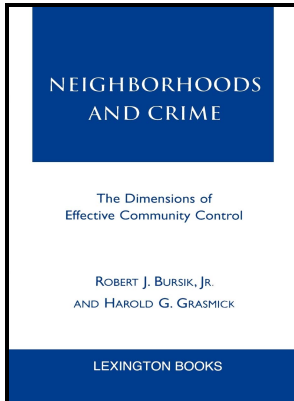# Neighborhoods and crime - the dimensions of effective community control

Lexington Books - Neighborhoods and crime : the dimensions of effective community control / Robert J. Bursik, Jr., Har...

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-Neighborhoods and crime - the dimensions of effective community control
Notes: Includes bibliographical references (p. 191-213) and index.
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Tags: #Neighborhoods #and #Crime

Neighborhoods and Crime

If offenders come to the conclusion that the risk of detection and apprehension are higher in a particular neighborhood or on a particular block as a result of human surveillance, they should be less inclined to perpetrate crimes in that geographic area. They propose that such omissions can be addressed by reformulating the disorganization model within a broad, systemic approach to neighborhood structure. Grasmick argue that social disorganization theory has ignored the broader political, social, and economic dynamics of the urban systems in which neighborhoods are imbedded.

Neighborhoods and Crime: The Dimensions of Effective Community Control by Robert J. Bursik Jr.

In contrast with formal social control, which is derived from written rules and laws and is enforced by the police and courts, informal social control is derived from local customs and norms, and is enforced by ordinary citizens through behaviors such as surveillance, verbal reprimands, rejection, warnings, and other pressures to achieve conformity. American Sociological Review 44, 588—608. Across the nation, literally thousands of grassroots community organizations have sought to organize and empower local residents given perceived threats such as crime, toxic chemicals, noise pollution, traffic safety, and other environmental stressors Heller, 1990.

Neighborhoods and Crime

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In any event, the 1990s witnessed a nationwide call for collective crime prevention actions.

Neighborhoods and Crime

This essay will briefly describe each as it provides a framework for understanding community crime prevention interventions. Collective grassroots action is considered necessary when the public believes that traditional, formal responses from governmental and service agencies have been or will be ineffectual at best, or, at worst, harmful to the community. For instance, in neighborhoods without other effective community groups, Bursik and Grasmick conclude that gangs may form the core of an effective community-based crime-control program.

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The backyard revolution: Understanding the new citizen movement. Generally speaking, opportunity reduction strategies strength are to 1 increase the level of effort required to commit a crime, 2 increase the risk of detection and apprehension, or 3 reduce the rewards associated with crime.

Neighborhoods and Crime

Nevertheless, voluntary community groups tend to give more attention to social control strategies. The routine activities theory provides the clearest illustration of how opportunity is the key element in the commission or prevention of crime. Research strongly suggests that local voluntary organizations are an important vehicle for collective crime prevention activities in urban neighborhoods Lavrakas et al.

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