



Principles of Crime Prevention: Indispensable in Formation of a Peaceful Society

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Abstract

In India, in all communities, there are occurrence of various types of criminal and violent acts. The individuals, belonging to all communities, occupations, categories and socio-economic backgrounds experience these acts. The individuals are doers as well as victims of various types of criminal and violent acts. These acts have unfavourable effects upon the health conditions of the doers and victims from the physical and psychological perspectives. The individuals aim to promote good health and well-being, physically and psychologically, do well in their jobs, enhance their career prospects and bring about improvements in their overall standards of living. Hence, the need to be informative in terms of principles of crime prevention. From the stage of early childhood, throughout the lives of the individuals, they need to understand that implementing these principles will render an important contribution in the formation of a peaceful society. When individuals acknowledge the meaning and significance of these principles, they will communicate with each other in an effective manner. Furthermore, they will treat each other with respect and courtesy. In this manner, cordial and amiable terms and relationships will be reinforced and individuals will be able to prevent the criminal and violent acts. Hence, individuals are required to augment their knowledge and understanding in terms of these principles on regular basis. Therefore, in both urban and rural communities, the individuals need to put into operation these principles in an appropriate manner. The main concepts that are taken into account in this research paper are, models of crime prevention, development of crime prevention strategies and measures to be implemented to prevent crime.

Keywords: Crime Prevention, Development, Health Conditions, Models, Principles, Strategies, Unfavourable

Introduction

The various types of criminal and violent acts are prevalent throughout the country. The experiencing of these acts are unfavourable upon the physical and psychological health conditions of the individuals. The various types of criminal and violent acts are, verbal abuse, physical abuse, neglect and mistreatment, discriminatory treatment, rape, acid attacks, grievous hurt, financial exploitation, dowry harassment, sexual harassment and murder. The individuals, belonging to all age groups, genders, occupations, communities, categories and backgrounds experience various types of criminal and violent acts (Kelling, 2009). The rate of crime is high among individuals, belonging to disadvantaged and economically weaker sections of the society. The main reason being, these individuals are overwhelmed by social problems of poverty, illiteracy, unemployment and homelessness. Hence, their involvement in different types of criminal and violent acts is primarily due to scarcity of financial resources. As a consequence, they get compelled to give up their hopes and aspirations. Furthermore, they are unable to implement measures and approaches that are necessary to promote enhancement of their living conditions.

The individuals need to be well-versed in terms of principles of crime prevention. There are certain aspects that need to be put into practice, when implementing principles of crime prevention. These are all the levels in the Government should contribute a leadership role. The Government of the country as well as the states are required to contribute towards the prevention of crime by formulating proper rules and policies. The principles of crime prevention should be integrating in a cross-cutting manner (Crime Prevention, n.d.). There are various aspects into which these need to be integrated i.e., social, economic, educational, urban planning, housing, health, employment and justice. These principles are required to be built upon co-operative partnerships between Government institutions and ministries, community and non-governmental organizations and the business sector and civil society. The management of financial resources is a task, which is regarded to be of utmost significance. It is well-understood that adequate funding should be in the management of financial, human, technical and material resources. The job needs to be implemented in an adequate manner.

The principles of crime prevention should be formulated on the basis of accurate knowledge and understanding in terms of various factors that lead to occurrence of crimes. In other words, the individuals need to be informative in terms of causes of crime. Throughout the country in all communities, there are occurrence of various types of criminal and violent acts. There are numerous causes that lead to occurrence of these acts. The principles of crime prevention should take into account human rights. All human beings are equal and there should not be any discrimination on the basis of any factors. The individuals get influenced due to number of factors and as a consequence, they get involved in various types of criminal and violent acts. The effects of these acts are unfavourable on their overall quality of lives. Hence, it is necessary for the individuals to be informative in terms of principles and put them into operation in a well-ordered manner. It is of utmost significance to ascertain the causes of these acts. When causes will be identified, the individuals will implement these principles in an adequate manner.

