

EFFECT OF DEVOLVED COUNTY ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVES MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER IN LAIKIPIA COUNTY, KENYA

Wachira J. Warutumo

Master of Arts, Kenyatta University, Kenya

Prof. David M. Minja

Department of Public Policy and Administration, Kenyatta University, Kenya

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ABSTRACT

There is scanty data that shows the influence of devolved administration on crime reduction, social harmony and dealing with anti-social behaviour at the sub-county level within Kenya in general and particularly in Laikipia County. Therefore, the aim of this study was to investigate the effect of devolved county administration initiatives on maintenance of law and order in Laikipia County, Kenya. The study objectives were to examine the effect of devolved administration on crime reduction in Laikipia County, to determine the effect of devolved administration in dealing with anti-social activities in Laikipia County, to examine the effect of devolved units in promoting social harmony in Laikipia County and to assess the moderating effect of the legal framework on maintenance of law and order in Laikipia County. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design and was based on three theories: Luther Gulick and Lyndall Urwick Classical Theory of Management, broken windows theory, by Wilson and Kelling (1982) and the socio-legal theory by Schiff (1972). The study location was Laikipia County in which the target population was 130 individuals who are in touch with maintenance of law and order in the county. The study used a questionnaire to obtain primary data from enforcement officers, Sub-county Administrator, Ward Administrators, Sub-county Commissioners, Chiefs, Police Officer in Command of a Station (OCS) and the children's desk officers at the Police stations. Interview schedule was used to

obtain primary data where the key informants comprised of County Director of Safety and Enforcement, County Executive Committee (CEC) Member in charge of administration and public service and the Regional County Commissioner (RCC). A pilot study was conducted before the actual data was collected to improve on the validity and reliability of the survey instrument. A computer program, the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 22 was used in handling descriptive and inferential statistical analysis for quantitative data whose results were presented in frequency and percentage tables. Qualitative data was analysed thematically and the results used to supplement interpretation of quantitative data. The study revealed that the county administration does not provide opportunities for the members of the public to report crime, and does not encourage public participation on matters affecting the public. The county government also doesn't support formation of social groups for purposes of promoting social values and is not involved in reconciliation of conflicting communities. It also does not regulate eateries such as hotels and all places where food is sold but allows food to be sold from unhygienic places and does not manage Public Transport and fails to do sufficient check-up before granting trading license. It has also not campaigned against illicit alcohol consumption and does not ensure that no alcohol selling places are located near schools or within residential areas. It is also not proactive in ensuring illicit drugs are not abused in the county it does not

control rebellious and organized gang groups that are a potential hindrance to social orders. The existing laws are not supportive enough for the county government to maintain law and order and there is great need to relook at the existing policies that inform the county government's role of maintaining law and order. This study can be used to provide insight to the policy implementers in the country on matters of devolution and its role

on maintaining law and order. It is relevant to officials in the ministry of devolution, those in the county government that oversee the administration of the devolved units and those involved in the direct administration of the sub-counties.

Key Words: *devolved county administration, maintenance, law and order, Laikipia County, Kenya*

INTRODUCTION

Devolution, a strong form of decentralization is the statutory and legal relinquishing of powers from a central government to sub national units of governance. The devolved units gain power and authority to legislate relevant authorities on behalf of their areas but existence of devolved units can be repealed or amended by the Central government through legislation (Gordon, 1992). Under devolution authority over natural resources, power in decision-making and some benefits is transferred with an overall goal of protecting wider public good, regulating private activities, conflicts resolution and supporting local organizations in adherence to local regulations and sanctions (constitution of Kenya 2010). The units provide basis for legal recourse too and technical assistance while addressing inequality concerns among the residents and improving participation and representation of marginalized communities. In addition, devolution helps communities to defend their rights, and be protected against powerful outsiders, marginalization and supporting building capacity for the locals (Shackleton, Campbell, Wollenberg, & Edmunds, 2006).

Since the formation of nation state until 1980's and 1990's, strong national governments have dominated the world resulting to either absentee or weak regional governments. Apart from Austria, Germany, Switzerland and Yugoslavia, all other European Countries as well as in Africa and Asia, have had central governments throughout the post-world war II. Equally most countries in Latin American have had centralized states, but Venezuela, Brazil, Mexico officially maintains federalist constitutions though on paper because regions and states represent little more than mere administrative units (Rodriguez-Pose & Gill, 2004).

The USA saw increased clamour or devolution in the 20th century when diverse federal and unitary systems' groups sought power reduction of central governments through power devolution from Washington DC to the regions (Hauss, 2016). In Brazil, passing of Constitution in 1988 considerably reinforced the powers of the states (Serra & Afonso, 1999).

