

ORIGINS OF CRIME PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY POLICING

The History and Relevance of Crime Prevention



A NEW CONCEPT?

- Nearly 2400 years ago residents of Jerusalem were appointed as guards due to threats
- As Italy became a trading center and began to experience urban blight and crime, they formed patrols
- The Statute of Westminster (1295) empowered Constables to draft citizens as unpaid watchmen and required that upon hearing the "hue and cry" of the watchmen all citizens were required to come to the aid of those calling for help.

MORE RECENT HISTORY

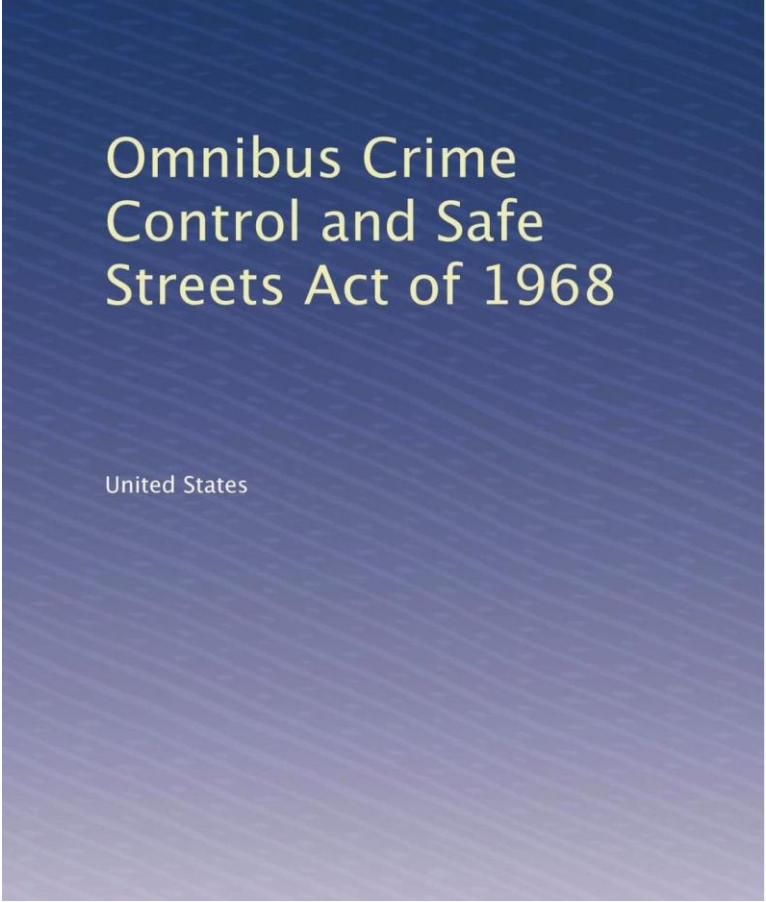
- Social activities contributed to modern crime prevention units:
 - 1960's and 70's events that produced negative image of police
 - Civil rights protests
 - Drug Culture
 - War protests
 - Kent State incident





THEN SOMETHING POSITIVE HAPPENED WITH PUBLIC RELATIONS

- Units found that giving "tips" to the public on how to secure their homes was well received
- People started to look at police more positively
- A shift from information to educational began

The image shows the cover of a report titled "Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968". The cover has a dark blue background with a subtle, repeating pattern of the words "CRIME CONTROL" in a light blue color. The title is written in a white, sans-serif font. Below the title, the words "United States" are printed in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968

United States

PUBLIC RESPECT FOR POLICE INCREASED

Units became almost exclusively educational

Federal funding in 1968 (Omnibus Crime Control/Safe Streets Act) insured their continuance

CRIME PREVENTION TECHNIQUES WERE CREATED IN THE EARLY 1970'S

- National Crime Prevention Institute founded in 1971
- The National Sheriff's Association creates first national Neighborhood Watch program (1972)
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) concept is born (1971)





ANOTHER SHIFT BETWEEN 1970-1980

- Police-community interaction became popular
- A sense of inclusiveness was prevalent
- The concept of community-oriented policing was born
- Community policing efforts began to show up throughout the country



LAW
ENFORCEMENT
RESPONSE:
WE'LL DO IT,
BUT WHAT IS
IT?

- Multiple theories of what community policing is:
 - High visibility patrol
 - Crime prevention programs
 - Problem oriented policing
 - Addressing neighborhood decline
- Seeing the funding stream available, agencies quickly move to form units of community policing

Sir Robert Peel Nine Principals & His Influence Upon The Metropolitan Police Act

1. The basic mission for whom the police exist is to prevent crime and disorder.
 2. The ability of the police to perform their duties is dependent upon public approval of police actions.
 3. Police must secure the willing co-operation of the public in voluntary observance of the law to be able to secure and maintain the respect of the public.
 4. The degree of co-operation of the public that can be secured diminishes proportionately to the necessity of the use of physical force.
 5. Police seek and preserve public favor not by catering to public opinion but by constantly demonstrating absolute impartial service to the law.
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CRIME PREVENTION OR COMMUNITY POLICING?

