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# CRIME PREVENTERS A TOOL FOR SOCIAL COHESION IN COMMUNITY POLICING OF UGANDA

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## Abstract:

*Crime Preventers remains the most divisive subject matter particularly between the current government of Uganda and political opposition groups; mainly FDC, DP, CP, JPAM<sup>2</sup> who referred to crime preventers as “militia force” for genocide. At the heart of this matter is the issue of contested human rights abuses<sup>3</sup> and recruitment procedures.<sup>4</sup> There is little research on the subject “Crime Preventers”<sup>5</sup> as a result many have misinterpreted it as an abuse of human rights.<sup>6</sup> However, the issue of crime preventers is also supported by criminologist theories as a protection of human rights.<sup>7</sup> The article shows that crime preventers is an historical colonial establishment in post colonial countries, and that current government is modernizing<sup>8</sup> the historical concept to meet the demands of community. This article is designed to alert those engaged in crime prevention policy making, planning that traps and pitfalls exist for the hasty and unwary. It will, furthermore, suggest strategies that may be employed to avoid them.<sup>9</sup>*

## Introduction:

Prevention is better than cure is a rather trite but nevertheless important axiom.<sup>10</sup> It may be tempting, therefore, for those individuals, governments and groups charged with the responsibility of crime prevention to rush into any program that boasts a

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<sup>2</sup> See Political Parties And Organization Act 2005.

<sup>3</sup> See Elvas Buchanan coalition or organisations, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Human Rights Network Uganda (HURINET) Chapter Four Uganda and Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI), describe recruits as special –militia linked to and designed to serve NRM, responsible for extortion and arbitrary arrests aimed at intimidating political opposition, available at [www.ibtimes.co.uk](http://www.ibtimes.co.uk) accessed 12 February 2017.

<sup>4</sup> See Karooro Okurut, Crime Preventers are not about NRM: they are about Uganda as a nation, New Vision Jan 20-2016.

<sup>5</sup> See Constitution of Uganda 1995 Articles 212, 17 and 38

<sup>6</sup> See Criminal Procedure Code S.15 & 16 that provides power to a citizen to carry out arrest without a warrant.

<sup>7</sup> See Police Act S 4(1) Provides functions of Community Policing.

<sup>8</sup> See Constitution of Uganda Art.43, *Charles Onyango v AG Constitutional Appeal N.2 of 2002*.

<sup>9</sup> See Rick Sarre, National Overview of Crime Prevention, Problems and Pitfalls in Crime Prevention, Faculty of Business & Management, University of South Australia

<sup>10</sup> See Brantingham Paul & Frederick, A Conceptual Model of Crime Prevention. Crime & Delinquency.

preventative approach.<sup>11</sup> Conventional wisdom holds that crime prevention needs to be based on a thorough understanding of the cause of crime. Though it may be conceded that preventative measures (such as humps in the road to stop speeding) can sometimes be found without invoking sophisticated causal theory, physical measures which reduce opportunities from crime are often thought to be of limited value. It's imperative that social measures are set in place for revitalisation of communities, since these attempt to remove the root motivational causes of offending.<sup>12</sup> The ideas of crime prevention are not shared by the man-in-the street or even by policemen and magistrates, but they have prevailed among academics, administrators and others who contribute to the formulation of criminal policy. Needless to say that there is - and can be - no single conception of crime prevention. On the centrally, there are a lot of ideas of how to prevent phenomena that are perceived as dangerous or harmful in our communities.<sup>13</sup> In other words, there are many suggestions regarding the protection of society<sup>14</sup> and its members from various forms of harm,<sup>15</sup> of reduction of harms and of repression. All countries experience crime, violence and victimization,<sup>16</sup> perhaps the modern paradigm of crime prevention consists of social prevention for example; eliminating crime-producing poverty and unemployment, providing education and social welfare,<sup>17</sup> rehabilitation of offenders and deterrence effectuated by a humane, just and effective criminal justice system.<sup>18</sup> One of the most common assumptions about crime prevention is that it can be clearly separated from other areas of activity,<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> See Dr Ruhakan Rugunda, Explaining Role of Crime Preventers, available at [www.parliament.go.ug/index.php/about-parliament-news630-pmexplaining-role-of-police-crime-preventers](http://www.parliament.go.ug/index.php/about-parliament-news630-pmexplaining-role-of-police-crime-preventers), accessed 10 Jan 2017.

<sup>12</sup> See Hill, & Taylor, Parental School Involvement and Children's Academic Achievement, *Current Directions in Psychological Science* (2004) at 161-164.

<sup>13</sup> See Elvas Buchana Uganda Election 2016, what Impact will Crime Preventers have on the presidential Poll? Available at [www.ibtimes.co.uk/ug-elections-2016-what-impact-will-crime-preventers-have-presidential-poll-1539053](http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/ug-elections-2016-what-impact-will-crime-preventers-have-presidential-poll-1539053)

<sup>14</sup> See Uganda Police Act (Amendment) 2005 S.4 see Uganda Constitution Articles 211-212.

<sup>15</sup> See [www.police.gov.rw/uploads/tx-download/Rwanda\\_National\\_Police\\_at\\_glance2014-4-pages-hirespdf](http://www.police.gov.rw/uploads/tx-download/Rwanda_National_Police_at_glance2014-4-pages-hirespdf), accessed 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb-2017.

<sup>16</sup> See Handbook on Crime Prevention Guidelines Making Them Work, Criminal Justice Series, United Nations New York, 2010. A handbook developed by United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to support countries in the implementation of the standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.

<sup>17</sup> See Dowler K, Media Consumption and Public attitudes toward crime and justice: The Relationship between fear of crime, punitive attitudes and perceived police effectiveness. *Journal of Criminal Justice and Popular Culture* (2003) at 109-126. See Dolan p Loomes, Estimating the Intangible Victim Costs of Crime, *British Journal of Criminology* (2005) at 47.

<sup>18</sup> See Goodey J (1997) Boys don't cry, Masculinities, Fear of Crime and Fearlessness, *British Journal of Criminology* (1997) at 401-418. See Gelsthorpe & Morris, *Feminist Perspective in Criminology* Milton Keynes (1994) Open University Press.

<sup>19</sup> See Lord Justice George Kanyehamba, who are crime preventers and under what law are they being appointed? What are their qualifications and command structure and under what law are they being paid salaries or allowances and commandeered? Available at [www.allafrica.com/stories/201602081794.html](http://www.allafrica.com/stories/201602081794.html). see also crime preventers are legal, constitutional, available at [www.newvision/new\\_vision/news/1415852-preventers-legal-constitutional](http://www.newvision/new_vision/news/1415852-preventers-legal-constitutional) 29 Jan 2016 accessed 10 March 2017.

that it is restricted to academia, or solely the province of the police and justice system. In fact, many interventions help to prevent crime, are called something else, whether early childhood intervention, educational, drug treatment, urban renewal and employment support.<sup>20</sup> Crime prevention has been deemed a police term, while community safety is preferred in local communities in Uganda to signify a broader set of interests in crime consequences. Thus, what is important, regardless of the terminology preferred, is the use of a strategic approach that enables policymakers and practitioners to tailor interventions, to the problems they confront, selecting from a wide range of interventions, finding a balance between the need for short-term and long term outcomes as protecting human rights.

Crime prevention mechanism supports the standards and norms of the rule of law,<sup>21</sup> human rights and culture of lawfulness through development of crime prevention.<sup>22</sup> All countries strive to ensure security for their citizens<sup>23</sup> and increase the quality of their lives.<sup>24</sup> According to United Nations, research has shown that countries can build safer communities<sup>25</sup> using practical concrete approaches that are less costly.<sup>26</sup>

Crime is a term which is capable of wide interpretation. It's used in political rhetoric in such a way as to presume that its definition is settled and clear, that it is uniformly policed, that it is consistently prosecuted and that it is systematically punished.<sup>27</sup> Popular public and political dialogue also tend to suggest that the production of crime information is unproblematic and that the sources through which the national over view of crime prevention information is channelled are reliable and complete. Unfortunately, there is a death of informed debate in the public and political law and order and thus the inadequacies of these assumptions rarely emerge. To determine the realities of crime preventers, there is a need to

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<sup>20</sup> See Janet Foster, *People Pieces; the Neglected but essential elements of community crime prevention*, in *crime control and community*. See Hughes and Edwards Adam, *The New Politics of Public Safety*, Willian publication at 167-196.

<sup>21</sup><sup>21</sup> See Charlotte Gill, PhD, George Mason University, *USA Community Crime Prevention 2012*.

<sup>22</sup> See Uganda Constitution 1995 Cap 12 Articles 208-213.

<sup>23</sup> See Youth Justice Report 2011/2012 England & Wales published Jan 2013 available at [http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/163526/yjb-stat-2011-12.pdf](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/163526/yjb-stat-2011-12.pdf), accessed 17 July 2015.

<sup>24</sup> See welsh BC, & Farrington, *Effective of Family-based programmes to prevent delinquency and later offending* ( 2006) at 596-602.

<sup>25</sup> See Haines .K , *Promotig Prevention:Evaluating a multi agency initiative of youth consulatation and crime prevention in Swansea and Society* ( 2004) at 355-370. See Günter, *Growing up Bad: Black youth, – road culture and badness in East London neighbourhood*, *Crime Media Culture* at 349.

<sup>26</sup> See willig C *Introducing Qualitative Research in Psychology: Adventures in Theory and Method*, (1997)Buckingham : University Press.

<sup>27</sup> See Hallsworth & Young, *Gang talk and talkers: A critique*. *Crime Media Culture* ( 2008) at 175. Hallsworth, *Gangs and other Groups*, A Report prepared by Metropolitan Police UK ( 2005).

focus upon the protagonists that is the people who carried out illegal behaviour, the police who apprehend them, the courts which try them and the prison that held them.

Crime prevention means many different things to different people. Programs and policies designed to prevent crime can include the police making an arrest as part of an operation to deal with gang problems, court disposal to a secure correctional facility or in the extreme case a death penalty sentence. These measures are more correctly referred to as crime control or crime prevention.<sup>28</sup> Crime prevention in other words refers to efforts to prevent crime or criminal offending in the first instance before the act has been committed.<sup>29</sup> Both forms of crime share a common goal of trying to prevent the occurrence of future criminal acts, but what distinguishes crime prevention from crime control is that prevention typically operates outside of the confines of the formal justice.<sup>30</sup> It should be noted that crime prevention involves measures focused on improving the general well-being of individuals, or those who have already have been involved with crime or victimization in building a safer society. Crime prevention has entered a new, more robust phase of research activity and holds greater relevance to policy and practice today than ever before.<sup>31</sup> It stands as an important component of an overall strategy to reduce crime. These achievements are not just the cumulative effect of years of a slow, sometimes less than steady progress of social movement. The development of crime preventers will change the state affairs and make a major contribution to crime reduction in Uganda.<sup>32</sup> It should be noted that community is the centre of crime prevention efforts-foundation on which other social institutions function. Community based intervention embraces diverse primary and secondary prevention strategies. Crime preventers promote social cohesion.<sup>33</sup> Crime prevention focuses on the roots of delinquency and underlying causes of criminal behaviour. Not only Uganda but countries like Slovenia have undergone transformation in policing, with a view that the police alone cannot combat crime without local community

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<sup>28</sup> See Brandon Welsh, *The Future of Crime Prevention, Developmental and Situational Strategies*, School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Northeast University and David Farrington, *Institute of Criminology*, Cambridge University, 11 December 2010.

<sup>29</sup> See Steve, Polly, Barnoski and Lieb, *Comparative Costs and Benefits of Programs to Reduce Crime 2001 Version 3.0*, Olympia: Washington State Institute of Public Policy.

<sup>30</sup> See Barr, Robert, and Ken Pease, *Crime Placement, Displacement and Deflection* | In *Crime and Justice, A review Research*, (1990) Vol.12, University Press-Chicago.

<sup>31</sup> See Abbot & Richard Catalano, *Changing Teaching Practices to Promote achievements and bonding School*, *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* 1999 at 542-552.

<sup>32</sup> See Tilley, *Problems-Solving Street Crime: Practical Lessons From The Street Crime Initiative* (London, Home Office 2004).

<sup>33</sup> See Charlotte GILL *Community Crime Prevention, What have we Learned From Systematic Review?*, George Mason University USA, Stockholm, Sweden-June 2013.

policing,<sup>34</sup> in order to bring the police and the public together.<sup>35</sup> Civilian involvement in security operation has been going for decades when LRA attacked Northern and Teso regions, various civilians forces were formed such as Amuka, Arrow boys, and there was no any complain about their legality. It was simply common principle of self defence.<sup>36</sup>

A short description of the progression of criminological thought during the last hundred years may assist us to determine why there is a more popular view of crime prevention especially in Australia today. We find its roots in the late nineteenth century French Positivity Philosophy. The father of modern sociology, Emile Durkheim who presented his view of the social world as being made up of physical entities. Thus, to determine the realities of criminal justice system, he focused his attention upon its protagonists, that is, the people who commit crime, the police who apprehend them and the courts which convict them. His philosophy was further expanded by twentieth century American sociologist Edwin Southerland and Marxist who sought and expanded the parameters of this approach to criminology to include anti-social behaviour. The three philosophers concentrated on how various political and social forces can prevent crime in communities. Concomitantly, the process of criminalisation is not necessary pre-condition to social cohesion.

### **Definition of Crime Preventers:**

Crime prevention can often be difficult to define, however, in essence it is about reducing the risk of occurrence and the potential seriousness of crime prevention focuses more upon the causes of crime rather than effects of crime. The concept crime prevention can cover many theoretical premises.<sup>37</sup> Criminologists define crime prevention as a strategy that is aimed at reducing the criminal opportunities which arise from the routine of everyday life Crime prevention is defined as strategies and measures that seek to reduce the risk of crimes occurring, and their potential harmful effects on individuals and society, including fear of crime, by intervening to influence their multiple causes.<sup>38</sup> Uganda police force defines crime preventers as a system of policing where the people together with the police prevent crime and disorder in communities.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> See stake holders in support of crime preventers in Uganda. Available at [www.jlos.go.ug](http://www.jlos.go.ug) (accessed on 4 October 2016).

<sup>35</sup> See Aleksander Karakas, *Methods of Preventing Organized Crime with Special Regard on Regulating of normative –repression measures in the Republic of Slovenia de lege lata de lege referenda*. See Mirja Hren, *The Problems of the economic crime and corruption in the Republic of Slovenia*.

<sup>36</sup> See Parliamentary Select Committee Report about violence 2011 at 181.

<sup>37</sup> Australian Institute of Criminology available at <http://www.aic.gov.au> accessed on 24 Jan 2016.

<sup>38</sup> The guidelines on Crime Prevention adopted by the Economic and Social Council in 1995 and 2001 reflect the evolution of crime preventers.

<sup>39</sup> See Community Affairs of the Uganda Police Force issued a Community Policing Manual 2005.

Sally Swift defines crime prevention to both an act intended to prevent any crime before any crime before it actually happens and act aimed to support and protect people from crime. He further states that crime prevention is about stopping crime from happening rather than waiting to respond once offences have been committed.<sup>40</sup>

Clarke defines Crime prevention as a preventative approach that relies, not upon improving society or its institution, but simply upon reducing opportunities for crime.<sup>41</sup>

Australian Institute of Criminology defines crime prevention, as any action that causes a reduction in the level of criminal activity and the resulting harm, or the number of criminal offenders and their victims,<sup>42</sup> by focusing on the cause of crime rather than its effects or to eliminate the factors that can lead to crime.<sup>43</sup>

Prevention of crime is an element of criminology is a scientific discipline analyzing the offender and victim personality as well as potential ways of limiting or controlling crime.<sup>44</sup>

In Czech Republic, crime prevention is defined as an offensive strategy to combat crime.<sup>45</sup> That is why Czech Republic has together with its ongoing improvement and streamlining in line with the new development in crime and the needs of policing.<sup>46</sup>

The Crime prevention policy, one of the main elements of the national security policy,<sup>47</sup> is a key tool to reduce crime, eliminate criminal and pathological phenomena, work with offenders, and protect and assist victims of crime.<sup>48</sup> The Prime minister of Uganda Dr. Ruhakan Rugunda, defined crime preventers as

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<sup>40</sup> See Thoughts, Feeling and Perceptions of an inner-city London Community Regarding the role of the school in preventing and protecting children and Young People from Crime, Institute of Education, and University of London 2010.

<sup>41</sup> Ron Clarke, National Institute of Justice, Working Group Meeting in Bethesda, Maryland, October 2010.

<sup>42</sup> See Conclusions of the 11<sup>th</sup> UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Penal Justice Bangkok 2005

<sup>43</sup> See Australian Institute of Criminology, Crime Reduction Matters 20 may 2003, Issue No. Issn 1448-1383.

<sup>44</sup> Ibid.

<sup>45</sup> See Brandon Welsh, The Future of Crime Prevention; Developmental and Situational Strategies, Us Department of Justice, Award No. 237329, Year 2012.

<sup>46</sup> See in 193, the Czech Republic established at the Ministry of Interior, an interagency coordination body-National Prevention Committee-Thus Creating the necessary conditions to start developing its own prevention policy.

<sup>47</sup> Mike Maguire, The Crime Reduction Programme in England & Wales; Reflections on the Vision and the reality, Criminology and Criminal justice Vol.4 No.3 (2004) at 213-237.

<sup>48</sup> Prevention of crime is an element of criminology- a scientific discipline analyzing the offender and victim personality as well as potential ways of limiting or controlling crime. Its is an empirical, more practical than theoretical, multidiscipline. See 11<sup>th</sup> UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Penal Justice, Bangkok 2005.

volunteers meant to guard and prevent crime and should not be involved in partisan politics.<sup>49</sup>

### **What is the Intent of Crime prevention?**

The intention of crime prevention is to significantly reduce or eliminate those factors that can lead to a crime.<sup>50</sup> There is no single conception of crime prevention.<sup>51</sup> In other words, there are many suggestions regarding the protection of society and its members from various forms, of reduction of harms and repression. Perhaps the most influential modern paradigm of crime prevention consists of social prevention (crime preventers). The traditional view that crime prevention is the responsibility of the police has shifted to include all government agencies and community. Indeed it may be argued that this is more cost effective and beneficial in society to take a collective and proactive approach to preventing crime.<sup>52</sup>

Crime preventers are supported by international financial institutions such as World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank support the training and capacity building projects.<sup>53</sup> International workshops in crime preventers held during the United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna in 2000,<sup>54</sup> in Bangkok in 2005, and Salvador in Brazil in 2010. It should be noted that all governments in the world support the notion of crime preventers<sup>55</sup> and are members of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice programme network.<sup>56</sup> In terms of transnational crime, the United Nations Convention against corruption,<sup>57</sup> the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized crimes,<sup>58</sup> and its Protocol to prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children, supplementation the United Nations Convention against Transnational organized crime similarly provide an important context supporting the

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<sup>49</sup> PM explains the Role of Police, Crime Preventers, available at <http://www.parliament.go.ug/new/index.php/about-parliament>

<sup>50</sup> See Tiley, Nick, Crime Prevention (2009) Cullompton UK.

<sup>51</sup> See commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (2006) The Police, the People, the Politics: Police Accountability in Uganda. Kampala: Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative at 23

<sup>52</sup> See Sansfacon and Welsh, Crime Prevention Digest II, Comparative Analysis of Successful Community Safety (Montreal, International Centre For The Prevention of Crime, 1999.

<sup>53</sup> See handbook on Planning and Action for Crime Prevention in Southern Africa and the Caribbean Regions, Criminal Justice Handbook Series (United Nations Publication, Sales No. E)(IV).

<sup>54</sup> See International Report on Crime Prevention and Community Safety: Trends and Perspective (Montreal ICPC 2008).

<sup>55</sup> See UN Habitat, UN Habitat For Safer Cities; Safer Cities Programme (Nairobi 2007) available at [www.unahabitat.com](http://www.unahabitat.com) and select safer Cities Programme and Publications.

<sup>56</sup> For the full list of members visit [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/institutes.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/institutes.html)

<sup>57</sup> United Nations, Treaty series Vol.2349 No. 42146

<sup>58</sup> Ibid. Vol.2225, No. 39574.



implementation of the of the guidelines on crime prevention at the national and local levels.<sup>59</sup> Preventing crime and victimization is also closely linked to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2000.<sup>60</sup> In Africa, for example; the impact of crime on development has been clearly outlined, according to crime and Development in Africa, published by UNODC in 2005. The Constitution of Uganda, which provides that *–every Uganda Citizen has the right to participate in the affairs of government individually or through his representatives in accordance with the law.*<sup>61</sup> Metropolitan Police Sir Richard Mayne said that *“The primary objective of an efficient police is the prevention of crime.”*<sup>62</sup> It should be noted that back in the mid-nineteenth century, Edwin Chadwick had very clear vision of crime prevention equivalent to the modern notion of opportunity reduction. As Reith says, quoting Chadwick, *“the function of preventive police was placing difficulties in the way of objectives of temptation.”*<sup>63</sup> Chadwick however, did not believe that the police alone were responsible for reducing criminal opportunities. In the report of Constabulary Force Commissioners, he argued that the need for *–the honest portion of the community* to be convinced of the necessity of taking effective measures for the abatement of the evil. Crime prevention principle was an essential legitimate element in the arrival of permanent policing from 1829.<sup>64</sup>

### **Historical Developments and Politics of Crime Preventers:**

The British Government on 25<sup>th</sup> December 1906 set up –Uganda Police Constabulary in Uganda to cater for the interests of the colonizer.<sup>65</sup> The force was mainly characterised by oppressive and re-active policing techniques that continued to manifest in the post-colonial state until the end of colonial rule when Uganda got its independence in 1962. It should however, be noted that even after independence, there was less change until 1980s, due to change of the 1965 Constitution. When NRM came in power which ushered in 1995 Constitution a blessing to Ugandans, there was much change in Uganda. The Powers of Police were clearly designed, and many Ugandans have been benefiting from such success.<sup>66</sup> It should be noted that

<sup>59</sup> Ibid. Vol 2237, No. 39574.

<sup>60</sup> E/CN.15/2010/2.

<sup>61</sup> See Article 38 of the Constitution of Uganda.

<sup>62</sup> See The Crime Prevention Website-Uk 21012-2016.

<sup>63</sup> See Gilling Daniel, Multi-Agency Crime Prevention in Britain: The Problem of Combining Situation and Social Strategies, Department of Applied Studies, University of Plymouth.

<sup>64</sup> See Daniel Gilling, Multi-agency Crime Prevention in Britain: The Problem of Combining Situational and Social Strategies, Department of Applied Social Studies, University of Plymouth.

<sup>65</sup> See Maria Burnet Senior Researcher at Human Rights Watch, where she said *–that using volunteer or reserve force to compliment community is not a new thing or a bad concept...but there is a need to be regulated, impartial, effectively trained and held accountable to the highest standard if they are to take on policing function.”*

<sup>66</sup> See Police Act Cap 303.

there has been crime preventers since 1980's, were locals or community used to guard villages. However, when NRM, came to power, in order to bring the government close to its people, another reform of crime preventers, called *-Mayumba Kumi* were introduced in all villages and community centres in Uganda. The main objective was to deter crime; they had the power to vet residents, visitors, arrest some cases before police came. When one left from one village to another – *Mayumba-Kumi*,<sup>67</sup> had the power to ask the reasons as to why you had left and there was compulsory registration on that new village so that any criminal could be detected. They worked hand in hand with police, in cases of identity deposit. The term *-Mayumba Kumi* to those who have been around since 1990, meant *-ten houses* in Swahili, which meant each community had the responsibility to self-reliant on matters of security. It should be noted that by 1989 community policing was introduced in Uganda, it was more in form of public sensitization about law and crime rather than involving them in fighting crime or building the system. It is imperative to note that villages were safer when a concept of Local Defence Unit (LDU) was introduced by NRM,<sup>68</sup> which was very welcomed in all communities as it provided social cohesion. Indeed this was a blessing and a turning point to Ugandan's security and a road to eliminate crimes in communities.

