

INDEPENDENT EVALUATOR'S FINAL REPORT  
ON  
COMMUNITY ISSUES FORUMS: SPECIAL FOCUS LAW ENFORCEMENT  
L.E.A.A. Grant No. 76DF-990017

Submitted to the  
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION

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ACQUISITIONS

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SUMMARY OF THE EVALUATION

Twenty-four forums were held. Sixteen (66.7%) were in cities over 250,000 in population. Ten (41.7%) drew from and focused on an entire metropolitan area, while fourteen drew from and focused on specific communities within a city. These communities tended to be predominantly Black (64.3%) and tended to be high or extremely high crime areas (92.9%). The forums were most frequently held in schools and churches and were typically sponsored jointly by police and/or sheriffs departments, community and/or civic organizations, schools and churches (75%).

The participants ranged from 11 to 88 years of age with 50% below the age 34. Fifty-two percent were female and forty-eight percent were male. Fifty-eight percent were White and thirty-seven percent Black. Criminal justice personnel made up an average of 18% of each forum's participants. The participants tended to be fairly well-educated and quite mobile and scored about average with regard to "powerlessness", "social isolation" and "trust in people". Those who filled out questionnaires tended to be quite faithful in attending most of the forum sessions.

The respondents tended to perceive the crime problems in their community fairly accurately and viewed police success in solving various types of crime fairly accurately except crimes of rape and auto theft.

Statistical analysis of questionnaire data and on-site visits confirmed clearly that the three Primary Objectives of the forum were achieved. (1) Community participants and

criminal justice people developed significantly more positive perceptions of each as a result of attending the forums, (2) Participants developed more positive attitudes about the usefulness of working on community problems as a way of solving law enforcement problems.

(3) Participants felt a greater need to take cooperative action on community problems as a result of attending the forums. Further, participants came to believe to a greater extent that solving a wide range of community problems would reduce crime in their communities.

The Independent Evaluation Team considered the number of completed follow-up questionnaires to be so small and probably not representative of the total participants that the findings from these questionnaires are presented as something less than definitive. About one fourth of these respondents had attended at least one meeting designed to work on implementing forum produced proposals and 43% had taken some individual action on community problems as a result of attending the forums. Eighty-five percent stated they had used the forum methodology to analyze and solve community problems, but only 25% felt the forum proposals had influenced actions in either government or the criminal justice system. Sixty-six percent stated that they knew of others who had taken action to implement one or more of the proposals created in the forums.

While there are a number of things which might have been done to cause the forums to have had a greater and more tangible impact, it is the unanimous opinion of the Independent Evaluation Team that: (1) the forums achieved their primary objectives, as well as a number of unplanned for and unexpected positive results, and (2) the project was well worth the dollars granted for it. Other both specific and general conclusions may be found in the concluding section of this report.

## INTRODUCTION

Community Issues Forums (CIF): Special Focus Law Enforcement were a series of one day workshops involving representatives of various elements of the communities in which they were held, including police and other persons who work within the criminal justice system. The CIFs were a special adaptation of a highly structured intense, one-day process designed to enable groups of people from a community to diagnosis the problems of their community and invent solutions to those problems. This adaptation focuses on issues related to law enforcement, but focuses on those issues in the context of a comprehensive approach based on the theory that the best solutions to law enforcement problems have to be grounded in the solution of a wide range of community problems. This theory suggests further that these problems create the political, economic and social conditions which have to be improved as an integral part of any realistic solution to the law enforcement problems confronting communities.

The purpose of each CIF is to foster cooperation among citizen participants and criminal justice personnel and to promote their adopting proposals that will initiate joint action to reduce criminal activity in the community. The forum was designed to provide them an opportunity to learn how to: 1) cope effectively with mutual conflicts that may characterize their relationship; and 2) to deal directly and concretely with the problems by their constructing action proposals that would address the problems basic to criminal activity in the community.

The purpose of the work of the Independent Evaluation Team and the purpose of the Evaluation Report is to evaluate in general the effectiveness of the CIFs in accomplishing this purpose and specifically to assess the extent to which the Forums achieved the three Primary Objectives of the project as set forth in the Evaluation Plan. Those objectives were:

Primary Objectives:

Objective I. The first objective of the Community Issues Forum is to ameliorate the shared negative perceptions and attitudes of citizen participants regarding personnel in the criminal justice agencies in the community. As citizens and criminal justice personnel work together in a one day Community Issues Forum, they will become aware of their common problems in the community and the former will realize that mutual antagonism is counter productive to solving these problems.

Objective II. The second objective of the Community Issues Forum is to change the attitudes of participants toward the possibility of cooperative, effective action which addresses the problems of their community. It is the ICA's experience that people are generally pessimistic about the possibility of doing anything in their communities which will "make a difference", which will be effective in bringing about change. Therefore, community members are not motivated even to attempt such action. However, when the power of working together is demonstrated, through the work accomplished at the Forum, those attitudes will be improved.

Objective III. The third objective of the Community Issues Forum is to provide a cooperative experience in which citizen participants and criminal justice personnel can work together in creating solutions to community problems resulting in their feeling the need to take a concerted action to reduce criminal activity in the community.

Secondary Objectives:

While the next three objectives were indeed objectives of the CIFs, it was agreed, as

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This objective was restated in this form prior to the first forum to facilitate its measurability with the questionnaires.

was set forth in the evaluation plan, that the measurement of the impact of the CIFs in relation to these objectives was beyond the time frame of and dollars available in the current grant. Some data from the questionnaires and the case studies will address the issue of the accomplishment of some of these objectives. Nevertheless, this evaluation study will not attempt to speak definitively concerning their achievement. The secondary objectives were:

Objective IV. The fourth objective of the Community Issues Forum is to disseminate group planning methods developed by the ICA which have proven effective in other communities by creating a pool of trained, experienced leaders who would continue to use the methods in other situations.

Objective V. The fifth objective of the Community Issues Forum is to provide the occasion for the formation of a new coalition of community leadership which, following the forum, will see that follow-up action is taken on the proposals which were created.

Objective VI. To provide direction to key influence groups in the community by providing them with copies of the challenges identified and the proposals created at the forum.

Objective VII. The seventh objective of the Community Issues Forum program is to gather data which will be used in the selection of four communities in which a comprehensive socio-economic development approach can be demonstrated. One of the anticipated results of such a project would be a measurable reduction of crime and delinquency in the community.

## EVALUATION DESIGN

General evaluative conclusions will be drawn from: (1) the data from the questionnaires (see Appendix A), (2) data gathered personally by the Independent Evaluator in on-site visits and follow-up correspondence and telephone calls with ICA staff at five sites and (3) reporting data from all 24 cities supplied to the Independent Evaluator by ICA national staff.

Specific conclusions concerning the achievement of the three Primary Objectives will be derived from a statistical analysis of the data collected from the questionnaires. For purposes of specificity in analysis the objectives were stated in propositional form prior to the first form as follows:

Proposition 1: As community participants and criminal justice personnel work in concert in a Community Issues Forum workshop, they will improve their perception of each other regarding the other's responsibility for reducing the incidents of criminal activity.

Proposition 2: When corporate planning methods are used by citizens in a community forum to create proposals to cope with basic community problems, the attitudes of these participants toward possible collective action will be improved.

Proposition 3: Through participation in a community event where corporate planning methods are used to create proposals for dealing with the basic problems in the community and citizens recognize their ability to effect change by working together, participants will recognize the necessity to take future constructive action to reduce criminal activities.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup>This propositional statement was restated in this form prior to the first forum to conform to the restatement of Objective III.



This study is designed to falsify these propositional statements if they are not true.

If in the study, the design fails to falsify the statement, then, we might conclude that they are true until the next time they are tested. Like most sociological investigations, this study will measure the perceptions and attitudes of forum participants that they bring with them to each all day forum. Unlike most sociological investigations, this study must measure proposed outcomes that were couched in statements that point to "what ought occur". These "ought statements" were basic to the philosophical orientation held by the ICA staff. The outcomes proposed above are operational definitions of the "ought statements".

The proposed outcomes were shared by ICA staff and community citizens who were responsible for implementing the forums conducted in different geographical locations in the United States. It was important that staff and community citizens not only share these ideas but make every attempt to implement them in each city selected for a forum site. The success of the study design to assess whether the outcomes do occur is contingent upon staff putting into practice the ideas from which the propositional statements are drawn.

But if staff and community citizens who sponsor the forums identify different desirable outcomes that are not consistent with the ones stated above and then implement them during the course of the forums, the findings drawn from this study will be confounded by their redefinition of the purpose and intent of the forums. If the aims of the forums are modified, the intended outcomes will not occur in any systematic fashion and we might reasonably expect to find that no change will occur as a result of the forums.

Another factor that might jeopardize the success of the design to detect anticipated change in a given direction is the psychological predispositions of forum participants. Measurements of their state of "powerlessness", social isolation", and "degree of trust" may predispose them to be poised for change or to resist change regardless of the effectiveness of the forum program. This study does not introduce these psychological characteristics as outcome variables that will change as a result of participants experiencing the forum. Rather, they will be treated as potential intervening factors that might compete for explanation of change that might occur as a result of the forum. The design of this study will treat these factors as operating independently of the outcome variables. Put another way, we will assume that forum participants regardless of their ranked position on these factors will change their position on outcome variables independent of these factors. When these factors are controlled, the correlations between outcome variables will not be changed nor modified.

Another factor that may well confound the design of this study accomplishing its aim is the measurements employed to assess the outcome variables. The research team did not test these measures for their reliability nor their validity. Since criteria were not established to provide answers to the question of reliability and validity, we must argue for the effectiveness of the measures from the outcome of the study. If the operational definition for outcome variables are sensitive enough to detect change in the direction specified by the propositional statements stated above, then we argue, whatever changes occur as a result of participants experiencing the forums will be detected. Also, if no change is detected or the change is not in the hypothesized direction, these measures will record that as well.

But if the measures are too crude to assess the outcomes of the forum experience, change will not be detected in spite of the success of the forums to promote change in the desired direction. Of course, if no change is measured we do not know if the failure to measure change is due to the instruments or to the failure of the forum program. Where change is reported in this study, we can assume that the measures were adequate and the change is a result of the forums. Where no change is detected we are left in the dark as much as we were before.

A final factor that must be considered in this study is "how much change" must occur before we can say that the forums are successful. The number of participants who must "decide" to change their behavior in the direction of the proposed outcome variables was not specified by the ICA staff nor by the community citizen sponsors. The definition of how many must change to determine if the forums are successful was left an open question.

In this study, change will be defined by a statistical statement. A statistically significant proportional shift in ordinal position by participants who make up the sample on one variable which measures an opinion before the forum to another ordinal position on a variable that measures an opinion after the forum must occur before we can say change has occurred. Where shifts in opinion can be attributed to chance factors alone, we will conclude that the forums did not effectively modify the participants' ordinal position on the before variable. No change occurred. Unfortunately, we have already identified other confounding factors that might make such an interpretation unreliable. These competing explanations were outlined above.

But where statistically significant proportional shifts in ordinal positions is found, we can reasonably conclude that the shift was due to the forum program. In this study  $\alpha$  is set at the .05 level of confidence. If statistical significance reaches the .05 level, we can conclude the shift is not due to chance factors which operate in a random fashion and create the change in proportions but are actually due to the forum itself. This definition of change is a heuristic definition based upon statistical theory and not on any policy or programmatic design suggested by ICA and/or the forum sponsors.

Instruments: Three questionnaires were designed by members of the Evaluation Team (see Appendix A):

1. Participant Questionnaire: designed to collect (a) demographic data on each participant, (b) data which could be used in testing the three propositional statements and (c) other data to be used in drawing general conclusions regarding the effectiveness of the forums. Besides the measures constructed to assess the outcome of the forums, Neal and Seeman's scales of "powerlessness" and "social isolation" as well as Rosenberg's revised scale called "trust in people" was included. This questionnaire was to be completed at the end of each forum by every person who attended.
2. Sponsor Committee Questionnaire: to be completed at the end of each forum by the staff and members of the "Sponsor Committee". This questionnaire was designed to collect data about their perception of the effectiveness of the forums in achieving the stated objectives.

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For reliability and validity scores, please see John P. Robinson and Phillip R. Shaver, Measures of Social Psychological Attitudes (Ann Arbor, Mich.: Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan, 1973)

Both the Participant Questionnaire and the Sponsor Committee Questionnaire were pretested at the Lawton, Oklahoma Forum site. Nineteen persons completed the questionnaire. They were asked to critique the wording and the form of the questionnaire. No significant or substantial suggestions for revisions were made by these nineteen respondents. Consequently, no important changes were made and the questionnaires from the Lawton Forum were included in the total sample of 774 participants.

3. Follow-Up Questionnaire: designed to be sent to all forum participants approximately 30 days following each forum for the purpose of collecting data regarding action taken as a result of the forums.
4. Follow-Up Letter of Inquiry: (see Appendix B) was sent by the Independent Evaluator to ICA regional staff in the areas of the 24 forum sites approximately 45 days following the completion of the last forum to collect up-to-date data on the on-going results of the forums.

Sample:

Forums were held at twenty-four (24) sites. Useable questionnaires were retrieved from twenty-one (21) of those sites.<sup>4</sup> These sites, the number of participants who registered at each forum, the number of useable completed participant questionnaires from each forum and the percentage of participants completing useable questionnaires are reported in Table 1, page 10 . Seven hundred and seventy-four participants

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The Sponsor Committee at the Kansas City Forum substantially changed the questionnaires rendering them unuseable in the research study. This is particularly unfortunate in that this was the largest single forum (1139 registered participants present) and was reported by ICA national staff to be the "best" of all 24 forums. Questionnaires from the forums in Washington and Chicago were collected but for various reasons not delivered to the Independent Evaluator in time to be included in the research study.

