

Design Against Crime Research Centre

Socially Responsive Design and Crime Research covering Design of Crime-Resistant Products, Interior and Exterior Environments, Clothing and Systems; Communications; Design Licensing Opportunities; Consultancy; Knowledge Transfer; Industry-Linked Projects.



**DESIGN
AGAINST
CRIME**



"if a group of scholars and designers in London has its way, a new wave of cleverly designed bags and cafe furniture will help foil the city's thieves while remaining easy on the eyes..."
John Freeman Gill, *The New York Times*, November 27, 2005



Home Office

UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS
LONDON CENTRAL SAINT MARTINS
COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN CAMBERWELL
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DESIGN LONDON COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION
LONDON COLLEGE OF FASHION



About the Design Against Crime Research Centre

Design Against Crime (DAC) at Central Saint Martins (CSM) is a socially responsive, practice-led research initiative which uses the tools, processes and products of design to help resist all kinds of crime and promote quality of life and sustainable living through enhanced community safety. DAC is a relatively new, interdisciplinary area of enquiry developed through innovative national and international research collaborations, with three overarching aims:

1. To reduce the incidence and adverse consequences of crime through the design of products, services, communications and environments that are 'fit for purpose' and contextually appropriate in all other respects; to this end,
2. To equip design practitioners with the necessary cognitive and practical tools and resources; and
3. To prove and promote the social and commercial benefits of designing out crime to manufacturing and service industries, as well as to local and national government, and society at large.

To realise these aims requires linking two worlds: helping designers to "think thief" and aiding crime prevention experts to "draw on design". Such an approach enables DAC to take its place alongside other established thematic movements such as eco-design.

Recent publications of staff

- Ekblom, P (2005) 'Designing Products against Crime' in N. Tilley (ed.), *Handbook of Crime Prevention*, Cullompton: Willan
- Ekblom, P (2005) 'How to Police the Future: Scanning for Scientific and Technological Innovations which Generate Potential Threats and Opportunities in Crime, Policing and Crime Reduction', in M. Smith and N. Tilley (eds.), *Crime Science: New Approaches to Preventing and Detecting Crime*. Cullompton: Willan.
- Roach, J, Ekblom, P and Flynn, R (2005) 'The Conjunction of Terrorist Opportunity: A Framework for Diagnosing and Preventing Acts of Terrorism.' *Security Journal* 18 (3):7-25).
- Gamman, L. and Pascoe, T. (2004) 'Seeing is Believing; Notes Towards a Visual Methodology and Manifesto' and "Towards a Practice Based Design Methodology", in L. Gamman and T. Pascoe (sp. eds.) *Crime Prevention and Community Safety*, Perpetuity Press.
- Gamman, L., Thorpe, A., Willcocks, M., (2004) 'Bike Off! Tracking the Design Terrains of Cycle Parking: Reviewing Use, Misuse and Abuse' in L. Gamman and T. Pascoe (eds.) *Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design*, Perpetuity Press.
- Gamman, L. (2005) 'Shopping Centres – Best Design Practice' – downloadable conference paper (www.designagainstcrime.info), presented to 'Designing Out Drug Related Crime In Shopping Environments' conference, Central Saint Martins, London.
- Gamman, L. (2001) 'In the Bag: A Design Resource: get smart quick about bag theft, pickpocketing and street crime', London: University of the Arts.

Recently completed Research Projects include

- *Karrysafe - anti theft bags and accessories funded by the Design Council/ UoAL
 - *Grippa - anti theft clips funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Board (AHRB)
 - *In the Bag - a design resource funded by The Design Council/ Home Office
 - *Stop Thief - anti theft furniture, part funded by the Home Office/ UoAL
- And many studio research projects including
- *Anti-stalking Initiative; Anti-Burglary Project; Design for Use; Misuses and Abuse; Safer Cities



In this building 10 families feel unsafe. Architects can make a difference.



