

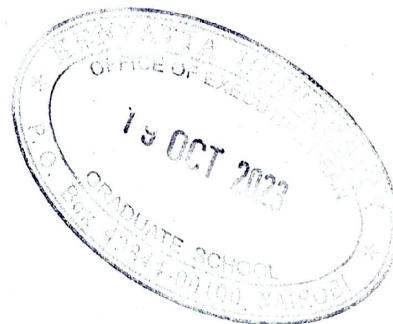
**MALE POLICE OFFICERS AND RESPONSE TO CRIMES AGAINST
WOMEN IN MURANG'A COUNTY, KENYA**

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S203/27361/2018

**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF LAW, ARTS
& SOCIAL SCIENCES IN FULLFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR
THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS (LEADERSHIP
AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT) OF KENYATTA UNIVERSITY**

OCTOBER, 2023



DECLARATION

This research project is my original work and has not been presented for examination in this university or any other institution of learning.

Signature.....

Date.....11-10-2023

Name: Sayia Johnson Barasa

Reg No.: S203/27361/2018

This Research Project has been submitted for examination with my approval as the university supervisor.

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ABSTRACT

There has been a growing research interest in examining police officers' response to victims of crime, but very few studies have empirically assessed male police officers' dominance and how it has impacted reporting of crimes against women. This study aimed in establishing male police officers and their response to crimes against women in Murang'a County, Kenya. The research objectives were; to determine the prevalent of male dominance within the National Police Service, to examine the challenges women survivors of crime face while reporting to the police and to determine how rise sexual and gender-based violence impact the willingness of women to report such incidents to the police. Necessity to address the issues that revolve around police response to crimes against female persons was discussed through the theory of Equity Feminism, developed in 2017 by Christina Hoff Sommers. The study utilized Ex-Post Facto design in the study; whereas the target population was a total of 45 respondents with a sample size of 41. The sampling projection was 20 civilian women, 5 civilian men, 5 Police constables, 2 Corporals, 2 Sergeants, 2 Inspectors, 2 Chief Inspectors, 2 Senior Superintendents and 1 Commissioner. The data was collected through both closed-ended and open-ended questionnaires, focus group discussions, interviews, observation and perusal of secondary sources. The study collected two types of data: quantitative and qualitative. Descriptive statistics was employed in analyzing the quantitative data. The descriptive statistics included measures of both central tendency and variability. The measures were mean, median, mode, range and standard deviation. They were presented visually by tables and graphs. Qualitative data was analyzed by focusing on the identification and reporting of themes within the collected data. Findings from the qualitative data were presented in verbatim quotes and narrative form. It was found out that the number of male police officers was greater than that of female police officers, women expressed their dissatisfaction with being attended to by male police officers, while the increase in SGBV was related to the improper handling of cases reported by women. The study concluded that the NPS gender-imbalance is the contributor to over-representation of male police officers in all areas of police deployments, resulting into rare occurrences of interactions between members of the public and female police officers. The study makes recommendations for the NPSC to ensure there is full implementation of the existing laws and formulate policies regarding recruitment of police officers, and specialized training of police officers on recording and investigating crimes committed against women.