

DETERMINANTS INFLUENCING IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAMMES IN KENYA; CASE OF NAKURU NORTH SUBCOUNTY, NAKURU COUNTY KENYA

Chaana Marko Saibung'wa.

Master of Public Administration and Management, Mount Kenya University, Kenya.

Dr. Ruthwinnie Munene.

Lecturer, Mount Kenya University, Kenya.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to establish determinants influencing effective implementation of community policing programme in Nakuru North sub county, Kenya. The objective of the was to recommend strategies that could be used to improve community policing. The study used a mixed-methods survey design targeting all 136,917 residents of Nakuru North sub county, District Commissioners (DCs) and Police Stations (OCPDs), police officers in the study area and members of local police forums. Stratified random sampling was used to select 383 citizens, while purposive sampling was used to select 20 police officers, 10 local police committees, DC and OCPD. Data were collected through questionnaires and interview schedules. Before actual data collection, a pilot study was conducted with a small number of community members from Nakuru North sub-county. The pilot study provided an opportunity to discover and correct potential

problems with the instruments. The data were both qualitative and quantitative. The collected quantitative data were coded and entered into the SPSS program for analysis. Qualitative data were arranged under themes according to the research objectives. The results of the data analysis were presented using frequency distribution tables. The study showed that the community was actively involved in local policing. The study concluded that initiatives should be launched to make municipal police more effective, such as ensuring the confidentiality of information, organizing regular meetings to discuss security issues and making the community aware of the importance of local police. The study recommends: the community should work with security chiefs to help improve and strengthen local policing; and committee members should make the community aware of the importance of local police, which can be achieved through regular meetings.

INTRODUCTION

Background to the Study

The progress of various economies around the world has created new trends in crime, ranging from serious life-threatening crimes to simple crimes, all of which have a negative impact on people's lives. The African continent was also not spared from the increase in crime. Crime patterns and trends have changed and governments have therefore proposed different mechanisms, policies and approaches to fight crime (Bell, 2019). The now famous community policing initiative was launched by the Kenyan government in 2002 through the then Ministry of Homeland Security as an approach to fighting crime. The initiative was officially launched in 2018.

Global perspective on community policing

In the Roman Empire, police work was carried out by soldiers called legions. They protected the emperor, guarded the fires and kept order in the city of Rome and later in England. The Normans continued the Anglo-Saxon principle that after the conquest of England in 1066 AD. it was the duty of every man to keep the king's peace. Each person living in scattered villages in England was responsible for helping their neighbors and protecting the settlements from thieves and robbers (Siegel and Senna, 2017). According to the US Department of Justice (2016), positive communication naturally has several advantages: it tends to build familiarity, trust and confidence on both sides; they remind civil servants that most citizens respect and support them; they make the officer more aware of people and situations; they provide specific information for criminal investigation and problem solving; and they break the monotony of the motorized patrol.

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) defines community policing as a guiding philosophy that strengthens the partnership between law enforcement and the people of all the communities it serves. It aims to protect and serve by expanding and strengthening our ability to reduce crime and the fear of crime. The US Department of Justice's Office of Community Policing (2017) also defines community policing as a partnership between law enforcement and the individuals and organizations they serve to develop solutions to problems and increase trust in the police.

However, citizens' perception of local police activities does not directly affect the level of fear. On the other hand, Skogan (2019) reports that people hold the police responsible for local crime, anxiety and fear. Nelson, Mcbride, O'Riordan and Smyth (2019) found in their research that young people who come into contact with the police often interact with them in environments and situations that promote hostility. This often leads to situations that can be adversarial in nature, with young people often having experiences with the police characterized by inappropriate behavior and negative emotions.

Regional Perspective on community policing

In Africa, the Egyptians recruited Nubians into their Medjay police almost 400 years ago and established maritime police in 1430 AD. According to Saferworld (2018), Community-Based Policing (CBP) is an approach to policing that brings together police, civil society and local communities to develop local solutions to local security challenges. It helps improve community safety, reduce crime and the fear of crime, improve access to justice and create more peaceful communities. 'Community policing in South Africa is firmly rooted in its legal system. The first formal reference to community policing can be found in the Interim Constitution 200 of 1993. It was incorporated into the SAPS in 1994 through the South African Police Service Act (Ruteere and Pommeroll, 2018; Spuy and Rontsch, 2018).

