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THE SOCIOLOGY OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING. (A CASE STUDY OF NAIROBI PROVINCE.)

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DECLARATION

I declare that this project paper is my original work and has not been presented for examination in any other university.

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DEDICATION

To my children Katumi, Kimilu and Ndunge.
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The views expressed in this project paper are however those of the author and he remains solely responsible for any errors therein.
ABSTRACT

This was an exercise to understand the concept of community policing and find out how this new policing style is working in Nairobi. The study was aimed at finding out how community policing is able to contain crime at manageable levels. The principal assumption behind this study was that crime is a social behavior and its causes can be found in the social, economic, and political conditions of the society. Crime can be studied and understood from a sociological perspective. Solutions to crime problem can be found in the society and not on the individual.

Community policing is a superior style of policing when compared with other styles of policing. This style of policing is based on the understanding that crime is a complex social problem which require a multy-agency approach to solve.

Community policing is a philosophy which is hard to understand but once understood it is very cheap and easy to implement. Community policing strategy breaks crime into manageable components which are easy to handle. The joint efforts of the police and the public ensures that none of the two is overwhelmed by crime.

Two sampling procedures were adopted, police divisions and key informants were purposively selected. Police stations and interviewees were randomly sampled.

The methods of data collection used were indepth interviews with key informants, observations, questionnaires and review of documentary materials.

The findings of the study were that Community policing is being implemented in Nairobi. There are community policing projects which have been started by the police and others have been started by the communities. However, the implementation is very slow because the government and the public do not put a lot of emphasis on it.
Where community policing is in place crime rates have come down and there are indications that the police and members of the public are working together in solving crimes.

The residents of Nairobi have come up with measures to deal with the problem of crime in their residential and commercial areas. Most of these measures are working well in reducing crime.

The philosophy of community policing is not well understood by both the police and the public. Members of the public are confusing community policing with vigilante groups while police officers equate community policing with the construction of police stations, repair and maintenance of police vehicles by the members of the public.

Police and members of the public are willing to work together, but currently they are not working together because of deep suspicion, mistrust and misunderstanding that exists between the two.

Majority of police officers in Nairobi still want to maintain their professional outlook, they do not want raia to get involved in their work. Public involvement in policing is seen by some police officers as trespass in their area.

Very few police officers are trained in community policing. The training is through seminars which last between one day and two weeks. This training period is too short and inadequate because the officers are required to internalize a lot of things within a very short time.
CHAPTER 1: PROBLEM STATEMENT

1.0 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Crime is a major social problem in the world today. Crime rates have been increasing in most developing countries. In Kenya, everybody is concerned about the escalating crime rates. Most parts of Nairobi are considered unsafe. Recently, the United Nations declared Nairobi unsafe and downgraded it to class “C” category.

The Kenya Police Force was established by the British Government in 1896 to protect the colonial interests. It is the police force which is charged with the responsibility of crime management. During the colonial era, Kenya Police was used to oppress the Africans. Kenya Police is perceived by the common citizen as being there to serve the rich. This is a relic of colonial legacy when the policeman was employed to enforce unpopular colonial laws and therefore hated by the members of public.

Kenya Police Force is highly centralized with its Headquarters at Vigilance House in Nairobi. Generic strategies are formulated in Nairobi and passed over to the field commands to be applied in crime prevention.

Kenya Police Force uses the traditional methods of crime management. It reacts to crime as it occurs. This is an inferior method of policing. In Kenya we have not reached a superior level of policing like in the more developed countries.

Most countries in the West are moving away from the traditional ways of crime management which emphasized rapid response, preventive patrols and criminal investigations in crime management. Today they are adopting community policing in crime management.

Community Policing is a proactive style of crime management which is gaining popularity all over the world. It is a way of creating a superior type of policing.
Community Policing is a major reform in modern policing and both the police and the community need to support it for it to succeed.

It is a method of sensitising the community to the need of preventing the occurrence of crime, rather than waiting for the crime to occur and then call the police.

Community policing is a new change blowing across the world.

In 1996, Kenya Police adopted community policing in crime management. The police force had realised that the community security needs were best known by the particular community. Sometimes, these needs are different from what the police officers think they are. Therefore, police officers must form partnership with members of the communities in crime management.

Community Policing involves integrating all the organs of the state with those of the communities in the war against crime. Through community policing, members of the public will exercise their constitutional obligation of apprehending criminals and handing them over to the police.

Community policing is a superior style of policing which is more in touch with the priorities of local residents. It is designed to enhance social cohesion and integration and thus prevent crime through positive social influence.

In Nairobi, there are several communities, which have initiated home grown ideas and ways of fighting crime in their residential areas and business places. These initiatives are known by different names viz Neighbourhood Watch, Neighbourhood Association, Home Watch, Community Watch, Shop Watch, Bank Watch etc.

The Kenya Police Department has held several seminars and workshops on community policing. The first police manual on community policing was published in July 1997. Community policing office has been established in Nairobi police provincial headquarters..
The functions of the Kenya police are given under the police act and the constitution of Kenya. The commissioner of the police is appointed by the president and he is responsible to the president for efficient administration of the force. The main functions of the police force are:

- The maintenance of law and order.
- The preservation of the peace.
- The protection of life and property.
- The prevention and detection of crime.
- The apprehension of offenders.
- The enforcement of all laws and regulations with which it is charged.

These responsibilities are enormous and complicated, to accomplish them the police will need the co-operation and assistance from the members of the public. This cooperation can be achieved through community policing.

1.1 THE PROBLEM.

Crime affects all sectors of the society including the family, economy and politics. Crime rates in Kenya have continued to escalate regardless of the increased budgetary allocations to security and law enforcement agencies. The ratio of the number of policemen per population has continued to increase and the police have employed modern technologies in the war against crime.

However crime rates have continued to increase. In view of this, the government is eager to try any method that may solve this problem.

Community Policing is a philosophy which is hard to understand, but once understood, it is easy to apply.
Community Policing is a new concept which is being adopted in the war against crime in Kenya. This new concept is not well understood by many Kenyans including Police Officers, Academicians and the members of the public.

This study aims at understanding how the concept “Community Policing” works. It will aim at answering the following questions.

(i) What is Community Policing and how is it being applied in Kenya.

(ii) Is the relationship between the police and members of the public conducive for community policing?

(iii) Are there community structures in Kenya which will make community policing a success?

(iv) How is community policing perceived by the consumers of police services?

1.2 OBJECTIVES

Community policing is a superior form of policing. It is a strategy that is being applied in many parts of the world. The main objectives in this study are:­

To understand the concept community policing and how the new strategy is working in Kenya.

To explore the existing relationships between the police and the public.

To find out how the consumers of police services and the police officers perceive the concept community policing.

To find out the level of understanding of this new strategy among the police officers and members of the public.
1.3 JUSTIFICATION

Community policing is a new concept in crime management in Kenya. Very little academic research has been done on this new concept.

It is necessary to carry out a scholarly research in this new concept before committing resources for its implementation countrywide.

Crime threatens to run out of control. It is important to do an academic research on any new method of policing that may assist to arrest the situation before it is implemented.

Findings of this research will assist the government to modify its approach in the war against crime.

Community policing has been chosen and not the other methods of policing because it is a new and superior method of policing.
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The police as an institution in the Criminal justice system play an important role in the management and control of crime. Police officers are the front line officers in crime management. They are the ones who start the process in war against criminals. Although crime is as old as human race and it is part and parcel of the society, and therefore Man must learn to live with crime, it is the responsibility of the government to ensure that crime remains at manageable levels.

Crime is a major threat to modern civilization and according to O. W. Wilson et al (1977: 4) "Next to war, crime is a greater immediate threat to life and property than the other issues. The failure of society to diminish criminality imposes great hardship on our people, not only in terms of loss of life and property, but also in terms of fear and suspicion, which detract from our mind peace and comfort. The cost of fighting crime is staggering. If this money could be directed into education, medical and social research, efficient production, conservation of resources and protection of the environment, the welfare of our society would be immeasurably increased".

Most of the communities of the world have had one form of policing or another. In most of the African Communities Crime Management was the responsibility of every member of the community. The Egyptians recruited Nubians for their Medjay Police nearly 4000 years ago and established maritime Police in 1430 BC.

A critical look at the policing system has established that most of the policing systems do not look at the causes of crime but only deals with the symptoms.
2.1 CRIME

Mueller (1995) in his book criminology defines crime as any rational human conduct that violates a criminal law and is subject to punishment. Crime is as old as human race. The overriding need of every society is to protect its own existence. Next to Nuclear war crime is the next biggest threat to the existence of human race.

The story of Romulus and Remus about the origin of Rome show clearly how crime threaten the society. Romulus killed his brother Remus after he had jumped over the wall protecting Rome. Remus had not committed any crime but by jumping over the wall he showed the enemy where the wall was most vulnerable to attack. This was treason because it threatened the existence of Rome.

To understand the concept of crime in any society we must look at the economic, social and environmental conditions of that society. The society will outlaw any act which is likely to threaten its existence. The Romans had the Law of twelve tables by 450 BC. This table prohibitated what threatened the existence of Rome. The code of Hammurabi (1750 BC). The Mosaic code (1200 BC) and the Koran (7 A.D) detailed all the acts which were wrong and threatened the existence of the society. Crime is a complex social problem, which require multy agency approach to solve. Simple approach to crime will only address the symptoms and not the causes.

Wilson (1977) said “people have a tendency to seek simple solutions to complex problems, and a recent posture of society has been to think in terms of solution to “Street Crime” to assume that if we could somehow stop the offenders who are now committing robberies, burglaries, thefts and rapes our crime problem would be solved”.

2.2 THE ORIGIN OF MODERN POLICING

Since crime is as old as human race, policing must equally be as old as human race. However, according to G.O.W Muller (1995: 408) "The earliest records of policing in Anglo-American history can be found in the Laws of the Danish King Canute (AD 1035), who governed England in the first Quarters of the eleventh Century, before the Norman Conquest".

In this early policing every ten families organized themselves and were bound together by a mutual pledge to keep the peace. Every male over the age of twelve was part of the police and was actively involved in maintaining the peace. Later this system was developed and strengthened by the establishment of the Kings representatives who were called Sheriffs in each County. The Kings representatives coordinated all the policing activities and enforced the Kings Law.

