

**COMMUNITY POLICING STRATEGIES AND CRIME PREVENTION IN  
KISII CENTRAL SUB-COUNTY, KISII COUNTY, KENYA**

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**SEPTEMBER, 2025**

**DECLARATION**

I want to categorically point out that the work is my original creation, which I have not presented in any other tertiary institution of learning.

Signature .....

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**Declaration by supervisor**

This project has been submitted with my approval as University the Supervisor

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## **DEDICATION**

I would like to thank God the Almighty for the divine strength that has seen me through this educational journey. Special dedication to my family, colleagues and friends whose support, prayers and encouragement have been my pillar of support.

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## OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

<b>Community</b>	A group of individuals residing within Kisii Central Sub-County who share common geographic, cultural, social, or economic characteristics. These individuals are the primary stakeholders in the community policing framework. Understanding the community helps in tailoring crime prevention strategies that are contextually relevant and sustainable through local participation.
<b>Strategic Communication</b>	The planned use of communication methods by law enforcement in Kisii Central Sub-County to inform, influence, and engage the public in crime prevention efforts. This includes media outreach, public forums, and information sharing systems. Effective communication builds trust, increases transparency, and enhances public cooperation with the police, all of which are essential for successful community policing and crime reduction.
<b>Community Engagement</b>	Deliberate interactions and partnerships between police officers and community members aimed at identifying, discussing, and resolving security concerns. Engagement methods include barazas (public meetings), surveys, local safety committees, and devolved police services. Active community involvement ensures that

crime prevention strategies are inclusive, locally accepted, and responsive to real community needs.

**Community Perception** How residents of Kisii Central Sub-County view police officers, including their integrity, responsiveness, and effectiveness in maintaining law and order. Positive community perception enhances police legitimacy, encourages crime reporting, and fosters mutual trust necessary for effective community policing.

**Community Policing (CP)** A law enforcement philosophy that emphasizes collaborative partnerships between the police and the public to identify and solve crime-related problems in Kisii Central Sub-County. This philosophy shifts the role of the police from being reactive to proactive, enabling early intervention, shared responsibility, and sustainable crime prevention outcomes.

**Community Policing Strategy** The structured set of actions, programs, and policies implemented to enhance cooperation between law enforcement officers and the Kisii Central community. These may include neighborhood patrols, feedback systems, and participatory decision-making forums. Strategies provide a clear roadmap for implementing community policing, ensuring consistency, accountability, and measurable outcomes in crime reduction.

**Crime Prevention**

All proactive measures policy-driven, community-based, and operational that aim to reduce the incidence and impact of criminal activities in Kisii Central Sub-County. It is the core objective of community policing, as it enhances public safety, promotes social stability, and supports long-term development goals.

**Resources and Crime Prevention**

The availability and adequacy of essential inputs such as trained personnel, financial support, vehicles, equipment, and technology that enhance the police's ability to prevent crime. Without proper resourcing, even well-designed community policing strategies may fail. Resource availability directly affects operational effectiveness and service delivery in crime prevention.

## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

<b>SAPS Act</b>	South African Police Service Act
<b>CPFs</b>	Community Policing Forums
<b>S.A.</b>	South Africa
<b>NARC</b>	National Rainbow Coalition
<b>UK</b>	United Kingdom
<b>KNDR</b>	Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation
<b>CIPEV</b>	Commission of Inquiry into Post-Election Violence
<b>US</b>	United States
<b>TAMU-SA</b>	Texas A&M University-San Antonio
<b>PSU</b>	Pennsylvania State University
<b>NACOSTI</b>	Not clearly defined in the text
<b>SPSS</b>	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences

## ABSTRACT

Across the globe, community-oriented policing has consistently been the preferred model for law enforcement agencies aiming to improve police-public relations and address crime and disorder. Despite ongoing efforts by various stakeholders to manage security challenges, Kisii Central Sub-County, the focus of this research, continued to face these difficulties. This study investigated the influence of different community policing strategies implemented by security sector stakeholders in addressing insecurity within Kisii Central Sub-County. The research objectives were to: examine the influence of community engagement on crime prevention, analyze the influence of strategic communication in crime prevention, determine the influence of resources on crime prevention, and assess how community perceptions shaped crime prevention initiatives in Kisii Central Sub-County. This research was guided by the broken windows theory, which posits that failing to address initial signs of insecurity can lead to more widespread problems, and the systems theory, which recognizes the interconnected roles of various stakeholders in achieving successful crime prevention. The research embraced a descriptive research design, collecting both qualitative and quantitative data. The target population included members of the chairpersons of the sub-location community policing committees, national government administrative officers, and police officers, with a sample size of 80 participants. A pilot study was done in the neighboring sub-county of Masaba South. Data was gathered using interview schedules and questionnaires. Qualitative data underwent content analysis and was categorized by theme. Quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics with the aid of the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) and presented in tables, charts, and graphs. Ethical considerations were strictly adhered to, ensuring anonymity, confidentiality, research authorization and permits were obtained, and the study's objectives were clearly explained to the participants. The study examined the role of community policing strategies in crime prevention in Kisii Central and found that a strong community engagement ( $M=3.75$ ,  $SD=0.946$ ) has a positive influence on crime prevention ( $\beta=0.308$ ,  $p=0.002$ ). Strategic communication ( $M=3.84$ ,  $SD=1.027$ ) and resource allocation ( $\beta=0.169$ ,  $p<0.001$ ) also proved to be significant factors. Community perception ( $M=3.95$ ,  $SD=1.21$ ) showed a strong positive impact on the effectiveness of crime prevention, with  $R^2=0.634$  in the regression analysis. The study concluded that active community engagement, effective strategic communication, adequate resource allocation, and positive community perception are crucial for successful crime prevention in Kisii Central. The findings highlight the need for collaborative efforts between law enforcement and the community, emphasizing investment in resources and the building of trust as fundamental elements for effective crime control. The study recommended strengthening community engagement by establishing regular forums and joint committees. It suggested developing a comprehensive multi-channel communication strategy to reach all community demographics. Local authorities should prioritize resource allocation for training, infrastructure, and technology. Furthermore, law enforcement agencies should focus on transparency and building positive community perceptions through consistent communication and addressing concerns promptly.

## **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background to the Study**

Community-oriented policing has emerged as the globally preferred approach for law enforcement agencies in managing crime and maintaining public order. This paradigm represents a fundamental shift from traditional reactive policing methods to a more collaborative, community-responsive model that emphasizes crime prevention strategies designed to establish and preserve positive relationships between police forces and the communities they serve (Cossyleon, 2019). The approach seeks to reduce both actual crime rates and the fear of crime through partnerships that enable local communities and law enforcement to work together in identifying and resolving disturbances and criminal activities. The ultimate objective of community policing initiatives is to increase public trust and confidence in law enforcement efforts within their neighborhoods (Carter and Fox 2019; Signori, Heinrich, Wootton, & Davey, 2023).

Globally, crime prevention encompasses both direct and indirect measures adopted by security stakeholders and communities with the primary aim of reducing and preventing criminal activities. These measures include environmental modifications designed to address problems of crime and disorder through various theoretical frameworks. Technology-oriented models emphasize strategies such as punishment and corrective measures, while stage-oriented models target crime prevention at different phases of criminal activity, including preparation and attempt stages (Hsu, Chen, Lin & Su, 2022). Community engagement, as a key variable in this global context, refers to procedures adopted by security sector players to provide the public with opportunities to contribute to policing decisions. Communities serve as the foundation for successful

policing programs and can be actively engaged through various platforms including community forums, events, and meetings, forming the basis for legitimacy and proper governance of public institutions worldwide (Modise, 2023).

Across developed nations, particularly in Europe, North America, and Australia, community policing strategies have evolved to incorporate advanced technological solutions and comprehensive social integration approaches. European Union countries have implemented community policing through various frameworks that emphasize human rights, social cohesion, and preventive measures. The United Kingdom's Police and Crime Commissioners model demonstrates how democratic oversight and community involvement can be institutionalized within policing structures. France's *police de proximité* and Germany's community-oriented approaches showcase how different legal and cultural contexts can adapt community policing principles. Australia and New Zealand have developed indigenous-sensitive community policing models that recognize cultural diversity and historical injustices while building trust between law enforcement and Aboriginal and Maori communities respectively.

In North America, particularly the United States and Canada, community policing has evolved through decades of experimentation and refinement. The United States has experienced historical tensions and strained relationships between communities and police forces despite concerted efforts by officials to boost public confidence in law enforcement. The violent nature of some police-public interactions has contributed to this animosity, making community-oriented policing the most viable approach for repairing these relationships and encouraging cooperative partnerships (Peyton, Rand, & Sierra-Arevalo, 2019). Various policies implemented across different American states include critical enforcement, proactive issue resolution, youth programs,

community activities and programs, and citizen participation initiatives. These measures have resulted in decreased crime rates and improved public-police trust and information exchange (Chavez, Bracy, Doyle, Peterson, and Robin, 2020). Strategic communication, as a critical variable, has proven essential in these contexts, with effective initiatives including increased police presence through foot and motor vehicle patrols, with research indicating that decreased police presence directly correlates with increased crime prevalence (Weisburd, 2021). Canada's Royal Canadian Mounted Police has implemented community policing through restorative justice approaches and indigenous reconciliation programs, demonstrating how resource allocation, another key variable, can be strategically directed toward community-specific needs.

Across the African continent, community policing has gained significant traction as countries seek to address post-colonial security challenges and build democratic policing institutions. The African Union has promoted community policing through various continental frameworks including the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa, which emphasize participatory approaches to security governance. West African countries like Ghana, Nigeria, and Senegal have implemented community policing initiatives that combine traditional governance structures with modern policing methods. Ghana's Community Protection Assistants program demonstrates how local knowledge and traditional authority can be integrated into formal policing structures. Nigeria's community policing strategy, launched in 2019, emphasizes partnerships between police and traditional rulers, religious leaders, and civil society organizations to address security challenges including terrorism, kidnapping, and communal conflicts.

In Central and Eastern Africa, countries like Rwanda, Uganda, and Tanzania have developed community policing approaches that reflect their unique historical experiences and security challenges. Rwanda's community policing is closely integrated with its Gacaca court system and emphasizes reconciliation and social cohesion following the 1994 genocide. Uganda's Local Defense Units represent a form of community-based security that combines formal law enforcement with local participation. Tanzania's community policing initiatives focus on rural-urban linkages and address challenges related to rapid urbanization and resource management. These examples demonstrate how community engagement as a variable can be adapted to different cultural, political, and economic contexts across the continent.

Southern African countries have developed some of the continent's most sophisticated community policing frameworks. South Africa, ranked fifth globally among nations with the highest crime rates per 100,000 inhabitants (World Population Review 2024), exemplifies both the potential and challenges of community policing in Africa. The post-apartheid South African government adopted community policing to repair the damaged relationship between police and communities that had deteriorated during the apartheid era, aiming to position police at the forefront of promoting social justice and positive community contributions (Bent-Goodley & Smith, 2017). Several legal frameworks were established to incorporate community policing into standard law enforcement practices, including the South African Police Service Act (SAPS Act) which facilitates police-community relations through Community Policing Forums (CPFs). The South African Constitution of 1996 mandates in Article 206(3)(C) that provinces must promote good relations between people and police, with CPFs recognized as critical components of SAPS policing in the 2016 White Papers on Safety and Security and Police. South African community policing operates through

community policing forums established by provincial commissioners, with forums emerging through elections at station levels that subsequently elect cluster-level members and provincial community police boards (Tyabazo, 2023). Strategies adopted include sector policing, partnerships and collaborations for information sharing, social media utilization, and community member involvement as street patrollers. However, significant obstacles include lack of police acceptance in informal settlements, demonstrating how resource allocation challenges can undermine community policing effectiveness (Mangal, Masiya, & Masemola, 2023).

Within the East African region, community policing has emerged as a crucial strategy for addressing shared security challenges including cross-border crime, terrorism, pastoralist conflicts, and urban crime. The East African Community has developed regional frameworks for police cooperation that emphasize community involvement and cross-border collaboration. The East African Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO) has promoted community policing best practices sharing among member states including Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, South Sudan, and Ethiopia. Regional security challenges such as cattle rustling among pastoralist communities, wildlife trafficking, and maritime piracy in the Indian Ocean have necessitated community-based approaches that recognize local knowledge and traditional governance systems.

Ethiopia's community policing initiatives focus on ethnic federalism and customary law integration, recognizing the country's diverse ethnic composition and traditional dispute resolution mechanisms. The Ethiopian Federal Police has established community policing programs that work with traditional elders and religious leaders to address conflicts and prevent crime. Tanzania's community policing emphasizes ujamaa

principles of collective responsibility and self-reliance, integrating socialist ideals with modern policing methods. The Tanzania Police Force has established community policing desks at district and ward levels that coordinate with local government authorities and civil society organizations. Uganda's community policing addresses unique challenges related to the Lord's Resistance Army legacy in northern regions and cattle rustling in Karamoja region, demonstrating how strategic communication must be adapted to post-conflict contexts and cultural specificities.

Rwanda's approach to community policing is closely integrated with its broader governance philosophy of unity and reconciliation, emphasizing social cohesion and collective security responsibility. The Rwanda National Police has established community policing committees at cell and sector levels that work closely with local government authorities and traditional governance structures. These committees focus on crime prevention, conflict resolution, and social development, demonstrating how community policing can extend beyond narrow security concerns to address broader social challenges.

In Kenya specifically, police forces have historically been viewed as corrupt and violent, significantly eroding public trust among communities they are meant to protect (Saferworld, 2021). The inception of community policing in Kenya can be traced to 1999 when the Vera Institute of Justice collaborated with the Nairobi Central Business District Association and Kenya Human Rights Commission to address crime in Nairobi. This marked the beginning of systematic efforts to transform police-community relations in the country. The NARC government embraced this initiative and made substantial efforts to reform the Kenyan police force into an entity meeting citizen needs. This commitment was reflected in the 2003–2007 economic recovery plan for

wealth and job creation, which recognized the essential role of effective police forces in maintaining law and order while ensuring peace and security. The strategy recommended increasing police presence from a ratio of 1:850 to 1:450, developing and implementing public education programs to build police-public trust, retraining and improving recruitment quality, improving welfare, and reviewing supportive laws. This led to partnerships with non-governmental organizations including Safeworld-UK and Peace and Development (Peace Net), which assisted police in developing a five-year strategic development plan and draft national policy on community policing (Diphoorn and Stapele 2020).

