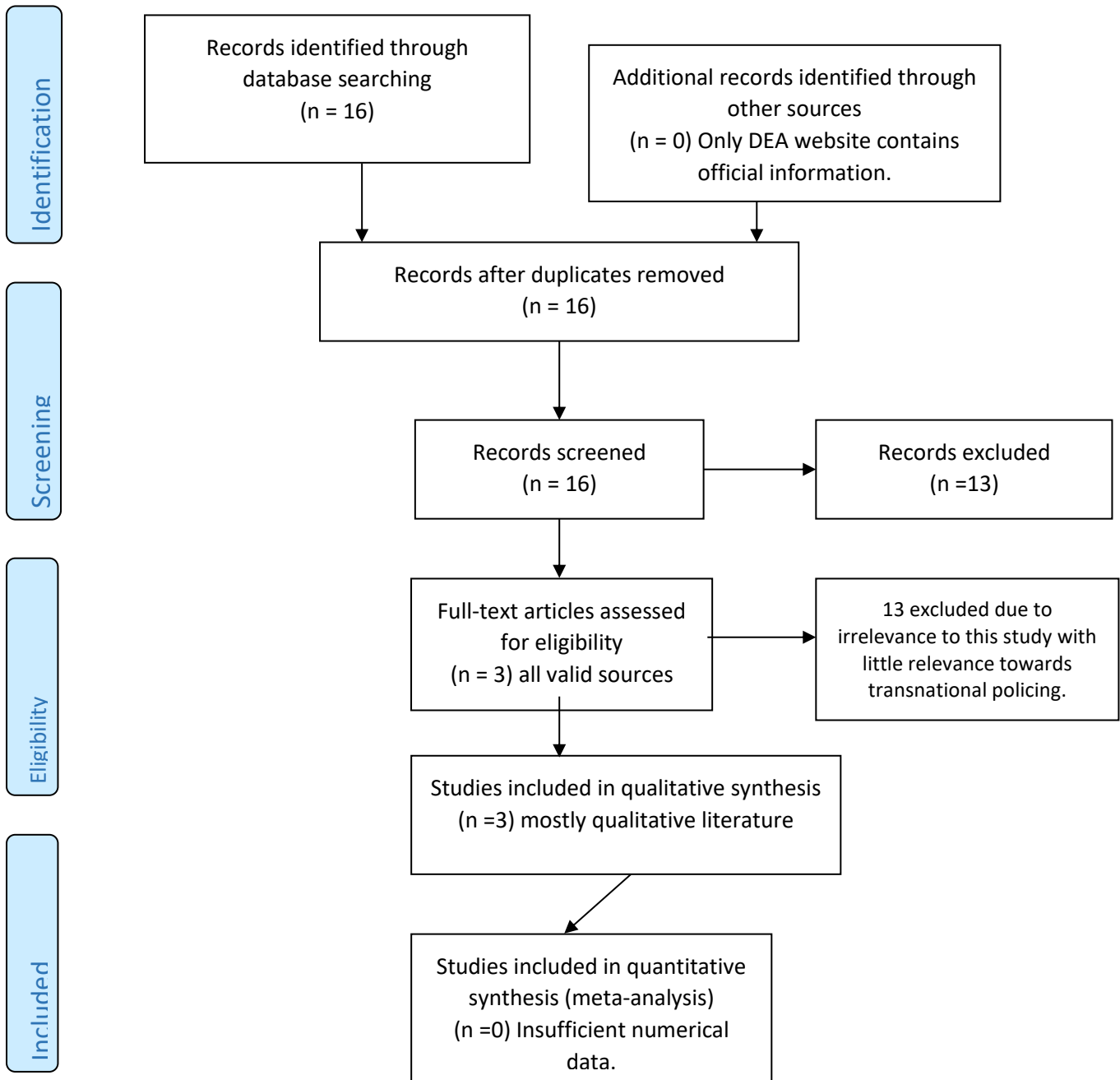
Part 3 EAWs - Calendar Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Requests	252	226	271	219	228	228	1,424
Arrests	141	151	148	170	156	150	916
Surrenders	133	136	136	127	145	123	800

Source: NCA (2016b)

Appendix 3



PRISMA 2009 Flow Diagram U.S. Department of Justice website (DEA.gov) search for DEA transnational initiatives.