However, the regional and influential interests' lobby that had been involved in the drafting process capitalised on the anti-central government sentiments that had emerged during military rule. This subsequently brought unprecedented levels and determination in the regions over administration, financing and responsibilities (Rodriguez-Pose & Gill, 2004).

According to Rodriguez-Pose & Gill (2004), growth in globalization has run parallel to demand for devolution of authority and resources that has led to implications for efficiency, equity, and administration. In addition, Ndung'u, (2014) posits that devolution is a political response to the ills such as inequalities, economic stagnation, and rent seeking as well as conflicts, corruption and inefficient use of public resources that have plagued fragile and plural societies. However, in several situations, it is a reaction measure to external pressure from organized groups.

Devolution in Kenya was through a new Constitution that placed county governments at the centre of delegated political power as well as economic resources (Chapter 11, 2010 Constitution). The constitution that was promulgated in the August of 2010 stipulated the delegation of political power and economic resources from Nairobi to 47 county governments and the Senate that came into force following the March 4, 2013 (Softkenya, 2010, Kimenyi, 2013). The constitution changed the hitherto structure of governance and administration to a devolved unit.

The Provincial administration that ran Kenya between independence and the new constitution traced its origin to the colonial era. It was structured to enforce colonial laws and policies over tax collection, maintenance of law and order and in conflict resolution and pacification of natives. In some situations, it offered some form of judicial services as well as participating in legislative matters in conjunction with elected local authorities. Some of the roles undertaken by the provincial administration are still relevant in the modern Kenya under the new constitution. The new constitution envisages that the two levels of governance have distinct functions, roles and responsibilities (Government of Kenya, 2010). However, since the promulgation of the new constitution and subsequent installation of devolved units, there is limited empirical evidence on the working relationship between the different administrative levels of Governance.

In a study on administrative impact of Restructured Provincial Administration (RPA) on selected aspects of maintenance of law and order in Kenya in 2010 to 2014. A case study of Bomet County, the author found that RPA had significant negative administrative consequences on the selected aspects from 2010 to 2014 compared to the period before evinced by increased personal, property and statutory crimes. Subsequently, frequency of joint security operations on illicit brews dropped from weekly basis to monthly and need basis, the duration of response to scenes of crimes increased from minutes to hours, and frequency of security committee meetings increased to weekly and need basis to monthly. This negative

administrative impact on the selected aspects was attributed to changed command structure in the RPA, independent security institutions, inadequate resources and entry of County government of Bomet in 2013 (Mutisya, Kindiki, & Rono, 2017). The study concluded that effectiveness of devolution depends on an array of other context-specific factors.

Constitutionally, some functions such as licensing and controlling public selling of food, removing refuse and damping solid waste, controlling air and noise pollution plus other public nuisances as well as betting, outdoor advertising, casinos or gambling; granting license to liquor businesses, cinemas and video halls and hiring , public transport, dogs licensing, trade licences, survey and or mapping, boundaries/ fencing, housing and controlling of drugs and pornography are under the County Governments;- which all predicates on maintenance of law and order. The research focused on Laikipia County in its geographical scope, one of the smallest counties in the country and which is in the Rift Valley region. It has three constituencies Laikipia North Laikipia East and Laikipia West.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A new constitution in Kenya changed the approach of maintaining law and order in the country, which is a co-shared (as opposed to public security management) responsibility between the Restructured Provincial Administration (RPA) and the Devolved County Governance (DCG) structures (Government of Kenya, 2010). On the other hand, the County Governments Act (CGA) brought forth decentralised units for counties whose role include the development of policies and plans and service delivery at different devolved levels at the county. Contextually, maintenance of law and order, which is not synonymous to security management but its subset, is therefore, not a preserve of the national government but a shared responsibility between the two levels of Governance. Despite the constitutionally mandated issues to the county government being critical to law and order in the country, it is not completely clear how the county governments are handling these functions and how this is subsequently affecting maintenance of law and order at the county level. There is no data that shows the influence of devolved administration on social harmony and in dealing with anti-social behaviour at the devolved units within Kenya in general and particularly in Laikipia County. This study filled this gap to provide insight and information that could inform future interventions on maintenance of law and order at the county levels in the country.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

To investigate the effect of devolved administration initiative on maintenance of law and order in Laikipia County, Kenya

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To examine the effect of crime reduction initiatives by devolved County government on maintenance of law and order in Laikipia County.
2. To determine the effect of social harmony initiatives on maintenance of law and order in Laikipia County.
3. To assess the effect of initiatives on anti-social behaviour activities in Laikipia County.
4. To assess the moderating influence of legal framework for county administration in maintaining law and order in Laikipia County.

