

Crime Prevention History and Theory

Day 1 - Session 2



DCJS

Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services

Training Objectives

Students will learn about and understand how to use the following guidance concerning:

- **What causes crime.**
- **History of managing crime.**
- **Definition of Crime Prevention and the types of Crime Prevention.**
- **Legal and policy support for crime prevention.**
- **Situational Crime Prevention**
- **Principles of Crime Prevention – NCPC.**
- **Crime Prevention that works.**

Crime Prevention

Researcher to Bad Guy In prison:

“Do you think you would get caught?”

Bad Guy to Researcher:

“I never expected to hear someone from a university ask such a stupid question.”

Crime Prevention

How do we prevent crime?

Crime Prevention In Action

Name some examples of crime prevention you have used or have seen in operation today.

- What was it?**
- What crime did it address?**
- How did it work?**

History of Managing Crime

- **In the past, people typically responded to a crime after it was committed.**
- **The principal deterrent was swift and severe punishment.**
- **During the Middle Ages, a system of “reprisals” was used to discourage criminal behavior.**

Hazrat Umar, Second Caliph

Refused to chop off the hands of thieves because he felt he had fallen short of his responsibility to provide meaningful employment to all his subjects.



History of Managing Crime



The chowkidar is an Middle East and South Asian tradition similar to Neighborhood Watch.

The chowkidar kept watch over a village and may have walked with a cane, whistle and a lantern.

History of Managing Crime

Street lamps were used by the Moors on the streets of Córdoba, Spain in the 11th century.

The streets were well paved and lighted, the lights being attached to the outer doors and corners of the houses.

Ibn Sa'id, a 7th/13th century historian



History of Managing Crime

1285

Watchman system
was initiated in
London, based on
the "hue and cry" of
citizens.

"The Night Watch"
Rembrandt



History of Managing Crime

Laws Devine, Moral, and Martial

Sir Thomas Dale, Marshall & Deputy Governor

Jamestown, VA, June 22, 1611

“The Captain of the watch, must have a special care of the safeguard and preservation of the Town or Fort committed to his charge, ...

that through his defect, negligence, or ignorance in his charge, he gives not opportunity to the enemy to execute any of his designs, for the damaging of the place or the Inhabitants.”

History of Managing Crime

**Why do we
eat with a
fork and a
blunt knife?**



**1669 - King Louis XIV
of France banned
pointed knives at the
dinner table as a
measure to reduce
violence.**

**Forks replaced pointed
knives to spear food.**

History of Managing Crime



Paris the City of Light

**Another Louis XIV Initiative
Street Lighting of Paris - 1667**

Urbis Securitas Et Nitor

**Security and Light
for the City**

History of Managing Crime

- **In 1655, Oliver Cromwell attempted to establish the first organized professional police force, based upon the watchman system.**
- **The system failed and for the next 150 years, little was done to place law enforcement in a crime prevention role.**

History of Managing Crime

- **In 1819, punishment was the main weapon against crime - 223 offenses were punishable by death.**
- **Lack of a strong police presence made the chances of a criminal being detected, arrested and convicted very slim.**
- **It became clear that severity of punishment was not an effective crime prevention method.**

History of Managing Crime

- **Henry Fielding is given credit for taking the first positive steps for the formation of a responsible police organization.**
- **He said, “It is much better to prevent even one man from being a rogue than apprehending and bringing 40 to justice.”**

Metropolitan Police Act of 1829

**Sir Robert Peel:
Pioneered modern policing
with the development of
the Metropolitan Police Act
of 1829.**

**Model for professional
policing that is used in
most counties today.**



Metropolitan Police Act of 1829

Keys Principles

- **It should be understood, at the outset, that the principal object to be obtained is the prevention of crime. To this great end every effort of the police is to be directed.**
- **The test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with it.**

Metropolitan Police Act of 1829

Keys Principles

Security of persons and property, the preservation of the public tranquility, and all the other objects of a police establishment, can thus be better effected, than by the detection and punishment of the offender, after he has succeeded in committing the crime.

