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Enhancing Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design:
Strategies for Adapting to Social Changes

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SUMMARY

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This study aims to propose strategic directions for improving Korea's crime prevention environmental design (CPTED) projects to effectively respond to evolving social dynamics. By integrating social change factors into crime prevention strategies, this research provides actionable insights for creating safer and more resilient communities.

The study examines the impacts of six key social change dimensions—demographic shifts, economic and social changes, cultural transformations, technological advancements, environmental and energy trends, and industrial transitions—on crime incidence and urban safety. A review of domestic and international crime prevention policies identifies gaps in Korea's existing frameworks, particularly in addressing the needs of single-person households, aging populations, and city center decline. Current CPTED strategies often focus on physical infrastructure improvements, such as CCTV installation and lighting enhancements, while failing to adequately address broader social and community factors. Using Q-methodology and AHP (Analytic Hierarchy Process), priority areas for improvement were identified, emphasizing tailored

responses to regional characteristics and stakeholder needs.

Key findings highlight the need for an integrated approach that combines technology, community engagement, and systemic policy improvements, moving beyond physical security measures. Challenges such as the rise of single-person households, community disintegration, and urban hollowing underscore the necessity of flexible, region-specific strategies. Incorporating smart city management tools—such as intelligent CCTVs and IoT-based systems—was emphasized as critical for real-time crime monitoring and prevention.

Based on these findings, the study presents four core recommendations:

1. Integrated Living Safety Management: Develop holistic strategies combining crime prevention with daily safety measures, including traffic and fire safety, supported by smart technologies.

2. Smart City Integration: Leverage advanced technologies for proactive and real-time crime monitoring systems, enhancing long-term prevention.

3. Customized Local Strategies and Collaboration: Strengthen regional governance by empowering local governments and fostering collaboration among police, residents, and stakeholders to develop locally tailored strategies.

4. Strengthened Institutional Frameworks: Enhance legal and institutional foundations for sustainable and adaptable crime prevention initiatives, with cooperative frameworks between central and local governments.

This study provides a forward-looking framework that emphasizes sustainability, community engagement, and advanced technologies to guide policymakers in addressing evolving safety challenges.

Keywords :

Social Change, Crime Prevention, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), Crime Prevention Environmental Design Projects, Public Safety, Life Safety