This chapter provides an overview of the key definitions and concepts in the field of crime analysis. It begins with the definition of crime analysis and then describes the crime analysis process, covering the various types of crime analysis as they are practiced in police agencies around the world.

Definition of Crime Analysis

Over the past 20 years, many scholars have developed definitions of crime analysis. These include the following:

Crime analysis refers to the set of systematic, analytical processes that provide timely, pertinent information about crime patterns and crime trend correlations. It is primarily a tactical tool. Patrol reports and crime records furnish data about crime scenes, weapons, modus operandi, stolen or getaway vehicles, and suspects. Analyzing and comparing data on file with those on current cases can give patrol officers important information on activities in their beat areas. This includes developing crime patterns, stolen property descriptions, and suspect identities. Using this information, patrols can better deploy resources. (Emig, Heck, & Kravitz, 1980, p. v)

[Crime Analysis is a] set of systematic, analytical processes directed at providing timely and pertinent information relative to crime patterns and trend correlations to assist the operational and administrative personnel in planning the deployment of resources for the prevention and suppression of criminal activities, aiding the investigative process, and increasing apprehensions and the clearance of cases. Within this context, Crime Analysis supports a number of department functions including patrol deployment, special operations, and tactical units, investigations, planning and research, crime prevention, and administrative services (budgeting and program planning). (Gottlieb, Arenberg, & Singh, 1994, p. 13)
Crime analysis is a detail-oriented discipline wherein the analyst endeavors to seek the truth of a given situation utilizing methods and the right information to confirm the truth so that an effective plan can be formulated. (Vellani & Nahoun, 2001, p. 8)

Although these definitions differ in specifics, they share several common components: All agree that crime analysis supports the mission of the police agency, utilizes systematic methods and information, and provides information to a range of audiences. The following definition, which will be used for the purposes of this book, distills these elements into a simpler form:

Crime analysis is the systematic study of crime and disorder problems as well as other police-related issues—including sociodemographic, spatial, and temporal factors—to assist the police in criminal apprehension, crime and disorder reduction, crime prevention, and evaluation.

Clarification of each aspect of this definition helps to demonstrate the various elements of crime analysis. Generally, to study means to inquire into, investigate, examine closely, and/or scrutinize information. Crime analysis, then, is the focused and systematic examination of crime and disorder problems as well as other police-related issues. Crime analysis is not haphazard or anecdotal; rather, it involves the application of social science data collection procedures, analytic methods, and statistical techniques.

More specifically, crime analysis employs both qualitative and quantitative data and methods. Crime analysts use qualitative data and methods when they examine nonnumerical data for the purpose of discovering underlying meanings and patterns of relationships. The qualitative methods specific to crime analysis include field research (such as observing characteristics of locations) and content analysis (such as examining police report narratives). Crime analysts use quantitative data and methods when they conduct statistical analysis of numerical or categorical data. Although much of the work in crime analysis is quantitative, crime analysts utilize simple statistical methods, such as frequencies, percentages, means, and rates.

The central focus of crime analysis is the study of crime and disorder (e.g., noise complaints, burglary alarms, suspicious activity), problems and information related to the nature of incidents, offenders, and victims or targets of crime (targets are inanimate objects, such as buildings or property). Crime analysts also study other police-related issues, such as staffing needs and areas of police service. Even though this discipline is called crime analysis, it actually includes much more than just the examination of crime incidents.

Although many different characteristics of crime and disorder are relevant in crime analysis, the three most important kinds of information that crime analysts use are sociodemographic, spatial, and temporal. Sociodemographic information consists of the personal characteristics of individuals and groups, such as sex, race, income, age, and education. On an individual level, crime analysts use sociodemographic information to search for and identify crime suspects. On a broader level, they use such information to determine the characteristics of groups and how they
relate to crime. For example, analysts may use sociodemographic information to answer the question, “Is there a white male, 30–35 years of age, with brown hair and brown eyes, suspect to link to a particular robbery?” or “Can demographic characteristics explain why the people in one group are victimized more often than people in another group in a particular area?”

The spatial nature of crime and other police-related issues is central to an understanding of the nature of a problem. In recent years, improvements in computer technology and the availability of electronic data have facilitated a larger role for spatial analysis in crime analysis. Visual displays of crime locations and their relationship to other events and geographic features are essential to our understanding of the nature of crime and disorder. (For in-depth discussion of this type of analysis, called crime mapping, see Chapter 4.) Recent developments in criminological theory have encouraged crime analysts to focus on geographic patterns of crime, examining situations in which victims and offenders come together in time and space. (For discussion of the importance of place in the analysis of crime, see Chapter 5.)

