

Crime and Place

Why and how Police should look
at **places rather than people**

FBINAA Seminar Warsaw Sept. 10, 2013

Professor Dr. Thomas Feltes M.A.

Department of Criminology, Criminal Police and Police Science
Faculty of Law, Ruhr-Universität Bochum (RUB), Germany

www.rub.de/kriminologie

www.makrim.de

www.macrimgov.eu


thomas.feltes@rub.de

Introduction



- Crime fighting and prevention (soft policing) focus at people
- Why?
- What is the problem with the „*usual suspects*“?

It is time...


Shifting crime and justice resources
from prisons to police 

Shifting police from people to places

David Weisburd

Hebrew University
George Mason University

© 2011 American Society of Criminology 153
Criminology & Public Policy • Volume 10 • Issue 1



Sherman, L.W. (1995): „Hot spots of
crime and criminal careers of places“
available at:
http://www.popcenter.org/Library/CrimePrevention/Volume_04/02-Sherman.pdf
**Weisburd/Groff/Yang: The Criminology of
Place. Street Segments and Our
Understanding of the Crime Problem.**
Oxford 2013

“We need to shift the focus of policing from people to places. Police practices today continue to be focused primarily on individuals. They usually begin with "people" who call the police. They are focused on identifying offenders who commit crimes. They "end" with the arrests of those offenders and their processing through the criminal justice system. (...).”

Police know who their clients are ...

- ... and where they are coming from...
- We should use these informations!
- But for what purposes?

"one minute the pack are at each other's throats,
and the next minute, they're the best of friends"

Top 10 Worst places to live in England 2013

Like 4k Tweet 179 tumblr 0 points

Here we have it, the Top 10 Worst places to live in England for 2013. This list is not based on any hard statistical evidence, but the volume of comments on Chavtowns. We have applied for access for the police.uk API, so next years figures should take the volume of anti-social of behaviour in the area as well!

1. Hull

Mike says: "I was born and bred in Hull and can honestly say you're bang on with your description. What a f**king dump this place is"

2. Middlesbrough

Jimi says: "I have lived on the outskirts of Boro for 29 years and would never dream of living within Boro itself, it really is a s**thole"

3. Bradford

Faggy says: "I have had the misfortune of living in the Bradford area for most of my life and can honestly say anyone disagreeing with this has either never been there, is delusional, or is a smacked up chav"

4. Croydon

Anonymous says: "Croydon and many parts of the UK are descending into s**t with this underclass of backward sheep filth that are the chavs – and this is the future of the country – we are f**ked"

5. Hackney

Anonymous says: "I'm staying with a friend who lives in Hackney (near Hackney Ctrl Tube Station)... is it really the worst place in the UK"

6. Gravesend <-- Click link for a list of Gravesend articles!

bigupboi says: "Gravesend is populated by the most grotesque, loathsome, vile and vulgar sub-human vermin that one could ever have the misfortune to come across. The vast majority of its inhabitants (chavs and pikies) are foul, hateful, and degraded beings who, in evolutionary terms, have not evolved much from the amoeba"



Theory of Social Desorganization

- Chicago-School 1920ies (Clifford R. Shaw, Henry McKay u.a.)
- Robert E. Park und Ernest W. Burgess: concentric zones
- Social desorganization theory: **People move, crime stays**
- Robert E. Park "The City" (1925)

The Concentric Zone Model:

1. Central Business District

2. Transitional Zone

***Recent Immigrant Groups*

—Deteriorated Housing

—Factories

—Abandoned Buildings

3. Working Class Zone

—Single Family Tenements

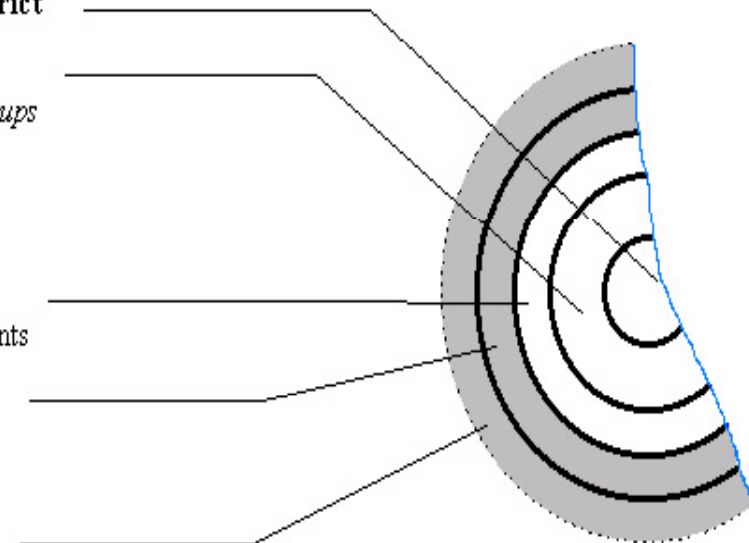
4. Residential Zone

—Single Family Homes

—Yards/Garages

5. Commuter Zone

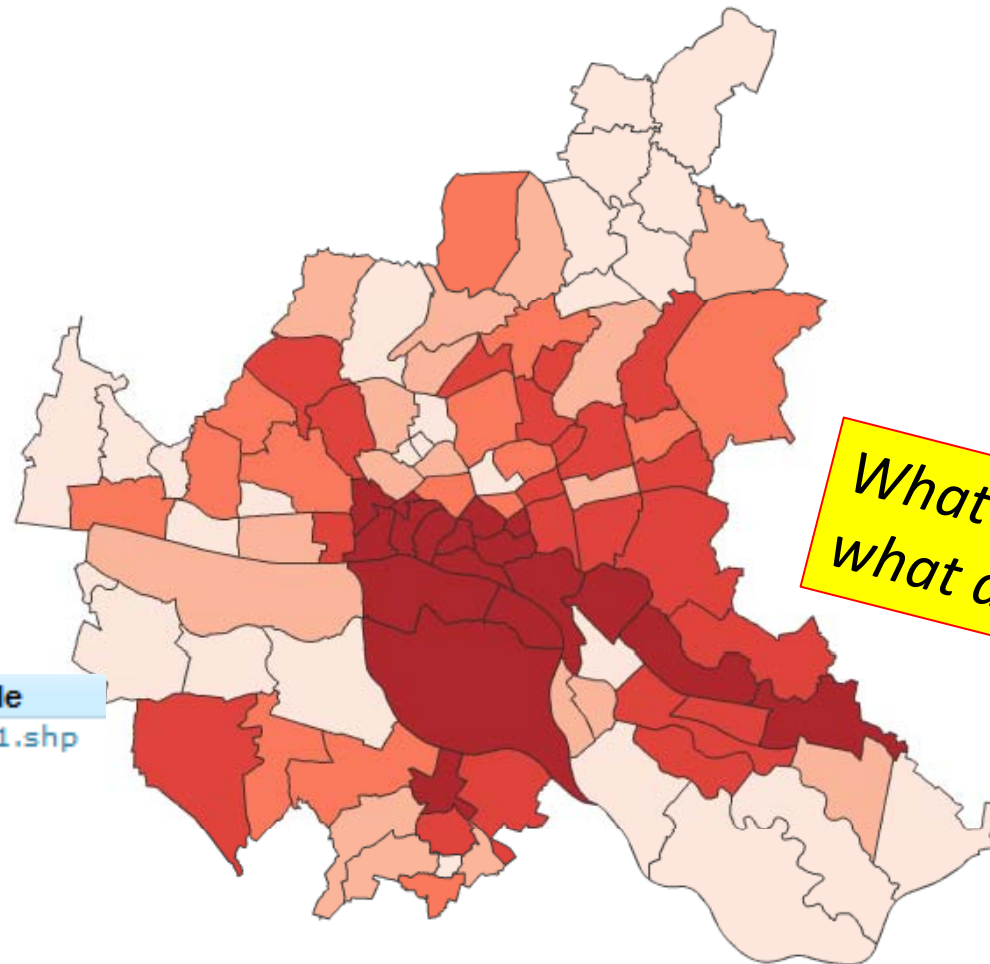
—Suburbs



„Attracting Areas“ in Hamburg

Stadtteildatenbank 2012 http://www.statistik-nord.de/fileadmin/download/Stadtteil_Profile/atlas.html

Violent Crimes per 1000 inhabitants



Legende

Stadtteile99_ab01012011.shp

0,0 - 1,0

1,1 - 2,0

2,1 - 3,0

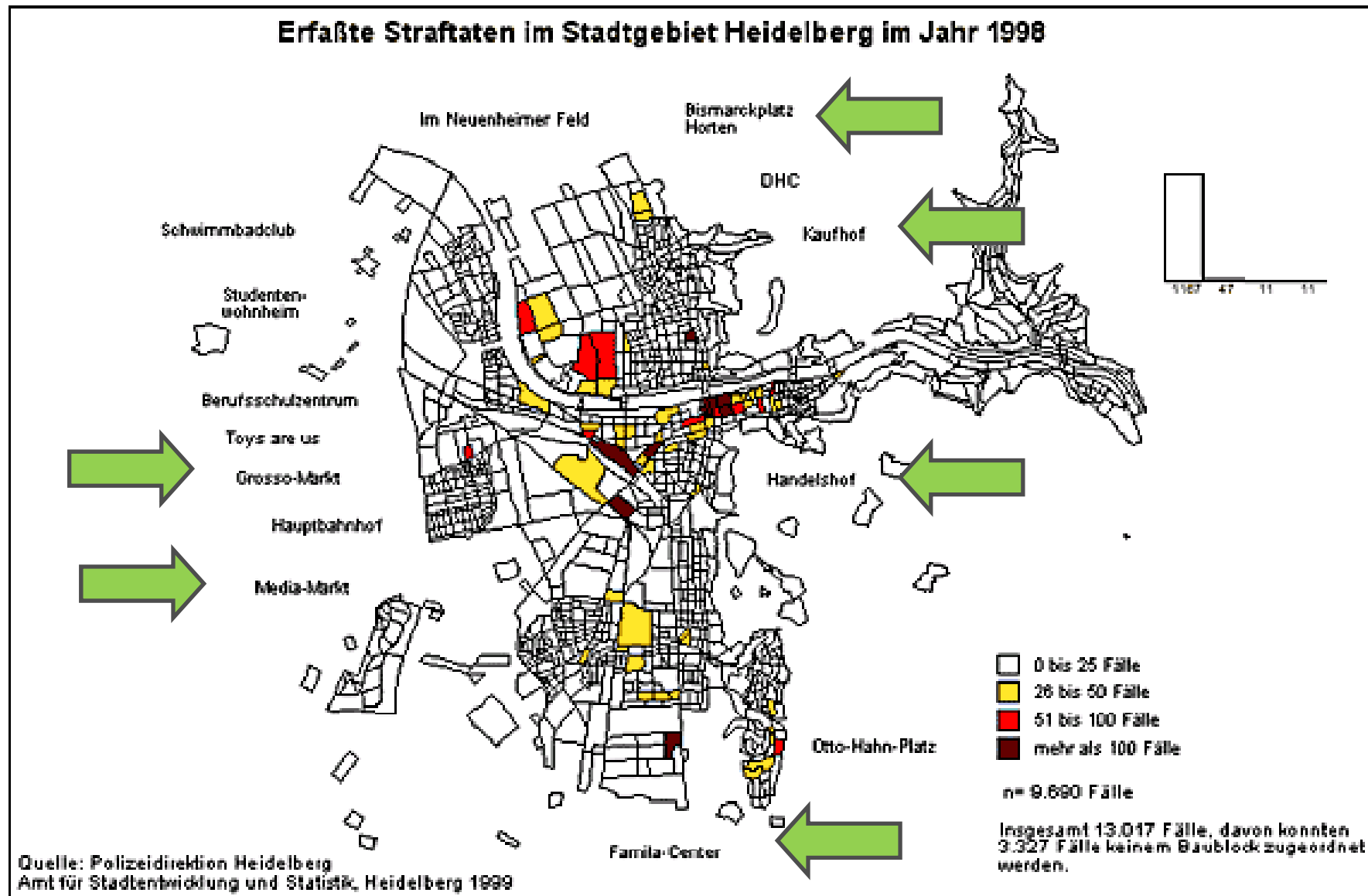
3,1 - 5,0

5,1 - 92,0

What are „attracting areas“,
what are „breeding areas“?

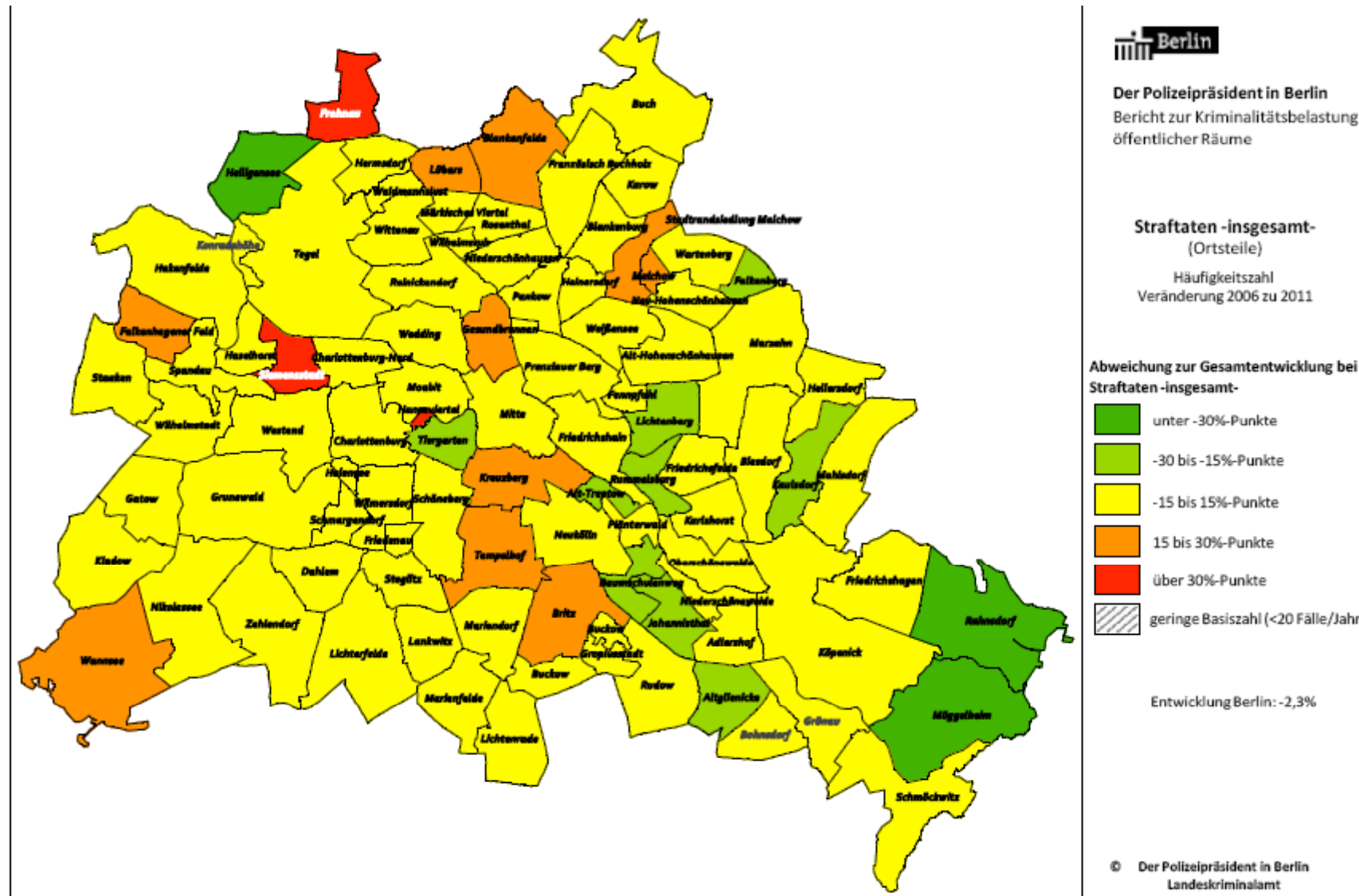
„Attracting Areas“ in Heidelberg 2001 (!)

