

## Q20 Please share any additional thoughts or concerns about local policing.

Answered: 104 Skipped: 373

#	Responses	Date
1	Establishing good situational awareness is key to good law enforcement and proportional response.	5/4/2015 10:55 PM
2	The YS police department is very visible. Even though I have never needed their services I see them nearly every day around the village and they are always very pleasant.	5/4/2015 2:24 PM
3	I am concerned that only people who have a problem with the police will participate in this survey and skew the results.	5/4/2015 12:52 PM
4	YS is a small town that needs no police. Too many idiotic neighbor complaints handled, parking tickets, and traffic tickets by YS cops. People move to YS to get away from asshole cops. People should police themselves more often instead of calling the Keystone Kops in YS.	5/1/2015 7:01 PM
5	I believe it is possible for us to all work together to make Yellow Springs a strong, loving, open and safe community. That's why we moved here.	4/29/2015 12:56 PM
6	Pick up some trash when you're on patrol	4/28/2015 2:05 PM
7	Why do I have fewer informal encounters with the police? Why have the graphics on our police cars gotten so ugly? Why do people living in YS not want to police?	4/28/2015 12:29 PM
8	TOO MANY POLICE WITH NOTHING TO DO; LOOKING FOR BIG CITY CRIME IN SAFE SMALL TOWN.	4/27/2015 12:23 AM
9	Yellow Springs police should be special. They should not follow the policies of large cities. I would prefer they be 'safety' officers rather than police officers. Other cities might tolerate bad policing but Yellow Springs should not!	4/26/2015 11:59 AM
10	I HOPE THAT THE COMMUNITY WILL SUPPORT THE NEW CHIEF AND THE DEPT.	4/25/2015 1:31 AM
11	Dave Hale is an absolute joke. You cant tell me he was the most qualified applicant for the chief position.	4/24/2015 5:17 AM
12	I just talked with my son, a 1989 YS High School graduate, about policing in YS back then. He said he and his friends were never stopped or followed by the YS Police. When I asked why, he replied that all the officers lived in town and knew him. Three of the officers had kids in the high school and were frequently there. In my opinion, the greatest difference between the local policing now and then is that now for most of the officers it is just a job. Back then the officers were taking care of their community. For them it was much more than a job, it was serving their community.	4/23/2015 10:42 PM
13	find it much different from the McKee and Grote years; don't know any personally except, of course, Officer Nipper, and the officer who helped when I was locked out.	4/23/2015 4:52 PM
14	Don't go out seeking criminals. You are not an army to keep us lowly citizens in line. You are our employees. "To protect and serve." NOT "To bust and convict."	4/23/2015 3:49 PM
15	Police should be more visible downtown. Mayor's court should remain in YS. Dispatcher's should also remain local.	4/23/2015 1:50 PM
16	When I saw that we now have a hierarchy of officers, e.g. sargeants, I wonder how necessary that is in such a small department. If it is only for advancement opportunity, is that appropriate? Perhaps one mid level officer is necessary but not more than that.	4/21/2015 7:17 PM
17	I've answered this "survey" because I have no other forum available to combat the witch hunt. I won't tell you my name because my experience with the YSNews is that you can't be trusted to respond to criticism in an open and intellectually honest way, either because the editor/publisher is too driven by a personal agenda.	4/21/2015 5:44 PM
18	Any encounter I have had with our local police dept has been friendly, helpful & pleasant.	4/21/2015 11:27 AM

19	In more than 30 years in Yellow Springs, my family's interactions with the police have been very positive. This included them cutting some slack for local teens who tried marijuana or trespassed in the Glenn after dark. Such infractions don't deserve arrest. After Laura Curliss and Chief Pettiford came on board, it seemed the YS police acted more like police in other communities, with a siege mentality and an us vs. the public attitude. We are cautiously optimistic about the new chief, but unhappy that he puts the emphasis on enforcing the letter of the law instead of on protecting and serving the community. We would have preferred a chief who comes from and knows the community, like Dennis Nipper.	4/20/2015 4:42 PM
