

The Effects of Winter on Crime

Transcription by Evernote

Good evening.

Winter sucks. I despise winter. These last few days have been especially frigid. I don't think it went above zero the whole weekend. I long for the day when I can get out of this bitter climate.

Besides sucking in general, winter can have an effect on crime. Have you thought about that? You have to be mentally ill to want to live in a place like Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois. If you're mentally ill, you're often more likely to commit crime [like sociologists say]. Mentally ill people can't control themselves as well as so-called sane people. As they say, we hear about a lot of cases where people who are mentally ill in some way commit crimes. Some people say all criminals are mentally ill by virtue of committing crimes. You would think, thus, there would be a greater amount of crime in colder parts.

I have read that in North Minneapolis, a place that sounds like a cesspool, "the crime rate is four times what the average is nationwide." Sometimes the mentally ill are actually less threatening. Some mentally ill people are self-destructive. Thus, they won't destroy you. They should be destroying themselves. They hate themselves. Or perhaps they get thrills from hurting themselves. They may not get thrills from hurting others. Some mentally ill people want to withdraw and be in places of seclusion. In such conditions, they're far less likely to commit crimes.

What type of person lives in the North? Generally, weak losers. If you're a weak loser, you may want to commit crimes, but you'll probably suck at committing crimes. You probably won't be any good. The strong losers are living in other places. Think about it. If you're a cool gangbanger, you want to go hang out in Minnesota or Wisconsin? Probably not. If you're a cool gangbanger, you want to go to:

- Dallas
- Fort Worth
- Los Angeles
- New York
- Miami

- Phoenix
- England

You name it. But not Minnesota or Wisconsin. Besides the Twin Cities, Minnesota has little. The Twin Cities aren't a DMV or metropolitan area. To the east and west, you have Duluth. All the people over Duluth. Rochester? Give me a break. Mankato? St. Peter? It's not even worse. Milwaukee is a tough city. Madison? So-so. After Madison, you got nothing. Platteville, Eau Claire, La Crosse, Stevens Point, River Falls, River Falls. What a joke. I want to go hang out with the cows. No gangbangers don't think like that. Thus, you would think gangbangers would go to more temperate climates.

Sociology actually has something to say about this. I read in one textbook that "there is a correlation between crime rates.: Crime rates and temperature up to a certain point." The book said, "once it gets really, really hot, crime plateaus or goes down. But generally, as the temperature rises, so does crime." The book argued, for example, "when the weather is warm, people are more likely to be out and more likely to be active, thus commit crime. While when it's really cold, people are less likely to be out."

From personal observations, this seems to hold true. When I'm out and about during the cold months, there's hardly anybody also out and about. A lot of people get in their cars, but not that many people are outside. Although I hate the winter, I don't let it stop me. I probably hate it more than most people do, yet it seems to stop me the least. I ran all year round. I ran both days this miserable weekend. It's often so cold in the cold areas that you barely want to be out there, much less stick around to commit a crime. I even feel more secure about leaving my bike out. In a miserable area like this, it can be awfully foolish to leave a bike out, especially during the night. It'll be snatched up in a moment. Although it has even happened to me. But when it's bitterly cold, criminals want to get to the heat just like anybody else. So they don't want to stick around and try to take your bike off.

I often have a sense of inner peace when it is warm. I don't prefer extreme heat, but to me it's much better than extreme cold. Extreme heat doesn't bother me as much as it does most people. It seems like a lot of other people hate the heat more than they hate the cold. You even hear people come out and say that. Ideally, I think a great temperature is anywhere between 60 and 80 degrees. When the temperature is in that range, I feel

this sense of inner peace. When you feel a sense of inner peace, you're not very likely going to commit a crime. People who have inner peace generally don't commit crimes. It's the people who have terrible inner turmoil that commit crimes [like psychologists say]

Certainly not everybody is the same. I have noticed that one terrible consequence of beautiful weather is a lot of losers and scummy people come out. You'll be out enjoying a walk on a beautiful day only to have some losers in a car pass by and yell remarks at you. I hear it's even worse for women. [Like observers say] since our society teaches idiots like that to objectify women. Sometimes these losers even throw objects at you. I've had items thrown at me. When it's really cold, these losers stay inside. Sometimes it's really cold so they don't want to even roll down their windows to shout stupid remarks. They may mutter these remarks under their breath, but not actually shout them out.