Kriminalitätsatlas Heidelberg



Next step: Changes in Crime

Berlin 2006 – 2011

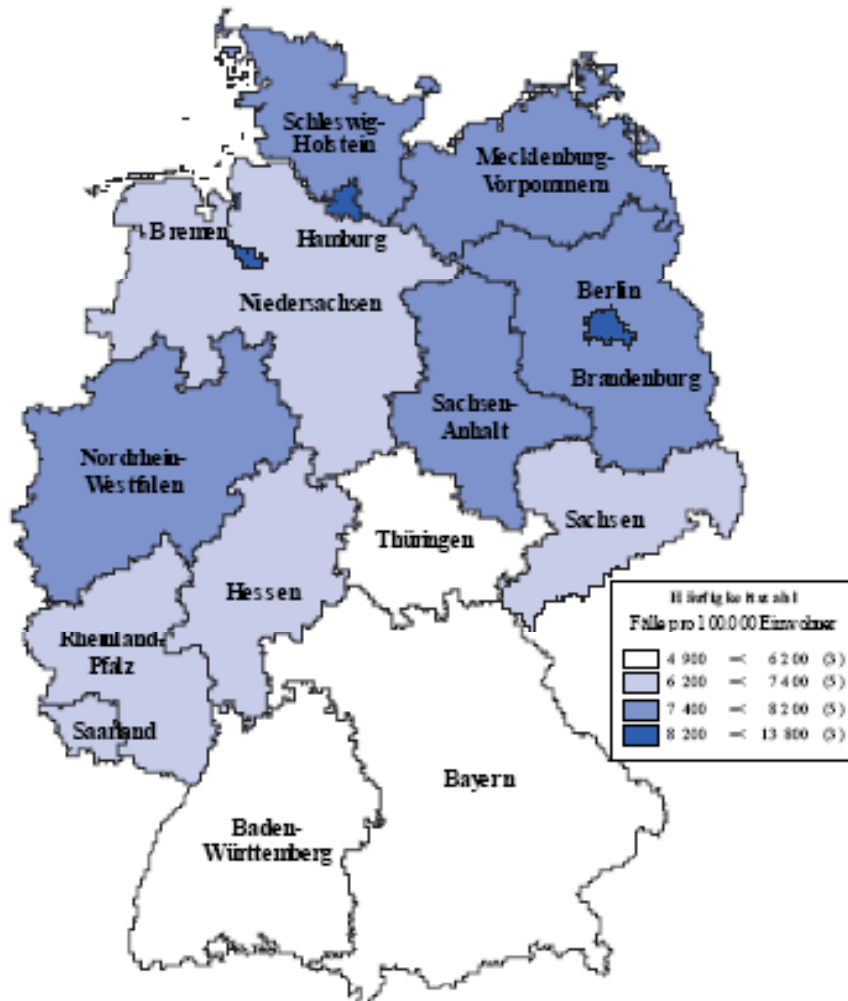


Background: Crime and Poverty

Crimes 2010

44

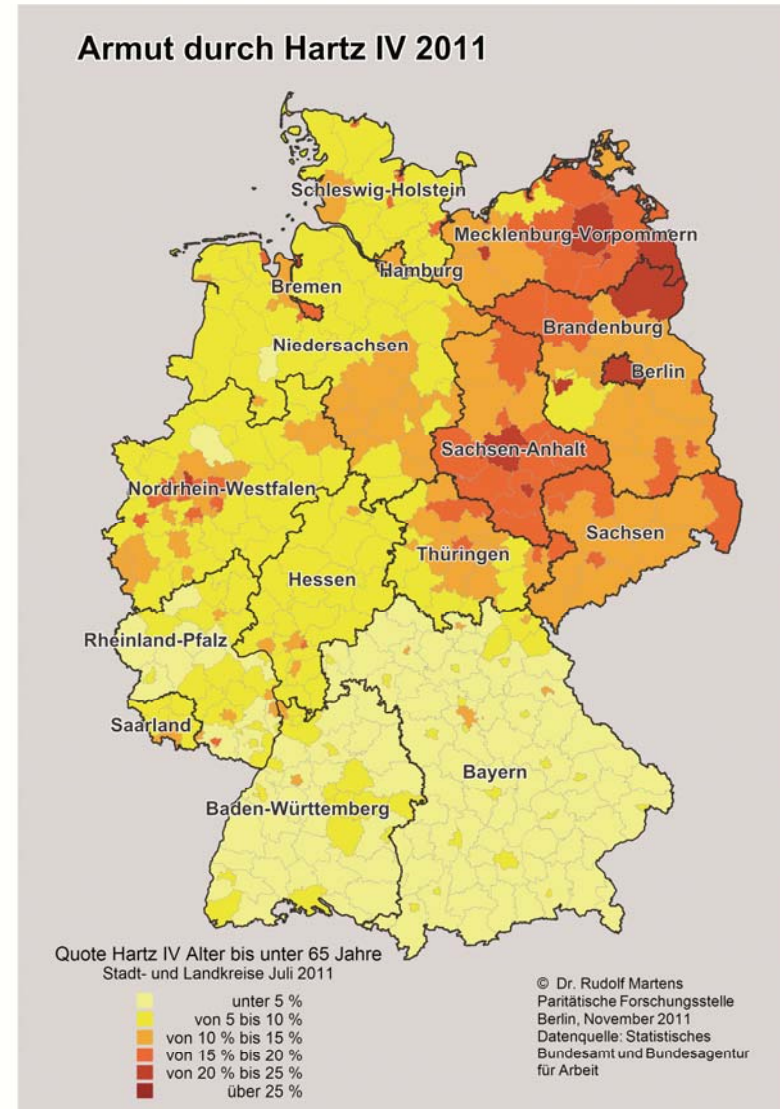
Räumliche Verteilung nach Häufigkeitszahlen



Poverty 2011

Source: Paritätischer Wohlfahrtsverband

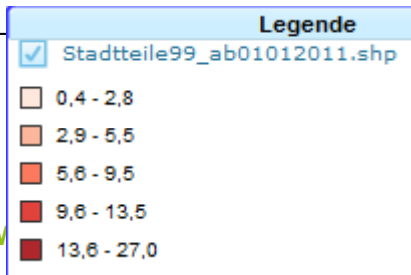
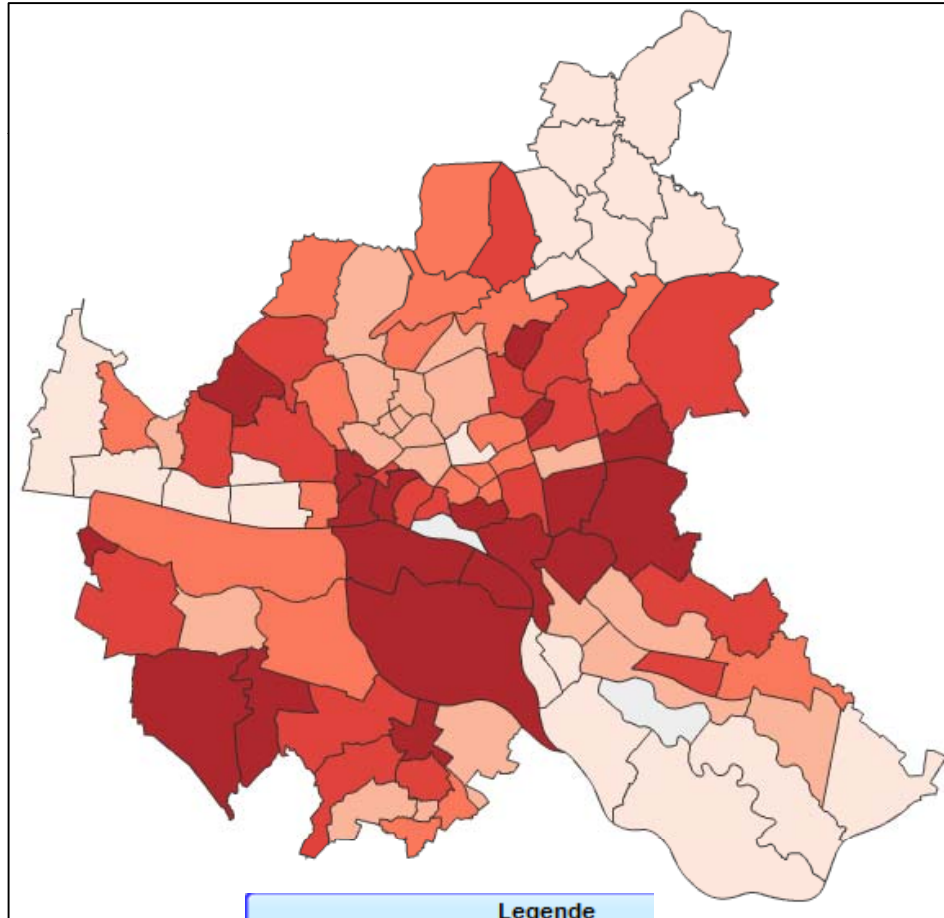
Armut durch Hartz IV 2011



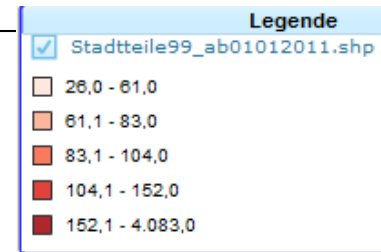
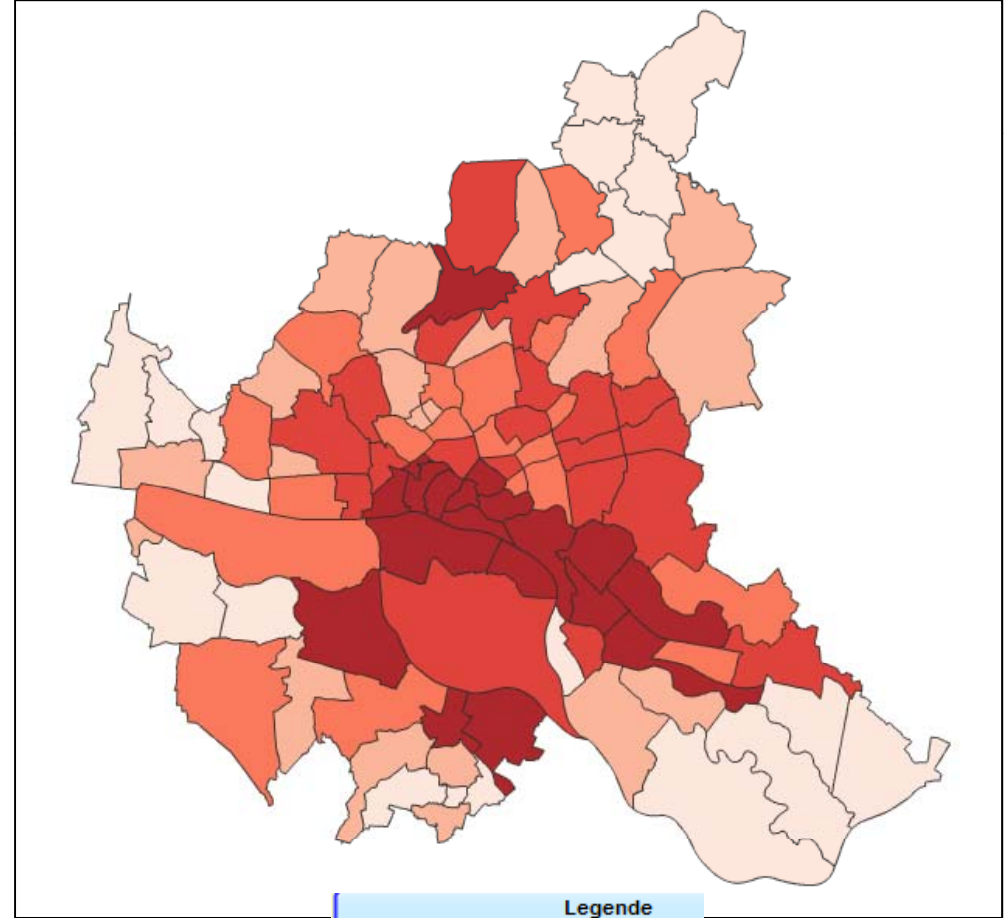
Hamburg

Stadtteildatenbank 2012 http://www.statistik-nord.de/fileadmin/download/Stadtteil_Profile/atlas.html

Social structur



Crimes



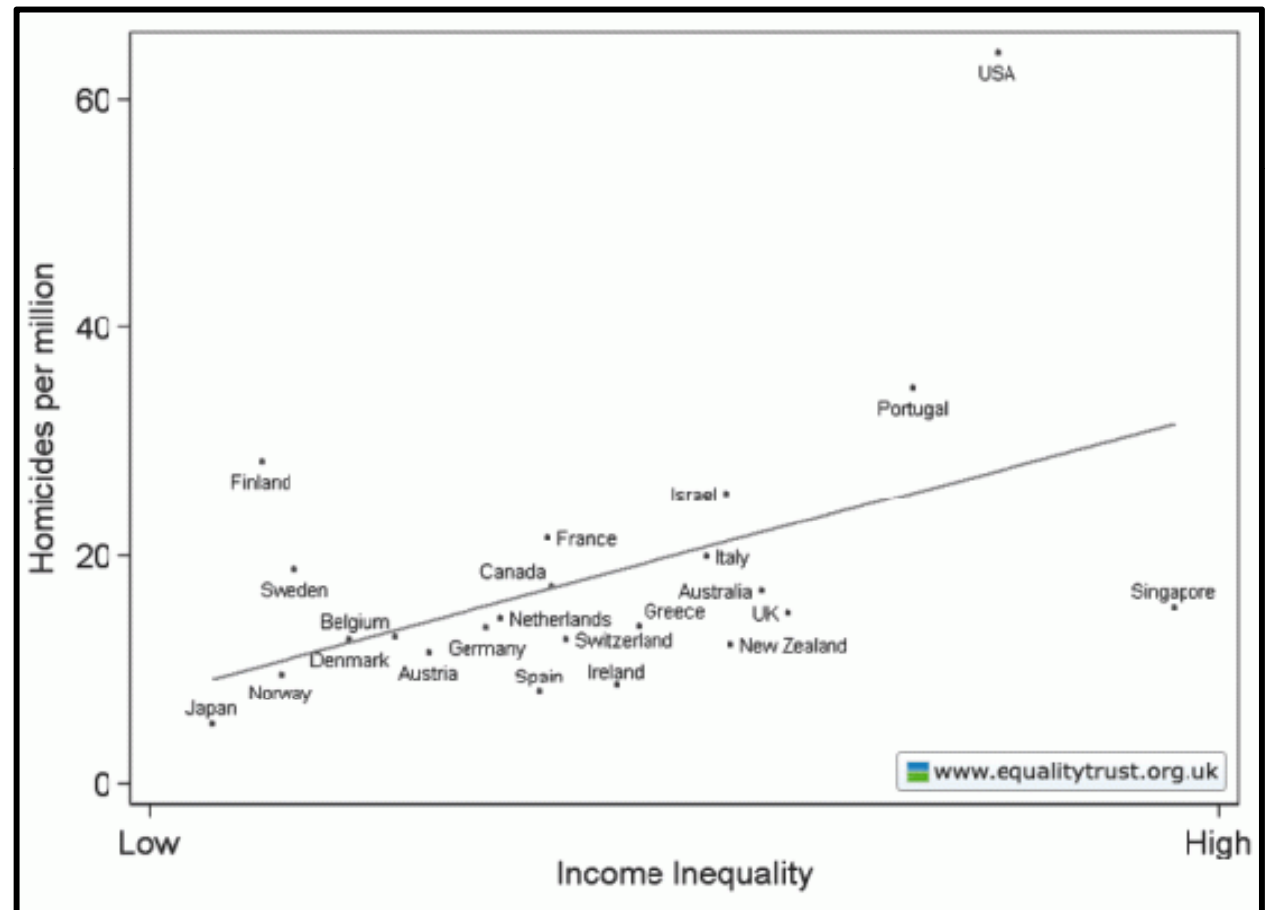
The Equality Trust

<http://www.equalitytrust.org.uk/why/evidence/violence>

Correlation between
unequal (!) income
& homicides

But also between crime &

- **violent crimes**
- **health**
- **education**
- **adiposis**
- **consumption of fast food**
- **teenage pregnancy**
- **...**



What we know



Crime is not the only problem we can „map“.

We can also map:

- Poverty
- Social discrimination
- Education
- Health

How they are related to each other?

What is the „**additional value**“ of crime mapping, combined with other information available at neighborhood-level?

Crime Mapping, Tools and Fools...

- Tools have been used for some years by police to analyze crimes and offenders geographically.
- **Crime mapping software** is used in different, and sometimes stigmatizing, ways.



Citizen Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting (ClearMap, Chicago Police Department)

<http://gis.chicagopolice.org/>

CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT
CLEARMAP
CITIZEN LAW ENFORCEMENT ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM
★★★★★
GIS.CHICAGOPOLICE.ORG

HOW DO I ... ?

CRIME INCIDENTS
CHICAGO POLICE

SEE CRIME INCIDENTS NEAR AN ADDRESS OR WITHIN A COMMUNITY?
Use **CRIME INCIDENTS** TO SEARCH FOR SPECIFIC INCIDENTS BY ADDRESS, COMMUNITY, WARD, BEAT, DISTRICT, SCHOOL & PARK.

CRIME SUMMARY
CHICAGO POLICE

COMPARE & CONTRAST CRIME COUNTS WITHIN THE CITY OF CHICAGO?
Use **CRIME SUMMARY** TO SEE CRIME SUMMARIZED BY COMMUNITY, WARD, BEAT, DISTRICT AND CENSUS TRACT.

CHICAGO REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS

VIEW CHICAGO REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS RESIDING NEAR A LOCATION?
Use **SEX OFFENDERS** TO SEARCH FOR REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS BY ADDRESS, COMMUNITY, WARD, BEAT, DISTRICT, SCHOOL & PARK. YOU CAN ALSO SEARCH BY NAME.

CHICAGO REGISTERED GUN OFFENDERS

VIEW CHICAGO REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS RESIDING NEAR A LOCATION?
Use **SEX OFFENDERS** TO SEARCH FOR REGISTERED SEX OFFENDERS BY ADDRESS, COMMUNITY, WARD, BEAT, DISTRICT, SCHOOL & PARK. YOU CAN ALSO SEARCH BY NAME.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS
CHICAGO POLICE

VIEW A SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY CONCERNS?
Use **COMMUNITY CONCERNS** TO SEE CONCERNS SUMMARIZED BY COMMUNITY, WARD, BEAT, DISTRICT AND CENSUS TRACT.

BLOCK CLUBS
CHICAGO POLICE

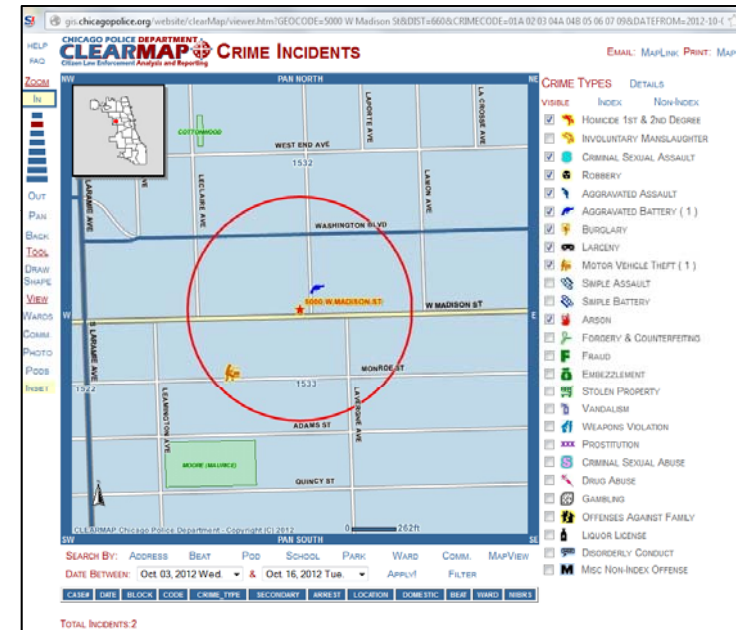
VIEW A SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY CONCERNS?
Use **COMMUNITY CONCERNS** TO SEE CONCERNS SUMMARIZED BY COMMUNITY, WARD, BEAT, DISTRICT AND CENSUS TRACT.

MAPS
DISTRICT & BEAT
Adobe .pdf (11"x17")

Entire City

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
22	24	25		

CLEARMAP System Requirements & Supported Web Browsers
Pop-up Blockers Disabled, JavaScript Enabled, Minimum Display Resolution 1024x768.
Firefox 1.5, 2.0 & 3.0, Internet Explorer 6.0 & 7.0, Netscape Communicator 8.1.
Tabbed Browsing is not recommended.