Models of Crime Prevention

The individuals are different from each other on the basis of number of factors, i.e. caste, creed, race, religion, ethnicity, age groups, genders, occupations, communities, categories and socio-economic backgrounds. But it is unfortunate that in their lives, they get influenced due to number of factors and as a consequence, they get engaged in various types of criminal and violent acts. These acts are implemented within as well as outside the homes. In other words, in the personal and professional lives of the individuals, they get engaged in these acts. The effects of these acts are unfavourable on their overall quality of lives. Hence, it is necessary for the individuals to be informative in terms of strategies and put them into operation in a well-organized manner (The 10 Principles of Crime Prevention, 2022). When one is conducting research on the principles of crime prevention, they need to be informative in terms of models of crime prevention, i.e. developmental model, social model, situational model and criminal justice. These models illustrate different approaches to prevent the occurrence of various types of criminal and violent acts. These are stated as follows:

Developmental Model

This model is known as the early intervention. This model aims to address the early causes of criminal behaviour. In other words, it puts emphasis on recognizing the causes due to which criminal acts take place. It renders an important contribution in causing a decline in the community and individual risk factors. On the other hand, protective factors are increased with the main aim of preventing the occurrence of crime. The most distinguished factors of developmental crime prevention model include, parenting programs, school up-grading initiatives, pre-school administrations and improvements in school procedures. Within educational institutions of all levels, there is a need to formulate measures and laws, which would contribute significantly in preventing crime and promoting discipline.

Social Model

The social model renders an important contribution in the reinforcement of neighbourhoods. The individuals need to work in integration with each other in the prevention of crime. The local communities, which have resilient bonds and individuals know each other well are less prone to experience crime. When an individual has a strong social circle. When he or she forms cordial and amiable terms and relationships with each other, they are less likely or not likely to get involved in crime. Augmenting social capital or relationships is the key factor in preventing crime. Operative social crime prevention is difficult to achieve, because it can comprise of many different aspects. Community building activities, provision of welfare services and leading to an increase in community support groups are essential aspects to improve the sense of community and prevent crime.

Situational Model

Situational model is the model that puts emphasis on restraining the situations that prevent crime. In this model, there are strategies adopted that contribute significantly in preventing crime. These strategies are, increasing the risks for discovery, reducing the rewards for insulting and offending individuals and increasing the efforts for supporting and helping the individuals. These strategies need to be reinforced in all cases of crime. Situational model can be as modest as installation locks and alarms, increasing investigation through lighting and making buildings harder to enter, damage or hide under are essential ways to prevent crime. The houses and buildings should be constructed in such a manner that they cannot be damaged during the night time. When individuals are within homes, they need to keep the doors and windows locked particularly during the night time.

Criminal Justice

The model of criminal justice is the model that puts emphasis on preventing crime. It is associated with the criminal justice system. Research tends to provide ideas and suggestions that these measures are only partly efficacious. These measures work to the best of abilities, when accompanied by other models. The criminal justice system is associated with imposition of severe penalties upon the individuals for the serious and criminal acts that they have committed. The criminals are subjected to judicial penalties and disciplinary action. The individuals have acknowledged that there are sharper ways to prevent crime. They need to be aware of these ways and implement them in their personal and professional lives. This model and the other models need to work together to prevent crime and put into operation crime prevention strategies in an effective manner.

Development of Crime Prevention Strategies

The individuals, belonging to all communities, categories and socio-economic backgrounds have acknowledged that there are stronger ways to prevent crime. They need to be aware of these ways and put them into operation in their personal and professional lives. The individuals need to be well-aware in terms of development of crime prevention strategies. As the name implies, these strategies have the main objective of preventing crime and promoting law and order (Ten Principles of Crime Prevention, 2022). The rate of crime is high among individuals, belonging to disadvantaged, marginalized and economically weaker sections of the society. The reason being, these individuals are overwhelmed by social problems of poverty, illiteracy, unemployment and homelessness. Hence, they get compelled to give up their hopes and aspirations and promote enrichment of their overall quality of lives. Hence, it is necessary to generate information among these individuals in terms of these strategies. There are five main stages in the development of crime prevention strategies. These are, develop a crime profile, research crime prevention approaches, negotiate support, develop an action plan and implement and monitor the crime prevention strategies. These are stated as follows:

Develop a Crime Profile

The development of a crime profile enables the individuals to generate information in terms of various types of criminal and violent acts that are prevalent. The individuals need to acknowledge the measures and approaches to prevent crime. One of the important aspects that needs to be taken into account is, individuals need to identify the causes of crime. In other words, the factors that compel them to get engaged in various types of criminal and violent acts. It is necessary to acquire an efficient understanding of all the factors that who are the victims and doers. What are the major causes that compel the doers to target victims. The development of a crime profile enables the individuals to generate information in terms of doers and victims. After one has augmented information in terms of these factors, they will render an important contribution in causing a reduction in various types of criminal acts. Therefore, it can be stated, develop a crime profile is indispensable in augmenting knowledge and understanding among individuals regarding doers and victims.

