



Dissecting Crime Rates

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International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)

- In 1929 IACP promoted the reporting of crime statistics by police administrators
- Stated goals:
 - 1) document problems faced
 - 2) highlight achievements made

IACP emphasized that

- These statistics should be based on information routinely maintained by the agencies – **NO NEW BURDEN**
- Desirability of agencies reporting uniformly – **TO SUPPORT COMPARISONS**

IACP produced a booklet with recommended table shells

- Counts of offenses known in 7 categories
- Counts of arrests (using 20 categories)
- Counts of arrestees detailed by age group, gender, nativity/color categories (i.e., Native-born white of native parentage, Native-born white of foreign parentage, Negro, and All Others)

IACP produced a booklet with recommended table shells

- Distribution of offenses by month and hours of the day – useful for patrol and prevention methods, arranging vacations periods for the force and in distributing patrols throughout the 24 hours of the days, and of interest to the public

IACP produced a booklet with recommended table shells

- Counts of miscellaneous services rendered (e.g., lodgers care for, doors found open, persons reported as missing, fires discovered, lamp outages reported, lunacy cases handled, suicide cases investigated, and wagon service provided for the sick and injured)

IACP also recommended

- Percent of crimes cleared by arrest
- Percent of persons arrested found guilty
- Offense-specific reported crime rates per 100,000 population

- It was not until 1960 that the FBI first published in *Crime in the U.S.* the
 Crime Index (CI)
 Violent Crime Index (VCI)
 Property Crime Index (PCI)
- Concerns about the indexes grew; in 2004 the FBI discontinued reporting the CI
- FBI will continue to publish the VCI and PCI until more viable options develop

Requirements of “Viable Options”

- Minimize the law enforcement burden (i.e., use available data)
- Serve a useful purpose by documenting issues important to law enforcement
- Serve the various community audiences
- Replicable across jurisdictions

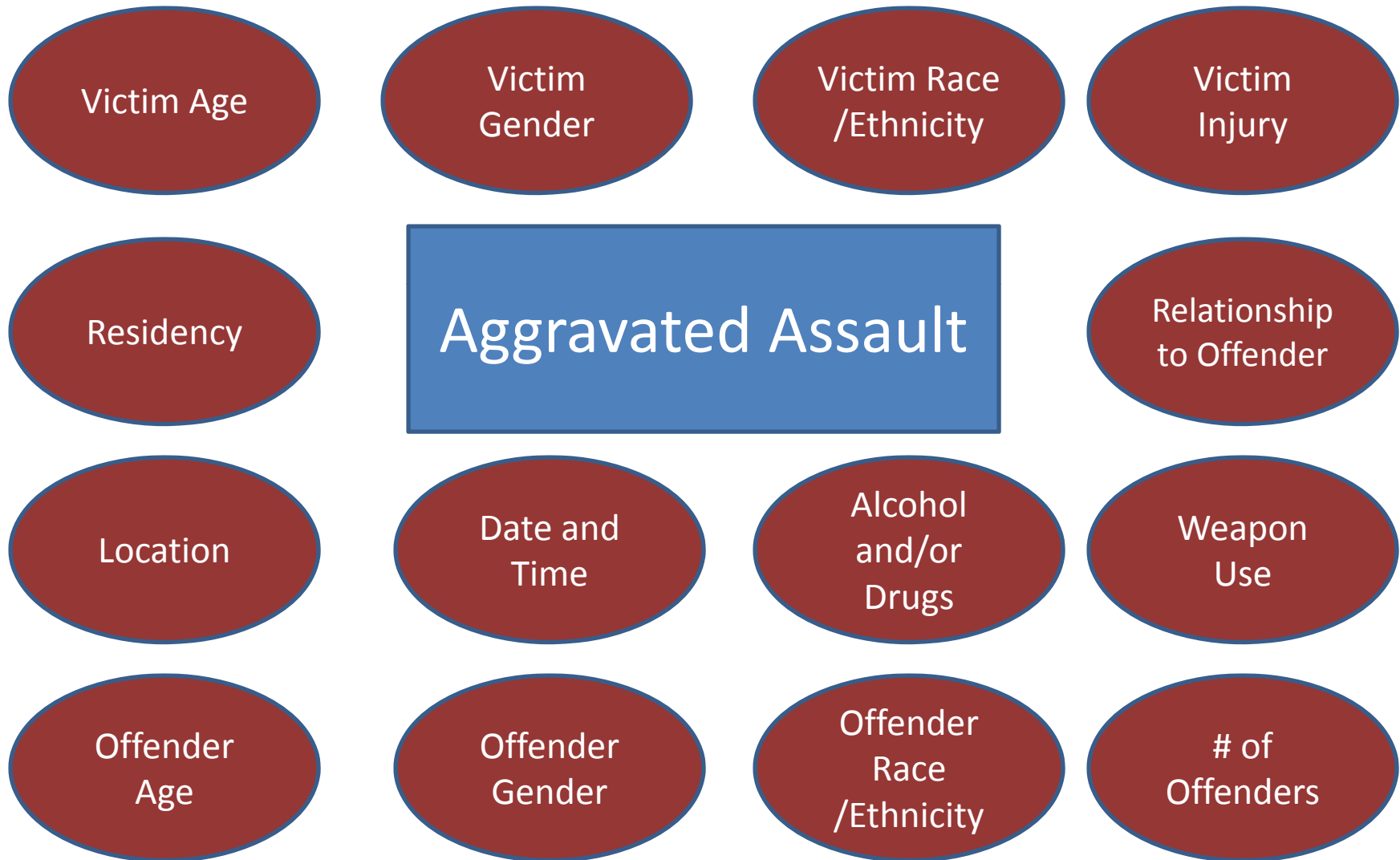
Today's Available Data Common Across Jurisdictions Are the Variables and Values Found in NIBRS

