1) In his article *From Policing to Parole: Reconfiguring American Criminal Justice*, Michael Tonry (2017) takes a critical look at each component of the criminal justice system (policing, courts, corrections, community corrections). Within each component Tonry identified a myriad of problems that make the American justice system less effective, efficient, fair, and humane than it should be. Tonry advanced proposals to improve each component of the criminal justice system, including:

- **Proposal A. – Police:** Police culture and incentive systems must be reoriented to advance two bedrock principles: first, crimes averted, not arrests made, should be the primary measure for assessing police effectiveness; second, citizen perceptions of the police and their tactics for preventing crime and disorder matter independently of police effectiveness.

- **Proposal B. – Prosecution:** More effective legal, institutional, and cultural constraints must be established to help prosecutors respond ethically and appropriately to criminal behavior, public safety priorities, and input from other criminal justice officials.

- **Proposal C. – Sentencing:** Repeal all mandatory minimum sentences and similar laws and establish sentencing commissions directed to promulgate presumptive sentencing guidelines.

- **Proposal D. – Community Penalties:** Community corrections programs must be made credible, well managed, adequately funded, and data-based if they are to serve effectively as freestanding punishments for some offenders and prison alternatives for others.

- **Proposal E. – Parole Release:** Parole release must be professionalized, made accountable to rules, and insulated from direct political influence if it is to perform the functions for which it was conceived: setting release dates, tailoring and managing post-release conditions, and operating as a safety valve when necessary.

For this question, you must conduct a critical analysis of at least one of the above proposals. Throughout your answer, you are to support your argument with applied examples from the course readings. Your critical analysis should contain two broad sections

i. **Problem overview:** This section should include an in-depth discussion of the social, political, cultural, and political factors that led to the problems that the proposal(s) seeks to address.

ii. **Policy feasibility assessment:** This section should include an overview of the barriers that could prevent the proposed reforms from taking hold as well as recommendations for how such barriers can be overcome by policymakers and practitioners.

Reference:
2) David Weisburd and colleagues (2017) assessed 118 systematic reviews of crime prevention and rehabilitation programs. This analysis provided persuasive evidence of the effectiveness of programs, policies, and practices across an array of intervention areas. This finding represents a drastic change from recent decades, with “nothing works” (Martinson, 1974) previously being the primary mantra of the criminal justice field. While celebrating the amount of research evidence that has been generated on prevention and rehabilitation programs, Weisburd et al. (2017) classified evidence-based crime policy as a collection of “first-generation” studies and noted that key gaps remain in the knowledge base. As such, they called for criminal justice researchers to generate the type of scientific evidence necessary to move the fields towards “second-generation” research.

In answering this question, you are to conduct a critical analysis of Wesiburd et al.’s assessment of the research and argument for moving from “first” to “second” generation studies. Your answer should include the following components:

i. An overview of the primary components of evidence-based crime policy. This section should also include a discussion of recent criticisms of the approach.

ii. An overview of Weisburd et al.’s definitions of “first” and “second” generation research. This section should include a discussion of why you either agree or disagree with Weisburd et al.’s assessment of the state of research evidence.

iii. An overview of different methodologies that scholars have suggested can help improve upon evidence-based crime policy. This section should include a discussion of why you either agree or disagree that these methods can move the field towards second-generation research.

In answering this question, be sure to support your critical analysis with examples from at least two of the below policy issues.

- Drug courts
- Focused deterrence
- Problem-oriented policing
- Restorative justice
- School-based crime prevention strategies

References: