Lock It Up: Residence Hall Burglary Prevention

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Crime Prevention Unit
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80 sworn officers certified by the State of Georgia’s POST.

Officers are on duty at all times during the day, evening & night.

GSUPD is a National Accredited and State Certified Police agency.
• 4 buildings holds 2000 Student
• Apartment style room with 4 or 6 person suites
• Wet Buildings

• Police Substation
• 2-3 Officers
• 1 Dispatcher
• 24/7 operation
The Problem

• In 2005-2006 School Year (SY) 44 burglaries were reported to the Police Department
What's going on in your jurisdictions

- Problem neighborhoods?
- Universities?
Analysis

• What was going on here???
  – What was the same is all the thefts?
  – What was being taken?
  – Who was taking?
What was the same?
A look at THE NUMBERS.

• 44
  – Burglaries in the 2005-2006 School Year (SY)

• 42
  – Victims stated that they left their door unlock

• 2
  – People who said they locked their door

• 0
  – doors broken, you figure???
What was the same?
A look at THE NUMBERS.

• 56,555
  – $56,555 is the total value stolen

• 35
  – # of laptops taken

• 12
  – # of people who were home when the theft happened

• 8
  – # of people who could provide serial numbers
What was the same?

• 05-06 SY
  – 44 unlocked doors
    • Suspects were not breaking in
      – No tools needed
      – No skill needed
  – Little evidence to investigate with
    • No cameras on halls and suspects are not seen leaving the building.
    • Only 8 people could provide serial #s
What was being taken?

- $56,555 worth of property.
  - 35 laptop!!!!
  - Multiple Gaming systems
  - MP3 Players

- Items that look normal for a person to be carrying
Who was taking It

- Who are the possible suspects?

Residents  Non-Residents
• Non-Students
  – Hard to pick out suspects
  – Cameras don’t show suspects leaving
  – Easy Access to Village
  – Front gate was an easily left open
Students helping the Bad Guy

• Student
  – Living on their own for the first time
    » “It can’t happen to me”
    » Not taking the responsibility for their own safety
  – Letting in people they did not know
• Either
  » Holding the gate or opening it for them
  » Not calling the police when they heard someone trying to open their door
Response

• What did we know
  1. Students had to be a part of the response
  2. Some of these burglaries were being committed by Non-Students
Response

- Non-Student Response
  - Target Hardening
    - Took a CPTED approach
      - Changed gate to turnstiles
      - Timer on Access Cards
    - Stronger enforcement Guest Policy
      - Guest must be escorted
    - Issuing CTWs for non-residents (including students) who walked around by themselves
Response

- Working with the students
  - Behavior modification
    - Get students to always lock their doors

Method
- Speeches
- Checks
- Signs
Speeches

- New Student/Resident Orientation
  - Already the Target Audience
  - Used an Officer that was good at public speaking
  - Same officer was a former resident of the Village
  - Talked to 8,339 people in 2 months
Checks

- Gotcha Program
  - Housing Run
    • RA’s check doors
    • Keep Records
- Officers on Patrol
  - Walking Halls
  - Checking doors
Signs

LOCK IT UP

Don't even try it
This door is locked!

For Police/Fire/EMS
Call: 404-961-7500

GSU Police Dept
Crime Prevention Unit
404-651-2130

Other GSU Police Dept Numbers

On-Campus: Emergency
404-661-3333
Non-Emergency
404-651-2100

Room Number:___________________________
Lock It Up!

The GSU Police Department wants to remind you
to keep your doors locked at all times.

For more crime prevention tips or to join the Lock It Up program contact the GSU Police Dept
Crime Prevention Unit
404-651-2130.
Student Response

But first
Some fun
Village Residents; Our Scholars

movie
Make it Rain
Mellonee Bowen wrote
on Apr 22, 2005 at 11:31 AM

Well im just looking for the weedman nd i just wanna smoke!! Abo it nothing wrong with dat Mr. Boston cuz tht shit will fuck you up. Yes Sir!!!

Shaka B wrote
on Apr 20, 2005 at 9:16 PM

wut u need cu i got it

Jeffrey Euryoke wrote
on Jul 27, 2005 at 9:08 AM

I got that good on deck, just give me a call at 404-246-3316, I still at school for the summer.

Marzuk Syed replied to Shaka's post
on Aug 13, 2005 at 5:02 PM

imen be lookin for em sometime this month, depends on classes
Student Response

- Negative Response to Turnstiles
F*ck Them Damn Turnstyle Gates

Information

Group Info
Name: n/a
Type: n/a
Description: This is a group for anyone who feels that the new turnstyle gates were a waste of OUR money.
1. How are we gonna move in and move out? (some people got huge stuff)
2. We gotta do a relay pass with our access cards to let our guests in.
3. If security is a problem tell them damn village security jobs to do their damn job.

If agree with this, feel free to join.

Videos
No one has uploaded any videos.

Discussion Board
Displaying 1 discussion topic: WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM WITH THE TURNSTYLE GATES? 1 post by 1 person. Updated on Jan 27, 2006 at 3:09 PM.

Members
This group has 2 members at Georgia State.
Jacqueline Levis
Rodriguez Worthy

The Wall
No one has said anything...yet.
Death to turnstiles!!!

Back to People against the New Village Turnstiles

Discussio

Topic: Death to turnstiles!!!

Displaying the only post.

Chastis Stinson wrote
on Mar 3, 2006 at 7:38 AM

I will definitely be up against the village next year. These often turnstiles were my breaking point. Why is it that I can't get into my own residence, but outside intruders can get in? People come in robbing and shooting. I mean, what is really going on? It's a hard knock life.
• Negative Response to Turn Stiles
• BUT!!
  – The numbers don’t lie
  • 39% reduction in crime the next SY
  • 5% more students were locking their doors
  • Officers can stop people trying to get in the complex
Analysis

• Less burglaries

![Bar graph showing a decrease of 39% in burglaries from FL05-SP06 to FL06-SP07]

• What does this mean?
  • We were effective!
  • But how?
Analysis

• More Students Locking their door

Rate at which student lock their doors

So which was more effective; Target Hardening or Behavior Modifications?
Lessons Learned

- Locking your door helps prevent thefts
  - The lessons learned in this program were used again in Aug 2007 when GSU opened a brand new dorm with every dorm having *self locking doors!!*
Lessons Learned

• Access Control Helps with preventing crime
  – Result the same new dorms also have turnstile gates
Lessons Learned

- Police Should not be hidden from the public
  - Police Mini Precinct was moved to a more visible location
  - We are able now to see every person that walks into the Commons.
  - They see us!!
Any Questions?
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