

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (Schools)



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What is **C**rime **P**revention Through **E**nvironmental **D**esign (**CPTED**)?

“CPTED **Crime Prevention** is the proper design and effective use of the built environment which may lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime, and improve the quality of life” – **National Crime Prevention Council.**

Source: National Crime Prevention Institute

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design – Forward

We live with crime every day. It has become unfortunately a fact of life.

Discussions on the subject have traditionally focused much less on crime prevention than on arrest and punishment; measures that cannot be taken until after a crime has been committed.

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Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design – Forward

Only in last 20-years have designers and architects begun to see the need to plan and build with more in mind than just traditional threats of nature, fire, earthquakes and hurricanes.

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Designers must now consider the threat of crime.

Enter a new approach to crime prevention – **C**rime **P**revention **T**hrough **E**nvironmental **D**esign or **CPTED**. Much more **far-reaching** than dead bolts on doors and locks on windows.

Source: National Crime Prevention Institute

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Designers must now consider the threat of crime.

CPTED crime Prevention principals can be applied easily and **inexpensively** to building or remodeling, and have been effectively implemented in communities across the nation.

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CPTED - Results

Results have been impressive; in some **CPTED** communities, criminal activity has **decreased by as much as 40%**.

What is the "**SECRET**" to **CPTED** crime prevention?

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CPTED - Results

Design that **eliminates** or **reduces** criminal behavior and at the same time encourages people to "keep an eye out" for each other.

Combine **CPTED** and a good vigil security posture.

We are learning to "***THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX***".⁸

CPTED – Theory

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (**CPTED**) theory is for law enforcement officers, architects, city planners, landscape and interior designers and residents volunteers can create a **climate** of **safety** in a community, right from the start.

Source: National Crime Prevention Institute

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CPTED – GOAL

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (**CPTED**) goal is to **prevent crime** through designing a physical environment that positively influences human behavior – people who use the area regularly perceive it as safe, and would-be criminals see the area as a highly risky place to commit crime.

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The Four Strategies of CPTED

1. **Natural Access Control**
2. **Natural Surveillance**
3. **Territorial Reinforcement**
4. **Target Hardening**

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Natural Access Control

A design concept directed primarily at decreasing crime opportunity by denying access to crime targets and creating in offenders a perception of risk. Gained by designing streets, sidewalks, building entrances and neighborhood gateways to **clearly indicate** public **routes** and discouraging access to private areas with structural elements.

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Natural Surveillance

A design concept directed primarily at keeping intruders easily **observable**. Promoted by features that maximize **visibility** of people, parking areas and building entrances: doors and windows that look out into the streets and parking areas; pedestrian-friendly sidewalks and streets; front porches and adequate nighttime lighting.

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Territorial Reinforcement

Physical design can create or extend a **sphere** of **influence**. Users then develop a sense of territorial **control** while potential offenders, perceiving this control, are discouraged. Promoted by features that define **property** lines and distinguish private spaces from public spaces using landscape plantings, pavement design, gateway treatments, and "CPTED" fences.

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Target Hardening

Accomplished by features that **prohibit entry** or **restrict** and/or **control** access: CCTV, fences, visible security, key control, solid metal locked doors with panic bars, etc.

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SOFT - TARGET

Unduly **susceptible** to attack – vulnerable to attack, not protected, deficient easily effected by action or development due to lack of protection. **Passive** or **complacent**.

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CPTED & SCHOOLS

The **design** of a school **facility** can greatly influence the overall safety of the environment. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (**CPTED**) helps institutions choose building **layouts** and **features** that promote desirable behavior.

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CPTED & SCHOOLS

CPTED encourages strategies such as minimizing the number of buildings on a campus; limiting the number of **entrances** to buildings; ensuring that administrative offices have clear **sightlines** of the main entry, parking lots and play areas; and establishing boundaries between a school and adjacent properties.

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Guidelines For Schools

Each **school, district**, and community should institute measures for their own appropriate **circumstances**. A design for an inner-city, high-crime neighborhood is often inappropriate for a rural, low-crime neighborhood. There is not a single **solution** that will fit all schools, but there are many good models that schools can draw on.

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Guidelines For Schools

When schools fail to integrate **CPTED** concepts into expansion or reconstruction plans, an important opportunity is lost. Rectifying this oversight after the fact can be **expensive** and politically uncomfortable. Applying **CPTED** concepts from the beginning usually has minimal **impact** on costs, and the result is a safer school that can focus on its mission of teaching and learning.

