

While the crime generators, attractors, and crime-patterns-topics are used and can be applied heavily on street crimes or property crimes, static crimes such as domestic violence-we are yet to integrate and apply the crime pattern theoretical concepts. For example, can we use the concepts such as “risky homes” in understanding domestic violence which has tremendous amount of harm during this COVID to study the patterns for prevention. Could you please give us some ideas how to go about it.

I wish we had time to address a question like this in the webinar. Static crimes like domestic violence are very serious. For me, such crimes are a static moment in a dynamic process. It is my understanding that domestic violence is increasing as more people spend time at home and engage in drinking at home. It would be very helpful if research were done using police detailed records on the domestic violence before and during our COVID lockdowns. The old reasons are still there but are people who frequently spend time apart being forced into closed locations (home)? Alcohol consumption seems to be going up, but not in drinking establishments. I assume more alcohol is consumed at home. Assaults in bars may be moving into alcohol triggered assaults at home but without the possibility of place managers. Is Covid creating potentially risky interactions with no escape or fewer escape possibilities? Your question produces many more questions. Are former partners who have a court order banning a return to his or her former home less likely to try to meet her or his former partner or can they only find the former partner at home? Controlling or limiting violence within a home is more difficult than in public or in a drinking establishment. Who are the guardians and the place managers at home? I hope you are adding this to your research.

Is there anything extra to consider when using street profile analysis to think about crime patterns in sections of old cities (e.g. Barcelona) that have organic layouts and lots of alleys that are not fully mapped (part of the street layers).

I have seen some studies of pedestrian use in cities with organic street networks. As you would expect the volume of pedestrians decreases as the street layout gets more complex with more curves and as the streets get narrower. Of course, such cities do not have a grid street layout, but there are higher volume roads that carry most of traffic of people and motor vehicles. These busier streets are also the commercial routes. Using network analysis, I think clusters of crime penetrate less into the most organic street networks. Crimes cluster on or very near the major routes. In cities as large as Barcelona I think a resident knows his or her own organic neighborhood and have a good directionality towards his or her other high activity nodes. Residents

probably learn at least one pathway through an organic network to nodes. The resident would learn pathways in their neighborhood to get them to the activity nodes. Once learned, that pathway would not be complex. Using a general sense of directionality, I have found my way through organic street networks. But many people stay on the major streets and do not wander into unknown neighborhoods. I cannot remember the exact web site, but there is a page that will give you the noise generated by cities and a street level. In complex, organic cities, the noise level drops rapidly as you move away from the major through streets.

But this may be a disappearing aspect of navigation in cities. With all the street apps and ones that give directions, more people may be willing to explore unknown areas and be able to avoid curvilinear streets and dead ends. Travelling through these areas may not be fast but people will no longer fear being able to find their way out. Future research should watch for the expansion of the search areas of offenders.

At first, it sounds like your theoretical perspective on awareness space is contradictive the CPTED – approach, more specifically, mixed functions in order to attract a mix of people to enhance the natural control of a place. But when given a closer thought it just underscore the importance of awareness in the process: for who are you create functions and by your perspective will it bring awareness and activity spaces of offenders and potentially offended to the one and same place/area.

I agree. I always hope that researchers and practitioners will look at the meso level when exploring activity at the micro level. There frequently are many users of the same micro space and it is important to know, if possible, where they come from and where they are going. Finding a solution to conflicting use of space by different users can often be solved by diverting micro level paths and micro level activity nodes or creating new micro paths and micro nodes.