20	They do a fine job and probably the majority of residents would agree if enough people were anonymously surveyed. The problem is that many of us who have been residents for many, many years are sick of the constant nit-picky battles such as this and have closed our eyes and ears. to speak out brings harsh letters to YOUR newspaper and notorious editorials siding with those causing the uproar make it not worth the effort to share a different point of view.	4/20/2015 12:44 AM
21	I appreciate the YS police and dispatch.	4/19/2015 11:56 PM
22	Police have a job & know how to do their job. They do not need public critique.	4/19/2015 7:41 PM
23	There has been some loss of trust recently due to the issue with the female officer having charges against her regarding taking a villager's camera and because of the Paul Schenk incident. I really appreciate you asking the questions and responding to citizens concerns. Thanks!	4/19/2015 6:04 PM
24	Minimize the service work done by expensive police officers and employ non-police citizens to do some of this work-- i.e. everything from helping children cross the street to jumping cars that won't start to doing mental health crisis intervention, none of which require the high training/high risk aspects of police work. Maybe this community could look into having a non-armed public safety group that could do these functions-- we have underemployed folks from within this community who would love these kinds of job opportunities and we could save the community some money, too.	4/19/2015 10:00 AM
25	Some of my friends have expressed concern about the # of times black people have been stopped for minor traffic issues. This is a concern of mine as well.	4/19/2015 7:34 AM
26	I love the y.s.p.d I do respect You but you have to show some respect back to us. And you have been great with helping me when I needed help and really all I want is for all of us to come together.	4/19/2015 2:07 AM
27	since McKee, I don't think i have seen officers downtown much. Maybe they should go back to marking tires every two hours	4/18/2015 8:18 PM
28	The town is too small and peaceful for such a highly budgeted force.I can't help but feel like the money could be used for better things..	4/18/2015 4:28 PM
29	I read the article that Lauren wrote about the ride along. What struck me was that police use a lot of discretion about who to stop for minor infractions. So the question occurs to me whether racial prejudice inclines officers to stop black folks in disproportionate numbers to white folks. I don't assume that just because people feel their heart is in the right place that they're actions are guided accordingly. Consequently I would like to see the police department publish stats that breakdown their stops by ethnicity.	4/18/2015 10:28 AM
30	Micheal Herrington	4/18/2015 1:28 AM
31	reform the mayor court, get fresh blood.	4/17/2015 11:53 PM
32	I tense up when I see the patrol cars with the huge "POLICE" in golden letters on the side. When it's written so hugely and boldly it brings up the thought in me that it's too assertive-- it seems aggressive. It seems like over-kill. Way too strong a message. To me it says, "WE'RE THE POLICE!!! WATCH OUT! WE'RE HERE TO TAKE CHARGE.! SO SHAPE UP AND DO WHAT WE SAY OR ELSE! WE HAVE A LOT OF POWER!!" But I imagine it would be costly to repaint the cars...	4/17/2015 9:21 PM
33	The further Yellow Springs distances itself from fascist, authoritarian, and militaristic police practices, the better. Our village has a rare set of circumstances that allows it to be an example of progressive, community growth-oriented justice that sets us apart from the ominous direction our nation at large is heading.	4/17/2015 7:54 PM
34	Reading the police reports in the newspaper makes me wonder whether we should hire an animal control officer.	4/17/2015 5:44 PM
35	Please Diversify the department!	4/17/2015 5:06 PM
36	I have great concerns, about the issues that have come to light, during the Naomi Penrod complaint. The community's experience of an officer seemed to be outside of the awareness of the administration. Whether the abuse of power arose from corruption or lack of training doesn't matter, as the resulting harm is the same. I would encourage increased transparency, as well as accountability that is a result of clearly increased capacity.	4/17/2015 2:33 PM

37	From our perspective the Police are doing a very good job and have been very helpful in our small amount of dealings with them....do not know the new chief....hope to meet and get to know him	4/17/2015 2:18 PM
