

**SECURITY STRATEGIES USED BY GATED COMMUNITIES IN ENHANCING
RESIDENTIAL SECURITY: A CASE STUDY OF KITENGELA TOWNSHIP IN
KAJIADO COUNTY, KENYA**

BY

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DECLARATION

This research project is my original work and has not been presented to any university for an academic award.

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This research project has been submitted for examination with my approval as the university supervisor.

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DEDICATION

I wish to dedicate this research project to my family, especially to my loving children, siblings, and parents who have given me the much-required unwavering support throughout my study period.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iii
DEDICATION	iv
LIST OF TABLES	vii
LIST OF FIGURES	viii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	ix
ABSTRACT	x
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem	3
1.3 Research questions	4
1.4. Main Objective of the Study	5
1.4.1 The specific objectives	5
1.5 Justification of the study	5
1.6 Scope and Limitations of the study	6
1.7 Outline of the Study	6
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	8
2.0 Introduction	8
2.1 Reasons People Prefer Gated Communities	8
2.2 Security Control Features used in Gated Communities	11
2.3 Private Security Guards and Security in Gated Communities	12
2.4 Challenges Facing Gated Communities in Enhancing Security	14
2.5 Theoretical Framework	16
2.6 Definition and Operationalization of Concepts	18
2.7 Research Hypotheses	19
CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	20
3.0 Introduction	20
3.1 Research Design	20
3.2 Target Population and sampling frame	20
3.3 Sampling techniques and sample size	20
3.4 Data Collection	22

3.5 Reliability and validity.....	22
3.6 Data Analysis.....	23
3.7 Ethical considerations.....	23
CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION, AND INTERPRETATION.....	24
4.0 Introduction.....	24
4.1 Response Rate.....	24
4.2 Descriptive Statistics of the Demographic Information	25
4.3 Reasons Why People Prefer to Reside in the Gated Communities.....	27
4.4 Security control features used by the gated communities	34
4.5 Use of Private Security Guards in Enhancing Security in Gated Communities	36
4.6 Challenges facing security enhancement in gated communities	37
CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	42
5.0 Introduction.....	42
5.1 Summary.....	42
5.1.1 Reasons Why People Prefer to Reside in the Gated Communities.....	42
5.1.2 Security control features used by the gated communities	42
5.1.3 Use of Private Security Guards in Enhancing Security in Gated Communities	43
5.1.4 Challenges facing security enhancement in gated communities	44
5.2 Conclusion	44
5.3 Recommendations	45
5.3.1 Recommendations for Further Studies	46
References.....	48
APPENDICES AND ANNEXES	55
APPENDIX I	55
Questionnaire – For Leaders Residing in Gated Community	55
APPENDIX II.....	60
Questionnaire for residents	60
APPENDIX III	64
Interview Guide for Local Administrators.....	64
APPENDIX IV:	66
Observation checklist.....	66
APPENDIX V: Budget	68
APPENDIX VI: Work Plan	69

LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.1: Sample Size.....	19
Table 4.1: Response rate	22
Table 4.2: Age distribution.....	23
Table 4.3: Residents’ Responses on the Frequency of Insecurity Prevalence.....	31
Table 4.4: Proportion of the Insecurity Cases Reported.....	33
Table 4.5: Challenges Experienced by Residents’ in enhancing Security.....	38
Table 4.6: Challenges Experienced by government administrators (OCS and area Chief) in enhancing Security.....	38

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 4.1: Gender of the Respondent	23
Figure 4.2: Level of Education.....	24
Figure 4.3: Preference of the gated community.....	25
Figure 4.4: Residents Contentedness	27
Figure 4.5: Secured Gates Effectiveness in Controlling Accessibility.....	29

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CPTED	Crime Prevention through Environmental Design
OCS	Officer Commanding Station
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
UK	United Kingdom
USA	United States of America

ABSTRACT

Gated communities have emerged to be the preferred residential choice for many home buyers both globally and locally. These communities provide safety, privacy, and prestige to the residents due to their enhanced security and logistical management systems. The prevailing global economic circumstances coupled with changing career dynamics such as economic restructuring, international terrorism, crime, and immigration have been central in identifying residential areas for most people. This study focused on determining the strategies used by gated communities to enhance residential security in Kitengela Township. The specific objectives of the study were; to establish the reasons why people prefer to reside in gated communities within Kitengela Township, to determine how the security control features used by the gated communities help in enhancing residential security within Kitengela Township, to establish how the use of private security guards helps in enhancing residential security within Kitengela Township, and to identify some of the key challenges faced by gated communities in their efforts to enhance residential security within Kitengela Township. The study adopted the defensible space theory. The research applied a multistage sampling procedure and proportionate stratified random sampling technique to select four gated communities in Kitengela Township and a sample size of 97 consisting of 95 residents, 1 Police Commander of Kitengela Police station and 1 area chief. The research used an interview guide and a questionnaire to collect data from the respondents with the help of two research assistants. Quantitative analysis was done using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 22 and excel softwares while content analysis was used to analyze qualitative data. Quantitative results were presented by the use of charts, graphs and tables in percentages, mean and standard deviation while qualitative presented in report form. The study finding revealed that the strategies used by the gated community to enhance residents' security within Kitengela Township have significantly improved the level of security in the area. It recommends gated community leaders to follow up with the security officers and the hired guarding company to ensure the discussed strategies to improve the security of the residents are implemented in time.

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Gated communities have emerged to be the preferred residential choice for many home buyers both globally and locally. These communities provide safety, privacy, and prestige to the residents due to their enhanced security and logistical management systems. The prevailing tough global economic circumstances coupled with changing career dynamics such as economic restructuring, international terrorism, crime and immigration have been central in identifying residential areas for most people (Parker, 2006). According to Polanska (2010), a gated community is a housing complex or estate comprising well-managed and controlled entrances for pedestrians and vehicles. They comprise developments secured with gates and fences mostly found both in the inner cities and the sub-urban areas and mostly occupied by people in the middle class and above (Polanska, 2010). Most of these gated communities have got perimeter fences and walls, controlled access to the buildings, security guards and monitoring gadgets that are controlled from a central place to help improve security. The designers and promoters of gated residential market their apartments by assuring safety and friendly environment to their potential clientele (Ajibola et al., 2011).

Global and local studies on gated communities indicate that one of the reasons why the majority of people prefer to live in gated communities is because of the assumption that they enhance security. For example, in Russia, the main reasons for the creation of gated residential are driven by the interest of the upper class of people to protect their newly acquired properties from the rising crime that endangered their life and property (Zotova, 2012). According to Landman (2003), fear of terrorism has forced expatriate workers to seek secure compounds within Saudi Arabian cities. Similarly, in South Africa, the rising crime in public housing residences has forced many residents to gate their areas and hire security agent guards to provide security within the environment. The study by Admani (2015) in Kileleshwa, Nairobi established that the main reasons why people prefer and move to gated communities are for protection and security.

The increase in the development of gated residential or estates has been attributed majorly to the increase in crime in the surrounding areas that are not adequately secured. In many countries across the world, inhabitants of perceived insecure areas decide to move away from these “risky” settings and look for residence in areas with gated community (Ismagilova, Hughes, Rana, & Dwivedi, 2022). According to the study by Cohen and Garrett (2010), the major challenges facing security status of the people living in towns is the food price crisis and urban food security. The study

indicated that most the insecurity cases reported in towns are as a result of the inability of a certain group of people to sustain themselves in town due to the high cost of living. Further, Collins (2004) noted that overcrowded cities are more prone to terrorist attack due to the intermingling of both good people and criminals. From the study done in USA, it is established that the state of insecurity in some towns has made some residents move away from the town centers to protect themselves from violence. Some of the people who live in some of these gated communities cordon themselves behind security systems and are hesitant to venture outside of these areas for fear for their lives (Wojcik, 2013).

In South Africa, the gated communities built in Johannesburg are constructed as a way of getting citizens out of society inhabited by the criminals (Landman & Schonteich, 2002). In Nigeria, development of gated communities is raising at a high rate as a way of protecting and providing security to its citizens (Ajibola et al, 2011). In Egypt, gated communities have contributed greatly to the development of the city Cairo and its environment, this is due to the increase in the level of security among the residents in Cairo city allowing more investors both local and international to settle in the city thus increasing the number of businesses operated in the area (Hassan & Ghonimi, 2011). In Ghana, life within the walled residential communities is observed to be more precious as compared to life outside it. The people living outside the walled residential areas are exposed to a great risk of insecurity due easy accessibility of the premises by the criminals. Similarly, the study noted that due to few legal requirements for the people living outside the walled residential, some of them easily accommodate criminals who are threat to other residents' security as well as their properties (Obeng, Eltayeb & Jang, 2014)

The most common gated types of communities found in Kenya may contain one main house with servant quarters, a bungalow, Maisonettes, or even a block of flats in an enclosed environment. Many people are moving to the suburban areas because they believe they will have more control over their security. Therefore, most of the gated communities in Kenyan cities and towns have resulted from fear of crime as residents decide to form their own private resident's associations to maintain security and prevent unwarranted access due to the increase in number of politically instigated crimes rate among others (Muiga, & Rukwaro, 2016). A study by Salah and Ayad (2018) noted that within and in the outskirts of the major towns in Africa, non-gated communities are facing high level of insecurity issues due to lack of control measures among the people living

within non-gated communities. The study added that non-gated communities easily attract criminals holding illegal arms who are threat to the exposed residents.

Kitengela town, the focus of this study, is located 30 kilometers south of Nairobi capital and is within Kajiado East Sub County. Kitengela town is part of the Nairobi Metropolitan area and it borders Athi River town to the east. The indigenous people of this town are the Maasai who are mostly pastoralists. However, there has been an influx of other communities to the town due to the affordable land prices and the town's proximity to Nairobi. Due to the improved infrastructure including road and rail network, accessibility has been greatly enhanced which has led to the opening of many industries, farming enterprises and commercial ventures. Kitengela being one of Nairobi's fastest-growing satellite towns within the Nairobi Metropolis, has encountered an upsurge in gated communities as well as increase in the level of insecurity (Knight Frank, 2009). It is against this background that this study sought to establish the security strategies used in gated communities to reduce the levels of crime and increase security within the gated communities in Kitengela.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In Kenya, mainly in Nairobi and its environments, the rate of building gated communities have increased significantly. With improved road network which is available in all major Nairobi suburban areas, many prospective homeowners have moved to the outskirts of Nairobi city causing regular construction of gated communities (Mwangi, 2013). The increase has been attributed to the security challenges faced by many residents within the main urban centers. People always search for protected localities with ample security to move into when their current residences are insecure (Keriga & Burja, 2009). With the land shortage in the urban centers and improved land prices in the suburbs, people in the middle and high income brackets look at gated communities as the solution to their security and housing needs. Property designers and housing professionals see the increase in construction of gated residential/communities as one of the methods of curbing insecurity cases and provide competitive residences that meet the needs of their clientele.

In Kenya, gated communities started in Nairobi and spread to other towns. This is chiefly attributed to increased crime incidents in some estates, an increase in disposable incomes among the middle and high- class, better and land bigger parcels outside the city being sold at affordable prices. As crime increases in the capital, Nairobi, more people seek options that enhance their security and for their families. Thus, many people are preferring to move to the outskirts of Nairobi like

Kitengela. However, there is an indication that despite the increase in the gated communities, there is an increase in crime in Kitengela. Indeed, due to its expanding nature, Kitengela town has acted as a magnet to attract criminals, and there is a reported increase in crime in Kitengela (Police report, 2018). Therefore, despite the general assumption that a gated community will enhance residential security, empirical evidence indicates that gating a community does not increase security and in fact in some cases it does the opposite. Other schools of thought argue that the inhabitants of gated communities live a false sense of safety. There are concerns from many quarters wondering how a security guard who earns about Kenya shillings ten thousand (Ksh 10,000) is expected to protect a property worth millions of monies. The safety is only as good as the people who offer it, their training, and motivation. Most of the guards seem demotivated and have no passion for the job of guarding the premises seriously. Other gated communities also lack proper fences and walls and the necessary equipment to help monitor the estates and schools effectively, thus leaving all the work to the guards who have low morale. Muiga, & Rukwaro (2016) study in Nairobi County majored on satisfaction of residents with gated community. Further, Muiga, & Rukwaro (2017) did a study to establish drivers of gated community developments in urban areas in Nairobi County. Nevertheless, the study by Musolo (2020) in Kajiado County focused on the role of school feeding programme in increasing performance and retention levels in ASAL areas. However, among the studies discussed in this section none of them was done to determine security strategies used in gated communities to enhance residential security in Kitengela Township the gap this study sought to fill.