Finally, the temporal nature of crime, disorder, and other police-related issues is a major component of crime analysis. Crime analysts conduct several levels of temporal analysis, including (a) examination of long-term patterns in crime trends over several years, the seasonal nature of crime, and patterns by month; (b) examination of midlength patterns, such as patterns by day of week and time of day; and (c) examination of short-term patterns, such as patterns by days of the week, time of day, or time between incidents within a particular crime series. Throughout this book, I present discussion of specific analysis techniques used to examine the temporal nature of crime.

The final part of the above definition—“to assist the police in criminal apprehension, crime and disorder reduction, crime prevention, and evaluation”—generally summarizes the goals of crime analysis. The first goal of crime analysis is to support the operations of a police department. Without police, there would be no crime analysis as it is defined here. It follows, then, that the second goal of crime analysis is to assist in criminal apprehension, given that this is a fundamental goal of the police. For instance, a detective may be investigating a robbery incident in which the perpetrator used a particular modus operandi (i.e., method of the crime). A crime analyst might assist the detective by searching a database of previous robberies for similar cases.

Another primary goal of the police is to prevent crime through methods other than apprehension. Crime analysis assists with the identification and analysis of crime and disorder problems as well as the development of crime prevention responses to those problems. For example, members of a police department may wish to conduct a residential burglary prevention campaign and would like to target their resources in areas that have the largest residential burglary problem. A crime analyst can assist them by conducting a spatial analysis of residential burglary, examining how, when, and where the burglaries occurred, and analyzing what items were stolen. The analyst can then use this information to develop crime prevention suggestions (such as closing and locking garage doors) for specific areas.

Many of the problems that police deal with or are asked to solve are not criminal in nature; rather, they have more to do with quality of life and disorder. Some
examples include false burglary alarms, loud noise complaints, traffic control, and neighbor disputes. Thus addressing and reducing disorder has become a police objective and, by extension, a subject of crime analysis. Crime analysts can assist police with these efforts by conducting research and analysis of disorder problems such as traffic accidents, noise complaints, code violations, and trespass warnings to provide officers with information they can use to address these issues before they become more serious criminal problems.

The final goal of crime analysis is to assist with the evaluation of police efforts. Such evaluation concerns two main areas: (a) the level of success of programs and initiatives implemented to control and prevent crime and disorder, and (b) how effectively police organizations are run. In recent years, local police agencies have become increasingly interested in determining whether various crime control and prevention programs and initiatives they undertake are effective. For example, an evaluation might could be conducted to determine the effectiveness of a 2-month burglary surveillance or of a crime prevention program that has sought to implement "crime prevention through environmental design" (CPTED) principles within several apartment communities. Crime analysts also assist police departments in evaluating internal organizational procedures, such as resource allocation (i.e., how officers are assigned to patrol areas), realignment of geographic boundaries, the forecasting of staffing needs, and the development of performance measures. Police agencies keep such procedures under constant scrutiny in order to ensure that the agencies are running effectively.

The flowchart presented in Figure 2.1 clarifies the various components of the definition of crime analysis used throughout this book. Crime analysis examines crime and disorder problems as they occur as well as ongoing police-related issues in order to assist police in criminal apprehension, crime prevention, crime and disorder reduction, and evaluation.
Figure 2.2 illustrates the crime analysis process, or the general way in which crime analysis is practiced. The steps involved in this process are data collection, data collation, analysis, dissemination of results, and incorporation of feedback from users of the information (Gottlieb et al., 1994). The crime analysis process begins with observations (data). Data come from many sources, including, in most cases, from outside crime analysis. That is, crime analysts examine data observed and collected by others, such as police officers, call-for-service dispatchers, community service officers, census workers, and geographers.

**Collection**

The first step in the crime analysis process is the collection of data; this step is closely connected to data storage. As noted above, this step occurs outside the direct control of the crime analysis function. In most police agencies, officers and/or civilian employees enter crime reports and other data into a computer system. Officers may write reports in longhand that are then entered into the computer system by data entry clerks, officers may input incident reports directly into a computer system, or police dispatchers may write reports directly into the computer system. The policies dictating data entry procedures, as well as the care taken by the individuals who execute the procedures, are crucial to crime analysis because they affect both the quantity and the quality of the data and subsequent analysis.

