

DKR 40 YEARS

DANISH CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL
1971-2011

COOPERATION ABOUT SAFETY FOR 40 YEARS



**STRENGTHENING THE SENSE
OF RESPONSIBILITY**
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**PREVENTION EFFORTS ARE THE ANSWER
TO FUTURE CRIME**
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DANISH CRIME
PREVENTION COUNCIL



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COOPERATION ABOUT SAFETY FOR 40 YEARS

40 years have gone by since the then chief of the National Police Svend Erling Heide Jørgensen took the consequences of a steep increase in crime. In December 1970 he wrote a letter to the Ministry of Justice suggesting a committee be set up with the purpose of '... working to prevent crime in a broad perspective,' as he put it. The result was the Danish Crime Prevention Council.

Today, the Council celebrating its 40th anniversary has shown that cooperation across professional groups is an effective means against crime. The SSP cooperation between school, social services and police is one of the best-known initiatives in the efforts of the Council. Most Danish schoolchildren have at some point been introduced to the SSP, but also neighbourhood watch (Nabohjælp), operation marking (Operation Mærkning) and most recently a cooperation with TrykFonden focusing on violence, assault, robberies and sexual assaults are some of the prevention initiatives that the Council has launched.

The Council's member organisations represent a wide section of society. Both the government and the municipalities, the public and the private sector take part and the circle of members range from the Danish Union of Early Childhood and Youth Educators to the Danish Bankers Association. This ensures input from different professional groups who as a whole are ideally suited to prevent crime now and in the future.

A journey through the 40-year history of the Council shows that the Council is still developing but that the fundamental values are the same as back in the then. Taking responsibility for yourself and each other and cooperation in all areas of society are still keywords for the efforts of the Council. Today, the Council is stronger than ever – and is facing new challenges and new possibilities for development. The following pages give a retrospective overview and a peak into the future of crime prevention efforts. Enjoy.

The Crime Prevention Council

PLENARY SESSION - MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS OF THE COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

Eva Smith
University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Law

VICE PRESIDENT

Hans Reymann-Carlsen
Danish Insurance Association

Askovgaarden

Association of Directors of Social, Health and Labor Affairs in the Danish Municipalities
Association of Governors of Prisons and Deputy Governors
Association of public Prosecutors
Association of Regional Prosecutors
BUPL - Danish Union of Early Childhood and Youth Educators
Danish Association for Career Guidance
Danish Association of Judges
Danish Association of School Leaders
Danish Association of Social Workers

Danish Bankers Association
Danish Chamber of Commerce
Danish Construction Association
Danish Consumer Council
Danish Federation of Housing Associations
Danish National Police
Danish Organization of Youth Clubs
Danish Prison and Probation Service
Danish Society of Engineers
Danish Tax Authorities, SKAT
Danish Tenant Union
Danish Trade Organization for Safety and Security
Director of Public Prosecutions
General Council of the Danish Bar and Law Society
GODA
International Association for educational and vocational guidance – IAEVG
Joint Council for Child Issues in Denmark
COOP Denmark A/S

Leisure & Society
LO, Danish Confederation of Trade Unions
Local government Denmark
Ministry of Children and Education
Ministry of Justice
Ministry of Justice, Department of Prisons & Probation
Ministry of Social Affairs and Integration
National Association of Leaders of Youth Schools
National Association of Schoolparents
National Board of Social Services
National Federation of Social Educators
Natteravnene (Night Owls)
Police union in Denmark
Post Danmark
Sports Confederation of Denmark
SSP Council
Union of Education Denmark
University of Copenhagen



THE PRESIDENT OF THE DANISH CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL.

Originally, Eva Smith studied sociology and psychology before she finally settled on the law. She got her master of laws in 1974 and became a senior lecturer at the University of Copenhagen in 1985. In 1990, she became a professor of jurisprudence and in 1996 president of the Crime Prevention Council.

STRENGTHENING THE SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY

The prominent voice of the Crime Prevention Council in the media must soon find her replacement. For 16 years, president Eva Smith has been part of highlighting the Council's agenda where one of the more important issues have been that early efforts prevent crime.

"In addition to steering the lives of the children in a more positive direction, early prevention provides enormous financial advan-

tages. A young person at a secure institution costs one million a year. This million could be well spent earlier on supporting the family and the child," says Eva Smith.

Prevention does not only need to be handled by educators, teachers and social workers. Everyone can contribute and specifically we must remember that school is one of the places where we can best prevent crime, explains Eva Smith.

