

**NYUMBA KUMI INITIATIVE AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER  
IN KITUI COUNTY, KENYA**

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UNIVERSITY**

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## **DECLARATION**

I certify that this research work is wholly unique with no submissions to other universities for degree or diploma awards.

Signature ..... Date .....

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### **Supervisors:**

I affirm that this research work was conducted by the student under my supervision as the university supervisor.

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## **DEDICATION**

I dedicate this research project to my family and friends, whose endless love, support, and encouragement was my foundation throughout the journey. Their unwavering belief in me kept me motivated during both the challenges and triumphs.

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## OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

<b>Conflict mitigation strategies:</b>	It is the methods and approaches employed to reduce, manage, and resolve conflicts within a community which include community dialogue, mediation, and collaboration.
<b>Intelligence gathering:</b>	It is the systematic collection and analysis of information to enhance security and public safety of community members.
<b>Maintenance of public order:</b>	Refers to efforts and measures taken to ensure a peaceful and orderly society. This includes the enforcement of laws, regulation of public conduct, and prevention of disturbances.
<b>Nyumba Kumi Initiative:</b>	Refers community policing strategy in Kenya that focuses on enhancing security through neighborhood watch programs
<b>Stakeholder participation:</b>	Refers to the involvement of various individuals and groups who have an interest or stake in a particular issue or project. This includes the engagement of community members, local leaders, law enforcement, and other relevant parties in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the initiative to ensure its success and sustainability.
<b>Stakeholder training:</b>	Refers to educating and equipping the involved parties with the necessary knowledge, skills, and resources to effectively participate in an initiative.
<b>Stakeholders:</b>	These groups have a vested interest in public safety and security and can directly influence or be affected by efforts to maintain public order.

**Security**

Refers to the state of being free from threats and disorder, encompassing the measures taken to ensure the safety of persons and property, the protection of fundamental rights, and the prevention of crime, rebellion, and other acts that disturb the peace and well-being of the community.

**Insecurity**

Refers to conditions where there is a breakdown or threat to the stability, safety, and lawful functioning of a society, characterized by phenomena such as widespread crime, civil unrest, violence, armed non-state actors, and a lack of public trust in security forces.

**Criminal**

Refers to a person who commits a crime that disrupts, threatens, or impedes public peace and order, such as through violence, unlawful assembly, or actions that incite fear and apprehension within the community.

## **LIST OF ABBREVIATION AND ACRONYMS**

ACC	-	Assistant County Commissioner
CPA	-	Community Policing Approach
DCC	-	Deputy County Commissioner
NACOSTI	-	National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation
NRPP	-	National Reassurance Policing Programme
PCRC	-	Police Community Relations Committee
UK	-	United Kingdom
US	-	United States

## ABSTRACT

Security in Mutitu Sub-county has not been as desired due to different conflicts. Despite the adoption and implementation of community policing, and subsequently the 'Nyumba kumi' initiative to curb the vice at the grassroots level, insecurity is still taunting locals. This study aimed to establish the initiative's put in place and their effect in maintaining public order by Nyumba Kumi Initiative. The research objectives were to evaluate the effect of conflict mitigation strategies, stakeholder participation, intelligence gathering and stakeholder training in the maintenance of public order. The study was anchored on public participation and street level bureaucracy theory. Descriptive research design was employed. The research targeted 440 respondents which included National Government Administrative officers, National Police service officers, village elders, and Nyumba Kumi leaders. Purposive and random sampling was used to select the respondents; a total of 108 respondents formed the sample size out of the 138 questionnaires distributed. ANOVA test on various aspects of the maintenance of public order was used to assess if there was a divergent opinion among the various groups of people involved in the Nyumba Kumi initiative. Also, dominant themes were used to present the content analysis of some crucial factors that may affect the outcomes obtained. Ethical considerations of anonymity and confidentiality were adhered to. The study found that alternative dispute resolution techniques were used to mitigate conflicts in the sub-county. It was done through mediation, negotiation, and arbitration. It was also noted that, the members of the general public were not open to consulting with the members of the security due to fear, and the key method of public participation was through public barazas. Additionally, intelligence gathering within the Nyumba Kumi framework was noted to be partially effective, with technological advancements offering some support, but challenges remain in ensuring adequate whistleblower protection and adherence to legal provisions. Furthermore, stakeholder training was highlighted as inconsistent and hindered by limited government support, lack of resources, and communication gaps. Addressing these barriers could improve training effectiveness and strengthen security efforts. Despite the noted challenges, the Nyumba Kumi initiative has contributed positively to peaceful co-existence and significantly reduced crimes in the Mutitu sub-county community.

