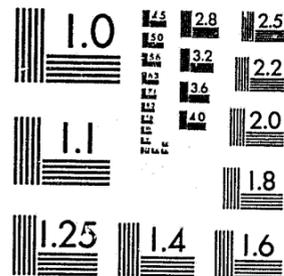


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Evaluation of Project "Help Stop Crime! Strike Force"
Final Report

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ACQUISITIONS

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I. Introduction

The current report represents the technical findings from the evaluation of the "Help Stop Crime! Strike Force" project. The "Help Stop Crime! Strike Force" project was conducted in South Florida during the summer of 1982.

Initially the discussion will center on why the project was done and how the particular sites were selected. Next the means by which the evaluation was accomplished will be discussed as well as the characteristics of the people interviewed. Finally the questionnaire findings will be presented for each component of the evaluation and the crime statistics will be examined to assess the impact of the "Help Stop Crime!" project. We turn initially to a description of the scope and purpose of the evaluation project.

II. Description of Evaluation Project

In response to a request by the Department of Legal Affairs for the State of Florida an evaluation of project "Help Stop Crime! Strike Force" (HSCSF) was undertaken. The overall project was aimed at three counties in South Florida (Dade, Broward and Palm Beach). Within that area one location was selected for the evaluation project. Since one of the aims of HSCSF was to increase awareness of, and reduce the occurrence of, residential burglaries, a highly residential area was sought. The selected area was Melrose Park, in Broward County. The borders for the area were Broward Boulevard on the north, 31st Avenue on the east, S.W. 12th St./Jackson Boulevard on the south and U.S. 441 on the west. The location was chosen due to the predominance of single family, owner occupied homes. Also the area was roughly middle class and detailed crime statistics were available.

For purposes of evaluating different components of the HSCSF project, the targeted area was divided in half (along 6th Street and Glendale Boulevard). The southern half received the full complement of HSC! services. These included media advertisements, information via the mail and (when possible) home security surveys. Home security surveys consisted of an inspection of a resident's home by an official of a law enforcement agency or the HSC! office. These surveys were offered to residents in the southern half of Melrose Park on a door to door basis. In cases where the resident was not available, an inspection of the outside of

the house was conducted and the results of this inspection were left at the resident's door. The homes in the northern half were only exposed to the media advertisements. For future reference we will refer to the residents who received the full complement of services as HSC1. The group that only received the media information will be called HSC2.

A third group was also selected from outside the three county area so that the impact of the media campaign and/or the full HSCSF program could be compared to a group which was not exposed to the HSCSF materials and intervention. Forty-nine possible comparison groups were chosen from various Florida cities and out of those one was selected to be employed in the evaluation project. The forty-nine areas were chosen based on the criteria of (a) having a sufficient number of owner-occupied residences for purposes of random selection within the area chosen; (b) having a location near or in a moderate-to-large sized city; and (c) having a location outside of the Fort Lauderdale/Miami area. This final criteria was essential since a major focus of the evaluation project involved measuring the impact of a media campaign. Therefore the control group had to be outside of the television and radio reception range of the target areas (HSC1 and HSC2). The criteria employed are displayed in Table 1. Selected areas included sections of Fort Meyers, Sarasota, Saint Petersburg, Tampa, Orlando, Gainesville, Daytona Beach, Jacksonville, Tallahassee, and Pensacola. 1980 census data was obtained for each of these areas. A cluster analysis was then performed using the chosen Fort Lauderdale area as a criterion in an attempt to find its

closest match. Table 1 presents the variables utilized in the initial cluster analysis. From this initial list containing 49 groups and 22 variables, the groups which proved to be reasonably similar (all groups with initial distances of less than 5.20 against the target area) were re-clustered with a reduced set of variables constructed from the initial set. Thus, 14 groups were clustered with 11 of the original 22 census variables. This second cluster analysis indicated that the Audubon Park area of Orlando was most demographically similar to Melrose Park. Audubon Park is bordered by Corrine Drive on the north, Bennet Road on the east, Colonial Drive on the south and Bumby Avenue on the west. For future reference the Audubon Park area will be referred to as HSC3.

To summarize, the evaluation project selected three areas for study. Two came from Melrose Park. HSC1 received all aspects of the HSCSF program while HSC2 received only the media component. HSC3 was a suburb of Orlando where residents received no HSC1 materials beyond those offered to a non-targeted area.

TABLE 1
Criteria Used To Match Residents In Experimental
And Control Areas

DENSITY	(Population/Number of Households)
INCOME	(in thousands of dollars)
HOME VALUE	(in thousands of dollars)
AGE	1 (% less than 18 years old)
	2 (% between 18 and 25)
	3 (% between 25 and 35)
	4 (% between 35 and 55)
	5 (% between 55 and 65)
	6 (% older than 65)
JOB	1 (% blue collar)
	2 (% technical skills)
	3 (% professional)
OWNER	1 (% owner occupied)
	2 (% renting)
	3 (% other - leasing, etc.)
YEARS	1 (% living in area 0-2 years)
	2 (% living in area 2-5 years)
	3 (% living in area 5-10 years)
	4 (% living in area greater than 10 years)

III. Evaluation Methodology.

A questionnaire was constructed that assessed residents attitudes and beliefs about a variety of crime related topics. Since one important aim of HSCSF was to reduce residential burglaries, the questionnaire was designed with residential burglaries as its primary focus. The areas of inquiry were: 1) demographic characteristics of respondents; 2) safety concerns; 3) awareness of HSC! programs; 4) knowledge of burglary relevant information; 5) knowledge of crime prevention techniques and 6) actual measures taken to improve home security. For a copy of the questionnaire, see Appendix A.

The residents to be interviewed were randomly selected from the pool of all residents in the designated area who lived in single family homes. City directories from Melrose Park and Audubon Park were utilized to choose the interview samples. In the HSC1 group, approximately one out of every two single-family houses was selected to be interviewed initially. In HSC2 one out of every five was selected and in HSC3 the comparable number was one out of nine. This yielded potential interview samples of 400 in HSC1, and 100 in both HSC2 and HSC3. In addition, the nearest home to the target address was designated as a "backup" address, to be interviewed if either an adult resident was not home on three separate attempts to interview at the primary address or if the resident at the primary address refused to participate. Interviewers were instructed to identify themselves, briefly explain the purpose of the interviews,

and ask permission to interview the resident. All interviewers were supplied with credentials indicating they were working under the auspices of the statewide HSC! office, the Florida Attorney General's office, and the University of Florida. The interview itself was given verbally with answers recorded by the interviewer. The first round of interviews was conducted between May 1 and May 15, 1982.

The actual strike force project began on May 14, 1982 and lasted until July 23, 1982. Beginning on July 24 and continuing until August 11, the second group of interviews was conducted. All participants in phase 1 were once again targeted for interviewing in the second phase. In addition, 100 other addresses in each of the three areas were identified to be interviewed. The reason for conducting these interviews is explained below. For these 300 homes, "backup" addresses were also identified.

