

Lesser and violent crime link shown

CITIZEN REPORTER

TRACKER has launched a thought-provoking video to show the very real link between the so-called 'lesser crimes' in South Africa and violent crime syndicates.

The two-minute video illustrates, to graphic effect, how by supporting piracy and other counterfeit crimes, South Africans may unknowingly be fuelling violent crime in the country.

"There are various groups and organisations spreading important messages that piracy is obviously wrong and is like any other form of theft and while we certainly support this view, we believe there is another critical point we can add to the conversation," said Tracker spokesman Gareth Crocker.

Over the years Tracker and the SA

Police Service have shut down hundreds of chop shops and crime syndicates.

"As you can imagine many of our vehicle tracks lead us into these large criminal lairs and often when we arrive on the scene not only do we discover other stolen and hijacked vehicles, but we also find racks of counterfeit clothing, drug-making equipment, boxes of pirated DVDs and CDs, fake identity documents, tools commonly used in house attacks and sometimes even explosives used in both ATM bombing and cash-in-transit heists.

The whole point of the campaign is to conscientise South African's to the fact that if they are buying pirated or counterfeit merchandise they may unwittingly be helping fuel violent crime in South Africa," said Crocker.