

Before we delve into the description of the community/city, we chose to talk about and its including street boundaries, history, and any notable features it contains like historical landmarks, parks and other amenities, shopping districts, and/or churches. We begin with the community/city we chose to do our project about. We decided to conduct research on the city of Orange, specifically a smaller community in the city. The street boundaries that make up this community are the horizontal streets facing east and west, E Katella Ave and W Taft Ave. The vertical streets that make up this community face north, N Glassell St and N Tustin Street. We chose this location because we felt it was an area that was in the middle of everyone. Meaning it was an accessible area for all commuters in our group and an accessible area for the classmates that stay on campus. When you look at the community on CrimeGrade.org the area is predominantly red but has a mixture of yellow and green which means this area is impacted with crime along with some crime and no crime. This was a big reason as to why we wanted to conduct research on this specific city/community.

After touring around the streets, what we found was a main shopping district which also holds multiple restaurants/fast food and a movie theater. It is located east just before the Santa Ana River bank. This area attracts heavy foot traffic daily from people in the city and outside the city. Another popular place we found was another shopping district just south, at the corner of N Tustin Street, which included convenience stores and thrift stores. We noticed the increase of families being at this shopping district than the other one. Probably because of the fact that this area had more family friendly stores and more fast food options. In addition, just south west of the community about two blocks away is a home depot. This is important to the community because you will find a lot of immigrants looking for work outside the store. This isn't a

downside to the community but the community definitely understands the type of people that are in that specific area. The community has one main park and that is located across the street from N Glassell St. This is where we saw a lot of community members hanging around. A lot of families with their kids in the playgrounds and a lot of couples walking around this park. We had the chance to ask a few members of the community how their park is and they told us that a lot of delinquencies hang around the park, especially after hours. They said that the delinquents don't cause any harm to people but they do vandalize benches like tagging while also littering and making the park dirty. Within our community there are three schools in the area. Two private schools and one public school. The names of the private schools are Covenant Christian School and St. Norbert Catholic School while the public school is named Taft Elementary School. Both private schools both house churches for the community to attend, one Christian house and the other a Catholic house. All three schools have majority white folk in attendance while African Americans are the second most in the demographic.

The level of crime in the community itself is fairly low. But the moment you leave the community there is high crime basically all around. A lot of neighbors in the community have installed cameras whether that is a ring camera or a camera facing their driveway. When we talked to neighbors they said that a couple peoples homes have gotten robbed and is the reason why there is an increase in cameras in the community. I wouldn't say that crime within the past five years has increased or decreased but would say that crime would probably stay the same for the future. When we asked neighbors if there had been any major crime, the majority said no. Neighbors did say that they do see homeless around but a lot of the homeless stay around the Santa Ana River bank. This is fairly common for a lot of homeless to typically stay alongside the riverbanks/washes. Every now and then the homeless will infiltrate nearby gas stations or corner

stores but won't stay for more than a couple of days. An important amenity but is also unpleasant is the location where the community is located. It is between the 55 and the 57 freeways. This is important because of the transportation aspect, which allows the community to travel efficiently to and from home. But it is also a downside because of the health risk it brings from gas emissions and the decrease of property value.

The prevalent issue within this community is vandalism, casting a shadow of concern over its residents. Nestled in proximity to a shopping center with a gas station and a McDonald's, the community finds itself at the crossroads of convenience and vulnerability. With such amenities drawing foot traffic from all corners, residents assume the role of guardians, keeping watch over any signs of delinquency that may infiltrate their livelihood. Whether it's individuals passing through the neighborhood or students making their way back from the nearby school or gas station, they all have their suspicions which prompts a watchful eye. The evening hours, is where and when children and adolescents roam the streets, that is when the community's guardians must remain ever watchful to ensure the safety and sanctity of their neighborhood.

So far, none of the residents have experienced any vandalism on their property but they explained one neighbor got their car to open and stole everything they had in the compartments. They stole insurance, a passport, and a few extra cash/changes. After that incident, the neighbor started to install security cameras. From this, other neighbors started to install cameras as well due to being uncertain who would be next and to hope that this would deter them from getting vandalism. Not surprisingly enough, the house that got vandalized is located at a corner of the neighborhood. This comes off as a shock due to how in class we covered how houses in corners are more suitable targets since it is considered an easy way to break in and out.

