

What is ‘community’? How can we serve it, and deploy it, in the name of crime prevention?

Paul Ekblom

**Design Against Crime Research Centre
University of the Arts London**

University of the
Arts London
Central
Saint Martins



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**DESIGN
AGAINST
CRIME**



Understanding and translating ‘Community’

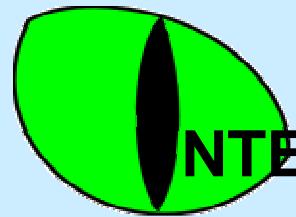
- Concept of ‘**community**’ is central to much crime prevention activity
- Clarity of **definition** is vital for thinking & collaboration across disciplines and between nations, and the capture & sharing of practice knowledge
- Community has many **meanings** and interpretations, even within one language such as German or English
- Overlap between ‘**community**’ and ‘**Gemeinschaft**’ is not complete

The screenshot shows the LEO online dictionary interface. The search bar at the top contains the word "community". Below the search bar, there are language selection buttons for English, French, Spanish, Italian, Chinese, and Russian. The main content area displays a table of direct matches between English and German words. The English column lists various forms of "community" (e.g., community, the community, community [geol.], community), and the German column lists their corresponding German equivalents (e.g., die Allgemeinheit, die Gemeinschaft, die Öffentlichkeit, biotische Gemeinschaft, die Gemeinde, die Gemeinsamkeit, das Gemeinwesen, die Gesellschaft, die Lebensgemeinschaft, die Sippe, die Sprechergemeinschaft, die Vergesellschaftung, die Verwandtschaft). A sidebar on the left provides links to other services like "Learn Italian for free" and "Bednorz GmbH & Co. KG". A sidebar on the right features advertisements for McKinsey&Company and various language learning resources.

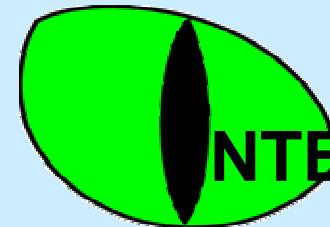
- How, then, do we **share knowledge locally & internationally?**

The 5Is framework – knowledge transfer for community safety practice

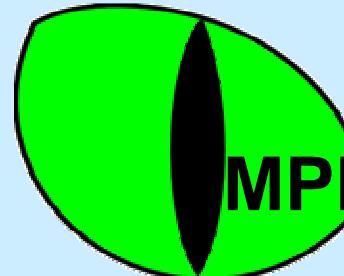
- **Conceptual frameworks and process models** can help
- **5Is** is a carefully-designed knowledge management framework built around a process model of crime prevention & community safety, and intended to
 - **Capture** descriptions of good/bad practice
 - **Organise & consolidate** descriptions
 - **Transfer** knowledge to practitioners e.g. through training, guidelines, toolkits and knowledge bases
- It helps practitioners
 - **Formulate** the crime/safety problem they are addressing
 - **Select** prior methods to apply to their own problem
 - **Replicate** the action customised to own problem & context
 - **Innovate** where context or problem are not covered
 - **Evaluate, learn and improve** practice



