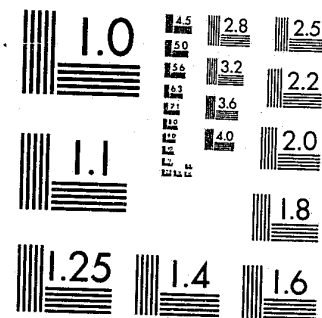


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PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY

COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION:
BENEFITS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENTS
A SEMINAR FOR POLICE CHIEFS

Prepared by
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April 1984

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Alfred Blumstein
Chairman

U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice

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COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION BENEFITS FOR
POLICE DEPARTMENTS: A SEMINAR FOR POLICE CHIEFS

For crime prevention to be an effective tool in controlling crime, police chiefs need to provide adequate administrative support for their crime prevention officers. While many police chiefs have supported the implementation of strong, well-planned and organized crime prevention programs, others have not made the commitment necessary to truly impact on crime and the fear of crime in the jurisdictions they serve. To encourage a greater emphasis on crime prevention in policing, staff of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency developed the Seminar, Community Crime Prevention Benefits For Police Departments: A Seminar For Police Chiefs.

The Seminar focuses on the benefits of crime prevention as described by a panel of six police chiefs from across Pennsylvania who have established programs that are an integral part of the operation of their departments. Through the Seminar, other chiefs can be made aware of the nature of these benefits and discuss the possibilities for their own departments. In addition to the reduction in incidence of crime that results from citizens taking steps to protect themselves, their property and business from crime, many other benefits were mentioned.

Through the increased contacts between police and community, a climate of cooperation develops that helps forge those relationships with the legitimate community which makes police work more effective. As crime prevention activities present the police as willing to do something about crime problems before someone is victimized, it tends to increase both official and citizen confidence in and support for the police department. Other benefits mentioned by the panel were the improvement of economic conditions and the enhancement of the quality of life in their communities as crime rates dropped and community cohesiveness increased through crime prevention activities.

A summary of the requirements for establishing and strengthening community crime prevention programs concludes the Seminar. It is hoped that with a better appreciation of the long-term benefits of the preventive strategy and an understanding of the administrative support it needs, more chiefs of police will fully integrate strong community crime prevention programs in their operations.

This crime prevention seminar for police chiefs can be obtained for \$2.00 from the Bureau of Crime Prevention, Training and Technical Assistance, Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, P. O. Box 1167, Federal Square Station, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 17108.

COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION BENEFITS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENTS

A Seminar for Police Chiefs

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INTRODUCTION

While crime prevention is gaining credence as an integral part of policing, many police departments still do not use this effective technique for controlling crime. This seminar will outline the many benefits of community crime prevention for police chiefs with the goal of encouraging the development of such programs. A better understanding of what is meant by crime prevention, the role it plays in the larger picture of crime control and how it can be implemented will foster the use of crime prevention as a viable means of reducing the incidence and fear of crime in communities served by Pennsylvania police chiefs.

SEMINAR CURRICULUM

This seminar is designed for a group of from six to ten police chiefs from a 50-mile radius who have not established effective crime prevention programs. In this small group setting of individuals from the same geographic area, the basic seminar material can be made more relevant for the participants. The two-hour time frame required for holding the seminar will be set at the convenience of the participating chiefs. The Seminar Outline to be used as a guide for the seminar leader is expanded upon in four modules which include suggested techniques and visual aids for presenting the seminar. The modules follow a similar structure with the following components:

- Title and Number.
- Time Required - Time needed to present and discuss material.
- Objectives - What participants should gain from seminar.
- Technique - An orientation to the method of presenting the material.
- Materials Required - The materials needed to present the module.
- Resources - The reading material the seminar leader can review prior to leading the seminar.
- Lesson Plan - The process and content of the seminar with background information and supplemental data to be used as a guide for the seminar discussion.

The seminar leader should use the planned curriculum as a general guide adapting the material for each group as indicated to make the seminar more applicable to participants' needs.

COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION BENEFITS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENTS

A Seminar for Police Chiefs

SEMINAR OUTLINE

- I. Need for Administrative Support
 - A. Welcome and Introductions
 - B. Background on Crime Prevention Movement
 - C. Pennsylvania Crime Watch - Status and Directions
 - D. Need for Guidance and Support from Chiefs
 - E. Goals and Objectives of Seminar
- II. A Proactive Approach to Crime Control
 - A. Define Concept of Preventability
 - B. Review Crime Reduction Strategies
 - C. Define Crime Prevention
 - D. Show "Crime Prevention: What and Why?"
- III. Benefits of Crime Prevention for Police Chiefs
 - A. Development of Material
 - B. Direct Benefits for Police Chief
 - C. Improves Departmental Operations
 - D. Enhances Community Relations
 - E. Builds Official and Citizen Support
 - F. Strengthens Economic Conditions
 - G. Enhances Quality of Life
- IV. Establishing and Strengthening Community Crime Prevention
 - A. Crime Prevention Strategies
 - B. Elements of an Effective Program
 - C. Role of Police Chief
 - D. Assistance Available

MODULE: #1 - Need for Administrative Support

TIME REQUIRED: 30 minutes

OBJECTIVES: At the end of this session, participants will:

1. Be aware of the significance of the crime prevention movement.
2. Understand the need for administrative support for Crime Prevention Officer.
3. Be familiar with the format of the seminar.

TECHNIQUE:

This introductory section will provide the foundation material for the seminar by emphasizing the importance of the support and direction given by police chiefs to community crime prevention. A description of the methodology for developing the seminar will help to validate the approach and to stimulate interest in the material to be presented.

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

Transparencies and/or Handouts

References: Feins, Judith D., Partnerships For Neighborhood Crime Prevention.
Washington: National Institute of Justice, 1983

LESSON PLAN:

1. (5 min.) Welcome police chiefs to the seminar and express desire to provide them with information that will prove useful in their capacity as police administrators. Review any necessary logistical matters such as identifying smoking areas, availability of coffee and location of restrooms.

Seminar leader should introduce self and others assisting with the seminar by providing brief biographical information with emphasis on crime prevention experience. Ask that each participant introduce himself and indicate which community he serves.
2. (10 min.) As an introduction to the seminar, provide some background on the crime prevention movement. The following key points can be used for this purpose:
 - Although crime prevention has historical roots in policing, it represents a relatively recent (1972) strategy for law enforcement.

- The concept is based on the willingness of citizens to take responsibility for reducing opportunities for crimes to occur and to work cooperatively with the police in reporting criminal and suspicious activity.

- In the forward of the publication, Partnerships for Neighborhood Crime Prevention, James K. Stewart, Director of National Institute of Justice, writes "The concept of crime prevention has been around for a long time. But too often in the past, it has simply meant good public relations between police and community and some advice on locks or alarms. Increasingly, however, it is being recognized as a form of policing characterized by a strong and active partnership between community residents and law enforcement agencies."

- In Pennsylvania, the state Crime Watch program was initiated in 1978 to support police departments in their crime prevention efforts. Since that time, the staff of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency has provided materials, technical assistance and trained approximately 2,000 municipal and state police officers in a four-day course on basic crime prevention techniques. Of those, some 600 officers received advanced training in planning, organizing and evaluating community crime prevention programs.

- Present the findings of the statewide crime prevention survey of Pennsylvania police departments conducted by the Commission in December 1983.

3. (5 min.) Review the factors which led to the development of the seminar, starting with the fact that in those communities where well-organized crime prevention programs exist, the crime rates have fallen even more rapidly than the state rate. In a survey of police departments across the state, it became evident that many more police departments could improve their crime control efforts through crime prevention programs. For the trained Crime Prevention Officer/Specialists to be effective in developing programs, they need the direction, guidance and support from the top administrator of their department. This seminar will encourage that support by providing the knowledge and understanding of what is needed.
4. (5 min.) Discuss the goal and objectives of the seminar. The Transparency/Handout #1 can be used to facilitate this discussion.

GOAL: To encourage the establishment of strong, well-planned and organized crime prevention programs that will impact on the reduction of crime and the fear of crime in the communities they serve.

OBJECTIVES: To present the fundamentals of crime prevention and show the role of these crime control efforts.

To describe the benefits derived from using the crime prevention strategy.

To provide basic guidelines for establishing and strengthening community crime prevention.

Describe the development of the seminar by elaborating on the following points:

- Solicited comments from six Pennsylvania police chiefs who have proven programs on the benefits they have experienced from these programs.
- Incorporated experiences from Easton and Warminster Model projects.
- Based on crime prevention concepts presented by National Crime Prevention Institute, research of crime prevention literature and on-site visits to existing programs.

5. (5 min.) Review with participants the methodology for selecting their area to present the seminar. This should include the crime analysis of the area as well as other data collected as part of the survey.

COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION BENEFITS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENTS

A SEMINAR FOR POLICE CHIEFS

GOAL

TO ENCOURAGE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF STRONG, WELL-PLANNED AND ORGANIZED CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS THAT WILL IMPACT ON THE REDUCTION OF CRIME AND THE FEAR OF CRIME IN THE COMMUNITIES THEY SERVE

OBJECTIVES

TO PRESENT THE FUNDAMENTALS OF CRIME PREVENTION AND SHOW THE ROLE OF THESE STRATEGIES IN CRIME CONTROL EFFORTS..