TABLE 1  
DESCRIPTIVE DATA ON FORUMS

City	Target Population	Description of Community	Crime in Community	Site of Forum	Sponsors	Ref. Partici.	Partici. Question. No.	
Lawton, Okla. 4/24/76	city-wide	White, Black, Native Am.	Greatest increase in crime in 1975 of any city between 75 and 100 thousand	Eisenhower High School	Police Dept., Sheriff's Dept. Neighborhood Watch Program Lions & Kiwanis	69	19	.275
St. Louis, Mo. 5/5/76	Police Dist. #7	Poverty level Blacks & middle income Whites	highest crime rate in St. Louis	Soldan High School	Soldan High School	143	53	.371
Houston, Tex. 5/14/76	Garden Oaks & Oak Forrest	White, middle class, suburban	Two of safer communities crime up 70% since 1970	Oaks Christian Church	Sponsor. Com. of 13 peop. inc. a judge, sheriff, 2 councilmen	108	36	.333
Montgomery, Ala. 5/15/76	city-wide	White, Black urban	moderate & increasing	Ala. Highway Dept. Building	Office of Att. General	67	29	.433
Oklahoma City, Okla. 5/8/76	central city	Inner city-40% Black, 30% White, 20% Mex. Am., 10% Nat. Am., 72% on Welfare, 8% above \$50,000 - high unemploy. large senior cit. popul.	increasing	Christ Church	Mayor, Cham. of Com., FBI County, State, City Police, Com. Treatmt. Ctr. of Dept. of Correct. & 30 Other organizations	95	40	.444
Philadelphia, Pa. 5/15/76	South Philadelphia	deteribrating - 50% Black, remainder Jewish, Italian	high	So. Philadelphia Community Center	12 Community Org. & City agencies	160	38	.238
Atlanta, Ga. 6/5/76	East Lake	95% Black-50% living in public housing proj. rapid turn over	rising - severe	East Lake United Methodist Church	20 community organiz. schools and churches	143	33	.230
Washington, D.C. 6/5/76	Anacostia	All Black - lower income	extremely high	Washington Highland High School	Citiz. Group for Crime Prev. & Southeast Jaycees	125		
Billings, Mont. 6/9/76	South Side	White, Chicano, Nat. Am., high unemployment	highest in city	Elementary School	Sheriff's Dept. Crime Prev. Comm., Ch. of Police, Just. of Peace, Co. Attor., Co. Supertend. of Schools	35	16	.457
Burley, Idaho 6/9/76	city-wide	predominantly White, small Nat. Am. & Mex. Am. popul. - rural mindset	moderate & increasing	Burley Jr. High	Co. Commissioners and Mayor	92	40	.435
Brighton, Cal. 6/12/76	city-wide	White, upper middle class	Rising "suburban crime"	Comprehensive Learning Center	Police, city mgr. Ch. of Comm. School Dist. & 3 Comm. Organ.	65	31	.477
San Francisco, Cal. 6/12/76	Mission Dist.	Inner City-30% Latino, 60% Anglo, 10% Oriental some Am. Indian	High Crime area	School	Mission Comm. Rel. Mission Merchn. Assoc. 3 churches 9 Com. arap	70	26	.371
San Jose, Cal. 6/12/76	central city	White, Black & Spanish speaking	increasing	1st United Methodist Church	7 community and civic groups	51	41	.804
Cincinnati, Ohio 6/12/76	Four Hilltop Comm. of NE Cinn.	70% Black - 40% on welfare	2 of 4 commun. rank in top 5 crime areas in city	7th Presbyterian church	comm. council of each of four communities	51	33	.647
Albuquerque, N.M. 6/19/76	county-wide	White and Chicano	Increasing	Albuquerque High School	Sheriff's Of., Gov.'s Council on Criminal Just., Crim. Just. Coord. Counc. high sch., 1 chur. 3 Comm Org.	47	21	.447
New Orleans, La. 6/26/76	city-wide	Southern White, Cajun, Black	high and increasing	Callier Hall (former city hall)	Sheriff's Of., N.O. Police Dept. La. Att. Gen'l's Off. and 15 community organizations	170	75	.441
Baltimore, Md. 8/31/76	Eastern Terrace	90% Black	high	Hartford Heights Elem. School	Eastern Terr. Comm. Corp., Demus House, Police Comm. Rel. Dept.	92	31	.337
Chicago, Ill. 7/24/76	Fifth City	Black, inner-city comm. of 40,000 on West Side	high	5th City Comm. Center	5th City Comm. Center	200		
Detroit, Mich. 7/31/76	13th Precinct	low income Black community	highest crime rate in city	Cathedral of St. Paul	Police Precinct New Detroit	181	68	.376
Albany, N.Y. 7/31/76	city-wide	mixed	increasing	YMCA	Sponsor. Comm. made indiv. rpt., crime just. agen & com. groups	79	25	.316
Quincy, Ill. 9/15/76	city-wide	low to middle income comm. mainly White	increasing	high school	P.I.E. Altern. School & Quincy High School	230	58	.252
East St. Louis, Ill. 10/23/76	city-wide	all Black, low income, deteriorating comm.	high crime rate	E. St. Louis Sr. High School	Spon. Comm. composed of 25 citiz. from educ., social, law enforcement agen.	116	37	.319
Kannas City, Mo. 11/12/76	city-wide	urban Black & White	high in city as whole incr. in some areas	H. Roe Bartle Exposition Hall				
Milwaukee, Wis.	South Side	White						

(n = 774) completed useable questionnaires at the end of the forums. Of a total of eight hundred and thirty-nine questionnaires (n = 839) sixty-five (65) of these questionnaires were incomplete and not useable. The sample studied was a non-random select sample.

The sample of 774 participant questionnaires represents 35.8% of the 2160 participants registered at 21 sites. One hundred and twelve (112) completed and useable Sponsor Committee questionnaires were used in the study. Approximately two thousand (2,000) follow-up questionnaires were sent out. Three hundred and thirty-four (334) useable follow-up questionnaires were returned, representing a 16.7%<sup>5</sup> return.

#### Statistics:

The following statistics were used to summarize these data:

1. The product moment correlation coefficient (r)
2. Kendall's Tau C
3. The standard error of the difference between population proportions

#### DESCRIPTIVE DATA ON FORUM SITES AND PARTICIPANTS (see Table 1)

##### Cities:

Sixteen (16) out of twenty-four (24) forums, or 66.7%, were held in cities with a population over 250,000, (see Table 1). Two (2), or 8.3%, were in cities with

<sup>5</sup> The follow-up questionnaires were mailed by the ICA staff in three separate mailings between August and December of 1976, a sizable mailing having gone out during the Christmas mailing season. Cost constraints prohibited remailing to participants who had not responded to the first mailings. The 16.7% rate of return is a disappointing, and in the opinion of the evaluation team, an unrepresentative return. While the follow-up questionnaire was viewed as an important source of data for the general evaluation it was not counted on for measuring the accomplishment of the three primary objectives.

populations of between 100,000 and 250,000. Three (3), or 12.5% were in cities with populations of between 50,000 and 100,000. One forum was held in cities in each of the following population categories: 25,000 to 50,000; 10,000 to 25,000; and under 10,000.

Target Populations:

Ten (10), or 41.7%, of the forums drew participants from and focus on the entire metropolitan area, while fourteen (14), or 58.3%, drew from and focused on specific communities within a city. Nine (9) forums, or 64.3%, of these 14 communities were all or predominantly Black communities. Five (5), or 35.7%, were all or predominantly White. Four (4) or 28.6% of these 14 communities had a significant minority population which were Spanish speaking. Two (2), or 14.3%, had significant native American minority populations. Thirteen (13), or 92.9%, of these 14 communities were considered by resident ICA staff persons to be communities with high or extremely high crime rates. (See Table 1)

Forum Sites:

The forums were most frequently held in school buildings (11 of 24, or 45.8%) and churches (6 of 24, or 25%). Two were held in municipal buildings and two in community centers. One each was held in a Y.M.C.A., a company auditorium and an exposition hall. (See Table 1)

Forum Sponsors:

Four forums had Sponsoring Committees but did not list sponsoring organizations. Twenty had both a Sponsoring Committee and one or more sponsoring organizations. Three had a single sponsoring organization. The typical sponsoring pattern (18 of 24,



or 75%) was for the forums to be sponsored by a multiplicity of organizations including police and/or sheriffs departments, community and/or civic organizations, schools and churches. Community organizations were listed as sponsors of forums at 15 sites (62.5%). Police departments, sheriff's departments or other criminal justice agencies were listed as sponsors at 11 sites (45.8%). Churches (8 of 24, or 33.3%), schools (8 of 24, or 33.3%) and mayors, county commissioners, and/or non-criminal justice related departments and agencies of city or county government (7 of 24, or 29.1%) were the next most frequently listed as sponsoring organizations. Civic clubs (5 of 24, or 20.8%) and corporations (1 of 24, or 4.2%) were also listed as sponsors. (See Table 1)

#### Age of Participants:

Table 2 shows the age distribution for 774 participants who attended 21 forums and completed the questionnaire. Persons in attendance who completed the questionnaire at the 21 forum sites were a relatively young group of persons. Fifty percent (50%) were less than 34 years of age. The age spread was from 11 years of age to 88 years of age.

#### Sex of Participants:

Fifty-two percent of the participants were female and forty-eight percent were male.<sup>6</sup>  
(See Table 3)

#### Race of Participants:

A little over a third of the forum participants were Black. Fifty-eight percent were White. Two percent were Latinos. The three percent remaining were categorized as other.  
(See Table 4)

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Throughout the remainder of this section of "Descriptive Data", "participants" will refer to the participants in the 21 sites who completed useable questionnaires. The one exception will be in the category of "Criminal Justice Personnel Present at Forums", where data from registration cards and/or ICA staff estimates will be used.

TABLE 2

AGE OF PERSONS WHO  
ATTENDED THE FORUMS

<u>Age Categories</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>
10 to 19 years	163	.225
20 to 29 years	144	.199
30 to 39 years	140	.193
40 to 49 years	101	.140
50 to 59 years	75	.104
60 to 69 years	64	.088
70 to 79 years	32	.044
80 to 89 years	5	.007
	724*	1.000

\*724 out of 774 persons or 94% answered  
the item asking their age

TABLE 3

SEX OF PERSONS  
WHO ATTENDED FORUMS

<u>Sex</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>
Male	361	.483
Female	387	.517
	748*	1.000

\*748 out of 774 persons or 97%  
answered the item asking them  
their sex

TABLE 4

RACE OF PERSONS WHO  
ATTENDED FORUM

<u>Racial Groups</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>
Black	279	.366
White	441	.579
Latino	18	.024
Other	24	.031
	762*	1.000

\*762 out of 774 persons or 98%  
answered the item asking them  
their race

### Occupation of Participants:

Hollingshead Occupational Scale classification was used for classifying and coding the occupations of the participants. Thirty-eight percent of the participants were executives, proprietors, professional, business managers, owners, and administrators. Only 5 percent were skilled or semi-skilled workers. Almost one quarter of the sample was made up of students or unemployed participants. Retirees were well represented at the forums. Fifteen percent stated they were retired. (See Table 5)

### Criminal Justice Personnel at Forums:

A specific count from registration cards and in a few cases where the registration cards were not available, estimates by regional and national ICA staff present at the forums were used to calculate the number and percent of criminal justice personnel actually present at each forum. These data are found in Table 6. Criminal justice personnel present at the forums ranged between ten (10) and fifty-four (54) and averaged about 20 per forum (mean = 19.96 and median = 20), which tended to represent about 18% (median = 20% and mean = 13.1%, but the mean = 17.5 if Kansas City is discounted as extremely atypical) of the registered participants.

### Education of Participants:

Forum participants tended to be well educated. Thirty-eight percent had completed college or had advanced degrees. Another 38 percent had completed high school or had some college background. Twenty-four percent had less than a high school education. (See Table 7)

### Mobility of Participants:

Participants were quite mobile. Sixty-four percent said they had lived in four or more communities during their life time. (See Table 8)

TABLE 5  
 OCCUPATION<sup>1</sup> OF PERSONS WHO WERE  
 IN ATTENDANCE AT THE FORUMS

<u>Occupation Classes</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>
Higher Executives, Proprietors, and Major Professional	120	.176
Business Managers, Lesser Proprietors and Lesser Prof.	77	.113
Administrators, Owners and Minor Professionals	65	.095
Clerical and Sales, Technicians, and Small Business Men	67	.098
Skilled Manual Workers	48	.070
Machine Operators and Semiskilled Workers	32	.047
Student or Unemployed	155	.227
Retired	101	.148
Housewife	18	.026
	683*	1.000

\*683 out of 774 persons or 88% answered the item asking them their occupation

<sup>1</sup>Hollingshead Occupational Scale was used to code occupations into his seven categories.