Policing system in England continued to improve and in 1285 the office of the Constable was established by the statutes of Winchester. The Constable was a government officer charged with the responsibility of suppressing riots and violent crimes in each county.

By the thirteenth century a system of night patrols had developed in urban areas in England. The night patrols were performed by untrained citizens (watchmen) who were on look out for any disturbances. In 1326 the first justices of peace were commissioned. Justices of peace were noble men who investigated and tried minor offences. Towards the end of thirteenth century Law Enforcement in England was in the hands of the Sheriffs, the Constables, justices of the peace and the night watchmen.

During the industrial revolutions in Europe, there were radical changes in the modes of production which consequently resulted into rapid urban growth and concentration
of large population in towns. The then existing policing methods were modelled to serve the feudal systems and therefore could not maintain law and order. At the beginning of the eighteenth century crime was running out of control in England.

In 1751 the English Parliament in response to the breakdown of law and order voted funds for the establishment of a professional police force to deal with crime. In 1829 Sir Robert Peel, the then home Secretary and later Prime Minister moved a bill in parliament for the establishment of a professional police force. Sir Robert Peel is recognised as the father of modern policing. His first police force composed of one thousand men who were uniformed, trained and disciplined. They were paid using funds voted by the parliament, however they were not armed.

When capitalism spread to Africa, America, Asia, it introduced Professional Policing in the new areas. Police officers were required in the colonies to protect the lives and properties of the traders and administrators.

2.3 MODERN POLICING IN KENYA

Before colonization by the Europeans, African Communities had their way of policing.

Among the Kamba the Kingole Policing system ensured that there was Law and Order. The Kingole ensured that all members of the Kamba community followed the good values of the community. They punished those who violated those values. Among the kikuyu community there were stiff punishments for criminals. Rapists were punished through lynching and thieves were rolled down a steep cliff in a beehive with sharp nails.

Modern policing in Kenya can be traced back to the coming of Europeans when European traders came into East Africa, they needed a Police force to protect their
lives and properties. The Imperial British East Africa Company was concerned with extraction of raw materials from East Africa for the industries in England. The Company required a police force to protect it's trade routes, stations and properties in East Africa.

In 1896 the British Foreign Office took over the administration of East Africa from the Imperial British East Africa Company and formed an organised real Police Force at Mombasa. This was a small force which was composed of European officers, Indian and African men.

This small police force was deployed along the railway line to protect it. The force was also involved in the maintainance of law and order in Mombasa. Its headquarters was at Fort Jesus in Mombasa.

The early police force was lacking in efficiency and discipline. It was not established on sound principles and most of the European Officers had military background and not a police background. There were no training facilities for these officers in Kenya. Most of them received training in England while on leave. This training however was not adequate to meet the challenges the force was facing in East Africa.

The African police officers were ill armed, badly equipped, poorly clothed and untrained. They enforced the law through trial and error. They were also poorly remunerated and lived in pathetic conditions. Despite these shortcomings, the police force was supposed to deal with all the incidents of crime and other emergencies.

In 1920, when Kenya became a British protectorate, the police changed its name from East African police to Kenya Police Force. This name has remained up to date. Kenya police is still a force and not a service.
Throughout the Colonial Period, Kenyans protested against European domination. There were several rebellions from the time of the coming of the Europeans up to the time of independence. During those rebellions and uprisings the police force joined the military in quelling them. Punitive expedition against Kenyans were organized. The police were ruthless when dealing with Kenyans. Many Kenyans were killed or maimed during those expeditions.

Although the police officers were not trained, they were called upon to deal with social problems like quarrels arising from family problems, wild life menace, extramarital affairs, etc. They were also called upon to deal with medical problems like attending expectant mothers and injuries, where there were no doctors.

The local District Police Commander was supposed to prosecute criminals before Magistrate Courts in the District. They were also supposed to carry out execution of convicts sentenced to death. All these were enormous tasks for any police officers, leave alone untrained one. As one of the great Policemen, August Volmer, chief of California Police between 1927 and 1932, once said “the ideal police officer is expected to have the wisdom of Solomon, the courage of David and the strength of Samson, the patience of Job, the leadership of Moses, the kindness of the good Samaritan, the strategy of Alexander, the faith of Daniel, the diplomacy of Lincoln, the tolerance of the Carpenter of Nazareth and finally an intimate knowledge of every branch of Natural, Biological and Social Sciences.” Since the police officers found themselves dealing with everything, they developed the Motto “Salus Pulus” - “(Utumishi Kwa Wote)”.

During the first and second World War Kenya Police was placed under active service. This meant that police officers were engaged in full military service. During the
second world war there was a full police service battalion. Upto today police training and operations in Kenya maintain some military elements.

During the mau-mau uprising the force expanded rapidly. More Africans and Europeans were enlisted in the force to deal with the freedom fighters. The General Service Unit (G.S.U) was formed and the Criminal Investigations Unit Strengthened.

During the Mau-Mau period some Africans were promoted to inspectorate ranks. When suppressing the mau-mau uprising, police officers were ruthless. They were inhumane to freedom fighters and their sympathisers. Police officers were protecting unpopular government, since then Kenyans have never trusted the police.

Although the police force served the interests of the European, the vision and motto was service to all as evidenced in the speech by Mr. R.C Cattling Commissioner of Police in 1958 (W. R. Foran 1962: 228) “But what I believe most of us were trying to say was that Kenya Policemen exercise their powers and responsibilities on behalf of the citizen of this country:- powers and responsibilities which in essence are shared by all citizens alike and not as the agent of any higher authority.”

After independence in 1963, ranks in the police force were Africanised however the colonial police structures remained. The training programmes did not change and the force continued to enforce unpopular legislations, which criminalized poverty. Unpopular laws like Tresspass and Vagrancy continued to be enforced.

During the period of single party the police force was used to suppress any opposition to the government. Many Kenyans especially scholars who dared to voice opposition to the government policies were arrested, tortured and detained.

The image of the Kenya Police became more tainted. The force is seen as corrupt and as an instrument of political oppression and manipulation. It is a force which is not in
touch with the citizens. In many areas police officers are seen as more of oppressors than the custodian of the people’s rights.

Kenya Police still behave like a force and not a service. The officers are not in touch with the people. The common citizen see police officers as being there to enforce the political interests of the ruling class and not to protect the common citizens.

2.4 POLICING STYLES

There are different styles of policing in different parts of the world. Policing systems vary according to cultural, religious, legal, social and political conditions under which the policing is operating.

With modern trends in globalisation, most of the police systems have a universal outlook. However, a scrutiny of policing systems in different parts of the world may reveal variations and mutations.

There are several styles of policing, some styles are primitive, oppressive and out of touch with the people. Others are people friendly, however all of them have one purpose that is control of crime. O. W. Wilson et al (1995:6) in his book Police Administration said “The Primary Purposes of a Police department are the protection of life and property against crime, the preservation of the peace and order, the safe movement of traffic and provision of emergency services. In carrying out secondary goals, the police render a host of miscellaneous non criminal services and are charged with the enforcement of a wide variety of state and Local Laws, ordinances, and regulations. Some of these laws are designed to safeguard the morals of the community, and through the enforcement the police department becomes the principal agent of the society in attempting to eliminate the opportunity for immoral conduct”.
FORMAL POLICING

The most successful devices to control crime in a society stem from traditional and formal social controls, impositions, taboos, religion, custom, shared values and moral standards upon which formal policing is developed.

The family cohesion is the base upon which the society is built. Where the cohesion and stability of the family unit is maintained, the society is also stable.

When the family unit is lessened then there will be conflict between the children and the law. The family unit is where children learn moral behaviour. Taboos and imperatives also control social behaviour. There are beliefs in many societies that if you break a certain taboo some evil may befall you. This is the earliest and most primitive policing.

Religions are also of considerable importance in social controls. Each religion has sanctions against anti-social behaviours. The Christians have the Ten Commandments which have prevented commission of crimes in Christian countries. The Koran also uses a lot of emphasis on strict code of conduct.

II. PASSIVE POLICING

This method of policing is characterized by police who are not active in crime control.

Their main purpose is to provide a presence. Passive Police officers are reluctant to activate the law unless there is serious crime that has been committed or when there is a trend/indications of public order.

When passive policing operates, it is usually an indication of a high tolerance level in the situation or a neighbourhood. It may also be an indication that a high standard of social cohesion will discourage police authority. Some minority communities like the Indians in Kenya live in high standard estates and would not like police officers to go to those estates.
Passive Police Policing has some advantages. First it is not expensive, police arrests are few and consequently prosecutions are kept at minimal. Prisons are not therefore over crowded.

It also permits a good deal of self regulation, avoids petty scandals and generally makes for live and let live atmosphere in which recourse to remedies through criminal courts are kept to a minimum.

Passive Police Policing has disadvantages. Passivity may be an indication of incompetence or even corruption on the side of the police. Traffic police in our roads allow public transport motor vehicles to pass with excess passengers because they are receiving bribes. They will look the other way when a motor vehicle carrying excess passengers is passing and assume that they have not seen a crime being committed.

Passive policing may be an indication of hostility by a minority group towards the police where the police are unable to apply active policing.

Passive policing may be an indication of lack of competence or defective leadership on the side of the police. A situation may arise where the police are not trained to deal with and therefore they will stand by the side and watch. When the American Embassy in Nairobi was bombed in 1998, police officers got confused and did not know how to handle the situation. They were not trained and experienced to handle a bombing of such magnitude.

The vacuum created by the police passivity may create an environment for extortion, bribery, blackmails and organized crime.

The disadvantages of passive police policing are numerous and this style of policing should be avoided. However, police may show passivity in one area and industry in another. This may be due to the social expectation in the areas concerned.
2.7 PUNITIVE POLICING

Punitive policing may be described as policing by suspended terror. It is based on the assumption that provided that penalties for crimes are horrible people will be deterred from committing them.

It presupposes first that sufficient people will be caught to render it plausible and that sufficient potential offenders will anticipate that they too might be caught.