History of Managing Crime

- **These goals were forgotten the police and public began to identify success or failure of the police based on crimes reported and crimes cleared.**
- **A century later, in 1950, British Police leaders realized something more positive had to be done in the area of crime prevention.**

History of Managing Crime

- **A campaign was officially opened by the Home Secretary on May 1, 1950, and it ran in various parts of the country until the fall of 1951.**
- **Certain insurance companies, in cooperation with the Home Office, produced and distributed crime prevention material.**

History of Managing Crime

- **In 1963, a formal training course in crime prevention was begun by the Home Office at Stafford.**
- **Crime prevention training was finally given a high priority by the Home Office and by 1970, 1,045 officers had attended the standard crime prevention course.**

Crime Prevention in America

Presidential Executive Order No. 11396 (1968) Attorney General to facilitate and coordinate

- (1) Criminal law enforcement activities and crime prevention programs of all Federal departments and agencies, and**
- (2) Activities relating to the development and implementation of federal programs that are designed to assist state and local law enforcement agencies and crime prevention activities.**

Crime Prevention in America

1968:

Based on the British experience, University of Louisville, School of Police Administration developed an American model for crime prevention.

1971:

National Crime Prevention Institute - NCPI established in Louisville, Kentucky.

1972:

National Sheriff's Association - Neighborhood Watch Program

Crime Prevention in America

1977:

FBI Director Clarence Kelley asked the Advertising Council to assist in developing a national crime prevention public service advertising campaign.

LEAA, FBI, and the AFL-CIO with the support of the National Sheriffs' Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Formed a small national crime prevention planning group.

Crime Prevention in America

1980:

An animated dog in a trench coat became officially known as McGruff the Crime Dog®.

1982:

National Crime Prevention Council was established to manage the McGruff campaign and promote crime prevention throughout the United States.

Crime Prevention Coalition - McGruff



Jack Keil led the team that developed McGruff the Crime Dog. He was the first person to utter the words"

"Take A Bite Out Of Crime."

**The Original
McGruff**



Defining Crime Prevention

Crime Prevention - Justice Model

- **Punitive (tertiary)**
- **Corrective (secondary)**
- **Mechanical (primary)**

source: Dr. Peter Lejins

Crime Prevention - Punitive



- Criminal laws
- Police
- Crime Stoppers
- Courts
- Jails and prisons

Crime Prevention - Corrective



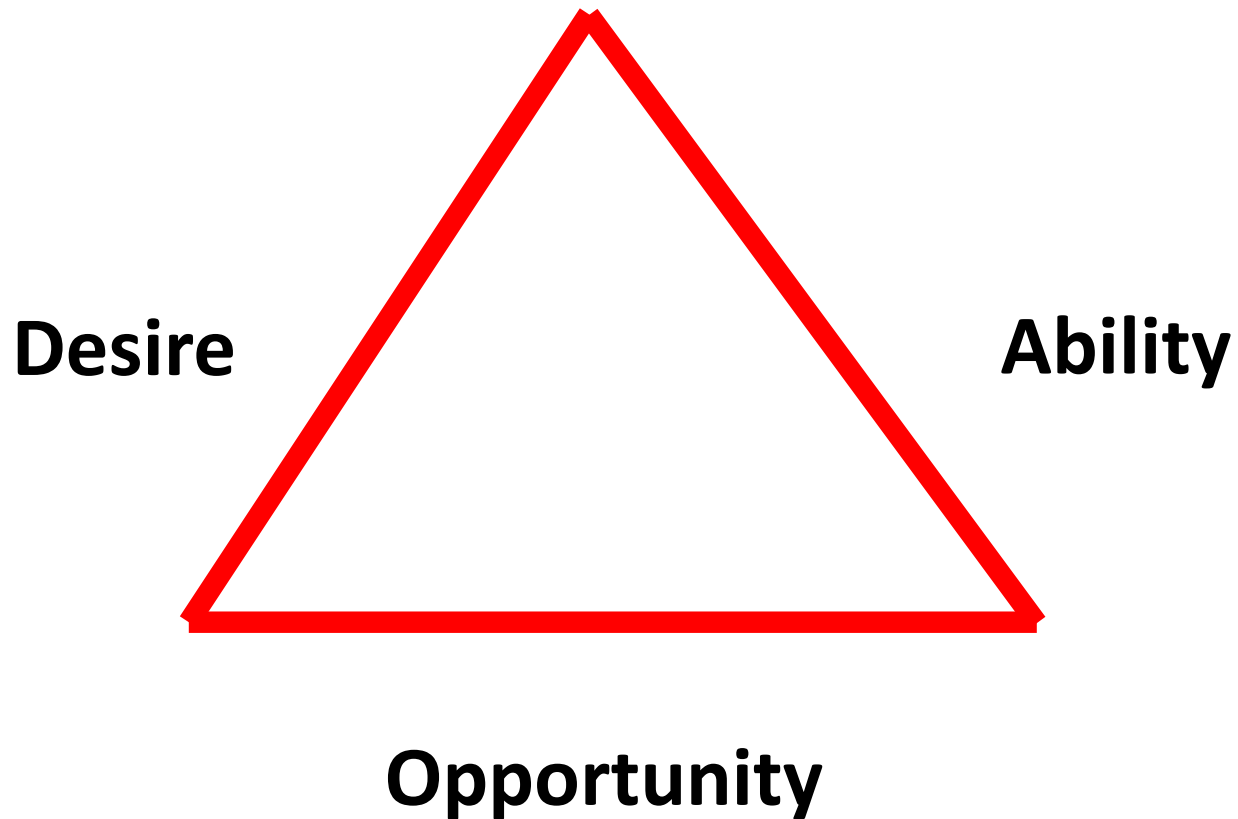
- Employment
- Education
- Counseling
- Mentoring
- Head Start
- DARE

