

**UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK**

**EFFECTS OF COMMUNITY POLICING IN ADDRESSING SEXUAL AND  
GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN KENYA: A CASE STUDY OF KIBERA SLUM IN  
NAIROBI**

**BY**

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## **DECLARATION**

### **Declaration by the Student**

I declare that this project paper is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university or for any other award. All references made to works of other persons have been duly acknowledged.

Sign.....Date.....

**OKALLO ANGELA ADHIAMBO**

### **Declaration by the supervisor**

This project paper has been submitted for examination with my approval as the University supervisor.

Sign.....Date.....

**DR. G. G. WAIRIRE**

## **DEDICATION**

To the Almighty God, my dearest mother Mary Ndolo Okallo and husband Jairus Timms Otieno, I would not have made it without your support, prayers and love.

**A BIG THANK YOU!**

In loving memory of my father, Major (Rtd) PBL Okallo, and brother Frank Okallo: In love you rest.

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study examined the effects of community policing in addressing sexual and gender based violence in Kenya. It takes a case study approach, focusing on Kibera slum in Nairobi, Kenya. The problem of the prevalence of sexual and gender based violence in Kenya was explored. While aspects of policing such as community policing have been introduced into the criminal justice system in Kenya, the effectiveness of such strategies to address sexual and gender based violence remains unaddressed.

The study sought to determine the relationship between community policing and sexual and gender based violence in Kibera, to explain the effects of community policing on occurrences of sexual and gender based violence in Kibera, to outline the challenges facing community policing in addressing sexual and gender based violence in Kibera, and to establish some tangible measures to improve community policing to better address sexual and gender based violence in Kibera.

The research was descriptive in design. It explored the opinions of residents of Kibera on the effects of community policing on sexual and gender based violence. The proposal for the study indicated that it was intended to involve 100 respondents from the community in Kibera. A total number of 97 questionnaires were validly completed. This represents a 97% response rate. The study employed targeted random sampling to select the respondents to participate. Randomization was ensured by distributing the questionnaires to random respondents in the targeted villages in Kibera.

The study found that while community policing contributes to addressing sexual and gender based violence, in practice, and in the context of Kibera, there is limited evidence of its application.

## **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

ACORD	Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development
AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women
GBV	Gender Based Violence
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IBM	International Business Machines
RHRC Consortium	Reproductive Health Response in Conflict Consortium
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
SPSS	Statistical Packages for Social Sciences
UN	United Nations
UNCRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

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## CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

In 2015, Member States of the United Nations (UN) agreed on 17 progressive areas of concern in all countries and to all people in the world (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, 2015). Through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), all countries committed to a road-map for development in a way that benefits not only the present generation, but also future generations (United Nations Sustainable Development Summit, 2015). According to SDG 5, countries commit to work to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, and among other targets, seek under target 5.2 to ‘Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation’ (“Sustainable Development Goal 5,” 2017). Through this goal, all countries in the world aim at promoting equality between women and men, so that women can stand on an equal footing with men in society.

Another key goal which Kenya seeks to achieve, which is included both in the SDGs and in Vision 2030 which is Kenya’s roadmap to achieving the SDGs, is improving security for the wellbeing of the people of Kenya (Wekesa and Muturi, 2016). Kenya has a population of approximately 43 million people, of which almost 22 million are women (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2015). Government statistics in Kenya show that around 10.5 million or 47.5% of women between the ages of 15 and 49 who are either married or living together with a partner, have experienced physical violence since they were 15 years old (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics et al., 2014). And, the numbers are increasing (Nyang’aya, 2016). This shows that the security of the people of Kenya, especially women in this scenario, is not adequately protected.

In 2015, the Government of Kenya outlined its roadmap for reform of the approach to security issues, and published 'A Strategy Framework for Implementation of Reforms in the National Police Service' for the period from 2015 to 2018. Community policing was included as one of the areas that needed reforms; and the strategy also noted that the Nyumba Kumi initiative which was introduced by the Government to 'strengthen community policing operations at the village and households level' and to complement the existing community policing programme, equally needed reform (Government of Kenya, 2015). According to the National Police Service, community policing is 'is an approach to policing that recognizes the independence and shared responsibility of the Police and the Community in ensuring a safe and secure environment for all citizens. It aims at establishing an active and equal partnership between the Police and the public through which crime and community safety issues can jointly be discussed and solutions determined and implemented' (Kenya Police Service, 2017). A key priority of the reform programme from 2015 to 2018 is to strengthen the practice of community policing, which is to be achieved through support of the implementation of the National Community Policing Policy (Government of Kenya, 2015).

On a global level, SGBV is one of the most prevalent human rights violations, yet it remains one of the least prosecuted crimes (Kariuki and Chatterjee, 2016). Indeed, in Kenya, the rising occurrences of SGBV do not match the rate of reporting, arrests and convictions in the criminal justice system. In 2015, only 6164 offences against morality were reported, of which there were 851 cases of rape, 4495 cases of defilement, and 336 cases of incest (National Police Service, 2015). While this marked a 19% increase in the number of reports of offences against morality from the rate in 2014 (National Police Service, 2015), SGBV occurrences remain rampant in Kenya among married people and those living with a partner (Yusuf, 2015). These statistics suggest that many cases remain unreported, and arrests remain unmade.

The Government of Kenya has undertaken various legal and policy efforts to address the rising levels of SGBV. On the international level, Kenya is a signatory to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (*CEDAW*, 1981) and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (*UNCRC*, 1990). At the national level, the Constitution of Kenya of 2010 (*Constitution of Kenya*, 2010), the Sexual Offences Act (Republic of Kenya, 2006)(Act No. 3 of 2006), and the Children Act (Republic of Kenya, 2001)(Chapter 141 of the Laws of Kenya) are the main legal instruments that address SGBV. In addition to these legal mechanisms, a number of policy efforts have been undertaken to address SGBV, including the launch of the Community Policing Project (Ndanyi, 2013) and the roll-out of the National Program to address SGBV (Hennequin, 2016). However, implementation and operationalisation of these legal and policy efforts remains weak (Amuyunzu-Nyamongo, 2013).

The National Police Service was established under the Constitution of Kenya 2010 (*Constitution of Kenya*, 2010). The National Police Service consists of the Kenya Police Service and the Administration Police Service, and has a mandate to foster and promote relationships with the broader society (*Constitution of Kenya*, 2010). In the year 2013, the Government of Kenya rolled out a nationwide community policing strategy, including establishment of a Community Policing Project run by county-level police chiefs who were to form and run community policing teams (Ndanyi, 2013). This was a renewed effort to embark on community policing, after a similar effort rolled out around the year 2000 failed (Ndanyi, 2013). Under section 10 of the National Police Service Act of 2011, one of the functions of the Inspector-General of the National Police Service is to issue guidelines on community policing and ensure co-operation between the National Police Service and the communities it serves in combating crime (*National Police Service Act*, 2011). The Deputy Inspector-General of the Kenya Police Service as well as the Deputy Inspector-General of the

Administration Police – the two most senior police officers in the hierarchy in Kenya, are mandated to, under the direction, command and control of the Inspector-General, establish and maintain a relationship between the Kenya Police Service and the community (*National Police Service Act, 2011*).

Community policing has been hailed as “the most important change to the criminal justice system in Kenya” because it improves confidence of Kenyans in the Police Service, and draws help from the community to address crime (Aronson, 2010). According to the Kajiado North Officer Commanding Police Division in a study in 2014:

“The public and the police partner together in order to solve crime problems. Therefore, it is important for the public to visit the police and the police to do the same. One area of this partnership is sharing of information. Partnership is the main reason why security has improved tremendously in Kajiado North. I will ensure that the relationship improves so that I leave the area better than it was in terms of security.” (Mwaura, 2014)

Establishment of community police posts such as the Community Police Post in Ayany area of Kibera, constructed by the National Youth Service, has been hailed as a significant contributor to reduction of crime rates in the area (Tindo, 2015). According to the National Youth Service, crime rates have reduced by 75% after the construction of 9 police posts in different parts of Kibera (National Youth Service, 2015). Crimes which have reportedly been reduced include theft, robbery, assault, malicious damage and disturbance (Tindo, 2015). However, there is little indication of the effect of community policing on SGBV in Kibera.

The sovereign power of the people of Kenya is exercised at the national level, and at the county level through the county governments, each of which represents one of the 47 counties into which the territory of Kenya is divided (*Constitution of Kenya, 2010*). At the

county level, there is a County Policing Authority established in respect of each county, which comprises the Governor as the chairperson; a representative of the National Intelligence Service; county representatives appointed by the Inspector-General, who comprise the heads of the National Police Service and the Directorate of Criminal Investigations at the county level; two elected members nominated by the County Assembly; the chairperson of the County Security Committee; and at least six other members appointed by the Governor, from among the business sector, community based organizations, women, persons with special needs, religious organizations, and the youth, being persons ordinarily resident in the county (*National Police Service Act, 2011*). One of the function of each County Policing Authority is to receive reports from Community Policing Forums and Community Policing Committees, which are community policing initiatives through which the National Police Service is mandated to liaise with, establish and maintain partnerships with, the community (*National Police Service Act, 2011*).

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

In Kenya, SGBV is endemic, even though there are legal and policy measures put in place by the Government of Kenya (Kariuki et al., 2016). Police officers have been accused of dismissing cases without proper investigation (Githugo and Gichobe, 2016), and belittling instances of SGBV as domestic issues (Nyang'aya, 2016). Community policing increases interaction between the police and members of the public, and is presumed to also boost confidence and trust in the police (Ndanyi, 2013). However, victims fail to report incidences of SGBV for fear of stigma, even when the report is made directly to law enforcement officers (Nyang'aya, 2016). The problem is further steeped in the fact that violence from marital or relationship partners happens more than once during the relationship (Amuyunzu-Nyamongo, 2013). This seems to show that even though community policing was established

to bring policing closer to the people and ease communication flow between victims and the police, this has no effect on the occurrences of instances of reporting of SGBV by women in abusive marriages or relationships. There is a gap in knowledge on the effects of community policing in addressing SGBV in Kenya, and whether therefore community policing is effective in responding to instances of SGBV.

When victims report instances of SGBV, at times there are incidences where it is alleged that police officers are involved in tampering with evidence and using SGBV as a tool to intimidate the victim into dropping the case (Dubuis, 2016). Reports indicate that the incidences of SGBV in Kibera informal settlement in Kenya remain prevalent despite the implementation of community policing (Nyang'aya, 2016). Indeed, there are even reports that members of the National Police Service are involved in certain SGBV cases, but that they are shielded from law enforcement, by their colleagues (Dubuis, 2016). However, there is a gap in academic study of this issue, to determine the effects of community policing in addressing SGBV. If a reactive approach is taken instead of a preventive approach to dealing with SGBV, then the damage would have already been done to the victim of SGBV, the person's individual security would have been breached and the emotional, physical and psychological injury already caused. However, according to reports, the Government of Kenya admits that there is very low preventive policing because there are weak community policing structures (Government of Kenya, 2015). It still remains that there is a gap in academic knowledge on the effects, if any, that community policing has on SGBV in Kenya.

The implications of the impunity with which society and government treats gender-based violence dehumanizes women, whose concerns are trivialized by the very society in which they play significant social and economic roles. Women have suffered both physically and psychologically through being battered, dispossessed, killed, maimed and verbally abused in

violent intimate relationships. This infringement of basic human rights continues to be perpetrated, unless effective measures are put in place to deal with SGBV.

### **1.3 Research Questions**

This study addressed various gaps which remain unaddressed in relation to community policing and SGBV, and give rise to a number of unanswered questions in the available knowledge. This study addressed the following research questions:

- a. What is the relationship between community policing and SGBV in Kibera?
- b. What are the effects of community policing on occurrences of SGBV in Kibera?
- c. What are the challenges facing community policing in addressing SGBV in Kibera?

### **1.4 Study Objectives**

This study sought to achieve the following objectives:

- a. To determine the relationship between community policing and SGBV in Kibera.
- b. To explain the effects of community policing on occurrences of SGBV in Kibera.
- c. To outline the challenges facing community policing in addressing SGBV in Kibera.
- d. To establish some tangible measures to improve community policing to better address SGBV in Kibera.

### **1.5 Limitations of the Study**

The limitations of a study are the factors beyond the control of the researcher, which have the potential to affect the validity of the study (A. Wanjohi, 2014). This section therefore outlines the extent to which issues such as the time, funds, and location could affect the study.

The study focused on assessing the effects of community policing on SGBV in Kibera informal settlements in Nairobi, Kenya. It was carried out in the year 2017, amidst

preparations for the General Elections in August 2017. Heightened awareness of the political situation may have affected the responses given by respondents, who may have been concerned about their security in general. The researcher only focused on Kibera informal settlements in Nairobi, Kenya. This did not include respondents from other parts of the country, who may also have information relevant to a study on community policing and SGBV in Kenya. This may have resulted in issues specifically arising in informal settlements, which may not be prevalent in other areas of the country.

The researcher maximised available funds, to have one contact session with the study area. This may have negatively affected the level of trust between the respondents and the researcher. The researcher was therefore conscious that the little interaction with the respondents with minimal preliminary information may have yielded guarded responses. The researcher addressed this by working with research assistants who were personally familiar with the respondents in the study area. This was intended to bridge the relationship gap that may exist between the researcher and the respondents, where the respondents may have been more willing to give sensitive information to persons already in their relationship circles.

## **1.6 Definition of Key Concepts**

This section sets out the key terms and concepts used in this study. The two main concepts in this study are SGBV and Community policing. First, terms related to SGBV are outlined. Secondly, key terms related to the concept of community policing are also defined.

**Gender-based violence (GBV):** ‘violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately...(including) acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty’(Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 1992).

**Sexual and Gender Based Violence:** a means of control and oppression over women on the basis of their assigned social characteristics, through sexual acts such as rape, and defilement; physical violence such as physical assault; emotional and psychological violence such as through abuse and humiliation; harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation and early marriage; and socio-economic violence such as denial of opportunities, social exclusion and obstructive legislative practice (IRIN, 2004).

**Domestic violence and emotional abuse:** ‘behaviors used by one person in a relationship to control the other. Partners may be married or not married; heterosexual, gay, or lesbian; living together, separated or dating’ (Willman and Corman, 2013).

