

6. SUPPORT THE WHOLE LEGAL PROCESS

The police, courts, prisons and rehabilitation programs need adequate facilities and proper staffs to carry out their vital community services.

7. HELP STAMP OUT THE CAUSE OF CRIME.

Discrimination, lack of economic and educational opportunities, poverty, etc. VOTE, be active in civic groups, work for a better community.

8. OBEY THE LAWS YOURSELF

All the laws... all the time! Avoid questionable situations that may prompt breaking the law. Support law enforcement and the court system.

9. SET A GOOD EXAMPLE

...for others – especially your children. Teach them that laws are NOT made to be broken. Encourage them to join you in anti-crime activities.

10. COOPERATE

...fully with law enforcement officials. Report suspicious activities. Be willing to register complaints and appear as a witness

REMEMBER !!!

PROTECT YOURSELF from potentially dangerous situations by taking common sense precautions.

BE ALERT all the time for signs of criminal activity, at home and away.

PARTICIPATE in reducing crime by:

- getting involved in anti-crime activities
- reporting crime and suspicious activities
- letting your views be heard in all levels of government

YOU are the KEY to winning the war against crime!

**STATE POLICE
TERRORISM TIPLINE**



1-(888)-292-1919

(OR)

DIAL 911

UNDERSTANDING CRIME PREVENTION



GET INVOLVED...

START A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH!



PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE
BUREAU OF TRAINING & EDUCATION
COMMUNITY SERVICES UNIT

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What is Crime Prevention?

By definition, Crime prevention is:

“Being aware that a crime CAN occur, ANTICIPATING its form, location, time and victim, and TAKING ACTION to reduce the chances of its happening.”

There are three elements the criminal must possess for a crime to occur: DESIRE, ABILITY and OPPORTUNITY. Eliminate just one of these elements and no crime will take place. You have no control over the first two elements. Whether the criminal has the desire or ability to commit the crime is solely up to them. However, you can have great control, if not eliminate, the third element – OPPORTUNITY.



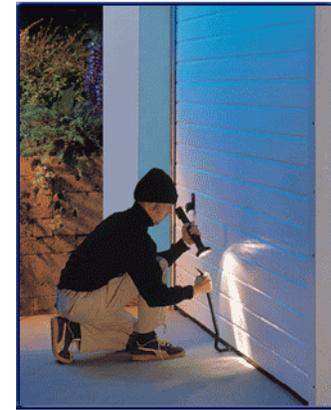
Crime prevention is using INSTINCT, COMMON SENSE, and ACTION to eliminate or greatly reduce the criminal's opportunity. A large share of the responsibility of reducing the criminal lies with you ! That is not to say that if you are the victim of crime it is your fault and not the fault of the criminal... certainly not! But the fact remains that we all have a personal part to play regarding crime prevention.

Why Practice Crime Prevention?

For the simple reason that we ALL suffer because of crime. CONSIDER:

1. the fear of walking the streets alone
2. insecurity in your own home, neighborhood, or school
3. overextended police protection
4. overcrowded courts
5. higher taxes to support law enforcement and the judicial and corrections systems
6. higher prices to cover the costs of stolen merchandise
7. rising insurance costs
8. the loss of property all the insurance in the world can't replace – those special items that represent those special memories
9. and finally, the most serious aspect, personal injury or death

When it comes to serious offenses such as Aggravated Assault, Rape and Homicide, will it really matter how quickly the police respond, investigate, arrest and convict the criminal if you or your loved ones are seriously injured or killed? Will good police work heal physical injury, erase emotional scars or bring the dead back to life? Of course not! YOU are the person MOST RESPONSIBLE for your personal safety. That's why it's so important for YOU to practice Crime Prevention.



How do You Practice Crime Prevention?

1. EDUCATE YOURSELF ON CRIME PREVENTION TECHNIQUES.

Contact your local Crime Prevention Officer for information on how to make your home more secure, mark your personal property and maintain personal security.

2. KNOW YOUR POLICE

Know the location of the police station. Memorize the phone number. Get to know and support your local police officers.

3. REPORT ANY CRIME

Report any crime or suspicion of a crime at once. No violation is too small to be reported. You can't assume that someone else has already reported it.

4. STAY INFORMED

Follow the news. Keep posted on local crime problems. Attend public meetings. Get to know the local crime situation and what's being done about it.

5. WORK WITH OTHERS

Support groups, especially those working with young people, to foster a sense of neighborhood and build character or that have active programs that help prevent crime.