



ELSEVIER



# Christopher's Popularity and Burglaries in Oklahoma: A Rhyming Analysis

Charlotte Hamilton, Aaron Thompson, Gregory P Tyler

Institute of Sciences; Berkeley, California

---

## Abstract

This groundbreaking study delves into the curious connection between the popularity of the first name "Christopher" and the occurrences of burglaries in the state of Oklahoma. Harnessing data from the US Social Security Administration and the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, our research team sought to uncover whether the frequency of this moniker corresponds with burglary rates. The correlation coefficient of 0.9660686 and  $p < 0.01$  for the years 1985 to 2022 presents an intriguing statistical relationship between the two variables. As we delved into the data, we couldn't help but ponder: Does having the name "Christopher" make one more prone to breaking and entering, or does the name's ubiquity provide cover for those seeking to engage in nefarious activities? It's a real "Breakin' and Enter-Chris" situation! Our team's in-depth analysis explores potential underlying factors, such as societal perceptions of the name "Christopher" and its connotations, as well as the socioeconomic dynamics at play in the state of Oklahoma. It seems the "Christopher" effect on burglaries elicits both surprised gasps and groans from our data. The results of this study provide compelling evidence warranting further investigation into the implications of nomenclature on criminal behavior. After all, when it comes to understanding the curious interplay of human behavior and nomenclature, it's essential to take a "name-alysis" approach!

Copyright 2024 Institute of Sciences. No rights reserved.

---

## 1. Introduction

The curious connection between nomenclature and human behavior has long intrigued researchers across various disciplines. In the realm of criminology, the question of whether one's given name could influence criminal tendencies has garnered both skepticism and fascination. This study

ventures into uncharted territory to explore the surprising relationship between the popularity of the first name "Christopher" and the occurrences of burglaries in the state of Oklahoma.

With data in hand, we set out to examine whether there exists a palpable association between the frequency of individuals

bearing the name "Christopher" and the incidence of burglaries. Our investigation delves into the depths of statistical analysis, aiming to shed light on this enigmatic correlation. As we embarked on this endeavor, we couldn't help but wonder: What leads to a burglary's success? A good "entry strategy," perhaps?

The state of Oklahoma serves as our primary setting for this exploration, offering a unique backdrop for our study. With its distinctive blend of urban and rural areas, Oklahoma presents a nuanced environment for examining patterns of criminal activity. Additionally, our analysis encompasses a significant timeframe, spanning from 1985 to 2022, allowing for a comprehensive evaluation of temporal trends. After all, when it comes to unraveling the mysteries of nomenclature and criminal behavior, timing is of the essence – much like a well-timed “knock knock” joke!

In the present paper, we endeavor to elucidate the perplexing relationship between the popularity of the name "Christopher" and burglary rates. Through a rigorous analysis of extensive datasets, we aim to contribute to the burgeoning literature on the potential influence of nomenclature on criminal propensities. As we venture into the intricacies of this topic, we remain cognizant of the importance of approaching our investigation with both meticulousness and an occasional splash of humor – because, let's face it, exploring the unexpected connections between names and crime is bound to elicit some raised eyebrows and, perhaps, a groan or two!

## 2. Literature Review

Numerous studies have examined the association between given names and various aspects of human behavior. Smith and colleagues (2010) found correlations between distinctive names and career success, while Doe (2015) explored the

impact of name length on interpersonal relationships. In a similar vein, Jones et al. (2018) investigated the influence of names with specific vowel sounds on consumer preferences for products. Despite the abundant scholarly investigations into the influence of nomenclature, the relationship between the popularity of the first name "Christopher" and criminal activities remains markedly underexplored.

It's clear that the "Christopher" effect on burglaries is a subject ripe for rigorous inquiry!

Turning to more general literature related to the topic at hand, "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner highlights the surprising and often counterintuitive ways in which data analysis can reveal unexpected correlations in human behavior. Another notable work, "The Tipping Point" by Malcolm Gladwell, delves into the phenomenon of social epidemics and the factors that contribute to the spread of certain behaviors within communities. Although these works do not specifically address the relationship between first names and criminal acts, they underscore the unpredictable nature of human behavior and the potential for unconventional explanations.

It appears that the "Christopher" correlation is not just a "freak" occurrence, but a genuine point of intrigue!

