

Evaluate two key models of Evidence Based Policing

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Introduction

The Models of Evidence Based Policing which are Critical Decision-making, SARA Model, POP Model and Hot-Spot Policing. So first, I am going to explain two of the four Models of Evidence Based Policing.

SARA Model.

In 1987, Eck and Spelman built upon the Problem-Oriented Policing approach by using the S.A.R.A. Model to address community problems and crime. S.A.R.A. looks to identify and overcome the underlying causes of crime and disorder versus just treating the symptoms. It can be applied to any community problem by implementing each of four steps in the model: Scanning, Analysis, Response, and Assessment. Available at Glenn, K.M., Criminal Justice Know How, LLC, 2020, The S.A.R.A. Model, <https://criminaljusticeknowhow.com/the-sara-model/> (accessed 12/06/2022)

The strengths of the SARA Model come in four steps.

Scanning which means identifying the protentional crime and disorder problems which means basically that you identify the crime and identifying problems of concern to the police and public.

Analysis which means basically getting as much information and intelligence to identify the cause of the problems and analysis potential problems.

Response which is outlining a response plan to the actions that have been carried out and identifying responsible people involved.

Assessment which means to assess the impact on the situation and make changes if needed to continue with effectiveness and achieve goals

Available at <https://www.college.police.uk/research/crime-reduction-toolkit/problem-oriented-policing?InterventionID=47> (accessed 12/06/2022)

Problem-Oriented Policing (POP)

In 1979 Herman Goldstein with Problem-Oriented Policing (POP). Pop is a model of policing that encourages officers to address underlying dynamics of crime and antisocial behaviour rather than simply respond to incidents as they arise. A creative approach to resolving problems in partnership with other agencies is required by POP which relies, partly, on mapping and analysing local crime patterns. (Micheal Rowe introduction to policing 3rd edition 2018)

The strengths of the POP Mode are quite good the evidence that has been gathered suggests that the POP Mode has reduced levels of general offending in crime and disorder by 33.8%. Also the POP approach can be applied to any crime and disorder pattern. (Campbell Systematic Reviews 2008 Available at <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/18911803> (accessed at 12/06/2022)

Goldstein did identify a weakness in the problem-solving at the police beat level with the defining and researching because sometimes gathering even the most basic amount of data and evidence can be very difficult for example Goldstein said 'someone that plays music very loudly late at night to neighbours. Before any action can be taken, facts and figures are needed to convince the authorities (including noise abatement or environment control officers of the local authority as well as or even instead of the police) that there is a problem. (Dr Clive Harfield police operational handbook practice and procedures 2d edition).

Real Life Incident

On Thursday 20th May 2021 in Mayhill Swansea South Wales there was an organised balloon release to pay respects to a popular young boy called Ethen Powell who collapsed hours after watching football on the television with his grandfather on Tuesday night the 18th of May 2021. After the balloon release around 8 o'clock in the night, teenagers started to throw bricks at car windows and people's properties. This started to fuel a riot with cars getting set on fire and rolled down the street putting all the local people in danger.

The Swansea police force who were at the scene at the time left residents in danger and at risk of some serious incidents. They also left residents unprotected at times during the riot in which left people fearing for their lives. This shows the elements of the SARA Mode as they were identifying recurring problems at the scene and getting overwhelmed by the rioters. Because of this after accessing the occurring situations they were either moving destination for safety reasons or because there was more danger to residents or more rioters in a different destinations. Personally, I think that this shows that if you apply any of the elements of SARA mode into any situation you are guaranteed results but not always a result of victory and can also fail like it did at times in this situation. Available at BELLIS, K., 2021, May 26. 'Everybody is fearing faring for their kids, some have left'. *South Wales Evening Post*, 4.

The chief constable of South Wales police, Jeremy Vaughan, apologised that his force had failed to act quickly enough during the disturbance in Swansea and accepted residents had been "tormented" by the rioters.

Vaughan also said: "I want to apologise to all those who have been affected by this incident and particularly those residents who were tormented by those responsible. We failed to take action quickly enough on the night and for that I am truly sorry."