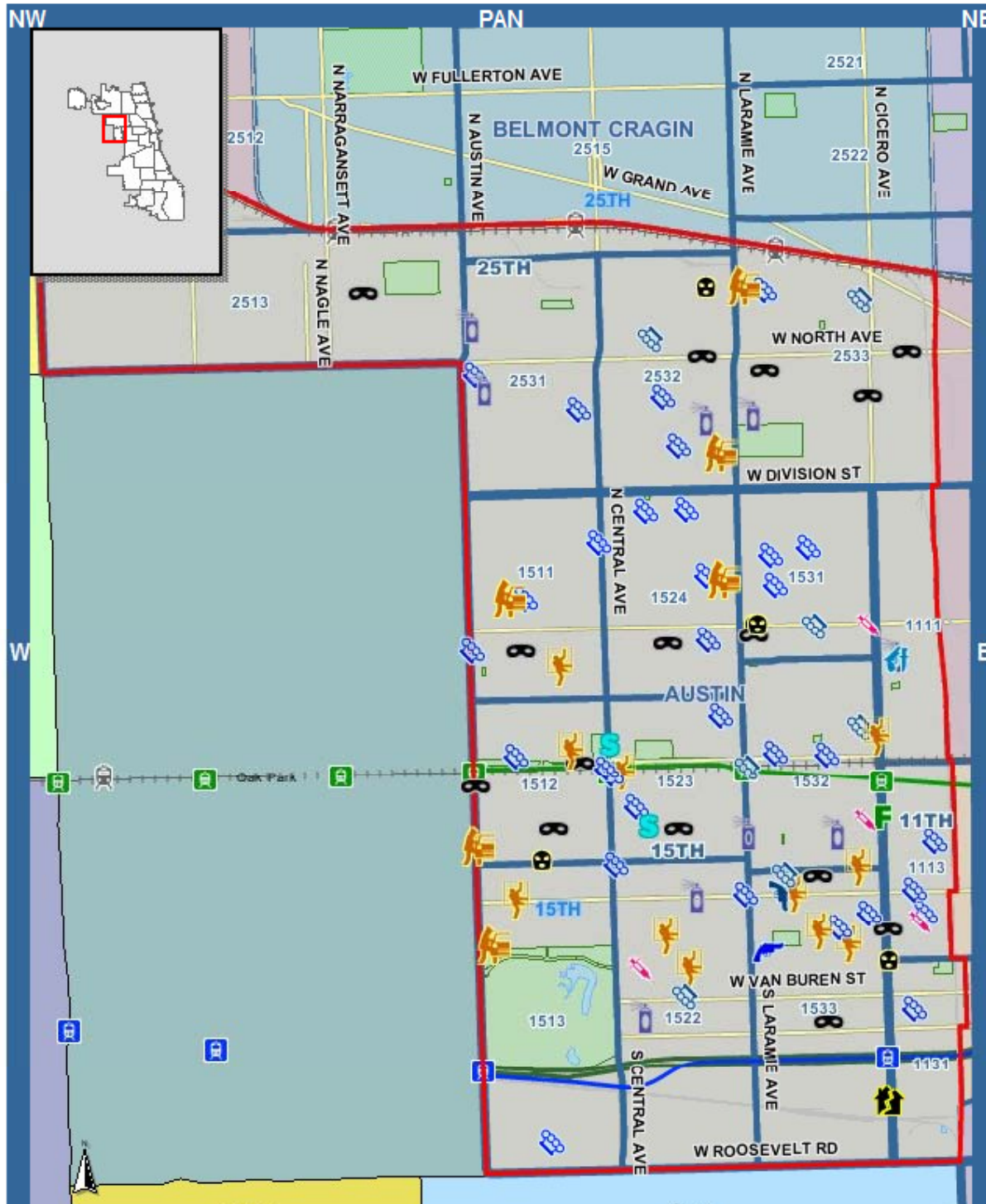


STEP 1: SUMMARIZE BY: Police Beat

STEP 2: CATEGORY: Index Crime

STEP 3: TIMEFRAME: Past 90 Days ~ 3 Months

STEP 4: CLICK: LAUNCH MAP!



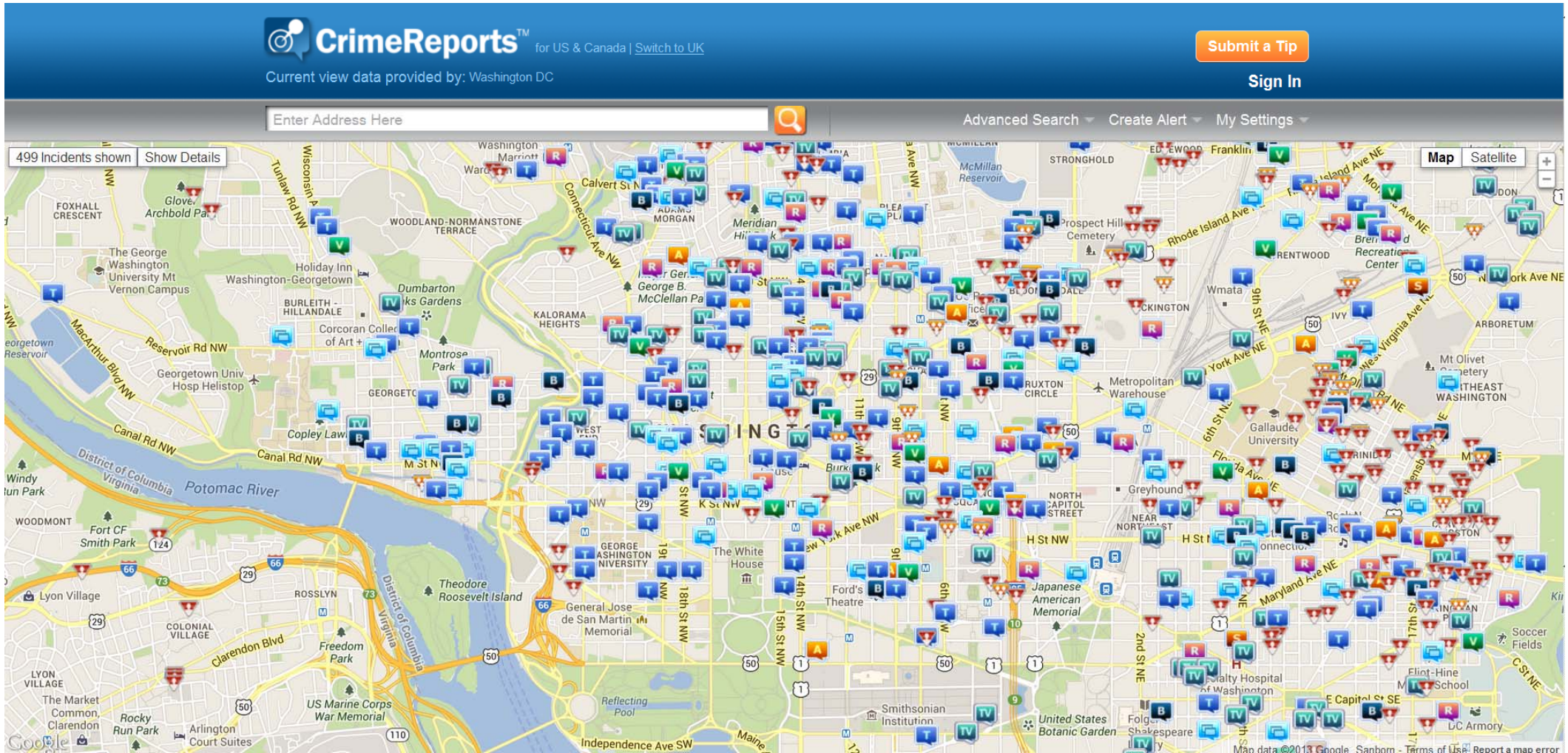
CRIME TYPES **DETAILS**

- | VISIBLE | INDEX | NON-INDEX | CRIME TYPE |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | HOMICIDE 1ST & 2ND DEGREE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | INVOLUNTARY MANSLAUGHTER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | CRIMINAL SEXUAL ASSAULT (2) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | ROBBERY (5) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | AGGRAVATED ASSAULT (1) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | AGGRAVATED BATTERY (1) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | BURGLARY (12) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | LARCENY (17) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT (6) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | SIMPLE ASSAULT (7) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | SIMPLE BATTERY (31) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | ARSON |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | FORGERY & COUNTERFEITING |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | FRAUD (2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | EMBEZZLEMENT |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | STOLEN PROPERTY |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | VANDALISM (9) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | WEAPONS VIOLATION (1) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | PROSTITUTION |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | CRIMINAL SEXUAL ABUSE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | DRUG ABUSE (5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | GAMBLING |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY (1) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | LIQUOR LICENSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | DISORDERLY CONDUCT |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | MISC NON-INDEX OFFENSE |

Crime Reports (a private Site!)

<https://www.crimereports.com/>

"... to help law enforcement agencies put crime data in the hands of those who care about it most-citizens"



Megan's Law (by State of California Department of Justice)

Search for sexual offenders <http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov/index.aspx?lang=ENGLISH>

Megan's Law is an informal name for laws in the United States requiring law enforcement authorities to make information available to the public regarding registered sex offenders, which was created in response to the murder of Megan Kanka. Commonly included information is the offender's name, picture, address, incarceration date, and nature of crime. The information is often displayed on free public websites, but can be published in newspapers, distributed in pamphlets, or through various other means.

The screenshot shows the 'California Sex Offender Locator Map' interface. On the left, a 'Search By:' dropdown menu is open, showing options: Name, Address, City, ZIP Code, County, Parks, and Schools. Below this is an 'Online Help' link. The central map displays the state of California with a topographic view. Above the map are controls for 'Drag Zoom', 'Click to Center', and 'Offender Information'. On the right, the 'Address Search' section includes a text input for 'Enter an address to search for nearby offenders.', another for 'Enter Street Address', a 'City' input, and a 'ZIP Code' input. Below these is a 'Select Distance' dropdown menu set to 'Within 1 Mile'. At the bottom of the search section are 'Search' and 'Clear Search' buttons. A vertical zoom control with 'Zoom In' and 'Zoom Out' buttons is positioned between the search section and the map.

Because maps only reflect sex registrants on whom full address information may be displayed, you are encouraged to utilize the "Name", "City", "ZIP Code", and "County" search functions for access to complete listings of sex registrants available on this Internet site.

Megan's Law (by State of California Department of Justice)

Search for sexual offenders <http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov/index.aspx?lang=ENGLISH>

California Sex Offender Locator Map

Drag Zoom
 Click to Center
 Offender Information

Address Search

Enter an address to search for nearby offenders.

Enter Street Address

City

ZIP Code

Select Distance

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL • Megan's Law
 State of California • Department of Justice

Name	Address	City	ZIP	County
ANDERSON, TONY EDWARD More Info	1268 E 107TH ST Show On Map	LOS ANGELES	90002	LOS ANGELES
SMITH, HENRY More Info	1268 E 107TH ST Show On Map	LOS ANGELES	90002	LOS ANGELES

In Violation (1-2) of

In Violation (1-2) of

Because maps only reflect sex registrants on which photos are displayed, you are encouraged to utilize the "Name" and "Address" functions for access to complete listings of sex registrants available on this Internet site.

