

Study on Snatch Theft and Pickpocket in Commercial Areas at Klang Valley

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Abstract

Studies have shown that snatch theft has been rising in the recent years. Snatch theft crime has become from bad to worse, the local media, especially the press, has been replete with reports of crime and violence. Pick-pocketing is one of the oldest and most widespread crimes in the world. Hundred (100) respondents participated in this questionnaire at commercial areas in Klang Data were gathered from the respondents on the frequency occurrence of the snatch theft and pickpocket crimes, location of the incidents and the number of victims that was involve or affected by the crime. The findings indicated that 70 percent of snatch theft victims were women as they are more vulnerable, and these incidents usually happen at commercial areas where most of the respondents are working, studying or residing. The majority of the snatch theft incidents occur when victims are alone. Unlike snatch theft, victims of pickpocket are far less with only 33 percent .Many respondents did not feel that pickpocketing is a serious crime even though awareness campaigns were held to educate the public on this crime. Most respondents did not want to attend these campaigns because they do not feel it was important. In conclusion, not many know the importance to educate them to take precautionary measures to avoid these crimes.

Keywords: Snatch theft, pickpocket, Klang Valley, rob and run tactics, awareness