In Namibia, the police developed a neighborhood watch system of 20 houses in 1994-1995 to promote dialogue between the police and members of the local community (Amnesty

International, 2020). In April 2004, the Nigerian Police Force launched the Community Policing Program to guide the Community Policing Plan (Spuy and Rontch, 2018). Since the 1980s, the Zimbabwean police have had at least one contact person in every police station. However, police-community relations have deteriorated sharply since the government encouraged militias made up of war veterans, supporters of the ruling party and unemployed youth to solve land problems.

In 2000, police prevented white Zimbabweans from participating in neighborhood watch programs. Community consultation has so far been weak, as many have avoided community encounters with the police for fear of being targeted for their political beliefs (Amnesty International, 2020). Community policing was established in Zambia under the Police Act 1999, and any community can establish a crime prevention and control association with the power to arrest suspects. The post-1994 government of Rwanda introduced community policing in 1995 to maintain social order. Genocide created an atmosphere of suspicion, fear and mistrust that gave birth to the idea of community policing. Citizen participation and partnerships are created through the legal framework. Community policing is enshrined in the National Constitution, the Police Act and the Local Government Act (Mugambage, 2019).

Relations between the Nigerian police and citizens are largely characterized by suspicion, prejudice, mutual disrespect, conflict and violence (Alemika and Chukwuma, 2020). It was also established that without the cooperation of those under supervision, it will be very difficult for any police organization to achieve its goal of ensuring law and order. Community policing as a police model was introduced in Uganda at the end of the 1980s as a pilot project of the Old Kampala Police Station. Community Police Officers (CPOs) were identified, given bicycles and sent away beaten. It was largely led by the Kampala District Police Commander (DPC) with the assistance of British police officers who were in the country for training at the time. The initiative collapsed with the transfer of the DPC (Spuy and Rontsch, 2018). Tanzania has yet to adopt a Western form of community policing. It relies heavily on community self-policing groups that patrol without the police but may require police assistance. Self-governing systems such as Sungusungu provide informal social control through enhanced community control and are established through a legal framework (Spuy and Rontsch, 2018).

Local perspective on community policing

In Kenya, the failure of traditional policing has come with some costs. The growth of vigilante groups operating outside the legal system is due to the fact that the state cannot ensure adequate security for its people (Ruteere and Pommeroll, 2018). Wairagu, Kamenju and Shingo (2018) acknowledge that as insecurity increases, more and more people turn to private security firms because the government is unable to provide adequate security to its people. Community Policing was first launched as a pilot project in 1994 in Kayole Estate of BurnBurn Division. Other pilot projects established in 2002-2003 include: - Kariobangi, Kabiria, Baba Dogo, Ruai and Ziwani (Adambo, 2018).

The first police handbook on community policing was published in 1997. When the NARC board took office in 2003, a national consultation was launched, which concluded that the public wanted the police to be more responsive to community needs. Adopting the CBP approach is a vehicle for a police restructuring plan based on partnership, shared responsibility, greater transparency and accountability (Safer World, 2018). The King'ole system of the Akamba community in Kenya ensured that all members followed the values of the community, while the Kikuyu community was severely punished for violating the values. Community policing is defined as bringing police and citizens together to prevent crime and solve problems, with an emphasis on crime prevention rather than the traditional way police respond to crime after it occurs (Tillman, 2020).

Previous Kenyan governments are said to have used the police as a political tool since colonial times. Korean officials acknowledge that the Kenya Police Force (KPF) has a history of administrative policing and has expended considerable institutional energy to maintain the mandates of the four ruling parties. Waguma (2019) believes that the Kenyan police force was a creation of European masters with express mandates to run it from the Foreign Office in London. They used to implement the Crisis in 1952 and did not change much after independence. They changed their allegiance from white to black rulers, but the institution remained the same. However, the reintroduction of multi-party politics in Kenya reduced the political dimension of policing and opened the force to greater criticism and publicity (Ruteere and Pommerole, 2018).