TABLE 6

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PERSONNEL  
PRESENT AT FORUMS

<u>Location</u>	<u>Registered Participants</u>	<u>Criminal Justice Personnel Present</u>	<u>f</u>
Lawton, Okla.	69	16	.232
St. Louis, Mo.	143	14	.098
Houston, Tex.	108	12	.111
Montgomery, Ala.	67	20	.299
Oklahoma City, Okla.	95	25	.263
Philadelphia, Pa.	160	20	.125
Atlanta, Ga.	143	18	.126
Washington, D. C.	125	10	.080
Billings, Mont.	35	10	.286
Burley, Idaho	92	24	.261
Brighton, Col.	65	13	.200
San Francisco, Calif.	70	10	.143
San Jose, Calif.	51	18	.353
Cincinnati, Ohio	112	13	.116
Albuquerque, N. M.	47	10	.213
New Orleans, La.	170	18	.106
Baltimore, Md.	92	36	.391
Chicago, Ill.	172	21	.122
Detroit, Mich.	181	11	.061
Albany, N. Y.	79	23	.291
Quincy, Ill.	230	54	.235
East St. Louis, Ill.	116	33	.284
Kansas City, Mo.	1139	39	.034
Milwaukee, Wisc.	96	11	.115
TOTAL	3657	479	.131

TABLE 7  
 EDUCATION LEVEL OF PERSONS  
 WHO ATTENDED THE FORUMS

<u>Education Level</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>
Less Than Eighth Grade	24	.032
Completed Eighth Grade	31	.042
Less Than High School	124	.166
Completed High School	116	.156
Less Than College Degree	170	.228
Completed College	113	.151
Less Than Graduate Degree	66	.088
Completed Masters Degree	51	.068
Less Than Advanced Degree	36	.048
Completed Ph.D. Degree	15	.020
	746*	.999

\*746 out of 774 persons or 96% answered the item asking them their education level

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF NEIGHBORHOODS LIVED IN BY  
PERSONS WHO ATTENDED THE FORUMS

<u>Number of Neighborhoods Lived In</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>
One Neighborhood	77	.101
Two or Three	.198	.260
Four or Five	165	.217
Six or Seven	97	.127
Eight or more	224	.294
	761*	.999

\*761 out of 774 persons or 98% answered the item asking them the number of neighborhoods they lived in



### Powerlessness, Social Isolation and Trust:

These three scales were correlated and their product moment correlation coefficients are reported in Table 9. The magnitude of these coefficients and the direction of the same coefficients were found to be in the expected direction. Participants who were high on powerlessness and social isolation tended to not trust whereas conversely, those who were low on the two former variables tended to trust other people. The standard deviations for these three psychological variables were approximately equal and support the conclusion that they were distributed alike. Thus, there are as many persons in this sample who scored above the mean on each psychological variable as there were people who scored below the mean. This shows that the forums did not attract an inordinate or disproportionate number of persons who were extremely high or low with regard to powerlessness, social isolation and trust.

### Attendance at Forum Sessions:

Participants were asked to indicate whether or not they had attended specific sessions of the forums. The respondents' answers are reported in Table 10. While site visits by the Independent Evaluator revealed that there was a lot of coming and going at and between the various sessions, the persons who filled out questionnaires tended to be rather faithful in attending all sessions. The respondents' attendance was better than 90 percent at all the sessions of the forums. (See Table 10) We conclude from this that while the sample represents a rather modest and disappointing percentage (37.1%), of persons registered at the forums, those who did fill out the questionnaires were among those who participated in all or nearly all of the sessions of the forums. This conclusion is further confirmed by the observations of the Independent Evaluator in his on-site visits to five forums.

TABLE 9

CORRELATION MATRIX FOR THE VARIABLES  
 POWERLESSNESS, SOCIAL ISOLATION, AND TRUST.<sup>1</sup>  
 COEFFICIENTS WERE COMPUTED BY THE  
 PEARSON CORRELATION FORMULA.

	(1)	(2)	(3)
(1) Powerlessness		.337*	-.207*
(2) Social Isolation	n = 206		-.318*
(3) Trust	n = 206	n = 206	

\*p = .01

<sup>1</sup>The statistics for these variables were:

Variable	Mean	Standard Deviation
Powerlessness	2.28	.492
Social Isolation	2.46	.443
Trust	1.62	.385

TABLE 10

## ATTENDANCE AT FORUMS

<u>Name of Sessions</u>		<u>Forum Sessions Attended by Persons Who Filled Out Questionnaire</u>		
		<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>	<u>n</u>
Welcoming	Y*	509	.901	565**
	N	56	.099	
Challenge	Y	543	.928	585
	N	42	.072	
Interlude	Y	539	.944	571
	N	32	.056	
Proposal	Y	508	.915	555
	N	47	.085	
Final Plenary	Y	503	.940	535
	N	32	.060	

\*Y = yes

N = no

\*\* 774 persons filled out questionnaires. The numbers in this column represent the number of persons answering this particular question.

## FINDINGS FROM QUESTIONNAIRES

### Participants' Perception of Crime in the Community and Police Success in Solving It:

We wanted to know which crimes the participants saw as problems in their community.

Table 11 reports the respondents perceptions. The four most frequently mentioned crimes were: burglary (82.9%), drug use (82%), robbery (77.8%), and larceny (67.5%).

(See Table 11)

We wanted to measure whether the participants perceptions accurately reflected the nature of crime problems in their community. To measure this we asked ICA regional staff persons to collect base-line crime statistics for the period of January through May, 1976, in the area in which each forum was held. Useable base-line crime statistics were gathered in only eight (8) of twenty-four (24) sites, but these sites are considered by the Independent Evaluator to be fairly representative of the twenty-four sites in which forums were held. Table 12 shows the number of crimes committed in seven categories<sup>7</sup> during the first six months in the eight representative sites and the number of arrests in connection with each of these categories.

Larceny (24,000), burglary (17,000), auto theft (5,000) and robbery (3,500) were the most frequently reported crimes in the eight reporting sites. When these figures are compared with the frequency with which these same crimes were mentioned by the respondents as being a problem, it appears that the participants had a relatively accurate perception of the crime problem in their community.

7

Drug related crimes are not included because ICA staff were able to retrieve data in this category in only one site.

TABLE 11

PERSONS' PERCEPTION OF CRIMES AS A PROBLEM  
IN THE COMMUNITY AND POLICE SUCCESS IN SOLVING THEM

Crime Category		Persons perceived the following crimes as a problem in their community			Persons felt that police were successful in solving crimes in their community		
		f	p	n	f	p	n
Murder	Y*	335	.490	683**	243	.458	531
	N	348	.510		288	.542	
Rape	Y	325	.477	682	95	.179	530
	N	357	.523		435	.821	
Aggravated Assault	Y	360	.526	684	183	.345	531
	N	324	.474		348	.655	
Burglary	Y	566	.829	683	172	.324	531
	N	117	.171		359	.676	
Larceny	Y	462	.675	684	130	.245	531
	N	222	.325		401	.755	
Auto Theft	Y	344	.503	684	199	.375	530
	N	340	.497		331	.625	
Drug Use	Y	559	.820	682	155	.292	531
	N	123	.180		376	.708	
Robbery	Y	532	.778	684	209	.394	531
	N	152	.222		322	.606	

\*Y= yes

N= no

\*\*Total number equals 774 persons for all crime categories

TABLE 12  
 CRIME STATISTICS IN EIGHT  
 REPRESENTATIVE FORUM SITE COMMUNITIES

<u>Crime Category</u>	<u>No. of Reported Crimes</u>	<u>No. of Associated Arrests in same Geographic Area</u>	<u>%</u>
Murder	147	95	.646
Rape	494	236	.478
Aggravated Assault	3,748	1,120	.299
Burglary	17,177	2,740	.160
Larceny-Theft	23,934	2,825	.118
Auto Theft	4,837	723	.149
Robbery	3,529	1,136	.322

We also wanted to know to what extent the participants felt police were successful in solving these crimes in the community. These perceptions are reported in Table 11. Less than 50% of the respondents felt the police were successful in solving crime in any of eight categories. More respondents felt police were unsuccessful in solving crimes of rape (82.1%), larceny (75.5%), drug use (70.8%), and burglary (67.6%). More respondents felt the police were successful in solving crimes of murder (45.8%), robbery (39.4%), auto theft (37.5%), and aggravated assault (34.5%).

If one assumed that the relationship of arrests for a given kind of crime to the number of cases of that crime reported is something of an indicator of police success in solving these kinds of crimes, - an assumption which is suspect for a number of reasons, but perhaps as good an indicator as is available - then the crime statistics from the eight site sample indicate that police were least successful in solving crimes of larceny (11.8%), auto-theft (14.9%), burglary (16%), and assault (29.9%) and most successful in solving crimes of murder (64.6%), rape (47.8%), robbery (32.2%), and assault (29.9%).

A comparison of these figures with the perceptions of the respondents suggests that there is a high correlation between the participants' perceptions of which crimes the police are successful in solving and the data from the eight representative sites, except in the case of rape and auto theft. The respondents tended to see police as unsuccessful (82.1%) in solving crimes of rape, while the crime statistics suggest that next to murder (64.6%), police are most successful in solving crimes of rape (47.8%). The respondents tended to see police as relatively successful (37.5%), by comparison to other crime categories, in solving crimes of auto thefts, while the crime statistics suggest that next to larceny (11.8%), police are least successful in solving crimes of auto theft (14.9%).

### Participants Perceptions of Various Groups Within the Community:

We wanted to know to what extent the participants perceived various groups, particularly "policemen" and "community citizens", as understanding the problems in their community. We asked participants did they feel the following groups understood the problems of their community. Their replies are reported in Table 13. "Policemen" (64.6%), "people in the school system" (56.6%) and "community citizens" (55.6%) were most frequently perceived to understand problems in their community. Although the percentage variability is not great, it is interesting to note that "people in the welfare system" (45.6%), "people in the court system" (46.4%) and "business men" (47.5%) were least frequently perceived to understand problems in their community.

Participants were also asked whether they believed these groups were "doing as much as they should to reduce problems" in their community. While the respondents tended not to see any of the groups as doing as much as they should, "business men" (16.3%), "professional people" (18.3%) and "people in the court system" (19%) were least frequently seen as doing as much as they should. Police (34.9%) were most frequently seen as doing as much as they should.

One of the primary objectives of the forums was to improve the perceptions which police and community participants had of each other. To measure the achievement of this objective, participants were asked whether they had more positive feelings toward the groups listed as a result of their attending the forums. (See Table 13). While a little more than half of the respondents stated they had more positive feelings toward all the groups listed except "people in the welfare system", a significantly greater percentage stated they had more positive feelings towards "community citizens" (78.3%) and "policemen" (75.2%) as a result of the forums.



TABLE 13

PERSONS' PERCEPTION OF COMMUNITY GROUPS'  
 UNDERSTANDING OF PROBLEMS IN THEIR COMMUNITY,  
 THEIR DOING AS MUCH AS THEY SHOULD, AND THEIR  
 POSITIVE FEELINGS TOWARD THESE GROUPS AT THE CONCLUSION  
 OF THE FORUM

Groups		<u>Before person attended forum, he felt groups understood problems in the community</u>			<u>Before person attended forum, he felt groups were doing as much as they should</u>			<u>Because of the forum, person felt positive feelings toward groups</u>		
		f	p	n	f	p	n	f	p	n
Police	Y*	446	.646	690**	248	.349	710	494	.752	657
	N	244	.354		462	.651		163	.248	
Businessmen	Y	321	.475	676	114	.163	699	334	.528	633
	N	355	.525		585	.837		299	.472	
Court System	Y	311	.464	670	132	.190	695	332	.531	625
	N	359	.536		563	.810		293	.469	
Community Citizens	Y	375	.556	674	135	.201	673	508	.783	649
	N	299	.444		538	.799		141	.217	
Professional People	Y	327	.496	659	124	.183	677	365	.589	620
	N	332	.504		553	.817		255	.411	
Welfare	Y	305	.456	669	146	.212	688	310	.498	622
	N	364	.544		542	.788		312	.502	
School	Y	380	.566	671	185	.267	692	395	.623	634
	N	291	.434		507	.733		239	.377	

\*Y = yes

N = no

\*\*Total number equals 774 persons for all groups

As a check on these results members of the Sponsoring Committees were asked whether or not they agreed with the following statement: "Community participants and criminal justice personnel who participated in this Community Issues Forum improved their perceptions of each other." One hundred and six (106) out of one hundred and twelve (112) or 94.6% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement. (See Table 14)

Thus, the data from the questionnaires suggests strongly that Objective I. of the project was achieved, namely that community participants and criminal justice personnel did have a more positive perception of each other as a result of the forums.

#### Solving Community Problems and Reduction of Crime:

One basic concept upon which the CIFs were based is that crime will be reduced as a wide range of community problems are solved. One assumption of ICA was that the CIFs would cause the participants to understand and "buy" this concept. To test this assumption we asked participants the extent to which, both before and after the forum, they felt that solving a wide range of community problems would reduce crime.

We compared the proportion of participants who responded at each level regarding their opinion before the forum to the proportions responding at the same levels regarding their opinions after the forums. A significant proportional shift was measured and reported in Table 15.

