Class Activities

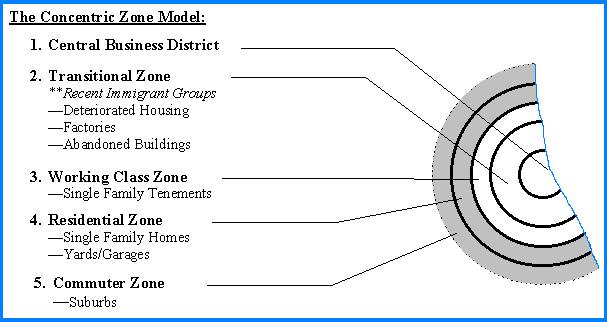
# Chapter 9: Social Structure Theories of Crime II: Social Disorganization and Subcultures

**Class Activity 1: Ecological Principles in City Growth and Concentric Circles**

**Diagram (Single or Paired Activity)**

**Instructions:** Diagram the concentric zones as identified by Burgess. Describe each zone below.

1. Zone I
2. Zone II
3. Zone III
4. Zone IV
5. Zone V

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**NOTE: Above is a diagram of the concentric zones for the instructor to use.**

**Class Activity 2: Early Theoretical Developments and Research in Cultural/Subcultural Theory**

**Define and Apply (Single or Paired Activity)**

**Instructions:** Walter Miller proposed a subculture theory. Miller identified six focal concerns that represent the value system of the entire lower class. Define the six values. Discuss how the six focal concerns might be applied to gang-related crime.

1. Fate
2. Autonomy
3. Trouble
4. Toughness
5. Excitement
6. Smartness

**Class Activity 3: Policy Implications**

**Case Study**

You have recently been appointed as the chief of police of a large urban police department. One of the primary problems your department is facing is the increasing gang and drug activity in the downtown area. Citizens have complained that the gangs have vandalized the buildings and taken over abandoned houses in the neighborhood for drug activity and prostitution. There also has been an increase in violent crimes including assaults, drive-by shootings, robberies, and homicides. As the chief, you have to decide how to address these issues.

1. What are some indications that this neighborhood is suffering from social disorganization?
2. Describe in detail a plan to “take back the neighborhood.” Your plan should describe the role of the police chief, the police officers, the community (people living in the community and community leaders), and the mayor.
3. How can you try to ensure your plan will be effective? Be specific.