IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICE OPERATIONS IN RELATION TO CRIME RATE

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ABSTRACT

This study assessed the level of implementation of police operations—specifically patrol, law enforcement, internal security, public safety, investigation, and police-community relations—about the crime rates in the municipalities of Siocon, Sirawai, and Baliguian, Zamboanga del Norte, for the calendar year 2023–2024. Utilizing a quantitative descriptive-correlational design, data were gathered from residents, barangay officials, and police personnel. Statistical tools such as frequency, percentage, mean, and Pearson's Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient were used for analysis at a 0.05 significance level. Findings revealed that police operations were perceived to be highly implemented, although minor issues such as inconsistent practice of the buddy system during patrol were noted. Among the three municipalities, Baliguian recorded the highest incidence of non-index crimes, Siocon had a notable frequency of reckless imprudence cases, and Sirawai registered the highest rates of frustrated and attempted murder. Siocon also recorded the highest overall crime rate. Correlation analysis indicated that police-community relations did not significantly relate to the implementation of police operations, whereas patrol, law enforcement, internal security, public safety, and investigation were significantly interrelated. These findings suggest that while police officers generally fulfill their duties, community members expect more engagement, especially regarding the enforcement of traffic regulations and responsiveness to public concerns. The study recommends that the Philippine National Police emphasize both operational effectiveness and the legitimization of their presence within communities. A more comprehensive follow-up study using similar variables but alternative methodologies is also encouraged.

KEYWORDS: *Crime Rate, Internal Security, Law Enforcement, Patrol Operations, Police-Community Relations, Public Safety.*

1.0. INTRODUCTION

Maintaining public safety and order is a fundamental responsibility of the government, primarily executed through its law enforcement agencies. These agencies are mandated to safeguard citizens' lives and property through the effective implementation of police operations (Cimene et al., 2022). The success and integrity of these operations significantly influence public trust and confidence in the police force.
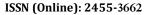
Law enforcement officers are expected to conduct their operations in a lawful and ethical manner. According to Cimene et al. (2022), community trust in police operations is directly linked to the perceived professionalism and accountability of law enforcers. In the same vein, public trust is bolstered when officers enforce laws fairly and uphold human rights. In contrast, lapses in accountability can erode confidence and incite public backlash.

Globally, policing strategies and their implications have stirred significant public discourse. In the United States, debates around reallocating police budgets emerged following high-profile incidents of police misconduct, particularly the killing of George Floyd in 2020. While advocates of the "defund the police" movement support investing in community-based services, others argue that reduced police funding could correlate with increased violent crime rates (University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 2024; Journalist's Resource, 2020). These tensions are evident even in Washington D.C., which, despite having one of the highest per-capita concentrations of police officers, has experienced a rising trend in homicide rates since 2015.

In Latin America, particularly in Colombia, a different but equally troubling pattern has been observed. The government's aggressive crackdown on illegal drugs has resulted in widespread human rights abuses, including extrajudicial killings of suspected drug offenders. Research by Dube (2025) notes that such harsh enforcement strategies often escalate violence rather than reduce it, undermining community safety and justice.

In the Philippines, the Philippine National Police (PNP) is the primary agency tasked with preserving law and order. Guided by the motto "To Serve and Protect," the PNP carries out a wide range of police operations. However, the increasing frequency of crimes against persons and property—along with persistent reports of human rights violations—suggests that issues remain in the implementation of these operational guidelines (Cimene et al., 2022).

Local data from the municipalities of Siocon, Sirawai, and Baliguian in Zamboanga del Norte reinforce this concern. According to 2023 police records, Siocon reported 92 crimes, Sirawai reported 38, and Baliguian reported 63. When compared to their respective 2020 populations—48,524 in Siocon, 31,163 in Sirawai, and 23,771 in Baliguian—it is likely that several crimes remain unreported or undocumented (Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020). These figures underline the urgent need to evaluate how police operations are conducted in these communities. This study aims to assess the implementation of various categories of police operations and provide evidence-based recommendations to support the development of more effective, transparent, and community-centered policing practices.

2.0. OBJECTIVES
- To assess the respondents' ratings on the level of implementation of police operations in terms of patrol operations, law enforcement operations, internal security operations, public safety operations, operations, and police-community relations.
- To determine the crime rate in the municipalities of Siocon, Sirawai, and Baliguian, Zamboanga del Norte, during Calendar Year 2022–2023.
- To examine the significant relationship between the implementation of police operations and the crime rate in Siocon, Sirawai, and Baliguian, Zamboanga del Norte, during Calendar Year 2022–2023.