Community policing

Community policing emphasizes working with and for the community rather than community policing. It aims to improve the quality of life in communities. By improving the quality of life, the goal is to solve community problems together with the community and in a way defined by the community (Tilley, 2018). Every definition of community policing shares the idea that the police and the community must work together to define and develop solutions to problems (Sadd and Grinc, 2019). One reason for public participation is the belief that the police alone cannot create or maintain safe communities. They can help by starting voluntary local efforts to prevent disorder and crime; In this role, they complement community crime prevention efforts such as neighborhood watches, targeting, and youth and economic development programs. Community participation is also often justified by the increasing customer orientation of public services and the underlying political and social forces. The police are said to be aware of and respond to the different concerns of different communities by opening up to citizen input (Skogan, 2019).

Statement of the Problem

Crime and insecurity in Nakuru County and Kenya as a whole has increased over the years (Ngugi, Kimenyi, Gakuru, 2018). The 2004 Economic Survey (Republic of Kenya, 2017) reports an increase in crime. In addition, concerns about crime and insecurity have been widely reported in the media and discussed in various forums, including Parliament. Ecotact (2019) reports that there

is a lot of insecurity in Nakuru due to extensive informal settlement. Despite the government's efforts to curb crime through special police units (such as Alfa Romeo) and the support for local police, this does not seem to have any real effect (Daily Nation, August 6, 2016). This requires efforts to improve crime control mechanisms, particularly through better community policing and police reforms. The Government of Kenya has adopted Community Policing Principles as a central part of its security sector reform (Provincial Policing and Internal Security 2019).

A study conducted by Kimilu (2018) in Nairobi Province found that the philosophy of community policing was not well understood by both the police and the public. Another study by Kiprono (2017) in Kibera, Nairobi found that the implementation of community policing faced constraints such as the poor public image of the police force and mistrust between the public and the police. Kiprono recommended that further research be conducted to identify the reasons behind the low impact of community policing on crime reduction. KK Security Company's security manual dated September 3, 2019 paints a negative picture of Nakuru province. It is hoped that the factors studied can shed more light on whether community-based policing programs really work or whether it was just a buzzword for the police - PR. Community policing is a policing strategy that must not fail in the current climate of crime and insecurity. Hence the above indicates the reason for conducting this study., Kimilu (2018).

Despite the documented problems encountered in local police enforcement in Kenya, it is unclear whether these problems apply to all regions. Therefore, this study sought to identify factors affecting the effective implementation of a community policing program in Nakuru, Kenya. The purpose of this study was to determine how community participation in municipal police policy making, the composition of the local police commission, and the attitudes of community members and security personnel toward community policing affect the implementation of local police programs. (Kimilu, 2018).

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to establish determinants influencing effective implementation of community policing programme in Nakuru North sub county, Kenya.

Objectives of the study

To determine the influence of community participation on effective implementation of community policing programmes in Nakuru North sub county, Kenya.

Research Question

How does community participation influence effective implementation of community policing programmes in Nakuru North sub county, Kenya?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction

Level of Community Participation in Community Policing Decision- Making

Community participation as a concept focuses on the idea that involving stakeholders in decision-making about their communities and wider social issues brings significant social, economic and political benefits. The current research shows the need to promote community participation in local police decision-making. Tillman's (2020) study of the effectiveness of community policing in Los Angeles found that police empowered community-based organizations to provide community policing programs in their area. These organizations actively work with their precincts to inform residents and business owners about local police. They have a civic/business academy to educate the community about the department and involvement. (Commins, 2017).

A community organization and police visit neighborhoods once a month, knocking on doors and talking to residents. They ask the community to actively participate in solving quality of life issues that are important to the community. This builds trust in the community and the police. Since that operation, they have focused on auto theft prevention programs, personal safety training, narcotics, abandoned vehicles, environmental issues, neighborhood and business watches, security investigations, graffiti and all other related issues. (Skogan, 2016) Citizens participating in the program know their officials. They asked for and received bike patrols and officers from the local police. The community also knows its district leaders. They attend monthly community meetings held in each area and the community has been involved in issues such as manpower allocation and crime mapping.