From: Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med 6(7): e1000097. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed1000097

Source: Diagram retrieved from PRISMA, information within diagram conducted by researcher.

Appendix 4

Inclusion & exclusion screening of literature (All literature has been systematically reviewed within a fair process by assessing all literature which will present information for the research question being investigated).

Author: Robert Agnew (2012)

Credibility & Reliability: Professor at Emory University, renowned criminologist. Retrieved from Kaplan University Online Library.

Pages systematically analysed: 5 pages

Inclusion	Exclusion
Elements of strain theory such as monetary success, lower class struggling to achieve (Page 33).	Information regarding past work on strain theory and Agnew's explanation of 1985 article is irrelevant therefore excluded.
New General Strain Theory by Agnew (Page 34). This new criminological approach helps explain drug trafficking such as excitement, masculine status, and large sums of money in short periods.	Literature surrounding juvenile delinquency removed, as not sufficient for this study (page 34). However, there were interesting parts (page 35) which show how parental discipline reduces the potential chance of drug trafficking, however, this would have gone into vast detail.
General Strain Theory (page 36) linking to Social disorganisation theory by individuals becoming angry and residing within areas with criminal peers fostering the same beliefs.	Patterns of offending excluded (page 36), as this research does not require the link to offending patterns but rather the criminological understanding behind trafficking so that agencies can create strategies.

Appendix 5

Author: Mark A. R. Kleiman (2017)

Credibility & reliability: Professor of Public Service at NYU leading the crime and criminal justice programme. Retrieved from Kaplan University Online Library.

Pages systematically reviewed:8 pages

Inclusion	Exclusion
Political aspects from Trump administration included (page 132), as literature presents how the party may cause problems through opioid reduction.	The rise of big marijuana section (page 132-134) plays no part within this research project therefore is excluded.
Obamacare and Affordable care act (page 137), essential for research, as literature shows the benefits for helping drug epidemic with insurance for opioid substitutes.	Prescription for change section excluded also (page 136), section refers to expanding prescription help for drug users.

Appendix 6

Author: Lisa N. Sacco (2014)

Credibility and reliability: Analyst in illicit drugs and crime policy for the Congressional Research Service.

Pages systematically analysed: 26 pages

Inclusion	Exclusion
HIDTA program (Linking to National Drug Control Strategy) Page 18-19. Current modern policing policy.	History of organised crime drug enforcement task forces. (Irrelevant for this study, need relevant up to date material, as this study requires current awareness).
Intelligence Operations and Drug Interdiction, Page 20. Provides current task forces around southwest border such as El Paso Intelligence Centre (EPIC).	Enforcement trends, page 21 (insufficient data from many years ago and is internal arrests).
Seizures, page 23 (recent data presenting heroin seized at southwest border).	

Appendix 7

Author: Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) 2016

Credibility & Reliability: U.S. Department of Justice National Drug Threat Assessment Summary (Governmental report).

