UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

THE ROLE OF THE MEDIA IN ENTRENCHING PRISON REFORMS IN KENYA

BY

RAPANDO OLIVER KHABAKALI

REGISTRATION NUMBER K50/P/7000/05

A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE IN
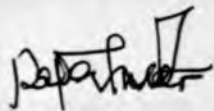COMMUNICATION STUDIES
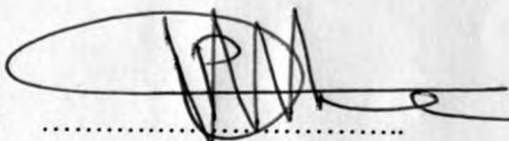
DECEMBER 2007.

DECLARATION

I do hereby declare that this report is my original work and that it has never been presented for any other degrees or award in any other University.

Signature .... Date ...14/11/07...

Rapando Oliver Khabakali

(Candidate)

This Research project has been submitted to the University of Nairobi School of Journalism for examination with my approval as the University Supervisor.

Signature .... Date ...19/11/07...

Mr. Peter Oriare

(University Supervisor)

DEDICATION

I dedicate this study to my family, wife Katrine and sons Lucky and Cedric for their encouragement and support during the course. My academic pursuit may probably not have come this far without their support.

Their encouragement provided reason to strive to overcome obstacles that would have otherwise terminated the journey earlier.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have got this far with this project as a result of the effort, determination and focus and the tireless work and professional input from my supervisor and colleagues at the school of journalism.

May I sincerely acknowledge the immense academic and experiential contribution of my supervisor Mr. Peter Oriare that helped me shape this study and without which the study could never have seen a logical conclusion.

Finally, it will not be complete without a word of gratitude for Mr. Kamau Mubuu for his lectures and guidance in this area of research methodology that was quite applicable when preparing this report.

ABSTRACT

Punishment of criminal offenders is a barometer of culture. It signifies society values, morality, sensibility and reasoning. As we approach the end of the 20th century, issues of imprisonment are topical. More than ever before, overcrowding, riots, prisoner suicide, staff discontentment and inhuman conditions are making headlines both in the local and the international media. Answers to the questions as to what should be done about prison system are regularly disputed by politicians, penal policy makers, academics, reform groups, mass media, members of the public as well as the prisoners themselves.

For the first time in the history of this country, prisons reforms became a priority of the government when the NARC government came to power in 2003. This research is a culmination of an attempt to examine some of the reforms entrenched in penal institutions and the achievements made so far with regard to training and rehabilitation of offenders.

Criticisms of prisons and proposals for reform of penal system are not a recent phenomenon. Since the inception of imprisonment as a form of punishment about 200 years ago, criticisms of it has been endemic to its history (Ignatieff 1978:19).

Just as practices of punishment have punishment have undergone a series of transformation, so have strategies and discourses of penal reform. From sociological and criminological perspective, the most striking feature of penal institutions in the world over has drastic increase in alternative to imprisonment. Given that imprisonment as a penal strategy appears to be beyond meaningful reform, reformers have no alternative but look at other ways of dealing with the offenders. Viewed as appealing by reformers and administrators for humanitarian, fiscal and utilitarian reasons, existing programms such as probation, temporary release and half way houses have gained a more

prominent public profile. That imprisonment continues to be criticized is an indication of perceived limitations of this reformist endevour.

The issue of prisons overcrowding, disturbance within prisons and of staff and prisoners grievances are often seen as a manifestation of the overriding problem of large prisoners population. Many observers therefore believe that the promises made about alternatives to imprisonment have not been fully utilized. It has been argued that despite the introduction of alternatives to imprisonment, prison populations have remained stable and increased in some places.

Alternatives therefore are believed to have had little or no impact in constraining and reducing the use of imprisonment. The question that arises therefore is whether or not the media has played its rightful role of informing the publics alternatives to imprisonment so that the same can be accepted as a sentencing option.

On the other hand, prisons have displayed a remarkable immunity not only to historical attempts at reform within its walls but also to contemporary efforts at bringing inmates outside them (David Downes's 1988;4)
Reforms have been tried and found wanting as has been reported in a section of the media. Its continued use is then declared something a kin to natural law beyond the realms of political choice or informed decision making.

The study sought to unearth reasons behind the negative publicity that penal institutions have received from across section of the mainstream media. The study was conducted through field survey in three penal institutions in Nairobi area. The main tools of data collection was structured questionnaires and key informant interviews.

The justification for this study was that although the media is a major stakeholder in the criminal justice system, its role in informing and educating the publics the meaning of reforms has not been brought out clearly by the main stream media. The study sought to examine some of the factors that may be influencing this perception.

The paper concludes that various factors influence the negative publicity about Prisons in Kenya namely existing legislation where prisons are mandated to operate as closed entities, Lack of communication structure within the department and the long and bureaucratic structure within the government cycles among others.

The major recommendations include the need to review existing legislation under which prisons operate, establishing a communications office with trained public relations officers to enable free flow of information from top to bottom. The need for awareness creation is also important with a view to encourage demand for accessing information and make the public appreciate that it has a right to access information in the custody of prisons authorities among others.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

NARC	National Rainbow Coalition
Gvt	Government
CAP	Chapter
UON	University of Nairobi
TV	Television
MauMau	Mzungu Aende Ungereza Mwafrika Apate Uhuru
VP	Vice President
Hon.	Honorable
PS	Permanent Secretary
CP	Commissioner of Prisons
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
US	United States of America
WDR	Warder
S/sgt	Senior Sergent
COI	Chief Officer One
COII	Chief Officer two
VPS	Vulnerable Prisoners
CESCA	Conference for Eastern, Southern and Central Africa
ACHPR	African Charter on Human and People's Rights
SMR	Standard Minimum Rules
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
UDHR	Universal Declaration on Human Rights
UN	United Nations
CSO	Community Service Order

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

The purpose of the study is to examine the role of the media on the perceptions that the public hold towards reforms in Prisons. This is based on the fact that the perception towards prisons reforms is an important determinant factor in realizing the envisaged social change. The media has a role to play in creating these perceptions since it is viewed as a credible source of information.

There seems to be a correlation between public perception on prison reforms and its portrayal in the mass media. In some instances, issues reported in the media targeted at improving the lives of convicts are not given prominence but appear as briefs. This has even been admitted by government [1]agencies involved in the reform process. Sometimes such information even goes unreported while news which portray prisons negatively like escapes and human rights violations [2]are given prominence in terms of page placement while ignoring other pertinent issues on the general rehabilitation programms.

Questions abound as to whether Prisons as currently established and managed are capable of meeting the core objectives of reforming and rehabilitating inmates.

A case in example is an article in the Standard's crazy Monday's magazine on 26th March 2007 which seems to ridicule on going reforms in prisons and negates the cardinal media principal of balanced and fair coverage and casts a shadow on responsible journalism. Okigbo (1994) says "No reader of African newspapers or magazines will fail to realize that many of the issues for public discussions by the people originate from coverage provided by journalists" hence the general belief

---

[1] Daily Nation of Friday 9th March 2007 "Reforms get poor media coverage" PS

2 Daily Nation of Monday 5th March 2007 Headline "Death row convicts flee as prisoners riot."

that the media plays a role in creating these perception. Government attempts to control media is a clear testimony that the former recognizes power of the latter in setting the agenda for public discussion. Channels of mass communication have become powerful means by which information can be effectively disseminated to mass audiences.

Upon coming to power after the 2002 general elections, the government spelt out a plan of reforms for institutions involved in governance and particularly the Prisons department. The Minister for Home Affairs Hon. Dr. Moody Awori embarked on a media campaign to popularize the earmarked reforms within prisons. The "Open Door Policy" was immediately augmented and all the stakeholders brought on board to be part of the reform process.

Although reforms have generally been viewed as a positive development in line with the changing needs of the society, resistance from any quarter to their entrenchment is an obstacle towards achieving their intended objectives. The study seeks to establish whether or not the media plays any role in the perceptions that the public hold towards prisons in the society.

Whereas inmates and Prison authorities have welcomed these reforms as part of the government reform package for prisons, resistance from other stakeholders has slowed down the whole process with certain quarters terming it as a way of turning prisons into five star hotels there by defeating the meaning of imprisonment.

The study aims at making recommendations on how prisons authorities and the media can collaborate in order to realize the purpose of imprisonment. The study will also attempt to make recommendations on how these relationships can be improved in line with the penal reform agenda of providing for humane and safe

conditions for the rehabilitation of offenders and safe working conditions for Prisons staff.

The research findings will be helpful in bringing out the role of the media as a mediator among the stakeholders in the criminal justice sector. The study will focus on increasing our understanding of the place of mass media in the rehabilitation process. This is because media messages and images are a powerful tool in shaping attitudes, perception and values concerning the prison reform agenda in Kenya. The findings will enhance and support reformation and rehabilitation process by highlighting the weaknesses in the media in its portrayal of prison reforms by proposing practical solutions to these weaknesses.

It will further provide guidance to the prisons authorities and the relevant government agencies on the need to build positive relations with the media houses and media professionals in order to improve their portrayal and coverage to win public confidence. The study also seeks to enlist collaboration between institutions of higher learning and correctional institutions in order to offer practical solutions to problems facing penal system in the country.

The study will utilize data collected through survey method and administered through questionnaire and face to face interviews with key informants in the penal system namely; correctional officers, the convicts, members of the public who have a direct interest in the penal system such as the ex convicts, relatives of convicts and opinion leaders.

1.2   PROBLEM STATEMENT

There has been a general perception by the public that Prison reforms have generally failed to achieve their intended objectives of ensuring humane and safe conditions for the rehabilitation of offenders and safe working conditions for Prisons staff.

Attempts by government and Prison authorities to entrench these reforms has been received with criticism and resistance by the public who view this as a way of making prison life luxurious and a burden to the already overtaxed tax payer. Although the media has played a key role in providing information on the role of prisons in the society, and the meaning of imprisonment, there is a possibility that the media has also played a role in creating these perceptions. This is because mass media has a critical role to play since it is viewed as a credible source of information in many spheres of life. An analysis of media biases in the coverage and portrayal of prison reforms and the rehabilitation process in general is therefore crucial.

While penal laws and systems in most African countries has rationalized their forms of punishment, sentencing and treatment of prisoners to be in line with international law instruments on human rights and freedoms, Kenyan attempts at reform has been half hearted. Of interest will be how mass media facilitates or otherwise hinders entrenchment of prison reforms. This is because it is probable that mass media can become a barrier rather than a facilitator to the envisaged social change.

It is against this backdrop that this research seeks to establish whether the media has played its rightful role of informing the public the meaning of reforms in prisons and its role in society there by contributing to the entrenchment of Prison

reforms or whether it has played inhibitory role there by stigmatizing the meaning of imprisonment.

1.2 .1 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The study is aimed at answering the following specific questions;

- o What role have the media played in portrayal of penal reforms in Kenya?
- o How has the media portrayed prison reforms?
- o What are the prison reforms in Kenya?

1.3   OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1.3.1 GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The general objective of the study was to establish the general public perception towards prison reforms in Kenya.

1.3. 2   SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the study were as follows;
- o   Establish the role played by the media in portraying Prisons reforms.
- o   Establish how media framed Prisons reforms
- o   Identify key areas of reforms in Kenyan penal institutions.
- o   Make appropriate recommendations on how media and prisons can collaborate for the success of prison reforms.

1.4   JUSTIFICATION FOR THE STUDY

Rehabilitation process is an important component of the criminal justice system. Given that the mass media has a central role to play in shaping people's views, beliefs and behaviour, it follows that an understanding of the mass media portrayal of prisons reforms is crucial in designing strategies to counter the negative public perception towards prisons and offer practical solutions to the challenges facing the penal system.

The perception that prisons are punitive institutions has been engrained in the minds of the public with time. It should be emphasized that the negative public perception towards prisons in the society is not a function of social economic development.

