



Center for Problem-Oriented Policing



19th Annual Problem-Oriented Policing Conference

Bellevue, Washington

September 22-24, 2008



Closing Drug Houses: Full Stop

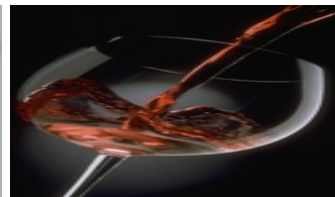


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Are drugs a problem nationally?

- States with highest rate of illicit drug-use
 - Alaska, Colorado, Montana, Oregon, Nevada? (SAMHSA, 2005)

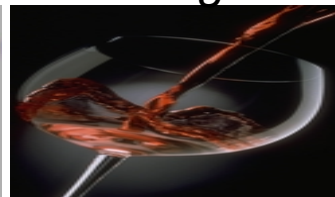
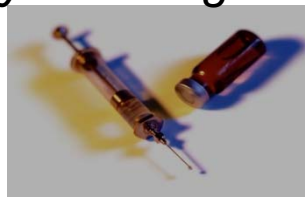


Are drugs a problem nationally?

% 12-17 years of age reporting use in past month

DRUG	2002	2005	Change
Any Drug	11.6%	9.9%	15% cumulative
Marijuana	8.2%	6.8%	-17% cumulative

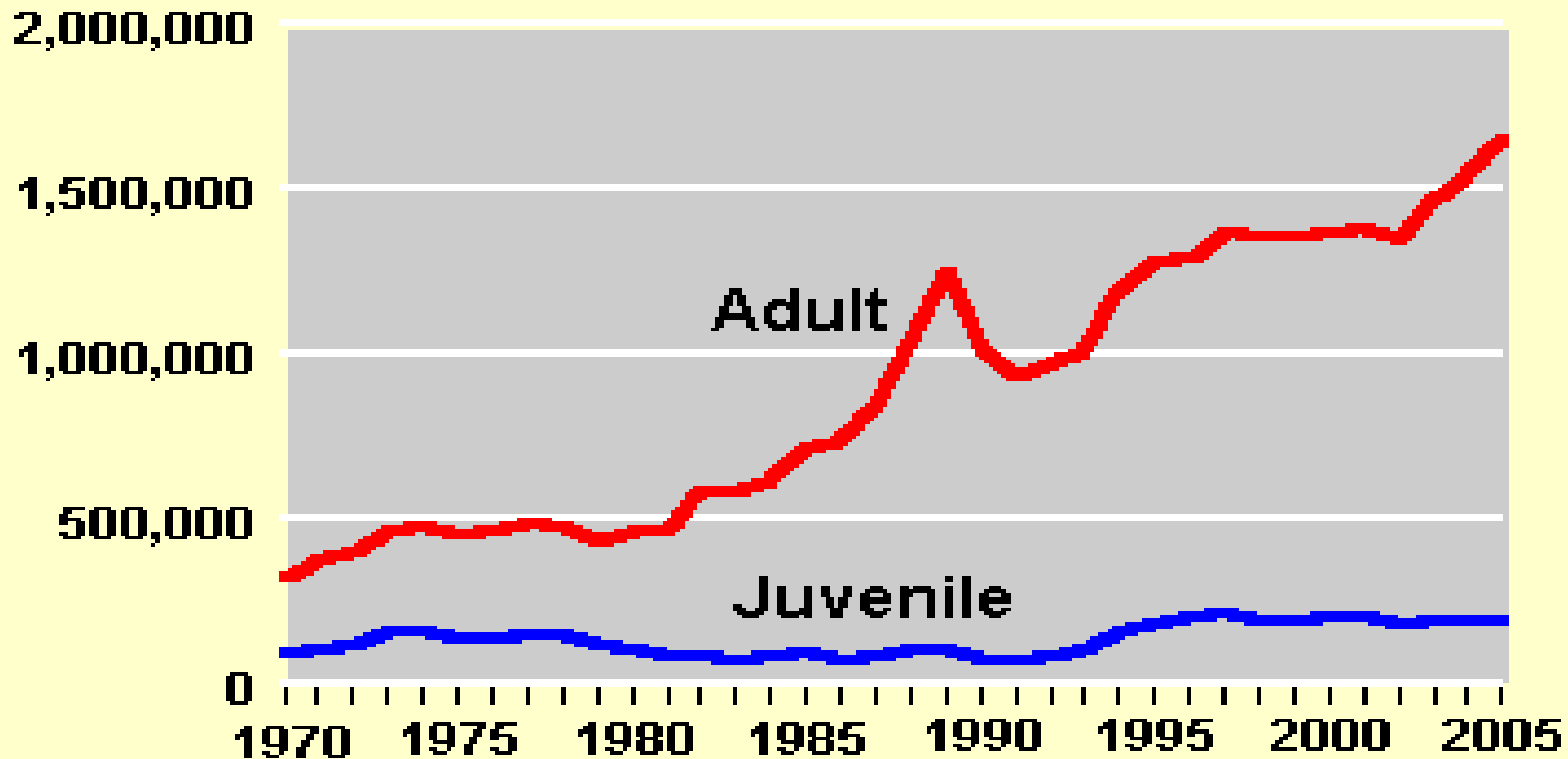
University of Michigan- Monitoring the Future annual survey