"If children function well at school, then they are well-protected against a life of crime. Parents have some of the responsibility to ensure that a class is a unit where all children thrive. I think we handled that better when I had small children. There was a greater sense of responsibility for the whole class thriving and not only your own child. Today, there is tremendous focus on your own child, your own friends and your own family thriving, but if people want to





THIS YEAR, PROFESSOR EVA SMITH RETIRES AS PRESIDENT OF THE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL. SHE LEAVES BEHIND A STRENGTHENED COUNCIL BUT EMPHASISES THAT THE COUNCIL IS FACING AN IMPORTANT TASK REGARDING COMMUNICATION:

THE EARLIER THE PREVENTION, THE BETTER. THAT IS WHY WE ALL NEED TO ASSUME GREATER RESPONSIBILITY – ALSO FOR THE CHILDREN OF OTHERS.

avoid becoming the victims of crime it is important that we include all children in our efforts to create a good childhood.”

When it comes to taking a personal responsibility, the president also points to neighbourhood watch as a good example that the individual citizen can be made aware of making a difference.

”It enables them to influence their own lives and the crime that they are exposed to, and that improves the feeling of security among the general population. This provides people with an understanding of the fact that we are all part of society and the individual Dane can do something specific to prevent crime.”

CRIMINALS MUST BE PART OF SOCIETY

Often debates about crime and punishment end up being all about the age of criminal responsibility. In 2010, this led to the age of criminal responsibility being lowered to 14 years, among other things because of problems with gang crime where kids under the age of 15 committed crimes. Eva Smith believes that this is an example that unilateral focus on maximum penalties can take up too much of the de-

bate. Instead we should all remember our responsibility and look at criminals as part of the population.

”We must try to include them in our community but in general there is less understanding for the criminals than say 20 years ago. The attitude seems to be: ‘they have nothing to do with us; they just deserve a severe punishment and should preferably never leave prison again.’”

Part of the reason that focus has been on longer sentences and a lower age of criminal responsibility is that the politicians usually only think as far as the next election. Thus, it is difficult to make them make plans that may not show any effect until after 10-15 year.

”There has been much too much focus on longer sentences and too little on prevention. So that has been slightly disappointing. It has been difficult to get through to the politicians because their time frame is often only four years,” concludes Eva Smith.

COOPERATION CREATES NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Internally in the Council, Eva Smith is especially happy with the fact that the secretariat has added new competences, e.g. through new employees with backgrounds in psychology, sociology, and communication. The strengthened secretariat is

the most important event in her time as president, in her opinion, but also brings to mind those she calls the truly dedicated.

”We need to remember those who work closely with the young in the field. It is all well and good that I sit here by my desk and talk to politicians, but you really prevent crime through the contact between people. This happens throughout the country, e.g. through the SSP efforts.”

Eva Smith looks forward to the Council in the coming years getting the opportunity to realise projects that previously were unrealistic due to financial constraints. More specifically, the strengthened cooperation with the TrygFonden will provide the Council with a bigger playing field. There should e.g. be focus on neighbourhood watch, group-based violence and the Crime Prevention Day introduced in 2011.

”Hopefully, the cooperation will get the population involved more extensively because obviously this is a job for all of us to handle. We are all responsible for kids not getting involved in crime.”

Developments in Denmark in recent years have been in the direction of less crime and less fear of crime in the general population but that does not mean that the role of the Council has diminished, underlines Eva Smith.

”If a young person is going astray, it could have major consequences for the people who are victims of the crime and for the young person himself. As long as there is crime in Denmark, we are needed.”



A BOOST TO CRIME PREVENTION EFFORTS

IN THE YEAR WHERE THE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL TURNS 40, THE COOPERATION WITH TRYGFONDEN BEGAN. THE COOPERATION STRETCHES ONWARDS FOR FIVE YEARS AND MEANS A BIG BOOST – BOTH FINANCIALLY AND WITH RESPECT TO RESOURCES – TO THE EFFORTS OF THE COUNCIL. AMBITIOUS GOALS HAVE BEEN SET FOR THE PROJECTS OF THE COOPERATION AND IF IT IS A SUCCESS THERE WILL BE A VISIBLE REDUCTION OF CRIME WITHIN THREE AREAS OF CRIME.

The cooperation focuses on preventing burglaries and home invasions, violence and vandalism in the public domain as well as sexual assaults. These three areas are prioritised based on an assessment of where you can achieve the most effect.

Citizens and professionals in local cooperation who are the main target groups of the cooperation cannot help but notice the new efforts. In a few years, a major group

of the population will be able to refer to themselves as organised neighbourhood watch and many parents of children in introductory schooling will form parent networks. In the municipalities, they will in the near future more extensively be able to include crime prevention in the local development plans. These are just some of the targets of a few specific projects but as a whole, all the projects are connected to the overall goal of the Crime Prevention

Council to reduce the number of repeat victims, reduce the number of the most criminal youths, maintain the good results of efforts targeted at the general population and maintain the high level of security among the population.