National Sex Offender Public Registry

<http://www.nsopr.gov/>

„real-time access to public sex offender data nationwide with a single Internet search“

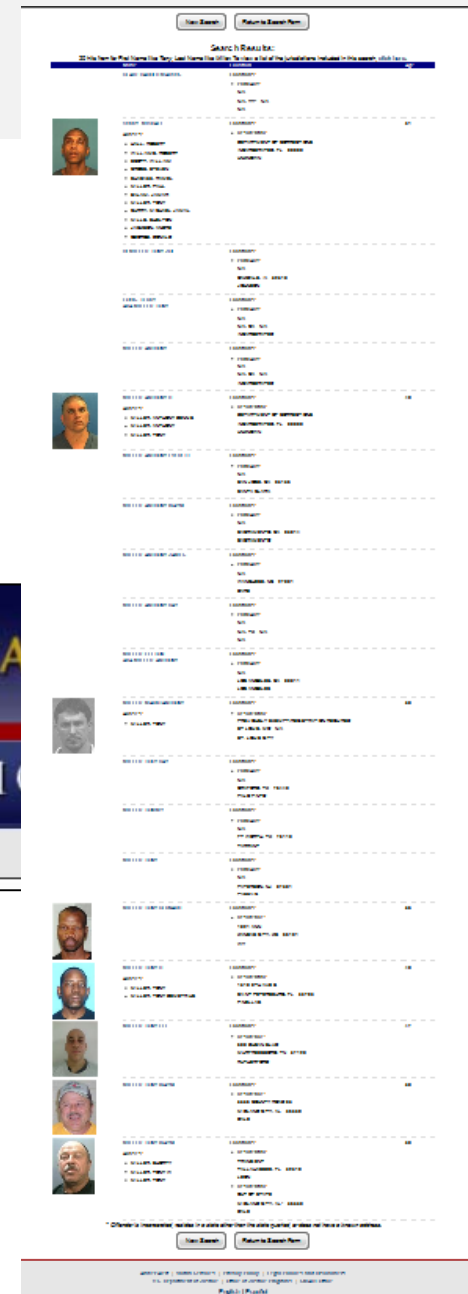
“This site, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, allows parents and concerned citizens to search existing public state and territory sex offender registries beyond their own states.”



Standard Search: Enter a last name and first name; then press *Search* to search the sex offender registries for all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, and Indian Country.

Last Name: First Name:

Advanced Search: To conduct an advanced search by locality, zip code, or address [click here](#).



Collateral damages?

Behavioral Sciences and the Law
Behav. Sci. Law 25: 587–602 (2007)
Published online 9 July 2007 in Wiley InterScience
(www.interscience.wiley.com) DOI: 10.1002/bsl.770



Megan's Law and its Impact on Community Re-Entry for Sex Offenders

Jill S. Levenson Ph.D.,*
David A. D'Amora M.S., LPC, CFC†
and Andrea L. Hern M.A.‡

and Indiana were surveyed. The negative consequences that occurred with the greatest frequency included job loss, threats and harassment, property damage, and suffering of household members. A minority of sex offenders reported housing disruption or physical violence following community notification. The majority experienced psychosocial distress such as depression, shame, and hopelessness. Recommendations are made for community

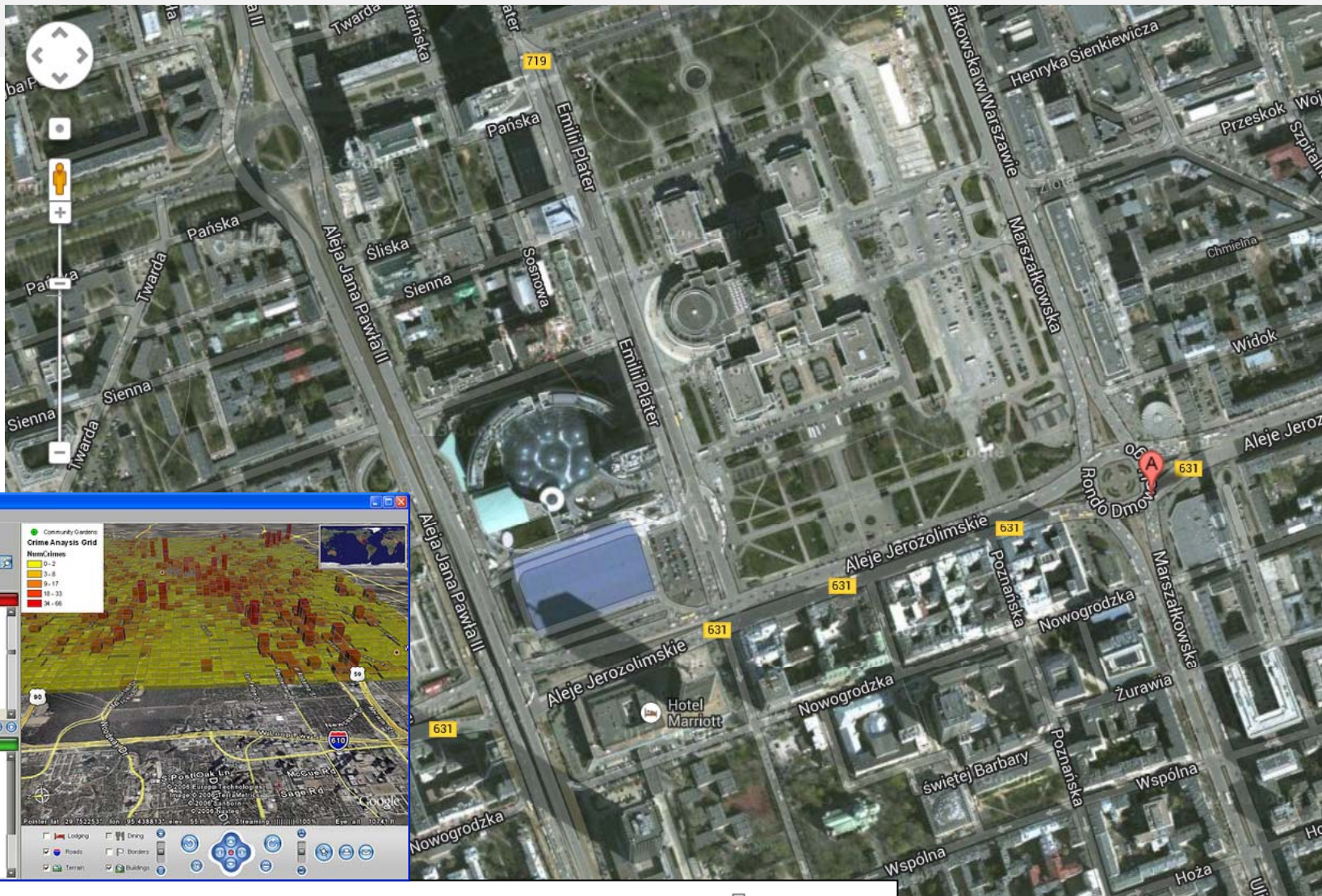
- Well known **stigmatising effects** for released prisoners and their families
 - Loss of social contacts, isolation
 - Loss of work and home
 - Physical and psychological threats
 - Stress
- **Consequences are dysfunctional**
- **no lower, mostly higher recidivism rate**

In 2009:

MONTPELIER, Vt. -- A Vermont court has ruled that a convicted sex offender cannot be barred from living in areas near where children are often found.

Tewksbury, R., Collateral consequences of sex offender registration. Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice 21, 1, 2005, S. 67-81; Levenson, J.S., Cotter, L.P., The effect of Megan's Law on sex offender reintegration. In: Journal of Contemporary Criminal Justice 21, 1, 2005, S. 49-66 (see next slide); Hughes, L.A., C. Kadleck: Sex Offender Community Notification and Community Stratification. In: Justice Quarterly 25, 3, S. 469-495; Zgoba/Veyses/Dalessandro Justice Quarterly October 2010)

Next step? Google Earth Plus ...