Record # of arrests for Adults

1.8 million possession cases in 2007

Drug arrests by age, 1970-2005



A noncriminal alternative to
rid neighborhoods of drugs



Neighbors Helping Neighbors in the Fight Against Illegal Drugs

The Problem

- April 1997 Readers Digest ranks Sheboygan, Wisconsin as the best place in America to raise a family



The Problem

- Lack of follow-up with complainants frustrated both the community and law enforcement
- Standard style of law enforcement tedious and very expensive

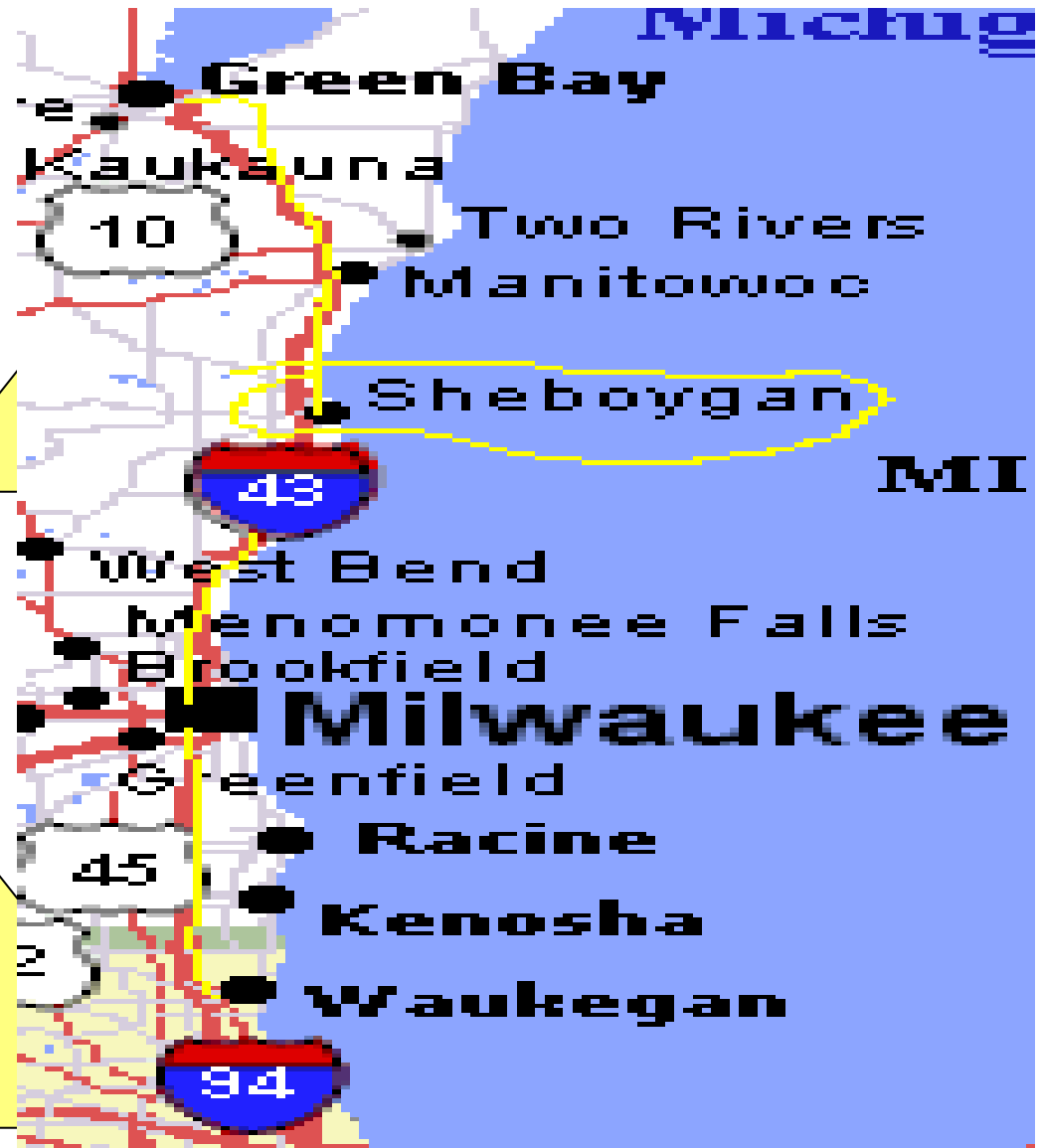


Neighbors Against Drugs

Scanning

Vulnerable
Corridor

Infamous
History



Note: Most critical stage (Bynum, 1997 *Using Analysis for Problem Solving*)

ANALYSIS



Drug
Diaries

Pretest
Surveys

**YOU CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE**



**WITHOUT
ANYONE KNOWING**



Assessment

- 5 years running
- “Victory” claimed in 24? neighborhoods with the elimination of 65? drug houses
- Pre to Posttest significant change scores
 - Perceptions of neighborhood safety; $p < .001$
 - Neighborhood disorder; $p < .001$
 - Suspected drugs houses; $p < .001$

Comparing pre and post samples

Question	Pre-test (N=622) % responding 'YES'	Post-test (N=348) % responding 'YES'
Do you feel your neighborhood is safe? ***	41	82
Is there unfamiliar neighborhood disorder / activity? *** (e.g., strangers lots of cars coming at all hours)	51	15

***** p < .001 (denotes highly significant change)**

Comparing pre and post samples