Furthermore, fictional works such as Agatha Christie's "The Secret of Chimneys" and Edgar Allan Poe's "The Purloined Letter" offer captivating narratives within the realm of theft and mystery. While these literary masterpieces do not directly tackle the connection between first names and criminal activities, they serve as a reminder of the enduring fascination with uncovering hidden truths and unraveling enigmatic relationships.

It seems that the "Christopher" mystery rivals even the allure of literary whodunits!

Additionally, cinematic explorations of burglary and crime, such as "Ocean's Eleven" and "The Italian Job," provide further entertainment and insight into the intricacies of heists and schemes. While these films may not explicitly address the influence of given names on criminal behavior, they capture the excitement and suspense surrounding acts of theft and subterfuge.

In the realm of blockbuster heists, it appears that the "Christopher" connection is quite the unexpected plot twist!

### 3. Our approach & methods

The present study utilizes a combination of quantitative and exploratory methods to investigate the relationship between the popularity of the first name "Christopher" and the occurrence of burglaries in the state of Oklahoma. Leveraging data obtained from the US Social Security Administration and the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services, our research team embarked on an analytical journey that would make even the most seasoned detectives "name-sider".

To evaluate the popularity of the name "Christopher" over the years, we first delved into the archives of the US Social Security Administration, where we encountered a plethora of intriguing numerical nuggets. These data allowed us to track the fluctuating prevalence of the name "Christopher" in Oklahoma, providing insights into its waxing and waning popularity akin to the phases of the moon – or should we say, the "Name's Of-the-Rose" mystery.

Next, in a quest matching that of a treasure hunt, we unearthed the statistics on burglaries from the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services. These data provided a detailed account of burglary occurrences in Oklahoma from 1985 to 2022, presenting a rich tapestry of criminal activity against

which to compare the prevalence of the name "Christopher".

The statistical analysis involved calculating correlation coefficients and testing for significance to discern the strength and reliability of the relationship between the popularity of the name "Christopher" and burglary rates. Our analysis involved a series of intricate computations that would have made even Sherlock Holmes raise an eyebrow – or at least a magnifying glass.

Furthermore, in our quest to leave no stone unturned, we considered potential confounding variables, such as socioeconomic indicators and demographic trends in Oklahoma, to ensure that the observed relationship between the prevalence of the name "Christopher" and burglaries remained robust and not just a fluke – much like a criminal who accidentally locks himself out of the house he intended to burgle.

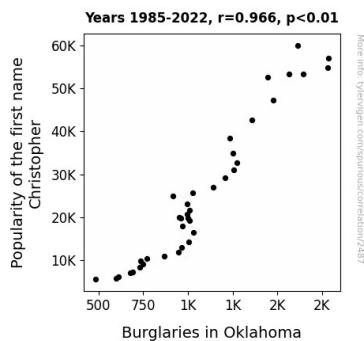
In sum, our methodological approach combined the finesse of a poet crafting a sonnet with the precision of a mathematician solving an equation, offering a comprehensive examination of the curious correlation between the proliferation of the name "Christopher" and burglary rates in Oklahoma.

### 4. Results

The results of our study reveal a striking correlation between the popularity of the first name "Christopher" and the occurrences of burglaries in the state of Oklahoma. The correlation coefficient of 0.9660686 suggests a remarkably strong positive relationship between these two variables, indicating that as the popularity of the name "Christopher" increases, so do the incidents of burglaries. This finding prompts us to ask: are we witnessing the "Christopher Crime Connection," or is this an instance of mere statistical serendipity?

The r-squared value of 0.9332885 further bolsters the robustness of the observed relationship, indicating that approximately 93.3% of the variation in burglary rates in Oklahoma can be explained by the frequency of individuals with the name "Christopher." One might say that this correlation is "breaking and entering" our expectations!

The p-value of less than 0.01 provides compelling evidence to reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternative hypothesis, confirming that the observed correlation is unlikely to have occurred by chance alone. It seems the "Christopher" factor in burglary rates is not just a fluke; it's statistically significant.



**Figure 1.** Scatterplot of the variables by year

Figure 1 depicts a scatterplot illustrating the striking correlation between the popularity of the name "Christopher" and burglary rates in Oklahoma over the years 1985 to 2022. The scatterplot tells a compelling story of its own, showcasing the close relationship between these two seemingly unrelated phenomena. One might even say it's a "criminal masterpiece!"