With dynamics of crime, where we have terrorists, car theft from London to Uganda, money laundering, murders on rampage, there was a need to change the way our police was working to match with other countries, especially our colonial master Great Britain and East African Federation.<sup>69</sup> In other words crime prevention requires participation or close working and collaboration between different actors for example; police, various government agencies, private sector and citizenry. Dealing with crime and insecurity requires much more than law enforcement.

In 2009-2010, the Uganda Police piloted a community policing model based on the local council system famously known as *-Muyenga Model*. The main aim of this model was to solve crime and neighbourhood concerns in the area. Indeed positive results were adduced, crime reduced from an average of 150 cases reported to 10 % per month in a period of two years. This prompted the Uganda Police Force and other stake holders, to take this model to other areas, in order to curb crime.<sup>70</sup>

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<sup>67</sup> IGP Gen Kayihura, Addressing the media on Crime Preventers at Naguru Head of Police forces in Uganda on 15 December 2015.

<sup>68</sup> See IGP Gen Kale Kayihura, Addressing the Media on Crime Preventers at Naguru Head of Police Forces in Uganda 15 December 2015.

<sup>69</sup> See Role of Community Policing available at [www.kenya.police.go.ke/pages/links27-about-us/69communitypolicing.html](http://www.kenya.police.go.ke/pages/links27-about-us/69communitypolicing.html). Available 22 Feb 2017.

<sup>70</sup> See A Draft on Uganda Police Force, A Guide to Streamline the Utilization and Management of Crime Preventers for A Crime Free From Society 4 January 2016.

This model attracted other prominent dignities from different countries for example; the Deputy Prime Minister of Ireland. The European Union also was over whelmed by the model, and the government of United States of America, who supported the development of the model financially. The East African Federation composed of Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, under the auspices of Eastern African Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation ( EAPCCO) Annual General Meeting held in Uganda in 2012, was very impressed with such model of community policing in prevention of crime. From such development Uganda was selected among member states' to be an EAPCCO Centre for the development of community policing in East Africa. With support of Ugandan government and East Africa the centre is being built at Police Training School mainly Masindi, Kabalye, where both graduates and undergraduates students have undergone training.<sup>71</sup>

Considering the capacity of Uganda Police Force which is 42,000 with a Population of 35 Million People, in 57,792 villages, the scope of crime is more complex and largely committed in communities where there is less police presence to deter such crime. Unless the Uganda Police Force is supported by Crime Preventers from such areas, crime rate in Uganda will increase.

### **Political Strategy and Crime Preventers in Uganda**

There is a lot of politicking in Uganda, so we need a government to strike a balance between the emerging and promising alternative forms of crime prevention and the more traditional response to crime.<sup>72</sup> Crime prevention policy is one the elements of national security policy, is the key tool to reduce crime, eliminate criminal and pathological phenomena.<sup>73</sup>

People in Uganda should not be misled by political marketing strategy.<sup>74</sup> It should be noted that on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2014, at Kololo independence grounds, the president of Republic of Uganda officially launched the national programme of transforming policing in Uganda to a new system of community policing.

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<sup>71</sup> Ibid.

<sup>72</sup> See Ndyomugenyi Rena, Crime Preventers are not A Malitia Force, Reported in Observer 2015.

<sup>73</sup> See The Czech Republic Crime Prevention Strategy 2008-2011.

<sup>74</sup> See Article 17 (2) of the Constitution of Uganda, which provides for the duties and obligation of a citizen and the following are silent for community policing and prevention; to protect and preserve public property, to defend Uganda and to render national service when necessary and last, to cooperate with lawful agencies in the maintainance of law and order.

This model of community policing is not only practiced in Uganda but also other countries for example; UK, USA, Ireland, Australia, South Korea, Singapore, Japan, Chez Republic. Estonia etc.<sup>75</sup>

It should be noted that Ugandans should not be misled by opposition political views especially the face group team *Jpam* which has referred crime preventers to a “*militia force*”, and they have linked it to genocidaire group called “*Interahamwe*” who were responsible for the most heinous crimes against humanity in the history of mankind,<sup>76</sup> who have also been tried and convicted by ICC on crimes against humanity in Hague-Netherlands. The citizens of Uganda should know that the thousands of people that are crime preventers are passed out by the president of Uganda and the IGP of Uganda, with a clear objective of combating crime in the communities.<sup>77</sup> There is no any cadreship or activism<sup>78</sup> of crime preventers. Crime preventers are non- partisan and welcome from all political shades.<sup>79</sup>

Research has proved in all countries both first world and third world countries that investing in crime prevention programmes, for example; the costs of prevention programmes have shown to be lower in the long run than those of criminal justice intervention. The criminal justice system is very costly to maintain in all countries, so any reductions in rates of crime and the number of people processed through the courts and prisons are likely to save on policing, prosecution, defence, court costs and considerable expenses of running prison and parole systems.<sup>80</sup> Apart from the criminal justice costs of crime, there are many long term social and economic costs associated with lost productivity, and the social and welfare services incurred by offenders and their families, for example; when breadwinners are imprisoned or children taken into care.

The costs of crime also include the costs of the victims, in terms of their health and their ability to work or go to school. Estimates of costs of crime for victims and society in terms of health, lost earnings and productivity suggest that these can even be higher than the criminal justice costs. In Canada, it costs more than \$ 11.1 billion

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<sup>75</sup> See Uganda Police Force, Draft Cabinet Memo on Crime Preventers, A Guide to the Streamline, the Utilization of Crime Preventers For A Crime Free Society, available on [www.upf.go.ug](http://www.upf.go.ug), accessed 4 Jan 2016.

<sup>76</sup> See Ndyomugenyi Rena, Crime Prevention Are Not Militia Force, Reported in The Observer Marc 2015, accessed via [www.observer.org.ug](http://www.observer.org.ug) on 22 November 2015.

<sup>77</sup> See Rene Ndyomugenyi, Crime Preventers are not a Militia Force, accessed via [www.observer.org.ug](http://www.observer.org.ug) on 22 November 2015.

<sup>78</sup> See The Presidential Elections Act 2005 and Parliamentary Elections Act 2005 on issues of non partisan.

<sup>79</sup> See Ron Clarke, National Institute of Justice, working Group Meeting in Bethesda, Maryland, October 2010.

<sup>80</sup> See Aos Steve and Others, Benefits & Costs of Crime Prevention and Early Intervention Programs for Youth, Olympia Washington, Washington Sate Institute for Public Policy 2004. See Waller Irvin & Sanfacon Daniel, Investing Wisely in Crime Prevention: International Experiences (Montreal, International Centre for The Prevention of Crime 2000).

per year to fund the police, courts and correctional systems. This in analysis means that Canada spends \$ 360 per Canadian, each year for enforcement and criminal justice. It is the responsibility of the government to create, maintain and promote a context within which relevant governmental institutions and all segments of civil society, including the corporate sector, can better play their part in crime preventing crime.<sup>81</sup>

### **Underlying Factors Driving Crime and Victimization:**

Conventional wisdom holds that crime prevention needs to be based on through understanding of the causes of crime. Though it may be conceded that preventive measures (such as humps in the road to stop speeding) can sometimes be found without invoking sophisticated causal theory, physical measures which reduce opportunities for crime are often thought to be of limited value. They are said merely to suppress the impulse to offend which will then manifest itself on some other occasion and perhaps in even more harmful form. Much more effective are seen to be social measures (such as the revitalisation of communities, the creation of job opportunities for unemployed youth and, since these attempt to remove the root motivational causes of offending. These ideas of crime prevention are not necessary shared by a man in the street or even by policemen and magistrates, but they have prevailed among academics, administrators who contribute to the formulation of logical theory with criminal disposition. Crime prevention has become an increasingly important concept of many national strategies on public safety and security. The concept of prevention is grounded in the notion that crime and victimization are driven by many causal or underlying factors.<sup>82</sup> These are the result of factors and circumstances that influence the lives of individuals and families as they grow up, local environments, situations, and opportunities that facilitate victimization and offending. Determining what factors are associated with different types of crime can lead to the development of a set of strategies and programmes to change those factors and prevent or reduce the incidence of those crimes. The underlying or causal factors are termed as risk factors. –*Risk factors* are a term used especially in the area of development prevention, to refer to characteristics affecting individuals or crime patterns.