Secured By Design (SBD) is an initiative of CSM (Police Officers (ACPO)) designed to help 27 police forces in England, Scotland and Wales of increase security and safety of products and the world of 22 countries overseas by introducing the 'Secured By Design' logo to encourage manufacturers to design products to the best international standards.

www.securedbydesign.com

Product Design Centre, University of Central Lancashire, Preston, Lancashire, UK, 2008

poster by S.Hutter

Design Against Crime in the UK

Design Against Crime is an initiative that has been supported by the British Government and the UK Design Council (www.designcouncil.org.uk), who funded DAC at CSM alongside colleagues from the Universities of Salford, Sheffield Hallam (www.designagainstcrime.org) and Huddersfield (www.hud.ac.uk/hhs/dbs/acg/index.htm), together with the Royal Society of Arts whose Student Design Awards/Design Directions programmes (www.thersa.org.uk/rsa_design/directions/archive.htm) have included briefs on crime-resistant laptops, cash machines, bicycles and rucksacks, hospitals and schools.

The UK Designing Out Crime Association (DOCA – www.doca.org.uk) provides a forum for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design professionals and practitioners including police officers, architects, crime researchers, university lecturers, town planners, community safety officers, landscape architects, and crime risk & research consultants. Secured By Design (SBD - www.securedbydesign.com) is the UK Police flagship initiative supporting the principles of designing out crime by use of effective crime prevention and security standards for a range of applications including housing and car parks.

Philosophy

The philosophy behind DAC at CSM is linked to a practice-led design research agenda and the understanding that design should address security issues without compromising functionality and other aspects of performance, or aesthetics. In everyday language, secure design has to be user-friendly whilst abuser-unfriendly; but it doesn't have to look criminal or even ugly. We are developing a working partnership with the UCL Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science at University College London (www.jdi.ucl.ac.uk), and our research projects aim to "... help designers keep up with the adaptive criminal in a changing world" (Ekblom 1997, www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs/risk.pdf).

Issues DAC Centre is concerned with:

1. Conducting fundamental research into the causes of crime and the resources criminals bring to bear in their perpetrator techniques;
2. Evolving and developing products, services and environments via an iterative design process related to the problem-oriented approach in crime prevention and user-focused approaches in design, extended to encompass abusers or misusers;
3. Contributing to the evidence base for 'what works' in crime prevention, to development of design standards such as CEN, and to the evolution of techniques for crime proofing and crime impact assessment;
4. Conducting applied research in the traditions of both the social sciences and design practice to develop conceptual frameworks, intellectual and practical resources to enable crime to be designed out of products, services and environments, and to facilitate the capture and sharing of crime prevention knowledge in ways which combine rigour and creativity through the 5 I's and Conjunction of Criminal Opportunity frameworks – see www.crimereduction.gov.uk/learningzone/lz_learning.htm#theory;
5. Establishing exemplars of good practice to promote DAC as an area of academic enquiry within its source disciplines;
6. Informing the curriculum of taught undergraduate and postgraduate design students and providing an academic environment for study at doctoral level as well as for business via Knowledge Transfer Partnerships;
7. Providing an academic focus and infrastructure within which to conduct practice-based research.



Current Research and Practice Led Projects Include

*Bike Off - anti bike theft practice led design research funded by Arts and Humanities Research Council and Transport for London/ Camden Council
*Designing Out Drug Related Crime in Shopping Environments funded by Home Office and British Council of Shopping Centres

Exhibitions include

SAFE: Design Takes on Risk exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA; October 2005 – January 2006; INDEX 2005 exhibition in Copenhagen, Denmark; September – November 2005; TfL Bike Fest, Trafalgar Square, London, June 2005; The Cycle Show, Business Design Centre, London, September 2004; Crossed New Territories of Design, Barcelona, Spain, October 2003 – January 2004; Design Against Crime: Anti Crime Wave - Waterloo station, London and Designer's Block, Milan, Italy, April 2003; Design Against Crime: Secure Design For Safer Travel - main concourse, Victoria and Waterloo stations, January and April 2003; Vexed Not Victimised: Bags and Anti-Theft Accessories Not To Die For, University of the Arts London, August 2002; Don't Tempt Me exhibition – featured at Milan, Italy, Furniture Fair and Primavera del Disseny, Barcelona, Spain; Design Against Crime – In the Bag and Off the Wall - Design Museum, London; Stop Thief - Secure Design Doesn't Have To Look Criminal, Designer's Block (October 2000), Design Council (November 2000) and RIBA, London (December 2000).



www.moma.org/safe - Museum of Modern Art, New York, curated by Paola Antonelli, October 16th 2005 - January 2nd 2006.

Staff

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