This system of policing requires an efficient police force to back up the draconian Laws. This type of policing succeed if there is correlation between detection and extreme severity in punishment. However certainty of detection cannot be guaranteed sufficiently.

When violent robbery cases increased in 1970's the Kenya government responded by making these offences punishable by death, the government also made these offences unbailable. The government reaction did not result into the decrease of robberies. On the contrary cases of robberies continued to increase and currently they have reached alarming levels.

As the society becomes more gentle in its altitude and manners a condition that is associated with high level of civilization, it becomes less likely to permit inhuman penalties like death sentence and corporal punishment. Where the Political system maintains them in the statutes, they will fall into disuse. Juries will acquit rather than convict offenders charged with such offences or they will find them guilty of lesser charges.

This method of policing is still being used in Kenya. Kenya police is still in favour of capital robbery. Police officers threaten suspects that they will charge them with unbailable offences like robbery with violence even when they committed minor offences like theft.
This is a police policing system, which cannot be allowed in democratic societies. It survives under totalitarian or despotic regimes. It can also survive in a religious form of government.

The doctrine of punitive policing or policing by severity of punishment reached its peak in England in the late 18th century when over three hundred offences were punishable with death sentence. Regardless of this punitive policing style crime continued to rise.

2.8 PREVENTIVE POLICING

This is a superior strategy of policing than all the other types of policing. It is superior in the ethical sense because by preventing crimes it saves people from the hardship associated with any confrontation with the criminal justice system.

Preventive policing shows the concern by the society to reduce criminality, which victimizes both the perpetrator and the victim of crime. When the perpetrator is arrested, prosecuted and imprisoned, the family suffers. When family breaks down the children becomes destitutes and consequently engages in criminal behaviour. If the perpetrator of the crime is the man the woman can turn into criminal behaviour like prostitution to meet the economic needs of the children.

Preventive policing reduces the cost of crime, and eases pressure on all the facets of our criminal justice system. When crime is prevented then workload in the judiciary eases and the prison population reduces.

In the current economic difficulties facing Kenya, where there are limited resources for the Institutions dealing with crime management, any policing styles which addresses criminality before the crime occurs is the most appropriate.
Preventive policing in the 19th century was characterised by omnipresent police patrols, which aimed at controlling gangs, mobs and criminal class. This however has changed, modern preventive policing recognizes that everybody is a potential criminal and aim at addressing those social conditions which encourage criminality.

2.9 PROACTIVE POLICING

This is a primary preventive police policing. Proactive policing describes any Lawful form of human activity which result in a diminution of conduct forbidden by the law. It embraces activities to penetrate the community in a multitude of ways in order to influence its behaviour away from illegality and towards legality. It involves carrying anticipatory initiatives into practice to head off criminality.

Proactive policing seeks to strengthen prevention, social discipline and mutual trust in the community. Proactive policing requires a high degree of co-operation between the community, police department and other local and central government institutions. All must join efforts to address social problems which encourage criminality. Removing or foiling crimogenic social conditions is the main purpose of proactive policing. To foil crimogenic social conditions, the community, the police, social services departments housing and planning ministries must be fully involved in crime management. All the above institutions, together with all the other organs of the government aim at the improvement of the welfare of the people. Improved welfare leads into reduction of criminality in the community.

Proactive policing is limited by imagination, it does not depend heavily on resources. Police seeks to create trust in the community, or strengthen it where it is existing. Once the community and the police have developed trust, policing becomes easy.
Proactive policing has secondary prevention which refers to those activities which are normally associated with the understood police functions. These are the modern police strategies which are usually associated with the known police activities. These are proactive police activities, which make the criminal to be on the run. Any effective police force should have an intelligence network, which ensure that the Commanders can predict crime occurrence and therefore take preventive measures. The most common preventive action by police is through foot and mobile patrols. Foot patrols have great deterrent potential when skilfully deployed. It is mainly dependent on manpower, communication and mobility for its success. Mobile patrol have high response capability, however it does not impress itself among the public. Traffic control, school-crossing patrols and public education are additional preventive policing undertaken by the police. These strategies together with crime detection aim at prevention of crime before it occurs.

2.10 REACTIVE POLICING

Every police force must have a capability to react to emergencies which rate high in public estimation. Their mobility and communication must be deployed in such a way that they cannot be affected by such factors as bad geographical conditions. The time taken from the time a report is made to the police to the time police arrive at the scene of crime is called response time. Response time is a key measurement of police efficiency.

A police system which cannot meet the demand for quick response to emergencies risk its reputation in the eyes of the public. According to Sunday nation of 20th April 2001 the Metropolitan Police in London take an average of twelve minutes to arrive at a scene of crime. In Nairobi police response time is very poor, they take a long time to arrive at a scene of crime. Police response rate is determined by several factors, the
status of their equipment, the planning of the city, conditions of the infrastructure and the alertness of the officers influence police response rate.

If a police force is equipped with modern equipment, the towns are properly planned, the roads are in good conditions and the officers are alert the response rate is normally very high.

The advancement in technology has lead to creation of command rooms in the police station. Policemen on duty have pocket radios and motor vehicles. They are usually stationed at their posts or stations where they can be called when there is a report. If the report is serious police officers will race to the scene of crime in a deafening speed. They will attend the scene professionally and withdraw back to the station.

Reactive policing makes police officers loose conduct with the members of the public. This policing style makes police officers technological Cops. Loss of conduct can lead to misunderstanding, suspicion, and even hostility between police officers and members of the public.

In Reactive Policing, Police Officers arrive at the scene of crime long after the criminals have left. In this kind of policing it is the police officers who are on the run and not the criminals. In this system of policing the criminals are on the advantage point. A purely reactionary police force, however well equipped can be a disaster.

A police force should develop a dual character. Police officers should be able to respond and react quickly and at the same time maintain non conflict conduct with the community.

A superior democratic police force knows that the essence of policing lies in human care, understanding and education. Public have better understanding of the police if the policemen have opportunities on day-to-day basis to be a guide, philosopher and a friend.
2.11 COMMUNITY SERVICE

According to Mushanga (1988) a community is a large number of people who for economic, social, political and cultural reasons find themselves under one administrative agency such as a government.

The police is the government frontline response to social problems and emergencies. Police officers are called upon to provide service to those members of the community who, by reason of personal, economic, social or other circumstances are in need of immediate aid. Their duties bring them in contact with drug addicts, runaway children, lost domestic animals and people with medical problems. Social and administrative task account for more than fifty percent of police responses. Crime fighting account for only a small percentage.

The successful performance of police require that they have the trust and co-operation of the public. The manner in which the police perform their duties determines the community’s respect for and trust in its police. If respect exists, citizens are more likely to assist the police in their law enforcement function.

In 1930’s police departments in the United States and Britain were being accused of massive corruption. In response to the accusation and as a strategy to fight corruption most police departments went to an era of professionalization. Police officers were supposed to behave as professionals who were supposed to provide professional service. Any contact with the public was on professional basis. During this era police-community co-operation vanished. In late 1960’s and early 1970’s communities in the ghettos were seeing police officers as enemies. These communities started rebelling against government policies in general and law enforcement in particular. This revolts against law enforcement prompted large scale efforts to restore police community relations. Community policing as a strategy of
policing was adopted in 1980’s in the United States of America. It was started to
restore good working relationship between the police and the communities.

2.12 COMMUNITY POLICING
Community policing is a proactive policing strategy that relies on public confidence
and citizen co-operation to help prevent crime in a given area and make the residents
of that area more secure. Community policing aim at situational crime prevention i.e.
organizing neighbourhood watch group to harden the targets which may be aimed at
by the criminals. It also involves changing of the environmental design of buildings,
or street for efficient protection.

Community policing involves organising activities in the community to keep the
youth busy. Police officers are also involved in programs in primary and secondary
schools where they interact with students and pupils in some policing activities like
crossing the roads at zebra crossings. Idle youth in the community can easily fall into
criminal behaviour, this can be averted through some activities which help to keep
them busy, such activities may include football matches and drama competitions.

When primary and secondary school students interact with police officers, they are
likely to see them as friends when they grow up.

In the 1980’s community policing was adopted in the United States America as a
“Community Policing generally consist of programmes and policies based on
partnership between the police and the community they serve”. Many types of
programmes have been described as community policing, they include foot patrol,
store front police stations, community surveys, police sponsored youth activities, and
neighbourhood watch programmes.
The idea of community policing is widely applied in different countries of the world. In Japan we have Mini police station called “Koban” in each neighbourhood. These Mini Police Stations receive complaints, search for runaways and patrol on foot or bicycles. Officers in Koban provide security through constant contact.

The Koban has a reception room, a small kitchen, an interview area, and a lost and found service, it serves the important function of soliciting recommendations for what the police might do to help the community. Other Countries like Sweden, Norway and Singapore have Mini Police stations modelled on the Japanese Koban.

In New York community policing programme was started in 1984. Mueller (1995:423) “Individual Officers were taken from their routine line duties and appointed Community Patrol Officers (CPO). A CPO was to make rounds on foot and to function as a planner, problem solver community organizer and information link between the community and the police”.

In Kenya community policing was introduced in 1996. According to Kimanthi (2002) “Community policing and crime prevention is a programme that has been adopted by the Kenya Police in the recent past with a view of enhancing partnership with the community in policing and in the fight against crime. Experience has shown that police needs the support and participation of every citizen of goodwill if we are to create a crime free society”.

For a community policing to work the police force applying it must change its traditional operational functions. These changes must take into account the aspiration of the residents, the diversity of their problems and the resources in each neighbourhood.
2.13 ELEMENTS OF COMMUNITY POLICING

There are some important elements of community policing. These elements make community policing more closer to the public than other policing styles. These elements are:-

2.14 TEAM POLICING

In 1970's police forces in the United States were perceived as army of occupation in the inner cities and ghettos. There was little familiarity between officers and the residents of the neighbourhood they served. Most of the policing in the neighbourhood was through mobile patrols. Police officers attended scenes very fast, and got out immediately after stabilizing the situation. They had no time to be with the members of the public. This approach to crime management created a crack in the relationship between the police and the people they were serving.

Team policing was adopted in order to change the image of police from that of an enemy to that of a friend.