- Incident attributes (offenses, date, time, # victims & offenders, location, weapons)
- Victim attributes (demographics, residency, injury, relationship to offender)
- Offender attributes (demographics, drug/alcohol use, arrest)

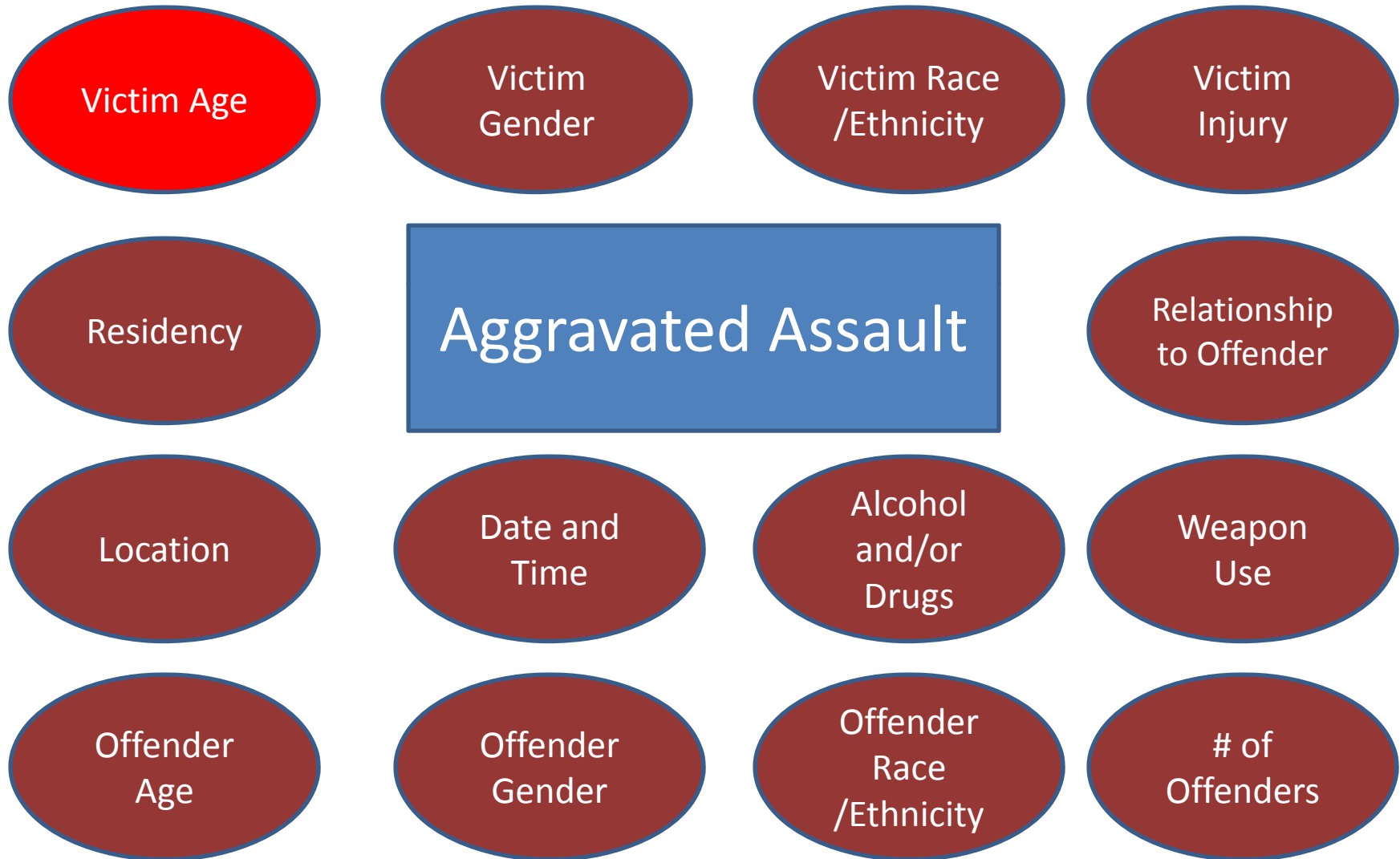
Dissecting a Crime Rate with NIBRS data

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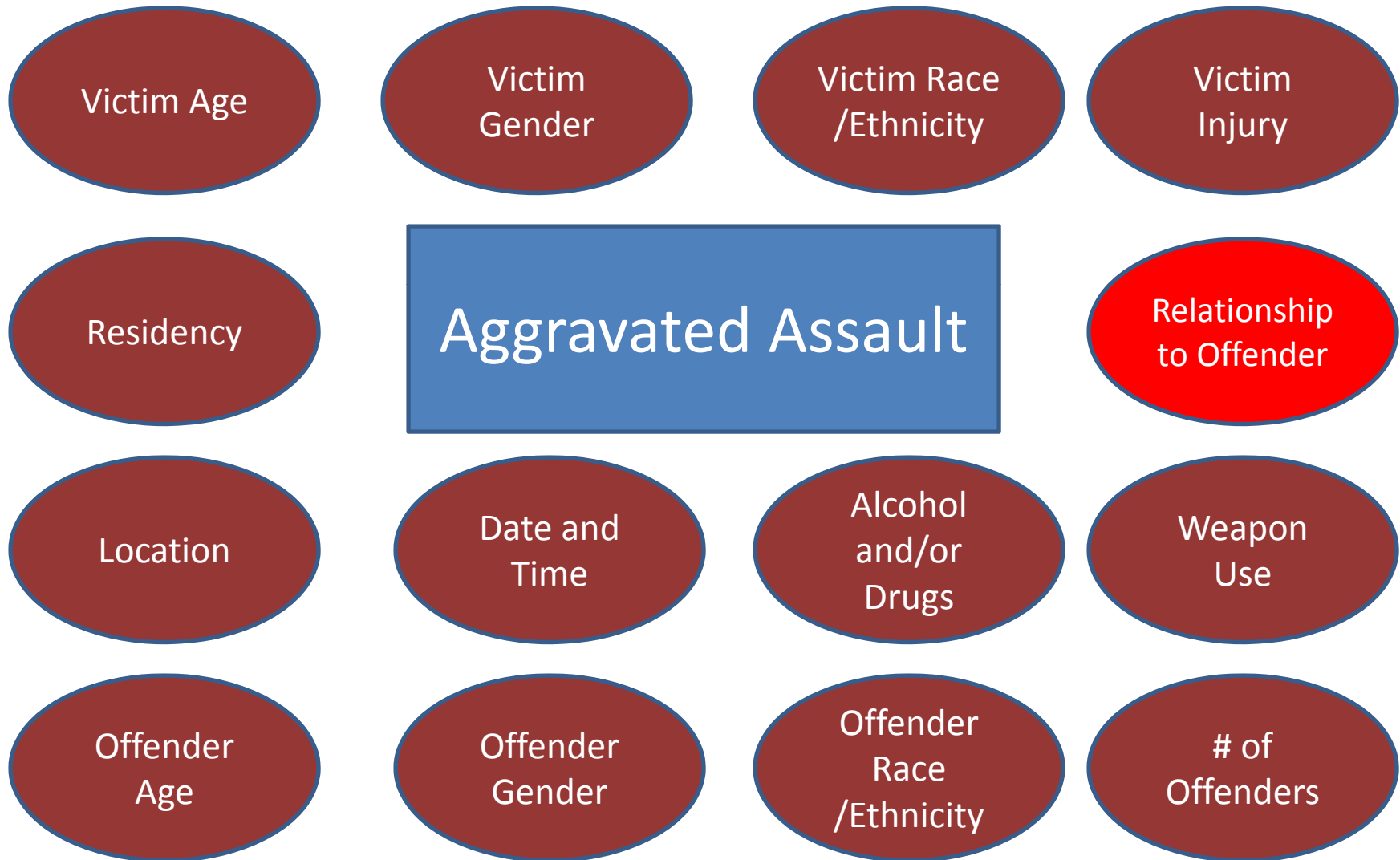
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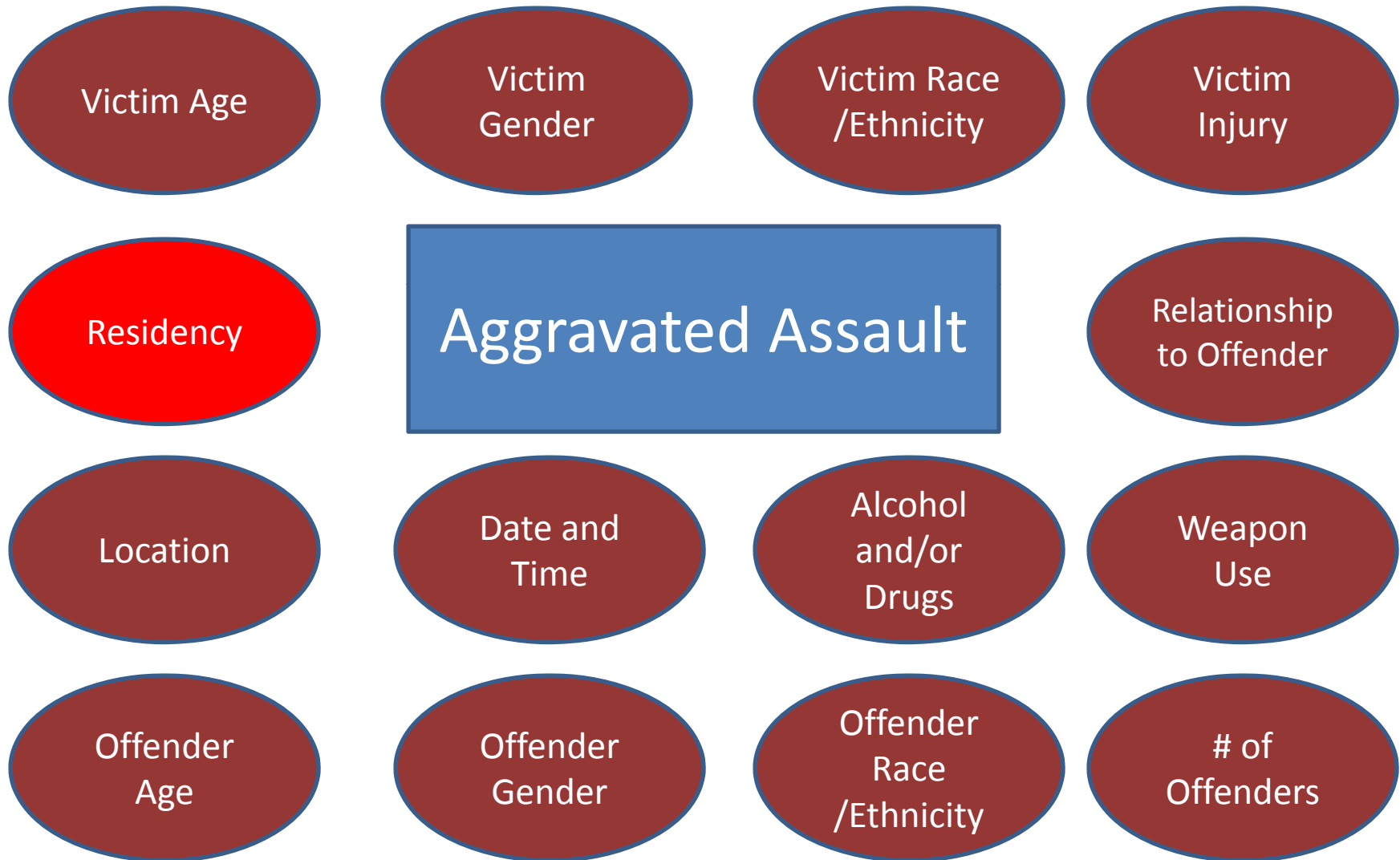