TO DESCRIBE THE BENEFITS DERIVED FROM USING THE CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGY

TO PROVIDE BASIC GUIDELINES FOR ESTABLISHING AND STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION

COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION BENEFITS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENTS

A SEMINAR FOR POLICE CHIEFS

AGENDA

NEED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

A PROACTIVE APPROACH TO CRIME CONTROL

BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION

INITIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAMS

MODULE: #2 - A Proactive Approach to Crime Control

TIME REQUIRED: 30 minutes

OBJECTIVES: At the end of this session, participants shall:

1. Understand the theory of preventability and its relationship to the crime problem.
2. Relate opportunity reduction to other four strategies to prevent crime.
3. Be aware of effectiveness of watch groups in implementing crime prevention techniques.

TECHNIQUE:

The seminar leader should keep in mind that participants will have their own ideas of what constitutes crime prevention techniques. Further, they may feel that the material is too elementary should points be dealt with too extensively. Therefore, the purpose of this section is to do a brief overview of all the crime control strategies so that there arises a common understanding as to the role of crime prevention among these other strategies. Before presenting the benefits of crime prevention, participants need to be familiar with the concept.

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

Sound Slide Projector
"Crime Prevention: What and Why." - Slide/tape presentation - AARP
Transparencies and/or Handouts

LESSON PLAN:

1. (5 min.) Introduce the concept of preventability as a powerful tool in reducing high crime rates. Explain that preventability has to do with that period of time when a potential criminal sizes up a target to determine whether it is worth the effort or risk to commit the crime. Review the Transparency/Handout #1, "Crime Index Offenses - Percent Distribution," pointing out that those crimes most frequently committed are also the crimes that can most easily be prevented. The use of proper prevention techniques, particularly with these crimes, will have the greatest impact on the crime rate. The seminar leader can use the statewide crime distribution figures or present the local figures.

Further, show Transparency/Handout #2, "Crimes Cleared in Pennsylvania," to demonstrate that those crimes that have the highest preventability have the lowest clearance rate. Therefore, to impact on the reduction of these crimes will improve the overall crime clearance rate.

2. (10 min.) To give the group an understanding of the role of preventability in the criminal justice system, review Transparency/Handout #3, "Crime Reduction Strategies." Present a brief explanation for each of the four basic approaches to crime control.

- Interruption. Represents the traditional police patrol functions.
- Incapacitation. Follows from the first with the adjudicated criminals being incarcerated.
- Causes. Deals with the elimination of social problems which may create the desire to commit crime.
- Opportunity Reduction. Seeks to make the commission of a crime more difficult.

Elaborate further on the opportunity reduction strategy. This technique relates to the assessment of the victim/target by the potential criminal. Three conditions must exist for criminal behavior to take place:

