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#### PRESENTATION STRUCTURE

1. Introduction / background - context

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- 2. CPTED fundamentals a local interpretation

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- 3. The fundamentals in practice do they matter?

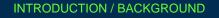
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#### PRESENTATION STRUCTURE

- 1. Introduction / background context
- 2. CPTED fundamentals a local interpretation
- 3. The fundamentals in practice do they matter?
- 4. Conclusion so what?





INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

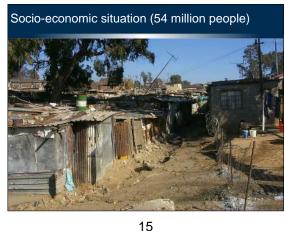
Context



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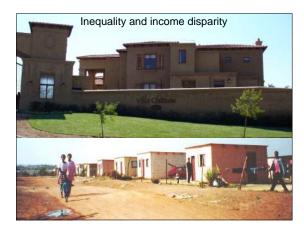
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#### INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

#### Socio-economic situation

- Poverty
- More than half the population live below the poverty line Less than US\$2 per day
- Almost 22% live in extreme poverty
- Unemployment
  - 25% 35% of the workforce
  - 50% of those between 15 and 24 (almost half the population)
- In some communities percentages are much higher



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#### INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

#### Crime situation

- Murder
  - 17 800 during 2014/15
  - 33 per 100 000, almost 50 murders per day
  - Two provinces with the highest rate 49 and 52 per 100 000
  - World average 6 per 100 000
  - Less than 10% of murder suspects convicted
- Aggravated robberies
  - Almost 130 000 during 2014/15
  - 354 per day
  - More than 20 000 house robberies 56 per day (violent home invasions and "farm murders")



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Crime and safety are the second most cited challenges faced by South Africans (after unemployment)

Leads to high levels of fear, perceptions, urban myths, exaggerations, irrational assumptions...

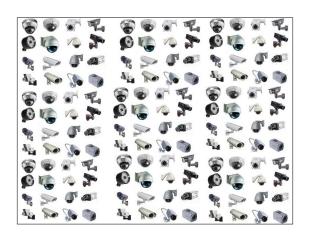


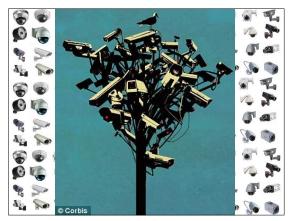




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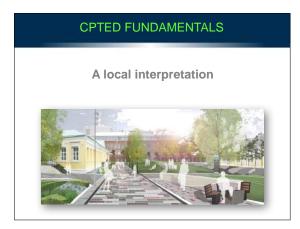












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# A local interpretation

#### **CPTED FUNDAMENTALS**

#### Based on principles

- CPTED based on "principles" may vary slightly depending on specific interpretations and contexts
- Confusing use of terminology principles, techniques, mechanisms, strategies, tools, methods
- South African interpretation of CPTED five "principles"
- Performance criteria qualities to be strived for, objectives to be achieved

#### **CPTED FUNDAMENTALS**

Qualities that contribute to the creation of safer spaces relate to the following:

- Surveillance and visibility
- Territoriality
- Access and escape routes
- Image and aesthetics
- Target hardening

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#### **CPTED FUNDAMENTALS**

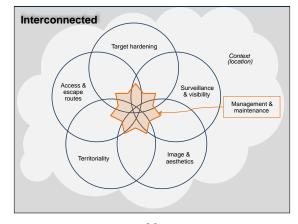
#### Principles and their implementation

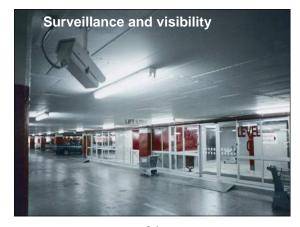
What are the objectives we are aiming to achieve?

Performance criteria – qualities to be strived for, objectives to be achieved

How are we going to do this in practice?

