

**Carlo Dronkers**

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**OPENBAAR MINISTERIE**

# Compulsory Schooling

Public Prosecution Service



# Public Prosecutors Service

- The prosecutor decides who has to appear for a Judge
- Different offences
  - serious crimes
  - infractions
- Age of criminal responsibility
  - < 12 years
  - 12 - 18
  - 18 - 23
  - > 23

# Cutting clas and criminal law

- Infraction
- Luxury vs Signal
- 7.000 cases 50/50

# “The cutting class Judge” a brief history

- No priority to infractions
- Appear for a judge after a year and a half
  
- Still: compulsory school
- 12 - 16 no exception
- - 18 need to get a qualification for work or study

# More history

- Case study in serious crime cases show that a criminal career often starts with cutting class
- Look to cutting class not from a penal point of view but from a preventing viewpoint!

# Targets

- Back to school!
- Back to school!
- Back to school!
  
- Credibility (swift response)
- Educational support (if indicated)
  
- “punishment”  
(conditional) community services  
fines

# How to develop a chain approach

- (re)install the compulsory education officer (C.E.F.)

## Address responsibilities

- Parents
- School
- C.E.F.
- HALT (restorative judicial program)
- PPS
- Judge

# Compulsory Education Officer (C.E.F.)

- Law enforcement officer (for cutting class)
- Makes minutes for PPS
- Advises school and parents
- Visits the Court with the latest progress



# In Court

- The juvenile (obliged to come) with parents
- The Judge (expert in juvenile criminal and civil Law)
- Public Prosecutor
- Child Protection Board
- Youth Probation
- C.E.F.

# The Dutch approach examples of success

- Most return to school, low recidivism
- Many send in diploma's after a conditional fine
  
- The chain approach creates a credible jurisdiction by making customization possible
  - To be honest:
    - It takes time but is very rewarding for everybody in the chain (and saves money in the long run)