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In this study, we examine the link between violent crime and block clubs, a key element in the networks of voluntary associations and mutual self-help groups that help define urban communities. One view of this nexus is that communities dense with block clubs will as a result enjoy lower rates of victimization (Sharkey, Torrats-Espinosa, and Takayar, 2017). On the other hand, crime and its attendant consequences - including fear, withdrawal from community life, and even flight - may undermine the viability of block clubs as a player in community life (Skogan and Maxfield, 1981). Of course, it is also likely that social and economic factors influence both the crime rate and block club formation (Wo, 2019). In this study, we aim to disentangle the contending effects of social, economic and crime factors, to better understand the relationship between block clubs and crime.