1.3 Research questions

This study sought to answer the following questions:

- i. Why do people prefer residing in gated communities within Kitengela Township?
- ii. How do the security control features used by the gated communities help in enhancing residential security within Kitengela Township?
- iii. How does the use of private security guards help in enhancing residential security within Kitengela Township?
- iv. What are some of the key challenges faced by gated communities in their efforts to enhance residential security within Kitengela Township?

1.4. Main Objective of the Study

To establish security strategies used in gated communities within Kitengela Township in Kajiado County.

1.4.1 The specific objectives

- i. Establish the reasons why people prefer to reside in gated communities within Kitengela Township.
- ii. Determine how the security control features used by the gated communities help in enhancing residential security within Kitengela Township.
- iii. Establish how the use of private security guards helps in enhancing residential security within Kitengela Township.
- iv. Identify some of the key challenges faced by gated communities in their efforts to enhance residential security within Kitengela Township.

1.5 Justification of the study

Gated communities have now become an international occurrence and have been adopted as one of the modern urban housing designs on every continent. Kenya has witnessed an increase in the emergence of these structures in the last few years mainly in the towns bordering Nairobi city notably Kitengela, Ngong, and Ongata Rongai. This study endeavored to establish strategies used by gated communities in enhancing residential security and how to mitigate emerging security challenges in gated communities.

The study may add value to Kajiado County physical planners to improve on Kitengela Township planning and upgrading of the feeder roads that are used by people residing in the gated communities. Kitengela security team including the Police and the residents' security teams may also find this study important by identifying security challenges experienced in gated communities in implementing clear security measures to counter those challenges thus improving residents' security. Further, the gated community residents' may find recommendations employed in this study important to improve their security based on cases reported in the past and suggestions put forward in this study as the control measures. The Kajiado county government policy makers may also be empowered by this study to incorporate significant security measures recommended in the study findings in county governance policies and practices in order to improve the security of both gated communities and other people living within Kajiado County boundaries.

The study may add value to the prevailing studies by informing the situation in Kenya's gated communities thus satisfying the existing gap as well as help other academics reviewing similar phenomena globally. Studies done in the area of gated communities by Admani (2013) and Muiga (2016) focused on built environment in Kenya while Kangaria (2019) dwelt on community policing in gated communities. This study is expected to fill a knowledge gap on the role played by gated communities in enhancing residential security, an area that has not been adequately examined.

1.6 Scope and Limitations of the study

The research targeted four major gated communities situated in Kitengela Township. It covered Kitengela West, New Valley, Chuna and Kaputei sub-locations within the township since those are the areas found to have large number of insecurity cases reported. Constraints that were encountered included coverage of the study area which is reasonably large, financial challenges as facilitation was not availed, time factor since the researcher was on full-time employment and the rough terrain in some parts of the town as well as resistance by some respondents as they feared to be victimized. To mitigate these challenges, the researcher committed more time to the research and employ one assistant in the distribution of questionnaires. Further, the researcher together with the research assistant assured the respondents that the information provided will be used for academic purpose only and not for any other purpose.

1.7 Outline of the Study

The project was subdivided into five chapters as follows:

Chapter one included the background of the study, problem statement, research questions, objectives of the study, justification of study and definition of key terms. It highlights the observations made by the researcher before identifying the gap being addressed in the study. The chapter acts a guideline that drives the focus of the study.

Chapter two included the literature review and theoretical framework. It highlighted why people prefer gated communities, security features used, role of private guards and challenges therein. The chapter explores other studies done by other scholars related to this study explaining what they found in their study and the gap they didn't fill that prompted this research to be done.

Chapter three incorporated the research methodology. It included the research design, target population and sample design. Data collection methods, reliability and validity as well as ethical considerations were discussed. The chapter gives guidelines on how research was carried including the tools used in obtaining the raw data, carrying out the analysis as well as the presentation method.

Chapter four comprised data analysis, presentation and interpretation. In this chapter the data collected from the field is analyzed as guided in chapter three outline and discussed according to the output obtained in the analysis. Additionally, comparison is made based on the findings obtained by other researchers discussed in the literature review and theory applied to guide the study.

Chapter five included summary of the findings, conclusion and recommendation for further research. Summary is made based on findings revealed in chapter four while answering research questions raised in chapter one. From the summary the conclusion is made based on what research has found and recommendations are made together with the areas the researcher suggest future studies to be focused on.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

The chapter covers literature related to gated communities and enhancing security in residential areas. It includes a literature review on reasons why people prefer gated communities, how private guards enhance security, tools used in securing the communities and the challenges experienced. The chapter also provides the theoretical and conceptual framework for the study, the definitions and operationalization of key concepts and the research hypotheses.

2.1 Reasons People Prefer Gated Communities

According to Tucker (1998), gated communities are usually classified into three groups: elite communities, lifestyle communities, and security zone communities. In the elite society affluent and prominent individuals mainly own these communities and these communities, the key emphasis is on status. In the USA, according to Low (2003), the idea of gated communities started in the late nineteenth century, where specially constructed enclosures focused on leisure ideas were used as homes for the affluent. In the mid-twentieth century, a lack of a satisfactory solution to the emerging racial conflicts led to many of the white middle class and affluent citizens immigrating to more secure areas. Those who had resources could outsource their own security, which led to the creation of leisure homes in California State. This was the beginning of the walling concept as which soon spread throughout the world from South America to Europe and later to Africa. On the other hand, Janoschka & Glasze (2003) in their study found that the emergence of gated communities has made the affluent members in society find their own ways of procuring their necessities. In India, gated communities are also called colonies and they are mostly inhabited by the affluent members of the society mostly in cities like New Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Bangalore. Occasionally, separation of these populations is not caused by wealth status but also by ethnic group to which they belong (Rakesh, 2013). In Brazil, "condomínio fechado" is the most common gated communities which is highly sought by the affluent in the society.

The lifestyle communities comprise vacation communities, retirement communities, and satellite towns or residential. The lifestyle communities provide the occupants the opportunity to interact and participate in a variety of activities near their residences (Roitman, 2008). The people's pursuit for a better-quality lifestyle and living environments in gated communities are marketed in the real estate market. This is where living in a healthier atmosphere closer to nature, having a big and

spacious house and a plot, and access to social amenities, play an important part in attracting would-be clients. According to Svampa (2001), marketers present a green lifestyle that opens doors to a presumed earthly paradise. Gated communities are also portrayed as areas that promote communal togetherness instead of individuality experienced in most urban settings.

There is a general feeling that residing in a gated community enhances the overall security of the family than when living outside the same environment (Mekawy & Yousry, 2012). According to Diamond (1997), the crimes committed against an individual goes down considerably in controlled access areas and establishments. This happens since the would-be offenders would not like to venture into unknown areas where escape would be impossible and alert security guards monitor events. Most crimes that were occurring previously reduce if an area gets gated and walled due to the enhanced security. The security zone communities are mainly concerned about security. The fortress attitude is possibly strongest here, where the residents come together to prevent non-members from accessing their premises (Tucker, 1998). Several of these emerging settlements are usually situated in the inner parts of the cities and towns where crime incidents tend to be high. The residents in the security zone communities settle themselves in enclosures to protect themselves from the crime committed within their neighborhoods. As Wilson-Doenges (2000) postulates, the reduction in communal interactions and the decline in interpersonal relations has made some Americans construct protected amenities and gated residential areas in order to increase security. The developers of these communities have noted this desire, and amenities are being built that meet a communal populace's needs.

Low (2003) notes that the residents of Gated communities are pursuing their own envisaged setup that promotes the ideals of bringing up their families and protecting their offspring while eliminating incidents of crime and unwarranted access by strangers. They are also interested in having a cleaner environment and improved provision of quality services as mostly it is a long-held life dream to live such a life. One of the reasons for the attraction to gated communities is that in the absence and poor response by the state apparatus to provide security, they provided an opportunity for the citizens to find their own ways for protection (Dammert, 2001). Economic reorganization and the application of neo-liberal rules have occasioned several nations to reduce or cut back some of the subsidies given to their citizens. Decline in providing services such as

housing, health, education, security, and employment by the government have left huge populace groups lacking these communal requirements. Therefore, due to dis-congestion brought about by the gated communities, the level of security also improves (Svampa, 2001).

According to the study by Leisch (2002), the rate of insecurity within the towns in Indonesia was noted to have been increasing at an alarming rate. The rate of crime on missing individual, attacks and other sort of crimes appeared to be high on the population living in a more populated area where residential security was also compromised by the landlords. However, the number of crime rate in the protected and enclosed areas was lower compared to the open residential areas (Leisch, 2002). According to the study by Elhadary & Ali (2017) in Southern Sudan noted that majority of the people living in the city prefer to live in the gated communities because gated communities limit a certain group of people from accessing the place which is the key thing in maintaining privacy as well as security of the residents. Caldeira (2000) elaborates that in a city of walls in Brazil gated communes are referred to as condos. A closed condo is a construction of several houses, typically apartment buildings, always enclosed and with security-managed entries, normally inhabiting a massive area with all sorts of conveniences for shared usage.

The residents who feel unprotected by the state create their gated settlements to mitigate any security threat (Juliet & Robert, 2016). The study by Xu & Yang (2009) in China indicated that there are many reasons why people prefer to live in gated communities. Community togetherness and familiarity are some of the reasons why most people prefer these settings since, in due course, the residents in these settings are able to identify each other within their residential areas thus reducing the number of new faces loitering in the area. The bond created by the individuals living in a gated residential also helps in protecting each other whenever there is an attack or an act of losing their property to the unknown gowns (Xu & Yang, 2009). Similar settlements were constructed in the Caribbean by the Spanish settlers to protect themselves from hostile natives (Cozens, 2008). These residences have their own provision of basic amenities with the purpose of protecting the residents from crimes committed outside (Low, 2001). In Argentina, the gated communities are recognized by the citizens as 'barrios privados' and are attributed to prosperity and success in ensuring the resident are protected from any form of insecurity (Grant & Mittelsteadt, 2004). Property developers and housing specialists opine that the trend to prefer these

enclosed quarters is linked to a response to the increased crime levels and insecurity experienced in many towns (Mwangi, 2013).

The enclosure of inhabited areas that led to the concept of gated communities is not a novel idea. Throughout the renaissance and Middle Ages, royalties and kings in England provided gated communes for their relations and loyal supporters during times of blockade and epidemic, which were fortified with strongholds, drawbridges, and trenches (Dillon, 1994). In the pre-eighteenth period of London, the imperial family and other rich people fortified their residences to protect themselves from rebellious renegades and criminals hailing from society's lower cadres (Cozens, 2008). Feudal towns also contained fortifications, strongholds, and entrances (Low, 2003).

Ehwi, Morrison & Tyler (2021) investigated the reason as to why people in Ghana move into the gated communities. The study found that the people living in inside the city areas opt to live in the gated communities due to land administration issues while those in peri-urban are forced to move into the gated communities due to both land administration issues as well as other issues within their residential areas. Caldeira (2000) opines that the other characteristics of these structures include the common similarity of inhabitants, the presence of amenities and conveniences for the residents' use, and the exclusiveness enjoyed by the residents in these surroundings as they are self-contained. In South Africa, the study by Hook & Vrdoljak (2002) noted that majority of people living in the cities prefer to reside within the gated communities due to the privileges they enjoy within the residential areas. Since studies reviewed have mainly focused on the geo-spatial concerns, this study filled the gap by establishing how people's preference of gated communities in Kitengela Township enhances residential security.

2.2 Security Control Features used in Gated Communities

The improved security arrangements in the gated community have led to the rise in demand for settlement in these areas due to the residents and the security agencies' joint efforts to improve the safety situation. This improved safety has been key in attracting high-end clientele who would prefer a peaceful and serene internal security arrangements, including stone fences, razor wires, guard-dogs, and clean environment in this setup (Fedan, 2019). Developers and owners of some of these developments have employed close-circuit cameras, mobile patrols connected and assisted by armed policemen to maintain security within the residences (Li, Wan, & He, 2021). This acts

as a big incentive to potential customers, especially middle-class people who buy property in urban areas. Besides the above enumerated physical security arrangements, some communities have employed other security programs that have armed and mobile guards to supplement the available security measures. Fedan (2019).