Team policing involves, a team of officers rather than individual officers who carry the policing responsibilities in a given neighbourhood.

The team of officers is under a Supervisor who decides on how to divide up the work, what methods to use to cover the area, and how to maximize communication with community members.

Communication between the police officers and residents is accomplished through meeting between the police supervisors and community leaders. Store front mini police stations encourage residents to drop in their complaints and suggestions. The team also carry out Youth Programmes in the neighbourhood.

The team members meet regularly to discuss neighbourhood problems. They also keep each other informed and they jointly participate in formulation of common
policy. Team policing helps to manage crime through better Police-Community relations.

2.15 PROBLEM-ORIENTED POLICING

This is another effective way of enhancing police-community relations. In problem oriented policing police work with citizens to identify and respond to community problems.

In community policing police are more problem oriented and less incident oriented. Police officers analyse local social problems, help to design solutions and monitor effects.

2.16 FOOT PATROL

After the second world war police officers in Britain and the United States of America abandoned foot patrol and concentrated on mobile patrols. Foot patrol policing recognizes the fact that patrol cars isolate police officers from the members of the public.

When police officers are involved in foot patrol, members of the public get to know them and feel greater sense of security.

Foot patrol reduces crime and fear of crime. Members of public feel more secure and therefore co-operate more with police officers. Better co-operation with the public results into more job satisfaction among police officers and hence better performance.

2.17 PREVENTIVE PATROL

Preventive patrol which entails an increase in police presence and visibility, deters criminals from committing crimes and thereby reduces citizen fears and foster good police-public relations.
Preventive police patrol should not be distributed through the neighbourhood because not all the areas are at risk. Preventive patrols should concentrate on hot spot areas, and particular places within the neighbourhood that are the source of the most call to the police.

2.18 POLICE-COMMUNITY RELATIONS PROGRAMMES

These programmes involve activities aimed at reaching out into the community. These activities include Joint Patrol between the police and members of the public, citizen awards, citizen citation programmes to recognize meritorious acts, liaison with the clergy, open days at police buildings and public speaking programmes.

These programmes result into increased cooperation by the members of the public in providing information to assist in law enforcement. Members of the public are likely to voluntarily comply with the law after these programmes. They are also likely to support budget allocations to the police department.

2.19 DEFINITION OF COMMUNITY POLICING

According to Bob Atrajabnowicz (1990) community policing is a philosophy of full service, personalized policing where the same police officer patrols and works in the same area on a permanent basis from a decentralized place, working in a proactive partnership with the local people to identify and solve crime and disorder problems.

Community policing is a philosophy of client-oriented service delivery aimed at improving the quality of life of the people. Community policing improves the quality of life by solving crime problems and removing disorders from the society.

Community policing is both a philosophy and an organizational strategy that allows the police and the community to work closely together. The philosophy rests on the belief that people deserve to have input in the policing process, in exchange for their participation and support. Solution to the community problems demand that people
and the police explore creative ways to address neighbourhood concern beyond focus on individual crime incidents.

Community policing attempts to develop a form of policing that is directly controlled by and responsible to the people at the local level.

Community policing as a strategy to fight crime and other social disorders came up in early 1980's, the police realized that they could not solve society’s crime problem alone, they require the assistance of the members of the public. Crime prevention is not a service people are given, it is an activity people must engage in.

According to D. H Bayley (1994) “police are supposed to prevent crime, however, they are not demonstratively doing so. This is because crime prevention is not a police mission. Police judge themselves by the standards of crime containment and reduction. Deterrence through visible patrols and through prompt apprehension and punishment of criminals do not solve crime problem.”

According to Mushanga (1981:199) “it is completely futile to take an individual after individual out of the situations that produces criminals and permit the situations to remain as they were. Crime and deviance involves a whole network of social relations and it is by dealing with these social relations that produce criminality that the real work of crime prevention starts”.

Police resources need to be employed proactively against crime, which means addressing the circumstances that generates crime. Reacting to a crime after it has occurred is like shutting the barn door after the horse has escaped.

Traditional policing approaches to crime control, invested all anti-crime effort in the police. The police embraced the role of crime fighter but retreated from responsibility for rising crime rates. The causes of crime are beyond police capacity to manage crime.
Crime is a complex social problem that cannot be solved by one agency. When we recognize the complexity of the crime problem, we will also acknowledge that police are not solely responsible for its solutions. It is unfair to hold an individual police officer or the police department responsible for the crime rate. D.H Bayley (1994) “The police do not prevent crime. This is one of the best kept secrets of modern life. The experts know it, the police know of it, but the public does not know it”.

Community policing is an idea of the time, because it is a collaborate effort between the police and the community that identifies problems of crime and disorder. It involves all elements of the community in the search for solutions to these problems. It is founded on close mutually beneficial ties between the police and community members.

Community policing seeks to address crime without being overwhelmed by the effort. The crime problem is deconstructed into manageable pieces. Officers become responsible for smaller geographical areas and projects. By narrowing the approach the trouble spots can be identified and problem solving progress measured. Officers will amicably work with the members of the public. In the long run police develop relationships with the community members and become accountable to them as well as to their department.

When officers address problems of social and physical disorders, crimenogenic conditions will diminish. When the quality of life improves crime levels go down. If the police participate in improving the quality of life then they become effective fighters of crime.

Community policing provides decentralized, personalized police service to the community. It recognizes that the police cannot impose order from the outside.
People must be encouraged to think of the police as a resource that they can use in helping to solve contemporary community concerns.

Community policing is not a tactic to be applied and then abandoned. It is an organizational strategy that provide the flexibility to meet needs and priorities of local areas as they change overtime.

Community policing officers act as a direct link between the police and the community. To provide an effective link community police officers must be free from the isolation of a patrol car, and the demands of the police radio so that they can maintain daily, direct, face to face contact with the people.

Community policing organizational strategy requires that everyone in the police department recognizes the need to grant greater autonomy to line officers. Their decisions and judgement must be respected because they are the officers on the ground. Members of the public on their part must participate in identifying priorities and solving problems, as full fledged, partners with the police.

A community policing officer maintains immediate and long term proactive problem solving contact with the local people. The officer is still a law enforcement agent and will of necessity make arrest, however, he should go further and develop broad based initiatives, that involve all the elements of the society in improving the quality of life.

In matters of crime the community policing officer is the community’s Ombudsman. He acts as a link to other private agencies that can help in a given situation.

Police officers who are adopting community policing are establishing new mechanism for discussing priorities and strategies with their communities. This means more contact meetings with the communities. Through community policing, officers have
discovered that the security concerns of the communities are often different from what they think they are.

Community meetings help the police to educate the people about crime and disorder. The meetings also help to enlist the co-operation of the public in dealing with crime and disorders.

Community meetings also allow people to ventilate grievances against the police face to face unimpeded by bureaucracy. In the same meetings the police have an opportunity to present their view point. Such meetings provide the police with an opportunity to get information about their success. Police use such information to refine their operations.

In the traditional policing methods police officers are only exposed to a narrow segments of the society, they are exposed to suspects, victims at their worst and victims who contribute to their victimization. In community policing police officers interact with the people in a non crisis situation. They encounter a range of good people who they did not see in the old policing methods.

Community policing allows the police officers to network with the people. People no longer base their relationship with the police on trust but on friendship.

Community policing is different from the traditional policing in several ways. Community policing does not focus on crime only, instead it pays more attention to crime producing conditions as a more realistic way of reducing crime.

For community policing to work the structure of the police department should be more decentralized to allow better deployment of officers in the community. Officers deployed at the community level will be able to understand the underlying conditions in the community that continue to breed criminal behaviour.
Police services are provided and delivered through the neighbourhood patrol officer. These officers handle the daily policing needs of the community. The entire police organization supports the efforts of the neighbourhood officer.

Community policing demands that the police department reshape its command structures, so that local commanders can use resources more flexibly and make decisions independently. The local commander is supposed to device plans and adopt resources to the local needs. The responsibility of policing will be fixed to the officer who has daily contact with the community.

Community policing involves reforming the decision making processes and creating new cultures in the police department. It is not a tactical plan, but it is an organizational strategy that refers to the goals of policing.

For community policing to work, the police department must be willing to change its organizational policing structure. Police commanders must have a clear vision of change. They must also understand the benefit for change and be committed to it.

2.20 BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY POLICING STYLE

When community policing is adopted crime prevention take on a renewed importance. The police and the community become partners in addressing problems of disorder and neglect that breed serious crime.

The police and the community create a link. A partnership is developed over time. This partnership is an enhanced effort to fight crime. With a working partnership the police and the community work together to modify conditions that can encourage criminal behaviour.

When the police department adopt community policing, it will be able to make effective use of the talents and resources available in the communities. Use of resources from community help to ease pressure on strained police resources.
With a working partnership between the police and the community, members of the community will get greater satisfaction with police services and the police officers will get job satisfaction.

Community policing brings the police closer to the people, it also makes effective use of the talents and resources within the community. The members of the community will be more willing to give information to the police. When the police are closer to the community, it will be easy for police officers to mobilize the community members to participate actively in crime prevention.

The fundamental mission of community policing is to provide leadership and professional support to sustain and improve the communities programmes against lawlessness and disorderly behaviour.

Instead of responding to crimes and other emergencies after they have occurred, community policing study the conditions that lead to call for their services and draw plans to correct those conditions. Bayley (1994:12) says that “The problem solving approach supplements authoritative, intervention and symbolic justice, with activities that have an impact on conditions that generate crime and insecurity.”

The traditional police patrols are too passive to reassure members of the community or warn off criminals. Regardless of police patrols crime continue to escalate. Community policing attempts to contain crime by actively creating an environment of order and security. Order and security can be achieved by addressing calls for service that are not necessarily criminal.

Community-police meetings help the police educate the people about crime and disorder and enlist their co-operation in dealing with them. During these meeting police receive information about the success of their efforts.
Community policing has a positive impact on reducing neighbourhood crime, it helps to reduce fear of crime and enhance the quality of life for members of the community. The inputs and talents of all members of the community are tapped in an effort to safeguard our neighbourhoods.

Problems solving identifies the specific concern that the community members feel are most threatening to their security. These areas of concern then become priorities for joint intervention.

