

BUILDING SECURITY CODES:

A CRIME DETERRENT?

68115



Department of Community Affairs
Division of Public Safety Planning and Assistance

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A CRIME DETERRENT?

NCJRS

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ACQUISITIONS

Foreword

BUILDING SECURITY CODES: A CRIME DETERRENT?

This document has been produced in partial fulfillment of LEAA grant 78-A5-50-GC02 awarded to the Standards and Goals Unit of the Florida Bureau of Criminal Justice Assistance (BCJA).

The two studies in this report examine data collected on four offenses (murder, aggravated assault, rape, and breaking and entering of a dwelling) and begin to give some information on whether these crimes could be affected by a statewide building security code. The first study presented is based on statewide offender-based data collected from the Florida Department of Corrections "offender records." The second study is "victim-based" data taken from City of Miami field reports. The third section of this report is a brief comparison of the findings of the two studies.

Appreciation, acknowledgement and recognition of cooperation go to Louie Wainwright, Secretary of the Florida Department of Corrections, Chief Kenneth Harms and Lieutenant Rod Sayre of the City of Miami Police Department. Particular recognition should also be given to Patricia B. Harvey, Standards and Goals Research Assistant, principal author, through whose efforts final completion was attained. Other BCJA staff and interns involved include: Nolia Brandt, Standards and Goals Coordinator; Jennifer Davis, Federal Programs Analyst; Russ Perkins, Research Assistant; Terry Smith, Research Assistant; Jacki Crumpton, Intern; Susanne Roxbury, Intern, and Eric Gidlund, Intern.

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STANDARDS AND GOALS

Building Security Code Study Statewide Offender-Based Data

STANDARDS AND GOALS

Building Security Code Study Statewide Offender-Based Data

Synopsis

In recent years there has been an interest in whether a building security code could have an affect on the reduction of crime. The purpose of a security code is to require construction that will result in increased security and the addition of security hardware and other protective devices which make a structure less vulnerable to forced entry. Delay of an intruder is the primary value of physical security. It has been shown that "if entry can be delayed for only four minutes, a burglar generally will give up on that entry . . ." (LEAA Newsletter, Vol. 4, No. 3, 1974). An assumption is made that an enforced building security code will provide for security devices at all points of entry.

It is the intent of this report to provide descriptive data and analysis which describes the nature of entry into dwellings which then may possibly be affected by an enforced building security code. The influences drawn relate only to those cases studied and are not to be generalized to all offenses in the state as a whole. In other words, this report analyzes whether an enforced building security code may have had an affect or delayed an intruder so that the offense studied may not have been carried through.

A sample of 710 cases was drawn, at random, from the Florida Department of Corrections' case files. Circumstances of the crime were not available in 33 of the case files. Data were collected on 305 cases which occurred in a dwelling: 179 forced entries; 96 not forced entries; 30 type of entry not reported. These cases included offenders imprisoned in the state prison system as of the date the list was compiled. The major source of information in the offender file was the Pre-Sentence Investigation.

Only information on those crimes being studied which occurred in a dwelling was gathered. In general, one-third of the crimes could possibly have been affected by a building security code; four out of ten probably would not have been affected, and the possible effect was unknown in one-fourth of the cases. A building security code probably would have had a greater impact on breaking and entering of a dwelling cases, 56% of those crimes may have been affected, whereas in the other three types of crimes examined, only 14% of those may have been affected. Most murder and aggravated assault offenders resided with, or were guests of, the victim. The typical location for all offenses was a house as opposed to another type of residential dwelling.

Introduction

The need for this study was identified by crime prevention officers, legislators and other persons in the criminal justice field who had expressed their beliefs that a statewide building security code could have an affect on the reduction of crime. The use of specific residential security hardware and education has been encouraged by crime prevention officers and specialized local, state and federal programs. Based on their belief that increased security measures will reduce crime, they have promoted the need for a statewide building security code. Past legislation has also indicated a belief in the need for a statewide building security code. Further analysis of the need for, and possible effects of, a code is the basis for this study.

It is the intent of this report to provide descriptive data and analysis which describes the possible affect on the cases studied of an enforced building security code. The inferences drawn relate only to those cases studied and are not to be generalized to all offenses in the state as a whole. In other words, this report analyzes whether an enforced building security code may have had an effect or delayed an intruder so that the offense studied may not have been carried through.

Methodology

Population:

The Florida Department of Corrections' records contain data not only on the offenders and the crime, but also specific information on the dwelling in which the crime occurred and the type and location of entry. It was determined that a survey of these data would yield information which would suggest the effect of a building security code on the reduction of crime.

Variables:

The variables examined were: offense, type of entry (forced, not forced), type of not forced entry, location of forced entry, type of forced entry, type of dwelling. A copy of the data collection sheets may be found in the appendices to this study.

Two different collection sheets were used. Information on rapes was collected with collection sheet "A" which was revised prior to the collection of data on murders, aggravated assaults and breaking and enterings. The data collection sheet was revised to include more specific choices relative to the offender victim relationship. The rape data were collapsed into the additional categories from the comments provided on the collection sheets.

Definitions:

Most of the variables are self-explanatory, i.e., location of entry: door, window; type of dwelling; type of not forced entry: unlocked door or window, offender was a resident, overnight guest or visitor in victim's dwelling. False impression was defined as gaining entry by misrepresentation and was categorized as a not forced entry. An example of false impression was the offender represented himself to have mechanical trouble with his car and requested the use of the victim's telephone to summon aid. These variables were usually clearly specified in the offender record. (If they were not specified, UNKNOWN was checked. This was categorized as NOT REPORTED on the tabulations.) The offense variable was defined as being the last offense which the offender committed. If an offender was convicted for two or more offenses, for example, breaking and entering of a dwelling which occurred at two different places, data would be gathered on the last offense committed. Again, only the previously mentioned crimes were considered.

Two types of entries of a dwelling, forced and not forced, for murder, aggravated assault, rape, and breaking and entering of a dwelling, were examined in this study. The "Florida Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Guide Manual" defines forcible entry specifically as:

... all offenses where force of any kind is used to unlawfully enter a *locked* structure
... with intent to steal or commit a felony. This includes entry by use of a master key, celluloid, or other device, that leaves no outward mark but is used to open a lock ...
(Emphasis Supplied)

The manual also defines "unlawful entry—no force, as any unlawful entry, when you fail to discover any evidence of forcible entry." Types of forced entry coded include: break or remove

window, rip or remove screen, forced lock.* Another type of forced entry was defined as intimidation. In some cases, the offender gained entry by pushing his way in after the victim opened the door or acted in some fashion, including the show of a gun, which caused the victim to feel personally threatened and in fear of his life.

Some offender records indicated that a crime occurred in a dwelling but did not report whether the entry was forced or not forced. In those cases, a collection sheet was coded for the information available and included in the totals as applicable. For example, if the record showed a murder occurred in a mobile home, but it did not reflect how the offender gained entry, a collection sheet would have been coded for a murder committed in a mobile home with the type of entry unknown (not reported). This case would only be reflected in a comparison of the types of dwellings in which the four offenses were committed.

The purpose of a building security code is to require additional security hardware and protective devices that will result in increased security, as well as security-oriented architectural and building practices. An assumption is made that a code will require security devices at all points of entry. It has been shown that "if entry can be delayed for only four minutes, a burglar generally will give up on that entry . . ." (LEAA Newsletter, Vol. 4, No. 3, 1974).

This study examines whether an offender may have been deterred if the dwellings in the cases studied had been protected with all the necessary security devices required in an effective building security code, but does not address whether the overall crime rate could be reduced, due to possible displacement of the crime to a less secure building.

Data Collection:

The method of data collection entailed:

1) Defining the sample. Each type of offense (murder, aggravated assault, rape and breaking and entering) was treated separately in obtaining a sample. This was done because of the vastly differing numbers in the population of each offense.

Murder—Sample: a random sample of 198 cases was obtained from this population. Data were gathered on the 60 offenses which occurred in a dwelling.

Aggravated Assault—Sample: a random sample of 174 cases was obtained from this population. Data were gathered on the 40 cases which occurred in a dwelling.

Rape—Sample: a random sample of 200 cases was obtained from this population. Data were gathered on the 67 cases which occurred in a dwelling.

*Records did not indicate whether appropriate or adequate security devices were available and being used in the dwellings entered.

Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling—Sample: a random sample of 143 cases was obtained from the population. Data were gathered on 138 cases, or all but the five cases which did not include the circumstances of the offense in the offender's file. References will be made to breaking and entering or B&E for this offense.

2) Obtaining the random samples for each offense. Case numbers of offender files were randomly obtained from the computer system. The samples were drawn from those offenders who were incarcerated in the state prison system for the specific offense as of the date the list was compiled.

3) Pulling the offender records and coding the data. Within the offender's file the pre-sentence investigation (or post-sentence) was the major source of information on the type of dwelling in which the offense occurred as well as the type of entry offender and offense data. Data were recorded on only those crimes which occurred in a dwelling. In a small number of cases, the offender record was not available for review, the circumstances of the offense were not stated in the offender record or the computer selected a case number that was not for the selected offense. Only one offense was examined for each case file. Information was gathered on the circumstances surrounding the last offense committed by the offender.