Additionally, Roitman, (2005) pointed out that increasing the number of gated communities with electricity-connected wiring above the perimeter walls or sharp pointed glasses or metals within the towns in Central Africa is one of the best ways of ensuring residents are protected from increasing number of insecurity cases in towns. This is because unauthorized visitors after getting limited to access gated buildings and communities may seek alternative methods of sneaking into the premises. However, with such features put in place, they may fear to get victimized after arrest. Therefore, only the authorized individuals or friends close to gated community's resident can have access to the gated residential areas, thus ensuring the security of the people living in such places. According to Lemanski (2005), in gated buildings, there is a liberty to use guard dogs and fence the walling of the houses with deterrent devices to minimize break-ins and theft in an attempt to increase their security. This lowers the chances of the neighboring communities and those living in un-closed residential areas getting access of the properties or harming the individuals living in gated residential areas.

The creation of awareness programs on safety, security risk analysis, confidential crimes reporting systems, incident reporting systems, emergency response plans, and resilience-building programmers have been put in place to enhance security in these settlements (McKenzie, 2005). Some gated communities usually commission security inspections to elaborate on-site review and scrutiny of buildings or operations to establish the efficiency and form of prevailing security measures and establish and identify possible risks and vulnerabilities and make amends where necessary (Fedan 2019). The study focused on establishing how and to what extent these security features are used at Kitengela Township.

2.3 Private Security Guards and Security in Gated Communities

According to Svampa (2004), the main objective of providing gated communities is to restrict movement of unknown people in and out of the residential due to the controls that are enforced by

the guards who man the entrances. The guards assist in monitoring control systems on the advice of the residents. Gated communities have very many controls to movements of unauthorized people into the place. There are places where residents are provided with unique codes, others have finger print detection, other license plates while others are provided with individual keys. Additionally, there is always a 24-hour gate attendants employed to ensure that the operations within the compound are running as expected (Gruszezak, 2010). Trained security guards employed are not only tasked with responsibility of checking in the entry and exit of the resident and visitors but also to be in action in case of any insecurity case or crime is reported. This act reassures the residents of their safety together with their property as they know that any criminal case will have quick action Low, (2003).

A study by Anokye et al (2013) in Ghana found that patrolling by the trained security guards within the compound of the gated communities makes the residents feel safe especially during the night time. The interaction between people living in the gated communities and the security personnel guarding the residential compound at its environs makes them feel comfortable as they can easily approach them in case there is any problem. According to Gitonga (2014), security is one of the top reasons people choose to live in a gated community. They value community, privacy and security. However, it's not feasible for an individual to hire private security guards to protect their individual homes. By moving into a gated community, the cost of security guards is split among residents. Normally the guards are used besides other security measures to provide real-time security.

According to Tahir & Hussin (2011) study, it was noted that a gate that requires passcodes or keycards can be hacked and alarm systems response may delay, but having guards on site can mitigate security breaches awaiting the law enforcement teams to arrive. They further added that with security guards, someone is on site the entire time. Their presence alone helps to deter many would-be criminals from both outside and inside the premises and if an alarm does go off, security guards arrive within a few minutes thus providing a faster response time (Tahir & Hussin, 2011). Guards are also able to better direct local law enforcement in an emergency situation to speed up response times (Gitonga, 2014).

Sanchez, Lang, & Dhavale (2005) established in their study that having security guards on the premises can help reduce crime inside the community as they have the knowledge of the place hence they will resolve problems of the residents much faster, which helps improve the value of the community. Residents are willing to pay more for properties in gated communities when they know that they are secured and this helps to increase property values. Investing in security guards both outside and inside the community helps to deter crime around the surrounding area. Guards report suspicious activity in the general area to local law enforcement. This allows the police to better handle crime in the area, which reduces overall crime rates, Breetzke, Landman, & Cohn, (2014). However, although various research has been done on the role of gated community on improving residential security, none of them have fully discussed how the use of security guards helps in enhancing security in gated communities which is the gap this study focused to fill.

2.4 Challenges Facing Gated Communities in Enhancing Security

There are several challenges facing gated communities in enhancing security which can be handled properly to improve the security situation. These include; community strains and disharmony, racial profiling, interruption of public service amenities and high cost of construction and high mortgages rates. The notable adverse effect of gated communities' emergence is that they could bring about communal strains among gated community inhabitants and neighbors from the adjacent areas.

Pile et al. (1999) noted that gated communities deepens aversion against the gated communes and against the people who reside within them. Gated communes may also generate a figurative barrier between occupants and non-residents by stressing communal variances amongst the two clusters. There is the likelihood of assuming most outsiders of the gated communities as dangerous, which could further drive a wedge between them. However, despite the challenges posed by such restrictions, many gated communities have enjoyed increased level of the security in their residential areas as a result of limiting dangerous personnel's accessing the premises (Low, 2003).

According to Rojas (2007), in Argentina, some prominent gated communes bar Jewish dwellers on the basis of race and, consequently, dedicated gated communities for those with solely Jewish origin have been constructed. In the United Kingdom and South Africa, the communal resemblance is likewise realized through racial separation between the whites and black populations, and settlements dedicated for each specific race have been contacted (Wolfe, 2006).

Also, age has become a key defining dimension in setting up some of these communities, as has been happening in some parts of America where some estates are targeted for retirees and the aged who could be having similar aspirations and interests. This has led to the improvement in the level of security among the residence due to the decrease in level of disagreements and personal differences among the residence (Cozens, 2008).

Landman (2012) study in south Africa found that the communities' adverse effects include the closure of some streets due to congestion, interruption of emergency services, smaller and uneconomical subdivision and disintegration of urban space, loss of habitable and comfortable townships due to congested buildings. However, one of the drawbacks of these housing estates is that some refuse to pay the government's revenues as they claim that they receive no services. The issue of monthly payments for general management expenses sometimes is high. Thus, some residents cannot afford to pay, thereby negating the initial idea of community togetherness for which these communities were constructed, as a result, those who are unable to meet the standards of such residential areas are eliminated in area leaving only those who can meet the expenses comfortably. In most cases, the level of security is attributed to the ability of meeting one's needs. Therefore, living together as a community with equal ability helps in increasing the level of security within the residential areas (Otieno, 2012).

The challenges faced by Kenyans in owning their own homes include high mortgage interests and high construction costs. The study of the motives behind the development and construction of gated communities makes a good case for their study of their features and understanding their impacts in enhancing security in Kenya. Policy-makers both at the local and national level must bear in mind all the resultant effects when allocating land and licenses to construct these entities. However, despite the high cost, many people have decided to settle in such areas due to a number of reasons; improved security, low congestion and an enjoyable environment (Knight Frank, 2019). In filling the gap not well discussed by researchers mentioned above, this study established how challenges faced within the gated communities help in enhancing residential security in Kitengela Township.

2.5 Theoretical Framework

This study applied defensible space theory that was developed by Oscar Newman in 1972, since the theory incorporates concepts around crime prevention and neighborhood safety in a built up environment. According to the theory, both architectural and environmental design plays a very major role in the management of incidences of crimes. Newman book on Defensible Space theory published in 1972 details a study carried out in New York City that noted crime prevalence is more common in the buildings that are raised high as compared to one's that are lowly raised simply because high raised building has many occupants therefore, it is difficult to hold anyone accountable. Newman, (1972).

According to Newman defensible space theory, in a residential area, every occupant is supposed to be in charge of their own security, Newman, (1972). He additionally clarifies that a housing estate is defensible only when residents assume this role which he terms as socio-physical. People with criminal intentions are isolated and reduced when each space is properly marked and isolated for the residents use. The theory is centered on five pillars including: territoriality – the knowledge that one's home is private and intruders are not allowed; natural surveillance – the residents are aware of their surroundings and can monitor and identify intruders; image – the structure and the design of the buildings have the ability to deter any trespassers and criminals; milieu – these include the closeness to other amenities that affect security like a police station or a fire station; safe adjoining areas – these include better roads for mobility to the adjacent joining areas. The main idea behind this theory is that the security of people living in one residential area whether enclosed or open depends on their organization. Therefore, it emphasizes that the residents need to extend their realm of control within their residential areas.

Newman's theory was later developed to Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) by Ray Jeffery. The approach adopted by Jeffery's CPTED concentrated on emphasizing the need of creating environment in one's habitat possible of altering or discouraging people with ill intentions taking an action that can hurt you or others within the same environment. He posited that by creating barriers to all loops that can open opportunity for the crime to occur, then automatically, the crime will not occur (Jeffery, 1977). The main assumption of CPTED is that the criminals do make rational choice of purpose. This implies that the decision they make are backed up by the analysis of the existing condition in a given space. Therefore, the nature of residential

places; gated and non-gated contribute a lot to the level of security the residents are likely to encounter within their premises.

According to Atlas (2008), CPTED model was developed to ensure that people living within the same environment are safe from all form of crimes existing within communities and society at large. CPTED model indicates that the nature at which the living environment is built act as the main determiner of the incidence of the crimes that can be experienced within that environment. Generally, CPTED model is made up of all components that when combined together forms a defensive force to counter the possibilities of insecurity case to occur Hedayati et al, (2012). Furthermore, according to Felson (1997), individuals exposed in an environment with possibility of creating personal differences more frequently within their residential areas are more likely to be victimized due to easy access as opposed to the individuals living in places that expose them to few vulnerabilities

Felson (1997) found that criminals are more likely to attack people living in gated communities' built-in bushy areas and also the ones that are far away from their nearest neighbors. Based on the defensible space theory and CPTED model explained above, it is noted that the author of the defensible space theory focused much on measures that can be applied by the people living in in the same environment in order to improve the security of the place as opposed CPTED model which concentrates much on the physical structure developed within a certain environment than the role of community itself in enhancing residential security (Gabor & Mata, 2004).

The defensible space theory is very significant to this study in such that it helps the researcher to understand the strategies used by gated communities in enhancing residential security by; investigating if there is any relationship between the reasons as to why people prefer to reside in gated communities and the residential security enhancement, if there is any relationship between security control features used by the gated communities and residential security enhancement, if there is any relationship between the use of private security guards and residential security enhancement and how challenges faced by gated communities in their effort to enhance residential security help on improving residents security within Kitengela Township.

2.6 Definition and Operationalization of Concepts

Gated communities are people living in a fenced or restricted area separating residents and non-residents. Landman (2000) defined them as residing homes that are fenced or closed by perimeter walls. Whereby, walls and gates separate various courts within the gated homes consisting of shared amenities and small residential streets. Admani (2016) referred gated communities as having special features such as pavements, security guards, controlled movements mostly associated with a certain class of people or private homes. This study will adopt Landman's definition of gated community.

Community spaces: These are designated areas for the people living in the same environment to carry out their life activities without interfering with each other day to day activity. They comprise parking lots, internal roads, and shared amenities such as laundry spaces, fitness centers, and swimming pools in gated communities (Caves, 2004). A community space is a place set by a country government or local administration specifically to serve a certain public interest. This includes; public fields, parks, school, hospitals fields, beaches and the public squares (Mitchell, 2003). In the study these will indicate spaces for common activities within the gated communities

Crime: It is an offence or a harmful act done by an evil minded person for his/her own benefit while causing discomfort to the victim and the associated parties to the victim (Kinyua, 2013). Crime is viewed as the behavior developed by an individual opposed to the way people are supposed to live and co-exist as a community, society or state (Farmer & Lindsay, 2008). In conventional language, it is a controversial act implemented unlawfully against approved law and order of a state (Martin, 2003). In this study, crime will be viewed as deviant behavior committed in gated communities.

Crime experience: This is the types of property crimes and the frequency that the study respondents experience in their apartments (Keriga & Burja, 2009). It is the level of damage caused

to the victim directly or indirectly resulting in a negative impact on society (Braithwaite, 1989). In this study, crime experience will mean the incidences of crimes committed on individual residents within gated communities.

