From supervisory procedural justice to officer procedural justice: An empirical study of Chinese police officers

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An important yet severely understudied issue in the procedural justice literature involves the linkage between supervisory procedural accountability within a police agency and officer procedural accountability on the street. Relying on survey data collected from more than 700 police officers in a large Chinese city, we find that the effect of supervisory procedural accountability on officer procedural accountability is principally indirect through the mediating factors of officer satisfaction with job and morale, net of several control variables. Noticeably, surveyed officers report only moderate levels of procedural accountability delivered by their supervisors, and even lower levels of accountability that they themselves are willing to render to the public. Implications for future research and policy will be discussed.

Yuning Wu is an associate professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at Wayne State University. She obtained a bachelor’s degree in Law from Renmin University of China, and a doctoral degree in Criminology from the University of Delaware. She currently conducts research on public perceptions of crime and justice, policing, and victimization. Her recent research has appeared in journals such as Justice Quarterly, British Journal of Criminology, Crime and Delinquency, Criminal Justice & Behavior, and Journal of Research on Crime and Delinquency. In 2015, she received the Dorothy Bracey/Janice Joseph Minority and Women New Scholar Award from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, and a Junior Faculty Award from Wayne State University Academy of Scholars. She was also the recipient of a 2014-2015 W.E.B. Du Bois Fellowship from the National Institute of Justice.

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