**Intimate partner violence:** ‘behavior by an intimate partner or ex-partner that causes physical, sexual or psychological harm, including physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse and controlling behaviors’(Willman and Corman, 2013).

**Violence against women:** ‘any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life’ (UN, 1993)and includes, but is not limited to ‘(p)hysical, sexual and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation; (p)hysical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution; (p)hysical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by (a) State, wherever it occurs’ (UN, 1993).

**Sexual exploitation:** ‘any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another’ (Willman and Corman, 2013).

**Sexual abuse:** actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions’ (Willman and Corman, 2013).

**Sexual harassment:** ‘unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature’ (Willman and Corman, 2013).

**Community policing:** ‘the approach to policing that recognizes voluntary participation of the local community in the maintenance of peace and which recognizes that the police need to be responsive to the communities and their needs, its key element being joint problem identification and problem solving, while respecting the different responsibilities the police and the public have in the field of crime prevention and maintaining order’ (*National Police Service Act*, 2011).



## **CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the broad thematic issues under which literature review for the study is done. A literature review evaluates information found in available literature on the subject under study; it describes, summarises, analyses and clarifies the information that other authors have already compiled relating to the area being researched (A. Wanjohi, 2014). This chapter therefore discusses literature relating to the problem under study. The first section evaluates available literature on SGBV. The second section evaluates literature on community policing. The evaluation of present literature reveals a gap in literature, showing that there is insufficient literature on the effects community policing on SGBV in Kibera informal settlement in Nairobi, Kenya.

### **2.2 Sexual and Gender Based Violence-**

This section discusses reviewed literature on SGBV. The first sub-section discusses the definition of SGBV, and explains why this study uses the term SGBV and not GBV. While both terms are used in different literature, the motivation behind using SGBV is set out. The second sub-section highlights the sub-clusters of SGBV, noting from the definition that SGBV includes a range of instances of violence occurring in different circumstances. The third sub-section briefly outlines the effects of SGBV. It stands to show what would happen if occurrences of SGBV are not addressed, and especially singles out the fact that SGBV promotes the spread of HIV/AIDS, which negatively affects society.

#### **2.2.1 Defining the term ‘Sexual and Gender Based Violence’**

Some authors consider GBV, and do not necessarily refer to it as SGBV. For example, Shannon et al (2009) discuss the prevalence and structural correlates of gender based

violence among a prospective cohort of female sex workers, and find that of the 267 female sex workers invited to participate, structural factors of criminalisation, homelessness, and poor availability of drug treatment independently correlated with gender based violence against street based female sex workers. Shannon et al (2009) proposed socio-legal policy reforms, improved access to housing and drug treatment, and scale up of violence prevention efforts, including police-sex worker partnerships, to stem violence against female sex workers.

Jewkes(2002) uses the term ‘intimate partner violence’ to describe ‘physical violence directed against a woman by a current or ex-husband or boyfriend’, noting that while the term usually includes sexual violence and psychological abuse, these forms of abuse may or may not be accompanied by physical violence. Most violence against women is perpetrated by intimate partners, with studies between 2005 and 2015 showing that ‘21 per cent of girls and women aged between 15 and 49 experienced physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner in the previous 12 months’ (UN, 2016).

This study refers to SGBV to include gender-based violence, and sexual-based violence, which is a component of gender-based violence. SGBV refers to a range of harmful behaviour perpetrated against a person on the basis of his or her gender (Willman and Corman, 2013). The term GBV has been used in reference to ‘physical, sexual or emotional abuse of women by an intimate partner, as well as sexual violence of any kind, including a history of childhood sexual abuse’ (Guedes et al., 2002). According to Izumi (2007), GBV ‘refers to violence that targets individuals or groups on the basis of their gender. Andersson, Cockcroft and Shea (2008) use the term GBV to include ‘sexual and non-sexual physical violence, emotional abuse, and forms of child sexual abuse’. This illustrates that the terms SGBV and GBV are often used interchangeably; but the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR, 2011) states that it ‘consciously uses the (term SGBV)

to emphasise the urgency of protection interventions that address the criminal character and disruptive consequences of sexual violence for victims/survivors and their families’.

The term ‘gender’ refers to “the social characteristics assigned to men and women... constructed on the basis of different factors, such as age, religion, national, ethnic and social origin... (and differing) both within and between cultures and define identities, status, roles, responsibilities and power relations among the members of any culture or society” (IRIN, 2004). The term ‘violence’ is taken to mean “a means of control and oppression that can include emotional social or economic force, coercion or pressure, as well as physical harm” (IRIN, 2004). GBV is also defined as “any harmful act directed against individuals or groups of individuals on the basis of their gender...(including) sexual violence, domestic violence, trafficking, forced/early marriage and harmful traditional practices” (United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, 2014). From this definition, it arises that sexual violence is a component of GBV. SGBV ‘includes sexual violence, physical violence, emotional and psychological violence, harmful traditional practices and socio-economic violence targeted at individuals or groups on the basis of their gender’ (Willman and Corman, 2013).

OHCHR adopts the term SGBV. However, OHCHR(2014) definition states that while GBV ‘is considered to be any harmful act directed against individuals or groups of individuals on the basis of their gender’, GBV ‘may include sexual violence, domestic violence, trafficking, forced/early marriage and harmful traditional practices’. OHCHR (2014) further states that sexual violence ‘is a form of gender-based violence and encompasses any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed against a person’s sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting’. From this definition, it appears that it would be a misnomer to refer to sexual *and* gender-based violence if sexual violence is a part of GBV.

Apart from the shock value, then, it appears that reference to the ‘S’ in SGBV does not carry any additional value than to emphasise the urgency to deal with the issue as pointed out by UNHCR.

### **2.2.2 Sub-clusters of Sexual and Gender Based Violence**

There are various sub-clusters of SGBV. According to Rees et al(2011), some forms of SGBV which are pervasive and occur at times together and therefore are difficult to separate into different categories, include intimate partner physical violence, rape, sexual assault, and stalking. According to Willman and Corman(2013), SGBV includes sexual violence, physical violence, emotional and psychological violence, harmful traditional practices and socio-economic violence targeted at individuals or groups on the basis of their gender. It must be made clear that SGBV does not only happen against women, but may also be directed against men (Russo and Pirlott, 2006). However, this study focuses on SGBV against women because the victims are inordinately female in an overwhelming majority of instances of SGBV (Willman and Corman, 2013). In relation to SGBV against women, previous research suggests that young urban men that have more traditional masculine gender role ideologies are more likely than those that have more egalitarian gender role beliefs to engage in sexually risky behaviour and SGBV, including intimate partner violence (Santana et al., 2006).

According to Izumi(2007), property-grabbing constituted GBV, where in various places in southern and east Africa, women are denied their rights to decent shelter, livelihoods and lives with self-esteem when property to which they are entitled is forcibly taken from them through the influence of cultural rules on inheritance. According to Dartnall and Jewkes(2012), occurrences of SGBV may be categorised according to the different circumstances and settings, including ‘rape in marriage or dating relationships; rape of non-romantic acquaintances; sexual abuse by those in positions of trust, such as clergy, medical

practitioners or teachers; rape by strangers; multiple perpetrator rape; sexual contact involving trickery, deception, blackmail of persons who are incapacitated or are too drugged, drunk or intoxicated to consent; rape during armed conflict; sexual harassment, including demanding sex in return for work, school grades or favours; unwanted sexual touching; rape of men in prisons; unwanted exposure to pornography; sexual abuse of mentally or physically disabled people; sexual abuse of boys and girls; and violent acts against sexual integrity, including female genital mutilation, inspections for virginity, forced anal examination and forced trafficking of people for the purpose of sexual exploitation'. The diverse circumstances and settings in which SGBV occurs signals a broad number of activity or behaviour that could be categorised as instances of SGBV.

### **2.2.3 Effects of Sexual and Gender Based Violence on Society**

SGBV contributes to the continued spread of HIV/AIDS, as is evidenced in various studies. Dunkle et al illustrate in their study in rural Eastern Cape, South Africa, that perpetrators of SGBV in most cases engage in high-risk sexual behaviour that therefore puts not only themselves, but also their victims, in danger of contracting and spreading HIV (Dunkle et al., 2006).

According to Rees et al (2011) in Australia, SGBV may make a woman predisposed to mental disorder; and conversely, mental disorder may make a woman more vulnerable to occurrences of SGBV; therefore arguing that it is unclear which factor causes or influences the other; or whether there is a direct mutual relationship between the two factors. In South Africa, Dunkle et al (2004) confirm that GBV is a key health risk among women; and that since there is usually a pattern of early assaults to women that leave women vulnerable to future occurrences, then primary and secondary prevention mechanisms among adolescents are important.

In Kenya, Amuyunzu-Nyamongo(2013)addresses the links between SGBV and HIV, arguing that SGBV has its roots in gender inequality in society.

## **2.3 Community Policing**

This section discusses reviewed literature on community policing. The first sub-section discusses the definition of community policing. The second sub-section outlines what community policing seeks to achieve, to set the stage for a discussion on whether it is indeed achieving its objectives especially in relation to SGBV.

### **2.3.1 Defining the term ‘Community Policing’**

‘Community policing’, which is also referred to as ‘community-based policing’, is “a philosophy (a way of thinking) and organizational strategy (a way of executing) that allows the police and the community to work together to solve problems of crime and disorder” (South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, 2006). According to the Oxford Dictionary (2016), ‘community policing’ is “(the) system of allocating police officers to particular areas so that they become familiar with the local inhabitants”. This study focuses on the organisational strategy implemented in Kibera informal settlement in Kenya, where the police and the community have been working together to address issues of crime, with particular interest in SGBV. It focuses not only on the system of allocating police officers to Kibera, to become more familiar with the residents. On the contrary, the term is used to mean a more enduring presence of the police service in the Kibera community.

Community policing is a multi-sectoral collaboration between law enforcement and community-based programmes such as health-based, social-based and economic-based development programmes (Bott et al., 2005). Trojanowicz and Bucqueroux(1991)contrast traditional policing with community policing; noting that while traditional policing focuses on reducing crime by arresting perpetrators therefore demonizing the people who live in particularly crime-prone areas, community policing involves average citizens in policing

efforts and embraces the average citizens as partners in reducing crime through shaping police priorities and developing inclusive and creative solutions to the crime problems. Another difference between traditional policing and community policing is that while traditional policing is reactive, responding to requests of victims as and when they arise, community policing is a proactive process, seeking out potential instances of crime problems and addressing them before they escalate to criminal incidences (Trojanowicz and Bucqueroux, 1991).

On the international level, Schanzer et al. (2016), in the United States of America, argue that community partnerships with police contributes to enhanced public safety. However, Schanzer et al. focus on the link between community policing and violent extremism, which involves violence based on religious motivations. Also from the United States of America, Docobo (2005) discusses the need for community policing to address homeland security, including responses to terrorism. Neither the study by Schanzer et al. (Schanzer et al., 2016) nor the study by Docobo (2005) focuses on the link between community policing and SGBV. This study addresses this particular area, considering the effects of community policing on SGBV in an informal settlement in Kenya.

There is literature on community policing in Africa. In Ethiopia, Belay (2014) acknowledges that it is difficult to implement community policing in a country where the public has little faith in the police. Belay (2014) views that community policing is a 'transformative model' that allows police and the community to work together to address crime, and also introduce democratic values in the police system.

### **2.3.2 Aims of Community Policing**

In Kenya, National Police Service is mandated to work together with the community as part of its objects and functions detailed under the Constitution of Kenya (2010) and the National

Police Service Act. Under Article 244 of the Constitution of Kenya(2010), the National Police Service is mandated to strive for the highest standards of professionalism and discipline among its members; prevent corruption and promote and practice transparency and accountability; comply with constitutional standards of human rights and fundamental freedoms; train staff to the highest possible standards of competence and integrity and to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms and dignity; and foster and promote relationships with the broader society. Community policing has its place in the involvement of the broader society in policing affairs, and therefore is supported by constitutional provision.

The objectives of community policing are set out under the National Police Service Act, which states that the National Police shall, in order to achieve the objects contemplated in Article 244of the Constitution of Kenya of 2010, liaise with communities through community policing initiatives, with a view to establishing and maintaining partnership between the community and the National Police Service; promoting communication between the National Police Service and the community; promoting co-operation between the National Police Service and the community in fulfilling the needs of the community regarding policing; improving the rendering of police services to the community at national, county and local levels; improving transparency in the National Police Service (2011) and accountability of the National Police Service to the community; and promoting policing problem identification and policing problem-solving by the National Police Service and the community. This provision shows that the objectives of community policing are rooted in the law, and that community policing has both constitutional and statutory backing. The benefits of community policing to the society indicate the goals that the practice aims to achieve.

**Crime Prevention and Reduction:** Community policing aims to address the social problems which would drive individuals to commit crime, therefore reducing instances of crime in the community, e.g. through involving children prone to committing crime in community-building efforts such as clean-ups, under the supervision of a Community Officer (Trojanowicz and Bucqueroux, 1991). Mwaura (2014) argues that where there is no partnership between the police and the community, then there is a decrease in security levels; which suggests that where there is partnership between the police and the community, then there is a reduction in crime levels. While this is a legitimate aim for community policing, there is little hard evidence to confirm whether this goal is attained; while community policing increases public perception that the crime rates decrease, a one-year pilot project in Singapore showed that as serious crime declined and reports of minor crimes rose, support for police increased and the public, which already had confidence in their security, experienced an increase in this perception of security (Skolnick and Bayley, 1988).

The Government of Kenya (2015) states that there is very low policing compared to reactive policing due to weak community policing structures in Kenya. D.M. Wanjohi (2014) argues that police-community partnership, community policing crime prevention strategies, and police-community problem solving are factors influencing crime reduction in Kenya; in his study which recommends building a relationship between the police and the members of the public to reduce mistrust of the police by the members of the public. D.M. Wanjohi (2014) proposes that to support the community policing system in Kenya, there is need for ‘more funding; police community forums; more police posts; accessible police posts; using patrols; using contact persons for information; using watch programmes; use sharing of information; effective use of door to door contacts; increasing patrols; improve hotline responses; employ familiar police officers; reduce response time to crimes; better detection techniques; employing more police officers; better equipment; use technology; use of detection

equipment; and make proactive arrests, in efforts to ensure community policing has a positive effect on crime reduction in Kenya’.