The 2007 post-election violence exposed significant weaknesses in Kenya's security architecture and police-community relations. The Waki Commission, led by Justice Phillip Waki as an offshoot of the Kenya National Dialogue and Reconciliation (KNDR), identified police shortcomings following these events, making police reforms a component of the reconciliation process. The commission recommended expediting national community policing policy and establishing specialized independent police organizations (CIPEV, 2008). The 2009 National Task Force on Police Reforms presented comprehensive recommendations focusing on police reforms with accountability and partnerships presenting the national strategy on community policing (National Task Force on Police Reforms, 2009). These recommendations were enshrined in the 2010 Kenyan Constitution, where Article 244 established a national police force with the purpose of establishing and strengthening ties with the general public, providing legal foundation for community-based policing. The National Police Service Act of 2011 further solidified this by defining community policing, creating a community policing authority, and establishing community policing groups and forums. Police officers receive guidelines on community policing and county policing

authority through Kenya National Police Service standing orders (COK 2010, National Police Service Act, 2011, NPS Standing Orders, 2017).

Kenya's law enforcement modernization efforts included two distinct community policing approaches that demonstrate different aspects of the key variables. The Nyumba Kumi model and the National Police Service community policing framework represent different scales and approaches to community engagement. The national police service's community policing program covers sub-location to county levels, comprising both police and civilian members serving on community policing committees that report at higher levels. Its driving themes include problem solving, partnerships, and police transformation, emphasizing strategic communication and resource allocation coordination. Nyumba Kumi entrenched community policing at household levels, fostering collaboration between households and with police forces through a more intimate, neighborhood-based approach. Membership in both initiatives is voluntary with elections held every two years, demonstrating democratic participation principles (Gjelsvik, 2020). Several initiatives have been adopted as part of Kenya's community policing efforts including community consultation and engagement, decentralization of police services to increase community presence, adoption of technology such as closed-circuit television and social media for strategic communication, problem-oriented policing, and collaborative policing approaches (Kayiaka, 2022; Mwiwanda, Muhindi and Wamalwa 2022).

Enhanced law enforcement officer well-being directly affects service quality and improves community safety, with community policing encompassing programs like police training, responsive police leadership, and non-monetary rewards, demonstrating the importance of human resource allocation (Sagwa, 2021). However, community

policing adoption in Kenya has faced difficulties including lack of understanding regarding precise stakeholder responsibilities and strained police-civilian relations. Increased civic education and police officer capacity training on community policing can help address these gaps (Amuya, 2017). Both initiatives have been hampered by issues with community policing interpretation and implementation, community lack of ownership, competing socioeconomic and political interests, long-standing institutional problems within police forces, and top-down approaches to community policing (Diphorn & Stapele, 2020; Gjelsvik, 2020).

Kisii County, located in the former Nyanza Province of southwestern Kenya, covers an area of 1,318 square kilometers and represents one of the most densely populated areas in the country. The county borders Nyamira County to the northeast, Narok County to the southeast, Migori County to the southwest, Homa Bay County to the west, and shares some boundaries with Trans-Mara District. According to the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census, Kisii County has a population of approximately 1.2 million people, making it one of the most densely populated counties in Kenya with over 900 people per square kilometer. The county's topography is characterized by rolling hills and highlands, with altitudes ranging from 1,200 to 2,000 meters above sea level, creating a favorable climate for agriculture but also presenting unique geographical challenges for security and policing.

The county's economy is predominantly agricultural, with the majority of residents engaged in smallholder farming of tea, coffee, bananas, maize, and indigenous vegetables. Tea farming is particularly significant, with Kisii County being one of Kenya's major tea-producing regions, contributing substantially to the country's foreign exchange earnings. Coffee farming, though less dominant than tea, remains important

for many households. The county also has a vibrant small-scale trading sector, with numerous markets and commercial centers serving both urban and rural populations. Quarrying of soapstone, for which the region is famous, provides additional economic opportunities and has cultural significance for the Abagusii community. However, these economic activities also create specific security challenges including disputes over land ownership, theft of agricultural produce, cattle rustling, and conflicts over natural resources.

Administratively, Kisii County is divided into nine sub-counties: Kisii Central, Kisii South, Gucha, Gucha South, Nyaribari Masaba, Nyaribari Chache, Bobasi, Bomachoge Borabu, and Bomachoge Chache. Each sub-county has distinct characteristics in terms of population density, economic activities, and security challenges. The county government, established under Kenya's devolved system following the 2010 Constitution, has responsibility for various functions including healthcare, agriculture, trade development, and coordination with national government agencies including the police service. This devolved system creates opportunities for more localized approaches to community policing but also presents coordination challenges between county and national government security agencies.

Culturally, Kisii County is predominantly inhabited by the Abagusii community, one of Kenya's Bantu-speaking groups, with strong traditional governance systems including councils of elders and traditional dispute resolution mechanisms. These traditional systems have historically played important roles in maintaining social order and resolving conflicts, creating both opportunities and challenges for modern community policing approaches. The community has strong kinship ties and social networks that can be leveraged for community policing but may also create tensions

when formal policing conflicts with traditional authority structures. Religious institutions, including both Christian churches and traditional spiritual practices, play significant roles in community life and can serve as important partners in community policing initiatives.

Educational levels in Kisii County are relatively high compared to many rural areas in Kenya, with numerous primary and secondary schools as well as several tertiary institutions including Kisii University. This educational infrastructure creates opportunities for civic education and community awareness programs that are essential for effective community policing. However, youth unemployment remains a significant challenge, as many educated young people struggle to find employment opportunities, potentially contributing to security challenges and requiring targeted community policing approaches.

Kisii Central Sub-County serves as the county headquarters and represents the most urbanized area within Kisii County. The sub-county encompasses Kisii town, which serves as the main commercial and administrative center for the broader county and surrounding regions. With a population of approximately 200,000 people according to recent estimates, Kisii Central Sub-County exhibits characteristics of both urban and rural environments, creating unique challenges for community policing implementation. The area includes the central business district, residential neighborhoods of varying economic levels, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, and government offices, all of which require different approaches to community engagement and crime prevention.

The urban nature of Kisii Central Sub-County creates specific security challenges that differ from those in rural areas of the county. These include urban crime patterns such

as theft, robbery, fraud, and drug-related offenses, as well as challenges related to youth unemployment, urban poverty, and social dislocation. The concentration of commercial activities, banking institutions, and government offices makes the area attractive to criminals but also provides opportunities for comprehensive security partnerships between various stakeholders. Traffic congestion, informal settlements, and rapid urbanization create additional challenges for law enforcement and community policing efforts.

Within this context, the three key variables of community policing - community engagement, strategic communication, and resource allocation - face particular challenges and opportunities in Kisii Central Sub-County. Community engagement must navigate the complex urban social structure that includes diverse economic groups, educational levels, and varying relationships with law enforcement. Strategic communication must utilize both traditional and modern channels to reach different demographic groups effectively, while resource allocation must address the concentrated security needs of an urban environment while maintaining connections with surrounding rural areas.

The roots of modern community policing in Kisii County trace back to 2011 when residents of Taracha location, under local administrator guidance, established an initiative to address insecurity and crime problems through local community policing committees for intelligence gathering, investigations, and arrest operations. However, these early initiatives faced significant financial constraints that limited their effectiveness (Otiso, 2015). Community policing in Kisii County has subsequently evolved to take various forms, with stakeholders adopting initiatives including stakeholder participation, resource allocation strategies, community awareness

programs, and trust-building efforts as comprehensive strategies to combat crime and disorder (Kibet, 2017). The county has experienced implementation difficulties as locals have struggled to distinguish between legitimate community policing and vigilantism, resulting in the emergence of local vigilante organizations operating under the guise of community policing, with communities ultimately suffering from extrajudicial operations conducted by these groups (Mose, 2021). These challenges highlight the critical need for comprehensive examination of community policing strategies and their effectiveness in crime prevention within Kisii Central Sub-County, particularly focusing on how the three key variables can be optimized to achieve sustainable security improvements while maintaining respect for human rights and rule of law.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Despite concerted efforts to implement community policing initiatives in Kisii Central Sub-County, crime prevention efforts have not achieved desired results. The Center for Crime Research (2022) identifies several areas within the sub-county as crime hotspots including Nyanchwa, Keroka, Milimani, Mwembe, Erera, Town Center, and Kinonga, which are reportedly under the influence of criminal gangs such as Saba Saba, Amachuma, Chinkororo, and Bamba 40. This situation reflects broader challenges in community policing implementation across Kenya, where despite policy frameworks, effective crime prevention remains elusive (Mose, 2021).

Statistics from the Office of the Sub-County Police Commander for 2021-2023 reveal significant crime levels with 413 cases of assault and creating disturbance, 221 cases of stealing, 142 sexual offences, 116 economic crimes, 68 dangerous drug cases, and 35 homicides reported. However, these statistics fail to identify specific community

policing strategies employed, their effectiveness in crime prevention, or the challenges hindering successful implementation (Otiso, 2015).

Previous studies have left significant research gaps regarding community policing strategies and crime prevention in Kisii Central Sub-County. Kibet (2017) examined factors affecting community policing in Kisii County but did not focus on specific strategies and their effectiveness in individual sub-counties. While existing research has examined general factors influencing community policing, there remains insufficient understanding of specific strategies employed, their effectiveness, and implementation challenges unique to this sub-county's urban-rural context, making this study necessary to address these knowledge gaps.

### **1.3 Research Objectives**

**The study objectives include:**

- a) To examine the influence of community engagement on crime prevention in Kisii Central Sub-County, Kisii County, Kenya.
- b) To analyze the influence of strategic communication on crime prevention in Kisii Central Sub-County, Kisii County, Kenya.
- c) To determine the influence of resources on crime prevention in Kisii Central Sub-County, Kisii County, Kenya.
- d) To assess how community perceptions shaped crime prevention initiatives in Kisii Central Sub-County.

### **1.4 Research Questions**

- a) What is the influence of community engagement on crime prevention in Kisii Central Sub-County, Kisii County, Kenya?

- b) How does strategic communication influence crime prevention in Kisii Central Sub-County, Kisii County, Kenya?
- c) What is the influence of resources on crime prevention in Kisii Central Sub-County, Kisii County, Kenya?
- d) How do community perceptions shape crime prevention initiatives in Kisii Central Sub-County?

## **1.5 Justification and Significance of the Study**

### **1.5.1 Justification of the Study**

Crime statistics from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) show a consistent rise in crime in Kisii County: from 2,602 incidents in 2020, to 2,822 in 2021, 2,641 in 2022, and a high of 3,133 in 2023. The increase of 492 cases between 2022 and 2023 underscores a growing security challenge, particularly in Kisii Central Sub-County. The majority of offenders in 2023 were male (2,730), compared to female offenders (376), indicating a gender disparity in crime participation.

Media reports (Abuga, 2023) have highlighted the proliferation of violent gangs in Kisii Town, which lies within the sub-county. These gangs have terrorized residents, targeting community policing members, business owners, and public workers. The lack of effective police intervention reportedly led to the emergence of vigilante groups like Sungusungu, which though initially aimed at restoring order allegedly engaged in human rights abuses such as torture and extortion.

Existing literature (e.g., Kiptoo, 2017; Mose, 2021) points to resource limitations, lack of trust between police and communities, and the blurred lines between community policing and vigilantism as persistent issues in Kisii County. However, little has been

done to investigate specific community policing strategies and how they influence crime prevention in the Kisii Central Sub-County context. Therefore, this study is justified by the urgent need to evaluate the effectiveness, structure, and perception of community policing strategies in Kisii Central. It aims to bridge existing knowledge gaps and provide empirical evidence to inform targeted and context-specific crime prevention measures.

### **1.5.2 Significance of the Study**

This study has significance at several levels:

**To the body of knowledge:** The research will contribute to academic literature on community policing, crime prevention, and public safety in Kenya and other developing contexts. It provides a localized analysis that enriches understanding of the intersection between formal policing and community-based efforts, especially in areas with rising vigilantism.

**To policy and institutional frameworks:** Policymakers, especially within the Ministry of Interior and National Administration, and senior law enforcement officials, can use the study's findings to refine national community policing guidelines. The results will help assess whether existing policy initiatives have yielded desired outcomes in Kisii Central and inform future resource allocation and police-community engagement protocols.

**To practice:** Local law enforcement agencies and National Government Administrative Officers (NGAOs) will benefit from an assessment of strategies such as community engagement, strategic communication, and resource distribution. The insights can be integrated into daily policing and community outreach programs.

**To civil society and community actors:** Religious leaders, civil society groups, and community-based organizations will benefit from understanding community perceptions and the effectiveness of current crime prevention strategies, which can support joint interventions.

**To future researchers:** The study will provide a reference point for scholars examining crime prevention, security governance, or community policing in similar urban and peri-urban settings.

## **1.6 Scope of the Study**

This study was conducted in Kisii Central Sub-County, Kisii County, approximately 124 kilometers from Kisumu City. The sub-county spans 135.8 km<sup>2</sup> and hosts an adult population of about 106,298, distributed across six administrative wards: Kisii Central, Bobaracho, Keumbu, Birongo, Kiogoro, and Ibeno. The study targeted selected residents, police officers, civil society actors, religious leaders, and National Government Administrative Officers (NGAOs). It focused on evaluating the implementation and effectiveness of four key community policing strategies: community engagement, strategic communication, resource allocation, and community perceptions. Kisii Central was chosen due to increasing crime rates, the emergence of vigilante practices, and its strategic position within the county. These factors made it an ideal setting for examining the interplay between public safety efforts, policing strategies, and community dynamics within a broader security governance context.