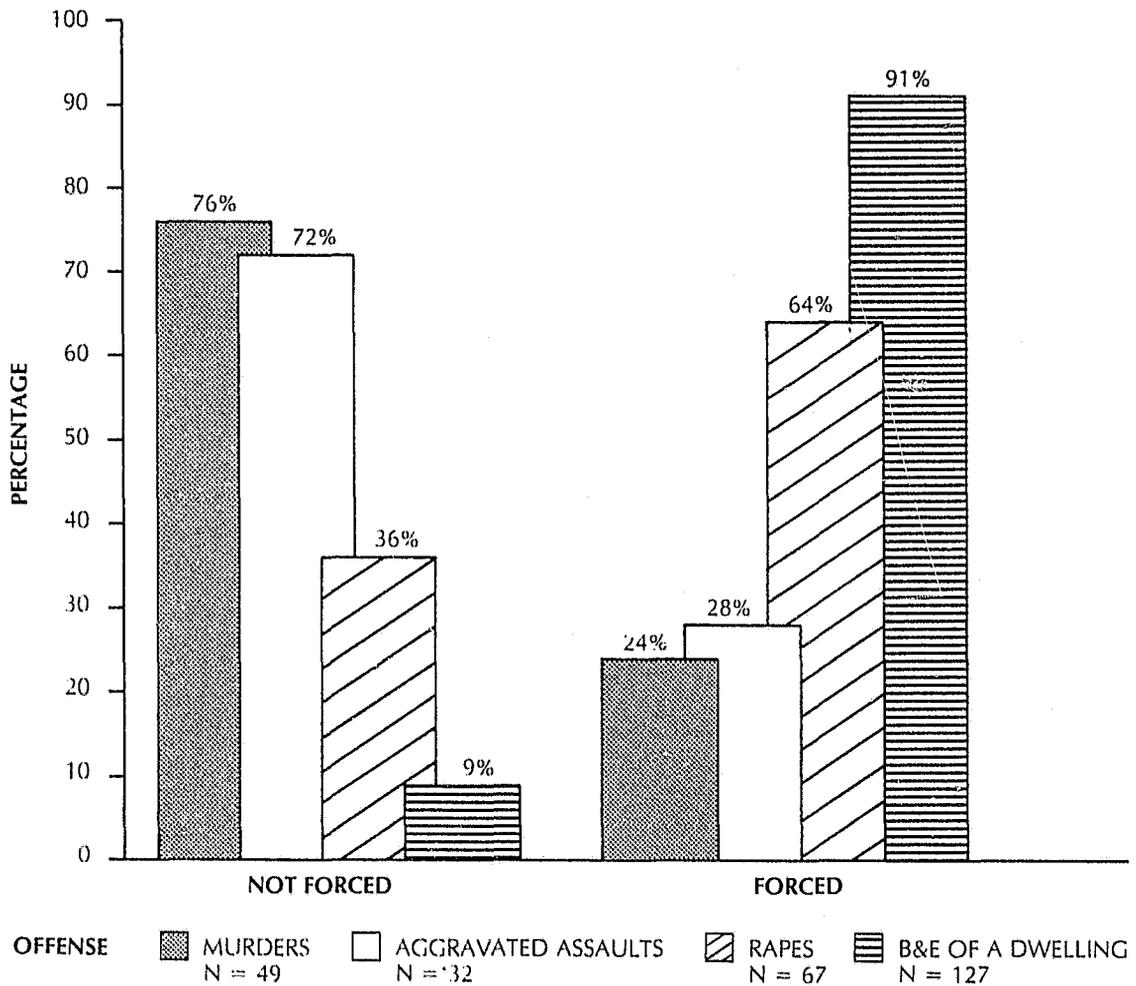
Results and Findings

1. Type of Entry by Offense

Murder, Aggravated Assault, Rape, Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling: Two types of entries of a dwelling, forced and not forced, were examined in this study. If the offender did not have to use force to gain entry, the commission of the crime probably would not have been affected by a building security code. A look at the types of entries, therefore, provides a sketchy first review of the potential effect of a building security code on the reduction of crime. Not forced entries may be affected by other crime prevention education.

In three out of four (76%) of the 49 murders, the offender did not have to use force to enter the victim's dwelling. Most of the 32 aggravated assaults (72%) were also not forced entries. There were 67 rapes and in 64% of the cases the offender forced his way into the victim's home. In only 9% of the 127 breaking and entering of a dwelling cases in which the type of entry was known the offender did not have to forcibly enter the dwelling. It is interesting to note that most murders and aggravated assaults studied were committed by persons who did not have to use force to enter the victim's dwelling. Table 1 displays all known forced and not forced entries for the four offenses. The cumulative total of not forced entries (on the left of the chart) and forced entries (on the right of the chart) for each offense is 100 percent.

Comparison of Forced and Not-Forced Entries for Murders, Aggravated Assaults, Rapes, and Breakings and Enterings of a Dwelling* which Occurred in a Dwelling



Source: Standards & Goals Statewide Offender-Based Study

*Note: Totals do not include cases where type of entry was not reported.

Table 1

2. Type of Not Forced Entries

Murder, Aggravated Assault, Rape: It was important to determine how the offender gained entry into the victim's dwelling. The types of "not forced" entries were:

- The offender resided in the dwelling with the victim;
- Was an overnight guest;
- Was a visitor;
- Gained entry by a false impression (misrepresentation);
- The door or window of the victim's dwelling was unlocked;
- Other types of entry not specified;
- Type of not forced entry was not reported (unknown).

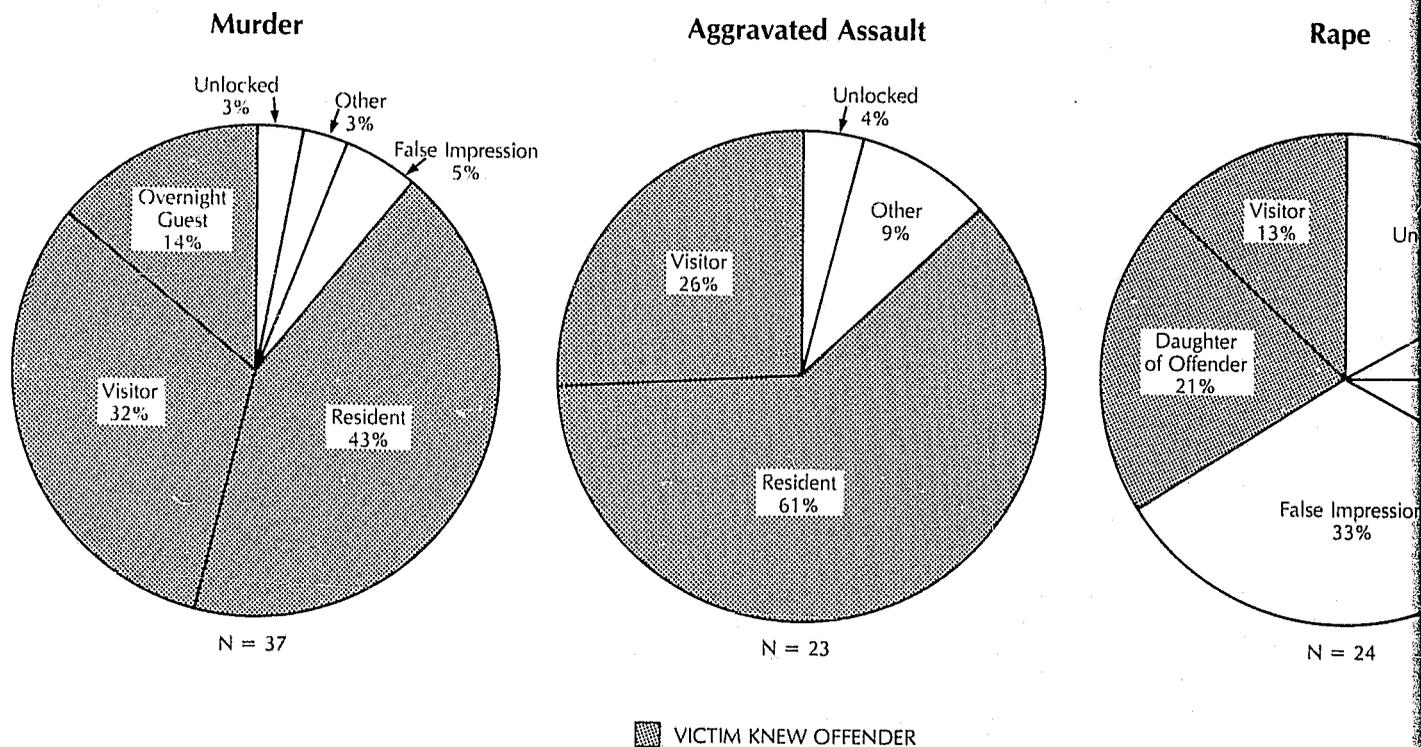
A closer review of those offenders who resided with the rape victims revealed that some victims were the daughter of the offender. Those cases were reported as "daughter of the offender" rather than resident because it provides additional information.

The types of not forced entries were examined and classified for the three violent offenses studied: murder, aggravated assault and rape. The majority of the total combined cases studied of the three offenses were not forced, 57%. Not forced entries accounted for 37 (76%) of the murders, 23 (72%) of the aggravated assaults and 24 (36%) of the rapes. These figures represent the known types of entries for the specific offenses which occurred in a dwelling. Of the not forced entries for the three violent offenses reviewed (murder, aggravated assault and rape), the door or window was left unlocked in 17% of the rapes, 3% of the murders and 4% of the aggravated assaults. Table 2 illustrates the type of not forced entries for each offense.

Murder and aggravated assault victims more than likely knew their offenders. Nine out of ten (89%) of the not forced murders were committed by offenders who were residents, overnight guests or visitors of the victims. The statistics for known not forced entries for aggravated assaults were similar to the murder results.

The offender was known by the victim in almost nine out of ten (87%) not forced aggravated assault cases examined (61% were residents and 26% were visitors). Just over a third of the rape cases studied were not forced entries, but it is interesting that the types of entries were statistically quite different from the murder and aggravated assaults. The victim knew the offender in a third of the not forced entry cases, and in two out of ten of the not forced entry cases the victim was the daughter of the offender. In another third of the not forced entries the offender misrepresented himself to the victim (false impression). The shaded area on Table 2 reflects the victim offender relationship.

