Policing in the 21st Century

- The progression of law enforcement as a profession through the 20th Century could not curb rising crime rates through the 1970s into the 1980s.

- A failure to reintegrate the police during this period resulted in a new movement:
  - COMMUNITY POLICING (CP)
Community vs. Traditional

- **Traditional policing is a system of response**
  - Reactive in nature
  - Incident driven

- **Community policing not easily defined**
  - Generally an operational and management philosophy
  - Characterized by ongoing attempts to promote greater community involvement in the police function
  - Embraced the Peelian principle of police as members of the public
Five elements of CP

- Commitment to crime prevention
- Public scrutiny of the police
- Accountability of police actions to the public
- Customized service
- Community organization
The SARA Model

Newport News, VA – 1983

- Developed a problem-oriented approach to policing
- The policy focused on the department’s traditional response to major, recurring problems
- A self-critical analysis resulted in a four-step, problem-solving methodology
  - SARA
Scanning

- Officers view incidents as problems.
- Define the problem
  - Robbery
    - Location
      - Time
    - Suspect
    - Victim
  - Can the robbery be linked to other factors?
Analysis

- The problem is defined from a variety of sources
  - Public
  - Private
    - Goes beyond traditional police data
- The goal is to understand the scope, nature, and causes of the problem
Response

- Using knowledge gained in the analysis stage
  - Develop & implement solutions
  - Officers seek assistance from
    - Citizens
    - Businesses
    - Other police units
    - Public & private organizations
  - Solutions can go well beyond traditional police response and include other community agencies and/or municipal organizations
Assessment

- Evaluate the impact and effectiveness of the responses
  - Were the problems
    - Solved
    - Alleviated
    - Displaced
Problem-Oriented Policing (POP)

- Based on the work of Herman Goldstein (1990)
  - A problem is defined as a cluster of similar, related, or recurring incidents
  - Assumption is that view incidents are isolated
    - Seen as a part of a wider set of urban social phenomena
      - Disorderly kids hanging in a parking lot night. after, night
      - Street prostitutes connected with robberies of patrons
      - Drunk driving accidents between certain hours
      - Quality of life issues: panhandlers, vagrants, homeless
      - Series of drug overdoses in a local school
Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS)

- Dramatic changes in police operations in the City of Chicago (1993)
  - Designed to move the department from traditional, reactive, incident-driven to;
    - Proactive
    - Community-oriented department
  - Originated as a prototype intended to “test”
    - New ideas
    - Innovations
    - Strategies
CAPS – Key features

- Crime control and prevention
- Neighborhood orientation
- Increased geographic responsibility
- Structured response to calls for service
- Proactive, problem-solving approach
- Combined community and city resources
- Emphasis on analysis
- Communication & marketing
- Evaluation, strategic planning, and organizational change
COMPSTAT

- Originated in New York City
  - William Bratton – Commissioner, NYPD
- A collection of modern management practices based on the availability of accurate and timely statistical crime data
COMPSTAT Principles (4)

- Accurate and timely intelligence & statistical crime information based on geographical areas
- Rapid deployment of resources
  - Combines immediacy of uniformed patrol
  - Working in concert with other operations
    - Plainclothes
- Effective tactics & strategies of enforcement
- Relentless follow-up and assessment
The Impact

- NYC (10 years, 1993-2003)  64% drop in crime
- Philadelphia (7 years 95-03)  24% drop
- Baltimore (5 years 95-00)  31% drop
- Newark (6 years 95-01)  51% drop
- Minneapolis (10 years 96-06)  12% drop
COMPSTAT & CP

- COMPSTAT enhances communication between the police and the community
- COMPSTAT improves organizational communication
- COMPSTAT is problem-oriented and preventive
- COMPSTAT highlights managerial accountability
- COMPSTAT is flexible and adaptive, with a focus on effectiveness
Crime Analysis

- Provides a thorough and systematic analysis of data on which to make rational decisions regarding past, present, and future actions
- Not limited solely to reported crime information
- Also helps in the analysis of intelligence information
Common Crime Analysis

Techniques

- **Tactical and crime-specific analysis**
  - Patterns
  - Clusters

- **Strategic crime analysis**
  - Evaluates crime and social problems to determine long-term patterns

- **Link analysis**
  - Associations and relationships
- **Telephone call**
  - Pen register
  - Long distance calls
  - Frequency of calls

- **Visual investigative analysis**
  - Charting
    - Chronology of activity
    - Depict key events

- **Case analysis**

- **Intelligence analysis**
Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

- In the past police agencies, units, and investigators often relied on the physical development of “pin maps.”
  - These maps would highlight activity in a geographic area by physically marking the map with a pin.
- Technology now allows for the collection of data electronically with the use of automated database operations.
- Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)
Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- A science and a technology that is based on the disciplines of
  - Biology
  - Psychology
  - Linguistics
  - Mathematics
  - Engineering

- The goal is develop computers that can think as well as hear, see, walk, talk, and feel.
AI can be defined as a shift from mere data processing to an intelligent processing of knowledge.

Focuses on 4 major areas of research:
- Natural language applications
- Robotic applications
- Computer science applications
- Cognitive science applications