REVIEW OF RELATED EMPIRICAL LITERATURE

Crime Reduction Initiatives on Maintenance of Law and Order

Crime Reduction Initiatives involves innovative approaches and coordinated effort that tackle crime and enhance community empowerment in which social service providers in collaboration with the County Government do local law enforcement. This is with an aim of reducing crime while providing long-term solutions that strengthen positive relationships and interactions among residents, police and the affected community. Devolving powers and functions that facilitate access to local services and development may have the ability to address conflict and the subsequent breakdown of the public law and order. This is because identity-conflict is tied to underdevelopment and lack of services. It is in such a context that empowering decentralized institutions to provide access to health, education and local infrastructure that are considered basic services may enhance political inclusion. To illustrate, in some cases, grievances may revolve around identity issues such as language. In these cases, a breakdown of public order may be averted if powers over language use are devolved to the local level. For example, in Macedonia, conflict eased when the 2001 Peace Agreement recognized the use of Albanian and other minority languages in municipalities where Albanians and other minorities are present. Accordingly, the powers devolved should be relevant to addressing the narratives that support conflict, narratives which commonly relate to resources but which, in addition, may include identity issues (Reka, 2008).

A basic assumption is that devolution of power would lead to equitable development and thus address the perceptions that drive conflict and crimes. However, the UNDP notes that development itself change and de-stabilizes. Development raises expectations but also highlights disparities, and this may trigger further conflict (UNDP, 2010). Where conflict is seen as deep and interwoven with identity issues and resources, such factors become triggers of violence especially when they are used by politicians (Wood, 2001).

In the absence of public institutions sufficiently resilient to manage the pressure and challenge political opportunism, a resurgence of conflict is likely, even after development has taken off. Acceptance of self-rule and shared-rule arrangements may be an indication of the willingness of

the dominant group to compromise and accommodate. However, smaller parties may treat devolution of powers not as a solution to a conflict but a ground for more radicalized demands such as secession and fragmentation of a state (Siegle & O'Mahony, 2006). In such cases, devolution may indeed create the impetus for further conflict. Nonetheless, a 2010 study on 10 African countries by the USAID revealed that after power devolution there was consolidated stability in some cases while in others devolution seemed to compromise stability (Dickovic & Riedl, 2010). This is an important finding that supports devolution of power as a tool for political stability, especially in Africa where the post-independence period has witnessed a number of civil conflicts.

Devolution of power enhances public participation in decision-making. The feeling among some communities that they are governing themselves propels them to strive for excellence in what they do especially after becoming aware that devolved power grants them a greater say on determination of their issues of governance. Furthermore, since they are active members of the developmental agenda, they are masters of their own destiny and area accountable and responsible for their actions regardless of whether the actions are good or bad. Devolution helps to create conditions that enhance accountability and much better effective governance system whereby at the end people are satisfied with the Governance and they get best services reducing the act of crimes involvement as way on earning better living (Morgan, 2006).

Social Harmony Initiatives on Maintenance of Law and Order

Major objectives of devolution of government according to Article 174 include promotion of democratic and accountable exercise of power; to give powers of self-governance to the people and enhance their participation in the exercise of the powers of the state in making decisions affecting them. Devolution also facilitates the decentralization of state organs, their functions and services from the capital of Kenya” (Government of Kenya, 2010).

The promotion of social harmony embodies the aspects of conflict avoidance as well as a creative participation by various stakeholders with a society in the pursuit of common goals. In a harmonious society, conflicts are triggered by political, social and/or economic differences but could be resolved where members are allowed to communicate openly and participate. Through participation, conditions are created that allow for pooling of societal talents in a way that involves all its segments for the benefit of all. Re-energized clamour for good governance reforms through devolution is to a major extent due to failures of inefficiencies of centralization command and control systems (Lodiaga, 2012) that have been largely abused by authorities. This has led into a desire and pressurization for a more responsive governance order to ensure public policies and institutions are responsive to the needs of all citizens. In the same light, both public participation and good governance have become intertwined together with devolved governance.

Informed citizenry, expanded representation, and enhanced governance systems are factors that bring about quality participation. These factors can be enhanced through sharing of information, allowing consultation to citizens, and receiving feedback (The World Bank, 2015). Allowing for feedback from the public and putting in place measures that facilitate is as important as developing public participation legislation (CIC, 2014).

Most counties in the country use interactive social media such as Facebook, citizen blogs on their websites and twitter, to get feedback from citizens (Finch, 2015). The issues of discussion include service delivery, laws, policies and projects implementation. Info track (2015) revealed in a study that counties established feedback mechanisms ranked well among the top-performing counties by citizens.

