Guardianship – Not too broad, not too narrow

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Texas State University
Eyes and Apps on the Streets
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Thank you to Vania Ceccato and our hosts
Overt vs covert crimes

- An overt crime scares a whole neighborhood;
  - a covert crime only impinges on those directly affected.
- An overt crime is more likely to draw police attention;
  - a covert crime is it.
### Overt vs Covert Crime

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overt</th>
<th>Covert Crime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. occurs in public places</td>
<td>1. hidden behind closed doors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. seen &amp; heard by many people</td>
<td>2. directly harms rather few people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. scares a whole neighborhood</td>
<td>3. only impinges on those directly affected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. likely to draw police attention</td>
<td>4. seldom noticed by police unless a citizen calls to report</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ask yourself

• Does it occur in public space?
• seen or heard by an appreciable number of local people?
• Does it produce an ugly residue, visible after it is completed?
• Might police see this criminal event while in progress?
Cuts across legal categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Overt</th>
<th>Covert</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Illicit drug sale</td>
<td>Transacted in a public park</td>
<td>Transacted in private apartment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto theft</td>
<td>From public street</td>
<td>From private carport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>Inside barroom</td>
<td>Inside home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forcible rape</td>
<td>Shadows next to public park</td>
<td>Hidden in building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truancy (absconding from school)</td>
<td>To public square</td>
<td>To private home</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Important slide, overt vs. covert drugs

Overt crimes *damage a whole neighborhood*

*Surveillance should pay more attention to reducing overt crimes*
Cone of resolution tells us damage can be localized

Crime Maps for the Same City, Four Levels of Resolution, From Large Districts to Specific Addresses

a. 1930s methods
   large districts

b. 1960s methods
   census tracts

c. 1980s methods
   city blocks

d. Today's methods
   specific addresses

North
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRIME</th>
<th>DISORDER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selling illegal drugs</td>
<td><em>Standing around waiting for drug customers</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committing arson</td>
<td><em>Burned out buildings after arson was committed</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault by youths drinking in park</td>
<td><em>Youths standing around in park drinking</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injecting heroin or other drugs</td>
<td><em>Hypodermic needles littered in public place</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public drinking</td>
<td><em>Littered beer cans in public</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public dumping</td>
<td><em>Presence of junk after dumpint</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggressive touching by strangers</td>
<td><em>Trash talk by strangers in public places</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Crime vs disorder - *reminders of crime*

Reminders of Crime Have Real Effects when Concentrated in Space

A real crime incident occurred here

Something that reminds people of crime
Worst Design for Women

- Private space
- Hidden public space
- Public space

Diagram showing the relationship between private and public spaces.
Comparing Two Walking Routes for Women

- **origin**
- **abandoned or concealed space**
- **sidewalk**
- **destination**
- **normal places**
- **safer for women**

A: dangerous for women
B
Four Steps Relating Crime to Deviance

1. Legal & approved activities
2. Legal but disapproved
3. Illegal but tolerated
4. Illegal & not tolerated

MARGINAL activities
Decisions about surveillance and enforcement

- Which minor crimes lead to major ones?
- Which annoyances accumulate?
- Which annoyances scare women?
- Which major crimes are hard to prevent anyway?
Surveillance can be used to inform design and redesign of public space

• If problems are observed, where does it happen?
• What design changes can work?
• Surveillance is not just for arrest
• Can also be used to take people home or to social services
• Where are truant youths hanging out?
• When should people be asked to go home?
Hour for hour exposure to risk of victimization

Figure 6.1 Women's risk of violent victimization per million person-hours in each setting

- Home
- Friend's home
- Commercial building
- Bar or restaurant
- Public transportation
- Street or outdoors

Wikstrom data plotted - hour for hour risk of offending
Malignant mixes

• Barrooms and bus stops
• Schools and shopping areas
• Juvenile hangouts and elderly centers
Transit wait times

Transit wait times
- under 15 min
- 15 to 25 min
- 25 to 45 min
- over 45 min
Sexual assault and barroom locations, Anchorage, Alaska, 2000 - 2001

Map is an approximate depiction of work by Rosay and Langworthy
In Stockholm, Forcible Rape Risk Appears to Radiate Outward from the City Center along Major Metro Train Routes

Adapted from Ceccato, V. (2014). The nature of rape places. Journal of environmental psychology, 40, 97-107
Point, line, area combinations
Thank you
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