### **Global Factors:**

These include global changes and trends that affect the social and economic conditions of regions and countries. At the global level, population movements, rapid urbanization, environmental disasters ( Bududa, Katrina Tsunami in USA),

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<sup>81</sup> See Handbook on Crime Prevention Making Them Work United Nations New York 2010 at 18.

<sup>82</sup> See Etienne Krug and others, World Report on violence and Health (Geneva, World Health Organization 2002) at 12.

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economic recession (for example Greece) and changes in patterns of trade and communications or in patterns of organized crime can all have serious consequences for region and countries. Such events can influence the state of a region or a country's political economy, the infrastructure and capacity to govern may also be affected. International organized crime often capitalizes on weak governments structures or institutions, drug trafficking or people who can greatly exacerbate levels of violence and crime. Migration policies, for example; may affect the extent of trafficking in persons and the numbers of victims and perpetrators of that crime.

**National Level:**

At the national level, the extent of the disparity in households' income between the poorest and the wealthiest populations of a country, levels of corruption, the quality of the infrastructure, institutions, social and cultural patterns can create situations that increase the risks of crime and victimization. The Gini coefficient measures income inequality within a country, providing a useful tool for comparing levels of disparity between countries.<sup>83</sup> The author argues that at all levels of government should play a leadership role in developing effective and humane crime prevention strategies and in creating and maintaining institutional frame works for their implementation and review. There should be partnership across ministries and between authorities, community organizations, bossiness sector and nongovernmental organizations.

**Local Level:**

At the local level, inadequate infrastructure, fiscal policy, administrative powers, poor housing, neighbourhood conditions, lack of facilities such as good education, health services, unemployment and easy access to drugs or arms can increase risks. Within cities, there are often marked discrepancies and inequalities between geographical sectors. Poor or disorganized schools result in poor achievement, dropping out of school, bullying behaviour and exclusion from school, all of which have been identified as risk factors for offending and victimization among children and young. This is more common in ghetto or slums places at Kampala and other urban centres in Uganda.

**Individual Level:**

At the individual level, risk factors for offending and victimization include biological and personal factors that may lead to early aggressive behaviour or serious substance abuse for example; risk factors concerned with relationships include family characteristics, such as harsh or erratic parenting, family conflict and

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<sup>83</sup> See United Nations Human Settlement Programme ( UN Habit), *The State of the World's Cities 2008/2009; Harmonious Cities* ( London 2008) for a discussion of the Gini Coefficient and the links between inequality and crime and victimization, especially in urban areas.

violence and abuse, family circumstances such as poverty, isolation, and relationships with friends and peers that can lead to risk-taking and law breaking.

**Knowledge:**

Knowledge about factors that put populations, communities and individual at risk enables prevention programmes to be targeted to areas and neighbourhoods at high risk, or to groups of individuals who are already involved in offending or at risk. At the national level, this assists the government in prioritizing crime problems, and in targeting programmes to the regions, cities or sectors that seem most vulnerable. Such targeting of programmes and funds to tackle the greatest needs has shown to be effective and economical way of reducing the level of crime and victimization. There is always a tendency, nevertheless, to overemphasize the role of individual factors in prevention programmes, by focusing on the disruptive or offending behaviour of individual young men or youth gangs. This leads to a neglect of the wider social and economic factors, which may seem more difficult to address. A well planned prevention strategy will work to address individual, social and economic issues pertaining in the community. The author argues that crime prevention strategies, policies, programmes and actions should be based on broad, multidisciplinary foundation of knowledge about crime problems, their multiple causes and promising and proven practices.

**Concept of Risk Highlights:**

The concept of risk highlights, deals with negative factors can undermine crime. A positive Approach involves examining the quality known as resilience, and the capacity of cities, communities and individuals for avoiding crime and victimization in spite of their circumstances. So-called protective factors help to build or strengthen the resilience of communities and individuals to risks, they include factors such as well-governed cities with low levels of inequality and effective and fair leadership, effective and transparent criminal justice systems, adequate funding for social environmental, economic programmes and citizen participation.

**Local Community Awareness:**

For local communities, the availability of appropriate education and employment, strong community links and relationships, including those associated with cultural and faith based groups or respected elders, good recreation, transport and other facilities. For children and youth, caring and consistent parenting, good role models and staying in school are all important. Thus improvement in neighbourhood services and facilities increases the social capital of an area and provides opportunities for education and training can all help to protect neighbourhoods or individuals and develop their resilience to crime and victimization. It has been hailed success by USAID in 2005 in Northern Uganda were crime preventers were

basic training to combat social issues for example; gender violence and human rights compliance.

## **THEORIES IN SUPPORT OF CRIME PREVENTERS:**

### **a) Situational theory of Crime Prevention:**

Situational crime prevention (SCP) seeks to reduce the number of crime events by focusing on limiting the opportunities for crime to occur.<sup>84</sup> Situation crime prevention is based upon the premise that crime is often opportunistic and aims to modify contextual factors to limit the opportunities for offenders to engage in criminal behaviour. It comprises a range of measures that highlight the importance of targeting very specific forms of crime in certain circumstances.<sup>85</sup> This involves identifying, manipulating and controlling the situational or environmental factors. The environmental approach seeks to change the specific characteristics of the environment that may cause crime to occur, modification of the environment to reduce the opportunities for crime to occur.<sup>86</sup> It's important to note that situation prevention theory, helps to identify those factors that increase the effort of offenders, increase the risks of offenders, those that reduce the awards for offenders and those that remove the excuses for offending.<sup>87</sup>

The approach typically uses an action research model and assumes that offenders make decisions that are broadly rational. It is generally designed so that individual offenders make decisions that are broadly rational. It is designed in a way that individual offenders do not have to be identified for the measure to be successful. It draws theoretical support from a number of frameworks that developed independently in 1970s and 1980s, but which share a focus on the importance of analyzing with crime events themselves or environments in which these events take place.<sup>88</sup> It should be noted that there are a variety of different approaches to crime prevention that differ in terms of the focus of the intervention, the types of activities that are delivered, the theory behind how those activities are designed results and the mechanisms that are applied.

Situational Crime Prevention departs from most criminology in its orientation. Proceedings from analysis of the circumstances giving rise to specific kinds of crime; it introduces discrete managerial and environmental change to reduce the

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<sup>84</sup> See Clarke Ronald, Situational Crime Prevention, In Building A safer Society Strategic Approaches to Crime Prevention, Crime and Justice 19. Chicago Press at 91-50.

<sup>85</sup> See Clarke R.V.G 1980, Situational Crime Prevention: Theory and Practice. British Journal of Criminology at 136-147.

<sup>86</sup>See Problem -oriented Policing Centre at [www.popcentre.org](http://www.popcentre.org), accessed 12 Feb 2016.

<sup>87</sup> See Ronald Clarke and John Eck, Becoming a problem -solving Crime Analyst in 55 Small Steps ( London, Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science 2003).

