

crime myth or fact?

- Homelessness has been criminalized
- Mass surveillance will not prevent violent crime
- Most parolees successfully complete their parole

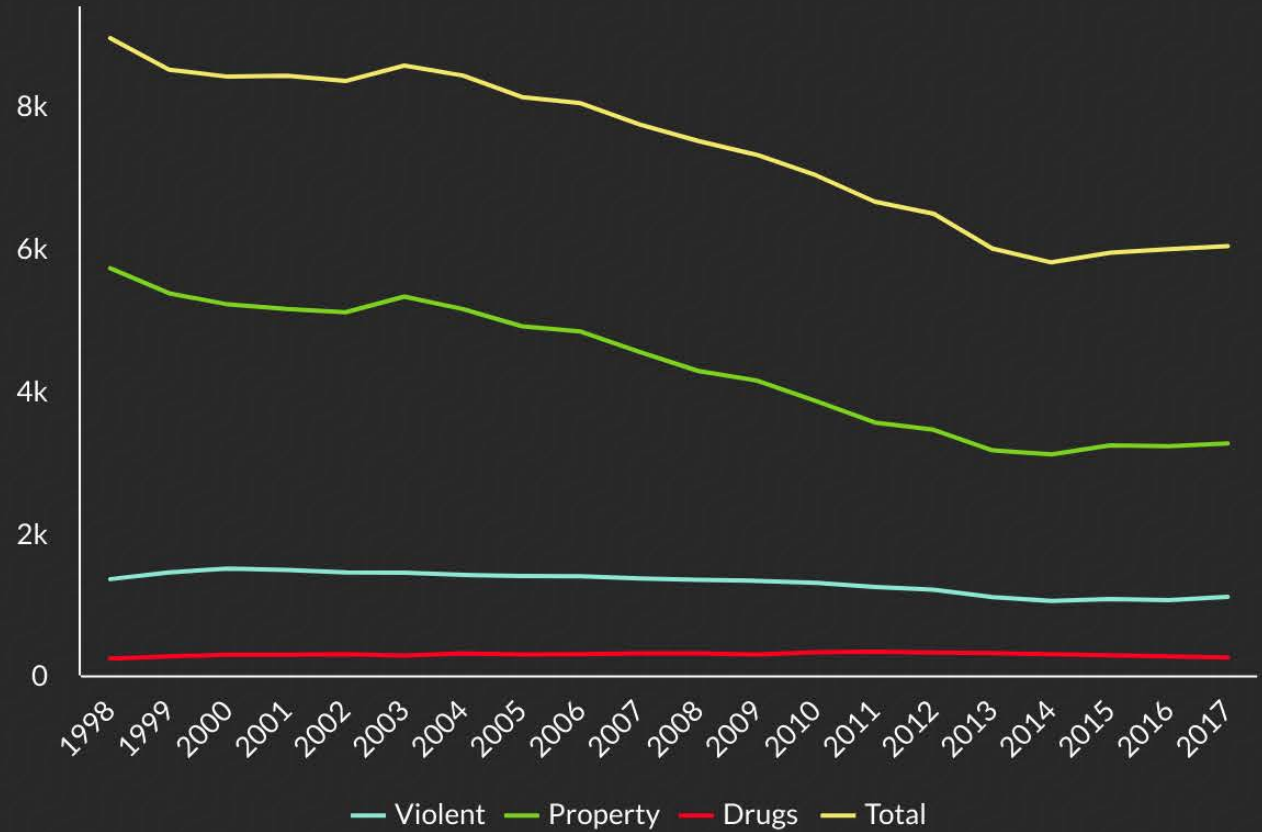
FACTS
~~MYTHS~~

Mass surveillance will not prevent violent crime: myth or fact?

On 10 August 2020,
the Ontario government announced a
\$6 million investment over 3 years to expand
the use of **CCTV surveillance cameras** to fight
crime



Crime rates in
Canada have
been **decreasing** ↓
since 1998



CCTV cameras are used
worldwide.

The argument is that they will
deter crime



Despite these claims, deterrence has
not been proven

Ontario Premier Doug Ford,
announced that

This new investment
towards a CCTV
system is "an important tool
in the fight against gun and
gang violence, human
trafficking and sexual
violence."

But evidence shows that CCTV
cameras do not have a significant
impact on **violent crimes**



At best, deterrence may be achieved
with **auto theft**, in locations such
as **parking garages**



CCTV surveillance will likely reinforce already existing **race, gender, age and class** inequalities

A 2020 Ontario Human Rights Commission report confirmed that Black people are "disproportionately arrested, charged, subjected to use of force by Toronto police"



In 2019, Toronto Police got from the Province **\$3 million** over three years to extend its surveillance network by **40 more CCTV cameras**



Assertions that CCTV systems are cost-effective are **unfounded** →

The costs:
the cameras, installation, wiring, on-going maintenance, data encryption and storage, training costs for supervising, operating the cameras, privacy protections, etc.

"The idea to keep pumping funding into policing, into surveillance...I think that's misguided. [We should] use those funds to bump up the safety net of communities, so our schools are more funded, our community centres would be lively places where life can happen."

~ Sam Tecle,
Community Organizer in the Jane-Finch
area, 2020