

Critical Attitudes Associated with Community Policing*

1. A sense of personal responsibility for an area and its people.
 - A feeling of ownership for what happens
2. Belief in importance of attempting to improve conditions within an area.
 - A desire to assess what you have control over and act responsively as it relates to crime and disorder.
3. Belief that concerns of neighborhood residents matter.
 - Recognizing police do not always know what citizens want and are not afraid to ask.
4. Belief that citizens possess information necessary for police to do their jobs well.
 - An understanding police are heavily dependent on assistance from citizens to be successful.
5. Commitment to educating and empowering citizens to act.
 - A desire to teach citizens how to help themselves.
6. Belief in working with citizens to solve problems.
 - Recognizing limitations and a willingness to pursue alternative courses of action.
7. Belief in working with other government or community agencies to solve problems.
 - Understands the importance and is capable of working in teams to accomplish results.
8. Willingness to make “extra efforts.”
 - Is willing to go above and beyond what is normally expected.

*Source: Wycoff, M. & T. Oettmeier. (1993). Evaluating Patrol Officer Performance Under Community Policing: the Houston Experience. Houston Police Department, Houston, Texas.