The residents were asked the same questions at both points in time. In addition, the second round of interviews included some additional questions that dealt with specific information from the HSCSF program. A copy of these additional questions can be found in Appendix B.

IV. Sample Characteristics

To insure that the residents who were interviewed were, in fact, representative of the general population in the community, the demographic characteristics of the sample were compared to the overall characteristics of the community. Statistical analyses revealed that the interviewees were no different from the other residents in their community. The characteristics of the residents interviewed in each of the samples are displayed in TABLE 2.

TABLE 2
Demographic Characteristics
(In percent)

	HSC1 (Melrose Pk. Experimental)	HSC2 (Melrose Pk. Control)	HSC3 (Audubon Pk. Control)
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	56.8	54.2	42.0
Female	43.2	45.8	58.0
<u>Age</u>			
18-29	16.8	26.1	17.0
30-39	23.0	23.9	6.0
40-49	14.4	13.0	10.0
50-59	19.9	15.2	27.0
60-64	9.2	13.0	13.0
65+	16.7	8.6	27.0
<u>Race</u>			
White	88.3	87.5	87.0
Black	6.8	10.4	13.0
Other	4.9	2.1	0.0
<u>Home Ownership</u>			
Own	93.2	87.5	87.0
Rent	6.8	12.5	13.0

Income*

Less than 10,000	9.9	4.6	16.7
10,000/20,000	22.0	30.2	25.0
20,000/30,000	40.7	44.2	33.3
30,000/50,000	22.8	18.6	21.4
50,000	4.6	2.4	3.6
Refusals	11.8	10.4	16.0

Marital Status

Single	14.4	26.7	16.0
Married	67.1	66.7	65.0
Separated	1.3	0.0	0.0
Divorced	6.4	4.4	5.0
Widowed	10.8	2.2	14.0

* Note: Income level percentages are based only on those who responded to this question. The refusal percentages are based on overall number of respondents. Therefore, the first 5 categories will sum to 100%.

V. Evaluation Design

The design of the project allowed for a variety of comparisons to be made. The primary focus of the evaluation was the detection of change in responding for HSC1, HSC2 and HSC3 residents from the time of the initial interview to the second interview. A pattern of change in the HSC1 group, but not in HSC2 or HSC3 would indicate that the HSCSF was having an impact. Changes in HSC1 and HSC2 (but not HSC3) would be the result of the media information since those two groups both had exposure to the media campaign. Lack of change in the groups or equivalent changes in all three groups would indicate that the HSCSF was not having any impact. These comparisons will be the primary analyses to be reported.

A number of secondary comparisons were also conducted. One major concern is that the process of evaluation can sometimes contaminate the findings. In the present case it could be that the initial round of interviews would alert residents to crime related issues. If so, some of the changes could be the result of the interviews or other factors apart from the HSCSF program directly. To assess this possibility, interviews were conducted with a separate sample in each location who did not get the initial round of interviews. If the residents who were interviewed only during phase 2 of HSCSF responded similarly to the residents who underwent both interviews, then the initial interview as an important factor in any observed change can be ruled out. While these comparisons are important for methodological

reasons and were conducted for every reported comparison below, we will refer to them only where they make a difference in the interpretation of the results. Otherwise we will report only the pretest-posttest comparisons.

Table 3 summarizes the design of the study. Three groups were initially interviewed in phase 1 (HSC1, HSC2, HSC3). In phase 2 each of these groups was again interviewed and a second group within each geographic area was also interviewed (HSC4, HSC5, HSC6).

TABLE 3
Design Of The HSCSF Assessment Project

	PHASE 1 INTERVIEWS (group label)	STRIKE FORCE Intervention Type	PHASE 2 INTERVIEWS (group label)
Melrose Park South	HSC1 -	Complete* Complete	HSC1 HSC4
Melrose Park North	HSC2 -	Partial** Partial	HSC2 HSC5
Audubon Park	HSC3 -	None None	HSC3 HSC6

*Complete treatment includes all components of HSCSF.

**Partial treatment includes media component only.

VI. Impact of the "Help Stop Crime Strike Force" Program

A. Safety concerns of respondents

Following the demographic profile, the first series of questions in the interview dealt with residents' safety concerns. These questions examined the concern residents had for safety in their neighborhood and surrounding environs. A total of ten questions were examined under this heading (10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 27, 34). A total score was constructed by adding residents' responses across the ten questions with a low score indicating that the respondent felt safe in the situations assessed and a higher score indicating higher concern levels. In addition, subsets of questions dealing with night safety concerns (12, 14, 17), and those dealing with daylight safety concerns (13, 15, 16), were combined into two separate subscales and analyzed.

On the pretest interviews, responses to each of the three combined measures indicated that the Audubon Park residents had fewer safety concerns than did the Melrose Park residents (i.e., they felt safer in their environs). No significant pretest differences were found between HSC1 and HSC2. After the HSCSF, HSC1 and HSC2 showed significant increases in daytime safety concerns. The impact of these increases is tempered by the fact that the HSC3 group also showed a small (non-significant) increase. Allowing for the gain showed by HSC3, the increases of HSC1 and HSC2 are not significant. The fact that all three groups tended to increase their daytime safety concerns, from pretest to

posttest, suggests that the process of questioning residents about crime raises their level of concern.

The nighttime concerns and overall safety concerns showed no significant increases. Table 4 presents these data. In no case was a difference noted between HSC1 and HSC2.

Within HSC1, residents were divided according to whether they had received full security surveys versus only the partial survey. While those who received the full security survey showed consistently more safety concerns than those who received partial surveys, the differences were not statistically significant.

COMMENT: The Melrose Park residents in both HSC1 and HSC2 showed increased concern with daytime safety. Due to increases in the control group, these changes should not be viewed as resulting from the substantive aspects of HSCSF. Nighttime safety concerns and overall safety concerns were not influenced by HSCSF. Interpreting these findings depends on one's viewpoint. The results indicate that HSCSF did not increase residents concern about crime. To the extent one equates "concern with crime" with "fear of crime", the lack of HSCSF impact may, in fact, be viewed in a positive light, since to increase residents' level of fear would generally detract from their quality of life.

B. Awareness of "Help Stop Crime!"

A portion of the interview was devoted to examining residents' awareness of the overall "Help Stop Crime!" program and specific subprograms ("Neighborhood Watch" and "Operation Identification"). The general "Help Stop Crime!" question (number 18) was followed by specific attitudes and knowledge of "Help Stop Crime!". The specific

TABLE 4
Safety Concerns of Residents

a. Combined safety concern analysis.

	<u>PRE-INTERVENTION</u>	<u>POST-INTERVENTION</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>
HSC1	2.53	2.66	+ .13
HSC2	2.52	2.59	+ .07
HSC3	2.20	2.28	+ .08

b. Safety concerns at night.