3.0. METHODOLOGY
This study employed a descriptive survey using both quantitative and qualitative methods to examine the experiences of domestic violence victims and their reasons for not reporting the abuse. Quantitative data was collected through surveys administered to 15 respondents from three barangays in Pagadian City, while qualitative data was gathered via key informant interviews with selected victims who did not report the abuse to the police. The research was conducted in Barangays Lumbia, San Pedro, and Santa Lucia, areas known for high rates of domestic violence cases at the barangay level but underreporting to the police. The survey instrument, validated by experts, addressed the socio-demographic profiles of the respondents and the forms of abuse they experienced. Data were analyzed using frequency counting, percentages, and chi-square tests to identify significant differences in responses based on various characteristics such as age, income, and education level. Ethical considerations, including confidentiality, voluntary participation, and informed consent, were strictly observed throughout the research process.

4.0. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS
Table 1 presents the level of implementation of various police patrol operations, with all items reflecting a very high level of adherence as indicated by the mean ratings. The average weighted value (AWV) across the different patrol tasks ranges from 4.79 to 4.92, all falling under the "Very Much Implemented" (VMI) category. Key activities such as patrolling assigned beats, monitoring public gatherings, conducting surveillance, checking suspicious vehicles, and reporting crime-related occurrences all received an AWV of 4.90. The highest-rated activities, with an AWV of 4.92, include conducting regular visitations and establishing good rapport with community members. Even the lowest-rated task, observing the "Buddy System" during patrols, scored a commendable 4.79. The overall mean score of 4.88 further underscores the consistent and robust implementation of patrol operations, highlighting the police force's strong commitment to maintaining public safety and order.

Table 1. Level of Implementation of Police Operations along Patrol Operations

Items	AWV	D
1. Patrol the assigned beats, observe and check suspicious people, structures/buildings, compounds, and vehicles.	4.90	VMI
2. Observe and monitor public gatherings, prevent disorders, and disperse unlawful assemblies.	4.90	VMI
3. Inspect and/or conduct surveillance in various business establishments and other installations and remove hazards to public safety.	4.86	VMI
4. Check suspicious vehicles (private, public, or commercial/delivery vehicles) during their patrol.	4.90	VMI
5. Report occurrences and conditions which relate to crime, public peace, order, and safety.	4.90	VMI
6. Prevent crimes and arrest criminal offenders.	4.90	VMI
7. Conduct regular visitations, dialogues/consultations with the residents and other stakeholders.	4.92	VMI
8. Respond to calls, entertain complaints, initiate the investigation and protection of the crime scene, and minimize the after-effects of accidents, fires, and other calamities.	4.89	VMI
9. Wear the prescribed patrol uniform.	4.90	VMI
10. Have the necessary equipment.	4.84	VMI
11. Strictly observe "Buddy System" during the patrol operations.	4.79	VMI

	AWV	D
12. Observe defensive driving and follow traffic rules and regulations.	4.82	VMI
13. Establish good rapport with people on the respective beat and be familiar with all the people in the community.	4.92	VMI
14. Patrol members always on the look-out for indications of vices and other illegal activities on their beat.	4.90	VMI
15. Patrol members are knowledgeable of all conditions, events, and details of places on their beat.	4.88	VMI
Mean	**4.88**	**VMI**

Table 2 outlines the level of implementation of police operations in the area of law enforcement, with all activities rated as "Very Much Implemented" (VMI). The average weighted values (AWV) for the listed activities range from 4.52 to 4.90, indicating a consistently high level of adherence to protocols. Activities such as confining questions to the grounds for stopping a person (4.90), ensuring minimal detention time (4.82), and conducting respectful and minimally invasive vehicle inspections (4.82) score particularly high. Other tasks, like presenting identification when approaching a person (4.52) and maintaining courtesy at checkpoints (4.59), while slightly lower, still reflect a strong implementation. The overall mean AWV of 4.71 confirms that law enforcement practices are rigorously applied, emphasizing both the professionalism and diligence of the police force in their operations.

These findings align with Sarcena and Patalinghug's (2021) study, which highlighted that effective police operational activities, including patrol and traffic management, significantly contribute to crime prevention and reduction in urban areas. Furthermore, Gutierrez et al. (2019) emphasized the importance of stress management among police officers, noting that well-managed stress levels are crucial for maintaining high performance and professionalism in law enforcement duties.

