



IMPACT OF COMMUNITY POLICING ON CRIME REDUCTION IN KADUNA CENTRAL SENATORIAL DISTRICT, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

This study carefully examines the Effectiveness of Community Policing in Crime Reduction to the Community in Kaduna central senatorial district. Specifically the study intended to identify the community policing strategies used by the Police force to reduce crime, assessing the Impact of Community Policing in reducing Crime, identifying challenges facing Police Force in administering the Community Policing and evaluating the effectiveness of community policing on crime reduction. A case study research design was employed in which Kaduna south and Igabi Local governments were taken as a case study. The study used interview and questionnaires as data collecting tools. The study found that the main strategies used by police force to reduce crime includes; foot patrol, collaboration and community meetings, and public education programs etc. The show that, Community policing has little or no impact on reducing crimes as employed strategies have no effects in addressing the crime. Lack of training, poor implementation strategies, information gap and lack of involvement leads to unrealistic community expectations and present a challenge to the police force and the communities at large. In conclusion, the study recommends among others that community engagement should be the central focal point. Communities must participate in planning and choosing approaches as well as becoming equal owners of the process. Both the Police Force and communities need to have clearly defined roles and be given the skills and resources to carry it out.

KEYWORDS: *Community policing, Crime reduction.*

INTRODUCTION

Since the return of democracy in 1999, Community safety is one of the major challenges facing Nigerian communities and the government at large. Community safety is mainly concerned with both the situational and social aspects of crime and disorder in a community. In a sense, “dealing with such problems requires the involvement of the local residents, the local authority, business and various agencies, so that on the basis of partnerships and multiagency cooperation, all are actively mobilized in the pursuit of a safer social environment” (Tierney, 2006:305). Community policing is thus, one out of multiple strategies of maintaining community safety.

Community policing is a security system in which members of the public are involved in the conduct of policing their locality to complement the efforts of the police in crime control by giving useful intelligent information to law enforcement agencies in the neighbourhood (Eke, 2009). In Community policing, the community is usually expected to engage in the policing role through volunteer schemes, initiating neighbourhood support networks and augmenting police patrol activities.

Preventing crime and reducing fear of crime, are both closely related to rebuilding strong communities (Giddens, 2004). It is widely acknowledged that good police/public relationships are vital to successful policing. Without sustained public contact, officers would be unable to exercise their discretion appropriately and would find themselves isolated, increasingly hostile and unable to empathize with the public. In view of this, seven senior



officers from Nigerian police in 2003 went to U.K and U.S.A respectively to do a comparative study of community policing (Anucha, 2007). It was launched on the 27th day of April 2004 by the Inspector-General of Police TafaBalogun during the era of President OlusegunObasanjo administration, and Enugu State was used as the pilot state (Anucha, 2007 and Ikuteyijo, 2009)

PROBLEM STATEMENT/JUSTIFICATION

Community policing remains an important program as it emphasizes proactive problem solving to prevent and otherwise control crime (Sparrow, Moore and Kennedy 1990). The goals of community policing are to reduce crime and disorder, promote citizens' quality of life in communities, reduce fear of crime and improve police citizen relations.

Despite the introduction of Community Policing in Nigeria, crime and the cases of crime are fast becoming a serious problem to governments; as such there were debates on its effectiveness on crime reduction as there have been several cases of such throughout the nation as well as in Kaduna state in particular.

The high rate of crime in Kaduna state in general, and Kaduna Central Senatorial District in particular, are of great concern. For example, Security Report by the Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Kaduna state on the 1st of February 2022, highlighted profiles on major crime trends and magnitudes experienced by Kaduna state residents in the previous year to include kidnapping, Banditry, Cattle rustling, assaults, violence against women, and youths etc. Coupled with this, there is no much studies documented on effectiveness of community policing on crime prevention in Kaduna.