HSC1	3.03	3.10	+ .07
HSC2	3.06	2.97	- .09
HSC3	2.63	2.71	+ .08

c. Safety concerns during the day.

HSC1	1.92	2.07	+ .15
HSC2	1.85	2.02	+ .17
HSC3	1.60	1.70	+ .10

questions (questions 19 through 24) were asked only of residents indicating awareness of the program. Table 5 presents these data. Overall, recognition of the "Help Stop Crime! Program" is fairly high. All residents who received both pre- and posttest interviews including HSC3 showed higher recognition levels at posttest time, presumably reflecting the effect of the initial interview. Therefore, recognition of HSC! did increase as a result of HSCSF but the increase was equal in all three groups.

For those who indicated knowledge of HSC! programs, questions 19-24 were also asked in order to assess the source of their knowledge about the program. In the posttest interviews, residents' knowledge of HSC! came primarily from three sources: police (22%), printed media (21%) and electronic media (29%). Prior to the strike force, knowledge of HSC! had come from no clearly identifiable source. Of those who indicated knowledge of HSC!, nearly all (99%) correctly identified the major purpose of HSC! as being crime prevention through citizen involvement.

The level of active participation in HSC! was generally low with only 11% of HSC1 respondents indicating that they had passed information on to friends and neighbors and 21% indicating they had not even seen the materials. Questions 22 and 23 assessed citizens' perceptions of the program's effectiveness in educating citizens about prevention techniques and in actually reducing burglary rates. Eighty percent of those HSC1 residents who were

TABLE 5
Awareness of "Help Stop Crime!" Programs

Have you heard of a program called "Help Stop Crime!"?

	Yes	No
HSC1 pre-post (at posttest)	67%	33%
HSC1 with security survey	67%	33%

Have you passed any "Help Stop Crime!" materials along to any of your friends or neighbors?

	Yes	No	Have not seen
HSC1	11%	68%	21%
HSC2	10%	45%	45%
HSC3	10%	36%	54%

How would you rate the effectiveness of "Help Stop Crime!":
(a) in educating the citizens of Florida about burglary prevention?

	Very Effective	Pretty Effective	Somewhat Effective	Not Too Effective	Not at all Effective
HSC1	10%	29%	41%	17%	3%
HSC2	40%	20%	30%	10%	0%
HSC3	22%	20%	38%	16%	4%

(b) in reducing Florida's burglary rate?

HSC1	9%	25%	42%	20%	4%
HSC2	26%	38%	36%	0%	0%
HSC3	7%	7%	57%	22%	7%

The state of Florida spends about \$130,000 per year funding "Help Stop Crime!". Do you think the state funding of "HSC!" should _____ for the next fiscal year?

	Be Increased	Kept the Same	Be Decreased
HSC1 pretest	74%	23%	3%
posttest	47%	42%	11%
HSC4 post only	54%	42%	4%
HSC2 pretest	63%	31%	6%
posttest	27%	64%	9%
HSC5 post only	64%	31%	5%
HSC3 pretest	77%	20%	3%
posttest	46%	50%	4%
HSC6 post only	67%	33%	0%

aware of the program indicated it was at least "somewhat effective" in education and 76% indicated it was at least "somewhat effective" in reducing burglary rates. Finally, the vast majority of all respondents felt HSC! funding should at least be maintained at present levels with 47 percent of HSC! residents indicating a preference for increased funding levels. Surprisingly, the posttest levels were down somewhat from pretest levels indicating that residents who received only one interview were more positive than those who had received two interviews. As noted by the interviewers, residents receiving two interviews were generally less cooperative on the second visit. Their comments indicated that they felt the second visit was redundant and a waste of time. The failure of residents to understand the purpose of the interviews is the likely basis for the decrease in positive comments for HSC! funding from pretest to posttest.

Two questions assessed citizens' recognition of "Neighborhood Watch" (question 31) and "Operation Identification" (question 32). The results of these questions are presented in Table 6. Overall, knowledge of "Neighborhood Watch" was extremely high, with all groups but one showing at least 70% recognition. "Operation Identification" shows lower recognition levels with average recognition levels around 40% and fairly low participation levels. No statistically significant differences were noted across the groups.

COMMENT: Taken together, the results indicate that citizens who are aware of "Help Stop

Crime!"-sponsored programs are generally pleased with the results. Increased emphasis on "Operation Identification" could presumably increase awareness of it. None of the groups interviewed felt that funding levels for HSC! should be decreased. Six of the 9 groups indicated more funding would be appropriate. The 3 groups which were interviewed twice were less positive the second time compared to the first and indicated that funding levels should simply be maintained at current levels. The reason for the decline in their endorsement of HSC! appears to stem from their misunderstanding of the rationale behind the evaluation process and procedures.

C. Knowledge of Burglary-Relevant Information

The next general set of questions was concerned with beliefs about residential burglary. Two of these questions were measures of comparative burglary rates (25: How does the burglary rate in your neighborhood compare to the state average?; 26: Would you say the incidence of residential burglary increased, decreased, or stayed the same in the past year?). Table 7 presents the results of those two questions. Both Melrose Park groups indicated that they felt burglary rates were similar to the state average, while the Audubon Park sample indicated that burglary rates in their neighborhood were lower than the state averages. This difference was statistically significant. The strike force produced no differences in these estimates.

By and large residents in all three groups felt burglary rates were similar to last year. No statistically significant differences were noted except for the pretest HSC2 group, which indicated that burglary rates had increased. However, this initial difference disappeared when the same residents were re-interviewed following the intervention.

TABLE 6

Awareness of "Help Stop Crime!"-Related Programs

Have you heard of a program called "Neighborhood Watch"?

	Yes, my neighborhood participates		Yes, but my neighborhood doesn't participate		No, I haven't	
	Pretest	Posttest	Pretest	Posttest	Pretest	Posttest
	HSC1	47	59	33	20	20
HSC2	40	60	45	10	15	30
HSC3	55	53	45	43	0	4

Have you heard of a program called "Operation Identification"?

	Yes		No	
	Pretest	Posttest	Pretest	Posttest
HSC1	13	16	28	34
HSC2	5	15	35	30
HSC3	16	18	31	25

Note: Numbers do not always add to 100, due to "don't know" responses.

TABLE 7

Residents' Comparative Estimates of Burglary Rates
in Their Community

25. How would you say the residential burglary rate in your neighborhood compares with the state average?

(scale values: 1= much higher 3= about the same
5= much lower)

	Pretest	Posttest
HSC1	3.08	3.22
HSC2	2.96	3.15
HSC3	3.89	4.09

26. Would you say the incidence of residential burglary in your neighborhood increased, decreased, or stayed the same in the past year?