Perception of Security which is also referred to as perceived safety is how safe inhabitants feel in their apartment communities and their chosen spaces (Zhang, 2019). Perception of security is the attribution of certain item or person to issues related to the effect of criminal act. It can be a feeling or observation provoking one to be aligned to direction in response to the situation (Schneier, 2008). For this study this will be used to measure how residents feel safe in their residences.

Security: According to Felson (1997), this refers to all the measures that can be applied by the people living in the same environment in order to improve the security of the place while Atlas (2008) defined security as the physical structure developed within a certain environment in order to enhance residential security.

A sense of community: it is the outlined values of the people living in the same environment which they are identified with by other people in the society (McMillan & Chavis, 1986). It is the character developed and applied by a group of people living together that differentiates them from other people living in the same society (Sarason 1986). In this study this concept will be used to establish how residents of a gated community feel as part of a community.

2.7 Research Hypotheses

In this proposal the following hypotheses will be tested:

H₀: There is a relationship between the people's preference to reside in gated communities and the enhancement of residential security within Kitengela Township.

H₀: There is a relationship between security control features used by the gated communities and the enhancement of residential security within Kitengela Township.

H₀: There is a relationship between the use of private security guards and the enhancement of residential security within Kitengela Township.

H₀: There is a relationship between the challenges faced by gated communities and the enhancement of residential security within Kitengela Township.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the methods and procedures that were used to carry out the study. It comprises the nature of research design that was employed, the population targeted and the sampling frame, sampling methods and the established sample size, data collection methods, reliability and validity of research tools, ethical considerations, and data analysis methods.

3.1 Research Design

A research design is defined by Kothari, Demaria and Acosta (2014) as the conceptual structure for conducting research that constitutes a blueprint for the collection, measurement, and analysis of data. It is a scheme, an outline, or a plan used by the researcher to answer research questions (Orodho, Khatete, & Mugiraneza, 2016). On the other hand, Kombo and Tromp (2006) argued that a research design is the "glue" that holds together all elements of research and further added that it can be regarded as the arrangement of the conditions in which research data is collected and analyzed by combining both relevance and purpose of the research.

The current study used a descriptive survey design using qualitative and quantitative research approach in data collection and analysis since as proposed by Mugenda (2013), descriptive research survey design is the most appropriate for conducting research in communities to establish a wide range of issues such as health, nutrition, education, crime among others. According to Babbie (2010), a descriptive survey research design method is the most commonly used method in social research as the results of such a survey can be easily applied or extrapolated to the entire population because it involves observations of a sample of the population or phenomena from which the conclusions are made.

3.2 Target Population and sampling frame

The target population of the study was 13 gated communities, government officials involved with security, and administrative offices. Government officials including police commander and chief within the area of study was also be interviewed. This formed a total of 321 individuals as the target population of the study.

3.3 Sampling techniques and sample size

The study applied the multistage-area sampling procedure to arrive at the sampled area. There are about 13 gated communities within Kitengela Township. Mugenda and Mugenda (2003), stated

that a sample size between 10% and 30% is good to represent the target population and 30% is adequate to carry out an analysis. Therefore, this study used 30% in order to minimize the chances of the sampling error. This study also employed a two stage proportionate stratified random sampling technique and census to come up with sample size of the study. Two stage proportionate stratified random sampling technique was used to come up with the sample of the gated communities' residents where the 13 gated communities in Ketengela Township formed the stratum since it is the most appropriate method of obtaining characteristics of subgroups with homogenous characteristics in a population, while census was used in selecting the gated community chairman, treasurer, the security leader and the local administrator (OCS and the area Chief). The unit of analysis was the sample of the population which was obtained by undertaking a proportional to the stratum size from the selected gated communities within Kitengela Township having been obtained from the geographical mapping and surveys recognized. The survey established the gated communes that have the same basic amenities including stone fenced walls and boundaries, manned entrances, surveillance gadgets, and their management leaders were contacted to convince them to assist in identifying gated communities for the survey. The first stage of proportionate stratified random sampling was used to select the four (4) gated communities (Royal Finesse, Kenpipe Garden, Chuna, and Milimani) which was 30% of the total 13 gated communities in Kitengela Township. Further, the second stage of proportionate stratified random sampling was used to select 30% of the total residents' population from the four 4 gated communities selected in the first stage which therefore, formed the sample size of the study. This is as shown in table 3.1 below.

Table 3.1: Sample Size

Gated Communities (Strata)	Total Population	Sample Size
Royal Finesse	78	23
Kenpipe Garden	101	30
Chuna	74	22
Milimani	66	20
Total	319	95

Source: Author (2022)

The sample size from the gated communities was 95 respondents inclusive of the 12 leaders (chairmen/ladies, secretaries and the security leaders) who were censured from the four gated community sampled in the first stage. Interviews were also conducted with the Police Commander of Kitengela Police station to establish crime rates within gated communities and their response. The area chief who is the local administrator was also interviewed to augment the process. Therefore, the sample size of the study was 97 respondents. The sample size was adequate for the study since the recommended minimum elements for statistical analysis is 30 elements (Zeisel, 1984).

3.4 Data Collection

The research used a questionnaire for gated community's residents and community leaders while in-depth interview guide was used for local administrator including the Senior Police Officer (OCS) and the area Chief to collect data with the help of two research assistants. The resident interviews guide had five sections labeled; **A, B, C, D** and **E**, where **A** covered biographic information of the respondent and section **B, C, D** and **E**, the strategies used by the gated communities in enhancing residential security structured based on the specific research objectives. The interviews schedule was conducted on the OCS Kitengela Police Station and the local chief to get an insight of crime trends in the area. The researcher identified the attitude of participants, their perceptions and opinions on gated communities and how they enhance overall security. Other primary data was gathered and recorded through the use of notebooks and phones or cameras. Direct observations by the researcher to identify the security features employed and the level of response by security guards was also employed. Secondary data collection involved the examination of books, articles and journals giving information relating to gated communities and insecurity. The secondary data assisted in data analysis when confirming the validity and reliability of all data collection tools.

3.5 Reliability and validity

Field (2000), defined reliability and validity of the data collection tools as the concept that the researcher uses to evaluate the capability of the research tool in measuring the stated problem of the research. Reliability evaluates the consistency of the measures used in the research tools while validity evaluates how accurate are the measures used in the research tools. By checking the consistency of results over time to confirm whether the same result is achieved using the same measurement it helps the researcher to determine the reliability of the research tools. Validity is

measured by how results respond to established theories measuring the same concept over a period of time. A pilot study of 10 subjects within the area of study was used to test the validity and measure reliability of the structured research tools and necessary adjustments were made before rolling them to the bigger study participants.

3.6 Data Analysis

This involved verification of the data collected to ensure that all parts of the questionnaire and interview guide were well filled and coded for analysis. Descriptive statistics were used to analyze quantitative data while content analysis was used to analyze qualitative data. Quantitative analysis was done using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 22 and excel software's and the results was presented by the use of charts, graphs and tables in percentage, mean and standard deviation while qualitative data was analyzed qualitatively by the use of content analysis and presented in report form. Data analysis presents accurate and reliable data for understanding the study subject. Efforts were made to avoid statistical errors that might lead to misinterpretation of the collected data.

3.7 Ethical considerations

Due to the changing dynamics of security challenges and the level of mistrust among individuals, assistant researchers encountered response challenges from the targeted participant. It was important to develop trust among the expected respondents and the communication related to the research was done with honesty and a high level of transparency. Sufficient information was provided to the respondents to give information willingly without coercion. Full consent was obtained from the respondents before administration of the interviews guide to protect their privacy while at the same time emphasizing voluntary participation. The respondents were assured that the information they provided would be kept confidential and would not be released to unauthorized persons. A letter of authorization from the department was sought and adherence to all guidelines on academic research was observed.

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION, AND INTERPRETATION

4.0 Introduction

This chapter outlines the data analysis, presentation, and interpretation of study results and findings based on specific objective the study. The chapter is divided into several sections which include: response rate, respondent demographic information and descriptive and inferential statistics based on the study variables which are; reasons why people prefer to reside in gated communities and how it helps in enhancing the residential security; how the security control features used by the gated communities help in enhancing residential security within Kitengela Township; how the use of private security guards helps in enhancing residential security within Kitengela Township; and the key challenges faced by gated communities in their efforts to enhance residential security and how they help in improving residents security in Kitengela Township.

4.1 Response Rate

The study targeted 97 participants to give information regarding security strategies used by gated communities to enhance residential security in Kitengela Township. The 83 residents, 4 gated community's chairmen, 4 treasurers, 4 security leaders, 1 police commander, and 1 area chief were selected to participate in the study. The total number of questionnaires and interview guide that were fully filled and returned were 87. A total number of 10 questionnaires distributed to the residents, some couldn't be traced by the respondents while other few respondents were found to have relocated to different work stations such that the researcher couldn't reach them during the questionnaires picking period. Therefore, the percentage of the total questionnaires that were fully filled and returned was 89.7% of the total participant targeted. Mugenda & Mugenda (1999) argued that 50% is a good response rate to carry out an analysis while 70% is an excellent response rate. This was also supported by Bryman et al (2007) who argued that the minimum response rate to carry out statistical analysis should be 50%. Therefore, 89.7% obtained in this study was an excellent response rate to carry out an analysis, make presentation, and conclusion based on the study findings. The summary of the response rate used in this study is as indicated in Table 4.1 below.

Table 4.1: Response rate

Response rate	Frequency	Percent (%)
Complete Responses	87	89.7%
Incomplete Responses	10	10.3%
Total	97	100.00%

Source: Author (2022)

4.2 Descriptive Statistics of the Demographic Information

This section presents the demographic information of the respondents regarding their age, gender and level of education. The demographic information of the respondent is as indicated in Table 4.2 below.

Table 4.2 Age Distribution

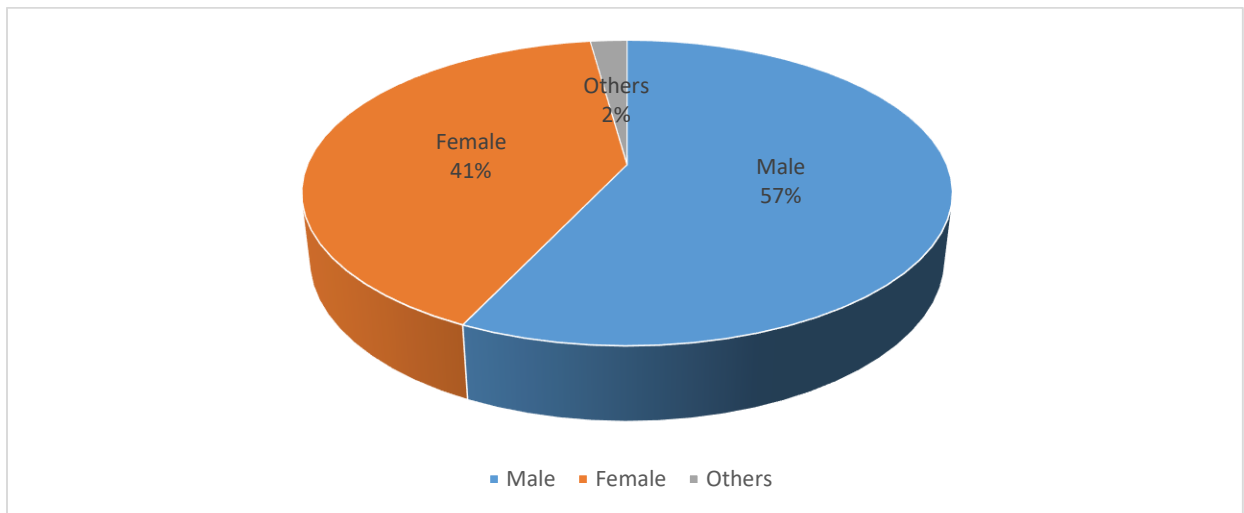
Age	Frequency	Percentage
20 and Below	3	3.4%
21-30	24	27.6%
31-40	27	31.1%
41-50	18	20.7%
50 and above	15	17.2%
Total	87	100

Source: (Author, 2022)

Table 4.2 above indicates the participant aged 31-40 registered the highest percentage of 31.1%, 27.6% were respondents aged 21-30, the respondent aged 41-50 were 20.7% while the 50 and above years had (17.2%). The participants aged 20 years and below were only 3.4% respondents of which they represented the least number of respondents. Most of the insecurity cases reported within Kitengela Township such as kidnapping comprise of the individuals aged 20s to late 30s. However, as the findings indicate the majority of the people residing in the gated communities are within the independent age bracket either working or running prominent businesses within Kitengela Township or Nairobi city. This implies that majority of them have opted to move to the gated community in order to improve the level of security around them.