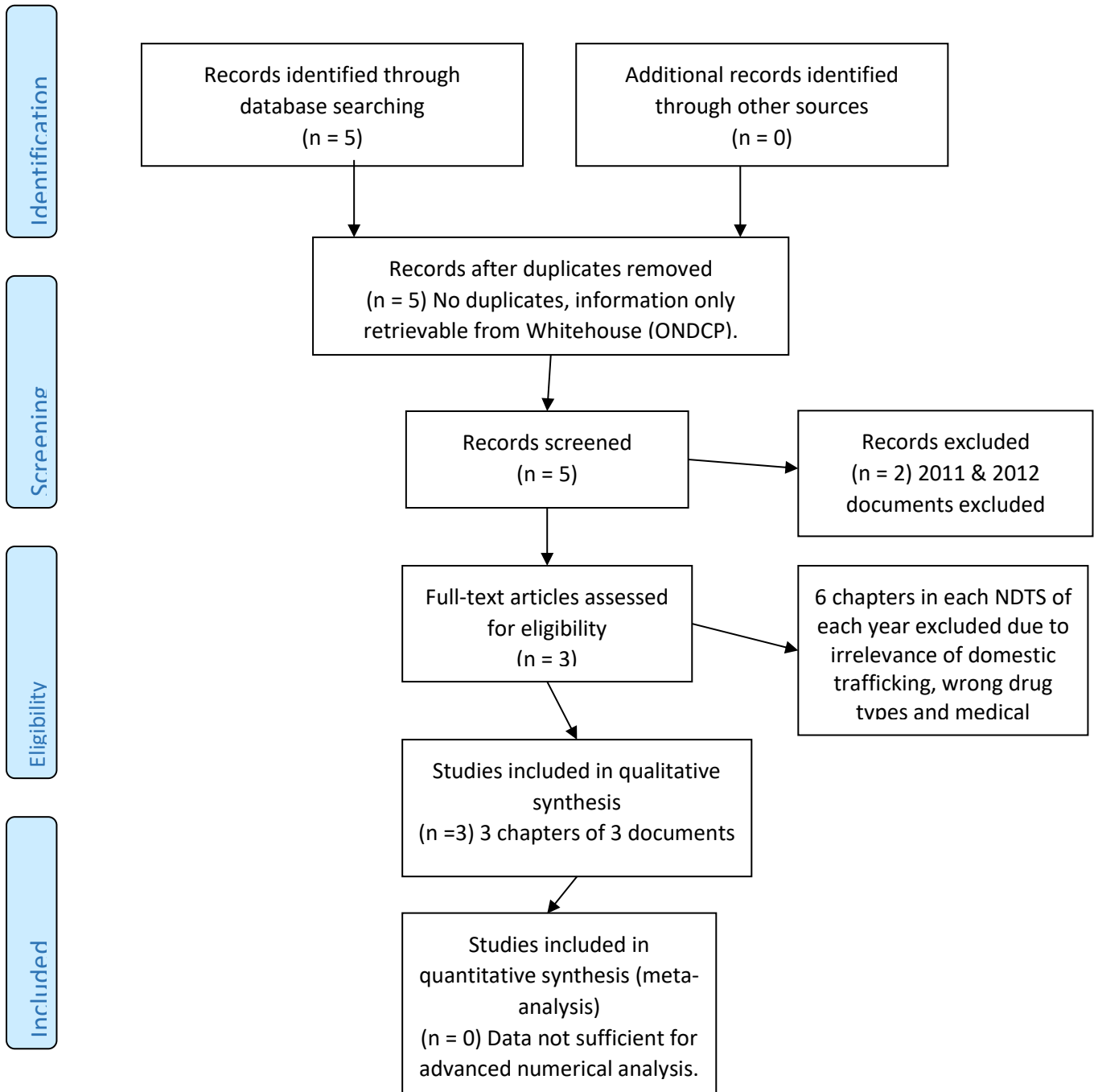
Pages to systematically analyse: 194

Inclusion	Exclusion
Transnational Criminal Organisations (Page 1-10). Presenting the two main cartels of Mexico and Columbia which pressure the U.S.	Dominican and Asian TCO's irrelevant due to minimal threats to policing strategies.
Chapters relating to Heroin (Page 41-65) which included 360 strategy, Cocaine (Page 87-105) including HIDTA's. These two drugs were included due to being the main exports to across the southwest border, which a majority of DEA policing initiatives focus on.	Other drugs such as methamphetamine, Fentanyl, Marijuana, controlled prescription drugs and New Psychoactive Substances have been excluded due to this study focusing on two prolific drugs of cocaine and heroin. Some drugs are a study within themselves, so exclusion has led to precision.