		Increased	Decreased	Stayed same
HSC1	pretest	33%	22%	45%
	posttest	24%	20%	56%
HSC2	pretest	51%	14%	35%
	posttest	25%	30%	45%
HSC3	pretest	28%	13%	59%
	posttest	30%	25%	45%

The other questions in this section probed for residents' beliefs about who commits crimes and when. Average responses to these questions appear in Table 8. A number of these comparisons were statistically significant. On question 35 (Most burglaries are committed by professionals.) the Audubon Park group indicated more agreement with the statement than either of the Melrose Park groups during the pretest interview and again following the strike force activity. The target area residents (HSC1) indicated stronger beliefs that burglaries were more likely to be committed at night (question 36) than either control group at the pretest, but this difference disappeared at re-interview and was not apparent in the posttest only group. The control Melrose Park group (HSC2) changed their attitudes most toward burglary prevention (question 37 "most burglaries could be prevented if homeowners took proper precautions to safeguard their homes."), initially indicating the least agreement with the statement, but indicating the strongest agreement on the re-interview. Finally, Melrose Park residents were more likely to believe that burglaries are committed by teenagers (question 38) than the Audubon Park residents on the pretest. At the re-interview, however, this difference disappeared as Melrose Park residents moved slightly more toward the undecided response and Audubon Park residents moved toward agreement.

COMMENT: In general it can be said that residents in all 3 areas were largely undecided as to whether professionals commit the majority of burglaries and the time of day in which most

TABLE 8

Residents' Beliefs About Circumstances
Surrounding Burglaries

5. Most burglaries are committed by professionals who know the tricks of breaking into homes.

(scale value: 1= strongly agree 3= undecided
5= strongly disagree)

	Pretest	Posttest
HSC1	3.48	3.63
HSC2	3.81	3.90
HSC3	3.22	3.45

36. Most burglaries are committed at night.

HSC1	2.78	3.04
HSC2	3.23	3.10
HSC3	3.07	3.37

37. Most residential burglaries could be prevented if homeowners took proper precautions to safeguard their homes.

HSC1	2.22	2.26
HSC2	2.50	1.80
HSC3	2.18	2.04

38. Most residential burglaries are committed by teenagers.

HSC1	2.18	2.34
HSC2	2.12	2.20
HSC3	2.70	2.39

burglaries are committed. Residents in all areas are in agreement that prevention is possible and that burglaries are predominately committed by teenagers. To the extent individuals believe that crime rates have changed, they believe crime rates have increased in the last year. Perhaps the most positive aspect of this section is that residents do believe in general that burglaries are preventable through precautionary measures. In general, however, the observed changes appear to be rather non-systematic. There does not appear to be a clearly identifiable increase in citizens' general knowledge about burglary as a result of HSCSF.

D. Knowledge of Crime Prevention Techniques

An additional component of this section concerned residents' knowledge of crime prevention techniques. Three open-ended questions assessed what steps residents were aware of to secure outside doors, sliding glass doors and windows from burglary (questions 39, 40, 41). Each of these were quantified using the number of measures citizens were aware of. Table 9 presents the mean response rates for these measures. On the question of securing doors, the control Melrose Park group (HSC2) was initially lower than the two other groups. This difference disappeared following the strike force, however, indicating the media campaign may have been effective. Further support for this finding is the post-strike force comparison between the combined Melrose Park groups and the Audubon Park group which indicated that, overall, the Melrose Park groups knew of more precautionary measures to secure doors than the Audubon Park residents following the HSCSF.

On the question of securing sliding glass doors (#40) a pattern of increased reporting of appropriate measures was evident in all three groups from pretest to posttest

TABLE 9

Residents' Knowledge of Crime Prevention Techniques

39. What steps can be taken to make an outside door more secure from burglary?

	Pretest	Posttest
HSC1	1.66	1.58
HSC2	1.27	1.60
HSC3	1.41	1.35

40. What steps can be taken to make a sliding glass door more secure from burglary?

HSC1	.88	1.04
HSC2	.89	1.20
HSC3	1.15	1.28

41. What steps can be taken to make windows more secure from burglary?

HSC1	1.07	1.19
HSC2	.89	1.35
HSC3	1.24	1.28

Note: All responses are mean number of acceptable suggestions made.

although, only in HSC2 was it statistically significant. The mean number of measures citizens were aware of did not differ among the three groups (HSC1, 2, or 3).

Question 41 (securing windows) yielded a pattern in Melrose Park nearly identical to the previous questions with HSC2 significantly increasing their number of responses, and HSC1 increasing their number of responses (but not to the point of statistical significance). HSC3 showed no significant differences on this variable.

COMMENT: It appears that the strike force effected changes in residents' knowledge of precautionary measures. Surprisingly, however, this effect was most apparent in the HSC2 group which did not receive security surveys. This may have been, in part, due to the lower levels of responding in the HSC2 group on the pretest. It appears that, given low initial knowledge of these precautionary measures, the media component of HSC1 can effect positive changes.

E. Crime Prevention Measures Undertaken by Residents.

The final major set of questions asked at the pretest interview and again at the posttest was concerned with the kinds of crime prevention measures that residents actually practiced. Included in this section are items dealing with actual behaviors which citizens may have undertaken, such as locking doors. Also included are questions dealing with structural characteristics of their dwelling which may affect its susceptibility to burglary, such as deadbolts on doors or the installation of a burglar alarm system. Questions falling in the former category were items 46, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 65, 66 and 67. Items in the latter category include 45, 51, 52, 53, 54, 56 and 64. Of

TABLE 10

Yes-No Responses for Items Dealing with Behavioral
Precautions and Structural Characteristics of Residence.

(All numbers reported are percentage of respondents
indicating that level)

45. Do you do anything to identify or mark your valuables
and personal property?

	Pretest - Posttest		Pretest - Posttest	
	Pretest		Posttest	
	yes	no	yes	no
HSC1	27	73	27	73
HSC2	45	55	35	65
HSC3	31	69	37	63

46. Do you keep a list of your personal properties in a
safe place?

	Pretest		Posttest	
	yes	no	yes	no
HSC1	48	52	53	47
HSC2	60	40	70	30
HSC3	55	45	58	42

51. Do you secure your sliding glass doors with a key lock,
have a rail, pin or screw in the track, or wedge them
to prevent them from being opened?

	Pretest		Posttest	
	yes	no	yes	no
HSC1	47	53	61	39
HSC2	40	60	75	25
HSC3	79	21	50	50

52. Do your outside doors have a solid core?

	Pretest				Posttest			
	all	most	some	none	all	most	some	none
	HSC1	53	-	26	21	53	-	35
HSC2	58	-	21	21	60	-	30	10
HSC3	64	-	8	28	56	-	23	21

53. Do you secure your windows with a key lock or some
type of rail or pin to prevent them from being
opened?

	Pretest				Posttest			
	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	no
HSC1	12	6	11	71	11	8	8	73
HSC2	11	5	5	79	17	5	0	78
HSC3	16	4	4	76	23	11	6	60

54. Do you have an alarm system installed in your home?

	Pretest - Posttest		Pretest - Posttest	
	Pretest		Posttest	
	yes	no	yes	no
HSC1	12	88	8	92
HSC2	16	84	5	95
HSC3	2	98	6	94

55. Are your jalousie windows covered with bars or an
iron gate?

	Pretest				Posttest			
	all	most	some	none	all	most	some	none
	HSC1	6	1	11	82	3	2	9
HSC2	7	0	20	73	5	0	17	78
HSC3	14	0	0	86	14	7	4	75

56. Do you have a deadbolt lock on all your outside doors?

HSC1	62	6	16	16	60	16	11	13
HSC2	79	0	16	5	85	5	5	5
HSC3	68	6	6	20	69	6	8	17

particular interest in this section are the response differences between HSC1 and HSC2 since the major difference between these groups was whether they had received home security surveys, which are primarily intended to educate citizens about securing one's home against burglary.

