

Criminal Justice: An Overview of the System

Module 4: Law Enforcement

Section 4.3: Police Methods

Automobile Patrol: A police patrol method utilizing radio technology and the speed of automobiles to respond rapidly to calls for service.

Community Oriented Policing (COP): Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

Community Policing: Another name for Community Oriented Policing (COP).

Control Group: In a scientific experiment, a group that does not receive the experimental treatment so it can serve as a baseline with which to compare the group that did receive the experimental treatment.

Foot Patrol: A police patrol method that relies on officers walking a beat rather than riding in automobiles; this method of patrol has enjoyed a resurgence in popularity since the advent of Community-oriented Policing.

Herman Goldstein: A policing reformer known as the "Father of Problem-oriented Policing."

Hot Spot: A geographical area containing a high volume of criminal incidents.

Investigator: A police officer with the primary duty to investigate crimes.

Kansas City Preventive Patrol Experiment: A landmark study in policing that demonstrated a lack of effectiveness of traditional preventive patrol, opening the door for innovations in policing.

Line Officer: An officer who directly provides police services to the public, as opposed to staff officers which are primarily police managers.

Police Union: Collective bargaining organizations that protect the interests of line officers.

Problem Analysis Triangle: An idea that assumes that crime or disorder results when (1) likely offenders and (2) suitable targets come together in (3) time and space, in the absence of capable guardians for that target.

Problem Oriented Policing (POP): A method of policing where the community and police work together to analyze community problems and developing customized responses to them.

San Diego Field Interrogation Study: An early use of scientific experiments to inform police practice.

Stakeholder: An individual or a group with an interest or concern in something.

Town Hall Meeting: An informal public meeting, usually held to address a specific topic.