Hence the purpose of this study is to assess the effectiveness of community policing in crime prevention to the community in Kaduna state, with a particular interest on Igabi and Kaduna South local governments of the Kaduna Central senatorial district

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are as follows:

- i. To ascertain the nature/extent of criminal activities in Kaduna South and Igabi local Governments Area.
- ii. To ascertain the contributions of the residents of Igabi and Kaduna South towards community policing strategy of the police.
- iii. To find out the effectiveness of community policing in Igabi and Kaduna South local Government Areas.
- iv. To find out the problems faced by the police in the operation of community policing strategy in Igabi and Kaduna South local Government Area.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Crime Control Strategies In Modern societies.

In contemporary Nigeria, some crime control strategies include death penalty, imprisonment, and fine (Dambazau, 2009; Igbo, 2007; and Ugwuoke, 2010). Only formal repressive and punitive strategies like death penalty and life imprisonment were approved and used in controlling crime in most modern societies including Nigeria (Carney, 1977). Some of the formal crime control strategies are crime control through legislation, law enforcement, rationalization and death penalty. Contemporary societies including Nigeria adopted some of the traditional crime control strategies like, fines and compensation, confinements, reconciliation, conflict resolution, socialization and death penalty to control crime in the contemporary time (Ugwuoke, 2010).

The formal agencies that are responsible for crime control in contemporary Nigeria era are the criminal justice system which includes the police, court and the correction institution (Bohm and Haley, 2005; Igbo, 2007; Inciardi, 2007; Dambazau, 2009; and Ugwuoke, 2010). These institutions (police, court and the correction centers) established by the British during colonialism in Nigeria 1861 are used them to enforce sanitary regulations in the colony.



For decades, sensing that the professional model like preventive patrol, quick response time, and follow-up investigation did not always operate as efficiently and effectively as it could, criminal justice researchers set out to review procedures and evaluate alternative programs for effective crime control (Bohm and Haley, 2005). It is widely acknowledged that good police/public relationships are vital to successful policing. Without sustained public contact, officers would be unable to exercise their discretion appropriately and would find themselves isolated, increasingly hostile and unable to work with the public (Maguire, Morgan and Reiner, 2002). In line with the search for a better effective crime control strategy, a new strategy which is referred to as community policing was adopted, “which is the collaborative effort between the police and the community to identify the problems of crime and disorder, and develop solutions within the community, making the police more responsive and connected to the communities they serve. Policing is a broad problem-solving enterprise that includes much more than reactive law enforcement and that officers on the street and in the community should have a major role in crime control strategy (Inciardi, 2007). In view of this, Nigeria Institute of International Affairs (2005:259-60) noted that: “the key to security is the responsible exercise of sovereignty, in the absence of which co-operation among neighbors is required to deal with internal problems and conflicts”.

Report from Presidential Committees on police reforms in Nigeria stated categorically that “Nigeria police should establish strategic partnerships with all segments of the society, including the traditional institutions in order to build the necessary public support for its crime prevention efforts” (CLEEN Foundation, 2008:32). Nigeria joined the league of other nations in America and Western Europe to adopt these crime control strategy by receiving two US experts on community policing for a two day conference on community policing. The program was aimed at training senior police officers and area commanders in charge of community policing in the 36 states of the federation and Abuja (This Day, Aug. 1, 2006).

METHODOLOGY

Study Area

The study area is Kaduna Central Senatorial district, mainly because of the prevalence of crime and crime related incidences in the area as reported from various quarters (Daily Trust, Headline 3rd Feb, 2022, Security Report, Ministry of Internal security). But for conveniences the study is limited to Kaduna South and Igabi local government areas of Kaduna Central Senatorial district. Also included are agencies and organizations responsible for community safety within the above mentioned local governments. Coupled with these, there are traditional institutions, NGOs and relevant stake holders in these areas formed the caucus of this study.

Nature of the Study

The study will employ the use of a mixed research methodology in assessing the impact of the strategy. This is a mixture of both qualitative and quantitative data collection technique.