2.21 COMMUNITY POLICING ENVIRONMENT

There is an environment that is necessary for community policing to work. In the first place there must be mutual trust between the police and the community. Once this mutual trust has been established it must be maintained. Trust gives the police greater access to valuable information that can lead to the prevention and solution of crime. Trust makes members of the public understand and appreciate police activities.

For community policing to work there must be a long term commitment by the police to work with the community members. This commitment will enable the police and the community reach the mutually agreed goals.

Community policing strategy requires the development of partnership between the police and the community. The partnership should be based on equal participation. Forming a lasting partnership requires effort, time and patience from all the parties involved.

Community policing makes effective use of the talent and resources available in the communities. This helps to ease pressure on strained police resources. Thus community policing is a noble idea in this time of limited resources.
For community policing strategy to work, the police training should be expanded to include training in interpersonal skills. The training curriculum must also emphasise community oriented programmes.

Community policing would be appropriate for Kenyan situation because the police department have lost most of the grounds it held before the advent of multiparty. Currently, the police department is judged by the services it provides and not by the power it exerts.

The central development in contemporary policing reforms, as articulated by Mike Brogden and Clifford Shearing in their book, policing for new south Africa, has been a move away from the bandit catching function, to problem solving approach. Kenya today needs a problem solving state police which is sensitive and responsive to what the communities refer to as disorder and insecurity.

Police officers in the Kenya Police force must be willing and able to provide communities with solutions to their problems. Modern police services are problem solving and community oriented.

Kenyans must feel that the police force is their force, defending the rights of all of them. Kenyans should never feel that the police department belongs to the government and is there to protect the government.

2.22 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

A theory is a statement of fact, which is subject to falsification. It is a statement about a phenomenon, which can be proved either right or wrong. A theoretical framework is important in understanding the factors that are associated or influence the problem under investigation.
This study on the sociology of community policing will be based on sociological theories of crime causation. Most contemporary criminologist look at such factors as economic, political, climatic and social conditions as the causes of crime.

2.23 SOCIOLOGICAL THEORIES OF CRIME

Adolphe Quelelet and Andre Querry were the first scholars to repudiate the doctrine of free-will. They explained the causes of crime from sociological perspective. They studied crime in relations to age, sex, race and climate and concluded that the society and not the individual's decision is responsible for crime. Nelson Mandela in his book *Long Walk to Freedom* talks about the social conditions, which were created by the apartheid regime. He says the desire to free his people from the bad social conditions drove him to "criminality" as defined by the apartheid regime. Mandela (1994 750), "it was the desire for the freedom of my people to live their lives with dignity and self respect that animated my life, that transformed a frightened young man into a bold one, that drove a law a binding attorney to become a criminal, that turned a family loving husband into a man without a home, that forced a life loving man to live like a monk."

Querry studied criminal statistics in France and found out that they were influenced by social factors. Affluent regions have crime related to property while in slum areas we have crime related to prostitutions. His findings are applicable in the study of crime in Kenya today. Most crimes in the affluent estates like Kileleshwa and Kilimani relates to property, while in the slums and low income estates we have crimes related to personal violence and prostitution. Crime management in those different areas, require different approaches.
Quelet discovered that criminal behaviour is predictable regular and understandable. Just as the physical world is governed by the law of nature, human behaviour is governed by forces external to the individual.

Crime are events, they take place at a specific time in a specific place. The presence of an offender is only one of the components, crime require many conditions that are independent of the offender, such as availability of the goods to be stolen. The modern argument is that if crime is to be prevented and effective crime control policies developed, the study of criminal behaviour must be tied to the decision making process of the offender and the criminal acts themselves. Community policing aim at situational crime prevention policing i.e. organizing neighbourhood watch to harden targets or changing the environmental design of a building and street for better protection.

2.24 SOCIAL CONTROL THEORY

Travis Hirsi social control theory argues that people commit crimes when they have not developed adequate attachment to the conventional activities of the society.

Efforts in crime management must start with peoples commitment to the values of the community. Unless the community identifies these values and addresses acts which violate them the fight against crime has not began. The community and the police must join hands to identify those acts which violate their values. The police cannot assume to know them alone. Community policing must aim at activities that strengthen individual bonds to the community.

According to Hirsi, one best way to ensure adherence to societal values is through strengthening the institution that socializes people and continue to regulate their behaviour throughout their life. Institutions like the school and the family are institution which community need to lay great emphasis on.
The institution of the family is an important institution in crime management. Broken families are sources of deviants. Children from such families are likely to engage in criminal activities. Spouses of broken families are likely to involve themselves in abuse of drugs and alcohol and consequently involve in criminal activities like prostitution.

The school is also a very important institution which socializes the young members of the society to accept the societal values. The community and the police must plan and implement programmes that foster better school climate. With better school climate the community will have less school drop outs and presumably less crime.

Neighbourhood is also emerging as an institution of social control. It is taking up the place of the church which was important in maintaining social order in the community. Neighbourhood as an institution of social control need to be strengthened. Experimental projects were carried out in Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, New York and San Diego between 1981 and 1986. These programmes sought to reduce crime by strengthening neighbourhood cohesion. Within the first three years crime decreased in the target areas.

The importance of socialization of members of a community into its values was argued by Emil Durkheim. When a society becomes developed it can only survive if there exists among its members a sufficient degree of homogeneity. Education perpetuates and reinforces this homogeneity by fixing in the child from the beginning the essential similarities which collective life demands. Without these essential similarities, co-operation and social solidarity is made impossible.
The function of education is very central in modern society because modern society is complex and specialized. In industrial society social solidarity is based on the interdependence of specialized skills.

2.25 DIFFERENTIAL ASSOCIATION THEORY

Edwin Sutherland’s theory of Differential association is also applicable in this study. Edwin H. Sutherland and Cressey (1970) argued that criminal behaviour like any other behaviour is learned. Their theory of crime causation is very important in any study of crime management.

The main argument in the theory of Differential association is that when individuals interact with criminals, they learn more about criminal behaviour and therefore are likely to become criminals. Similarly if the community is free from deviant behaviour, its members will learn the good values of the community and become good citizens. When young members of the community associate with gangster they are likely to become criminals because they will learn the criminal behaviour of the gangsters. The aim of community policing should be to remove all the criminal conditions and not only the criminals from the society. When crimenogenic conditions are absent from the community, new members will learn the good social values of the community.

Sutherland listed nine postulates in his book principles of criminology (1939). These postulates are;

Criminal behaviour is learned and not inherited. Young members of the society learn criminal habits from other criminals in the society when they associate with them. When the society affords the young members an opportunity to associate with the criminals then it will have more deviant members. This calls for community policing to identify the criminogenic conditions in the community and eradicate them. The
traditional policing method of arresting the offender and leaving the conditions intact encourages criminal behaviour in the community.

Criminal behaviour is learned with other persons in a process of communication. This communication can be through verbal interaction or gestures.

In the neighbourhood, the youth play football together. School leavers mainly meet and spend their free time chatting. These meetings can be good opportunities for criminal behaviour to be passed from one individual to the other. It is in these youth meetings where youngsters learn deviant behaviours such as drug abuse.

Policing policies should address the problems of unemployed youth in the neighbourhood and ensure that youth do not engage in criminal behaviour.

Learning of criminal behaviour occurs within intimate groups. Unemployed youth meet occasionally during their free time. These meetings help to create a peer group culture. If there are criminal elements in the peer group, other members are likely to learn from them.

The learning behaviour includes the learning of techniques of committing crime which are sometimes very complicated or sometime very simple, the specific direction of the motive, drives and rationalization.

Members of the unemployed youth can learn simple techniques of committing a crime like using abusive language or complicated techniques like trafficking of narcotic drugs which require high techniques to avoid detection by the law enforcement agencies.

The specific direction of motives and drives is learned from definitions of legal codes as favourable or unfavourable. If members of the community associate with those who violate the law, they will be influenced to see the importance of violating the law. On the other hand if they live with people who respect the law they will respect
it. If a neighbourhood ensures that all members of the community respect the law then new members will respect it. However, if the neighbourhood despises the law and sees law enforcement agencies as army of occupation, then new members will be deviants. Policing strategies should aim at making the members of the community law abiding.

A person becomes delinquent because of an excess of definitions favourable to violation of law over definitions unfavourable to the definition of law. If in the community most definitions are unfavourable to the law, then we are likely to have more deviant behaviour. Definitions will be unfavourable to the law, if the law does not have the support from the community. Where the police are enforcing unpopular legislations we are likely to have more violations of the law.

Differential association may vary in frequency, duration, priority and intensity. If good members of the community have frequent and intensive association with criminals then they are likely to adopt criminal behaviour.

The process of learning criminal behaviour by patterns involves all the mechanism and anti-criminal patterns involved in any other learning.

While criminal behaviour is an expression of general need and values, it is not explained by those general needs and values, since non criminal behaviour is an expression of the same need and value.

In a nutshell this theory stipulates that if any good member of the society associates with criminal elements in the same society the good member is likely to become a criminal.

2.26 HYPOTHESIS AND OPERATIONALIZATION OF VARIABLES

This study will be guided by three main hypotheses. These hypotheses have key variables which are defined in this section.
H1. In adequate training of police officers in community policing impact negatively in the policing of Nairobi city.

Dependent variable: policing of Nairobi.

Independent variable: Training of police officers in community policing.

H2. Community policing programs by the police have enhanced good relationship between police officers and members of the public.

Dependent variable: Relationship between the police and members of the public.

Independent variable: Community policing programs.

H3. There is little success in community policing because of lack of co-operation between the police and members of the public.

Dependent variable: Success in community policing.

Independent variable- co-operation between the police and members of the public.

2.27 DEFINITION OF VARIABLES

1. Police officers- this will be used to refer to all police officers stationed in Nairobi. Included are officers performing traffic duties, criminal investigation officers, and general duty officers. It will exclude administration police officers.

2. In adequate- this will be used to mean lack of proper preparation of police to implement community policing strategy.

3. Community policing- will refer to strategy of policing which involves a joint venture between the police and members of the public in crime control.

4. Co-operation- will in this study mean the working together of police officers and the members of the public in crime control.
6. **Members of the public** - this will be used to mean people residing in Nairobi who are not police officers.

