

# Simulation Activity

The points below are intended to provide a basic overview of the issue of predictive policing. If desired, distribute these points to students. Alternatively, students could do their own internet research.

## **Role A: Police Representatives**

- The technology is intended to complement traditional policing methods, not replace them.
- The use of AI in crime prediction enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of resource allocation within the police department. Data analysis time can be reduced dramatically.
- Software algorithms reduce gaps in patrol coverage and send people to the right places at the right times.
- Analyzing historical crime data is a key aspect of understanding and preventing future criminal activities.
- The police department adheres to strict guidelines to ensure responsible use of predictive policing methods.
- Algorithms need to be difficult to access, because otherwise people could figure them out and avoid detection.

## **Role B: Community Advocates**

- Citizens may report feeling unfairly targeted by the predictive policing program.
- Increased surveillance and patrolling in minority communities have been linked to predictive policing, raising concerns of fairness.
- The decision-making process of AI algorithms lacks transparency, causing unease among community members.
- Use of historical crime data may strengthen biases in law enforcement practices.
- The introduction of predictive policing has led to concerns over reduced privacy and increased suspicion among residents.
- Community-based initiatives and direct engagement are viewed as potentially more effective alternatives to predictive policing.

## **Role C: Technology Experts**

- Predictive policing algorithms function by analyzing large datasets to identify patterns and potential crime hotspots.
- Bias inherent in the data can influence the AI's predictions, prompting scrutiny.
- The complexity of algorithms and proprietary nature of technology make transparency in algorithmic processes a challenge.
- Ensuring the AI system's accuracy and unbiased nature requires regular audits and updates.
- The effectiveness of predictive policing is highly dependent on the quality and breadth of the data used.
- Technology in law enforcement is best utilized as an aid to human decision-making, not as a replacement.