County governments could play an integral part in local conflict resolution and dynamics especially because they have powers to make decisions, jobs' allocation, contracting of public projects, have public funds and are able to spend on 15 per cent of the public purse. However, this has spiked local political contests and rivalries especially because the monetary value of local politics has increased and which makes losers feel much aggrieved (Scott-Villiers, Ondicho, Lubaale, Ndung'u, Kabala, & Oosterom, 2014).

Potentially, though devolution could improve social cohesion, failure to address 'underlying socioeconomic structures that drive fragmentation, poverty and exclusionary politics would result in exclusionary cultures at the counties (Cox, Orsborn, & Sisk, 2014); Scott-Villiers et al., 2014, p. 15; Elder et al., 2014, p. 17; Sharamo, 2014, p. 3). Post-devolution conflicts in Mandera and Moyale could be reflective of potential linkages that exist between devolution and inter-ethnic violence' (Cox et al., 2014, p. 2; Scott-Villiers et al., 2014, p. 15).

Reduction of Anti-Social Activities Initiatives on Maintenance of Law and Order

Anti-social behaviours include regular crimes and disorders that occur almost on daily basis and range from vandalism to graffiti as well as drugs and harassment (Home Office, 2004) a behaviour that hugely affects the quality of life to citizens. Mostly, these anti-social behaviours target the vulnerable members of society who cannot protect themselves. Nonetheless, stakeholders such as the police and social workers work hard to tackle these problems, but against a backdrop of more than a decade of targets driven by government initiatives and endless legislation, annually the police receive more than 3.5 million reports of antisocial behaviour while many more incidents go unreported.

Antisocial behavior is therefore a matter of major public concern, especially in neighborhoods perceived to have poor quality of life and in which incidents of more serious crime are likely to occur (House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts, 2007). Anti-social behavior is subject of political interest for a decade and has led to new policies and legislations. In the US,

it is a matter of concern to the government as evidenced by the launch of the 'Together' campaign in October 2000 under the Home Office's Anti-Social Behaviour

Unit (ASBU), as well as the Respect Action Plan (RAP) launched in January of 2006. Reduction of anti-social behaviours is a priority to government's agencies such as the police especially when it is a crime done against vulnerable individuals (Place Survey, 2008). When there is no control, anti-social behaviour leads to increased disorder and low-level crime while fear of crime in a neighbourhood increase. Prevalent policy framework and discourse on handling anti-social behaviour in the UK emphasises the spatial concentration management of disorders especially in social housing estates (National Community Safety Network, 2005). Attempted response from the police is devolution of disorders management and social control to neighbourhoods while the role of both local authorities and the social housing agencies within multi-agency working partnerships have increased. The government is able to militate against antisocial behaviour through 'community triggers' that would compel local agencies at the behest of devolved government to investigate on repeatedly reported antisocial behaviour (Home Office Consultation, 2008). In addition, the government uses criminal behaviour orders and crime prevention injunctions, as alternative to orders since they are speedier and less bureaucratic (Home Office, 2004). These efforts are for purposes of providing effective reliefs to communities by removing individuals that cause the problems while addressing root causes of anti-social behaviour that among others include substance abuse (alcohol and drugs) and anger management between individuals. The Kenya Constitution Article 235 stipulates that the parliament should pass a law that enables county governments to create mechanisms and offices for recruitment, promotion and disciplining of public servants within their jurisdictions (GOK, 2010). This means the county governments should create their own bureaucratic levels in order to serve the citizens. This depicts an emphasis on an accountability mechanism in which elected officials are in charge of local affairs but are accountable to those who elected them.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Classical Theory of Management

The main proponents of this theory, that is also known as administrative management theory, are Gullick and Urwick (1937) which projects public administration as a science. In addition to the two being greatly influenced by Henri Fayol and Frederick Taylor, major classical economists, who combined knowledge and their military background to propose the Classical Theory of Management, and motivated by the need to increase productivity and efficiency. The focus was on finding the best way for getting most work done through examination of both actual work processes and the workforce skills (Cliffs Notes, 2016). The authors arguments were based on the assumption that just the same way a stream of engineering became science due to empirical methods of observation and systematic findings and recordings over time, public

administrators could as well develop science of administration (Management Study Guide, 2017). This theory has several components: the hierarchical structure, the division of labor, the monetary incentive and an autocratic leadership. Its main advantages is the clear hierarchical organizational structure with distinct management levels. It also incorporates division of labor where projects are broken down into smaller and easy to complete tasks. The theory posits that employees should be motivated by monetary reward in an organization with a single leader who make decisions, organizes and directs staffs (Russ, 2017).