Mbogo et al (2008) stress that crime prevention is an important principle in the community policing model in Kenya. (Mbogo et al., 2008) acknowledge that the community policing initiative in Kenya was envisioned to be an 18-month programme, but that reform takes time, leading to an extension of the implementation period. Chege (2012) identifies the implementation approaches and challenges of community policing as a strategy to reduce and prevent criminal activities in Makina Village, Kibera, Nairobi. Chege (2012) argues that community policing in Makina Village has contributed to improved levels of security in the area. While Chege (2012) provides important insights into the state of community policing in Kibera informal settlement, the link between community policing and SGBV as a specific category of offences, is not highlighted. Also, Chege (2012) does not focus on Kibera in general, but limits the study to Makina Village, one of the villages in Kibera. This study addresses the link between community policing and SGBV in Kibera. It seeks to address the gap of whether community policing has had an impact on occurrences of SGBV in Kenya.

**Reducing bias:** Community policing also helps to reduce instances of bias, where the Community Officer who interacts with members of the community on a permanent basis would be better placed to know the undercurrents of certain situations e.g. whether a perpetrator giving an explanation of the circumstances of an instance of violence is a trustworthy individual, or whether the person’s socio-economic status may sway the individual’s explanations given to police officers due to the distance between the traditional police and the community, where community policing is not adopted (Trojanowicz and Bucqueroux, 1991).

**Public scrutiny and accountability:** Through community policing, the police system is exposed to public scrutiny, where members of the public, through interacting directly with

the police system through the partnership, may raise questions of the professionalism of the police (Skolnick and Bayley, 1988). The public can improve the public accountability of the police through influencing the way in which the police institutions operate; which may be done by ‘(1) by providing, or not providing, a framework of laws and money for police action, (2) by participating in policy-making with respect to the means of achieving desired objectives, and (3) by examining and possibly punishing errors in performance’ (Skolnick and Bayley, 1988).

**Improve public perception of police:** The public perception of whether or not the crime rate is reduced due to community policing, and even the public perception of security of their neighbourhood, do not necessarily influence the increase in the public perception of police derived through implementation of community policing; especially where the members of the public perceive that they have more direct contact with the police through community policing (Schafer et al., 2003). Mwaura (2014), in a study of community policing in Kajiado County in Kenya, confirms that the public image of the police benefits due to community policing. According to Wekesa & Muturi (2016), where there is a good perception of the police by the public, and trust is fostered between the two partners, then information flow between the two is enhanced leading to a stronger partnership.

## **2.4 Community Policing and SGBV**

Community policing suggests a partnership between government and the community to promote security in the society. According to Bott et al. (2005), one of the mechanisms through which action may be taken against SGBV is through partnerships between government and non-governmental agencies or civil society, where these entities should not work independent of each other to address SGBV. Despite availability of literature on SGBV

and community policing, there is little attention on the how community policing is implemented in order to ensure direct impact on occurrences of SGBV.

Garcia-Moreno et al. (2005) examine the issue of violence against women, which is one aspect of SGBV, and note that because it is a complex social problem, it requires a coordinated approach from different players in society, including the community. However, (Garcia-Moreno et al., 2005)do not specifically mention that community policing is one of the mechanisms that could be used to address SGBV. Instead, the present study builds on this statement that community involvement is needed, to propose that involvement of the community in policing activities in the society is a potential avenue of addressing SGBV, where community participation infuses community ownership of the process, and improves the suitability of mechanisms put in place to address SGBV.

Amuyunzu-Nyamongo (2013) holds the view that an insufficient level of law enforcement has a negative effect on SGBV. However, Amuyunzu-Nyamongo(2013)does not particularly focus on the effect of community policing on SGBV, considering that community policing is policy effort introduced with the aim of addressing the issue of insufficient levels of law enforcement. The United Nations Children’s Fund Kenya Country Office et al. (2012)find that females who have experienced SGBV called for additional services in the areas of counselling, medical services and police services to address the issue. The present study therefore adopts the view that there is a need for community policing to address SGBV, and evaluates the effects of community policing on SGBV.

The Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development, 2010)notes that poor police training on investigating SGBV cases reduces the conviction rate because prosecution of the cases suffers. According to the Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development, 2010), police officers often refer SGBV cases to mediation, to be resolved within the family

structure, which reduces the perceived seriousness of such offences and perpetuates the reluctance of victims to report these cases to the police (*Pursuing Justice for Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Kenya: Options for Protecting and Compensating Survivors of Sexual and Gender Based Violence*, 2010). The present study takes this perspective into consideration, acknowledging that the impact of community policing on SGBV may be reduced because increase in community policing may not directly affect the culture of the police with a tendency to turn away victims of SGBV, deeming SGBV to be a domestic issue.

Manjoo and McRaith (2011) discuss GBV in the context of conflict and post-conflict, but their paper sheds light on some of the both legal and non-legal mechanisms that may be put in place to address SGBV. In addition to promoting increased reporting of gender-based crimes through lowering the stigma attached to being a victim of such crimes; and reducing the procedures to report gender-based crimes which tend to be complicated and degrading to a victim; measures to improve the judicial system and increase security encourage victims to report instances of SGBV and reduce the impunity that in many instances is related with the perpetrators of gender-based crimes (Manjoo and McRaith, 2011). Community policing, being a way of improving the security by involving the community in the policing efforts, therefore serves to improve reporting procedures and therefore encourages victims to identify perpetrators, therefore contributing to discouraging SGBV.

There is need for community-based prevention interventions to deal with sexual violence according to Petersen et al. (2005), who, through their study on community-based prevention interventions in South Africa, note that such mechanisms are important in societies where social norms drive behaviour more than individual decisions do. However, these prevention interventions refer to influencing the attitudes of the community to the victims and perpetrators of SGBV including through strengthening parenting skills, introducing youth to

mentors who they could emulate, and increasing girls' capacity to identify risky situations that could make them vulnerable to potential perpetrators of SGBV (Petersen et al., 2005). While these do not refer to community policing, these community-based prevention interventions shed light on the importance of engaging at the community level for initiatives to address SGBV.

## **2.5 Challenges of Community Policing in Addressing Sexual and Gender Based Violence**

The practice of community policing has been in place in different parts of the world, including the United States of America, Europe, Asia and Australia from even earlier than 1988, when Skolnick and Bayley (1988) published their work highlighting some of the challenges facing the practice to include 'norms grounded in traditional notions of the police role, police needs to react to emergencies, resource limitations, traditional assumptions about patrol strategies, assessment problems, customary public expectations of the police role, and bureaucratic isolation of community programs within the police department'.

In Kenya, Mwaura (2014) identifies factors that hinder the effective implementation of community policing in Kajiado North Police Division in Kajiado County, Kenya, to include 'low levels of basic mutual trust, lack of an enabling legislative and administrative environment, poor public image of police and declining police resources'. Njiri et al. (2014) assess the implementation of community policing in Nakuru. (Njiri et al., 2014) find that the community policing programme in Nakuru was structured by and relied on funding from the government, lacked human resource capacity and had no designated police officers to participate in the programme.

## **2.6 Theoretical Framework**

This section discusses the key theories that guide this study. This study uses sociological theories. Sociological theories are useful because while SGBV is a social phenomenon, similarly, community policing is a blend of aspects of social work with police work (Trojanowicz and Bucqueroux, 1991). For example, Anagnostopoulos et al. (2009) discuss school staff responses to gender-based bullying, and in their study use a theoretical framework drawing from sociological studies of crime, and positioning theory from cultural psychology. While their study discusses GBV in schools and seeks to understand the content and structure of narrative accounts from students by the staff, therefore taking on the positioning theory from cultural psychology which does not relate to the present study, the theories from sociology may contribute to the theoretical framework of the present study because they explain how society views violence against women, a phenomenon which is linked to the community response to the occurrences of SGBV.

The first theory used to guide this study is ecological theory. Oduro et al. (2012) also use a theory from sociology, adopting a social ecological approach to show how GBV is experienced and used, while illustrating their argument that by constructing how GBV is viewed by society may contribute to knowledge on ways in which to better deal with occurrences of GBV. Ecological theory concerns the role of the social environment in which people live, and how it affects the behaviour of people where the overlapping ecosystems affect people's development (Oduro et al., 2012). Ecological theory is useful to the present study because it explains that in a setting such as Kibera, there are overlapping ecosystems that affect the development of the inhabitants of the area. The social environment in Kibera therefore would impact the people differently from how the social environment in a different part of the country would. This serves to tell that the influence of community policing on SGBV in Kibera would have a different product than the relationship between community

policing on SGBV in other parts of the country. This supports the study of community policing on SGBV in Kibera, an area which has been inadequately studied in this respect.

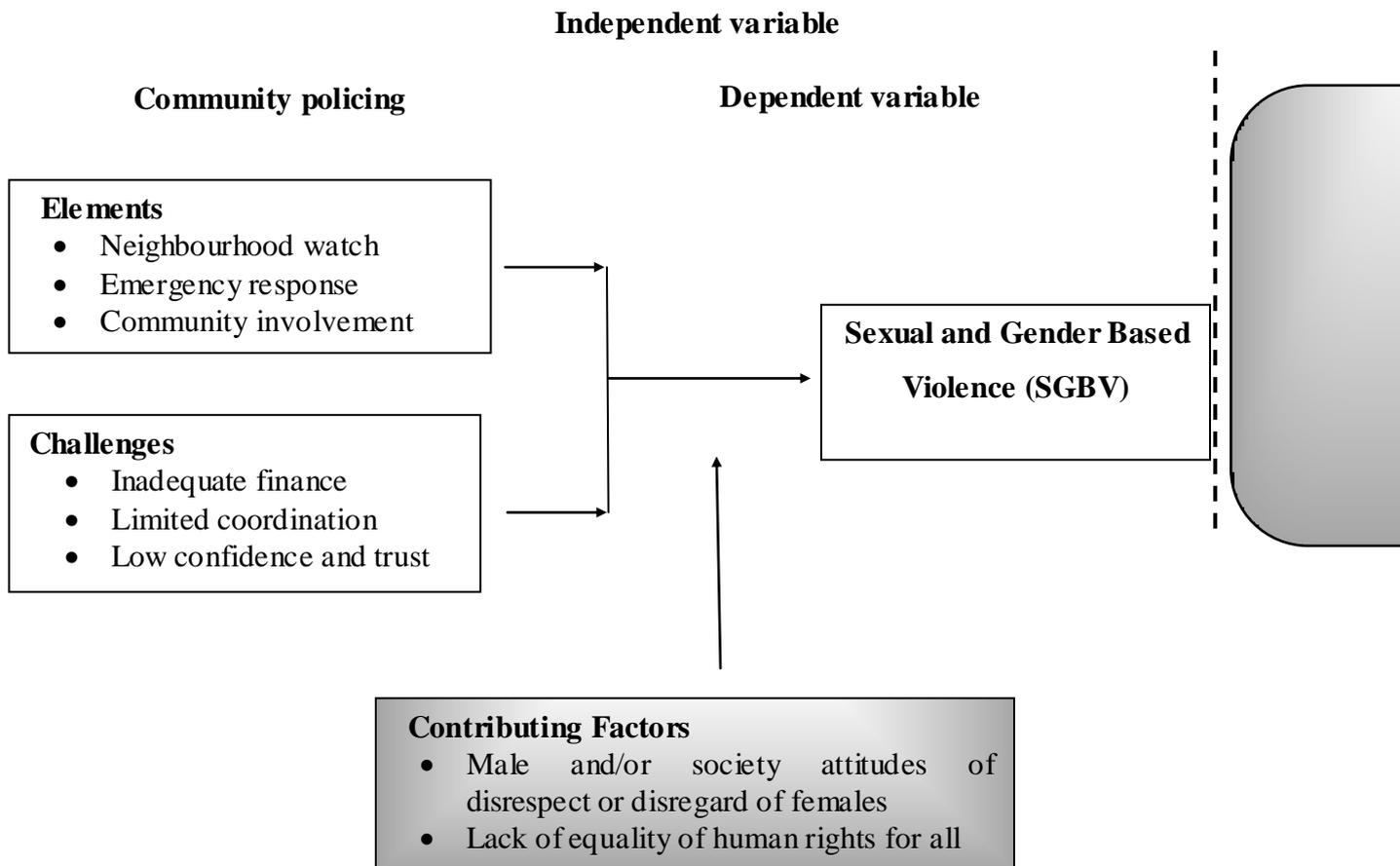
The second theory used to guide this study is social capital theory. Wekesa and Muturi (2016) use the social capital theory, which suggests that crime emerges in areas where there is low social capital, and therefore there are weak social controls and a limited ability to access formal resources external to the community, such as traditional policing services. In relation to the present study, social capital theory is useful to explain that where there is little social capital, then the threat of crime is higher. According to this theory, where community policing seeks to build social capital by strengthening the relationship between the police and the community through building trust, this leads to improved cohesion between society and more prosperity in the community setting. In line with this theory, focusing on improving community policing in Kibera would improve the social cohesion between the people of Kibera, and there would be harmony between them. We can then infer that the rates of occurrence of SGBV in Kibera would then be lower.

## **2.7 Conceptual Framework**

A conceptual framework outlines the structure of the main ideas discussed in the study, showing the interrelation between the principle variables, being the dependent, independent and intervening factors (A. Wanjohi, 2014). The conceptual framework of this study explains the main ideas involved in this research. Figure 2.1 illustrates the conceptual framework of this study. This study seeks to explain the effects of community policing on occurrences of SGBV. The independent variable in this study is community policing. This independent variable is composed of its elements (neighbourhood watch, emergency response, and community involvement) as well as its inherent challenges (inadequate finance, limited coordination, and low confidence and trust). The dependent variable in this study is SGBV.

The study evaluates the effects of the independent variable on the dependent variable. The intervening variables are contributing factors to the relationship between the independent and dependent variables. The contributing factors are male and/or society attitudes of disrespect or disregard of females, and lack of equality of human rights for all.

