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The Theory and Methods used in the Application of 'Crime Prevention through Environmental Design' Principles (CPTED) Introduction When, for the first time in human history, the concept of property or owning something might have evolved, the concept of the crime, too, seems to have taken birth simultaneously. A crime is an act of public wrong¹ (William, William & Herschel, 1996, p. 1) resulted due to moral and ethical disorder or retardation. The crime, by the time of its origin, has been a chief concern of the society. Every society, of every country, has made precautionary and lawful actions against crimes. Canada, Australia, US, UK and their states² etc. have made effective and efficient endeavors for preventing the crimes. Queensland, too, introduced guidelines for adopting such an approach for preventing crimes namely, 'Crime Prevention through Environmental Design' (CPTED, also pronounced as sep-ted) Guidelines³ on November 27, 2007. CPTED is a set of design principles or approach to discourage crimes⁴ (Deutsch, 2011). Its basic, underlying, thought of action is to anticipate the thought process of potential criminals or offenders⁵ (Wortley, 1998, pp. 173-88). Its aim is to create such an environment such that every possible criminal doesn't even think of pursuing crimes or in other words doesn't get a chance to make a crime. The society has to play a vital role in CPTED to come realized and to be really fruitful in action. This is to reiterate that its aim is not to punish or taking lawful actions against criminals after pursuing crimes, but to prevent the 'possible' crimes prior to its 'likely' happening. Theory CPTED is a scientific approach⁶ (Clarke & Felson, eds., 2004, pp. 329-30). Jeffery⁷ (1971) have contributed a lot in the theoretical field of CPTED alongwith coining this term for the first time. They not only explained its scientific nature but also connected the concept of CPTED to S-R learning <https://assignbuster.com/the-theory-and-methods-used-in-the-application-of-crime-pprevention-through-environmental-design-principles-cpted/>

theory given by educational scientist at their times. The concept of CPTED has gradually developed after passing through several tunnels like neighbourhood and natural guardianship (in 1960s), connection with S-R theory (in 1970s), broken windows and four dimensions of crime (in 1980s), interdisciplinary approach (in 1990s) and inclusion of social ecology and psychology in CPTED (2000 onwards)⁸. Currently the concept of CPTED has gained the status of an international concept⁹. Several countries are thinking, sharing and working together under the umbrella of CPTED. The gist of CPTED lies in the four principles which are Natural Surveillance, Natural Access Control, Territorial Reinforcement and Maintenance¹⁰ (Bratich, Packer & McCarthy, eds., 2003, p. 249). Method used in the application of CPTED It is important to learn what methods are being adopted in the application of CPTED. These methods, of course, are based upon four principles as mentioned above. CPTED guidelines for Queensland have been made public in 2007. These are a collaborative publication of several state government agencies, representative bodies including Police, Infrastructure and Planning, Local Government, Sport and Recreation and Communities departments. This is in coherence with providing ample concern to all four principles of CPTED. These guidelines suggest measures for guiding and encouraging public and private developers to design with CPTED in mind, guiding and encouraging local councils to incorporate the principles of CPTED in the preparation, review and implementation of planning schemes and policies, and informing and encouraging the community to participate in creating and maintaining safe environments. The Guidelines have been published in two parts; Part A11 consisting of essential features of safer places and Part B12 consisting of implementation guide. The method, as <https://assignbuster.com/the-theory-and-methods-used-in-the-application-of-crime-prevention-through-environmental-design-principles-cpted/>

suggested in CPTED guidelines, can be briefly given as follows. Firstly, appointing Crime Prevention Coordinator (CPC) to implement CPTED Action Plan is most important task. Chief role in CPTED is given to local council; several communities, agencies, schools, associations, bodies, etc. are suggested to assist local council. Next to this are analyzing crimes, crime reports, crime strategies and crime trends in the locality. Then it comes to be safety audits and management audits for enlisting 'hot spots' and analyzing the pooling of capacity. Afterwards, actions are taken to reduce 'hot spots' and ensuring safety at 'hot spots'. For private development voluntary initiatives and regulatory management are been channelized. And, finally the task of managing the interface between public and private development is carried out by local council and CPC, with the help of all others possible agencies¹³. This is how CPTED is applied in the society. Works Cited 1 William, CL, William ML & Herschel LB 1996, A treatise on the law of crimes, 2nd edn, William S. Hein Publishing, New York, p. 1. 2 'International CPTED Association', last browsed in May, 2011 3 'Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) Guidelines for Queensland', last browsed in May 2011 < <http://www.aila.org.au/news/archive/2008-pdfs/Qld-CPTEDinfo.pdf> > 4 Deutsch, W 2011, 'Crime Prevention through Environmental Design: Planning to prevent crime', last browsed in May, 2011 5 Wortley, R 1998, 'A two-stage model of situational crime prevention', *Studies on Crime and Crime Prevention*, 7, pp. 173-188. 6 Clarke, RVG & Felson, M eds. (2004), *Routine activity and rational choice: Advances in criminological theory*, vol 5, Transaction Publishers, New Jersey, pp. 329-30. 7 Jeffery, CR (1971), *Crime Prevention through Environmental Design*, Sage Publications, California. 8 'Crime prevention through environmental design', last browsed in May, 2011 <https://assignbuster.com/the-theory-and-methods-used-in-the-application-of-crime-prevention-through-environmental-design-principles-cpted/>

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