**Success in community policing** - in this inquiry will mean the way police officers and members of the public in Nairobi has embraced community policing.

**General policing** - mean the method currently being used by the police to control crime in Nairobi.
CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY

3.0 INTRODUCTION

In this chapter we present the Research Design, which our study used in order to meet the objectives of the study. The following were included in the design.

Research site.

Sources of data.

Sampling procedure.

Methods of Data collection.

Data analyses.

This study was exploratory and several methods of data collection were employed. They included in depth interviews with key informants, observations and review of documentary materials.

3.1 RESEARCH SITE

This study was conducted in Nairobi city, because Nairobi is the capital city of Kenya and has a population of approximately three million people. There are seven police districts, which are under Senior Superintendents of Police. The seven police districts are commanded by the Provincial Police Officer who is stationed at Nairobi Area Police Headquarters. Under the District Police Commander, there are twenty four police stations. Police officers from these police stations are the ones who carry out the day-to-day policing duties. The town has a high population and crime rate is also very high. There is more of policing in Nairobi than any other part of country. Because of limitation of time and resources, our study was confined to Nairobi province.

For purposes of this study, Nairobi province was divided into four main areas namely residential areas, industrial area, and central business district. The residential areas
were further divided into two, East lands and West land and Langata. All areas were equally covered.

3.2 SOURCES OF DATA

In the study both primary and secondary sources of data were used. Primary data was obtained by interviewing key informants, members of the public and serving police officers within Nairobi Province. Secondary data was obtained from data available at Provincial Police Headquarters, Buruburu Police Station, Central Police Station, Langata Police Station and Kilimani Police Station.

3.3 SAMPLING PROCEDURE

The sample of our study was 120, of which 50 were members of the public, 50 were police officers of the ranks between a police constable and superintendent of police and 20 were senior police officers of the ranks between inspector of police and deputy commissioner of police. The twenty senior police officers were interviewed as key informants. All of them were randomly selected from the entire population of Nairobi to ensure representativeness. The key informants were purposively identified and then interviewed.

Police divisions purposively selected were Buruburu, Langata, Kilimani Central Divisions. Police stations randomly selected from these divisions were Ruai, Kamkusiji, Langata and Kilimani Police stations. Residential areas were divided into lower and upper class estates. Two lower class estates namely Ruai and Ziwani were randomly selected. The upper class estates were randomly sampled and Langata and Gumo estates selected. Central Business District was purposively selected. The key informants were purposively selected from the Provincial Police Headquarter and in the Divisions.
identified to us community policing projects they are involved in, then interviewed members of the public and police officers involved in the projects.

1.4 METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

In this exercise I used four methods of data collection, they included:

- **In depth interviews with key informants using prepared interview guides.**
- **Observations on how police carry out their community policing duties at the projects and at the police booths.**
- **Questionnaires, which had both closed and open ended questions. These were administered to police officers of the ranks of or below superintendent of police, and members of the public.**
- **Review of documentary materials, at Nairobi Provincial Headquarters and at the Police Divisions and at Police Stations.**

1.5 INDEPTH INTERVIEWS WITH KEY INFORMANTS

This is a dialogue between a skilled interviewer and a respondent. It entails asking meaningful questions, listening keenly and recording the answers. He may pose additional questions to clarify or expand on particular issues. We adopted this method because key informants have assess to important information. This helped us to understand the issues we were researching on as well as the respondents. This method was used because it has room for checking any misunderstanding or ambiguities on the questions. It gives the researcher the opportunity to ascertain issues and to observe certain behaviours and facts.

Our key informants were senior police officers between the ranks of inspector of police and deputy commissioner of police, who are working within Nairobi Province.
3.6 OBSERVATIONS

This is a technique, which the researcher uses to gather first hand information on the behaviour being studied. This gives the researcher a chance to collect data on a wide range of behaviours, to capture a great variety of interactions, and widely to explore the topic, which is under investigations. We observed how the police performing community policing where interacting with the communities. We also observed how police officers were providing services at the police booths. Observations gave us an opportunity to learn certain things the respondents where not willing to discuss in an interview. This method gave me a holistic view of the phenomenon.

3.7 QUESTIONNAIRES

A questionnaire is a printed form containing a set of questions that are used to gather information. The researcher administered the questionnaires. This was the principal method used to collect data and two sets of questionnaires were used. The questionnaire had both open ended and close-ended questions. They were administered to police officers and members of the public found within the research site.

The questionnaires were administered to the respondents and gathered information on the following areas.

The adoption of community policing as a style of policing in Nairobi province,

Training of police officers on community policing,

Deployment of community police officers in Nairobi,

The understanding of the concept community policing among police officers,

Rating of community policing in crime reduction,

The difference between community policing and vigilante groups,

The police booths, why and where they are constructed,
The decision making process in community policing,

Police response rate to crime reports,

How community policing enhances co-operation between the police and members of the public,

What security measures the communities in Nairobi have put in place to fight crime and insecurity in general?

The general policing practised in Nairobi.

The sample size of the questionnaire was fifty for police officers and fifty for members of the public. Interview guide was used to interview twenty senior police officers.

3.8 REVIEW OF DOCUMENTARY MATERIALS

In our investigations documentary sources were important source of data. We collected secondary data from written works found at Nairobi police headquarters, police divisions and police stations.

Documentary data reviewed included crime reports, occurrence books, journals, workshop reports, minutes of community meetings, police review magazines and crime graphs.

These documents enabled me to extract data on the status of crime in Nairobi and the extend of the adoption of community policing in Nairobi. Using this data i was able to determine the number of police officers who are trained in community policing.

This method was adopted because documentary data provides insights into the ways a certain phenomenon is handled which cannot be observed or noted in any other way.
CHAPTER 4: DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS

4.0 INTRODUCTION

In this study descriptive statistics were used. The answers to the questions were summarized and then analyzed.

This chapter deals with how the concept community policing was adopted in Nairobi. The chapter will also give an indication of how the concept is understood by police officers and members of the public. We will also show how the introduction of community policing has impacted on the relationship between the police and the community. The measures the residents of Nairobi have adopted to deal with the problem

4.1 CRIME TRENDS IN NAIROBI

According to the data available in Nairobi Area Police Headquarters crime rates have been increasing every year. Comparison of crime trends for the years 1996, 1997 and 1998 indicate that crimes like murder, rape, violent robberies, drugs and offences against property are on the increase. The records show that causing death by dangerous driving and corruption crimes are on the decrease.
TABLE 1: CRIME TRENDS IN NAIROBI (1996-1998)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRIMES</th>
<th>1996</th>
<th>1997</th>
<th>1998</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>381</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robberies</td>
<td>2212</td>
<td>2994</td>
<td>3212</td>
<td>8418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M/v theft</td>
<td>597</td>
<td>689</td>
<td>727</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drugs</td>
<td>728</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>952</td>
<td>2353</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corruption</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accidents</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property crimes</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>331</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other offences</td>
<td>1793</td>
<td>1875</td>
<td>2079</td>
<td>5747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>6068</strong></td>
<td><strong>7038</strong></td>
<td><strong>7868</strong></td>
<td><strong>20974</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Nairobi Area Police Annual Report

4.2 ADOPTION OF COMMUNITY POLICING AS A STYLE OF POLICING

The data collected from the study show that community policing was adopted as a style of policing by Kenya Police in 1996. It was adopted because crime in Nairobi and the whole country was very high and costly to manage. After the adoption of community policing several police officers from Police Headquarters were sent to the United States of America, Netherlands and Britain for courses in community policing.
Since 1996 several community policing projects have been started. They include Ruai, Baba-Dogo, Ziwani, Runda and Kaberia in Langata. The police initiated all these projects. There are other projects which were initiated by the local communities they include: Nairobi Central Business District Association (N.C.B.D.A), Kimathi Estate Association and Karengata (Karen-Langata Estates Association) among others.

In the projects initiated by the police, local residents hold fortnightly meetings with the police to discuss crime issues. Police are represented in the meetings by the area community policing officer. During those meetings discussions are open and exhaustive, every member is free to contribute to the deliberations. The other associations hold meetings and occasionally invite police officers to attend. They invite police officers when they have an issue to discuss with them. Nairobi Central Business District Association has a program with the police to educate the public through billboards and radio programs. Kimathi Estate Association have a mechanism of vetting people who are renting houses in the estate. They have a coordinated way of reporting crimes that are committed in the estate to the police. In the year 2001 they reported to the police one of their residents who they suspected was dealing with stolen motor vehicles. The police carried out investigations, recovered some stolen motor vehicles and arrested the man. Karengata was instrumental in the construction of Hardy Police station and occasionally they assist the police station in repairing and maintaining the station land rover.

4.3 TRAINING OF POLICE OFFICERS IN COMMUNITY POLICING

The study revealed that there is little training of police officers on community policing. Out of the 50 police officers interviewed only 15 had received some training in community policing. This represents only 30 per cent of all police officers in Nairobi.
In many training sessions and lectures by officers already trained in community policing, it has been seen that they receive extensive training from the London Metropolitan police in many also involves officers on partnership in solving crime related issues. The issue to normally short, they take between one day and two weeks.

**DEPLOYMENT OF COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICERS**

The training in community policing, the best officers are selected to join community policing section of Nairobi Provincial Police Headquarters. This section is only based at a Headquarters, it does not have branches at the divisions and stations. The section is headed by a Inspector of Police. He has eight officers under him, who are assigned duties here in the city. Those who are not selected to join the community policing here go back to the stations where they are deployed on normal police duties.

Community police officers do not stay in the locations where community policing is being implemented. They operate from their office at the Headquarters, because there are community policing officers at the police stations where the projects are being implemented. They only visit the locations once a week. The officers spend most of their time at the Provincial Headquarters and have very little time for the projects.

There are only 9 community policing officers in Nairobi province, out of 3,251 police officers. The 9 officers are accommodated in a small office at the basement in Nairobi Provincial Police Headquarters.