Population of the study

The population of the study is 440,298 adult inhabitants of Igabi and Kaduna South local government areas, and this is based on the 2016 population projection of Kaduna state. Igabi Local government has 213,346 adult populations while Kaduna South has 226,952.

The population to be studied are the adult residents who are 18 and above in the two local government areas that can read and write or at least respond to the study’s questionnaire. The essence of adopting this set of people for the study is because they are the people assumed to have come to the age of criminal responsibility in Nigeria and are also assumed to have observed and understood the community policing as a crime control strategy used in controlling crime, as well as the reason why the strategy has or has not succeeded in controlling crime in these Local Government Areas.

Sample Size and Sampling Technique

To arrive at our sample size we will use the cluster sampling method based on the strata of the environment. Each of the two local governments is made up of thirteen (13) wards and therefore we divided the wards into three (3) clusters based on their peculiarity and convenience. This is shown in the table 1 below:

**Table 1 showing cluster of wards in Igabi and Kaduna south**

Clusters	Igabi Local Government	Kaduna South Local Government
A	Rigasa, Rigachikun, Afaka and Gwaraji	Badikko, S/gari North, S/gari South, T/wada North, T/wada South, T/wada West, T/ Nupawa and U/Sanusi
B	G/gayan, Turunku, Z/Aya, Igabi and S/birni	KakuriGwari, Kakuri Hausa and Makera
C	B/yero, Jaji, Kerawa and Kwarau	Barnawa and Television

To determine the sample size we use the convenient sampling technique of 0.2%, as shown in table 2 below

Table 2 showing population size of the two local governments

LG	Adult Population	Sample size
Igabi LG	213, 346	4267
Kaduna south LG	226, 952	4539

And the sample size for the clusters is based on the strata of the environment using the same 0.2% as shown in table 3 as follows:

Table 3 showing the sample size of each local government

Cluster	Igabi		Kaduna South	
A	0.35	299	0.55	499
	1493		2496	
B	0.40	341	0.25	227
	1707		1135	
C	0.25	213	0.20	182
	1067		908	
Total	4267	853	4539	908

The distribution is based on the population ratio of the clusters.

For the sampling technique we are going to use the Non-random (purposive) sampling for the Indepth interview and the Random sampling methods for the questionnaire administration. The purposive sampling technique would be use to get information from those respondents who are knowledgeable about community policing. In this sample method, the researcher will purposively target a group of people believed to be reliable for the study. Such as police officers. Random sampling will be use to get truism in representation, accuracy, efficiency and effectiveness in generalization. This technique gave all members of the population under the study equal chances of being included in the sample.

Instruments of Data collection and Analysis

The two major survey instruments to be used here for data collection are: Questionnaires and Indepth-interviews.

The questionnaire will contain structured/close-ended and unstructured/open-ended questions. It will have two sections, section A will contain the socio-demographic information, while section B will contain questions and views of respondents on the perception of people on community policing program as effective crime reduction strategy.

The respondents for In-depth Interview will be selected using the purposive non-random technique, according to the relevance and importance of the positions they occupy. This will be made up of Divisional Police Officers from two police stations each of Kaduna South and Igabi, two each neighbourhood watch leaders in the areas concern and the traditional rulers (Hakimis) of the two communities under watch. Thus, given a total of eight (08) respondents from the indepth interview.

The interview guide contains structured questions on community policing, which will be administered on the above mentioned respondents.



For the analysis, The data collected through questionnaire will be analyzed using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS). In doing this, frequency tables, percentages etc will be used to code and analyze data from the questionnaire of the study. The data obtained through in-depth interview as well.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This section provides demographic characteristics of respondents; it further provides the findings and discussion based on the research objectives.

Socio-Demographic characteristics of respondents

Table 4 below shows the Socio-Demographic characteristics of respondents

The result showed that 72% of all respondents were males while 28% of all respondents were females. The researcher's intention was to get information regarding this study from both sexes.