The study is important in order to assist in demystifying the role of prisons in the society and more specifically the significance of embracing reforms within the penal system in line with the internationally recognized standards. From the study, the public will be able to appreciate the fact that improving conditions of living for convicts is not a way of attracting would be criminals to commit crimes in order to enjoy the facilities but as a result of the changing society needs which has been brought about by globalization.

The study is important based on the fact that most of the new orientation and opinions that adults acquire during their lifetime are based on information supplied by the mass media. Mass media in this case may not shape the way readers and viewers react to messages but shapes perceptions of reality and set priorities. It therefore plays a role in educating the public in the formulation of public opinion.

This will also help in the understanding of the fact that the ever rising prisoner's population is not as a result of improved prison conditions but due to sophistication in commission of crime brought about by advancement in technology and increasing population which is not a phenomenon unique to Kenya alone but a global one.

The study will increase our understanding of the role of mass media in entrenchment of prison reforms as well as enhance the government efforts to change the public perception towards prisons by highlighting weaknesses in the mass media in its portrayal of prisons reforms that has contributed to the resistance by the public to support the prison reform agenda. The study will also be useful to Prisons Farms and Industries who have used the media to market their products and realize increased sales by reaching out to the potential customers.

1.5   SCOPE AND LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The study will limit to reforms in the penal system alone although prisons do not operate in isolation but is just one of the many stakeholders in the criminal justice system. It will also concentrate to the period after 2002 general elections when reforms initiated by the NARC government seemed to enjoy good will from the public. The respondents for questionnaire will be confined to Nairobi and its environment.

The study was confined to three penal institutions in Nairobi therefore did not examine other correctional institutions such as borstal institutions and youth corrective and training centre which are part of the penal system administered by the prisons service.

The other assumption of the study was that the media reported matters pertaining to penal reforms objectively without any biasness.

Since the study concentrated on penal institutions within Nairobi and its environment, the extend to which the situation in these Prisons is reflective of the situation in the entire country is limited.

Most respondents were also unwilling to diverge information on the topic despite assurance that the research was strictly for academic purposes citing victimization and intimidation by the authorities whenever such information is released whether officially or unofficially.

The effects of programms which seek to improve governance and human rights in penal institutions are difficult to quantify. The impact of reforms in certain areas such as attitude change arising from training programms would need more time for its effects to be ascertained and therefore beyond the scope of this study.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON PRISONS IN KENYA

Prisons are indeed a colonial heritage. These institutions were unheard of among local communities in Kenya who relied on traditional form of punishment. The Prisons service was established in 1911[3] ostensibly in furtherance of colonial objectives of bringing "natives" in the Kenyan colony under the British rule.

Prisons therefore largely served punitive and deterrent function ie punishment of offenders through confinement, corporal punishment, suspension of privileges among others. Penal institutions numbered 30 then with an establishment of 319 staff and an inmate population of 6,559[4]. In the early years, prisons were run by ex-military white officers making them more of military camps.

The management of Prisons was drastically altered after the second World War following the Mau Mau uprising and imposition of a state of emergency. Since Prisons could not cope with the rising inmate population, detention camps were established to hold those arrested in connection with the uprising. Prisons assumed a repressive role and conditions became characterized with rampant torture, squalor, high inmate mortality, congestion among others.

During independence, the new African government inherited the prison system intact with its colonial vestiges preserving its punitive and repressive functions however several changes were introduced in the post independence period. The provisions for the Prisons Act enacted in 1962 became operational in 1963. The Act was revised in 1967, occasioning changes in philosophy and practice of penology in line with international trends. Like other government institutions, the prisons

---

[3] The Kenya prisons Service was created through circular No 1 of 19th March 1911 by the prisons Board as an autonomous service.
[4] Kenya Prisons Service strategic plan 2003-2007

service underwent africanisation programm leading to 85% staffing level of locals in senior ranks.

Prisons however continued operating as closed institutions with virtually no access granted to the media and other stakeholders.

Upon his appointment as the Commissioner of Prisons in 2001, the immediate former commissioner of Prisons Mr. Abraham Kamakil introduced for the first time "the Open Door Policy" which marked significant departure from the philosophy of non transparency underlying management of Prisons in Kenya. This has seen prisons open up to scrutiny by the media among other stakeholders in offering solutions to challenges facing penal system in the country. This policy however remains purely administrative and non permanent in nature since there has been no review of existing legislation which supported the closed nature of prisons over the years.

2. 2 <u>HISTORICAL REVIEW</u> OF THE KENYA PRISONS SERVICE

The Kenya Prisons Service is a department in the Office if the vice-president and Ministry of Home Affairs established under CAP 90 of the laws of Kenya.

It is a product of the English/Wales system developed in association with the Indian penal code, when the East African Order in Council was passed, allowing for the exercise of civil and criminal jurisdiction in conformity with civil procedures and penal code law of India.

The prison system was introduced by the colonial government as a punitive institution rather than correctional one. It started operating around 1900 under the Police force until 1911 when it began to operate as an independent entity.

In 1902, the East African Prisons Regulations No. 12/1902 were introduced and subsequently approved by the Principal secretary of state Affairs. In 1909, Kabete Reformatory was established. Prisons board was established in 1911 which created a prisons service that provided for autonomy of the prisons department. The Inspector General of the Police continued to perform the duties of the inspector General of Prisons.

The law brought to Kenya unfamiliar apparatus of Prisons to replace the transitional African mode of maintaining law and order. Penal philosophy during the colonial era was based on retribution and incapacitation which were highly punitive, vengeful and racial in nature and practice. In this regard, prisons were designed to confine, contain and control natives. Rehabilitation was not considered important for those who were put in Prison.1962 was distinguished by the following events within the Prisons system:

- o Enactment of new prisons legislation.
- o Emphasis on rapid localization of the service.
- o Appointment of the first African woman Mrs. P.M. Asiyo as an assistant Superintendent of Prisons.

The department was later transferred in 1962 from the Ministry of Internal Security and Defence to the Ministry of Social Services.

In 1963, when Kenya attained independence, the service denounced colonial rule and there was a shift to rehabilitation. The Prisons department was transferred to the ministry of Home Affairs in 1965.

Mr. Andrew K Saikwa, the First Kenyan to be appointed Commissioner of Prisons took office in 1964. However, despite this shift retribution continued to influence Kenyan penal system until the clamour for penal reform gained momentum in the late 1990's giving way to good prison practice. Prisons in Kenya have evolved through many phases since their establishment by the colonial regime in 1911 where it was used as a deterrent by way of punitive labour. It has now been modified through the Prisons Act CAP 90 and the Borstal institution act CAP 92 to give the prisons service specific mandates of;

- Containment and keeping in safe custody of prisoners
- Rehabilitation and reformation of offenders through training and counseling.
- Facilitation of criminal justice through production of remands to court for trial.
- Control and training of young offenders in Borstal institutions.
- Recruiting, training and development of suitable personnel for the service.
- Provision for children aged 4 years and below accompanying their mothers to prison.
- Conducting research and monitoring on crime trends in the country.
- Providing for basic human needs for prisoners

2.3 THE CONCEPT OF IMPRISONMENT

According to the concise [5]law dictionary, crime is acts or omissions which tend to be to the prejudice of the community and are forbidden by law on pain of punishment inflicted at the suit of the state.

It can also be defined as an act or omission punishable by law[6]. A prison, correctional facility or penitentiary is a place where an individual is physically confined and is usually deprived of a range of personal freedoms. Prisons are part of criminal justice systems of a country such that imprisonment or incarceration are a legal penalty that may be imposed by a state for commission of crime. On the other hand, organized crime is becoming more difficult to detect. This is driven by both the rise in global trade and passenger volumes where criminals are involved in smuggling, human trafficking, and drug running which are spread across continents and are becoming imaginative, elusive and agile.

A criminal who has been charged or is likely to be charged with criminal offence may be held in remand prison if he or she is denied or is unable to meet conditions of bail. This may occur if the court determines that the person is a risk of absconding before trial or a risk to the society. A criminal defendant may also be held in prison while awaiting trial or trial verdict. If found guilty, the defendant may be convicted and receive custodial sentence requiring imprisonment.

Prisons may also be used as a tool for political repression detaining political prisoners, prisoners of conscience and enemies of the state particularly by authoritarian regimes. In times of conflict or war, prisoners of war may also be detained in prisons.

A prison system is the organizational arrangement of the provision and operation of prisons and depending on their nature may also involve correctional system.

---

[5]The concise law dictionary 4th edition
[6] Penal code chapter 63 of the laws of Kenya

Male and female prisoners are typically kept in separate locations or prisons altogether. Prisons accommodations are often divided into wings identified by numbers or letters.

The wings may further be divided into floors containing cells. Cells are the smallest prison accommodation with each supposed to hold at least 2 prisoners. Cells that hold more prisoners are called dormitories while a building with more than one wing is a hall.

The nature of prisons and prison system vary from country to country although many systems segregate prisons by gender and by category of risk. The number of people sent to prison is determined by policy decisions and political expediency.

Prisons are usually rated by degree of security ranging from minimum security mainly for non violent offenders to maximum security and super security for those who have committed violent crimes or crimes while under imprisonment.

The issue of crime and punishment is a highly politicized one. Prisons and prisons systems, sentencing and imprisonment practices and the use of capital punishment often lead to controversy. Mandatory sentencing and effectiveness of custodial sentences for minor crimes is often debated especially where prison sentence requires that such cases is more harsh than the commission of violent crime.

2.4 COMPONENTS OF A PRISON

A prison may contain the following facilities depending on the model;

- o A main entrance which is usually referred to as the gate lodge where prisoners may be allowed restricted contacts with relatives, friends, lawyers and other interested parties.
- o Isolation cells where prisoners are kept in isolation as a punishment for misbehaviour.
- o Safe cells to keep prisoners under constant visual observation.

- o Vulnerable prisoners units (VP's) used to accommodate prisoners classified as vulnerable such as sex offenders, former police officers, informants, and those who may have gotten in debt to other inmates.
- o Segregation unit used to accommodate dangerous and unruly prisoners from the general population to maintain maximum security and safety of the institution.
- o Health care facility which caters for the medical needs of inmates.
- o Exercise yard used as recreation facility for inmates.

2.5   JUSTIFICATION OF PUNISHMENT

Imprisonment is central to the administration of justice therefore any sentence meted to convicts is not only geared towards remedying the wrong but also aimed at preserving the dignity of the individual. There are two purposes to be served by criminal punishment namely infliction of suffering and prevention of crime.

According to Chief Adedokum A Adeyemi, Prof. of Law and Criminology University of Lagos, Nigeria

- " *The Nigerian Penal System lacks both deterrent and reformative value, it has become very costly to the economy, it is physiologically, psychologically and emotionally destructive, it is socially damaging, it is culturally abhorrent, and it is penologically disastrous. Imprisonment was given prominence by the Nigerian courts, despite the fact the traditional African criminal justice system despised imprisonment and resorted preferably to measures such as compensation, restitution, corporal punishment, public ridicule and fines and compensatory fines*

2. 5. 1   GENERAL JUSTIFICATION

Penalizing offenders can be justified by the fact that they deserve a penalty for the wrong committed against the society. This is retributive view of punishment. The

argument here is that punishment is justified because it reduces future incidences of such offences. This is achieved by preventing or correcting the offenders or by discouraging or correcting other potential offenders. This is the reductive justification hence both have important raminification.

2. 5. 1   RETRIBUTIVE JUSTIFICATION

Retributionists argue that punishment is in itself a reward, compensation to the victims or annulment of the crime for a crime committed. According to this theory, punishment restores the imbalance that crime has upset. This is founded on eye for an eye and tooth for tooth philosophy. If one has harmed another, then an equivalent harm should be done on them. This is meant to prevent vigilantisms and clan warfare.

2. 5. 2   THE DETERRENCE THEORY

Punishment prevents onlookers and those being punished from committing a crime. It makes it impossible for an offender to break the law again by deterring both the offender and others. Crime is used as an example to self and others. By subjecting prisoners to harsh conditions, authorities hope to convince them to avoid future criminal behaviour and exemplify for others rewards for avoiding such behaviour. Critics of this theory however argue against the effectiveness of punishment as a deterrent measure in view of the high rate of recidivism.