This situation also shows after conducting ongoing assessments on the situation checking data reports and strategies, they have worked out whether they achieved the goals they set out to do and to see if their strategies worked with the plan. So, after gathering all the evidence reports data and strategies, they have worked out where the mistakes have been made and what they could have done better so if a situation like this were to happen again they will be better prepared.

It highlighted one example of a vulnerable person whose life was feared to be in danger. Officers with shields were deployed but withdrew for their own safety, leaving the person and others like him "lost", the report said, it concluded: "Significant failings are evident. Currently available evidence. There were 46 arrests over the disturbance and the charging decisions by the Crown Prosecution Service on 37 people allegedly involved are expected imminently. The review, undertaken by a former senior police officer, an ex-council chief executive and a barrister, said the impact of Covid lockdowns may have been one of the catalysts for the disturbance. The report says that up to 60 officers were on the streets, including some equipped with Tasers and with dogs, and that residents could not understand why they did not intervene. It said: "We have been unable to identify a clear command structure either properly identified or working in practice. Available at WEATHERBY, B., 2022, Jan 25. 'Significant failings' over riot trigger police apology: Riot residents 'left unprotected for a significant period' - report. *Western Mail*, 1 (accessed 12/06/2022)

Over the weekend, seven people, including a 16-year-old boy, were arrested in connection with the violent disorder which saw cars torched, homes damaged, and officers forced into retreat in the Mayhill area of the city on the evening of May 20. In total 27 people aged between 15 and 44 have been charged with offences relating to their alleged involvement in the Mayhill riot of May 2021. District judge Christopher James is presiding and the prosecutor is Craig Jones.

On the third day of hearings, a riot charge was put to Lewis James, 20, of Trawler Road in the Maritime Quarter of Swansea. Vince Williams, for James, indicated the defendant will plead not guilty because "while he accepts there may be some organisation by him and presence he denies any involvement in the riot itself". Available at WEATHERBY, B., 2022, Jan 25. 'Significant failings' over riot trigger police apology: Riot residents 'left unprotected for a significant period' - report. Western Mail, 1 (accessed 12/06/2022)

This is just some of the defendants and some of the reasons why they thought this incidence happened but as you can see it shows every element of the SARA and POP modes have been implemented in this case to bring justice to the victims from and find out why it happened and what changes are needed to prevent this type of action happening again and to be able to contain a situation like this a bit more quicker and with a bit more professionalism if it happens again. This is

Scanning which they have been identifying the crimes of the rioters rioting and the criminal damage caused which was throwing bricks at people, houses and cars also setting them on fire and causing general trouble and disturbance for everyone

Analysing all the problems from that night from the people rioting to the actions of the police and decision that were made also the mistakes that were made and they managed to get all this by gathering information, intelligence and going through reports to identify the cause of the problems and mistakes so basically analysing everything.

Responding in making arrests to the people involved to get justice for the victims of the area and working with Swansea City council to help make the area a better and safer place and it provides the vital underpinning for a positive action plan which should over time demonstrate that the learning from this event has led to a positive by the council now investing in the area to give the youth more options and a better future. Assessments which in this case is still ongoing as they are still investigating some cases but also there would have been assessments done to find out the impact of incident and what can be done to avoid or control a situation like this again.

It also shows that from all the assessments it has had a positive effect on the local area for change and more help for the and options for the youth of the area.

Available at <https://www.college.police.uk/research/crime-reduction-toolkit/problem-oriented-policing?InterventionID=47> (accessed 12/06/2022)

Just a quick reflection on the Problem Oriented Policing (POP) and the SARA (Scanning, analysis, Response, assessment) mode it shows that in every policing situation the police are using elements of both SARA and POP mode and from what I can understand is that it is not a solution it is a guide and a process to follow also it shows you can use every single one of the elements has shown in the above statements and sometimes you will get the results and other times it can fail because every situation is not the same so the police have to adapt to the situation and have quick on the spot thinking.

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