The wind can have an effect. Even warm wind can affect crime. But cold wind can affect it even more. I'm a biker. I hate biking against the wind like most bikers do. Oftentimes it is necessary to either get somewhere or to get away from somewhere. Well, here's your need to have a choice. What if you are a criminal? The wind is going one way. Do you go with the wind or go against the wind? What if your best option for getaway is biking against the wind? It may be harder, it may take longer, but it will get you to safety. If the wind is cold, that makes it worse yet.

What if going with the wind will get you going much more quickly, but, and this is the big but, the cops or perhaps local anti-crime vigilantes are waiting for you. If you're a lazy criminal or weak criminal, you may choose an option that will lead to your apprehension.

If you're a date rapist, you may like the summer breeze, but the winter breeze can be another story. Cold winter winds could wind burn your face, thus making you less attractive to potential victims. You're valued as a slit-in, the date rape drugs much more quickly. In other circumstances, you can wine and dine a victim, put on the charm.

If you're a prostitute, the wind burn could really put a crap in your style because it could destroy your face, even if it's a minor ripples, like a silly bag of prostitutes, as it is bad for date rapists. The weapons you use can be affected by the wind. Buddhists have an analogy for karma: "If you ruin the wind, what if you are a criminal and you want to hurt somebody by

throwing a boomerang? But then you add the direction of the wind, and it's straight, the boomerang could come right back at you and knock you down.”

It's bad enough when it's a boomerang, but what if it's a spike you're throwing? What if you're throwing shards of glass? But if you forget about the direction of the wind, it could be bad news for you.

I don't know if wind can ever be strong enough to really affect how guns fire. I imagine the velocity of bullets is so quick that even strong winds can't alter them much. But who knows? Maybe firing bullets during Hurricane Katrina would have been futile. Maybe firing bullets by tsunami winds would be futile.

If you hit someone with numchucks and the wind blows them, they could blow them back in your face. If you're trying to steal money from somebody, the wind could blow the money away.

Sometimes strong gusts of wind can throw a person back. Usually the wind isn't strong enough to actually carry you away or to move you too far, but it can put you off balance for a moment. Pretend you are trying to grab a victim. Then just the wind happens. It could throw you back and the victim would be able to get away. The actual temperature could make a huge difference on crime.

This last weekend I had to deal with a problem I haven't dealt with for a while: my bike lock. It was hard for me to get it open. But fortunately, other times I did get it open. Do you think a criminal is wanting to stay there to break it? Good luck, criminal. Good luck. It's too cold to bother with it. Plus, you need an awfully good lock device to pick it with. The same goes for any type of lock or door. During winter, it all freezes, especially when it's below zero. And mild scenarios could result.

Sometimes when it's cold, objects can crack. You may hear a gun. It may be so cold that the bullets crack. This could be advantageous or disadvantageous. The bullets could be more potent if they have two fangs instead of one fang. It could be double the trouble. On the other hand, they may not function at all. They may lose their gunpowder. Also, they may jam in the gun. I imagine there's some temperature at which guns lock up. You won't be able to move anything. If bank locks freeze, wouldn't guns also

freeze? Frost and ice can also accumulate on the handle of a gun. The gun can slip out of your hand. You can misfire and shoot yourself in the foot. Overall, shoot someone you didn't want to shoot. You could shoot a cop by mistake. If you shoot some dirtbag loser, we all know the consequences are different than shooting a cop [like observers note]

When it's cold, frost builds on our things. Frost can must be an extra layer of protection. Gun bullets are awfully fierce, so they can probably penetrate through that. But a little extra layer could be the difference between life and death. We've all heard stories about how a Bible in a pocket saved someone's life. Perhaps a little frost could do that too. If an actual sheet of ice forms, that could be all the better for the potential victim.

If the weather prevents you from using guns, you can always fall back on knives. Sure, knives are not as glamorous and glorious as guns, and certainly not as contemporary. But what can you do sometimes? Some of the same issues that arise in the winter with guns can arise with knives. The handle could be so full of ice and frost that it slips out of your hand. The blade could crack open. Again, that could be good or bad. It would be extra potent, but perhaps they wouldn't be as usable. The blade could fall off of the knife, and then your whole plan would be rendered useless. Knives can penetrate a lot, but it's tougher than knives to penetrate. In the very end, But it's covered by my energy. In the bank, it penetrates frost and ice, maybe. And it couldn't. There's a plange awfully hard. Plus, during the cold, people's bodies are harder. Everything constricts. Thus, at night, we have to work a lot harder. If the night falls, you have your fist, right? But don't think that is a no-fail option. When it's cold, you have gloves on. Certainly, that's more comfortable for your hand. But that prevents the glow from being as effective. Therapeutic boxing is much more dangerous than boxing with gloves. Plus, it may get so cold that your fist locks in the air. You'll want to hit a layer of ice with your fist.

