

Extending Guardianship through Surveillance Technology?

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Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) Seminar

'Eyes and Apps on the Streets: From Natural Surveillance to Crime Sousveillance'

Stockholm, Sweden - 8 September 201



Overview

- Guardianship concept & definition
- Guardianship in action studies
 - Observations
 - Interviews
 - Surveys
- New Surveillance Technologies





Guardians & Guardianship

- Routine Activity Approach (Cohen & Felson, 1979)
 - crime opportunities arise as a consequence of routine activities
 - 3 minimal elements for crime
 - *absence of a capable guardian*
 - any person (or thing) who serves by simple presence to prevent crime, and by absence make crime more likely (Felson, 1995)
- Guardianship (Felson & Cohen, 1980):
 - "any spatio-temporally specific supervision of people or property by other people which may prevent criminal violations from occurring"





Guardianship in Action

- Observed in the real world
- Guardianship as multidimensional
- Guardianship intensity
 - Availability/Presence of guardians
 - Surveillance or supervision
 - Intervention when necessary
- Associated environmental factors



Invisible/Unavailable





Queenskind Austra

Invisible/Unavailable





Queenskind Australi

(Visible) Availability





(Visible) Availability





Queenskins, Austra

Monitoring/Supervision





Monitoring/Supervision





Intervention





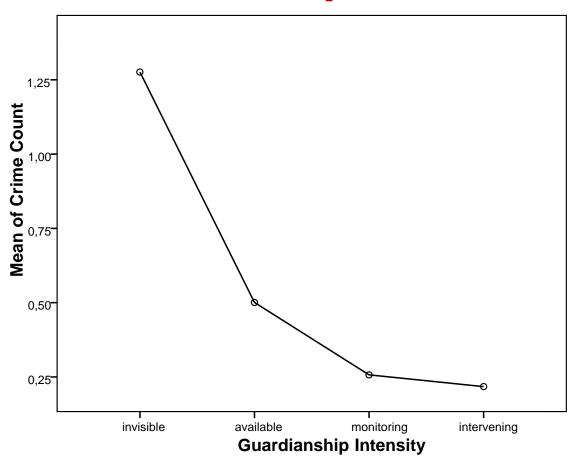


Intervention





Guardianship in Action





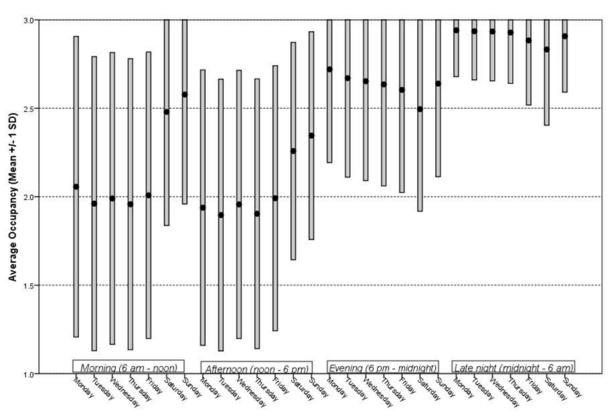
Guardianship Survey: Availability

- How often are you at home
 - Monday to Sunday
 - Four time periods of the day
 - Morning (06:00-12:00)
 - Afternoon (12:00-18:00)
 - Evening (18:00-00:00)
 - Late night/early morning (00:00-06:00)
 - Availability for 28 time periods





Availability





Guardianship Survey: Supervision

- When you are available at home, how often do you look out of your window?
 - 20-30% never (time of day)
 - from time to time (majority)
- 30% guardians witnessed crime during supervision
- Factors explaining frequency of supervision
 - Physical opportunities for surveillance
 - Routine activities



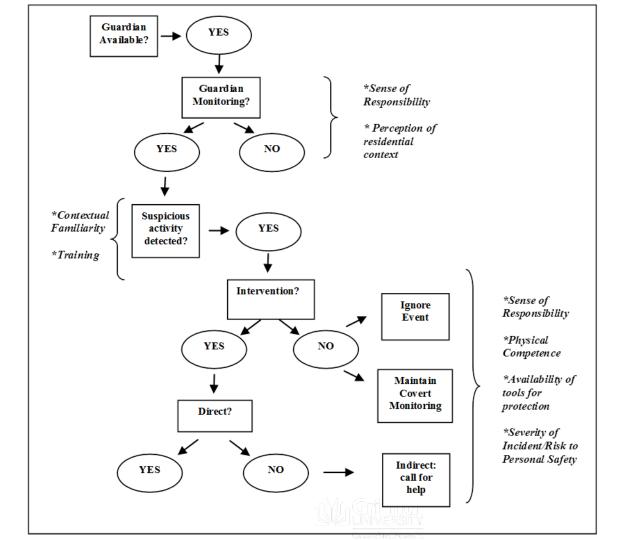


Interviews with Guardians

- Interviews with available guardians (NL)
 - n = 255
- Supervision/Monitoring
 - 15% admitted not paying attention to what happens in their surroundings at all
- Witnessing crime-related events
 - 85% witnessed crime and/or disorder
- Responding to crime-related events









