

EVIDENCE-BASED POLICING

Problem-Oriented policing model and Intelligence-Led policing model

The police was first created in the 1829 by Sir Peel by first establishing 17 metropolitan police divisions across London. The establishment of the police forces continued in 1856 in the entire UK. Police normally used the traditional method of policing which focused on arrest and prosecution until the inception of evidence based policing models. There has been different models of policing as a result of the changing crime patterns. Problem Oriented policing and Intelligence-Led policing model will be discussed and evaluated in this essay.

Intelligence-Led policing model

The intelligent led policing model is a type of policing model that had its root from the United Kingdom. The UK upheld the intelligence-led policing model after the attack of terrorism in September, 2001. The model suppose that the police have an idea or should have an idea of the patterns of offending (Tilley, 2008). The model address the failure of the police to gradually address the source of crimes committed and the pattern it follows. According to Tilley (2008), the intelligence-led policing model indicates that the police

should pursue the information of criminals and the organizations involved. The Audit Commission (1993) came up with an approach that for the police to be more effective in using this model, they must focus on the criminals and not the crime with intelligence. This can only be done by sourcing, assembling, and evaluating intelligence about the criminals and their activities to deter them from committing the crime (Tilley, 2008).

The police unit use police patrol and law enforcement order in places where criminals are common. Intelligence-led policing model emphasizes on focusing on crime and intention to the criminal groups (Tilley, 2008). This discourages the criminals from doing their criminal businesses. This measures and directives by the model is based on the analysis produced by the crime analyst about how the criminal activities is pursued (Tilley, 2008). In this model, the organizations involved are law enforcement agencies who assist the police force in enforcing policing in a smart and technology driven ways using the new appropriate method of policing.

The intelligence-led policing model was used by the Austin Police department in Texas when there were cases of violent crimes, burglaries, and offences that keeps repeating (US Department of Justice, 2022). The motive was too develop a model to identify 20% of the

population involved in 80% of the crimes in the locality. The traditional method of policing was failing to accomplish the set goal and the department was recording new crimes. The department in 2010 recorded success in the initiative by recording 15% reduction in burglary crimes (US Department of Justice, 2022, p.7).

Another real life incident is the case of Medford, Oregon when the crime rate was very high and the police wanted to reduce the rates of all crimes drastically. The police increased intelligence-led policing strategies such as cooperating with the people in the society. This led to the high reduction of 80% clearance of all crimes.

Advantages of Intelligence-Led policing model

The intelligence-led policing model helps law enforcement agencies to harness enough data to be able to comply with the national laws and international human rights (Roycroft, and Roach, 2019). The model requires data to come up with the best strategies to help maintain law and order in the community, and this model gives the law enforcement agencies the power to employ information, knowledge, and intelligence into their activities. Despite the possession of knowledge not guaranteeing the law enforcement agencies and upper hand to

fight crime, it gives them understanding on the pattern in which the crime is increasing to come up with data driven solutions.

The ILP model allows the use of proactive approach to harness crime. The model has been used in many countries over the years to handle cases such as terrorism, crime, transnational criminal activities (Roycroft, and Roach, 2019). This has proven that the model is not a police concept but a renowned model to address the police issues across departments and levels.

The incorporation of a data analyst is an advantage since it allows the police to come up with an expert analyst to translate the information from raw data to a useful one which can be used by the police to deploy their resources effectively and efficiently (Griffiths, 2016).

Disadvantages of Intelligence-led policing model

The ILP model have a limitation of experiencing over-policing and might sometimes be racially or ethnically motivated which might lead to the agencies being bias against criminals from certain backgrounds (Roycroft, and Roach, 2019). The data collected is entered into the worksheet by human, and this data can be manipulated racially to indicate

that ethnic minorities have high crime rates than the majority groups. When this happens, the presence of police officers in a particular area marked as high crime area will be increased leaving the other areas which might be predominantly having higher crime rates but due to racial bias was not properly keyed.

The tracking of individuals who might be seen as those perceived to be the perpetrators without they committing any crime is an infringement of right and invasion of their privacy which goes against the human right laws (Newburn, 2008). Due to the motive of this model to perceive due to the data readily available to them which might in some cases be biased due to the issue of ethnic and racial biasness, the police might pursue a wrong person who have not done anything wrong. This will be seen as an intrusion in the privacy of the person.