Comparison of Type of Not Forced Entries for Murders, Aggravated Assaults, and Rapes which Occurred in a Dwelling



Source: Standards & Goals Statewide Offender-Based Study

Note: False Impression—Offender gained entry through misrepresentation.

3. Type of Dwelling

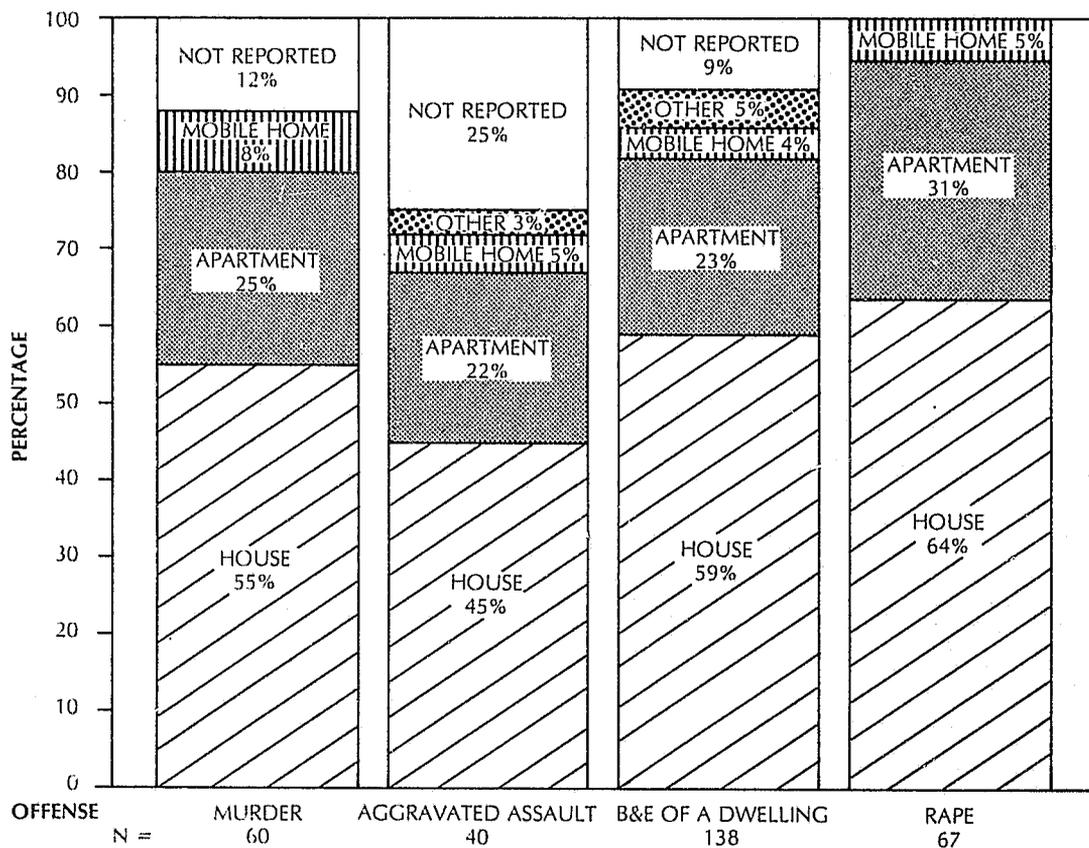
Murder, Aggravated Assault, Rape, Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling: The next step in this process, after determining the number of forced and not forced entries, was to examine the types of dwellings in which the offenses occurred.

The dwelling categories were: house, apartment; condominium; duplex; mobile home; other; unknown (not reported).* The study showed that most offenses which occurred in a dwelling took place in a house. Apartments were the site for approximately one-fourth of each of the murder, aggravated assault and breaking and entering cases. A little less than one-third of the rapes occurred in apartments. A small number of crimes were committed in mobile homes, four to eight percent, depending on the category of crime committed. The data for aggravated assaults had the most potential for being unreliable, 25% of the case files did not indicate the type of dwelling in which the offense occurred.

The data base used in Table 3 is type of dwelling, whereas previous tables refer to type of entry, forced—not forced. Some records did not indicate type of entry but showed type of dwelling; therefore, there is a difference in the data base totals.

*This data has some limitations which should be considered. It is not known whether the individuals who prepared the reports from which the data was collected thought in terms beyond house, apartment and mobile home. It is possible that duplexes may have been described as houses and condominiums may have been termed apartments.

Proportion of the Breakdown of the Location of Crimes which Occurred in a Dwelling



N: Includes all cases that show type of dwelling, regardless of indication of forced or not-forced entry.

Source: Standards & Goals Statewide Offender-Based Study

Table 3

4. Location of Entry—Forced Entries

Murder, Aggravated Assault, Rape, and Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling: It is also important to examine the cases in which the offender used force to gain entry, in order to gather sufficient data to draw some inferences relative to the affect a building security code could have had on reducing the incidence of crime for the four offenses. In all four offenses the offender usually went through a door (49%) as opposed to a window (27%). Almost eight out of ten (78%) of the offenders in the aggravated assault cases went through the door. In one out of four cases the location of the forced entry of a dwelling was not reported. Aggravated assault records were more complete than the rest with the location of the forced entry reported in 89% of the cases. Table 4 displays the location of entry (door, window, not reported) for forced entries of a dwelling for the four offenses studied.

**Comparison of Offense/Location
of Entry for Forced Entries**

Location of Entry	OFFENSE					
	Murder	Aggravated Assault	Rape	Sub- Total	B&E of a Dwelling	TOTAL
DOOR	6 (50%)	7 (78%)	23 (54%)	36 (56%)	52 (45%)	88 (49%)
WINDOW	3 (25%)	1 (11%)	7 (16%)	11 (17%)	37 (32%)	48 (27%)
NOT REPORTED	3 (25%)	1 (11%)	13 (30%)	17 (27%)	26 (23%)	43 (24%)
Total	12 (100%)	9 (100%)	43 (100%)	64 (100%)	115 (100%)	179 (100%)

Source: Standards & Goals Statewide Offender-Based Study

Table 4

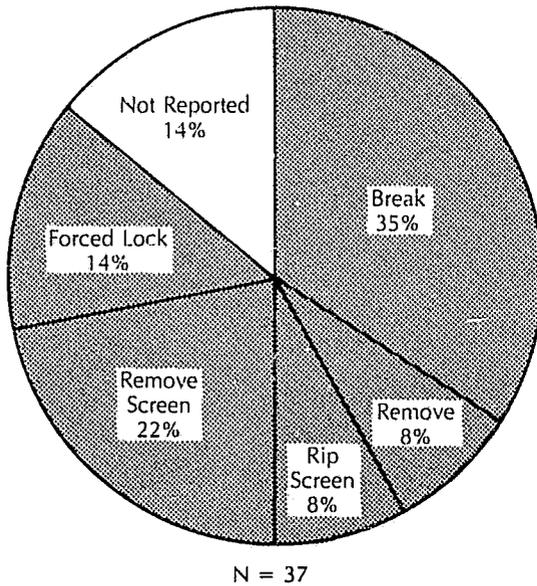
Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling: The offender gained entry into the victim's dwelling through force in nine out of ten breaking and entering cases. These forced entries were separated into window and door entries.

The types of entry through a window were: break or remove the window; rip or remove the screen; forced lock; unknown (not reported). In two out of ten (22%) of the entries through a window, the offender removed the screen first, a little over one-third (35%) broke the window, 14% forced the lock, 8% removed the window, 8% ripped the screen, and 14% of the records did not show how the offender forced his way through the window.

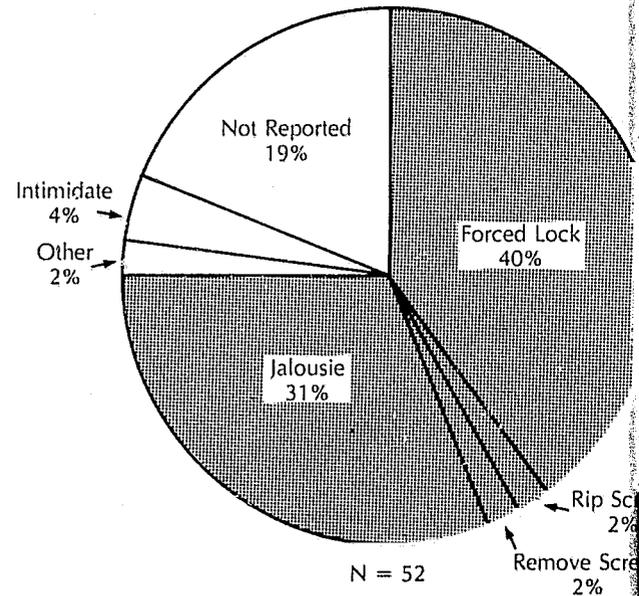
Entries through a door included: rip or remove screen; forced lock; intimidate; unknown (not reported). When an offender removed a screen and then a window, the data collection sheet reflected "remove screen." The act which occurred first was checked. An entry through a jalousie occurred so often that it was made a separate category in the tabulation. When a jalousie door was involved, a pane of glass usually was pried open or removed and then the door was unlocked. Four out of ten (40%) of the offenders who forced their way through a door, forced the lock, three out of ten involved a jalousie door, two out of ten did not show how the offender forced his way through the door, 4% intimidated the victim; 2% forced their way through the door by other methods. Table 5 displays this data.

Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling Location of Known Forced Entry N = 115*

WINDOW



DOOR



MAY BE AFFECTED BY A BUILDING SECURITY CODE

*Note: Total includes 26 location of forced entry not reported.
Source: Standards & Goals Statewide Offender-Based Study
Percentages may not sum to 100 as a result of rounding.