TrygFonden contributes about DKK 81 million over the five-year cooperation period.



1971
The Crime Prevention Council is established. The background is a steep increase in crime despite the boom of the 60s. In the first years, the focus is on prevention of theft and robbery.



1977
The Council introduced operation marking, "Operation Mærkning". The citizens can free of charge at the police or insurance companies pick up an engraver pen and stickers. After two years on this programme, the frequency of burglaries at properties with stickers is 6.25 per thousand whereas the frequency for properties without the operation marking sticker is as high as 5.4 per cent.

1973
The Public Prosecutor for Serious Economic Crime, also known as the fraud squad, was established.



1975
The Council established the central SSP Council – a cooperation between schools, social services, and police.



1977
The first female police officers are trained.

TrygFonden

THE COOPERATION PROJECTS FROM 2012-2016

- Neighbourhood watch. The Crime Prevention Council will modernise the neighbourhood watch concept and get citizens to protect themselves and each other by organising themselves in neighbourhood watch networks.
- Security and less crime through city planning. Crime prevention needs to be included on a wider scale in the municipalities and local development planning and the municipal city planners need more knowledge about what they can do.
- Group-related violence, other crime and upsetting behaviour among young people. National and international literature is reviewed to find promising prevention efforts. Based on this, advisory material is developed and the best methods are evaluated for effect and disseminated to the practice field.
- Prevention of juvenile crime. New knowledge about prevention methods come into play in practice through a network of ambassadors in cooperation with the municipalities.
- Parent networks. The well-being of children and young people in schools are significant in relation to criminal behaviour. Stronger parent networks in schools can be part of ensuring that also vulnerable children and families become part of the community.
- Prevention of sexual assaults. Younger women face a greater risk of falling victim to rape and often young men are the offenders. The project is aimed at reducing the number of sexual assaults among young people.
- The Crime Prevention Day. This event takes place once a year with experts and professionals who work within the crime prevention field. On the day, there will be professionals presentations, workshops, exhibition stands and café meetings.
- Cost/benefit analysis of crime prevention. The Council will show the costs and benefits associated with crime prevention. The analysis uncovers what a criminal costs during a lifetime and what prevention measures are financially sound.
- GAVN (acronym for feasibility, applicability, knowledge-based and innovative). The Council will develop a study concept for local safety enquiries. The study can pinpoint unsafe areas in local areas and how you with physical improvements can prevent e.g. vandalism and thus make the residents feel more secure.

TrygFonden works to make Denmark a safer place to be. Their mission is to inspire everyone in Denmark to take responsibility for their own safety as well as that of others.

TrygFonden is part of TryghedsGruppen, a company whose purpose is to generate greater safety through investments, including investments in non-profit activities.

1979

The negotiation group of Christiansia recognises that the free town community is being destroyed because of drug dealing and other crimes.

1980

Statistics Denmark predicts that vandalism and bike thefts will make the reported number of criminal code violations come to 375,000 in 1980 which is a record.

In December, the number of unemployed in Denmark reaches a record-breaking 240,000.

1983

The young Danes start drinking earlier and earlier. 80 % of 14-18-year-old criminals have had a drink before the criminal act.



1978

The Danish Parliament decides to abolish the death penalty in the military penal code with 100 votes against 46. The final abolition of the death penalty in connection with war crimes, treason, and subversive activities did not happen until 1994.

The Danish Western High Court sentences a 16-year-old bank robber to a one year cruise with the schooner Fulton.



1982

The technological development leads to the Danish act on prohibition against private CCTV, etc. This legislation still allows, however, that petrol stations, shopping centres, factory areas, etc. can be monitored.

PREVENTION EFFORTS ARE THE ANSWER TO FUTURE CRIME

THE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL IS NOW IN ITS 40TH YEAR AND MATURE AND ITS RELEVANCE AND IMPORTANCE IS GREATER THAN EVER. CRIME TODAY IS TRANSNATIONAL BOTH PHYSICALLY AND TECHNICALLY AND ONE OF THE BEST COUNTERMEASURES IS PREVENTION. AND THE DEDICATION THAT DRIVES THE IMMEDIATE, LOCAL EFFORTS.

Internet fraud, organised burglaries and gang crime is high on the list of frequent types of crime in Denmark today – and tomorrow. The borders between countries and people behind their computer screens have become blurred and this presents new challenges. But common to them all is that if you want to eliminate them, prevention efforts are the best way to achieve this. This is explained by the Commissioner of the Copenhagen Police and member of the executive committee of the Crime Prevention Council Johan Reimann.