Some of the data collected in police departments are not relevant for crime analysis, so subsets of information are compiled for analysis purposes. For example,
police officers draw diagrams of car accidents for purposes of insurance claims and other legal concerns. Crime analysts are generally not concerned with the exact circumstances of each car accident; rather, they are concerned with compiling data on the dates, times, locations, and nature of all accidents, as this information can help them to understand this type of activity more generally.

In addition, the manner in which data are stored and the amount of data stored are important in crime analysis. Data must be in an electronic format, collected regularly (e.g., on a daily or weekly basis), and collected for a significant amount of time to be useful for crime analysis. Paper copies of reports and other information are not useful to crime analysts because data in this form are too time-consuming and cumbersome to analyze. Information has to be coded into an electronic database to be useful for crime analysis.

The time that elapses between the observation, or data collection, and the availability of data needs to be reasonably short if the data are to be useful for crime analysis. For example, electronic crime report data that are not available until 6 months after reports are written are not useful. The amount of data stored also needs to be adequate (e.g., multiple years) for crime analysts to have enough information to conduct satisfactory analyses. For example, 2 months’ worth of data cannot provide a comprehensive picture of a burglary problem. Finally, it is also important for crime analysts to have access to raw data. Many police computer systems only allow retrieval of individual records and/or the creation of statistical reports on paper. Crime analysts must be able to download electronic data into myriad software programs to conduct analyses using the various techniques discussed in this book.

To summarize, the crime analysis data collection process requires the following:

1. The data must be collected accurately and consistently.
2. Only data appropriate for crime analysis should be compiled (i.e., some characteristics important to crime analysis may not be collected because they are not relevant for official or legal purposes).
3. The data must be collected in a timely manner (e.g., not 6 months after the observations).
4. The data must be stored for an adequate amount of time to allow for satisfactory analysis.
5. The data must be accessible in raw form to be queried and downloaded.

These requirements apply to any data used in crime analysis, including data obtained from outside the police agency (e.g., geographic data and census information).

**Collation**

The main sources of the data (e.g., crime and calls for service) used in crime analysis are general police data collection systems. These systems are generally designed to capture and store data, but not necessarily to facilitate analysis. Because
of this, crime analysts often find it necessary to change the data purposefully before they can use them for analysis. This can include selecting subsets of data, reformatting and creating new variables, and performing quality control. Data collation entails a number of different tasks, but it generally takes three forms:

1. **Cleaning**: the process of correcting mistakes and inconsistencies in the data
2. **Geocoding**: the process of bringing crime analysis data together with geographic data so that they can be analyzed spatially (discussed in depth in Chapter 6)
3. **Creation of new variables**: the process of recoding or computing new variables from existing variables for more effective analysis (e.g., response time and categories of crime)

**Analysis**

Analysis, which takes place after data are collected and prepared, includes the use of many different statistical and visualization techniques, all of which are described at length in Parts III, IV, and V of this book. Unfortunately, it is often the case that a crime analyst is unaware of problems with the data (e.g., they do not measure what needs to be studied or they have not been collected correctly) until the analysis begins. When this occurs, the analyst must often return to the collection and collation steps to improve and/or change the way data are collected, stored, or collated. This practice, which is called the **data modification subcycle**, is intrinsic to the crime analysis process.

**Data Modification Subcycle**

The arrows in Figure 2.2 illustrate how the data modification subcycle operates. In this subprocess of crime analysis, data collection and collation are changed based on the crime analysis process itself. The crime analysis process is not linear; it moves from collection to collation to analysis, but what the analyst finds is that each of these steps can inform the next step. For example, in cleaning the data during the collation process, the analyst may gain insight into new ways data can be collected; the requirements of the analysis may cause the analyst to make changes in both collection and collation. The following are some specific examples of this interplay:

- An examination of the nature of loud parties in a particular area reveals that call-for-service data contain only a “loud noise” call type, so the analyst cannot distinguish reports of loud parties from reports of general loud noises. The analyst must go back to the data collection step and create a new call type labeled “loud party” for police officers and dispatchers to use.
- The chief of police requests that an analyst examine crime data for the past 10 years, but the data have been stored for only 5 years. The analyst conducts an examination of the existing 5 years of crime data and recommends the
adoption of new policies for data storage that will allow for the preservation of 10 years of data.