## **1.7 Study Limitation and Delimitation**

### **1.7.1 Study Limitations**

The study faced several limitations. Firstly, language barriers arose as Kisii Central Sub-County is linguistically diverse, with Kisii, Luo, Kuria, and Swahili widely spoken,

complicating communication during interviews. To overcome this, multilingual interviewers were engaged. Secondly, mistrust between the community and police led to hesitancy in disclosing information. This was addressed by providing participants with official letters and assurances of confidentiality. Lastly, insecurity in informal and interior areas posed risks to data collection teams. This challenge was mitigated by obtaining authorization from local administrators and using local guides to ensure safety during fieldwork.

### **1.7.2 Study Delimitations**

The study was delimited to Kisii Central Sub-County and excluded other sub-counties in Kisii County. It specifically focused on selected components of community policing—community engagement, strategic communication, resource allocation, and public perception—without extending to the broader criminal justice or judicial systems. The study was limited to the period between 2020 and 2023, utilizing the most recent crime data available to assess the effectiveness of community policing strategies.

## **CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Empirical Literature Review**

This chapter conducted an empirical investigation of the effects of community engagement, strategic communication, resources, and perception on crime prevention. The conceptual foundation for the investigation was also covered in this chapter.

#### **2.2.1 Crime Prevention**

Crime prevention remains a critical concern in urban and rural areas globally. Various studies have explored how different stakeholders—including police, local authorities, and communities—engage in crime prevention through diverse strategies and methodologies. However, while these studies provide valuable insights, notable conceptual, methodological, and contextual gaps remain, especially in the exploration of independent and dependent variables.

Hino and Chronopoulos (2021) conducted a study on crime prevention initiatives in Adachi Ward, Tokyo, Japan. The study emphasized community-volunteer collaboration and police engagement, grounded in the broken windows theory. The researchers adopted a cross-sectional approach combining interviews, crime data analysis, and document review. A sample of 3,000 adults (aged 20+) was selected randomly. The findings highlighted successful crime reduction attributed to target hardening, public education, CCTV surveillance, and community recognition efforts. The dependent variable was crime rates, while the independent variables included crime prevention strategies (e.g., CCTV, patrols, volunteerism). Although the study captures strategic intervention outcomes, it is contextually limited to a highly urbanized Japanese setting, with no comparative data for less-developed contexts. Furthermore, it does not adequately analyze how resource allocation or communication strategies

influenced outcomes. Methodologically, the cross-sectional approach does not capture long-term effects beyond the 11-year observation window.

Rabaiotti and Harrison (2023) examined partnerships in community safety development in Wales. Using a multi-method research design, the study involved online surveys and focus groups with police and local authority officials. The researchers found that training and governance strengthening were vital for effective community safety outcomes. Independent variables included partnership strength and training programs, while the dependent variable was community safety outcomes. The study lacks input from community members, offering a top-down perspective. This limits the study's generalizability to more inclusive community-driven models. Additionally, the use of online surveys may exclude populations with limited internet access, posing a methodological limitation.

Manaliyo (2017) explored public participation in crime prevention in Khayelitsha, Cape Town, with 45 participants from community leaders and anti-crime organizations. Employing a qualitative design, the study revealed that voluntary citizen involvement in activities like joint patrols and intelligence sharing significantly contributed to crime reduction. The dependent variable was crime prevention outcomes, while the independent variable was community participation. The small, qualitative sample limits the generalizability of findings. The study did not incorporate a comparative analysis of law enforcement views or use a mixed-methods approach, which would have enriched data triangulation.

Wa Teresia (2023) investigated crime prevention strategies in Nairobi's slums (Kibera, Mathare, Korogocho) using a descriptive research design and quantitative data from 659 respondents. The study highlighted vigilante groups, village security committees,

and community-employed guards as major interventions. The dependent variable was crime levels, and the independent variables included community-led interventions. Although the study used a larger quantitative sample, it lacked a qualitative component to explore motives, perceptions, and social dynamics influencing the interventions. Additionally, the focus was only on urban informal settlements, excluding formal residential areas for comparative purposes.

Mose (2021) explored vigilantism (Sungusungu) in Suneka Township, Kisii County, using a qualitative case study approach with in-depth interviews. The study found that vigilante groups filled the gap left by state security agents but eventually morphed into abusive entities. The independent variable was vigilante group formation, and the dependent variable was crime rate management. While insightful, the study fails to critically examine formal state response to vigilantism. It's purely qualitative approach does not allow for measuring the extent of crime reduction or community trust in quantitative terms.

### **2.2.2 Community Engagement and Crime Prevention**

Community engagement has increasingly been recognized as a core component of modern crime prevention strategies. Effective engagement fosters trust between law enforcement agencies and local populations, enhances the flow of information, and builds collective efficacy in crime deterrence. While several studies have addressed the role of community engagement in policing, many exhibit gaps in scope, methodology, and variable analysis, which this proposed study aims to address.

Lockey et al. (2019) explored the influence of a community engagement intervention on public perceptions of the police and fear of crime. The study was underpinned by the theory of social capital, which posits that strong community networks reduce fear

and increase trust. Using a quasi-experimental design, the researchers assessed interventions by the Durham Constabulary through focus groups, open days, social media outreach, and distribution of leaflets. The independent variable was the type of community engagement initiative, while the dependent variables were public perception of police and fear of crime. The quasi-experimental design, while useful for causal inference, overlooks the depth of individual experiences and perceptions, as it lacks a qualitative component. The study also does not evaluate long-term sustainability or the differentiated impact across various community subgroups.

Modise (2023) conducted a study for the South African Police Service examining the role of community engagement as part of the broader police reform agenda. The study applied a desk review methodology, analyzing secondary data and applying public relations theory to argue for structured and respectful civic engagement in policing. It proposed strategies such as civic education, equitable policy development, and training for local policing teams. The independent variable was community engagement policy and practice, while the dependent variable was community trust and public safety outcomes. The reliance on secondary data means findings are theoretical and not grounded in primary community insights. Additionally, the study lacks empirical testing of proposed interventions and does not assess the impact of engagement mechanisms on actual crime rates or public cooperation levels.

Kayiaka (2022) investigated the influence of community policing programs on security in Mathare, Nairobi County. Using a descriptive research design, the study targeted 419 police officers. Findings showed that community involvement, especially when combined with other policing strategies, positively contributed to enhanced community security. The independent variable was community engagement in policing, and the

dependent variable was perceived security or safety. The study is limited to the police perspective, which creates a biased or partial view of community engagement. It excludes voices of community members, which are essential for evaluating the effectiveness of policing strategies. Moreover, while descriptive in design, the study lacks a qualitative dimension to explore deeper dynamics of engagement and community-police relations.

### **2.2.3 Strategic Communication and Crime Prevention**

Strategic communication plays a critical role in enhancing police-community relations and in preventing crime. Communication strategies ranging from digital platforms to in-person community forums help bridge information gaps, build trust, and foster community cooperation. While prior research has examined aspects of communication in law enforcement, many studies concentrate narrowly on digital tools and overlook broader strategic approaches, leaving methodological and conceptual gaps.

Radic (2021) examined the possibilities and challenges of digital police communication with citizens in Eastern Croatia. The study employed a qualitative methodology, targeting 40 police administrators. Findings indicated that digital communication improved crime monitoring, facilitated transparent operations, and enhanced police-community trust. The independent variable was digital communication use, while the dependent variables were crime prevention effectiveness and trust in police. While insightful, the study is limited to police perspectives only, omitting community views, which are critical in assessing bilateral communication effectiveness. Additionally, the qualitative approach restricts quantification of outcomes like trust levels, engagement frequency, or crime reporting rates. The study also narrowly focuses on digital tools, excluding non-digital and interpersonal communication strategies.

Skoczek (2023) investigated the breakdown in communication between communities and law enforcement using a qualitative phenomenological design. Drawing on theories of social disorganization and cultural conflict, the study engaged both community members and ex-police officers. It concluded that trust had deteriorated, and cooperation was lacking, due to poor communication strategies. The independent variable was lack of communication, while the dependent variable was community-police trust and cooperation. Though the dual perspective is commendable, the phenomenological design lacks generalizability. The study also does not analyze specific communication channels or platforms, nor does it test strategic interventions that could improve engagement.

Sachdeva and Kumaraguru (2015) conducted a case study of the Bangalore City Police Facebook page to evaluate the use of social networks for crime prevention. Using a cross-sectional design, the study applied the victimization hypothesis and found that online platforms helped police collect actionable intelligence and enhance transparency. The independent variable was social media interaction, while the dependent variables were crime reporting quality and police accountability. This study is restricted to one digital platform (Facebook) and overlooks other communication media. It also focuses more on information sharing than on strategic communication planning, such as targeted messaging, crisis communication, or audience segmentation. Furthermore, it does not examine community reception of these platforms.

Loonkosho (2022) examined the impact of social media on security management in Kilimani and Dagoretti Police Divisions, Nairobi. The study employed a descriptive research design and was grounded in social responsibility and collective approach theories, targeting 188 police personnel. Findings showed that social media helped with

public awareness, crime reporting, and community alertness. The independent variable was use of social media, and the dependent variables were security outcomes and information flow efficiency. While relevant, the study excludes community member perspectives, resulting in a one-sided analysis. It also conflates general media use with strategic communication, lacking a focus on intentional message design, audience analysis, or impact evaluation metrics.

Kawalya-Tendo (2024) explored how strategic communication improves police-community relations, targeting 45 police officers in Washington D.C. through a descriptive methodology. The study identified strategic tools like social media, public information officers, and informal interaction forums as vital in mending police-citizen relations. The independent variable was strategic communication methods, and the dependent variable was quality of police-community relations. While it introduces the concept of strategic communication, the study still focuses exclusively on police officers, lacking public feedback. Additionally, it limits strategic communication to interpersonal and social media formats, excluding mass media, grassroots forums, and crisis communication strategies.

#### **2.2.4 Resources and Crime Prevention**

In a case study of the Western Cape police department, Mdodi (2021) investigated the impact of budgetary allocation on the South African police service. The study targeted a total of 52 police officer and adopted a mixed method approach and was anchored in the walker's theory of distribution. The outcomes of the research uncovered that increased budgetary allocation to the western cape police department had a direct impact on the increased success rate in crime reduction and proposed more budgetary

increases strengthen crime prevention through personnel recruitment, training and technological acquisition.

Mogere and Muna (2022) did a survey on the impact of resource allocation on the performance of Kenya police in a case study of Nairobi County. The study, which focused on 3739 police officers in total, used a descriptive study design and was informed by the theories of resource reliance and human capital. According to the study, Kenyan police officers' performance in carrying out their tasks was positively impacted by resource allocation. According to the report, resource distribution should be customized to the type of work being done and the deployment area.

Korir (2020) did a research on the effect of police institutional capacity on community policing implementation that targeted 240 police officers drawn from the regular and administration in a case study of Kasarani constituency. The survey was directed by the Systems theory and adopted survey research design. The study found insufficient resources was allocated to the function of community policing within the police service hence making its operationalization difficult. It recommended for the provision of additional resources towards community policing initiatives.

A total of 750 senior police officers from the Kenyan police force were the subject of a study by Kamau et al. (2020) that looked at how resource allocation affected the standard of law enforcement. The study used a cross-sectional descriptive survey approach, drawing on the resource-based theory, and gathered data via questionnaires and interviews. The study found that the quality of Kenyan law enforcement was significantly improved by resource allocation. It suggested that the aforementioned resources be used and planned appropriately.

The selected studies have several facets of resource allocation in common with the main focus being on the measure of the responsiveness of law enforcement agencies against the amount of resources allocated to the said agencies. A variety of research designs were utilised ranging from mixed design, descriptive and surveys. This study seeks to look at resources both inside and outside law enforcement agencies. The success of a crime prevention strategy depends on a widened resource base that will seek to address agency based frailties and those within the communities they police.

### **2.2.5 Community Perception and Crime Prevention**

Madero-Hernandez, Lee et al., (2020) carried out research exploring how a person's views of the police influence their willingness to implement crime prevention strategies in Canada. The research aimed to distinguish between conventional policing and community policing approaches, drawing on data from a general survey in Canada that covered different crime prevention strategies, including target hardening. The research discovered that the impact of police perception on the implementation of crime prevention strategies varied based on whether the approach was traditional policing or community policing. The residents who favorably viewed the traditional policing model had less push to take measures against crime since they believed it was a prerogative of the police. Contrastingly, residents with a positive view of community policing were more inclined to take measures and cooperate with law enforcement agencies in making their communities safer.

A study on search and seizure by Hakan & Frantzen (2019) sought to examine how the public in the US views the legitimacy of the police. The study focused on undergraduate students at Texas A&M University-San Antonio (TAMU-SA) and Pennsylvania State University (PSU)-Schuylkill and Harrisburg. The research utilized a cross-sectional

survey approach and was informed by the theories of comparative conflict and racial danger. It discovered that the public benefited from the police treating them equally during traffic stops and other interactions. This suggests that the way the public feels about the police plays a bigger role in their willingness to report crimes and to act as witnesses. Having a good view of the police is crucial for successful community-focused initiatives designed to stop and prevent criminal activities.

Umoru (2019) did a research focusing on preventing and managing crime, with the objective of examining how both the police force and the general public view police officers and civilians in a specific area, Anyigba Metropolis, Nigeria. This research was structured around the anomie theory and utilized a cross-sectional survey design, employing validated questionnaires as the primary method for gathering data. Among the 196 participants in the research were 68 police officers from the Anyigba divisional police headquarters and 128 adult Anyigba town citizens.

It found that the public-police relationship was viewed as antagonistic due to police insensitivity and lukewarm attitude to duty. Similarly, the public had a bad experience from their experience with the police ranging from police brutality and abuse, bribery and torture, with the police efforts in crime prevention viewed as ineffective.