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

In the modern-day world, security is a critical issue that affects multiple facets of the lives of individuals within society. In such a context, the multifaceted issue holds a significant influence on societal aspects such as growth and development on a global scale. As such, security issues have gone on to cause several dilemmas pertaining to development (Dupont, 2017). These dilemmas have resulted in slow economic growth, persistent poverty, shifting demographics, and poor social safety. Just like the rest of the world, the security sphere has remained in flux (Hough, 2013). As a consequence, society is developing new types of crime that are more sophisticated than what was traditionally expected. Thus, the security environment on both the global and regional levels should adjust to curb the negative impacts that result from these dynamic issues and prospects (Dupont, 2017). This adjustment will result in the development of new approaches to maintaining public order and policing. The impacts of these rising crimes and their problematic patterns no longer promote the centralization of law-and-order enforcement. Due to this outcome, it is vital that the traditional approach applied is adjusted in order to better suit the resolution of these modern-day crimes at a much higher level (Fukuyama, 2018).

In the US, community policing gained prominence in the late 20th century as a response to increasing crime rates and deteriorating police-community relations. The approach emphasized decentralizing police operations, fostering open communication, and encouraging community involvement in crime prevention. Research indicates that when community policing is executed efficiently, it can lower crime rates, raise public

confidence in law enforcement, and increase the general feeling of safety in the neighborhood (Skogan & Hartnett, 2019). However, challenges such as resource limitations, inconsistent implementation, and varying levels of community engagement have affected the overall success of these initiatives.

In Nigeria, community policing has been adopted more recently as a response to escalating security challenges, including terrorism, ethnic violence, and organized crime. Initiatives like the Police Community Relations Committee (PCRC) and vigilante groups aim to involve citizens in maintaining public order and addressing local security concerns. Despite these efforts, community policing in Nigeria faces significant obstacles, including corruption, inadequate training, and distrust between the police and the public (Odekunle, 2023).

The Nyumba Kumi approach is a unique conflict resolution and law enforcement mechanism that can work to help address the problematic nature of these pervasive security issues. In this approach, the community is utilized in order to help police and maintain law and order at a rudimentary level (Nicholas & Muna, 2021). In this approach, the emphasis is on crime prevention as opposed to resolving crimes and dispensing justice in the aftermath of security issues. While the traditional approach emphasizes reporting crimes or conflicts to the police, this approach will utilize community members and local organizations to try and mitigate the emergence of any problematic issues.

In this approach, the security needs of the community are clearly identified, with the issues being resolved in a manner that is tailored to what is actually needed in the specific situation (Sambaiga, 2018). Rather than relying on traditional means that typically did not involve community participation, the initiative at hand promotes the

consideration of the community's opinion on these issues, collaborating with them to find comprehensive and holistic solutions to the security issues in the area where they are utilized (Andhoga & Mavole, 2017). Thus, through the use of this approach, better community and police partnerships can be created, promoting attempts to holistically resolve dispute conflicts and prevent crime.

This community-centered approach to crime resolution was first initiated in the 1970s. With the traditional policing approach proving to be inadequate for addressing the needs of the community, this approach came about as a viable alternative, recognizing that the community co-produces police services and could also play a critical role in reducing crime rates. This approach is gaining traction in commonwealth nations on various continents, where it has been recently deployed. In Africa, this approach has been utilized, such as in Kenya (Lid & Okwany, 2020). In the context of this study, the focus will be on how this approach is utilized in Kenya. The East African nation has various of security issues, something that has initiated a paradigm shift in how security matters are handled. This resulted in the formation of the "Nyumba Kumi" initiative, which comprises community-centered security. It was unilaterally implemented across the country, with many communities embracing it and adjusting to participate alongside the police with regard to fighting crime. Their approach was taken up in both urban and rural areas, both of which were struggling with their unique security-related issues.

Following the Kenyan government's announcement, the approach was initiated in order to help curb the insecurity predicament that had gripped the country. This approach was lauded for promoting long-term sustainability that is rooted in the rule of law and the preservation of human rights (Were, 2021). With Kenya's extensive history of poor police performance when dealing with the current issue, this approach helped provide

an alternative that was amicable by putting the needs of the local communities that were adversely affected in the aftermath of the various security emergencies that came up at the time.