Appendix 8



PRISMA 2009 Flow Diagram of ONDCP literature within National Drug Control Strategies



From: Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med 6(7): e1000097. doi:10.1371/journal.pmed1000097

Source: Diagram retrieved from PRISMA, information within diagram conducted by researcher.

Table presenting advanced screening of most recent NDTs (2016)

Author: National Drug Control Strategy (2016)

Credibility & Reliability: Produced by the ONDCP for U.S. Congress

Pages systematically analysed: 102

Inclusion	Exclusion
Only chapter 6 Included regarding cocaine resurgence and how special divisions work transnationally to reduce cultivation (page 52). Important inclusion to present data regarding amounts of cocaine related deaths so that an understanding of how policing may have failed to halt trafficking. Also, information surrounding U.S. – Mexico relations was critical (page 51) to provide awareness that Trump may destroy.	6 other chapters irrelevant such as drug intervention and treatment, domestic trafficking and criminal justice reform, as they were not concerned with transnational implications.

Appendix 9

Author: NCA Annual Plan 2016-2017

Credibility & Reliability: Document conducted by the NCA for UK government

Pages systematically analysed: 26

Inclusion	Exclusion
NCA National Control Strategy through National Operation Model (page 12) included to present the process of how the NCA adapts current policing strategies.	Rest of document excluded due to failure of providing relevant research regarding drug trafficking. Most of document was concerned of future actions such as governance and accountability.
Budget included (page 23) to show prediction of extra funds allocated to improve policing.	

Source: NCA Annual Plan (2016)

Author: National Crime Agency 2016

Credibility & Reliability: Governmental report for National Strategic Assessment of serious and Organised Crime.

Pages systematically analysed: 52

Inclusion	Exclusion
Pathways into serious and organised crime, page 8. Inclusion of characteristics of traffickers, networking opportunities and business function. Linking to criminological theory of strain and social disorganisation theory.	Gender and age of organised criminals excluded, as not relevant for this study (Page 9).
Brexit predictions included to understand future effects to policing.	Many chapters were irrelevant pointing towards other areas of organised crime such as human trafficking, gun violence, money laundering and cyber-crime.
Drugs chapter included (Page 32-35) to observe threat assessment, heroin and cocaine prevalence.	

Source: NCA (2016a)

Appendix 10

Federal Trafficking Penalties for Cocaine and Heroin

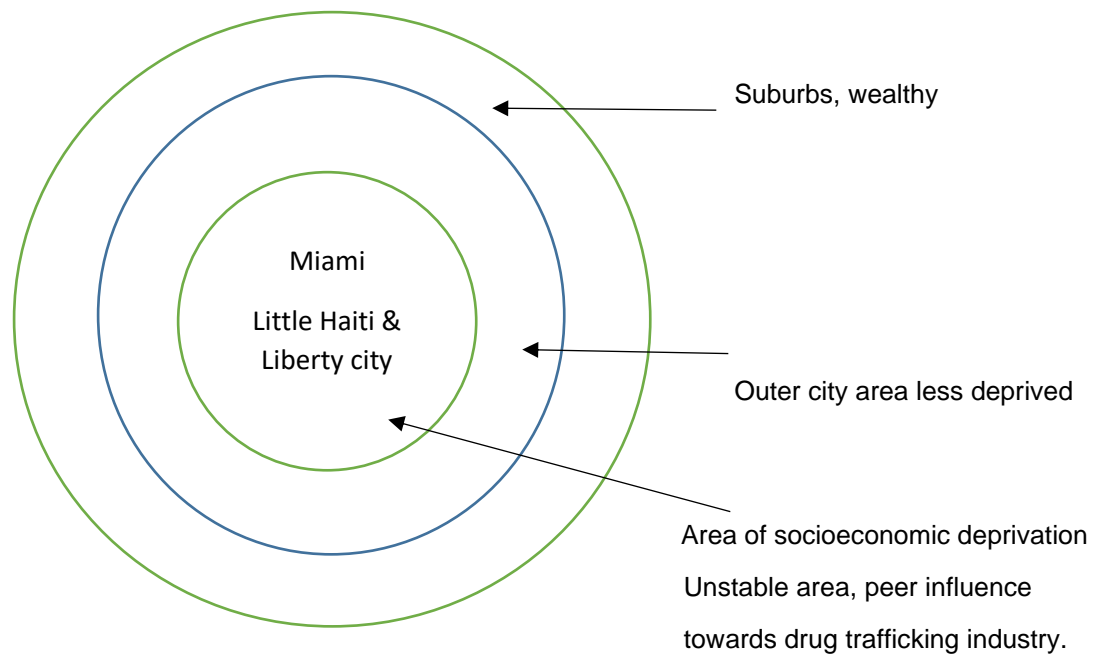
Drug/quantity	Sentence	Drug/quantity	Sentence
Cocaine 500-4999 grams Cocaine Base 28-279 grams Heroin 100-999 grams	<p>First Offense: Not less than 5 yrs. and not more than 40 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. Fine of not more than \$5 million if an individual, \$25 million if not an individual.</p> <p>Second Offense: Not less than 10 yrs. and not more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$8 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual.</p>	<p>Cocaine 5 kilograms or more mixture</p> <p>Cocaine Base 280 grams or more mixture</p> <p>Heroin 1 kilogram or more mixture</p>	<p>First Offense: Not less than 10 yrs. and not more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. Fine of not more than \$10 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual.</p> <p>Second Offense: Not less than 20 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual.</p> <p>2 or More Prior Offenses: Life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 mi</p>