Figure 4.1: Gender of the Respondent

To determine the quality of the data used in the study, the researcher sought to establish the gender of the respondents. The results obtained is as shown in Figure 4.1 below.

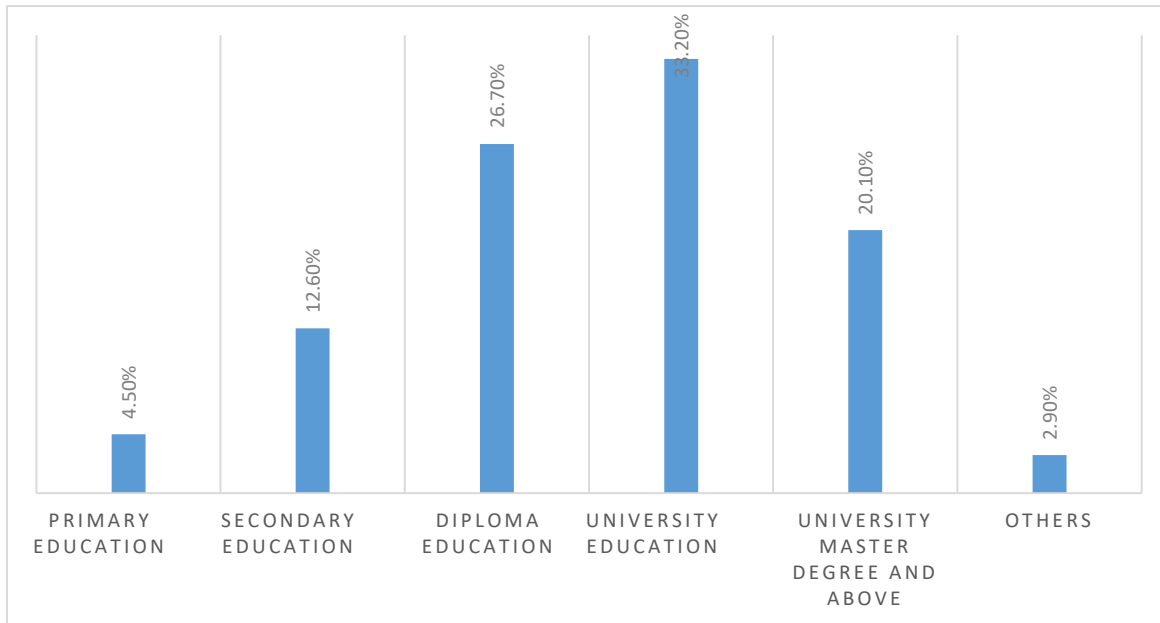


Source: Author (2022)

The analysis shown in Figure 4.1 above indicates that majority of the respondent were male 57%, the female respondents were only 41% while others were only 2%. This implies that both genders prefer residing in gated communities and there was no biasness on the information obtained regarding security strategies used in gated communities in Kitengela Township.

Figure 4.2: Level of Education

The study also sought to establish the level of education of the respondents. The results obtained is as shown in Figure 4.2 below.



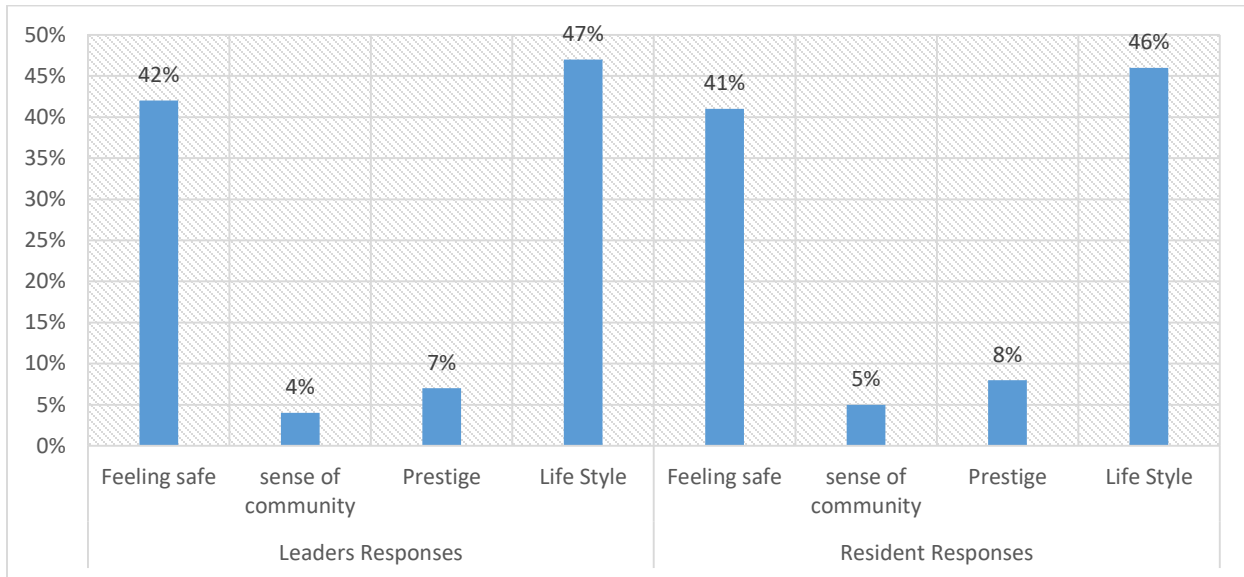
Source: Author (2022)

From the study findings in Figure 4.2 above. The majority of the respondents 33.2% had a university level of education, 26.7% had a diploma level of education, 20.1% had university masters and above, 12.6% had secondary education, and 4.5% had a primary level of education. Only 2.9% had other forms of education levels. This implies that all levels of education were represented in the study but those with high education were more which indicates that more educated people prefer to reside in the gated communities. As illustrated by Tucker (1998), gated communities are usually classified into three groups: elite communities, lifestyle communities, and security zone communities. In the elite society affluent and prominent individuals mainly own these communities and these communes, where the key emphasis is based on the status.

4.3 Reasons Why People Prefer to Reside in the Gated Communities

To determine security strategies used in gated communities, the respondents were asked to give reasons as to why they prefer to reside in gated communities within Kitengela Township. The results obtained are shown in Figure 4.3 below.

Figure 4.3: Reasons for Preference of the gated community



Source Author (2022)

The respondents were asked to indicate why they prefer to reside in gated communities. As indicated in the findings shown in Figure 4.3 above, the majority of the gated community leaders (chairmen/ladies, secretaries and the security leaders) in Kitengela Township stated that most of the residents prefer gated communities due to residential lifestyle and safety. This was indicated by 47% and 42% respectively. This was further shown by one of the respondents who stated “*Due to increase in the level of insecurity within Kitengela Township, majority of the Kitengela residents have a desire to reside within the gated community because of high level of security*”. These findings agree with the findings by Wilson-Doenges (2000) which indicated that the reduction in communal interactions and the decline in interpersonal relations made some Americans construct protected amenities and gated residential areas in order to increase security. The developers of these communities noted the desire of this gated residential areas, and amenities and the started building the structures that meet a communal populace's needs.

Similarly, the majority of the residents who participated in the survey indicated that lifestyle and feeling safe as the important residential features that makes them consider living in the gated communities within Kitengela Township. This was shown by 46% and 41% respectively. Further, one of the gated community leaders stated that, “*Improved and secure recreational services, landscape, open spaces, and manned gates are some of the most dominant features that influence*

residents' preference to live in gated communities. This creates a bond among the residents as they learn to live together and know their neighbours through various interactions” This concurs with Caldeira (2000) findings which indicated that the characteristics of these gated communities’ structures that attract more people to prefer residing there include the common similarity of inhabitants, the presence of amenities and conveniences for the residents' use and the exclusiveness enjoyed by the residents in these surroundings as they are self-contained.

On the other hand, one of the residents’ also added that, *“The prohibition of the external residents into social amenities built within the gated communities makes the residents feel secure with their property.”* These findings concur with Elhadary & Ali (2017) study findings in Southern Sudan which noted that majority of the people living in the city prefer to live in the gated communities because gated communities limit a certain group of people from accessing the place which is the key thing in maintaining privacy as well as security of the residents. This was supported by one of the respondents who stated that *“I enjoy taking my refreshment within my residential area since no one can dare hijack my vehicle or steal my belongings as my compound is always protected and secure. My previous estate was plagued by regular break-ins and burglary which is rare in my current residence due to the existing security enhanced measures.”* This is in line with Leisch (2002) study findings that indicated the majority of people living in towns preferred to move to gated communities where the number of crime rate in the protected and enclosed areas was lower compared to the open residential areas. In support to this findings, defensive space theory also illustrated that individuals exposed in an environment with possibility of creating personal differences more frequently within the residential areas are more likely to be victimized due to easy access as opposed to the individuals living in places that expose them to few vulnerabilities. Both gated community leaders (4% and 7%) and the residents (5% and 8%) also indicated other reasons why people prefer to reside in gated communities is the sense of community and prestige, though to a lesser extent.

Table 4.3: Prevalence of Insecurity in the Gated Communities

The researchers also sought to establish the prevalence of insecurity cases in the gated communities. Respondents were asked to indicate their experiences with insecurity incidents. Table 4.3 below indicates the results.

Table 4.3: Residents’ Responses on the Frequency of Insecurity Prevalence

Case	Frequency in the last six months (Residents’ Responses)							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	0
Attempt robbery (without losing any property)	0.0	2.7	6.8	0.0	0.0	20.5	0.0	68.5%
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Successful robbery with loss of property	0.0	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	97.3%
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Destruction of personal property	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.5	94.5%
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Theft cases	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.7	0.0	0.0	6.8	90.5%
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Other insecurity cases	0.0	0.0	0.0	16.	21.9	0.0	0.0	61.7%
	%	%	%	4%	%	%	%	

Source: Author (2022)

Gated community residents were asked to determine the frequency of attacks they have experienced in their residencies for the last six months. From the findings shown in Table 4.3 above, the majority of gated community residents’ 68.5% indicated that they have not experienced any case of attempt robbery, 20.5% of the gated community residents’ indicated that they have experienced case of attempt robbery (without losing any property) 6 times for the last six months, 6.8%% of the gated community residents’ indicated that they have experienced cases of attempted robbery (without losing any property) 3 times for the last six months while only 2.7% gated community residents’ indicated that they have experienced a case of attempted robbery (without losing any property) 2 times for the last six months. This has been made possible by the high level of security enhanced by the security guards within the compound in such that robbers are easily detected while on a mission to escape with residents’ property, whereby, some run away while others are caught. On the other hand, the majority of the residents’ 97.3% who participated in the study indicated that they have never experienced any successful robbery with loss of property in

the last six months. Only 2.7% of residents’ who participated in the study indicated that they have experienced 2 case of successful robbery with loss of property for the last six months which was caused by the owner’s negligence.

Further, the majority of residents’ 94.5% indicated that they have experienced none of destruction of personal property case for the last six months. However, a small percent 5.5% indicated that they have experienced 7 cases of destruction of personal property for the last six months. *“The level of personal property security is very high within the gated community and the few incidences of personal property destruction experienced is as a result of attempt robbery (without losing any property)”*. One of the participants indicated. Additionally, 90.5% who were the majority of the gated community residents’ indicated that they have experienced none of the theft cases for the last six months. Nevertheless, the gated community residents’ who participated in the study revealed that they have experienced none of other insecurity cases for the last six months with high percent of 61.7%%. However, a small number 21.9% and 16.4% revealed that they have experienced other insecurity cases 5 and 4 times respectively for the last six months.

Further, the researcher was interested to get information regarding insecurity cases from both gated and non-gated communities reported to the area Chief and the OCS in the last two months. Table 4.4 below indicates the results.