Research Crime Prevention Approaches

Conducting research is regarded as one of the indispensable factors that renders an important contribution in augmenting knowledge and understanding among individuals in terms of crime prevention approaches. There are various causes due to which individuals get engaged in various types of criminal acts. But they need to be informative in terms of effects. The effects are unfavourable to the doers, victims and their families. In the present existence, technologies and internet have acquired prominence. The individuals are making use of internet to augment one's knowledge in terms of all fields and obtain answers to their questions. Furthermore, they are utilizing books, articles, reports, projects and other reading materials. The task of conducting research has proven to be advantageous to the individuals on a comprehensive basis. They will be able to acknowledge the meaning and significance of morality and ethics and prevent the occurrence of different types of criminal and violent acts. Therefore, it is well-understood, research crime prevention approaches is regarded as one of the significant stages in the development of crime prevention strategies.

Negotiate Support

The individuals need to work in integration with each other in the prevention of crime. This is apparently understood that they will not be able to carry out this task on an individual basis. Hence, in order to promote law and order in all communities, it is of utmost significance to negotiate support.

The support needs to be negotiated from the agencies and organizations that are having an influence upon the factors that are causing crime. For example, if consumption of alcohol has proved to be disruptive within the community, then support should be negotiated with local licensees and transport providers. In this manner, measures are being implemented to prevent crime. The local communities, which have resilient bonds and individuals know each other well are less prone to experience crime. But negotiation from the agencies and other organizations have proven to be favourable and worthwhile in preventing the occurrence of various types of criminal acts. Therefore, it is acknowledged to a major extent that negotiate support is a stage in the development of crime prevention strategies, which contributes in developing mutual understanding among individuals.

Develop an Action Plan

An action plan is put into operation with the main aim of summarizing the actions and activities that are selected to cause a reduction in the crime rate. The main aspects in the development of an action plan are, target crime, formulation of objectives, goals of the strategies, rationale for the selected actions, the contribution of agencies and organizations, clear performance measures and setting up of the timeframe. The individuals need to be informative of the aspect that there are imposition of severe penalties upon the individuals for the serious and criminal acts that they have committed. The criminals are subjected to judicial penalties and disciplinary action. The individuals have acknowledged that there are useful ways to prevent crime. Within all types of organizations, there should be formulation of laws and rules. These need to be followed by all the members, irrespective of their job positions in the hierarchy. The individuals need to be aware of these ways and put them into practice within and outside the homes. Therefore, develop an action plan is a stage in the development of crime prevention strategies, which generates information in terms of penalties and disciplinary action.

Implement and Monitor the Crime Prevention Strategies

The crime prevention strategies need to be implemented and monitored in all communities and settings. In the case of putting into operation these strategies, the actions and plans should be appropriately focused upon. This stage specifies that in order to prevent the occurrence crime, a particular setting should be targeted. The individuals, who are involved in the task of prevention of crime need to take into account various factors, i.e. selection of the appropriate participants, location for carrying out the plan, and assistance with the measurement of the project outcomes. The actions and activities that are required to be initiated is an imperative concern in the case of implementation and monitoring of crime prevention strategies. It is vital to put into operation the evaluation methods in terms of these strategies. These methods will render an important contribution in identifying the consequences and results. Furthermore, these strategies will contribute efficaciously in bringing about improvements and preventing crime and violence. Therefore, implement and monitor the crime prevention strategies is a stage in the development of crime prevention strategies, which has proven to be beneficial in all communities, agencies and organizations.

Measures to be implemented to Prevent Crime

The individuals, belonging to all communities, occupations, age groups, categories and socio-economic backgrounds need to be well-informed in terms of causes and consequences of crime (Crime Prevention, 2021). They need to acquire an efficient understanding of the factor that getting engaged in criminal acts has proven to be unfavourable to the individuals as well as their families. They need to differentiate between appropriate and inappropriate factors and inculcate the traits of morality and ethics. They need to be well-versed in terms of measures to prevent crime. Within the communities there should be strong bonds and individuals need to know each other well. As a consequence, they are less prone to experience crime. But co-operation from the agencies and other organizations have proven to be encouraging and meaningful in preventing the occurrence of various types of criminal acts. Therefore, it is necessary for individuals to be informative in terms of measures to be implemented to prevent crime. These are stated as follows:

Formulation of Laws and Rules

In all types of organizations, agencies and institutions, the individuals in leadership positions are vested with the authority and responsibility of formulating laws and rules. These need to be followed by all the members, irrespective of their job positions in the hierarchy. The individuals need to be aware of these ways and put them into practice in a well-organized manner.

