

THEFT, BURGLARY, & PROPERTY DAMAGE DYNAMICS

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TODAY'S OBJECTIVES

By the end of this workshop, you will be able to:

- Define theft, burglary, and property damage.
- Describe how these three crimes differ from one another.
- Identify problems with these crimes that exist in your own community.
- Identify potential solutions to current problems using resources or ideas from your community.

PRE-TEST

MY EXPERIENCE

- Back in 1992 I was living in Phoenix, Arizona, going to school and working construction. I was living in a small one-bedroom apartment. One day I came home after work to find that one or more people had been in my apartment. Someone had jumped over the small porch wall and pried open the back sliding door. They took my TV, stereo, VCR, video tapes and my precious cassette mix tapes. The subject or subjects had punched holes in the walls and had broken the bathroom mirror. I felt very vulnerable after that, just knowing someone was in my house, and it was very easy for them to get in. What if I was home at night asleep, what could have happened?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (PAIR UP!)

- Have you (or someone you love) ever been a victim of the same theft, burglary or property damage?
- If so, what happened? How did you feel? How did you respond?
- Is theft a problem in your community? What are the main types of theft?
- What would you, personally, like to get out of this workshop today?

THEFT

- To commit theft, you have to take someone else's property without the owner's consent and with the intention to permanently deprive the owner of its use or possession.
- Theft is known as larceny, petty theft, grand theft, or by similar names, depending on the state in which you live and the circumstances of the crime.
- Theft is one of the most commonly committed crimes.

ELEMENTS OF THEFT

- Property
- Wrongful
- Deprive



PROPERTY

- Thing or things belonging to someone.
- Involves the taking of personal, tangible property. You cannot be convicted of theft if, for example, you try to take someone else's land, even though other criminal charges might apply.
- Theft usually involves money, physical goods, or any other physical object you can move or transport.

WRONGFUL

- Not fair or illegal
- When you commit a theft, you act against the owner's interest. Taking an object with the owners permission is not theft. Unless you use deceit or trickery to try to convince the owner to allow you to have control over the item.
- For example, if your friend gives you her bicycle because you asked to borrow it, this isn't theft. However, it is theft if you ask to borrow the bicycle and intend not to return it.

DEPRIVE

- Deny the possession
- To commit a theft you must take property with the intent to permanently deprive the owner of it, at the time of taking it.

DISCUSSION

- What questions do you have about theft?
- What are the locations that the most thefts occur, housing areas or rural area houses?
- What solutions have been done, programs or ideas to combat the thefts in your communities?
- What else do you think you need to effectively combat theft in your community?

PROPERTY DAMAGE

Is damage to or the destruction of public or private property caused either by a person who is not its owner or by natural phenomena.



TYPES OF PROPERTY DAMAGE

- Property
- Public
- Private
- Vandalism

QUESTIONS



Property Damage:

- Private Property *and* Public Property
- Vandalism

BURGLARY

- Entry into a building or structure illegally with the intent to commit a crime, especially theft.
- Though burglary is often a crime that involves theft, you do not necessarily have to take any property to be convicted of this crime.
- To commit a burglary you must enter a structure or dwelling with the intent to commit a crime within it.

ELEMENTS OF A BURGLARY

- Structure
- Breaking
- Entry



STRUCTURE

- In past years, burglary crimes most often targeted breaking into someone else's home. Today, burglary laws are much broader.
- You can commit burglary if you enter into any structure with the intent to commit a crime inside.
- For purposes of burglary laws, a “structure” includes nonresidential buildings, natural formations such as caves, and even temporary structures such as tents.

BREAKING

- Some people mistakenly believe that you have to use force or violence to enter a structure in order to commit a burglary, but that is not the case.
- You can commit a burglary even if the only force you use to enter a building is pushing open a door or slightly lifting an already unlocked and open window.



ENTRY

- You can be convicted of burglary even if you don't completely enter into a structure.
- For example, lifting up a window and extending your arm, or an object, to take something from inside is enough to commit burglary.