5. Probability of the Affect of a Building Security Code

Murder, Aggravated Assault, Rape, and Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling: The data for all four offenses were collapsed into three categories relative to whether a building security code may have had an affect on reducing the incidence of crime: may be affected, probably not affected, and effect unknown. The criteria for determining what data fell within the three categories was based on crime prevention techniques generally incorporated into building security codes. A code may require, for example, that a door be equipped with cylinder deadbolt lock and be of solid construction rather than a hollow door with a spring lock. There are also various types of locking hardware or procedures which can make a window more secure. Security measures must be implemented on the entire structure to be effective.

Methods of entry which were classified as may be affected by a building security code included: breaking or removing a window; ripping or removing a screen; forcing a lock; tampering with a jalousie door. Types of entries which were classified as probably not affected by a building security code included intimidation and all not forced entries. When the location or type of forced entry was not specified it was classified as effect unknown.

Three offenses were broken out separately, murder, aggravated assault and rapes and then combined. Breaking and entering of a dwelling was treated separately and then combined with the other three offenses.

Eight out of ten of the murders and aggravated assaults which occurred in a dwelling probably would not have been affected by a building security code. Sixty-four percent of the 67 rape cases examined indicated a forced entry, but 13 of these cases did not specify the type of entry. Although the data infers that 57% of the rapes probably would not have been affected (due to intimidation and other factors), and 18% may have been affected by a building security code, in one-fourth of the rapes the effect was unknown.

When murder, aggravated assaults, and rapes were combined, the data inferred that 14% may be affected, 70% would probably not be affected, and the effect of a building security code was unknown for 16%. The shaded area in Table 5 represents those entries which may have been affected by a building security code. The addition of the breaking and entering of a dwelling data had a substantial impact on the total results: 33% may be affected, 43% would probably not be affected, and the effect was unknown for 24% of the cases studied. It appears from the data that of the cases studied, a building security code may have affected one offense, breaking and entering of a dwelling, at a much higher rate than the other three offenses examined. This data is displayed in Table 6.

Probability of the Affect of a Building Security Code

Building Security Code Affects	OFFENSE					
	Murder	Aggravated Assault	Rape	Sub-Total	B&E of a Dwelling	TOTAL
MAY BE AFFECTED ¹	4 (8%)	4 (13%)	12 (18%)	20 (14%)	71 (56%)	91 (33%)
PROBABLY NOT AFFECTED ²	39 (80%)	27 (84%)	38 (57%)	104 (70%)	14 (11%)	118 (43%)
EFFECT UNKNOWN ³	6 (12%)	1 (3%)	17* (25%)	24 (16%)	42 (33%)	66 (24%)
Total Entries (Forced & Not Forced)	49 (100%)	32 (100%)	67 (100%)	148 (100%)	127 (100%)	275 (100%)

¹Includes: breaking or removing a window; ripping or removing a screen; forcing a lock; or tampering with a jalousie door.

²Includes unlocked; intimidation; and all not forced entries.

³Location or type of forced entry not specified.

*Includes 13 cases in which the records indicated forced entry but did not specify type of entry.

Source: Standards and Goals Statewide Offender-Based Study

Table 6

E. Summary

This report has examined circumstances surrounding the entry of a dwelling for four offenses: murder, aggravated assault, rape, and breaking and entering of a dwelling. It also presented data which inferred what the probable effect could have been on reducing those same crimes if a building security code had been in effect.

A summary of the data for entries of a dwelling is outlined below:

Forced and Not Forced Entries of a Dwelling

- 3 out of 4 murders were not forced entries
- 7 out of 10 aggravated assaults were not forced entries
- Almost two-thirds of the rapes were forced entries of the dwellings
- 9 out of 10 breaking and entering of a dwelling cases were forced entries

Type of Not Forced Entries of a Dwelling

- Almost 9 out of 10 offenders who gained entry without force either resided with, or were guests of, the murder or aggravated assault victims
- One-third of the rape offenders who gained entry of a dwelling without force misrepresented themselves to the victim and 2 out of 10 were the victim's father

Type of Dwelling

- In all four offenses when the offense occurred in a dwelling, a house was usually the scene of the crime, ranging from 45% to 64%, depending on the type of crime committed
- Apartments were the second most common site of the crimes which occurred in a dwelling, 22% to 31%

Location of Entry for Forced Entries of a Dwelling

- About half of the murder, rape, and breaking and entering of a dwelling offenders who forced their way in, went through a door
- Almost 8 out of 10 of the aggravated assault offenders who gained entry by force went through a door
- One-fourth of the murder offenders, one-tenth of the aggravated assault offenders, and 3 out of 10 of the breaking and entering of a dwelling offenders who used force to enter a dwelling gained entry through the window
- Approximately one-fourth of all offense records which indicated a forced entry of a dwelling did not report the location of the entry

Method of Forced Entry for Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling Offenses

- A little less than half of the known forced entries involved going through a door; in 40% of those the offender forced the lock and in 31% he tampered with a jalousie door
- Two out of 10 of the offenders who forced their way through a window removed the screen first and 35% broke the window first

Probability of the Affect of a Building Security Code

- Fourteen percent of the murders, aggravated assaults and rapes, and 56% of the breaking and entering of a dwelling cases may have been affected if a building security code had existed and been enforced.
- Seven out of 10 of the murders, aggravated assaults and rapes, and one-tenth of the breaking and entering of a dwelling cases probably would not have been affected if a building security code existed.
- The effect of a building security code could not be determined in one-fourth of the cases.

PERSONAL OFFENSES RESULTING FROM FORCED ENTRY

SURVEYOR _____ CASE NUMBER _____

DATE SURVEYED _____ DATE OF CRIME _____

CRIME

- Murder
- Rape
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault

TYPE OF DWELLING

- House
- Apartment
- Condominium
- Duplex
- Mobile Home
- Other

AGE (Offender)

- Below 17
- 18-19
- 20-24
- 25-29
- 30-34
- 35-39
- 40-44
- 45-49
- 50-54
- 55-59
- 60-64
- 65-69
- 70+

RACE/SEX (Offender)

- WM
- WF
- BM
- BF
- Other M
- Other F

TYPE OF ENTRY

- Forced Entry
 - Break window
 - Remove window
 - Rip Screen
 - Remove Screen
 - Force Door Lock
 - Door Unlocked
 - Window Unlocked
 - Other
 - Unknown
- Door
 - Front
 - Back
 - Side
 - Garage
 - Other
 - Sliding Glass
- Window
 - Living Room
 - Kitchen
 - Bedroom
 - Bathroom
 - Den
 - Fla. Room
 - Porch
 - Other
 - Unknown
- Unknown
- Other
- Not Forced Entry
 - False Impression
 - Other
 - Unknown

MOTIVE

- Family Quarrel
- Jealousy
- Revenge
- Altercation
- Self-defense
- Robbery
- Sexual
- Psychopathic
- Other
- Unknown

RELATIONSHIP OFFENDER/VICTIM

- Husband-wife
- Immediate family
- Relative
- Friend
- Stranger
- Other
- Unknown

WAS THERE INDICATION OF INTENT TO BURGLARIZE?

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

ANYTHING STOLEN?

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

COMMENTS:

1/18/79

Standards and Goals Project

Note: "Unlocked" categories were tabulated as NOT FORCED entries.

OFFENSES RESULTING FROM ENTRY OF A DWELLING

SURVEYOR _____ CASE NUMBER _____

DATE SURVEYED _____ DATE OF CRIME _____

CRIME

- Murder
- Rape
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault
- B&E a Dwelling

TYPE OF DWELLING

- House
- Apartment
- Condominium
- Duplex
- Mobile Home
- Other

AGE (Offender)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Below 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 45-49 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18-19 | <input type="checkbox"/> 50-54 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 55-59 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25-29 | <input type="checkbox"/> 60-64 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 65-69 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35-39 | <input type="checkbox"/> 70+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 40-44 | |

RACE/SEX (Offender)

- WM
- WF
- BM
- BF
- Other M
- Other F

COMMENTS:

TYPE OF ENTRY

- NOT FORCED
 - Resident
 - Guest/overnight
 - Visitor
 - False impression
 - Other
 - Unknown
- FORCED
 - Window
 - Break
 - Remove
 - Rip Screen
 - Remove Screen
 - Forced lock
 - Unlocked
 - Unknown
 - Door
 - Unlocked
 - Forced lock
 - Rip Screen
 - Remove Screen
 - Intimidate
 - Unknown

LOCATION OF ENTRY

- Door
 - Front Side
 - Back Garage
 - Sliding Glass
 - Other
 - Unknown
- Window
 - Kitchen
 - Living Room
 - Bedroom
 - Bathroom
 - Den
 - Fla. Room Other
 - Porch Unknown
- Porch/Did not enter dwelling
- Other

MOTIVE

- Family Quarrel
- Jealousy
- Revenge
- Altercation
- Self-defense
- Robbery
- Sexual
- Psychopathic
- Other
- Unknown

RELATIONSHIP

OFFENDER/VICTIM

- Husband/Wife
- Ex-Spouse
- Boyfriend/Girlfriend
- Ex-Boyfriend/Girlfriend
- Immediate Family
- Relative
- Friend
- Acquaintance
- Stranger
- Business
- Other
- Unknown

INDICATION OF INTENT TO BURGLARIZE?

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

ANYTHING STOLEN?

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

Revised 7/19/79

Standards and Goals Project

Note: "Unlocked" categories were tabulated as NOT FORCED entries.

STANDARDS AND GOALS

Building Security Code Study City of Miami-Based Data

STANDARDS AND GOALS

Building Security Code Study

City of Miami-Based Data

Synopsis

A current interest in whether building security codes could have an effect on reducing crime has prompted two studies: 1) a statewide offender-based study discussed in an earlier section, and 2) this study which examines field reports for the City of Miami for the first six months of 1979 for the same four offenses (murder, aggravated assault, rape, and breaking and entering of a dwelling) as studied in the statewide report.

