



## Broken Window Theory

According to the "Broken Window Theory," authored by Dr. George Kelling, a broken window left unrepaired in a building sends a signal that there is a lack of concern about the building. A broken window, left untended, leads to more broken windows.

Similarly, one of the "Rules of Littering" formulated by Keep America Beautiful, Inc. (KAB) states, **Litter attracts litter.**

Broken windows, unrepaired buildings, and litter are not just eyesores. They can also lead to crime. When neglect and apathy take root in a neighborhood and residents see that vandalism is being ignored, they begin to tolerate other negative activities as acceptable behaviors. Unsightly neighborhood conditions can lead to the breakdown of community organization and stability.

**Find more information about the "Broken Window Theory" at [www.hrclean.org](http://www.hrclean.org)**

### What is HR CLEAN?

HR CLEAN, the recycling and litter prevention education program of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC), is a regional coalition of local and regional clean community, recycling, and environmental education coordinators who promote litter prevention, recycling, community beautification, and general environmental awareness through educational projects designed to reach all sectors of our communities.

