

EFFECTS OF COMMUNITY POLICING ON CRIME PREVENTION IN KAKAMEGA COUNTY, KENYA

Karuri Joseph Gitoru

Master of Public Policy and Administration, Kenyatta University, Kenya

Wilson Muna (PhD)

Department of Public Policy and Administration, Kenyatta University, Kenya

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ABSTRACT

The Community's role in quest for crime prevention constructs confidence between citizens and the police by bringing on board both the civil society, the law enforcement officers, and native people to advance home grown security measures for safe keeping and safety apprehensions thus inhibiting crime rate. The rise of complex criminal activities in the world and Kenya today makes it difficult for communities to carry on with their work confidently. There are myriad of challenges on matters of security and wellbeing, prompting many governments to partner with the public to provide for policing services as it is enshrined in the Kenyan National police act as well as coming up with various mitigation strategies to curb the high rate of crime with community policing being one of the strategies. The crime rate has affected the operation of the community thus need to address the issue. Previous studies have mostly looked at community policing by focusing on the safety factor and omitting the prevention part of it especially in the cosmopolitan towns. The research, therefore pursued to explore the issue of community policing on crime prevention in Kakamega County. The research was directed by the following objectives; assessed the effects community policing techniques on crime prevention in Kakamega County, found out the effects of community participation on crime prevention in Kakamega County, Kenya, thirdly it sought to ascertain effects of knowledge among community members on crime prevention strategies in Kakamega County, Kenya. The target population

included 321 Community opinion leaders, 41 NPS Members; OCPD, OCS, Deputy OCS, 14 Provincial administrators; chiefs, assistant chiefs, and 36 leaders of nyumba Kumi initiative. The research used purposeful sampling to get the required sample of 110 from the target population of 321: The study espoused social disorganization theory on the theoretical review. Baseline data was gathered by use of both questionnaire and interviews while secondary data included data from previous studies. The study was carried out within Kakamega town Kakamega County, Kenya. The data was analyzed using SPSS model and presented through, pie charts, graphs and tables. The study sought to generate baseline data which can later be used to evaluate the accomplishment of how community's involvement can help in preventing and mitigating crime rates within Kakamega County, Kenya and the world at large. The research study established that the community policing committee did not fully communicate policing techniques to the players in crime prevention effort. This could be the reason why the crime rate is still high in Kakamega town despite the presence of community policing forums. The study also found out that majority of the respondents felt that community policing techniques were not effectively employed in combating crime. The study recommends that there should be capacity building of the community policing stakeholders in order to match skills with the dynamics of crimes in this contemporary days.

Key Words: *community policing, crime prevention, Kakamega County, Kenya*

INTRODUCTION

Community stays demarcated as a social, spiritual, professional, or other group sharing mutual features or interests and perceived or perceiving itself as distinct in some respect from the bigger society within which it subsists (Webster dictionary). This is significant as it provides insights on the players and partners involved in community policing. Therefore, the study began by examining the background history of community policing globally, regional Kenya then narrowed down to the area of study which is Kakamega County.

Despite success in the combat on crime and terrorism globally in the recent years, states continue to suffer from high levels of insecurity in both countryside and town areas. The global plus regional security environment both experience challenges and opportunities that call for new approaches to how policing is done (Fleming, 2015). Community policing was first introduced in London by Metropolitan Police District. The UK parliament longed to discourse the rising criminality percentage in and round the homeland's city when it was growing. Citizens were to be familiar with each other and this was to enable them to recognize suspicious persons or crime activity. The citizens were also able to communicate with the police in case of any incident. This greatly helped to discourage offenders from committing crimes in the neighborhood (Electric law Library 2018).