Another concern of residents is the destruction of public spaces such as parks/ playgrounds. There is a park near the neighborhood called Shaffer Park and some residents mentioned that there has been some remodeling of that park due to some benches having drawn graffiti and only urinals for public restrooms. It seemed very desolate and nobody toured around at the park since it tended to be occupied by delinquencies or people who seemed “sketchy” who would skateboard around, smoke/ do drugs, and overall create that bad image.

Before the remodel, not many took a stroll at the park. Many have said that they felt unsafe and unsanitary. Residences who live right across and near the park have said that before they would keep an eye on their kid or would go with their kid to go to the park due to being considering unsafe. With its new features and drastic clean up, it helped a lot for parents to feel relief that they can send their kids to a park and be safe and be with their kids and feel safe.

It took a long time for the city to remodel it as it can be costly. With the revisions, it helped bring the community together. By this, it helped neighbors feel safe and communicate with each other. They were afraid that a new playground and a fully furnished bathroom(s) would draw in troublemakers but it didn't. A father who was watching their kid play on the playground mentioned that it wasn't a concern to him if they returned or not because people were coming to the park more often now which made them find another spot to hang out and destroy. This does make sense as people would come morning, noon, and evening would host birthday parties and sports tournaments.

When it came to asking whether they believed that the perpetrators were fewer from the same area or from another. The majority have said that they believe they are coming from other neighborhoods nearby. It makes sense when looking at the surrounding neighborhoods where it sits in red and dark orange. It mimics/resembles Shaw and McKays social disorganization map

where there is the central district where crime is high but as one expands out, their crime diminishes. But in this scenario, crime seems to slowly creep outward causing an opposite effect.

Others say that it is from their own community as people are adjusted to living where they are at and know the way around the area. Many neighbors have said that its young teenagers who seem to be causing the fear in residences and causing the crime due to the area being desolate. With that being the case, then many young individuals would start hanging out more at night, exchanging some drugs, and even illegally entering elementary schools to skateboard. The last one has been common but the schools haven't done much to stop this from happening due to insufficient funding to build better fencing or new structures that can help them from sliding on tables or ramps.

This sort of problem inevitably gives rise to various concerns among teachers and parents, prompting calls for stricter enforcement for schools. The sight of graffiti defacing walls, tables marred by scratch marks, and paint chipping off walls not only detracts from the aesthetic appeal but also makes it unsettling with which unauthorized individuals can gain access to school premises. Educators and parents advocate for greater vigilance and discipline to maintain a conducive learning environment.

Their concerns are valid and rooted in a desire to uphold standards of cleanliness and security. However, it's important to recognize the underlying constraints schools face is budgetary. Many schools grapple with insufficient funding, which often impedes their ability to address maintenance issues promptly. Despite these challenges, schools are unwavering in their commitment to prioritizing the safety and well-being of students and staff. They employ various strategies and initiatives to mitigate risks and enhance security measures, demonstrating a proactive approach to safeguarding their educational environments

Given its proximity to Anaheim, it's understandable why crime is slowly reaching and crossing over the river/ freeway that divides Anaheim and Orange. Anaheim's map, marked predominantly by shades of red and dark orange suggesting the danger levels of crime, shows how crime prone it is over there. The crime in Anaheim provides evidence of this sort of migration into neighboring counties, as criminals seek new territories to destroy and conquer. Some argue that criminals should confine their activities within their own territories, respecting boundaries and not affecting adjacent neighborhoods such as Orange.

While crime isn't much of an occurrence, its presence has been noted over the past few years. Despite this, residents don't appear overly fearful, as they maintain a level of trust in law enforcement to address the issue. However, there are instances, like that of a neighbor who fell victim to car vandalism, where individuals take proactive measures to enhance their safety. This neighbor, in response to the incident, took matters into their own hands by installing surveillance cameras. The adoption of such security measures has become increasingly common, with many opting to install Ring cameras in their homes. This widespread uptake of surveillance technology shows a strong desire among residents to take sense of security and protect themselves and their property. Crime can strike at any moment and in any location. Thus, the prevalence of security measures serves as a deterrent.

