

Victims perspective on electronic monitoring

CEP

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Outline

- The crime victim's perception of using electronic monitoring in the criminal justice system
- The use of bilateral electronic monitoring (BEM) in Europe
- Electronic monitoring and restraining order

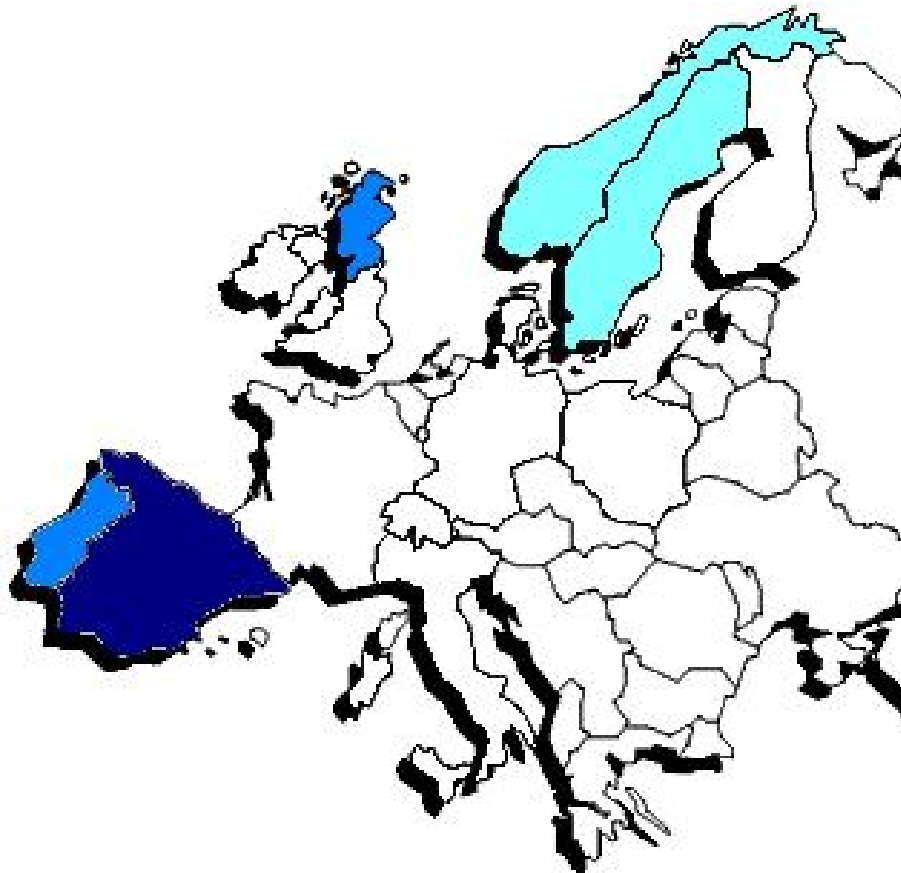


Crime victims view of electronic monitoring

- Swedish study from National Council for Crime Prevention, 2007:3
- How do crime victims feel about offenders serving the whole or part of their prison sentence with EM?
- Interviews with 42 victims of violent crime, sexual crime or robbery
- Both positive and negative responses



The use of bilateral electronic monitoring, BEM, in Europe



Restraining order in Sweden

- The Restraining Orders Act – 1988
- "Prevent crimes against, and to create a sense of security for, individuals who are subject to stalking and harassment, particularly domestic violence"
- Crime preventive measure
- Public Prosecutor decides, the local Police is responsible for preventing breaches
- Violations are punishable



Conclusions from evaluation of restraining order

- The number of applications increases
- 2/3 of the cases relates to domestic violence
- The application is almost always followed by a crime notification
- At least 1/3 of the restraining orders is violated
- Large proof difficulties



Pilot - Using electronic monitoring with restraining order

- Strengths and limitations of the technology
- Organization
- How does the technology affect the offender, victim and third part?


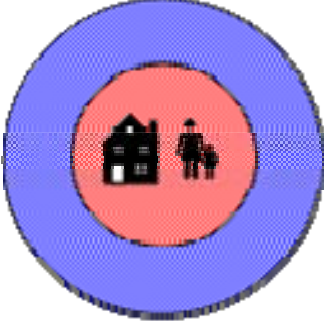



Three alternative methods

- Radio Frequency
- Tracking of offender
- Tracking of offender and crime victim



Conclusions zones

	Personal zone	Local zon	Regional zon
			
Size (radius)	100-200 m	1-2 km	20-400 km
Possibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Some opportunity for self protection * Ability to <u>follow up</u> and <u>post- evidence</u> * RFID means that warnings are based on the most <u>stable</u> and reliable technology which requires the least of the users 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Time to <u>warn</u> the victim before physical contact * Possibility for monitoring centre to <u>discourage non threatening</u> offenders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Possibility to <u>physical discourage</u> even threatening offenders. * <u>Focus on the offender</u>. The victim does not even need to be informed. * <u>Suitable</u> for high-risk cases.
Limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The physical <u>meeting is taken place</u> almost the same time as the alarm goes. * <u>Not possible</u> for the monitoring centre to act <u>proactive</u>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Large zones in combination with dual tracking is difficult, <u>for the privacy</u> as well as practical for the offender. * Requires that you <u>don't</u> live as <u>neighbours</u>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Only suitable for protection of fixed excluded zones. * Large <u>invasion of privacy</u> of the offender. * Works only if victim and offender lives in <u>different areas</u>. * To prevent threats, places considerable demands on the emergency organization.
Technology	RFID & (GPS)	GPS & GSM	GSM & GPS



Possibilities and limitations of the technology

- Today's system for bilateral electronic monitoring is relatively untested
- No electronic wall
- + Can work preventive
- + Support for technical proof
- + Warn the victim
- + Discourage non purposeful threats
- + Discourage purposeful threats



Affect on the offender

- Requires to handle the equipment according to current rules, e.g. recharge the batteries
- Understand and act on instructions from the monitoring centre
- The offender has to be motivated
- Can result in a lifestyle change in combination with support
- Privacy offensive



Affect on the victim

- Need to understand and to be able to handle equipment
- Communication with the monitoring centre
- Gives the victim a strong sense of control
- A lot of false alarm may cause concern
- No guarantee for the safety



Proposal for new legislation in Sweden

- New legislation: Restraining order with condition of electronic monitoring
- Court order, preventive measure based on a risk assessment
- Tracking of offender
- The Police will be responsible for the electronic monitoring



Conclusions