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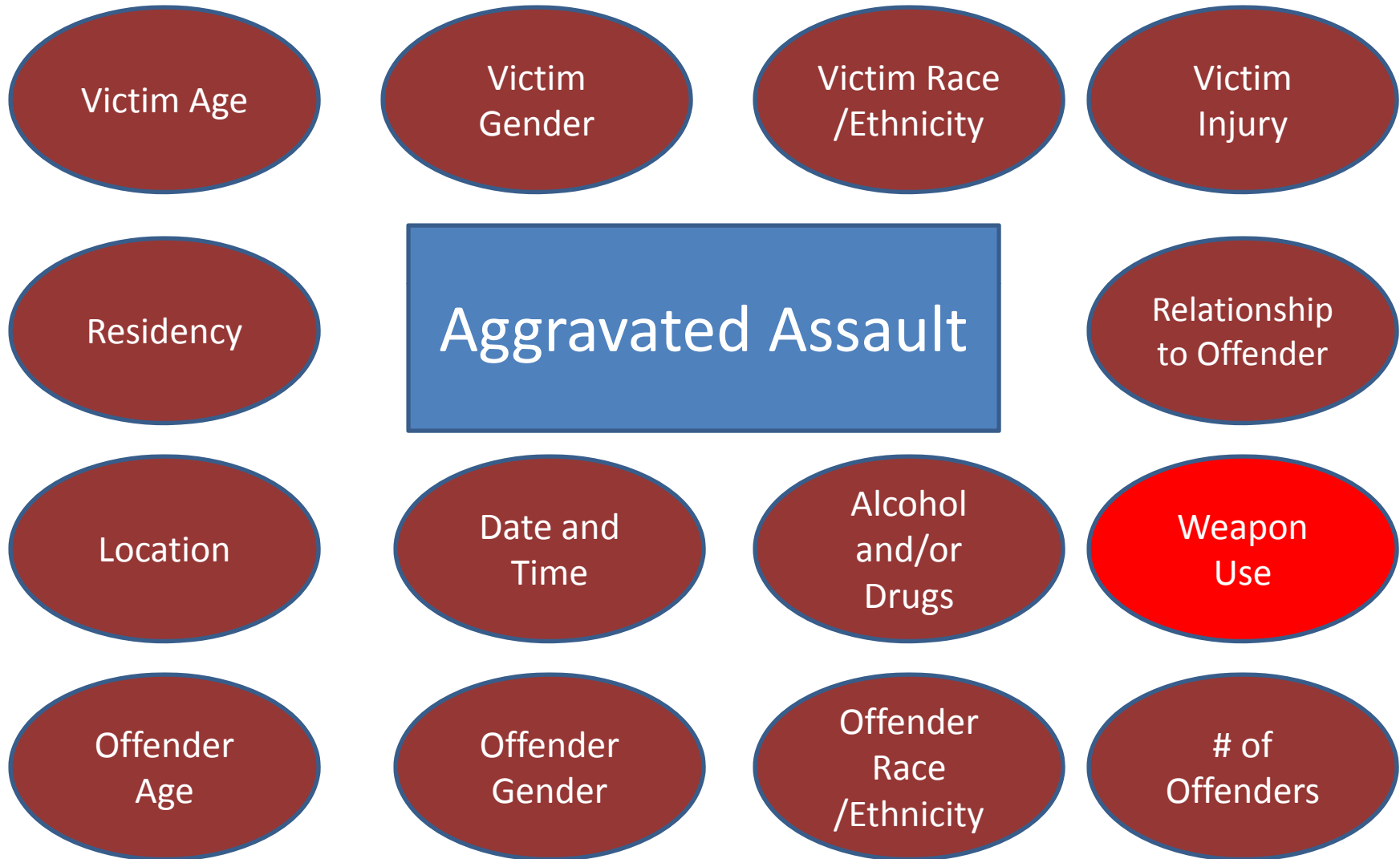
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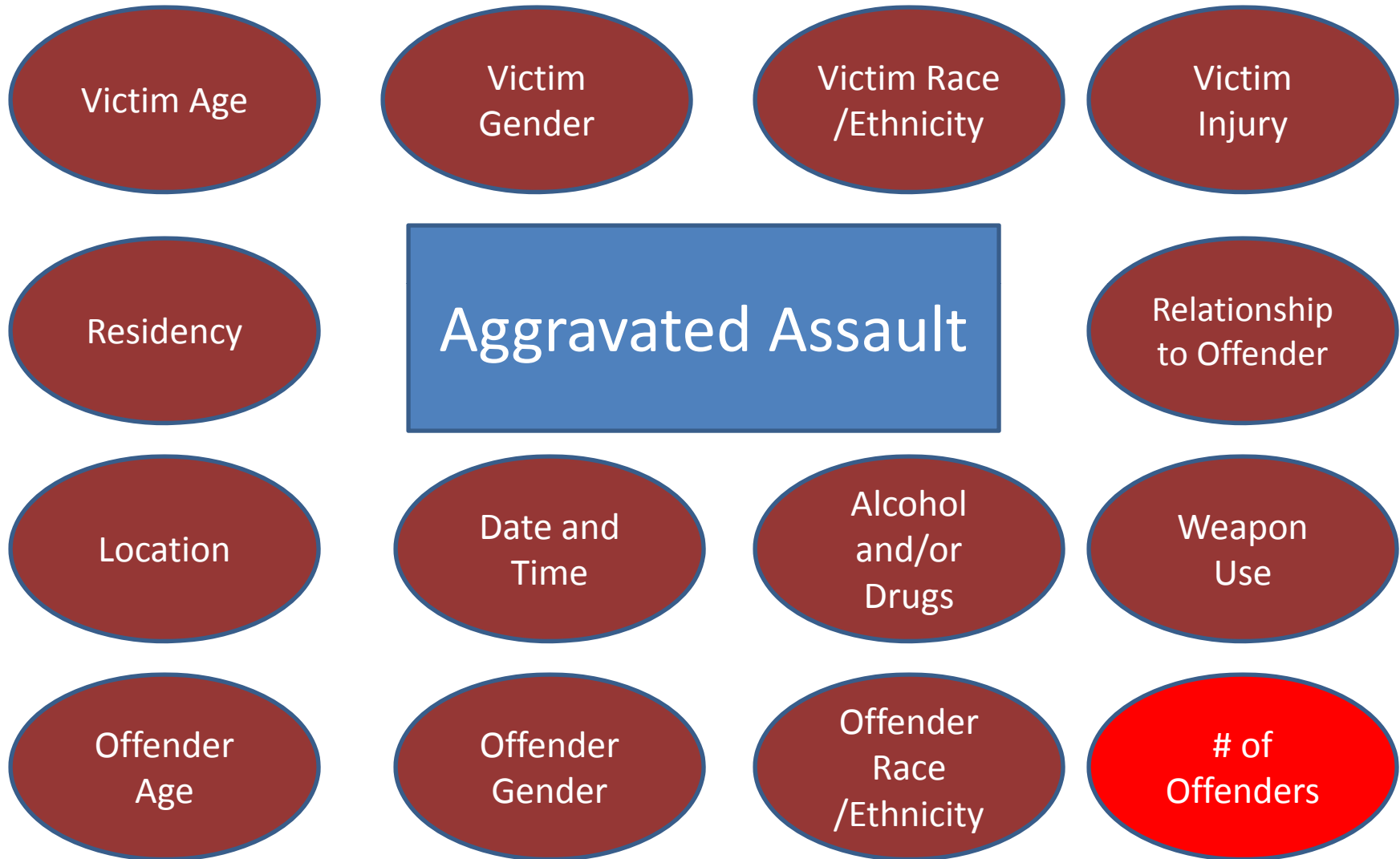
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