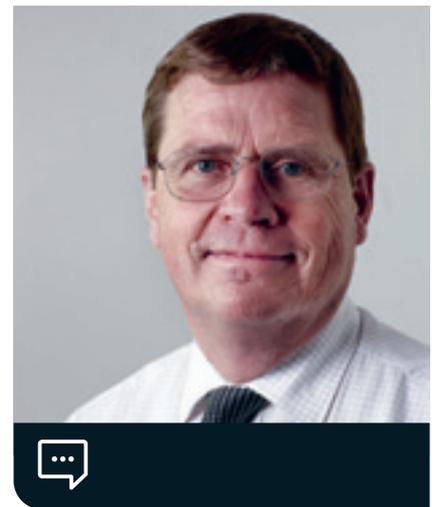
”The crime phenomena that we now see on the rise can by and large be remedied by prevention efforts. It is about for example teaching the population how to behave online and guard their credit card information or computer passwords. It can also focus on preventing recruitment in gang circles as well as creating a good exit strategy for those who want to leave that world behind. The prevention efforts are thus relevant at both ends of the scale. Both when it involves ordinary citizens and when it involves the hardened criminals.”

POSITIVE EFFECT

It is not only the police who have an obvious interest in preventing crime before they occur. Throughout the history of the Council, the insurance companies have played a central role.

The Executive Director in the trade organisation The Danish Insurance Association and vice-president of the Council Hans Reymann-Carlsen is convinced that these efforts have had a positive effect.

**JOHAN REIMANN,
COMMISSIONER OF THE COPENHAGEN POLICE
AND MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL.**



”The Council has entered into an extensive cooperation with TrygFonden which makes many new things possible. TrygFonden is a very professional private player that wants to benefit the positive development we see in the Council. Partnerships between public players like the Council and private players like TrygFonden will generally become more common and this opens up for interesting possibilities.”



1985
The Council establishes a committee to investigate whether violent films affect children and young people.
The Council launched Operation Photo where the population is encouraged to save photographs of their valuables.



1989
The Council introduces Project Neighbourhood Watch.
The Council and the Danish Society of Engineers publish a 50 page publication directed at architects, housing associations and others dealing with layout of housing areas. The report contains recommendations about how to reduce violence and vandalism.



1988
The Weapons Act is tightened prohibiting carrying a knife in public places unless it is to be used in connection with e.g. fishing or work. Now, a police permit is required for owning a slingshot, throwing star, crossbow, or butterfly knife.

1990
The number of first time offenders has decreased significantly. A study among the 14-15-year-olds shows that 25 % have never committed a crime and the offences that have taken place are often insignificant. In a similar study from 1979, only 5% said that they had never committed a crime. The crime rate is also down among the 15-18-year-olds.



HANS REYMANN-CARLSEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN THE TRADE ORGANISATION THE DANISH INSURANCE ASSOCIATION AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

”Denmark is a safe place to live. Here, you don’t have to be in fear of walking the streets at night, and that is actually an important message to get across. Partly for the individual to have a realistic view of the society they live in; partly for us not to make the wrong political decisions based on a wrongful assumption about the scale of crime in this country.”



”In general, our industry is very interested in being part of creating a safer society. Over the years, we have played a significant role and we will do so in years to come. It makes sense for us at many levels and we are now convinced that we can be part of making a difference,” explains Hans Reymann-Carlson.

STRONG NETWORK

Another very central part of the Council is the national cooperation called the SSP cooperation organised under the SSP Council. The Crime Prevention Council assisted at the birth of the first formalised cooperation between schools, social services and the police in 1975, and the

SSP cooperation has over time begun to play a greater role and is now rolled out to all municipalities. Today, SSP has a strong network nationwide with exchange of experiences from immediate everyday occurrences, says the president of the SSP Council and member of the Crime Prevention Council’s executive committee Jørgen Pedersen.

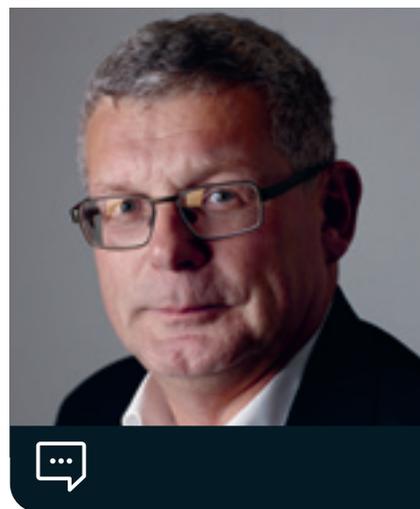
”We try out a lot of different things and the things that work we pass on to each other. It is vital to have good interaction between both research and knowledge bases which the Council is part of ensuring. We make local experiences into national practice.”