2. 5. 3   REMOVAL FROM SOCIETY

The goal is to keep criminals from potential victims thus reducing the number of crimes they can commit. It has however been argued that others increase the number and severity of crimes they commit to make up for the vacuum left by the removed criminals.

2. 5. 4 REDUCTIVE JUSTIFICATION

The aim here is not to inflict pain but to reduce future frequency of such acts. The reductive sentencer hopes to deter the offender to be less inclined to commit crime and deter others who may be inclined to crime and increase other people's moral disapproval of the offence.

2. 5. 5 REHABILITATION AS AN INTERGRAL PART OF IMPRISONMENT

This involves transforming an individual into a law abiding citizen and prepare the offender for reintegration into society. Incarceration and incapacitation of an individual into prison offers one an opportunity for reflection on the offence or behaviour and may lead to reformation and repentance. This often deals with the individual prisoners rather than to reform the penal system. This process may involve the provision of education, vocational training, counseling, treatment for drug addiction or an attempt to encourage socially acceptable behaviour. When it fails, recidivism is the likely outcome.

2. 6 PENAL REFORMS; THE KENYAN PERSPECTIVE

"It is said that no one truly knows a nation until one has been inside the jail. A nation should not be judged by how it treats it highest citizens but its lowest ones"

Since the coming to power of the NARC government, Prisons department under the office of the Vice president and Ministry of Home Affairs introduced wide ranging reforms which seek to improve conditions in the country's jails that had previously acted as punishment centers for offenders rather than correctional facilities.[7] According to a survey conducted by the Kenya National Commission on

---

[7] An evaluation of the status of access to information in Kenya, the Kenya section of ICJ, December 2006.

Human Rights, inhuman conditions are still prevalent in Prisons despite being rated as improved conditions in Kenya.

Since independence, prisons facilities which were put up to contain only a few convicted criminals have never been expanded and the sluggish operation in the judicial system has resulted in the congestion of both convicts and remands. Reforms introduced were geared towards rectifying the situation so that they offer means of correcting bad behaviour and not serve as detention centers where offenders are condemned to die.

The following factors [8]are important for a successful prison reform project.

- Understanding and recognition of rights of people associated with and affected by prison services.
- Recognition the values of prison reform.
- Political will and support from high level government and political leadership.
- Administrative, financial, and institutional capacity within government.
- Existence of reform champions or crusaders within the system.

Prisons reforms entail a variety of changes that are implemented to enhance the general management of Prisons and improve its conditions in line with existing national and international human rights standards. This can be triggered by a number of factors[9] such as;

- The coming to power of a political party on a reform agenda.
- Concerns about the cost of maintaining Prisons
- Recognition that adherence to international human rights standards is important for the status of a country.
- Political impetus to join a regional or international body.

---

[8] See international centre for prisons studies (204) op cit at pg 2

[9] International Centre for Prisons studies (2004):Guidance notes on Prison Reform, Kings College London

In Kenya, the above factors may have influenced reforms particularly considering that the current government was elected on a reform agenda which include among others improved respect for Human Rights. The appointment of the then Minister for Justice and Constitution Affairs Hon. Kiraitu Murungi under whose docket human Rights falls underscored the seriousness of the government in handling these reforms.

Penal reforms must be viewed against the background of various international human rights instruments and the need to ensure protection of the rights and dignity of convicts. This involves enhancing openness and transparency in the criminal justice system to enhance public awareness and faith in penal management. A number of recommendations were made by participants during a conference held from 1-14 October 2001 whose theme was "Towards methods of improving prison policy in Kenya" This signified the growing need to reform the penal system and bring them into great currency with the rest of the word. According to Mr. George Opiyo, the former director of information at the then Ministry of Tourism and information, the functions of the press within the penal system must be performed under the guidance of specific legislation. In Kenya, the operations of the press, and the flow of information is guaranteed under the constitution through the freedom of information Act, laws of Kenya. In this regard, both the print and electronic media are guaranteed complete access to information within the criminal justice system. Following the opening up of prisons, the media has been allowed access to information on penal reforms. The media has supported extensively on activities that were presented as evidence of prison reforms according to Mr. Opiyo. He affirms that the mandate of the press is mainly to highlight both positive and negative aspects of such activities with regard to penal management. The media outlines areas of prison reforms in Kenya that are likely to be of interest to the public especially as they affect the tax payer. The media has noted with concern that prison reforms lack a coherent strategic

framework for implementation which spells out clearly principles, priorities, methods, constraints and expected outcomes.

This therefore calls for the establishment of a stable sustainable network for rapid dissemination of relevant information, experiences, management and training. He calls for a collaborative project to be set up between the prisons department and the media to improve coverage of reform agenda activities. This is because prisons in Kenya are a low priority just as is the case in many African countries where ¾ of the population is comprised of the poor and the powerless hence prisons are not seen as being worth the time, energy, or the resources needed to improve them.

- The Kenya Prison Service Reform Agenda was concretized in The Round Table Conference on Prison Policy held at Mountain Lodge from 14th -16th October, 2001. The subsquent policy document focuses on the following reform thematic areas; improving conditions in Prisons; Interagency collaboration; Decongesting the Prisons; Improving management in the justice sector; Openness and collaboration.

- So far the prison reform initiatives in Kenya has seen considerable progress. Among them is the open door policy which has brought flexibility and demystified our operations. This has created more access and opportunity for scrutiny by stakeholders including the media and the civil society whereby a lot of goodwill and assistance is being realized.

Yet still others argue that the Kenyan penal system lacks both deterrent and reformatory value because it has become costly to the economy.

A media representative during the round table conference on prison policy held from 14-16 October 2001 at Mt. Lodge Nyeri Ms. Wanja Njuguna noted that relationships between prisons and media have long been strained observing that opening up of prisons to stakeholders is a welcome move forward. The role of the media is to report, inform, entertain and educate but when it comes to justice their

roles falls on reporting not only the injustices committed to the society by various organs but also highlight the justices and make suggestions on how the issues can be resolved.

It has been observed that the relationship between prisons, media and society has been one of suspicion and hatred due to the following reasons.

- o Shroud of secrecy that surrounds the department that leaves a lot of room for speculation and misinformation.
- o Lack of responsible knowledge designated spokes people to verify or inquire about on matters relating to media and other publics.
- o Suspicion between the media and prisons which has been brought about by lack of good communication between them.
- o There have been no openness on issues in the prison system even where there have been problems which can be solved through publicity.
- o Lack of official response to issues brought to the media which is a hindrance to good communication.

Although imprisonment has been given prominence by Kenyan courts, traditional African criminal system despised imprisonment and resorted to measures such as compensation, restitution, corporal punishment public ridicule, fines among others. There are various factors militating against achieving the department objectives like congestion which leads to violation of human rights of convicts. According to the Commissioner of Prisons Mr. Gilbert Omondi, in an article[10] entitled "Prisons set to emerge from the dark ages" the negative image associated with penal institutions has a lot to do with the history of the establishment of prisons in Kenya.

He recommends review of laws relating to the management and running of prisons to positively impact on reformatory and rehabilitative programms and conform to modern practices of rehabilitation. He says the launch of the Kenya prisons strategic plan is part of the grand plans to see prisons transformed into

---

[10] See the Standard of Monday 2nd April 2007

corrections rather than punitive institutions. The department seeks to have an improved human resource capacity geared towards restoration and sustenance of the integrity of the prisons service.

2.7 MEDIA PERFORMANCE IN THE AFRICAN CONTEXT

During the sixth Conference of the Eastern, Southern and Central African Heads of Correctional Services (CESCA) held in Nairobi, Kenya from 5th to 12th August 2005, whose theme was "Penal Reforms Initiatives in Africa" participants noted how most African Governments and their agents paid lip service to media freedom. It was noted that most media owners used their organizations to push their sectarian agenda. There were also endless court cases which had become the biggest threat to media freedom. Huge court awards against media houses limited freedom of speech hence the skewed reporting by most media houses.

Cases were even cited where state agenda planted moles in media houses perceived to be opposed to the regime hence government being looked at as an impediment to free press. Media incompetence and over reliance on advertisers and foreign agencies was also reported as another cause for skewed reporting. Media houses were encouraged to use journalists to cover stories and stop relying on wire services and agencies for their stories to meet audience needs. Journalism training was proposed as a crucial to avoid legal tussle while media organizations should stop depending on advertising if prison reforms are to be entrenched in the eyes of the public.

2.8 PRISON REFORM STANDARDS

There is no internationally recognized or accepted model prison system. The style of imprisonment is closely related to the culture and history of a country[11]. In order to objectify the indicators for assessing reform, reference to both national and international human rights standards is necessary.

National standards are set by;

- The constitution of Kenya: which guarantees human rights that extend to prisoners subject to limitations imposed by prison sentence handed down by competent judicial tribunal.
- The Prisons Act[12] and prisons rules :which sets out rights of prisoners and minimum standard which authorities must meet with regard to ensuring safety and well being of prisoners.
- The Penal Code[13] and criminal procedure code[14]: provide guidelines on sentencing policies that have effect on penal conditions.

The international standards include:

- The Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR); article 9 which provides in overall direction with regard to arbitrary arrests and detention of persons.
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) Article 7 and 10 of the covenant are relevant to prisons. Kenya is party to this covenant by virtue of being a member of the UN.
- African Charter on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR) which provides the spirit of human rights in the African context.

---

[11] Ibid at pg 5
[12] Supra note 2
[13] Chapter 63 of the laws of Kenya
[14] Chapter 75 0f the laws of Kenya

- Standard for Minimum Rules for the treatment of prisoners (SMR); adopted in 1955 by the economic and social council of the UN which provides for the universal standard for the treatment of offenders.

Prison reform in Kenya should accordingly be evaluated in accordance with the above standards. The success of reforms in the attainment of the above standards is therefore a necessary component in the assessment of these reforms.

2.9 THE REFORM PARAMETERS

The prison service core mandate rotate around containment and rehabilitation of offenders. The prisons service strategic plan further elucidated this mandate by providing specific purposes[15] of the prisons service. On the basis of this purposes the study was conceptualized as an enquiry into the following areas.

- Management and institution reforms by evaluating to what extend the media has highlighted these reform areas and the extend to which they have contributed to providing conducive working environment.
- Prison reforms; to what extend prison conditions have improved since 2002 and the extend of coverage in the local media.
- Rehabilitation
- Reforms and contiguous institutions in the criminal justice system; nature and extend of this reforms and their impact on prison conditions.

2.10 SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY THEORY OF THE PRESS

Freedom carries commitment and obligations and the press which enjoys privileged position in government is obliged to be responsible to society for carrying out essential mass communication functions. Functions of the press under the social responsibility theory are as follows.

---

[15] Supra note 1

- Serving the political system by providing information, discussions and debate on public affairs.
- Enlighting the public so as to make it capable of self government.
- Safeguarding rights of individuals by serving as a watch dog against the government.
- Servicing the economic system so by bringing together buyers and sellers of goods through advertising.
- Providing entertainment.

The theory recognizes the role of the press in servicing economic system but this task should not take precedence over such other functions as promoting democratic process and enlighting the public.

The theory also accepts the role of the press in furnishing entertainment but with the proviso that the entertainment be "good" entertainment. It accepts need of the press as an institution to be financially self supporting but if necessary it would exempt certain individuals/media from having to earn their way in the market place. In Britain for instance, a recommendation of the Royal Commission, a general council of the press has been formed to encourage a sense of public responsibility and public service in the press. Their function is to condemn and publicize questionable practices on the part of the press, to investigate complaints, seek redress if the complaints are justified and to reply to them if they are not.