Pretest versus posttest comparisons yielded a number of statistically significant results. On item 51, whereas on the pretest the highest level of securing sliding glass doors was reported by HSC3, this group was the lowest on the posttest. This was due to a combination of an increase in the reported incidents of properly securing these doors by HSC1 and HSC2, and a decrease on the part of HSC3.

While the reported number of homes with all solid core exterior doors did not change substantially, the number of residents who had previously reported "no" concerning such doors decreased and the number reporting "some" solid core doors increased (question 52). This pattern was true in all three groups. Question 53 showed no change in either Melrose Park group, but HSC3 residents did indicate a slight change in the number of windows with key locks, rails or pins. Although not statistically significant, the same pattern (no change in HSC1 or HSC2, but a slight change in HSC3) was also found in residents' reports of securing jalousie windows (question 55).

On the remainder of the items (those contained in Tables 11 and 12) no significant changes were noted over time for HSC3 (the Audubon Park group). In Melrose Park, however, a number of changes were found. For HSC2 there was

TABLE 11

Mean Responses of Items Dealing with Behavioral Precautions

(1= always 2= usually 3= sometimes 4= seldom 5= never)

57. Even when you are out of the house for only a few minutes, do you still lock your doors?

	Pretest	Posttest
HSC1	1.58	1.51
HSC2	1.63	1.95
HSC3	1.47	1.51

58. When you go on vacation, do you have delivery of the mail and newspaper stopped, or do you have someone collect them for you?

HSC1	1.58	1.36
HSC2	1.27	1.26
HSC3	1.18	1.17

59. When the family is gone for the evening, do you try to make the house look like someone is home by leaving something such as a light, TV, or radio on?

HSC1	1.22	1.26
HSC2	1.10	1.35
HSC3	1.22	1.40

60. Do you check to see who is at the door by asking (or looking) to see who it is before you open it?

HSC1	1.49	1.61
HSC2	1.56	1.85
HSC3	1.67	1.46

61. Do you keep the doors to your house locked whether you are home or away?

HSC1	1.66	1.50
HSC2	2.11	2.00
HSC3	1.88	1.80

62. Do you keep the garage doors locked whether you are home or not?

HSC1	3.08	2.44
HSC2	2.17	1.75
HSC2	1.52	1.95

63. Do you request an identification card from repairmen before you will let them in the house?

HSC1	2.81	2.93
HSC2	2.94	2.85
HSC3	2.72	2.23

65. When going on vacation, do you notify the police about your plans?

HSC1	4.48	4.50
HSC2	4.75	4.78
HSC3	3.92	3.80

66. Do you keep the shrubs around your windows and doors cut so an intruder can't conceal himself?

HSC1	1.78	1.90
HSC2	1.82	1.79
HSC3	1.54	1.73

67. Do you leave an outside light on during the night?

HSC1	2.20	1.87
HSC2	1.63	1.75
HSC3	3.92	3.92

TABLE 12

Mean Responses of Item Dealing with Structural
Characteristics of Residences.

(1= always 2= usually 3= sometimes 4=seldom 5= never)

64. Do you use an automatic timer that cuts lights off
and on at different times when you are on vacation?

	Pretest	Pre-Post Group at Post
HSC1	3.35	3.38
HSC2	2.94	3.16
HSC3	3.54	3.32

a slight (but statistically significant) decrease in residents' reports of attempting to make it appear that someone is home (question 59).

HSC1 showed four statistically significant changes between pretest and posttest. A decrease was found in residents' reports of checking to see who was at the door prior to opening it (question 60). Three increases were found: A greater tendency to keep doors locked at all times (question 61); a greater tendency to lock garage doors (question 62); and a greater tendency to leave lights on at night (question 67).

Since a certain number of the citizens in the strike force target area (HSC1) did not actually receive the home security surveys, it also was deemed appropriate to analyze residents within HSC1, dividing respondents according to whether they had or had not received the survey. With one exception, the pattern of results was essentially identical to the overall means for HSC1 already reported in Tables 10-12. The one exception was item 66. In this case those who had received the security surveys reported that they were also more likely to keep their shrubs cut back than those who did not receive the surveys.

Given the relatively short period of time between the strike force activities and the second round of interviews, and the fact that many residents interviewed were retired and living on relatively fixed incomes, the items in this section were regrouped into those changes which required expenditures of money and those which did not. Responses

were then combined and the data re-analyzed. These analyses indicated that no group had as of yet adopted a statistically significant number of prevention practices which required monetary expenditures. For HSC2 and HSC3 this was also true of practices which could be effected without spending money. However, HSC1 residents increased significantly the use of the no-cost practices. They indicated that following the strike force they were more likely to lock doors and garage doors and to leave outside lights on at night.

COMMENT: It appears that the intensive HSCSF was effective in getting residents to adopt new behavioral practices which decrease the probability of burglary. The kinds of changes adopted were behaviors that were simple and inexpensive.

VII. Crime Statistics

One final means of assessing the HSCSF's overall effectiveness is through examination of actual crime data dealing with residential burglaries. Data from August and September 1982 were of primary interest. While the HSCSF was operating in June and July, much of the activity connected with the program took place during the latter part of July. Thus, the first occasion for the impact of HSCSF to show up would be in the August/September crime statistics. Table 13 shows the number of burglaries in each of the targeted areas in Broward, Palm Beach and Dade Counties as well as the control areas. In addition, percent change from the previous two month periods and from the same two month period one year earlier (1981) are given in the table.¹

Examine Table 13 to note the impact of HSCSF in the two areas of Melrose Park. There was a decrease of 33% in residential burglaries in HSC1 whereas HSC2 experienced a 10% increase compared to the burglary rates from the

¹It should be noted that since often the numbers of burglaries reported is low (except in the Dade-Miami areas), even a small change in actual numbers is associated with relatively large percentage changes. Thus, an extraneous factor such as seasonal crime fluctuations or the presence of a burglary "ring" in a community may affect the validity of these results.

