

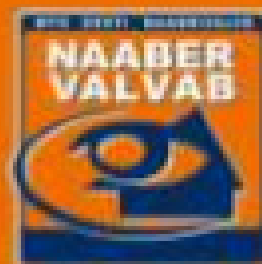
Estonian Neighborhood Watch Association 2000-2012

Salutogenic Community Organizing

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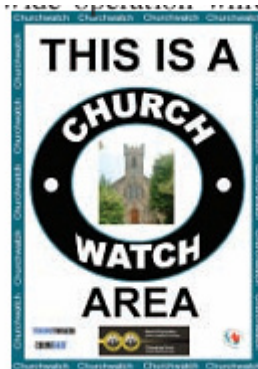
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Evidence based Crime Prevention

- Developmental Prevention- targets risk and protective factors to increase probability of prosocial acts in the future- **good evidence**
- Situational Prevention-changes the situation to remove the factors that create the criminal opportunity (offender, victim, place)- **some evidence** for specific situations.
- Community Prevention- actions to change the social/community/neighborhood causal processes linked to crime and anti-social behaviors - **weak evidence? good social justice.**

Neighborhood

Neighborhood is generally defined spatially as a specific geographic area and functionally as a set of social networks. Neighborhoods, then, are the spatial units in which face-to-face social interactions occur—the personal settings and situations where residents seek to realize common values, socialize youth, and maintain effective social control.

Schuck and Rosenbaum , 2006

Community Crime Prevention

community crime prevention is actions intended to change the social conditions that are believed to sustain crime in residential communities (Tim Hope, 1995)

community crime prevention is actions intended to change the causal processes believed to develop and sustain crime in specific geographic locations (Schuck and Rosenbaum , 2006)

Watch Programs

Theoretically, neighborhood watch-type activities address crime through the causal processes of informal social control and opportunity reduction. Through increased social contact and interaction, these programs are intended to reduce crime and fear of crime by increasing residents' social bonding, support, and cohesion. Additionally, through increased surveillance and monitoring of the neighborhood, these social groups seek to reduce opportunities for crime.

Schuck and Rosenbaum, 2006

ENHWA

A Neighbourhood Watch) is a citizens' organisation devoted to the prevention of crime and vandalism within a neighbourhood. It is not a vigilante organisation, since members are expected not to directly intervene in possible criminal activity. Instead, Neighbourhood Watch members are to stay alert to unusual activity and contact the authorities

It is a theory whereby everybody has a duty and opportunity to act towards safer homes. It is important that you NOTICE and then you REACT. Learning to notice comes with time and experience but also by following the example of other people. ... Being part of a Neighbourhood Watch should be integrated into each member's everyday life (Tiina Ristmae, 2008).

NW Doesn't Work

The Sherman et al review in 1997 concluded that

“The oldest and best-known community policing program, Neighborhood Watch, is ineffective at preventing crime “

Nick Tilley(2009) found

- The lack of evidence on effectiveness
- The tendency of schemes to be more easily seeded in low-crime areas
- The decline in activity that normally quickly follows the setting up of schemes

NW Doesn't Work

Schuck and Rosenbaum (2006) state that the general pattern of results can be summarized as follows:

- An increased awareness of and participation in program
- No change in crime rates
- No change in resident's fear of crime
- No change in resident's social cohesion
- No change in other intermediate social processes

The most rigorous impact assessments provide little empirical evidence for crime reduction effects that are attributable to neighborhood watch-type activities

NW Does Work

- A number of Police Forces were able to confirm that crime had reduced in N&HW areas and, correspondingly, residents were able to report reductions in the fear of crime.
- It is clear that in many parts of the country N6HW has played a significant role in improving people's quality of life and in fostering community spirit (ERS Research and Consultancy 2010).

NW Does Work

- Main Results
- The main findings of the *narrative review* was that the majority of the schemes evaluated indicated that the neighborhood watch was effective in reducing crime.
- The main findings of the *meta-analysis* was that the weighted means odds ratio for all studies combined as 1.19 using the fixed effects method and 1.36 using the random effects method. The results of both methods show the neighborhood was associated with a reduction in crime of between 16 per cent and 26 per cent (Bennett, Holloway and Farrington ,2008).

NW Does Work

The main mechanisms of the “watch” part of neighborhood watch are:

- a) Residents operating as “eyes and ears” of the police (i.e. surveillance).
- b) Residents reporting suspicious behavior to the police or neighborhood co-ordinator
- c) Residents interacting and working together to solve problems (which might strengthen social cohesion, collective efficacy, community activism, and other mechanisms of informal control).

