



# Theft from Person Guidance

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# What is Theft from Person?

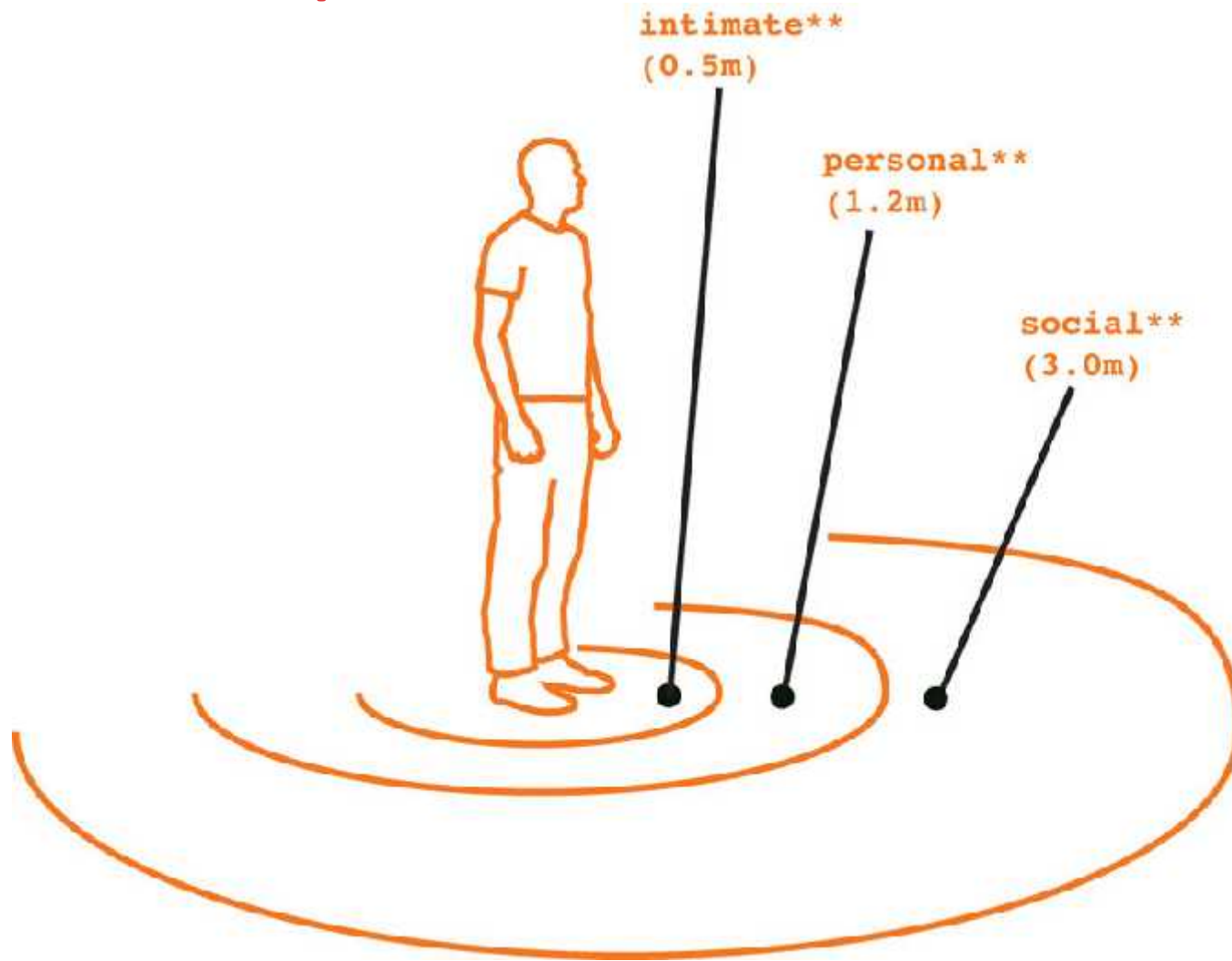
Theft from Person is where one person removes another persons personal property from them, with the intent to permanently deprive the victim of the property.

Theft from person is more commonly known as 'purse dipping.'

# What to be aware of

- Be aware of people entering your own personal space
- Be aware of people entering other peoples personal space
- Be aware of your blind spot areas / outside your peripheral vision
- Be aware of your / customers shopping habits
- Distractions

# Personal Space



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# Targeted Places / Locations

- Cash machines
- Crowded areas
- Bars / night clubs / Restaurants
- Café's
- Shops – seating areas
- Trains / public transport

# Targeted People

- Anybody vulnerable / open to opportunity
- Drunk / Intoxicated
- Young
- Elderly
- Disabled
- Parents with pushchairs
- People practicing religious acts
- Any one who is restricted – e.g cannot move on public transport

# Theft techniques to look for

- People / groups approaching you to ask the time / for a lighter / cigarette or similar
- People sat close to you in a restaurant / seating area
- People bumping into you / others in crowded areas
- People dropping things near you hoping you will pick it up for them. This is common around cash machines.



# Prevention Methods

- Keep purses / bags secure and carry wallets, phones & keys in your front pocket
- Zip up hand and shoulder bags
- Carry bags in front of you with flaps against your body
- Keep straps short and bags tucked under your arm
- Don't show your money - keep it safely in a pocket out of sight.
- Spread your personal items around your body. Don't keep everything together.
- Install a tracker app on your smartphone

# Prevention Methods Continued

- Stay alert of what is going on around you when using your phone in public
- Register your electrical gadgets at [www.immobilise.com](http://www.immobilise.com)
- Keep a record of your phone's unique reference number (IMEI) - to get this dial #06#
- Always use your phone's security lock or PIN number
- Don't leave valuable items unattended on a train when you visit the toilet or buffet car
- If you are going to fall asleep do not leave valuables in view, keep them hidden

# Operation Dance Floor & BACIL Partnership

Operation Dance Floor was set up by West Yorkshire Police to identify people arrested for theft from person in Leeds city centre during the night time economy. The offenders list is updated weekly.

BACIL also run a live theft from person downloadable document on the website, this is updated daily after every arrest is made.

The aim is WYP, BACIL and security staff can identify known offenders and prevent future thefts by refusing them entry to the premises.

Please get to know your regular offenders and play your part in the fight against theft from person.

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# Night to Remember Campaign

- Due to a significant rise in mobile phone thefts in the night time economy, BACIL, West Yorkshire Police, Leeds City Council and Leeds University are currently working in partnership to develop a theft from person awareness campaign for Leeds.
- If you have any ideas to help reduce mobile phone theft in Leeds, please let us know.

# Mobile Phone BACIL Website Success

- On the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend BACIL mobile was launched, security staff at the Leeds University Nightclub observed a male bumping into people on the dance floor. The male was approached and questioned about his behaviour. Whilst talking to the male a member of the security team went onto the BACIL mobile website and found the males picture and previous history on the BACIL theft from person live document.
- When the male was searched by police he had 14 mobile smart phones down an inner lining under his jeans valuing £8,000.
- He is currently in custody awaiting sentencing.

# The End

The mobile BACIL website is now live. To access it simply log on as follows

<https://cis.bacil.org/login.aspx>

Thanks for coming your attendance is appreciated

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