DESIRE + OPPORTUNITY + ABILITY = CRIME

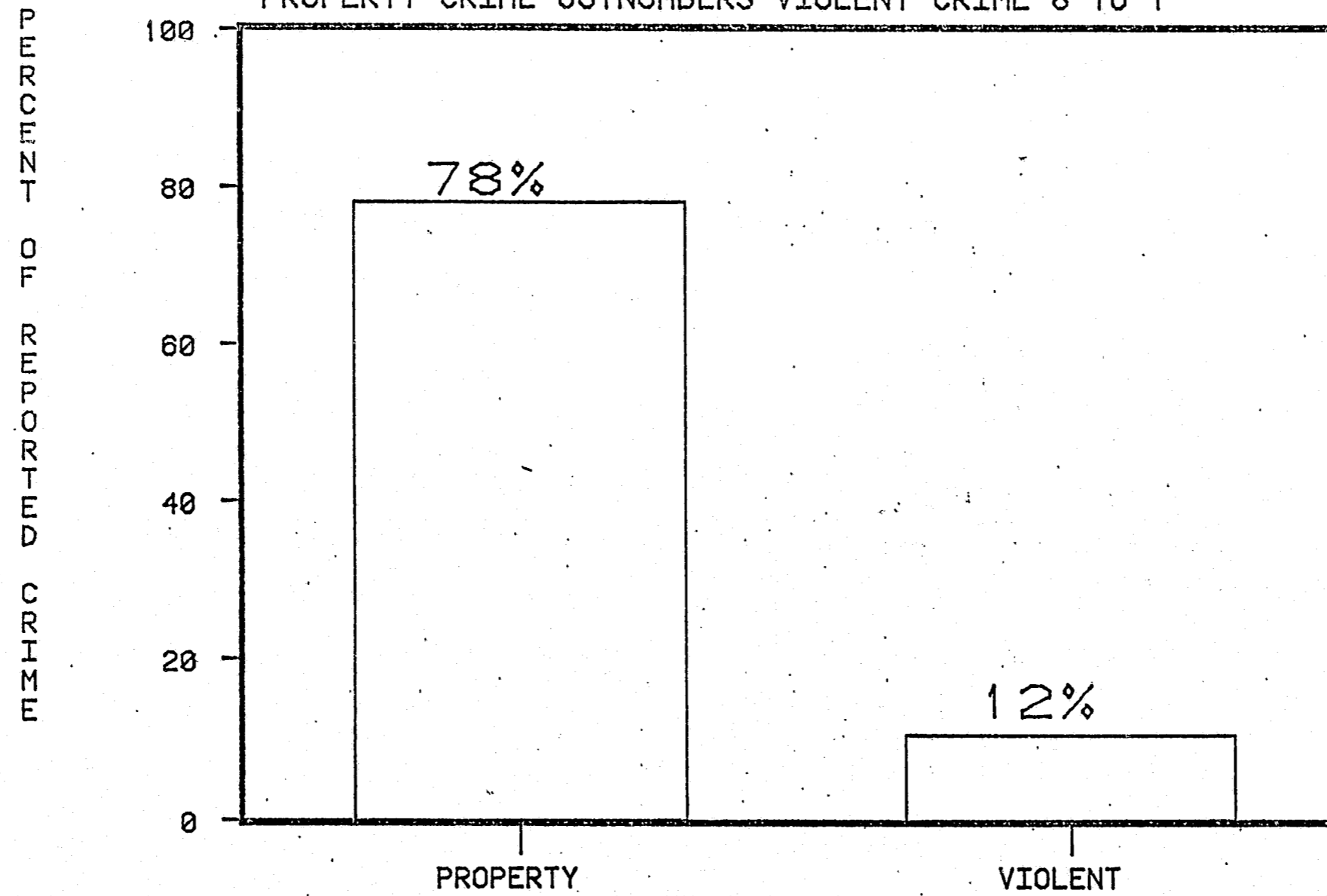
Since desire and ability cannot be controlled, the removal of opportunity will destroy the equation needed for crime to occur. The opportunity factor becomes effective through citizen and business practice of physical and personal security measures and by practicing increased observation and reporting of suspicious and criminal activity. This method of crime control relies heavily on active citizen participants to reduce opportunities for crimes to occur and to increase the chances for criminal activity being detected. This partnership between citizen/neighborhood watches and police results in the reduction of the amount of attempted crime, successful crime and fear of crime.

Review the National Crime Prevention Institute definition of crime prevention. The Transparency/Handout #4, "Crime Prevention Is...", can be used as the format for a flipchart or chalkboard as an abbreviated form of the full definition.

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

3. (15 min.) Show the slide/tape program, "Crime Prevention: What and Why?" to reinforce visually the points covered in this section of the seminar.