An enforced building security code would require additional protective devices at all points of entry which would result in making a structure less vulnerable to forced entry. The delay of an intruder is the objective of a security code. It has been shown that "if entry can be delayed for only four minutes, a burglar generally will give up on that entry . . ." (LEAA Newsletter, Vol. 4, No. 3, 1974).

Both studies collected data on the types of entries which occurred in a dwelling and examined the effect an enforced building security code could have had on reducing crime. Field reports for the City of Miami totaled 563 for the four offenses studied. Data were recorded on the 275 cases which occurred in a dwelling: 167 forced entries; 82 not forced entries; 26 type of entry not reported. Inferences drawn in this study relate to the cases studied and are not to be generalized to the state as a whole.

Almost half (45%) of the total cases studied could possibly have been affected by a building security code; a little more than one-third (37%) probably would not have been affected; the effect was unknown for slightly less than two out of ten (18%) of the cases. Like the statewide offender-based study, breaking and entering of a dwelling cases had a great impact on the totals arrived at for all four offenses, i.e., there were substantially more crimes which may have been affected by an enforced building security code for this offense than for the other three combined. The average percentage of crimes which may have been affected by a building security code for the murder, aggravated assault, and rape cases combined was 13%; however, 62% of the breaking and entering of a dwelling cases may have been affected. Almost all of the murder and aggravated assault victims combined knew their suspected offenders, one-third were visitors or overnight guests and almost half resided with the victims.

Introduction

The purpose of this study was to provide additional crime analysis data to persons in the criminal justice field who had been proposing that a statewide building security code would have an effect on the reduction of crime. An assumption is made that a building security code will require security protective measures at all points of entry and that this additional security will delay an intruder. It has been shown that "if entry can be delayed for only four minutes, a burglar generally will give up on that entry . . ." (LEAA Newsletter, Vol. 4, No. 3, 1974).

The study discussed in a previous section was "offender-based;" this study is "victim-based." Other victim-based studies would have been undertaken if additional funds had been available. This report examines the same type of offenses discussed in the statewide offender-based study; murder, aggravated assault, rape, and breaking and entering of a dwelling. The data base for this study was provided by the City of Miami and is the offense (field) reports developed by the officers at the scene of the crime.

This study had the same objectives as the statewide offender-based study: 1) to obtain descriptive data on the circumstances surrounding the entry of a dwelling for the four offenses studied by frequency counts of the variables for each offense; 2) to make any inferences possible from the data relative to the potential effect of an enforced building security code on the reduction of crime. The inferences drawn, however, relate only to those cases studied and are not to be generalized to all offenses in the state.

Methodology

Population:

The City of Miami field reports, which are computerized, contain specific data on all reported crimes. The length and specificity of the data in the reports was limited only by the information available at the crime scene. The extent of the follow-up information which was provided in the reports depended on the availability of new information and the length of time between the offense and the computer run. The data generally include the type of dwelling in which the crime occurred and the type and location of entry. The City of Miami provided field reports for the first six months of 1979. It was determined that the data collected could provide an indicator of the effect an enforced building security code could have on the reduction of crime in the City of Miami for the four offenses studied: murder, aggravated assault, rape, and breaking and entering of a dwelling. This study may help support the reliability of statewide offender-based study discussed in a previous section.

Variables:

The variables examined were the same as in the statewide offender-based study: offense, type of entry (forced, not forced), type of not forced entry, location of forced entry, type of forced entry, type of dwelling. A copy of the data collection sheet may be found as an appendix to this study.

Definitions:

Many of the variables were set out clearly in the field reports and are easily understood: location of entry (door, window); type of dwelling; type of not forced entry (unlocked door or window, suspect was a resident, overnight guest or visitor in the victim's dwelling). False impression (misrepresentation by the suspect) is a category under not forced entry and was thoroughly discussed in the definition section of the statewide offender-based study. Forced entry categories which are self explanatory are: break or remove window, rip or remove screen, forced lock. Intimidation (the suspect gained entry by threatening the victim) is a forced entry and was also discussed in the statewide offender-based study.

If the information did not appear in the field report, the collection sheet was checked UNKNOWN and tabulated for this study as NOT REPORTED. Only field reports for murder, aggravated assault, rape and breaking and entering of a dwelling were reviewed and data recorded on offenses which occurred in a dwelling.

This study used the same definitions for forced and not forced entries of a dwelling that were used in the statewide offender-based study. Briefly, however, a forced entry was defined as unlawfully entering a locked structure with the intent to steal or commit a felony. A not forced entry is when there is no evidence of a forced entry. Also included under a not forced entry, for the purposes of the two studies, are categories which describe the suspect's relationship to the victim, such as resident, visitor, etc. If a field report did not indicate whether an entry was forced or not forced but did show that the crime occurred in a dwelling, a collection sheet was coded and counted in the tabulations

which show type of dwelling. It would not, however, be counted with the forced and not forced entries because of insufficient data.

A burglary intrusion code was part of the City of Miami's building code from 1974-76. It required additional security protection measures. During this time enforcement of the code was applied to new dwelling units as follows:*

New Dwelling Units	1974	1975
1 Family	106	87
2 Family	143	143
3 Units or more	149	83
Non-housekeeping dwelling	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
	400	313

During the six-month period in 1979 for which these study data were collected, there was no enforced building security code in the City of Miami.

Data Collection:

The method of data collection entailed:

1) Defining the sample. Like the statewide offender-based study, each type of offense (murder, aggravated assault, rape, breaking and entering of a dwelling) was treated separately in obtaining a sample for that offense.

Murder—Sample: 100% of the 48 field reports. (Total murders actually committed: 60.) Data were recorded on ten cases which occurred in a dwelling.

Aggravated Assault—Sample: Random sample of 197 field reports. (Actual number of assaults committed: 2,275.) Data were recorded on 59 cases which occurred in a dwelling.

Rape—Sample: 100% of the 139 field reports. (Total rapes actually committed: 141.) Data were recorded on 42 cases which occurred in a dwelling.

Breaking and Entering—Sample: Random sample of 179 field reports. (Actual number of breaking and enterings committed: 5,262.) Data were recorded on 164 cases which occurred in a dwelling. Reference will be made to breaking and entering for this offense.

Unfounded—There were eight field reports which were reviewed but not counted in any of the above figures because there was a comment in the report that the case was unfounded. This usually was accompanied by a statement that the victim failed to pass a lie detector test.

*Source: City of Miami Building and Zoning Inspection Department

2) Obtaining the samples for each offense. The City of Miami provided 100% of the rape and murder field reports and a random sample of the aggravated assault and breaking and entering reports for reported crimes for the first six months of 1979.

3) Reviewing the field reports and coding the data. The field reports were the sole source of information for this study. Data were collected on only those crimes which occurred in a dwelling. One collection sheet was coded for each field report, i.e., if two persons were murdered and they were reported on one field report, then there was one collection sheet coded. The data presented in this study, therefore, represents the number of entries of a dwelling and not necessarily the number of crimes committed. Unfounded cases were not included in any of the tabulations.

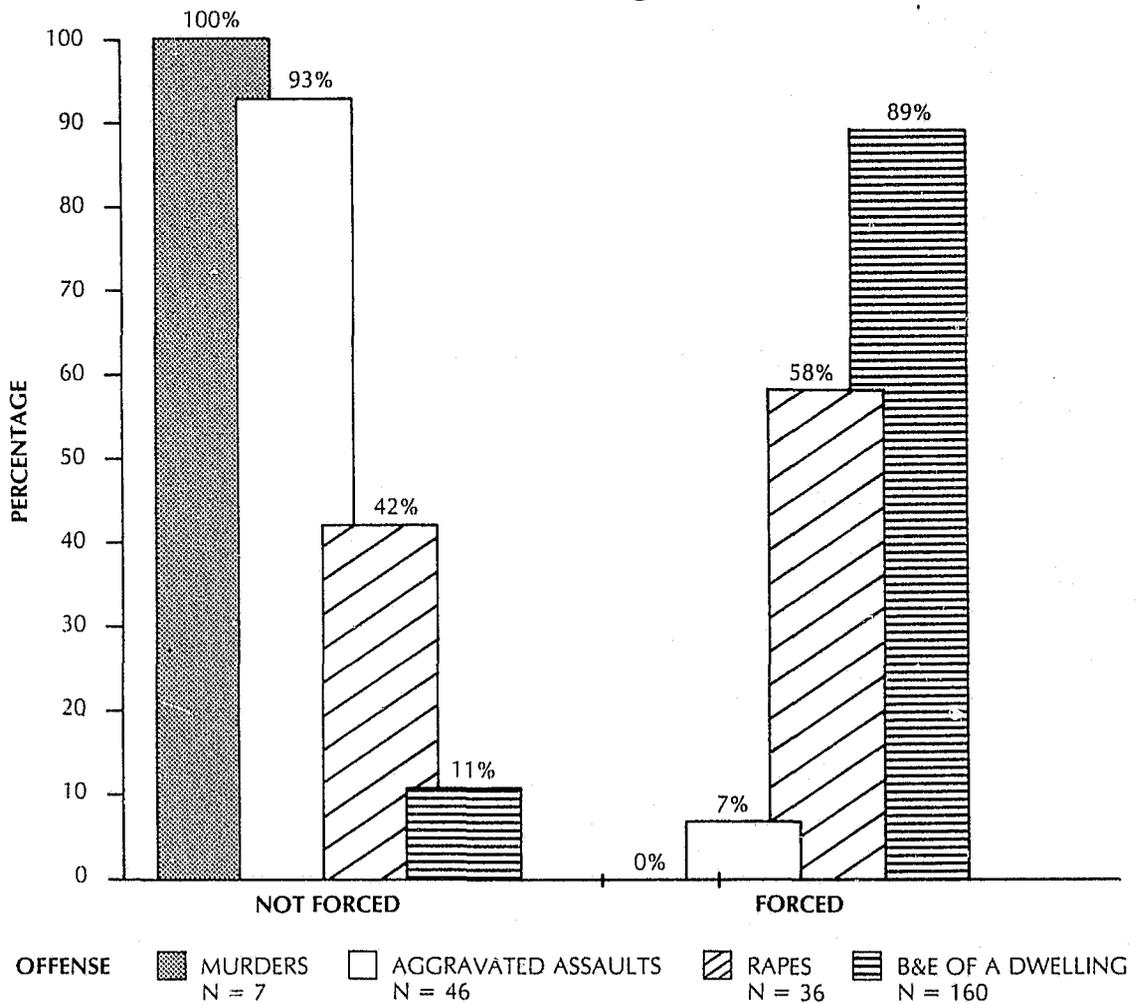
Results and Findings

1. Type of Entry by Offense

Murder, Aggravated Assault, Rape, Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling: An enforced building security code could potentially affect only those crimes in which the offender forcibly entered the victim's dwelling. Crime prevention education may have an affect on reducing the incidence of crime when the offender did not have to use force to gain entry. This study examined the type of entry for the four offenses cited above.

