# Variety Dynamics A new dimension of CPTED

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# Background

**Design Out Crime and CPTED Centre** provides CPTED services internationally:

- CPTED reviews and design advice (DAs and existing)
- CPTED training (police, planners, architects, government)
- CPTED policies and guidelines (government and commercial)
- Public presentations on CPTED, security and cybersecurity
- Research to improve CPTED, cyber-CPTED and crime prevention outcomes
- Free CPTED resources
- CPTED, Cyber-CPTED & cyber-security reviews and advice

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#### Dr Terence Love: CEO, founder and director

MICA, MIMA, MORS, FDRS, AMIMechE, ICA Advanced CPTED Professional, NSW Safer By Design Cert. 51230252, Security Agent Lic 61252. Security Consultant Lic. 61238 CPTED, Cyber-CPTED, systems analysis, sustainability analysis

# Key staff:



Dr Paul Cozens: associate director ICA Advanced CPTED Professional CPTED researcher, criminologist and lecturer in planning



Professor Dr Trudi Cooper: associate director Youth Work and Community Development, systems researcher, sustainability

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Examples of CPTED Projects over last 25 years

- CPTED training for police, local government, planners, architects, security
- Government CPTED policies and guidelines
- CPTED analysis for Development Approvals
- 4H cyber-security
- Indigenous night patrols, community development, youth projects, drug use
- Federal crime prevention policy development
- CPTED and Cyber-CPTED research



Cockburn Centre \$1.1 billion



Night-time economy



Indigenous night patrols www.julalikari.org.au



CPTED on public transport

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## Four new areas CPTED

- Importance of *feedback loops* in CPTED, planning and crime prevention and complex systems management of crime
- The new field of **Cyber-CPTED** and its new forms of crime
- New *causal* explanations of CPTED strategies and principles (mainly from Ethology)
- Variety Dynamics in CPTED

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What is Variety Dynamics?

- New field in systems theory, mathematics, ecology, crime prevention, warfare and security studies, cyber-security and many other disciplines...
- New basis for understanding CPTED and developing new CPTED strategies and principles
- A new basis for taking control in asymmetric warfare
- A new approach to social control
- A new theory foundation for the fields of ecology, ethology, psychology, community development, design research and a theory basis for constructor theory in quantum physics

Developed by Dr Terence Love and Dr Trudi Cooper since 2002 based on earlier work on control of complex sociotechnical systems.

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What is Variety?

#### Variety is the number of possible states of something



Variety = 5 of the colour of the cakes

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# Variety example 1



Variety of cups in each stack is the **number** of cups in each

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# Variety example 2



Variety of these cups is in **number** and type

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# Variety space (scalar)



# *Variety* of cups in stacks is in their **number** in each stack

Variety is scalar (number) and variety for each stack is a **point vector** in the **variety space** 



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Variety space and variety as a vector



Variety of these cups comprises two dimensional; **vectors** in **variety space** indicating cup type and number of that cup type. Variety of these cups is in number and type



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## Variety space multidimensional



• The additional **variety** of handles, size, materials, style, coating etc can be represented in multiple dimensions in variety space



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#### Variety system of cups, plates and cutlery



Variety systems can have any number of dimensions

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Variety and the Crime Triangle



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## Variety Dynamics

Variety distributions can be *dynamic* – changing over time



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Control variety and system variety (Ashby's Law)



**Variety of control system must be greater than the system being controlled** (Ashby's Law of Requisite Variety)

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Example: Control variety (teacher) vs System variety (children)



 Variety available to teacher must be greater than that generated by

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Real situations with dynamic variety distributions



• Distributions of variety and control and ownership are changing continuously in highly interrelated ways

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Variety Dynamics Axioms We have identified **15 Variety Dynamics axioms** to date. For example:

Axiom 1:

For complex, layered and hierarchical systems involving multiple constituencies in which the distribution of variety generation and control is uneven across the system

THEN

The differing distributions of generated and controlling variety result in a structural basis for differing amounts of power and hegemonic control over the structure, evolution and distribution of benefits and costs of the system by particular constituencies.

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Practical example of use of Axiom 1:

Activists vs motor industry



Environmental activists were able to overcome motor industry resistance to emissions control:

- 1. Activists asked motor industry to implement strict emission standard - motor industry refused
- 2. Activists persuade each state to create **different** emission standards (i.e. increased variety beyond motor industry's ability to control)
- 3. Motor industry agrees to single strict emission standard

Management of variety resulted in transfer of power to activists from motor industry.

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CPTED and Variety Dynamics Axiom 1 and Natural Access Control



Variety Dynamics Axiom 1 explains Natural Access Control works by:

- **Reducing the variety** available to criminals
- Increasing the variety available to guardians

Axiom 1 ALSO reveals that natural access control can be made more effective by **increasing the variety** available to guardians **in other ways -** in addition to CPTED methods

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Variety Dynamics Axiom 1

Protecting women on transport



Applying Variety Dynamics Axiom 1 to **reducing assault of women in transport environs**:

- Reduce the variety available to men
- Increase the variety available to women

Only changes to variety are needed to change the outcomes.

No need to think in terms of specific CPTED or security methods

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Example of variety dynamics in a complex context



Variety available to military less than variety available to insurgents, e.g. Pashtunwali

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Benefits of Variety Dynamics for CPTED Variety Dynamics provides:

- 1. Explanation of why CPTED strategies work or don't work
- 2. Makes visible other new kinds of CPTED strategies
- 3. Provides basis for integrating CPTED with other crime control
- 4. Enables CPTED to extend into more complex (wicked) situations
- 5. Provides basis for understanding effects of 2<sup>nd</sup> Gen, 3<sup>rd</sup> Gen and Cyber-CPTED approaches
- 6. Enables effective crime prevention without considering CPTED principles
- 7. Unifies CPTED principles and theories (including ones not yet identified)

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Benefits of Variety Dynamics in general In general, Variety Dynamics Axioms provide:

- 1. Understanding of power and control in complex contexts
- 2. Effective strategies for control of more powerful groups by less powerful groups and vice versa
- 3. Improved theoretical foundations for a wide variety of disciplines
- 4. Strategies for improving effectiveness of most activities

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For more information on Variety Dynamics in CPTED

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CPTED Resources



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#### CyberCPTED Academy

CPTED Online Training and Certification

## www.CyberCPTED.org



#### Available courses

Introduction to CPTED (ONLINE course with certificate)

PS



The Introduction to CPTED course is a certificated foundation CPTED course for community safety staff, rangers, ne small business managers, and planning and architecture professionals.

The course provides a practical grounding in CPTED principles to reduce crime. There are 10 lessons each with a C

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# Think Crime!

"The best available synthesis of information on CPTED' Professor Marcus Felson

from <u>www.praxiseducation.com</u> or <u>www.designoutcrime.org</u>

# **Think Crime!**

Using Evidence, Theory and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) for Planning Safer Cities

#### P. M. Cozens



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