



*Department of Criminology Research Series*

**Thomas A. Loughran, Ph.D.**

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Pennsylvania State University

*“Criminal Decision-Making Among  
Adolescent Offenders: Implications for  
Deterrence”*

Abstract: Researchers and policymakers know very little about how serious adolescent offenders perceive the threat or experience of punishment. Professor Loughran will present key findings from the Pathways to Desistance study, which followed more than 1,300 serious juvenile offenders for seven years after their conviction. He will consider how this study's findings shape our understanding of the factors that affect a youth's decision to persist in or desist from crime. How do juvenile offenders assess sanctions and the threat of sanctions? Directions for future applied deterrence research and broader implications for juvenile justice policy will be considered.

Friday, March 9, 10:00  
Social Science Conference Room 351

Faculty, Staff and Students  
are Invited

