Place-Based Guardians

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Chapter Objectives

- Define “place” and “guardianship”
- Describe what occurs in places that lack guardianship
- Identify the principle mechanism through which guardianship (and deterrence) is produced
- Demonstrate how crime is a function of this principle mechanism
Perspectives on Place

– **Proprietary places** – addresses, buildings and other owned locations. Ownership is critical.

– **Proximal places** – street segments and other small contiguous aggregations of proprietary places.

– **Pooled places** – large aggregations of proprietary or proximal places, such as neighborhoods.

Neighborhoods are comprised of streets and streets of proprietary places.
Defining Guardianship

Dimensions of capable guardianship at residential places (Reynald, 2010) that deter offenders:

1. Available to supervise
2. Ability to detect potential offenders
3. Willingness to intervene when necessary
Guardianship-Place-Crime Relationship: The Iron Law of Troublesome Places

- A few have most of the crime
- Some have a modest amount of crime
- Most places have little or no crime

Frequency of Crime

Most Crime

Low levels of guardianship

No Crime

High levels of guardianship
Guardianship Mechanisms

Pooled / Proximal Places

Collective Efficacy

Informal Social Control

Social Cohesion & Trust

Proprietary Places
Crime Prevention at Proprietary Places

Handler

Offender

CRIME

Target/Victim

Guardian

Manager

Residential Properties

Guardian

Protect property

Handler

Control residents

Manager

Facilitate activities
Place Management

Place managers engage in (4) general processes:

1) ORGANIZE PHYSICAL SPACE-- design, location selection, construction, repair, and upkeep;
2) REGULATE CONDUCT -- promotion and prohibition of activities;
3) CONTROL ACCESS -- the inclusion and exclusion of people; and
4) ACQUIRE RESOURCES -- the acquisition or manipulation of money and other resources that can be used for 1 through 3, as well as any profit.

Madensen, 2007; Madensen & Eck, 2008
Control Over Places:
Four Management Styles

- **Suppressor**: Proactively eliminates crime opportunities
- **Reactor**: Modifies behavior or environment after experiencing crime or the threat of crime
- **Enabler**: Fails to recognize or cannot effectively respond to crime opportunities
- **Promoter**: Recognizes the potential for crime but exploits or ignores this for personal benefit
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management style</th>
<th>Type of Crime Opportunity</th>
<th>Type of Crime Opportunity</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Suppressor</strong></td>
<td>Installs alarm system</td>
<td>Provides intensive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>after buying house</td>
<td>training for new staff</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reactor</strong></td>
<td>Adopts large dog after</td>
<td>Employs bouncer after</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>being burgled</td>
<td>major brawl</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Enabler</strong></td>
<td>Fails to replace broken</td>
<td>Does not have a</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>lock</td>
<td>“stop-service” policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Promoter</strong></td>
<td>Hosts drug parties to</td>
<td>Advertises to fans of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>flaunt gun collection</td>
<td>opposing teams</td>
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Place-Based Deterrence: Management Creates Guardians/Handlers

Managers

Guardians

Presence

Awareness

Action

Handlers

Presence

Awareness

Action

Examples
1. Gun store – community couch
2. Bars – free drinks for reporting “barred” patrons
3. Stadiums – “parent zones” & breathalyzer kiosks
PLACE MANAGEMENT

• Organize Space
• Regulate Conduct
• Control Access
• Acquire Resources

EXPLANATIONS

Poor Physical Design
Lack of Informal Social Control
Inadequate Guardianship
Non-Reporting of Crime
Repeat Victimization
Inadequate Handling
Number of Offenders
Number of Targets
Hot Products

R.A.T. ELEMENTS

Place
Guardianship / Handlers
Guardianship
Guardianship
Targets
Handlers
Offenders
Targets
Targets
Guardianship (and Deterrence): A Function of Place Management

Management determines whether...

- Offenders, targets, guardians, and handlers are present
- Guardians/handlers are made aware and encouraged to intervene