• Through analysis, a crime analyst determines that there are inconsistencies in the crime location variable (e.g., addresses are assigned to incorrect police beats); this leads to the development of a more comprehensive data cleaning process.

Although issues such as those described above may not appear in every analysis situation, an undeniable aspect of crime analysis is that analysts should never take the data at face value, because unanticipated complications often arise and data on new aspects of crime, disorder, and policing have not yet been collected. (For more detailed discussion of a variety of these issues, see Chapter 6.) The data modification subcycle is a key component of the crime analysis process; crime analysts spend a significant amount of their time and resources addressing such issues.

Dissemination

Once the data analysis is completed, the crime analyst needs to communicate the results to various types of audiences. The methods of disseminating crime analysis results include paper reports and maps, presentations, e-mails, Internet documents, and phone calls. The audiences for crime analysis information include police officers, police management, citizens, students, other analysts, and the news media.

Analysts need to keep two important considerations in mind when communicating crime analysis results. First, the presentation should be tailored to the knowledge of the particular audience. For example, for an audience of citizens, analysts might need to clarify the definitions of various types of crimes (e.g., robbery vs. burglary) before presenting analysis results. Second, the presentation of results should convey only the most necessary information. Much of the work of crime analysis takes place behind the scenes (e.g., collation of data), and the presentation of results need not include information on all that work. In disseminating their findings, crime analysts should include only information that is relevant to the topic or issue at hand. For example, it is not necessary for an analyst to present every detail of an analysis project when the project’s findings can easily be communicated through one or two key points. Although it is important that analysts document their data collection, collation, and analysis methods, in disseminating their results they should present only the content most appropriate for their particular audiences.

In addition to assisting police departments, crime analysts can contribute to the creation of knowledge about crime, disorder issues, and general police practices through the dissemination of their analysis results to other analysts, researchers, and police practitioners. Such results can inform police practices (e.g., enforcement or prevention efforts) and crime analysis practices (e.g., duplication of successful data collection methods and analytic techniques) as well as add to the general knowledge about crime and other police-related issues (e.g., the nature of prostitution in rural areas). This is not to say that one report from one crime analyst is likely to create all the knowledge about a given topic; rather, the dissemination of crime analysis results
from numerous police agencies over time can begin to form a body of knowledge, which is the goal of any social science.

Feedback

After disseminating the results of their analyses, crime analysts receive feedback from the individuals to whom they provided the information. As in the data modification subcycle, feedback from the use of the products of an analysis can help to inform the entire process further. Analysts may receive feedback about the quality of particular analyses or reports, about the nature of the data analyzed, or about the usefulness of their analyses for decision making.

Summary

To reiterate: The crime analysis process is not linear; it is cyclical in that each step in the process can inform subsequent steps as the analyst gains insight and receives feedback. Crime analysts spend much time and energy on the subcycle of data modification; however, with improved policies, technologies, databases, training, and examples of effective analysis, the process is constantly evolving. In each of the types of crime analysis discussed in the next section, crime analysts follow the basic process described above, although the specific data, methods, and purposes of their analyses may differ.

Types of Crime Analysis

The term crime analysis refers to a general concept and to a discipline practiced in the policing community. This discipline is further broken down into subsets of crime analysis that differ in purpose, scope, data, and analysis techniques. These subsets range from data-rich, investigation-focused types of crime analysis to more general and research-focused types, as described below.

Intelligence Analysis

The purposes of intelligence analysis are to identify networks of offenders and criminal activity as well as to assist the police in apprehending those violators of the law (Petersen, 1994). These networks are typically related to organized crime (“the Mafia”), gangs, drug traffickers, prostitution rings, financial fraud rings, or combinations of these criminal enterprises. Intelligence analysis is conducted within police departments and is centrally concerned with criminal activity occurring within specific jurisdictions (e.g., city, county, or state borders); however, police departments often work with neighboring jurisdictions and national officials concerning criminal activity in their local areas.

Much of the data examined in intelligence analysis is gathered by police through surveillance, wiretapping, informants, and participant observation (i.e., undercover...
work). The type of information examined is not limited to criminal information; it may include the telephone conversations, travel information, financial/tax information, and family and business relationships of those under investigation. By analyzing these data, intelligence analysts seek to link information together, prioritize information, identify relationships, and distinguish areas for further investigation. Intelligence analysts work closely with police officers and are often officers themselves.