March 31, 2010 6:37 AM

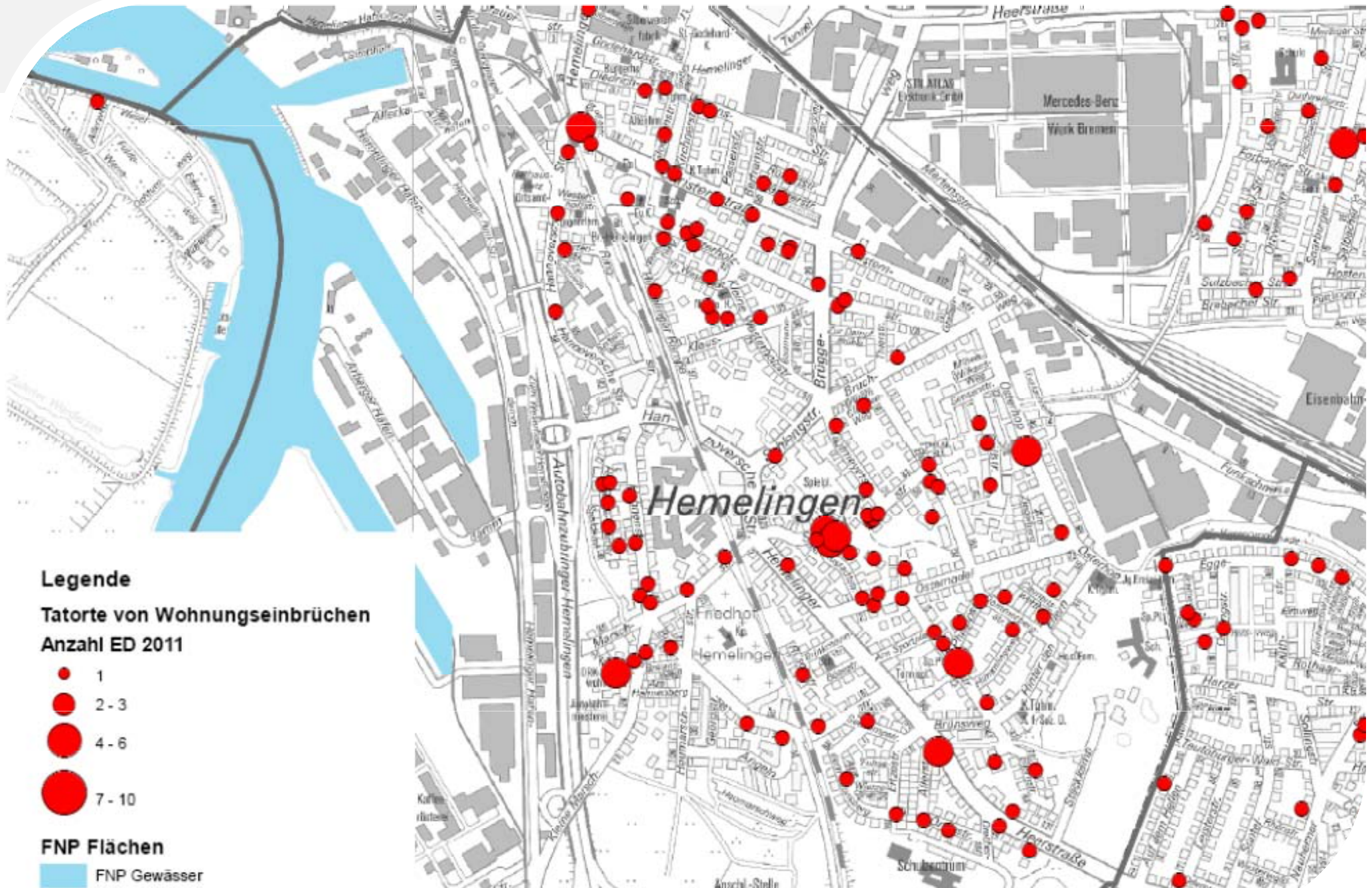
PRINT TEXT

Google Earth Catches Crime: Florida Deputy Uses Virtual Globe to Make Arrest



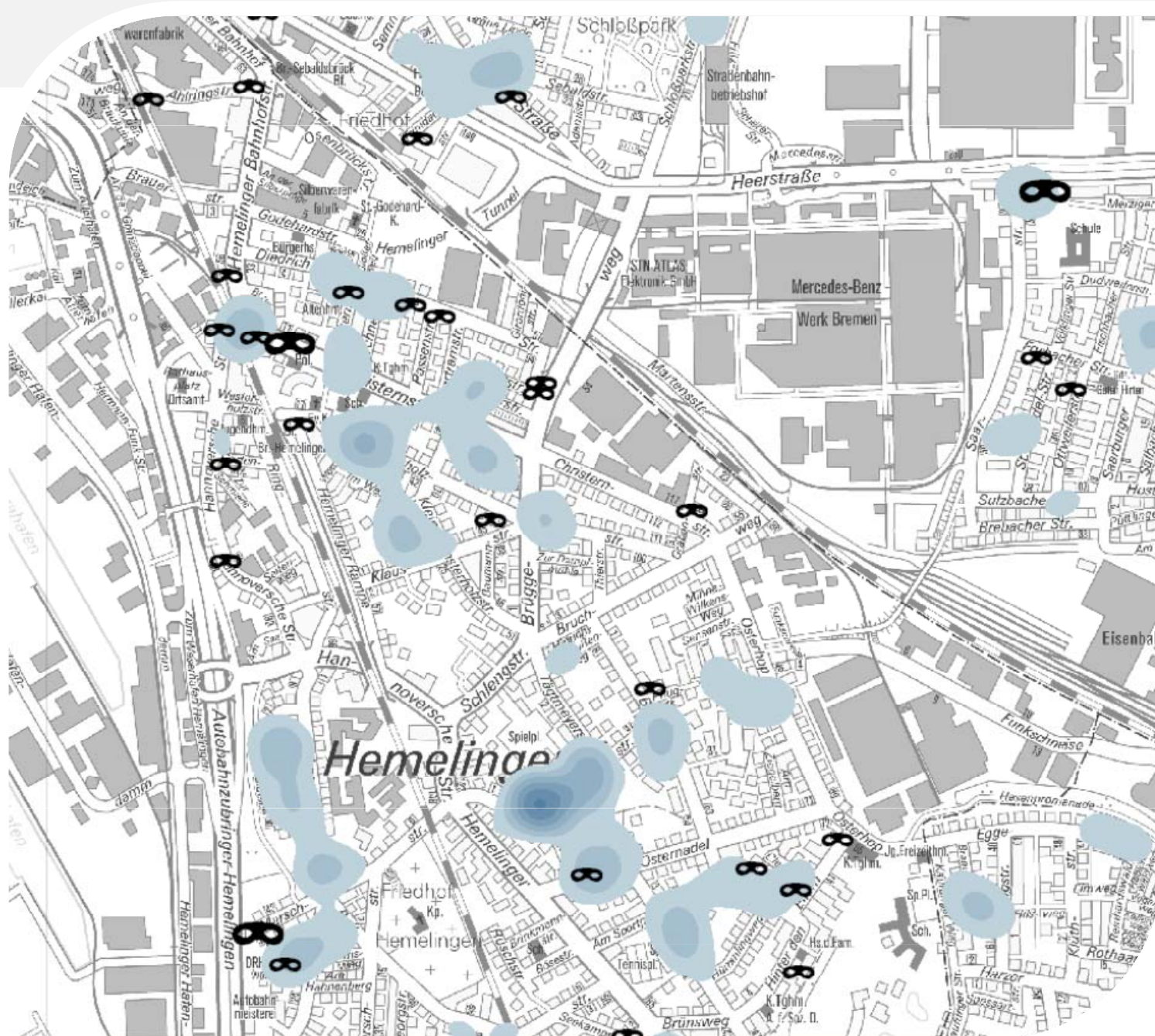
Since August 2013, in Poland some prisoners released get a **GPS/GIS-Chip** implanted. At <http://www.gps.tracking.google.com> you can search for the name, the city or the region, where the probationer is actually underway.

Crime Places: Burglary in Bremen



This and the next slides have been provided by by Ulrich.Goritzka@Polizei.Bremen.de

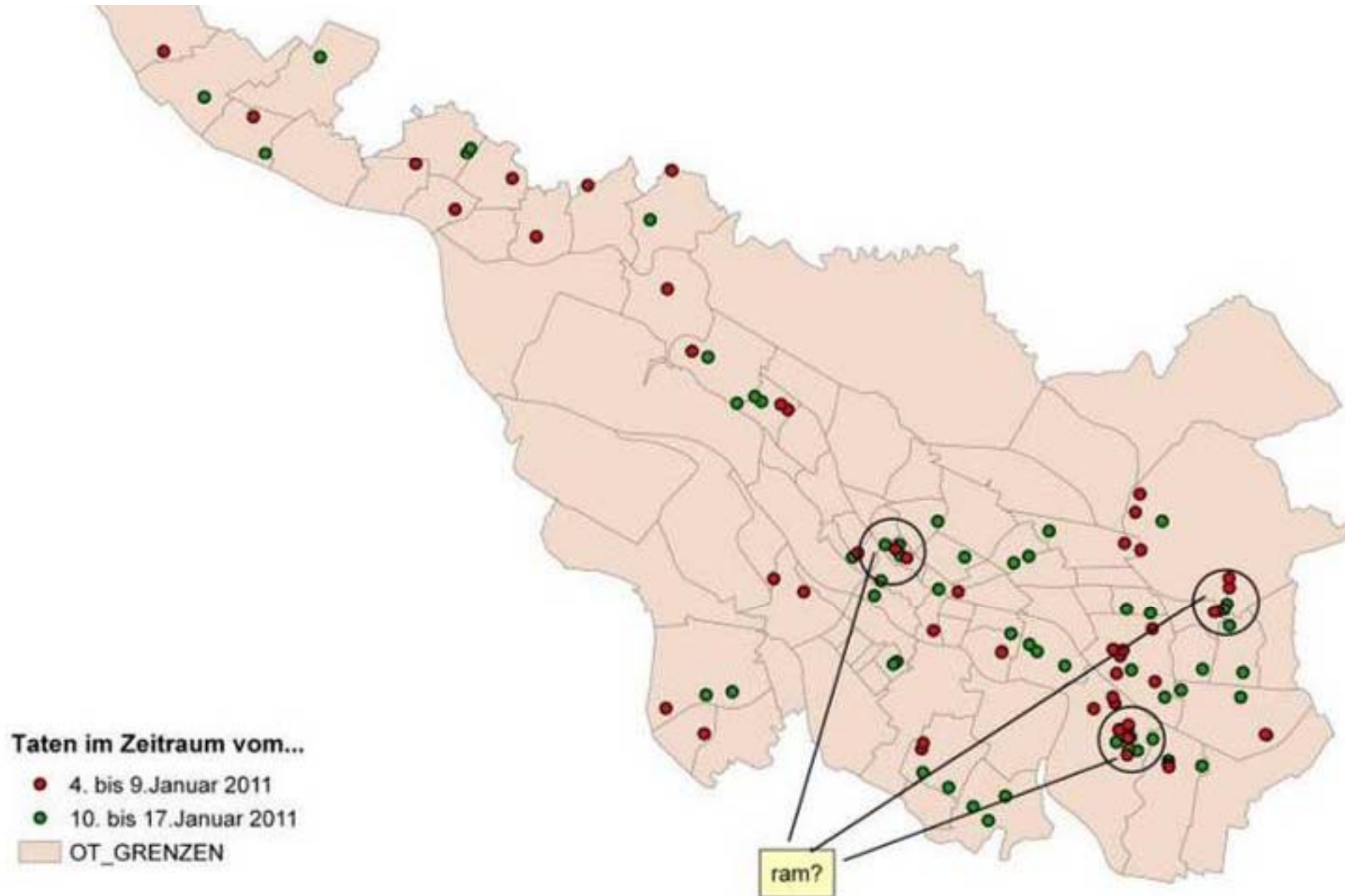
Use of Kernel (square matrix used for image convolution)



