



ANALYSIS OF TYPES AND INCIDENTS OF NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS CRIMES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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Abstract

Unfortunately, traditional crimes business victims in the United States of America do not have immediate legislative protection to prevent future occurrences. For example, assault weapons (**AR-15 & AK-47**), **Forgery, Theft and Weapon Abuses** remains in the business neighborhood of American cities, despite hundreds of assault gun victims in the societies. These business victims often have more moments and memories and have a sad experience than State and Federal Legislature pouring “**Thoughts and Prayers**” as condolences to the business victims and owners(Entrepreneurs). These lack of Legislatives empathy will never stop the thefts, forgery and even killings in business neighborhood.

Therefore, business crimes and incidents needs constant promotion of awareness that my result to network of solutions to the business crimes vocabularies; actions and criminal justice administrative remedies together with the existing laws. The information presented in this article with the suggested model was obtained from personal observations, interviewing entrepreneurs and business owners of business crimes victims. What they felt, for the purpose of formulating important strategies to reduce business crimes in American business neighborhood form the basis of this analysis. This process my successfully balance criminal justice professional actions with existing pending legislation and the aggressively in prosecuting business crime offender (White, & Hertz, 2018).

Therefore, the full analysis of the study, is to identify, analyzed and contrast the types of business crimes among within selected American business neighborhood (Malls and Shopping Centers), located in central Alabama. An analysis will statistically utilize the value of .05 level of significance if applicable for each of the issues with the business crime and incidents. Finally, the information and data analysis found that, relationships may exist between business crimes, incidents, business distress and bankruptcy. Contrary to neighborhood free from business crimes offenders and Shopping Malls securities infrastructures.

Keywords

Business Neighborhoods, Legislation, Residency, Business Crimes Victims, Race Grouping, Offenders, Metropolitan, Ethnicity

Introduction

America’s disadvantage businesses with Black, Hispanic and Asian present very unique evident and circumstances as many as business forgery, theft, shoplifting, Sexual assaults, Physical Violence, Theft and Drug uses and abuses to the peopled in business neighborhoods. Rimes in this context attracts racially business neighbors and as criminals. It also invites general public to receive undue attention for law enforcement engagements, no matter the race, religion and ethnicity. Therefore, business crimes in American such business shopping mallks and Societies are places that may, in reality attracts dangerous criminals due to the fact that they are places of comforts of deviant behaviors by the criminals to foster.

However, business shopping malls with physical access and movement must be secured frequently in order to control business crimes. Sloan (1994) found that most of the business crime reported in societies did not involve violence most of the time. In fact, these shopping malls/centers in this study concluded that violent crimes

had the lowest rates among all categories of shopping malls and also less than alcohol and illegal drugs use in public housing as crime centers. He also found relationships between variables representing characteristics of the neighborhood and the individual categories (Blacks/Hispanic) of crimes as well as the types of crime and the total neighborhood crime rates. Interestingly, every business neighborhood environment was also found to be directly related to thefts, burglaries and vandalism.

Despite increased focus and efforts by business owners and government security officials, they are still faced with risks in areas ranging from theft, physical violence, sexual assaults, and illegal drugs use (Whites and Hertz, 2018). Occurrences of business crimes have adversely impacted American business sustainability and profit margins and with firearm violence, known popularly as **AR-15 & AK-47**.

Review of Related Literature:

The literature review includes material from scholarly journals and peer-reviewed studies predominantly conducted by business owners, criminal justice experts/retail professionals' setting with the majority of the literature being published within the past five years. The literature was obtained by searching the databases provided through Alabama State University including Business Owners, Criminal Justice Academic Department, Criminal Justice Journals, Education Research Complete, ERIC, ProQuest, Psychology Journals, and Mental Measurement Yearbook. The collection of research material focused on the search of keywords relating to the study of business neighborhood crimes.

Most previous research, focused on criminals and not the causes and impacts of crimes in American shopping malls and neighborhoods shopping centers (Wells, 2015), but existing research often fails to address how to reduce business crimes and the role of criminal justice professionals in identifying causes and address resilience in shopping malls and retail stores security management in America.

Substantial research has been dedicated to studying shopping malls and neighborhood shopping centers. Research focused on stores' security and business crime prevention, aims at identifying factors that contribute to the phenomenon (Chang-Kredl et al., 2014; Wells, 2015), but existing research often fails to address how to reduce business crimes and the role of criminal justice professionals in identifying causes and address strategic solutions.

The literature, emphasizes that, there are number of serious incidents of business crimes at historically black neighborhoods due to entrepreneurs and business operators demands who are victims of committed business crimes prior to being studied. Hytche (2001) found that businesses located in black neighborhood or near metropolitan areas had more incidents of business crime reported. These findings were further validated in a study conducted by Hightower (2008) which concluded that certain types of business crimes occur on disadvantaged neighborhood shopping centers/malls with prior business crimes.

