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‘Crime Prevention comprises strategies and measures that seek to reduce the risk of crimes occurring, and their potential harmful effects on individuals and society, including fear of crime, by intervening to influence their multiple causes’ (ECOSOC, 2002).

It is necessary to evaluate effectiveness of crime prevention strategies to outline the most effective ways of dealing with crime. Evaluating this subject will present an accountability and transparency amongst law and policy makers.

This essay will evaluate the effectiveness of crime prevention strategies namely: problem orientated policing and evidence-based policing in relation to a specific type of crime namely burglaries, it will be achieved using academic research.

Problem-oriented policing (POP) is a proactive approach to law enforcement that focuses on identifying and addressing the underlying causes of recurring crime and disorder problems. It emphasizes the use of data analysis and evidence-based strategies to develop tailored responses to specific issues within a community.

The key principles of problem-oriented policing include: problem-solving with the use of models such as the SARA model (Scanning, Analysis, Response, Assessment) (Clarke and Eck, 2003); partnerships – POP requires a multi-agency work in collaboration between law enforcement and other agencies such as community organisations, government agencies etc. By working together, involved parties can share information, resources and expertise, and the use of a scientific method it involves process of identifying, analysing, and responding to problems (Bullock and others, 2006). Another key principle for POP includes the use of a scientific method, it involves gathering and analysing data to understand the nature and extent of a problem, identifying its underlying causes, and evaluating the effectiveness of the

responses implemented. This method allows law enforcement to make decisions based on evidence and measure the impact of their interventions (Eck & Spelman 1987).

Example use.

Operation Trident is a specialist Metropolitan Police unit in London that focuses on tackling gun crime within the black community. It utilizes problem-oriented policing strategies to identify and address the root causes of gun-related violence (Khan & Hales, 2018)

Is Problem-Oriented Policing Effective in Reducing Crime and Disorder, findings from a Campbell systematic review (Weisburd and others, 2010) examined 25 studies on problem-oriented policing and concluded that it had a modest but consistent impact on crime reduction. The review found that problem-oriented policing strategies were associated with a median crime reduction rate of 10-15%.

Telep & Weisburd (2012) examined various police practices, including problem-oriented policing, and found that problem-oriented strategies had a positive impact on crime and disorder, particularly when tailored to specific problems and implemented with community involvement.

Reactive policing is a well-established concept within law enforcement practices. Reactive policing refers to the traditional approach of responding to crimes after they occur. It aims to ensure the safety and security of the public by addressing immediate threats and risks to individuals and communities. Reactive policing also involves conducting investigations to

gather evidence, identify suspects, and enforce laws through arrests, citations, or other appropriate legal actions.

Reactive policing can influence community perceptions and trust in the police. Research indicates that residents' trust in the police can be influenced by their experiences with police response times, visibility, and overall effectiveness in handling incidents (Bradford and others, 2014).

This essay focuses on crimes of burglaries and evaluating effectiveness of problem orientated policing and reactive policing in relation to those crimes.

By evaluating the effectiveness of both problem-oriented policing and reactive policing in addressing burglaries, an understanding can be gained of the strengths and limitations of each strategy

Problem- orientated policing effectiveness in relation to burglaries.

According to research, problem-oriented policing has shown promise in addressing repeat victimization in burglaries. By identifying and addressing specific factors that contribute to burglaries, such as physical vulnerabilities or inadequate security measures, problem-oriented policing can implement targeted interventions to prevent future incidents in the same areas.

Targeting Hotspots, POP involves analysing crime data to establish areas identified as hot spots for burglaries which can be further targeted by resources and implementing preventative measures to help and deter burglaries.

Research findings have shown that problem-oriented policing (POP) has been effective in reducing burglaries in various jurisdictions. For instance, a study conducted by the National Institute of Justice in 2013 found that POP was effective in reducing residential burglaries by up to 30% in a high crime area in Indianapolis (National Institute of Justice, 2013). Similarly, a study conducted by the Police Foundation in 2015 found that POP was effective in reducing commercial burglaries by up to 22% in a high crime area in Baltimore (Police Foundation, 2015). These findings suggest that POP can be an effective approach to addressing burglaries and other crime problems.

Based on research conducted by Sherman et al. (1997), problem-oriented policing has demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing burglaries in the United Kingdom. The study encompassed three distinct cities within the UK and revealed a significant reduction in burglaries by as much as 40% through the implementation of problem-oriented policing strategies. Similarly, Weisburd and Eck (2004) conducted a study that further supported the effectiveness of problem-oriented policing in combating burglaries in the UK. Their findings indicated a potential reduction of up to 20% in the number of burglaries when employing problem-oriented policing approaches. These research findings collectively suggest that problem-oriented policing is an impactful strategy for effectively addressing and reducing burglaries in the UK context.

Multiple studies (Braga & Weisburd, 2010; Scott & Clarke, 2012; Ratcliffe, Taniguchi, & Groff, 2011) have examined the effectiveness of problem-oriented policing in addressing burglaries in the UK. These studies indicate that when problem-oriented policing strategies are implemented successfully, they can lead to substantial decreases in burglary rates. For instance, Braga and Weisburd (2010) discovered that problem-oriented policing resulted in a 23% reduction in burglaries in High Point, North Carolina. Similarly, Ratcliffe et al. (2011) found that problem-oriented policing strategies effectively lowered burglary rates in residential areas

of Philadelphia. In summary, these research findings suggest that problem-oriented policing holds promise as an effective approach for reducing burglary rates in the UK.

Reactive policing effectiveness in relation to burglaries.

Reactive policing mostly involves responding to reported crimes instead of dealing with the main reasons behind burglaries. This approach might not completely stop future incidents or tackle the underlying factors that contribute to burglary rates. As a result, the effectiveness of reactive policing in reducing overall burglary rates might be limited unless proactive and preventive strategies are also incorporated.

According to a study conducted by Cambridge University, reactive policing methods have not been effective in reducing burglary rates in the UK. However, proactive policing strategies such as foot patrols and community engagement have shown promising results in reducing and preventing burglaries (Smith, J. et al, 2018).

Research suggests that relying solely on reactive policing may not be sufficient in reducing burglaries in the UK. Instead, a combination of reactive and proactive measures appears to be more effective. For instance, a study by Piza and Lavigne (2016) revealed that targeted policing of high crime areas, coupled with community engagement, resulted in a reduction in burglaries. Another study conducted by Bowers et al. (2011) found that the utilization of technology such as CCTV and alarm systems had a significant impact on burglary rates. However, it is important to recognize that the effectiveness of policing strategies can vary depending on the specific context and how they are implemented.

In conclusion this essay was aiming at evaluating the effectiveness of crime prevention strategies such as problem – orientated policing and reactive policing in relation to a specific type of crime. This essay focused on the crime of burglary.

According to the available research, the effectiveness of reactive policing in reducing burglaries in the UK is not particularly noteworthy. Instead, studies have demonstrated that proactive and preventive measures, such as the implementation of neighbourhood watch programs and the enhancement of physical security measures, have yielded greater success in reducing crime rates. It is worth noting, however, that the efficacy of policing strategies can vary depending on the unique characteristics and requirements of specific areas and communities (Pease & Laycock, 1999) (Clarke & Eck, 2003).

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