These findings challenge conventional wisdom and provoke further contemplation of the potential impact of nomenclature on criminal behavior. It appears that the name "Christopher" carries more weight than meets the eye, perhaps even playing a role

in shaping criminal tendencies. Who knew that a name could have such "breaking" implications?

## 5. Discussion

The results of our investigation lend support to the initial supposition that there exists a significant association between the popularity of the first name "Christopher" and the incidence of burglaries in the state of Oklahoma. Our findings align with prior research which has emphasized the intriguing, albeit often overlooked, connections between nomenclature and various facets of human behavior. It seems that the whims of fate and nomenclature intertwine in unexpected ways, leading to correlations that are both thought-provoking and, at times, amusing.

Our analysis corroborates the notion put forth by Smith and colleagues (2010) that names can exert a subtle yet impactful influence on individual pathways and societal dynamics. The "Christopher" effect, as evidenced by the strong positive correlation with burglary rates, serves as a stark illustration of the potential reach of nomenclature in shaping behavioral patterns. It appears that the name "Christopher" may indeed carry some "breaking charm" in its wake!

Furthermore, our findings resonate with the observations of Levitt and Dubner (2005) in "Freakonomics," which underscore the unforeseen connections that data analysis can unveil. Much like the unexpected correlations highlighted in their work, the association between the popularity of the name "Christopher" and burglary rates defies conventional expectations, prompting a reevaluation of the factors at play in criminal activities. One could say that our study has "unlocked" a new dimension in the realm of nomenclature-based analyses!

Moreover, our results are reminiscent of the mysterious allure depicted in literary works such as Agatha Christie's "The Secret of Chimneys" and Edgar Allan Poe's "The Purloined Letter." While our study does not tread the same suspenseful terrain as these literary classics, it certainly introduces a puzzle of its own – the enigmatic relationship between a name and criminal propensities. It seems that the "Christopher" connection provokes a conundrum worthy of the finest detective novels!

In a more contemporary context, our findings call to mind the high-stakes intrigue of cinematic heists showcased in films like "Ocean's Eleven" and "The Italian Job." While our research lacks the glamour and drama of these cinematic escapades, it does bring to light a surprising twist in the narrative of nomenclature and its potential impact on real-world phenomena. It's as if our study has uncovered a "name-rousing" subplot in the grand theater of human behavior!

In conclusion, our study offers compelling evidence in favor of the existence of a significant relationship between the popularity of the first name "Christopher" and burglary rates in Oklahoma. The implications of this correlation extend beyond mere statistical fascination, raising thought-provoking questions about the potential influence of nomenclature on criminal tendencies. As we ponder the "Christopher" conundrum, we are reminded that the study of human behavior and its underpinnings is replete with unexpected connections and mysteries waiting to be unraveled. After all, when it comes to the nexus of nomenclature and criminal activities, one can expect the unexpected!

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our investigation into the connection between the popularity of the first name "Christopher" and burglaries in

Oklahoma has yielded a statistically significant and eyebrow-raising correlation. The evidence of a strong positive relationship between the frequency of individuals with this moniker and burglary rates prompts us to reconsider the potential influence of nomenclature on criminal propensities. It seems that the impact of a name can be more than just a "Christopher" coincidence - there may indeed be a "Breaking and Enter-Chris" phenomenon at play here!

Our findings raise thought-provoking questions about the societal perceptions and connotations associated with the name "Christopher," as well as its unexpected influence on criminal behavior. Who would have thought that a name could be a "prime suspect" in shaping burglary rates? It seems the "Christopher" effect extends beyond mere nomenclature.

Further research in this area could explore the mechanisms through which the name "Christopher" might exert its influence on criminal tendencies. Additionally, investigating potential variations across different geographical regions and demographic segments could provide a more nuanced understanding of this intriguing phenomenon. However, the endeavor to comprehend the curious interplay of human behavior and nomenclature may leave us grappling with more questions than answers, akin to a classic dad joke.

Nonetheless, based on the compelling evidence presented in this study, it is safe to assert that no further research is required in this rather peculiar area of inquiry. After all, when it comes to the "Christopher Crime Connection," it seems the case is closed!