Residential Burglary Crime Statistics in HSCSF Areas

# Reported	<u>MELROSE PARK</u>		<u>AUDUBON PARK</u>	<u>WEST PALM BEACH</u>		<u>METRO DADE</u>	<u>MIAMI</u>	
	HSC1	HSC2		Sheriff	City		Zone 65	Zone 72
April/May	12	10	2	-	3	-	45	42
June/July	12	10	11	-	3	95	52	58
Aug/Sept	8	11	10	10	9	54	29	29
<u>% Change</u>								
Previous 2 months								
April/May	+ 9%	- 9%	- 83%	-	- 57%	-	+61%	-14%
June/July	0%	0%	+550%	-	0%	-	+16%	+38%
Aug/Sept	-33%	+10%	- 9%	-	+300%	-43%	-44%	-50%
Previous Year (same months)								
April/May	-31%		- 82%	-	+ 30%	-	-	-
June/July	- 8%		- 45%	-	+300%	+ 8%	+ 6%	+23%
Aug/Sept	-37%		- 9%	-	+ 28%	-42%	-56%	-63%

previous months. Compared to the same months for the previous year, the area as a whole showed a 37% decrease (statistics for 1981 did not permit an analysis of burglaries by sections of Melrose park). HSC3 showed a slight decrease in residential burglaries, - 9%. These results argue that the HSCSF was effective in reducing residential burglaries.

This conclusion is reinforced when one examines the results in the other targeted areas. Three of four areas showed decreases in crime. The two zones of the city of Miami that constituted the target area showed decreases of 44% and 50% compared to the previous two months and decreases of 56% and 63% compared to the previous year. The target area in north Dade County reported a 43% decrease from the previous two months and a 42% decrease from the previous year. The one area to show an increase was the West Palm Beach target area where there was a 300% increase from the previous two months and a 28% increase from the previous year.

COMMENT: With only one exception, reported burglary rates were down in targeted areas for the two months following the strike force. This held true both when the August/September statistics were compared to the prior two months and also when compared to August/September 1981. The size of the decrease ranged from 33% to 63%. These effects appear to be the direct result of the HSCSF.

Crime statistics for commercial armed robbery in the targeted areas were analyzed for the possible impact of the strike force activity. These statistics are presented in the accompanying table.

The selection of a base rate for armed robbery against which to measure the impact of the strike force is problematic. One possible comparison is to examine the amount of crime after the strike force activity (Aug/Sept 1982) compared to crime rates before the HSCSF! (April/May 1982). Such a comparison reveals a major decrease of 60% in Miami, Zone 65, a decrease of 100% in the Metro-Dade area, no change in Broward or Miami, Zone 72, and a 200% increase in Palm Beach. In a second comparison, to control for seasonal effects, one could compare Aug/Sept of 1982 to the same months of the previous year. Such a comparison reveals decreases ranging from 33% to 100% in four of the five targeted areas. One area (Broward) showed an increase. A third comparison might compare armed robbery rates while the strike force was operative (June/July, 1982—keeping in mind the fact that much of the activity occurred during the last two weeks of the strike force) to rates after it was concluded. The comparison reveals that two areas showed decreases in armed robberies (Metro-Dade and Miami, Zone 72), two areas showed increases (Miami, Zone 65 and Broward) and one area showed no change (Palm Beach). Considering the results in their entirety, they present a rather mixed picture. No clear trends toward decreases in commercial armed robbery rates emerge, with the possible exception of Aug/Sept 1982 compared to Aug/Sept 1981. Thus this component of the HSCSF! appears to be less successful than the part which focused on residential burglary.

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HELP STOP CRIME

Commercial Armed Robbery Statistics in HSCSF! Areas

# Reported	Miami				
	Broward	Palm Beach	Metro Dade	Zone 65	Zone 72
April/May	4	0	1	15	4
June/July	1	2	14	3	6
Aug/Sept	4	2	0	6	4
<hr/>					
% Change					
Previous 2 Months					
April May	+400%	-200%	+900%	+750%	- 33%
June/July	- 75%	+200%	- 44%	- 80%	- 50%
Aug/Sept	+300%	0%	-500%	+100%	- 33%
<hr/>					
Previous year (same months)					
April/July	+300%	-100%	- 40%	- 17%	- 76%
June/July	- 67%	- 33%	- 50%	- 86%	- 60%
Aug/Sept	+300%	- 33%	-100%	- 68%	- 80%

VIII. Supplemental Posttest Items

In addition to re-administering the pretest interview, during the post-strike force interview a set of thirteen supplemental questions were asked. These questions specifically assessed residents' knowledge of and attitudes towards: home security surveys; crime prevention behaviors which may have been undertaken in the previous two months (i.e. during the "strike force"); and whether citizens were aware of the strike force. Since only the experimental Melrose Park group (HSC1) actually received the full strike force activity, only the data from this group will be reported here. Further, the data presented here are based only on the respondents who indicated to the interviewers that they had received a security survey. In actuality a much larger number of Melrose Park residents received at least part of the security survey (90% of the residents in the southern half of Melrose Park). Apparently, many residents did not interpret the external security surveys (undertaken in the event they were unavailable at the time an HSC1 worker came to their home) as a true security survey.

Table 14 summarizes the responses to these questions. Of those who received a survey, 92% felt it was complete or extremely complete, while only 8% indicated it was less than adequate. Fifty-two percent of those who reported having received a security survey also indicated they had taken at least one suggestion made in the survey. By far the most often reported suggestions were those of leaving lights on

TABLE 14

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS FOR INTERVIEWERS:

1. Have you requested and received a home security survey by your local law enforcement agency in the last two months?
 1. no (skip to question 5) 72%
 2. yes (do 2, 3, 4; then skip 5) 9%
 3. requested but not yet received (skip to 6) 1%
 4. not specifically requested but received when offered at my door (do 2, 3, 4; skip 5) 18%

2. How complete was the survey?
 1. extremely complete 34%
 2. complete 58%
 3. incomplete 5%
 4. extremely incomplete 3%

3. Have you started following any of the suggestions made during the survey?
 1. yes: if so which ones? 52%

71% had taken 1
19% had taken 2
10% had taken 3
 2. no 48%

4. Now more specifically, have you made any of the following changes (ask all 5)

	Yes	No
1. installed/changed door locks	30	70
2. installed/changed window locks	14	86

3. cut back shrubs from around the house	29	71
4. locked doors/windows when away from home	39	61
5. left lights on when not at home	36	64
5. Why have you not requested a home survey? Modal answer = Don't know		
6. Do you feel that there has been an increased emphasis in the last two months on reducing residential burglaries?	70	30
7. Specifically, do you think there have been increases in any of the following areas?		
a. more television ads or programs	78	22
b. more newspaper ads or articles	64	36
c. more radio ads or programs	48	52
d. increased mail to your home on the subject	62	38
e. increased police patrols in your neighborhood	33	67
f. more emphasis on home security surveys	65	35
8. Have you attended any neighborhood meetings about residential crime in the last two months?	9	91
8a. If yes, was this the first you ever attended?	54	46
8b. If no, were there any meetings available which you chose not to attend?	68	32

9. Have you heard recently about a program called "Citizen's Strike Force"?
- 22 78
10. If yes, what is the purpose of the "strike force"?
- 90% accurate
- 10% inaccurate
11. Where did you hear about the "strike force"?
- 50% mass media or security surveyors
12. How effective do you think the "strike force" will be in reducing the residential burglary rate in your neighborhood?
1. very effective 4. not too effective
2. pretty effective 5. not at all effective
3. somewhat effective MEAN= 2.56
13. How effective do you think the "strike force" will be in educating citizens in your community about ways to prevent residential burglary?
1. very effective 4. not too effective
2. pretty effective 5. not at all effective
3. somewhat effective MEAN= 2.43

when away from home and locking doors and windows when away. These suggestions, it may be recalled, were also reported to have increased in the pre-post interview. Once again, suggestions which required financial outlays had, as of yet, not been adopted by many people.

