What can market surveillance learn from reducing violent crime in Chicago?

Chris Evans
S2E4.com
What can market surveillance learn from reducing violent crime in Chicago?

Chris Evans

S2E4.com
Chicago police had a problem...

violent crime was not decreasing despite all their efforts
Chicago police had a problem...
EU market surveillance authorities (MSAs) had a problem...

non-compliance
violent crime was not decreasing despite all their efforts
Violent crime has reduced in Chicago but non-compliance in the EU has *not* reduced...

*Despite much more pan-EU coordination, much more money spent on capacity building, and much much more testing.*
Chicago’s success was based on the adoption of a new strategy...
Does the cureviolence.org strategy work?

Cure Violence stops the spread of violence by using the methods associated with disease control.

**PROVEN IMPACT**

- **63%**
  Reduction in shootings
  (New York City)

- **45%**
  Reduction in violent crime
  (Port of Spain, Trinidad)

- **88%**
  Reduction in killing
  (San Pedro Sula, Honduras)

Findings from independent evaluations from prominent researchers.
The Chicago strategy was to adopt that of medical professionals dealing with an outbreak of disease...

- Locating and eliminating the source;
- Stopping the spread by:
  - Publicity campaigns;
  - Teaching and supporting healthy habits
  - Maintaining a constant watch for new outbreaks, moving fast if there are signs of any;
  - Partnerships with other actors e.g. civil society, consumer and environmental NGOs;
- Treating those already suffering from the disease;
- Developing vaccines and similar immunization programmes
How does this compare with the practices of EU MSAs?
EU MSAs are hunters. Their “prey” is already out in the wild (their national marketplace)…
They must stop hunting.

By then it is too late, the products are already scattered out in the marketplace. To try to locate them there can never fully succeed...
Instead, adopt the Chicago (cureviolence.org) philosophy:

#1: Locating and eliminating the source

• This is the most important change of all. It requires targeting to be refocussed on finding the source of the non-compliance i.e. at front-of-pipe rather than at end-of-pipe. Sources are at manufacturers’ premises, at importers warehouses and, ideally, at the point of import.
Instead, adopt the Chicago (cureviolence.org) philosophy:

#2: *Stop the spread*

- Ensuring the entire supply-side community is aware of the issue of non-compliance requires communications to be a key tool in the armoury of the market surveillance authorities.
Instead, adopt the Chicago (cureviolence.org) philosophy:

#3: *Develop the equivalent of vaccines and similar immunisation*

- This could be provided through a robust form of third-party certification, a requirement for which does not yet exist under the EU product energy efficiency regulations. Experience from elsewhere, such as the USEPA’s Energy Star® program, shows that this is an effective tool.
• Market surveillance authorities in the EU must recognise that they are not winning the battle against non-compliance.

• Winning, will need a new approach.

• Health professionals have demonstrated how this could be achieved.

• Other law enforcement agencies have adopted this approach with success. It is time that EU MSAs did so too.
WE CAN CURE VIOLENCE Non-