

Crime Prevention Officer  
HPD

The Following interview was conducted on behalf of the oral history project of Century High School on May 20<sup>th</sup> 2005. The interviewee Janae Davis, and the interviewer Samantha Skelly.

SS: So how long have you been in crime prevention in general?

JD: In general, I have been crime prevention for 15(hard to hear but I believe it was) years.

SS: And you have been working in Hillsboro for two years?

JD: yes two years.

SS: What agency did you work at before?

JD: The Yamhill County Sheriff's office.

SS: And how long did you work there?

JD: Umm... I was with Yamhill County for 13 years.

SS: So the time you have been in Hillsboro have you seen it change at all?

JD: Yeah, I have seen some things change and some things rise as far as crime and crime prevention.

SS: What crime, in your eyes in committed most often?

JD: Well, the crime we see in our in our city, which is not only a problem in our city, but really III C10 state wide is the issue with car break-ins or as we commonly refer to them as "smash and grabs" (Explains why they call them smash and grabs)

SS: What age range commits this crime.

JD: (says she knows they have made arrests but does not know exact numbers. Does think they are some people more likely to commit break-ins then others)

SS: Has that crime changed a lot since you have been here?

JD: When I first got here-you know that was a crime that dealt with. But what I have seen as far as a trend, if you will, there are certain areas where that crime will impact that area more. They are soft of a nomadic thing. They will come into a certain area and they will hit several cars and III C10 then go to a different area and do the same thing-they don't have a preferential area where people who commit these crimes stick to, I call them nomadic crimes.

SS: What type of cars do they go for?

JD: It doesn't matter. The people who commit these crimes are really non-preferential. What I mean by that is breaking into a car is a crime of opportunity and you know, we try to do is to take extensive preventive measure to educate people in our city on this particular crime and how to recognize where hot spots are in our city (defines hot stops). It s a crime of opportunity we try III C10 to educate our citizens to take that opportunity away. And sometimes will often ask, "Well what do you mean?". Well an opportunity to commit a crime like that is that is leaving things in your vehicle-it used to be in the day and age were; Oh if you leave a bag in your car, but a blanket over it. But, crimes are a little smarter these days-and they "Huh, there is a blanket, there must be something of value under it." Well, when you guys take away the opportunity, you take everything you do not need in your vehicle out of your vehicle. And that even means all the way down to the spare change that you can throw right in the front console-that everyone is guilty of doing at one time or another. I mean literally, I can't stress that enough. The main thing we try to focus in on is you have to take that opportunity away. If you have one of those face plates for you stereo: take them out! Take the extra time, two seconds, to take them out and out of the car. Because you want to make your car the least vulnerable.

SS: What methods and programs do you use to educate people?

JD: Well with that kind of crime in particular we use a multitude of different avenues. We utilize our media; we utilize we call in terms of "Knock and Talk". We have gone to one on one conversations like for intense, our max stations. We see a high volume of break-ins through out our different Max stations and our Max parking lots. And what we have done on several occasions is go to various Max stations, we go out with coffee, flyers, and offer them coffee and say " Oh here! Have a flyer" or "Here are a few helpful reminders about please remove everything from your vehicle." We have written articles in the Argus-you know just everywhere with in the community...talking to people. I take care of residential crime prevention in the city and sometimes I go to community meetings and always with out fail make sure I mention take the opportunity away-take everything out of your vehicle even if you park in your drive or in your garage.

IVB

SS: Have you seen and increase in people breaking-into cars?

JD: We have seen some increase into people breaking into garages or people who there cars parked at the end of their driveways-we have seen some incidents where cars are broken into and garage door openers, which are in the cars, will be taken and people will get in the garage. With this, we encourage people to lock that door between the garage and into the house.

III C10

SS: What do people take out the cars, stuff of va-

JD: -Anything, anything. What they look for a lot is anything that they can grab and take and exchange into money or for drugs. And then also people are stealing Identity information, like insurance, insurance cards.

SS: My always says to shred important documents, is that good advice?

JD: By no means am I saying shred your registration-

SS: I mean just don't just through important stuff out-

JD: Absolutely, Absolutely! If you are throwing out important documents, that have your social security number or anything else, please take the time. Anything that is that has any important identify information, even your child's, it is so important that you shred that information (says to use the shredders that shred both ways for added safety so people have a harder time putting the back together) People who use drugs can stay up all night, what we call tweakers, and can paste the documents back together. (Re-stresses importance and explains recycle half on week, and other half another week for added safety)

IVB

SS: How do educate Adults-get your message across?

JD: In many ways, I mean we reach out to out senior community, and we talk about- you know-elder-abuse, fuerod, umm... personal safty. For adults we conduct classes at Tulaity health center- educate both children and adults about crime and law enforcement. We offer community education classes on free education on for adults to teach your children on how to recognize child molesters and personal safety... umm... what are gangs- you know trying to reach out parents on stuff like that. Even if there is an incident in the neighbor good or there is high crime one of our principal focuses is creating a community vision. And keeping with that vision we need to educate people in the sense of what happened- what happened in your neighborhood because we truly believe in the principle of you have the right to know what goes on in your city. Bear in mind that you might be able to know all the details. But whatever is public record; we will do our job to educate you on that. Because we do believe you have the right to know what goes on. We are always encouraging people to act, email, what ever you want-umm-call, ask questions.

IVB

SS: Do you think children are getting enough information on crime prevention and the results of committing crimes?

JD: I mean we reach out to our senior community, and we talk about- you know-elder-abuse, fuerod, umm... personal safty. For adults we conduct classes at Tulaity health center- educate both children and adults about crime and law enforcement. We offer community education classes on free education on for adults to teach your children on how to recognize child molesters and personal safety... umm... what are gangs- you know trying to reach out parents on stuff like that. Even if there is an incident in the neighbor good or there is high crime one of our principal focuses is creating a community vision. And keeping with that vision we need to educate people in the sense of what happened- what happened in your neighborhood because we truly believe in the principle of you have the right to know what goes on in your city. Bear in mind that you might be able to know all the details. But whatever is public record; we will do our job to educate you on that. Because we do believe you have the right to know what goes on. We are always encouraging people to act, email, what ever you want-umm-call, ask questions.

JD: That is kind of a huge question, and I was I could answer that. But what I can tell you is, from my prospective, is what role I play in that. You know-parents will often as me "When you talk about crime prevention or committing crimes?" Well as parents you need to know when that proper time is. I talk to preschoolers about prevention through seniors. Are kids getting enough information, I don't think there is ever enough information. (Talks about how society is constantly changing so education needs to evolve.)

III 07

(Door opens or something and un-able to hear my question or half her response)

JD: ...I would love to say that everyone got the information or understood the philosophy of crime prevention. But what I can is that I know we try to take the extra time to help kids and help them make very good choices, and explain why it wasn't a good choice. (Talks about youth services teams and how they work hard to inform youth on gangs).

III 0

SS: Do you see a correlation between the way people we raised and their likelihood to commit crimes?

JD: (Basically says she does not know for sure or have the statistics to back it up but she sees many different people committing many different crimes)

SS: What methods do you use to prevent drug crimes?

JD: (educate people) You can't help but not get involved in you community.

III 02

(The next three questions and responses are hard to hear, but from what I remember, they were the questions we all about what methods does she use to prevent gang involvement, and other crimes, and all the answers were educate and inform basically.)

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SS: Is there anything else you would like to say?

JD: No, I think that's all.

SS: Ok, thank you every much!!