Gichobi and Odhiambo (2020) conducted a study on the perception of residents on implementation of community policing programs in a case study of Nyaribari Subcounty. The study was anchored in the social theories of criminology and utilised a descriptive and explorative research design that targeted the residents and the police of the area totaling 300. the study found that the view of the public towards the police was very poor. Similarly, the residents had not fully embraced collaboration and partnerships with the police as a tool un solving the problems of security within their

locality within a majority agreeing that if properly implemented it had a potential of improving police-public relations and solving their security problems. The comparative prior research papers chosen under this variable highlight the importance of community members' trust and favorable perception of law enforcement as a component of community policing and crime prevention. They point out that treating community people fairly by law enforcement is essential to fostering trust, which in turn leads to information sharing for the fight against disorder and crime. This survey will examine more general topics including public safety ratings and the degree of satisfaction with services provided by law enforcement.

## **2.2 Theoretical Framework**

This study is anchored on two key theories: the Broken Window Theory and the Systems Theory. These theories help explain the dynamics between crime prevention efforts and the interplay of community-based strategies and systemic coordination. The Broken Window Theory informs the study's understanding of how neglect and minor disorders can escalate into serious crimes, aligning with the dependent variable crime prevention and explaining how interventions (independent variables) can mitigate risks. On the other hand, the Systems Theory supports the view that effective crime prevention relies on interconnected components such as community engagement, resource allocation, and communication all of which are treated as independent variables in this study. By grounding the research in these theories, a structured interpretation of the relationships among the study variables is achieved.

### **2.2.1 Broken Window Theory**

This theory was advanced in 1982 by James Wilson and George Kelling who argued that "broken windows" which a term for they coined to represent societal disorders and

incivility within a community such robbery, house breaking and vandalism if left unchecked could lead to further disorder and an increase in societal disorder and criminal behavior. This inference was drawn from experimental work by Stanford psychologist Zimbardo who had observed vandalism done on several cars that had abandoned in various neighborhood in a state of disrepair. They maintained that shattered windows were a sign of apathy and lax enforcement, which in turn led to a greater fear of crime, a relaxation of social norms, and a rise in social disorders and criminal activity (Van der weele et al., 2017).

The adoption of the broken window in policing initiatives aims at tackling low level criminal activities and social disorders in order to prevent the problem from ballooning into wide spread problems through the removal of unwanted individual. The theory allows criminal justice policy makers to tackle the identified societal problems quickly and cheaply (Pandey and Pathak, 2021)

This theory is directly linked to the dependent variable—crime prevention—by emphasizing how small-scale interventions influence broader safety outcomes. It also supports the importance of the independent variables in this study: community engagement, strategic communication, resource deployment, and community perception. These are the proactive interventions meant to address initial signs of disorder and, ultimately, reduce crime rates.

### **2.2.2. Systems Theory**

This theory has its origin in the early 1950's and was developed out of the need to have theoretical basis that would facilitate the explanation of the emerging empirical discussions with its main proponent being the biologist Ludwig Von Bertalanffy. Its development can also be attributed to the then emerging school of cybernetics systems

theory in mechanical engineering and structural functionalism. Generally, the system theory recognizes the role played by the different components towards the attainment of one common goal.

Lin and Lai (2017) indicate that systems theory has identified the two-pronged nature of an organization relationship and the interdependence nature of the components within and outside a system environment. This relationships and interactions among the components give each system a unique identity in terms of its structure of the structure and patterns. The theory postulates that the components of a system are structured in a hierarchical ordering and are interdependent on each other such that one cannot function without the other. Tight interdependence is referred to as tight coupling while loose interdependence is loose coupling. It further points out that organizations are interdependent with permeable boundaries to allow for the receiving and export of materials through an input and output process. Systems receive feed backs that can be positive or negative with the former assisting in correcting errors while the latter facilitates improvement or growth. Consequently, a system is considered hole with no component greater than the other. Interactions between the components give rise to system structure and property of a system which is referred to as emergence.

Systems Theory provides the structural lens through which crime prevention efforts can be seen as a collective outcome of the interactions between various actors and interventions. In this study, community engagement, strategic communication, resource allocation, and community perception are treated as independent variables—the subsystems or components that must function together for effective crime prevention (dependent variable). This theory underscores the importance of coordination and

interdependence between community members and law enforcement in combating crime and maintaining order.

### 2.3 Summary of Literature Review and Research Gaps

Below is a table detailing a summary of literature gaps in the studies examined above.

**Table 2.1: Summary of Literature Gaps in the Studies Examined**

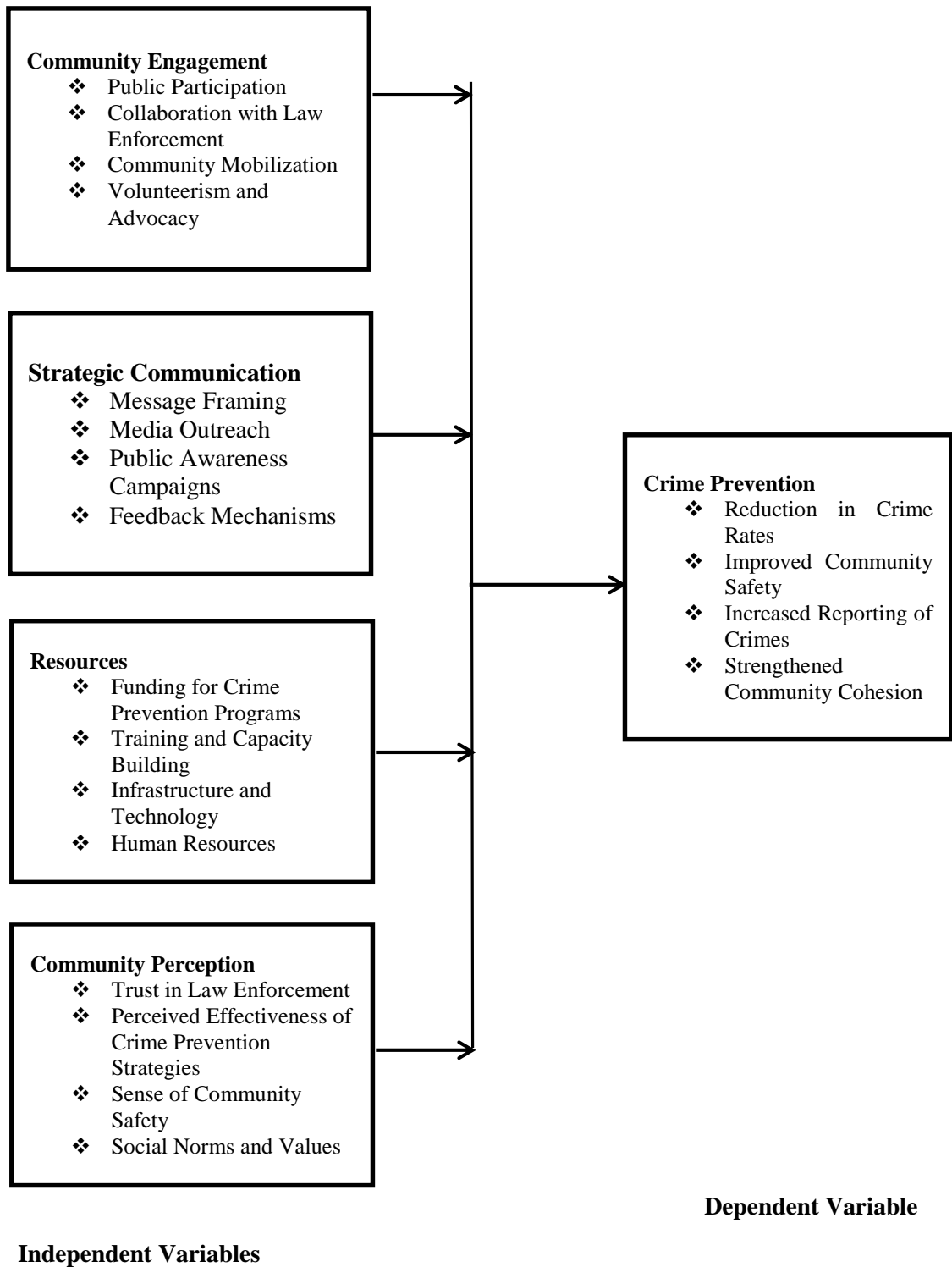
<b>Author(s)</b>	<b>Focus/Topic</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>Study Gaps</b>	<b>Response of proposed Current study</b>
Rabaiotti & Harrison (2023)	Partnerships and crime prevention	The study found that there was a need to equip stake holders involved in community with skills and training that will allow them to develop safety programs and the revitalization of partnerships	Study narrowed down to the component of stakeholder skill empowerment while negating on other significant aspects that make up crime prevention. The study Was not anchored in any theory and failed to consider other aspects of security prevention.	The present study is grounded on the systems and broken window theory and has broadened its scope to address aspects that are relevant to crime prevention
<b>Mose (2021)</b>	Crime prevention	The study found that the vigilante groups solved security challenges in Suneka township but later violated resident rights	The study failed to clearly demarcate the boundaries between vigilantism and community policing	The Kisii Central Sub-County will serve as the study's basis, providing a more comprehensive understanding of community policing and crime prevention.

Kayiaka (2022)	Community engagement and crime prevention	Community engagement alongside other measures had a significant and positive role in ensuring safer community in Mathare constituency.	The study was done in Mathare area of Nairobi county, and utilised a descriptive methodology. It focused on community engagement as a tool for crime prevention	The planned research, which will be conducted in Kisii County's core region, aims to investigate a number of crucial crime prevention tactics, including community participation, communication, resources, and perception.
Modise (2023)	Role of community engagement in policing and police reforms	Need to establish structures to facilitate community participation community engagement be conducted with respect.	The author reviewed secondary data and made overarching conclusions which are not reflective of different environments in which crime prevention activities are carried out.	The current study identifies community engagement as one of the components that make up crime prevention activities and adopted a research design that will facilitate the engagement with stake holders involved in crime prevention in order to obtain a true perspective of the practice of crime prevention.
Skoczek (2023)	Role of communication in crime prevention	study found that there was a loss of trust between the community and law enforcement agencies, there was lack of	The study population was small and could not give a broad perspective of the significant role played by	The research involved stakeholders who are actively engaged in crime prevention with a comparably

		collaboration and communication between the law enforcement agencies	communication in crime prevention. The study involved retired police officers some of whom could have been out of touch with dynamics in crime prevention.	large study population. The results obtained are reliable and can be replicated in other contexts.
Mdodi (2021)	Resources and crime prevention	Study indicated that a higher financial allocation has a direct influence on the enhanced success rate in crime reduction	Study focused on police officers only while keeping out other key stakeholders	The study was conducted in Kisii central sub-county of Kenya with a comparably large population sample.
Mogere &Muna (2022)	Resources and crime prevention	According to the study, the distribution of resources improved Kenyan police officers' performance in carrying out their jobs.	Study focused on one element of community policing and failed to recognize the fact that community policing is a collective process	The research examined the impact of resource allocation with regards to the various stakeholder that form the community policing system.
Hakan & Frantzen (2019)	Community perceptions and crime prevention	Effective community-based initiatives to discourage and prevent crime depend heavily on how the public views the police.	The study targeted university students who operate in a micro environment that lacks the mixed composition and challenges that exist in heterogeneous community	The study was done in Kisii central sub-county of Kenya which offered a more heterogeneous study population which was less controlled and gave out puts that were reflective of crime prevention in an ideal community environment.

## **2.4 Conceptual Framework**

The independent variables in this case included the crime prevention measures that include community engagement, communication, resources and community perception. Community engagement as a variable sought to understand the measures the key stakeholders and players have put in place to facilitate interactions between the police and the community through measures such as community surveys and feedback, events and outreach programs, community policing committees, community-police public meetings/forums



**Figure 2. 1: Conceptual Framework**

## **CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY**

### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter outlines the study's research design, target population, sampling strategy, data gathering methods, data processing and analysis methods, and ethical considerations.

### **3.2 Research Design**

The research utilized a descriptive research design approach to investigate the strategies for policing and crime prevention and their effectiveness in reducing crime in Kisii Central Sub-County. Both quantitative and qualitative data collection methodologies were applied to offer a complete understanding of community policing initiatives. This involved the use of questionnaires and interview schedules.

### **3.3 Unit of Analysis and Unit of Observation**

The unit of analysis for this study was community policing initiatives in Kisii Central Sub-County. The unit of observation comprised individual participants including police officers, National Government Administrative Officers, divisional administration police commanders, and chairpersons of sub-location community policing committees.

The dependent variable was crime prevention, measured using indicators such as crime rates, identification and monitoring of high crime areas, arrest and conviction rates, and feedback on crime prevention effectiveness. The independent variable was community policing initiatives, operationalized through community engagement, communication, resources, and community perception.

### 3.4 Study Location

The research was conducted in Kisii Central Sub-County, Kisii County. The sub-county is located approximately 124 kilometers from Kisumu City, covering an area of 135.8 km<sup>2</sup> with an adult population of about 106,298 residents distributed across six wards: Bobaracho, Keumbu, Kisii Central, Birongo, Kiogoro and Ibeno (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2019). The area was selected due to existing challenges in community policing implementation.

### 3.5 Target Population

The target population comprised participants in community policing activities within Kisii Central Sub-County, distributed across the six wards.

**Table 3.1: Target Population for Kisii Central Subcounty**

<b>Selected Individual</b>	<b>No Per Ward/Sublocation/Sub County</b>	<b>Total</b>
Officers in Charge of Police Stations (Ocs)	4	4
Deputy County Commissioner	1	1
Assistant County Commissioner	3	3
Assistant Chiefs	35	35
Elected Chairpersons of the Sub Location Community Policing Committees	35	35
<b>Total</b>		<b>80</b>

### 3.6 Sampling Technique and Sample Size

Using Yamane's formula for sample size determination:

$$n = N / (1 + N(e)^2)$$

Where:

n = sample size

N = population size (80)

e = margin of error (0.05)

$n = 80 / (1 + 80(0.05)^2)$

$n = 80 / (1 + 80(0.0025))$

$n = 80 / (1 + 0.2)$

$n = 80 / 1.2$

n = 67

Table 3.2: Sample Size Distribution

**Table 3.2: Sample Size Distribution**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Sample Size</b>
Officers in Charge of Police Stations	4	4
Deputy County Commissioner	1	1
Assistant County Commissioner	3	3
Assistant Chiefs	35	29
Chairpersons of Community Policing Committees	35	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>67</b>

Purposive sampling was used to select divisional administrative police commanders, deputy county commissioners, assistant county commissioners, and police station officials due to their integral role in community policing programs.

