

The Role Of Community Policing In Enhancing Personal Security In Uganda: A Case Study Of Entebbe, Municipality, Wakiso District

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Introduction

The Uganda Police Force has historically not been inured to public scrutiny as well as engagement. Nevertheless, because of the growing demand and the need for a more interactive relationship between the police and the public, the police officers have changed from traditionalism and embraced the community policing strategy (Uganda police Force Report, 2017). This study was about assessing the role of community policing in enhancing personal security in Uganda. It focused on Entebbe Municipality.

Objectives

The study was guided by the following objectives:

1. to examine the role of community policing in the promotion of personal security in Entebbe municipality,
2. to examine the challenges faced in implementing community policing in Entebbe municipality,
3. to assess the existing strategies to improve personal security through community policing in Entebbe municipality.

Methodology

The study adopted a cross-sectional survey design and used both qualitative and quantitative approaches. It used a population of 260 and a sample size of 155. Questionnaire and interview were used as data collection methods, while questionnaires and an interview guide were the instruments used to collect data.

Key findings

The study found that community policing contributed positively to addressing the security concerns and problems of communities because of its decentralised and proactive nature, and because it aims to prevent crime and the fear of crime. It was, however, found out that community policing was not yet effective due to challenges that included the lack of integration between police and the community, lack of public confidence and use of traditional methods by the police. It was further discovered that most strategies to improve personal security through community policing in Entebbe Municipality recognised the importance of improving police-community relations.

Key recommendations

The study recommended that the police improve its relationship with the community.

Key references

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