The seven Miami murders and almost all (93%) of the 46 aggravated assaults which occurred in a dwelling involved not forced entries. On the other hand, nine out of ten (89%) of the 160 breaking and entering cases and six out of ten (58%) of the 36 rapes were forced entries of a dwelling. Table 1 graphically illustrates this information. The sum of the not forced and forced entries for each offense equals 100% of the crimes studied which occurred in a dwelling for which a type of entry was indicated on the field report.

Comparison of Forced and Not Forced Entries for Murders, Aggravated Assaults, Rapes, and Breakings and Enterings of a Dwelling*



Source: Standards & Goals Miami Study

*Note: Totals do not include cases where type of entry was not reported.

Table 1

2. Type of Not Forced Entries

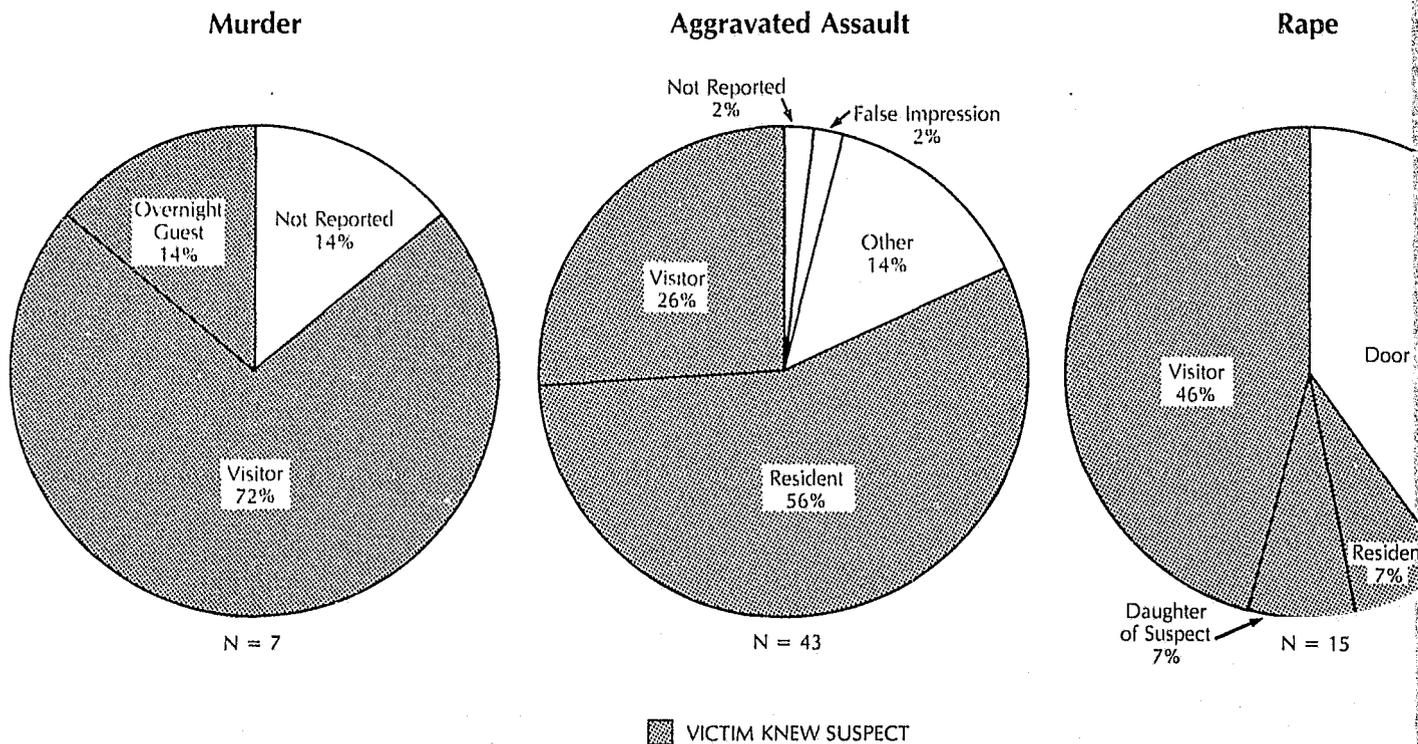
Murder, Aggravated Assault, Rape: How the suspect gained entry of the victim's dwelling was an important factor in the determination of whether the crime may have been affected by a building security code. The categories of not forced entries were:

- The suspect resided in the dwelling with the victim;
- Was an overnight guest;
- Gained entry by a false impression (misrepresentation);
- The door and window of the victim's dwelling was unlocked;
- Other types of entry not specified;
- Type of not forced entry was not reported (unknown).

An examination of the rape cases showed that some of the suspects were the father of the victim. These data were categorized by looking at the victim-suspect relationship. If the father of the victim also resided with her, the case would fall within the "daughter of suspect" category only.

The victim knew the suspect in three out of four of the murder, aggravated assault and rape cases combined where there was no force used to gain entry of the victim's dwelling. In this group, about half (56%) of the aggravated assault suspects resided with the victim and 86% of the murder suspects were visiting the victim. A little less than half (46%) of the rape suspects who gained entry without force were visitors of the victim, 7% were the fathers of the victim and 40% entered through an unlocked door. Table 2 illustrates these major findings for the City of Miami offenses studied. The shaded areas represent the victim-suspect relationship.

Comparison of Type of Not Forced Entries for Murders, Aggravated Assaults, and Rapes which Occurred in a Dwelling



Source: Standards & Goals Miami Study

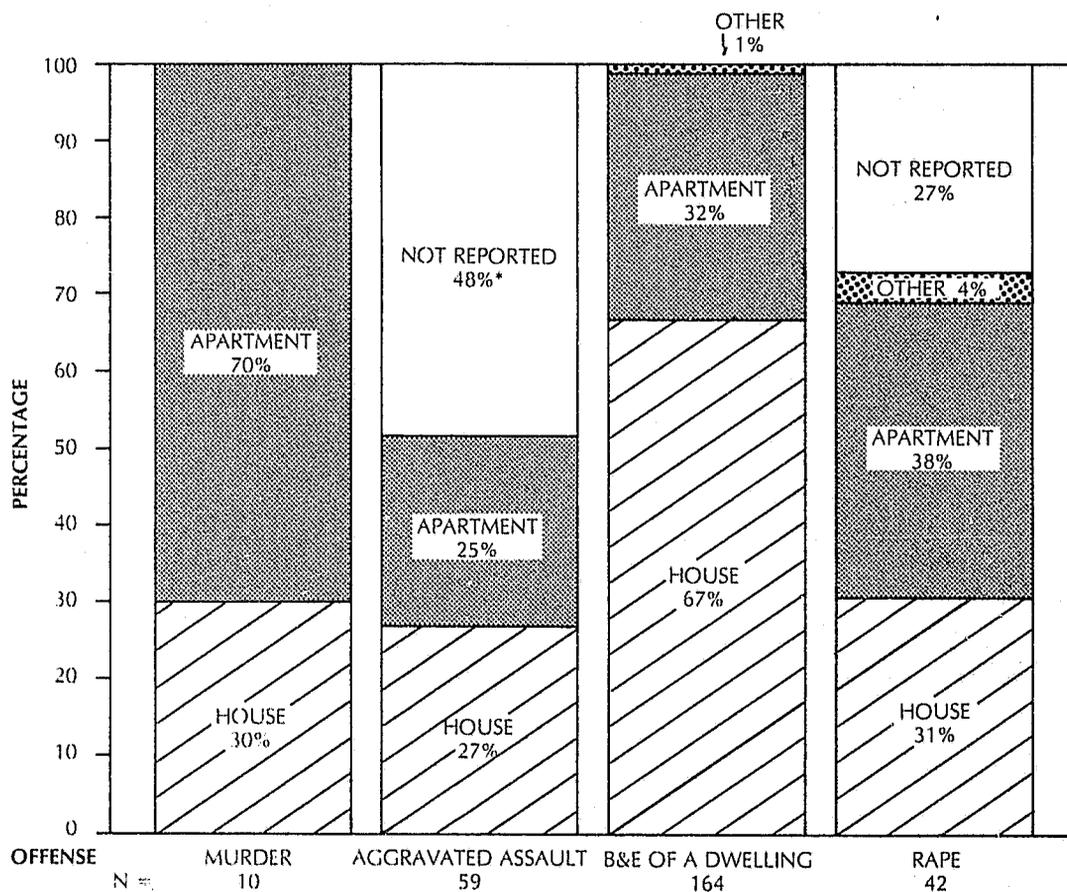
Note: False Impression—Suspect gained entry through misrepresentation.

