Contribution of community policing to crime prevention. A case study of Nakuru County

Ngugi, Grace Wambui
Mount Kenya University

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CONTRIBUTION OF COMMUNITY POLICING TO CRIME PREVENTION. A CASE STUDY OF NAKURU COUNTY.

GRACE WAMBUI NGUGI
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A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINOLOGY FOR PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE AWARD OF BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN CRIMINOLOGY AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT IN MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY.

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ABSTRACT

Police excessive use of force dates back to 1633 which was referred as savage brutality. It presents police lack of regard to value of human rights. It's a headache to every country and security of its citizens with regard to implementation of Geneva Convention resolution on human rights protection. In Kenya excessive use of force by police has been rampant and was at its peak in the period of 2005 to 2007 when there were many cases of extra judicial killings which prompted the invitation of prof.philiph Alston the U.N reporter to investigate those killings where the government was using the kwekwe squad to finish Mungiki. During the same period there came the post election violence in December 2007 where police according to Waki commission which investigated the cause of violence and it found out those deaths that occurred almost half as a result police killings and recommended to the government to prosecute and institute reforms in Kenya police. Concerns have however been raised over the rate at which excessive use of force by police and thus raising concerns over their security. These concerns have not been founded on any systematic studies or supported by empirical data. The purpose of this study therefore is to investigate the excessive use of force by police officers in Nakuru County. The study employs a descriptive survey research designs. The target population is over 10,000 residents of Nakuru County from which 75 respondents are sampled. Questionnaires are used as instruments for collecting data from the residents. Data analysis has been done using descriptive statistics after data cleaning and coding. Quantitative data is analyzed using frequency counts, means and percentages while qualitative data is analyzed by tallying the numbers of similar responses. Results of data analysis are presented using frequency distribution tables, bar graphs and pie charts. The study has established that several cases of excessive use of force by police go unreported. This has far reaching consequences to the victims and their
families which cause economic drainage to the affected families. The government in its capacity has done very little to control the use of excessive use of force by police.