The result showed that about 81% of all respondents have a formal education, that is, either primary, secondary or tertiary education, with just a fraction of 8%, that have no education at all, while 11% of the respondents have a non formal or western education (Qur'anic) and otherwise. This implies that majority of respondents attained a Primary education level. Education level was put into consideration by the researcher as it determines peoples understanding of issues in hand.

The result shows that 48% of the respondents are married, which has the highest proportion, followed by 34% who are single. The divorced ranked third with 12%, while the separated/widowed are fourth with just 6%.

The result for the occupation distribution shows that people in business has the highest percent of 41%, this has to do with presence of market and business activities in both local governments and arable land for cultivation, followed by the last option, Others specify with 30% which include graduates applicants, the corps members and others not mentioned in the option. The occupation bracket of the civil servant came third with 17% due to the fact that the two local governments are centers for local administration. Teaching came fourth with 12% of the respondents.

Table 4 Socio-Demographic characteristics of respondents

Socio-Demographic characteristics	Frequency	Percent
Sex		
Male	1261	72
Female	500	28
	1761	100
Level of Education		
Not gone to School	141	8.00
Primary	246	14.00
Secondary	687	39.00
Tertiary	497	28.00
Others	190	11.00
	1761	100
Marital Status		
Married	845	48
Single	599	34
Divorced	211	12
Separated/widowed	106	06
	1761	100
Occupation		
Business	722	41
Teaching	211	12
Civil Service	300	17
Other specify (students, Unemployed etc.)	528	30
	1761	100

**Criminal activities in Kaduna South and Igabi**

The first objective of the study was to identify the nature/extent of criminal activities in Kaduna South and Igabi local government areas.

Knowledge about incidence of crime in Kaduna South and Igabi Local Governments

The study will be of no use if there is no incidence of crime in the area. The incidence of crime in the area will help to ascertain whether there is need to look at community policing as a strategy to reduce crime or not. The table below states frequency percentage of people's knowledge about crime.

Table 5: Distribution of Respondents on incidence of crime in Kaduna South and Igabi

Respondents response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	1514	86
No	247	14
Total	1761	100.0

Source: Questionnaire data

Majority of the respondents in the area of study responded that they have heard about crime incidence in the area. From the table above, 86% of the resident said that they have heard about crime incidence while only 14% of the residence said that they have never heard about crime incidence in the area. So one can say that majority of the residents are aware of crime incidence in the local governments.

Knowledge on how often the residents heard of crime

The researcher wants to know how many time(s) within a specific time the residents or respondents of the local government hear about crime.

Table 6: Distribution on how often one have heard crime in his area.

Respondents response	Frequency	Percent
Daily	282	16
Once a week	1074	61
Once a month	264	15
Scarcely (once in a while)	141	8
Total	1761	100.0

Source: Questionnaire data

Table 6 above is on how often the respondents have heard of crime in the area. The information from the respondents shows that 8% of the respondents scarcely hear about crime or incidence of crime in the area. In other words, they hear about crime once in a while. 16% of the respondents said that they hear of crime or incidence of crime on a daily basis, followed by 15% who say they hear of crime or incidence of crime on monthly basis, while 61% of the respondents which make up the largest percentage are of the opinion that they hear of crime in the area on a weekly basis. This therefore corroborate with findings from Ayuba, Mugu, etal (2016) in their spatial analysis on crimes in Kaduna metropolis.

Idea of kind of crime rampant in the Local Government

The desire to ascertain the kind of crime that is committed more often in the area of study is stated with frequency percentage in the table below

Table 7: Types of crime in the local governments

Respondents response on kinds of crime	Frequency	Percent
Murder	106	6
Assault	176	10
Theft	528	30
Armed robbery	211	12
Kidnapping	106	6
Gang related Violence	282	16
Please specify others	352	20
Total	1761	100

Source: Questionnaire data



Theft and other stealing ranked highest in the respondents table above with 30% proportion, followed by other forms of crimes not specified on the questionnaire, which may include, Rape, Burglary, Fighting, Arson, Forgery etc with 20% of the total respondents. Gang related Violence ranked third with 16% while Armed Robbery ranked fourth in the table with 12% followed by Assault with 10% and finally, Murder and Kidnapping which ranked sixth with 6% respectively. These also correspond to findings from other researches on such field in Kaduna.