Furthermore, by encouraging accountability and openness inside the police force, the approach has enhanced both the quality of services provided and the degree of community trust in the police. With the persistent al-Shabaab security problem, the approach has been progressively contracting in many neighborhoods around the country (Cannon & Pkyala, 2019). The case of the previous Westgate attacks laid bare the security issues plaguing the Kenyan public (Kioko, 2017). This outcome has helped prompt the evolution of security handling as the communities and neighborhoods partnered with law enforcement agencies to minimize the risk and the extreme outcomes that could have resulted from the terrorist organization. This resolution of security would also fall within the country's legal framework, making it an ideal option for the general administration.

In Kitui County, this approach has been aggressively taken up in a bid to resolve prevalent security issues. Despite being a rural area, the region has been a hub of criminal activity, with the Akamba, Somali, and Oromo communities clashing against each other as they compete for finite resources such as water and pasture (Ocharo et al., 2019). These conflicts have been directly responsible for insecurity issues, suspicion and mistrust, starvation, civilian deaths, destruction of property, and poverty among the residents of the area. As a consequence, it has been determined that peace-making is detrimental to the survival, betterment, and development of the area along with its people. Therefore, in this case, it has been determined that it is necessary for the government to work alongside the communities to secure the intended outcomes.

Upon achieving this, the efforts made will result in improved outcomes compared to the traditional “forceful” approach that was previously taken up by the Kenya government security agencies.

## **1.2. Statement of the Problem**

The term "Nyumba Kumi" translates to "ten houses" in Swahili, reflecting this organizational structure while community policing is a broader and more established concept that encompasses various strategies to improve the association between the police and the societies they serve. The Nyumba Kumi Initiative, introduced in Kenya in 2013, aims to enhance community policing by encouraging residents to form small neighborhood units to monitor and report suspicious activities. Despite its potential for fostering security and cohesion, its effectiveness in maintaining public order in Mutitu Sub County, Kitui County, remains under-examined. For example, there is competition over resources particularly water and grazing land which has sparked violent clashes between farming and herders origin communities residing along the Kitui- Tana river border (National Cohesion and Integration Commission,2025). This gap in understanding poses a challenge for local authorities and residents striving to improve security and reduce crime. Without clear evidence of the initiative's effects, efforts to mobilize community support and allocate resources effectively are hindered.

The Kitui county region has a long history of conflicts between different communities, particularly between Kamba farmers and Somali and Oromo herders. These conflicts have escalated in recent years, leading to displacement, loss of life, and damage. The lack of trust and cooperation between communities and law enforcement has made resolving these issues difficult. Reports show the conflicts have grown more violent in some cases of attacks which have displaced families and disrupted schooling. For

example, in the Katumba area, 526 out of 546 pupils were unable to attend classes (National Cohesion and Integration Commission,2025). Whereas in 2017, these conflicts led to over 30 deaths, many injuries and wide spread property destruction (Nation Media,2025). The Nyumba Kumi initiative has been examined as a potential solution to maintain public order in the Mutitu Sub-County, which has been heavily affected by these conflicts. New adaptive and flexible security measures are needed to bring peace and prosperity to the region. However, the study sought to examine the influence of the Nyumba Kumi initiative on the maintenance of public order in the Mutitu sub-county, Kitui County of Kenya.

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The research objectives included:

- i. To determine the effect of conflict mitigation strategies employed by the Nyumba Kumi initiative on the maintenance of public order in Mutitu sub-county.
- ii. To examine the effect of stakeholder participation in Nyumba Kumi initiative on the maintenance of public order in Mutitu sub-county.
- iii. To assess the effect of intelligence gathering in the Nyumba Kumi initiative and its effect on the maintenance of public order in Mutitu sub-county.
- iv. To establish the effect of stakeholder training in Nyumba Kumi initiative on the maintenance of public order in Mutitu sub-county.

## **1.4 Research Questions**

The subsequent were the research questions:

- i. How do conflict mitigation strategies, employed by the Nyumba Kumi initiative effect the maintenance of public order in Mutitu sub-county?
- ii. What is the role of stakeholder participation in the Nyumba Kumi initiative in maintaining public order in Mutitu sub-county?
- iii. To what extent does intelligence gathering in the Nyumba Kumi initiative contribute to the maintenance of public order in the Mutitu sub-county?
- iv. To what extent does stakeholder training in the Nyumba Kumi initiative affect the maintenance of public order in the Mutitu sub-county?