In their paper on administrative management theory, Gullick and Urwick (1937) formulated the acronym POSDCORB that represent the functional responsibilities of the chief executive officer under classical management theory. This stands for planning, organizing, staffing, directing, coordinating, reporting, and budgeting. Planning involves establishing a broad sketch for the work on the table and the accompanying procedures to implement them. Organizing involves formal classification, definition and synchronization of the various work's sub-processes and/or subdivisions while staffing focuses on recruitment and selection of the right candidates for the right job and facilitation of their induction/orientation and training within favorable work environment. It also involves directing, a decision-making activity where there is delegation through structured instructions and orders, executing them and coordination of activities in an orchestrated manner that inter links all components of work at hand. The approach also includes reporting which involves regular updating to the superiors on the work progress or on related activities. The information is transmitted through maintained records or inspections. Finally, there is budgeting that encompasses fiscal planning, accounting, auditing and control.

In this study, classical theory was used to contextualize the operations and functions of the devolved government in maintenance of law and order so as to assess its effect and influence. The prepositions set out by the theory such as existence of a hierarchical structure, division of labor, monetary incentive and autocratic leadership as well as POSDCORB model provided a reliable framework for purposes of examining the devolution and its effect on maintenance of law and order at the county level.

Broken Windows Theory

Broken windows theory, proposed by Wilson and Kelling (1982) is an academic theory and a metaphor for disorder within neighborhoods (Kelling & Coles, 1995) (McKee, 2018). The theory attempts to link disorders and incivility within a community to subsequent occurrences of serious crime. The theory is the concept that each problem left unattended in any given environment will affect people's attitude toward that environment in a way that will trigger more problems. Arguably and on another side, a well-tended environment in which problems are dealt with as they arise, will equally affect the attitudes and will lead to continued good management and maintenance (techtarget.com, 2018). In the initial article called the 'Broken

Windows' they explained the phenomena this way, 'Consider a building with a few broken windows. If the windows are not repaired, the tendency is for vandals to break a few more windows. Eventually, they may even break into the building, and if it is unoccupied, perhaps become squatters or light fires inside. Alternatively, consider a pavement wheresome litter accumulates. Soon, more litter accumulates. Eventually, people even start leaving bags of refuse from take-out restaurants there or even break into cars' (Kelling & Wilson, 1982).

The authors therefore suggest that problems should be addressed when they are small (Kelling & Coles, 1995). Perceived social disorder would make the residents to think there is an increase in crime and will thus be forced to modify their behavior (Meinen, 2014). Social disorders are signs indicating there no governments' control and evinced by fights, disruptions of harmonious coexistence among neighbors, menacing gangs on the streets, illegal/illicit alcohol consumption and drugs and substance abuse. Subsequently, residents will less likely find comfort in venturing out especially in late hours, and would less likely intervene to mitigate disorderly events, activities and events in their neighborhood. On the extreme, they might relocate to other areas that are more orderly. Consequently, insecurity could spike whereby crimes escalate and criminals act with impunity. This study examined the extent to which the county government is playing a role in maintaining law and order in a way of pre-empting insecurity in the county within the precepts of the broken window theory. Where the principles are not adhered to, lack of law and order could degenerate to crime and insecurity.

Socio-legal Theory

This study was also be based on the socio-legal theory whose main proponent among others is Schiff (1972) the basic tenets of the theory is the relationship law in its many aspects to social situations (Schiff , 1976). This theory posits that in analyzing law, there is need to consider the direct link to the social situation in which the law applies and thus it is needful to consider different aspects of a situation by looking in to the part of the law that has a role in the creation, the maintenance and change of the situation. This theory puts into focus the legal and social interrelatedness since there are common grounds between the two, the main purpose is to comprehend the law and legal systems since though legality is driven by philosophical tools, its subject matter is largely a social phenomenon, and its purpose is social ends (Galligan, 2010).

The theory posits that legal ideas must be interpreted sociologically and thus sociology is needed in order to fully understand law. This implies that sociology provides an understanding on the level of legal doctrine: - for example, clarification on the questions concerning the interpretation of provisions of legislation or a court's decision (Cotterrell, 1998). In the context of this study, the theory informed assessment of the moderating influence of legal framework in maintenance of law and order in Laikipia County. To the extent that the law is fitting in to its role will imply the precepts of the theory are in place but where there is no coherence between the existing legal framework and the actual situation of law and order would imply there is need to review the laws.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

Research design refers to the arrangement of conditions that allow for procedural data collection and analysis to ultimately combine relevance to a research process economically. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design that enabled the researcher gather information exhaustively on the subject matter. A descriptive survey research design attempts to reveal the status quo of study items (Nardi, 2014) with a focus of discovering ideas and insights through provision of an opportunity to flexibly consider different and diverse aspects of a problem being examined. It is used in collecting data from specific population and/or samples mostly by means of a questionnaire or interview schedules (Cresswell, 2013).