SSP is a local cooperation between Schools, Social Services and the Police with the aim of preventing crime among children and young people. SSP cooperations have been established in all municipalities in Denmark. The SSP council is a confederation of member municipalities. One of the primary tasks of the SSP Council is to keep members up to date with the developments within the fields of activity.



JØRGEN PEDERSEN, PRESIDENT OF THE SSP COUNCIL AND MEMBER OF THE CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL’S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

”Jokingly, you could say that we get a thankless task because when we do our job well, there is no crime. But when it does not go well, and a lot of things happen, we get all the blame. Prevention efforts are like cleaning your house. If you do not get into every nook and cranny, it may take a good while, but all of the sudden there are dust bunnies all over.”



Blekingegade

1989

The police finds the hideout flat of the Blekinge Street Gang in Copenhagen where the gang has a large storage of weapons. The members of the gang are convicted for several counts of aggravated robbery throughout the 1980s culminating with the robbery against the post office in Købmagergade in 1988 where a police officer is killed.

1991

The Council criticises the use of youth contracts where young people with several criminal offences in their past can get a clean certificate of criminal record if they get a job or go back to school. On the other hand, first time offenders are worse off as it will go on their record if they e.g. steal a bike.



1990

The Council declares that the objective for the coming year is to continue developing the SSP efforts, greater efforts toward the young facing a sentence and more crime prevention environmental planning.

1992

The number of women committing offences against property, e.g. shoplifting or welfare fraud, has increased significantly in the last 10-20 years.





WWW.DKR.DK

IN 2011, A NEW COUNCIL WEBSITE – WWW.DKR.DK – WAS REVEALED. THE WEBSITE NOW HAS A MORE MODERN EXPRESSION AND MORE USER-ORIENTED INFORMATION.

The website is now divided in two sections – one for the general population and one for professionals in the local cooperation efforts. It makes it easier for both groups to find the information that they need.

The website is much better equipped to pass along Council knowledge to the two central target groups and thereby equip citizens to prevent crime and inspire local crime prevention efforts with new knowl-

edge and suggestions regarding prevention methods. Professionals can e.g. find background knowledge, statistics, methods, and links to studies and projects within the various effort areas.



1993
Violence among the young has grown worse. Two stabbings at an interval of only a few weeks highlights the problem even more, especially the influence of the hip hop culture.



1995
Minister of Justice presents an action plan intended to create alternatives to prison sentences, better prevention while serving a sentence and assistance for inmates about to leave prison. The goal is for fewer people to relapse into crime and drug addiction.

1994
The first attempts with conflict councils where the victim and the offender meet with a neutral mediator is introduced in selected police districts.

The Danish Parliament increases the maximum penalty for repeated counts of violence.



1996
Professor DCL Eva Smith becomes the new president of the Council.

On March 3rd the biker wars begin with the killing of the Bandidos biker Uffe Larsen at the Copenhagen Airport. In the period up until fall of 1997, 11 gang members are killed.

RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE

In 2012, the Council held a school competition for the third time under the heading "relationship violence". This time the competition was directed at the 10th grade and youth education and the theme was psychological relationship violence. It is the invisible violence when e.g. demeaning, controlling, or humiliating your partner.

The purpose of the competition is to get young people working with taboo issues at school and that way be part of breaking the silence.

Many schools accepted the challenge and more than 160 contributions were submitted. There were three categories for which the students could submit contributions, i.e. texts, film, and art.

The competition was a cooperation with the NGO for Children Exposed to Domestic Violence and the Ministry for Gender Equality.



SECURE CHAT (SIKKERCHAT.DK)

For more than ten years the Council has focused on the behaviour of children online and the website sikkerchat.dk (Secure Chat) has been the focal point in counseling of children, professionals, and parents. In 2011, the website was re-launched with new information and material so the problem area regarding mobile media is now also covered. SecureChat is a cooperation between the Council and Save the Children.

The new material at sikkerchat.dk is a helping hand to teachers and educators who see digital bullying as a problem and who would like some basic knowledge in this area and tools to use when working with children and young people.

The following can among other things be found at sikkerchat.dk:

- Short films
- Themes on digital bullying, conflicts online, language use, online infatuation, identity, etc.
- Cases and interviews with children and adults
- Proposals for shared class rules
- Dilemmas for discussions at parents' meetings
- Legislation

With this new material, the Council and Save the Children wants to inspire more municipalities to be part of efforts against digital bullying making teaching about secure digital behaviour a permanent part of schooling.

In 2012, the website will be extended with new material for parents.



1998

Minister of Justice explains in the Danish Parliament why the waiting times within the legal system are too long. This is e.g. due to an increased occurrence of financial crime which takes longer to investigate.

