



# Genesis REPORT

**Coach's Corner**  
Change a Life  
Change a Community  
Winter 2012  
Solutions to Crime

**City Centre Ministry  
Downtown Halifax**

*It Takes an Entire Community to Prevent Crime*  
*Crime Prevention Coach and Pastor Gerry Leet*

## Halifax Crime Beat

### Fatal Shooting of a Senior

Three teenagers are charged with the senseless murder of a senior out for his regular evening walk. All the details are yet to be revealed, but one report suggested the victim may have been targeted on a "whim." How tragic that this innocent man was gunned down for a few dollars and his heartbroken wife robbed of her husband and best friend.

Also, it is a crying shame that three young lives are ruined in such an act of foolishness and cowardice. The whole incident is a outrageous crime that needs to be understood.

A local television station did an in-depth interview of the crime as it shook the sensibilities of everyone. The television story interviewed a well meaning local resident who suggested that the walk-way where the murder occurred was the fault. He pointed out that a small wall blocked the view and offered that

this crime was avoidable. The media outlet entertained this scenario as the possible cause and solution to the matter. We all wish that criminal actions had a simple solution, but there are many complex issues that contribute to crime. I understand this resident and media source were trying to find the answer to a very difficult and tragic occurrence in our community. But, this incident took place in the dark of the evening hours and the small wall is not the reason for this crime.

These young people had a .22 calibre rifle were hanging out and had planned to rob a store. The mere suggestion by one of them to shoot the senior was what I call the, "Critical Moment of Decision" and that moment caused a harmless senior to lose his life. These boys are not convicted yet, but whatever the court outcome, this crime has changed their lives forever and they will always live with the consequences. So will the victims family.

In the famous "Gladiator" movie with

Russell Crowe there is a profound statement by him, "whatever we do in life is echoed into eternity." The premise of our actions in this life do not escape consequences in the here and now, but also our future existence.

The key questions in this crime are how these boys obtained a weapon, and what factors contributed to the choice to shoot and kill. I have a new Crime Prevention Manual being produced now and it will answer those questions.

## Senior Murdered



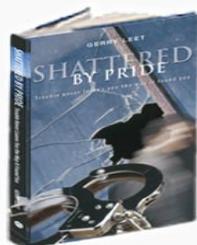
## Life Choices Last A Life Time



### Clocked at 225km

**A speed demon and menace on the roads?**

RCMP in Halifax pulled over a 25 year old male scorching the highway in his car at 225 in a 110k zone. His lightning Indy 500 speed must have broken a track record on the Halifax highway that Friday night. The driver faces a fine of more than \$2,400 and lost his vehicle and license for a week. He will have six points assigned to his driving record, and I assume his insurance will skyrocket. It was said by Oscar Wilde, "youth is wasted on the young." Have you noticed it is usually a young male that has the music cranked up past the sound barrier, noisy mufflers and hyped testosterone geared for launch off into space.



***Shattered By Pride***  
***"Trouble Never Leaves You,  
The Way It Found You"***

Shattered By Pride is a riveting, true story that will keep the reader enthralled and captivated from the dramatic first pages, and throughout the tense, emotional eighteen chapters.

It is a fast-paced real life chronicle that provides some chilling and unnerving accounts of one man's fall from grace. You will be challenged to examine your own behavior, choices in life and discover a new way of thinking, living and loving.

## Crime Prevention Solutions Manual "Solving the Mystery of Crime"

**Coming This Winter of 2012**

A very unique and extensive investigation study guide will be ready this Winter. It will trace the origins of crime to the solutions offered by age old wisdom. This manual will provide a step by step process to transform a crime ridden neighbourhood into a safe and secure community. The secret to Crime Prevention is unveiled as we open our eyes to a hidden truth that social science cannot identify or measure.

We combine the power of faith changing experiences with the collaboration and partnership of social agencies in the criminal justice system. This simple, but intense program will launch a new concept in how we fight crime. It takes an entire community to prevent crime, but if we neglect God from the solution, our efforts will fail. This is the "Missing Link" to Crime Prevention.

**“If you want a better country  
you need better people”**  
Andy Rooney CBS 60 Minutes



**Defacing/Destroying**



The famous “Broken Window Theory” was applied in the New York City subway system and there was a dramatic decrease in crime. One of the

successful measures targeted the graffiti, and an intensive cleaning program was implemented. This plan was also supported by zero tolerance in fare dodging, public drinking, urination, and ban on squeegee men. These actions were strictly enforced by authorities and the result was a sudden and significant reduction in crime in New York City.

Hundreds of millions of dollars has been spent recently on LA Gangs trying to address the root problems of homelessness, education, poverty and economic opportunity. There has been limited success, but the crime rate has grown a few points since 2006. The state also spends billions of dollars on police and incarceration and this expense has become the fourth largest expenditure in the state.

In many cities across Canada there has been detailed and comprehensive studies completed to identify what different agencies can do to reduce the root causes of crime. These documents have been very useful and helpful in our understanding of crime, but still cities suffer higher rates of violent offences. The City of Edmonton has a very progressive crime prevention program, but they have experienced disappointing and discouraging results as have other cities.

There has been much said about the general decrease in the crime rate, but some of these findings can be attributed to the aging population as most crime is committed by those under 25 years of age. I would also note that almost two-thirds of crime goes unreported.

Well, we have a problem! As the now deceased Andy Rooney of CBS Sixty Minutes had stated; “if we want a better country, we need better people.” So, how do we get better people?

Chuck Colson from Nixon's White House administration, was asked by Prince Phillip at Buckingham Palace; what do we do about the crime in England? Colson replied; “send more children to Sunday School.” The Prince thought Chuck was joking, but Mr. Colson pointed out a study by sociologist Christy Davies. That study found in the first half of the 1800's British society was marked by high levels of crime and violence. However, this rate dropped dramatically in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Throughout this period a full 75% of children in England were enrolled in Sunday School. Since that attendance fell off, there has been a corresponding increase in crime and disorder. If we fill our Sunday schools we can change hearts and restore society. Andy Rooney had it right, we need better people and getting back to church and core values will make our communities safer.

## **City Centre Ministry Crime Prevention Project**



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### **How Can I Be Part of the Solution**

We know it takes an entire community to prevent crime, and collectively we can make a difference. This new Outreach by City Centre Ministry was developed to address the social/spiritual issues that contribute to crime. There are many agencies working on the front lines that do tremendous service for our community. We want to collaborate with all of them, and bring the various resources together in a combined effort where possible.

We need the participation of the people of each community as we partner together to bring healing and hope to victims and offenders. Our citizens should feel safe and secure on the streets and in the neighbourhoods where they live.

### **Ten Point Plan**

1. Contact City Centre Ministry to Register
2. Locate a Church or Community Building to Host
3. Invite people in your neighborhood to a meeting
4. “Walk About” in your area (Take Back the Streets)
5. Partner with Social Agencies and Professionals
6. Liaison with Local Police
7. Develop contact with school and residents
8. Form a Safe Community Board in your area
9. Establish mentors for Youth
10. Communicate with Councillor/Mayor/MLA

There is no magic bullet that will solve all the social problems that cause crime and social disorder. But, we can all work together to deliver peace and hope. The police or the government can't solve all the wrongs of the community. We need each other to overcome the challenges of drugs and guns in our communities. Lets Get Started!

**“the streets chew up the kids  
and spit them out”**  
**Homicide gang detective in LA**