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Considerations For Schools

A **CPTED** analysis may include crime **mapping** and statistical **reports** from local police, juvenile justice facilities, and medical centers to help identify patterns related to problem behavior, types of problems that are prevalent and time and location of occurrence. Students, staff, parents, and neighbors can be **surveyed** to obtain their perceptions of problem areas.

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Considerations For Schools

If **bullying** were an identified problem, an example **CPTED** consideration might include: altering the environment to expose or eliminate isolated locations where incidents occur. This might involve removing thick **brush**, installing **convex** mirrors, or moving the staff **lunch** area to improve natural surveillance

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Considerations For Schools

Analysis of the school setting itself should include an **examination** of the school property, from the **borders** inward. Hazards should be identified, including locations where students can be **isolated** and **victimized**. School grounds and parking lots are prime locations for school violence.

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Guidelines For Schools

Natural Access Control

Walkways and landscaping direct visitors to the proper entrance and away from private areas.



Guidelines For Schools

Natural Access Control

No more than two points of access to building from front parking lot.

Entrances into parking lots should be defined.

Dead end spaces blocked by a fence or gate.

Guidelines For Schools

Natural Access Control

Common building entrances should have locks that automatically lock when the door closes.

Hallways should be well lit.

Elevators and stairwells centrally located.

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Natural Surveillance



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Guidelines For Schools – Continued:
Natural Surveillance

All **doorways** that open to the outside should be well lit
the front door visible from the street.

Windows on all sides of the house
provide full **visibility** of property.

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Guidelines For Schools – Continued:

Natural Surveillance



Continued

Sidewalks and all areas of the school should be very visible.

The parking lot should be visible from either the front or back doors and as many windows possible.

Visitor parking should be designated

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Guidelines For Schools – Continued:
Natural Surveillance
Continued

The **front** door should be clearly visible from the **parking** lot.

Properly maintained **landscaping** provides **maximum** viewing to and, from the school and the adjacent areas such as parking.

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Guidelines For Schools – Continued:

Natural Surveillance

Continued

Landscaping should not create blind spots or hiding spots.

Shrubbery no more than 3' high for clear visibility.

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Guidelines For Schools

Natural Surveillance

Low shrubbery and **fencing** allow visibility from the street.

Open green spaces and recreational areas should be located so that they can be observed from as many **vantages** points as possible within the school.

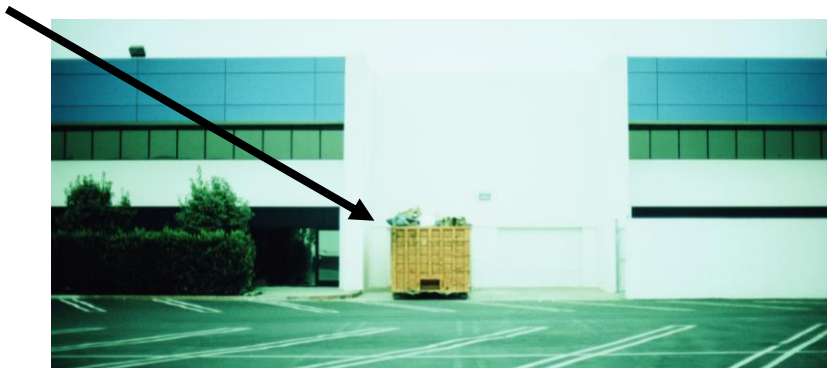
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Guidelines For Schools – Continued:

