

AN INVESTIGATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE POLICE FORCE IN ERADICATING CRIMINAL
GANGS. (A CASE STUDY OF GAZA BOYS GANGS IN KAYOLE ESTATE OF NAIROBI COUNTY)

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ABSTRACT

The research problem under investigation is to assess the effectiveness of police in eradicating gangs case study of Gaza Boys in Kayole of Nairobi County. Gangs have been a major contributor in Kenya to the growth of violent crimes in the past decade. Heavily armed with sophisticated weapons, gangs are involved in murder, witness intimidation, robbery, extortion and rape. No one prescription is universal in treating the gang problem; however certain methods should prove generally effective. There is a paucity of studies that have a national focus and a few of the national studies are recent offering little guidance of the current issues and development in the nature and activities of criminal gangs. The majority of studies are descriptive in nature examining the organizational structure and the activities of the gang and the socio-demographic and criminal histories of gang members. Fewer studies focus on the measures law enforcement agencies undertake to deal with the gang problem. The study therefore seeks to evaluate programs and strategies being used by the police to eradicate criminal gangs like Gaza Boys in Kayole. The sources of literature review will include internet, books, journals, magazines and experts. The research will utilize descriptive research design; use primary data which will be obtained using questionnaire and interview schedule, Police officers, Kayole residence and community leaders as unit of analysis. There will be two hundred participants that will be chosen from police directly involved in gang intervention, community leaders and Kayole residents. Sampling will be done by convenient sampling techniques called non probability purposive sampling to identify the participants. The researcher will collect primary data from the respondents by using interview schedules and questionnaire data collection instruments. The collected data will be processed and manipulated through statistics pack for social science, descriptive statistics, inferential statistics, content analysis and statistical analysis will be employed to analyze the data.