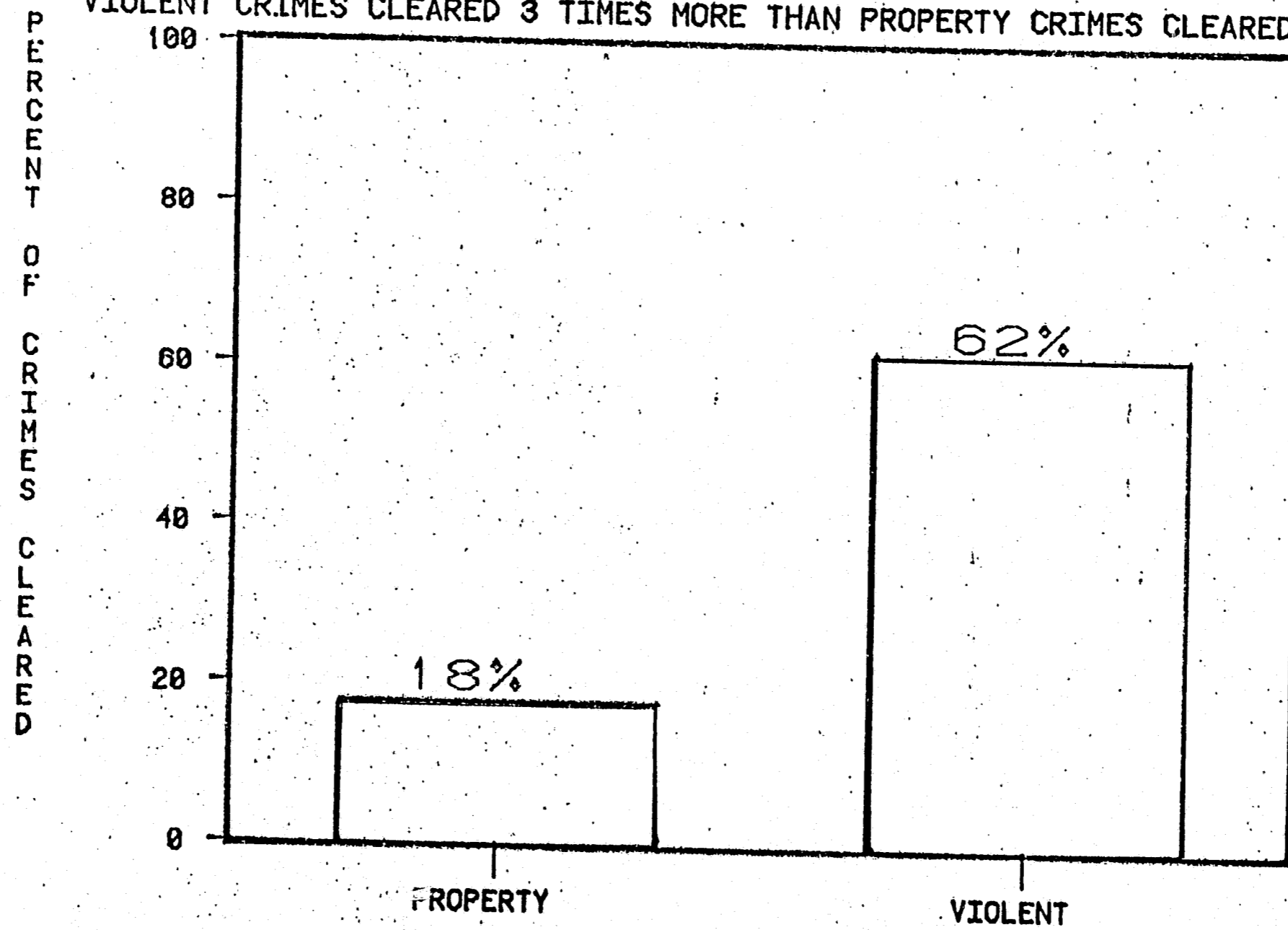
1982 PENNSYLVANIA CRIME INDEX OFFENSES
PROPERTY CRIME OUTNUMBERS VIOLENT CRIME 8 TO 1



1982 CRIMES CLEARED IN PENNSYLVANIA

MODULE #2
Transparency/Handout #2

VIOLENT CRIMES CLEARED 3 TIMES MORE THAN PROPERTY CRIMES CLEARED



CRIME REDUCTION STRATEGIES

- INTERRUPTION
- INCAPACITATION
- ELIMINATE CAUSES
- OPPORTUNITY REDUCTION

CRIME PREVENTION IS:

- BEING AWARE;
- ANTICIPATING FORM, LOCATION, TIME AND VICTIM; AND
- TAKING APPROPRIATE ACTION.

MODULE: #3 - Benefits of Crime Prevention

TIME REQUIRED: 30 minutes

OBJECTIVES: At the end of this session, participants will:

1. Understand the numerous benefits that will accrue to police chiefs from a community crime prevention program.
2. Be aware of possible problems that may arise with the program and methods for handling those problems.

TECHNIQUE:

The seminar leader will describe in as concrete a manner possible the rationale for any police chief to consider instituting crime prevention as a viable method for reducing crime and the fear of crime in their communities. Through discussion, some of the reasons why participants may be reluctant to start programs should be assessed so that those concerns may be addressed.

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

Transparencies/Handouts (3)

Resources: Tape Recording of Meeting with Police Chiefs on December 21, 1983

Lesson Plan:

1. (5 min.) The seminar leader indicates that the presentation of the benefits of crime prevention relies to a great extent on those benefits identified by other Pennsylvania chiefs of police. In an effort to make this material relevant to the group, six chiefs who have established relatively successful programs in their communities shared their views on the merits of crime prevention. From their unique perspectives, they provided information they felt would encourage other chiefs to embark on initiatives or strengthen existing crime prevention programs. Through their discussion, they described many of the benefits and some of the potential problems with their programs. Mention to the seminar participants that the panel members represent police departments from across the state as the following list shows.