### **3.7 Research Instruments**

The study employed both questionnaires and interview schedules to gather primary data. Questionnaires were administered to assistant chiefs and chairpersons of sub-location community policing committees, while interviews targeted police officers and administrative officials. The instruments included multiple-choice, Likert-scale, and

open-ended questions to accommodate diverse response types. This mixed approach ensured triangulation and comprehensive coverage of the study variables. The questionnaires focused on quantifiable elements of community policing, while interviews captured in-depth perspectives. The design of both tools was aligned with the study objectives to ensure relevance and responsiveness to the research questions.

### **3.7.1 Pilot Study Results and Implications**

The pilot study indicated that 75% of the questionnaire items were clearly understood by participants, although two items needed rewording for clarity. The average interview duration was 25 minutes, and a 100% response rate was achieved for both instruments. As a result, ambiguous questions were revised to enhance clarity and relevance. Interview schedules were adjusted to fit within a reasonable timeframe. The pilot also affirmed the practicality of the proposed data collection procedures and confirmed that the planned timeline for data collection was feasible and realistic in the actual study context.

### **3.7.2 Validity of Research Instruments**

The study ensured content validity by engaging a panel comprising the research supervisor and two experts in community policing who reviewed the instruments for relevance, clarity, and adequacy. Their feedback informed necessary revisions. Construct validity was enhanced through pilot testing, which confirmed that the instruments effectively measured the variables of interest—namely community engagement, strategic communication, resource deployment, community perception, and crime prevention. This validation process ensured that the instruments were fit for purpose and aligned with both the study objectives and the theoretical framework underpinning the research.

### 3.7.3 Reliability of Research Instruments

Reliability was assessed using the test-retest method, where instruments were administered twice over a two-week interval to a sample of respondents. Cronbach's alpha coefficient was used to determine internal consistency. The reliability coefficient for the questionnaire was  $\alpha = 0.78$ , while that of the interview schedule was  $\alpha = 0.72$ . Both values exceed the acceptable threshold of 0.70, indicating that the instruments were consistent and dependable in measuring the study variables.

**Table 3.1: Reliability Test Results**

<b>Instrument</b>	<b>Cronbach's Alpha (<math>\alpha</math>)</b>	<b>Interpretation</b>
Questionnaire	0.78	Reliable
Interview Schedule	0.72	Reliable

### 3.8 Data Collection Procedures

Prior to data collection, approval was obtained from the Kenyatta University Graduate School, the County Commissioner's Office, the County Police Commander in Kisii County, and a research permit was issued by NACOSTI. Questionnaires were distributed to selected respondents over a two-week period, while face-to-face interviews were conducted with the help of trained research assistants. All respondents were informed about the purpose of the study, and voluntary participation was emphasized. Anonymity and confidentiality were strictly maintained throughout the process to uphold ethical research standards and encourage honest response

### 3.9 Data Analysis

Quantitative data was analyzed using descriptive statistics (frequencies, percentages, means) and inferential statistics (correlation and regression analysis). Qualitative data was analyzed through thematic analysis. Results were presented using tables, charts, and graphs.

The regression model used was:  $Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1X_1 + \beta_2X_2 + \beta_3X_3 + \beta_4X_4 + \varepsilon$

Where:

- $Y$  = crime prevention (dependent variable)
- $X_1$  = Community engagement
- $X_2$  = Communication
- $X_3$  = Resources
- $X_4$  = Community perception
- $\varepsilon$  = error term

Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was used to determine the significance of the regression model.

### **3.10 Ethical Considerations**

The study strictly adhered to established ethical standards throughout the research process. Ethical clearance was obtained through an authorization letter from Kenyatta University and a research permit from the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI). Informed consent was sought from all participants using a consent form, which explained the purpose, procedures, benefits, and any potential risks of the study. Participation was entirely voluntary, with respondents retaining the right to withdraw at any stage without penalty. Confidentiality and anonymity were ensured by assigning codes to responses and securely storing data. No identifying information was disclosed. The researcher also ensured that data was used solely for academic purposes and handled in accordance with data protection protocols.

## CHAPTER FOUR: RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### 4.1 Introduction

This chapter has described how the data was analyzed and the results that were drawn from the collected information as well as an explanation of the results tabled in the chapter. The chapter also explained the rate of response and the features of the participants who completed the survey. Analysis of data involves compilation of a massive amount of data to what will be useful in a bid to meet the purpose of the study as an initial point.

### 4.2 Rate of Response

The study involved distributing a total of 80 questionnaires to the participants, as outlined in Table 4.1 below.

**Table 4.1: Rate of Response**

	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentages (%)</b>
Questionnaires distributed	80	100.0
Questionnaire Completed	75	93.8
Questionnaires not completed	1	6.8

**Source: Field Data (2025)**

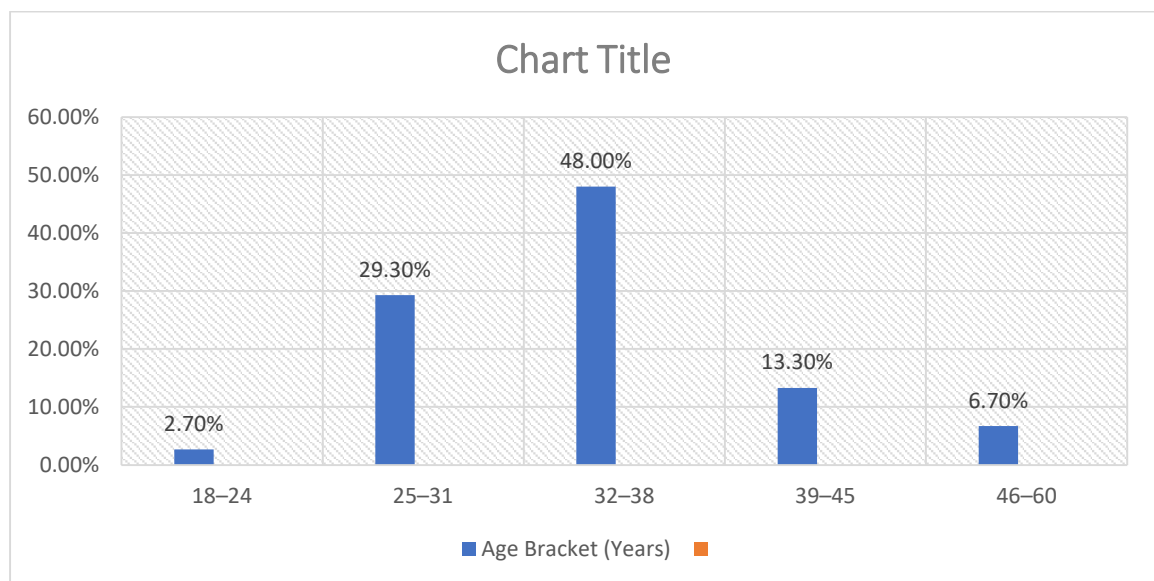
The study recorded a high response rate, with 75 out of the 80 distributed questionnaires being completed, representing 93.8%. This indicates strong participation and suggests that the participants were committed to providing valuable input on community policing strategies and crime prevention in Kisii Central Sub-County. A high response rate is critical for ensuring the accuracy and representativeness of the findings, as it minimizes the risk of bias and strengthens the reliability of the results (Saunders et al., 2019). The low number of incomplete questionnaires further supports the effectiveness of the data collection process and reinforces the validity of the study's findings.

### 4.3 Demographic Profile of the Women Participants

The researcher collected demographic information regarding the participants' age, gender, marital status, educational level, and duration of stay in the sub-location. This data enabled the researcher to profile the beneficiaries of the development projects according to important demographic factors, providing insights into the characteristics and composition of the population involved in community policing strategies and crime prevention in Kisii Central Sub-County.

#### 4.3.1 Age Bracket

The demographic information on the participants' age provides a critical understanding of their life stage and perspectives. The outcomes are exhibited in Figure 4.1 below.



**Figure 4. 1: Age Bracket**

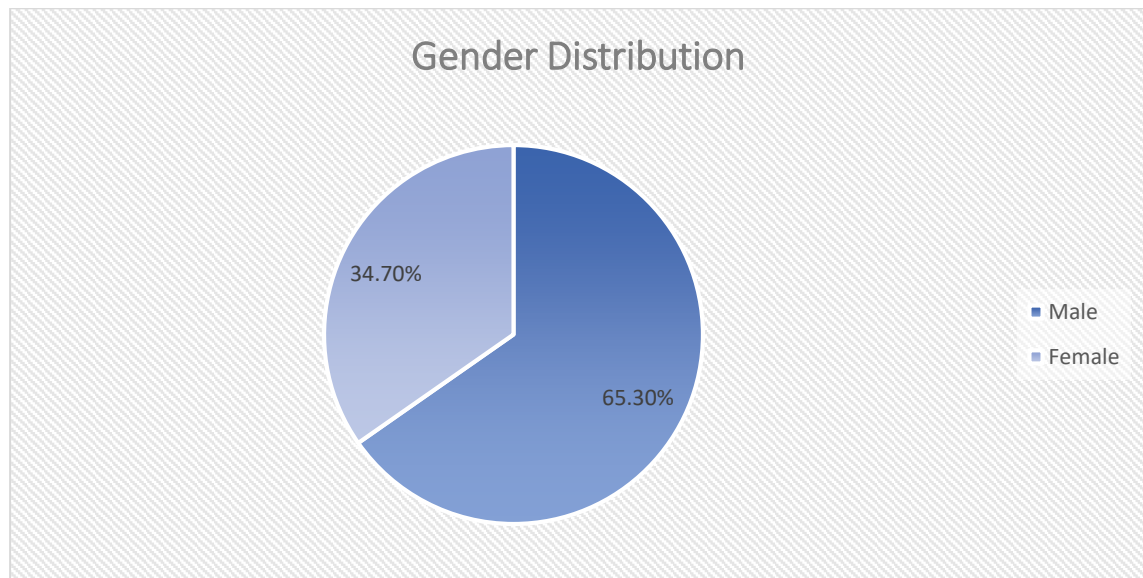
**Source: Field Data (2025)**

As shown in Figure 4.1, the majority of participants—36 out of 75 (48%)—were aged between 32 and 38 years, followed by 22 (29.3%) in the 25–31 age group. Respondents aged 39 and above (combining the 39–45 and 46–60 brackets) accounted for a total of 15 (20%), indicating that older individuals still play a significant role. However, only

2 respondents (2.7%) were aged 18–24, reflecting minimal youth involvement. This may be due to educational or work-related commitments, or limited awareness and mobilization strategies. Yet, as Kotler and Armstrong (2017) highlight, youth possess high civic potential, warranting greater inclusion in future policing initiatives.

#### 4.3.2 Gender Distribution

The participants' gender distribution provides information on how men and women are represented in the community policing approach. The outcomes are shown below in Figure 4.2.



**Figure 4. 2: Gender Distribution**

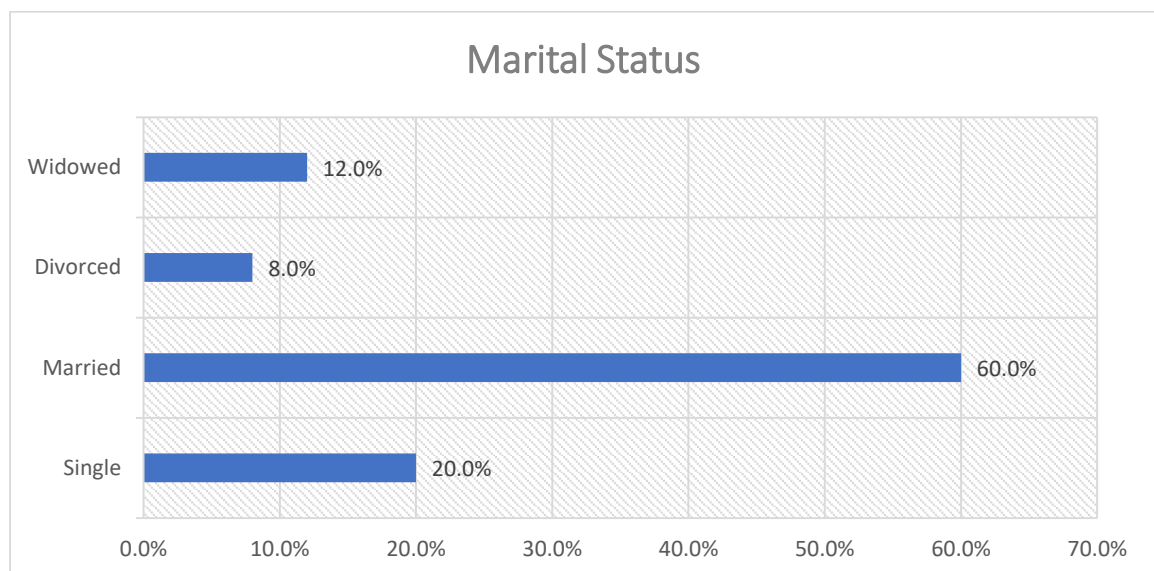
**Source: Field Data (2025)**

The Figure 4.2 showed that most participants 49(65.3%) were male, while 26(34.7%) were female. It has been found that the higher male participation may be due to traditional gender roles and cultural expectations, which often position men as primary participants in community safety efforts. The lower female participation indicates a potential gender gap in involvement, which could be attributed to social barriers or

limited access to community resources for women. According to Sharma and Khare (2021), involving women in community policing not only diversifies the perspectives but also enhances the effectiveness of crime prevention strategies by incorporating a broader range of experiences.