For the meantime, crosswise Atlantic, America community patrolling urbanized alongside those of London police. Most U.S.A municipalities had already formed a forces department where they adopted paramilitary structures. Officers used to wear distinguishing blue outfits and patrolled the allocated areas. Conversely, unlike in London, the soldiers carried weaponries besides being under command of administratively selected native heads. (Jerome 1976). In Jamaica, the history of community policing based on "THE BIG SIX" this includes the police, the business community, the public, the elected officials, the media and all statutory/voluntary agencies (Jamaica Constabulary Force 2017).

In Hong Kong, Chinese organized crime groups were taken from grassroots in indigenous Populations; they recruit young men from localities and collect protection fees from Street members. Communal patrolling (CP) might aid to sojourn organized crime by empowering and prompting the locals to report and act against crime and criminals. Therefore, by forming a confident appearance by constabularies, communal patrolling can aid in condensing the impact of those clusters in the neighborhoods youths as well as to control and suppress any criminal strategy and prevent the proliferation of organized Crime (King Wa, 2009).

From the above studies; Fleming, (2015), The Electric law Library (2018), Jamaica Constabulary Force (2017), King Wa, (2009) and Jerome (1976). Community policing appears to have been embraced globally, but this raises questions as to whether similar attention of community policing has been given similar attention in Africa to be more specific in Kakamega County in Kenya which is our area of study. The enquiry of part of the Communal patrolling in preventing crime is unanswered.

In South Africa, Baker (2002) observed that the police are characterized by politicization plus revolutionary customs. Communal patrolling was embraced for transmuted the police, and community-police review settings became central aspects of this project. One initiative in Nyanga, Western Cape, emulates the Western style of community policing that emphasizes foot patrols.

Nevertheless, outstanding to restricted funds, the community was involved in guards in a way that would have been unconceivable in London. In South Africa Community policing faces a number. They include low morale of officials, and a police culture that has placed little value in discretion. Apartheid also limited the ability of some communities to organize effectively and to mobilize the resources they do possess. Non-white residents are also reluctant to serve on forums due to their mistrust of police or because old alliances keep them out.

Police and indigenous populations have diverse prospects and considerations of what community policing was envisioned to attain. Mobilization of the community as a source for aptitude generates an unstable affiliation wherever the public is a means not a companion. This is in the sense that the community is expected to give information to the police, but the police cannot give information to the community.

In Tanzania, Daniel (2010) noted that, in 2006 police landmarked a special reform that aimed at building trust between police departments and member of community. One of the important steps taken was the releasing of the private telephone number of the senior police officers aimed at facilitating contact between member of community and police officers. One of the greatest achievements obtained was that, police departments received valuable information from the public that enable them to understand crimes and criminal activities. Despite the achievement obtained, for many years' police suffered from financial neglect, negative perception and public mistrust.

In 1990s, the efforts to establish programs on community policing in Kenya were started and the private sector took the lead in spearheading it with police and these were limited to Nairobi Central business (Ruteere, and Pammelle 2003) later this spread to other parts of the country. In Kirinyaga County, the most common crimes according to the Kenya Police records (Kenya Police Report 2014) are robbery with violence, shop lifting and rape. The police data indicates that there are at least three robberies per day, two shop lifting and one rape consequently. Kirinyaga was rated second worst crime prone counties in Kenya. If similar situation like that of Kirinyaga is replicated in Kakamega and what has been the role of the community policing in crime prevention.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Kenyan government through ministry of interior and national coordination and the NPS, has over time come up with various community based strategies to combat crime rate. Determination to avert crime through community policing, nyumba kumi initiative has upstretched citizens'