Give effect to the principles by by means of implementation techniques, tools, mechanisms, strategies















# **CPTED FUNDAMENTALS**

# Important considerations

- Objectives may be contradictory
- Take into account the context don't view principles in isolation
- When applying a principle, consider the possible implications it may have on any of the others

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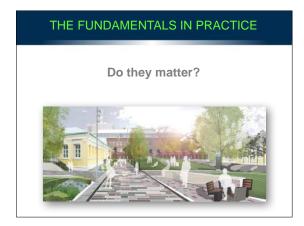




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#### Do they matter?



THE FUNDAMENTALS IN PRACTICE

#### Different places, different contexts

- Two initiatives / projects
- Understanding perceptions of safety in parks
- Identifying potential crime risk factors in residential neighbourhoods
- Two contexts
  - Inclusive
  - Exclusionary



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#### Assessment of parks

- Case studies of 18 parks in Pretoria
- Nature (physical form) [spatial/site analysis]
- Use (function) [participant observation, interviews]

THE FUNDAMENTALS IN PRACTICE

- Perceptions of users (crime situation) [interviews]
- Prof Karina Landman and honours students of the Department of Town and Regional Planning at the University of Pretoria
- Identified presence of "principles" to determine common physical characteristics or risk factors

#### THE FUNDAMENTALS IN PRACTICE

#### Assessment of parks

- The study had to be conducted in the absence of official (police) crime data
- The lack of reliable crime data presents researchers and practitioners with distinct challenges. It placed certain limitations on this study since a relatively accurate picture of the actual crime situation in and around the spaces could not be established
- Had to rely on anecdotal information and the opinions of the users of the spaces and their perceptions of the crime situation





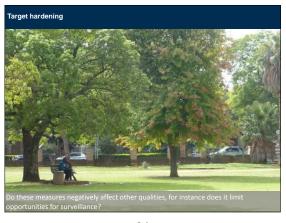
















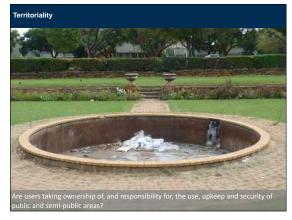
























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#### Assessment of parks

- Issues related to safety and security featured in most of the interviews
- Most people said that they used the parks during the day but that they were afraid to do so after dark
- Some indicated that they are fearful as they were aware of muggings occurring in certain parks
- The lack of maintenance created perceptions that the area may be unsafe.
- Lack of, or condition of toilet facilities problematic
- Poor lighting in some areas were noted

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#### THE FUNDAMENTALS IN PRACTICE

#### Assessment of parks

- Crime and the fear of crime plays a significant role in discouraging people from using the parks, especially after dark
- People also feared the drug dealers in some parks, even though the dealers tended to remain in one particular area in each of the parks
- In some parks drug dealers were observed actively selling drugs.

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#### THE FUNDAMENTALS IN PRACTICE

#### Assessment of parks

- The presence of homeless people made users feel unsafe. They were regarded by some as being rude and some made improper comments. The areas they occupied tended to be unclean, presenting an image of disorder and decline
- Homeless people and those consuming alcohol tend to keep to more secluded areas

The parks are inclusive, but this makes certain users feel unsafe

Some parks are regarded as a favourite places by many, but certain users are not appreciated by all

#### THE FUNDAMENTALS IN PRACTICE

#### Assessment of parks

- Certain physical characteristics of the parks contribute to the creation of opportunities for crime and influence people's perceptions of safety and security.
- Based on information gathered through user interviews, certain characteristics created opportunities in some cases, but in other cases they did not play a role in increasing levels of crime.
- Similarly, some characteristics improved perceptions of safety in certain parks, while the same characteristics did not deter criminal activity in other cases.



#### Assessment of residential neighbourhoods

- An enclosed neighbourhood since 1 December 2013.
- Well established suburb with road closures.
- Around 1 700 households
- Upper middle class
- Analysis of crime data as reported by residents and captured by Infomerger (and ADT).