3. Type of Dwelling

Murder, Aggravated Assault, Rape, Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling: It was important to examine the types of entry of a dwelling (forced and not forced), and because the purpose of the study was to draw any inferences as to whether a building security code may have been able to have an affect in reducing crime it was necessary to also look at the time of dwelling entered, the location of the entry and how the offender entered. This section discusses the type of dwelling.

Seven of the ten murder cases which occurred in a dwelling happened in an apartment. The aggravated assault cases were evenly split between apartments and houses (25% and 27%) but because the remaining 48% of the aggravated assault cases did not have the type of dwelling indicated on the field report, there cannot be any inferences drawn as to where most of the crimes occurred. Two-thirds of the breaking and entering of a dwelling cases were in houses. No determination could be made for rapes because houses and apartments were almost the same (31% and 38%) and about one-fourth did not report the type of dwelling. It is interesting to note that most field reports indicated a house or apartment. It is unknown whether these categories were the result of officers including duplexes and houses or condominiums and apartments under the same category. Table 3 graphically displays this data.

Proportion of the Breakdown of the Location of Crimes which Occurred in a Dwelling



*Reports showed address of crime but not type of dwelling.

N: Includes all cases that show type of dwelling, regardless of indication of forced or not-forced entry.

Source: Standards & Goals Miami Study

Table 3

4. Location of Entry—Forced Entries

Murder, Aggravated Assault, Rape, Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling: The location of a forced entry is important in determining whether a building security code may have been able to have an impact on the reduction of crime. Table 4 provides the location of the forced entries for the four offenses studied.

Briefly, a little more than half of the offenders for the aggravated assault, rape and breaking and entering of a dwelling cases combined entered through a window. However, the figures varied a little for aggravated assaults (one-third) and rapes (six out of ten) went through a window. There were no murder cases where the offender forcibly entered a dwelling in the cases studied.

**Comparison of Offense/Location
of Entry for Forced Entries**

Location of Entry	OFFENSE					
	Murder	Aggravated Assault	Rape	Sub- Total	B&E of a Dwelling	TOTAL
DOOR	0	2 (67%)	8 (38%)	10 (42%)	66 (46%)	76 (46%)
WINDOW	0	1 (33%)	13 (62%)	14 (58%)	77 (54%)	91 (54%)
NOT REPORTED	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0 100%	3 100%	21 100%	24 100%	143 100%	167 100%

Source: Standards & Goals Miami Study

Table 4

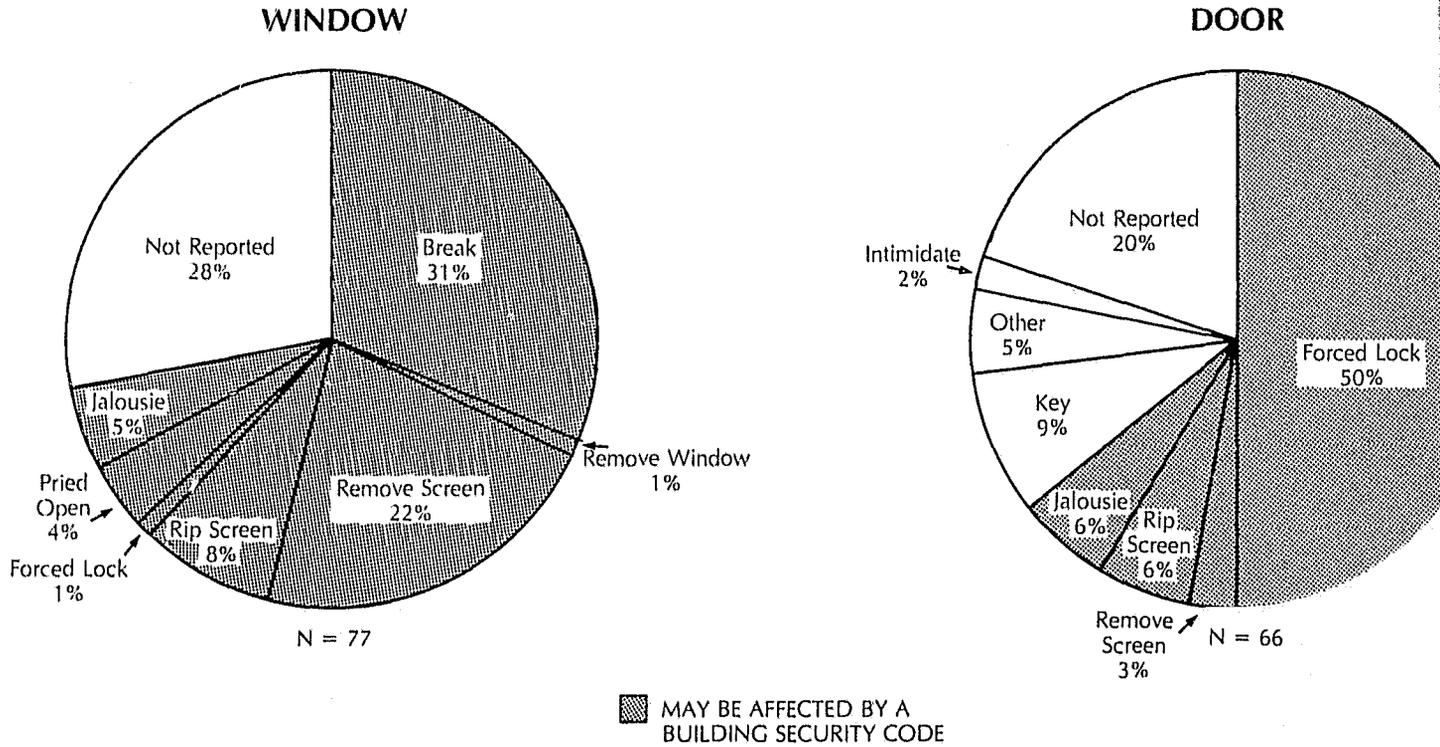
Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling: The offender forcibly entered the victim's dwelling in nine out of ten (89%) of the 160 breaking and entering cases in which the type of entry was known. The field reports showed the location and method of entry in 143 of those cases. In order to determine if a security code could possibly have had an effect on the reduction of crime, it is crucial to know how the offender gained entry. These are some of the categories of method of entry:

- Break window
- Rip the screen
- Remove a jalousie on the door

A little more than one-half (54%) of the offenders in the breaking and entering cases entered the victim's dwelling through a window. The field reports did not indicate how the offender forcibly entered through a window (in almost three out of ten [28%] of those cases). The offender broke the window in three out of ten cases and removed or ripped the screen first in a similar amount.

In one-half of the cases in which the offender went through a door, he forced the lock. The offender used a key in almost one-tenth (9%) of the cases. The field reports did not show the method of entry in two out of ten of the cases. Table 5 displays the location and method of known forced entries.

Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling Location of Known Forced Entry N = 143



Source: Standards and Goals Miami Study
Percentages may not sum to 100 as a result of rounding.

5. Probability of the Affect of a Building Security Code

Murder, Aggravated Assault, Rape, Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling: The data were separated into three categories (may be affected, probably not affected, effect unknown) in order to determine if a building security code could possibly have an effect on the reduction of crime. There are various types of security measures which can be used to make a dwelling more safe and can generally be found in a building security code. Therefore, these measures were the basis for determining what fell within the three categories. For example, a deadbolt lock in a solid construction rather than a hollow core door with a spring lock may be required in a building security code. Windows can also be made more secure with certain types of locking hardware.

Entries which were categorized as "may be affected" by a building security code included: breaking or removing a window; ripping or removing a screen; forcing a lock; tampering with a jalousie door. Methods of entries which were classified as "probably not affected" included intimidation and all not forced entries. When the location or type of forced entry was not specified it was classified as effect unknown.

When the murder, aggravated assault, and rape crimes were combined, three-fourths probably would not have been affected by a building security code. All of the murders were not forced entries; therefore, a building security code probably would not have affected these cases. The aggravated assaults and rapes vary quite a bit from each other; 2% of the aggravated assaults and 31% of the rapes may have been affected by a building security code. It is important to note that the effect of a code could not be determined in 22% of the rapes because of insufficient data. Six out of ten of the breaking and entering cases could possibly have been affected by a building security code, but almost one-fourth of the cases lacked enough information to determine the effect of a code. The shaded areas in Table 5 reflect cases which may be affected by a code. When all four offenses are combined the number of breaking and entering cases which may have been affected had a dramatic impact on the overall picture, raising the total for the other three offenses from 13% to 45% for all four offenses. Table 6 illustrates this data.

Probability of the Affect of a Building Security Code

Building Security Code Affects	OFFENSE					
	Murder	Aggravated Assault	Rape	Sub-Total	B&E of a Dwelling	TOTAL
MAY BE AFFECTED ¹	0	1 (2%)	11 (31%)	12 (13%)	99 (62%)	111 (45%)
PROBABLY NOT AFFECTED ²	7 (100%)	44 (96%)	17 (47%)	68 (77%)	24 (15%)	92 (37%)
EFFECT UNKNOWN ³	0	1 (2%)	8 (22%)	9 (10%)	37 (23%)	46 (18%)
Total Entries (Forced & Not Forced)	7 (100%)	46 (100%)	36 (100%)	89 (100%)	160 (100%)	249 (100%)

¹Includes: breaking or removing a window; ripping or removing a screen; forcing a lock; or tampering with a jalousie door.

²Includes unlocked; intimidation; and all not-forced entries.

³Location or type of forced entry not specified.