Rapists also worry about the cold. The cold really cramps their style. Traditional rapists will go outside and see a victim, perhaps in the dark, and rape a person outside in the elements. The cold might be damper for a rapist if it's done during the warm months. But if it's done during the cold months, it's a different story. A rapist may not care about his or her victim, but the rapist probably cares about his or herself. Plus, a rapist may not want to expose his or her body to the elements, especially his or her tender

parts. Plus, when it's cold, it's much harder to get an erection. You have to rush the sex, and that makes it less enjoyable.

Non-violent criminals even have to worry about the weather. Prostitutes need cold weather when they have the cops coming after them. Prostitutes stand on street corners. This is great when the weather is nice. When the weather is not so nice, it's a different story. When the weather is not so nice, it's uncomfortable to stand out. I know, and I have been told from doing protests and similar events outside, that it's one deal to walk outside when it's 30 degrees. There's another deal to stand in place. I've heard that movement makes a big difference. Certainly, prostitutes can move back and forth, but that looks awfully dorky. They like to stand in place and show off. Prostitutes also really need to show off their body. When it's really cold, it's vulnerable to be out there. It's worse yet when you have to expose your bare flesh. You need to expose your bare flesh to attract customers. When it's so cold, the customers probably don't want to stand out there. So what can you do? I imagine prostitution goes very far down when the weather gets cold.

One crime I commit all the time is going to the bathroom in public. I'm a terrible criminal, but in a way, for life. I have an ever-weaker bladder, and when you run, it's often hard to control going to the bathroom. I try to go into cooler places such as behind trees and bushes. But it's still probably technically illegal. Fortunately, I've never had a problem with that.

Two concerns are cold weather people and frostbite and hypothermia. This is true for all people, criminals and non-criminals alike. Most people have said "nature doesn't discriminate": Because no matter who you are, nature will treat you the same. This is certainly true. Whether you have criminal intentions or you are a law-abiding citizen, it doesn't matter. If you expose too much of your skin to too much of the cold, you get frostbite. If you stand outside too long during extremely cold temperatures, you get hypothermia. Hypothermia can definitely include end to a criminal's career. Some people die from hypothermia. Also, if you're shivering from cold and your body is going into a state of shock, you're probably not going to commit crime. On the other hand, if you're about to die, whatever criminal ambitions you had previously may be gone entirely. Unless you may be more likely to commit crime. You may lose your ability to see reality accurately as you make a crime.

Frostbite is not as serious as hypothermia, but it's still awfully horrible. If you get frostbite in the fingers, you won't be able to grab guns as well. Or you won't be able to grasp punches well. If you get frostbite in the toes, you won't be able to run away as well. If you're date raped with a prostitute and get frostbite in the face, just like it is with windburn, you may not attract potential partners. If you are a traditional rapist, then frostbite will really cramp your style. You may not be able to hear anything that I know. Plus, you may lose everything.

Some people say “rape is not about sex, it's about power.” If it is, even if you can't hear anything, you may still rape. But what if that part of your body falls off from frostbite? That could be awful for you.

When I was in elementary school, the cool kids didn't wear jackets. Or at least tried not to. If they did wear jackets, they tried going without hats and gloves. They thought they were tough. That thing is really stupid. I am not a fan of hats and gloves and jackets. I really wish I could go without them. They're dirty. They make me look dirty. It's hard to look good when you're wearing hats and gloves. Still, when it's really, really cold, I want to stay warm. Sometimes, I think it's more important to stay warm than to look cool.

When I was in high school, people had different opinions about jackets, I found out. Often in high schools, even when it's warm, people want to wear jackets. Some jackets are gang symbols, or otherwise fashion statements [observers note]. Many schools, like the school I went to, have rules against coats. Still, kids try to wear them. At my school, some teachers were strict and the coats and others would let you get by with wearing coats.

I've never been into the starter jackets that game things like. But when I was in high school, I did wear a controversial type of jacket, a trench coat. I even gave a lecture about all the negative associations that have arisen with trench coats. I wore my trench coat during senior year of high school. I stopped wearing it right before I went to college. The timing was almost ideal. It was purely coincidental. Because in 1998, the year after I graduated, something happened in Colorado. Who knows if I would have gotten blamed for it. I would have pulled up school from trench coats.

Gang bangers in grammar clubs had an advantage with the coats.