Problem-Oriented policing model

The Problem Oriented Policing (POP) model is a model which is widely used in United States of America. This model embraces analysis in its activities but ensures that community issues are well thought of to develop strategies to deal with the community problems which is of concern to the police (Goldstein, 1979). The POP model incorporates the dynamic nature of the community and the modern police methods to handle issues relating to the

community (Tilley, 2008). This is done by using the relevant community resources needed with the police force. The model focus on evidence in all its dealings to avoid errors and ensure there is effectiveness. The reason why this model is used as a policing model is because it prevents and controls behaviors aimed at destroying lives and properties (Goldstein, 1979).

The POP model also protect people who are at risk of physical harm and ensure that people in the society enjoy free movement. The POP model also assist the police to identify the community problems that could have detrimental effect on the individual, police or government, and maintain a sense of security for the community (Goldstein, 1979). The aim of the POP model is to address the problems in the community systematically by researching, and understanding the problem. Decision is made through the analysis conducted (Tilley, 2008).

Problem Oriented policing (POP) model experienced successful implementation until different cities and nations began to implement it, the strength and weaknesses of the model became questionable (History of problem-oriented policing, 2014).

A real life incident of POP model implementation is the Operation ceasefire project which was launched in Boston to reduce the possession of illegal guns and gun violence in the community (Development Services Group, 2010, p.5). Boston was experiencing high violent crime rates and it called for the police and the community to develop a strategy to get rid of all the guns acquired illegally, prosecute felonies, increase public awareness and campaign against violence (Development Services Group, 2010, p.5). According to Braga et al, (2014, p.115), when the operation ceasefire began, the authorities sent a notice to the affiliate gang groups to know about the zero tolerance policy. The aim was to reduce the rate of the violent crime in a sense that any case that will be identified, the affiliate groups will be held accountable instead of an individual (Braga et al, 2014, p.115). The police department of Boston indicated that there was a decline in the violent crimes as the affiliate groups became keepers of each other so they are not prosecuted (Braga et al, 2014, p115).

Advantages of Problem Oriented Policing

Problem Oriented policing model is easy to implement in fairly huge area. This model works perfectly for fairly huge areas since most of the fairly huge areas, the cities are close to each other in miles and the gathering of data is not difficult to come by (Cordner and Biebel,

2003). In fairly huge areas, the workforce needed to implement is small yet the model can better work and provide a solution.

One of the strength of Problem oriented policing model is decentralization. The model teaches the police officers to respond in an effective way by working with the community to assess the solutions and what has been learnt. The POP model try to sway the focus of the police officers decision making process from the management to the frontline officers who are likely to understand the crime situation better and come up with possible interventions (Maguire, Morgan, and Reiner, 2003). According to Newburn (2008), police officers are expected to be abreast with the community's underlying conditions, have contact with the community, and possess the information relevant to understand the nature of the problem of the community which create the problems, and get support from the senior management to solve current and unforeseen problems of the society. This model is the model that addresses this issue of decentralization of power.

The POP model include activities to solve crime related problems which are taken care of by agencies instead of the police and the community. An instance is the case of Stockport housing project where there was the need to reduce the burglary of the large estate houses.

Joyce (2006, p.130) indicated that the accumulation and evaluation of intelligence is the root for solving the society's crime problems. This helps the society to put measures against unforeseen circumstances instead of focusing on the past events.

Disadvantages of Problem Oriented Policing

The scanning and analysis of the data collected might be inaccurate because if the data becomes biased, so will the analysis and the initiative be. The community needs to get involved and help to solve the issues themselves and also help the police. An instance is a place where gang activities mostly happen, the people in the community must get involved in disciplining their children and if it continues to perceive it cause, then they can come together with the police to solve the problem.

Another weakness of the POP model is the complexity associated with it. The processes requires social skills to identify the problems, analyze the cause and evaluate the strategies laid down. The skills of the analyst is mostly not readily available in the police service therefore requires hiring an external person with the expertise which can be time consuming and costly (Newburn, 2003). Also, the paperwork involved makes it difficult for most officers to take it seriously (Van et al, 2014). The police force routine mostly does not deal

with lots of paperwork but the use of lots of paperwork becomes a weakness for the implementation of this model.

To conclude, the POP model is widely used in UK and Intelligent-led policing model is widely used in the USA. They both focus on analysis but the scope of analysis differs one from another.

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