

Mike Cutone on the Difference Between C3 and Community Policing.

There is merit to Community Policing, and there are certain components where Community Policing and C3 overlap— for example community outreach and partnership. But that’s where the similarities begin and end.

C3 views gang members and drug dealers as insurgents within the community; thriving off the passive, unwitting support of residents. It is a focused, step by step operational approach that can be implemented at the patrol level. C3 establishes a robust intelligence cycle, a force multiplier effect, and building-block approach created by, with and through community. This ultimately separates gang members and drug dealers from their cause and support. An example of C3 building blocks is Gang Demobilization, which offers a legitimate way-out for a gang member who wants out, attacks their recruitment cycle, and actively counter gangs messaging. These are just a few examples of C3’s strategic approach compared to Community Policing.

Community Policing can be an effective policing tool in communities where positive existing police relationships or partnerships already exist. Why don’t we see Community Policing successfully implemented or utilized in high crime urban areas, such as the South Side of Chicago? Because implementation of Community Policing takes more resources and more time, especially if it’s a department-wide approach. According to the US Department of Justice, Community Policing “is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships....” It’s not a specific operational approach for patrol officers. Each department will have their own

philosophical approach to “organizational strategies,” whereas C3 is unit specific, and not meant for an entire departmental approach.

C3 is operationally specific, using hand selected officers, uniquely trained, to operate in highest crime areas in a city. It is operation and strategy specific. Weekly community meetings are established that focus on the five essential tasks, establishing eight building blocks, and separating gangs from their cause and support. Further, C3 creates a robust intelligence cycle, leveraging existing resources to achieve C3 objectives. C3 is strategy specific without losing the critical community outreach component. The C3 officer becomes a crucial leader within the community, behind the scenes he becomes the “de facto battlefield commander” or “the Lawrence of Arabia” within the community.

The bottom line is that Community Policing and C3 are two distinct species. The Lion and the Zebra both drink from the same watering hole (the Community), can blend into their surroundings, operate in the same environment, and run really fast. But they operate VERY differently. Our end states and operational approach differ greatly.

Difference between Community Policing vs C3 Policing

Principles of Community Policing

1. Philosophy and Organization Strategy
2. Commitment to Community Empowerment
3. Decentralized and Personalized Policing
4. Immediate and Long-Term Proactive Solving
5. Ethics, Legality, Responsibility, and Trust
6. Expanding the Police Mandate
7. Helping Those with Special Needs
8. Grass-Roots Creativity and Support
9. Internal Change
10. Building for the Future

Transactional.

Philosophy, no intelligence cycle, does not target criminal networks, needs more resources

Principles of C3 Policing:

1. **Legitimacy** is crucial to goals
2. You must understand the environment (the ground truth)
3. Unity of effort is essential
4. Intelligence drives operations
5. Prepare for a long-term commitment
6. Local factors are primary
7. Security under the rule of law
8. Gangs must be separated from their **cause and support**

Transformative.

Actual Strategy, Build trust by, with, and thru community. Robust intelligence cycle, target root causes and criminal networks, utilizes existing resources.