When it's cold out, everyone's wearing jackets. Thus, you can wear jackets without standing out. You can believe your top gang bangers style and let it stay warm. You can also conceal items really well. In these parts, it's cold about six months of the year. Thus, you can wear your big bulky jacket six months out of the year without arousing too much suspicion. If you're a gang banger in the South, you look awfully foolish wearing a thick jacket when it's 100 degrees out. And here, you can go your merry way wearing your jacket. Cops may want to arrest everyone wearing a gang type jacket, but they probably wouldn't be able to do that around here.

When you think of a robber, what image then comes to mind? Probably someone wearing a face mask. Or as they are also called, a ski mask. These are also worn by law-abiding people when the weather gets really cold. Sometimes it's so cold, like it has been this last weekend, where you need to protect your face. I've thought about what would happen if some dumb cop skated around when you were wearing a face mask and accused you of being a robber. I've thought about it when it actually happened to me.

Yes, yes, yes. I was visiting my dad and his stepmom in Illinois. We live now in two small towns, Stillman Valley and Byron. It's confusing. Small towns Stillman Valley. Technically they are in the city limits of Stillman Valley, but they are closer to the heart of Byron. The heart of Stillman Valley is a few miles down.

I took this running route that went to Stillmann Valley. It was pretty cold that day so I was wearing a face mask. I was thinking about going into Casey's General Store. I was by the door. I looked in. Didn't seem to see if there was a bathroom. There did not appear to be one. I opened the door just in time and then I closed it. I ran away.

I was also exploring some that day too. I was by this residential area. Some trailers. Then four cops came after me. Shortly they found out I was just going through and I even had a map with me to show them.

We argued about statutes. We argued about disorderly conduct. One cop said, "you have no rights." The other said, "you have no reason until I say you have rights." I was like, "that's how this country works." I told them, "It's cold. I'm wearing a ski mask because it's cold." They said, "we are right by that city. Here's a photograph. And some of the crimes goes over. Give me a break." Stillman Valley has maybe 5,000 or 7,000 people. My dad

even said, "It's just like Mayberry." Eventually they let me go. But that's small town life for you.

One time I walked into a grocery store with my face mask still on. The person in there asked me to remove the face mask. I did. I removed it. At least I was better than the reaction from [Byron and Stillman Valley]. The jerk called the cops. I guess most people there have absolutely no excitement in their life [like people say]. But anything that even resembled excitement promotes them to extreme action.

Fortunately, in a metropolitan area like this, I see people wearing face masks often enough. Even when it's really cold, not everyone wears a face mask. But at least some people do. I've even seen people wear face masks, get on the bus, and keep the face mask on. Some people wear bandanas to cover their face. It looks like a bandit doing that. But I think it's a good way to keep warm. Sometimes right before my stop, I get myself ready to put on a mask. Even if they know what to do. That is some of these small areas, I guess it is a big deal.

What are the consequences for drug dealers? I imagine there's some price at which drugs freeze. Thus drugs do not work in the same way. Maybe they're more potent. Maybe they're less. But they're not going to move around in the same way. If you're a drug dealer, you could perhaps mix some snow with your cocaine. You probably don't want to mix too much. As even though cocaine and snow are both white, they are very different. But you could probably mix a little in there to dilute your product. Drug dealers want to dilute products because pure drugs are expensive [criminologists and others note].

Drug dealers are being robbed outside on street corners. Do you really want to wait around? Do your customers want to wait around? It's tough. But maybe if you're a drug dealer, you have a PMA: Positive Mental Attitude. Maybe you are what Zig Ziglar calls "a can-do person." You don't care about the weather. You [need] positive thoughts. I will sell drugs today. I will. You gotta think positive thoughts. I will sell drugs today. I will, I will, I will. Your drugs will go away with strong winter winds. That would be bad for a drug dealer.

Something interesting happened when I watched this court case in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. This drug dealer was being sentenced. He had committed

his crime in winter, or at least some of his crimes. The prosecutor told one hint that was supposed to make this drug dealer look especially bad. This drug dealer, he said, thought “he was so sophisticated that he wrapped up a paperback book and gave it to someone as drugs.” It was winter, you could wrap up a paperback book, put snow around, the person would think the snow was cocaine, and run with it. If you're getting their drugs, you want to get their own drugs. You don't want to examine them. So they really work in the winter. I don't understand why that makes a drug dealer look bad. It probably makes the drug dealer look good in my eyes. After all, the drug dealer is not giving away drugs, at least as much.

What paperback book did he give? Was it:

- *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People?*
- *Chicken Soup for the Soul?*
- *Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego? Paperback version?*

Maybe that paperback book gave some great inspiration to the drug user. Maybe the paperback book was the addict's bible.

As we have seen, winter can definitely affect crime in ever so many ways.

Good evening.