Criminal Investigative Analysis

In the 1970s and 1980s, what is now known as criminal investigative analysis was usually referred to as criminal profiling. The frequent misuse of the term profiling in the popular media since that time has led practitioners to change the term to criminal investigative analysis. This type of analysis entails the process of constructing “profiles” of offenders who have committed serious crimes. Criminal investigative analysts use the elements of the crimes these offenders have committed to infer certain things about the offenders, including characteristics such as personality type, social habits, and work habits. For example, a crime scene that is very bloody and messy implies a different type of offender than does a crime scene where the offender has cleaned up all the blood.

The primary purpose of criminal investigative analysis is to help criminal investigators identify and prioritize suspects by inferring the personal characteristics of likely offenders. This very specific type of crime analysis is done primarily on the national police level, as the crime patterns associated with serious crimes frequently cross jurisdictional boundaries.

A subset of criminal investigative analysis is geographic profiling. In this type of analysis, the geographic locations of an offender’s crimes (such as body dump sites or encounter sites) are used to identify and prioritize areas where the offender is likely to live (Rossmo, 2000). Once again, the goal is to identify and capture the offender.

Although intelligence analysis and criminal investigative analysis are both types of crime analysis, the analytic techniques, products, and purposes associated with them differ significantly from those associated with the three types discussed below. In practice, intelligence analysis and criminal investigative analysis are seen almost as separate disciplines; thus I have included the above information on these two types of crime analysis for background purposes only. The remainder of this book focuses on the three types described below: tactical, strategic, and administrative crime analysis.

Tactical Crime Analysis

Tactical crime analysis (TCA) may be defined as follows:

Tactical crime analysis is the study of recent criminal incidents and potential criminal activity through the examination of characteristics such as how, when, and where the activity has occurred to assist in pattern development, investigative lead and suspect identification, and case clearance. (adapted from Boba, 2001)
TCA focuses on recent crimes and on specific information about the methods of the crimes as well as the individuals and vehicles involved. The data analyzed come from formal police reports, which include information on the characteristics of crimes, such as method of entry, point of entry, suspect’s actions, type of victim, and type of weapon used, as well as date, time, location, and type of location. The types of crimes typically examined in TCA are those in which the offender does not know the victim and those for which adequate information about the crime (method of the crime) is available for analysis. These include, but are not limited to, commercial and residential burglary, robbery, and sexual crime (e.g., rape, public sexual indecency, and indecent exposure). TCA also examines field information collected by patrol officers regarding potential criminal activity, such as suspicious activity calls for service and criminal trespass warnings, along with information on scars, tattoos, or other marks that police officers report about their contacts in the field.

TCA has three goals: (a) to link crimes and thus identify patterns, (b) to identify potential suspects of crimes or crime patterns, and (c) to link solved crimes to open cases and thus help to close or clear cases. Because detectives and police officers spend most of their time investigating individual cases, they often do not have time to take a step back to identify patterns. TCA is the process of taking this step back; by examining many crimes together, tactical crime analysts can identify patterns as well as assist with linking patterns to potential offenders.

**Strategic Crime Analysis**

Strategic crime analysis (SCA) may be defined as follows:

Strategic crime analysis is the study of crime problems and other police-related issues to determine long-term patterns of activity as well as to evaluate police responses and organizational procedures. (adapted from Boba, 2001)

Because the scope of SCA involves long-term patterns of activity, the data and analysis methods employed in this kind of analysis are primarily quantitative (although in-depth analyses may also make use of qualitative data and methods). That is, strategic crime analysts use various statistical methods to examine electronic databases containing hundreds, thousands, and tens of thousands of records. These analysts deal with variables such as date, time, location, and type of incident instead of with qualitative data such as narrative descriptions of incidents.

The two primary purposes of SCA are (a) to assist in the identification and examination of long-term crime problems and (b) to evaluate police responses to problems and the organizational procedures of police agencies. Examination of problems may include the analysis of crime rates, repeat victimization, hot spots, and environmental characteristics that affect opportunities and incidents of crime. The findings of strategic crime analysts’ research and evaluation of police responses to crime problems assist police agencies in assessing their effectiveness. The examination of such police procedures as deployment and staffing or redistricting
of beats or precincts is also called operational analysis because it deals with the operations of police agencies and not the nature of crime problems and patterns.\(^1\)

**Administrative Crime Analysis**

Administrative crime analysis (ACA) may be defined as follows:

Administrative crime analysis is the presentation of interesting findings of crime research and analysis based on legal, political, and practical concerns to inform audiences within police administration, city government/council, and citizens. (adapted from Boba, 2001)

ACA is different from tactical and strategic crime analysis in that it is concerned with the presentation of findings rather than with pattern identification, statistical analysis, or research. ACA is the process of selecting interesting and important findings from previously conducted analyses and formatting that information appropriately for specific audiences. Often the type of information presented represents only the “tip of the iceberg” of the complete analysis and research. The purpose of the analysis and the audience for its findings largely determine what is presented; in addition, the crime analyst must take into account legal (e.g., privacy and confidentiality), political (e.g., union issues, election concerns), and practical (e.g., complexity and length of the information) concerns.