Table 2. Level of Implementation of Police Operation along Law Enforcement

Items	AWV	D
1. When approaching the person, the police officer clearly identify himself/herself and present his/her identification card.	4.52	VMI
2. Police officers are always courteous but remain cautious and vigilant.	4.59	VMI
3. Before approaching more than one person, police officers determine whether the circumstances warrant a request for back-up or whether the stopping should be delayed until such back-up arrives.	4.70	VMI
4. Police officers confine their questions in relation to the grounds for stopping the person.	4.90	VMI
5. In no instance shall a police officer stop a person longer than the period reasonably necessary.	4.82	VMI
6. Checkpoints are established to enforce laws, rules, and regulations, and when there is a need to arrest a criminal or fugitive from justice.	4.59	VMI
7. Mobile checkpoints are authorized only when established in conjunction with ongoing police operations.	4.72	VMI
8. Only marked vehicles with blinkers are used in mobile checkpoints.	4.70	VMI
9. PNP personnel manning the checkpoint have a presentable appearance while wearing the prescribed uniform.	4.72	VMI
10. Team members greet all person's subject for inspection, extend apology for the inconvenience, appeal for understanding, state the reasons of the checkpoint and thank them for their cooperation.	4.72	VMI
11. The team signal the motorist(s) to slow down and courteously request to turn off the headlights and turn on cabin lights.	4.80	VMI
12. The conduct of inspection of vehicles during a routine checkpoint is limited to a visual search, done with due respect to all road users and conducted in a manner of least inconvenience. The occupants cannot be compelled to step out of the vehicle.	4.82	VMI
Mean	**4.71**	**VMI**

Table 3 highlights the level of implementation of police operations along internal security, with all activities categorized as "Very Much Implemented" (VMI). The average weighted values (AWV) for the listed tasks range from 4.53 to 4.70, indicating a strong and consistent adherence to internal security protocols. Notable activities include community organization and mobilization to report terrorist activities (4.70) and the PNP's lead role in sustained law enforcement operations against national security threats (4.68). Other important tasks, such as conducting simulation exercises for camp defense (4.63) and conducting security surveys and inspections (4.59), also score highly. The overall mean AWV of 4.61 reflects the police force's robust implementation of internal security measures, emphasizing their

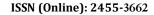proactive and comprehensive approach to maintaining national security and readiness against threats.

Bitonio and Cahigas (2023) found that most respondents perceived Communist Terrorist Groups as the main concern and threat to internal peace and security in the region. Although the majority perceived the level of effectiveness in the performance of Regional Mobile Force Battalion 1 as highly effective, the presence of challenges indicates that specific gaps exist. It is crucial to address these gaps to enhance the battalion's performance further and ensure the seamless execution of internal security operations.

Table 3. Level of Implementation of Police Operation along Internal Security

Items	AWV	D
1. The PNP provide active support to the AFP in Internal Security Operations (ISO) for the suppression of the terrorist groups and other serious threats to national security.	4.53	VMI
2. Develop security consciousness among personnel through education and training.	4.58	VMI
3. Conduct community organization and mobilization activities to encourage the community to immediately report the presence and plans of terrorist groups.	4.70	VMI
4. Regularly conduct simulation exercises on camp defense to improve operational readiness of PNP personnel and capabilities.	4.63	VMI
5. The PNP take the lead role in the conduct of sustained law enforcement operations against terrorist groups and other threats to national security to include but not limited to the service of warrant of arrest, implementation of search warrant, entrapment, and hot pursuit.	4.68	VMI
6. Conduct of security survey and inspection to assess defense viability.	4.59	VMI
7. Strengthen physical security measures and defense to prevent unauthorized access.	4.55	VMI
Mean	**4.61**	**VMI**

Table 4 presents the level of implementation of police operations related to public safety, with all items receiving a "Very Much Implemented" (VMI) description. The average weighted values (AWV) for the various tasks range from 4.45 to 4.75, indicating a high level of adherence across all activities. Key operations, such as identifying staging areas and evacuation routes (4.75), conducting disaster response drills (4.74), and coordinating with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) (4.71), show particularly strong implementation. Community mobilization activities and the employment of alarm systems both scored 4.70, reflecting robust community engagement and preparedness measures. Even the relatively lower-rated tasks, like the meeting of regular Task Groups (4.45) and pre-emptive evacuations (4.51), still exhibit strong implementation. The overall mean AWV of 4.66 underscores the

comprehensive and proactive approach of the police force in ensuring public safety, particularly in disaster response and preparedness.