Source: DEA.gov (2016)

The above table was retrieved from DEA.gov (2017) presenting the inprisonemnt terms for trafficking drugs.

Appendix 11

Social Disorganisation Theory Spatial map of Miami study of drug traffickers



Source: Map created by researcher based on Martinez et al (2008) study of Miami and social disorganisation theory.

De Silvo (2014:221) expresses that Shaw and McKay's work within ethnographic research of inner city areas suggest that low socio-economic areas lead to a potential life of crime such as drug trafficking if there is minimal social control, trust of authorities and cohesion amongst its residents. As is suggested within the diagram above within a modern study of social disorganisation theory within Miami showing how socioeconomic deprivation links to a life of crime.

Appendix 12

Budgets Provided from Governments to Tackle Transnational Organised Crime

Enforcement Agency	Latest Fiscal budget (2017)
NCA	£443 Million
DEA	\$2 Billion

Source: NCA (2017a) & DEA (2017c)

Table presents budgets provided to the NCA and DEA agencies for the financial year of 2017.

Appendix 13

Comparison of NCA National Strategic Assessment of Organised Crime

Year	Cocaine Threat	Heroin Threat	NCA policing outcome
2015-16	Gang crime increased within inner city area to push cocaine sales leading to knife and gun crime. Ecuador to Belgium main freight route for cocaine.	Shipped from southeast Asia to Africa. Turkey main distribution port.	Cocaine seized from MV Hamal in North Sea in 2015, 3.2 tonnes of cocaine.
2016-17	Albanian crime groups possess significant control of trafficking market creating links with Columbia for cocaine trade shipping through west Africa into Europe.	Pakistan by air to Europe. Turkish OCG's main supplier, trafficking from the Balkans via Netherlands to UK.	<p>Two Albanian members of a prolific OCG were arrested and convicted for possessing 1kg of cocaine on their person. With 4.5kg of high purity found in their homes.</p> <p>1.5 tonnes of high purity cocaine seized from English Channel with aid from Belgium forces.</p> <p>Polish lorry driver tracked and arrested for smuggling 100kilo's of heroin.</p> <p>8 heroin traffickers arrested and convicted for importing 165kg from Pakistan. Combined sentence of 139 years.</p>

Source: NCA (2016a), NCA (2017a).

Appendix 14

Bentley seized by NCA agents 2017 on transnational route



Source: NCA (2017d)

The above image was retrieved from the National Crime Agency displaying retrieval of the drugs (30 kilos) worth £250,000 from hidden compartments within the vehicle which had been used to traffic transnationally a considerable amount of times.