expectations to live in a crime free community. Despite all these efforts crime rate in Kakamega County, Kenya is still high especially ‘Serious crime’ National Crime research Centre (2018). The Kenya Police Report (2014) and the National Crime research Centre (2018) report, ranked Kakamega County thirty in worst crime prone Counties in Kenya. These Crimes are habitually committed by people within the same community. The serious crime rate is higher than the average national crime index. Stealing is leading in terms of prevalence at 68.3percent against the national average of 53.4 percent representing 14.9 percent over and above the national crime index. Correspondingly, forgery has a county score of 14.4 percent against the national average of 6.2 percent and burglary and house breaking county’s percentage is 29.6 against 26.5 national average National Crime research Centre (2018). This data clearly exemplifies that Kakamega County is an area prone to serious crimes. It is this state of affairs that informed the study. Previous studies in Kenya have mostly looked at community policing by focusing on the security factor and omitting the prevention part of it especially in the multiethnic cities. Correspondingly, Andyhoga & Mavole (2017) did a research titled “influence of Nyumba Kumi Community Policing Initiative on Social Cohesion among Cosmopolitan Sub Locations in Nakuru”. On the other hand, Lagat and Chepchirir (2017) researched on Nyumba Kumi Approach of Community Controlling and their impact on Curbing Criminality. No research has been done in Kakamega on the prevention of crime through nyumba kumi initiative. In the light of the above background, there are several gaps that calls for investigations and research, conversely the current study seeks to examine the role of community policing on crime prevention in Kakamega County, Kenya. The study was attempt to attain the results by; establishing community policing techniques on crime prevention in Kakamega County, determine the effects of community participation on crime prevention in Kakamega County and ascertain knowledge among community members on crime prevention strategies in Kakamega County.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. Find out effects of community policing techniques on crime prevention in Kakamega County.
2. To determine the effects of community participation on crime prevention in Kakamega county.
3. To ascertain the effects of knowledge among community members on crime prevention strategies in Kakamega County.

REVIEWED LITERATURE

Community Policing Role

The concept of community policing is as old as police work. As initial as 1829, Sir Robert Peel designed the Cosmopolitan Police department after he worked as Home Secretary of England. According to Peel (1829), the actual crucial aspect for policing is that the forces are the persons and the persons are the forces. Peel (1829) believed that hindrance of crime could be

accomplished devoid of interfering the lives of citizens. Community policing is based on Peel's concept of deterrence and has remained contained by many law implementation groups across the world (Patterson, 2007). It was give the background on when community policing started.

Communal patrolling ascended after the predicament of legality when the municipal competition uprisings of the 1960s 'and ought to be differentiated from the minimum explicit delinquent orientated policing '. Sherman & Eck (2016) study is significant to the study as the literature was used while analyzing issues that enable the formation of community policing in Kakamega Town.

Most of studies on community policing, mostly focusses on municipal situation (Pelfrey, 2007). Nevertheless, there are varieties of conservatories of theories concerning the roots of community policing. Initially, community policing was initiated from countryside patrolling practices. Moreover, countryside populations are organized and categorize criminality contrarily. Thirdly, communal policing has been established as a value of the shifting nature of populations. Lastly, countryside and municipal populations are alike.

The initial conservatory of believe claims that community policing advanced the situation after a countryside style of policing. Rural officers participate in a broader range of policing techniques due to the secluded environment and restricted amenities existing, where police are commonly the ones around the clock managing the safety service benefactor (Young and Tinsley, 1998; Pelfrey, 2007). Rural police often assume a communal-oriented form of supervising wherever the officers are incorporated as members of the community and form well-matched community associations (Scott and Jobe, 2007). Moreover, countryside constables have faster interactions with the public than officers in most municipal locales (Pelfrey, 2007) Scott and Jobe, Pelfrey work provides Scholarly debates on community policing on whether policing first developed in urban areas or rural areas. This informs the current study as it was carried out in Kakamega Town which is an urban center.

The corpus track philosophy forms a most important part in managing the process of patrolling in China (Wong, 2009; Zhong, 2009). The Chinese constabularies, below the conventional Marxist ideology since the establishment of the People's Republic of China (PRC), believed that policing would be fruitless without mass involvement; therefore, emphasis has been put on mass participation at the grassroots level. Crime and social service problems were matters to be tackled by the police as well as the senior officials in the community and the public (Luo, 1994).