Crime Prevention - Mechanical



- **Neighborhood Watch**
- **Home Security**
- **Community policing**
- **Public education**
- **CPTED**
- **Homeland security**

Crime Prevention Triangle



Crime Prevention Defined

Crime prevention is the anticipation, recognition, and appraisal of a crime risk and the initiation of some action to remove or reduce the risk.

Source

National Crime Prevention Institute, 1971

Crime Prevention Services

Crime Prevention Specialist Regulations Definitions (VAC20-180-10)

"Crime prevention services" means providing for the anticipation, recognition, and appraisal of a crime risk and the initiation of an activity to remove or reduce the opportunity for crime.

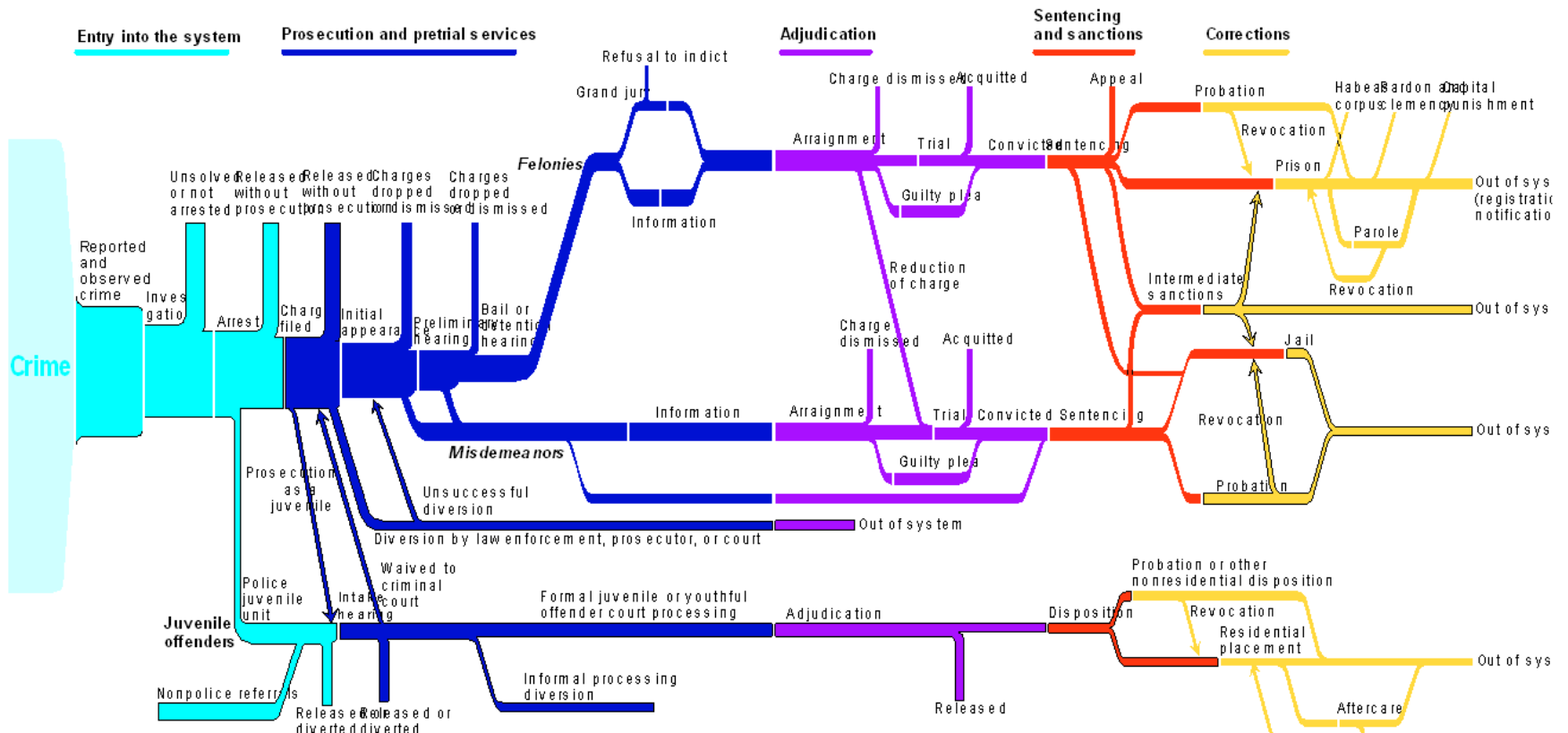
Crime Prevention

- **Crime prevention is proactive, rather than reactive.**
- **Proactive policing attempts to prevent the crime from occurring in the first place.**
- **Reactive policing responds to crime after it has occurred.**

Crime Prevention is Proactive

Does the criminal justice system place an emphasis on Crime prevention?

What is the sequence of events in the criminal justice system?



Note: This chart gives a simplified view of caseflow through the criminal justice system. Procedures vary among jurisdictions. The weights of the lines are not intended to show actual size of caseloads.

Source: Adapted from *The challenge of crime in a free society*, President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice, 1967. This revision, a result of the Symposium on the 30th Anniversary of the President's Commission, was prepared by the Bureau of Justice Statistics in 1997.

Crime Prevention Motto

**The motto for crime prevention specialists in
Virginia.**