Shaik (2022) emphasized that apart from technical expertise, qualities and skills like empathy, sensitivity, and compassion are indispensable for the police and other local forces to deal with trauma-stricken people in disasters and emergencies. Strong leadership leading to a high commitment in managing risk is needed to ensure continuous executive support for the implementation of effective police operation and management. Uhl-Bien and Arena (2018) highlighted the importance of adaptive leadership in enabling organizations and people to adapt in the face of increasingly dynamic and demanding environments.

Table 4. Level of Implementation of Police Operations along Public Safety

Items	AWV	D
1. In the event of natural calamity and disaster, the PNP act as the first responder in the affected area in order to provide area security and support in the conduct of search, rescue, and retrieval operations to be spearheaded by the area DRRMCs.	4.72	VMI
2. Identification of staging areas, evacuation routes and evacuation centers.	4.75	VMI
3. Disaster response drills, simulation exercises and training for flood, earthquake, fire etc.	4.74	VMI
4. Meeting of regular Task Groups and Sub-Task Groups together with respective levels of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils.	4.45	VMI
5. Capability audit to manpower, machines, materials, money, and methods.	4.61	VMI
6. Conduct awareness campaign through on disaster preparedness.	4.68	VMI
7. Community mobilization activities such as but not limited to: Declogging of waterways, canals, esteros; and clearing of unauthorized structures in disaster prone areas.	4.70	VMI
8. Coordination with NDRRMC to support its disaster response.	4.71	VMI
9. Employment of alarm and warning systems such as the use of police sirens and other portable warning systems capable of producing loud wailing sound.	4.70	VMI
10. Pre-emptive evacuation of residents in affected areas in coordination with concerned government agencies.	4.51	VMI
Mean	**4.66**	**VMI**

Table 5 presents the implementation levels of police operations in the area of investigation, with all activities rated as "Very Much Implemented" (VMI). The average weighted values (AWVs) for these tasks range from 4.50 to 4.72, indicating a consistently high level of execution. Notably, tasks such as promptly informing the immediate commander of updates (4.72) and the turnover of the crime scene to the duty investigator after a briefing (4.58) are particularly well-implemented. Other critical activities, including providing first aid and medical evacuation (4.55), securing and preserving the crime scene (4.53), and conducting a preliminary evaluation of the crime scene (4.50), also show strong adherence to protocols. The overall mean AWV of 4.58 underscores the police force's commitment to meticulous crime scene management and immediate response.
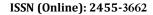
Prince et al. (2021) conducted a comprehensive analysis of factors influencing case resolution in criminal investigations. Their study highlighted the significance of case and situational factors, demographic and neighborhood dynamics, organizational policies and practices, investigative effort, technology, patrol officers, and community members in determining investigative outcomes. The authors emphasized that a combination of organizational policies, investigative effort, and certain technologies is promising in improving investigative outcomes, even in cases deemed less solvable.

Table 5. Level of Implementation of Police Operations along with Investigation

Items	AWV	D
1. Immediately conduct a preliminary evaluation of the crime scene.	4.50	VMI
2. Promptly inform the immediate commander of any updates of the situation.	4.72	VMI
3. Save and preserve lives by giving the necessary first-aid measures to the injured and their medical evacuation as necessary.	4.55	VMI
4. Secure and preserve the crime scene by cordoning off the area to prevent unauthorized entry of persons.	4.53	VMI
5. Turnover the crime scene to the duty investigator/IOC upon his/her arrival after he/she has been briefed of the situation.	458	VMI
Mean	**4.58**	**VMI**

Table 6 illustrates the implementation levels of police operations in the area of police-community relations, with all items rated as "Very Much Implemented" (VMI). The AWVs for these tasks range from 4.17 to 4.50, indicating strong and consistent adherence to community engagement practices. Engaging the community through seminars and other information dissemination drives scores the highest (4.50), followed by respecting the privacy and dignity of crime victims (4.38), and

forming core groups to identify community concerns (4.40). Other significant activities, such as coordinating with government agencies and NGOs (4.35), conducting community engagement activities (4.34), and immersing in community activities (4.28), also demonstrate high levels of implementation. The overall mean AWV of 4.30 highlights the police force's effective efforts in fostering community relations, emphasizing education, participation, and collaboration to enhance public safety and trust.
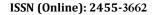
Abuyan-Obmerga (2014) assessed the implementation of the Police Community Relations Program in Sampaloc, Quezon, Philippines. The study revealed that while the program was fully implemented, challenges persisted. Issues such as overbearing behavior by some police officers, perceived favoritism due to close ties with political entities, and a lack of understanding of community needs were identified as obstacles to effective implementation.