The Chinese police department has continuously espoused the Communalist philosophy of "helping the people whole heartedly. "It has advocated "provision to populations" as a maxim and has occupied a sequence of procedures to offer enhanced societal facilities to the communal in the path of police transformation. In 1996, the Ministry of Public Security (MPS) legislated the strategy of "four haves and four should" (FHFS), which outlined obligations for the forefront constabulary officers.

As listed by the strategy, the police department “ought to deal with somewhat crime-related harms you have, “should aid with any troubles you have, “must bar you from any threats you have, “and “should encounter any needs you have. “As a result, the social service workload of frontline police officers increased since the launch of the FHFS policy (Mao and Zhou, 2005) the studies above do focus on role of community policing in crime prevention in Kakamega Town. It however enriches the study on the role of ideologies in guiding the policing, which is useful to the current study.

Otenyo (2014) noted that the police have forbidden vigilante clusters in Kakamega Central Sub County. Kakamega police boss Mohammed Guyo alleged the clusters are accountable for the increase in criminality. He alleged that the bylaw does not identify the clusters. Guyo said police crackdown on members of the group. “The vigilantes organize themselves under the pretext they were providing security to business premises and residents but turns out to be thieves,” This review is relevant to the current study as it provides insight on the formation of policing groups in preventing crimes commotion within Kakamega county.

The philosophy of police not being detached from but rather hinged in corporation with the community is acknowledged by a case study of community policing in New Zealand that started in the late 1980’s. The New Zealand Police Force Newfangled Ideal of Policing: Strategy promotes operating in corporation with the public to resolve indigenous harms (Skolnick and Bayley: 1988). Although Skolnick and Bayley (1988) findings did not focus on strategies used by the Kakamega community policing committee. It adds up with information to the current study.

Community policing also includes corporations among community organizations, business communities, individuals, non-governmental organizations and the communal mass media for the improvement of approaches to forces the community (Kucukuysa land Beyhan, 2011). The findings have helped in investigating whether there are various stakeholders in relation to the topic understudy. Therefore, the review is useful to the current study.

In the 1970s and 1980s, community monitoring developed the new system of crime stoppage, with more police officers patrolling in societies throughout the United States and nations in Europe. Furthermore, the police began to engross affiliates of the community, commercial and governmental organizations. This affiliation existed intended at fighting lawbreaking in a combined firm to resolve the distinctive harms that trouble populations Nevertheless; resilient philosophies were presented to institute tactics of consistent guard zones, identified as “beats”. Prior to 1829, modifiable officers, only reacted after a criminality had been recounted. Patrols mainly focused only on some specific reported cases only. Somewhat criminality discouragement or trepidation of accused transpired almost unintentionally (Van der Spuy and Lever, 2010). Literature from Van der Spuy and Lever (2010) provides earlier strategies that were used in dealing with crimes in which action was taken after occurrence of a crime.

The researcher established that numerous community members, organizational followers besides bests of dissimilar ranks were not engaged in the communal patrolling series, which caused the Popular enactment of municipal patrolling. Consequently, it is very significant that everybody is involved from the foundation of the communal policing so that no glitches can rise. This study established that, there was no collaboration and proper statement amongst constabularies officers and the communal members.

Additionally the scholar established that nearly communal leaders and other communal patrolling participants did not teach their themes on the soul of community patrolling, and therefore community policing in the Katima-Mulilo areas of responsibility did not bear any benefit whole (Zambezi regional police crime prevention strategy 2009/2014) This literature was useful in analyzing both the role stakeholders and the approaches employed in the case of the community Policing committee in crime prevention.

Crime is multi-causal and by nature, prevention requires a multi-level, multiagency approach, which if well-coordinated through partnerships can make use of different perspectives, resources and skills in the most efficient, cost effective and sustainable manner. Holtmann (2011) argues referring to South Africa ‘We can only expect safety when we take collective responsibility for re-building our social system to mitigate the ravages of the social engineering of the past.