According to the Chicago Community Policing Evaluation Consortium (2019), Chicago began its community policing program in 1993. The city aggressively markets the local police force. "The survey showed that the level of awareness increased from 53 percent to 79 percent of adults who are aware of community policing. 61 percent are aware of community meetings and 28 percent have attended at least one meeting in the past year. Participants attend an average of four meetings a year. More than half of residents contacted the police half and 80 percent found that the police were helpful and treated them politely, and 70 percent were satisfied with the result. There is a joint citizen-police training program that provides training and education to citizens and links that training to departmental training. Educated citizens were more likely to participate in problem solving." Similarly, Ronald and Kenneth (2019) examined citizen participation in crime prevention in Detroit. More than 78 percent had not attended community meetings about crime or improving safety in the past year. Equally many had not been members of neighborhood or community groups (Rotimi, 2021), Wambugha (2018) investigated how community policing principles were implemented in a nomadic community.

The findings addressed implementation issues, including a lack of common purpose between the various central coordinating bodies for community policing for security personnel. Community

policing was found not to enhance security within and between communities in West Pokot District. Skogan (2016) clearly emphasizes the importance of partnership in community policy. He suggests that community involvement is an important part of policing by developing partnerships with community groups; It gives the police an opportunity to build relationships with the community. From these relationships, the police can gather information that allows them to use a problem-solving approach to solving community problems. Ikuteyijo (2019) reports that community partnership in policing has many benefits and promises that if implemented well, communities will get the peace and security they need. This can lead to more effective policing, where the police do their job better and in a safer environment without suspicion or risk. It also increases mutual respect between the police and the community residents when they see each other in the right light and as partners in development. It also leads to faster solving of crimes because community members are happy to provide information to the police without suspecting revenge attacks by criminal gangs. Overall, community partnership in policing leads to a safer community for all and sundry. Similarly, Esonu and Kavanamur (2019) found that the engagement of local community stakeholders in Papua New Guinea was critical to successful community development reform in service delivery. As such, community members seek to be involved in community development projects.

Saferworld (2018) reports that one of the key factors contributing to the success of the community-based approach in Kibera is the extent to which stakeholders worked together to create a sense of shared ownership and commitment across the community. Many stakeholders from the Administrative Police, Kenya Police, County Government, businesses and residents actively participated in every phase of the program and built a strong partnership. This enabled the successful deployment of CBP in Kibera. Information sharing between communities and the police has helped the police take action to prevent crime and insecurity. Information boxes called "Toa Habari kwa Polisi" (Volunteer Information to the Police) allow people to confidentially provide information to the police to prevent and reduce crime. (Rotimi, (2021).

Theoretical Framework:

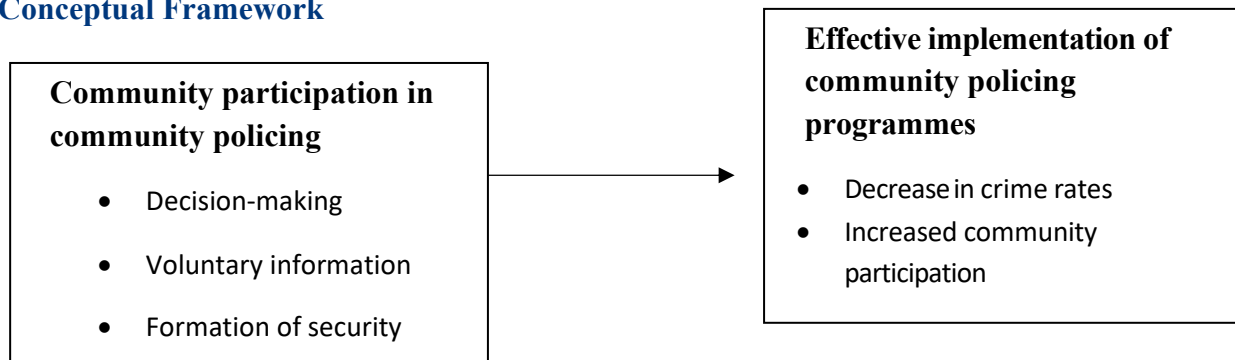
Contingency Theory

Some of the foundations of pre-theory can help understand key issues in implementing effective community policing programs. Lawrence and Lorsch first proposed the term contingency theory in 1967 in their publication Organization and Environment. The authors showed in their empirical study that "different environments make different demands on organizations". They particularly emphasized environments characterized by uncertainty and rapid changes in market conditions and technological areas, because such environments present different requirements, both positive and negative, then relatively stable environments. Although contingency theory has been widely developed over the years, the general guiding hypothesis of the theory suggests that design decisions depend on environmental conditions, meaning that organizations must match their internal characteristics and environmental requirements to achieve the best fit. In other words, "the driving force behind organizational change is the external environment, specifically the task environment that the organization encounters" (Scott, 2020).