Variables

The dependent variable for this study was maintenance of law and order at the devolved units in Laikipia County. The devolved administration may include all activities that are performed by the country administration structure, restructured Kenya Police Service and the restructured Provincial Administration in the maintenance of law and order. These are the administration initiatives of country administration, restructured Kenya Police Service and the restructured Provincial Administration geared towards maintenance of law and order within Laikipia County, Kenya. These variables examined the effect of devolved county administration initiatives on crime reduction initiatives in Laikipia County, determining the effect of devolved administration in dealing with anti-social activities in Laikipia County, examining the effect of devolved units in promoting social harmony in Laikipia County and assessing the moderating effect of the legal framework on maintenance of law and order in Laikipia County.

Study Location

This study was carried out in three constituencies of Laikipia County, namely Laikipia West constituency, Laikipia North constituency and Laikipia East constituency. Laikipia County, one among the fourteen counties located in the Rift Valley Region of Kenya is located on the equator. It borders Samburu County to the North, Meru County to the East, Baringo County to the West, to Isiolo County North East, Nyeri County to South East and while at the South West is the Nyandarua and Nakuru County. Laikipia County in its geographical scope is one of the smallest counties in the country with three constituencies: Laikipia North, Laikipia East and Laikipia West. The population is 399,227 (2009 Census). The dominant tribes are Kikuyu and Maasai. Other tribes are Borana, Samburu, Kalenjin, Meru, Somali, Europeans and Asian settlers. Religion is both Christian and Muslim. Majority of the population practices pastoralism (Census, 2009). The researcher chose the county due to several factors. These include intermittent conflict in the area where agriculture practice and pastoralism are the main economic activity that provide environment for conflict between farmers and pastoralists in

response to frequent break down of law and order. The first governor of Laikipia County, HE Joshua Irungu had to purchase tracking dogs in 2015 to manage security. In addition, he distributed hay and seeds to farmers to mitigate conflicts in the area. This shows that the county government has made interventions in order to maintain law and order and thus the researcher decided to focus on it to gain information and insight that could be used in other counties.

Target Population

This refers to entire population to which the researcher generalized the results after the study (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2003). The study targeted 130 individuals.

Sample and the Technique of Sampling

It is necessary to have a subset (that is the sample) of the target population especially when the population is too large for inclusion in the study. Sampling involves gathering people, places or things to study (Orodho & Kombo, 2002). Sampling essentially reduces research costs and time, and is practical when one cannot study the whole population. The researcher used an appropriate sampling method that ensured a representative and statistically valid sample. A sampling method is the techniques/ procedure adopted by a researcher to select sample units from which inferences about the larger population is drawn (Kothari, 2004). The study used both simple random sampling and purposive sampling to arrive at the sample size. Simple random sampling is a method used when the population of N objects and a sample has n objects and in which all possible samples of n objects have an equal probability. The lists of the officers provided at the county administrative units were used as the sampling frame. The total number of the officers was divided by the sample size to get n . Then, the individuals in the sampling frame that fell in the n th position were taken for actual participation in the study. Where the value arrived at was less than 1, the number taken was then rounded off to the whole higher number. Purposive sampling on the other hand is a non-probabilistic method where a sampling is based on researchers' decision guided by considerations such as, knowledge of the issue being examined, likelihood of contributing relevant and insightful data as well as capacity and willingness to participate in the research. The population size of between 10% and 20% was considered adequate as a sample for purposes of a detailed and in-depth study and was sufficient for reliable findings (Kothari, 2004, Gay 1978). Where the population was low in number a higher percentage was taken and for population with high numbers a lower percentage was taken. This study took 50% since the population was relatively low, that was proportionately allocated according to the different geographical areas. Three respondents; County Director of Safety and Enforcement, CEC Member in charge of Administration and public service and Regional County Commissioner were selected purposively, thus the sample size was 130.

Research Instruments

Questionnaires are associated with surveys. Good questionnaires should be clear and usable and with minimum potential errors from respondents and codes. Questionnaire ensures easy comparison since it allows many participants to respond to similar items. The fact that respondents were required to identify himself/oneself enhanced honest responses even where the questions are sensitive (Borg & Gall, 2003). A structured questionnaire was used to obtain primary data from, Enforcement officers, Sub-county Administrator, Ward Administrators, Sub-county Commissioners, Chiefs, Sub-chiefs, Police Officer in Command of a Station (OCS) and the children's desk officers at the Police stations. Interview is face-to-face oral communication using a set of predetermined questions involving one or more persons. This method is recommended for a descriptive study as it gives comparability, spontaneous reactions and supplementary information (Robson, 2002). The study developed an interview schedule that obtained data from the key informants who comprised of County Director of Safety and Enforcement, County Executive Committee (CEC) Member in charge of administration (Adm) and public service and the Regional County Commissioner (RCC).

