

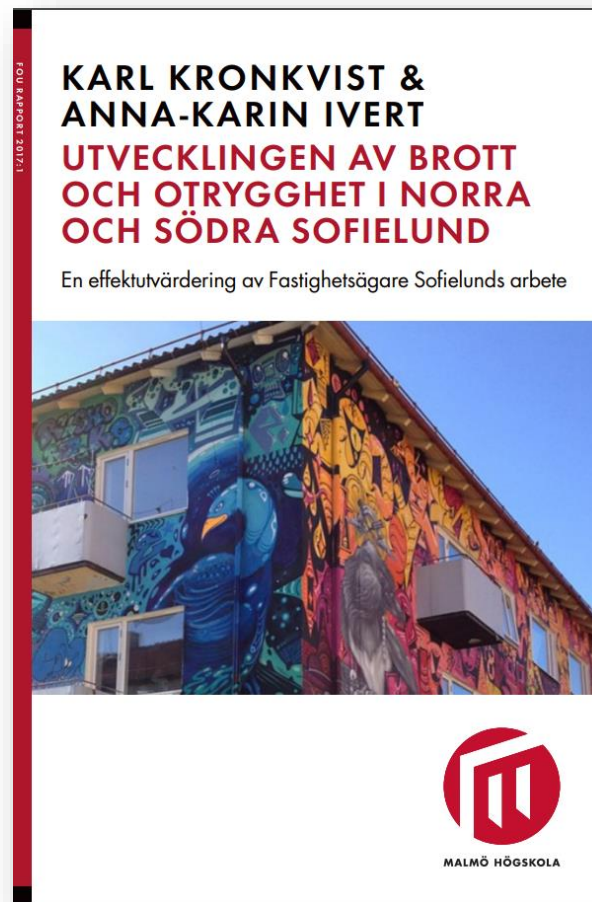
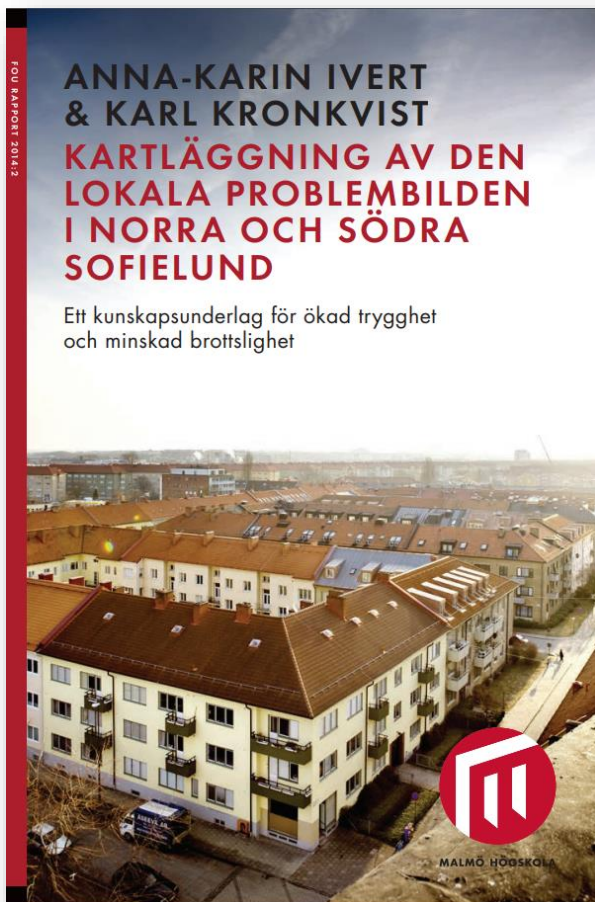
BID in a Swedish context: BID Sofielund

The effect of BID on crime and fear of crime in a inner-city residential neighbourhood

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Why are BIDs supposed to affect crime and fear of crime?

- General improvements to the physical environment and enhanced public area maintenance → signals social control → less attractive to potential offenders.
- Increased formal and informal social control → more "eyes on the streets"
- Increased cohesion and common goals.

However...A BID might facilitate crime by being busy places attracting a lot of different people and in turn increasing the chance of motivated offenders and suitable targets to coincide in space and time.

What do we know from previous (US) research?

- The effect of BIDs on crime are inconclusive
 - Depending on type of crime
 - Depending on type of data
 - Depending on time-frame
- And what about fear of crime...?

When are BID's successful?

Positive effects (in relation to crime) are found in BID's ...

- Where there have been a general economic development (gentrification).
- With economic resources and that invested heavily in crime prevention (e.g. by hiring private security or focusing on keeping the streets clean and safe).

BID Sofielund

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Aim

To assess the effects and describe experience of BID in a Swedish context

Focus on

- Social/physical disorder and crime
- Fear of crime
- Experiences of property owners



BID Sofielund



Development in relation to crime and fear of crime

Summary of findings

- Decrease in social and physical disorder.
- Decrease in self reported victimisation.
- Mixed results regarding police recorded crimes –e.g. a decrease in property crime, violent crime remained unchanged and drug related offences increased.
- More residents feeling safe when they were out by them self in the neighbourhood late at night.



Development in relation to crime and fear of crime

Summary of findings (cont.)

- Overall positive experiences of the property owners.
- High level of trust among members, and among and representatives from local authorities.
- Improved relations between different property owners and between property owners and local authorities.



Conclusions

- Findings indicate a overall positive shift in the neighbourhood, but there is a need to...
- ...follow the development over a longer time period.
- ...to investigate the crime preventive activities that have been implemented – what have been done and why? Single activities that make a difference or the overall investment?



Thank you! Questions?

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