

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE COMMUNITY

CHAPTER 9: EARLY EXPERIMENTS IN CRIME PREVENTION AND THE EVOLUTION OF COMMUNITY POLICING STRATEGIES

TRADITIONAL APPROACHES TO CRIME PREVENTION

- Street light projects
- Property marking projects
- Security survey projects
- Citizen patrol projects
- Crime reporting
- Neighborhood-watch
- Block projects

- **CPTED:** Crime Prevention through Environmental Design – changing the physical environment to enhance safety, reduce incidence and fear of crimes, improve quality of life
 - Problem solving that considers environmental conditions and the opportunities offered for crime or other unintended and desirable behaviors

- **Guardian Angels:** Private citizen patrols who seek to discourage others from doing crime and provide a positive role model for young children
 - Largest online safety group is Wired Safety (www.wiredsafety.org)

- Whistle stop programs are a modern day version of “hue and cry”.

- Specialized crime watch programs:
 - Mobile crime watch
 - Youth crime watch
 - Business crime watch
 - Apartment watch
 - Realtor watch
 - Carrier watch



- Crime watch programs are built on police and citizens working together.



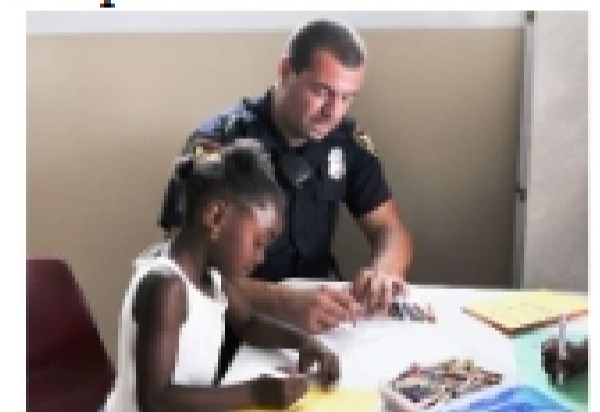
OTHER EFFORTS TO ENHANCE CRIME PREVENTION

- **National Night Out:** Neighbors meet each other so the community is stronger.
- **Organizations:** Most focused organizations are citizen crime prevention associations like Crime Stoppers and MADD

- **Volunteering** 

TRADITIONAL PROGRAMS FOR YOUTHS

- **The McGruff “Take a Bite Out of Crime” Program:** Spokesperson program
- **Police Athletic League (PAL):** Provides opportunities to for youths to interact with police officers in gyms and ballparks instead of juvenile detention hall.
- **Officer Friendly:** For elementary school children
- **Police Explorers:** Affiliated with Boy Scouts of America
- **Two purposes:** Positive community relations and early recruitment for police departments.
- **Police-Liaison Programs:** Officers placed in schools to work with authorities, parents, and students to prevent crime and antisocial behavior to improve police-youth relationships
- Goal is to reduce crime incidents involving school-age youths, to suppress any illegal threats that endanger children’s educational environment, and to improve attitudes of school-age youths and police toward each other.
- **DARE Program:** Drug Abuse Resistance Education – “Say no to drugs”



EARLY EMPIRICAL STUDIES OF COMMUNITY POLICING

- **Empirical Study:** Research based on observation or practical experience
- Most common strategies were foot patrol, newsletters, and community organizing
- **PSAs:** Public Service Announcements



QUALITATIVE EVALUATIONS AND SALIENT PROGRAM FEATURES

- **Qualitative Evaluations:** Assessments that are more descriptive and less statistical than empirical studies
- Programs share these characteristics:
 - Focused on causes of crime
 - Built on community strengths

- Incorporates natural support systems
- Had identifiable group of clients
- Targeted those who were less affluent
- Clearly stated goals and well-defined procedures
- Sufficient resources
- Strong leader

*Difference between programmers and community policing is that community policing is an overriding philosophy that affects every aspect of police operation. It is not a single program or a lot of programs.