Figure 2.1: Researcher's Conceptual framework



## 2.8 Conclusion

This chapter has discussed available literature on the subject of community policing as an avenue to address SGBV. The arguments of various authors have been discussed in relation to SGBV and its elements, community policing and its aims, as well as on the relationship between community policing and SGBV. The chapter then discusses available literature on the effects of community policing on SGBV. The theoretical framework which guides this study is discussed, highlighting the sociological theories employed in the discussion on SGBV and community policing, two concepts originating in society; which therefore may

benefit from an insight into the theories governing society to give credence to an explanation of their relationship. Finally, a conceptual framework of the study is presented, based on available literature.

## **CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the overall methodology that was employed in the research for this study. It includes the research design, the target population, sampling techniques, data collection methods and instruments to be used to collect the data, and lastly the method to be used to analyse the data.

### **3.2 Research Design**

The research is descriptive in design. It explores the opinions of residents of Kibera on the effects of community policing on SGBV. It describes the views of the respondents to illustrate the nature of the effects of community policing on occurrences of SGBV, if any. Fieldwork took place from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2017 to 5<sup>th</sup> August 2017.

In a study on community policing in Ethiopia, Belay (2014) uses qualitative research including semi-structured interviews with four purposively selected police officers, in-depth interviews with 20 local police officers and 16 local community elders, and non-participant observation, in addition to scrutiny of police department files, legal documents and reports. In Kenya, Njiri et al. (2014) use a descriptive design and target all police officers in Nakuru Police Division, to investigate their views on community policing in Nakuru County. Similarly, Wekesa and Muturi (2016) use a descriptive design to study community policing as a crime prevention strategy in Kisii Central sub-county in Kisii County in Kenya. However, neither Belay nor Njiri et al or Wekesa and Muturi take a descriptive design to specifically address the views of members of the community on the community policing initiatives. This takes a different approach: employing qualitative research to evaluate the effects of community policing on SGBV in Kibera.

The study by Njiri et al. (2014) in Nakuru County in Kenya; and a study by Mwachidudu and Likaka (2014) and Likaka which finds that the level of implementation of community policing in Njoro Sub-County of Nakuru County in Kenya is 66.15%; both use quantitative and qualitative data to measure the level of implementation of community policing in different areas in Nakuru County, in Kenya. Neither of the studies takes a strictly qualitative approach, evaluating the views of the people on the ground, on the effects of community policing on SGBV. The present study seeks to address this gap, by using qualitative research methods to collect qualitative data. This study does not seek to evaluate the level of implementation, but rather views that the issue of the effects of community policing on SGBV are not adequately addressed. Also, neither of the two studies explained above deals with SGBV as a factor dependent on community policing. The present study addresses the gap in literature by assessing whether there is a link between community policing and SGBV, and evaluating the effects.

### **3.3 Study Area**

The study was conducted in Kibera informal settlement, in Nairobi County. Kibera is surrounded by the Royal Nairobi Golf Club and Ngumo Estate to the North-East, the Nairobi Dam to the South-East, and the Ngong Forest and Nairobi Police Dog Unit Headquarters to the South-West (Ekdale, 2011). The area is often referred to as Kibera Slum. Nyayo Highrise Estate is located to the East of Kibera, Uhuru Gardens and Southlands Estate to the South.

**Figure 3.1: Detailed map of Kibera showing neighbouring areas, Source: (Open Street Map, 2016)**



The main access roads are Ngong Road to the North, and Mbagathi Way to the East (Open Street Map, 2016). The Southern Bypass, which crosses the South-Western border of Kibera, offers a view over the informal settlement (Open Street Map, 2016). Kibera consists of 13 villages, characterised by mud huts, corrugated iron sheet shops and low conditions of sanitation (Map Kibera Project, 2016). These 13 villages are Kianda, Raila, Gatwekera, Soweto East, Soweto West, Makina, Kichinjio, Lindi, Kisumu Ndogo, KambiMuru, Mashimoni, Silanga, and LainiSaba.

*Figure 3.2: Map of Kibera showing the 13 villages, Source: (Map Kibera Project, 2016)*



### **3.4 Target Population**

The 2009 census conducted in Kenya placed the population of Kibera at 170,000, but other estimates range between 250,000 (Kibera UK, 2015) and 800,000 people (Fihlani, 2015) live in the area covering approximately 617 acres (Fihlani, 2015).

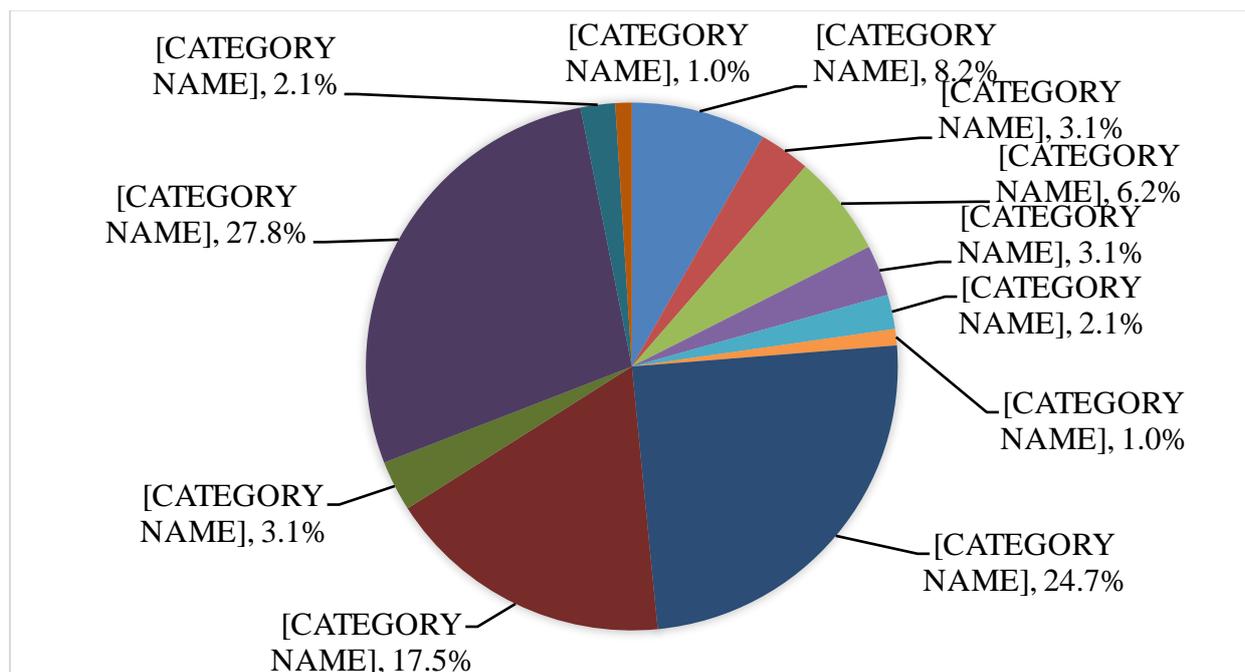
### **3.5 Sample Size and Sampling Procedure**

The proposal for the study indicated that it was intended to involve 100 respondents from the community in Kibera. A total number of 97 questionnaires were validly completed. This represents a 97% response rate. In a similar study by a different researcher, though only concentrating on community policing and not on SGBV, the researcher therein sampled 60 respondents (Wekesa and Muturi, 2016). The nature of qualitative responses results in a position where the findings are not expected to be generalised across the entire Kibera population.

The study employed targeted random sampling to select the respondents to participate. Targeted random sampling was used since under this sampling technique all the respondents

have an equal chance of participating in the study, and at the same time, respondents selected to participate in the study are those who most likely are the desired target respondents for the study. Randomization was ensured by distributing the questionnaires to random respondents in the targeted villages in Kibera. There was at least one participant involved, from each of the 13 villages in Kibera except Silanga. This illustrates that the responses received are generally balanced in terms of presenting views from different villages in the study area. These results are illustrated in Figure 3.3.

**Figure 3.3: Percentage of respondents from the 13 villages in Kibera**



### **3.6 Data Collection Techniques and Procedures**

This study used both secondary and primary data to respond to the research questions. Secondary data was collected from books, journals, academic articles, and newspaper articles, among other sources.

The primary data was collected through questionnaires, administered in the study area. A questionnaire is the ideal research instrument for this study because it can collect facts, opinions, expectations and aspirations of the respondents (Siniscalco and Auriat, 2005), concerning community policing and SGBV. The questionnaire collected data about the respondent, and also data relating to the variables included in this study. The questionnaire contained both closed-ended and open-ended questions. The closed-ended questions provided data for the limited quantitative analysis, while the open ended questions provided information that describes the situation in Kibera, and the opinions of the respondents about the situation of community policing and SGBV (Reproductive Health Response in Conflict (RHRC) Consortium, 2004).

The researcher engaged two research assistants to support the data collection efforts. The research assistants work in the study area, and are familiar with the criminal justice system at Kibera Law Courts. Before carrying out the research, the research assistants were trained on how to administer the questionnaires, to facilitate filling in of the data, and handle the respondents well. This training included a suggestion to the respondents who were at that moment experiencing SGBV on the possible ways of requesting assistance to address the occurrences of SGBV against them (Jewkes et al., 2000).

The questionnaires were administered in private, to ensure the safety of both the research assistants and the respondents; so that the personal information about the participant was not divulged to third parties, which may jeopardise the security of the parties involved in the

research (Jewkes et al., 2000). Completed questionnaires were handed over to the researcher and a discussion on the findings held with each research assistant.

### **3.7 Data Analysis Procedures**

Data analysis involved coding and tabulating the data collected from the questionnaires, to prepare the data for analysis. No names of the respondents were collected, nor other information that would support identification of the individuals. This supported anonymizing the responses so that the confidentiality of the respondents is protected, the women's safety is guaranteed and the data quality left integral (Jewkes et al., 2000).

Data clean-up contribute to reducing the errors that could have arisen in the questionnaires that were filled in. Data was grouped into common themes, for ease of analysis. After data entry and clean-up using Microsoft Excel, data analysis involved the use of the International Business Machines (IBM) computer programme, Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS), to generate statistical analyses of the data. The qualitative data was used in the final descriptive analysis, to present the findings of the field work. Illustrations of the data through charts and graphs assist to explain the data collected and analysed in the research.

### **3.8 Reliability and Validity**

The main research instrument in this study is a questionnaire. Reliability refers to the ability of the research instrument to measure consistently, and to give the same result after repeated use (Reproductive Health Response in Conflict (RHRC) Consortium, 2004). To ensure reliability, the research assistants were trained and monitored/supervised to ensure they are competent and administer the questionnaires correctly during pretesting of tools and data collection. Standard operating procedures for data collection were used to ensure consistency

in collection. All completed questionnaires underwent further scrutiny and all errors corrected.

Validity refers to the extent to which the research instrument measures what it is intended to measure (Reproductive Health Response in Conflict (RHRC) Consortium, 2004). Validity of the instruments was ensured through a well-designed questionnaire and instruments which were piloted to ensure coherence and comprehensiveness. This ascertained content and face validity. Standardized questionnaires were used for desired answers, and self-administering the questionnaire ensured the intended data is collected (Siniscalco and Auriat, 2005). To validate the findings of the data collected from administering the questionnaires:

1. The questionnaires were piloted on women of Kibera slum in Nairobi not included in the final study. Piloting involves giving the research instruments to a small representative sample, identical to the actual sample to be used in the study. The pilot study was very important as it helped the researcher to note deficiencies, unclear directions, space adequacy, wrong phrasing, language ability and vague questions which have to be corrected before the actual study.
2. The researcher discussed the findings with the research assistants, an exercise which also took the form of a debrief session for the research assistants; who, due to the nature of potentially disturbing experiences they would perceive through administering the interviews, may have certain insights on trends drawn in the research including through non-verbal cues.



## **CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION**

### **4.1 Introduction**

This chapter discusses the research findings. The data collected from the field is analysed. The data presentation includes raw data obtained from the field, to respond to the research questions. The objectives of this study were to determine the relationship between community policing and SGBV in Kibera, to explain the effects of community policing on occurrences of SGBV in Kibera, to outline the challenges facing community policing in addressing SGBV in Kibera, and to develop recommendations on how to improve community policing to better address SGBV in Kibera. The data as presented and analysed in this chapter contribute to achieving the objectives of this study.

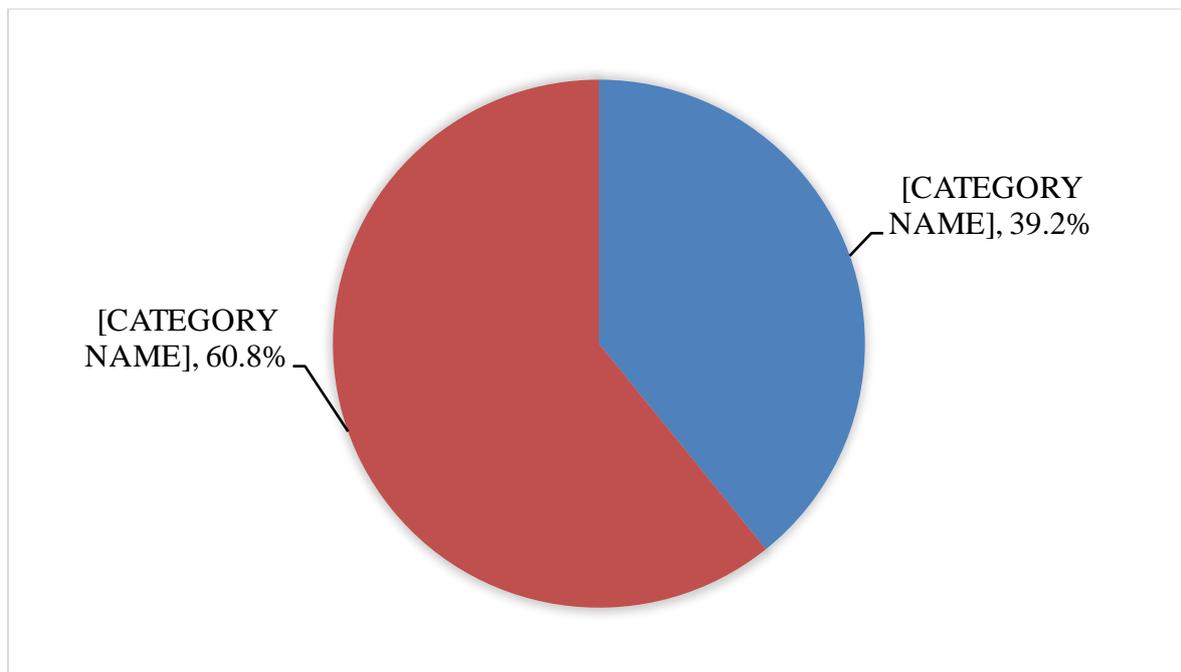
### **4.2 Demographic characteristics of respondents**

This section outlines the demographic characteristics of the respondents involved in this study. Amongst other things, an analysis of the demographic characteristics shown in the following sub-sections indicate that most of the respondents were male, of whom none reported being a victim of SGBV. Most of the respondents involved in this study were between 20 and 24 years, and a majority of the respondents were unmarried, and most of the respondents had lived in Kibera since birth. The sex of the respondents and the corresponding gender identity presumably influenced the respondents' views on whether they were victims of SGBV in the past, and whether community based policing contributes to reducing instances of SGBV. Although the demographic characteristics of the respondents was not the central focus of this study, the data collected may be used for future analyses on the relationship between demographic characteristics of respondents and their perceptions of the need for community policing to address SGBV in Kenya.