Adams, Rohe, and Arcury (2019) suggest that community-based policing requires two fundamental changes: the first is to move the resources of the police organization away from crime control. That means more street patrols and problem-solving efforts, and more freedom for officers. Second, there are changes in police behavior and expectations. The third assumption is particularly important because it explains most of the factors that cause problems in the implementation and enforcement of community policing programs. As Scott emphasized, organizations are only as successful as they can adapt to their environment. When implementing a local policing program, environmental and community characteristics are often not taken into account, which is a serious threat to the success of the program. Scott (2020).

Wilson (2018) compares contingency theory and institutional theory to explain the nature of the relationship between community policing organizations and their environment. While institutional theory suggests that the structure and operations of organizations are responses to the institutional environment, contingency theory suggests that the organization's task environment (such as size and age, technology, and community characteristics) determines its structure and operation. Thus, the contingency theory approach to community policing suggests that police departments can engage in community policing as long as it helps them manage and accomplish their mission.

Conceptual Framework



Independent Variable

Dependent Variable

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework (Source researcher, 2023)

The study confirms that effective implementation of community policing programs can only occur when community members participate in municipal police decision-making.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the procedures used to conduct the research, including research design, focus group, sampling and sampling procedures, data collection methods, and data analysis.

Research design

The study used a descriptive research design to determine factors affecting the effective implementation of a community policing program in Nakuru North sub county, Kenya. According to Kothari (2017), probing describes, records, analyzes and reports existing or existing conditions. Kerlinger (2019) argues that the survey method is widely used to evaluate current practices and base decisions on obtaining useful information. This design was considered appropriate because it allowed the researcher to collect and analyze data from various respondents from the Regional Commissioners, Inspectorate Police Department, Police Officers, Local Police Committee members and members of the public. The design allowed the researcher to examine factors influencing the effective implementation of community policing programs without manipulating migrants. (Creswell, 2018).

Target Population

This study targeted residents of Nakuru North sub county, police officers, members of local police forums, District Commissioner (DC) and Police Department (OCPD). According to the 2009 census, Nakuru North sub county has a population of 130,917, of which 68,408 are males and 68,519 are females (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2019).

Sampling technique and sample size

The target group of the study was all 130,917 residents of Nakuru North sub county. A representative sample was determined from this population using the formula of Krejci and Morgan (1970), which is used to calculate the sample size of a given finite population (P) such that the sample was within plus or minus 0.05. with a 95 percent confidence level. This formula is shown below.

$$s = \frac{X^2NP(1 - P)}{d^2(N - 1) + X^2P(1 - P)}$$

Where:

X^2 = table value of Chi-Square for 1 degree of freedom at the desired confidence level (in this case 3.84)

N = the population size, in this case 130,917

P = the population proportion (assumed to be 0.5 since this would provide the maximum sample size)

d – the degree of accuracy expressed as a proportion (0.05)

Calculating the desired sample size using this formula gives a minimum number of 383 respondents

Data Collection instrument

Questionnaires were used to collect information from community policing committee members, police officers and members of the public. Questionnaires were used to collect data because they offer significant administrative advantages: questionnaires provide a uniform stimulus to a potentially large number of people at the same time and allow easy data collection for research purposes. The questionnaires gave the respondents the freedom to express their views or opinions and also make suggestions. All questionnaires had six sections that included: general information; level of community participation in local police decision making, composition of local police commissions, community attitudes towards local police, attitudes of security staff towards local police and strategies used to improve local policing. The interview schedule was used to conduct a personal interview with DC and OCPD regarding the implementation of the community policing program. The interview schedule consists of items related to the objectives of the study.

Data Collection procedure

A letter of introduction was obtained from Mount Kenya University, which allowed the researcher and his assistant to answer the questionnaires and interview the different types of respondents in the target group. The scientist then received a letter from the National Science and Technology Council. Chiefs of county municipal police and county deputy commissioners were contacted and informed of the intention to conduct the study in order to obtain their approval and support. Information on respondents is obtained from various police stations/facilities, local police forums and national administrations, and samples are taken from each respondent group. Respondents were contacted, met with the researcher to establish a cordial relationship, and were explained the purpose of the study. The researcher answered the survey personally and respondents were given four (4) days to understand and answer the questionnaire. . The respondents were given a week to conduct and collect the analysis. A response of at least 50% was sufficient for analysis and reports, 60% is good and 70% is very good (Mugenda and Mugenda, 2018).