Table 4.4: Proportion of the Insecurity Cases Reported

Category	Number of Insecurity Cases	Proportional Percentage %
Gated Communities	15	7.24%
Non-Gated Communities	192	92.76%
Total	207	100%

Source: Author (2022)

The researcher asked the area chief and the officer commanding Kitengela Township station (OCS) to provide the summary of the number of insecurity cases reported by gated and non-gated communities detailing the total number of cases in each category. The findings revealed that the highest percentage 92.76% of the insecurity cases reported in Kitengela Township for the last two

months were from the individuals residing in the non-gated communities while only 7.24% comes from the individuals residing in the gated communities. The explanation from the area chief is that *“the security enhanced within the gated communities’ residential area and across the fences is adequate and a few of the robbery, theft, personal property destruction and other insecurity cases reported results from some of the notorious servants who are sometimes traced in their hideouts over time.”* These findings align with Xu & Yang (2009) findings in the study they carried out in China. In their study, they noted that there are many reasons why people prefer to live in gated communities. Some of the reasons they sighted as one of contributing factor that makes most of the people to prefer these gated community settings is the community togetherness and familiarity, since in due course, the residents in these settings are able to identify each other within their residential areas thus reducing the number of new faces loitering in the area. Further, they added that the bond created by the individuals living in a gated residential also helps in protecting each other whenever there is an attack or an act of losing their property to the unknown gowns. The findings by Newman (1972) in defensible space theory also support these study findings by indicating that a housing estate is defensible only when residents assume the role of socio-physical protection where people with criminal intentions are isolated and reduced when each space is properly marked and isolated for the residents use.

In addition, Officer Commanding the Police station (OCS) in Kitengela Township explained that the minimal cases of robbery, theft, destruction of personal property, and other insecurity cases reported mostly are attributed to house boys’/house girls who were previously employed by some residents within the gated community. As recorded in his responses;

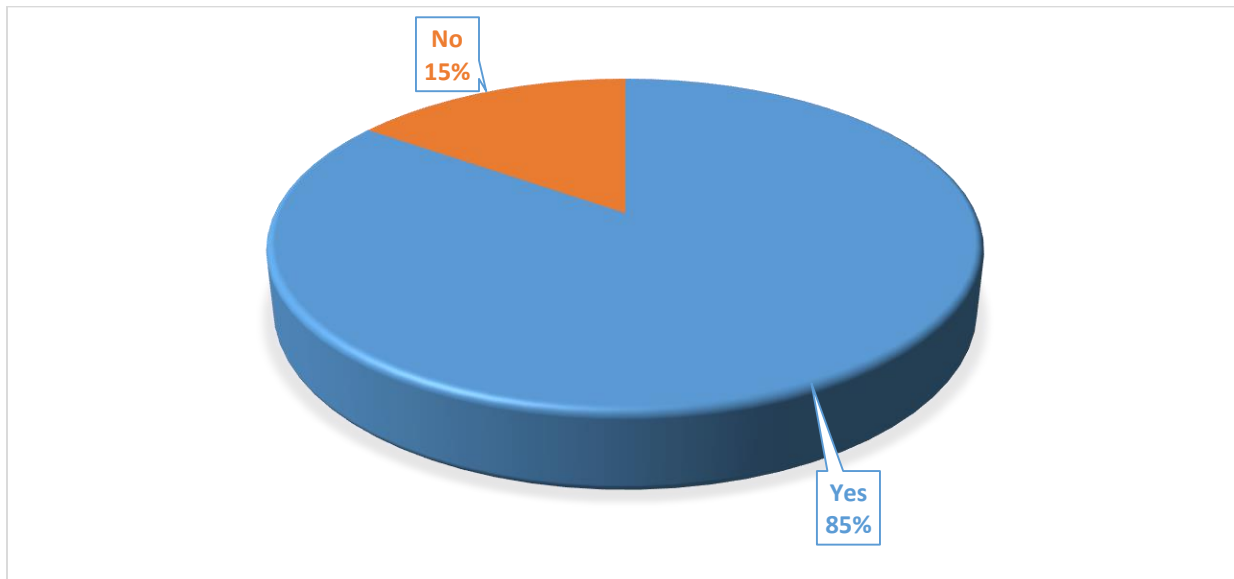
There is tight security enhanced across the gated community fences, at the gate and also within the residential area compound both in the day and night time. However, a few of the theft case and stealing by servants that have been reported comes from house boys’/house girls who were employed by some of the residents without knowing their actual behavior but with time, the security officers are able trace them and recover stolen items and prosecute the offenders according to the law.

These findings are supported by Diamond (1997) study which established that the crimes committed against an individual go down considerably in controlled access areas and establishments since the would-be offenders would not like to venture into unknown areas where

escape would be impossible and alert security guards monitor events. Thus, most of the crimes occurring in other open residential areas reduce in a gated and walled residential area due to the enhanced security. This is also in line with the defensible space theory which argues that one of the best methods of improving security in a residential area is by creating an environment that discourages people with ill intentions taking an action that can hurt one or others within the same environment. The theory further insisted that by creating barriers to all loops that can open opportunity for the crime to occur, then automatically, the crime will not occur.

Figure 4.4: Residents satisfaction with security arrangements

In an attempt to establish the level of contentedness with the security measures used to ensure the residents’ security in the gated communities community, the respondents were asked to indicate whether or not they are satisfied with security arrangements in gated community. The responses obtained the results were as indicated Figure 4.4 below.



Source: Author (2022)

As shown in Figure 4.4 above, 85% of the residents indicated that they are contented with the security measures used to ensure the residents’ security in their gated community while only 15% are not contented. Among the respondents who indicated that they are contented explained that the strong fence built to enhance security within the compound and regular movement made by the security guards together with their trained dogs is strong enough to make them feel contented. Contrary, those who indicated that they were not contented claimed that refreshment centers

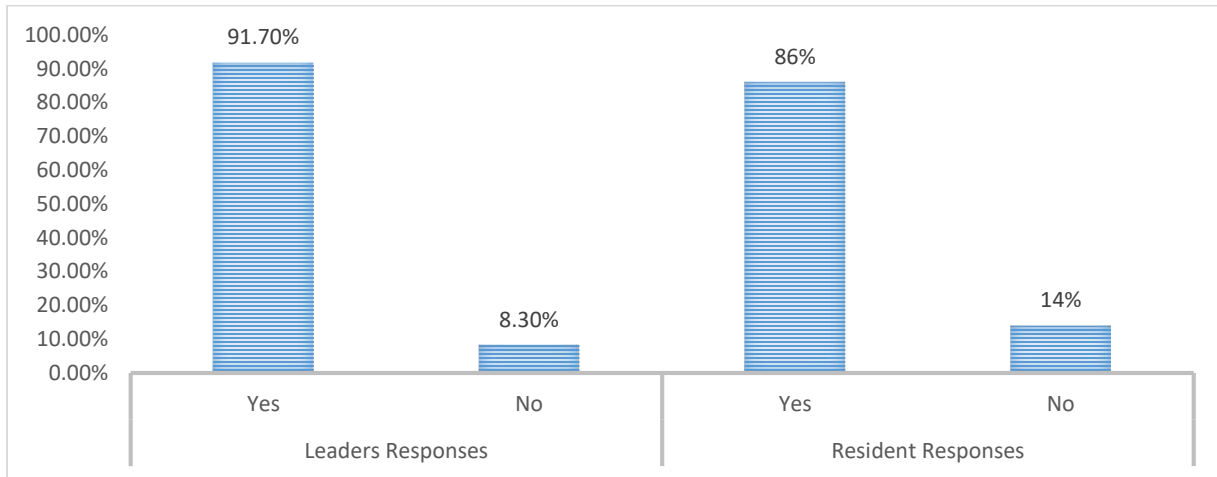
opened within the area are likely to attract criminals while others stated they may trigger bad behavior among the children. Further, the respondent reported that the security within Kitengela Township has been threatened by overcrowding in Nairobi city. As stated by one of the participants, *“Increase in population in Nairobi City has also increased the population of the towns in the outskirts of the city thus increasing the level of insecurity in towns like Kitengela”*. Additionally, majority of the respondents stated that cases of robbery with violence, kidnapping, burglary, theft and murders have been rampant in the recent past within Kitengela Township. However, increase in the construction of gated communities has improved the state of security within Kitengela Township.

Further, the respondents stated that the security measures adopted in the gated community such as construction of perimeter walls, electrical fence, entrance restrictions, mobile patrols by security guards and police officers makes the residential area safer for residents. According to The Police Commander and the area Chief, the main security problem disturbing residents in Kitengela Township is burglary, theft and kidnappings which is attributed to an influx of criminal elements from other neighboring estates and neighbouring counties of Machakos and Nairobi. These findings of this study concurs with the study findings by Hook and Vrdoljak (2002) in South Africa which noted that majority of people living in the cities prefer to reside within the gated communities due to the privileges they enjoy within the residential areas. Juliet and Robert (2016) also found that residents who feel unprotected by the state create their gated settlements to mitigate any security threat. These findings are also backed up by the five pillars anchored in defensible space theory in that the knowledge that one's home is private and intruders are not allowed; the residents are aware of their surroundings and can monitor and identify intruders; the structure and the design of the buildings have the ability to deter any trespassers and criminals; the closeness to other amenities that affect security like a police station or a fire station and better roads for mobility to the adjacent joining areas gives the residents a high level of satisfaction due to insignificant chances of insecurity issues associated with their residential areas.

4.4 Security control features used by the gated communities

To determine how the security control features used by the gated communities enhanced security, respondents were asked to indicate the perceived effectiveness of secured gates in controlling accessibility. The findings were as presented in Figure 4.5.

Figure 4.5: Secured Gates Effectiveness in Controlling Accessibility



Source: Author (2022)

The respondents were asked to indicate security features used in the gated communities. According to the study findings shown in figure 4.5 above, majority of the gated community leaders 91.7% cited that secured gates have been effective in controlling accessibility of the residential areas. This was supported by majority of the residents 86% who participated in the study. The point of argument from both leaders and residents who participated in the study is that at the gate there is 24 hours' security check to ensure everyone getting into the gated community compound is authorized to access the compound or has a viable reason of getting into the place. The small number of leaders and residents who opposed the opinion of the majority claimed that on few occasions strangers have been found within the gated community compound without legal authority to visit the place due to failure of repairing weak fences in time by the management.

Apart from the fences and gates, the respondents stated that vehicle inspection, use of trained dogs, individual perimeter walls with electrically connected wire and random police visits to the adjacent areas are other security measures used to enhance security of the gated communities. The respondents also stated that there is due procedure followed by a visitor in order to access the premises failure to which he/she is denied access to the gated community compound. This involves calling the person being visited, liaising with the management, and waiting for the person being visited to pick them up at the gate if the person being visited is not well known by the security officer based at the gate.

Both police commander and the area chief stated that the security control features adopted within gated communities makes the security situation better for the people living there compared to the ones living outside the gated communities. This is whereby the houses built within the gated community have their small compound fenced and with a small gate in such that even the people living within the same compound can't easily access your premises or property. As the area chief stated, *“People living within the gated community have their own privacy and no one can easily access another person residence without permission. However, accessibility can be guaranteed to visitors and friends of the house owner with the owner's permission”*. These findings are in line with Fedan (2019) findings which noted that gated communities usually commission security inspections and have their right to request gated community management to install or add other security features they find worthy to improve their household security without incorporating all other households within the compound. The police commander noted that there are few incidents of insecurity reported from gated communities in comparison with adjacent communities which are ungated. The OCS noted that *“There are few incidents of insecurity reported from gated communities within Kitengela town due to enhanced security measures the residents of these estates have undertaken. The residents of these estates are also the most cooperative when investigating cases of theft touching on their residencies.”* Further, these findings concur with the five pillars of defensible space theory, that the knowledge that one's home is private and intruders are not allowed; the residents are aware of their surroundings and can monitor and identify intruders; the structure and the design of the buildings have the ability to deter any trespassers and criminals; the closeness to other amenities that affect security like a police station or a fire station and better roads for mobility to the adjacent joining areas helps in enhancing residential security.

4.5 Use of Private Security Guards in Enhancing Security in Gated Communities

Further, the researcher sought to establish how the use of private security guards enhances security in the gated communities within Kitengela Township. The results obtained are presented as shown below.

In an attempt to understand how the recruitment and employment of security guards is done within the gated communities. The researcher interviewed leaders within the selected gated communities. The study findings revealed that the recruitment and employment of the security guards is done by analyzing security companies that have proven to be effective in providing commercial and

residential areas' security in the past and whose services have been ascertained to be fair and favorable to all residents. One of the selected gated community leaders stated, "*We hire security guards from a reputable company that has track record of providing residential security and whose services has proven to be outstanding among the residents*".