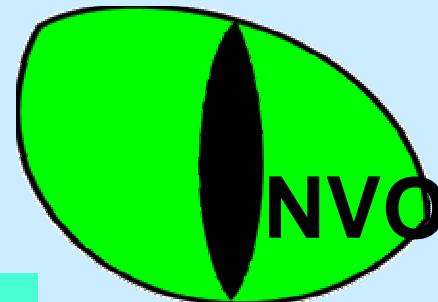
INTELLIGENCE



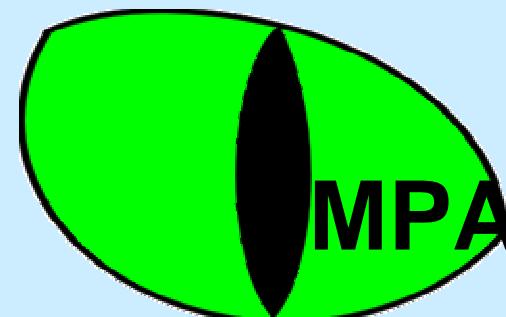
INTERVENTION



IMPLEMENTATION



INVOLVEMENT



IMPACT

The Five Is
The tasks of the
Preventive Process

5Is framework: Its requirements for the concept of community

5Is supports and requires, among other things

- Clear and consistent **definitions-in-depth** of the central concepts of practice such as crime, crime prevention, community safety and security
- A way of describing the **institutional contexts** in which prevention operates, capable of
 - Handling the ever-mutating variety of arrangements within a given country
 - Handling the diversity of arrangements between countries
 - Supporting transfer of knowledge to very different contexts internationally
- A way of describing processes such as **partnership** and **mobilisation** of individuals, organisations and communities

Definitions

- Measuring something important yet potentially nebulous like community safety is vital to every crime prevention task,
 - from obtaining Intelligence on crime/safety problems
 - to setting objectives and monitoring Implementation,
 - to evaluating Impact
- The definitions must therefore support operationalisation and measurement

Defining professional crime prevention

Crime prevention is ethically-acceptable and evidence-based advance action, intended to **reduce the risk of criminal events**

Reduction of **risk** can be achieved through

- Eliminating the **possibility** of the criminal events
- Reducing the **probability** by intervening in the causes, or alternatively stated by frustrating criminal goals by disrupting activities and organisations directed towards them
- Reducing the **harm** by advance preparation to eliminate, reduce or mitigate it

Defining Community Safety 1 >

- Community safety is an aspect of the **quality of life**, a state of existence where people, individually & collectively:
 - Are sufficiently free from, or reassured about, a range of real and perceived hazards including crime, terrorism and misbehaviour
 - Are able to cope with the hazards which they nevertheless experience, without loss of amenity (e.g. not going out at night)
 - Are otherwise sufficiently protected from their harmful consequences by victim support, family and neighbours
 - Are confident the police, CJS and other agencies will provide a responsive, fair and effective service delivering justice and remedies to the problems, conflicts and risks experienced
 - Enjoy trust – within and across cultural boundaries – in neighbours, colleagues and passers-by to support them both morally and materially in terms of sympathy; existence of collectively-upheld moral order, social control and support

> Defining Community Safety 2

- When all these conditions are sufficiently met, they enable individuals, families & communities to enjoy **wider benefits**:
 - Pursuing the **necessities** of cultural, social and economic life
 - Receiving adequate **services**
 - Exercising **skills**
 - Experiencing **well-being**
 - Engaging in **community life**
 - Creating **wealth** in the widest sense.
- Where **social cohesion and collective efficacy** and an obligation to reciprocate develop, these conditions contribute to the community's **own capacity**
 - To **address crime and disorder** in collaboration with official institutions
 - Without making informal social control **oppressive, invasive or exclusionary**, or
 - Taking the **law** into their own hands
 - And to the development of **sustainable** communities
- This definition is a **positive** one, more akin to **health** as a state of wellbeing rather than merely the absence of sickness

Community in crime prevention 1 >

- Community safety encourages a **holistic** view of crime problems and solutions
- This requires **clarity and rigour**, to understand what exactly the interventions are aiming to achieve and how they work – by what causal mechanisms
- Without this, practical interventions often degenerate into **superficial and ineffectual efforts with drifting objectives**
- It's particularly important to address the concept and institution of **community** itself – a term used widely and loosely within the crime prevention field – these are UK examples:
 - Community **policing**
 - Community **safety**
 - Community **crime prevention**
 - **Punishment** in the community