Chief William Cunningham
Easton Police Department

Chief Merrill Dever
Millcreek Township Police Department

Chief Robert Alexander
Plum Borough Police Department

Chief Elmer Clawges
Warminster Township Police Department

Chief John R. Swim
Wilkes-Barre Police Department

Chief William M. Hose
York City Police Department

2. (5 min.) In discussing the benefits of community crime prevention with seminar participants, the comments can be clustered into several categories. Some relate personally to the police chief, others assist in carrying out the mission of the department, and some have to do with the relationship between the police and the community. In all cases, however, an effective, well-managed program will reflect favorably on the chief of police, the municipality's administration and the community at large. In other words, crime prevention provides a useful, effective form of policing which builds support from both elected officials and the citizens.

Using Transparency/Handout #1, Benefits of Community Crime Prevention for Police Chiefs, discuss further the direct benefits. One of the first issues mentioned by the six advisory group chiefs, job security, should stimulate some interest in the group. The greater job security comes through the record of success that is built by the chief through effective community crime prevention programming. An effective program will improve departmental performance and enhance community relations, both of which will create a more secure job situation. Some of the chiefs on the panel felt a greater sense of job satisfaction as a result of crime prevention programs as these programs represent a positive aspect of police work. Others viewed crime prevention simply as part of "doing a better job."

3. (5 min.) Review with seminar participants the benefits to the police department of community crime prevention programs using Transparency/Handout #2. Explain that programs where records have been kept on the effects of intensive neighborhood watch programs show a crime reduction of 30% to 65%. Besides this kind of local data, the national and state crime rate has been falling for the past two years. Both the Director of the FBI and the Pennsylvania State Police Commissioner have attributed some of this decrease in the crime rate to citizen watch groups cooperating with their police departments. These watch groups

help deter crime through target hardening and by reporting more crime and suspicious activity; by being more observant and providing better information that can make the investigation and prosecution of crime more successful. Watch group participants also receive encouragement to act as witnesses in cases of criminal activity.

4. (10 min.) Using Transparency/Handout #3, Benefits to Police and Community as a guide, fully review the following topics with seminar participants.

IMPROVES COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Although crime prevention is not community relations, crime prevention does improve the relationship between the community and the police department. This builds the climate of cooperation that helps forge those relationships with the legitimate community which make police work more effective and easier as previously discussed.

- Increases police contacts with minorities and elderly
- Better to use police and citizens working together than police public relations
- Better citizen understanding of role of police including limitations and restraints

BUILDS OFFICIAL AND CITIZEN SUPPORT

Traditionally, police have only been directly involved with the community when a crime occurred. Crime prevention as a proactive measure presents the police as willing to do something about the crime problem before someone is victimized. This willingness to be involved before the fact tends to increase both official and citizen confidence in the police department. Through contact with crime watch groups, the police explain the limits of their services and the role of other municipal departments in providing services to the citizen. This, too, helps put the police in a more favorable light as a liaison between citizens and local government.

- Police are perceived as doing something about crime problems
- Police are viewed as a positive aspect of municipal government
- Increased citizen confidence in police department
- Better understanding of local ordinances

IMPROVES ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Business has shown an increasing interest in the crime condition in areas of potential investment. Therefore, a lower crime rate has an influence on the economic health of a municipality or neighborhood. Financial institutions use the crime rate as a factor in making property rehabilitation decisions. Manufacturing and retail operations will consider their chances of being victims of burglary, robbery, and theft when making location decisions. Property values and, therefore, the tax base will rise and fall with the crime rate.

- Neighborhood rehabilitation money more readily available
- Area more attractive to business where crime rate is low
- Reduction in crime rate raises property values; improves tax base

ENHANCES THE QUALITY OF LIFE

Of basic concern to all citizens is the freedom from the tyranny of crime. This need for safety shows up as a prominent issue in all citizen concern surveys. Crime prevention programs not only help reduce the crime rate but they also give people a greater sense of security. These programs give the community the opportunity to take an active part in working with the police to create a safer environment for themselves.

- Citizens feel safer
- Develops a sense of community
- Improves economic conditions
- Reduces crime and the fear of crime
- Positive understanding of role of government

5. (5 min.) The timing for addressing the possible disadvantages of crime prevention programs should be at the discretion of the seminar leader. They may be dealt with during the discussion of benefits if raised by seminar participants. If they have not been, the seminar leader may want to elicit from the group reasons they have not placed greater emphasis on crime prevention as a method for controlling crime or what objections they have to using crime prevention programs.

Some police administrators feel that crime prevention represents a drain on their resources through various avenues. They need to weigh these costs against the benefits reviewed in the previous section as well as via points that will be made in this section.

- Fewer patrol officers. Trained citizens represent a greater corps of people in the community to detect suspicious and criminal activity.
- Initial increase in crime reported. The initial increase in crime reported will decline as the program takes effect. It is important that the police be aware of criminal activity occurring in order to control it.
- Unrealistic demand for police services. Through proper training of watch groups, citizens will better understand what to expect from the police and what limitations exist on police services.