38	Chief Hale needs to state clearly and publicly that he does not see non-whites as more likely to commit crimes despite his experiences in Dayton. He does not answer highly-charged questions that he is asked in a way that satisfies people even though I believe he does not feel the way they think he does. Too many stories of police wrongdoing are retold without reality checks and the tension has mounted. They are all judged guilty of something just because they are police. Stupid people driving high or drunk and complaining about getting caught for it have no credibility, but too often their complaints are heard as indictments of the police as concern and anger about national events is conflated with an OVI stop in YS.	4/17/2015 1:03 PM
39	With such a small and tight-knit community, we have the opportunity to be different than others. Let's really examine the possible impact of the policies we are trying to implement before we do so. SWAT and the ACE task force are simply dangerous and irresponsible things to delve into. Let's make community input more possible (THANK YOU for creating this survey!) and encouraged. Thanks for your time.	4/17/2015 12:50 PM
40	I am not a local resident...but have been frequently visiting Yellow Springs for 25 years. I always enjoy and appreciate the village of Yellow Springs. The people, stores and culture of Yellow Springs has made a huge impact on my life. I have always felt safe and the officers that I have met are wonderful and truly care about the people.	4/17/2015 12:04 PM
41	Cut the police a break. The new chief is the best trained, and probably the most intelligent, chief we have ever had. He is a blessing for the community.	4/17/2015 9:40 AM
42	Judging from the police report in the YSN, the public harasses the police dept with petty issues that should be resolved in other ways, like helping with groceries or concern about loitering persons	4/17/2015 9:29 AM
43	I'm concerned with the new chief's attitude in dealing with some people.	4/17/2015 9:08 AM
44	YSPD units again are great just leave them alone so they can do the job!!	4/17/2015 8:05 AM
45	In my more than 20 years here the police force has grown more anonymous and I find that an unfortunate development. I really don't see why we need so many officers here and wonder what they are doing, where they are, if we never get to see them.	4/17/2015 8:02 AM
46	Many of these questions make complex issues seem like there is a simple answer. If we want SWAT to come when we have an active shooter, why wouldn't we want to be part of it, support it? The Village's budget is not being managed well now, so why would we add social workers? Having Mayor's court hear more types of cases is legally not possible and why would we want a non-lawyer on cases more serious than traffic infractions? Putting officers on foot is not necessarily going to mean friendly interactions with locals. Why does the Glen let the Sheriff patrol there? Why doesn't this community legalize pot itself, take a stand against one whole area of "criminalization" of our people?	4/17/2015 7:34 AM
47	Overall doing a great job.	4/17/2015 7:15 AM
48	too high a turnover	4/17/2015 12:22 AM
49	I think that the department should develop a strong education/community outreach component. It would go a long way towards reducing the distrust so many are feeling due the national policing issues (which suggests an endemic problem in the profession) and increasing the ability of the community to self-police and reduce/avoid some of the issues like cyber bullying, domestic issues, neighborhood issues, and to help create an environment of community/police partnership.	4/17/2015 12:16 AM
50	Last year, my oldest daughter moved to the village because even though it was the more expensive option, she knew it would be safe place for a single woman to live. My youngest daughter will be joining her in a few weeks. Given law enforcement problems in communities of a similar size to Yellow springs, I could not feel better about where my girls have chosen ot live. I appreciate YSPD for their vigilance and protection.	4/17/2015 12:16 AM
51	The police force seems less and less a part of the community that it was in the 80s. I've had no real issues with any officers, but I don't feel like they're part of the village I inhabit every day.	4/17/2015 12:10 AM
52	the local police used to look for any way they could, in their discretion, to NOT issue a citation. all of that has changed and gone in the completely opposite direction.	4/16/2015 11:45 PM