Question five was asked of those who had reported not requesting a security survey. No reason for not requesting a security survey was consistently reported. By far the most frequent response was "don't know".

All interviewees were asked whether they felt there had been any increased emphasis on reducing burglaries (question 6) recently. Seventy percent indicated a belief that there had, while thirty percent felt no change had occurred. Question 7 was designed to determine what changes had been noted by residents. As can be seen, increases in the mass media were noted by a large number of residents, as were increases in mailing and security surveys, while comparatively few residents felt police patrols had been increased. Only 9% of the residents had attended neighborhood meetings, although generally people were aware that such meetings had occurred (8b).

Questions 9 through 13 were intended to assess the strike force itself. Twenty-two percent of the targeted residents had actually heard the name and of these, 90% correctly identified its purpose. No single source predominated in terms of where the strike force had been heard of, although 50% of the residents indicated their knowledge came from either the security surveyors who came

to their homes or various mass media sources.

Finally, in terms of its effectiveness, residents indicated that the strike force was generally effective in both reducing residential burglary rates and in educating citizens in prevention techniques (means of 2.56 and 2.43, respectively).

COMMENT: Of those who were aware of the program or who had received surveys, the impact of HSCSF can be seen. Residents appear to be taking the advice of the security surveyors and generally appear pleased with the effort. In addition, most residents were aware of the recent increased emphasis on burglary prevention in their neighborhoods.

IX Summary

In summary, it appears that the "Help Stop Crime! Strike Force" activity was effective in some areas and not others. Let us first review what the HSCSF did not do. It did not result in increased concern for safety on the residents' part. The strike force also did not lead to greater recognition of specific HSC! programs, though interviewees were aware of greater emphasis on crime prevention in their neighborhoods as a result of HSCSF. Finally, it is the case that the strike force did not produce clear increases in residents' knowledgeability about who commits burglaries, when they are committed, and how they are committed.

Let us now review the major changes that did result from HSCSF. First, media exposure alone appears to have some effects. Changes in knowledge about crime and steps which can be taken to prevent crimes were noted; although these changes appear somewhat unsystematic, where changes do occur, they are in the desired direction. In particular, residents who are relatively uninformed about precautionary measures benefit the most.

Second, security surveys have an immediate effect on behaviors which require minimal effort to effect. Behaviors which require either a significant time investment to accomplish or those which require financial expenditures do not appear to be affected immediately.

Finally, burglary rates in areas which received the

full HSCSF treatment (with one exception) are below both the previous two months and the same period in 1981. This indicates that the strike force reduced the incidence of residential burglaries in the targeted areas.

APPENDIX A

Hello, my name is: _____ . I work for a research team at the University of Florida. We have been hired by the State Attorney General's Office to conduct a survey in several Florida cities that asks questions about your feelings about residential crime. The survey also is designed to find out how much you have done to protect yourself and your home from burglary. This information is very important my questions will take only a short time; and you represent (by virtue of random selection) many of your neighbors and other Florida citizens by participating. Let me begin by asking.....

- (1) What is the respondent's sex?
 1. Male
 2. Female
- (2) Please tell me to stop when I read your age category.
 1. 18 to 29 4. 50 to 59
 2. 30 to 39 5. 60 to 64
 3. 40 to 49 6. 65 and over
- (3) Do you consider yourself White, Black, Hispanic, Oriental or a member of some other ethnic group?
 1. White 4. Oriental
 2. Black 5. Other (Specify)
 3. Hispanic
- (4) Please tell me to stop when I read the range describing your family's total annual income.
 1. under \$10,000 4. \$30,000 to \$50,000
 2. \$10,000 to \$20,000 5. over \$50,000
 3. \$20,000 to \$30,000
- (5) What is your marital status?
 1. Single
 2. Married
 3. Separated
 4. Divorced
 5. Widowed
- (6) What is your current level of education?
 1. 8th grade or less 4. Some college
 2. Some high school 5. College graduate
 3. High school graduate 6. Graduate or professional degree
- (7) How long have you lived in Florida? _____

(15) How about during the day?

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Very safe | 4. Not too safe |
| 2. Pretty safe | 5. Not at all safe |
| 3. Somewhat safe | |

(16) How safe would you feel alone at home during the day?

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Very safe | 4. Not too safe |
| 2. Pretty safe | 5. Not at all safe |
| 3. Somewhat safe | |

(17) How about at night?

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Very safe | 4. Not too safe |
| 2. Pretty safe | 5. Not at all safe |
| 3. Somewhat safe | |

(18) Have you heard of a program called "HELP STOP CRIME!"?

1. Yes
2. No

If "yes" on #18, ask questions 19-24, if no skip to #25

(19) Where did you hear about "HELP STOP CRIME!"? _____

(20) What point was the "HELP STOP CRIME!" message trying to get across to you? What did it say? _____

(21) Have you passed any "HELP STOP CRIME!" materials along to any of your friends or neighbors?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Haven't seen materials

(22) How would you assess the overall effectiveness of the "HELP STOP CRIME!" program in educating the citizens of Florida about burglary prevention?

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Very effective | 4. Not too effective |
| 2. Pretty effective | 5. Not at all effective |
| 3. Somewhat effective | |

(23) How would you assess the overall effectiveness of the "HELP STOP CRIME!" program in reducing Florida's burglary rate?

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Very effective | 4. Not too effective |
| 2. Pretty effective | 5. Not at all effective |
| 3. Somewhat effective | |

(24) The state of Florida spends about \$130,000 per year funding "HELP STOP CRIME!". Do you think the state funding of "HELP STOP CRIME!" should

1. be increased,
2. kept the same, or
3. be decreased for the next fiscal year?

(25) How would you say the residential burglary rate in your neighborhood compares with the state average.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Much higher | 4. A little lower |
| 2. A little higher | 5. Much lower |
| 3. About the same | |

(26) Would you say the incidence of residential burglary in your neighborhood increased, decreased, or stayed the same in the past year?

1. Increased
2. Decreased
3. Stayed the same

(27) How often do you worry that your residence will be burglarized when you're not there?