The laws and rules that are required to be initiated is an imperative concern in the case of implementation and monitoring of crime prevention strategies. It is vital to put into operation the laws and rules to carry out the overall functioning of the organizations, agencies and institutions in an effective manner. The laws and rules will render an important contribution in identifying the consequences and results. Furthermore, these will contribute efficaciously in bringing about improvements in the performance and conduct of individuals and preventing crime and violence. Therefore, formulation of laws and rules is regarded as one of the indispensable measures to be implemented to prevent crime.

Implementing Effective Communication Processes

From the stage of early childhood, throughout the lives of the individuals, they need to implement effective communication processes within and outside the homes. The individuals need to make use of polite language and decent words and treat others with respect and courtesy. Communication takes place in a verbal and written form. Verbal communication takes place face to face or through utilization of technologies. On the other hand, written communication takes place through messages, emails, letters, notices and so forth. When communication processes will take place in an effective manner in the personal and professional lives of the individuals, they will refrain from getting engaged in various types of criminal and violent acts. As a consequence, they will form constructive viewpoints and not possess any negative feelings in terms of anybody. Hence, they will develop mutual understanding and form cordial and amiable terms and relationships with each other. Therefore, implementing effective communication processes is one of the significant measures to be implemented to prevent crime.

Treating others with Respect and Courtesy

Throughout the lives of the individuals, within as well as outside the homes, they need to treat others with respect and courtesy. In this case, there are number of factors, which individuals need to acknowledge, i.e. implementing effective communication processes; not possessing the feelings of antagonism and hatred; providing equal rights and opportunities to all; not discriminating against others on the basis of any factors; promoting teamwork within professional settings; forming positive viewpoints regarding all individuals; inculcating the traits of morality and ethics; depicting the traits of helpfulness and co-operation; forming an effective social circle and honing professionalism. The acknowledgement of these factors will contribute efficaciously in refraining from getting engaged in various types of criminal and violent acts. As a consequence, they will form constructive viewpoints and not possess any ill feelings in terms of anybody. Hence, they will develop mutual understanding and deal with others in a respectful and courteous manner. Therefore, treating others with respect and courtesy is an eminent measure to be implemented to prevent crime.

Forming Positive Viewpoints regarding all Individuals

The individuals have to understand that they need to form positive viewpoints regarding all individuals. It is necessary for individuals to understand that they cannot live their lives in seclusion. They need to develop their social skills and deal and work with others in their personal and professional lives. Hence, it is vital to form positive viewpoints regarding all individuals. The individuals are different from each other on the basis of number of factors, but it is of utmost significance for the individuals to understand that throughout their lives, they need to form constructive viewpoints and not possess any negative feelings in terms of anybody. In this manner, they will form cordial and amiable terms and relationships with each other in all settings. The acknowledgement of this measure will refrain the individuals from getting engaged in various types of criminal and violent acts. They will concentrate on their job duties and put in efforts to their best abilities to generate the desired outcomes. Therefore, forming positive viewpoints regarding all individuals is a favourable measure to be implemented to prevent crime.

Inculcating the Traits of Morality and Ethics

The individuals, belonging to all communities, categories and socio-economic backgrounds need to inculcate the traits of morality and ethics. These traits would be facilitating in differentiating between appropriate and inappropriate factors; developing motivation towards implementing job duties and responsibilities; implementing effective communication processes; not possessing the feelings of antagonism and detestation; providing equal rights and opportunities to all; forming positive viewpoints regarding all individuals; inculcating the traits of honesty, righteousness and truthfulness; depicting the traits of helpfulness and co-operation;

Possessing the abilities to work under stress and completing all job duties within the required time-frame. The recognition of these factors will contribute effectually in refraining from getting engaged in various types of criminal and violent acts. As a consequence, individuals will emerge into moral and productive human beings. They will put into operation their tasks and activities, which will not only contribute in leading to enrichment of their lives, but also in promoting well-being of community members. Therefore, inculcating the traits of morality and ethics is a worthwhile measure to be implemented to prevent crime.

Being Informative in terms of Job Duties and Responsibilities

In the personal and professional lives of the individuals, they need to be informative in terms of job duties and responsibilities. These are complicated as well as manageable. These are put into practice on one's own or through obtaining support and assistance from other individuals. These are family and community members. The research studies have indicated that criminal and violent acts are carried out within and outside the homes. But when the individuals are informative in terms of job duties and responsibilities, they will depict the traits of honesty, morality and efficiency. As a consequence, individuals will make wise and productive decisions in terms of various factors and not get engaged in various types of criminal and violent acts. They will communicate with others in an effective manner. Furthermore, they will emerge into moral and ethical human beings and productive citizens of the country. Therefore, being informative in terms of job duties and responsibilities is a measure to be implemented to prevent crime, which has enabled the individuals to develop wise thinking.