Appendix 15

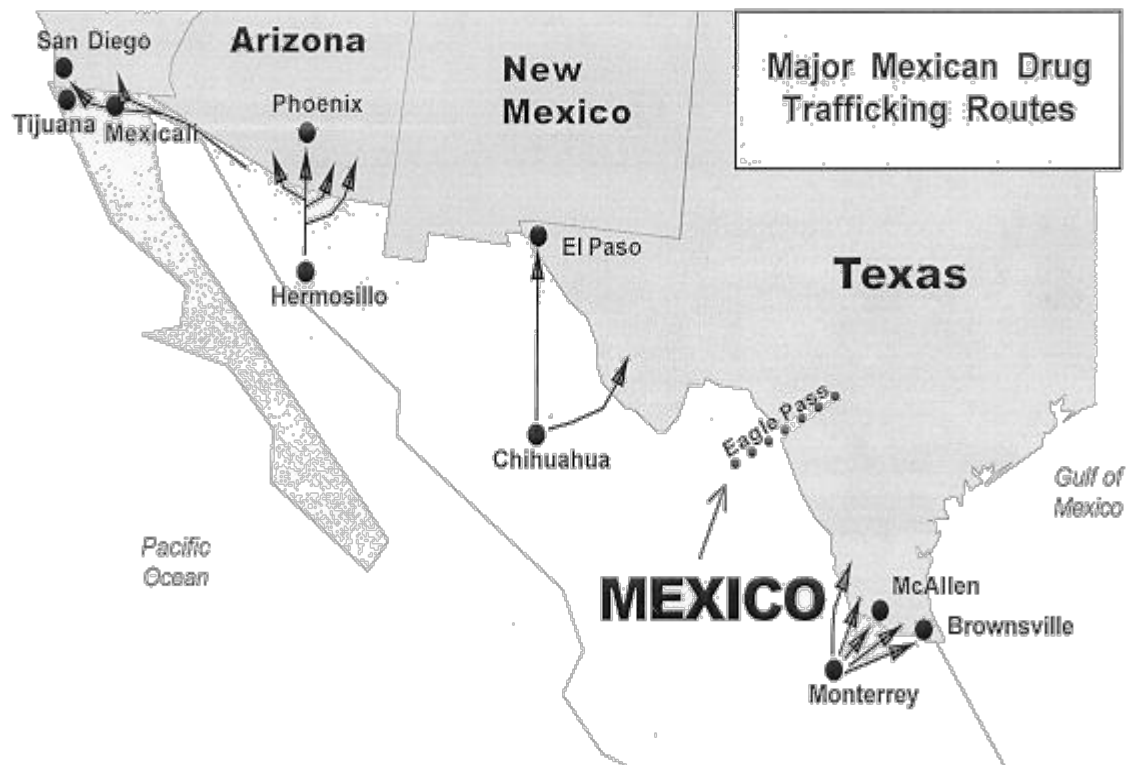
Mexican Drug Cartels & supply end in U.S.

Mexican Cartels	TCO export to U.S.
Sinaloa	Phoenix, Los Angeles, Denver, Chicago
Jalisco New Generation Cartel	Los Angeles, Atlanta
Juarez Cartel	Denver, Chicago, Oklahoma, Kansas
Gulf Cartel	Rio Grande Valley, Houston, Atlanta, Arkansas
Los Zetas Cartel	Dallas, New Orleans, Atlanta
Beltran-Leyva Organisation	Phoenix, Los Angeles, Atlanta

Source: U.S. DEA NDTAS (2016)

The information presented in this table has been retrieved from U.S. DEA NDTAS (2016:3,4,5) showing the Mexican cartels transnational delivery routes to certain U.S. cities for distribution.

