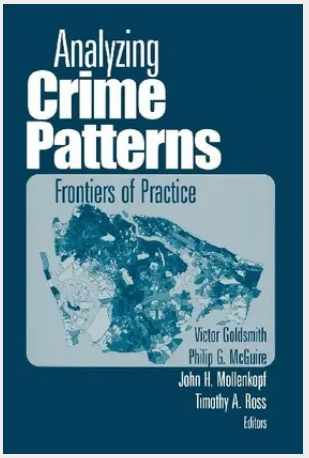
Goldsmith / McGuire / Mollenkopf

Analyzing Crime Patterns

Frontiers of Practice



Crime control continues to be a growth industry, despite the drop in crime indicators throughout the nation. This volume shows how state-of-the-art geographic information systems (GIS) are revolutionizing urban law enforcement, with an award-winning program in New York City leading the way. Electronic "pin mapping" is used to display the incidence of crime, to stimulate effective strategies and decision making, and to evaluate the impact of recent activity applied to hotspots. The expert information presented by 12 contributors will guide departments without such tools to understand the latest technologies and successfully employ them. Besides describing and assessing cutting-edge techniques of crime mapping, this book emphasizes: * the organizational and intellectual contexts in which spatial analysis of crime takes place, * the technical problems of defining, measuring, interpreting, and predicting spatial concentrations of crime, * the common use of New York City crime data, and * practical applications of what is known (e.g., a review of mapping and analysis software packages using the same data set). Students, academics, researchers, practitioners, and policymakers in the areas of criminal justice, corrections, geography, social problems, law and government, public administration, and public policy analysis will need to look at the interdisciplinary nature of both GIS and spatial dimensions of crime in order to - comprehend the variety of different approaches - address important analytic problems, - reassess public facilities and resources, and - prepare to respond more quickly to emerging hotspots.

This volume shows how state-of-the-art geographic information systems (GIS), used to display patterns of crime to stimulate effective strategies and decision-making, are revolutionizing urban law enforcement. The contributors present expert information for understanding and successfully employing the latest technologies in this field.

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