Confidence limits were set around the proportion for each question category for the "before question". The proportion of persons who responded to the same question categories for the "after question" were then inserted between the limits set for the "before question". When the confidence limits for the "before question" failed to include the proportion for the same question category on the "after question", we

TABLE 14

FORUM SPONSOR MEMBERS ESTIMATE OF  
 PARTICIPANTS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
 PERSONNEL IMPROVING THEIR PERCEPTION OF EACH OTHER

<u>Scale Category</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>
Strongly Disagree	00	.000
Disagree	6	.054
Agree	59	.527
Strongly Agree	47	.420
	112	1.001

TABLE 15

PROPORTIONAL COMPARISON OF PERSONS' OPINION  
 "BEFORE" AND "AFTER" THE FORUM REGARDING THE  
 REDUCTION IN CRIME BY SOLVING COMMUNITY PROBLEMS

<u>Scale</u> <u>Categories</u>	<u>Before Forum</u> <u>person felt they</u> <u>could reduce</u> <u>crime by solving</u> <u>problems</u>		<u>After forum</u> <u>person felt they</u> <u>could reduce</u> <u>crime by solving</u> <u>problems</u>		<u>.05</u> <u>Confidence</u> <u>Limits</u> <u>± 1.96(SE<sub>p</sub>*)</u>
	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>	
Person did not believe solutions would reduce crime	38	.053	25	.035	.04 <del>≠</del> .035 ≤ .07
Believed solutions would reduce crime a "little"	112	.157	67	.094	.13 <del>≠</del> .09 ≤ .18
Believed solutions would reduce crime "some"	241	.337	233	.326	.30 ≤ .33 ≤ .37
Believed solutions would reduce crime a "great deal"	324	.453	390	.545	.42 ≤ .55 <del>≠</del> .49
	715**	1.000	715***	1.000	

\*SE<sub>p</sub> =  $\sqrt{p(1-p) (1/n_1 + 1/n_2)}$   
 where

$$p = \frac{n_1 p_1 + n_2 p_2}{n_1 + n_2}$$

\*\*715 out of 774 persons or 92% answered the question  
 \*\*\*715 out of 774 persons or 92% answered the question

concluded that a shift in perception occurred that was not due to chance. Thus we conclude that participation in the CIFs does tend to result in participants thinking that the solution of a wide range of community problems has a greater impact on reducing crime than they did prior to attending the forum.

Participants' Belief That Their Actions Would "Make A Difference":

Another Primary Objective of the forum was to cause the participants to have a stronger belief that their actions in working on community problems could "make a difference". This objective was based on the theory that one cause of citizen apathy was a widespread belief that nothing people in a community could do would make a difference. Thus, we sought to test the proposition that participation in a CIF would cause participants to have an improved attitude toward the usefulness of concerted efforts to solve community problems.

We asked participants whether they felt, both before and after the forum, that taking cooperative action on community problems would "make a difference". (See Table 16) We compared the proportion of participants who responded to the question asking them their opinion before the forum with their opinion on the same issue after the forum was over. The proportional change in opinion between the two questions before and after was found to be significantly different for three of the four confidence limits. Also, the increase and decrease in proportions were in the right direction. We conclude from these data that if a similar group of participants attended a forum much like the forums our sample experienced, we would expect a similar shift in perception 95 percent of the time or better. We conclude further that the data from the questionnaires indicate that

TABLE 16

PROPORTIONAL COMPARISON OF PERSONS' OPINION  
 "BEFORE" AND "AFTER" THE FORUM REGARDING GROUP  
 ACTION HAVING AN IMPACT ON COMMUNITY PROBLEMS

<u>Scale</u> <u>Categories</u>	<u>Before Forum</u> <u>person believed</u> <u>action would</u> <u>make a difference</u>		<u>After Forum</u> <u>person believed</u> <u>action would</u> <u>make a difference</u>		<u>.05</u> <u>Confidence</u> <u>Limits</u> <u>+ 1.96 (SE<sub>p</sub>*)</u>
	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>	
Person believed action would make no difference	34	.046	13	.018	.03 <del>≠</del> .02 ≤ .06
Believed action would make "little" difference	132	.178	50	.068	.15 <del>≠</del> .07 ≤ .21
Believed action would make "some" things different	368	.495	376	.508	.46 ≤ .51 ≤ .53
Believed action would make "many" things different	209	.281	301	.407	.25 ≤ .41 <del>≠</del> .31
	743**	1.000	740***	1.001	

$$*SE_p = \sqrt{p(1-p) \left( \frac{1}{n_1} + \frac{1}{n_2} \right)}$$

where

$$p = \frac{n_1 p_1 + n_2 p_2}{n_1 + n_2}$$

\*\* 743 out of 774 persons or 96% answered the question  
 \*\*\* 740 out of 774 persons or 96% answered the question

the forums were successful in achieving Objective II., namely the participants' attitudes toward the possibility of effective action which addresses community problems was significantly improved.

#### Participants Felt Need to Take Cooperative Action:

A third Primary Objective of the GIF was to cause participants to feel a greater need to take cooperative action to reduce criminal action in the community. To measure the propositional statement based on this objective we asked participants if they felt the necessity to take cooperative action both "before" and "after" the forum. (See Table 17)

Again we found a significant shift in opinion reflected in participants' responses to these two questions. These proportional shifts were statistically significant for the four question categories' confidence limits. In the first three categories, the proportion of persons for the "after question" was significantly lower than those proportions for the "before question" proportions. The proportion for the fourth question category on the "after question" was significantly larger than the proportion for the "before question". Table 17 provides strong evidence that the forum was successful in generating a felt need to take cooperative action to resolve problems in the community. We, therefore, conclude that the forums were successful in achieving Objective III.

#### Psychological Properties as Possible Determinants of Opinion Shifts:

We wanted to know if the variables "powerlessness", "social isolation", and "trust" modified the perceptions of participants when we compared their responses to "before" and "after" questions. To answer this question, we correlated 13 variables that measured participants' opinion regarding issues in their community. Seventy-eight correlations were computed.

TABLE 17

PROPORTIONAL COMPARISON OF PERSONS' OPINION  
 "BEFORE" AND "AFTER" THE FORUM REGARDING THEIR  
 FELT NEED TO TAKE COOPERATIVE ACTION

<u>Scale</u> <u>Categories</u>	<u>Before Forum</u> <u>person felt</u> <u>necessary to take</u> <u>cooperative</u> <u>action</u>		<u>After Forum</u> <u>person felt</u> <u>necessary to take</u> <u>cooperative</u> <u>action</u>		<u>.05</u> <u>Confidence</u> <u>Limits</u> <u>± 1.96(SE<sub>p</sub>*)</u>
	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>	
Persons felt no necessity to take cooperative action	28	.038	13	.018	.02 <del>≠</del> .018 ≤ .05
Felt "little" necessity to take cooperative action	75	.102	33	.046	.08 <del>≠</del> .05 ≤ .13
Felt "some" necessity to take cooperative action	253	.345	208	.287	.30 <del>≠</del> .29 ≤ .39
Felt a "great deal" of necessity to take cooperative action	378	.515	471	.650	.47 ≤ .65 <del>≠</del> .56
	734**	1.000	725***	1.001	

$$*SE_p = \sqrt{p(1-p) (1/n_1 + 1/n_2)}$$

where

$$p = \frac{n_1 p_1 + n_2 p_2}{n_1 + n_2}$$

\*\*734 out of 774 persons or 95% answered the question  
 \*\*\*725 out of 774 persons or 94% answered the question



The correlations reported in Table 18 indicate the strength of association between these 13 variables taken two at a time. These correlations allow us to inspect the relationship between indices used to measure the opinions of participants in the forums.

Moreover, these correlations were compared with the correlations for the same variables taken two at a time when we adjusted for powerlessness, social isolation, and trust.

To determine if the three psychological variables mentioned above would effect the magnitude of correlations reported in Table 18, we introduced them into the correlation computations as control variables and ran the correlations again. No changes in the 78 correlations were found.

As an example, the correlation between participants felt need to take action before the forum with their need to take action after the forum was found to be .41. (See Table 18; column 8, row 7). When we controlled for the three psychological variables, the amount of changes in the magnitude of that correlation are shown in Table 19. Since all other correlations in Table 18 tended to be effected by these three variables to the same degree as the correlation show in Table 19, we concluded that the opinion variables covered with one another independent of powerlessness, social isolation, and trust.

#### Individual and Collective Action Taken by Participants After the Forums:

An important Secondary Objective<sup>8</sup> of the CIF project was to provide for the formation of a new coalition of community leadership which, following each forum, would take follow-up action on the proposals which were created in the forums. While measuring with any

8

The objective was considered as important as any of those called "Primary" in the Evaluation Plan, but was deemed unmeasurable within the time frame and dollar constraints of this grant and was therefore designated "Secondary"

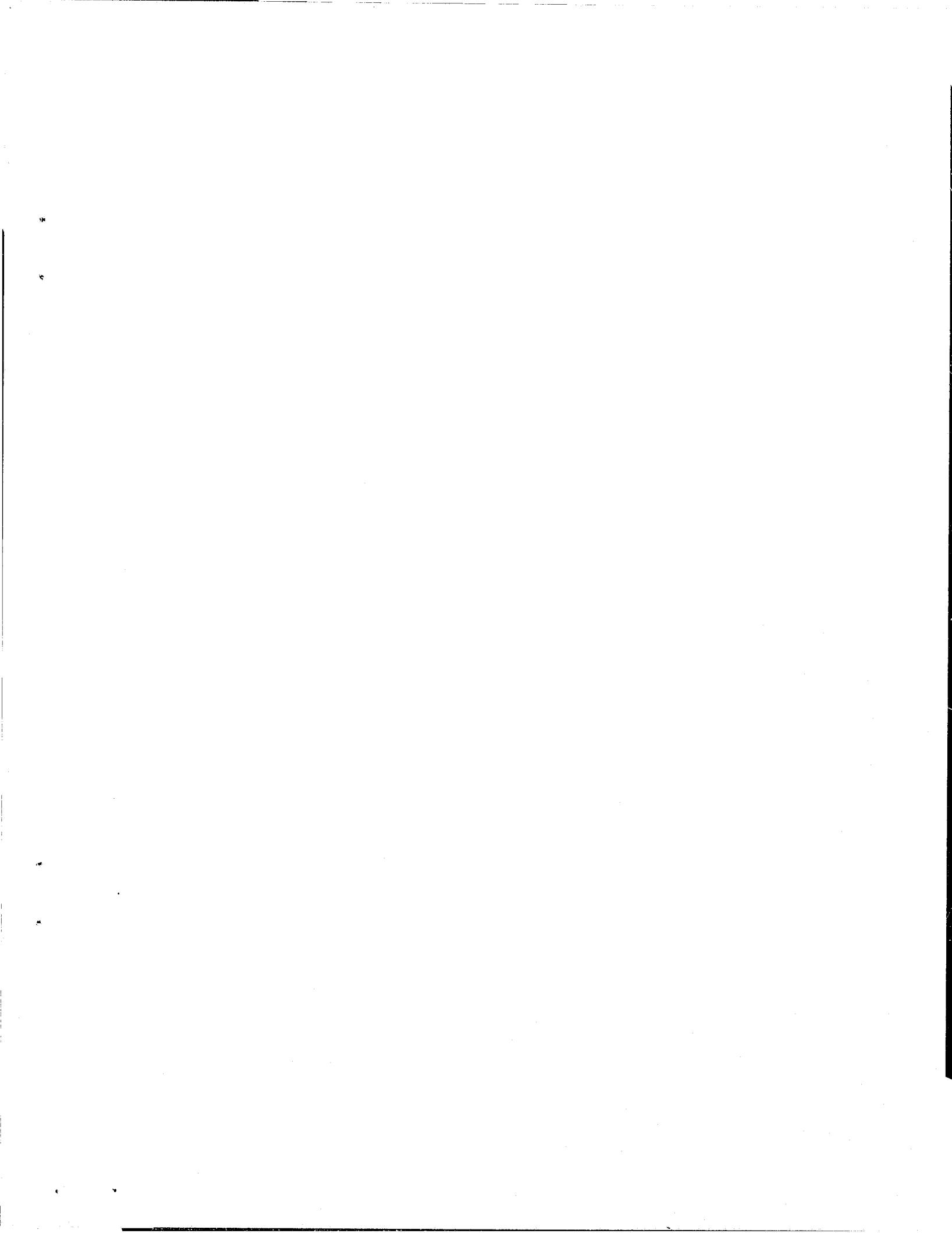


TABLE 18

CORRELATION MATRIX<sup>1</sup> FOR THIRTEEN VARIABLES MEASURING PERCEPTION  
OF FORUM PARTICIPANTS AND IMPACT OF FORUM ON THEIR UNDERSTANDING  
OF RESPONSIBILITIES TO TAKE ACTION AFTER THE FORUM

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
(1) Because of forum, persons better understood responsibilities		.626 <sup>3</sup>	.071	.104	.147	.143	.056	.109	.033	.100	.091	.151	.017
(2) Because of forum, each individual better understood responsibilities	710 <sup>2</sup>		.098	.129	.165	.172	.086	.130	.062	.104	.157	.148	.017
(3) Before forum, person believed any action would make a difference	707	713		.422	.094	-.020	.342	.228	.289	.111	.051	.189	.170
(4) After forum, person believed any action would make a difference	704	710	737		.243	.210	.225	.292	.206	.207	.253	.281	.129
(5) Have others changed their understanding of responsibilities	690	696	718	718		.424	.073	.179	.072	.183	.345	.207	.119
(6) Did person change his understanding of responsibilities	692	698	718	719	708		-.017	.164	.019	.129	.431	.227	.070
(7) Before forum, person felt it necessary to take cooperative action	700	706	725	726	709	715		.406	.296	.161	.089	.246	.188
(8) After forum, person felt it necessary to take cooperative action	693	699	715	715	699	706	722		.201	.277	.205	.301	.166
(9) Before forum, person felt that reduction in crime would follow solution	<del>685</del>	<del>693</del>	705	706	693	698	711	706		.461	.074	.164	.117
(10) After forum, person felt that reduction in crime would follow solution	685	693	705	707	692	698	711	706	704		.213	.246	.125
(11) Person has a more complete understanding of problems	682	689	701	701	690	694	705	700	693	696		.243	.073
(12) Person intends to work on task force	637	639	654	654	642	645	656	648	642	644	641		.089
(13) Person was a member of sponsoring committee	591	591	609	607	593	594	607	599	590	590	593	562	

See footnotes on following page.