Strategies used by community policing to reduce crime

The second objective of the study was to identify strategies used by the community policing to reduce crime. To identify this, the researcher poses the questions to the stake holders in the community policing programme.

Strategies of Community Policing

Community policing is not a single police tactic or program; it is a collection of strategies that share a common philosophy or set of principles about the desired role of police in society, and thus has been applied in a multitude of different ways (Rosenbaum and Lurigio, 1994: 302). The following are some of the strategies identified.

- a) Foot Patrol
- b) Community Meetings
- c) Door to door visit
- d) Public Education programs
- e) Neighbourhood Watch programs
- f) Weed and Seed programs
- g) Storefront Mini-station

To ascertain the strategies interview questions were administered to the police officers and some members of the communities.

About Foot Patrol as one of the strategies that are employed by police force to reduce crime, one of the police officer interviewed responded that;

“It is believed that the increased police presence will not only prevent crime, but also put the patrol officer in touch with the community. Hence we use foot patrol to combat crime as this allows the officer to gain knowledge about the problems or issues plaguing a neighborhood.”

Patrol officers are the primary providers of police services and have the most extensive contact with community members. In community policing efforts, they will provide the bulk of the daily policing needs of the community, and they will be assisted by immediate supervisors, other police units, and appropriate government and social agencies coupled with the community members. Upper level managers and command staff will be responsible for ensuring that the entire organization backs the efforts of patrol officers.

Effective community policing depends on optimizing positive contact between patrol officers and community members. This method relies heavily on the use of patrol cars and other means of transportation which will bring the police closer to the community.

Officers working long-term assignments on the same shift and beat will become familiar figures to community members and will become aware of the day-to-day workings of the community. This increased police presence is an initial move in establishing trust and serves to reduce fear of crime among community members, which, in turn, helps create neighborhood security. Members of the community also participate in this as it was impressed on us by one of the community leaders.

About Community meetings as one of the strategies that are employed by police force to reduce crime, one of the police officer responded that;

“We do conduct meeting so as to increase contact between the community and the Police Force. Within community policing, community meetings are intended to provide an opportunity for members of the public to voice their concerns for the police and the public to develop problem-solving strategies to identify issues”.



The Officer though, laments about the poor attendance and community performance especially in Igabi local government and its environs and this was mostly attributed to the level of awareness and exposure of the people, as against Kaduna South that has mostly participatory citizens.

But it is ascertained that regular community meetings and forums will afford police and community members an opportunity to air concerns and find ways to address them. This was corroborated by both the community members and the police interviewed.

About Door-to-Door Visits as one of the strategies that are employed by police force to reduce crime, one of the police officer responded that;

“We do use of Door-to-Door Visits to neighborhoods residences during the day .These visits can serve many purposes to introduce patrol officers to local residents, to obtain information about local crime problems or about who is committing crime in an area, and also to provide information to local residents on how to reduce their chances of victimization”.

This Door-to-Door strategy for reducing crime is consistent with the finding from the study of (Rosenbaum and Lurigio, 1994; Sherman and Eck, 2002) whose study revealed relatively strong evidence of a connection between door-to-door visits and crime prevention.

The major challenge to this method has to do with ‘trust issue’ as one of the respondents made us to believe, as he said

“most of the people of the areas do not have much confidence and trust on the police force; as such they viewed the door-door visit as an inquisition of a sort”

About Public Education Programs as one of the strategies that are employed by police force to reduce crime, one of the police officer responded that;

“The police force due offer Public education program as it is also important method through which the police can provide information to the public on how to avoid being victimized, or in the case of youth, how to avoid becoming involved in crime”.