> Community in crime prevention 2 >

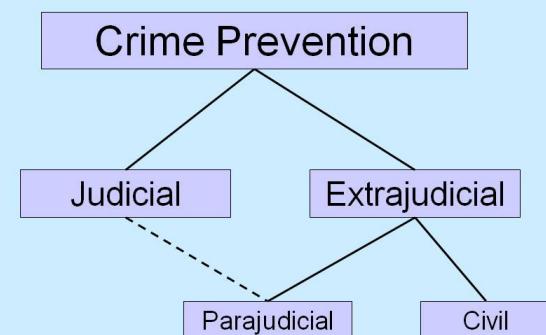
- Communities can cover
 - Particular **territories** (such as neighbourhoods), or
 - comprise diffuse sets of people with a common **interest or sense of identity** (such as ethnic minority groupings)
- Communities can be
 - The **target** of crime (e.g. a minority community)
 - The **cause** or source of crime and criminals (e.g. a criminal subculture)
 - The **context or setting** for crime

> Community in crime prevention 3

- Community safety can
 - Exploit specific **community crime prevention mechanisms**, including informal social control or support-processes, in the intervention itself
 - Tackle the **social conditions which act at a community level to generate crime** (Offenders, victims and other crime preventers may be linked by pre-existing community relationships (such as pupil-teacher, landlord-tenant, employer-employee, neighbours) which may be the source of conflict and/or offer the prospect of resolving it)
 - Enhance the general **capacity of a community to protect or control** by developing social structures such as residents' associations, and/or by improving trust among members
 - **Empower communities** through provision of specific resources, such as property marking tool-libraries or transport for young people to travel to legitimate entertainment facilities
 - Be an **end in itself** or serve as a means to **wider policy objectives** e.g. social inclusion, cohesion, education and economic/social renewal
- So, wherever 'community' appears in portraying some instance or aspect of good practice, a description should aim to declare which of these facets of community applies

Institutional settings for prevention/ safety

- Crime prevention and community safety occur within different **institutional settings**
- It's important to distinguish between these settings, and to avoid confusing the **institution** (e.g. the police) with the **function** (policing) which can be done by many agencies/individuals
- The preventive aspects of **law enforcement and punishment** can be called **Judicial** crime prevention
- The rest of crime prevention, acting **outside the formal process of law enforcement and the CJS**, could be termed '**extrajudicial**'
- Within extrajudicial,
 - **Civil** crime prevention covers interventions in the **everyday, routine social and economic behaviour** of individuals, groups, subcultures, and public and private institutions and companies, and the design of products and places
 - **Parajudicial** crime prevention covers the institutions involved in delivering formal enforcement, justice and punishment – prison, police, probation – but acting in preventive mode – e.g.
 - Cognitive and social skills enhancement in prison
 - Supervision in the community
 - Patrolling the streets and advising householders on prevention.



Clarifying the ecological level of action

- Crime prevention can target **problems**, or act on **causes** or **risk and protective factors**, which operate at various **ecological levels**:
 - Individual
 - Family
 - Peer group
 - Institutions eg schools
 - Community/Area
 - Networks, markets
 - Wider social structure
- ‘Community’ is only one of these
- It’s important for practitioners to know at which level a given intervention is operating
- Good practitioners are skilled at using different levels or switching between them

Adapted from WHO classification of action to prevent violence

www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/publications/violence/handbook/en/index.html

Community crime prevention processes

– Involvement

- Many crime prevention Interventions are not directly Implemented by professionals such as police, probation, youth service, but by **others in community**
- Even direct implementation may require professional partnerships to span **divisions of labour** & bring together **complementary perspectives & resources**

Involvement

Involvement comprises:

- **Partnership**
- **Mobilisation**
- **Outreach**
- **Climate-setting**
- **Accountability**
- **Communication**
- **Handling demand**
- **Building collaborative capacity**