In 1996, Kenya police adopted community policing in crime management. However, enactment of communal policing in Kenya was launched in May 2001 through establishment of community policing units in Kibera, Ziwani, and Isiolo. This was over a combined partnership determination between, the Kenya Police, UN-Habitat, ‘Safer world’ and Nairobi Central Business District Association. The unit’s developed valuable knowledge and experience in setting up and running community policing forums (CPFs). The units have further been supported by the development of a national manual that is used in training communities in policing sites and police services (GoK, 2003:10). “We support the community policing as an effective strategy in the fight against crime and has put in place measures required; this enhances partnership between the police and community,” Interior Cabinet Secretary had said during the launch of the program in 2013.

Crime Prevention

Criminality prevention includes range of methods that are accomplished by people, communities, businesses, non-government organizations and all levels of government to target the various social and environmental factors that increase the risk of crime, syndrome and persecution (AIC 2003; ECOSOC 2002; IPC 2008; Van Dijk & de Waard 1991). There is a diversity of diverse tactics to crime prevention that vary in terms of the effort of the involvement, the kinds of undertakings that are delivered, the theory behind how those activities are aimed to bring about the anticipated outcomes and the mechanisms that are realistic.

The eco-friendly method, which encompasses situational crime prevention procedures and wider urban planning initiatives, aims to adapt the physical environment to decrease the chances for

crime to transpire (Hughes 2007; Sutton, Cherney & White 2008).The social methodology emphasizes on the fundamental social and economic reasons of crime in the community (e.g. absence of social cohesion, imperfect access to housing, employment, education and health services) and on restrictive the supply of stirred offenders, and includes evolving prevention and community development models Hughes 2007; Sutton, Cherney & White 2008; Weatherburn 2004). The criminal justice approach denotes to numerous sequences conveyed by police, the courts and corrections that target to thwart tendency midst those folks who have previously involved in criminal behavior and who have come into contact with the criminal justice system (ECOSOC 2002; UNODC 2010).

Community Policing Techniques

The ultimate moralities of community policing comprise but not restricted to, Policing by consent rather than by compulsion, the police and the community working together, recognizing the security primacies of the community and modifying policing to meet community desires and priorities (Mwaniki 2016). Ultimate ideologies of community policing approaches include building corporations between security agencies and communities, volunteerism among community members and adherence to existing laws and procedures of public safety and security (GoK, 2009: 82). Others are empowerment of the community in public safety and security, awareness and respect of regional multiplicity and respect for and advancement of social rights.

Some of the community policing techniques include; Foot patrol involves an officer or officers and community member (s) patrolling on foot within the general area without targeting any specific crime. Precautionary patrol on the other hand entails an increase in police presence and visibility which deters criminals from committing crimes. This reduces fear in citizens and Nurtures good police – public relations. Preventive patrol is mostly done by designated Vehicles. Police – community associations programs involve activities aimed at reaching the community such as joint patrol (Moore, 1992:116). This study establishes how Community policing is implemented by identifying the approaches that are used within.

The Nyumba Kumi initiative is a tactic used in Community policing in Kenya like the Youth Vigilante groups, community court system and joint patrols. This model has been proposed as the solution for criminal behavior and terrorism. The initiative was also to encourage Kenyans to interact and share information about each other. They are also expected to screen security fears and provide information to the local administration and security organs.