The primary purpose of ACA is to inform audiences. As the audiences for crime analysis information vary from one situation to the next, the type and quantity of information selected for presentation also vary. Unlike tactical and strategic crime analysis, the audience for which is usually line officers and line supervisors, ACA is primarily intended for administrators and command staff, city government officials, news media, and citizens. The use of the Internet to disseminate information on crime analysis provides an example of ACA. The audience for a police Internet site includes citizens, police personnel, business owners, victims, criminals, and news media outlets—essentially everyone—thus the type of information published on such a site is selected and formatted with a wide array of consumers in mind.

**Summary Points**

This chapter has defined crime analysis, described the crime analysis process, and described five different types of crime analysis. The following are the key points addressed in this chapter:

- Scholars have defined crime analysis in many ways, but all of their definitions share these elements: Crime analysis utilizes systematic methods and information, supports the mission of the police agency, and provides information to a wide range of audiences.
• Crime analysis is the systematic study of crime and disorder problems as well as other police-related issues—including sociodemographic, spatial, and temporal factors—to assist the police in criminal apprehension, crime and disorder reduction, crime prevention, and evaluation.
• Crime analysis is not haphazard or anecdotal; rather, it involves the application of data collection procedures, analytic methods, and statistical techniques.
• Crime analysis entails more than the study of criminal incidents; it includes the examination of other information that is of concern to police, including disorder activity and police operational information.
• Temporal, spatial (crime mapping), and sociodemographic factors are key areas of focus in crime analysts’ examinations of crime, disorder, and other police-related issues.
• The goals of crime analysis are to assist police in criminal apprehension, crime and disorder reduction, crime prevention, and evaluation.
• The crime analysis process—that is, the general way in which crime analysis is practiced—includes the steps of data collection, data collation, analysis, dissemination of results, and the receipt of feedback from users of the information.
• The data modification subcycle is a subprocess within the crime analysis process in which the analyst makes changes in data collection and collation procedures based on insights gained during the analysis.
• The term crime analysis refers to a general concept and to a discipline practiced in the policing community. The five major types of crime analysis—intelligence analysis, criminal investigative analysis, tactical crime analysis, strategic crime analysis, and administrative crime analysis—differ from one another in purpose, scope, data, and analysis techniques.
• Tactical crime analysis is the study of recent criminal incidents and potential criminal activity through the examination of characteristics such as how, when, and where the activity has occurred to assist in pattern development, investigative lead and suspect identification, and case clearance.
• Strategic crime analysis is the study of crime problems and other police-related issues to determine long-term patterns of activity as well as to evaluate police responses and organizational procedures.
• Administrative crime analysis is the presentation of interesting findings of crime research and analysis based on legal, political, and practical concerns to inform audiences within police administration, city government/council, and citizens.

Exercises

Exercise 2.1

How is the crime analysis process (data collection, data collation, analysis, dissemination, feedback) different from the scientific process (theory, hypothesis, observation, empirical generalizations)? What might explain the differences between the two?
Exercise 2.2

Compare and contrast how the five different types of crime analysis (intelligence analysis, criminal investigative analysis, tactical crime analysis, strategic crime analysis, and administrative crime analysis) can contribute to the field of policing in general and to policing's effectiveness in addressing crime and disorder.

Note

1. In the past few years, crime analysis conducted as part of problem-oriented policing has been distinguished from strategic crime analysis, with the former often referred to as problem analysis. Problem analysis may be defined as "an approach/method/process conducted within the police agency in which formal criminal justice theory, research methods, and comprehensive data collection and analysis procedures are used in a systematic way to conduct in-depth examination of, develop informed responses to, and evaluate crime and disorder problems" (Boba, 2003, p. 2). Problem analysis is distinguished from strategic crime analysis by its specific focus on identifying and understanding particular problems, assisting police responses to the problems, and evaluating those police responses.