QUESTIONS



Burglary:

- Structure
- Breaking
- Entry

FACT

- An estimated 3.7 million burglaries occurred each year on average from 2012 to 2016. A household member was present in roughly 1 million burglaries and became victims of violent crimes in 266,560 burglaries.

10 FACTS ABOUT BURGLARY AND PREVENTATIVES

1. Burglars tend to avoid homes with security systems.
 - Based on a report by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, about 60% of convicted burglars stated the presence of a security system influenced their decision to target another home.

CONTINUED...

2. Most burglaries take place between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
 - Contrary to popular belief, the majority of home burglaries take place during daylight hours, not at night. That's because most people are at work or school-which reduces the chance the burglar will be noticed.

CONTINUED...

3. The majority of break-ins are committed by burglars who live nearby.
 - The typical burglar resides within two miles of the target home. Because they live close, it's easy for them to learn your family's daily schedule and strike when they know you're not home. They may also check for signs that you're on vacation-such as flyers or newspapers piling up at your door, an un-mowed lawn, or trash cans left at the curb.

CONTINUED...

4. Most criminals can burglarize a home in less than ten minutes.
 - Burglars look for homes that are easy targets. That's why it doesn't take long for most intruders to break into a house, get what they want, and take off before being noticed.

CONTINUED...

5. Almost 30% of burglars enter a home through an unlocked door or window.
 - A surprising number of burglars gain access to homes through open or unlocked entrances. First floor windows and doors are especially well-liked by burglars-particularly when a burglar can be concealed behind overgrown vegetation.

CONTINUED...

6. An astonishing 34% of burglars enter the front door.
 - Whether they walk through an open front door or kick in a locked one, burglars aren't shy about using your home's primary entry point.



CONTINUED...

7. Burglars usually go to the master bedroom first.
 - Unfortunately, most people don't hide their valuable items carefully, and burglars know it. Once they break in, burglars head straight for the master bedroom, where they scavenge through dresser drawers and nightstands, looking under mattresses, and search closets. Cash, jewelry, and weapons are some of the things a burglar wants most from your home.

CONTINUED...

8. The average property dollar loss per burglary is a staggering \$2,251.
 - The price of a home security system pales in comparison to the emotional and monetary cost of a burglar. The FBI reports that burglary victims in 2015 lost a total of \$3.9 billion, and nearly 75% of the burgled locations were residential properties.

CONTINUED...

9. Someone is home during nearly three out of every ten burglaries.
 - Coming home to find your material possessions stolen is frightening enough, but victims who are home when the burglary occurs experience even more trauma. According to a crime victimization survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice, a household member is present during approximately 28% of burglaries and 7% of these victims experienced some type of violent crime.

CONTINUED...

10. Only 13.6% of burglaries in 2015 resulted in arrest.
 - Typically, burglaries are exceptionally hard crimes to solve. Even if the burglar is found, you may not be reunited with your lost property.

APPLICATION: CASE STUDY

- A male subject – a community member - pried open a window to a warehouse that belongs to the Tribe. The subject went to the office safe and started to break into the safe. A night security guard caught him. The subject punched the guard and during the fight, the subject pushed the guard through a glass door. The guard was cut and stabbed with a piece of glass. The male subject ran out of the warehouse without the money.

APPLICATION: QUESTIONS

- Several crimes were committed in this case. What were they? Give examples.
- In your job role, how would you respond to this situation? What would you need to consider as you respond? Examples:
 - How might you be able to support the victim (the guard)? What might he need?
 - If the subjects is caught and prosecuted, how can you be involved in that process? What about when the subject is released?
 - What are cultural considerations (if any) in this case?

REFLECTION

- What is *one thing* you will take out of this workshop and apply on the job?

QUESTIONS



CONCLUSION

- Thank you!
- Post-Test

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- To access this Power Point and other resources from today's training please visit: <http://www.unified-solutions.org/unified-solutions-training-resources/>