Models of Policing

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 Traditional and community policing are two policing models that have different approaches to fight crime. Both of them have their advantages as well as disadvantages when it comes to providing people with relief from crime.

 When dealing with street gangs, traditional policing would work on a reactive-basis. If and when an incident occurs, the police personnel are warned regarding it and investigation is taken out. In an ideal situation, the criminals would get caught and order would be restored. The punishment would be a lesson for other criminals. But there is no guarantee that there would not be any more incidents like the one that previously happened. Also, another drawback is that an incident is bound to happen before something is done (“Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS)—Community Policing,” n.d.).

 On the other hand with the participation of the community, community policing would proactively find out the root cause of the street gangs and why they would cause disruptive activities in the community. This would help people prepare in advance regarding any unforeseen incident that might occur (U.S. Department of Justice, n.d.). Community policing would also adapt to changes more quickly. But it would take the interest of the community which would be headed by someone reliable to remove the street gangs from the root (Wilson & Petersilia, 2010).

 In my opinion, the community policing would serve as a better option because street gangs work on the basis of the information regarding that particular community (An Evaluation of POLICY’s Advocacy Manual: Networking for Policy Change , 2002). If people of the community are proactive in finding the cause of the trouble, then the street gangs may not be able to find any lead that they could capitalize on.

 In a multicultural population, community policing would be a better option as it would allow everyone to feel that they are part of the community and no one would be isolated from the cause of fighting crime. As a result, the community would take more part.

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