

# Could a smartphone app really help combat crime in SA?



By [Stuart Thomas](#)

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South Africa has a brutal crime problem and it affects everyone. The rapes and murders of teenage girls [in Khayelitsha](#) (one of Cape Town's poorest areas) [and Tokai](#) (one of its wealthiest), bears witness to that fact.



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In the face of such violence, it's easy to feel helpless, but two concerned Capetonians believe that technology may help people feel safe again.

Sham Moodliar and Elizabeth Senger are putting together a 48-hour hackathon, aimed at building an app which connects people wanting to enjoy the outdoors safely, or even just walk from point A to B.

Called [Hambasafe](#) — Hamba means “go” in South Africa’s isiZulu and isiXhosa languages — the event hopes to bring together Android Developers, IOS Developers, SQL Developers, .Net Developers, Mobile UI designers, Testers and Analysts to create a purpose-built, open-source app within the 48-hour timeframe...

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## ABOUT STUART THOMAS

Stuart abandoned what was beginning to look like a long, quiet career in academia for the frenetic world of tech journalism. Currently heading up the Memeburn team, he likes to run in his downtime. He won an award once. It now sits on his desk.

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