The Danish Aliens Act is tightened regarding deportation of criminal aliens.



2000

The Danish Parliament pass a resolution to extend the programme regarding community service so that shorter prison sentences, e.g. for driving under the influence, can be replaced by community service. So far, the programme has been directed at offences against property especially as well as e.g. violence, vandalism, arson, drug-related crime and robbery.

1999

The mayor of Brøndby suggests that a 15 storey block of flats with 1,000 residents be fenced in because of problems with crime in the local area. The housing association dismisses the plan.

Even though the crime rate is decreasing, the Danes report a greater number of violations that they are subjected to, documented by the at the time the most comprehensive study in this area.

1999

More and more employers require a certificate of criminal record from job applicants. The unions criticise the development as they believe that it prevents people who have served their sentence to get back to the labour market.

The Council launches its first website.

EVERYBODY NEEDS TO PULL TOGETHER

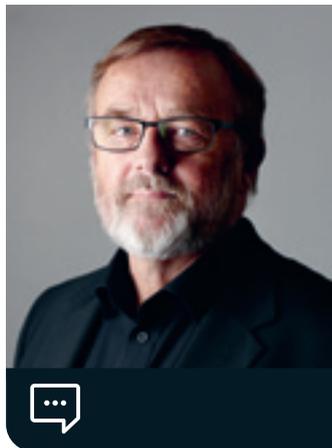
ALL PARTS OF CRIME PREVENTION EFFORTS ARE DRIVEN BY GREAT COMMITMENT. RIGHT FROM THE SMALLEST MUNICIPALITY OF LÆSØ TO THE BIGGEST OF COPENHAGEN. BUT THE DIFFERENCES IN SIZE OF THE MUNICIPALITIES PRESENT THE COUNCIL WITH A NUMBER OF CHALLENGES WHERE IT IS NECESSARY TO TAKE DIFFERENT ISSUES INTO CONSIDERATION.

Frode Sørensen, the previous minister of taxation, town councillor in Sønderborg and member of the executive committee of the Crime Prevention Council, says: "If we in Denmark did not have a crime prevention council, things would be much more messy in the various cities. You would have to use many more efforts in the individual municipalities to uncover what to do every time you were facing a challenge. Today, the Crime Prevention Council has recommendations on and guidelines for prevention efforts within more or less all types of crime. It saves the local authorities a lot of work."

Frode Sørensen believes that the relevance of the Council is increasing and that it can be attributed a lot of the credit for the fact that crime has not increased despite explosive technological changes.

"Today, we see types of crime that we did not know 20, 30, 40 years ago and here prevention efforts are very important. Also from ordinary citizens. It is important that

we look out for one another e.g. by means of neighbourhood watch programmes. It is important to we have our eyes and ears open and help the police."



FRODE SØRENSEN FORMER MINISTER FOR TAXATION, CITY COUNCILLOR IN SØNDERBORG AND MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL FOR CRIME PREVENTION.

"Today the DKR Danish Crime prevention council has recommendations and guidance for preventative work within practically all forms of criminality. It saves the municipalities a great deal of time and effort."

2000

Problems in the suburb of Vollsmose makes the city of Odense set the following goal: In the course of a decade, the area will be transformed to a well-functioning housing, business and recreational area.

92 % of all Danish municipalities have SSP committees.



2001

The juvenile sanction come into force as an alternative to unsuspended prison sentences for young people ages 15 to 17. The sanction is a two-year period with socio-educational efforts.

Leading up to March 25th, Denmark becomes part of the Schengen area with the other Nordic countries.

2002

The Terrorism package 1 to improve investigation options of the police is adopted. This means, among other things, increased registration of telephone and Internet communication. Eva Smith calls it an unheard of intrusion into the privacy of the Danes as the telephone companies have to register information about people who are not suspected of anything.



2002

72 % of the people between ages 15 to 18 who are remanded into custody in Copenhagen come from an immigrant background.

The Council wins a campaign at a market value of about DKK 10 million. The message of the campaign is that the elderly should not be afraid to go out.



Modelfoto



2001
On September 11th, terrorists attack the World Trade Centre in New York and Pentagon in Washington D.C.
A study shows that Denmark is the country in the world where the populations is the least exposed to serious crime.

2005
The Ringsted experiment ends. The results of the study concerning young people's use of tobacco, consumption of alcohol, smoking hash, etc., becomes the starting point for efforts regarding risk behaviour among children and handling of social exaggerations.



2007
The Police reform comes into force. District and local councils are created.
The government establishes a youth commission where the Council is represented by president Eva Smith.

2007
The Council gets a new committee structure where five committees become the current four and vision, mission and strategy statements are formulated.