These research studies compared business crimes by type and frequency during previous years before 2021. As such, it is known that the location of businesses significantly influences its respective business crime rate. However, no study to support affluent shopping malls location in an urban area as a factor of correlated business crime (Well M, 2017). It is also known that there are other factors that influence incidents of business' crimes being reported by business owners/entrepreneurs as victims of business criminal acts. As such, half of all business crime occurring on disadvantaged neighborhoods (Hart & Colavito, 2011).

What is not clear to most researchers and merchants is what is the real identity/profiles of business criminal on shopping malls and what are some of the characteristics shared among those individuals who have been identified engaging in the commission of certain other offenses or business crimes. While some of the business crimes that occur in poor neighborhoods are committed by mobile criminal's (out of state residents). For example, most of the killing on U.S. Shopping Malls are done by visitors. Only information relating to the commission of certain crimes by individuals identified as foreign to the location who were at the time the offense was committed between 2019 and 2023 form the data base of this study.

The primary purpose of this study was to examine certain characteristics of the shopping malls who have suffered certain business crimes within the State of Alabama. This analysis specifically focused on the occurrences of certain reported business crimes/offenses on the poor neighborhoods in the State of Alabama. If possible to identify specific characteristics shared by the individuals who committed the offenses. In addition, this research compared the reported incidents of business crime by types during the period of the study.

Assessment of Business Crimes Rate on American Shopping Malls/Centers:

The occurrence of business crime on poor neighborhoods in America has become an issue that have become extremely concerned to Commerce and Industry. The reality of business crimes on disadvantaged has also sparked concern as well as fear in the minds of business owners, customers and criminal justice system. Despite incremental reduction of business crimes, due to business advocates and government interventions, statistics show that a significant number of business crimes occur on daily basis throughout American Shopping Malls/Centers.

From 2019 to 2023, more than 16,000 assaults, 100 homicides and 10,000 theft and forgery were reported on daily news and business literature (U.S Dept. of Justice, National Institute of Justice, 2020). Concerns over business crimes occurring on shopping malls appear to have increased. As such, there has been an increase

empirical research along with investigative reports and other journalistic accounts, on the diagnosis and occurrence of business crimes in the malls located in poor neighborhoods in America. Prior to this increase of research, speculation mainly produced by the media created the perception that business crimes are widespread.

Strategies to Combat Business Crimes Victims:

In order to combat crimes in U.S. disadvantage, racial and ethnic residences, there must be a shift in the focus of sustaining crimes incidents and maintain safety society (Clandinin et al., 2015). Actually knowing the sources and beginning of crimes as people is how we sustain safety in the environment/neighborhood (Clandinin et al., 2015).

Researchers on crimes, violence and deviant citizen's' behavior have proposed many different factors that contribute to crimes in U.S. neighborhoods than any other civilized nation of the world (Guili Zhang1 & Zeller, 2016; Paquette & Rieg, 2016). Whitaker et al., 2015, besides outside of the neighborhoods context, other places like the public centers Churches, School/Colleges and Universities) or private properties have attracted crimes. Wells (2015) suggested there are issues related to crimes, that can be handled appropriately within the neighborhoods policed stations and local Court houses. Wells (2015) proposed that neighborhoods volunteered services to combat crimes are inclined to solve the crime problems in the neighborhoods before government interventions.

In order to combat business crimes, prevent thefts, forgery, killings and unwanted customers' hardship and maintain safety shopping and living standards, specific actions must be done. There must be a shift in the focus of sustaining business crimes incidents and control. Business crimes victims must be given safety business environment to operate rather than retaining criminals (Clendenin et al., 2015). Actually knowing beginning of business crimes as people along with viewing them as deviant and unwelcome neighbors, is how we combat and control them in the environment/neighborhood (Clendenin et al., 2015).

Criminologist researchers have proposed many different factors that contribute to business crimes, in our malls and shopping centers. Such actions will assist to prevent its existence in the neighborhoods (Wells, 2015; Whitaker et al., 2015). Outside of the immediate neighborhoods context, such as in public malls/shopping centers or privates stores control of business crimes is also necessary. Wells (2015) suggested there are issues related to business crimes, beyond neighborhoods, that can be handled appropriately within the criminal justice system. Wells (2015) proposed that, in general, neighborhoods are inclined to solve the business crimes problem through volunteers and political welfare advocates.