Public Education programs are used to garner general support for the police and also serve as an important method through which the police can provide information to the public on how to avoid being victimized, or in the case of youth, how to avoid becoming involved in crime and criminal activities.

After all, as one of the Community leaders affirmed *“Community meetings and political Education are two major responsibilities and duties of every well meaning citizen of the nation”.*

Public education and enlightenment is evenly supported by both the police and community members as being the most effective weapon in combating crime and crime related activities in the communities.

About Neighborhood Watch Programs which usually involves community members coming together in small groups in a local residence to share information about local crime problems, share crime prevention strategies and develop plans for “watching” the neighbourhood and reporting crimes. One of the Community leaders has this to say *“the neighborhood watch programs enables us to share information about local crimes and preventive measures of tackling the crimes, and through this we become our brothers keepers”*

He further lamented that:

“the programs is thus hindered by lack of moral and institutional support as well as financial support”

When asked about the Weed and Seed program almost all of the respondents declare their ignorance of the program. Though, when looked closely the program is part and parcel of the Community policing.

Finally, the Storefront Mini-stations, these are usually stations set up in accessible areas and staffed by a mix of sworn police officers, paid civilians, and unpaid volunteers.



Both community leaders and the police force affirmed the importance of these mini-stations by implying... *“their usefulness in relaying crime-related information to the police, as well as giving the appearance of increased police presence in high crime areas”*

Both the community leaders and the police have their challenges respectively. The community leaders complaint of extortion and bribery while the police alleged lack of access and enough man-power to do that.

Impact of community policing in reducing Crime

The third objective was about to assess the effectiveness of community policing in reducing crime in the community.

Awareness of community policing

Table 8 below shows responses about awareness of community policing. Community members were requested to state if they are aware of community policing.

In their reply it was revealed that 86% of respondents responded that they are aware of the community policing. While 14% of respondents responded that they are unaware of the community policing. This implies that majority of community members are aware of the community policing.

Table 8: showing awareness of community policing

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Aware	1514	86.0
Unaware	247	14.0
Total	1761	100

Source: Questionnaire data

Status of crime after community policing

Table 9 below shows responses about status of crime after community policing. They were requested to state the status of crime after community policing program implementation.

In their reply it was revealed that 78% of all surveyed community members responded that the status of crime after community policing program implementation is still high. While 22% of respondents said is low. This implies that despite the implementation of community policing the status of crime is still high in the communities.

Table 9: Status of crime after community policing

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
High	1374	78.0
Low	387	22.0
Total	1761	100

Source: Questionnaire data

Strength of strategies employed to reduce crime

Table 10 below shows results about strength of strategies employed to reduce crime. Questions were posed in the questionnaire.

In their reply it was revealed that 42% (740) of all surveyed community members disagree with the argument that, Public Education Programs by police force have a great effect in reducing crimes. 45% agree with the assertion, while 13% strongly agree. This conflicting response is mainly due to what we call accessibility to this information by members in the community, because some members may have no access to information regarding community policing due to lack of such Public Education Programs opportunity. Therefore having Public Education Programs does not imply that such initiative can reduce crime, seeing that it is almost 50-50.



Eighty eight percent (88%) of all surveyed community members disagreed with the argument that, having Community meetings by police force has a great effect in reducing crimes. The number of meetings alone cannot have impact on reducing crime but what can influence crime reduction is commitment and dedication of Community members and Police officers in performing their roles. For instance, it has happened that when members of the community secretly provide particular information about some crimes to police officers, the anonymity or secrecy of such information source is usually not guaranteed, which may have a negative consequences on the informant.

Seventy seven (77%) of all surveyed community members disagreed with the argument that, usage of foot patrol by police force has a great effect in reducing crimes. Only twenty three (23%) agree with it. This could be attributed to the police manner of approach and the lack of trust most people have for the police in the communities.