The officers in charge of this section is junior Inspector, other sections at the Headquarters are headed by senior officers. This section is too small to make a positive impact in city like Nairobi.
4.5 UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONCEPT COMMUNITY POLICING AMONG POLICE OFFICERS

The study revealed that majority of the police officers in Nairobi have heard about community policing, through seminars and lectures. 80% of the police officers interviewed defined community policing as a kind of co-operation between the police and members of the public in the fight against crime. Their definitions of community policing was not accurate but they were within its meaning.

Members of the public and the police officers interviewed rated community policing as a very good method of reducing crime. 65% of the respondents rated community policing as very good, 22% as good, 12% as fair and 1% as bad.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 2: RATING OF COMMUNITY POLICING IN CRIME REDUCTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RESPONSES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VERY GOOD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOOD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAIR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the responses by police officers, it come out clearly that they understood that community policing is different from vigilante groups. The two have different leadership and operational structures.
There are several vigilante groups in Nairobi like, Kamjesh vigilante of kariobangi estate and the Mungiki. Some respondents said that they have employed vigilante groups as a measure to improve security in their residential or business areas. They contribute money to pay the vigilante but they have no control over them. Vigilante groups are illegal organizations, which are different from community policing. The research showed that:

- Vigilante groups are associated with violence. They take law into in their hands during their operations. They are known to have been involved in killings, torture, mob justice and general harassment of innocent people.
- They do not have clear leadership structure and mechanism to regulate their functions; it is hard to know who they are answerable to. They do not have working committees and their activities are not recorded.
- They do not have vision and a work plan, they operate in ad hoc manner.
- Vigilante groups also operate independently of the police, they don’t consult, coordinate nor cooperate with police stations.
- They do not have mandate from the community, selfish leaders either select them or they appoint themselves. They serve their own interest or the interests of an individual leader.
- Vigilante groups are unlawful, the police and the community do not recognize them, they are not registered with the government. Their activities are not coordinated with those of the police and the residents.
- The activities of vigilante groups are not systematic; they do not have programs and aims for their activities.
COMMUNITY POLICING

On the other hand the research revealed that community policing is legal and recognized by both the police and the community.

Community policing is a partnership between the police and the communities, the main aim of the partnership is to address crime issues.

In Community policing leadership is clearly defined, there are community policing committees with chairmen and elected members. The roles of the police and those of the residents are clearly defined.

The operations of community policing are systematic and well planned, they have pre arranged plan on what to do when a crime has been committed. Community policing is either initiated by the police or by the community, it is initiated to address felt insecurity needs.

In community policing, police officers and members of the public work together, crime issues are identified, discussed and a common approach adopted to address them.

Community policing addresses the underlying causes of crime, and not the crime itself.

It is a proactive way of addressing crime related problems.

Out of the 50 police officers interviewed 16% said that community policing and vigilante group are the same, 80% said that they are different, 4% did not respond
### TABLE 3: POLICE PERCEPTION OF COMMUNITY POLICING AND VIGILANTE GROUPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESPONSES</th>
<th>NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS</th>
<th>OF</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAME</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIFFERENT</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO RESPONSE</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 4.8 POLICE BOOTHS

There are several police booths within the City Center, in the Industrial Area and in the Estates. These booths are manned by police officers from police stations having jurisdictions over the area where they are located. The functions of the booths are in line with community policing.

According to members of the public who were interviewed, the police consulted the residents before constructing the booths. The police took the opinion and interests of the residents into considerations when they were putting up the booths. However the researcher observed that some police booths are located at the entrances of big companies. Such police booths were constructed by the owners of the particular companies to look after their own interests. Others are on the road sides and have fallen into disuse. The one in Nairobi South "C" has grass over grown in its compound and there are no signs that it was once occupied by police officers.

The research revealed that several factors are considered before the police booths are erected. Some of the factors which the police consider are:
The nature and prevalence of crime in the area, police booths are put up to deal with particular types of crime like mugging, burglaries and domestic violence.

The distance of the area from the nearest police station is also a factor which the police consider, some areas are far from the police station and cannot be adequately covered by police officers on foot patrol.

The nature and type of business activities also influence the police when they are putting up booths, areas frequented by tourists are given first priority.

Request by the residents of the area, if residents of a particular area requests for a police booth due to a peculiar problem the request is given priority.

Escape routes used by criminals play a major role in determining where a police booth is going to be built, there are certain routes which are used by criminals to flee away from the police. Police booths are put up and police officers stationed in such routes to block and arrest escaping criminals.

According to senior police officers interviewed there are police officers in the police booths throughout. However, observation by the researcher revealed that sometimes there are no police officers in the booths. The booths serve the following functions:

They bring police services closer to the people.

They ensure that residents have easy access to police services.

They reduce the fear of crime in the neighbourhood.

They ensure proper coverage of the station area by the police.

They are means through which the police use to restore public confidence in them.
The research found out that police officers in the booths are assigned duties that are in line with community policing. Police officers interviewed said that they perform the following duties:

They receive crime reports from the local residents and monitor the neighborhood, they react to crime reports by the residents and attend to alarms and emergencies. They advice the residents on how to settle disputes, especially domestic quarrels. They guide and advice lost citizens by giving them directions to or where necessary by escorting them to their destination. They temporary detain arrested criminals before they are taken to the police stations, and store recovered exhibits in the booths before transferring them to the police station or returning them to the owners.

4.9 DECISION MAKING IN THE COMMUNITY POLICING STRUCTURE

The research has revealed that in the community policing meetings the main participants are all members of the neighbourhood. All residents of the area are invited to the meetings. Police officers attend the neighbourhood meetings and their role is mainly to facilitate the meeting. They don’t participate in making major decisions. This responsibility is left to the residents. Sometimes they play secretariat role which involves taking minutes.

Out of the 50 police officers interviewed 20 % said that the community policing officer is the main decision maker, 14% said that the main decision maker is the Officer Commanding the Police Station (O C S), 12% said that the main decision maker is the Officer Commanding the Police Division (O C P D), 54% said that the Provincial Police Officer (P P O) is the main decision maker.
The officers who are trained in community policing are given some area to police. However, there is no specific period which they are allowed to stay in the area. They can be transferred out of the area at any time. The decision to transfer them is normally made by the Provincial Police Officer.

The majority of the police officers in Nairobi have the traditional thinking that orders and decisions should always come from the senior most police officer. They do not believe that junior officers can make important decisions.

4.10 POLICE RESPONSE TO CRIME REPORTS

All the members of the public interviewed said that they would call the police if they saw a crime being committed. Out of the 50 respondents 40 had called the police to a crime scene. Out of the 40 respondents, 2% said the police responded very fast, 10% said that the police responded fast, 30% said that the police were slow to respond, 40% said that the police were very slow to respond and 18% said that the police did not respond at all.

Police response rate to crime reports is low, police officers take a long time to arrive at a scene of crime. There are several reasons why the police in Nairobi take along time to arrive at a scene of crime. The Daily Nation 3rd September 2003 carried an article, which claimed that “the commissioner of police and his officers are not to blame for the increased crime incidents because the they can only work with the resources given to them by the government.” Police officers in Nairobi lack adequate motor vehicles to respond to crime incidents. Most of the police stations in Nairobi have only one motor vehicle which is rarely provided with enough fuel. The poor planning of the city and the deplorable infrastructure contribute to the low response rate.
### TABLE 4: POLICE CRIME REPORTS RESPONSE RATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESPONSES</th>
<th>RESPONDENTS</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VERY FAST</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAST</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLOW</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VERY SLOW</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DID NOT RESPOND</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 4.11 CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE POLICE AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN CRIME ISSUES

All the respondents both the police and members of the public, said that it is possible for the police and the members of the public to work together. Members of the public interviewed showed that, 66% of the respondents normally work with the police when a crime has been committed 34% of the respondents said that they do not work with the police when a crime is committed.

Police officers attend neighbourhood meetings, especially where community projects have been started. In areas where community policing has not been started, police officers rarely attend community meetings which are convened to deliberate security matters.

Although there are very few community policing projects in Nairobi, majority of the respondents rated community policing as good in reducing crime. Where community policing has been introduced, crime rate has gone down.
The research has revealed that where community policing has been introduced, there are indications that co-operation between the police and the communities is cordial. There is easy communication between the police and the community. Information about crime flow from the public to the police without any hindrance.

4.12 NEIGHBOURHOOD SECURITY ASSOCIATIONS

Members of public said that security is one of their main concerns in the estates. In response to this concern several estates have formed neighbourhood associations to address it. These associations have come out with home grown measures to address this problem, some of these measures include: employment of watchmen, installation of alarms, putting up electric fences, blocking some pathways and roads, putting up street lights, organizing joint patrols with the police and holding *barasas* with the Police and Provincial Administration.

The communities have come up with these security measures, because police officers are not very visible in the estates. Out of the 50 respondents interviewed 10% said that police officers frequent their estates very much, 50% said that police officers rarely visit their estates, and 10% said that police do not visit their estates.

**TABLE 5: POLICE VISIBILITY IN NAIROBI ESTATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESPONSES</th>
<th>NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS</th>
<th>PERCENTAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VISIT VERY FREQUENTLY</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VISIT FREQUENTLY</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RARELY VISITS</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DON'T VISIT</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 5: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

5.0 FINDINGS

The research analysis brings out three key observations firstly, it shows that crime and fear of crime is major concern among the residents of Nairobi. Crime rate in Nairobi city is very high, the main crimes, which threaten the residents of the city are: violent crimes, drugs, crime involving property and environmental pollution.

Secondly, the population of Nairobi is very high and there are very few police officers to effectively police the town. Police officers in Nairobi do not have good and modern equipment to handle crime. They also lack resources in terms of adequate trained personnel, motor vehicles, accommodation, communications and office equipment. The visibility of police officers in Nairobi is very low, police officers take along time to arrive at a scene of crime. This low response rate and poor equipment, means that many criminals go unpunished.

Thirdly, due to low response to the increased crime reports and because of the limited resources at their disposal the police have started community policing in several estates. There are active community policing projects in Ruai, Baba Dogo, Runda, Ziwani and Kaberia in Langata.