Survey Responses to Crime & Disorder

- Even when guardians are available and witness crime, they do not always intervene
 - Dutch: report covert monitoring most frequently
- Guardians are much more likely to intervene indirectly by calling the police than directly
- Dutch guardians report higher likelihood of ignoring witnessed crimes than Aussies
- Australian guardians report higher likelihood of calling the police than Dutch
- Importance of context





Environmental Factors & Guardianship

- Ethnic Heterogeneity
 - High = Lower willingness to supervise
 - Low Greater willingness to intervene indirectly
- Income
 - Middle = Greater willingness to supervise & intervene
 - Low = Lowest willingness to supervise & intervene indirectly
- Crime
 - High = Lower willingness to supervise & intervene
- Resident Mobility
 - Higher rate of people moving in and out = lower guardianship





Surveillance Opportunities







Image







Territoriality





Questaland, Australia

Social Interaction





Activity Level





Queenskind, Australi

What we have learned

- Guardians aren't always available
- Even when available, most guardians supervise infrequently
- Even when guardians witness crime/disorder, they don't always intervene
 - Dutch most frequently covertly monitor or ignore the event
 - Australians most frequently call the police
- Guardianship behaviour is affected by physical and socio-demographic environmental factors
- Guardianship behaviour is determined by guardianship attitudes
 - Sense of responsibility
 - Relationship with neighbours
 - Perceptions about capability







HOW IT WORKS A

ABOUT US SUPPORT

GET STARTED

LOG IN



Important information

- with pushnotis and directly on the map

Discover and spread important information, events and alarms directly on the map of your phone. See reported polish reports on the map of the area where you live. Important information and events are sent with signal directly to your phone.

Cooperate

- Private or public in real time

Collaborate privately in your neighboring community or publicly with other Trygve users nearby. You interact with text and pictures, directly on the map.







Coyards

With Coyards you can:

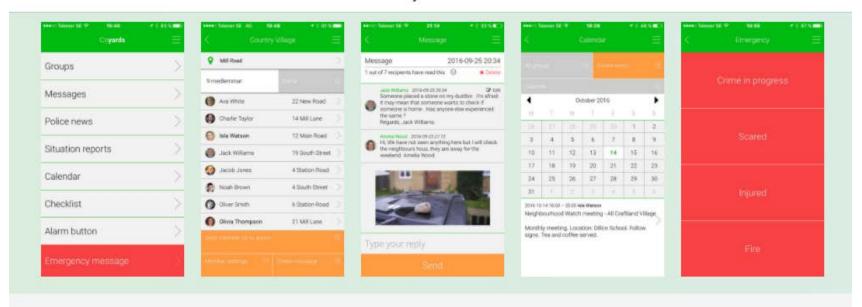
- •Quickly activate and organize a group of people
- •Easily communicate with one or more people without having their contact information
- •Facilitate the administrative work of neighbourhood watch if you are responsible for a neighbourhood watch group, local community group, homeowner or a renters association etc.
- •Send message for emergency help; crime in progress, scared, injury or fire (first contact 112)
- ·Send and receive reports of suspicious incidents, theft, burglary, vandalism, natural disasters, etc.
- •Create a calendar event that selected individuals can view; away, cleaning day, visit from workers, club and association meeting, board meetings etc.
- •Create checklists ex. what should be fixed before going away, closing up the country hous etc.
- •Increase the effectiveness of any alarm installation with a few key presses and quickly inform one or more groups about whose alarm is activated and if it is false or not.

Get it for FREE in the App Store





Coyards



















Remote Surveillance Apps







- Based on what we know about guardianship…
 - What can these apps do to help extend it?
 - increase availability
 - encourage sense of responsibility
 - educate/alert people about their capability
 - encourage people to keep an eye out
 - inform people about best intervention practice/make it easier for people to report and intervene





- Advantages
 - Facilitates effective info dissemination
 - Information sharing
 - Enhances neighbourhood watch capabilities
 - Facilitates crime detection
 - Facilitates reporting (indirect intervention)
 - Creates opportunities for direct intervention
 - New data source on guardianship
 - Potential to enhance capability of engaged guardians
 - Even in high crime areas
 - Creates new opportunities for guardianship
 - Outside of own neighbourhood





Issues

- People have to download and use the app
 - Still relies on sense of responsibility & community engagement
 - Is guardianship being intensified among individuals who are already "good guardians"?
- Accuracy of information provided
 - How is the information verified?





Remote Surveillance Technologies

- Advantages
 - People don't have to be physically available at home
 - People can supervise homes, streets when they are not there
 - Guardians can supervise multiple places
 - Multiple guardians can supervise places





Remote Surveillance Technologies

- Issues
 - False sense of security
 - Lack of availability is a problem
 - Offenders don't perceive or see guardians
 - The fundamental premise of guardianship is violated
 - Risk increases as a viable opportunity remains available
 - Detection vs Prevention





- Based on what we know about guardianship...
 - How/in what ways do these apps function to extend guardianship?
 - Advantages v Issues
 - How can these apps do better at extending guardianship?
 - Providing good guardians with tools to be better
 - But what about incentivising disengaged residents?







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