THE CRIME PREVENTION DAY

THE CRIME PREVENTION DAY BRINGS TOGETHER EXPERTS AND PROFESSIONALS FROM THE MUNICIPALITIES AND THE GOVERNMENT, THE PUBLIC AND THE PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS, AUTHORITIES AND NGOS, FOR DIALOGUE AND PROFESSIONAL INPUT. THE FIRST CRIME PREVENTION DAY TOOK PLACE IN 2011, AND THE DAY WAS THE FIRST VISIBLE RESULT OF THE COOPERATION WITH TRYGFONDEN. THE COOPERATION HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE TO MAKE THE DAY INTO AN ANNUAL EVENT – SO FAR FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

The Crime Prevention Day is a good mix of professional presentations, workshops, and exhibition stands where the participants can get inspiration and ideas for crime prevention efforts. 500 people participated in 2011 at the event in Esbjerg Performing Arts Centre, and 35 exhibition stands introduced interesting projects under the heading of juvenile crime.

In 2012, the day will have a more international character as Denmark has the presidency of EUCPN, the European Crime Prevention Network. At the event, which takes place at Brøndby Stadium, about 700 participants are expected from home and

abroad. The focus is on local crime prevention cooperation.

The Crime Prevention Day is the obvious occasion to form and strengthen networks across professional groups and boost the general knowledge level of the entire field. The theme is a starting point to disseminate knowledge about specific prevention methods so that they are disseminated and put into play locally.

SAID BY PARTICIPANTS IN 2011

- Good initiative. I'm happy about my decision to participate.
- A very good day in all regards.
- A good day where you meet colleagues and share knowledge and individual status reports.



2006

The Terrorism package II is adopted with increased cooperation between PET, the Danish Security and Intelligence Service, and FE, the Danish Defence Intelligence Service, as a consequence.



2009

In the debate about the age of criminal responsibility, the youth commission advises against lowering the age of criminal responsibility. The commission recommends e.g. focus on truancy and mentor programmes.

The police concludes in the beginning of the year that the gang war between bikers and people of immigrant background in the course of six months has resulted in 40 shootings with three killings.



2008

The Danish Parliament adopts the so-called knife act after the killing of a 19-year-old man at Strøget in Copenhagen.

The Council launches a campaign against knife violence with Knivfri.dk (no knives) which, among other things, results in the creation of a Facebook group against knives.

2008

All Danish municipalities have SSP efforts. At a national level, there are 2,820 municipal SSP employees. This corresponds to an average of 29 SSP employees in each municipality.

2010

The age of criminal responsibility, which since 1905 has been 15 years, is lowered to 14 years.

The conflict council programme becomes national and permanent by law.



2011

A study from the Danish Centre for Urban Rege-neration and Community De-velopment shows a decrease in the crime rate in 13 of the most crime-ridden hou-sing areas in Denmark.

A study from the Council, the Ministry of Justice and the National Police shows that only 29% of the Danes are very worried about violence and crime. This is the lowest level ever recorded.

TrygFonden

2011 - 2016

The Council and TrygFonden agree on a strategy and action plan focusing especially on three types of crime: Burglary and home invasion, violence and vandalism in the public domain and sexual assaults.



2010

There are 10% less convictions of young men com-pared to 2000. In the same period, the conviction of young women has increased by 4%. However, it is still men who receive four out of five convictions.

2010

The number of 14-15-year-olds who have never committed a crime reaches a record-breaking 48%. In 1989, the number was 25%.

Youth councils are established in the police districts. Here the authorities cooperate regarding coordination of their efforts regarding sanctions of young criminals.





MORE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CRIME PREVENTION EFFORTS

EVERY YEAR, THE COUNCIL PUBLISHES NEW STUDIES AND ANALYSES THAT CAN PROVIDE PROFESSIONALS WITH IMPORTANT KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE STATUS OF CRIME AND PREVENTION OPTIONS.

In 2011, our main focus was on studies shedding light on more severe types of crime. In four new reports, we got a bet-

ter understanding of knife violence, home invasions, injuries after violence as well as municipal efforts in relation to gang crime.

KNIFE VIOLENCE

The study about stabbings in Denmark – behind the statistics (“Knivsager i Danmark – bag om statistikken”) shows who the victims and the perpetrators are and where the incidents take place. The study is based on 174 cases reported over a period of 15 months in the four police districts of the major Danish cities.