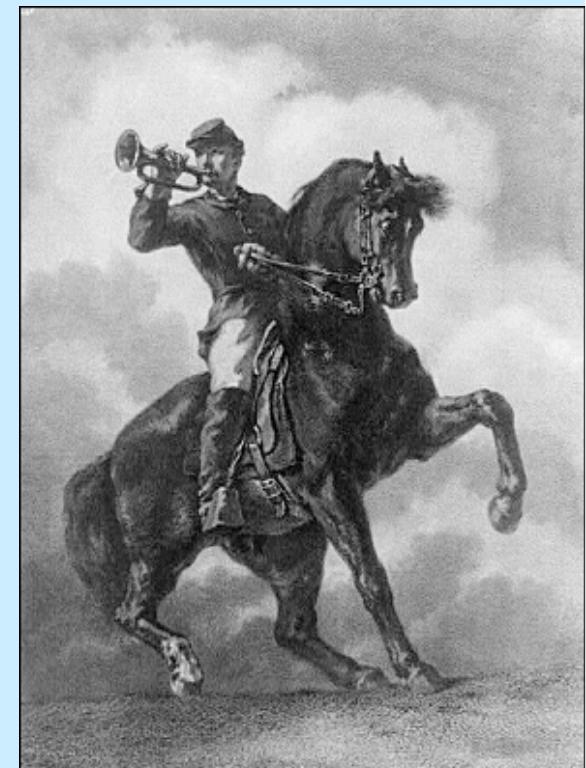
Partnership: the definition for the Council of Europe

- Partnership is an **institutional arrangement** that shades into a philosophy
- It is a way of enhancing **performance** in the delivery of a common **goal**
 - by the taking of **joint responsibility** and
 - the **pooling of resources**
 - by **different agents**, whether these are public or private, collective or individual
- The added value from this collaborative approach lies in enhanced ability to tackle problems whose solutions
 - span the **division of labour**, and/or
 - centre on a particular **locality**