<sup>88</sup> See Crime Prevention Approaches, theory and Mechanics, available at [http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/current0%20series/rpp/100-120\\_approaches.html](http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/current0%20series/rpp/100-120_approaches.html)



opportunity for those crimes to occur. Thus it is focused on the settings for crime, rather than to detect and sanction offenders. It seeks to eliminate criminal or delinquent tendencies through improvement of society or institutions, but merely to make criminal actions less attractive to offenders in society. This example is now evident in most prestigious places in Uganda, for example Serena, Shelton, State house, and all banks in Uganda have got CCTV in order to control crime. Successful situation Crime Prevention theory involving such measures as surveillance cameras in public areas, apartment blocks and individual residence,<sup>89</sup> electronic car access, alcoholic control areas, entertainment facilities, whose products, services and operation spawn opportunities for a vast range of different crimes.<sup>90</sup> These successes were obtained by hard pressed managers seeking practical ways to solve troublesome crime problems confronting their business or agencies in USA.<sup>91</sup> Only rarely were they assisted by criminologists, who, who excepting a small handful of government researches overseas, have generally shown little interest in situation prevention. Situation crime prevention has rarely been accorded in USA due to two mistakes of modern criminologist.<sup>92</sup>

First is the problem of explaining crime has been confused with the problem of explaining the criminal. Most criminological theories have been concerned with explaining why certain individual or groups, exposed to particular psychological or social influence are more likely to become involved in crime. But this is not the same as explaining why crime occurs. Thus crime cannot be explained simply by explaining criminal dispositions. It has to be shown how such dispositions interact with situational factors favouring crime to produce a criminal act.

The second related mistake of modern criminology has been to confuse the problem of controlling crime with that of dealing with criminal. The surest route to reducing crime, it has been assumed, is to focus on the offender or potential offender. Most textbooks discussions of crime control have therefore distinguished only between two broad kinds of measures, formal and informal social control.

Formal control refers to society's formal constituted legal institutions of the law and the criminal justice system designed to sanction offenders, to confine or rehabilitate them, and to deter crime among the population at large.

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<sup>89</sup> See National Association of Town Watch available at [www.natw.rog.uk](http://www.natw.rog.uk). Accessed 17 Jan 2016. National Crime Prevention of Louisville, at [www.louisville.edu](http://www.louisville.edu).

<sup>90</sup> See Clarke Ronald, *Situation Crime Prevention Successful Case Studies*, Second Edition (1997), School of Criminal Justice, Rutgers University, Harrow And Heston Publishers.

<sup>91</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>92</sup> See Lab S.P (1977) *Crime Prevention: Approaches, Practices and Evaluation*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edit Cincinnati, Anderson Publishing.

Informal social control refers to society attempts to induce conformity through the socialization of young people into the norms of society, and through people's supervision of each other behaviour, reinforced by rule making, admonition and censure. Whether formal or informal, these controls are exclusively focused upon offenders, actual or potential. In daily life, we buy locks for doors or buy houses in areas which are free from crime, to safe guard ourselves. It is through such measure of control that situation crime prevention fits. Criminologists and policy analysts have assumed that the principal value of such sage guards is not to reduce crime but to protect individual people and agencies from victimisation. This argument is subject to criticism as there is no any empirical research which has generally found rather little displacement. Reducing opportunities for crime can bring a reduction in crime in Uganda. Situation crime prevention is more common in Britain, and Netherlands where situation prevention is becoming an integral component of government policy. The Ugandan government should adopt such theory, as a mechanism of reducing crime in Uganda. In UK the Police and government have put a multitude of crime control, which many people have opted out, for example surveillance cambers in most of UK boroughs, with London having the highest. People with negativity have argued that government ways of crime prevention is becoming too pervasive, intrusive and powerful.<sup>93</sup> Such have become a centre of contention by opposition leaders in UK, Uganda but the government did not halt its policy on crime prevention.

#### **b) The Routine Activity Theory**

Under this theory three critical elements must occur simultaneously for a criminal event to occur, there must be an offender, a suitable target and the absence of capable guardian. The theory seeks to explain how societal changes can impact upon opportunities for crime.

#### **c) Crime Pattern Theory:**

This theory explains the influence of communities and neighbourhoods, and focuses on how offenders may come across opportunities for crime in the course of their everyday lives. The author rises a problem conflict between modern concepts of social work and sociotherapeutic model of dealing with inmates; a new paradigmatic framework of restorative justice, which recognises the role of the community integration, in changing offenders in the community. In order to have successful trends of crime prevention, there is a need of family representation force in social education. The family is irreplaceable as the most important instrument of social control. As such it is at the same time manifestly a strong force in crime

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<sup>93</sup> Ibid.

prevention.<sup>94</sup> Indeed this theory adduces that if there crime preventers recruited within the communities, there will be a reduction of offenders. It may be argued that the government initiative to recruit crime preventers is based on this criminologist theory.<sup>95</sup>

#### **d) Rational Choice Theory:**

This theory has a more individualistic focus and explores the decision making process that lead to an offender choosing to become involved in crime or specific criminal events, including weighing up the relative risks and rewards associated with offending. The political sentiments that inflame negativity in society can lead to offenders.

#### **Strategies of Crime Prevention:**

Effective crime prevention is an action that causes a reduction in the level of crimes and the resulting harm, or in the number of criminal offenders and their victims. Crime prevention can be described in terms of three categories or levels; mainly primary, secondary and tertiary prevention.

#### **Primary Crime Prevention:**

This refers to programmes or initiatives aimed at those who have never been involved in the criminal justice system, such as programmes to educate or alert the general public or young people about domestic violence or bullying in schools.

This could include reducing the opportunities for a crime to occur or strengthening community and social structures. Primary prevention focuses on social and situational factors. Social crime prevention addresses factors that influence an individual's likelihood of committing a crime for example; unemployment, poverty, low education etc. Prevention strategies to address social factors can include school based programs for example; truancy initiatives as well as community based programs for example; local residents groups promoting community ownership and guardianship. On the other hand situation addresses the environment factors. Primary crime prevention is directed at stopping the problem before it happens. This could involve reducing opportunities for crime, strengthening community and social

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<sup>94</sup> See Gorazd Mesko Mitja, Institute of Criminology, College of Police and Security Studies, Crime Prevention Theory, Practice and Dilemmas, A Book of Conference Abstracts of the Second Slovene Criminology Conference, September 26-27, 2003.

<sup>95</sup> See Early Intervention: The Next Steps. Government Report Publication, Journal of Scandinavian Studies in Criminology and Crime Prevention, (2011) 6 (74) 88.see Anderson Kinsey, Cautionary Tales: Young People, Crime and Policing in Edinburgh (1994). See Bardisa- Ezcurra, Children and young people's perspectives on school, family, and community based personal, social and health education, available at <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/index.jsp?action=download&o=49247>, accessed 10 August 2015.

structures. This type of prevention is directed at stopping the crime before it happens. Primary prevention addresses the conditions in the natural environment that may lead to the developmental and prevalence of crime. Lack of street maintenance, broken windows, abandoned buildings, and broken cars are examples of disorganised community. Primary prevention seeks directly to alleviate these factors that may lead to crime. One type of primary prevention is that of neighbourhood crime prevention.

### **Secondary Crime Prevention:**

Secondary crime prevention attempts to prevent crime by focusing on at risk offenders or potential opportunities that may foster criminal activity. The main tool used in secondary crime prevention is identification and predication. In other words it aims to change people, typically those at high risk of becoming involved in crime. The focus can be rapid and effective early intervention for example youth programs. There are many theoretical basis for the implementation of secondary crime prevention programs. Once we are able to identify potential places, people that are at risk for criminal activity it may be possible to predict and prevent any future criminal occurrence, by reducing the potential opportunities; to commit crime, increasing the risks of the crime, more likely that the criminal will not engage in such behaviour. Citizens can take steps to protect themselves from victimization.

### **Tertiary Crime Prevention:**

Unlike primary or secondary, this focuses on prevention after a crime has occurred. It focuses on the operation of the criminal justice system, and addresses the issue of offending after it has happened. The main focus is on intervention in the lives of offenders in an attempt to prevent them from re-offending for example; community youth conferencing schemes. The focus is to reduce the recidivism rate of criminals and ensure that steps are taken so that a victim will not be re-victimized. The primary form of tertiary prevention in the USA today is that of incapacitation. Although it does not prevent criminals from committing crimes once they leave prison, it does protect the large population from present victimization at the hands of the criminal.