Footnotes to table from preceding page:

<sup>1</sup>Coefficients were computed by the Tau C formula.

<sup>2</sup>Numbers below the diagonal represent the number of persons whose paired observations were used in the computation of Tau C statistic.

<sup>3</sup>Tau C coefficients that are equal to .40 or greater represent measures of association that have some interpretive value. Except for a few of the coefficients, all are significant at less than the .05 level of confidence. These unusually high significance levels are due to the large sample size. Coefficients that are practically zero tend not to be significant.

TABLE 19

THE CORRELATIONS BETWEEN THE VARIABLES "PARTICIPANTS" FELT IT NECESSARY TO TAKE ACTION BEFORE THE FORUM" WITH THE VARIABLE "PARTICIPANTS FELT IT NECESSARY TO TAKE ACTION AFTER THE FORUM" WITH POWERLESSNESS, SOCIAL ISOLATION, AND TRUST CONTROLLED.

<u>Each statement below represents a control</u>	<u>Tau C</u>
Participants scored low <sup>1</sup> on powerlessness	.401
Participants scored high on powerlessness	.369
Participants scored low on social isolation	.413
Participants scored high on social isolation	.379
Participants scored low on trust	.424
Participants scored high on trust	.350

<sup>1</sup>The three psychological variables were dichotomized at their medians.

degree of reliability the extent to which this objective was met was clearly outside the scope of this evaluation study as set forth in the evaluation, we decided to collect and analyze data with the follow-up questionnaires which might give L.E.A.A. some, albeit inconclusive, indication of the extent to which the "wheels had been set in motion" for the actual implementation of some of the forum created proposals.

Members of the Sponsoring Committee in all forums were asked to estimate the percentage of participants they believed would take action after the forums were over. They estimated the proportion of participants that would take action based upon their knowledge of how the forums were conducted and the responses participants gave to the forum program. The modal response by sponsor members was 11 to 20 percent. (See Table 20)

We then compared the number of participants who took individual action or collective action or both with the modal response of the community sponsor members. Three hundred and forty (340) participants returned the follow-up questionnaires six to twelve weeks after the forums were over.

Eighty-five (85) respondents out of three hundred and thirty-four (334), or 25.4% reported having attended a meeting to work on taking action on one or more of the forum proposals. (See Table 21) One hundred and forty-two (142) respondents out of three hundred and thirty (330), or 43% reported that they had taken individual action to work on the solution of community problems or to improve law enforcement as a result of attending a forum. (See Table 22)

Fifty-four (54) participants out of the 85 cited above and the 142 cited above had taken both individual and group action. Table 23 breaks down the number of persons who

TABLE 20

FORUM SPONSOR MEMBERS ESTIMATE  
OF PARTICIPANTS WHO WOULD TAKE CONCERTED ACTION\*

<u>Percent</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>
1 to 10%	17	.152
11 to 20%	23	.205
21 to 30%	15	.134
31 to 40%	15	.134
41 to 50%	12	.107
51 to 60%	14	.125
61 to 70%	8	.071
70% or more	8	.071
	112	.999

\*The mode for the frequency distribution was 11 to 20 percent. However, 50 percent stated that 35 percent or more would take concerted action.

TABLE 21

PARTICIPANTS WHO RETURNED A FOLLOW-UP  
QUESTIONNAIRE WHO STATED THEY HAD ATTENDED  
A MEETING SINCE THE FORUM TO WORK ON COMMUNITY PROBLEMS

<u>Response Category</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>
Yes	85	.254
No	249	.746
	334	1.000

TABLE 22

PARTICIPANTS WHO RETURNED A FOLLOW-UP  
QUESTIONNAIRE WHO STATED THEY AS AN  
INDIVIDUAL HAD WORKED ON COMMUNITY PROBLEMS

<u>Response Category</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>
Yes	142	.430
No	188	.570
	330	1.000



TABLE 23

ACTION TAKEN BY PARTICIPANTS WHO  
RETURNED FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONNAIRES

<u>Action Taken</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>p</u>
Attended meeting but has not taken individual action	31	.179
Taken individual action but did not attend meeting	88	.509
Attended meeting and took individual action	54	.312
	173*	1.000

\*Out of these 173 participants, 126 had filled out a questionnaire at the end of the forum. 340 participants returned the follow-up questionnaire. 167 of these did not take individual action nor had they attended a meeting after approximately six weeks.

took action and the type of action they engaged in. Out of these 173 participants who took action, 126 had completed the questionnaire administered at the end of the forum. Seven hundred and seventy-four participants completed the questionnaire at the end of each of 21 forums. When we divide 126 by 774, we arrive at the percentage of persons who filled-out the participant questionnaires and reported on the follow-up questionnaire that they had taken action. After approximately six to twelve weeks from the date of the forum, 16 percent of those who completed a Participant's Questionnaire took some kind of action to resolve community problems that were identified in the forums. The modal estimate made by the sponsor members in Table 20 above was an amazingly accurate guess for the group of participants who completed Participant Questionnaires.

We asked forum participants to indicate also on the follow-up questionnaire if they had used the methods they learned in the forum to analyze and solve community problems. Two hundred and eighty-seven or 85.4 percent of the respondents to the follow-up questionnaire stated yes and 49 or 14.6 percent stated no (n = 336). When we asked them if they believed that any of the forum proposals had influenced the actions either in the government or in the criminal justice system, 85 or 25.4 percent of the respondents stated yes while 249 or 74.6 percent said no (n = 334). Finally, we asked the participants if to the best of their knowledge had any other individuals they knew taken action toward implementing the proposals written in the forums. One hundred and six or 66.2 percent said yes and 54 or 33.7 percent answered no (n = 160). One hundred and eighty respondents did not answer the question.

Three hundred and forty participants in the 21 forums replied to the follow-up questionnaire. This low return rate for the follow-up questionnaire was disappointing. A greater return

rate was anticipated so that we might be able to better assess the extent to which persons actually took action in their community after the forums. We do not know to what extent these follow-up replies are representative of the 774 participants who completed Participant Questionnaires. Our guess for a number of reasons is that they are not representative and therefore the conclusions drawn from them should not be considered definitive.

## CASE STUDIES OF FIVE FORUMS

The Independent Evaluator made on-site visits at five forums: Philadelphia, San Jose, San Francisco, Albuquerque, and New Orleans. What follows will be some descriptive and evaluative observations about my experience at these five forums and what I have been able to learn by correspondence and telephone conversations about what is taking place in those communities as a result of the forums.

### PHILADELPHIA, 5/15/76:

The Philadelphia forum took place in the community of South Philadelphia, at the South Philadelphia Community Center, an arm of the Crime Prevention Association of Philadelphia. This center has a wide range of community programs including a youth services program which is funded by L. E. A. A. South Philadelphia is an older community largely Italian with a good many Blacks, some Irish, Polish, and Jewish residents. The immediate neighborhood around the community center is largely Italian.

The following organizations were co-sponsors of the forum: Crime Prevention Association, South Philadelphia Community Center, Marconi Plaza Civic Association, Southwark Community Center, Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations, Cardinals Commission on Human Relations, Philadelphia '76 YWCA, Wilson Park Community Council, Calvary St. Paul Church, Fell School Youth Conservations Services.

The sponsoring committee had expected approximately 200 people. There were actually 160 registrants, 65 of whom were present at the beginning of the concluding session.

There was a predominance of older persons present, a few children, and a few Blacks, approximately ten.

The large meeting room was well decorated in patriotic decor with large posters with profound quotes from the founding fathers of this country. There was a festive atmosphere. A lady sat playing at the piano while people gathered, drinking coffee and eating doughnuts.

The Welcoming: At the opening session the steering committee and visiting dignitaries were recognized. Visiting dignitaries included two candidates for the State Legislature, a council woman, a ward leader, and heads of various city departments. A keynote speech was made by Councilwoman Beatrice Turner. It was an excellent speech but much too long. Charles Moore of the ICA national staff made a briefer speech attempting to set the tone of the day and introducing the forum methodology.

The Present Challenges: At the conclusion of the initial session, the group was divided into four groups, three to work on defining "the present challenges" and one to develop a symbol, a song, and a new story for the community. The group process in the three groups working on the "present challenges" was highly structured and moved at such a rapid pace that some of the participants could not follow. It seemed to me at this point that the leaders were trying to do too much in a short period of time. The process of defining the challenge consisted of four basic steps: (1) brain storming issues or problems, (2) clustering of these problems or concerns, (3) identifying the blocks or contradictions which underlay those problems and issues, and (4) the writing of a summary one sentence statement of the challenge involved in each cluster of issues and contradictions.

The process provided a structure whereby the participants could get a helpful overview or cognitive map of the problems of the community. This process clearly reflects the theoretical assumptions of ICA about the solution of crime problems being based upon the solution of a wide variety of economic, political, and cultural problems. This theory in this forum was not clearly articulated or adequately explained.

The Interlude: During the lunch break the group sang patriotic and popular songs generating a festive and happy atmosphere. Lunch consisted of McDonald Hamburgers and fried pies, donated by McDonald's. The noon interlude was concluded with a speech by Judy Trasis, another ICA national staff person, and a movie about the Fifth City Project in Chicago. In each of the five forums I attended the film had a powerful impact on those present and clearly communicated an important note that was basic to the whole day's activities, that people in a community can do something to solve the community's problems if they have the will and commitment to do so.

The Practical Proposals: During the noon break ICA staff persons made large charts of all of the challenge statements. These statements became the basis for creating practical proposals addressing these issues. This process like the morning process was a highly structured process consisting of four basic steps: (1) "brainstorming the social responses", which involved brainstorming ideas for addressing each of these problem areas, (2) "cross gestalting the selected responses", in which the best ideas in response to each challenge statement were listed under that challenge statement and then similar ideas or responses in the different columns were identified and clustered, (3) "creating the proposal components" and (4) "writing the proposal statement". Again, this process seemed to me to be an extremely useful, but at the same time,

quite complicated process for such unsophisticated participants. The most surprising part of the entire day was the quality of work that was produced in both the morning and afternoon sessions.

The quality of both the group process and the product produced tended to vary significantly among the four groups according to what seemed to be two primary variables: (1) the quality of leadership, and (2) the mix of persons in the group. There were two leaders in each group, one an ICA staff person and the other a person from the community.

Leadership Variable: The following is my analysis of the productivity of the group in relationship to the leadership variable:

- (1) The most productive group had primary and strong leadership by an ICA staff person and the community person functioning in the leadership role played more of a back-up role but exercised good process skills and functioned well when he was in an active leadership role.
- (2) The next most productive group had primary and strong leadership by an ICA staff person and the community person was not very visible, but seemed to provide good supportative activity at times.
- (3) The next to the least productive group had strong leadership by the community person and good supportative low visibility work by the ICA staff. It is my understanding that this leadership mix is perceived by ICA as the leadership norm or assumed "ideal leadership mix" for a CIF.

The relative unproductivity of this group may be a consequence of the mix of persons in the group or other variables I did not pick up but if: (a) my perceptions are accurate and (b) the mix of persons in the group was not a primary factor, ICA may want to re-think their leadership norm.

- (4) The least productive group had very weak leadership by the community person which forced the ICA staff person into an active role by default. He kept trying to let the community person lead and then had to step in and take over, which kept that group constantly behind schedule.

Group Mix Variable: Persons were selected for their groups on a random chance basis by community persons at the registration table. The most productive groups tended to have a good mix of persons in the following categories:

- (1) Persons who could exercise participatory leadership. These persons were relatively sophisticated regarding community issues and had the ability to deal constructively with the methodology. They were mostly professional persons and it seemed to me that a good many of these could have been predicted from the registration data.
- (2) "Useful" participants. These were persons who were not sophisticated in community issues but who were able to participate effectively with the methodology. These could not have been predicted from the registration data.
- (3) Essentially "dead wood". These were people who did not have either the sophistication regarding community issues nor the ability to deal with the



methodology and who tended to have to be dragged along by the process.

It occurred to me that with some careful work at the registration table, ICA might maximize a kind of constructive mix that would insure the most productive process and output.

There was a good bit of coming and going throughout the day with only approximately 75% of the persons who were registered being actively involved in the small group processes and a good many people leaving after the final small group and before the plenary session. The nature of event and the kind of people involved make this somewhat inevitable, it seems to me.

The Final Plenary: For those who remained, the final plenary session was a highly celebrative and exciting event. The story, song, and symbol group presented their story, song, and symbol and the group sang the song repeatedly. The song, entitled, "Give My Regards to Philly" was a happy and hopeful song sung to the tune of, "Give My Regards to Broadway".

The practical proposals created by each group were presented to the entire group and soundly applauded. The proposals varied from fuzzy and undoable to precise and imminently useful, but the amazing thing was that in such a short period of time, these groups had indeed taken a careful look at the problems in their communities, charted those problems, given serious thought to ways in which those problems could be addressed, and actually come up with specific written proposals for taking action on these problems.

The staff and sponsoring committee worked furiously during the plenary session to type,

reproduce, bind and present to the remaining participants copies of the proposals, song, story, and symbol. The presentation of this written document had the effect of giving the participants great pride in having produced something tangible.