Sixty six (66%) of all surveyed community members disagreed with the argument that, usage of Door-to-Door Visits by police force has a great effect in reducing crimes. Meanwhile, only thirty four (34%) of the respondents agree that the visit has helped in reducing crime in the communities.

Fifty eight (58%) of the surveyed community members strongly agreed with the argument that, usage of Neighborhood Watch by the community members has greatly reduced crime and crime related activities in the communities, forty three 43% of the responded agreed and only twenty four (24%) disagreed.

Fifty six (56%) of the surveyed community members disagree with the argument that, Storefront Mini-stations introduced by the security agents (police) has influenced the reduction of crime in the community, twenty five (25%) strongly disagreed while, only six (6%) and thirteen 13% strongly agree and agree respectively.

Table 10: Table showing the Strength of strategies employed to reduce crime

Description of Variables	Strongly Disagree = 1	Disagree = 2	Agree = 3	Strongly Agree = 4	Scores
Usage of Door-to-Door visits by the police has a great effect in reducing crimes		1162(66%)	599(34%)		4,121
Usage of foot patrol by police force has a great effect in reducing crime		1356(77%)	405(23%)		3,117
Conducting community meetings by police force has a great effect in reducing crime	211(12%)	1550(88%)			3311
Public Education Programs by police force have a great effect in reducing crimes		740(42%)	792(45%)	231(13%)	4,780
Usage of Neighborhood Watch Programs has a great effect in reducing crime		423(24%)	757(43%)	581(33%)	5,441
Storefront Mini-station has a great effect in reducing crime	440(25%)	986(56%)	229(13%)	106(6%)	3,523

Source: Questionnaire data

Challenges faced by police force in administering the community policing

The fourth and final objective was to identify problems faced by police force in administering the community policing. The interview guide was administered to some police and community leaders.



They were asked to state the challenges faced by them in administering the community policing to the community. One of the surveyed police officers said; “We face many challenges that hinder implementation of community policing such challenges include lack of training for officers on community engagement philosophy and methods, lack of good quality information about crime provided to communities.”

The finding agrees with the finding from the study of Mastrofski et al. (2007) who suggest that the traditional barriers of organizational change, scarce resources and a resistant police culture still exist and will continue to jeopardize the successful implementation of any community policing initiative.

About inefficient implementation process, one of the surveyed police officers said; lack of understanding and co-operation, inadequate planning leads to unrealistic community expectations and demands.

The finding corroborates with the finding from the study of Miller (2002) who asserts that ‘lack of co-operation, poorly planned engagement leads to frustrated/disappointed communities less likely to engage in the future.’ About organizational commitment, one of the surveyed police officer and a neighborhood watch leader said; “*Some of us lacks organizational commitment and culture change, community engagement, flexibility and tailoring at neighborhood level.*”

This is in tandem again with Miller (2002) who summarizes the barriers to successful implementation and possible ‘unintended’ consequences of poor implementation. The barriers to successful implementation include: lack of organizational commitment and culture change, community engagement seen as a one-off series of events and not ‘mainstreamed, lack of community ownership of the process.

One of the Neighborhood watch leaders maintained that, *‘the public saw the Police as corrupt, idiots, animals, traitors etc and never wanted to have anything to do with them’*. This according to him is posing a great challenge in the fight against crime as such some of the negative responses concerning the strategies.

But all hope is not lost as one of the police officers emphasized that, *‘we (the police) are comfortable with community policing for now, but that since the society is dynamic and therefore, other strategies may likely be introduced in the future that may be better than community policing in crime reduction’*.

Another of the surveyed police officers said; ‘As overall supervisors of community policing in areas of people we usually face some challenges such as absence of encouragement in community policing strategies, community members are reluctant to seek and develop a sustainable partnership with law enforcement, lack of community organization and other contextual factors, and lack of finance all these can negatively impact on community policing practices’

Community policing as stated earlier is a necessary solution for policing problem and reform, but has paid little attention to the challenges of implementation which is mostly infested with problems and challenges for a number of reasons. Implementation is affected by the gradual nature in which community policing is introduced, resulting in increased resources allocated within short timeframes with little time for planning.