The model Nyumba Kumi, although a Kiswahili expression meaning “ten households” is not “rigidly” an edge to be centered on a precise numeral of homes. The quantity of homes grouped must not be enacted, fixed or restricted by outward forces but resolute by collective ambitions. Nyumba Kumi inventiveness is still at its formative stages and the study shall be analyzing its effectiveness in crime prevention and sustainability using measuring levels of neighborhood this ensures safety and public satisfaction. Though police are still accountable for vigorous and impartial enforcement of law and life threatening emergencies, community policing is a

combined police and society wide focus. Realizing that police alone cannot solve the hitches of crime we have gone an extensive way towards achieving these goals.” (Rhonda J.2000)

THEORETICAL REVIEW

Societal Disorganization Theory by Shaw and McKay theory was advanced by Shaw & McKay (1942) is based on the conception that disorganized communities cause crime because informal social controls break down and criminal cultures emerge. They lack collective efficacy to fight crime and disorder. By means of three-dimensional plans to scrutinize the inhabited localities of minors raised to Chicago courts, Shaw and McKay revealed that proportions of criminality remained not equally discrete transversely time and space in the city. Instead, crime tended to be concentrated in particular areas of the city, and importantly, remained relatively stable within different areas despite persistent changes in the residents who lived in piece zone.

In neighborhoods with high crime rates, for example, the rates remained relatively high regardless of which racial or ethnic group happened to reside there at any particular time, and, as these previously crime-prone groups moved to lower-crime areas of the city, their rate of criminal activity decreased accordingly to correspond with the lower rates characteristic of that area. These observations led Shaw and McKay to the conclusion that crime was likely a function of neighborhood dynamics, and not necessarily a function of the individuals within neighborhoods.

Even so, social disorganization theory was “rediscovered” in the 1980s. Research by scholars such as Bursik (1986; 1988), Sampson and Groves (1989), and Wilson (1990; 1996) helped to revitalize, and partially reformulate and extend, the social disorganization tradition. In doing so, a number of criticisms leveled at the theory have been addressed (Bursik, 1988). For example, research has been conducted to test for the “reciprocal effects” of social disorganization (Bursik, 1986) and to test for the potential impact that levels of social disorganization of given communities may have on neighboring communities (Heitgerd and Bursik, 1987).

In addition, the scope of the theory was adjusted and expanded to include constructs beyond the macro-level components originally specified by Shaw and McKay (for instance, low socio-economic status, residential mobility and racial heterogeneity). New concepts have been added that have enhanced its theoretical utility. In particular, recent research has explicitly tested for “intervening mechanisms” or arbitrating variables among the customary social ineptitude variables and crime rates. The prevailing mechanisms noted by researchers include the effect of social disorganization on rates of family disruption and collective efficacy, which, in turn, straight impact crime rates (Sampson and Groves, 1989; Sampson, Raudenbush and Earls, 1999). The theory was used to argue that if communities are dis-organized in running their normal activities in Kakamega town, their normal routine activities are likely to be affected.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

The study employed descriptive research design. The approach was significant on how community policing was applied in the area, this method involved interviewing and filling of questionnaires by the respondents selected from the sample population (Schindler et al 1998).

Location of the Study

Kakamega County which is one of the 47 Counties in Kenya covers an area of 3050.3 Km² (Kakamega CDP, 2013). It has a population of 1,660,651 people consisting of 797,112 males and 863,539 females. The population is projected to hit 2,028,324 people by 2017 (Kenya Population and Housing Census Report, 2009). The average land holding size is 0.54 H and 196,938 cases of unemployed as indicated by the report. It is situated in the western Kenya about 30km north of the Equator, at Latitude and Longitude of 0°27'5" N, 34°7'5" E respectively. The County borders Vihiga County to the South, Busia and Siaya Counties to the West, Bungoma and Trans Nzoia Counties to the North, Uasin Gishu to the North East and Nandi County to the East. Kakamega county is comprised of 12 sub-counties namely: Shinyalu, Butere, Khwisero, Ikolomani, Navakholo, Lurambi, Likuyani, Lugari, Matungu, Mumias West, Mumias East and Malava. The researcher purposively chose Lurambi Sub-County for the study owing to his familiarity with the area. Kenya Police Crime Report 2014, Kakamega County was ranked 30th out of 47 Counties in Kenya in terms of crime prevalence recording 2,444 crimes.

