

Neighborhoods

Neighborhoods are typically quite different from legal jurisdictions. For most important crimes, the state or federal government has legal jurisdiction within politically determined boundaries.

Community justice differs from traditional criminal justice in four important ways: It is based on the neighborhood rather than on the legal jurisdiction, it uses problem-solving strategies rather than adversarial strategies, it is restorative rather than retributive, and it strives to improve the community through a strategy called "justice reinvestment."

How Community Justice Differs from Criminal Justice

Most of all, community justice is concerned with taking seriously the problems faced by people who live with high levels of crime, some of whom are themselves involved in crime. When Walter Harrison, a Boston probation officer working on a community justice project, goes to work, he practices community justice in a way that reflects all of these particular programs, not just one or two in isolation. He is not out to arrest young people but is there to help keep them safe. He is not saying, "I am a probation officer, not a policeman"; rather, he is trying to practice probation in a way that is relevant to the particular needs of the offenders, their families, and their neighbors, each of whom is concerned about being safe. (See also "Urban Institute's Neighborhood-based Crime Prevention Initiative.")

Source: Akiva Lieberman, Jocelyn Fontaine, Martha Ross, Caterina Govis Roman, and John Roman, *Strategic Plan for a Collaborative Neighborhood-based Crime Prevention Initiative* (Washington, DC: Urban Institute, 2010).

A key component in the overall strategy is inter-agency cooperation. Police, probation, parole, and human services coordinate their work and concentrate it in a particular location. These coordinated agency efforts are augmented by strong participation of residents in the targeted neighborhood.

Because the project is neighborhood based, there is an extensive data analysis phase to select the most appropriate neighborhood to be targeted by the project's strategy. The degree of criminal activity, gang involvement, and citizen support all go into the decisions as to which neighborhood to select. A key component in the overall strategy is inter-agency cooperation. Police, probation, parole, and human services coordinate their work and concentrate it in a particular location. These coordinated agency efforts are augmented by strong participation of residents in the targeted neighborhood.

... experts are recognizing that a comprehensive philosophy of the Urban Institute's Neighborhood-based Crime Prevention Initiative. Identifying a specific

... more or less permanently—something that is less there is a sustained effort to maintain them onset of criminal activity, but their effects are able in the first place. Suppression strategies can do anything about the factors that get young people can reduce recidivism rates, but they are not clear that each strategy has its limits. Service delivery strategies seek to prevent crime by identifying law violators and deterring them from activity by supervision or deterrent threat.

... housing, and complete their educations. stay clean of drugs and alcohol abuse, find satisfying those at risk of crime in their attempts to obtain e-delivery strategies seek to prevent crime by supervision strategies seek to prevent crime by identifying law violators and deterring them from activity by supervision or deterrent threat.