There are other types of perceived problems with crime prevention programs that may be raised by participants. The seminar leader should be willing to discuss these situations and suggest some solutions or alternative ways of looking at these problems. The following underlined material indicates some issues of concern with some points that should in a positive way address the concerns.

- A decrease in crime may hinder hiring more officers. Use crime watch data to make the case for continued control and prevention of crime, stressing the need for both a strong patrol unit and an adequately staffed crime prevention unit.
- Create staff dissension. This problem can be reduced through adequate training of all police officers in the role of crime prevention in controlling crime.
- Crime Prevention Officers have fewer chances for promotion. Each department must evaluate situations and develop promotional opportunities for those officers working in crime prevention.
- Success of program can breed apathy and false sense of security. These can be combatted through the use of strong maintenance programs.
- Program may be used as a political tool. Political support is important to create and sustain an effective program. The issue then is constructively channelling the political interest.
- Vigilante groups can develop. With close police involvement, through training and coordination, this problem is non-existent.
- Opens up political pressure. The most usual form of political pressure is to start or improve existing programs and this cannot be viewed as a negative.

- Undesirable individuals seek to participate. Screening procedures will help alleviate this problem. Peer pressure can be effective in removing such individuals once they are in a program.

CRIME PREVENTION
BENEFITS
FOR
POLICE CHIEFS

- * JOB SECURITY
- * POSITIVE POLICING
- * BUILDS SUCCESS

CRIME PREVENTION
BENEFITS
TO
POLICE DEPARTMENT

- * MEASURABLE REDUCTION IN CRIME
- * MORE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF CRIME
 - * IDENTIFICATION
 - * INVESTIGATION
 - * PROSECUTION

CRIME PREVENTION
BENEFITS
TO
POLICE AND COMMUNITY

- * IMPROVES COMMUNITY RELATIONS
- * BUILDS OFFICIAL AND CITIZEN SUPPORT
- * IMPROVES ECONOMIC CONDITIONS
- * ENHANCES QUALITY OF LIFE

MODULE: #4 - Establishing and Strengthening Community Crime Prevention

TIME REQUIRED: 30 minutes

OBJECTIVES: At the end of this session, participants will:

1. Be familiar with the four crime prevention strategies.
2. Know the elements of an effective, comprehensive community crime prevention program.
3. Understand the nature of the role of the police chief in instituting crime prevention as a practical means of crime control.
4. Be aware of the kinds of services available through the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to build their crime prevention program.

TECHNIQUE:

In a very brief time, the seminar leader will introduce the participants to the elements needed to produce a worthwhile crime prevention program. To help make an impact on motivating police chiefs to actually take steps to institute a crime prevention program, explain in fairly specific terms what they need to do, how they can do it, and what assistance is available to help them establish a program.

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

Transparencies/Handouts

References: Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, A Model Municipal Crime Prevention Program, The Pennsylvania Approach, 1981

LESSON PLAN:

1. (5 min.) Now that the benefits of crime prevention have been fully pursued, the seminar leader moves on to present the broad categories of crime prevention strategies in use as shown on Transparency/Handout #1. Explain that most all of the crime prevention techniques available fall within one of these four classifications.
 - Community Action. Those activities which directly involve the commitment and participation of citizens in prevention efforts.
 - Target Hardening. Those techniques which attempt to make potential structural targets less vulnerable by improving physical security measures.

- Personal Security. Emphasizes those avoidance techniques which an individual may utilize to reduce his/her risk of victimization and enhance the chances of positively identifying the perpetrator.
- Environmental Design. Stresses those strategies which are predicated on the concept of territoriality or the perception of personal influence over one's surroundings.

2. (10 min.) Review with participants the elements that will help insure the development of a sound program using a slide presentation that depicts each aspect of that development. As the slides are reviewed, relate the police chief's responsibilities in fostering the program.

- Trained Crime Prevention Specialist. Select a self-motivated police officer who can communicate well with individuals and service groups in the community and their fellow officers to receive the Basic and Advanced Crime Prevention Course offered by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency.
- Introduce municipal officials to program. Secure interest and schedule the Crime Prevention Seminar for Municipal Officials or schedule a less formal informational meeting with officials.
- Inform all police officers about program and seek input into program via in-service training. Schedule training so that all officers will have an opportunity to attend. Make sure that departmental supervisors understand the program and the importance of the training.
- Involve other municipal departments. Arrange the formation of a Municipal Task Force with the Municipal Executive. Schedule training for the Task Force and determine with the group what their involvement will be in the program.

The following tasks are the responsibility of the trained Crime Prevention Specialist who should be given adequate time to perform these activities. At the same time, through an ongoing reporting system, the specialist should be held accountable for the performance of these tasks.