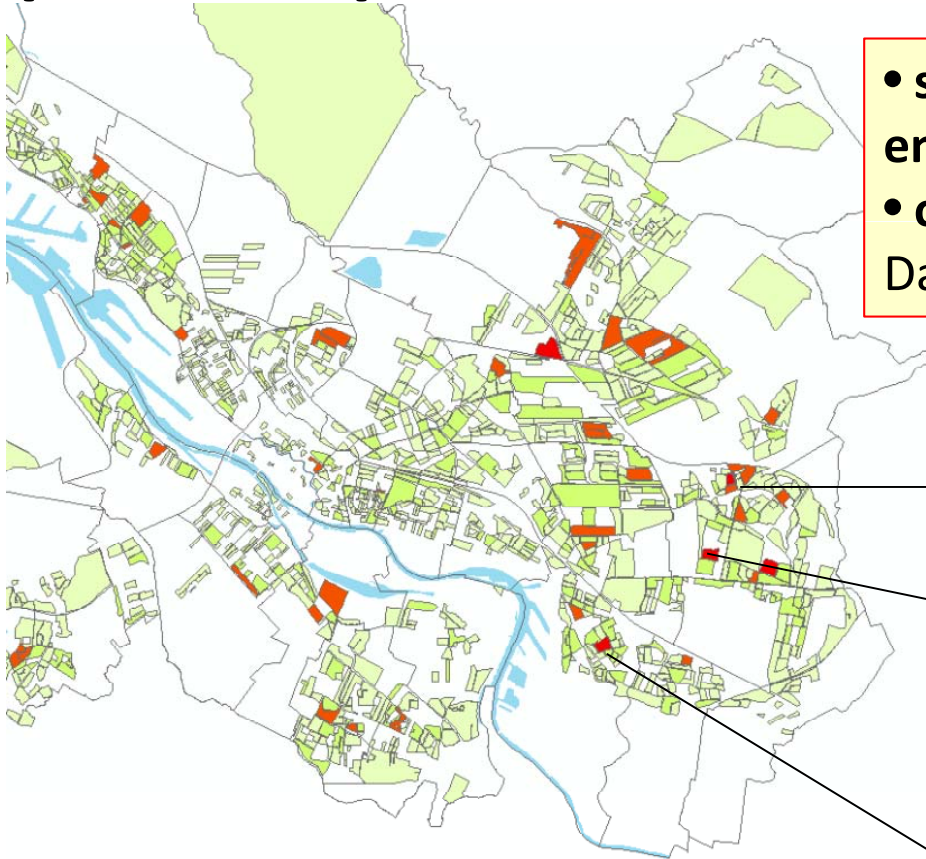
Crime scenes with and without suspect



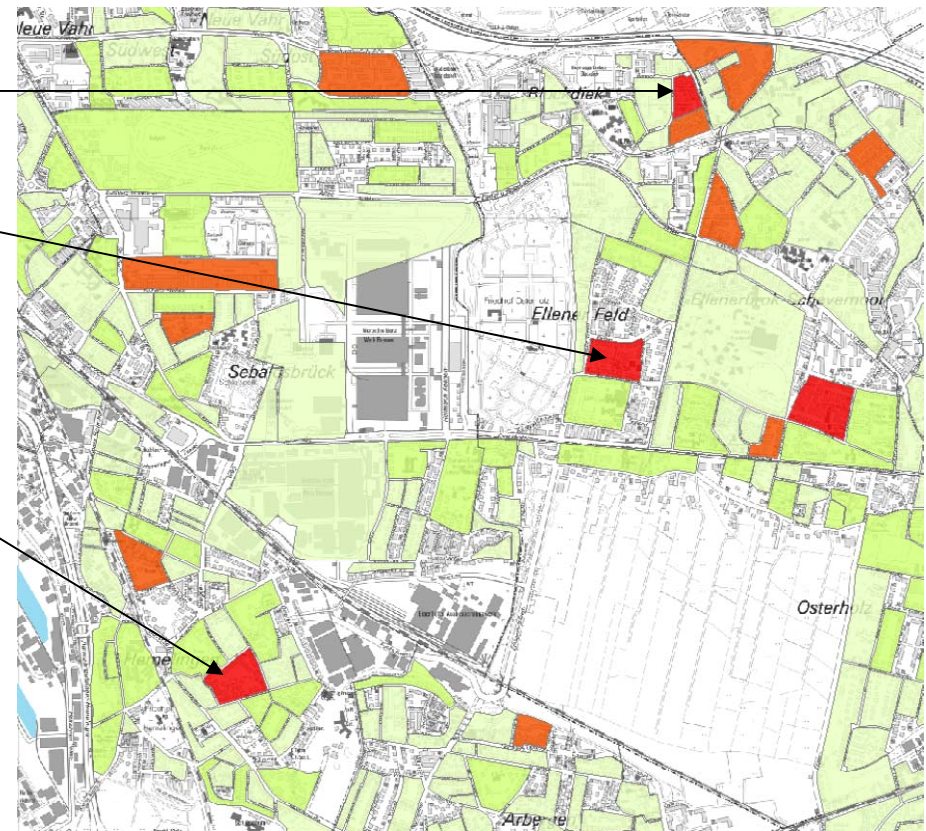
Crime Scenes: Space-Time Visualising and repeat adress mapping



City Blocks and focus points (micro units) (Bremen)



- specific characteristics of places inhibit or encourage crime
 - opportunity and social disorganisation cause crime
- David Weisburd, *The Criminology of Place*, p.164



3 % of the addresses in Minneapolis produced 50% of all calls to the police (Weisburd, p. 9)

City Blocks (micro units) (Bremen)



The „Top-Three“ of Bremen

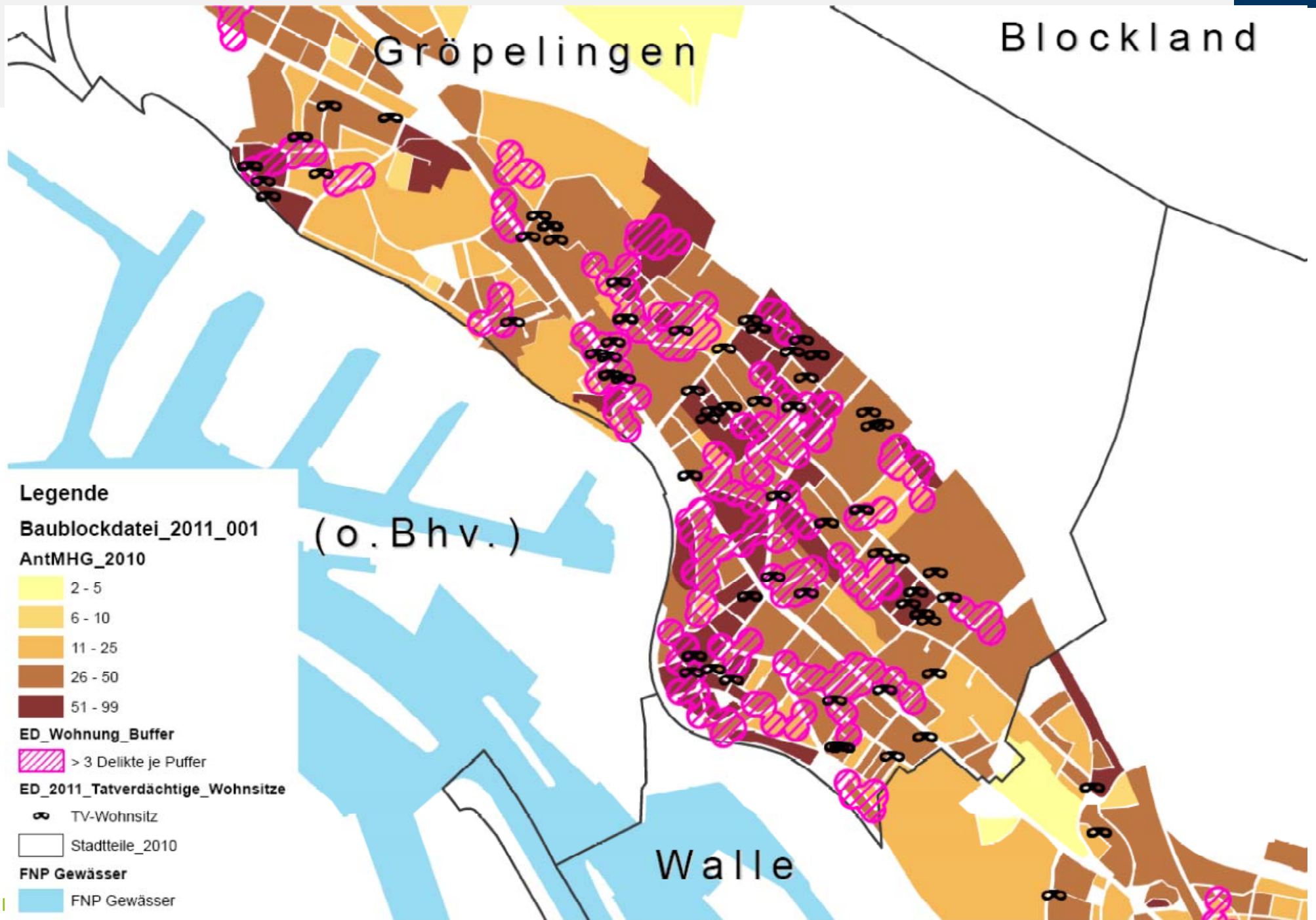


DE

ENCE



Combination of crime and social data (Bremen)



„Mental Mapping“ and „egohoods“

- A new approach builds on insights of the mental mapping literature, the social networks literature, the daily activities pattern literature, and the travel to crime literature to propose **egohoods** as “*waves washing across the surface of cities*”, opposed to independent units with nonoverlapping boundaries.
- This approach assumes that the **social context** is of importance
- Hipp/Boessen: EGOHOODS AS WAVES WASHING ACROSS THE CITY: A NEW MEASURE OF "NEIGHBORHOODS,,. CRIMINOLOGY Vol. 51, 2, 2013, p. 287-

Thank you for listening,
and let's start our „mind mapping“.