Data Analysis Techniques

Both quantitative and qualitative procedures were used in the data analysis procedures. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as frequencies, means and percentages. Quantitative data analysis required the use of a computer spreadsheet, and therefore a social science statistical package was used. Martin and Acuna (2022) note that SPSS can handle large amounts of data, and due to its wide range of statistical methods for the social sciences, it is also quite powerful. Qualitative data were qualitatively analyzed using content analysis based on analyzing the meanings and implications of the respondents' data and comparing the responses with documentary data about the local police program and its implementation. Qualitative data were presented thematically according to the objectives of the study. The results of the data analysis were presented using frequency distribution tables and diagrams. The study adopted a multiple regression analysis model to test the relationship and strength between the variables. The regression model is as shown in the figure below.

$$CR = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \epsilon$$

Where; = Effective implementation of community policing programmes

X₁ = ;Community participation,, ϵ = Error term

Ethical Considerations

Ethics describe the norms that provide guideline on how the research should be conducted (Privitera, 2018). The research sought authority from NACOSTI, ERC Ethical Review Committee and introductory letter from Mount Kenya University post graduate. The research also issued informed consent to the respondents to participate, and all information provided was kept in the strictest confidence.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Introduction

This chapter introduces the study and analysis of data collected through questionnaires in the field. The purpose of the study was to identify factors influencing the implementation of the Community Policing Program in Nakuru North sub county.

Period of Service in Community Policing Programme

Most police officers have served in local policing programs for less than 5 years and 35% have served for 5-10 years. More than that 80% of the community members have worked in the programs for 5-10 years,

Descriptive statistics

Participation of Community in Community Policing Policy Decision-Making Community Policing Committee Members' Participation in Community Policing

Community members agreed that it as their duty to ensure that the community remained safe and therefore cooperated with security personnel in reducing crime.

Committee Members' Community Participation in Community Policing

Table 1: Committee Members' Community Participation in Community Policing

Activities	Yes		No	
	F	%	F	%
The community participates voluntarily by reporting suspicious characters	9	90	0	0.0
The community works closely with the police through local police forums	8	80	0	0.0
The community forms Security surveillance systems	8	80	1	80.0
The community helps the police define community problems and their solutions	9	90.0	1	10.0
The community encourages more communication between neighbors	6	60.0	5	40.0
The community contributes to police policies	2	20.0	9	80.0
The community supports crime victims with	0	0.0	10	100.0

(Source: Field Data (2024))

As shown in Table 1, all (90%) members of the Community Policing Committee reported that the community participates voluntarily by reporting suspicious characters and works closely with the police through community policing forums. The majority (80%) also reported that the community forms security monitoring systems and helps the police identify community problems and their solutions. This means that most members of the local police commission felt that the community was involved in keeping their neighborhood safe. Along with the findings, Ikuteyijo (2019) and Rotimi (2021) report that community partnership in policing has many benefits and promises to provide communities with the peace and security they need when well implemented. Saferworld (2018) also reported that in Kibera, one of the key factors contributing to the success of the community-based approach is the extent to which stakeholders worked together to create a sense of shared ownership and engagement within the community program. This means that the commitment of committee members has a strong and positive effect on satisfaction with police and crime prevention behavior. However, all (100%) committee members disagreed that the

community provides support to crime victims through counselling. Most (90.0%) of them also disagreed that the community should contribute to police policy.