Conclusions: My most significant impressions at the end of the Philadelphia Forum were as follows:

- (1) I was impressed with the process and the theory which lay behind it, but was clear that if the proposals themselves and taking action on those proposals were the primary purpose of the forums, they would be much better off to find a way to do this process in a longer period of time.
- (2) Nevertheless, it was clear that the participants had a better feeling about themselves, their community and even the law enforcement people, in spite of the fact that there were not very many law enforcement people present.
- (3) There was a more hopeful and optimistic attitude on the part of the participants about their community and the possibility of their being able to do something to work on their problems.
- (4) The ICA staff and sponsoring committee did not push the matter of following up on the practical proposals as much as it seemed to me they could have.
- (5) It was understandable but unfortunate that the sponsoring committee and ICA staff were preoccupied in the closing session with getting the document completed and there was not much attention paid to getting the maximum number of completed participant questionnaires filled out. The result was that we received

only 38 completed and useable questionnaires, representing 23.8 percent of the registered participants. On the other hand, the 38 completed questionnaires represent 58 percent of the persons who remained until the beginning of the closing session.

- (6) There was a significant lack of specific focus on law enforcement. I had the distinct impression that the forum was not significantly different from the ICA's "Town Meeting" process.

Follow-Up: Follow-up communications with Richard Alton, Regional Staff Director in the Philadelphia Office of ICA, pointed to the following on-going results of the Philadelphia Forum:

- (1) Increased participation in the activities of the South Philadelphia Community Center on the part of approximately one hundred senior citizens. The director of the center considers this to be a major break-through in terms of trying to reach the elderly population of South Philadelphia who tend to "hole up" in their rooms or apartments out of fear regarding the increasing street crimes.
- (2) Two additional events similar to this CIF were direct spin-offs of the South Philadelphia Forum. Both of these were in South Philadelphia, one in an all-White ethnic area and the other in a largely Black area. Persons from those specific communities had been present at the forum and requested ICA to help them organize a similar process in their neighborhood.
- (3) A third unexpected outcome has been the discovery on the part of various community organizations that crime prevention is perhaps the one issue that

will gather the condominium, upper crust apartment dwellers and townhouse dwellers in the area together.

- (4) The community organizations have been working with the CIF methodology to gather many crime prevention "block clubs" that have sprung up in Philadelphia and are currently being funded by L. E. A. A.

Dick Alton felt that the most important single consequence of this forum was the activation of the agency-elder relationship described above. He reports that it is the intention of the agency, which is a part of the Crime Prevention Agency currently being funded by L. E. A. A., to produce proposals to L. E. A. A. based on the specific practical proposals generated in the forum.

SAN JOSE, 6/12/76:

The San Jose Forum was held in a Methodist Church in the center city area of San Jose.

Sponsors: The following groups were listed in the document as being sponsoring groups:

Citizens Community Improvement Committee, Downtown Clergy, Jaycees, Olinder Advisory Council, Olinder Senior Citizens, Pre-schooling Institute of San Jose, Roosevelt Senior Citizens. However, a group called Urban Ministries, a group of six local congregations in central San Jose, was in fact the moving force behind the forum.

The Community: There seemed to be a lot of hostility in the community toward the police. A Chicano man had been killed by a policeman under what seemed to be questionable circumstances, and the community was still very much up in arms about this. The forum had first been planned for the community in which the Chicano man had been killed, but the hostility and despair in that community led to moving the forum

to the central city. A short time before the forum was held a Black man was killed by a policeman in front of the church in which the forum was held just as the congregation was leaving the church. ICA staff and the sponsoring committee were extremely nervous about this forum. However, it seemed to me that this forum went off about as well, if not better, than any of the other forums I attended.

The Participant Mix: The Deputy Chief of Police and four lieutenants were present, as well as a couple of professors in the Criminal Justice Department of San Jose State, representatives of the Human Relations Commission of the city, the Committee on Public Safety, and the Police Department Community Relations Department. Thus, there was a better mix of community people and representatives of law enforcement agencies than there had been in the Philadelphia Forum.

Conclusion:

- (1) The format of this forum was identical to that of the Philadelphia Forum, but not only was the population mix different but the feelings and quality of work were also significantly different. There was a much less festive attitude here than in Philadelphia, but the quality of the participation was much better. In contrast to other forums I attended, the police here did not wear their uniforms.
- (2) In contrast to other forums, the police here tended to participate more actively and openly in the workshops and were much less defensive when confronted by community people about problems involving the police.
- (3) Also, in both the opening sessions and the challenge workshops there was a much clearer focus on law enforcement issues. It was clear to me that ICA

had made substantial adjustments to insure a sharper focus on law enforcement and a clearer interpretation of their comprehensive community approach involving law enforcement issues.

- (4) In addition, the quality of small group leadership was substantially higher in this forum than in the Philadelphia Forum.
- (5) While the forum was smaller in terms of number of participants, those who were present tended to stay for the entire session much more than at Philadelphia. There was much less coming and going.
- (6) Again, while the quality of the proposals were not significantly better than the Philadelphia proposals, I had a distinct impression that the quality of participation at San Jose was much better and that the basic purpose of developing better relationship between law enforcement personnel and community people was accomplished to a much greater extent in this forum. I interviewed one of the professors of law enforcement at San Jose and one of the policemen and their response to the experience of the forum was quite enthusiastic.

Follow-Up: Follow-up communications with David Reese, the Regional Director of ICA in San Jose, in January 1977, did not indicate that any of the specific proposals had been implemented but reflect solid feedback from both police and key community leaders to the effect that the forum had provided an opportunity for the community and police to work through "mutual suspicion and distrust" which has enabled community leaders and police to work much more cooperatively since the forum.

Again, one of the most significant results of the forum seems to have been the opening up of opportunities for the forum methodology to be utilized in a number of other

important settings. The Office of the City Ombudsman is currently working with the ICA staff, as a result of the forum, to develop a series of similar meetings focusing on specific neighborhood issues in specific neighborhoods. Additionally, Mr. Reese, reports that the ICA staff is working with the Horizons Task Force of the San Jose Bi-Centennial Committee to hold ten similar forums in various areas of the metropolitan San Jose area. The County Commissioner's Office is working as a liaison between neighborhood groups and ICA staff and volunteers to set these meetings up.

SAN FRANCISCO, 6/12/76:

The San Francisco Forum was held in a public school in the Mission District of San Francisco.

The Community: The Mission District is an inter-city area that is mixed Anglo, Black, Latino and Oriental intermingled with some American Indians as well.

Sponsors: Organizations listed as sponsors include Mission Merchants Association, Centro de Cambia Mission Coalition Organization, St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, East Mission Improvement Club, American Indian Center, YMCA-Mission Branch, Centro Latino, Mission Police Community Relations Dept., Mission United Presbyterian Church, Arriba Juntos, St. Peter's Catholic Church, PROW, and The Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor.

The Forum: In order to make it possible for a number of business people hopefully to attend, the sponsoring committee made the decision to hold the forum in the afternoon and evening rather than morning and afternoon. By the end of the forum, most of the ICA staff and sponsoring committee had decided that this was a bad decision. It did not, in fact, cause any other merchants to attend after the business day and a number of people left after the dinner interlude.

The atmosphere of the forum began, much like the one in Philadelphia, on a highly festive note. By this time it was becoming clear to me that the person serving as the M.C. does a lot to set the tone of a CIF. The M.C. at this forum was the head of the Merchants Association, a very jovial gregarious man.

There were eight police officers and a probation officer present. Among the police officers was the newly appointed Captain of the Mission Police District, and an officer from the Community Relations Department of the Police. All of these police wore their uniforms, sat close together, did not talk much with other participants except for the Captain who spent a good bit of time talking with various community leaders one on one outside the forum itself. The quality of the police participation in this forum was significantly less than at San Jose and the policemen tended to be extremely defensive.

Again, the substantive input by the national ICA staff was excellent and the Fifth City film had a profound impact. The ICA staff here emphasized follow-up and implementation more than at either of the two previous forums.

I had the impression that the quality of small group leadership was equally as good as at San Jose but the people were slower to get into the process. I had the distinct impression that in spite of the open tension between community and police at San Jose there was a much greater willingness of the police in San Jose to become involved in the process than in San Francisco.

Again, there was more going and coming at this forum than at San Jose. In this respect it was much more like Philadelphia.



In the small groups the police tended to communicate a superior and surly attitude and seemed to be closed to any idea coming from community people. Only the Captain and the community relations representative participated with anything like helpfulness.

The dinner was a veritable feast composed primarily of Mexican food. The food was excellent and abundant. The attrition after the dinner hour was so significant that they collapsed the two workshops into one.

In the evening session the energy level was lower than it had been in the afternoon. In spite of this low energy level, the surly attitude of the policemen and other constraining forces, this forum produced better, more highly focused and workable proposals than either of the first two forums.

Follow-Up: A follow-up report to the Independent Evaluator from Robert Vance, ICA Area Director for the San Francisco area, indicated that in spite of the somewhat stormy encounters between the policemen and the community people, one tangible result that has had lasting carry-over is the development of a friendship type relationship between police officers and neighborhood block leaders. This has tended to provide the block leaders with a feeling that they have an avenue of communications into the police department.

The new Precinct Captain has expressed openly his feeling that the forum was a turning point in police community relations. He felt, also, that the CIF had given him an opportunity to quickly establish a good working relationship with his junior officers.

All of this is somewhat surprising to me in the light of what I had observed of the policemen's behavior in the forum itself. This suggests to me that it may be difficult, if not impossible, to predict the long-term results of one of these forums by simply observing the behavior of the participants at them. This also suggests to me that many of the most important results of these forums may be unplanned for, unexpected and impossible to measure.

Mr. Vance's report also indicated that at least one of the proposals is in the process of being implemented. The proposal read, "We the Citizens of the Mission District, in order to reduce crime and improve police community relations by getting local citizens involved in law enforcement together with the police, propose block club law enforcement, L.E.A.A. funds to train local people in law enforcement, guidelines for local citizens witnessing of arrests, through supporting existing community proposals for local citizens involvement in arrests, apply for L.E.A.A. funds to aid in community law enforcement, coordinate with local block clubs relative to law enforcement."

Mr. Vance reports that immediately after the CIF meeting, several community leaders began to organize law enforcement citizens committees to begin to implement this proposal.

ALBUQUERQUE, 6/19/76:

The Albuquerque Forum had a county-wide focus and was held in the Albuquerque High School.

Sponsors: It was sponsored by the Sheriff's Office, The Governor's Council on Criminal Justice, The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, the high school, one church, and

three community organizations.

Participants: There were ten people representing the criminal justice area present, including the Deputy Chief of Police who was on vacation and stayed the entire day. He was tremendously impressed with the process and wrote the mayor a very positive letter following the forum. This led to the mayor making it possible for numerous other similar events to take place under the sponsorship of the ICA.

There were 47 people present, about half of these were Anglos, and one fourth Latino, and a few Blacks and American Indians. The chairman of the sponsoring committee and master of ceremonies was a young Black man named Musomi McDowell, who set a somewhat serious but quite intentional tone for the day.

The Forum: They followed the typical format of the CIFs. The quality of small group leadership was excellent. In one group in the morning session an aggressive Latino social worker challenged the group leader regarding the highly structured group process. The group leader handled this head on attack about as well as possible, but the encounter ended up in the social worker's leaving and taking two or three Latino persons with her.

While the groups were small, there was good representation from the police and criminal justice area and high quality of participation and good work done.

A reporter from the local newspaper and a cameraman and reporter from one of the television stations sat in on much of the morning session. This resulted in an excellent article the next morning in the newspaper and good t.v. coverage on the evening news shows.

Again in the afternoon the attrition was so great that the decision was made to have only one proposal group and the song, story, and symbol group. Those who remained for the afternoon session stayed throughout the entire afternoon and worked quite hard and productively. Police who were present were in plain clothes and participated quite enthusiastically, openly, and without the kind of defensiveness that had been seen in other sites.

The final plenary session was by far the most positive, enthusiastic final plenary session of the sites I visited. There was a tremendous sense of accomplishment and a tremendous sense of excitement about the possibility of community people and criminal justice people working together on common problems. A date was set for a follow-up meeting to take place three weeks following the forum.

One particular proposal developed by the proposal group was impressive. It read:

"We the Citizens of Albuquerque in order to insure accountable government and to meet local community needs, propose the creation of an informal coalition of representatives of neighborhood action groups through: (1) forming a small ad hoc citizens group, (2) identifying existing neighborhood action groups, and (3) encouraging those action groups to appoint representatives to the coalition which will perform the following functions: (a) collect information on how other neighborhoods have solved their own problems, (b) disseminate this information to action groups and the community at large, (c) perform an ombudsman and government watch-dog function on behalf of neighborhood groups, and (d) plant seeds and enable the formation of new neighborhood action groups in other neighborhoods." It is not known whether any action was taken on this proposal.

Follow-Up: Mark Poole, Area Director of ICA, located in Phoenix, indicated in a follow-up correspondence that the most significant tangible consequence of this forum was the request of Assistant Chief of Police Powell for the ICA staff to develop a series of training sessions for his men in the use of the forum methodology for a pilot program in Albuquerque.

NEW ORLEANS, 6/26/76:

The New Orleans Forum was held in Gallier Hall, the former city hall building, which has been restored and is currently used as a community meeting hall and historic landmark. This forum, perhaps because of the location and perhaps because of the large number of police present, had the feel of being on the police's turf.

