



Crime Prevention and Victim Support

Victims of Crime Service 1989
Constitution plank 2
"aid and assist in the development of
crime prevention programmes"



Proactive victim prevention

- Victim Support organisations as CP advocates
- The state of CP in Australia 2008
- "Law and Order" rules.....the danger
- Training the pre victim eg Armed Holdup, Alcohol related violence, child protection
- Advertising "real" risks



What is Crime Prevention?

“The anticipation, recognition and appraisal of a crime risk and the initiation of some act to remove or reduce it” (American Crime Prevention Institute.)



Types of Crime Prevention

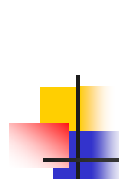
- Situational (reducing opportunities)
 - Increasing the effort
 - Increasing the risk
 - Reducing the reward

Examples: banks, car makers, shops, homes



Types of CP (cont.)

- Social or developmental
Schools, health, employment, housing
- Early Intervention...intervene with "at risk" populations at appropriate times and in effective ways
- CPTED: design public and private space to deter criminal activity
- "going equipped" offender based approaches



Crime Prevention types (cont.)

Routine activity theory: 'For a crime to occur in time and space three elements must be present:

1. a motivated offender
2. a suitable target
3. The absence of a capable guardian



Crime victims and crime prevention

“Recovery is more than just changing my head”

Often, victims fear re-victimisation and therefore need re assurance that the risk is reduced. Eg:

- Armed robbery
- Assault
- Domestic violence and sexual assault



Crime Victims and crime prevention

- House breaks and car crime
- Crimes in public places

So, part of the support process will often involve effective crime prevention measures.

The importance of CP partnerships.



Repeat victimisation:

Crime prevention practitioners realise that:

- “crime is not evenly distributed through the community”
- “One event increases the risk of another” eg Repeat break and Enter Project SA 2001

Focus resources, protect those at most risk



Crime prevention responses integrated with therapy

- Armed Robbery and return to work
- Domestic violence: “the peril of leaving”
- Sexual assault and CPTED
- Housebreaks and car crime
- Assault and licensed premises



Building Crime Prevention resources in your agency

- The literature
- Training and practice
- Volunteers
- Partnerships and collaboration eg Police
Local government
- Advocating for community based programmes as fear reduction



Conclusion:

- Victim support and multi skilling
- Victim support and building confidence
- Victim support and Restorative Justice