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- GIS maps (hot spots) Dr Peter Schmitz
- Visual assessment of the physical environment.
- Interviews and focus group discussions.

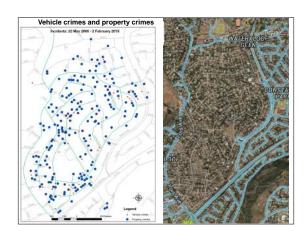


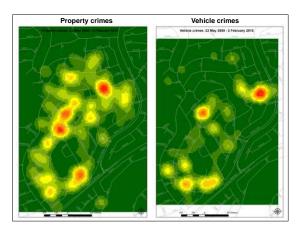
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# THE FUNDAMENTALS IN PRACTICE

### Assessment of residential neighbourhoods

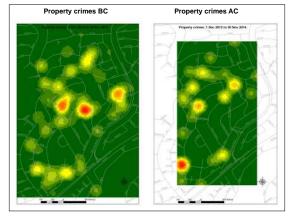
- Crimes reported to the residents organisation.
- Time period: 23 May 2008 2 February 2015
- Total number of incidents 418
- Most common crimes
  - Burglary at residential premises (228)
  - Theft out of motor vehicle (64)
  - House robberies (14)





#### Assessment of residential neighbourhoods

- Crime patters before and after street closures.
- Property crimes
- One year period BC: 120One year period AC: 33
- Vehicle crimes
- One year period BC: 12One year period AC: 27



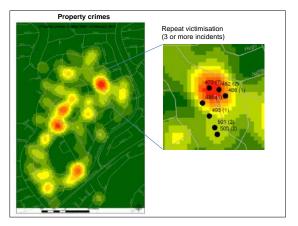
#### THE FUNDAMENTALS IN PRACTICE

#### Assessment of residential neighbourhoods

Repeat victimisation (3 or more incidents) – 14 houses

Address	Number
Barry Hertzog St	7
Verdi St	7
Verdi St	4
Gerhard Marais St	4
Verdi St	4
Gaub St	4
Wendy St	3
Roy St	3
Dwyka St	3
William Nicol St	3
Dwyka St	3
Verdi St	3
Dwyka St	4 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3
William Nicol	3

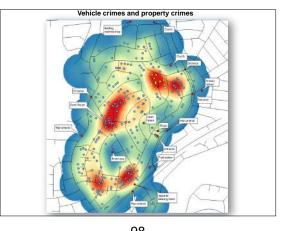
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CONCLUSION

#### Theory vs reality

- Inclusive. Safe. Favourite
- Can a place be everything to everybody?
- CPTED principles sometimes they work, sometimes the don't
- My perception, or is it real?
- What motivates a criminal to commit a crime when CPTED "logic" dictates that it would not be a wise decision?

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#### CONCLUSION

## Theory vs the South African reality

- Some insight provided by convicted house robbers interviewed by Prof Rudolph Zinn from Unisa\*
- "Money is worth much more than a human life"
- "Most important factor when selecting a target inside information"
- "Security measures will not deter me if the reward is big enough according to the inside info"
- Security measures (including CPTED) often just require a change in MO – will do whatever it takes

Rudolph Zinn. Home Invasion – "Robbers disclose what you should know." 2010. Tafelberg, Cape Town.

#### **CONCLUSION**

# Theory vs the South African reality

- The crime situation is exceptional
- Extreme levels of violence
- The apparent willingness of offenders to inflict injury or resort to deadly violence when committing a crime may limit the effectiveness of certain crime reduction measures.
- Levels and effectiveness of policing vary.
- The unwillingness to intervene
- Ineffective criminal justice system
- Corruption



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#### CONCLUSION

#### Easier said than done?

- Creating inclusive, safe, favourite places requires more than just adhering to CPTED principles
- Some principles could lead to a change in MO that involves more violence
- "Choose your crime"
- For our punch drunk citizens, the answer to the question is "yes"

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