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SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF COMMUNITY POLICING IN LURAMBI SUB-COUNTY OF KENYA

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CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certify that they have read and hereby recommend for acceptance of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology a thesis entitled: "Social Determinanats of Community Policing in Lurambi Sub-County of Kenya."

Dr. Evans M. Oruta, Ph.D

Department of Criminology and Social Work

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology

Dr. LilyFridah Muthoni Njeru

Department of Criminology and Social Work

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology

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DEDICATION

This Thesis is dedicated to my wife Anna Tina and our daughters Joy Mosis and Shanice Mosis, my sister Nancy Jepkoech, my brother-in-law David Kiplimo, my father Thomas Mosis, and mother Hellanah Mosis for their understanding, untiring support, patience, care, love, and sacrifice during my studies.

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ABSTRACT

Community policing brings together the police and the community members through a partnership to prevent crime, control the crime, and solve social problems. Despite the implementation of community policing, there has been a general deterioration in the level of trust, coordination and the level of crime is still high in Lurambi Sub-County. This study sought to investigate Social determinants of community policing in Lurambi Sub-County. The specific research objectives were; to analyze the effect of community characteristics on community policing, determine the effect of community-police partnership on community policing, and assess the impact of community members' attitudes on community policing. The study was underpinned in the social capital theory, cognitive dissonance theory, and routine activity theory. Descriptive research design was adopted. The target population was community members in Lurambi Sub-County. The study targeted a sample of 384 community members as primary respondents. Besides, Police Officers and County law enforcement officers involved in community policing participated in the study as key informants. Stratified random sampling was used to select community members, while purposive sampling was used to select key informants for the study. Primary data from community members was collected using questionnaires, while interviews and focus group discussions were used to collect secondary data. The study adopted a mixed-methods approach where quantitative and qualitative data were collected and analyzed. The validity of the study questionnaire was ascertained using a pilot study where feedback informed the refinement of the questionnaire. The reliability of the study questionnaire was established using the test-retest method, where Cronbach's Alpha coefficient of reliability was computed. Study data were analyzed using the statistical package for the Social Sciences version 27 for windows. Descriptive and inferential statistics were calculated for the quantitative data, while thematic analysis was used to analyze qualitative data. Results of the study revealed a statistically significant relationship between community characteristics and community policing Lurambi Sub-County (r= 0.519; P<0.05) with a regression coefficient of determination (R²) at 0.233, implying that community characteristics accounted for 23.3% of the variance on community policing. It was also established that there was a statistically significant and positive relationship between the effect of community-police partnership and community policing in Lurambi Sub-County (r= 0.617; P<0.05). In this relationship. regression analysis revealed a coefficient of determination (R²) value of 0.312, thus implying that the effect of community-police partnership accounted for 31.2% of the variance on community policing outcomes. Further still, it was found that there was a statistically significant positive relationship between the attitude of community members and community policing (r=0.576; P<0.05) with regression analysis revealing a coefficient of determination of 0.352, which implied that 35.2% of the variance on community policing outcomes. The study findings concluded that community characteristics, community-police partnership, and community members' attitudes significantly influenced community policing. The study recommended that community policing actors and stakeholders develop policies that promote trust between the police and community members by cultivating teamwork and shared crime prevention goals since establishing and maintaining mutual trust is the central goal of community policing.

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