Data Collection Procedures

This research used mixed methods of data collection meaning it collected both quantitative and qualitative data. Mixed methods allowed the study to utilize the benefits of both qualitative and quantitative study methodologies (Creswell, 2013). Self-administered questionnaires and an interviews schedule were used to collect primary data. Official authorization documents were obtained. These included a letter from the university that allowed application for the research permit at the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI). Using the letter from NACOSTI the researcher reported and obtained authority from the County Director of Education Laikipia County and to the county commissioner Laikipia County, and then proceeded to the field to carry out the study.

Data Analysis Procedures

Before data analysis, the data pieces were coded, thoroughly edited, and then tabulated and processed using computer software to ensure completeness and consistency. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used during analysis. Computer software, Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 22 was used in descriptive data analysis in order to generate summative statistics like mean, median, mode, variance and standard deviation of both dependent and independent variables. SPSS was also used to generate tables and charts to enhance clarity of data presentation. Inferential statistics was also be used to determine the relationship between variables. Correlation analysis helped determine strength and direction of relationships of the variables while regression analysis helped understand which and how independent variables influencing the dependent variable, and the forms of these

relationships. ANOVA was also used in order to test the statistical significance of the relationship between variables. Inferential statistics was done through SPSS version 22. Qualitative data obtained was analyzed thematically. Qualitative data was collected using a structured interview guide that involved taking down field notes when interviewing the informants. Thematic analysis was done on this field notes by way of identifying keywords and phrases that kept on re-occurring and around which manual themes which were the basis for coding. The code categories were based on the research question. The frequencies of appearance of a particular idea obtained were regarded as a measure of content (Krishnaswamy, Sivakumar, & Mathirajan, 2006) that times of reoccurrence was analyzed into percentages. During the interpretation of the findings, qualitative data was used to supplement interpretation of quantitative data.

RESEARCH RESULTS

The findings under the background of the study revealed that there were no respondents below 25 years or above 55 years old and most of the respondents in the area of study were males. It also found that there were more respondents who had attended the training and or courses related to security than those who had not. Finally the background study found that most of the respondents in the area of study had good experience in keeping of law and order.

Crime Reduction Initiatives

The study sought data on the effect of crime reduction initiatives on maintenance of law and order and found that most of the respondents disagreed that the county government provided an opportunity for members of the public to report crime. Most of the respondents also disagreed that Laikipia County government allows public participation on matters affecting them such as bill formation and budgeting. Most of the respondents agreed that Laikipia County Government provides bursaries to vulnerable students so that they are retained in institution of learning. Most of the respondents were not sure if the county government provides resources to needy members of the community and whether Laikipia County Government provides services like medical services and cover to needy members of the community. However, most of the respondents disagreed that Laikipia County government is involved in conflict resolution. Most of them also disagreed that the county government trains youth on skill areas that would make them to be occupied. The findings also showed that most of the respondents disagreed that the county government supports formation of social groups with an aim of promoting social values. Most of the respondents also disagreed that Laikipia County Government is involved in reconciliation of conflicting communities. A majority were not sure if there were several standing committees that deal with crime related initiatives in the County. There was a strong positive correlation between the crime reduction means and the maintenance of law and order. The model was also found to be fit and can be used to estimate the dependent variable effectively.

Social Harmony Promotion Initiatives

The second objective of the study aimed at finding out the effect of social harmony initiatives on maintenance of law and order in Laikipia County. The study found that most of the respondents disagreed that the county government regulates eateries such as hotels and all places where food is sold. A majority of the respondents also disagreed that the county government does not allow food to be sold from unhygienic location. The study further found that most of the respondents disagreed that eateries, hotels and other business that fail to adhere to health requirement are always closed. Majority also disagreed that the county government ensures that refuse does not pile up in unauthorized spaces. The study also found that majority of the respondents disagreed that refuse collected by the county government is carefully disposed off in designated areas. Moreover, majority of the respondents disagreed that the county government manages all public transport. However most of the respondents were not sure if the county government keeps all its terminals well maintained and in repair. Majority of the respondents disagreed that the county government does sufficient background check before granting trading license. A big number of the respondents also disagreed that there was no illegal business that operate in Laikipia County. Majority disagreed that business that are public nuisance are not allowed to operate in Laikipia County. Most of the respondents also disagreed that the county government supports youth with sports. The study also found that most of the respondents disagreed that the county government has publicized the calendar for sporting activities. This was similar to the findings on whether the county government supports development of playing fields where majority of the respondents disagreed. Most of the respondents further disagreed that the public is encouraged to innovate better ways of economic undertakings and also that the county government mobilizes the public to participate in sports. The correlation results also showed that there was a strong positive correlation between the Social Harmony Promotion Initiatives and the maintenance of law and order. The model was also found to be significant and can be fit in estimating the dependent variables.