Source: Standards and Goals Miami Study

D. Summary:

This study examined data collected from field reports from the City of Miami for the first six months of 1979 for murder, aggravated assault, rape, and breaking and entering of a dwelling cases. It discussed the circumstances surrounding the entry of the dwellings in which the crimes occurred and categorized the data and drew inferences relative to whether a building security code could have an effect on the reduction of crime for the four offenses studied.

A summary of the data for entries of a dwelling is outlined below:

Forced and Not Forced Entries of a Dwelling

- All 7 murders were not forced entries
- Nine out of ten aggravated assaults were not forced entries
- Six out of ten of the rapes were forced entries of a dwelling
- Nine out of ten of the breaking and entering of a dwellings were forced entries

Type of Not Forced Entries of a Dwelling

- 86% of the murder suspects were guests of the victim
- 82% of the aggravated assault suspects were guests or resided with the victim
- Four out of ten of the rape suspects entered through an unlocked door

Type of Dwelling

- Seven out of 10 of the murder cases occurred in an apartment
- Almost half of the aggravated assault cases did not report the type of dwelling
- Two-thirds of the breaking and entering of a dwelling cases were in houses
- About one-fourth of the rapes did not report the type of dwelling
- Almost four out of ten rape cases occurred in an apartment and another 3 out of ten were in houses

Location of Entry for Forced Entries of a Dwelling

- There were no forced entries for the murders in a dwelling
- Two-thirds of the aggravated assault offenders went through the door
- Six out of 10 of the rape offenders entered through a window
- A little more than half (54%) of the breaking and entering of a dwelling offenders went through a window and the rest went through a door

Method of Forced Entry for Breaking and Entering of a Dwelling Offenses

- Almost 3 out of 10 of the cases where the offender entered through the window the method of entry was not reported
- 31% of the offenders who went through a window broke the window
- Two out of ten who went through a window removed the screen first
- Half of the offenders who went through the door forced the lock
- Two out of ten of the cases in which the offender entered through a door the method of entry was not reported

Probability of the Affect of a Building Security Code

- 13% of the murders, aggravated assaults and rapes combined may have been affected by a building security code
- 77% of the murders, aggravated assaults and rapes combined probably would not have been affected by a building security code
- Six out of ten of the breaking and entering of a dwelling cases may have been affected by a building security code and the affect was unknown in 23% of the cases
- A little less than one half (45%) of murder, aggravated assault, rape, and breaking and entering of a dwelling cases combined may have been affected by a building security code and 37% probably would not have been affected.

OFFENSES RESULTING FROM ENTRY OF A DWELLING

SURVEYOR _____ CASE NUMBER _____

DATE SURVEYED _____ DATE OF CRIME _____

CRIME

- Murder
- Rape
- Aggravated Assault
- B&E of Dwelling

TYPE OF DWELLING

- House
- Apartment
- Condominium
- Duplex
- Mobile Home
- Other
- Unknown

AGE

- | Victim: | Offender: |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Below 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 17-19 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 20-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25-29 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 30-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35-39 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 40-44 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 45-49 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 50-54 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 55-59 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 60-64 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 65-69 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 70+ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown | <input type="checkbox"/> |

RACE/SEX

- | Victim: | Offender: |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> WM | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WF | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BM | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BF | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other M | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other F | <input type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS

TYPE OF ENTRY

- UNKNOWN
- NOT FORCED
 - Resident
 - Guest/overnight
 - Visitor
 - False Impression
 - Other
 - Unknown
- FORCED
 - Window
 - Break
 - Remove
 - Rip Screen
 - Remove Screen
 - Forced lock
 - Unlocked
 - Unknown
 - Door
 - Unlocked
 - Forced lock
 - Rip Screen
 - Remove Screen
 - Intimidate
 - Unknown

LOCATION OF ENTRY

- Door
 - Front
 - Back
 - Jalousie
 - Unknown
 - Garage
 - Sliding Glass
 - Other
- Window
 - Kitchen
 - Living Room
 - Bedroom
 - Bathroom
 - Fla. Room
 - Other
 - Unknown
 - Den
 - Porch
- Porch/Did not enter dwelling
- Other

MOTIVE

- Family Quarrel
- Jealousy
- Revenge
- Altercation
- Self-defense
- Robbery
- Sexual
- Psychopathic
- Other
- Unknown

**RELATIONSHIP
OFFENDER/VICTIM**

- Husband/Wife
- Ex-Spouse
- Boyfriend/Girlfriend
- Ex-Boyfriend/Girlfriend
- Immediate Family
- Relative
- Friend
- Acquaintance
- Stranger
- Business
- Other
- Unknown

**INDICATION INTENT
TO BURGLARIZE?**

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

ANYTHING STOLEN?

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

WEAPON USED

- Gun
- Knife
- Other (specify)

STANDARDS AND GOALS
Building Security Code Study
Comparison
Statewide Study—City of Miami Study

This report has presented two studies which examine crime for four offenses—murder, aggravated assault, rape and breaking and entering of a dwelling and type of entry which occurred in a dwelling as well as the possible effect an enforced building security code could have on the reduction of crime. The studies reviewed two groups, an "offender-based" population drawn from the Florida Department of Corrections' offender files and an "offense-based" (previously referred to as "victim-based") population which represents the field reports for the City of Miami for the first six months of 1979. Data were recorded and inferences drawn from only those crimes which occurred in a dwelling.

There were two basic differences in the data sources. The data collected from the Department of Corrections were from the records of offenders who were incarcerated in the state prison system. These records were selected by a computerized random sample. The data from the City of Miami were gathered from 100% of the field reports for the reported murders, and rapes and a computerized random sample of the aggravated assaults and breaking and enterings. Although the data bases were from two different types of records, the findings are not significantly different.*

In both studies over half of the murders and aggravated assaults were not forced entries (offender/suspect resided with the victim, was a visitor or guest of the victim, door was unlocked), and six out of ten or more of the rapes and breaking and enterings were forced entries (forced locked window or door, removed jalousie, broke window, intimidated victim, 'put victim in fear of his life'). An examination of the crimes in which the offender/suspect did not use force to gain entry also indicated similarities between the two studies. The victim knew the offender/suspect in over 80% of the murder and aggravated assault cases. There was more of a difference in the rape cases reviewed. Twice as many of the Miami rape victims knew the suspects/offenders as did those in the statewide offender-based study when not forced entries were examined. In four out of ten (40%) of the Miami rapes in which the suspect did not have to use force to enter the dwelling, the door was unlocked, as opposed to 17% in the statewide study. A third of the rape offenders in the statewide study who nonforcibly entered the dwelling did so by false impression (misrepresentation).

The statewide offender-based study revealed that over half of the murder, rape, and breaking and entering of a dwelling cases occurred in a house and close to one-fourth occurred in an apartment as opposed to another type of dwelling. Two-thirds of the City of Miami breaking and entering of a dwelling cases occurred in a house. Approximately three out of ten of the murder, aggravated assault, and rape cases in Miami took place in a house (however, almost half of the aggravated assault records did not indicate the type of dwelling in which the crime occurred).

An examination of the location of the forced entries showed that in two-thirds of the Miami aggravated assault cases, and eight out of ten of the statewide aggravated assault cases, the offender

*The first section of this report discussed the statewide offender-based study and the second section examined the data from the City of Miami field reports. The greatest limitation of these studies is that the data were collected on only those crimes which occurred in a dwelling; in some cases the actual number of offenses examined was relatively small in number.

entered through a door. In slightly less than half of all offenses combined (Miami and statewide) the offender went through a door; however, it should be noted that the location of the forcible entry was not indicated in one-fourth of the records in the statewide data base.

The thrust of the two studies was to determine if any inferences could be drawn as to whether a building security code, if one had been enforced at the time of the crime, would have had an impact on the reduction of the incidence of crime for the four offenses examined. In essence, is there a need for a building security code as a crime prevention tool?*

It appears from the data collected that a building security code could have had some impact on the reduction of the offenses studied. An examination of the murder, aggravated assault and rape cases combined for both studies showed that 13% of these crimes could have been affected, 73% probably would not have been affected and the affect was unknown in 14% of the cases. The impact of a building security code as a method for reducing breaking and entering of a dwelling cases is dramatically different from the other offenses studied. Almost six out of ten (59%) of the breaking and entering of a dwelling cases studied could have been affected by a building security code, a little more than one-tenth (13%) probably would not have been affected and the effect was unknown in three out of ten (28%) of the cases.

The Miami data for the murder, aggravated assault, and rape cases were compared to the same offenses in the statewide study. Statistically there was no significant difference between the studies relative to the probability of the affect a potential building security code could have had on the reduction of crime. Table A displays this data.

*The Bureau of Criminal Justice Assistance has additional materials available upon request: position paper, "A Statewide Building Security Code Proposal for Florida" and "Building Security Code: A Cost Analysis."

**Probability of the Affect of a Building Security Code
Comparison of Statewide and Miami Based Data**

Study	PROBABILITY OF AFFECT			Total Entries*
	May be Affected	Probably Not Affected	Affect Unknown	
STATEWIDE	20 (14%)	104 (70%)	24 (16%)	148 (100%)
MIAMI	12 (13%)	68 (77%)	9 (10%)	89 (100%)
Total	32 (13%)	172 (73%)	33 (14%)	237 (100%)

Source: Standards & Goals Statewide and Miami Building Security Study

*Note: Includes murders, rapes, aggravated assaults which occurred in a dwelling (forced and not forced entries)

There is no significant difference between the statewide offender-based data and Miami studies relative to the probability of affect a building security code could have on the reduction of crime for the offenses reviewed.

This public document was promulgated by the Bureau of Criminal Justice Assistance at a cost of \$1,573 or \$1.57 per copy for distribution to state and local officials and the general public to inform them about certain crime information and residential security.

END