Bennett, Holloway and Farrington ,2008

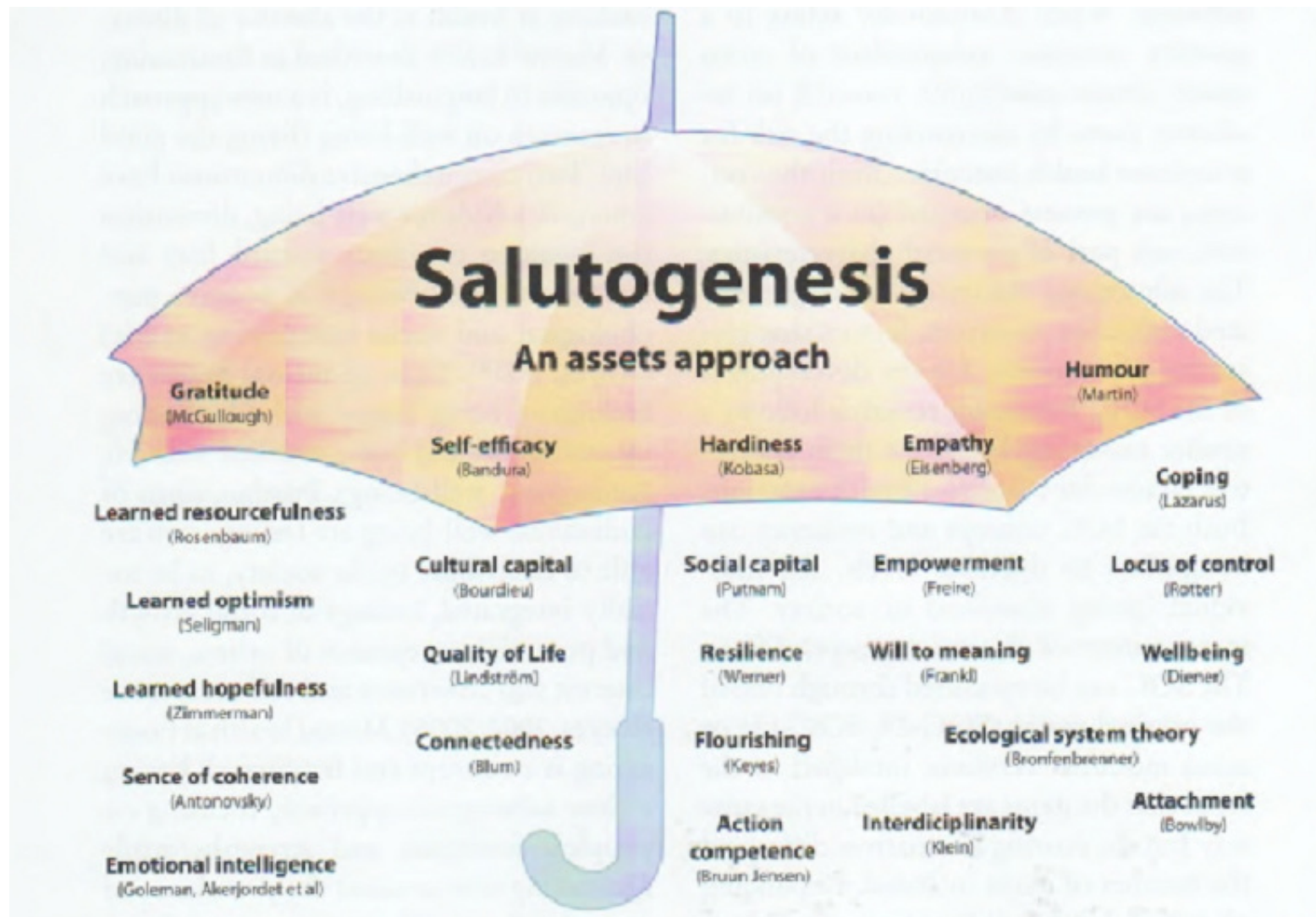
ENHWA Does Work

- The Estonian Neighbourhood Watch Association was founded on the 5th of May 2000
- In December 2007 there were 365 Neighbourhood Watch sectors and 9.862 members of NHW. In June 2011 there are 494 NW sectors involving 11, 727 households. ENHWA operates throughout all of Estonia.
- Surveys in 2004, 2006 and 2008 show that the people feel more safe, the relations between neighbours are improved and people believe that crime has been reduced.
- The Estonian Ministry of Justice has carried out two activity audits - in 2007 and 2009, that showed that the ENHWA has been effective.

NW Does Work- Salutogenic Community Organizing

NW is community organizing around “hot issues” that motivate people to take action together.

People get involved with Neighborhood Watch because it gives them a sense of coherence, the activity is salutogenic. They have a better understanding of what is happening- the criminal event becomes **understandable**, and in the idea of crime prevention they find a **meaningful response to crime** that they can value, and in the involvement with NW and the direct action of community crime prevention they find **manageability and a sense of empowerment**. Instead of being trapped in fear of crime, or as helpless victims, they become more empowered and have a better quality of life.



Easy to start?



Voluntary

Flexible

Good reputation

Passiveness

Lack of interest

Lack of trust

NHW DISTRICT
(the district leader)

NGO ENHW
(Managing director)

NHW
CONTRACT

LOCAL
GOVERNEMNT
(the mayor)

ESTONIAN POLICE
(the chief of the station)