The researcher further sought to establish how the responsibilities of the security guards are utilized to enhance the security of the residents. This was achieved by analyzing the selected leaders and residents understanding of the responsibilities of the security guards. Among the main responsibilities of the security guards given by the respondents include; to inspect and patrol premises regularly, monitor property entrance, authorize entrance of people and vehicles, report any suspicious behaviors and happenings, secure all exits and monitor surveillance cameras.

Based on the responsibilities of the security guards cited by the respondents, the researcher also sought to establish whether the payment given to them is equal to the task and if they help in enhancing security to the gated communities. One of the leaders from the selected communities stated that, "*the payment of the security guards is based on their agency agreement, for us we pay their employer. To residents with private security guards, it depends with their agreement which is personal to disclose*". However, the respondents generally stated that private security guards help in enhancing security to the gated communities. Both police commander and the area chief added that regular police officers' visits and the use of trained dogs help in enhancing and reducing the number of security cases in the gated communities besides complementing the roles of private security guards. The findings align with Gitonga's (2014) study that established security is one of the top reasons people choose to live in a gated community, thus moving into a gated community. This makes the community more appealing and when a community is well taken care of, the value of the community increases. Guards are used besides other security measures to provide real-time security. These findings are also in agreement with the theory of defensible space in that the closeness of these gated communities to other amenities that affect security like a police station help in enhancing security in the gated communities.

4.6 Challenges facing security enhancement in gated communities

The study also sought to establish key challenges faced by gated communities in their efforts to enhance residential security. The results obtained are as shown in Table 4.5 and 4.6 below.

Table 4.5: Challenges Experienced by Residents in Enhancing Security

Challenges Experienced by Residents in Enhancing Security	
1	Ineffective social platform of discussing security matters among residents
2	Delayed process of repairing damaged walls and fences
3	Failure to fill the gaps created by security guards when changing operations shifts in time
4	Leaders failure to pay the service provision fees to the contracted security agency in time
5	Ineffective defensive weapons among the security guards
6	Dragged process to manage emerging issues and gaps in crime management within the estates
7	Ignorance from some residents in adherence to the set security guidelines

Source: Author (2022)

The residents were asked to indicate challenges they experience while enhancing gated communities' security. The study findings revealed some of the challenges facing security enhancement in the gated communities in Kitengela Township as; ineffective social platform of discussing security matters among residents. This make most of the residents fail to access sensitive information regarding their security. Having effective platform of sharing emerging issues on security makes everyone aware of insecurity cases detected thus strengthening their level of keenness on such issues. Another challenge is dragged process of repairing damaged walls and fences which make it easy for vigilant intruders to access the residential areas with ease. In addition, the gaps created by security guards when changing operations shifts has high chances of attracting criminals into the gated communities thus exposing the residents to high risks of insecurity. Further, failure of the gated community leaders to pay the service provision fees to the contracted security agency in time and ineffective defensive weapons among the security guards empowers the strongly armed criminals to hijack the security guards as well as gain access to their target within the gated communities' compound. One respondent noted that *"I was once attacked by armed criminals and the guards fled after noticing the guns the criminals were using since the*

guards were armed with clubs and batons. The quick reaction of the police after I called them saved the situation". Nevertheless, dragged process to manage emerging issues, gaps in crime management and ignorance from some residents in adherence to the set security guidelines increases the chances of another crime to occur.

Based on the study findings, the gated community leaders noted that some of the major reforms carried out to improve the situation are; making sure security agencies contracted to provide security have proper arrangement with their security officers on proper management of shifts and timeliness. The study also indicated that gated community leaders hold regular meetings with the security agency leaders to address emerging challenges in order find ways in which they can mitigate such emerging challenges.

The researcher was also interested in understanding whether there is a platform for discussing security matters amongst the gated community. The findings revealed that some of the gated community has formed WhatsApp and Telegram social media platforms group while others have not. As stated by one of the respondents *"there is a WhatsApp group where we discuss security matters amongst the gated community leaders but the group sometimes does not address the security matters on time"*. Another respondent stated, *"We were informed that a telegram or WhatsApp group will be formed for discussing and posting emergency security issues though it has not yet formed"*.

The study findings also revealed that there are several suggestions made by both leaders and residents of the gated communities as a way of dealing with insecurity cases to the gated communities. The most significant to the study being; having a common goal in enhancing security within neighborhood and encouraging the *nyumba Kumi* concept that strengthens the security of residents and their property within the neighborhood by being vigilant and knowing their neighbours and being aware of the happenings within the estate. On the other hand, having contacts of the security guards and numbers of their emergency operation centers and at least one police officer in the nearest police post as well as any other residents living some distance from the neighborhoods was found to have positive impact on strengthening residents' security. As illustrated by Otieno (2012) findings, the level of security is attributed to the ability of meeting one's needs. Therefore, living together as a community with equal ability helps in increasing the level of security within the residential areas.

Table 4.6: Challenges Experienced by government administrators (OCS and area Chief) in enhancing Security

Challenges Experienced by government administrators (OCS and area Chief) in enhancing Security	
1	Lack of enough security personnel for regular patrols
2	Inadequate logistics such as vehicles and other security protective equipment
3	Inadequately trained security personnel to investigate insecurity cases reported immediately
4	Exclusion of the area chief in some security matters
5	Delayed reporting of the insecurity matters to the police officers
6	Wide area of services by only one station
7	Lack of proper planning and strategies to counter emergency insecurity crimes

Source: Author (2022)

The OCS and area chief were asked to indicate challenges they experience while enhancing gated communities' security. The findings reveal that some of the challenges experienced by government administrators as lack of enough security personnel for regular patrols, inadequate logistics such as vehicles and other security protective equipment. In addition, the participant complained of ineffectiveness of the security agencies in responding and investigating crime incidents when they happen or when reported though there are promises to improve on the level of effectiveness in future events. *"The cases reported have dragged without arriving into immediate conclusion"*, one of residents stated. On the other hand, one of the gated community leaders stated, *"the cases reported did not get immediate solution as expected by the residents but in our last meeting with the security agencies, we laid proper plans that can improve the situation if implemented"*. Further, there is exclusion of the area chief in some security matters; delayed reporting of the insecurity matters to the police officers; wide area of services by only one station and lack of proper planning and strategies to counter emergency insecurity crimes. As stated by the area chief, *"some matters of insecurity we hear even three days after happening since there are some people around who*

have developed negative attitude towards the local government administration which makes them avoid even taking our numbers for easy reporting. Remember we serve a large area with different security needs which makes it hard to be around every time”.

However, the police Commander (OCS) and the area chief hold meetings with gated community leaders once in a while in order to address and get updates on the emerging gaps in crime management so that the solution can be made to enhance residents’ security. According to the report from the police commander and the area chief, the most challenging security issue affecting residents within gated communities is burglary, theft and house breaking as well as kidnapping of school children. However, gated communities generally have significantly helped in solving the security problems that have been experienced before. In support to these findings, the findings from the study by Pile et al. (1999) noted that residents from non-gated communities deepen aversion against the gated communes and against the people who reside within them. Gated communes may also generate a figurative barrier between occupants and non-residents by stressing communal variances amongst the two clusters. There is the likelihood of assuming most outsiders of the gated communities as dangerous, which could further drive a wedge between them. However, despite the challenges posed by such restrictions, many gated communities have enjoyed increased level of the security in their residential areas as a result of limiting dangerous personnel’s accessing the premises.

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter presents a summary of the study findings based on the research objectives, conclusion and proposes recommendations made on the security strategies used in gated communities to enhance residential security in Kitengela Township.

5.1 Summary

The summary of the findings on security strategies used in gated communities to enhance residential security in Kitengela Township, Kajiado County, Kenya was done per the study objective as shown in this section.

5.1.1 Reasons Why People Prefer to Reside in the Gated Communities

The study findings indicated that the majority of the gated community residents prefer gated communities due to residential lifestyle and safety. Similarly, majority of the participants indicated that lifestyle and safety as the important residential features that makes them consider residing in gated communities within Kitengela Township. Further, they explained that the most dominant features that influence residents' preference to live in gated communities are the improved and secure recreational services, landscape, open spaces, and gates. They added that the prohibition of the external residents into social amenities built within the gated communities makes the residents feel secure with their properties.

Security was confirmed by the fact that there have been minimum cases of attempted robbery or successful robbery with loss of property, destruction of personal property, theft cases and other insecurity cases in the gated communities during the study in the last six months. This was attributed to the security measures adopted in the gated community such as perimeter walls, electrical fence, entrance restrictions, and security officers make the residential area safer for residents. The report from the area chief and OCS also reveals the highest number of insecurity cases reported within Kitengela Township comes from the individuals residing within non-gated communities. On the other hand, insignificant number of insecurity cases are reported from the gated communities.

5.1.2 Security control features used by the gated communities

The study confirmed that the secured gates have been effective in controlling accessibility of the residential areas. This is because at the gate there is a 24-hour security check to ensure everyone

getting into the gated community compound is authorized to access the compound or has a viable reason of getting into the place. In addition to the security gate there are perimeter walls that prevent intruders from getting an unauthorized access into the community. Other security control features employed by gated communities in Kitengela to enhance security include vehicle inspection, use of trained dogs and random police visits.

The study also revealed that there is due procedure followed by a visitor in order to access the premises failure to which he/she is denied access to the gated community compound. This involves calling the person being visited, liaising with the management, and waiting for the person being visited to pick up them at the gate if the person being visited is not well known by the security officer based at the gate.

5.1.3 Use of Private Security Guards in Enhancing Security in Gated Communities

The study findings also revealed that the recruitment and employment of the security guards is a meticulous process which is done by the community leaders analyzing security companies that have proven to be effective in providing commercial and residential areas' security in the past and whose services have been ascertained to be fair and favorable to all residents. The researcher also established that the main responsibilities of the security guards hired are to inspect and patrol premises regularly, monitor property entrance, authorize entrance of people and vehicles, report any suspicious behaviors and happenings, secure all exits, doors and windows, and monitor surveillance cameras. In addition, the study noted that regular police officers' visits and the use of trained dogs help in enhancing and reducing the number of security cases in gated communities.

Security is one of the top reasons why people choose to live in a gated community. Therefore, employing effective security guards within the gated community makes the residents feel more comfortable as understand that they are well protected together with their property. Security guards despite the fact that they use less harmful protection devices install confidence to the residents and also scare local criminals from trying to invade the gated communities. Besides that, the security guards use their acquired security skills and other security measures to provide real-time security. These findings are also in agreement with the theory of defensible space in that the closeness of these gated communities to other amenities that affect security like a police station help in enhancing security in the gated communities.

5.1.4 Challenges facing security enhancement in gated communities

From the study findings, it was revealed that some of the challenges facing residents in enhancement of gated communities security in Kitengela Township include; ineffective social platform of discussing security matters among residents, dragged process of repairing damaged walls and fences, failure to fill the gaps created by security guards when changing operations shifts in time, leaders failure to pay the service provision fees to the contracted security agency in time, ineffective defensive weapons among the security guards, dragged process to manage emerging issues and gaps in crime commitment and ignorance from some residents in adherence to the set security guidelines.

On the other hand, the study revealed that challenges experienced by government administrators as; lack of enough security personnel for regular patrols, inadequate logistics such as vehicles and other security protective equipment. Another challenge is the ineffectiveness of the security agencies in responding and investigating crime incidents when they happen or when reported. Further, there is exclusion of the area chief in some security matters; delayed reporting of the insecurity matters to the police officers; wide area of services by only one station and lack of proper planning and strategies to counter emergency insecurity crimes.

However, the study revealed that there are reforms underway to enhance residents of gated community security such as; having a common goal in enhancing security within neighborhood and encouraging the *nyumba kumi* concept that strengthens the security of residents and the property within the neighborhood by being vigilant of each property when they are in and out. On the other hand, having contacts of the security guards and numbers of their emergency operation centers and at least one police officer in the nearest police post as well as any other residents living some distance from the neighborhoods was found to have positive impact on strengthening residents' security. Additionally, there are plans by the leaders of the gated communities to hold meetings with the OCS once in a while to discuss matters of security.