Table 2: Participation of Police officers on Community Policing

Tasks	Yes		No	
	F	%	F	%
The community participates in volunteer reporting of suspicious characters	10	50	10	50
The community works closely with the police through local police forums	17	85	3	15
Community form Security monitoring systems	10	50	10	50
The community helps the police define community problems and their solutions	9	40	11	55
The community supports crime victims through counseling	3	15	17	85
The community contributes to police policy	2	10	18	90
The community encourages more neighborhood ties between.	3	15	17	85

(Source: Field Data (2024))

Table 8 shows that ten (50%) equal proportions of police officers reported that the community voluntarily reported suspicious characters and worked closely with the police through local police forums. (50%) of the respondents stated that the community forms security systems. On the other hand, the majority of respondents did not agree with the following statements: The community promotes the creation of bonds between neighbors (15%), the community supports crime victims through counseling (15%), and the community contributes to law enforcement. politics (10%). This indicates that community members were not fully engaged in local policing programs. It also revealed that the biggest activity that most community members participated in was security. Tillman (2020) found that police empowered community-based organizations to provide local policing programs in their area. Similarly, a study by the Chicago Community Policing Evaluation Consortium (2019) found that more than half of residents contacted the police and 80 percent believed that the police were helpful and treated them with courtesy. These results indicate that communities work hand-in-hand with the police in implementing community policing, and thus the police have a strong and positive influence in community policing. Table 3 shows responses from members of the public about how the community participated in local policing.

Table 3: General Public Members’ Participation in Community Policing

Tasks	Yes		No	
	F	%	F	%
The community participates voluntarily by reporting suspicious characters	203	53	180	47
The community forms security surveillance systems	144	386	239	62
The community works closely with the police through local police forums	131	34	252	66
The community helps the police define community problems and their solutions	107	28	276	72
The community encourages more neighborhood ties	99	26	284	74
The community contributes to police policy	88	23	295	77
The community supports victims of crime through counseling	79	21	304	79

Source: Field Data (2024)

More than 50.0% of the population disagreed with all the activities listed in Table 9. This shows that most of them thought that community participation in local police was very low, which prevented the good implementation of municipal police programs. The main activities that the community did not participate in included; supporting crime victims through counselling, contributing to police policy, increasing contacts between neighbors and assisting the police in defining community problems and solutions.

This was a clear indication that most members of the community were not involved in local policing activities. This undermined the good implementation of local police programs in Nakuru North sub county. These findings agreed with Wambugha (2020) who conducted a survey on how community policing principles were implemented in a nomadic community. Findings showed that local police did not strengthen security within and between communities in West Pokot District. Similarly, Kenneth (2018) explained that more than 78 percent in any location had not attended any meetings organized in the previous year where there was a question of improving crime or security.

During the interview, the O.C.P.D and D.C shared that community members established good public relations that facilitated good implementation of the community policing program. The main activities in which the community participated were: defining community problems, making decisions to solve community problems, and forming patrols to ensure security. This is contrary

to the opinions of citizens who reported that they are not involved enough in political matters and decision-making. This means that security managers assumed that they would involve enough of the public, which was not the case. Overall, the above findings indicate that most respondents (community members, police and general public) believed that the community is involved in: volunteering information about suspicious characters; close cooperation with the police and the design of security systems. However, most community members never participated in the most important activities: supporting crime victims through counseling and participating in police policies. This shows that while community members participated in municipal policing, there was also a need for improvement.

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

This chapter presents the summary, conclusions and recommendations of the study. It also provides recommendations for further research.

Discussions Community participation in local police political decision-making

The survey revealed that the majority of respondents (commissioners, police and general public) reported that the community participated: volunteering information about suspicious persons; close cooperation with the police and the design of security systems. However, the most important activities in which the majority of community members did not participate were supporting crime victims through counseling and contributing to police policies. This shows that while community members participated in community policing programs, there was also room for improvement, especially involving them in political decision-making, thus engaging the community holistically and ultimately developing local solutions to local security problems and improvements of quality of life in a community police committee composition of the local police committee.

Conclusions of the Study

Based on the results of the study summarized above, it can be concluded that the community actively participated in community policing, voluntarily providing information about suspicious characters and closely cooperating with the police in organization of security. . However, it appeared that the community never supported victims of crime through counseling and contributing to police policy.

Recommendations of the Study

Members of the local police commission should make the community aware of the importance of the local police. This can be achieved by organizing regular meetings with the community. Community members should support crime victims and perpetrators in the community through counseling and other activities, such as providing employment opportunities. This would help reduce the number of lazy people in the society and thus curb crime. The community should work with security chiefs to improve and strengthen local policing. Security personnel must be trained to conduct undercover investigations and also ensure that the information they collect is obtained and kept highly confidential.

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