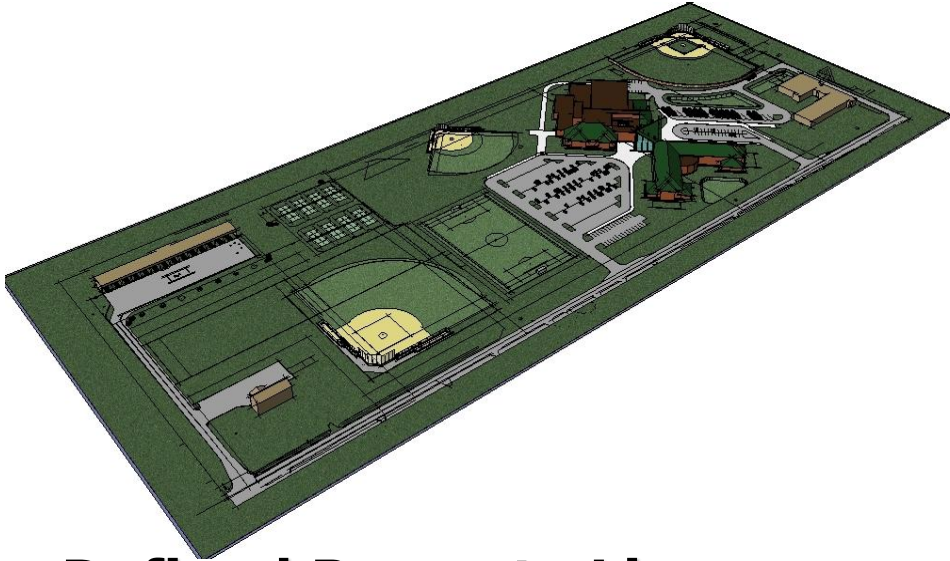
Natural Surveillance

Dumpsters should not create blind spots or hiding areas.



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Territorial Reinforcement



Defined Property Lines

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Guidelines For Schools – Continued: Territorial Reinforcement

Sidewalks or stoops create a transitional area between the street, and the school.



Guidelines For Schools – Continued: Territorial Reinforcement

Property lines and private areas defined with or by plantings, pavements, streets, treatments, fences or signage.

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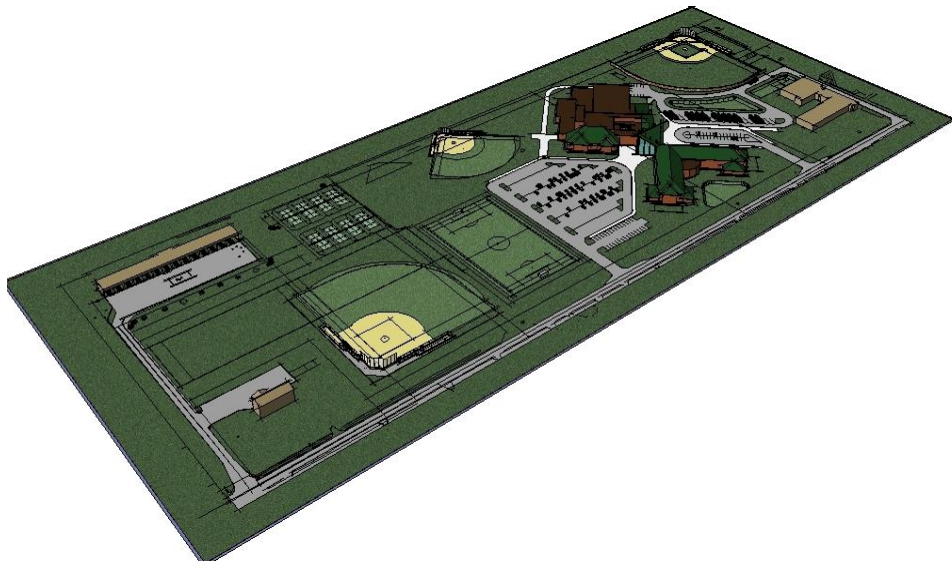
Guidelines For Schools – Continued: Territorial Reinforcement

Entrances accentuated with different paving materials, changes in street elevation, architectural and landscape design.

Property lines should be **defined** with post and pillar fencing, gates and plantings to direct pedestrian traffic.

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Defined Property Lines



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Guidelines For Schools Target Hardening

- **Law enforcement** presence (visibility)
- Wand **metal detectors**
- **Access** and **Egress** Controls
license ID and clearly visible visitor badges



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Guidelines For Schools Target Hardening

- Iron fences for open areas to prevent unauthorized access allowing natural visibility.
- CCTV Cameras



Guidelines For Schools Target Hardening

- **Containment** area for receiving and process visitors.
- Separate **parking** lot for **visitors**.

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Guidelines For Schools Target Hardening

- **Key** control
- **Chain** link **fences** around school property.



The Four Strategies of CPTED

CPTED guidelines, when applied to schools, can create a **safe** environment without the use of the more common, conspicuous methods.

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QUESTION ?

What are some other considerations that you may want to consider to harden a school?

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TEAM PRACTICAL EXERCISE

- **TEAM I:** Explain what is CPTED, what are designers now considering, what have been the results thus far of CPTED, what is the theory and goal of CPTED.
- **TEAM II:** Explain the CPTED strategies of Natural Access Control for a school list at least five examples.
- **TEAM III:** Explain the CPTED strategies of Natural Surveillance for a school list at least five examples.
- **TEAM IV:** Explain the CPTED strategies of Territorial Reinforcement for a school list at least five examples.
- **TEAM V:** Explain the CPTED strategies of Target Hardening for a school list at least five examples.

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Presenter Contact Information



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