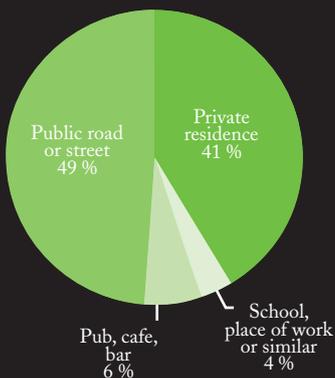
THE RESULTS

The analysis disproves the assumption that most knife attacks happen in the nightlife between people who do not know each other. Actually, the results show that 40 % of all stabbings happen at home. It is typically arguments and conflicts between family members that end with one of the parties randomly taking up a knife and using it. A characteristic of domestic stabbings is that the knife just happens to be there and that the perpetrator initially did not intend to stab others.

The new knowledge means that it is not enough to focus on the nightlife if you want to prevent stabbings.

OTHER RESULTS OF THE STUDY

- The perpetrator and the victim know each other in 2 out of 3 stabbings
- In 81 % of all stabbings, either the perpetrator or the victim is under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- 12 % of stabbings result in life-threatening injuries
- 13 % of all perpetrators are women
- Young people aged 15-29 are typically involved in a stabbing with a friend or acquaintance
- People over the age of 40 are most frequently involved in a stabbing with a partner or family member



This is where knife attacks take place.

STATISTICS FROM CASUALTY WARDS

In 2011, the Council published casualty ward registrations of how many patients came because of violence. The figures were collected by the National Institute of Public Health.

The information from the casualty wards are generally believed to be a more reliable source to describe the extent of violence in society than e.g. police report figures. This is due to the fact that casualty ward figures are not affected by changes in the inclination to report a crime and partly because of the fact that the violence is identified because of an injury that requires treatment instead of the assumption of a criminal event. The figures from the casualty wards are thus part of completing the figures for violent events.

THE RESULTS

The report shows that the number of registered patients in casualty wards as a consequence of violence are down by 13 % since 2007. Today, the annual number people seeking treatment is approximately 19,000.

You can also see that young women more often go to casualty wards because of violence today compared to 15 years ago and that men more often than women come to casualty wards as a consequence of violence. At the same time, men primarily fall victim of violence on the street whereas women are more exposed to domestic violence.

Under the cooperation between the Council and the National Institute of Public Health, the figures will be updated every six months. The figures are a good addition to the other statistics that can give a general idea of developments and trends in violence.

REPORT ON PREVENTION OF GANGS

The Council has looked at local experiences with regard to preventing gang crime among the young. The report concerning efforts to prevent gang recruitment ("Indsatsler mod rekruttering til bander") states that many good initiatives have been launched but that some places lack an overall strategy and coordination of efforts. The gang report is based on 37 interviews with key members of staff in 27 municipalities.

The report includes a number of informative examples of municipal efforts together with a number of recommendations from the Council about how to qualify the efforts. The many good efforts against gang crime deserve to be disseminated to all municipalities. However, the study also shows a need for strengthened coordination of efforts if you are to stem the flow of gang recruits.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REPORT

1. Each local council should decide whether it would be appropriate to have a gang council in the municipality or whether the current and future tasks of the gang council is better handled by e.g. the local council, the SSP committee or the like.
2. An undetermined shared understanding of what a gang is makes it difficult to

target efforts. Thus, the recommendation is to create a shared understanding of how you locally define the term gang.

3. A systemic approach to crime prevention efforts is needed so that the focus is not solely on socio-educational measures. City planning, inclusion of parents, prevention of addiction, etc. should be included. A model that can inspire efforts at all levels is included in the report on gangs.

4. It is important to have a thorough collection of knowledge locally to uncover the extent and character of the problem before efforts are launched. The local council can base their efforts on different types of knowledge, e.g. police statistics and knowledge and experiences of professionals.

In 2012 the Council will among other things launch three studies

- increase in violence committed by women
- the attachment to school among juvenile delinquents
- Criminal youth groups



HOME INVASIONS

Researchers at the University of Copenhagen have examined the effect of home invasions on inhabitants of small urban communities. They spoke with people in the cities of Gørlev, Ganløse, and Herfølge where a home invasion has occurred in the town or the vicinity.

The study shows that the inhabitants in general feel well-connected to their community. Most feel safe but the home invasions have still caused the inhabitants to do more to safeguard themselves – both technically and behaviourally.

There is still a connection between the knowledge of a home invasion occurring

and worry about falling victim to one. But the study also indicates that it is more the phenomenon of home invasions and mention in the media that create worry more than the home invasions in the local area themselves.

The study shows that neighbourliness is worth its weight in gold. It makes the local communities stronger in the face of crime and – just as important – creates a frame within which the inhabitants can feel secure and at home.

The study is supported by the Council and the Danish Ministry of Justice.

HOME INVASIONS HAPPEN VERY RARELY. IN 2009, A TOTAL OF 359 WERE REPORTED. THIS CORRESPONDS TO A RISK FOR A DANISH HOUSEHOLD OF 0.014 %.





DANISH CRIME
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