1. Frequently
2. Sometimes
3. Rarely
4. Never

(28) Have you or your family ever been the victims of burglary or breaking and entering at your current place of residence?

1. Yes (If yes, how many times? How many times in the last 2 months?)
2. No

(29) To your knowledge has anyone you know ever been a victim of burglary or breaking and entering?

1. Yes (If yes, how many such incidents do you know of? How many in the last 2 months?)
2. No

(30) Are you aware of any programs that deal with preventing residential burglary?

1. Yes (if yes, please list them)
2. No

(31) Have you heard of a program called "NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH"?

1. Yes, my neighborhood participates in it.
2. Yes, but my neighborhood doesn't participate in it.
3. No, I haven't heard of it.

(32) Have you heard of a program called "OPERATION IDENTIFICATION"?

1. Yes, I participate in it.
2. Yes, but I don't participate in it.
3. No, I haven't heard of it.

(33) Do you recall seeing or hearing any messages about residential burglary in the following places. (For each yes, determine if the message was from "HELP STOP CRIME!" and how effective the message was.)

PLACE	HAVE YOU SEEN?		HELP STOP CRIME!		EFFECTIVENESS				
	Yes	No	Yes	No	1	2	3	4	5
Booklet									
Poster									
Security Survey									
Neighborhood Watch Decals									
Operation Identification									
Telephone Stickers									
Billboards									
Bus Placards									
Newspaper									
Radio Ads									
Television Ads									

Now please answer the following questions by telling us how much you agree with these statements.

(34) I feel safer in my neighborhood than I did a year or two ago.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Undecided
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

(35) Most burglaries are committed by professionals who know the tricks of breaking into homes.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Undecided
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

(36) Most residential burglaries are committed at night.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Undecided
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

(37) Most burglaries could be prevented if homeowners took proper precautions to safeguard their homes.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Undecided
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

(38) Most residential burglaries are committed by teenagers.

1. Strongly Agree
2. Agree
3. Undecided
4. Disagree
5. Strongly Disagree

Now, a few questions about home security.

(39) What steps can be taken to make an outside door more secure from burglary? (probe for specific details).

(40) What steps can be taken to make a sliding glass door more secure from burglary? (Again, specific details are needed here).

(41) What steps can a homeowner take to make windows more secure from burglary? (Details again)

(42) Have you heard of a security survey where a law enforcement officer or civilian volunteer comes to your home and gives you tips on how to make your home more secure from burglary?

1. Yes
2. No

(43) If yes, did you request an officer or volunteer to come to your home to make a security survey?

1. Yes
2. No

(44) In the past year, have you been to any meetings that dealt with the prevention of residential burglary?

1. Yes (If yes, in the last 2 months? Yes ___ No ___)
2. No

(45) Do you do anything to identify or mark your valuables and personal property?

1. Yes
2. No

(46) Do you keep a list of your personal properties in a safe place?

1. Yes
2. No

(47) Which method of burglary prevention do you think would be most effective in your neighborhood?

- 1) Forming a neighborhood crime prevention group where neighbors watch each other's homes, or
 - 2) the police patrolling the neighborhood on a regular basis?
1. Neighborhood group
 2. Police Patrol
 3. The two would be equally effective

(48) If you saw someone trying to break into a neighbor's home what would you be most likely to do?

1. Nothing
2. Call Police
3. Personally try to stop the crime
4. Both call police and personally try to stop the crime
5. Other (specify)

(50) Have you ever reported a crime or suspicious activity to the police?

1. Yes
2. No

If yes, how would you rate their handling of this call or report?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Fair
4. Poor

How often have you reported such activity in the last 2 months?

(51) Do you secure your sliding glass doors with a key lock, have a rail, pin, or screw in the track, or wedge them to prevent them from being opened?

1. Yes
2. No

(52) Do your outside doors have a solid core?

1. Yes
2. No

(53) Do you secure your windows with a key lock or some type of rail or pin to prevent them from being opened?

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. All of them | 3. Some of them |
| 2. Most of them | 4. None of them |

(54) Do you have an alarm system installed in your home?

1. Yes
2. No

(55) Are your jalousie windows covered with bars or an iron grate?

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. All of them | 3. Some of them |
| 2. Most of them | 4. None of them |

(56) Do you have a deadbolt lock on all your outside doors?

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. All of them | 3. Some of them |
| 2. Most of them | 4. None of them |

(57) Even when you are out of the house for only a few minutes, do you still lock your doors?

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| 1. Always | 4. Seldom |
| 2. Usually | 5. Never |
| 3. Sometimes | |

(58) When you go on vacation, do you have delivery of the mail and newspaper stopped, or do you have someone collect them for you?

- | | |
|--------------|-----------|
| 1. Always | 4. Seldom |
| 2. Usually | 5. Never |
| 3. Sometimes | |

(59) When the family is gone for the evening, do you try to make the house look like someone is home by leaving something such as a light, TV or radio on?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Seldom
- 5. Never

(60) Do you check to see who is at the door by asking (or looking) to see who it is before you open it?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Seldom
- 5. Never

(61) Do you keep the doors to your house locked whether you are home or away?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Seldom
- 5. Never

(62) Do you keep the garage doors locked whether you are home or not?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Seldom
- 5. Never

(63) Do you request an identification card from repairmen before you will let them in the house?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Seldom
- 5. Never

(64) Do you use an automatic timer that cuts the lights off and on at different times when you are on vacation?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Seldom
- 5. Never

(65) When going on vacation, do you notify the police about your plans?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Seldom
- 5. Never

(66) Do you keep the shrubs around your windows and doors cut so an intruder can't conceal himself?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Seldom
- 5. Never

(67) Do you leave an outside light on during the night?

- 1. Always
- 2. Usually
- 3. Sometimes
- 4. Seldom
- 5. Never

(68) How effective do you think window stickers that warn burglars that your property is protected by an alarm, are in preventing a burglar from breaking in?

- 1. Very effective
- 2. Pretty effective
- 3. Somewhat effective
- 4. Not too effective
- 5. Not at all effective

(69) How effective are window stickers that warn burglars that your personal property is marked with permanent identification markings?

- 1. Very effective
- 2. Pretty effective
- 3. Somewhat effective
- 4. Not too effective
- 5. Not at all effective

(70) What programs are you aware of that deal with prevention of residential burglary? (Record all mentions).

APPENDIX B

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS FOR INTERVIEWERS:

1. Have you requested and received a home security survey by your local law enforcement agency in the last two months?
 - 1. no (skip to question 5)
 - 2. yes (do 2, 3, 4; then skip 5)
 - 3. requested but not yet received (skip to 6)
 - 4. not specifically requested but received when offered at my door (do 2, 3, 4; skip 5)
2. How complete was the survey?
 - 1. extremely complete
 - 2. complete
 - 3. incomplete
 - 4. extremely incomplete
3. Have you started following any of the suggestions made during the survey?
 - 1. yes: If so which ones? _____
 - 2. no

END