

CHALLENGES FACING COMMUNITY BASED POLICING: A CASE STUDY OF
MATHARE VALLEY IN NAIROBI COUNTY, KENYA.

PRESENTED BY:

DAVIES KIVANANI

REG.NO. BCRM/112/00984

A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES OF MOUNT
KENYA UNIVERSITY, IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE AWARD OF BACHELORS DEGREE OF ARTS IN CRIMINOLOGY &
SECURITY STUDIES.

Date of Submission October 2014

ABSTRACT

The art of community policing is a critical strategy used in police operations worldwide. This Study examined how the community policing paradigm is interpreted in Mathare Valley and the challenges in its application.

The researcher focused understanding intrigues of community policing, the successes and barriers across developed and developing nations. The study was guided by the following objectives: Determining the underlying causes of crime and crime problems which requires in-depth knowledge of community responsibilities; Implementation of community policing in Mathare Valley and measures taken to sustain the policy in the sub-County.

A combination of survey and case study research designs were employed to enable the researcher get an in-depth analysis of what is actually happening on the ground on implementation of Community Based policing (CBP).

The Target populations were 200 Community Based Policing Units and which from 166 respondents were sampled. The respondents included;9 Chiefs, 15 Sub-Chiefs,20 Police Officers, 89 Village Elders, 25 Youth group leaders and 8 Ward representatives. The researcher received a response rate of 70% which was sufficient for analysis and interpretation.

The researcher used Questionnaires as suitable instrument for data collection. To adequately achieve the objectives of the study, the closed end questionnaires were analyzed and tabulated into percentages, frequencies and charts, while the open end questionnaire were analyzed qualitatively, then coded and discussed in themes.

The findings of the study painted a grey picture on the implementation process of CBP due high pockets of poverty, existence of criminal gangs, unemployment, drug abuse/alcohol, illiteracy, ignorance and hopelessness. However, 33% of the respondents were satisfied that CBP had drastically reduced incidences of illicit brew while 67% were dissatisfied with the contribution of Nyumba Kumi (CBP) implementation due increased crime rate, poor cabbage disposal and low empowerment projects. The youths and women who are vulnerable to violence and crime were not directly involved in leadership of CBP programs. There was a gap between administrators who stated CBP was on course and the concept was well disseminated while the youth/Women and police stated that CBP was poorly coordinated and a few rich people enjoyed its benefits.