

Dynamism in Criminal Justice System:

A WAY FORWARD

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CHAPTER-4

BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES: HARNESSING THE POWER OF PHYSICAL DESIGN IN CRIME PREVENTION

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1. INTRODUCTION

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is a multidisciplinary approach that aims to reduce crime and enhance safety by manipulating the physical environment. It recognizes that the design, layout, and management of spaces can influence human behaviour and contribute to crime or crime prevention. CPTED strategies are employed in various settings, including urban planning, architecture, and landscape design, to create environments that discourage criminal activity and promote community well-being.

The concept of CPTED was first introduced in the 1960s and gained significant attention in the 1970s. It was developed by a group of criminologists, architects, and urban planners who sought to address the limitations of traditional law enforcement methods in preventing crime. Rather than relying solely on increased police presence and surveillance, CPTED focuses on altering the physical environment to create a sense of ownership and territoriality among residents and deter potential offenders.