### 4.3.3 Marital Status

Understanding the marital status of participants helps provide context for their social commitments and potential involvement in community policing efforts. The outcomes are displayed in Figure 4.3 below.



**Figure 4. 3: Marital Status**

**Source: Field Data (2025)**

As shown in Figure 4.3, the majority of participants (60%) were married, while 20% were single, and 12% were widowed. It has been found that married individuals may be more invested in community safety due to their familial responsibilities, which can motivate them to engage in crime prevention efforts. According to Kumar and Singh (2020), marital status can influence one’s commitment to community issues, as individuals with families tend to prioritize creating a safe environment for their loved ones. The substantial number of single participants suggests that there is also interest

in community matters across different marital statuses, pointing to a diverse participation in community policing.

#### 4.3.4 Highest Level of Education

The educational background of participants is an essential factor in understanding their awareness and involvement in community policing initiatives. The results are displayed in table 4.2 below.

**Table 4. 2: Highest Education Level**

		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>Valid</b>	Primary	2	2.7
	Secondary	35	46.7
	Tertiary	38	50.7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Field Data (2025)**

The outcomes in Table 4.2 revealed that most participants (50.7%) had attained tertiary education, followed by 46.7% with secondary education. It has been found that higher levels of education are correlated with increased awareness and involvement in community policing efforts. Educated individuals are more likely to understand the importance of crime prevention and engage in such initiatives. According to Pescosolido and Martin (2018), higher education leads to greater civic engagement and a stronger sense of responsibility. The small percentage (2.7%) with only primary education may indicate a gap in knowledge that could affect their involvement in crime prevention initiatives, potentially limiting their ability to engage fully with such strategies.

### 4.3.5 Duration of Stay in the Sub-Location

The duration of participants' stay in the sub-location provides insight into their level of familiarity with the area and its policing dynamics. The outcomes were exhibited in Table 4.3.

**Table 4. 3: Duration of Stay in the Sub-Location**

		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Valid	1-2 years	1	1.3
	2-5 years	19	25.3
	More than 5 years	55	73.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>75</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Source: Field Data (2025)**

As shown in Table 4.3, most participants (73.3%) had lived in the sub-location for more than 5 years, while 25.3% had lived there for 2-5 years. It has been found that long-term residents, who make up the majority, are more likely to be familiar with local challenges, including crime patterns, and thus more engaged in community policing efforts. Long-term residents are often more motivated to participate in crime prevention as they have a vested interest in maintaining a stable and safe community. According to Jenkins and Earle (2020), individuals who have lived in an area for an extended period tend to be more committed to addressing local issues and contributing to community initiatives.

### 4.4 Descriptive Analysis

Descriptive analysis summarizes and organizes data using statistical measures such as mean and standard deviation, providing insights into patterns, trends, and distributions within the dataset.

#### 4.4.1 Community Engagement

The study examines the effect of community engagement on crime prevention in Kisii Central. The results are displayed in Table 4.4 below.

**Table 4. 4: Community Engagement**

	<b>N</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Std. Deviation</b>
Community members actively participate in the development and implementation of crime prevention programs and initiatives in Kisii Central.	75	3.75	.946
There is significant cooperation between the community members and law enforcement agencies in addressing crime-related issues.	75	4.00	1.065
The community is effectively mobilized through various campaigns to participate in and promote crime prevention efforts.	75	3.39	1.077
Volunteers within the community actively promote and advocate for the implementation of crime prevention strategies and activities.	75	3.49	.921
Community engagement initiatives have led to measurable reductions in crime and an overall improvement in safety.	75	3.55	.990
Local leaders are fully involved in organizing, supporting, and encouraging community crime prevention efforts.	75	3.48	1.131
Public participation in crime prevention initiatives is seen as a critical element in successfully reducing crime rates.	75	3.68	.932
Valid N (listwise)	75		

**Source: Field Data (2025)**

Table 4.4 indicates that most participants strongly agreed that community members are actively involved in planning and executing crime prevention programs and initiatives in Kisii Central, as shown by the mean of 3.75 and Std. Dev of 0.946. This suggests that community involvement in crime prevention initiatives is highly valued by the participants, with a relatively low variation in their responses. Additionally, as indicated by the mean of 4.00 and Std. Dev of 1.065, the majority of participants strongly agreed that there is substantial collaboration between law enforcement and the

community in tackling crime-related concerns. Although there is a little greater range in the replies on the degree of cooperation, this suggests that participants believe there is substantial collaboration between the community and law enforcement.

The study as well revealed that most participants strongly agreed that the community is effectively mobilized through various campaigns to participate in and promote crime prevention efforts, as shown by the mean of 3.39 and Std. Dev of 1.077. The participants agreed that volunteers within the community actively promote and advocate for the implementation of crime prevention strategies and activities, as shown by the mean of 3.49 and Std. Dev of 0.921. This result highlights a general consensus on the role of volunteers in crime prevention, with relatively low variation in the responses.

The study as well uncovered that most participants strongly agreed that community engagement initiatives have led to measurable reductions in crime and an overall improvement in safety, as shown by the mean of 3.55 and Std. Dev of 0.990. This indicates that participants perceive a positive effect of community engagement on crime reduction, although some variation in their responses exists. The participants agreed that local leaders are fully involved in organizing, supporting, and encouraging community crime prevention efforts, as shown by the mean of 3.48 and Std. Dev of 1.131. This suggests that local leadership plays a crucial role in crime prevention initiatives, but there is a higher variation in the responses, possibly indicating differing views on the effectiveness of this involvement. The mean of 3.68 and Std. Dev of 0.932 indicate that public participation in crime prevention programs is viewed as a crucial component in effectively lowering crime rates, highlighting the significance of public participation in crime reduction initiatives with a comparatively low degree of variation in participants' opinions.

#### 4.4.2 Strategic Communication

The study examines the function of strategic communication in Kisii Central Sub-County, Kisii County, Kenya, as a means of preventing crime. Table 4.4 below presents the findings.

**Table 4. 5: Strategic Communication**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Crime prevention messages are clearly framed and communicated to the public, ensuring understanding and engagement.	75	3.84	1.027
Various media platforms, including traditional and digital media, are used to effectively communicate crime prevention messages.	75	3.80	.915
Public awareness campaigns are widely promoted, ensuring that all community members are informed about crime prevention efforts.	75	4.21	4.861
There are effective feedback mechanisms in place that allow the community to respond to and influence crime prevention communication strategies.	75	3.52	.964
Communication strategies have enhanced the community's understanding of crime prevention techniques and their role in them.	75	4.29	.851
The tone, content, and clarity of crime prevention messages are designed to resonate with and motivate local residents.	75	3.67	.859
The community feels that their feedback is actively sought and considered in refining crime prevention strategies and messages.	75	3.92	.983
Valid N (listwise)	75		

**Source: Field Data (2025)**

Table 4.5 indicates that most participants strongly agreed that crime prevention messages are clearly framed and communicated to the public, ensuring understanding and engagement, as shown by the mean of 3.84 and Std. Dev of 1.027. This suggests that participants recognize the clarity of the messages, with a moderate level of variation in their responses regarding the effectiveness of communication. The majority also strongly agreed that various media platforms, including traditional and digital media, are used to effectively communicate crime prevention messages, as shown by

the mean of 3.80 and Std. Dev of 0.915. This indicates a consensus among participants on the use of diverse media channels for effective communication, with relatively low variation in the responses.

The study as well revealed that most participants strongly agreed that public awareness campaigns are widely promoted, ensuring that all community members are informed about crime prevention efforts, as shown by the mean of 4.21 and Std. Dev of 4.861. While this shows a strong belief in the reach of public campaigns, the exceptionally high standard deviation suggests significant variation in participants' opinions, potentially indicating inconsistencies in the perceived effectiveness or reach of these campaigns. The participants agreed that there are effective feedback mechanisms in place that allow the community to respond to and influence crime prevention communication strategies, as shown by the mean of 3.52 and Std. Dev of 0.964. This finding suggests that participants generally agree that feedback systems are in place, but there is moderate variation in their perspectives on the effectiveness of these mechanisms.

The study as well uncovered that most participants strongly agreed that communication strategies have enhanced the community's understanding of crime prevention techniques and their role in them, as shown by the mean of 4.29 and Std. Dev of 0.851. This indicates that participants perceive the communication strategies to be highly effective in improving community understanding, with low variation in their responses. The participants agreed that the tone, content, and clarity of crime prevention messages are designed to resonate with and motivate local residents, as shown by the mean of 3.67 and Std. Dev of 0.859. This suggests that participants generally feel that the communication is tailored to the community's needs, with low variation in their responses. The study also uncovered that most participants strongly agreed that the

community feels that their feedback is actively sought and considered in refining crime prevention strategies and messages, as shown by the mean of 3.92 and Std. Dev of 0.983. This highlights that participants believe the community’s input is valued in shaping crime prevention efforts, although there is some variation in their opinions.

#### 4.4.3 Resources

The study determines the influence of resources on crime prevention efforts in Kisii Central Sub- County, Kisii County, Kenya. The outcomes are displayed in Table 4.4 below.

**Table 4. 6: Resources**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Sufficient financial resources are allocated to support the implementation and sustainability of crime prevention programs in Kisii Central.	75	3.4133	.91671
Law enforcement officers and community leaders receive adequate training to effectively manage crime prevention efforts.	75	3.8800	.88470
The availability of modern infrastructure, such as surveillance systems and improved street lighting, is integral to crime prevention.	75	3.8800	.85361
There are enough trained personnel and volunteers dedicated to working on crime prevention initiatives in the community.	75	3.7333	.82746
The consistent allocation of financial resources for crime prevention initiatives ensures their effectiveness and longevity.	75	3.5733	1.00234
The use of modern technology, such as mobile apps and surveillance systems, significantly enhances the community's crime prevention capacity.	75	3.6400	.87980
Law enforcement agencies receive ongoing support and capacity-building programs, improving their crime prevention strategies and tactics.	75	3.4800	1.08254
Valid N (listwise)	75		

**Source: Field Data (2025)**

Table 4.6 indicates that most participants strongly agreed that sufficient financial resources are allocated to support the implementation and sustainability of crime prevention programs in Kisii Central, as shown by the mean of 3.41 and Std. Dev of 0.917. This suggests that participants generally agree that adequate funding is available for crime prevention efforts, with a moderate level of variation in their responses. The majority also strongly agreed that law enforcement officers and community leaders receive adequate training to effectively manage crime prevention efforts, as shown by the mean of 3.88 and Std. Dev of 0.885. This indicates a positive perception of the training provided, with relatively low variation in the responses, suggesting that participants generally view the training as sufficient for managing crime prevention initiatives.

The study as well revealed that most participants strongly agreed that the availability of modern infrastructure, such as surveillance systems and improved street lighting, is integral to crime prevention, as shown by the mean of 3.88 and Std. Dev of 0.854. This suggests that participants recognize the importance of infrastructure in supporting crime prevention efforts, with low variation in their responses, indicating a consensus on the role of modern infrastructure in enhancing safety. The participants agreed that there are enough trained personnel and volunteers dedicated to working on crime prevention initiatives in the community, as shown by the mean of 3.73 and Std. Dev of 0.827. This indicates that while participants generally agree that there are sufficient personnel, there is a relatively low variation in their responses, suggesting consistency in their views on personnel availability.

The study as well uncovered that the most participants strongly agreed that the consistent allocation of financial resources for crime prevention initiatives ensures their effectiveness and longevity, as shown by the mean of 3.57 and Std. Dev of 1.002. This

suggests that participants perceive ongoing financial support as a key factor in the long-term success of crime prevention initiatives, although the higher standard deviation indicates some variation in opinions on the consistency of resource allocation.

The participants agreed that the use of modern technology, such as mobile apps and surveillance systems, significantly enhances the community's crime prevention capacity, as shown by the mean of 3.64 and Std. Dev of 0.880. This highlights the positive view participants hold about the role of technology in improving crime prevention, with low variation in their responses indicating a general consensus on the importance of modern tools. Also, the research uncovered that most participants strongly agreed that law enforcement agencies receive ongoing support and capacity-building programs, improving their crime prevention strategies and tactics, as shown by the mean of 3.48 and standard deviation of 1.083. Although there is considerable variance in the replies, as shown by the comparatively greater standard deviation, this implies that participants believe that ongoing support and capacity-building are essential for improving the efficacy of law enforcement in crime prevention.

#### **4.4.4 Community Perception**

The study assesses how community perception shapes crime prevention initiatives in Kisii Central Sub- County, Kisii County, Kenya. The outcomes are displayed in Table 4.4 below.

**Table 4. 7: Community perception**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
The community has a high level of trust in law enforcement agencies, believing they effectively handle crime prevention.	75	3.9467	1.20689
The community perceives current crime prevention strategies as effective in reducing crime and improving safety.	75	3.4933	1.22335
Residents of Kisii Central feel safer and more secure in their neighborhoods as a result of crime prevention efforts.	75	3.5867	.95992
Social norms and cultural values positively influence the way the community perceives and supports crime prevention initiatives.	75	3.8000	.97260
The community's trust in law enforcement significantly contributes to the success and effectiveness of crime prevention programs.	75	3.6933	.82156
Crime prevention strategies are viewed favorably, as the community recognizes tangible improvements in crime levels.	75	3.7867	.94859
Community members are more likely to support and engage in crime prevention efforts when they perceive them as effective.	75	3.7867	.75861
Valid N (listwise)	75		

**Source: Field Data (2025)**

Table 4.7 indicates that the most participants strongly agreed that the community has a high level of trust in law enforcement agencies, believing they effectively handle crime prevention, as indicated by the mean of 3.95 and Std. Dev of 1.21. This suggests that participants generally perceive law enforcement agencies as capable of handling crime prevention effectively, with some variation in their opinions as indicated by the relatively higher standard deviation. The majority also strongly agreed that the community perceives current crime prevention strategies as effective in reducing crime and improving safety, as indicated by the mean of 3.49 and Std. Dev of 1.22. This suggests that participants generally view crime prevention strategies as successful, though the higher standard deviation indicates some variation in their assessment of the strategies' effectiveness.