53	One of my first impressions of the local police department was dropping our son off at Mills Lawn and seeing the officers opening doors for student drop off and greeting the children and parents. That left a powerful impression on me.	4/16/2015 11:41 PM

54	When traffic lights are out people get through intersections safer than many a day with the powers on. We do not need avenues to jail, we need places of healing. Sanitary Sharps disposals, and Safe anonymous hypodermic exchange are two heals that top the list.	4/16/2015 11:25 PM
55	It is my opinion that I am not the only Yellow Springs resident to have had a traumatic or dangerous interaction with YSPD Officer Mark Charles. I am confident that there is a tremendous story to be had if a journalist interviewed this officer on his views on policing, observed his manner of interacting with YS residents in situ, or interviewed YS residents with whom he has interacted. He is not fit for duty as a law enforcement officer in my view. It is my belief with a high degree of certainty that he is at substantially elevated risk of excessive use of force in future work as a police officer.	4/16/2015 11:11 PM
56	There is always room for improvement, but I do think our police department does a very good job.	4/16/2015 10:02 PM
57	our police force needs to be removed from SWAT and the drug task force. no more classist racist drug war and institutionalized violence.	4/16/2015 9:44 PM
58	More community engagement and friendliness.	4/16/2015 9:37 PM
59	Thanks for exploring these questions	4/16/2015 9:27 PM
60	The demand for policing is determined partly by the number of "tourists/customers brought in for the business the bring. This consideration is not covered in this survey.	4/16/2015 8:37 PM
61	My wife was pulled over in front of our home for a light being out on the car. She was unaware she was being pulled over and got out of the car at which time she was yelled at to remain in the car. My two young children were in the car at the time and my wife is not even five feet tall, not intimidating. I was home and after a few minutes decided to head outside to get my kids out of the car. After opening my front door and stepping onto my porch I was yelled at to freeze and not move. I was asked if I had any association to the car, strange question considering it was in front of my home and is registered to my address thing an officer should know when pulling it over right? I explained it was my wife and kids in the car and I wanted my kids out of the situation. He made me stand still for 3-4 minutes before "allowing" me to get my kids out and in the house. Eventually he issued a warning, after calling for back up. He told my wife he was "shaken up" by the situation. Wow, shaken up by a sub five foot housewife in front of her home with two children in the. Car and a headlight out? As new residents this did not foster confidence in the YSPD!	4/16/2015 8:28 PM
62	They have to be a good fit for the community. Officer appearance in town, unless you know them and feel the friendliness, can be threatening. Others have been manipulative, conniving, overly abusive of authority, and robotic vs. human- like. I know it can be the training and overall climate of the field, but there are, have been, and will be good matches for our unique community.	4/16/2015 8:24 PM
63	We do have a few wonderful officers who represent the qualities of the residents well.	4/16/2015 8:20 PM
64	I think the police should be peacekeepers, mediators, and community members.	4/16/2015 8:07 PM
65	There has been a lot of dumping behind my property on Antioc's property.	4/16/2015 7:27 PM
66	If the village needs its police department, citizens need to understand that the police are law enforcement sworn to uphold and enforce the law, they are not here to make everyone happy, when someone breaks the laws we as a society have established we pay them to take action and protect us and our community, the police need oversight but it needs to be fair and reasonable and we as a community should not continue to beat them for doing their duty,	4/16/2015 6:56 PM
67	The YSPD and townie relationship is currently strained. There are rumors of inappropriate practices, stopping people without due cause, acting rude and flippant when people voice their concerns. I have family members who are policewomen, and have in the past felt like the police are trustworthy and are 'our friends'. I hope YSPD can get back to that point.	4/16/2015 6:44 PM
68	I don't think this size village needs such a big police force	4/16/2015 5:50 PM
69	Things got stupid when Mckee retired. Dennis Nipper should never have been hired!	4/16/2015 5:48 PM