#### 4.2.1 Sex of respondents

The sex of respondents and their corresponding gender roles may contribute to understanding the research findings because the views of men and those of women concerning SGBV may be dependent on their societal influences. The respondents were both women and men in the Kibera community. Thirty-nine-point-two percent (39.2%) of the respondents were female, against sixty-point-eight percent (60.8%) male respondents. This may imply that there are more men than women who were available and willing to participate in the study. These results are illustrated in Figure 4.1.

*Figure 4.1: Sex of respondents*



The findings show that fewer men than women participated in the study. While this is encouraging because it shows that more men were involved in this discussion of how to address SGBV – an area which tends to be considered a women’s affair – this shows that either fewer women live in Kibera, or fewer women were willing to give their views on the issue.

It is important to involve men in studies such as this because without involving men, then the underlying causes of SGBV remain unaddressed, men are not actively involved in proposing solutions to address the problem of SGBV and therefore relationships between men and women do not improve, and also the needs of men are not addressed leading to non-inclusive solutions (Rutgers, 2016). Failing to involve sex as a variable in this study would limit the findings to only one angle of both the challenges facing community policing in addressing SGBV, and the possible solutions would therefore also not take into account the views of the other sex, leading to results which do not present an accurate picture of the population as a whole (Rabesandratana, 2014). This study took sex into account so that the findings generated present a balanced view from both female and male respondents, of the effectiveness of community policing in reducing instances of SGBV in Kibera.

Many studies on SGBV involve more female respondents than their male counterparts. However, there is increasingly a greater need for involving male members of the society in discussions on addressing SGBV, for greater ownership by the entire community and not just the vast majority of victims, most of whom are women. In discussions on SGBV including in implementing community policing to address this challenge, there is need to perceive men not only as perpetrators, but also as victims in some instances, agents of change, fathers and brothers of victims, and therefore a part of creating and putting in place solutions (Rutgers, 2016). These findings therefore illustrate a gender-balanced response to the issue of how community policing may contribute to addressing SGBV.

#### **4.2.2 Age of respondents**

The age of respondents was considered an important variable in this study to ensure that there was a broad range of views across the age divides. Having only young or only old respondents would limit the findings to the perspectives of the age group, where because of

the respondent's perceived position in life, values on security and sexual attitudes may change. The ages of the respondents ranged from between 15 years to over 50 years. Most respondents (47.4%) were in the age bracket of between 20 and 24 years. Thirteen-point-four percent (13.4%) of the respondents were aged between 15 and 19 years, 23.7% of the respondents were aged between 25 and 29 years, 9.3% of the respondents were aged between 30 and 34 years, 3.1% of the respondents were aged between 35 and 39 years, 2.1% of the respondents were aged between 40 and 44 years, and 1% of the respondents were over the age of 50 years.

Cross-tabulating the ages of respondents and the sexes shows that while there were more male than female respondents under 24 years giving their views, there were more female respondents between 25 and 29 years who were involved in the study. Thereafter, there were only 3 female respondents compared against 6 male respondents between the ages of 30 and 34 years, one female respondent compared against two male respondents aged between 35 and 39 years, and only one female respondent compared against none, above the age of 50 years. These results are shown in Table 4.1.

*Table 4.1: Sex and age of respondents*

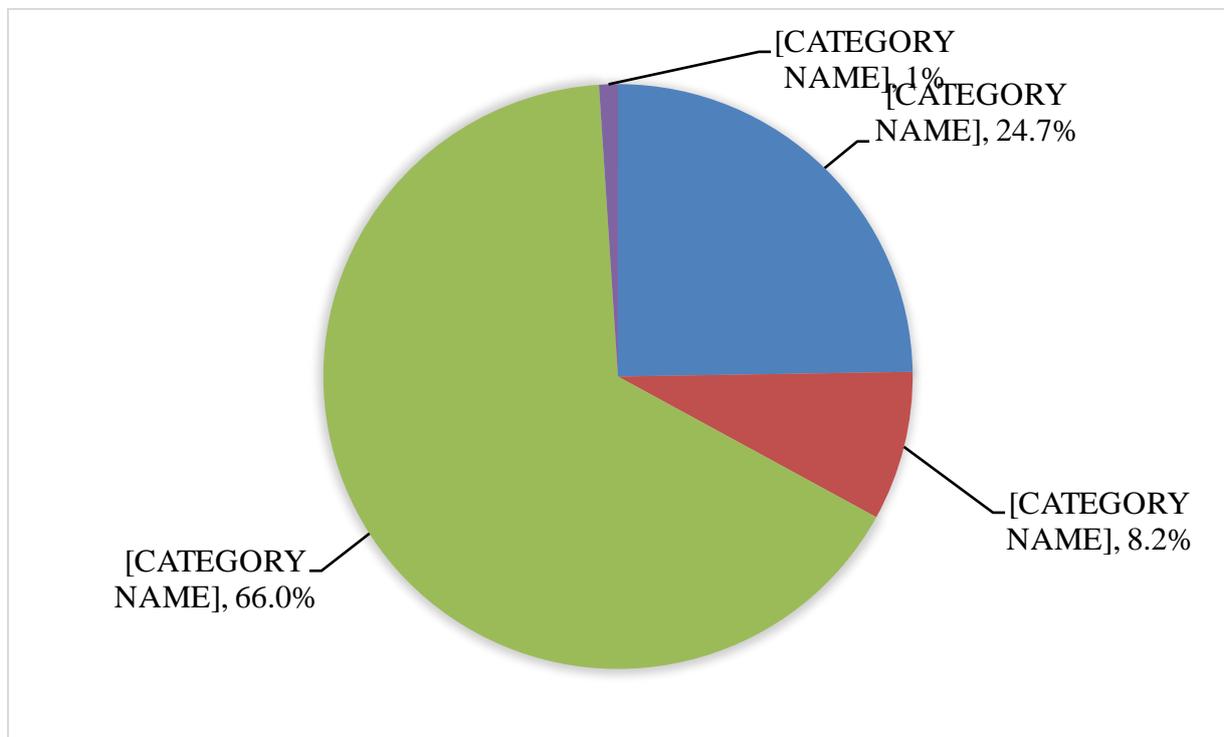
		Sex		Total
		Female	Male	
Age	15 – 19 years	4	9	13
	20 – 24 years	15	31	46
	25 – 29 years	13	10	23
	30 – 34 years	3	6	9
	35 – 39 years	1	2	3
	40 – 44 years	1	1	2
	50 + years	1	0	1
Total		38	59	97

From the results, we learn that majority of the population in Kibera are youthful and under the age of 35 years. Most of the respondents involved in the study were youth. It may also indicate that the individuals who were available to respond to the questionnaire were open to discussing their views on community policing and SGBV because they are comfortable speaking about the challenges facing the community and consider that they have a role to play in making a difference. These findings also confirm the lower involvement of women in relation to men is spread out across the different age groups. It further shows that this study is representative of the views of both male and female respondents with a majority of them adolescents and youth.

#### **4.2.3 Marital status of respondents**

The marital status of the respondents contributes to an analysis of the appreciation of SGBV in the context of marriage. This is especially in light of the prevalence of SGBV in domestic settings. The status with the highest occurrence was in relation to the respondents who were never married, who accounted to 66% of the respondents. Those who were married at the time of the study were 24.7% of the respondents, while those who were formerly married made up 8.2% of the respondents. These results are illustrated in Figure 4.2.

Figure 4.2: Marital status of respondents



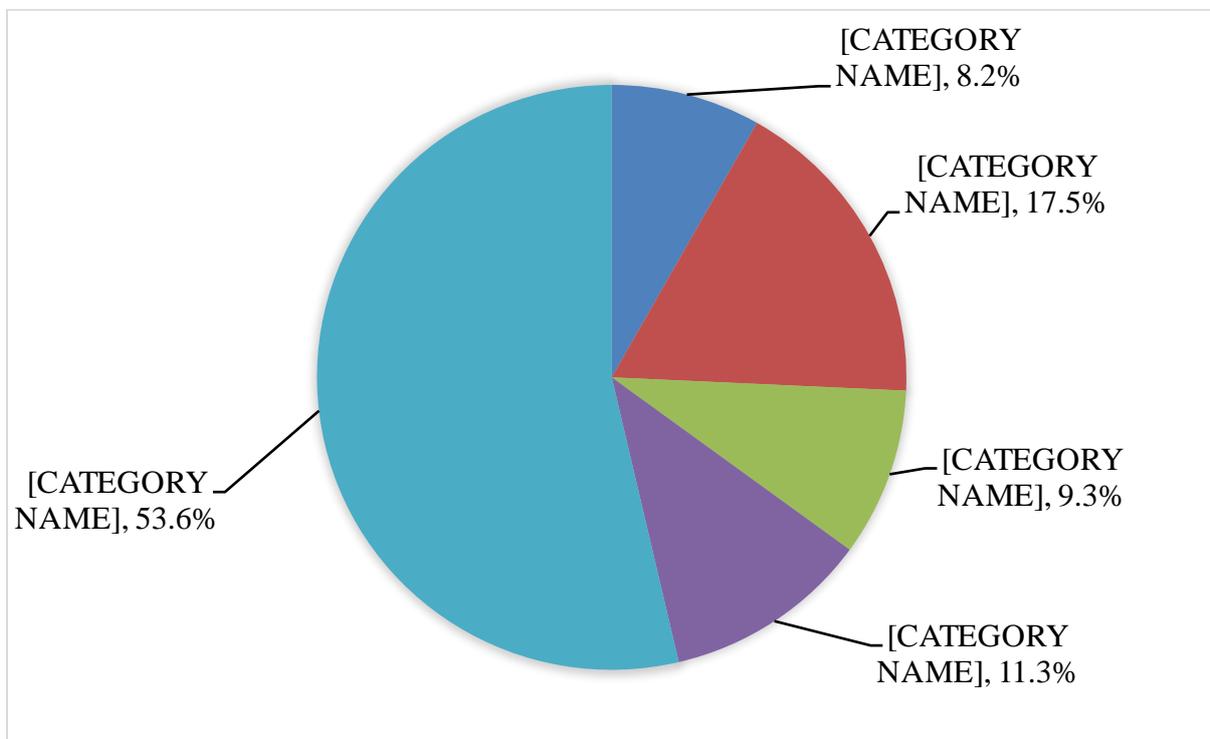
The marital status of the respondents is important to understand the individuals' perception and risk of SGBV. It is also important to examine the prevalence of SGBV in a marriage setting and the individual's perspectives on sexual relations. The fact that most of the respondents were below the age of 35 and that 66% of the respondents were never married, could suggest that the respondents would marry at a later stage in life, and that few of the experiences would point to instances of marital SGBV. However, this would not rule out the occurrence of intimate partner violence, because noting that the individual has never been married does not directly rule out being in a committed relationship or living with a partner.

#### 4.2.4 Period of Stay in Kibera

The question on respondents' period of stay in Kibera served to confirm that the person was a resident of Kibera at the time of the study. Of the sample group, 53.6% of the respondents were residents of Kibera since birth, while only 8.2% of the respondents had lived in Kibera

for between two and four years. At the time of the study, 17.5% of the respondents had lived in Kibera for a period between 5 and 7 years, 9.3% of the respondents had lived in Kibera for a period of more than 8 years, and 11% of the respondents had lived in Kibera for a period of less than 2 years. These results are illustrated in Figure 4.3.