The possible consequences of poor implementation as observed include;

- lack of officer understanding and buy-in which leads to cynicism
- lack of co-operation,
- poorly planned engagement which may lead to unrealistic community expectations,
- frustrated/disappointed communities less likely to engage in the future,
- engagement process dominated by one group or community interest,
- community members take inappropriate or illegal action in response to problems

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

This study sought to assess the Impact of Community Policing in Crime Reduction to the Community in Kaduna State. Specifically this study intended to identify the community policing strategies used by Police force to reduce crime, assessing the Impact of Community Policing in reducing Crime and identifying challenges faced by Police



Force in administering the Community Policing in Kaduna south and Igabi local governments. The first objective of the study was about the nature/extent of criminal activities in Kaduna South and Igabi. The study was able to ascertain the frequency and nature of criminal activities in the study area, which was established to be high.

The second objective of the study was to ascertain the contribution of the Community members and the police towards community policing strategies. The study revealed the main strategies used by police force to reduce crime includes; foot patrol, collaboration and community meetings, door-to-door visits and public education programs.

The third objective of the study was about assessing the impact/effectiveness of community policing in reducing crime in the two communities. The study revealed that community policing has no impact on reducing crimes as employed strategies such as Door-to-Door Visits, foot patrol, Community meetings and public education programs have no effects in addressing the crime.

The fourth objective of the study was to identify problems faced by Police Force in the operation Community Policing strategies. The study revealed that lack of training for officers on community engagement philosophy and methods, lack of good quality information about crime provided to communities, lack involvement in the initiative's design, implementation, and monitoring and lack of understanding co-operation, poorly planned engagement leads to unrealistic community expectations, lack of organizational commitment and culture change, community engagement, flexibility and synergy at neighborhood level are the main challenges that are faced by Police Force in administering the Community Policing.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above findings it was concluded that;

- i. There are some strategies that are used by Police Force to reduce crime in the community. It can be concluded therefore that foot patrol, collaboration and community meetings, door-to-door visits and public education programs are the main strategies used by police force to reduce crime.
- ii. Community policing has no impact on reducing crimes as employed strategies have no effects in addressing the crime.
- iii. There are some challenges faced by Police Force in administering the Community Policing as mentioned above.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Basing on the findings above, the study recommends the followings;

- a) The Police and other security agencies should put more effort to improve on their relationship with the members of the public in order to gain the confidence of the people for easy flow of information because without information by both parties, community policing will die away.
- b) The government should help in the provision of sophisticated arms, patrol vans power bikes, rain coat, and all other crime fighting arms to both the Police and other security agencies to help them contribute effectively for a better crime free society.
- c) Both the government and the public should see the need to adequately reward and motivate working/serving security officers (police/members of the neighbourhood watch) who carry out their assignment diligently, so that others will see the need for hard work and emulate them.
- d) Security agencies should try as much as possible to protect the identity of the people providing information to them i.e they should maintain anonymity of their sources of information. For the security agencies to do well, they must have access to information that comes from the people who know the criminals and their likely time of operation.
- e) Other security agencies outside the police should hand over any suspected criminal to the police for proper and thorough investigation and subsequent prosecution in the court of law, so that the law can have its effects. Proper channels of law must be adhered to
- f) Adequate education on the various policing strategies should ensure. The police should for instance enlighten on not only to have the idea of community policing and police community relations but also full understanding of its context and basic elements.
- g) Both the police and the public should jettison or discard the pre-conceived notion of enmity and rivalry that exist between them; they should cultivate every spirit of togetherness and see themselves as partners in the course of protection of lives and properties in the society, because they are both stake holders.



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