

**PROJECT:**            *ALIBABBA'S*  
*430 Bank St.*  
*Ottawa*

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of Feb/97 I attended a community meeting in centre-town. Present during this meeting were Counsellor Diane Holmes and Elizabeth Arnold, District One Sgt. Simpson, residents, landlords, and business owners of the affected area. The focus of meeting centered around a restaurant called "ALI BABBA'S".

Concerns were that this restaurant was just a front for drug trafficking and as a result the area was being negatively affected by drug addicts, prostitutes, damage to property and vagrants accosting people.

Members of the community had stated that the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Drug Unit had executed two warrants at this place in the last month yet the problem did not stop; it only increased.

The SARA model was used as follows:

Scanning:

The real problems identified by the community:

- prostitution around the Gladstone and Bank St. area
- prostitutes servicing their customers around local properties
- discarded condoms
- drug addicts hanging about the area
- discarded used needles
- addicts and prostitutes accosting people
  
- increase in damage to property and break and enters

The perceived problems identified by the community:

- fear

The Drug squad executed two search warrants in Jan/97. Several people were charged, Cocaine and proceeds were seized. The problem still did not end, In fact the concerned people indicated the problem increased.

Analysis:

Looking at the problem, I wanted to identify:

- the landlord to the building
- the current tenants
- query the tenants on CPIC

For each stakeholder I would require the following from them:

Residents-landlords-business owners/managers

- *provide police with observations posts*
- *provide police with information through their observations*
- *provide police with written authority to act on their behalf to enforce the provisions of the Trespass to Property Act*

Counsellors

- *contact the landlord of the problem business*
- *contact the Fire Department for business inspection to conform to code*
- *contact the health Inspector to conduct cleanliness inspection*

District Community Police Centre 1

- *provide uniformed officers*
- *assist in the implementation of the Response to the problem*
- *continue monitoring after response is complete*

Ottawa-Carleton Regional Drug Unit

- *provide background information on tenants, "drug" customers*
- *provide informant information that may assist in response*

Community Response Unit

- *coordinate the project*
- *in conjunction with District 1, provide officers in a high visibility capacity*
- *provide feedback to all stakeholders*
- *supply intelligence information to Drug unit*

**R**esponse:

The goals set out for a successful project were as follows:

- *high visibility by CRU and District 1 officers*
- *intercept "Drug" customers*
- *perform CPIC checks to ensure "Drug" customers and tenants of 430 Bank St. abiding by conditions of release*
- *provide negative atmosphere for the criminal element associating to "Ali Babba's"*
- *cutting off financial reward of money for Drugs and effectively shutting down this business*

Assessment.

Upon completion of the response an assessment was commenced. The response project ran for one week. After that period, "Ali Babba's" locked their doors and did not re-open. As a result our goal was effectively reached.

On the 17th of Mar/97 a meeting was held with the stakeholders to exchange information and concerns. The feedback was extremely positive with the residents, tenants and business persons feeling safer and satisfied at the end result.

District 1 was tasked with monitoring the situation after the fact.

**STATISTICS OF PROJECT:**

- 78 VEHICLE/PERSON STOPS
  - 12 PROVINCIAL OFFENCES NOTICES ISSUED
  - 4 CRIMINAL CHARGES LAID
  - 2 ARREST WARRANTS EXECUTED
  - 1 PROVINCIAL STATUTE ARREST
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- 16 DECKS OF COCAINE SEIZED, \$1400 APPROX. VALUE
  - \$350 CASH SEIZED

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