- Both claim principles of Sir Robert Peel's Metropolitan Police Act of 1829
- The primary principles in play:
 - The police must secure the willing cooperation of the public in voluntary observance of the law
 - The police are the public and the public are the police

DEFINITIONS

Crime Prevention

"anticipation, recognition, and appraisal of a crime risk and the initiation of some action to remove or reduce it." *National Crime Prevention Institute*

Community Policing

"a policing philosophy that promotes and **supports organizational strategies** to address the causes and reduce the fear of crime and social disorder through problems solving tactics and community policing partnerships." *U.S. Department of Justice*



THE ANSWER

Community Policing

- A philosophy of addressing crime with community involvement

Crime Prevention

- A tool and strategy toward achieving the philosophical end, which is the reduction of crime, the fear of crime and social disorder

CONCLUSION

- Policing is influenced by changes in:
 - Social environments
 - Political environments
 - Economic environments
- Some current influences to consider:
 - Economic downturn
 - Aging population
 - Identity theft
 - Technology related crimes
 - Terrorism
 - Gangs





COMMUNITY
POLICING
FROM
ENFORCER
TO PROBLEM
SOLVER

- Proactive philosophy
- Preferred because:
 - It attacks the cause rather than just the effect
 - More likely to bring lasting change through removal of problem

CHARACTERISTICS
OF PROBLEM
SOLVING MODELS

Problem identification process

Proposed solution is developed

Implementation plan is developed
& instituted

Evaluation of the effectiveness is
identified & implemented

SOME PROBLEM-SOLVING MODELS

- Scanning, Analyzing, Response, and Assessment (S.A.R.A.)
 - Developed in 1980's in Newport News, VA
- Community coalition or teams
 - Identify problems & assist in developing solutions
- Weed and seed
 - Identifying problems (weeds) while replacing them with positive programs (seeds)
- Neighborhood problem solving teams

FILLING THE TOOLBOX

Public relations activities to build positive will

Enforcement activities are no less important

- Selective use of crime prevention and other laws

Crime prevention programs

Crime Analysis

CRIME PREVENTION PRACTICE AND THEORY



Crime Prevention Triangle

Which part can be effected by crime prevention efforts?

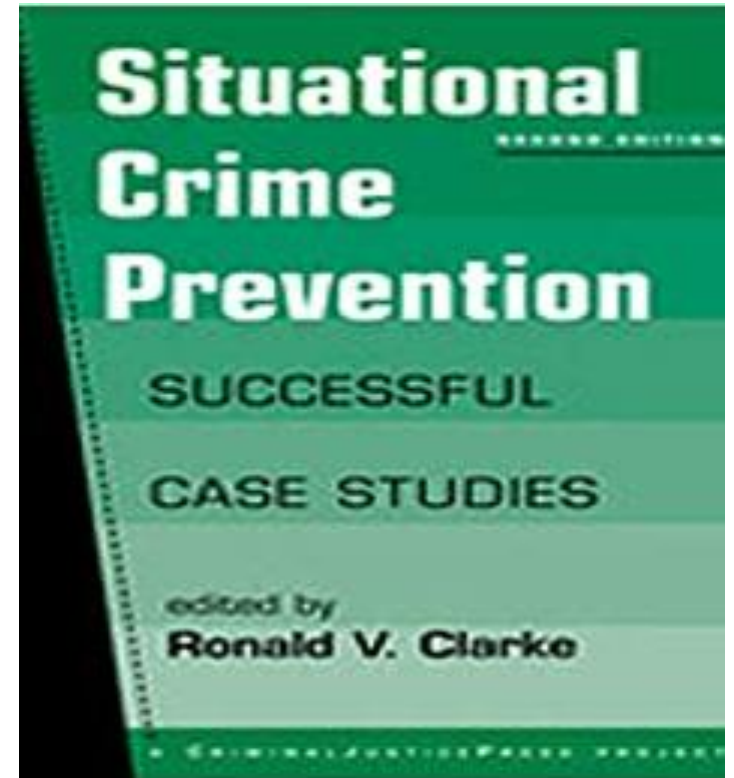
OPPORTUNITY AND CHOICES

Dr. Ronald Clarke

"Situational Crime Prevention" asserts that **criminals choose their victims** based on "rational choice"

Therefore to create crime prevention programs that work one must understand methodology the criminal uses in choosing their targets

"measures that reduce crime opportunity involve; the management, design, or manipulation of the environment and/or make the criminal activity more risky, difficult or less regarding and excusable."



RATIONAL CHOICE

Choice of a victim is based upon:

Risk involved

Effort involved

Reward sought in the crime

Availability of excuses if detected

Increase the risk and effort and reduce or remove the reward

OPPORTUNITY REDUCTION

- Another model is the 4 D's of prevention:
 - Deny
 - Deter
 - Detect
 - Delay

**National Crime Prevention Institute*



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. **his objective.**