- Examine crime data and community data
- Involve citizens in program development
- Create a plan of action
- Recruit and train citizen watch leaders
- Initiate the program with media coverage

- Organize watch groups
- Provide information to groups
- Monitor group work and report to superiors

The police chief can further support the program by being available to publicly support the crime prevention effort through the press, by reporting periodically to the municipal officials on the progress of the program and the need for resources, and by providing official recognition to the community volunteers who make the program possible. Of particular importance is the need to develop a budget to fund the crime prevention materials and supplies necessary to carry out an effective program.

3. (10 min.) Explain to seminar participants that the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency has services available for each phase of the crime prevention program development process. This assistance can be given on site whenever there is a need for outside consultation. Describe the experience of the staff in the implementation of such programs in Warminster, Easton and Wilkensburg in addition to the research, training, and more general assistance to Pennsylvania communities. Highlight some of the services available using Handout #2.

- Seminars for municipal officials and police chiefs
- Training for police officers and municipal employees
- Setting up task forces and advisory groups
- Analyzing crime and community data
- Developing action plans
- Handling media relations
- Organizing neighborhoods
- Monitoring programs

The seminar leader should allow time for participants to raise any questions they may have or to request the further use of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency crime prevention services.

4. (5 min.) Conclude the seminar by summarizing the main points of interest. The seminar leader should be sure that participants understand the nature of the services available to support their own municipal crime prevention program.

CRIME PREVENTION STRATEGIES

- * COMMUNITY ACTION
- * TARGET HARDENING
- * PERSONAL SECURITY
- * ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN



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Alfred Blumstein
Chairman

James Thomas
Executive Director

PENNSYLVANIA CRIME WATCH COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION SERVICES

Through training courses, seminars, and on-site consultation, Crime Watch staff provides a range of services to Pennsylvania municipalities designed to strengthen crime prevention programs that encourage citizens to work with police in creating safer communities. There follows a brief description of each of the various kinds of assistance available. Further information on these services should be directed to: Bureau of Training, Crime Prevention, and Technical Assistance at the above address or by calling either 717-787-1777 or 800-692-7292.

COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS: THEIR VALUE AND IMPACT FOR PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPALITIES. From this two-hour seminar, municipal officials learn about the concept of community crime prevention and the positive effects it can have on their communities.

COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION BENEFITS FOR POLICE DEPARTMENTS. This two-hour seminar, designed for police chiefs and police supervisory/management personnel, encourages the development of well-planned and organized neighborhood watch programs that help reduce the crime rate.

BASIC CRIME PREVENTION COURSE. A four-day technical course for municipal and state police personnel that develops the crime prevention skills needed to train citizens how to protect themselves and their communities from crime. The curriculum includes a discussion of the opportunity reduction/crime prevention concept, physical security techniques, commercial security, personal security strategies and an introduction to neighborhood watch organization.

ADVANCED CRIME PREVENTION COURSE. For the individuals who have completed a basic crime prevention course, this three-day training session includes data analysis for crime prevention, program planning, implementation, and evaluation necessary for coordinating a community-wide program.

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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. Using proven crime prevention principles, staff of the Bureau of Training, Crime Prevention, and Technical Assistance can provide consultation on the following topics. Strength in these areas will help insure sound planning, organization and maintenance of community crime prevention that involves citizens and businesses in helping to reduce opportunities for crimes to occur.

- Data Analysis. Assist police departments in the use of existing data or in establishing a data base that will provide crime and community data for targeting, supporting, and evaluating crime prevention programs.
- Awareness Seminars for Police Officers and Municipal Employees. These short seminars are designed to make all departmental officers and municipal employees aware of the crime prevention concept and how it is being applied in their community.
- Creating Task Forces and Advisory Groups. Guidelines are provided for membership and function of such groups with guidance for a particular community to create a strong tie with municipal agencies and the community at large in developing and maintaining community crime prevention.
- Developing Action Plans. Assistance is provided to the police department in taking the data analysis decisions of municipal government, the task force and advisory group and developing a realistic work plan based on available time and resources.
- Media Relations. Localized methods are devised for dealing with the press from radio, television and the print media in a way that helps promote awareness of crime prevention techniques and develop support for the community program.
- Organizing Neighborhoods. Strategies are developed for creating interest in residents to organize their neighborhoods, identifying neighborhood leadership, training those leaders, and finding local resources to maintain interest in organized neighborhoods.
- Monitoring Programs. Assistance is provided for identification of the kinds of information needed to provide adequate administrative controls and to provide feedback to municipal government and program participants to sustain viable crime prevention programs that help create better, safer communities.

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