Occasio Facit Furem

**"Opportunity makes the thief."
From a 13th Century Proverb**

Opportunity Makes The Thief

Paul Charles
Chocarue-Moreau
(1855-1931)



Arab Proverb

**“Trust in Allah but
tether your camel
first...because Allah
has no other hands
than yours.”**

عقلها وتوكل



Weight and Crime

Crime is impacted by how much desirable items weigh. The lighter and smaller the easier to they are to steal and conceal steal.



Powers of the Police Force

§15.2-1704 (Code of Virginia)

The police force of a locality is hereby invested with all the power and authority [that] formerly belonged to the office of constable at common law and is responsible for

- **prevention and detection of crime,**
- **apprehension of criminals,**
- **safeguard of life and property,**
- **preservation of peace and**
- **enforcement of state and local laws, regulations, and ordinances.**

The Law Enforcement Mission

- **Today the law enforcement element of the job is becoming secondary.**
- **The order-maintenance, peace-preservation, and crime prevention elements of the job are making more of a contribution to the overall quality of community life.**

Former Chief Jerry Oliver

Richmond Police Department - Virginia

Opportunities to Commit Crime

- **Unlocked or poorly locked doors**
- **Car keys left in the ignition**
- **Retail store layouts – shoplifting**
- **Computers – Internet**
- **ATM and credit cards**

Opportunity & Crime 10 Principals

- 1. Opportunities play a role in causing all crime.**
- 2. Crime opportunities are highly specific.**
- 3. Crime opportunities are concentrated in time and space.**
- 4. Crime opportunities depend on everyday movements.**
- 5. One crime produces opportunities for another.**