**Figure 4.3 Period of Stay in Kibera**



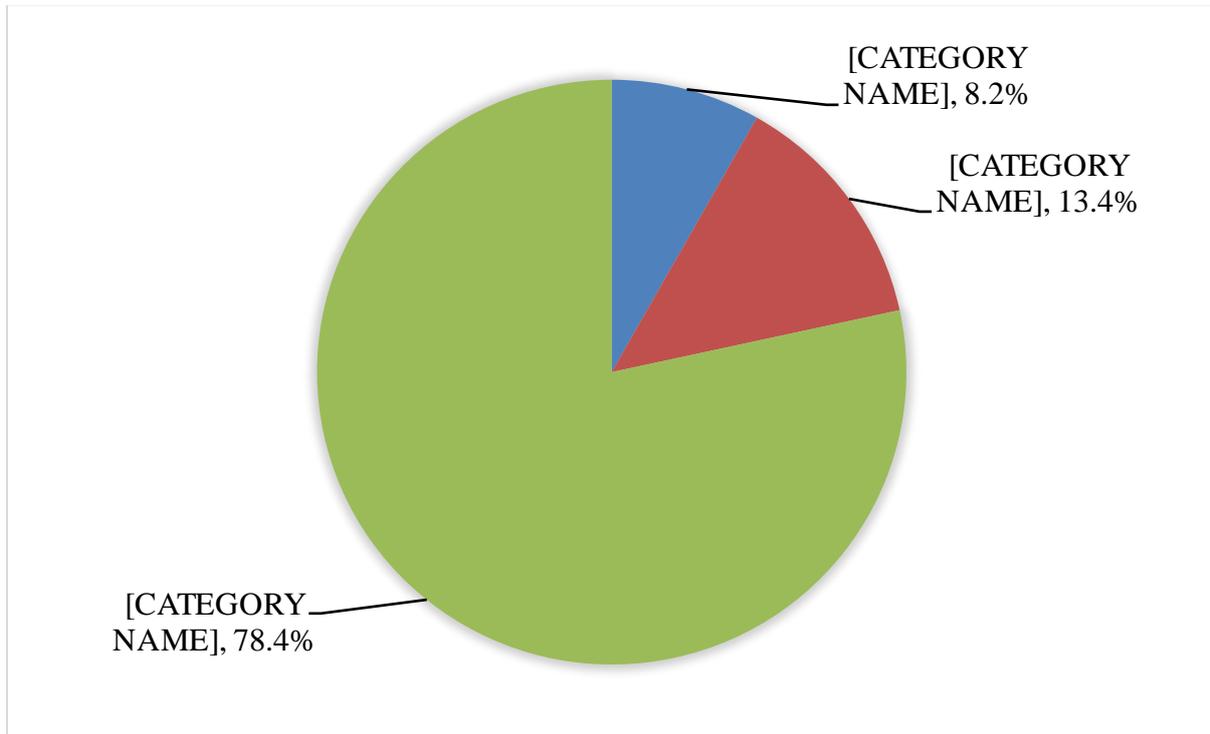
The findings concerning the period of stay in Kibera illustrate that most of the respondents have lived in the area and that therefore their perspectives would reflect those of a resident of Kibera. It confirms that the views are from genuine Kibera residents, and therefore sets the stage for further questions on experience of SGBV and whether or not there was any community policing structure in place and available. The findings also show that a majority of the respondents – excluding those who have lived in Kibera for less than two years – were residents of Kibera from 2001 when the first community policing initiatives were introduced in Kibera. The findings from this study would therefore be useful to evaluate from the

perspectives of those who have stayed in Kibera through the various efforts at reforming the police including introducing, running, reshaping, and further implementing community policing, and its impact on incidences of SGBV. The findings also show that apart from community policing, the respondents would have been residents of Kibera when the Nyumba Kumi initiative was begun.

#### **4.3 Ease of access to police services in Kibera**

Access to police services is one step to achieving access to justice for victims of SGBV. Not only must police services be provided for, but they do not effectively lead to achievement of the right of access to justice if the people who need them most cannot access these services. If there is little physical and informational accessibility of the police and the members of the public who the police are meant to serve (Waithaka, 2013), then this undermines the capacity of the police to achieve results in terms of improving security. With this in mind, the inquiry into the state of community policing to address instances of SGBV began with generating an understanding of the views of respondents on the ease of access to police services in general. Overall, 78.4% of respondents noted that they had never tried to access police services. Only 8.2% of the respondents indicated that it was difficult to access police services in Kibera, and 13.4% of the respondents stated that they found it easy to access police services. These results are illustrated in Figure 4.4.

Figure 4.4: Ease of access to police services in Kibera



This response may indicate that there is little need for residents to access police services, considering that 78.4% of the respondents have never accessed these services. However, this does not necessarily mean that of these respondents the failure to have reached out for police assistance was associated with a lack of a need for redress based on a criminal occurrence. That the respondents had never tried to access police services may, according to reasons discussed later, be based on the perception of the community of the police service, therefore discouraging the residents from even trying to access police services at all. According to the National Youth Service, a key institution in maintaining security in Kenya, the crime rate in Kibera reduced by 75% as a result of the construction of 9 police posts in the area (National Youth Service, 2015). While indeed the construction of these posts may have had an impact on police presence in the area, and may contribute to physical access to police, the low levels of knowledge among community members about these initiatives and further the perceived

inaccessibility to police services, together undermine the effectiveness of these efforts to reduce crime levels.

Indeed, it would be unsafe to conclude that there is little need for residents of Kibera to access police services, not only for SGBV matters but also for reports of other matters, considering that there is a court stationed in Kibera which handles a wide range of criminal matters which originate in surrounding areas. It is therefore more probable that in relation to SGBV there are low reporting rates because of the various challenges that keep the residents away from police services.

#### **4.4 The relationship between community policing and SGBV in Kibera**

Community policing was put in place in Kibera as early as the year 2001 (Kiprono and Muchemi, 2016). The community policing initiative involved “consultations with members of the community, civil society, and police; setting up a taskforce and a 20-member steering committee; training to equip the steering committee and communities with an understanding of the principles and practice of (community based policing); a joint police-community forum; and a police open day and medical camp where police provided free medical check-ups and other services to help build trust and give communities and police an opportunity to interact” (Mbogo et al., 2008). However, while it has been reported that there have been sensitization activities for the community on what community policing is about and what principles guide it, the findings of this study suggest that there are low levels of understanding about community policing. This therefore contradicts the general assumption that having conducted outreach activities at one point in time has led to a widespread understanding of the issue.

A number of different responses to the question on what ‘community policing’ is about, illustrates a varying understanding of, in the first instance, whether the meaning of the

concept was shared among the general population. For example, according to Respondent 90, community policing is about ‘Enlightening about the victim and procedures he/she should follow to access justice; Counsels (sic) the victim on matters relating to gender violence and sexual abuses on how to report to the police and also enlightening them about the importance of community policing’. While this description may not be accurate, and instead may refer to components of a public awareness campaign about police services available to victims of crimes including SGBV, it illustrates aspects of community partnership, for example partnerships between the police and clinics or other health facilities involving counsellors for victims of SGBV.

Respondent 81 alluded to the aspect of community policing in making police services easily accessible to members of the community, in the statement that ‘It’s about bringing security personnel within a reachable area for residents of a community’. The aspect of collaboration between the police and the community was brought out in a number of comments, for example, Respondent 50 noted that community policing is where the ‘Community collaborates with the police in matters security and safety of the community’, while Respondent 32 commented that community policing is where the members of the community ‘Collaborate and liaise with police officers in identification of suspects’, and Respondent 1 mentioned that ‘It involves the police coordination with the residents of the community in safeguarding and providing security within’. Some comments alluded more directly to the role of community policing in relation to SGBV, and arguably owing to a description of the study which may have influenced the responses, stated that ‘It is a service whereby the police are based within the community or residents of Kibera to help in solving the cases associated with sexual and gender based violence’; and ‘It is situated in order to help out victims of SGBV It helps in securing the community against external conflict issues’.

Overall, 75.3% of the respondents stated that they did not know of any initiative of community policing in Kibera, while only 22.7% of the respondents indicated that they knew of community policing in Kibera. Seventy-eight-point-nine percent of the female respondents were not aware of community policing in Kibera, and a slightly lower percentage (72.9%) of male respondents reported that they were not aware of any community policing initiative in Kibera. These results show a generally high level of lack of awareness of community policing initiatives in Kibera, and also shows that there is little difference between the sexes in terms of their respective awareness levels of community policing in Kibera. These results are shown in Table 4.2.

*Table 4.2 Sex and awareness of community policing in Kibera*

		Awareness of community policing			Total
		No response	No	Yes	
Sex	Female	0	30	8	38
	Male	2	43	14	59
Total		2	73	22	97

These findings may suggest low levels of confidence of members of the public with official reports of the effectiveness of community policing in Kibera. However, it is likely that members of the community are not aware in the first place of the difference between regular policing, ‘community policing’, the work of the ‘Metropolitan Police Unit’ (Security Compliance and Disaster Management), and ‘Nyumba Kumi’ (Gumbihi, 2014). The difference between community policing and the Metropolitan Police Unit, for example, is that while the Metropolitan Police Unit includes an increase in police presence, community policing goes a step further and involves interaction and collaboration between the police

officers and members of the public. What sets community policing apart from the Nyumba Kumi initiative is that aside from knowing who lives in the nearby 10 houses and what the neighbours do for a living as is envisioned under the Nyumba Kumi initiative, community policing goes an extra mile to interact with police to provide information that the police would need to conduct an effective investigation (Koinange, 2014). These differences need to be outlined to members of the community so that they are familiar with the role they are to play in community policing to collaboratively improve the security in their neighbourhood.

There were low levels of reporting of any personal experience of SGBV in Kibera among the respondents. Only 6.2% of the respondents indicated that they were the victims of an incident of SGBV. Eighty-five-point-six percent of the respondents reported that they had not had any experience of SGBV, while 8.2% of the respondents did not answer the question. These results are shown in Table 4.3.

*Table 4.3: Sex and personal experience of SGBV in Kibera*

			Sexual abuse experience		Total	
			No	Yes		
Sex	Female	Count	4	28	6	38
		% of Total	4.1%	28.9%	6.2%	39.2%
	Male	Count	4	55	0	59
		% of Total	4.1%	56.7%	0.0%	60.8%
Total		Count	8	83	6	97
		% of Total	8.2%	85.6%	6.2%	100.0%

Only 15.8% of the female respondents reported having had any personal experience of SGBV, and none of the male respondents reported any personal experience of SGBV. The results of the study reveal that the marital status of the respondent was not a direct factor of

the incidence of SGBV. This is because there is a spread of the results between the different categories denoting the marital status, where of those who experienced incidences of SGBV, 12.5% of the respondents were married at the time of the study, 12.5% were formerly married, and 3.1% had never been married. These results are illustrated in Table 4.4.

**Table 4.4: Marital status and personal experience of SGBV in Kibera**

			Sexual abuse experience		Total	
			No	Yes		
Marital Status	Currently married	Count % of Total	1 1.0%	20 20.6%	3 3.1%	24 24.7%
	Formerly married	Count % of Total	0 0.0%	7 7.2%	1 1.0%	8 8.2%
	Never married	Count % of Total	6 6.2%	56 57.7%	2 2.1%	64 66.0%
	Other	Count % of Total	1 1.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	1 1.0%
Total		Count % of Total	8 8.2%	83 85.6%	6 6.2%	97 100.0%

Of the six respondents who indicated that they had experienced an incident of SGBV, three respondents noted that they had prior knowledge of the perpetrator. Respondent 5, for example, a female aged between 35 and 39 years who was formerly married, stated that while she knew the perpetrator and informed a friend of the incident, she did not file a report with the police because in her view, she was afraid that this would bring a bad name to her family. Respondent 8, a female respondent aged between 25 and 29 years and married, noted that she did not know the perpetrator of the SGBV act, and she did not tell anyone, not even the police, because in her view, police services were not available. Respondent 11, a female respondent who had never been married and was aged between 20 and 24 years, noted that

she did not know the perpetrator of the instance of SGBV, and she was one of the two respondents who reported to the police or local authorities.

Respondent 19, a female aged between 15 and 19 years who was never married and had lived in Kibera her entire life since birth, was previously acquainted with the perpetrator of the act of SGBV, yet she did not tell anyone about the instance. As for Respondent 20, a female aged between 20 and 24 years who was married at the time of the study and had lived in Kibera since birth, while she did not know the perpetrator, did not tell anyone about her experience because she thought she would be blamed, and further thought that if word spread about her experience, it would bring a bad name to her family.

Finally, the last of the respondents who reported being a victim of SGBV was Respondent 31, a female aged between 40 and 44 years, who was married at the time of the study, and when she went through this experience, knew the perpetrator from before, and informed her partner, a female family member, the police, and local authorities including the chief of the area, about the incident. However, she indicated that she did not file the report at a centre set up to promote community policing.

Of the two respondents who reported an incident of SGBV to the police, none (0%) filed a report at a centre established by virtue of a community policing initiative. This suggests that there is little awareness of the existence of community policing centres within the community. Further, even if there were such centres established, the barriers to reporting instances of SGBV may prevent the victim from coming forward or reporting to anybody, whether a partner, family member, or even the police. The fact that none of the respondents reported to the police indicates that there is little confidence in the ability, interest, or capacity of the police to intervene with a positive result, in instances of SGBV. This corresponds with the general belief that community policing in Kibera does not help to

reduce instances of SGBV. Fifteen percent of the respondents did not answer this question whether community policing in Kibera helps to reduce SGBV cases, 51.5% of the respondents indicated that community policing in Kibera does not contribute to reducing acts of SGBV, and 33% of the respondents agreed with the statement that community policing in Kibera contributes to a reduction in the occurrence of SGBV.

#### **4.5 The effects of community policing on occurrences of SGBV in Kibera**

In an ideal situation, community policing in Kibera would contribute to reducing instances of SGBV. Without community involvement, it is difficult to address the problem of insecurity and even though the institutions may be established, for example, through constructing more police posts, the challenges of insecurity would still persist (Kimari and Moitui, 2017).

According to some respondents:

‘(Community policing) Helps to educate the youth in the importance of refraining from such crime and acts therefore enhancing peaceful relationship among the individual’;

‘The community easily access where to report cases concerning sexual and gender based violence’;

‘People fear to commit such a crime in that all the community members keep watch of each other’;

‘By secur(ing) and serving the community to help them solving their problems It promotes and improves confidence of the community in the work of police’; and

‘Due to its proximity to the residents of Kibera, people feel closer and secured Sexual cases can be easily reported and faster actions can be taken’.

Community policing would also promote information sharing and improve confidence, as Respondent 90 noted that community policing would make ‘Victims aware of the procedures to follow in reporting cases of sexual and gender based violence so the culprits fear away of committing the offence, hence reduction in sexual violence’. This is reflected in the view held by 81.4% of the respondents who agreed with a statement that coordination of the police officers and the community affects the implementation of community policing in preventing SGBV in Kibera. These results are shown in Table 4.5.

*Table 4.5: Coordination of the police officers and the community affects the implementation of community policing in preventing sexual and gender based violence*

	Frequency	Percent
No response	2	2.1
Agree	79	81.4
Disagree	5	5.2
Strongly agree	8	8.2
Strongly disagree	2	2.1
Undecided	1	1.0
Total	97	100.0

The benefits of community policing in preventing SGBV were also presented by some respondents. For example, Respondent 1 commented that ‘Easy accessibility of the police officers makes it easy to solve such cases’. Respondent 8 refers to the role that community policing plays in addressing SGBV, through dissuading potential perpetrators from engaging in acts of SGBV:

‘When perpetrators are convicted, it becomes a lesson to others hence stoppage of SGBV acts. Tightening security around the place reduces levels of insecurity and

theft. Rules put across in the policies helps people from doing the wrong when they know their automatic consequences.’