Businesses and Business Owners' Resilience Strategies:

Business environment and locations targets of business crimes control as areas of economic productivities' is the key to becoming a resilient actor for criminal justice system (Johnson et al., 2014). While some crimes researchers have focused their research on schools and universities campuses burnout, other social science researchers feel the need to have an understanding of how to provide safety and sustain the business facilities environment remain the focus of recent studies (Taylor, 2017).

This is where resilience becomes a valuable approach to explore in order to combat business crimes in the poor neighborhoods. Both businesses and business owners are victims of business crimes. In order for the business to survive and thrive they must learn how to be resilient in their neighborhoods (Kozleski E. 2017; and Hsieh B. 2016). With the heavy demands and everyday challenges faced by entrepreneurs' and owners' of existing businesses in the poor neighborhoods, they must learn strategies of surviving crimes and must be able to successfully adapt and overcome each challenging adversity in the poor neighborhoods feasted with business crimes (Greenfield, 2015). If the businesses lacks the coping skills to adaptations to combating criminal acts and failed to avoid bankruptcy, they will become existed from the locations which will likely affect their standards of living (Greenfield, 2015).

The connection between these factors allows business owner, entrepreneurs, vendors, criminologist and governments Officials to continue their commitment of combatting crimes in the society and especially in public places and business locations (Gormally,2021). This described fights against business crimes and criminals in poor neighborhoods. Greenfield, (2015) concluded that being a resilient and as combatant of criminals, is helpful in successfully management of businesses in poor neighborhoods infested with criminals.

Summary of Literature Reviewed

The reviews assisted the researchers and readers to understand the research topic from a variety of perspectives, beyond the criminologist stand point. But also by the common citizens aspects, posed by the criminals. Research on business crimes and business survivals of such crimes on the businesses in the poor neighborhoods. Business crimes victims and survivals are provided strategies for the security and safety needed to combat business criminal and through the criminal justice system. Besides, the suggested professionals and business poor neighborhoods resilience are worthy of notice.

This is significant because crime survivals and societal resilience are two possible strategic approaches to help decrease business crimes and improve poor neighborhood safety in doing business.. There has been much research and discussion conducted on neighborhoods’ crimes and crimes impact studies. This study is an added value to such studies. More research and evidence are required to gain a better understanding of the impact of business crimes on American poor neighborhoods’ businesses. More research is also needed to determine the role of criminal justice system, criminologist and criminal justice professors to identify business crimes interventions, resilience strategies, prevention and to improve societal/businesses safety.

Assessment of Business Crimes Rate in U.S. Neighborhood:

The occurrence of all crimes in United States of America neighborhoods has become an epidemic issue that local, States; and Federal government administrators and officials have become extremely concerned. The reality of crimes in U.S. neighborhoods has also sparked concern to law enforcement professionals as well as safety fears in the minds of Citizens.

Despite U.S. Presidential efforts through Executive Orders/Measures in reducing crimes and to government interventions, crime statistics show that a significant number of crimes occur in U. S. neighborhoods on daily occurrences. From 2021 to 2023, over more than 85% of Thefts and Shopliftings in Malls and Stores, more than 80 % youths and Children’s murders/killings, 100 homicides and 10,000 forcible sexual assaults and more were reported (U.S Dept. of Justice, National Institute of Justice, 2020).

Concerns over crimes occurring in U.S. neighborhoods is on increase if “Assault Weapon” remain uncontrolled in the society. As such, there has been an increase from the research conducted, along with investigative reports and other journalistic incidents, accounts. Prior to this crime increase, speculation, mainly produced by the media created the perception of reality that U.S. neighborhoods crimes are widespread.

Methodology

This research sought to process different types of crimes and the ultimate consequences to both the crime offenders and the victims. The societies are made up of ethnic groups of Blacks, Hispanics, Asians and others. In this grouping, the White ethnic group are excluded from the study because such neighborhood is well secured and safe. The model assumed that crime offenders are penalized by the Justice System.

In such a typical empirical research design, such clustered population, victims and penalties would have served as the “Dependent Variable” of the study. The model, illustrates the types of crimes and common incidents under study. Furthermore, this research analyzed business crimes statistics collected from the neighborhood by types of crimes within each of the designated poor neighborhood. All crimes or offenses of data utilized in this study were derived from archival data provided by the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center.

In addition, these methods described the design of the study, types of business information, data collection procedures and instrumentation. See the research model below.