70	I worked at YSPD for 16 years. I don't agree with all they do or all their policies but I do support them. I think they do a go fairly good job.	4/16/2015 5:38 PM
71	I have heard stories from friends about how the police have been rough with their teenage children, or jump to negative conclusions. I'm glad my children didn't have to deal with being black in a mostly white village.	4/16/2015 5:26 PM
72	Officer who tickited me for speed years later helped my get my car unstuck from a ditch!	4/16/2015 5:16 PM

73	It has greatly disturbed me to read on Facebook about what seemed like unfair interactions between local police and young people, esp. of color. I can't vouch for the authenticity of the experiences, but they have been reported by multiple people and a feeling of resentment is clearly expressed by some people. This is of a great concern to me. In particular, racial profiling should not be happening in YS.	4/16/2015 5:13 PM
74	The tone of recent YS News articles has not been at all objective or impartial when reporting about the police dept. I've been disappointed by the obvious bias against the new chief.	4/16/2015 5:01 PM
75	When I first moved here in 2007, I liked the police and spoke to them regularly. Officer Tom, Patrick and even waived to the Chief. I asked for help a few times and they were quite nice to me. Now, I would be hesitant to call them for assistance.	4/16/2015 4:50 PM
76	In order to have two way trust between police and citizenry there should be more interaction. I would like to see police walking a beat. Also, as a town with sustainable aspirations our police should drive sensible cars Volts/Prius rather than muscle cars. I would like to see YS police entertain the idea of disarming or reducing the size of individual armories.	4/16/2015 4:37 PM
77	seems that the Chief needs to have role set quicker and be fired quickly if not addressing management in the manner needed.	4/16/2015 4:36 PM
78	Chief Hale needs to get CIT training. He has none.	4/16/2015 4:29 PM
79	Keep it local; we need to encourage police officers to live in town and make it worth their while to invest in a career in yellow springs -- the more they are apart of our community the better we all will be.	4/16/2015 4:28 PM
80	I think they should be paid enough to afford to live here so they are invested in community. I think we need far fewer police. For example, on the first of the month, at around midnight, I went to the post office twice, the bank to do a deposit, (three trips downtown) and I was passed and followed by two different cars repeatedly - it was like having a police escort on my errands. I know I keep odd hours, but that is intimidating and unnecessary. They passed me, saw me turn into the Post Office, came back, another car followed me, passed me at the bank, another came back, followed me to my biz. when I came out of my biz a half hour latter to go to the Post Office again (needed stamps to mail a bill) it was a repeat. Then another car followed me home. I don't think someones errands should arouse such suspicion (especially since I have been doing this for the past 40 years). And I am an older white woman! I also had a person visiting my business from the other side of Dayton to deliver something ticketed for a brief parking on the street in a no parking area - where all the delivery trucks stand when they deliver - this was a hardship to the person doing me a service, to a business that is established. Every single time I go out 68 toward Xenia, someone is stopped. I am sure this discourages people visiting businesses in town.	4/16/2015 4:17 PM
81	Officers should live or be from YS WHENEVER possible. New officers should be assigned bike or foot patrol FIRST to get to know the villagers.	4/16/2015 4:15 PM
82	Good idea to do the survey; watch out for demonizing the police; suggest street fair policing responsibilities be provided and paid for by the Chamber of Commerce, not the local police with taxpayer money.	4/16/2015 4:06 PM
83	Years ago there were few officers and I knew them all by name. It was more personal and friendly. The village population hasn't grown, but now there are 14 on the YSPD and I don't know any. Policing seems to have changed in this country, and sadly YS is no exception.	4/16/2015 3:42 PM
84	The current chief is less visible than the previous chief (Grote).	4/16/2015 3:03 PM