Respondent 9 comments that one effect of community policing on SGBV is that ‘Community policing increases confidence of the community and therefore enhancing prevention of sexual gender based violence’. According to Respondent 10, effective community policing contributes to ‘Reduced sexual abuse and gender based violence’ and ‘Awareness about SGBV and measures to be taken in case SGBV occurs’. These comments suggest that where community policing works in an ideal setting, then apart from prevention of SGBV, in the event of an occurrence of SGBV, then the victim would be better placed to take action against the perpetrator.

This ideal situation has, however, not been achieved. According to respondents, ‘Victims are afraid of the police and prefer to keep quiet’; It has not been well made clear to the community hence some people are not aware of the policing’; and to others, they have just neither seen nor come across community policing centres in Kibera. This brings into question whether the community policing centres reported by the authorities to be present and effective in Kibera, actually exist; and if they indeed exist, whether the community is well appraised of the functions of the community police and what falls under their mandate. These findings support the outcomes of previous studies that show that there are low reporting rates for crimes committed, and this is linked to a situation where members of the community feel that they have no power to do anything to improve the levels of security in the area where they live (Van der Spuy and Röntsch, 2008)

The practicalities of operation of community policing and its relation with SGBV show that the use of community policing to address SGBV is far from ideal. Still, 78.4% of the

respondents agreed with the proposition that community policing promotes and improves public confidence in the police. These results are shown in Table 4.6.

**Table 4.6: Community policing promotes and improves public confidence**

	Frequency	Percent
No response	2	2.1
Agree	76	78.4
Disagree	2	2.1
Strongly agree	14	14.4
Strongly disagree	1	1.0
Undecided	2	2.1
Total	97	100.0

Similarly, 83.5% of the respondents agreed with the position that neighbourhood watch promotes availability of emergency response among victims of SGBV. These results are shown in Table 4.7.

**Table 4.7: Neighbourhood watch promotes availability of emergency response among victims of SGBV**

	Frequency	Percent
No response	3	3.1
Agree	81	83.5
Disagree	1	1.0
Strongly agree	10	10.3
Undecided	2	2.1
Total	97	100.0

Also, 82.5% of the respondents agreed with the statement that the involvement of the community in policing helps to improve safety and security in Kibera. Where community

policing works the way it is intended to, and the police are responsive and work to achieve democratic policing in collaboration with member of the public, then there is not only an improved relationship between the community and the police, but this also leads to a reduction in crime rates and a corresponding increase in security (Skilling, 2016). None of the respondents disagreed with the statement that the involvement of the community in policing helps to improve safety and security in Kibera. This shows that one of the effects of community policing on SGBV is that it improves safety and security, therefore reducing the instances when SGBV occurs. When there is a sense of ownership among members of the community, of processes intended to improve their safety, then there is a greater willingness for the community to share information with the police for more effective responses to instances of SGBV(Waithaka, 2013). These results are shown in Table 4.8.

**Table 4.8: Involvement of community in policing helps improve safety and security in Kibera**

	Frequency	Percent
No response	2	2.1
Agree	80	82.5
Strongly agree	14	14.4
Undecided	1	1.0
Total	97	100.0

Overall, 51.5% of the respondents stated that community policing does not help to reduce SGBV cases in Kibera, only 33% of the respondents agreed with the statement that community policing in Kibera helps to reduce SGBV cases in Kibera, and 15.5% of the respondents did not indicate their reaction to the statement. While in theory community policing reduces instances of SGBV, from the findings it is apparent that the implementation of community policing has been poor. More sober and modest assessments of the effect of

community policing in general, and its effect on SGBV, should be encouraged among public institutions for accurate determination of the issue to allow for concrete solutions.

A crosstabulation of sex and responses as to whether community policing in Kibera helps to reduce SGBV cases illustrates that of those who responded that community policing does help to reduce SGBV cases, 60.5% of the female respondents did not consider that community policing in Kibera helps to reduce SGBV cases, while 26.3% of the female respondents held the view that community policing in Kibera helps to reduce SGBV cases. With regard to the male respondents, 45.8% of them did not see any influence of community policing in Kibera on SGBV cases, while 37.3% of the male respondents considered that community policing in Kibera helps to reduce SGBV cases. These results are shown in Table 4.9.

**Table 4.9: Sex and whether community policing in Kibera helps to reduce SGBV cases**

		Whether community policing in Kibera helps to reduce SGBV cases			Total
			No	Yes	
Sex Female	Count	5	23	10	38
	% of Total	5.2%	23.7%	10.3%	39.2%
Male	Count	10	27	22	59
	% of Total	10.3%	27.8%	22.7%	60.8%
Total	Count	15	50	32	97
	% of Total	15.5%	51.5%	33.0%	100.0%

These results show that among both sexes, there is a high level of distrust that community policing in Kibera has any effect on reducing the level of SGBV. The sentiment was stronger among the female respondents, with a higher percentage of the female respondents pointing

out that there is little correlation between community policing in Kibera and a reduction of SGBV cases.

Overall, it may be deduced that awareness of any community policing centres in Kibera is low. One of the main reasons suggested in relation to community policing in general, which may be adapted to refer to community policing with an aim to address instance of SGBV, is that community policing in Kibera and in the rest of Kenya is ineffective and therefore failing because the underlying issue of mistrust by the community in the contribution by the police to address the problem, still persists (Van der Spuy and Röntsch, 2008). The National Police Service acknowledges that ‘reforming a Police organization, re-orienting their shoddy public image and improving their service delivery, means facing daunting political, financial, logistical and historical obstacles’ (Kenya Police Service, 2017). A majority of the respondents were unaware of community policing in Kibera, and while most respondents agreed with the ideal situation, that community policing contributes to addressing SGBV, challenges facing SGBV limit the effectiveness of community policing to address SGBV. This suggests that knowledge of services available to victims of SGBV in terms of reporting with the police service is low. However, this does not rule out the assertion that community policing exists in Kibera.

The study also shows that victims of SGBV are highly unlikely to tell anyone about the instance, and even though they were to tell anyone, the least likely entity to report to would be the police. There are various barriers that exist to reporting, which would presumably reduce the effect of community policing on SGBV: the insufficient access to police services, inadequate coordination both internally for the police service and externally with the community, as well as financial constraints.

#### **4.6 Challenges facing access of the community to police services in Kibera**

The conceptual framework of this study noted that three of the main challenges facing the implementation of community policing to address SGBV are inadequate finance, limited coordination, and low confidence of trust of the community in the police. It may be argued that, as briefly addressed in the previous section, members of the community would be reluctant to visit a police station, whether a general police station or one established as a result of a community policing initiative, overall due to a lack of confidence that the police would take action and that justice would be served. Challenges faced in accessing police services included, according to Respondent 1:

‘Difficulty in communication when security issues arise, like the 911 dial which does not go through; Poor roads in the community makes it difficult to access police posts which are far’.

Community policing, where it is effective, contributes to improved communication between the community and the police not only in times where there is an incident, but also to ensure an all-round low level of security through efficient relay of information (Skilling, 2016). The communication is not only from the community to the police, but also from the police to the community in situations where, for example, there is need to warn members of the public about actors in their midst. If members of community cannot get in touch with the police or raise alarm when a criminal act is being perpetrated, then this reduces the faith of the people in the police.

SGBV, apart from being sensitive and generally not publicized even to family members, would therefore be less reported to police officers where due to the difficulty in communication, victims or their close ones cannot pass on the message to police officers. This also rules out the possibility of having anonymous tip-offs about acts of SGBV as they

occur. The delay that may be occasioned to physically move from the place where the offence is committed to the police post to make a report – because of the lack of communication – may be sufficient time for the perpetrator to put in place enough safeguards to reduce the efficacy of the evidence that may be collected (if any). For example, if the perpetrator must wait until the following day to make a visit to the police station (assuming that the act is committed in the evening and the victim due to security reasons waits to report at daylight), in the meantime the perpetrator would have sufficient leeway to destroy evidence, and even possibly escape to a different part of the country. In an ideal situation, where there is for example a 10-minute response rate and a patrol team of police officers arrives at the scene following an telephone message alerting them of an incident (Skilling, 2016), and there is accountability on the part of both the police (that they would arrive on time and take action), and of the community (that only genuine reports would be made), then there would be a conducive environment for both the response to crime and crime prevention. Effective communication between the community and the police is essential to ensure that there is timely action on the part of law enforcement to collect and preserve evidence, and locate the perpetrator. This challenge therefore limits the effectiveness of the police in addressing SGBV. For a police officer to give her or his telephone number where the officer may be reached directly in case of an emergency should not be perceived as an impossibility. This in light of the public duty of the police to provide security to members of the public, and noting that security provision is not a preserve of the police, but should be done with the involvement of the community including and especially in areas of effective communication (Koinange, 2014).

Other issues mentioned apart from the long distance to be covered by the individuals to reach a police station, included corruption and little confidence that the police, once called, would attend to an incident. According to Respondent 5:

‘It takes too much time in order to get help from the systems; The public view of police that they are corrupt and uncaring’.

The time it would take to get help from the systems appears not only to refer to the time for police response to a crime scene, but also the time it would take from when the report is lodged at the police station to any intervention through investigation or otherwise, by the police. Respondent 86 highlighted a number of challenges in the following comment:

‘Police are somehow reluctant when one wants to report a case or write a statement; They are also reluctant to those groups who are not able financially hence their services are not accessible at the right time’.

These challenges and others discussed in this study, illustrate a lack of trust by the community, in the work of the police, which is further affirmed by 81.4% of the respondents who agreed with a statement that lack of trust of authority by the community affects the implementation of community policing in preventing SGBV. This confirms the inclusion of the challenge concerning the low confidence and trust in the police, in the conceptual framework of this study, which illustrates the relationship between community policing and SGBV.

If low levels of confidence and trust in the police act as a limit to the implementation of community policing, then it follows that to address the status quo, action to improve confidence and trust in the police would contribute to improving the uptake of community policing to address SGBV. Two-point-one percent of the respondents did not respond to the proposition that a lack of trust of authority by the community affects the implementation of community policing in preventing sexual and gender based violence; and while no respondent strongly disagreed with the proposition, 10.3% of the respondents strongly agreed, 2.1% of

the respondents disagreed with the proposition, and 4.1% of the respondents were undecided.

These results are shown in Table 4.10.

*Table 4.10: Sex and whether lack of trust of authority by the community affects the implementation of community policing in preventing sexual and gender based violence*

			Lack of trust of authority by the community affect the implementation of community policing in preventing sexual and gender based violence					Total
			No response	Agree	Disagree	Strongly agree	Undecided	
Sex	Female	Count	0	31	2	4	1	38
		% of Total	0.0%	32.0%	2.1%	4.1%	1.0%	39.2%
	Male	Count	2	48	0	6	3	59
		% of Total	2.1%	49.5%	0.0%	6.2%	3.1%	60.8%
Total		Count	2	79	2	10	4	97
		% of Total	2.1%	81.4%	2.1%	10.3%	4.1%	100.0%

While some respondents did not outright mention that corruption is a challenge, references to the need to pay in order to receive services which are expected to be public services catered for through state funding, indicate that one challenge to community policing to address SGBV cases is that residents view that they are to pay for public services; and where they do not have the funds to pay for police to attend to their issue, lose confidence in the system. Respondent 7 stated that:

‘Accessing police services requires some finance as you cannot be attended to without giving out some money’.

This illustrates that there are low levels of confidence of members of the public in the integrity of the police. This further erodes trust of the community in the police, because dealing with a public institution where there are low levels of integrity suggests that the

system would be vulnerable to interference not only from the perpetrators of SGBV, but also from other individuals who may have an interest in forestalling the realisation of justice.

Respondent 8 candidly remarked that:

‘The (police are) corrupt and they may need a bribe in order to help your problem; Some youths in the (police) work closely with the perpetrators hence they (the police) can't help you.’

Such comments, apart from indicating low levels of confidence in the police, show that there is a perception that some police officers may also be involved with criminals, and the reports to the police may therefore not be taken seriously or acted upon because the police would be slow to take action against certain individuals; who may be powerful persons in the society.

Internal challenges of the police institutions and low income of the victims who would, it would be assumed, incur charges to pursue a criminal case, also reduce the effectiveness of community policing according to respondents, where 82.5% of the respondents agreed with the suggestion that financial constraints affect the implementation of community policing in preventing SGBV. Seventy-eight percent of the female respondents agreed with the statement that financial constraints affect the implementation of community policing in preventing SGBV and 84.7% of the male respondents agreed with this statement. This shows a high level of concurrence with this statement, and also shows that there is little difference between the sexes on the proposition that financial challenges plague the police institutions and make it difficult to achieve security in the context of reducing incidences of SGBV. These results are shown in Table 4.11.

*Table 4.11: Sex and whether financial constraints affect the implementation of community policing in preventing SGBV*

Financial constraints affect the implementation of community policing in preventing SGBV		Sex		Total
		Female	Male	
	No response	0	2	2
	Agree	30	50	80
	Disagree	0	1	1
	Strongly agree	5	6	11
	Strongly disagree	1	0	1
	Undecided	2	0	2
Total		38	59	97

Even though the report may be made and a suspect apprehended for investigation and possibly trial, some respondents showed apathy in the system, noting that ‘The offenders are released’ This barrier to reporting poses a challenge not only to community policing in relation to SGBV, but also to policing generally in relation to the reluctance of citizens to report incidents. According to some respondents, there was not only an aversion to report incidents to the police, but, there was ‘fear of the police’, ‘community hostility towards police’ or ‘fearing police arrest’. It would be difficult to understand why a victim would fear reporting an incident to the police, but evidence of negative treatment and even abuse of victims by police officers supports the view that this could pose a barrier to filing reports or following up on criminal cases related to SGBV. For some, it would be a perception that the report would not be taken seriously, or that the victim would appear to be rabble-raising and therefore a trouble-maker. Respondent 68 noted that there would be little motivation to file a report because ‘The police will not believe (him)’.

There was also the challenge raised, of insufficient capacity of the police to effectively carry out their duties, as indicated by Respondent 4 who stated that ‘Sometimes they are not available at the required time’; which was supported by other comments such as those from

Respondents 14, 15, and 16 that there were ‘few police officers’; and respondent 32 who stated that among other challenges:

‘(The police) take long hours before visiting (the) scene of crime; (There are) Delays in making arrests of known suspects; (and) Those on patrol do not operate well as harassments occur.’