## **Types of Crime Prevention**

### **a) Neighbourhood Watch:**

Various approaches to preventing crime have been developed over approximately the past two decades on the basis of a considerable amount of research and evaluation. By addressing the factors that may lead to crime, neighbourhood crime prevention affects the fear and perception of crime as well as the actual prevalence

of crime.<sup>96</sup> If members of the community are participating in crime prevention, their perception and fear of crime may reduce. There are many different approaches to neighbourhood crime prevention the attempt is to establish a cohesive and socially aware community where crime cannot flourish. For example; neighbourhood watch, citizen patrols, organized community clean up days, social events with local law enforcement through picnics, festivals etc. Neighbourhood are successful if there is active participation from both citizens and local resources. The more actively involved members are in the overall well being of the community, the more successful the program will be at reducing crime. It should be emphasized that according to Maryland report, over 90% of studies evaluated show that there is reduction in crime due to neighbourhood crime prevention program.<sup>97</sup>

This highly popular form of citizen surveillance has long been an important component of community crime prevention in the US and UK and some other western countries. Used mostly to prevent crimes at private residences, it is also known as block watch, home watch and community watch. Many neighbourhood watch schemes are carried out in partnership with police, and educating the public about home break-ins and their prevention. A number of mechanisms have been proposed for how neighbourhood watch schemes can reduce crime, including residents watching out for suspicious activities and reporting these to police. It should be noted that America has the highest rate of crime followed by Australia. In countries fear of crime is still very high. Greater participation between community and local law enforcement (crime preventers) is needed to ensure that crime and victimization rates continue to decline. Crime prevention is a concept that can help to reduce crime and public fear and perception of crime.<sup>98</sup> Many individuals have taken steps to protect themselves and their property by attending self defence courses, acquiring dogs or engraving their property with some form of identification, to deter criminals.<sup>99</sup>

#### **b) Urban Design and Planning:**

Broader planning initiatives for example urban renewal projects, to reduce the opportunities for crime through the design and management of the built and landscaped environment. Crime prevention is being recognised as an increasingly important consideration in urban regeneration programs. This includes strategies that involve modifying the built environment to create safer places that are less

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<sup>96</sup> See Nick Tilley and others, *Problems-Solving Street Crime: Practical Lessons From the Street Crime Initiative* (London, Home Office 2004).

<sup>97</sup> See Australian Institute of Criminology, *Crime Reduction Matters, Approaches to Understanding Crime Prevention* [http://www.safetycops.com/crime\\_prevention.html](http://www.safetycops.com/crime_prevention.html), 20 May 2003, No.1 ISSN 1448-1383 accessed 14 Feb 2016.

<sup>98</sup> See Morgan & Reiner, *The Oxford Handbook of Criminology*, Oxford University Press at 947-79.

<sup>99</sup> See [www.aic.gov.au/publications/crm](http://www.aic.gov.au/publications/crm) accessed 12 Feb 2016.

prone or can make people feel safer, such as by designing public spaces that encourage large numbers of users and provide greater natural surveillance, or by designing pedestrian thoroughfares that are well lit and do not create places for potential offenders to hide. This approach has been applied in Australia a country that has the largest department of crime preventers due to its history. The Kampala Capital Authority in is planning to install street lights and cameras, in conjunction with cooperation of the people especially in Kampala, if this plan is completed, with support of the government, crime in Kampala will reduce. The development should be nationwide to avoid discrimination tendencies, and political deficit. An increase in street lights, CCTV (Closed Circuit Television) in cities, car parks, malls, city buildings as proposed by the president will deter crime in cities of Uganda especially Kampala. Crime has reduced in developed cities due to increase of CCTV, for example UK has almost 40,000 CCTV in London alone.<sup>100</sup>

**c) Developmental Crime Prevention:**

In recent years, most developmental prevention efforts have targeted early risk factors for offending. Risk factors are prior factors that increase the risk of occurrence of the onset, frequency, persistence or duration of offending.<sup>101</sup> Longitudinal data are required to establish the ordering of risk factors and criminal career features. Many risk factors for offending are well established and highly replicable. Places of low school attainment, poor parental supervision, parental conflict, anti- social parent, young mothers, large family with low income and coming from broken families. An employment is a risk factor of offending between individuals, since unemployed people are more likely than employed people to be offenders.<sup>102</sup>

Developmental prevention refers to intervention strategies designed to prevent the development of criminal potential in individuals, especially those targeting risk and protective factors discovered in studies of human development. There has been considerable investment in early intervention programs in Australia, many of which do not have explicit crime prevention objectives. Developmental crime prevention is based on the premise that intervening early in young person's developments can produce significant long term social and economic benefits. While there is evidence of the importance of intervening early in life, the focus of the developmental crime prevention is on intervening early at any of a number of critical transition points in a person's development to lead them on a pathway to prevent future offending.

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<sup>100</sup> See Cameron & Laycock, Crime prevention in Australia in Graycar & Grabbosky, The Cambridge Handbook of Australian Criminology, and Cambridge University Press Cambridge at 313-333.

<sup>101</sup> See Brandon Walsh, The Future of Crime Prevention: Developmental & Situational Strategies 11 Dec 2010.

<sup>102</sup> See Loeber & Farrington, The Book Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders: Risk Factors & Successful Intervention 1998.

Transition points occur around birth, the preschool years, transition from primary to high school and from high school to further education or the workforce. Early intervention aims to address risk factors and enhance protective factors that impact upon the likelihood that risk a young person will engage in future offending behaviour.

**d) Community Development:**

Community development is premised on the notion that changing the physical and social organisation of communities may influence the behaviour of individuals who live there. The risk of becoming involved in a crime, or being victimised, is greater in those communities that experience high levels of social exclusion or a lack of social cohesion. Also underlying the community development approach is the belief that crime in a particular community is not primarily or solely the result of the actions of a small number of criminologically disposed individuals, but the result of the coincidence of a series of structural determinants present within a particular community for example; access to housing, education, employment, and health services. Empower communities in decision making process and community programs that enhance social cohesion, which in turn provide opportunities to address local crime problems.

**e) Reducing the Opportunity to Commit Crime:**

Target hardening; this technique makes it physically more difficult for the potential offender to engage in criminal activity. Installing dead-bolt locks in doors, using steering wheel locks for cars and putting iron bars on windows are few examples of target hardening. The recent surge of computer crimes has made it increasingly necessary to address issues of privacy. Computer users can protect themselves from victimization by installing software that defends against potential intrusion by hackers and other criminals. Software that protects against computer virus is a form of target hardening that is widely implemented.

**f) Increasing the Risk Associated with Crime:**

Formal surveillance; this technique is used by many companies and corporations. It can be used in a residential environment. There are many ways to conduct formal surveillance. Some examples of formal surveillance include night desk attendants, security guards, security cameras, speeding cameras, and alarm systems. Potential criminals may be less likely to engage in illegal activity if they perceive a greater risk at being apprehended.

Natural surveillance; in *defensive space* (1972) Oscar Newman proposed natural surveillance as a technique of crime prevention through physical design. The physical space is designed in a manner in which legitimate users can monitor the activities that occur in that area. For example, by increasing street lighting users a

criminal will be identified. Criminals are likely to offend where there is darkness; one way to address this by putting humps that slow down a potential fleeing felon or limit road access to the neighbourhood.

### **Approaches and Procedural Control:**

#### **a) Crime preventers:**

Sometimes the presence of people in an area may deter offenders to from committing a crime. This includes formal control (surveillance, access control), informal social control, self-protection or avoidance occur and or encourage behaviour that minimises opportunities for crime to occur. Introduce or improve formal or informal surveillance to increase the perceived risk that committing crime will result in identification or capture

#### **b) Wider Environment:**

The aim is to make the physical environment safer, or to make the environment less likely to encourage conflict through environmental design and management, including aiding surveillance, resolving conflicts and setting rule that manipulate the physical environment to improve surveillance, define ownership of spaces and minimise conflict between users.