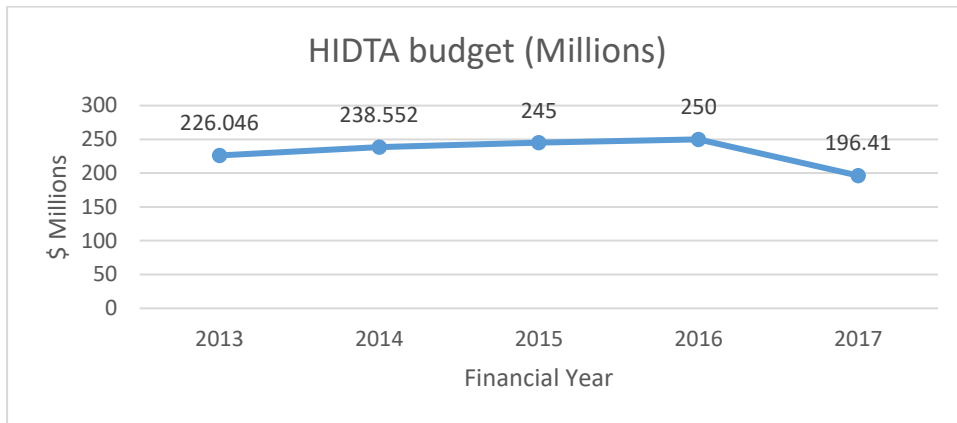
Appendix 16



Source: DEA (2017)

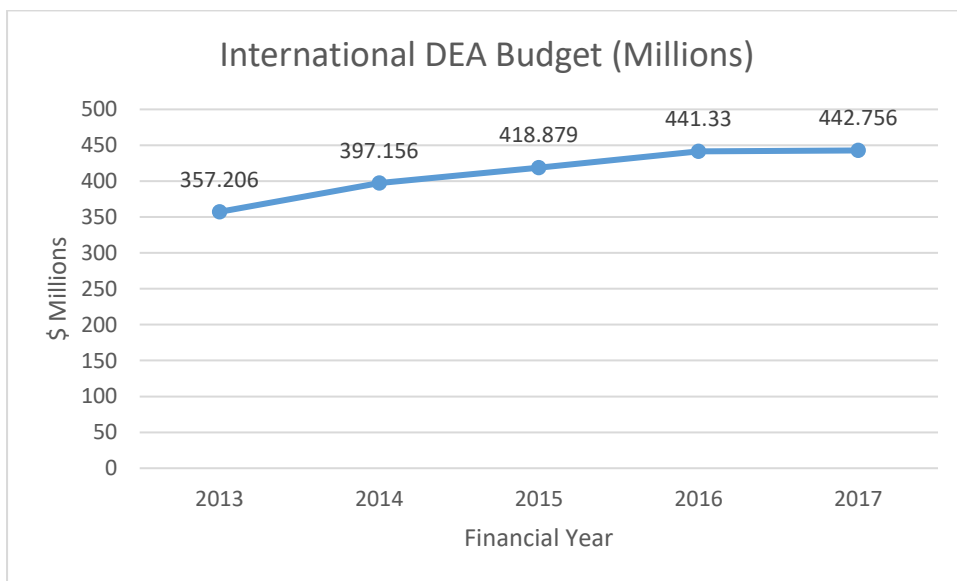
Southwest Border showing transnational organised crime trafficking routes, provided by DEA (2017).

Appendix 17



The above data of HIDTA budgets was retrieved from NDCS (2013-2017) presenting a steady incline until 2016, then possesses a dramatic decline within 2017.

DEA budget over recent years



Source: Whitehouse (2014), Whitehouse (2015), Whitehouse (2016)

The data within was retrieved from ONDCP presenting financial budgets over a 5-year period showing a steady increase in funding.

Appendix 18

European Arrest Warrants (EAW) Carried out by NCA

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Wanted by the UK	230	161	150
Wanted from UK	1660	1586	2102

Source: NCA (2016b)

Table shows the prevalence of the NCA agents work within Europe. Data also presents the statistical analysis of OCG's wanted from the UK to other European countries.