Access Control and Territorial Reinforcement

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Controlling people's access to certain facilities and places can help reduce the incidence of crime. However, access control will not be desirable in all locations.

Territorial reinforcement occurs when there is a sense of ownership or proprietorship over an area. Clear demarcations between public and private space send cues to users of an area. Land that has ambiguous ownership is often the site of illegal dumping and other crimes because there is no obvious capable guardianship.



Bollards can restrict vehicular traffic in an area.



Fences and signage prevent or restrict access.



Signage alerts transitions from public to private space.



The garden in this photo establishes a clear boundary to this private property and it also acts to deter graffiti.



Entry phones restrict and control access to residential complexes.



Swipe cards and biometric security systems routinely prevent access to secure areas.



This entrance clearly denotes movement from the footpath to the park. The fence, bollards and sandstone encased garden bed provide a clear edge to the park and separate different features of the park.



The shared cycle and pathway are clearly separated from the residential complex. The line of trees, the garden bed, the raised garden and then the fence line show transitions from public to private space.



The use of colour in this area highlights different paths and different functions. The raised balconies also limit natural ladders, but provide some surveillance over the park.



The clearly defined paths through this site encourage movement along the designated pathways.



This small area is a site of frequent dumping. It is not immediately apparent what purpose this area provides or who is responsible for its upkeep.



Access control measures are frequently undermined by users of the area (i.e. staff / residents).