Question	Pre-test (N=662) % responding 'YES'	Post-test (N=348) % responding 'YES'
Do you suspect a drug house on your block? ***	50	8
Are you more willing to call the police on suspected neighborhood problems since NAD intervened?	X	79
Have you talked to your neighbors more since NAD intervened?	X	54

*** $p < .001$

Comparing pre and post samples

Question	Pre-test (N=559) % responding 'YES'	Post-test (N=292) % responding 'YES'
Do you support NAD?	97	98
Do you grant NAD the permission to post a sign in your front yard?	94	X

Post-test open ended responses

- 1) Less traffic, not as many loud car stereos**
- 2) Cars are no longer getting broken into**
- 3) First time in years I allow my children to play outside after dark**
- 4) Glad to know NAD will be there to respond if I call**
- 5) This is a much better place to live**
- 6) We would have sold our house if it wasn't for NAD**
- 7) I feel safer**

Shifting Responsibilities

- Montgomery C
- Is it possible to
- without any po

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services



COPS
COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Problem-Oriented Guides for Police
Response Guide Series
No. 3

Shifting and Sharing Responsibility for Public Safety Problems

by
Michael S. Scott
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www.cops.usdoj.gov

Evaluating Citizen Response to Illicit Drug Sales (NAD, Inc.)

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