Sponsors: Sponsors of the forum were the American Civil Liberties Union, The American Association of Retired Persons, Church Women United, City of New Orleans Human Relations Committee, Community Service Center, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, Eucharistic Missionaries, Hope House, Institute of Human Relations, Loyola University, Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, the Judges of the Criminal District Court, Juvenile Court Advisory Committee, Louisiana Attorney General's Office, Marion Manor, New Orleans Business and Professional Women's Club, New Orleans Police Department, Raintree House, St. Bernard Parish Sheriff's Office, St. Phillip's Office. The coordinator and primary moving force behind the forum was Charles Foti, Sheriff of Orleans Parish.

Participants: The ICA staff reported that there were 18 criminal justice persons present, however, it seemed to me that there were a good many more policemen than that present.

Many of them just stood around in the halls, others were present in the small group activities, but did not tend to participate very much. There were also 20 or 25 work release inmates present.

The Forum: The M. C. of the opening session was Dick Edwards, a local television personality. An introductory speech was made by Justice Pascal Palligarce. He made a good speech but it lasted entirely too long and caused the small groups to begin late. The quality of small group leadership was excellent and, in fact, it was the best of all the five forums I attended, and the participation was good by community people. More of the uniform policemen stayed in the halls than in the workshops and at least one policemen I interviewed following the workshops indicated that he saw his role as primarily to watch the inmates to make sure that they did not disrupt.

The inmates seemed to find it somewhat difficult to participate in the morning session but got into the afternoon session more. The interchange between community people and inmates seemed to be a very healthy and productive kind of interchange.

There seemed to be less attrition between the morning workshop and the afternoon workshop in this forum than at any of the other forums I attended other than San Jose.

At this forum, like the Albuquerque Forum, there was a reporter and a television reporter and cameraman present in the afternoon session. There was good coverage in the newspaper and on the evening news as a result of this.

The final plenary session began a little flat because of the M. C., but picked up a little when the ICA staff people began to report in on their proposals. Proposals from

two out of three of the groups seemed to be sound proposals and quite implementable.

Comments by community people in the final plenary session were quite positive and indicated that they were quite surprised at what they had been able to accomplish and felt that the opportunity to dialogue with police and criminal justice people had been extremely valuable. One inmate spoke up and quite poignantly expressed his appreciation for the day.

The session ended on something of a confusing note and the process of collecting the questionnaires was somewhat sloppy, resulting in only 75 questionnaires being collected from the probably 125 to 150 people remaining for the final session.

Following the session I interviewed three uniformed police officers from the Sheriff's Department. They had been assigned to bring and supervise the work release inmates. They saw their role as primarily watching the inmates to keep them from being disruptive. They said they did not speak up much in the groups for fear of having the groups focus their attention on them and they in turn become defensive. They felt the forums were a good idea but were not sure whether anything concrete and constructive would, in fact, emerge from the forums.

I also interviewed two not uniformed police officers from the City Police Department. They were quite negative about the experience. They had been assigned to be there on their otherwise off-duty time. They felt this process might be valuable if it were done in a specific community or neighborhood rather than on a city-wide basis.

I also interviewed Sheriff Foti, who felt very positive about the day and felt that the opportunities for community people to interchange with police and criminal justice people was a good community relations activity.

Follow-Up: Follow-up telephone conversations with regional ICA staff people in New Orleans indicated that they felt the forum had a significant impact on the sheriff and some of the other criminal justice people but little or no impact on the New Orleans Police. The New Orleans Police Department is currently under a good bit of fire from community leaders regarding alleged police brutality. They are currently involved in a series of hearings and there have been a series of demonstrations by community people.

Sheriff Foti had worked with ICA staff to develop a Community Issues Forum in the prison. This, however, had been cancelled because the time for the forum began to conflict with election activities. ICA staff are still hopeful that Sheriff Foti will pursue this as a way of developing constructive contact between community leaders and inmates within the prison.

A number of town meetings using the same methodology as used in the forum have been held in specific communities in and around New Orleans as a result of persons participation in the New Orleans CIF.



## COST ANALYSIS

It is my understanding that the cost analysis was to be provided by the ICA staff as part of their report. Table 24 is the cost analysis provided me by the ICA staff. It is provided here not as the Independent Evaluator's cost analysis, but as a fiscal "backdrop" against which to assess the other evaluative conclusions.

## CONCLUSIONS

1. It is clear from the analysis of the questionnaire data, from the on-site visits and from the follow-up data that the CIFs were successful in achieving Objective I, regarding the improvement of the perceptions and attitudes of community and criminal justice people toward each other. Indeed, both the on-site visits and the follow-up responses from regional ICA staff suggest that improved relationships between police and people within the communities is the most important single result of the forums.
2. Not only did the analysis of the questionnaire data demonstrate conclusively that the CIFs did produce a significant shift in the participants' attitudes toward the usefulness of taking action on community problems (Objective II), but the

TABLE 24

Cost Analysis Community Issues Forum: Special Focus Law Enforcement							
	DEMONSTRATION PHASE				REPLICATION PROJECTION		
	LOCAL	OUTSIDE		TOTAL	LOCAL	OUTSIDE	TOTAL
		LEAA	ICA				
TOTAL COSTS	24,450	134,620	13,500	172,570	<del>REPLICATION PROJECTION DATA</del>		
COSTS PER FORUM	1018.75	5609.17	562.50	7190.42	1018.75	2270.00	3288.75
COSTS PER PARTICIPANT	6.64	36.53	3.66	46.83	6.64	14.78	21.42

on-site visits left the Independent Evaluator with the strong impression that the participants went away from the forums with a more positive, hopeful attitude toward their community and the possibilities of their doing things which could improve their community and in some way constructively affect the crime problem in their community. By no stretch of the most generous imagination did the forums build the kind of cohesive and self-determining community which is probably necessary to solve those problems, but the forums did make a significant contribution in increasing the participants awareness of, pride in, and sense of responsibility for their communities.

3. The data from questionnaires unmistakably indicate that participation in the forums substantially increased the participants' felt need to take action on community problems to reduce crime (Objective III). We simply do not have conclusive evidence at this point in time as to whether they did or will in fact do so (Secondary Objective V).

Follow-up information from ICA regional staff, while by no means either comprehensive or objective, leads us to the conclusion that not much in the way of organized, concerted action has to date resulted from the forums. If we could assume that the disappointingly small response to the follow-up questionnaire was indeed a representative sample of those who attended the forums, we could conclude that a significant percentage of the participants had taken individual action (43%) on community problems and/or had attended at least one follow-up meeting to plan for cooperative community action (25.4%) as a result of the forums. The size and quality of the sample, however, does not allow us to make that assumption with confidence.

4. Observations at the on-site visits suggest that the relative quality of each forum varied according to a number of variables some of the more important of which seem to have been:
  - a. The quality and commitment of the Sponsoring Committee and their efforts in recruiting.
  - b. The mix of people recruited. The best forums seemed to be those which had something of an equal distribution of: (1) police and criminal justice people, (2) business and professional people, and (3) "grass-roots" community people.
  - c. The attitude of the police who participated, which seems to have been related to such things as the conditions under which they came and whether they were in uniform. Police who were there by assignment and/or wore their uniforms tended to participate less freely and were more defensive than those who came on their own and/or wore civilian clothes.
5. The one kind of tangible result which seems from the follow-up data to have grown out of the forums in a majority of the cities where the forums were held is the planning and implementation of other forums or "Town Meetings". If one accepts the validity of this approach and the theories on which it is built this is unquestionably a positive consequence of the grant.
6. The group of persons upon whom the largest impact was made in the forums was unquestionably the members of the Sponsoring Committee. These persons appeared without exception in the on-site visits to be excited about the forums, what had been

accomplished by them the methodology and its utility in mobilizing citizens to deal with community problems. The fact that in almost all cases both key community leaders and key persons in police and/or sheriffs' departments served on these committees is of major significance.

7. A strong impression remains that many of the most significant consequences of the CIFs were and/or will be unplanned for, unexpected, possibly unknown and certainly unmeasurable. A break-through in a community center's reaching senior citizens (Philadelphia), the establishment of a close working relationship between a new police captain and key community leaders (San Francisco), a vocational training program for inner city youth (Albany), the establishment of a Citizen's Advisory Council for the Police Department (Brighton) and the initiation of 40 new "Block Associations" (Chicago) are just a few of the known unexpected consequences.
8. It is my studied opinion that better, more realistic and workable proposals could have been generated in the forums and more concrete action taken to implement those proposals had greater attention and emphasis been placed in the forums on organizing the participants to implement the proposals. I have the distinct impression that even greater "mileage" might have been realized from this grant had the same dollars been invested in half the sites over twice the time span with considerably more emphasis placed on follow-up.
9. The technical execution of the forums was outstanding. It seemed to the Independent Evaluator that getting the forums set up, recruiting and training the Sponsoring Committee and group leaders, securing a site, donated food and all the other

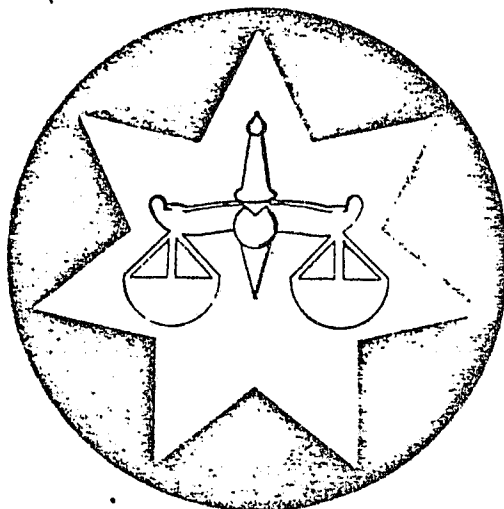
logistics for 24 forums was an enormously complex and time consuming task.

In addition, there was considerable staff time and effort expended in trying to set up forums which did not materialize, were cancelled, or postponed and held later and not considered an integral part of the fulfillment of this grant. With or without this later consideration, in terms of the cost effectiveness in achieving the Primary Objectives, the granting agency clearly received good mileage from the grant.

10. I am impressed with both the theory base and the methodology of the CIFs on the one hand and the longer term comprehensive community development approach to crime reduction as expressed in the Fifth City Project on the other. However, I could envision a middle range project which works with communities more intensively and over a longer period of time than in the CIFs but less intensively and over a shorter period of time than the "social demonstration" projects currently being considered as being a strategy worth exploring.

COMMUNITY ISSUES FORUM

Special Focus Law Enforcement



QUESTIONNAIRE

\_\_\_\_\_ COMMUNITY FORUM

CIF No. \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNITY ISSUES FORUM

QUESTIONNAIRE

Your answers to the questions below will be used as a part of a research study about the Community Issues Forums which are being held in twenty four sites across the country. Please answer every item.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire. Your doing so will make an important contribution to the success of the program.

This questionnaire asks about your ideas not only about the Forum but also about various subjects. We feel your opinions and feelings about these things are important, and we hope you will find the questionnaire interesting. In completing it, please be frank and honest in your answers. The form is very simple to fill out - merely read each statement and indicate your answer. Don't spend too much time on any one question; usually, your first impression is the best answer. Therefore, "let yourself go" and work as quickly as possible.

Your answers, of course, are completely confidential. DO NOT sign your name anywhere on the questionnaire. We are only interested in your opinions, not your name. However, there are some things we would like to know about you. Therefore, would you answer the following questions before completing the rest of the questionnaire?

Read each question or statement. Select one and only one response. Write it in the appropriate blank.

1. Your age \_\_\_\_\_; Your sex \_\_\_ Male \_\_\_ Female

2. What is your ethnic background? (check one)

<input type="checkbox"/> Black	<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese
<input type="checkbox"/> White	<input type="checkbox"/> Japanese
<input type="checkbox"/> Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian	please write in

3. In how many different neighborhoods have you lived during your life?

<input type="checkbox"/> one neighborhood
<input type="checkbox"/> two or three neighborhoods
<input type="checkbox"/> four or five neighborhoods
<input type="checkbox"/> six or seven neighborhoods
<input type="checkbox"/> eight neighborhoods or more



4. What is the highest academic education you have attained?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than eighth grade          | <input type="checkbox"/> College graduate (B.A./B.S.)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eighth grade education          | <input type="checkbox"/> Some graduate work             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than high school education | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduated with Master's degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School graduate            | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate work beyond Masters   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Some college                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Ph.D.                          |

5. How did you find out about the Community Issues Forum you attended today?

---

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6. Have you ever attended a forum or workshop like this one before today?

- Yes       No

7. Did you miss any of the sessions and/or workshops today?

- Yes       No

8. What is your job title where you work? (If retired or unemployed, check here \_\_\_\_\_)

---

9. Before attending this forum, did you believe the groups of people listed below understood the problems in this community? (Please check yes or no for each group.)

- |                                 |                              |                             |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. Policemen                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| b. Business Men                 | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| c. People in the Court System   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| d. Community Citizens           | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| e. Professional People          | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| f. People in the Welfare System | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| g. People in the School System  | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |

10. Before attending this forum, did you believe the groups of people listed below were doing as much as they should to reduce problems in this community? (Please check yes or no for each group.)