In America, publishers of several newspapers, *the St. Locuis post independence, the Louisville courier journal, the Milwaukee journal* seem to feel a strong responsibility to the communities they serve. Even in our local situation, radio and TV networks and stations are required by law to perform public interest and serve public welfare. According to Charles Beard, freedom of the press meant "the right to be just or unjust, partisan or no partisan true or false in news columns and editorial columns." And truth telling had nothing to do with it. (77:13)

Press in the first years of the US was characterized by partisanship, invective and unrestraint which Frank Luther Mott called in the early 19th century "dark age of partisan journalism." Publishers began to link responsibility with freedom and formulated codes of ethical behavior in order to operate media with some concern for public good. However, the media has not lived up to this challenge. Some media has wielded enormous power for its own ends where owners have propagated own opinions especially on matters of politics and economics at the expense of opposing views. On many occasions, it has also been subservient to big businesses and has at times let advertisers control their editorial policies and content, yet others hold the opinion that it has been resistant to social change. The press has also been accused of paying more attention to superficial and sensational than to the significant in its coverage of current happenings and its entertainment often lacks substance. This has endangered public morals of its viewers and listeners. The social responsibility theory also accuses the press of invading the privacy of individuals without good cause. This is because it is controlled by the social economic class therefore access to the industry is inaccessible to newcomers hence free and open market of ideas is endangered. Irresponsibility on the part of the media can be attested by the manner in which magazines traffic pornography and have been charged with debasing morals and inciting young people to crime. Advertising has become increasingly important to newspapers and is seen as a force which taints news columns and causes editors to suppress materials unfavorable to big advertisers. Comparatively, radio and TVs have depended heavily on conservative commentators and have avoided genuine healthy controversy while its programming has been heavy on crime and violence.

Individualistic theory presupposes that the individual takes precedence over the society while collective theory presupposes that society takes precedence over the individual. Social responsibility theory of the media is a safeguard against totalitarianism. If modern society requires great agencies of mass communication,

if these concentratrations become so powerful that they are a threat to democracy, if democracy cannot solve the problem the problem simply by braking them up then these agencies must control themselves or be controlled by the government. In 1927 for example, congress created the federal radio commission to assign frequencies and keep an eye on program content. The commissions act of 1934 which reserved radio for operations and in the public interest created the federal communications commission. The commission has taken up the position that it is responsible for supervising content to ensure that it is serving public interest. Radio and TV codes were drawn up by an industry regulated by the government and required to perform in the public interest, convenience and necessity. Ethical behaviors as exemplified by movie codes consist of promoting public morals. Radio and TV codes consist of ethical behaviour as promoting the democratic form of government by enlighting the public and promoting public morals. People conduct much of their discussions in the press instead of small face to face groups. Ownership of the media has become concentrated in a few hands and the consumer of news and ideas is largely at the mercy of the operators of the media.

2.11 AGENDA SETTING THEORY OF THE PRESS

This hypothesis came out when researchers became dissatisfied with the dominant theoretical position in mass communication research during the 1950's and 1960's –the limited effects model. McCombs and Shaw studied the agenda setting hypothesis in 1972.

The agenda setting theory of the press refers to the media capability through repeated news coverage of raising the importance of an issue in the public's mind. Agenda setting is a causal hypothesis suggesting that media content has an influence on public perception on importance of issues. The media are shaping people's views of the major problems facing society but it is worth noting that the problems emphasized in the media may not be the ones dominant in reality. The

press is not a mirror of society but more like a searchlight as Water Lippmann suggested many years ago. (Severin and Tankard)

Studies have shown that agenda setting by the media does take place and media focus on certain issues determine their salience in the eyes of the public. McCombs and Show (1997) argue that the general notion of agenda setting and the ability of the media to influence the salience of events in the public mind has been part of our political culture for at least half a century.

Rodgers and Dearing (1988) identified two main research traditions in agenda setting; 1 agenda setting, a process through which the mass media communicate the relative importance of various issues and events to the public and 2 agenda building, a process through which the policy agendas of political elites are influenced by a variety of factors including media agenda and public agenda.

Recent works on agenda setting suggest that agenda setting works not only at the level of attributes of issues or sub issues Severin and Tankard, 1997 state that this new direction in agenda setting suggest that the old statement that "the media may not tell us what to think but can tell us what to think about" needs to be revised. The newer version states that "the news not only tell us what to think; it also tells us what to think about.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0   INTRODUCTION

Research methodology is a systematic research procedure and technique which helps the researcher to avoid self deception. (Prewitt 1975)

The chapter presents the research approaches and method of data collection that were used in order to meet the objectives of the study. This chapter explores the research methodology in terms of research design, sampling, research instruments, data collection and analysis employed, research setting among others. The method section of a research study describes the procedures that have been followed in conducting the study. Techniques of obtaining data are developed and data is collected to test hypothesis if any.

The steps involved in conducting the study are described in details. This helps other researchers in understanding ones study particularly where replication may be desired. Methodology may also be looked at as a system of explicit rules and procedures upon which research is based and against which claims of knowledge are evaluated. The rules in turn enable communication, constructive criticism and scientific progress. According to Nachmias (1996) though it is explicit, it provides a framework for replication. By using logic as a method for scientific reasoning, methodology enables the internal consistency of scientific claim for knowledge. The major function for methodology is to help the blind man "see" to facilitate communication between researchers who have shared or want to share a common experience.

This chapter is devoted to methodology and perceives it as consisting a research design, population, sample, data collection procedures and data analysis techniques.

3.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

The term research design as used here refers to a total plan of an investigation or study. The research design employed in the study is the survey method. This is an attempt to collect data from members of a population in order to determine the current status of a population with respect to one or more variables.

This is a self report study which requires collection of quantifiable information from the samples. The information collected through surveys may be used for various purposes like evaluating product acceptance and use. The purpose of survey research is to obtain information that describes existing phenomenon by asking individuals about their perceptions, attitudes, behavior or values. This design was used because it provided an accurate and indebth detail on the problem under study. It also addressed major objectives and research questions proposed in the study adequately. This is a type of descriptive research which can be used for explaining or exploring existing status of two or more variables at a given point in time. It is an appropriate method available to social scientists who are interested in collecting original data for the purposes of describing a population which is too large to observe directly. It is an excellent vehicle for measuring characteristics of a large population.

3.2 LIMITATIONS OF THE SURVEY METHOD

Surveys are dependant on co-operation of respondents. If the data collection procedures are erroneous, responses given may be inaccurate hence the study may be flawed. Requesting for information which is considered secret and personal encourages incorrect answers. Most surveys cannot be aimed at obtaining forecasts of things to come. Consideration involved in selecting subjects for the study is the willingness and ability of the subjects to supply the required information.

3.3 RESEARCH SETTING

The research was carried out in three penal institutions in Nairobi are namely Nairobi remand and allocation Prison, Langata Women Prison and Kamiti main Prison. The institutions were selected owing to the high risk security inmates held in the institutions attracting convicts from diverse backgrounds across the country and the high number of visitors to the institutions hence they seem to offer social economic and cultural diversity than most other institutions.

The institutions offered another advantage to the researcher and were selected owing to their proximity.

3.4 THE POPULATION

Population is a complete set of individuals, objects with common observable characteristics. A particular population has some characteristics that differentiate it from other populations. For the purpose of our research, population here will refer to the major stakeholders in the criminal justice system namely the Prison officers, inmates and visitors to the Prison.

The total inmate population in the three institutions is about 7,000. Kamiti has about 3,000 inmates Langata the only maximum female institution has about 500 while Nairobi Remand has about 2,500 inmates. These are the leading institutions in terms of inmate population and severity of offences committed in Nairobi area. The populations will also consist of staff working in the institutions and their visitors.

3.5 THE SAMPLE

A subject of a particular population is called a sample. Since it would be impossible to study a whole target population, researchers identify and define an accessible population which may also be called survey population. This is the population to which a researcher wants to generalize results of the study. The population should be defined as consistently as possible with the purpose of the

study. Consistency therefore supersedes convenience in research. Appropriate sampling technique was used as the entire population was not manageable. The target population for our case will be Prisons officers, inmates and visitors to the prison within penal institutions in Nairobi area and its environment. This population provided credible information that was needed to carry out the research. The population was a representation of the major stakeholders in the criminal justice system within Nairobi area and the surrounding penal institutions. According to Singleton et al, factors determining sample size include;

- Heterogeneity of the population.
- Desired precision.
- Type of sampling design.
- Availability of resources.
- Number of breakdowns planned at data analysis.

The study considered the above factors while determining the sample size. A total of 3 penal institutions were selected for inclusion in the sample. A sample of 72 stakeholders was selected consisting of 25 inmates serving various sentences, 25 members of staff working in the listed institutions and 22 visitors to these institutions. A close collaboration between the researcher and the prisons officers on a one to one basis ensured that respondents respond only what was asked in the questionnaire.

3.5.1 SAMPLING METHOD

Sampling is process of selecting a number of individuals for study in such a way that the individuals selected represent a large group from which they were selected. It is a procedure by which some elements of the population are selected as representative of a population. A sample of inmates, visitors and Prison officers were selected using stratified random sampling since every member of the population had an equal chance of being selected. A sample of 25 inmates, 25 prisons officers and 22 visitors to the prison were selected. This technique enables

selection of samples that appear to be representative of the population. (Nachmias, 1996) and subjects are picked because they possess the required characteristic. (Mugenda, 1999). A variable is a measurable characteristic that assumes different values among subjects.

Table 3.2 Sample Design

CATEGORY	ESTIMATED POPULATION	SAMLPE SIZE	PERCENTAGE
Officers	600	25	25%
Inmates	6,000	50	50%
Visitors	1,500	25	25%
Total	3,100	100	100%

3.6 RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

Research instruments are used to collect the necessary information. The research instrument used during this survey was questionnaires which were both structured and unstructured. Each item in the questionnaire was developed to address specific objective. Information obtained from each questionnaire was analyzed. Qualified research assistants with knowledge of social science research methodologies conducted interviews under supervision of the researcher. The researcher trained the research assistants on the mode of administering the questionnaires. The research assistants completed the questionnaires through face to face interviews with the selected respondents. This gave the interviewer an opportunity to bring for answers to bring out the true nature of their perception and expectations.

The questionnaire technique was used as it elicits information on a wide range of issues such as knowledge, attitudes, opinions, perceptions among others. More information was also obtained from documentary sources such as books, journals

and other published materials. Interview method was used in asking methods tailored to achieve the objectives of the study.

Further, it has the advantage of gathering a lot of information both qualitative and quantitative within a short time and information given by respondents are not influenced by researcher.(Kerlinger 1970, Anderson 1975, Tuckman 1978, Mugenda et al 1999)

- The Questionnaire administered the likert type scale attitude rating scales 1-5 and five options ranging from strongly agree/Very good rated 5 to strongly disagree/very dissatisfied rated 1.

Some of the items consisted of favourable and unfavourable statements with regard to attitudes, knowledge and motivations. A tick (√) in the right column depending on the degree of agreement where applicable.

3.6.1 PILOT TESTING OF RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

This was carried out in 2 penal institutions outside Nairobi area. The institutions selected for this purpose were not among the sample institutions for the actual research. The purpose was to confirm validity and reliability of the instruments. It also helped to ascertain the feasibility of the study. The researcher applied the test-retest reliability in this process. After pilot testing, necessary adjustments were made to ensure that the instruments were adequate for this research. During the process, respondents were encouraged comments, and suggestions concerning instructions, clarity of questions and relevance.

Pretesting the questionnaire was important because of the following reasons;

o Vague questions were revealed in the sense that respondents interpreted them differently hence necessary adjustments were made.

o Comments and suggestions made by respondents during this exercise were considered and incorporated thereby improving the questionnaire.

o Deficiencies in the questionnaire were revealed like where space to write was insufficient.

o It enabled prior analysis to establish the appropriateness of the method of analysis. This enabled reliability of the instrument as a consistent measure of the instrument being studied.

3.7 DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE

The study used primary data collected using questionnaires issued to the 72 respondents sampled for the study between May and August 2007.