85	The new chief has improved morale in the force. There are still issues to be worked out. It should be clear to everyone that he is the person to go to when you have a problem with the police. He cannot change what he doesn't know about.	4/16/2015 2:37 PM
86	Community is too critical about what our police does or tries to do. Police are automatically identified as "bad people" due to the actions of other police officers from the past and some (new)that currently work here. Each officer brings a new/different flavor to the community- don't be so quick to judge.	4/16/2015 2:29 PM
87	please stop defending the police and do some real reporting.	4/16/2015 2:25 PM
88	I have none. I am more concerned about the misrepresentation of police from the media. Specifically the YS News; majority of articles printed are extremely biased and not what I consider news.	4/16/2015 2:24 PM
89	Off of TASK force and off of SWAT.	4/16/2015 2:21 PM
90	YSPD should not be accepting money from civil forfeitures through the federal Equitable Sharing Program. These are proceeds of property seizures from people who have not been convicted of any crime, with no proof that the assets were used in the commission of crimes or paid for with proceeds of crimes. These seizures are immoral and unAmerican.	4/16/2015 2:20 PM

91	I haven't had any terrible interactions with our police force, but I am also a white person of certain means. I know that my experience should not be the default experience and that those who have had trouble with our local police really need to have their voices heard and their concerns met with real sincerity. Nationally, we have a problem with law enforcement, and I think some of that is reflected in our own force, especially with our drug task force and SWAT involvement. We need to our police force to be invested in our local community and reflective of our citizens. We need to keep our dispatch and mayors court here in the village. We also need to continue to provide further education and training for our officers so that they can be the most effective when faced with tough situations.	4/16/2015 2:14 PM
92	Mr. Obama has recommended that departments publish data on stops/arrests vs racial identify. This would help expose/eliminate profiling.	4/16/2015 2:08 PM
93	Local dispatch employees have enormous knowledge of individual villagers. This staff is composed of more YS residents that have lived here for generations than the current police force by far. Their professionalism and efficiency is stellar!	4/16/2015 2:05 PM
94	I also feel police should be constantly walking the downtown area during Fri-Sat-Sun high tourists season! Also too many kids from out of YS are going into the Glen from the "entrance" behind the Fire Dept. and littering, smoking, drinking etc - literally destroying that area of the Glen.	4/16/2015 2:04 PM
95	Anything that demilitarizes the police is something I favor.	4/16/2015 2:01 PM
96	Bicycle laws NEED to be ENFORCED. I have come very come to hitting more than one. they act like They don't need to follow the LAWS of the State covering bicycles.	4/16/2015 1:59 PM
97	Overall in my 33 years living here I have had predominately very positive experiences with our local police.	4/16/2015 1:53 PM
98	Take us off of task force, please!	4/16/2015 1:52 PM
99	I've never had any problems with the local force so far, and the interactions I've had have been polite and friendly.	4/16/2015 1:46 PM
100	I have seen the officers exceeding speed limits in town with no lights on. If they are answering a call and need to speed, use your lights. Otherwise, don't speed!	4/16/2015 1:44 PM
101	Not being a current resident, -in town several times in a month- I am not very aware of the previous and current community outreach by the PD. I am aware that with new leadership, the department has an opportunity to show what it can do. As an "old salt", I stand ready to contribute whatever I can to restoring a once great relationship between the department and the community. This survey is a good first move by the chief.	4/16/2015 1:40 PM
102	I'm concerned about the sale of (harder) drugs, but think marijuana should be decriminalized.	4/16/2015 1:31 PM
103	Police are disrespectful to young people and people of color in some cases. SWAT intervention was crazy. In other cases, they are great. Police should teach ACLU rights to young people--i.e. what they may do in cases of arrest (constitutional rights).	4/16/2015 1:20 PM
104	I don't feel the police act as if they are there for our safety. Rather, they are there to enforce their presence and their power to punish us in harmful and unnecessary ways.	4/16/2015 1:20 PM