5.2 Conclusion

The study found that residents' lifestyle and safety are the most important residential factors that make the majority of residents consider leaving within the gated communities in Kitengela Township. These factors are characterized by secure recreational services, compound landscape, open spaces, and guarded premises. These features significantly help on improving the security of the gated community residents by improving surveillance.

The study further found that the security measures adopted in the gated community such as perimeter walls, electrical fence, entrance restrictions, and security officers make the residential area safer for residents. Apart from the fences and gates, the study found that vehicle inspection, use of trained dogs, individual perimeter walls with electrically connected wire and random police visits are other security measures used to enhance security of the gated communities.

In addition, the study found that gated community contract security guards from the companies that have proven to be effective in providing commercial and residential areas' security in the past and whose services have been ascertained to be fair and favorable to all residents. The responsibilities assigned to the security guards such as inspecting and patrolling premises regularly, monitoring property entrance, authorizing entrance of people and vehicles, reporting any suspicious behaviors and happenings, securing all exits, doors and windows, and monitoring surveillance cameras help to enhance the residents' security.

Finally, the study established that there are a number of challenges that affect the security of residents in gated communities in Kitengela including; ineffective social platform of discussing security matters among residents. This make most of the residents fail to access sensitive information regarding their security, dragged process of repairing damaged walls and fences, the gaps created by security guards when changing operations shifts, failure of the gated community leaders to pay the service provision fees to the contracted security agency in time and ineffective defensive weapons among the security guards, dragged process to manage emerging issues, gaps in crime management and ignorance from some residents in adherence to the set security guidelines, exclusion of the area chief in some security matters; delayed reporting of the insecurity matters to the police officers; wide area of services by only one station and lack of proper planning and strategies to counter emergency insecurity crimes. However, the research found that the challenges facing security enhancement in the gated communities helps on improving the residents' security. This is whereby, the security problems identified by the gated community leaders as well as the residents are discussed with the security officers and the resolutions are shared with the residents in order to improve the security of the gated community.

5.3 Recommendations

The study recommends gated community leaders to follow up with the hired guarding companies to ensure that the strategies to improve the security of the residents are implemented in time and

in agreement with residents. The hired guards should be alert to the prevailing security challenges in the duty areas and efforts to remunerate them adequately by the owners of these gated communities should also be considered to boost their morale. Due to changing nature of crime and availability of weapons by criminal elements, some few guards guarding the communities could be trained on how to handle firearms in case they are confronted by armed criminals.

The study also recommends all gated communities residents to build close relationships with the local government officers operating with Kitengela Township, neighboring towns as well as some of the Kajiado County administration police officers for the purpose of seeking reinforcement in case the police officers in charge of providing security around Kitengela Township happen to be far on emergency issues.

Nevertheless, the study recommends gated community leaders to ensure strategies developed to improve security of the gated community are implemented within the shortest period possible in order to make step forward towards enhancing residents' security. The delays in implementing some strategies like repairs of broken fences and gates affect security as criminals may get opportunities to commit crimes. There is need for closer collaboration between the gated community leaders and residents to develop closer relationships through proper communication mechanisms and having regular meetings to identify security gaps and lapses within the residences and the best way to address them. Enhancing the concept of nyumba kumi initiative within the gated communities will help create closer bonds within these residences hence reduce the level of crime.

In regard to challenges faced by government security personnel in implementing security measures within gated communities, there is need by the government to increase the number of police officers patrolling the estates and gated communities to deter and detect criminal elements. Facilitation of these officers through provision of logistics and equipment for monitoring and surveillance is equally important in maintaining adequate security within the gated communities and the surrounding areas.

5.3.1 Recommendations for Further Studies

The study recommends the same study to be carried out in other gated communities in other satellite towns of Kajiado County like Ngong, Kiserian and Ongata Rongai in order to establish if the same strategies are applied there, as well as to identify other strategies used to enhance the

security of the gated communities which can be employed in other gated community in Kenya to improve residents' security. Contrary, a study can be done in Kitengela Township focusing on strategies used by criminals to gain access to the residential places that are not gated in order to come up with other defensive strategies to counter such incidences occurring within the gated communities.

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APPENDICES AND ANNEXES

APPENDIX I

Questionnaire – For Leaders Residing in Gated Community

Focus on top leadership including of the communities i.e. chairman, treasurer, and the security leader. However, demographic information in Section A is meant for all respondents involved in the study.

Section A: Demographic Information of all Respondents

1. What is your age bracket?

20 and below { }

21-30 { }

31-40 { }

41-50 { }

50 and above { }

2. What is your gender?

a) Male { }

b) Female { }

c) Others { }

3. What is your highest level of education?

a) Primary level of education { }

b) Secondary level of education { }

c) Diploma level of education { }

d) University Degree level of education { }

e) University master's degree and above { }

f) Others { }

Section B: Preference of Gated Communities and Residential Security

(Using 1 –5 rating scale, where (1) represent least important and 5 – Most Important, please rate question 4

4. What do most of resident say was the reason that has made them prefer to reside in this gated community? (Please explain at least 2 reasons rated high)

a) Feeling safe []

b) Sense of community []

- c) Prestige
- d) Lifestyle

5. How safe do the residents feel with their property within this gated community? Why?

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

6. Are you/residents contented with the current security measures put in place?

- a) Yes...
- b) No...

If **No**. Please explain the reason.

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.....
.....

7. How would you describe the level of security in Kitengela Township for the period you have been in Kitengela?

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.....
.....

8. What would you say about the state of security in this gated community?

.....
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Section C: Security control features used by the gated communities

9. Do you think that secured gates have been effective in terms of controlling accessibility in this gated community? **(If yes explain)**

Yes []

No []

17. If **No**. What do you think makes access control not always effective in the gated communities?

.....
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.....

10. What other security measure has been applied in your place apart from the fences and gates?

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.....

Section D: Use of Private Security Guards in Enhancing Security in Gated Communities

11. As leaders how does the recruitment and employment of guards within your residences done?

.....
.....

12. To your knowledge, what are the responsibilities of security guards?

.....
.....

13. How much on average are the guards paid monthly within your residential place?

.....

14. In your own opinion, how does the use of private security guards help in enhancing security to the gated communities and are there alternatives to security guards? **(PLEASE EXPLAIN)**.

.....
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.....

Section E: Challenges facing security enhancement in gated communities

15. Which are some of the key challenges faced by the gated communities in Kitengela Township in terms of security? **(As a leader what are you doing about it to improve the situation)?**

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16. Is there a platform for discussing the security matters amongst the gated community residents and is it effective? **(Please explain often it is done)**

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.....

17. How effective are security agencies in responding and investigating crime incidents when they happen or when reported? (**Suggest areas you need to be improved**)

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

18. What would you suggest as a way of dealing with insecurity cases to the gated communities?

.....
.....

Thank you.

APPENDIX II

Questionnaire for residents

My name is **Timothy Mwangela**, a student at the **University of Nairobi**, Department of Political Science and Public Administration. I am conducting a research study on “**The strategies used by Gated Communities in Enhancing Residential Security within Kitengela Township**”, as a complement of the requirement for the award of Master’s degree. I am therefore requesting that you provide the required information, and wish to note that any provided information will be anonymized and used for academic purposes only.

Date of Interview

Section B: Preference of Gated Communities and Residential Security

(Using 1 –5 rating scale, where (1) represent least important and 5 – Most Important, please rate question 4

4. What are the reasons of preferring to reside in gated community? (Please explain at least 2 reasons rated high).

- a) Feeling safe []
- b) Sense of community []
- c) Prestige []
- d) Lifestyle []

5. How safe do you feel with your property in a gated community? Please explain why?

.....
.....

6. For the last six months, have you ever encountered any of the below circumstances? (Please give the number of times).

- a) Attempt robbery (without losing any property).....times
- b) Successful robbery with loss of property..... times
- c) Destruction of personal property times
- d) Theft cases..... times
- e) Other insecurity cases..... times
- f) Never experienced any insecurity case.....

Reason for having such number

.....

.....

.....

7. Are you contented with the current security measures put in place?

c) Yes... []

d) No... []

If **No**. Please explain the reason.

.....

.....

8. How would you describe the level of security in Kitengela Township for the period you have been in Kitengela?

.....

9. What would you say about the state of security in this gated community?

.....

10. According to your experience, how safe are the gated community? (**Give reasons**)

.....

.....

Section C: Security control features used by the gated communities

11. Do you think that secured gates have been effective in terms of controlling accessibility? (**If yes explain**).

Yes []

No []

12. If **No**. What do you think makes access control not always effective in the gated communities?

.....
.....

13. What other security measure has been applied in your place apart from the fences and gates?

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

14. What reasons will influence the decision to allow/deny a stranger/ visitor to access your residential areas?

.....
.....

Section D: Use of Private Security Guards in Enhancing Security in Gated Communities

15. To your knowledge, what are the responsibilities of security guard?

.....
.....

16. In your own opinion, to what extent has the use of private security guards helped in enhancing security to the gated communities and are there alternatives to security guards?

.....

Section E: Challenges facing security enhancement in gated communities

17. Which are some of the key challenges faced by the gated communities in Kitengela Township in terms of security? (**What are you doing about it as residents to improve the situation**)?

.....
.....

18. How effective are security agencies in responding and investigating crime incidents when they happen or when reported? (**Suggest areas you need to be improved**)

.....
.....

19. What would you suggest as a way of dealing with insecurity cases to the gated communities?

.....

Thank you.

APPENDIX III

**Interview Guide for Local Administrators
(Kitengela Police Station Commander and the Area Chief)**

Topic: The role of gated communities in enhancing security: a case study of Kitengela Township.
The information collected during this research study is confidential and purely for academic purposes and will not be divulged to any other person whatever the circumstance.

Interview schedule Number Date of Interview

1. Which security problem do you feel is the most disturbing among the Kitengela residents (forms of insecurity, levels of insecurity, perpetrators, targets, and hotspots)?

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2. Kindly describe the trends of security situation within Kitengela currently?

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3. In your own opinion, is the security situation better for the people living within Gated communities compared to the ones living outside the gated communities?

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4. What security measures have been taken by the administration to reduce the number of insecurity cases within Kitengela Township?

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5. Have the measures taken proved to be effective in terms of reducing the number of insecurity cases?

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.....

6. What are some of the challenges reported affecting gated communities in terms of security of late?

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7. In which way do you feel gated community have helped in solving the security challenges that have been revolving in the county before?

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Thank you.

APPENDIX IV:

Observation checklist

Topic: The role of Gated communities in enhancing security within Kitengela Township

Monitoring item	Focus area	Attainment			Remarks (Identify the location of houses, availability and adequacy of security guards, fences, walls, control features, any fault detected, main cause of the identified fault and the proposed ways sealing the fault)
		Yes	No	N/A	
Physical structure of buildings and logistics	Housing designs, roads, public spaces, walls, fences and other utilities.				
Security features employed	Well-constructed stone fences, razor wires, guard-dogs, closed-circuit cameras, mobile patrols and assistance of armed security)				

Private security guards' enhancement of security	Mobile patrols, inspection of the premises, alertness, searches, guard duties at the gates and response in case of alarms				
Challenges experienced in enhancing security	Communal segregation, exclusivity, blocking of public spaces.				

APPENDIX V: Budget

ITEMS	COST (Ksh)	TOTAL COST (Kshs)
All-inclusive Transport cost 30 days	500 ksh x 30	Ksh 15,000
Typing and printing of Proforma- questionnaire	14 pages* 95 copies @ 40ksh*	Ksh 53, 200
Cost of hiring research assistant (two assistant)	800ksh x 2 x 10 days	Ksh 16,000
Data analysis and Printing	Data analysis 21,000 Printing 4,000	Ksh 25,000
Proposal binding	4@100khs	Ksh 400
Flash disk for Storage	5GB@1000	Ksh1000
Miscellaneous	Any upcoming cost	Ksh 5000
	TOTAL COST	Ksh 115,600

APPENDIX VI: Work Plan

Activity					
Month	Jan/Feb 2022	March 2022	April 2022	May 2022	June 2022
Proposal Writing	■				
Making corrections		■			
Defense of the proposal			■		
Collection of data required from the field				■	
Data entry, cleaning and analysis				■	
Writing of report based on the analysis				■	
Consultation with my supervisor based on the report generated, adjusting where recommended to do so and Submission of the final project					■