Data was collected through face to face interviews, however in some cases, the questionnaires were administered on a drop and pick up later basis to ensure a high proportion of usable responses and high return rate. The study used structured questionnaire with both open ended and closed ended questions. The questionnaires had a range of questions ranging from their perception on reforms in prisons to their understanding of reforms in penal institutions in Kenya. The advantage for this was the fact that it allowed for clarification especially where the respondents were not sure of the responses expected of them. This encouraged probing, and direct observation by the interviewer there by increasing response rates. (E. Babbie 1989)

Authorization for data collection was granted by the Commissioner of Prisons and each interviewer had a copy of the letter to show the interviewees. (See appendix). Likewise, an introduction letter (see appendix) was given to each respondent prior to the research.

3.8 METHOD OF DATA PROCESSING

Once the questionnaires were collected from the respondents, the raw data collected was systematically organized in a manner that can facilitate analysis. The data was cleaned, coded, and key punched into a computer and analyzed. Mugenda etal (1999 pp 159)[16]

The researcher edited all questionnaires to ensure they were well answered. A questionnaire was declared spoilt if 10% of its contents were not answered in which case another interview was conducted. The data was coded and entered into a computer, after the capture it was edited to remove clerical errors by manipulating the data graphically. Open ended questions were coded using relevant categories which made them statistically amenable. Since qualitative research generates a large number of textual data requiring a systematic method of segmenting the data into meaningful units, the responses in the questionnaire were arranged into categories and themes and given codes. The data was analyzed using excel or statistical package for social sciences (SPSS). The analysis was done according to analysis variables developed for the instrument. The results were mainly quantitative.

---

1) [16] Mugenda, O (1999) *Research Methods, Qualitative and Qualitative Approaches,*

DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter dealt with findings and interpretation of data collected from the

population sampled. The statistical methods that were applied for quantitative

analysis of data in this section included tables and pie charts that illustrated

various variables. This data was analyzed qualitatively.

A total of 72 respondents both male and female were interviewed in the study

area. Table 4.1(a) represents distribution of respondents by sex. 48 male

respondents were interviewed thus accounting for 66.7% of the sample while 24

female respondents accounted for the remaining 33.3% of the sample. This

represents 72% of the intended 100 questionnaires and is thus representative of the

data. The questionnaires were distributed among the three categories of

stakeholders identified earlier.

General information of the respondents

Table 4.1(a) Distribution of respondents by gender.

Gender	No	Percentage
Male	48	66.7
Female	24	33.3
Total	72	100

48 respondents (66.7%) were males while only 24 (33.3%) were females.

Chart 4.1(b) Graphical representation of respondents by gender
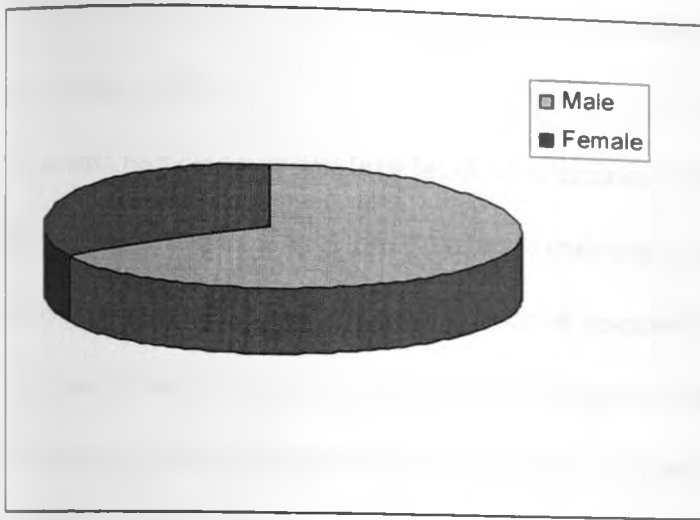
Significance of the above findings;

More than 60% of the Kenyan prison population is males partly due to the high crime rate among males compared to females and since only a male officer is deployed to guard a male prisoner, the number of male officers is also high compared to females who constitute less than 30% of the total prisons officers' population. Consequently, the number of visitors to male prisons who are mainly males is higher compared to females. It is for this reason that the number of male respondents was higher since they appreciate more the meaning of reforms than their female colleagues.

Education level

Education level of respondents is also vital. An educated prisoner is more likely to gain access to media than a non educated one. Likewise, prison officers who are more educated are more likely to appreciate the need for reforms than less educated ones.

Out of the 72 questionnaires which were returned and analyzed, majority of the respondents had up to college level of education at 26 representing 36.1%.

This was followed by University graduates with first degree with 25 respondents representing 34.7%.

Those who had up to secondary level of education were 9 representing 12.5% followed by graduates with postgraduate training at 7 representing 9.7%.

The category which had the least number of respondents were those who had up to primary level of education at 5 representing only 6.9%

In this study, education level of respondents were analyzed as shown in table 4.1(c) and graph 4.1 (d)

ED. Level	No	Percentage
Primary	5	6.9
Secondary	9	12.5
College	26	36.1
university	25	34.7
Postgraduate	7	9.7
Total	72	100

Graph 4.1 (d) Graphical representation of respondents by gender.
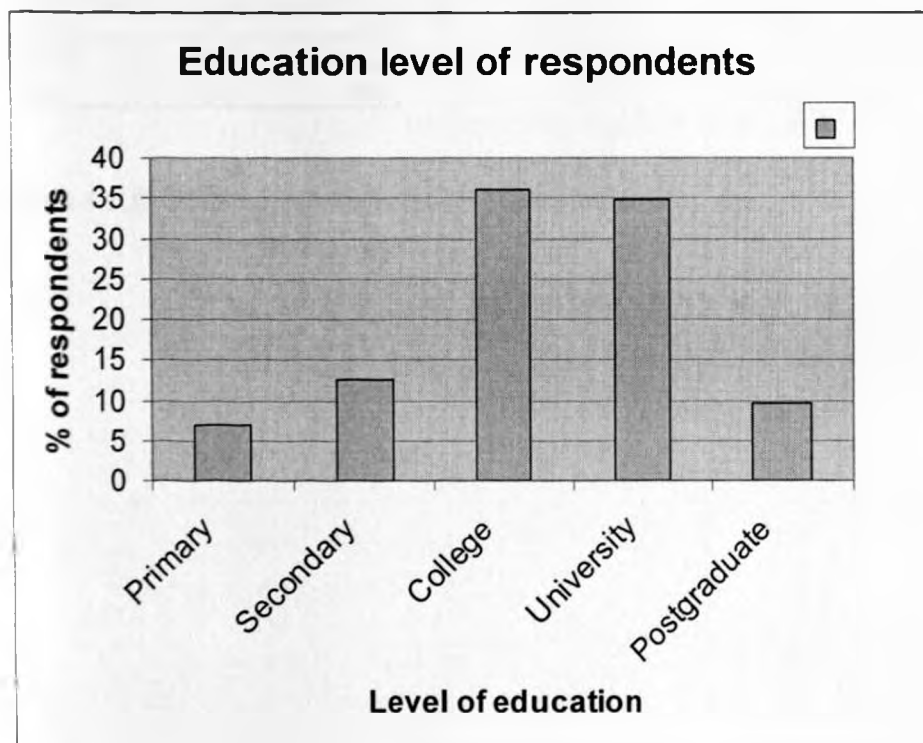
Age

The respondents were also analyzed according to their ages as shown in table 4.1(e) and graph 4.1(f) respectively.

Majority of the respondents were between the ages of 25-35 at 27which constituted 37.5%. This was followed by ages 35-45 at 18 respondents constituting 25%. Ages 18-25 had 12 respondents representing 16.7% while age bracket of 45-55 had 10 respondents representing 13.9%. The age bracket with the least number of respondents was under 18 which had 5 respondents representing 6.9%. None of my respondents was above the age of 55 years.

Table 4.1 (e) Distribution of respondents by age

Age Bracket	No	Percentage
Below 18	5	6.9
18-25	12	16.7
25-35	27	37.7
35-45	18	25
45-55	10	13.3
Total	72	100

Graph 4.1(f) Graphical representation of respondents by age.

Age of respondents
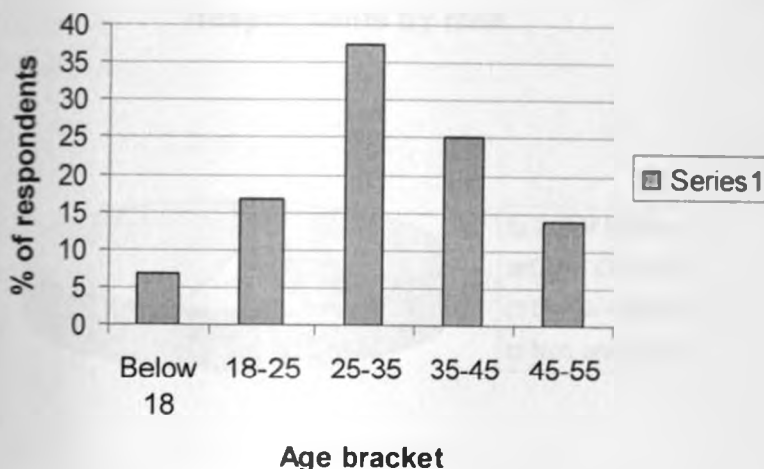
Since some of the respondents were prison officers, it was necessary to classify them according to their ranks since prisons is a uniformed service just like the police and the military. This was important since their views vary depending on the role they play which is based on their ranks. Three broad categories were identified namely junior officers from the rank of WDR to S/sgt, Chief officers I and II and senior officers for all gazetted officers. The rest were members of the public who have a stake in prison either as visitors to the inmates or to members of staff.

Table 4.1(g) shows distribution of respondents by rank.

Rank	No	Percentage
Junior Officers	21	29.16
Chief Officers	11	15.27
Senior Officers	7	9.72
Non uniformed	33	45.83
Total	72	100

4.1 (h) Pie chart representation of respondents (Prisons officers) by rank

Respondents by rank

- ■ Junior Officers
- ■ Chief Officers
- □ Senior Officers
- □ Non uniformed
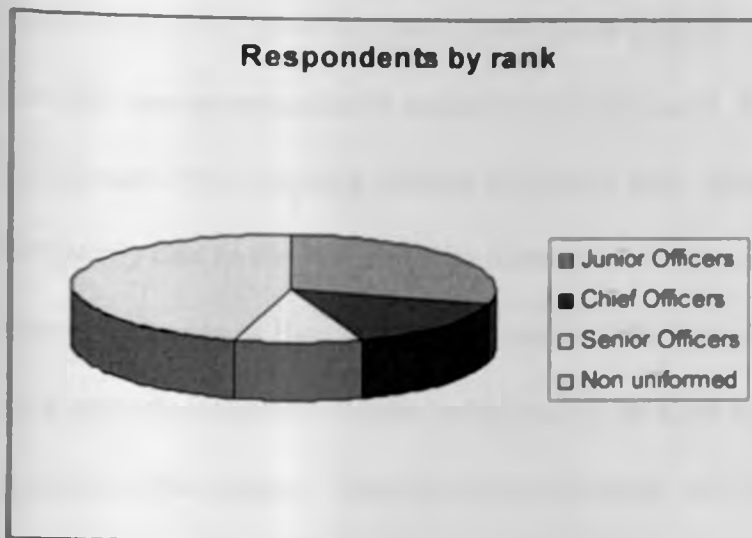
Majority of respondents interviewed were non uniformed officers constituting

44.83% who were mainly prisoners and visitors to the prison. This was followed by

junior officers at 29.16% being the majority in providing security to the prisoners.

They are usually deployed as guards in prison and are the most vulnerable due to

the poor working conditions in prison. Chief officers and senior officers consisted

of 15.27% and 9.72% respectively and are usually incharge of the warders.

Table 4.1(i) Distribution of respondents (Inmates) by sentence serving in prison.