5Is Involvement – Mobilisation

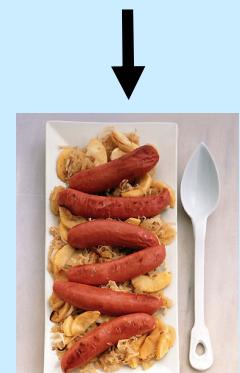
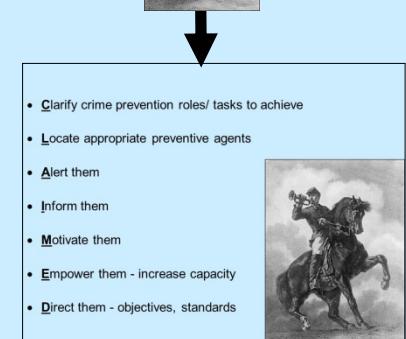
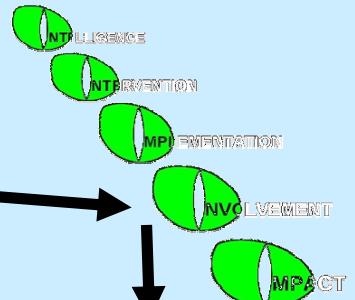
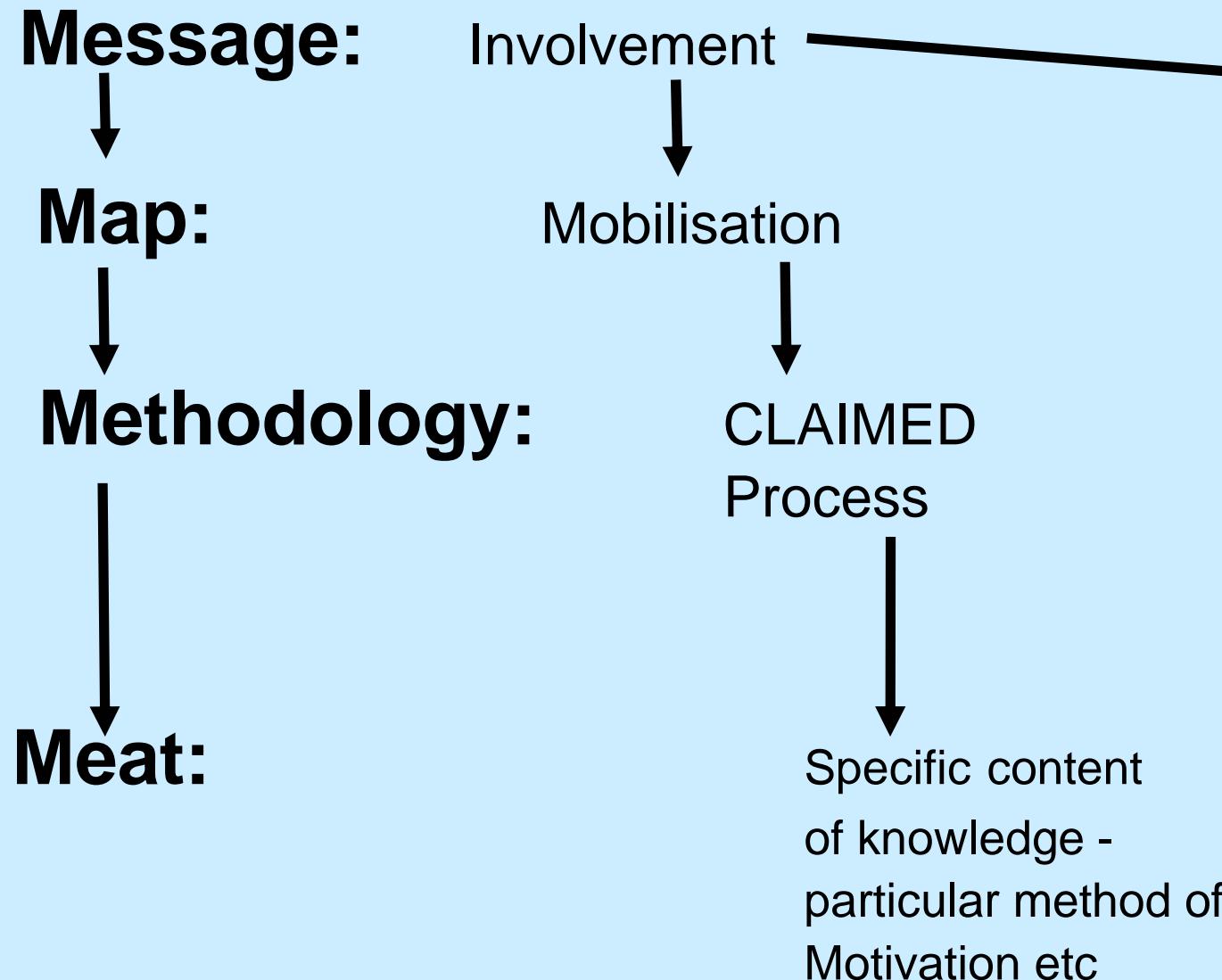
Getting other organisations/ people
to Implement Interventions

- Clarify crime prevention roles/ tasks to achieve
- Locate appropriate preventive agents
- Alert them
- Inform them
- Motivate them
- Empower them - increase capacity
- Direct them - objectives, standards



5Is – The Zoom Structure

- General social/geographical context
- Evidence of crime problem – sources of information and analysis
- The crime problem/s tackled - pattern, trend, offenders, MO
- Wider crime problems
- Consequences of the crime problem/s
- Immediate causes, risk & protective factors, criminal careers



Kaufen Sie das Buch!

CRIME PREVENTION,
SECURITY AND
COMMUNITY SAFETY
USING THE 5Is
FRAMEWORK

PAUL EKBLOM



Blog with references, headings etc

<http://5isframework.wordpress.com>

5Is auf Deutsch

<http://www.beccaria.de/nano.cms/de/5Is/Page/1/>

Presentations

<https://5isframework.wordpress.com/wp-admin/post.php?post=104&action=edit>

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