Target Population

The target population included 230 community members, 41 NPS Members; OCPD, OCS, Deputy OCS, 14 Provincial administrators; chiefs, assistant chiefs, and 36 leaders of nyumba Kumi initiative.

Sample Size and the Sampling Techniques

Cornell (1960) described sampling as the procedure by which a comparatively minor number of persons, matters or events is chosen and examined in directive to find out something about the entire population from which it was chosen. The researcher adopted stratified sampling technique and Purposive sampling methodology to obtain sample units. This is because samples were obtained by purposively identifying the people in Kakamega town who have the information on community policing. The security agents like the OCS, OCPD, OC, Chiefs, and assistant chiefs. Stratified technique involved dividing the population into significant strata, the strata were based on the number of security agents and community policing committee in Kakamega town. According to Copper & Schindler (2006), a sample size must be large enough to be representative of the universe population. Yamane's formula (Yumane, 1973) guided in the selection of the appropriate sample size for the participants that were the respondent. The

formula is ideal for use when it is not possible to interview all the respondents in the population, which comprises of all participants. The working sample was guided by Yamane's formulation.

$$n = N \div 1 + N (e)^2$$

Where: n = size of the sample in the stratum= the population; 1 = is constant; e = precision level is the estimated standard error which is 5% for 95% confidence level (.05) ²

$$n = 333 \div 1 + 333(0.05)^2 = 110$$

Research Instruments

The research used both Interviews and Questionnaires as the major and the only research instruments. The study employed interviews which were administered by the researcher assisted by research assistants. Interviews were administered at the informant's convenient places with target group being the 5 area chiefs. There was free discussion as notes were taken during the interview with respondents Notebooks and pens during the field interview. The Interview schedule was done in order to seek more clarification that was not well covered in the questionnaires. The interviews sought to prompt attitudes, opinions, senses and viewpoints about the study of the targeted group. The study employed both close ended and open ended questions. The researcher crafted the questions by looking on the aims of the study. The researcher also reflected on the type of responses that is expected from the respondents. In this study only relevant questions were used in the Questionnaires. The questionnaires were administered by oneself to the sampled respondents who completed them by filling in the questions. Questionnaires were put in use because of their confidentiality nature.

Data Collection Procedures

After getting the required clearance from Kenyatta university, NACOST and relevant authorities, Both the Primary and secondary statistics were examined. Primary data was collected by use of both questionnaires and interviewing schedules. The questionnaires were distributed to selected respondents and waited as the respondents filled them, some were assisted by the research assistants, asking questions on the questionnaires and filling in the answers from the respondents. The researcher formulated the questions by looking at objectives of the study. The researcher also reflected on the type of responses expected from the respondents and this guided the type of open ended question in the questionnaires. In this case only relevant questions were used. The questionnaires were self-administered to the sampled respondents who completed by filling them. In this context the Questionnaires were used because of their confidentiality while answering the questions. Additionally, the interview schedules were done to key selected informants in order to seek further clarification that was not well proposed in the questionnaires through interviews guided by question guide in Kakamega County, Kenya. The archival information was gathered from Kenya National Archives and Documentary Service. Interviews were significant as informants gave insights on community policing and how they help in crime prevention within Kakamega County, Kenya. Kenyatta University Post-Modern Library and

online publications was useful in secondary data collection. The documents from Kenyatta Post-Modern Library included textbooks, theses, and newspapers while online documents included journals and magazines. Secondary data was very important as it provided a theoretical framework through which the study was undertaken and conceptual framework in which the study was based on.

Data Analysis and Presentation

The researcher used both quantitative and qualitative data analysis. Qualitative data analysis was a form of description that used words to describe the variables (Kothari 2004). Qualitative data was analyzed thematically. The data analysis convoluted calculation of both descriptive and inferential data. Descriptive statistics analysis was used in calculation of means, The Quantitative statistics was analyzed using software of SPSS then was presented inform of charts, graphs and frequency tables. The above is for reasons that this method can be quickly and easily be interpreted by most people who may not have enough time to go through the whole report for interpretation.