Category	No	Percentage
Long termers	10	13 88
Remands	14	19 44
Others	8	11.11
Total	32	44 44

Out of the 72 respondents interviewed, 32 of them which represented 44.44% of the

sample were inmates serving various sentences in the 3 penal institutions. The

remaining 40 accounting for the remaining 54.56% were either members of staff or

visitors to the inmates classified as non uniformed officers. It became apparently clear that out of the three penal institutions sampled, majority of the inmates (19.4%)are on remand still awaiting the conclusion of the cases and were more informed of the ongoing reforms in prisons more than other categories. This could be partly due to the fact that they interact more frequently with their visitors than convicted ones as they are allowed more visitations by law. The higher percentage of remands interviewed is an indication of the slow rate in the administration of justice in the country. This was followed closely at 13.8% with prisoners serving long sentences (more than 6 months) which can be explained by the fact that having stayed in prison for long period of time, they stand to benefit more from the ongoing reforms in prisons more than the short term sentence prisoners who could only be in prison for a week or even less. This last category constituted only 11%.

Stakeholder readership of mainstream media

The respondents interviewed were also asked which of the two leading local dailies (Nation and Standard) were most popular with a view to establish which local daily reported reform matters regularly.

Table 4.1(j) gives a summary of the findings.

Frequency	Nation	Standard	S/Nation	S/Standard
Often	111	87	90	72
Regularly	38	40	38	44
Never	2	4	6	3

Bar chat 4.1(k) represents the above information.

Readership of print media
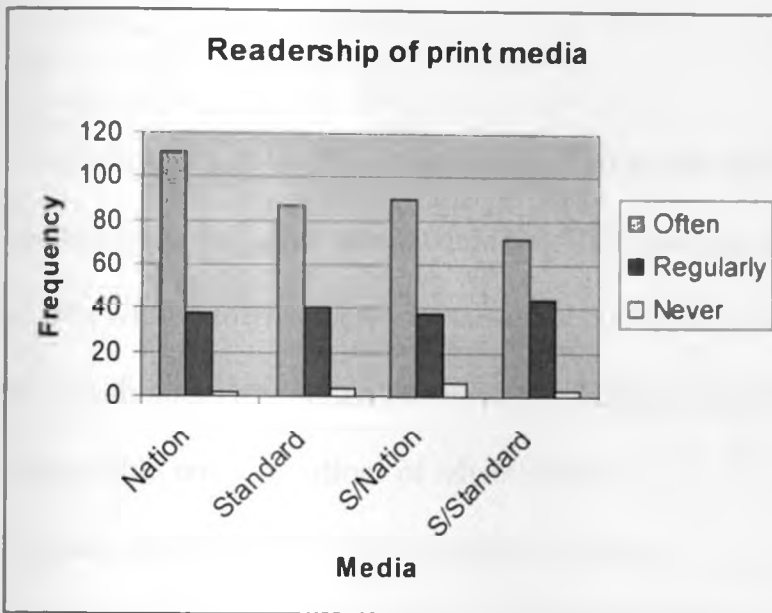
Significance of the findings;

Nearly all the respondents interviewed admitted reading either the the daily Daily

nation or the standard with majority of them being often readers followed by

regular readers. Just a few almost a negligible number confessed never reading the

daily papers or their sister publication, Sunday nation and Sunday Standard.

Since the topic for discussion was reforms in prisons, it follows that the Daily

Nation and its sister publication the Sunday Nation is the leading paper in terms

of coverage of reforms in prisons.

With regard to recent happenings on reforms in prisons, the respondents were

asked whether they had read any lately in the print media of their preferred

choice. Table 4.1(l) gives a summary of the results.

Response	No	Percentage
Yes	60	83.33
No	12	16.66
Total	72	100

More than 83% of the respondents admitted to have read about reforms in penal institutions in the print media while only 16% had not read about reforms or had no idea what reforms in prisons was all about. This is an indication that most of the stakeholders understand its meaning therefore appreciate the need to entrench them within our institutions of rehabilitation.

The flow pie chart 4.1(l) illustrates these findings.
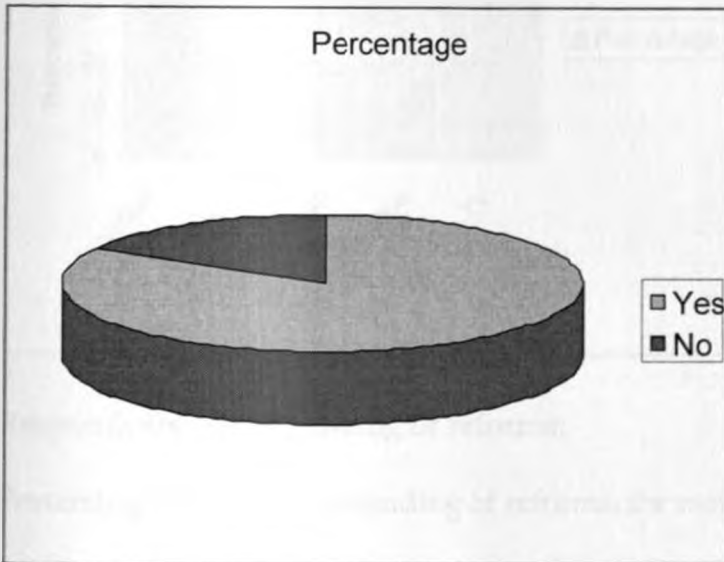
Respondents were also asked where they obtained information pertaining to reforms other than the print media for those who admitted having knowledge of these reforms. 31 of them reported than the Daily nation was the source, 15 were for standard, 13 reported to have obtained the information from radio, 11 heard news of reforms from their colleagues and only 1 learnt of it from TV.

The flow table 4.1 (M) represents the information.

Source	No	Percentage
Nation	31	43.661972
Standard	15	21.126761
Radio	13	18.309859
Colleague	11	15.492958
TV	1	1.4084507
Total	71	100
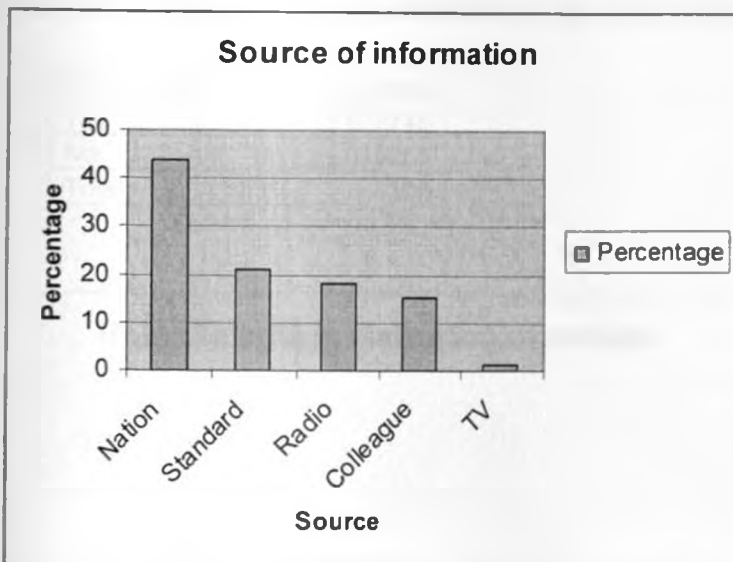
Respondents understanding of reforms;

Pertaining to their understanding of reforms, the responces varied with majority

singling out the concept of remote parenting as their main reform activity in

prisons to have been highlighted in the media. To others however, participation of

prisoners in recreation activities like sports which has also been widely reported in

the media was their understanding of reforms. It was noted that allowing too

much leisure activities to the inmates would be detrimental to the rehabilitation

process since an average citizen cannot afford most of what is provided in this

facilities. The media therefore should therefore give less prominence to such issues.

Media participation in the realization of reforms in prisons

Respondents were also asked on whether the media has played its role in the realization of reforms in penal institutions in Kenya with majority admitting that this role has been achieved as shown in the following table 4.1 (N) .

Response	No	Percentage
Yes	47	88.679245
No	6	11.320755
Total	53	100

Role of media in realisation of reforms

Percentage, No, 11%

Percentage, Yes, 89%

- Yes
- No
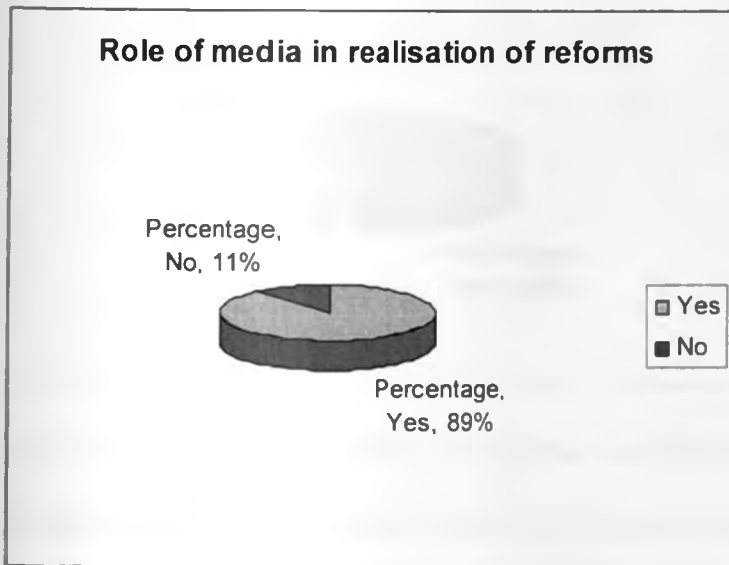
It is therefore evident that the media according to 89% of the respondents has played a role in realizing reforms so far entrenched in penal institutions with only 11% holding the view that their role is yet to be realized.

Whether the media should be considered a stakeholder in the rehabilitation process

There are various stakeholders in the criminal justice sector in Kenya. They include the judiciary, the Police, Prisons, the provincial administration, members of the public, Non

governmental organizations (NGO's) to mention just but a few. The study also sought to establish whether the media based on the role they play should be considered a stakeholder in the rehabilitation process.

The following table 4.1.(O) illustrates the findings.

Response	No	Percentage
Yes	48	88.89
No	6	11.11
Total	54	100

Media as stakeholder in rehabilitation

☐ Yes ■ No

Percentage; No; 11%

Percentage; Yes; 89%
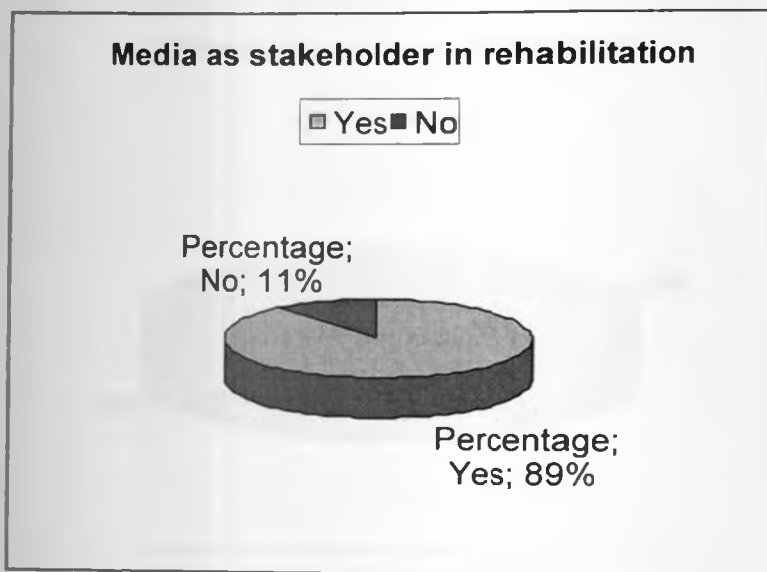
Majority of the respondents (89%) were of the view that media have a major stake in the rehabilitation process and therefore need to be brought on board to ensure the success of prison reforms with only a few (11%) who hold the view that they have no stake in the rehabilitation process. It is therefore evident that the stakeholders in the criminal justice system consider the media to be a major stakeholder in the rehabilitation process.