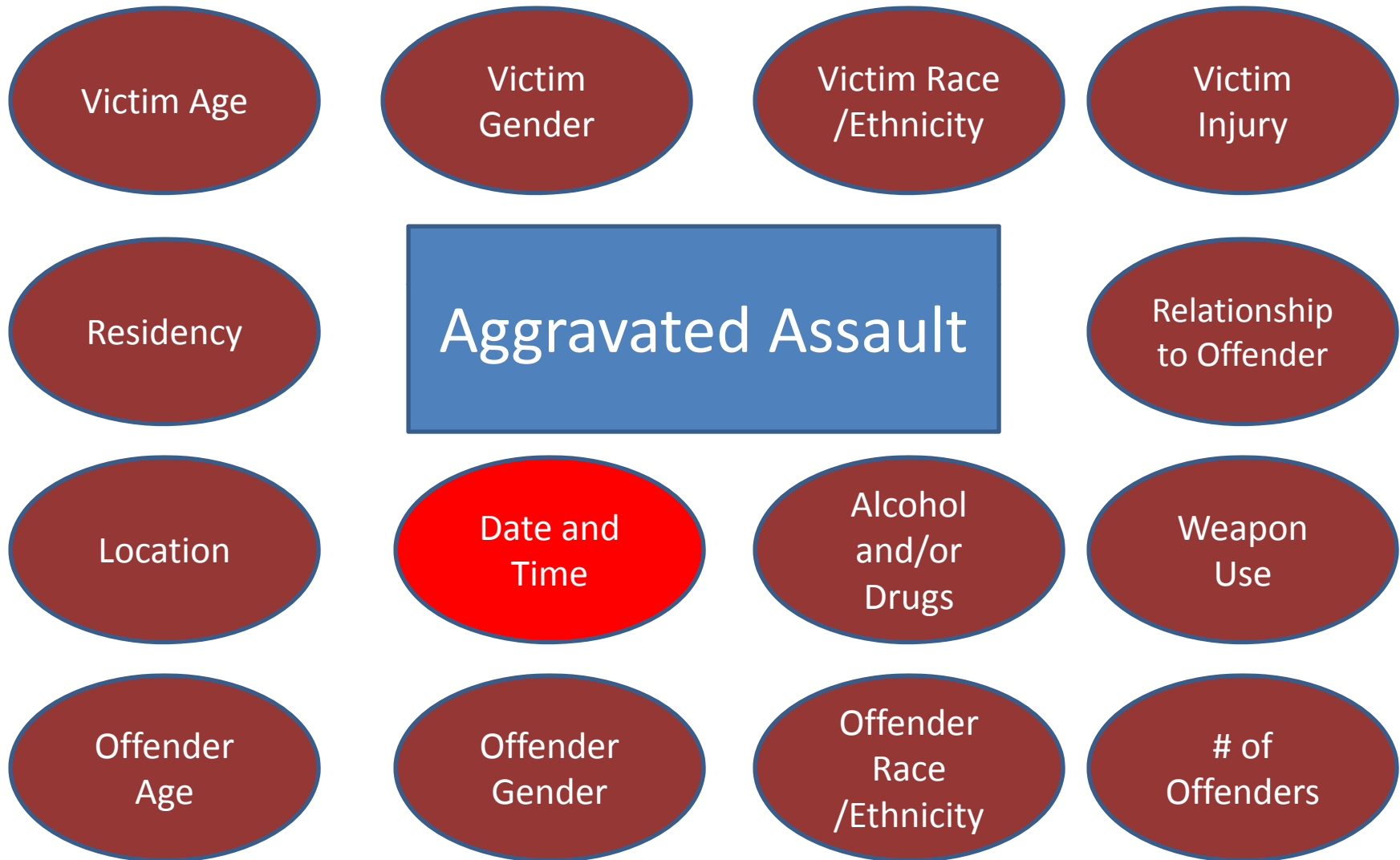
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Dissecting Crime Rates with NIBRS



Dissected Aggravated Assault Crime Rates

- With elderly victims
- Of domestic partners
- By strangers
- By juveniles
- Of non-residents
- With firearms
- In public areas
- During curfew hours
- With multiple offenders
- Of elderly victims by family members
- By juveniles in after-school hours
- Of non-residents in summer months
- By young adults with firearms
- By Hispanic youth

Which Dissections Should Be Reported in Your Community?

- All possible combinations should be reviewed to see where the stories are.
- Then, address local issues
- Service the local audiences
- Consider regional concerns