Opportunity & Crime 10 Principals

- 6. Some products offer more tempting crime opportunities.**
- 7. Social and technological changes produce new crime opportunities.**
- 8. Opportunities for crime can be reduced.**
- 9. Reducing opportunities does not usually displace crime.**
- 10. Focused opportunity reduction can produce wider declines in crime.**

Opportunity Makes the Thief, Felson & Clarke, 1998
<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/prgpdfs/fprs98.pdf>

Situational Crime Prevention

- **Increase the Effort**
- **Increase the Risks**
- **Reduce the Rewards**
- **Reduce Provocations**
- **Remove Excuses**

Increase the Effort

- **Target Harden: tamper-proof packaging**
- **Control access: door locks**
- **Screen exits: electronic merchandise tags**
- **Deflect Offenders: street closures**
- **Control tools / weapons: disable stolen cell phones**

Increase the Effort Theft Deterrent Packaging



Increase the Risks

- **Extend guardianship: carry a mobile phone**
- **Assist surveillance: improve street lighting**
- **Reduce anonymity: school and staff uniforms**
- **Utilize place managers: extra staff in stores**
- **Strengthen formal surveillance: security guards**

Increase the Risks Strengthen Formal Surveillance



Reduce the Rewards

- **Conceal targets: titles for parking space**
- **Remove targets: limit cash in cash registers**
- **Identify property: VIN for autos**
- **Disrupt markets: license street vendors**
- **Deny benefits: quick removal of graffiti**

Reduce the Rewards

Disable Stolen Car Radios



Anti-Theft Code

If the radio is removed from a vehicle (stolen) a special code must be entered to re-enable operation of the set.

After three unsuccessful coding attempts the set will lock and remain locked for two hours.

Reduce Provocations

- **Reduce frustrations & distress: soothing music**
- **Avoid disputes: fixed cab fares**
- **Reduce emotional arousal: rules of behavior at sporting events**
- **Neutralize peer pressure: “Idiots drink and drive”**
- **Discourage imitation: quick repair of vandalism**

Reduce Provocations Avoid Disputes



Remove Excuses

- **Set rules: rental agreements**
- **Post instructions or warnings: Check Points**
- **Alert conscience: roadside speed displays**
- **Assist compliance: trash cans**
- **Control drugs and alcohol: restrict the sale of alcohol**

Remove Excuses



Deny people the excuses they may use to be in places where they are not supposed to be.

Crime Prevention Programs

- **Neighborhood Watch**
- **Personal safety**
- **Robbery prevention**
- **School safety**
- **Workplace safety**
- **Auto theft prevention**
- **CPTED**
- **McGruff House**
- **Operation Identification**
- **And many others**

Natural Prevention

We can create environments that can naturally encourage people to watch out.

School CPTED



Organized Prevention

We can organize
people to provide
for safety and
security.

Police



Mechanical Prevention

We can use mechanical
or electronic devices
to secure property.

Video monitoring and
locked gates



4 D's of Crime Prevention

- **D**eny the criminal access to the target.
- **D**eter the criminal from attacking.
- **D**etect the criminal if he does attack.
- **D**elay the criminal before he succeeds.

Risk Management - Insurance

- **Avoid risk**
- **Reduce risk**
- **Spread risk**
- **Transfer risk**
- **Accept risk**

Is Crime Prevention Valuable?

- **It makes crime more difficult, discouraging people (especially) youth from getting involved in crime.**
- **It frees up police resources.**
- **It makes the police look more effective – many opportunistic crimes can't be solved and make the police look ineffective.**

Crime Prevention Works

Direct Deposit

Reduced theft of
Social Security
checks from the mail



Crime Prevention Works

Bus Driver Robbery

From 1963 to 1968 bus driver robberies increased 50% and driver deaths increased 100%.

Exact Fare

Eliminated robberies and assaults of bus drivers.



Gasoline Drive-Off Theft

US - was a big problem



Pakistan - never a problem



Positive Impact

Protective Vests

- More than 3,000 lives saved
- An officer who is NOT a protective vest is 14 times more likely to suffer a fatal injury than an officer who is wearing a protective vest.

Source: National Institute of Justice



Law Enforcement Officers Murdered

1960 - 2018