Media coverage of penal reform issues

The research also sought to establish whether media coverage of penal reforms was balanced or whether it was in any way skewed in favour of other parties. The flow table4.1.(P) illustrates the findings from the survey.

Response	No	Percentage
Yes	20	39.21
No	31	60.79
Total	51	100
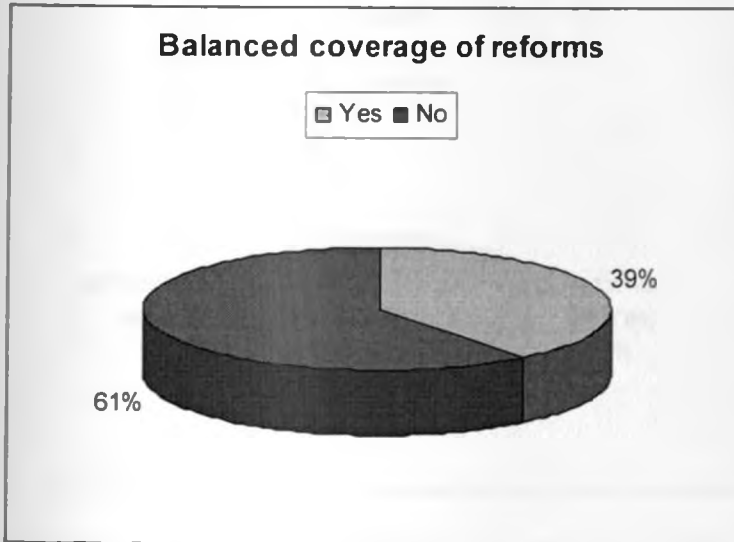
Most respondents (61%) were of the view that the media does not provide a balanced coverage of penal reform issues with 39% of the respondents viewing the coverage as balanced. This is therefore a clear testimony that media coverage of reforms is skewed in favour of their own interest which is profit oriented.

Public perception towards Prisons reforms

There was a general feeling among most stakeholders that the public does not seem to supportive of the Prison reform agenda. It is upon this ground that the researcher sought to

establish whether it could be due to the manner in which the reforms are portrayed in the media that the public is exposed to.

The following table 4.1.(Q) shows the results obtained from the respondents.

Response	No	Percentage
Yes	25	50
No	25	50
Total	50	100

Is public perception influence of media?
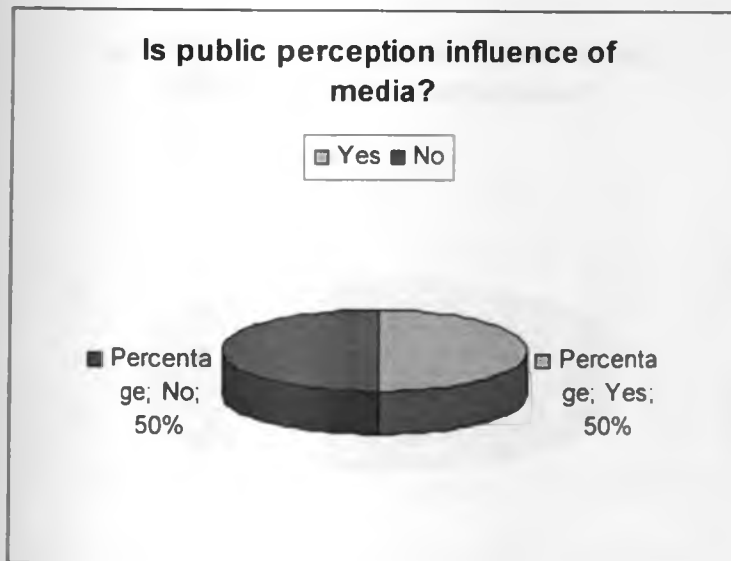
Half of the respondents were of the view that the perception of the public towards prisons reforms is the influence of the media while the other half were of the idea that the media has nothing to do with this perception.

It is therefore evident from this research the perception held by the public towards reforms in prisons is not necessarily a media creation.

Penal reforms and management of prisons

It was also important to find out from the respondents whether reforms in prisons can bring about efficiency in the management of penal institutions. This is because some publics view it as though nothing has so far improved since the inception of the Open Door Policy

that brought about reforms in prisons. However majority of the respondents as shown in the table below admitted that this has indeed improved management of prisons.

Table 4.1(R)

Response	Number	percentage
Yes	49	94.23
No	3	5.77
Total	52	100

Is penal reform important in ensuring efficiency in adm. of prisons?

☐ Yes ■ No

6%

94%
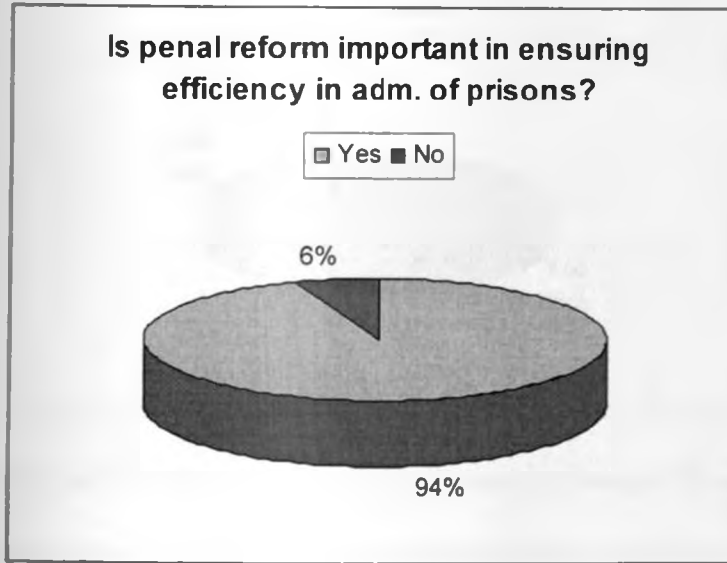
There was a general concurrence among respondents on the fact that reforms in prisons are important to bring about efficiency within the penal system and the criminal administrative structure in general.

Media, meaning of reforms and role of prisons in society

The following table shows the sampled stakeholders responses to the question which sought their views on whether the media has played its role of informing the public the meaning of reforms in prisons and the role of prisons in society.

Table 4.1(S)

Response	Number	Percentage
Yes	31	64.59
No	17	35.41
Total	48	100

Has media informed publics meaning of reforms and role of prisons?

Yes ■ No

No 35%

Yes 65%
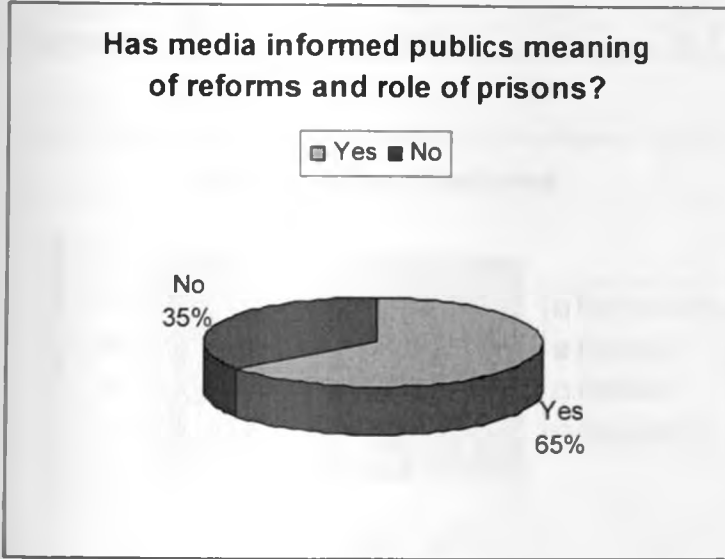
The pie chart illustration above indicates that most of the stakeholders (65%) are satisfied with the role the media plays of informing the publics the role of prisons in the society and the need of reforms in the penal system. About 35% were of the feeling that media have not played this role to their expectation. What this implies is that the media still has a way to go in convincing the stakeholders in the criminal justice sector that they indeed have a stake in the rehabilitation process.

Efficiency of rehabilitation programms in the Kenyan penal system

The survey also sought to establish the efficiency of rehabilitation programms in the Kenyan penal system with a view to providing suggestion on how the same can be improved.

The following table 4.1 (T) is a summary of the results obtained.

Service	Ext Satis.	Satis	Undecided	Dissatis	Ext Dissat
Rehabilitation	10	68	30	28	5
Products	90	76	12	8	2
Portrayal	35	88	21	24	1
Appreciation	35	52	27	38	4
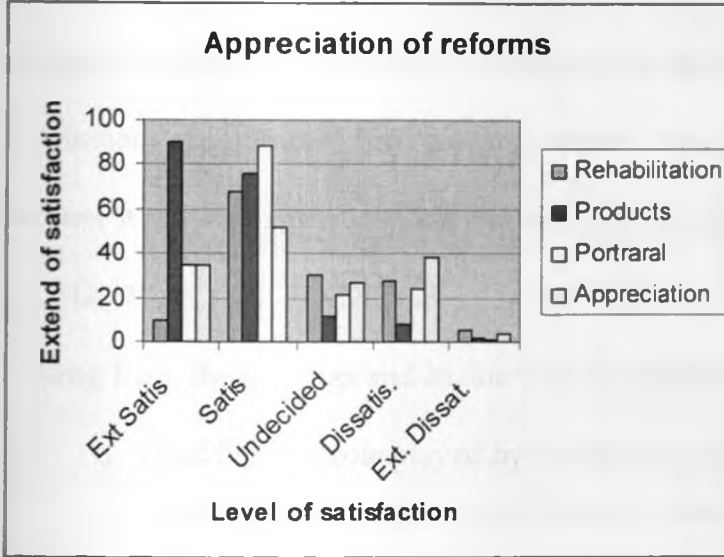
The above illustration indicates that most of the respondents were extremely satisfied with the products of prisons farms and industries compared with effectiveness of rehabilitation programms where only a handful were satisfied.

Likewise, the level of appreciation of reforms by inmates was also low from the sample of results obtained.

The results also indicate that very few respondents were dissatisfied with the services rendered by the prisons department.

5.0 FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 INRODUCTION

This chapter presents the summarized findings and gives appropriate conclusions and recommendations. According to Mugenda etal (1999) the summary reminds and informs the reader about the purpose of the study, the process used to collect and annalyse data and the major findings of the study. As Lannon[17]puts it, conclusion "culminates" your research report. It is of importance to readers because it answers the questions that sparked the collection of data.

5.2 SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Arising from the findings and in line with the objectives of the research i.e

- o Establish the role played by the media in portraying Prisons reforms.
- o Establish how media framed Prisons reforms
- o Identify key areas of reforms in Kenyan penal institutions.
- o Make appropriate recommendations on how media and prisons can collaborate for the success of prison reforms.

The following was noted.

That the media does play its role of informing and educating the public the role of prisons reforms and imprisonment however this has fallen below the expectation of many stakeholders who feel that there is more that needs to be done by the media.

The study found out that the prisons department is committed to availing information to the public. However in practice what emerges is not one of availing

---

[17] Lannon ibid

of information but a public relations exercise whereby the public relations officer is more concerned with portraying prisons in good light.

The department arrangements for provision of access to information is unwieldy and un co-coordinated. This explains why the media is unable to obtain information on penal reform issues thereby reporting without clarification hence the negative publicity. The department is more about gathering and storing information and very scarse on disseminating these information to the public when it is required.

There is a strong demand for information on reforms in prisons by the publics. However the information is not available or the officers concerned are unwilling to release it for fear of victimization. Nevertheless, there are encouraging signs that things are changing for the better. As one key informant put it during the interviews "I can freely give you that information you want but hope you will not reveal my name because we have instructions not to give you some of these things. Being open can be very costly here but I have to admit things are not the same and at least we have some freedom to speak out some issues unlike before.

Most vital information within the prisons is wrapped up in secrecy due to the official secrets act and there seems to be no guidelines on classification and declassification of information.
Although certain aspects of prison conditions have improved as a result of the reform programm, such as diversifying the prisoners' diet, major deficiencies have been observed as regards sanitation and provision of adequate medical care and clothing.
The key players in the criminal justice sector are operating in disharmony hence contributing to the failure in achieving the purpose of reforms in Prisons.

