

Crime Prevention and Security Management

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Harald Haelterman

Crime Script Analysis

Preventing Crimes Against Business

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Ghent University
Belgium

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*To my Parents
For their unconditional love and support*

Series Editor's Preface

In this book, Harald Haelterman provides an important reference point for anyone who wants to learn more about crime scripts and their use as tools of crime prevention. In so doing, he fills an important gap. Crime script analysis was adopted from another discipline—cognitive science—and applied to crime rather imaginatively by Derek Cornish over two decades ago, but his pioneering early work has not inspired as much follow-up work as it deserves. Indeed, with a few notable exceptions, fully discussed in this book, crime script analysis has remained outside of most discussions about how best to analyse crime and then prevent it. Haelterman does not just fill the general knowledge gap on using crime scripts, but the specific one of relating their use to the business environment.

Crime scripts are in fact an extremely useful analytical tool. They force a focus on all the different elements that contribute to a crime or attempted crime taking place. Moreover, script analysis affords the opportunity to examine alternative pathways that offenders might follow when confronted with different obstacles when committing offences.

In fact the book is more than a discussion of crime scripts; it incorporates a review of a wide range of theories both of criminality and the criminal event providing a context for understanding the diverse ways in which scripts can improve the comprehension of crime and the identification of effective remedies. You will also learn about costs, not just

financial ones which are the most discussed, but also ethical, esthetical, and consequential costs too. And the broader benefits of crime scripts extend beyond crime prevention to crime investigation by linking activities, and research by generating insights that are difficult to uncover by other means.

You will also be introduced to the process of crime script development, understanding how data can be collected and used, crucially how offender perspectives can be understood, how intervention points can be identified and some of the problems therein. Using scripts has long been under-examined and here you will learn about crime script visualization, labelling, and how to apply the principles of situational crime prevention in the most effective ways. This is important though because one of the problems for those responsible for preventing crime is deciding which measures are best suited to any particular context, and it is often not recognized that crime script analysis provides a potentially effective way of determining that.

This book then is about theory and practice and the integration of the two. This process is best reflected in the range of case studies that are presented, each examining an aspect of business crime including, for example, expense reimbursement fraud, fraudulent cash withdrawals from both stolen cards and account takeover, fraudulent money transfers, so-called CEO fraud, cargo theft, and theft from vehicles.

This book is timely. There is something of a resurgence of interest in crime scripts, and this book will, I am sure, be an important reference for both scholars and practitioners.

Martin Gill

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Special thanks are due to the various practitioners who wish to remain anonymous but were willing to share the necessary input for the various case studies included in this volume. It goes without saying that their contribution is very much appreciated.

Last but by no means least, I would like to thank my family and friends for supporting me throughout this endeavour, and for allowing me to give up the best part of my social life for writing this book. I couldn't have done it without their support.

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About the Author

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He started his professional career in 1997 as a corporate investigator and crime risk management consultant, providing consultancy and investigative services to a variety of multinationals and industry sectors. In 2002, he joined TNT Express where he held a number of senior management positions in Security, Ethics, and Compliance. Since 2013,

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Abbreviations

ACFE	Association of Certified Fraud Examiners
COSO	Committee of Sponsoring Organizations (of the Treadway Commission)
CPTED	Crime Prevention through Environmental Design
EC	Ethical Cost
EMEA	Europe, Middle East, and Africa
ERM	Enterprise Risk Management
ESC	Esthetical Cost
FC	Financial Cost
fMRI	Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging
GPS	Global Positioning System
IQ	Intelligence Quotient
ISO	International Standards Organisation
MO	Modus Operandi (<i>plural</i> : Modi Operandi)
PET	Positron Emission Tomography
PIN	Personal Identification Number
SARA	Scanning, Analysis, Response, and Assessment
TAPA	Transported Asset Protection Association
UK	United Kingdom
US	United States (of America)

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