Very plainly, Respondent 97 alleged that ‘The police care less’, while Respondent 49 alluded to ‘police brutality’. These comments illustrate that with a perception that the police do not actively take action, and further with the fear that going to the police station to record a statement would place the victim in danger due to disinterest or even violence of police officers, there would be little drive for the members of the public to report on instances of SGBV. There would further be a low likelihood of the victim or other members of the public to follow up on a matter that has been reported to the police, for fear of victimization.

These comments were raised in relation to the work of the police in general, in the community in Kibera. There was no direct reference to community policing in Kibera at this point of the questionnaire. Asked about whether the respondents were familiar with community policing, 75.3% of the respondents mentioned that they were not aware of community policing, while only 22.7% indicated that they knew about community policing.

## **CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter contains the conclusions of this study. It summarises the main components of each chapter in this project, and offers the highlights of the findings from the fieldwork. This chapter also offers recommendations based on the conclusions drawn from the study. It includes possible areas for further research in the area of community policing and its relationship with SGBV.

### **5.2 Summary of findings**

The findings show that there is need to reform the way in which community policing is planned for and implemented, to ensure that there is adequate financing of the initiatives, coordination both internally and externally with the community, and mechanisms introduced to enhance confidence and trust of the community in the police service. This study used a descriptive study design to explore the opinions of residents of Kibera on the effects of community policing on SGBV. The views of respondents from all 13 villages of Kibera, Kianda, Raila, Gatwekera, Soweto East, Soweto West, Makina, Kichinjio, Lindi, Kisumu Ndogo, KambiMuru, Mashimoni, Silanga, and LainiSaba were included. Targeted random sampling was used to select respondents for the study which involved 97 respondents, out of a targeted 100 respondents, representing a 97% response rate.

The Government of Kenya roadmap for reform of the approach to security issues, titled ‘A Strategy Framework for Implementation of Reforms in the National Police Service’ for the period from 2015 to 2018 notes that community policing is a key priority area for reform. The Government of Kenya has also indicated that the Nyumba Kumi initiative which complements the existing community policing programme equally needs reform

(Government of Kenya, 2015). However, it is uncertain whether such calls for reform have been implemented, as this study, carried out in 2017, indicates that the community still does not know about any such community policing initiatives, and for those who know about them, do not trust the police. The main findings of this study may therefore be summarized as follows:

1. SGBV exists in Kibera, and members of the community perceive it as a hindrance to security. However, there are low levels of reporting of instances of SGBV among both women and men. There was a tendency to deny that SGBV existed, potentially because of stigma attributed to victims of SGBV. Reasons given for failure to report instances of SGBV include insufficient access to police services, fear of blame, and fear that reporting an incidence of SGBV would bring shame to the family of the victim.
2. There is some understanding of the role of community policing, but there is little indication from the community that it has an effect on preventing SGBV in Kibera. Few respondents reported having any knowledge of a community policing centre in Kibera, despite the reports by the Government of Kenya that community policing is a key factor in the reduction of crime rates in Kibera.
3. Overall, there is cynicism that policing in general has any impact on the community as it is currently structured. There is a lack of trust that the police would take any action even if an incident is reported. There is a notion that police officers are involved in bribery and corruption, and that some even collude with perpetrators, reducing reporting rates of incidences of crime. The community urges that there is need for institutional reform of the police service for community policing to have any effect on SGBV.

### **5.3 Conclusions**

It emerges from this study that in principle, community policing contributes to addressing SGBV. However, in practice, and in the context of Kibera, there is limited evidence of its application. There are low levels of awareness of community policing in Kibera. The premise of effectiveness, it would appear, would be that the community is aware that such services are available to them in the event that there is an occurrence of SGBV. It would be important to improve knowledge-sharing in the community of what constitutes and what does not constitute SGBV. It is suspected that some of the respondents did not admit to being sexually assaulted because as a result of a combination of abuses to the person, what would be considered as SGBV by a person whose other human rights are realised may be considered a normalcy by another individual. Capacity-building for members of the community of both sexes would increase the reporting rate for instances of SGBV. In response to the questionnaires, no single male respondent stated that he had a personal experience of SGBV. However, this reporting rate may be influenced by societal attitudes in relation to a male individual who is a victim to SGBV: the perception of weakness, which would be frowned upon and contribute to a fear by that individual to report or even acknowledge the occurrence to self, of an incidence of SGBV.

### **5.4 Recommendations**

Some of the challenges that the respondents to the study noted may be addressed through an efficient system of community policing. According to the findings of this study, addressing the challenges facing the police service at an institutional level, would contribute to the effect of community policing on SGBV. This section outlines recommendations that arise from the conclusions of this study.

### **5.4.1 Policy recommendations**

This sub-section describes policy recommendations proposed as a result of the findings of this study:

1. Involving all stakeholders in developing new and implementing existing community policing models in Kibera, including stakeholders involved in addressing SGBV: The community policing initiatives that have been put in place to date have had a greater leaning on police establishing the process for the benefit of the public, and have little involvement of members of the community in the formulation stage. Having all stakeholders on board from the point of initiating reforms and conceptualizing new projects would contribute to a greater buy-in from all quarters especially when it comes to influencing change in the community.
2. Inspector-General of Police and the Independent Police Oversight Authority to consider with seriousness and investigate with aim of prosecution of just complaints presented by members of the community against police officers accused of malpractice. The low levels of trust in the authority of police officers, and low confidence that the police would take complaints seriously indicates that there is need for institutional reform in the police service. Many respondents complained of corruption, and the need to pay for police services. However, some respondents indicated that complaints made would not be taken seriously, therefore they become apathetic towards suggestions to lodge complaints or file reports. Without concerted effort to address the systemic failures of the police service, then the benefits of community policing, including reduction of SGBV cannot be realised.
3. Raising awareness of community policing and SGBV: Members of the community to be sensitized on the availability of community policing to address not only SGBV, but also other criminal activity. The results of this study indicate that there are low levels of

awareness of the availability of community policing in Kibera. In order for community policing to have an effect on SGBV, it must be present, and the main ‘clients’, being members of the community, should be aware that the service exists. Further, raising awareness of what does and does not constitute SGBV would be important for a victim to know the category of acts that constitute a criminal offence. Without such awareness, and without encouraging members of the community to discuss issues such as the stigma surrounding victims of SGBV, then even when a criminal act is committed, the victim may either through ignorance or fear, fail to report to the police. This awareness campaign should be holistic, and involve not only mass media, but also person-to-person engagement including police officers and members of the community.

4. Community policing initiatives to establish more centres and engage further with members of the community to increase coordination levels to boost physical accessibility to police services. According to Respondent 31, ‘Police posts should be increased. The more police posts we have the less the incidences of crime’. Some of the challenges identified included in this study include the distance from the respondents’ houses to a police station, and the low likelihood that the police would respond if called to the scene of an event. According to Respondent 85, ‘Near police posts help in easy accessibility of police services. Numerous police patrols reduces (sic) crime during night and late hours’. This may be addressed by establishing more centres and staffing them with police officers, for greater reach of police services within the community. The high-density nature of Kibera and other informal settlements suggests that there would be a high requirement for the number of community police centres per square kilometre.
5. A system of evaluating the levels of engagement with the community should be established, to determine the effectiveness of community policing in addressing the problem of insecurity especially in relation to SGBV. This may be done through

evaluation of performance of police officers based on their handling of SGBV cases, where champions of protection of the community should be commended. This would boost the morale of police officers working on such cases, and further motivate better relations with the community.

6. Dedicated SGBV units should be established within the community policing system, considering the sensitivity of SGBV and the low levels of confidence in members of the public that there would be confidentiality in reporting. This may be considered as an alternative to sensitizing the community policing units on issues of SGBV, and instead appointing specialists to work with the police officers and the community may improve the engagement of both parties.
7. A sustainable approach to addressing insufficient finances of police units may be addressed through entering public-private-partnerships: The community policing initiatives should partner with private entities including private security firms already working in the area, and private hospitals to provide specialized information and care to victims of SGBV and the community of Kibera at large. The government would benefit from improved public confidence if the private entities support the process and ensure efficient systems; and the private entities would benefit through profits generated either through grant-making organizations or through offering low-cost high-value solutions. An area to be explored, for instance, and to improve the effectiveness of reporting of SGBV cases, would be a toll-free number for telephone messages or calls, in the event that a person intends to report an instance of SGBV.
8. Both community policing and regular police initiatives to improve informational accessibility to police services: The use of technology in policing may provide an avenue for the police to better engage with members of the public to increase reporting rates of SGBV. This may be done through use of existing resources to minimize the need for

reliance on the reportedly little finances available to the police posts. Use of telephone messaging services and publicizing mobile phone numbers of key police officers and members of the Independent Police Oversight Authority to report incidences warranting investigation, may contribute to improving direct access to police. Informational accessibility should be both from the police to the community and from the community to the police. However, for this to be effective, there would need to be an improvement in the relationship between the community and the police.

#### **5.4.2 Recommendations for further research**

This sub-section sets out recommendations for further research based on the findings of this study:

1. This study focused on the views of members of the community on the effect of community policing on SGBV. The study did not involve the views of police officers or other stakeholders including health officials in relation to their perspectives on the effect of community policing on SGBV. Further research may therefore be conducted on the perspectives of police officers and other stakeholders.
2. The study sample included both men and women. There was a zero-reporting rate of personal experience of SGBV among men and a low reporting rate of personal experience of SGBV among women. However, men are also in some instances victims of SGBV. Further research should therefore be conducted into mechanisms to involve men more in addressing SGBV, and in promoting the extent to which men are victims of SGBV.
3. Further research into means to improve community policing to address SGBV to be conducted. The challenges facing community policing and therefore limiting the effect of community policing on SGBV in Kibera, have been discussed in this study. However, there is need for further research to provide a firm argumentative background for policy

shifts. Comparative studies of other jurisdictions to develop roadmaps for further implementing community policing to address SGBV would benefit the academic community and strengthen the call for realisation of human rights for all, through addressing security for the people of Kenya.

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## APPENDIX 1: INTRODUCTORY LETTER

Date:

**Re: Introductory Letter to Conduct Research on the Effects of Community Policing on Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Kibera, Nairobi County, Kenya.**

I am a student at the University of Nairobi, conducting research for a thesis on “*The Effects of Community Policing in Addressing Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Kenya: A Case Study of Kibera, Nairobi County*”, for the Master of Arts in Criminology and Social Order Programme.

Kindly fill in this questionnaire. Responding to this questionnaire will take between 15 and 20 minutes to complete. The answers you give will remain confidential and will only be used in analysing the findings of this research. Your name will not be written in this form and will not be used in connection with any information you provide.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully;

Angela Okallo

## APPENDIX II: QUESTIONNAIRE

### EFFECTS OF COMMUNITY POLICING IN ADDRESSING SEXUAL AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN KENYA: A CASE STUDY OF KIBERA SLUM IN NAIROBI

1. Date:.....

2. Location (Area/Village in Kibera):

- Kianda       Raila       Gatwekera       Soweto East       Soweto West  
 Makina       Kichinjio       Lindi       Kisumu Ndogo  
 KambiMuru       Mashimoni       Silanga       LainiSaba

3. Sex:       Male       Female

4. How old are you?

- 10-14years       15-19years       20 – 24years       25 – 29 years  
 30-34years       35-39years       40 – 44years       45 – 49years  
 50 Years and above

5. What is your marital status?

- Never married       Currently married       Formerly married  
 Other (Please specify).....

6. How long have you lived in Kibera?

- Less than 2 years       2 – 4years       5 – 7 years       8 + years  
 Since birth

7. Is it difficult or easy for you to access police services in Kibera?

- Difficult       Easy       I don't know

8. Please explain some, if any, of the challenges you face in accessing police services in Kibera

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.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

9. Do you know of community policing in Kibera?

Yes      No

If Yes, what is it about?

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.....  
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.....  
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.....  
.....

10. If Yes, how would you rate the overall quality of community policing in Kibera?

Very good    Good      I don't know      Bad    Very bad

11. Have you ever been sexually abused?

Yes      No

12. If Yes:

a. at the time of the incident, did you know the person/people who mistreated you?

Yes      No      I don't know

b. did you tell anyone about what happened during the episode? If you told anyone (other than the people who were with you during the episode), whom did you tell? (circle all mentioned)

- Did not tell anyone
- Partner
- Male family member
- Female family member
- Friend
- Medical practitioner
- NGO worker
- Police or local authorities
- Religious authority
- Women's group
- Someone else (please indicate).....

c. did you report the incident to the police?

- Yes
- No

i. If Yes, did you report at a centre set up because of community policing?

- Yes
- No

ii. If No, why did you not report to the police? (Tick as applicable)

- Did report
- Did not know where to go to report
- Police services were not available
- No use/would not do any good
- I was ashamed
- I was afraid of further violence
- I would not be believed or taken seriously
- I thought I would be blamed
- Bring a bad name to my family
- Bring bad name to partner's family
- Had no money
- Had no transport
- Other.....

13. In your view, does community policing in Kibera helps to reduce cases of sexual and gender based violence?

- Yes
- No

If Yes, please explain

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If No, Please explain

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

14. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the effectiveness of community policing?

a. Community policing promotes and improves confidence of the community in the work of police.

Strongly agree    Agree    Undecided    Disagree    Strongly disagree

b. Neighbourhood watch promotes availability of emergency response among victims of SGBV

Strongly agree    Agree    Undecided    Disagree    Strongly disagree

c. Involvement of community in policing helps improve safety and security in Kibera

Strongly agree    Agree    Undecided    Disagree    Strongly disagree

d. Financial constraints affect the implementation of community policing in preventing SGBV

Strongly agree    Agree    Undecided    Disagree    Strongly disagree

e. Coordination of the police officers and the community affect the implementation of community policing in preventing sexual and gender based violence?

Strongly agree    Agree    Undecided    Disagree    Strongly disagree

f. Lack of trust of authority by the community affect the implementation of community policing in preventing sexual and gender based violence?

Strongly agree    Agree    Undecided    Disagree    Strongly disagree

