

# **Policing: A BC Practitioners' Toolkit**

## ***Lesson 6: Situational Crime Prevention II***



# Overview of Lesson 6

## Situational Crime Prevention

- Review of Situational Crime Prevention
- Review concepts: Crime Triangle and Broken Windows Theory
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Application exercise

# Situational Crime Prevention

A crime prevention strategy that manages, designs and manipulates the environment in order to increase the risk and lower the reward for committing crime

(Clark, 1993; Sampson, 2003; Scott, 2001)

# **Theoretical Basis**

**Crime Routine Activity Theory**

**Rational Choice Theory**

**Crime Pattern Theory**

# Crime Triangle

***Remember:***  
***If you can control one of these  
elements you can reduce or  
eliminate the crime***



# Broken Windows Theory



Messy or broken-down surroundings invite social disorder and an associated level of criminal activity.

*(Wilson & Kelling, 1982)*

# Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

- Introduced in the 1970s by Oscar Newman
- Removes criminal opportunities affecting by the architectural design of physical space...to design out opportunities for crime.
- Increases ownership and attachment to the community



# Basic Elements of CPTED

Natural surveillance  
*natural observation*

Formal surveillance  
*intentional observation*

Access control  
*access & egress point control*

Target hardening  
*structural hardware*



# Additional Elements of CPTED

Territoriality

*symbolic or real boundaries*

Hierarchy of space

*dividing space into public,  
semi-private and private*



# Situational Crime Prevention Application 1

A store owner in the downtown area has come to you with some concerns. The staff parking area is at the back of his business, it is isolated, poorly lit, and is not clearly defined as a parking area. Employees' cars are being broken into and they fear for their safety when returning to their cars at night. The business is also being targeted with graffiti along the back cement wall.

You discover that there is a staff lunchroom along the inside back wall of the store. At the present time, there is no visibility from this room onto the parking area.

# Situational Crime Prevention Application 2