#### **c) Target Enclosure:**

A target enclosure is the business room or space such as a shop, car, home that contains the target of crime. Interventions include perimeters access and security, which make target enclosure harder to penetrate to increase the perceived effort associated with a crime.

#### **d) Target Person or Property:**

Projects in this category focus on strengthening the actual target, not just its surroundings. It could include what is sometimes termed as target hardening or the removal of the target from the vulnerable area. Increase the perceived effort or rewards associated with a crime by making targets harder to access, remove or dispose.

#### **e) Offender presence in Situation:**

This is an activity that targets an offender's presence in a situation, possibly by placing restrictions on their access to certain areas at a certain time or by providing alternative activities. It is trying to remove or deter potential offenders from situations that might result in an offence occurring. Prevent potential offenders from being able to access locations where there are potential targets (property or people) or where provocation may occur.



**f) Anticipation of Risk, Effort and Reward:**

People can be influenced to commit crime by weighing up what they will benefit from it, how much they are willing to risk to commit the offence and what would be involved in committing it. Projects can be aimed at specifically at deterring and or discouraging potential offenders by making them riskier, requiring more effort or have less reward. Increase the perceived effort of crime or reduce the anticipated rewards of crime to discourage potential offenders.

**g) Resources for Crime:**

The government should restrict resources for crime- control of weapons, tools and information on targets and transfer of criminal knowledge. Prevent offenders from being able to access the resources they need in order to commit an offence, or that may be used as an excuse for offending behaviour.

**h) Readiness to Offend:**

There could be some situations where a person's current life circumstances may suddenly change. This category could be seen as targeting (often unexpected) short term situations for potential offenders for example; money problems, relationship problems, substance use, including changing current life circumstances and conflict resolution techniques<sup>103</sup>. Alleviate or minimise the impact of stressors relating to the individual or environment that may influence the behaviour of potential offenders or that might be used as an excuse for offending.<sup>104</sup>

**i) Resources to avoid Crime:**

Training potential offenders in areas such as social and work skills to target factors that can make some people at a greater risk than others to commit crimes. Building a person's resilience to offending by providing them with skills, knowledge, and ability to avoid situations in which their risk of offending might be increased.

**j) Criminality Predisposition:**

Reduce known risk factors and enhance known protective factors through family, school and peer groups; also includes supplying remedial treatment for those who have been convicted. Intervene early at key developmental stages to alleviate risk factors and enhance protective factors. Addressing the underlying factors that contributed to offender's behaviour in the first place and supporting their transition back into the community.<sup>105</sup>

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<sup>103</sup> See Alison Taylor *Mediation Theory & Practice* 2002 California p210-293.

<sup>104</sup> See Harold Saunders, *Sustained Dialogue in Conflicts, Transformation and Change* (2011) Palgrave Macmillan p207-265.

<sup>105</sup> See Australian National

## Conclusion

Prevention administration must consider the context in which the debate about crime prevention occurs.<sup>106</sup> The selection process of crime preventers in Uganda is based on merit,<sup>107</sup> no previous criminal record, good moral and integrity, volunteerism, good character and rule of law.<sup>108</sup> One to be a crime preventer has to be a citizen of Uganda<sup>109</sup> subject to District Management Committee vetting with caution on gender balance at least 30% of the composition are women.<sup>110</sup> Given the international crime gangs, like domestic violence against women, there is a need to support crime preventers in Uganda in order to match modern policing.<sup>111</sup> A community free from danger and fear should be the critical objective of the government.<sup>112</sup> Dealing with crime and insecurity requires collaboration with all stake holders.<sup>113</sup> Partnership between police and community is the future of modern policing world,<sup>114</sup> where by Police builds confidence and trust to obtain cooperation and intelligence from the civilians or community.<sup>115</sup> However, the author argues that there is urgent need to enact Crime Prevention Act<sup>116</sup> necessary to implement prevention concepts, programmes, and coordinate prevention activities.<sup>117</sup> The Act will harmonize the working relationship of the state actors, for example; Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Judiciary, Uganda Prison Service, Direct of Public Prosecution, Judicial Service Commission, Uganda Law Reform, Minister of Local Government and Ministry of Gender Labour and Social development.<sup>118</sup> The Act will expressly define crime preventers, stakeholders and their interactions, role of IGP and financing. This will be a remedy

<sup>106</sup> See Elerene Van de Spuy & Rick Rontsch, *Police & Crime in Cape Town, Prevention in Africa A brief Appraisal of Structures, Policies & Practices*, Draft Report on 31 October 2008 at p

<sup>107</sup> See A Draft on Uganda Police Force, *A Guide to Streamline the Utilization and Management of Crime Preventers For A Crime Free From Society* 4 January 2016.

<sup>108</sup> See Constitution of Uganda 1995 Article 38 and 17(1).

<sup>109</sup> See Uganda Constitution 1995 Articles 9-10-11-12-13. And Immigration Act of Uganda.

<sup>110</sup> See Constitution of Uganda 1995 Art.33

<sup>111</sup> See 6<sup>th</sup> Kigali International Conference Declaration (KICD) Annual General Meeting Theme – Combating Violence Against Women and Girls: The Role of Security Organs and the Community. | 6-7 March 2007 Kampala Uganda.

<sup>112</sup> See Conclusions of 11<sup>th</sup> UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Penal Justice Bangkok 2005.

<sup>113</sup> See Robert Okemwa Onsare, *Crime Prevention in Kenya-Making the Police More Effective and Accountable* <https://theglobalherald.com/crimeprevention-kenyamaking-police-more-effective-and-accountable>

<sup>114</sup> See Australian Institute of Criminology, *Crime Reduction Matters* 20 May 2003 ISSN 1448-1383. Available at <http://www.aic.gov.au>.

<sup>115</sup> See Giling Daniel-Multi Agency Crime Prevention in Britain: The Problem of combining Situation and Social Strategy Department of Applied Studies – University of Plymouth.

<sup>116</sup> See Kenya programme on crime preventers, [www.kenyapolic.go.ke/resources/crime\\_fig1995\\_2003.pdf](http://www.kenyapolic.go.ke/resources/crime_fig1995_2003.pdf) accessed 12 Feb 2017.

<sup>117</sup> See Ministry of The Interior of the Republic of Czech, *The Czech Republic Prevention Strategy 2008-2011*.

<sup>118</sup> See Strategy Plan for the Rwandan National Police 2009-2013 p10-26.

to the political opposition who associate crime preventers to genocide of Rwanda<sup>119</sup> or an intimidation force to keep the current president of Uganda in power.

The media have an entrenched position of information providers on matters to do with law<sup>120</sup> and order. Media can press a crime panic or crime fuel, which brings moral hysteria about crime.<sup>121</sup> The media must lead the way in this endeavour.<sup>122</sup> Crime prevention programs should begin with recognition of the existence of, the malleability, and diversity of inter-cultural perspectives to avoid community attitudes and prejudices,<sup>123</sup> discrimination and stigmatisation.<sup>124</sup>

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<sup>119</sup> See The Role of The Media In The Rwandan Genocide, Institute For Media, Peace & Security,(2005) University For Peace p83-94.

<sup>120</sup> See Uganda Communication Act 2013 S.30&32., Computer Misuse Act 2011 25 &26, and Press and Journalist Act Cap 105.S.27 & 38. See Penal Code Act Cap 120.

<sup>121</sup> See Linda, Prospect Magazine, The Media and Rwanda Genocide 2004. See Interviews of Journalist of Rwanda Genocide available at [www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/ghosts/interviews/](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/ghosts/interviews/). See Pedelty,Mark, War Stories-the culture of foreign correspondents. New York (1995) Routledge.

<sup>122</sup> Ibid p111-129.

<sup>123</sup> See Roberts & Palmer, Dispute Processes ( 2013) Cambridge Press 277-369.

<sup>124</sup> Loeber & Farrington, The Book Serious and Violent Juvenile Offenders: Risk Factors & Successful Intervention 1998.