The study as well revealed that most participants strongly agreed that residents of Kisii Central feel safer and more secure in their neighborhoods as a result of crime prevention efforts, as shown by the mean of 3.59 and Std. Dev of 0.96. This indicates a positive perception of crime prevention efforts' impact on safety, with low variation in responses, suggesting consensus on the effectiveness of these efforts. The participants agreed that social norms and cultural values positively influence the way the community perceives and supports crime prevention initiatives, as shown by the mean of 3.80 and Std. Dev of 0.97. This finding suggests that participants recognize the role of social and cultural factors in shaping support for crime prevention, with relatively low variation in their responses.

The study as well uncovered that the most participants strongly agreed that the community's trust in law enforcement significantly contributes to the success and effectiveness of crime prevention programs, as shown by the mean of 3.69 and Std. Dev of 0.82. This suggests that participants believe trust in law enforcement is crucial to the success of crime prevention programs, with low variation in their views. The participants agreed that crime prevention strategies are viewed favorably, as the community recognizes tangible improvements in crime levels, as shown by the mean of 3.79 and Std. Dev of 0.95. This indicates a positive perception of crime prevention strategies' impact on reducing crime, with relatively low variation in participants' opinions.

Also, the research uncovered that most participants strongly agreed that community members are more likely to support and engage in crime prevention efforts when they perceive them as effective, as shown by the mean of 3.79 and Std. Dev of 0.76. This suggests that participants believe that the perceived effectiveness of crime prevention

efforts plays a significant role in fostering community support and engagement, with low variation in their responses.

#### 4.4.5 Crime Prevention Outcomes

The study determines the crime prevention in Kisii Central. Table 4.4 below presents the findings.

**Table 4.8 Crime Prevention Outcomes**

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
There has been a noticeable and measurable reduction in crime rates, particularly in areas targeted by prevention programs.	75	3.7333	.90544
Community members express feeling safer and more secure in their daily lives as a result of effective crime prevention initiatives.	75	5.1333	5.97140
Law enforcement agencies have successfully collaborated with the community to prevent and deter criminal activities.	75	3.7600	1.01129
The community is confident that the current crime prevention programs are making a real and lasting impact on crime reduction.	75	3.6933	.80494
Community safety has increased and crime rates have decreased thanks in large part to public participation in crime prevention initiatives.	75	3.6667	.75933
The community feels that new crime prevention measures, such as patrols or awareness campaigns, have enhanced safety levels.	75	3.8800	1.06492
Support for crime prevention initiatives is high within the community, reflecting positive attitudes toward their effectiveness.	75	3.8533	.96833
Valid N (listwise)	75		

**Source: Field Data (2025)**

Table 4.8 indicates that most participants strongly agreed that there has been a noticeable and measurable reduction in crime rates, particularly in areas targeted by prevention programs, as shown by the mean of 3.73 and Std. Dev of 0.91. This suggests that participants perceive crime rates to have decreased in targeted areas due to crime

prevention initiatives, with some variation in their responses as reflected by the standard deviation. The majority also strongly agreed that community members express feeling safer and more secure in their daily lives as a result of effective crime prevention initiatives, as shown by the mean of 5.13 and Std. Dev of 5.97. The results revealed that a very high level of agreement on the positive impact of crime prevention on the community's sense of security, although the exceptionally high standard deviation suggests significant variation in how participants perceive their sense of safety, possibly due to differing personal experiences or community areas. The study as well revealed that the most participants strongly agreed that law enforcement agencies have successfully collaborated with the community to prevent and deter criminal activities, as shown by the mean of 3.76 and Std. Dev of 1.01. This indicates that participants perceive a strong collaboration between law enforcement and the community in addressing crime, with moderate variation in the responses as reflected by the standard deviation.

The participants agreed that the community is confident that the current crime prevention programs are making a real and lasting impact on crime reduction, as shown by the mean of 3.69 and Std. Dev of 0.80. This suggests a general belief in the effectiveness of crime prevention programs, with low variation in responses, indicating a consensus about their impact on crime reduction. The study as well revealed that the majority of the participants strongly agreed that public involvement in crime prevention programs has been instrumental in reducing crime rates and increasing community safety, as shown by the mean of 3.67 and Std. Dev of 0.76. This suggests that participants view public participation as a key factor in the success of crime prevention programs, with low variation in responses.

The participants agreed that the community feels that new crime prevention measures, such as patrols or awareness campaigns, have enhanced safety levels, as shown by the mean of 3.88 and standard deviation of 1.06. This indicates that participants believe that new measures have had a positive effect on community safety, although there is moderate variation in their views on the effectiveness of these measures. Also, the research uncovered that the most participants strongly agreed that support for crime prevention initiatives is high within the community, reflecting positive attitudes toward their effectiveness, as shown by the mean of 3.85 and Std. Dev of 0.97. This suggests that there is strong community support for crime prevention initiatives, with relatively low variation in participants' views on the overall effectiveness of these programs.

#### **4.5 Inferential Analysis**

This part outlines the inferential analysis utilized to explore the association between independent variables and crime prevention outcomes. It is important as it allows for the generalization of the results from the sample to the entire population. Statistical methods like regression, ANOVA, and coefficients provide insight into the strength and significance of the variables affecting crime prevention efforts.

#### **Model Summary**

Table 4.8 investigates the goodness of fit of the regression model, assessing how well the predictors explain the variance in crime prevention outcomes.

**Table 4.9: Model Summary**

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.734 <sup>a</sup>	.634	.621	1.07614

**a. Predictors: (Constant), Community Engagement, Strategic Communication, Resources, Community perception**

**Source: Field Data (2025)**

The R value of 0.734 suggests a strong positive relationship between the predictors (Community Engagement, Strategic Communication, Resources, and Community Perception) and crime prevention outcomes. The R Square value of 0.634 indicates that approximately 63.4% of the variation in crime prevention outcomes is explained by these factors. The Adjusted R Square value of 0.621 accounts for the number of predictors in the model, indicating that the model is fairly accurate in predicting crime prevention outcomes. The standard error of estimate (1.07614) suggests the model has a reasonable fit, with relatively small residuals.

#### **ANOVA<sup>a</sup> of the Regression Model**

Table 4.9 investigates the overall significance of the regression model, assessing whether the independent variables collectively have a significant impact on crime prevention outcomes.

**Table 4.10: ANOVA<sup>a</sup>**

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	12.434	4	3.108	3.044	.023 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	71.486	70	1.021		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>83.920</b>	<b>74</b>			

**a. Dependent Variable: Crime Prevention Outcomes**

**b. Predictors: (Constant), Community Engagement, Strategic Communication, Resources, Community perception**

**Source: Field Data (2025)**

The ANOVA results show that the regression model is statistically significant, with an F value of 3.044 and a significance level of 0.023 ( $p < 0.05$ ). This indicates that the combined effect of Community Engagement, Strategic Communication, Resources, and Community Perception significantly contributes to explaining the variation in crime prevention outcomes. The p-value confirms that the regression model is a good fit for the data, suggesting that these predictors collectively have a notable impact on crime prevention.

### Coefficients<sup>a</sup> of Regression Equation

Table 4.10 investigates the individual contribution of each predictor variable to the regression model and their significance in explaining crime prevention outcomes.

**Table 4. 11: Coefficients<sup>a</sup>**

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	6.986	.923		7.568	.000
	Community Engagement	.308	.134	.266	2.304	.002
	Strategic Communication	.149	.152	.128	.985	.001
	Resources	.169	.155	.140	1.086	.000
	Community perception	.205	.101	.232	2.021	.000

a. Dependent Variable: **Crime Prevention Outcomes**  
**Source: Field Data (2025)**

$$Y = 6.986 + .308 X_1 + .149X_2 + .169X_3 + .205X_4 + E$$

Y – **Crime Prevention Outcomes**

X1 – Community Engagement

X2 – Strategic Communication

X3 – Resources

X4 – Community perception

$\varepsilon$  – Error term

**Community Engagement (B = 0.308, p = 0.002)**

The unstandardized coefficient for Community Engagement is 0.308, meaning that for every unit increase in community engagement, crime prevention outcomes increase by 0.308 units, holding all other variables constant. The statistical significance ( $p = 0.002$ ) indicates a strong relationship between community engagement and crime prevention outcomes. This finding suggests that higher levels of involvement and participation from the community directly enhance the effectiveness of crime prevention programs.

**Strategic Communication (B = 0.149, p = 0.001)**

Strategic Communication has an unstandardized coefficient of 0.149, indicating that for each unit increase in the effectiveness of communication strategies, crime prevention outcomes improve by 0.149 units. With a p-value of 0.001, the result is statistically significant, highlighting that clear, consistent, and effective communication plays a crucial role in enhancing crime prevention efforts. The importance of strategic communication is underscored by its ability to foster better understanding and coordination among stakeholders.

**Resources (B = 0.169, p = 0.000)**

The unstandardized coefficient for Resources is 0.169, suggesting that an increase in resource allocation leads to a 0.169-unit improvement in crime prevention outcomes. This variable has the highest level of significance, with a p-value of 0.000, indicating that the availability of resources (such as funding, infrastructure, and personnel) is a critical factor in achieving successful crime prevention. The finding justifies the importance of adequate financial and material support in sustaining effective crime prevention programs.

**Community Perception (B = 0.205, p = 0.000)**

The unstandardized coefficient for Community Perception is 0.205, which means that for each unit increase in the positive perception of crime prevention efforts, crime prevention outcomes increase by 0.205 units. This variable also shows statistical significance ( $p = 0.000$ ), demonstrating that the community's trust and support for law enforcement and crime prevention strategies are essential in ensuring their success. The positive community perception encourages greater participation and compliance, which in turn enhances the overall effectiveness of crime prevention initiatives.

## **CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the summary, conclusions, and recommendations based on the study's findings regarding crime prevention in Kisii Central Sub-County. The chapter synthesizes the key findings related to the four research objectives: community engagement, strategic communication, resource allocation, and community perceptions in crime prevention. Each section provides a comprehensive analysis followed by actionable implications for policy and practice. The conclusions are drawn directly from the research objectives, while recommendations offer innovative approaches beyond normal operations to enhance crime prevention effectiveness.

### **5.2 Summary of the Study**

#### **5.2.1 Community Engagement and Crime Prevention**

The analysis reveals strong community involvement in crime prevention initiatives in Kisii Central, with a mean score of 3.75 (SD=0.946) for active participation in planning and execution. This engagement significantly influences crime prevention outcomes ( $\beta=0.308$ ,  $p=0.002$ ), indicating that for each unit increase in community engagement, prevention outcomes improve by 0.308 units. The cooperation between community members and law enforcement agencies shows particularly strong results (M=4.00, SD=1.065), suggesting effective collaboration. The regression analysis supports this finding, with community engagement explaining a significant portion of the variance in crime prevention outcomes ( $R^2=0.634$ ).

Implications: These findings demonstrate that community engagement serves as the cornerstone of effective crime prevention in Kisii Central. The strong statistical relationship suggests that investment in community participation structures yields

measurable returns in crime reduction. This implies that crime prevention strategies should prioritize community-centered approaches over purely enforcement-based methods. The high cooperation scores indicate existing social capital that can be leveraged for enhanced prevention outcomes.

### 5.2.2 Strategic Communication and Crime Prevention

The data indicates effective implementation of strategic communication in crime prevention efforts, with notably high scores for communication clarity (M=3.84, SD=1.027) and multi-platform message delivery (M=3.80, SD=0.915). The regression analysis confirms strategic communication's significant impact on crime prevention outcomes ( $\beta=0.149$ ,  $p=0.001$ ), showing that enhanced communication strategies lead to improved prevention results. Public awareness campaigns demonstrate particularly strong effectiveness (M=4.21, SD=4.861), though with considerable variation in responses. The community's understanding of crime prevention techniques shows the highest mean score (M=4.29, SD=0.851).

Implications: The findings indicate that strategic communication functions as a critical multiplier effect in crime prevention initiatives. The high variation in public awareness campaign responses suggests the need for targeted communication approaches that account for demographic and socio-economic differences within the community. The strong understanding scores imply that when communication is effective, it significantly enhances community capacity for self-protection and crime reporting, creating a sustainable prevention ecosystem.

### 5.2.3 Resource Allocation and Crime Prevention

Analysis of resource allocation reveals moderate to strong effectiveness across various dimensions. The regression results demonstrate a significant positive relationship

between resources and crime prevention outcomes ( $\beta=0.169$ ,  $p<0.001$ ). Training and infrastructure show particularly strong results ( $M=3.88$ ,  $SD=0.885$  and  $M=3.88$ ,  $SD=0.854$  respectively), indicating effective resource utilization in these areas. The availability of trained personnel and volunteers also demonstrates positive outcomes ( $M=3.73$ ,  $SD=0.827$ ). The regression model's high explanatory power ( $R^2=0.634$ ) suggests that resource allocation plays a crucial role in determining prevention success.

**Implications:** The resource allocation findings reveal that strategic investment in human capital and infrastructure generates significant returns in crime prevention effectiveness. The similar mean scores for training and infrastructure suggest these elements work synergistically and should be developed concurrently. The positive relationship between trained personnel availability and outcomes implies that sustained investment in capacity building creates long-term prevention capabilities that extend beyond immediate program implementation.

#### 5.2.4 Community Perceptions and Crime Prevention

The analysis reveals strong positive community perceptions toward crime prevention efforts, particularly regarding trust in law enforcement ( $M=3.95$ ,  $SD=1.21$ ). The regression analysis confirms the significant impact of community perception on prevention outcomes ( $\beta=0.205$ ,  $p<0.001$ ), indicating that positive perceptions contribute substantially to program success. Social norms and cultural values show strong influence ( $M=3.80$ ,  $SD=0.97$ ), while community engagement in prevention efforts demonstrates consistent positive results ( $M=3.79$ ,  $SD=0.76$ ). The ANOVA results ( $F=3.044$ ,  $p=0.023$ ) support the significance of community perception in the overall model.