The mandate of the service is still in favour of retributive punishment as opposed to rehabilitation of offenders, however programms of prisoners education and training have benefited greatly from the reform process through donation of learning and training materials.

With regard to the objective of finding out the key areas of reforms in Kenyan penal institutions, the research found out that there is no concurrence as to what should be considered as key reforms as opposed to what should be considered secondary. Most of the respondents however were of the view that the Open Door Policy was indeed one of the significant reform initiatives in the history of the service. The policy has opened a window of opportunity for expansion of human rights of prisoners, accountability of prisons authorities and participation of civil society organizations and the public in the rehabilitation process even though the policy remains merely administrative and not firmly grounded in the legal framework of prisons administration.

Other key areas identified were;

- Introduction of open days in prisons to strengthen ties between prisoners and the immediate family.
- Beauty contest among female inmates as a way of building confidence in the inmates and income generating activity upon release of the convict.
- Introduction of new and humane prisoners' uniform to remove the stigma associated with white uniform.
- Improved prisoners' diet.
- Introduction of new and humane transport system "Moody hopper" to facilitate transportation of inmates to court among others.

Pertaining to the objective of establishing areas of collaboration between the Prisons Department and the media, the research revealed the need for the two institutions to work together in harmony for them to realize their respective goals

with the prisons authorities being urged to cultivate positive working relationships with media institutions in the country.

The need to harmonize working relationships with the media was stressed to ensure free flow of information from between the judiciary , prison authorities and other interested parties so that sentencing policy take cognizant of available capacity in prisons.

5.3 CONCLUSION

The summary and conclusions should lead logically to the recommendations, while recommendations should be consistent with the purpose of the study, its objectives, evidence presented by the data and the interpretations given.

There was a general agreement among most respondents that media reporting on penal reform issues are skewed towards matters affecting prisoners more than staff welfare. The following was pointed out as issues which require to be given prominence by the media on penal reform.

- Congestion in prison
- Accommodation and housing
- Transport
- Inadequate budgetary allocation
- Delays in hearing of cases in prisons resulting to congestion
- Inadequate communication facilities.

It is also important to note that the reform process will not succeed even with support from the media without the commitment of individuals within the system to the reform process. A clear example is Mr. Abraham Kamakil the immediate former Commissioner of Prisons who introduced the Open Door Policy vide general communication to all prisons in Kenya. Under the NARC government, the

appointment of hon. Moody Awori as the Minister responsible for prisons and later the Vice -President was widely seen as the additional of a crusader for reforms within the system. Further, the establishment of the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights in mid 2003 as an independent institution with the mandate of addressing human rights issues in prisons has further accelerated the reform process. However, from within the prison service, exemplary cases of motivated individuals have been few limiting the reforms to passive (even if positive) commitment by the prisons service.

The continued absence of a sector wide strategy of addressing reforms in the criminal justice system impacts minimally on prisons reforms. Like wise, the slowing down of the government reform agenda and the negative developments in the wider political context has also slowed down prison reforms and so is the slow progress in the constitution reforms which has delayed fundamental changes in the institutional frameworks of prisons.

5.4 RECOMMENDATIONS

Arising from the research, the following recommendations are made;

There is an overwhelming need to review the existing act upon which prisons operate if information within the custody of prisons authority is to be availed to the media for publicity. According to Mr. Maina Kiai, the Chairman of KNCHR, it is impossible to achieve comprehensive reforms under the current legislative structure.

The salaries and allowances of prisons staff should be raised and their rights to assembly and collective representation strengthened.

The public need to be continuously encouraged to demand for access to information in prisons being a stakeholder in the criminal justice sector.

There is also need to implement an effective and efficient information management system within the Kenya prisons service.

What has come to be referred to as the Open Door Policy need to be institutionalized in order to give it permanency since it only exists in the minds of managers at the moment.

The current facilities in Prisons need expansion to accommodate increased number of inmates in line with the crime trends in the country.

Implementation of community service order y placing petty offenders on CSO under strict supervision rules to address the problem of the ever increasing prisoner's population. Paradigm shift from custodial to non custodial sentences will address incarceration problem which range from overcrowding, poor facilities, lack of resources, adverse social economic circumstances which boil down to dehumanization.

The training institutions at Ruiru should establish with institutions of higher learning such as universities and other tertiary institutions with the aim of establishing prisons academy for the strategic management level.

5.5 RECOMMENDATION FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

Recommendations for further research include;

The study can be replicated using other penal institutions specifically those outside Nairobi that were not included in this study but are equally important to warrant inquiry. The number of institutions may also be increased.

Other methods of data collection can be used instead of self administered questionnaire that was used in this study for instance focused group discussion.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1) Mugenda, O (1999) *Research Methods, Qualitative and Qualitative Approaches,*

2) African Centre for Technology Studies, (ACTS), Nairobi.

3) Serverin, W. and Tankard Jr. (1997).*Communication Theories: Origins Methods and uses in the Mass Media.* Fourth Edition. Longman. New York.

4) Tan, Alexis S. (1985). *Mass Communication Theories and Research.* John Wiley and sons. New York.

5) McQuail, Denis &Sven Windahl (1993) *Communication Models for the study of Mass Communication. London: Longman*

6) Lumumba P.L.O (2006) Penal Reform in Africa: The Kenyan Case. A paper presented during the 6th Conference for Eastern Southern and Central Africa Heads of Correctional Services, Nairobi Kenya, August 2005.

7) Lowery, A. and Defleur M. (1995) *Milestones in Mass Communication Research, Media effects,* Longman Publishers USA.

8) Severin, Werner J and Tankard Jr, James W (1997). *Communication Theories: Origins, Methods and Uses in the Mass Media.* Fourth Edition. Longman New York.

9) Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 4th Edition, Oxford University Press 1989.

10) An evaluation of the status of access to information in Kenya, the Kenya section of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) December 2006.

11) Beyond the open door policy, status report on prison reforms in Kenya, Kenya National Commission on Human Rights

12) NARC election manifesto 2002.

13) Penal code chapter 63 laws of Kenya.

14) Police Act Chapter 84 laws of Kenya.

15) Prisons Act Cap 90 laws of Kenya.

16) Borstal Institution act CAP 92 Laws of Kenya

17) Criminal Procedure Code chapter 75 Laws of Kenya

18) Draft Constitution 2005

19) http://www.un.org/overview/rights.html
20) http://wwwl.umn.edu/humanrts/edumat/hreduseries/hereandnow/part-1/whatare.htm
21) http://www.aworldconnected.org/subcategory.php.html-Definition

DEFINITION OF TERMS

CAP 90; An act of Parliament Chapter 90 Laws of Kenya establishing Kenya Prisons Service

Prisoner ;A person whether convicted or un convicted lawfully held in custody.

Prison; This is a gazetted place meant for legal confinement of convicted persons or suspects awaiting trial.

Alternative Sentences; These are court orders committing offenders to serve their sentences outside Prison

Overcrowding; This is a large number of Prisoners held in Prison beyond the required minimum figure usually exceeding 100% its capacity

Prisons officer; Any officer of whatever rank employed by Kenya Prisons Service

Gazetted officer; Prisons officers from the rank of superintendent and above

Child offender; Children at conflict with the law held under lawful custody.

Junior officer; Officers employed by the Prisons Service from the rank of warder to the rank of Senior sergent.

Senior officers; Officers employed by the Prisons Service from the rank of Chief officer two and above.

Children accompanying mothers to Prison; Children below the age of 4 years accompanying their mothers to Prison

Penal Reform; Adjustment that criminal justice system undergoes in order to make it relevant to current penal situations

QUESTIONNAIRE

INTRODUCTION

I 'am a student of the University of Nairobi school of Journalism, pursuing a Master of Arts Degree in Communication Studies.

I 'am conducting a study on "the role of the media in entrenching prison reforms in Kenya" of which the findings may be useful in bringing about efficiency in the management of penal institutions in Kenya.

Kindly feel free to provide the required information which will be treated as confidential.

NB. Do not write your name anywhere on this questionnaire.

SECTION A; GENERAL INFORMATION

Please put a tick in the box next to the right response.

1) Gender: Male: ☐   Female ☐

2) Level of education:

Primary ☐   Secondary ☐   College ☐

University ☐   Postgraduate ☐   Others ☐

3) What is your age?

18-25 ☐   25-35 ☐   35-45 ☐   45-55 ☐

Above 55 ☐   Below 18 ☐

4) What is your rank?(optional)

Junior officer ☐   Chief Officer ☐

Senior officer ☐   Non uniformed officer ☐

Others ☐

5) For the case of inmates, which category do you belong to?

Short term sentence ☐   Long-term sentence ☐   Life sentence ☐

Death row ☐   Remand ☐   Others ☐

SECTION B   MEDIA AND REFORMS

6) How often do you read the following newspapers?

	Often	Rarely	Never
Nation	☐	☐	☐
Standard	☐	☐	☐
Sunday Nation	☐	☐	☐
Sunday Standard	☐	☐	☐

7) In your own view, what do you understand by penal reforms? -----------------

----

7) Have you read about reforms taking place in penal institutions in Kenya?

Yes ☐   No ☐

If you read about it, where did you obtain the information?

Neighbour ☐

Colleague ☐

Radio ☐

Nation ☐

Standard ☐

9) How often do you read about these reforms in;

	Frequently	occasionally	Never
Nation	☐	☐	☐
Standard	☐	☐	☐

Please write in the space below what you remember reading about penal reforms

in one of the papers---

----

10) In your own view do you think media has played a role in educating you on

the role of prison reforms? Yes ☐   No ☐

11) What issues about prison reforms do you think should be given more attention

by the

media...

....

12) What issues do you think should be given less

attention?...

....

14) Do you think the media has played a role in realizing these reforms?

Yes ☐   No ☐

15) Should the media be considered a stakeholder in the rehabilitation process?

Yes ☐   No ☐

16) Does the media provide a balanced coverage of events touching on penal

system in Kenya? Yes ☐   No   ☐

17) Do you think the perception held by the public towards prisons is a creation

of the media ? Yes ☐ No   ☐

18) In your own view, do you think penal reforms in Kenya is important in

ensuring efficiency in the management of penal institutions?

Yes   ☐   No   ☐

19) What areas of reforms do you think would be important to be entrenched in

our local situation?---

----

20) In your own view, do you think the media has played the role it deserves of

informing the public the meaning of reforms and role of prisons in society?

Yes ☐   No   ☐

21) What other areas do you think prisons and media can collaborate?

....

22) Besides each of the statements presented below, please indicate whether you

are extremely satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied or extremely dissatisfied.

Extremely satisfied   (5)

Satisfied   (4)

	(3)					
Undecided	(3)					
Dissatisfied	(2)					
Extremely Dissatisfied	(1)					

How satisfied are you with	5	4	3	2	1
Effectiveness of rehabilitation programms	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Quality of products manufactured by inmates	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Effectiveness of the media in its portrayal of reforms	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )
Prisoners level of appreciating reforms	( )	( )	( )	( )	( )

Thank you for sparing time to fill this questionnaire.

COI PF 2001038682/29716

Prisons Headquarters

P.O.Box 30175 – 00100

NAIROBI

15th May 2007.

The Commissioner of Prisons

Prisons Headquarters

P.O.Box 30175 – 00100

NAIROBI

RE; <u>REQUEST TO CARRY OUT RESEARCH IN PRISONS WITHIN NAIROBI AREA</u>

I wish to request for permission to carry our research in Prisons within Nairobi on the role of the media in entrenching prison reforms in Kenya.

This is part of the requirement for the award of a master of Arts degree in communication studies of the University of Nairobi where I am currently pursuing my studies.

All the rules pertaining to the conduct of visitors during visits to Prison will be adhered to during my visits.

Thank you.

Oliver Khabakali Rapando.