RESAERCH RESULTS

Effects of Community Policing Techniques on Crime Prevention in Kakamega County

From the data analysis is quiet clear that, the community policing committee did not fully communicate policing techniques to the players in crime prevention effort. This could be the reason why the crime rate is still high in Kakamega town despite the presence of community policing forums. The research study also found out that despite the fact that there were so many community policing techniques almost half of the respondents felt that the same techniques were not effectively employed in combating crime. Thus need to effectively use the techniques in order to address the issue of crime in Kakamega County.

Effects of Community Participation on Crime Prevention in Kakamega County

The research study revealed that, a majority of the respondents who participate in the community policing had attained Secondary school education. Although the findings indicate that a large number of the inhabitants of Kakamega town have attained secondary stages of learning, followed by diploma level education, this fact of education, doesn't distress their involvement in mutual policing since safety concerns touch entirely on all inhabitants. This study also supports the earlier studies which alluded to the fact that, the level of schooling, empowerment and capability building by the community leaders and government social department is crucial in community policing, (Baker 2018). The research study also established that, mainstream of the community policing committee had lived in that region for more than 5 years. This element is likely ascribed to the fact that inhabitants who are native there, possesses households and investments, a fact that they are more apprehensive on security matters of the area. The mainstream of the respondents had engaged in community policing for a period of more than 6

years. This denotes that the majority of the respondents had served for longer period of time, a fact that may be associated with the passion of serving the community. The research established that, there were no Proper record keeping of public participation by community policing committee. Thus distorting the exact number or rate of citizen participation in community policing forums in Kakamega town. Record keeping is key in that it informs the stakeholders on the number of participants and their backgrounds a fact that can aid when there is need to revolutionize or amend /improve the participation rate.

Effects of Knowledge among Community Members on Crime Prevention Strategies in Kakamega County

The study also established that, there were no capacity building programs initiated for members of community policing committees in Kakamega town, a fact that is hindering the full understanding of community policing programs. Given the complexity and current crime dynamics, capacity building is key in coming out with different modalities of extracting information from the public, which may in return help in singling out crime perpetrators.

CONCLUSION

This research study concludes with an agreement with a study by Mwaura (2014) “factors that effective implementation of community policing in Kajiado North “which alluded to the fact that community members and Police partnerships are key and significant in decreasing the crime rate. The study also supports views that community policing is an accomplishment and plays a major role in crime prevention (Njiri 2014). Finally, it alludes to the fact that even though members of the public are aware of community policing, participation remains a big challenge. Therefore, participation awareness needs to be enhanced and promoted in order to include more citizens and thus more information that will translate to safer environments.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Community Policing Techniques and Crime Prevention in Kakamega County

Community Policing techniques need to be made clear and communicated to the stakeholders and also the implementers of each technique made aware on how to effectively use the techniques in order to address the issue of crime. The community policing techniques should also be made aware to all the public to enable information sharing and the same time take care of those sharing the information. Supplementary research studies should be carried out at the county level involving all police divisions and sub counties.

Community Participation and Crime Prevention in Kakamega County

Record keeping is key to any venture, in that it informs the stakeholders on the number of participants and their backgrounds an element that can aid when there is need to revolutionize or amend /improve the participation rate of the participants. I recommend that, the National

government should reinforce the implementation of communal policing as a panache of controlling crime by allocating some budgets at the grassroots level for creating awareness and capacity building of the main stakeholders.

Knowledge among Community Members and Crime Prevention Strategies in Kakamega County

The public responsiveness on communal policing is great but the execution has a breach that can be completely be removed by the public and police building reliance and knowledge sharing through capacity building forums. The national government should set budgets to facilitate the same from the grassroots level using the provincial administration structure.

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