- |                                 |                              |                             |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. Policemen                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| b. Business Men                 | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| c. People in the Court System   | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| d. Community Citizens           | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| e. Professional People          | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| f. People in the Welfare System | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| g. People in the School System  | <input type="checkbox"/>     | <input type="checkbox"/>    |

Listed below are significant issues about which there are differences in point of view. Since these issues are important ones, we wish to have your opinions about them. In marking this section, please forget about the "good" and "bad" and simply present the facts as you see them.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
11. The average citizen can have an influence on government decisions.	_____	_____	_____	_____
12. More and more, I feel helpless in the face of what is happening in the world today.	_____	_____	_____	_____
13. There is very little we can do to bring about a permanent world peace.	_____	_____	_____	_____
14. I feel that we have adequate ways of coping with pressure groups.	_____	_____	_____	_____
15. There are few dependable ties between people any more.	_____	_____	_____	_____
16. Sometimes I feel all alone in the world.	_____	_____	_____	_____
17. Most people are not really sincere in their relations with others.	_____	_____	_____	_____
18. Real friends are as easy to find as ever.	_____	_____	_____	_____
19. The world we live in is basically a friendly place.	_____	_____	_____	_____
20. People just can't seem to do things together these days.	_____	_____	_____	_____
21. As a result of attending the forum today, people better understand their responsibilities in the community?	_____	_____	_____	_____
22. As a result of attending the forum today, I better understand my responsibilities in the community?	_____	_____	_____	_____

23. Before attending this forum, did you believe you could do anything that would "make a difference" in correcting the problems in your community?

- I felt there was nothing I could do
- I felt there was very little I could do
- I felt there were some things I could do
- I felt there were many things I could do

24. After attending this forum, do you now believe there are things you can do which would "make a difference" in correcting problems in your community?

- I still feel there is nothing I can do
- I still feel there is very little I can do
- I feel there are some things I can do
- I feel there are many things I can do now

25. To what extent do you feel that others in this forum have changed their understanding of their responsibility to correct problems in your community?

- No change
- Little change
- Some change
- A great deal of change
- A very great deal of change

26. To what extent do you feel that you have changed your understanding of your responsibility to correct problems in your community as a result of attending this forum?

- No change
- Little change
- Some change
- A great deal of change
- A very great deal of change

27. Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted or that you can't be too careful in dealing with people?

- Most people can be trusted
- Can't be too careful

28. Would you say that most of the time, people try to be helpful, or that they are mostly just looking out for themselves?

- Try to be helpful
- Look out for themselves

29. Do you think that most people would try to take advantage of you if they got the chance or would they try to be fair?

- Take advantage
- Try to be fair

30. Before attending this forum, to what extent did you feel the necessity to take cooperative action with others to solve community problems?

- I felt no necessity
- I felt little necessity
- I felt some necessity
- I felt a great deal of necessity

31. After attending this forum, to what extent do you feel the necessity to take cooperative action with others to solve community problems?

- I still feel no necessity
- I still feel little necessity
- I feel some necessity
- I feel a great deal of necessity

32. Before attending this forum, to what extent did you feel that solving a wide range of community problems would reduce crime in this community?

- Would not reduce crime
- Would reduce crime a little
- Would reduce crime some
- Would reduce crime a great deal

33. After attending this forum, to what extent do you now feel that solving a wide range of community problems will reduce crime in the community?

- Will not reduce crime
- Will reduce crime very little
- Will reduce crime some
- Will reduce crime a great deal

34. As a result of attending this forum, do you have more positive feelings about the groups listed below in terms of their efforts to reduce problems in this community?

- |                                 |                          |     |                          |    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|
| a. Policemen                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| b. Business Men                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |     | <input type="checkbox"/> |    |
| c. People in the Court System   | <input type="checkbox"/> |     | <input type="checkbox"/> |    |
| d. Community Citizens           | <input type="checkbox"/> |     | <input type="checkbox"/> |    |
| e. Professional People          | <input type="checkbox"/> |     | <input type="checkbox"/> |    |
| f. People in the Welfare System | <input type="checkbox"/> |     | <input type="checkbox"/> |    |
| g. People in the School System  | <input type="checkbox"/> |     | <input type="checkbox"/> |    |

35. To what extent do you feel you have a more complete understanding of the inter-relationship between various problems in this community since participating in this forum?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None          | <input type="checkbox"/> Quite a bit more |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A little more | <input type="checkbox"/> Very much more   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat more |   |

36. Do you intend to work on a task force or with a community group to put into action one or more of the proposals coming out of this forum?

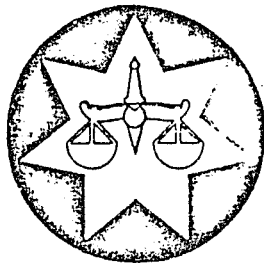
\_\_\_ Yes            \_\_\_ No

37. To what extent are the following crimes a problem in this community?  
(check only those which are a problem)

- \_\_\_ Criminal Homicide (Murder)
- \_\_\_ Forcible Rape
- \_\_\_ Robbery
- \_\_\_ Aggravated Assault
- \_\_\_ Burglary
- \_\_\_ Larceny-petty theft
- \_\_\_ Auto theft
- \_\_\_ Drug use

38. Which of the following crimes are the police most successful in solving in this community?

- \_\_\_ Criminal Homicide (Murder)
- \_\_\_ Forcible Rape
- \_\_\_ Robbery
- \_\_\_ Aggravated Assault
- \_\_\_ Burglary
- \_\_\_ Larceny-petty theft
- \_\_\_ Auto theft
- \_\_\_ Drug use



## COMMUNITY ISSUES FORUM

### QUESTIONNAIRE

#### FOR SPONSOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Your answers to the questions below will be used as a part of a research study about the Community Issues Forums which are being held in twenty four sites across the country. Please answer each question as fully as possible.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the questionnaire. Your doing so will make an important contribution to the success of the program.

This questionnaire is meant for Sponsor Committee Members and staff. It is different from the questionnaire used at the end of the Forum day, although some of the questions are similar.

This questionnaire asks for your evaluation of the Community Issues Forum. As a member of the Sponsor Committee you will have been involved in the setup of the Forum. Some of you will have been able to participate in all of the events of the day itself while some of you may not have participated in any because of your task. However, as a member of the Sponsor Committee you will have been involved with the setup of the Forum for a longer period of time than will have most participants. We feel that your evaluation in addition to that which all participants give will be helpful to those who will be sponsoring a Community Issues Forum in the future. Please be frank and honest in your answers. The form is very simple to fill out. Some questions merely need to be read and have the appropriate blank filled in. In a few of the questions you will be asked to offer your suggestions.

Don't spend too much time on any one question; usually your first impression is the best answer. Therefore, "let yourself go" and work as quickly as possible.

Your answers, of course, are completely confidential. DO NOT sign your name anywhere on the questionnaire. We are only interested in your suggestions and opinions, not your name.

1. What was your understanding of the purposes of the Community Issues Forum? (Please write in below)

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---

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2. What, if any, expectations did you have of the Community Issues Forum that were different from your answer to question one. (If the same as question one, please check here     )

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TO WHAT EXTENT DO YOU FEEL THAT EACH OF THE FOLLOWING WERE ACCOMPLISHED IN THE FORUM:

3. Community participants and criminal justice personnel who participated in this Community Issues Forum improved their perceptions of each other. (Check one)

Strongly agree       
Agree       
Disagree       
Strongly disagree     

4. Those who participated in the forum now see a greater possibility of cooperative action which addresses the problems of their community. (Check one)

Strongly agree       
Agree       
Disagree       
Strongly disagree     

5. Estimate what percent of those who were in attendance at the forum are more likely to take concerted action to reduce criminal activities in the community. (Check one)

1% to 10%       
11% to 20%       
21% to 30%       
31% to 40%       
41% to 50%       
51% to 60%       
61% to 70%       
More than 70%

6. To what extent do you believe the proposals developed in the workshop can be put into operation? (Check one)

Definitely yes \_\_\_\_\_  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_  
No \_\_\_\_\_  
Definitely No \_\_\_\_\_

7. What role did you play in the Sponsor Committee? (Check one or more)

Local Coordinator	_____	Finances	_____
M. C.	_____	Entertainment	_____
Workshop Leader	_____	Attendance	_____
Workshop Assistant	_____	Food	_____
Host	_____	Child Care	_____
Registrar	_____	Materials, Production	_____
		Decor	_____
		Setup, Cleanup	_____

8. On the basis of your participation in planning this forum, what suggestions would you offer to future sponsoring committees?

Recruitment \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Enablement \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Practics \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



9. Which of the following sessions of the forum did you attend?  
(Check either "Yes" or "No" for each session)

Welcoming (9:00 to 10:30)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Challenges Workshop (10:30 to 12:30)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Luncheon Interlude (12:30 to 2:00)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Proposals Workshop (2:00 to 4:00)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Story, Song, Symbol Workshop (2:00 to 4:00)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Final Plenary (4:00 to 5:00)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

IF YOU PARTICIPATED IN THE FORUM ITSELF ANSWER THE NEXT TWO QUESTIONS.

10. To what extent did the language used in the workbook present problems for you in participating in the forum? (Check one)

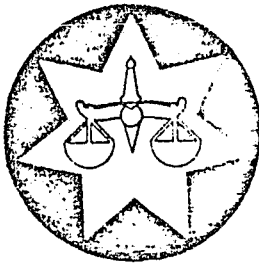
A very great deal   
A great deal   
Somewhat   
A little   
Not at all

11. Do you believe the methodologies used in the forum provided you with a set of tools with which you could analyze community problems at some time in the future? (Check one)

Definitely yes   
Yes   
No   
Definitely no

12. Today's date is

\_\_\_\_\_ month \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_ year



COMMUNITY ISSUES FORUM  
-Special Focus Law Enforcement

Dear COMMUNITY ISSUES FORUM Participant:

Thank you for attending the recent Community Issues Forum: Special Focus Law Enforcement. It would be extremely helpful if you would answer the following questions. We want to determine what community action has occurred in your community as a result of the forum. Please return this questionnaire in the enclosed reply envelope within 5 days of your receipt of the questionnaire.

Please read each question or statement. Select one and only one response. Write it in the appropriate blank.

1. Your age \_\_\_\_\_; Your sex \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female
  
  2. What is your ethnic background? (check one)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Black \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese  
\_\_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_\_ Japanese  
\_\_\_\_\_ Latino \_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ American Indian (please write in)
  
  3. What is your job title where you work? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
(If retired or unemployed, check here \_\_\_\_\_)
  
  4. Since attending the Community Issues Forum have you discussed results of the forum with anyone? (check one)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No
  
  5. Have you used the methods you learned in the Forum for analyzing and solving community problems in any way since attending the Forum? (check one)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No
- If yes, please explain in what way you have used the methods.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(continued on back of page)

6. Have you attended a meeting since the Forum in which taking some action on the Forum proposals was discussed? (check one)

Yes  No

If yes, has any action been taken on any of the Forum proposals as a result of such a meeting? (check one)

Yes  No

If yes, please indicate what action has taken place \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Have you as an individual done anything to work on community problems or improve law enforcement as a result of attending the Forum? (check one)

Yes  No

If yes, please explain what you have done: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. In your opinion have any of the forum proposals influenced the actions of persons in government or the criminal justice system? (check one)

Yes  No

If yes, what actions have been taken? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. To the best of your knowledge have any other individuals taken action toward implementing any of the Forum proposals? (check one)

Yes  No

If yes, what action have they taken? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Did you fill out a questionnaire during the final session of the Community Issues Forum?  Yes  No

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING AND MAILING IN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE.

January 7, 1977

Mr. Frank Powell  
1925 Milan  
New Orleans, LA. 70115

Dear Frank,

Greetings and thanks again for the warm hospitality of you and your staff during my on-site visit of the C.I.F. All the C.I.F.s are now completed, we are in the process of getting all the follow-up questionnaires in and are getting ready to run the results of all the questionnaires through the computer.

It occurred to me during one of my on-site visits that all of the results and indeed some of the most significant results of the C.I.F.s may not show up on the questionnaires. It is clear to me that the ICA staff in the areas where the C.I.F.s were held would have the best fix on the real value, results and impact of the C.I.F.s.

Therefore, I am asking you and your staff to reflect on the C.I.F.s held in your area and write me a brief (not more than two or three pages total) reaction to the following questions:

1. What is your overall assessment of the results of the C.I.F.s held in your area?
2. What unexpected results have occurred as a result of your C.I.F.s?
3. To what extent did the C.I.F.s set in motion any activities or processes which are likely to affect the crime rate, the criminal justice system, the relationship between criminal justice people and the community, etc. in the community where they were held?

We will begin writing our final evaluation of the project in approximately thirty days, so it is imperative that I have your response as soon as possible. I hate to add to the burden of your heavy schedule but I believe your input will be important in enabling us to give L.E.A.A. a complete picture of the C.I.F. project.

Grace and Peace,

H. Rhea Gray

HRG:rf

H. RHEA GRAY  
8 WOODBINE ROAD  
ROLLING MEADOWS, ILLINOIS 60008  

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(312) 397-4357

April 2, 1977

Mr. Mike Dana  
Citizen's Initiative Program  
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration  
633 Indiana Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20531

Dear Mike,

Enclosed is the final evaluation report on the I.C.A. Community Issues Forum: Special Focus Law Enforcement. It was fun but turned out to be a good bit more than we bargained for in terms of time and longer than we had planned. I hope you find it helpful.

There are a number of things I would do differently if we were doing this kind of study again, but all in all, I feel it is a creditable piece of work with some valuable data in it. Coming in on the project to build an evaluation plan after the project was so close to being up and running posed some rather severe limitations on what could be done. I hope we'll get a chance to show you what we can do with a little more lead time.

I will be happy to discuss the report with you and/or any of your colleagues any time.

Cordially,

*H. Rhea Gray/rf*

H. Rhea Gray

HRG:rf

Encl.