The types of social control discussed by Bursik and Grasmick can be observed throughout the community we highlighted. For example, we can see forms of private social control taking place after the incident involving the neighbors installing security cameras. These actions are most likely an effort to try and deter crime away from their property or to help prevent others in their community from being victims of vandalism. The neighbors collectively deciding to install cameras also relates to the idea of parochial social control, as they are

effectively communicating with each other as a community to try and address the concern for vandalism. The city deciding to remodel Shaffer Park can also be viewed as a form of public social control, mainly because they are deciding to invest in revisions to reduce public disorder, such as individuals doing drugs in the area.

It can be interpreted that the crime patterns observed in the area such as graffiti and vandalism, may have had an interrelated correlation with how the community utilizes different social controls. For example, the collective decision to have security cameras installed was a direct response to the car break-in mentioned. This type of response is dependent on the idea that the crime can happen to anybody in the community, creating the sense, or need to have social control. Another example would be how ongoing delinquent behavior, such as people doing drugs in Shaffer Park, presumably caused the city of Orange to take the necessary steps to seize public social control by renovating the area and making it more appealing to the public.

As mentioned, the biggest types of crime prevention observed within the community mostly involve the installation of security cameras on people's property, and the reactive measures taken by the city to help deter crime from the park. Just from our observation alone, it can be assumed that these efforts have been generally successful. Since that car break-in, there has not been another incident involving vandalism, which could have been attributed to the increase in security measures. Similarly, the reduction of delinquent behavior in the park as described by the father we talked to, seemed to decrease after the changes made by the city. As we've learned throughout the quarter, it may be possible that the increase in families and social gatherings within the park ultimately decreased the social disorganization throughout it. The perception of safety and overall growth of surveillance at Shaffer Park could potentially discourage offenders from committing crimes there.

Without a deeper analysis of the overall crime in the city of Orange, it would be hard to determine exactly how it would change over the next five years, however, given that the crime we observed within the community was very petty, it could be safe to assume that it would most likely decrease if the community and city continued with the efforts mentioned. For example, the private and public social controls mentioned previously, highlight the concept that crime could potentially be curbed through action, like renovations or home security. Given that Bursik and Grasmick argue that these community controls prevent crime and help foster a stronger community, it's likely crime would decline or more or less, stay the same.

Street activity in Orange's residential neighborhoods varies according to community design, its population density, as well as proximity to different amenities. While some communities have calm, quiet streets with little traffic, others have busier, heavily occupied streets, especially when people are dropping off and picking up kids from school or during other community activities. The area of Orange that we chose for our project included a little bit of both. It has both small residential streets as well as large busy streets. Orange has a number of busy streets along its major commercial routes as well. Business buildings, shopping malls, and restaurants line significant streets like Chapman Avenue, Tustin Street, and Katella Avenue. Both vehicular and pedestrian traffic is always present in these neighborhoods, especially on weekends and during peak shopping hours. Our chosen area was also in close proximity to Chapman University which brings a significant amount of students and faculty to the neighborhood. Areas surrounding the campus experience heightened street activity, which heightens the amount of traffic and in turn serves as a good "hot spot" for criminal activities.

Pedestrian traffic is also very common along the sidewalks that connect campus buildings, student housing, and nearby amenities. Since the area that we chose has a big presence



of shopping centers and restaurants, the presence of Chapman University heightens the amount of people coming in and out of the neighborhood. The specific area that we chose is separated right down the middle by a big plant nursery all the way from Glassell Street, through Cambridge Street, to Tustin Street. And even though this might not have any effect on the crime rate, since it is just a huge lot filled with different plants, it is still a very interesting thing to have just in the middle of the city. One effect that this can have on the crime rates however, is that it can actually reduce them because such a huge plant can actually increase employment opportunities in the city and provide more people with jobs,

Most of the neighborhoods in our chosen area were urban residential subdivisions with single-family houses, groomed lawns, and calm streets. A lot of the smaller streets, like Vanowen Ave and Cleveland Street were cul-de-sacs, which we have come to learn generally have lower crime rates than through streets. The neighborhoods that we walked through consisted mostly of older communities with outdated infrastructure. Even though the houses themselves looked to be in pretty good shape, even though seemingly old, the sidewalks and roads were cracked, uneven, and definitely in need of repair.