Implementing the Traits of Diligence, Resourcefulness and Conscientiousness

Implementing the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness is necessary to do well in one's job duties, achieve desired goals and objectives and lead to up-gradation of one's living conditions. The tasks and activities are complicated as well as manageable. But the reinforcement of these traits would contribute significantly in generating the desired outcomes. When the individuals are wholeheartedly committed towards promoting their well-being and goodwill, they realize that they cannot live their lives in isolation. It is of utmost significance to develop mutual understanding and form pleasant terms and relationships with each other. This will facilitate in coping with psychological problems of anger, stress, anxiety, frustration and depression in an effective manner. When individuals recognize the meaning and significance of these traits, they will concentrate on promoting enrichment. Furthermore, refrain from getting engaged in various types of criminal and violent acts. As a consequence, individuals will incur the feelings of pleasure and contentment. Therefore, implementing the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness is a measure to be implemented to prevent crime, which has enabled the individuals to sustain their living conditions in an effective manner.

Depicting the Traits of Helpfulness and Co-operation

Throughout the lives of the individuals, they need to understand that they are required to depict the traits of helpfulness and co-operation. It is necessary for individuals to understand that they cannot live their lives in seclusion. They need to develop their social skills and deal and work with others in their personal and professional lives. Hence, it is of utmost significance to depict the traits of helpfulness and co-operation. Within the course of implementation of various tasks and activities, there are occurrence of dilemmas and challenging situations. These need to be solved and prevented from assuming a major form. The individuals provide solutions to the problems on their own or through obtaining help from others. Hence, they will implement communication processes in an effective manner. As a consequence, individuals will refrain from getting engaged in various types of criminal and violent acts. Furthermore, they will form positive viewpoints regarding all individuals. Therefore, depicting the traits of helpfulness and co-operation is a measure to be implemented to prevent crime, which has enabled the individuals to acquire appreciation and reverence.

Forming an Effective Social Circle

From the stage of early childhood, throughout the lives of the individuals, they need to understand that they cannot live their lives in seclusion. They need to develop their social skills and deal and work with others in an appropriate manner. Hence, it is of utmost significance to form an effective social circle. In order to carry out this task, it is necessary for the individuals to implement effective communication processes within and outside the homes. The individuals need to make use of polite language and decent words and treat others with respect and courtesy.

It is apparently understood that in the lives of the individuals, they do experience psychological problems of anger, stress, anxiety, frustration and depression. Furthermore, they need to be well-informed in terms of methods to cope with them in an effective manner and prevent them from giving rise to impediments. When individuals will have an effective social circle, they will feel pleasurable and contented. As a consequence, individuals will refrain from getting engaged in various types of criminal and violent acts. Therefore, forming an effective social circle is a measure to be implemented to prevent crime, which is facilitating in enriching the lives of the individuals.

Honing Professionalism

The individuals, belonging to all communities and socio-economic backgrounds need to hone professionalism. In other words, in their personal and professional lives, they need to be professional in their conduct. The honing of professionalism will enable the individuals to implement communication processes in an effective manner within and outside the homes. The individuals need to make use of polite language and decent words and treat others with respect and courtesy. Within the course of pursuance of educational programs within educational institutions of all levels and implementation of job duties within employment settings, all individuals, irrespective of their job positions in the hierarchy need to be professional in their conduct. As a consequence, individuals will reinforce the traits of morality, ethics, diligence and conscientiousness. Furthermore, they will refrain from getting engaged in various types of criminal and violent acts. Therefore, honing professionalism is a measure to be implemented to prevent crime, which is facilitating in incurring the feeling of job satisfaction.

Conclusion

The individuals, belonging to all communities and socio-economic backgrounds need to be well-versed in terms of principles of crime prevention, when they are committed towards promoting law and order within society. Models of crime prevention are, developmental model, social model, situational model and criminal justice. The five main stages in the development of crime prevention strategies are, develop a crime profile, research crime prevention approaches, negotiate support, develop an action plan and implement and monitor the crime prevention strategies. Measures to be implemented to prevent crime are, formulation of laws and rules, implementing effective communication processes, treating others with respect and courtesy, forming positive viewpoints regarding all individuals, inculcating the traits of morality and ethics, being informative in terms of job duties and responsibilities, implementing the traits of diligence, resourcefulness and conscientiousness, depicting the traits of helpfulness and co-operation, forming an effective social circle and honing professionalism. Finally, it can be stated, when individuals implement the principles of crime prevention, they will contribute significantly in eliminating crime and violence and creating a peaceful society.

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