Anti-social Activity Reduction

The sought data on the effect of anti-social activity reduction on maintenance of law and order, which found that most of the respondents disagreed that the government has campaigned against illicit alcohol consumption. Most of the respondents also disagreed that the county government ensures that no alcohol drinking places are located near schools or within residential areas. The study also disagreed that the county government offers guidance to citizens on handling and management of anger. The study also sort data on whether the county government regulates noise pollution by putting in place restrictive measures where most of the respondents disagreed. Majority of the respondents also disagreed that the government is proactive in ensuring illicit drugs are not abused . Majority also disagreed that the laws to be passed in the county are always subject to public participation. In fact, there was a strong positive correlation between the Anti-social activity reduction mean and the maintenance

of law and order. The regression model was also found to be fit in predicting the effects of independent variable on the dependent variables.

Legal Framework

The study sought data on the moderating influence of legal framework for county Government in maintaining law and order in Laikipia County. It found that most of the respondents disagreed that the existing laws are supportive enough for the county government to maintain law and order. The study sort data on whether there is need to relook at the existing policies that inform the county governments role of maintaining law and order where majority of the respondents agreed. Majority of the respondents were not sure if the county government has passed laws that support its management of law and order. However, majority disagreed that national government offers sufficient back up to the county government on the maintenance of law and order.

Maintenance of Law and Order

The study sort data on the dependent variable and tested whether there have been reduced cases of reported crimes since the county government was installed, where majority of the respondents disagreed. The study also tested if the communities within the county live peacefully with each other where most of the respondents disagreed. Majority of the respondents also disagreed that there is quick resolution on issues of law and order in the county. The study further found that most of the respondents disagreed that there is reduced consumption of illicit brew and that there was reduced number of organized and outlawed gang groups.

CONCLUSIONS

On crime reduction initiatives, the county government does not provide opportunities for the members of the public to report crime, and does not encourage public participation on matters affecting the public. The county government also does not support formation of social groups for purposes of promoting social values and is not involved in reconciliation of conflicting communities.

On social harmony initiatives, the County Government does not regulate eateries such as hotels and all places where food is sold but allows food to be sold from unhygienic places. Eateries, hotels and other places that fail to adhere to health requirements are not always closed and refuse collected by the county government is not disposed in designated areas. The County government does not manage Public Transport and fails to do sufficient check before granting trading license. There are illegal businesses operating in Laikipia County while the county Government allows businesses that are a nuisance to the public to operate. The county government does not support youths in sports and does not have a publicized calendar for

sporting activities. It does not mobilize the public to participate in sports and does not encourage the public to innovate better ways of economic undertakings.

Initiatives to reduce anti-social behaviour activities in Laikipia County, the study concludes that the county government has not campaigned against illicit alcohol consumption and does not ensure that no alcohol selling places are located near schools or within residential areas. It does not offer guidance to citizens on handling and management of anger and fails to regulate noise pollution by putting in place restrictive measures. The county government is not proactive in ensuring illicit drugs are not abused in the county and passes laws in the county that are not always subjected to public participation. It does not control betting and gambling in the county and has got no measures in place of empowering historically, social and excluded members. Finally, the county government does not control rebellious and organized gang groups that are a potential hindrance to social orders.

On legal framework the study concludes that the existing laws are not supportive enough for the county government to maintain law and order and there is great need to relook at the existing policies that inform the county government's role of maintaining law and order. The National government does not offer sufficient back up to the county government on the maintenance of law and order.

The number of reported crimes has not reduced since the County Government was installed and there are no quick resolution on issues of law and order in the county. The consumption of illicit brew consumption has not reduced neither has the number of organized outlawed gang groups.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The county government of Laikipia should give its members the opportunity to report crime and work with the members to reduce the criminal cases that take place in the county as well as deal with the illegal business that take place within the county.

The County Government should focus on management of public transport and give the youth support in the sporting activities. It should also focus on campaigning against drug abuse, alcoholism and publicizing the sports calendar.

The county government should put measures in place to reduce the number of reported crimes and resolve social issues quickly to avoid conflicts in the county.

The existing laws need amendment to be supportive enough for the county government on maintaining law and order. The national government should also provide more supportive role in ensuring the county governments succeed in their mandate maintaining law and order.

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