Tate (2021) argued that repairing police-community relations should emphasize police actions and policies aimed at further developing and healing the community. From a policing standpoint, this means training and employing officers to not only protect and serve but also to advocate for health, wellness, and economic resources. Providing these resources improves both community and officer safety.

Table 6. Level of Implementation of Police Operation along Police-Community Relations

Items	AWV	D
1. The PNP empower and educate the community.	4.20	VMI
2. The PNP encourages the participation of the community in the conduct of information campaigns that reduces fear and eliminate the prevalence of crime.	4.22	VMI
3. The PNP is respectful of the privacy and dignity of an individual, particularly the victim of a crime.	4.38	VMI
4. The PNP are not prejudicial to the safety and security of the state or an individual.	4.19	VMI
5. There is coordination, collaboration and cooperation with concerned government agencies, NGOs, and stakeholders in the conduct of various PNP programs and activities.	4.35	VMI
6. PNP initiates and assist in disaster relief operations, medical support operations, rescue operations, community-based education and training, and other urgent and non-urgent assistance.	4.28	VMI
7. The PNP conduct Target Audience and Issue Analysis (TAIA) to assess the priority concerns in the community.	4.32	VMI
8. Coordinate and collaborate with the barangay officials and other community leaders before the conduct of information dissemination drives to the identified audience.	4.34	VMI
9. Sustain the conduct of community engagement and awareness activities.	4.34	VMI
10. Engage the community through seminar/lecture, pulong-pulong, ugnayan sa barangay, and other information dissemination drives.	4.50	VMI
11. Form core groups and identify potential contacts and leaders in each target community/sector to determine their concerns.	4.40	VMI
12. Conduct thorough validation and verification of intentions and requirements for accreditation of sectoral groups and other entities.	4.34	VMI
13. Conduct community/sector selection to determine and assess what programs and activities are feasible.	4.17	VMI
14. Visit the local community/sector leaders to inform them of the nature/objectives of programs and activities to be implemented.	4.25	VMI
15. Immerse and participate in social and economic activities to adapt and familiarize oneself with the community/sector.	4.28	VMI
Mean	**4.30**	**VMI**

Table 7 encapsulates the overall implementation of various police operations, with all categories receiving a "Very Much Implemented" (VMI) designation. The mean ratings for specific areas are as follows: Patrol operations score the highest at 4.88, indicating exceptional adherence and performance in routine patrolling activities. Law Enforcement follows with a strong 4.71, highlighting the effectiveness of law enforcement measures. Internal Security (4.61) and Public Safety (4.66) both reflect

robust implementation of security protocols and disaster response initiatives. Investigation operations are rated at 4.58, showing solid implementation of investigative procedures. Police Community Relations, while the lowest at 4.30, still demonstrates substantial efforts in community engagement and cooperation. The general mean of 4.62 underscores the police force's comprehensive and highly effective implementation across all operational areas, ensuring overall public safety and security.

Coyle, quoting Blomberg and Messinger (2024), established that a positive relationship between police and communities benefits both parties. If the police are able to develop good relationships with the community, it leads to trust and mutual support. This dynamic is complex, requiring both law enforcement and community members to be willing to make changes, trust each other, and collaborate. As existing efforts continue and new ones are implemented, many see hope for improved relations.

Table 7. Summary Table on the Implementation of the Police Operations

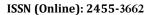| Indicators	Mean	D
Patrol	4.88	VMI
Law Enforcement	4.71	VMI
Internal Security	4.61	VMI
Public Safety	4.66	VMI
Investigation	4.58	VMI
Police Community Relations	4.30	VMI
Gen. Mean	**4.62**	**VMI**

Table 8 presents a detailed distribution of crime incidents across the municipalities of Baliguian, Siocon, and Sirawai. In Baliguian, of the 63 recorded incidents, non-index crimes constitute the majority at 68.25%, followed by index crimes (17.46%), frustrated and attempted crimes (7.94%), and reckless imprudence (6.35%). Siocon, which reports the highest number of crime cases at 92, reveals a distinct pattern where reckless imprudence accounts for more than half of the incidents (52.18%), followed by index crimes (26.08%), frustrated and attempted crimes (15.22%), and non-index crimes (6.52%). Sirawai, with the lowest crime total at 38, differs markedly, with frustrated and attempted crimes dominating at 50.00%, reckless imprudence at 28.95%, index crimes at 13.16%, and non-index crimes at 7.89%.