In response to the threat of crime, the residents of various estates have come out with plausible measures to deal with it. They have formed Neighbourhood Associations to deal with this threat. Some of these associations are Karengata, Nairobi Central Business District Association and Kimathi Estate Association among others.
The relationship between the police and members of the public is strained. However, in areas where community policing has been introduced, there is close co-operation between the police and members of the public. In these areas there are frequent meetings between the police and the residents. The meetings are convened to discuss crime and insecurity issues which affect the residents. All residents of the estate are members of the neighbourhood association. Police officers who attend the meetings play facilitators or secretariat role. Discussions in the meetings are held in a free atmosphere and every member is free to contribute. The frequent interaction between the police and members of the public in community policing programs have helped to build trust of the residents on the police. Communities living in the areas where community policing is practiced understand and appreciate police activities.

Community policing have helped police officers to have confidence in their policing, what they are doing is being appreciated by the communities and this makes them more committed to their work.

The introduction of community policing has reduced the cost of fighting crime. The conditions that breed crime are identified early enough and rectified. Where a crime has been committed there is close coordination between the police and the residents in investigating it. There is quick and easy flow of information from the public to the police, this enables police investigators to concentrate on the real criminals.

Any crime is investigated with minimal use of the scarce resources. Little time is used to solve a crime, because the residents are willing to be witnesses and they will attend court and testify when called upon to do so by the police.
Community policing has assisted in improving the image of the police. In estates where it is operational, the residents talk positively about police officers because they know how the police operates. Police officers are also open to the residents because they are dealing with people they know. They do not treat them as criminals or suspects but as partners in solving a crime that has been committed.

In areas where community policing has not been introduced, there is still suspicion between the police and the community. Members of the public treat police officers as enemies, they see them as corrupt and inhuman. Police officers on the other hand handle residents with a lot of suspicion, they treat them as suspects who have committed a crime.

In places where community policing is not being practiced the flow of information from the members of the public to the police is poor. The public has no trust in the police and therefore they are not free to diverge information about a crime that has been committed or is about to be committed, because they are not sure how the police will react after receiving the information.

Police find their duties difficult to execute where there is no community policing because the local residents are not appreciating what they are doing. The people may not understand what the police are doing and therefore may not be willing to disclose information.

The concept community policing is known by most of the police officers in Nairobi. But although the concept is known, it is not well understood by majority of both senior and junior officers. They do not know how it works. Some senior officers believe that community policing mean constructing houses for police officers by members of the public. They are in praise of Karengata Association because it constructed Hardy Police
occasionally repairs the station land rover. This is not the principle behind the practice of community policing.

Police officers are trained in community policing, the training they receive is through seminars and lectures. The main police training institutions like Kenya Police College in Kitengela and C. I. D Training School in Nairobi do not offer courses in community policing. Seminars in community policing take a short period of not more than two weeks and during these two weeks officers are rushed through a detailed presentation on community policing. They are expected to internalize a lot of information in a very short period.

As community policing is being practiced in Nairobi Province, the police do not give emphasis as it is required. The community policing office in the Provincial Headquarters is very small. The officer in charge of the program shares this small office with junior officers. They cannot perform effectively and efficiently in a such small office which is located at the basement of the building where it is not visible to the public. The officer in charge of the program holds the rank of an Inspector of Police. This rank compared with the ranks held by officers who are in charge of other sections like traffic and public relations. The officer in charge traffic section holds the rank of Assistant Commissioner of Police and the one in charge public relations section holds the rank of Superintendent of Police. Seniority in the police is very important in decision making. Being a junior officer there are meetings which the officer in charge of community policing cannot attend. During meetings the contribution he makes may not be heard.
be taken seriously. His knowledge and expertise in community policing may not be appreciated by senior police officers simply because he is junior to them.

The small community policing section at the Headquarters serves all the seven police divisions and twenty-four police stations in Nairobi. The 9 police officers are too few to cover this vast area effectively.

The community policing office does not have the necessary office equipment like chairs, tables and writing material. The section is not allocated a motor vehicle which officers require in their daily activities.

There are no community police officers at the divisions and police stations. Police station personnel are the ones who are assigned patrol duties and during the patrols they interact a lot with members of the public. These are the officers who should be trained in community policing.

Members of the public are willing to work with the police; whenever a crime is committed they will call the police to attend to it. Police officers are willing to serve the public. However, the working relationship between the police and members of the public is not cordial.

The training program for officers on community policing is limited, it is targeting a small number of officers. The period taken to conduct the training is too short, the course cannot have a positive impact on the officers. Some senior police officers do not fully support community policing. Officers Commanding Police Stations are not willing to permit junior officers to make independent decisions before consulting them. There is also some resistance from junior officers who do not want to leave their popular duties
like traffic control and crime investigations to be deployed on something they do not know.

The program lacks support from middle managers like station commanders. They don’t want junior officers to work independently and to make decisions on sensitive crime issues. In community policing, officers assigned community policing duties are the main decision maker.

Community policing programs are not getting the required political and financial support from the government, non-governmental organizations and the public. We do not have a national policy on community policing. The government does not provide extra finance to the police department to implement community policing projects. The police department relies on the normal annual budget which is not adequate for the normal police operations leave alone community policing. Initially people are not willing to hold meetings with the police. The mistrust, which exists between the police and the public, is a hindrance to the implementation of the program. First meetings are acrimonious, members of the public spend a lot of time ventilating their anger to the police officers. Police officers attending the meeting for the first time are not sure to what extend they should open themselves to the public.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- The community policing program in Nairobi is being implemented from the wrong place. This program should be based at the police stations because it is the police officers at the stations who perform patrol duties. They are in constant
contact with the public and therefore they the ones who are best situated to implement community policing.

- The officers who are in charge of police stations should be well trained in community policing so that when they are sending out junior officers on patrol they can clearly instruct them to perform community policing duties.

- If they are well trained in community policing they will be willing to allow junior officers to make independent decisions.

- Police officers who are performing community policing duties should be stationed in the locations where the program is being implemented on permanent basis for a good period of time.

- They should be allowed to remain there for period of not less than three years. This will ensure that the residents have time to know the officer and the officer also has time to learn the area and its residents.

- The officers should have offices and residential houses in the estates where they are implementing the program. The office should have the necessary facilities like telephones, a small cell, a store and transport. This will enable the officers to communicate easily with the police station and also respond to crime occurrences and emergencies in the estate.

- All the residents of Nairobi should be sensitized on the concept of community policing. Police officers should sell this concept to the residents with a lot of zeal through lectures and other forums. Sensitization will ensure that all the residents of Nairobi are committed to community policing.
The police and the residents of Nairobi should develop very close working relationship. This will be possible if the police adopt an open door policy while enforcing the law. Police activities should not be shrouded with a lot of unnecessary secrecy.

Police action which if disclosed do not violate constitutional rights of an individual or endanger public safety should be known to members of the public.

The cooperation between the police and the residents can be enhanced through frequent meetings. These meetings will help to remove suspicion and mistrust between the police and the public. They will also remove the gap that exists between the police and the residents. Once this gap is removed police will no longer see community participation in crime control as trespass into their specialized area and the public will have trust in the police.

The residents of Nairobi should be taught basic laws like when are police officers authorized to use their firearms, police powers to summon a person to appear in a police station, and citizens right to bail and bond up on arrest. If majority of the people understood basic laws their perception that police officers are unconsiderate will change.

We need to train more police officers on community policing, the training should target both junior police officers and senior police administrators. The training can be incorporated with other police courses at Kenya Police College, Kiganjo and C.I.D Training School in Nairobi.

Senior police administrator should embrace this concept with passion.
➢ All officers trained in community policing should be deployed in the projects, once deployed they should be allowed to stay in the area for at least three years.

➢ When they are being transferred out they should be allowed humble time to introduce the incoming officer to the residents.

➢ The decision making process in the police force should be devolved, decisions should not be made at the Headquarters.

➢ The community policing officer should be allowed to make decisions on matters affecting security in his area because he is the officer on the ground and he is the one who knows the security needs of the residents.

➢ The decision by the community policing officer should be the guiding factor when senior police officers are making decisions on security matters affecting the area.

➢ The present community policing areas are too big; they should be subdivided into small areas that are manageable. The sub-location and village administrative boundaries can guide the police administrators when establishing community policing areas.

➢ They should also consider the culture, business activities and the class of the people of the area. If the police make a mistake of grouping together people with different interests or cultures the program is bound to fail.

➢ Community policing should be supported by all, the government should provide adequate funds for community policing. Senior police officers should support the concept at policy level and junior officers should preach it during patrols. The media, the church and members of the public should be encouraged to support it.
5.2 CONCLUSION

This study has found out that crime is a complex social problem which require a multi-agency approach to manage. No single institution can have the capability to control crime single handedly. The police cannot solely be responsible for crime solutions; crime should be tackled by all members of the society. The planning department of the central government and the local authorities should put crime issues into consideration when planning our cities. The government should improve the levels of income and the health standards of its people. It is the prevailing conditions which influence the individual to commit crime. If the conditions, which influence the people to commit crime, are removed then crime rate will come down.

There are important institutions in the society that are central in the socialization of its members to the good values. These institutions are the family, the school, the neighborhood and the church. These institutions teach new members of the society good values which mitigates against crime. The government should put in place a mechanism to improve and strength the institutions of the family, the school, the neighborhood and the church.

It is recommended that a lot of surveys be done on the institutions of the family, the school, the neighbourhood and the church and find out why they are not contributing properly to the management of crime. This may be an uphill task because these institutions are many and crime cuts across all sectors of the society.

The research has further revealed that police officers and members of the public are willing to work together. However, presently they are not working together because of deep suspicion and mistrust. There is need for further research to find out the reasons
why they are not working together. There is also need to review the training the police receive at their training institutions to see whether it contributes to the poor working relationship with the public. The policing styles the police are using in Nairobi have miserably failed to control crime. Research should be carried out to find out what is wrong with these policing styles.

The government should provide adequate funding for community policing in Nairobi. If this style of policing is properly implemented the cost of policing the town can be immensely reduced. Community policing can enhance the confidence the members of the public have on the police. When confidence is built there will be more job satisfaction among police officers, this will ensure that they are motivated by their work. A motivated police force can easily cooperate with the public in the fight against crime.


Frienmann, R. R., (1996), “Community Policing, Some Conceptual and Practical Consideration” (article), Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia.