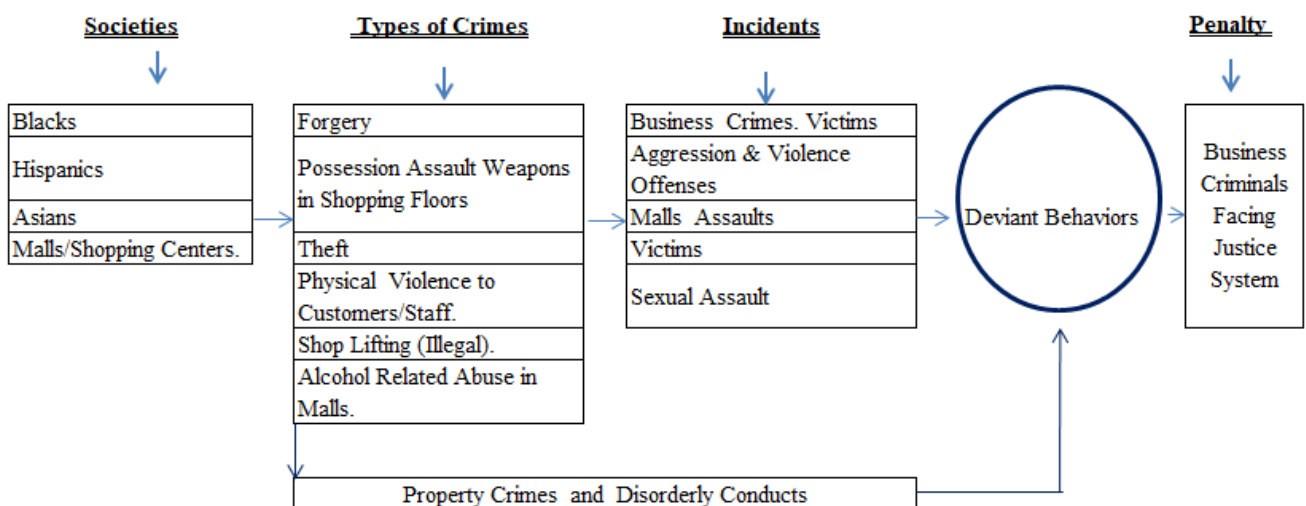


Figure 1: Modeling the Types and Incidents of Business Crimes

Design of the Study:

This study employed hybrid (qualitative and quantitative) approach, even though its analysis is heavy on descriptive analysis. According to Leedy & Ormrod (2020), every empirical research design forms a prediction of the relationship between two or more variables which also looks at surface relationships. But that does not necessarily provide for specific causal reasons underlying the factors of the study. That principles applies to the analysis of this study. This design also allows high degree of freedom for the authors to conclude the study, given the variables.

Data Collection Procedures:

A written request was submitted outlining specifically the information or data needed to conduct the research. Prior to receiving data from the respondents, all identifiable subjects were unclassified. These consisted of data obtained from the State of Alabama's criminal justice system with specific emphasis on the number of criminal offenses committed.

The population of the study is from the Public Safety Department, in Alabama and Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research for Alabama Retailers and Businesses. The demographical information on alleged crimes that were collected by the law enforcement agencies. It does not require the divulgence of the identities of the individual businesses or poor neighborhoods as victims.

Data Analysis:

- The types of business crimes/offenses that were analyzed were placed in one of three categories, as shown below.
- Violent Offenses: Disorderly Conduct, Physical Violence, Sexual Crimes, Theft, Altercation, Possession of Weapons
- Property Offenses: Forgery, Criminal Mischief, Vandalism, Destruction of Property
- Drug & Alcohol Offenses: Possession of Alcohol, Public Intoxication

The listed categories of business crimes were analyzed based on the established requirements of residency. All identifiable criminals' information such as name, D.O.B, social security number, were redacted or excluded by the researchers prior to obtaining any of the data. A total number of offenses was gathered and analyzed. Based on the information furnished, the listed offenses were categorized according to the offense or business crime. The crimes or offenses were typed according to the established categories.

Findings

A descriptive data and chi-square analysis was administered at the .05 level of significances for all of the guiding research questions. The results indicated that a statistically significant association was not found between specific business and crimes reported. Also, the findings showed that there is not a statistically significant between the category of reported crimes. Finally, the findings indicated that a statistically significant was not found between individuals in the neighborhoods. On the other hand, the results indicated that a statistically significant was found between the different ethnic groups, racial groups and the types of reported business crimes in the poor neighborhood.

Conclusion

The purpose of this non-quantitative study was to identify, compare and contrast the commission of certain crimes in selected American Business Neighborhoods (Shopping Malls and Neighborhoods Retail Stores) located in central Alabama. Therefore, the study focused on disadvantage business neighborhood with poor social economic conditions of the residents. In addition, this study compared reported incidents of business crimes by category and types of crimes committed by the criminals.

The focus of this study examined the types of business crimes between the poor neighborhoods by race and ethnicity, violent offenses, property offenses and thefts and shoplifting offenses. This study also examined the difference among neighbors based on type of common business crimes.

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