The shopping centers on Katella Ave on the other hand were seemingly better with newer buildings and clean parking lots. But during the evening, there would be a lot of activity nearby stores as a group hangout. They do not pose a threat whatsoever but they do make it seem that this area is more of a “go to” place to socialize and hangout.

We should take into consideration that plazas can be a great way for the community to socialize and create that social bond. Plazas can serve two purposes: bring the community together or being in crime. With people being out and about and having it be situated near the neighborhood can help neighbors leave their place and fetch something on their way out. There,

they can socialize with people who live nearby. It is a good system and way of making it easier for people to get out and socialize since it is sorta like the UTC. The UTC serves a lot like ahnagout for college students all throughout the day. People study, hangout, eat, and buy the necessities that they need.

On the other hand, it can bring delinque and trouble makers since it can be a hotspot duiriong the night since there they can do some drug trafficking or a meet up of some kind. We asked a person we stubbled upon if she has encountered or noticed any gangs that she has saw walking around. She pointed out that she does see a group of teens who roam around the plaza during the weekends. She suggest they may be high schoolers. She also mentioned that they dont pose a risk to the community or to anyone since everyone just walks by them. They do not do anything to anyone (from what we know) but it is easy to suggest that they just want a good image on them.

There was also a gated community on Taft Ave, right next to a public library. And despite the fact it was separated from the rest of the neighborhood by gates and brick walls, it did not seem to be in any better condition than the rest of the surrounding areas. This gated community also did not have uniform architectural styles like expected in most communities that have strict homeowner association regulations.

Transit areas like bus stops and the corridors mentioned previously are examples of locations where obvious disorder might be likely to occur. These places could draw a temporary population and criminals who prey on commuters and other tourists, taking advantage of the fact that they are unfamiliar with the area. Since most of the streets in the area are residential and a majority of them are dead ends, those would not be very good targets for any potential crimes.

However, there are multiple plazas in the area that are very conveniently located on a busy street with a lot of traffic.

And just like mentioned before, because of the presence of a university nearby, these areas attract a lot of people who serve as suitable targets for crimes. This may due to college students who go out and party and tend to let loose. College students could be victims of crimes if they are sexually assaulted or harassed even.

This can arise many issues as many wont feel safe. This also prompts the idea that college students can get away with this sort of behavior if this behavior isn't not being dealt with. On the other hand, college students can also commit crime due to being intoxicated. This could be common to many folks as they possibly have no idea what sort of actions and behavior they are doing such as reckless driving.

In the vicinity, there is a shopping center with lost of parking lots. However, at night is turns into potential hotspots for criminal activities. Particularly vulnerable are those parking lots inb the plaza that lack adequate lighting or security measures. A lot can happen at night for those cars such as theft, car break-ins, and other illicit behaviors.

This is supported by the findings of Crimegrade.org, which pinpoint criminal activity within the neighborhood. Despite efforts to mitigate such risks, the inherent vulnerabilities of these poorly lit or inadequately secured parking lots continue to pose challenges to the safety and security of local residents and visitors alike.

One thing we also noticed about this neighborhood is that there isnt a lot of teslas, or Range Rovers, or any high class cars since we compared this neighborhood to Irvine. Irvine has apartments and bulkingings that all have the same color beige and every one either drives a tesla and live well off. But in this neighborhood, the houses seem run down, each house has their own

feature and each do not look alike. Majority drive used vehicles such as a 2003 Toyota Camery or a 2002 Toyota 4-Runner. This also comes to show the drastic difference in income level. Many do not have a well paying job like here in Irvine that makes life easier unlike the people here where we studied and look at seem to have that struggle.