These statistics highlight varied crime profiles across the municipalities, emphasizing the need for tailored crime prevention and response strategies. On a regional scale, the Zamboanga Peninsula reported an average of 885.9 crime incidents per 100,000 individuals, encompassing the provinces of Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga Sibugay, Zamboanga del Sur, and the cities of Isabela and Zamboanga (Balita, 2021).

On a national level, the Philippines has been identified as having a moderately high crime rate, ranking among the bottom five in the order and security index in 2021. The country also registered one of the highest incarceration rates per 100,000 inhabitants, with crime prevalence particularly acute in densely populated and impoverished areas (Balita, 2023; Statista, 2024). Nonetheless, recent reports from the Philippine National Police (PNP) indicate a 27.63% decline in the overall crime rate from January 1 to February 10 of this year, with a notable reduction in index crimes and the eight focus crimes—namely theft, physical injury, rape, robbery, murder, homicide, and vehicle-related thefts (Caliwan, 2024).

Table 8. Breakdown of Crime Incidents

Indicators	Baliguian		Siocon		Sirawai	
	F	P	F	P	F	P
Index Crime	11	17.46	24	26.08	5	13.16
Non-index Crime	43	68.25	6	6.52	3	7.89
Frustrated and Attempted	5	7.94	14	15.22	19	50.00
Reckless Imprudence	4	6.35	48	52.18	11	28.95
TOTAL	**63**	**100**	**92**	**100**	**38**	**100**

Test of Significance

Table 9. Significant Relationship Between Police Operation and Crime Rate

Indicators	X2	t-Value	α	D
Patrol of Crime Rate	3.92	3.84	.05	*
Law Enforcement and Crime Rate	3.92	3.84	.05	*
Internal Security and Crime Rate	3.67	3.84	.05	*
Public Safety and Crime Rate	3.92	3.84	.05	*
Investigation and Crime Rate	3.98	3.84	.05	*
Community Relations and Crime Rate	3.51	3.84	.05	NS

- significant   NS-not significant

Table 9 evaluates the correlation between police operations and crime rates through chi-square (X^2) and t-test statistics at a 0.05 level of significance. Results demonstrate significant relationships between the crime rate and key police operations such as Patrol, Law Enforcement, Public Safety, and Investigation (X^2 = 3.92–3.98, t = 3.84), all marked significant. Conversely, Internal Security shows a near-significant association, while Community Relations (X^2 = 3.51, t = 3.84) does not exhibit a statistically significant relationship, denoted as "NS" (not significant).

This finding aligns with Junsay et al. (2017), who concluded that there was no significant difference in the extent of implementation of police programs across tested variables. Meanwhile, Abuyan-Obmerga (2014), in her assessment of police community relations in Sampaloc, Quezon, found that while PNP personnel rated the program as fully implemented, several implementation challenges were identified. These include perceived overuse of authority, lack of genuine police-public rapport, and political ties that may undermine public trust. Community members, on the other hand, attributed challenges to the police's limited understanding of community needs.

Overall, the results underline the effectiveness of operational functions of the police—such as patrolling, law enforcement, and investigations—in reducing crime, while pointing to the need for further strengthening community engagement to improve trust and cooperation between law enforcement and local populations.
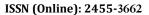
5.0. CONCLUSION

Police officers are frontline responders whose effectiveness in patrol, law enforcement, investigation, internal security, public safety, and community relations greatly influences public safety and trust. In Baliguian, Siocon, and Sirawai, stronger police-community cooperation is vital, particularly in addressing public concerns such as traffic discipline and clear officer identification. Coordinated efforts among law enforcement agencies and prompt crime response enhance public confidence and promote safer communities. When police operations are conducted with professionalism and integrity, crime rates tend to decrease, reinforcing the importance of visible and responsible policing. As emphasized by the Broken Windows Theory, neglecting minor offenses and visible disorder can lead to more serious crimes, making it essential for police officers to maintain proper conduct. Ultimately, adherence to protocol fosters mutual respect and accountability between law enforcers and the communities they serve.

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