

Title: Mapping the Health and Crime Nexus Using Spatial Video and Geonarratives: Examples from the United States

Andrew Curtis (Corresponding author)  
Director of the GIS, Health & Hazards Lab  
Department of Geography  
Kent State University  
Telephone: 626 429 9476  
acurti13@kent.edu  
<http://www.kent.edu/CAS/Geography/ghhlab/>

Eric Jefferis  
College of Public Health, Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Kent State University

Lauren Porter  
Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice  
University of Maryland

Eric Shook  
Department of Geography  
Kent State University

**Abstract:** The geographic analysis of health or crime events, such as the location of prostitution (and related diseases), the interaction between drugs and the built environment (including overdoses and important spaces), and different expressions of street-level violence present a complex problem often limited by data availability. Current trends in both health and crime analysis are to break apart the spatial nuance within a hotspot in terms of micro places. The justification is compelling, it is important to contextualize the buildings, streets, spaces *and experiences* of those who live in the problematic area. This poster will present a spatial video approach that can be used to capture typically unavailable ephemeral fine scale data, across multiple time periods for a dynamic urban landscape, and from multiple “experts” in the form of geonarratives, which is an environment inspired dialogue. The insights of residents, volunteers and professionals can be used to describe the context and importance of buildings, streets, corners, and the perceived impact of different interventions. This poster will present a standardized methodology for what until now has largely been an experimental concept. Using Akron, Ohio, and Los Angeles, California as study spaces, multiple geonarratives will be combined to provide a comprehensive bottom-up understanding of the crime-health nexus. Perspectives from community police, ex-offenders, and local residents will narrate the landscape before their insights are dissected for spatial content and then mapped in association with more traditional data layers (such as 911 call for service). This poster will describe the methodology involved, the protocols that will result in a successful geonarrative, and how these spatially encoded textual streams can be mapped and analyzed.

**Keywords:** Spatial Video, Geonarratives, Microspaces, Health, Crime, Blight