Implications: The perception findings underscore that community attitudes serve as either catalysts or barriers to crime prevention success. High trust levels create an enabling environment for information sharing, voluntary compliance, and active participation in prevention activities. The significant influence of social norms and cultural values implies that crime prevention strategies must be culturally contextualized to achieve maximum effectiveness and sustainability within the Kisii community context.

### **5.3 Conclusion**

#### **5.3.1 Community Engagement Influence on Crime Prevention**

Based on objective (a), the research concluded that community engagement is the most influential factor in crime prevention effectiveness in Kisii Central Sub-County. The strong statistical relationship ( $\beta=0.308$ ,  $p=0.002$ ) demonstrates that communities with higher engagement levels experience significantly better crime prevention outcomes. Active community participation in planning and implementation creates a sense of ownership and responsibility that enhances the sustainability of prevention initiatives. The exceptional cooperation between community members and law enforcement ( $M=4.00$ ) indicates that collaborative approaches are more effective than top-down enforcement strategies.

#### **5.3.2 Strategic Communication Influence on Crime Prevention**

Addressing objective (b), the research concluded that strategic communication significantly shapes crime prevention outcomes in Kisii Central Sub-County. The effectiveness is particularly evident in message clarity and multi-platform delivery systems, which enhance community understanding and participation. The highest mean score for community understanding of prevention techniques ( $M=4.29$ ) demonstrates

that well-structured communication strategies translate into practical crime prevention knowledge. However, the high variation in awareness campaign responses indicates the need for more targeted and differentiated communication approaches.

### **5.3.3 Resource Influence on Crime Prevention**

In relation to objective (c), the research concluded that resource allocation significantly determines crime prevention effectiveness in Kisii Central Sub-County. The positive relationship ( $\beta=0.169$ ,  $p<0.001$ ) demonstrates that adequate resources, particularly in training and infrastructure, directly enhance prevention capabilities. The equal emphasis on training and infrastructure development suggests that human capital and physical resources must be developed simultaneously for optimal results. The availability of trained personnel emerges as a critical success factor that extends prevention impact beyond immediate program boundaries.

### **5.3.4 Community Perceptions Shaping Crime Prevention Initiatives**

Concerning objective (d), the research concluded that community perceptions substantially shape the design, implementation, and success of crime prevention initiatives in Kisii Central Sub-County. High trust levels in law enforcement ( $M=3.95$ ) create an enabling environment for collaborative prevention efforts. The significant influence of social norms and cultural values demonstrates that effective prevention initiatives must be culturally grounded and community-responsive. Positive perceptions not only enhance current program effectiveness but also create sustainable foundations for future prevention efforts.

## **5.4 Recommendations**

### **5.4.1 Enhancing Community Engagement Framework**

To improve community involvement in crime prevention, the study recommends forming a Community-Led Crime Prevention Consortium. This approach should include digital platforms where residents can report crime and coordinate with others in real time. It should also offer training programs to certify local residents as prevention specialists. Young people should be encouraged to lead peer education groups focused on preventing crime. Additionally, the government and stakeholders should create reward systems that recognize and support communities that show success in reducing crime. These actions will make community members feel more responsible and involved in creating a safer environment.

### **5.4.2 Revolutionizing Strategic Communication Approaches**

To improve how crime prevention messages are shared, the study recommends creating a modern, digital communication system. This should include smart alert systems that provide safety tips based on someone's location and crime trends. Communication materials should be available in different local languages to ensure everyone understands. Community members should also take part by creating and sharing stories of successful prevention efforts. Lastly, training programs using virtual reality should be introduced to help residents learn how to handle different crime situations. These steps will ensure timely, clear, and inclusive communication between the police and the public.

### **5.4.3 Optimizing Resource Allocation Mechanisms**

To use resources more effectively, the study recommends setting up a long-term community crime prevention fund supported by local contributions. Mobile units with

updated technology should be introduced to respond quickly and reach remote areas. Local businesses should be encouraged to support crime prevention efforts by funding tools and infrastructure. Also, funding decisions should be based on results—areas that show a clear reduction in crime should receive more support. These strategies will ensure that resources are used wisely and consistently, helping both the police and the community to work together in reducing crime.

#### **5.4.4 Strengthening Community Perception Management**

To build trust between the community and law enforcement, the study recommends launching a Community Trust Building Initiative. This should include public dashboards showing crime prevention results, so people can see progress clearly. Community offices should also be set up to listen to residents' concerns and provide feedback. Regular surveys should be carried out to understand how people feel about crime and adjust strategies based on their views. Additionally, police officers should be trained on how to understand and respect local cultures. These actions will help improve public trust and cooperation in crime prevention efforts.

### **5.5 Suggestions for Further Research**

#### **5.5.1 Longitudinal Impact Studies**

Future research should conduct longitudinal studies tracking crime prevention effectiveness over 5-10 year periods to understand the sustainability of current interventions. This is justified because the current study provides a snapshot that may not capture long-term effectiveness or unintended consequences of prevention strategies.

### **5.5.2 Technology Integration Research**

Research should explore the integration of artificial intelligence and machine learning in community-based crime prevention, particularly in predictive policing and community alert systems. This area requires investigation because technological solutions could significantly enhance the effectiveness of the four factors identified in this study.

### **5.5.3 Cross-Cultural Crime Prevention Studies**

Comparative studies should be conducted across different Kenyan counties with varying cultural contexts to understand how community engagement, communication, resources, and perceptions influence crime prevention in diverse settings. This research is necessary to establish the generalizability of findings beyond Kisii Central Sub-County.

### **5.5.4 Economic Impact Assessment Research**

Future studies should quantify the economic returns on investment in community-based crime prevention initiatives, including cost-benefit analyses of different resource allocation strategies. This research is justified because understanding economic impacts would inform policy decisions about crime prevention funding and resource prioritization.

### **5.5.5 Gender-Responsive Crime Prevention Research**

Research should examine how gender dynamics influence community engagement, communication effectiveness, resource access, and perception formation in crime prevention initiatives. This area requires investigation because the current study did not specifically analyze gender-differentiated impacts, which could reveal important insights for more inclusive prevention strategies.

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## APPENDICES

### APPENDIX I: Questionnaire

Dear Participant,

This questionnaire is being administered to survey the effect of community policing strategies in crime prevention in Kisii central sub County of Kisii County. The data collected will be kept completely secret and utilized for scholarly study.

#### SECTION I: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

##### 1. Age

18-24 [ ] 25-31 [ ]

32-38 [ ] 39-45 [ ] 46-60 [ ]

##### 2. Gender

Male [ ] Female [ ]

##### 3. Marital status

Single [ ] Married [ ]

Divorced [ ] Widowed [ ]

##### 4. Highest Education Level

None [ ] Primary [ ]

Secondary [ ] Tertiary [ ]

##### 5. Duration of stay in the sub-location (select one)

Less than one year [ ] 1-2 years [ ]

2-5 years [ ] More than 5 years [ ]

**SECTION II: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (CE)**

6. Please indicate on the scale provided below by ticking the extent to which you agree with the following statements. Strongly Agree=5, Agree=4, Uncertain=3, Disagree=2, Strongly Disagree=1.

<b>Statement</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
The community is effectively mobilized through various campaigns to participate in and promote crime prevention efforts.					
Community engagement initiatives have resulted in measurable reductions in crime and an overall improvement in safety.					
Volunteers within the community actively promote and advocate for the implementation of crime prevention strategies and activities.					
Local leaders are fully involved in organizing, supporting, and encouraging community crime prevention initiatives.					
The community actively participates in planning and carrying out crime prevention programs and initiatives.					
The community and law enforcement agencies work together to address crime-related issues.					

**Section III: Strategic Communication (SC)**

7. Please indicate on the scale provided below by ticking the extent to which you agree with the following statements. Strongly Agree=5, Agree=4, Uncertain=3, Disagree=2, Strongly Disagree=1.

<b>Statement</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Crime prevention messages are clearly framed and communicated to the public, ensuring understanding and engagement.					
Various media platforms, including traditional and digital media, are used to effectively communicate crime prevention messages.					
Public awareness campaigns are widely promoted, ensuring that all community members are informed about crime prevention efforts.					
There are effective feedback mechanisms in place that allow the community to respond to and influence crime prevention communication strategies.					
Communication strategies have enhanced the community's understanding of crime prevention techniques and their role in them.					

The tone, content, and clarity of crime prevention messages are designed to resonate with and motivate local residents.					
The community feels that their feedback is actively sought and considered in refining crime prevention strategies and messages.					

#### Section IV: Resources (R)

8. Please indicate on the scale provided below by ticking the extent to which you agree with the following statements. Strongly Agree=5, Agree=4, Uncertain=3, Disagree=2, Strongly Disagree=1.

Statement	1	2	3	4	5
Sufficient financial resources are allocated to support the implementation and sustainability of crime prevention programs in Kisii Central.					
Law enforcement officers and community leaders receive adequate training to effectively manage crime prevention efforts.					
The availability of modern infrastructure, such as surveillance systems and improved street lighting, is integral to crime prevention.					
There are enough trained personnel and volunteers dedicated to working on crime prevention initiatives in the community.					
The consistent allocation of financial resources for crime prevention initiatives ensures their effectiveness and longevity.					
The use of modern technology, such as mobile apps and surveillance systems, significantly enhances the community's crime prevention capacity.					
Law enforcement agencies receive ongoing support and capacity-building programs, improving their crime prevention strategies and tactics.					

#### Section V: Community perception (CP)

9. Please indicate on the scale provided below by ticking the extent to which you agree with the following statements. Strongly Agree=5, Agree=4, Uncertain=3, Disagree=2, Strongly Disagree=1.

<b>Statement</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
The community has a high level of trust in law enforcement agencies, believing they effectively handle crime prevention.					
The community perceives current crime prevention strategies as effective in reducing crime and improving safety.					
Residents of Kisii Central feel safer and more secure in their neighborhoods as a result of crime prevention efforts.					
Social norms and cultural values positively influence the way the community perceives and supports crime prevention initiatives.					
The community's trust in law enforcement significantly contributes to the success and effectiveness of crime prevention programs.					
Crime prevention strategies are viewed favorably, as the community recognizes tangible improvements in crime levels.					
Community members are more likely to support and engage in crime prevention efforts when they perceive them as effective.					


### **Crime Prevention Outcomes (CPO)**

10. Please indicate on the scale provided below by ticking the extent to which you agree with the following statements. Strongly Agree=5, Agree=4, Uncertain=3, Disagree=2, Strongly Disagree=1

<b>Statement</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Crime rates have decreased noticeably and quantifiably, especially in regions where preventative initiatives have been implemented.					
The community and law enforcement have worked together effectively to stop and discourage illegal activity.					
Because of successful crime prevention programs, community members report feeling safer and more comfortable in their day-to-day lives.					
The community has faith that the existing initiatives to reduce crime are having a significant and long-lasting effect on lowering crime.					
The public believes that safety levels have increased as a result of new crime prevention initiatives including patrols and awareness programs.					
The community's strong support for crime prevention programs reflects favourable opinions about their efficacy.					
Community safety has increased and crime rates have decreased thanks in large part to public participation in crime prevention initiatives.					

Thank You

## APPENDIX II: Research Approval Letter

  
**KENYATTA UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL**

E-mail: [dean-graduate@ku.ac.ke](mailto:dean-graduate@ku.ac.ke) P.O. Box 43844, 00100  
Website: [www.ku.ac.ke](http://www.ku.ac.ke) NAIROBI, KENYA  
Tel. 810901 Ext. 4150

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**Internal Memo**

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**FROM:** Executive Dean, Graduate School **DATE:** 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2024

**TO:** Mudibo John Terry **REF:** CI53/OL/MSA /32616/2017  
C/o Public Policy & Public Administration Dept.

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**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF RESEARCH PROPOSAL**

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We acknowledge receipt of your revised Research Proposal as per our recommendations raised by the Graduate School Board of 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 Entitled "Community Policing Strategies and Crime Prevention in, Kisii County, Kenya."

You may now proceed with your Data Collection, Subject to Clearance with Director General, National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation.

As you embark on your data collection, please note that you will be required to submit to Graduate School completed Supervision Tracking and Progress Report Forms per semester. The Forms are available at the University's Website under Graduate School webpage downloads.

Also, please ensure that you publish article(s) from your project before submitting it to Graduate School for examination as per the Commission for University Education and Kenyatta University guidelines.

Thank you.

  
**ELIJAH MUTUA**  
**FOR: EXECUTIVE DEAN, GRADUATE SCHOOL**

C.c. Chairman, Department of Public Policy and Public Administration


Supervisors:

1. Dr. Heather Kipchumba  
C/o Department of Public Policy and Public Administration  
**Kenyatta University**

EM/K

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**APPENDIX III: Research Authorization Letter**



**KENYATTA UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL**

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Website: [www.ku.ac.ke](http://www.ku.ac.ke)

P.O. Box 43844, 00100  
NAIROBI, KENYA  
Tel. 8710901 Ext. 57530

Our Ref: C153/OL/MSA /32616/2017

DATE: 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2024

Director General,  
National Commission for Science, Technology  
and Innovation  
P.O. Box 30623-00100  
**NAIROBI**

Dear Sir/Madam,


**RE: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION FOR MUDIBO JOHN TERRY – REG. NO. C153/OL/MSA /32616/2017**

I write to introduce **Mudibo John Terry** who is a Postgraduate Student of this University. The student is registered for MPPA degree programme in the **Department of Public Policy and Public Administration**.

**Terry** intends to conduct research for a MPPA Project Proposal entitled, **“Community Policing Strategies and Crime Prevention in, Kisi County, Kenya.”**

Any assistance given will be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

  
✓ **PROF. ELIUD NJAGI**  
**EXECUTIVE DEAN, GRADUATE SCHOOL**

EM/R

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