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

### **1.5.1 Justification**

Kitui County has been plagued by longstanding conflicts between communities over water and pasture, leading to negative impacts on livelihoods and national security. Maintaining peaceful co-existence is crucial for economic development and stability in the region. This research ascertained the effectiveness of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in addressing security issues in Mutitu sub-county, Kitui County, emphasizing the importance of community institutions in crime prevention. By addressing root causes of insecurity, government administrators and security agencies can improve their approach and better serve the community. There are also existing research gaps. For instance, (Karanja,2017) focused on effectiveness of Nyumba Kumi Initiative and Mwix & Wanyonyi (2019) examined Conflicts related to Farmers and pastoralist hence warranting this study.

### **1.5.2 Significance**

The research's findings may be useful for numerous stakeholders in Kitui County, including the government, law enforcement, local administration, and community members. These findings can be used to inform strategy, policy formulation, and implementation processes to improve policing and security in the region, leading to safer outcomes. Also, they may help improve the relationship between local communities and the police, ultimately enhancing public order and safety. More research is needed in this critical area to better comprehend how to reduce and prevent crime in the region and beyond. This study serves as a foundation for future research in this field.

### **1.6 Scope of the study.**

The research aimed to explore how the Nyumba Kumi program affects the upkeep of public peace in Mutitu sub-county, located in Kitui County, Kenya. In this case, Mutitu sub-county served as the geographical boundary for the research exercise as it encapsulated a diverse community with varied dynamics relevant to the implementation of the Nyumba Kumi initiative. The primary issue addressed in this context was the effectiveness of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in maintaining public order. The research examined the effects of conflict mitigation strategies, stakeholder participation, intelligence gathering, and training within the initiative on the overall maintenance of public order. This study targeted individuals involved and affected by the implementation of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in the area. The target population was community members, law enforcement officers, and the local administration who were involved in maintaining order within the community.

### **1.7 Limitations of the Study**

Some of the constraints in this research included respondents' reluctance to answer questions due to fear of victimization. Nevertheless, the researcher was afforded the option to present the information on their own terms. Participants hesitated to participate because they worried about the privacy of the data they shared, nonetheless the investigator established confidence by highlighting that the information collected was exclusively for scholarly purposes. The researcher produced evidence of research authorization letters from Kenyatta University and NACOSTI research licenses, which instilled confidence among respondents to disclose information.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

The chapter presents a review of the pertinent literature about the aspects postulated in the research, encompassing both empirical and theoretical works as the research's foundation. Further, conceptual framework is also presented here.

#### **2.2 Empirical Review**

In this section, the research reviewed literature based on conflict mitigation strategies, stakeholder participation, intelligence gathering and stakeholder training.

##### **2.2.1 Nyumba Kumi Initiative and Maintenance of Public Order**

Community-based policing initiatives have become popular innovations that are driving the force behind police officers' efforts to lower crime rates and maintain order. A study by Jarman (2006) in Northern Ireland revealed that such initiatives are valuable elements of order management and conflict reduction. Jarman (2006) noted that establishing community-based initiatives across Northern Ireland significantly helped maintain public order and reduce inter-communal violence and conflicts. Similarly, MacDonald's (2002) study in the United States established that community policing effectively reduced urban violence in major cities in the US. Specifically, the study revealed that community policing effectively prevented violent crime. Other studies that have found community policing led to a reduction in crime include the study by Connell et al. (2008) in the United States. Time series analysis of the interviews and the data crime for the initiative location showed reduced property and violent crime in the targeted location during the community policing program. Similar findings were reported in Tuffin et al.'s (2006) study, which was carried out across six cities in the

UK. The study evaluated the outcomes realized by the National Reassurance Policing Programme (NRPP) in England between 2003 and 2005. The findings showed a significant reduction in total crime recorded in the targeted sites compared to the control sites.

Closer home, the introduction of the Community Policing Approach (CPA) in Oyo State in Nigeria in 2004 as an alternative strategy for ensuring security has been found to have positively impacted the security in the state. A study by Bello (2019) assessing the effectiveness of the CPA initiative established that the initiative significantly contributed to effective security in the state. In Kenya, the Nyumba Kumi initiative has been found to have positively and significantly impacted security management. For example, Munyao's (2017) study on the effect of the initiative on security management in the Kwale sub-county showed that the initiative helped detect crime beforehand, thus resulting in reduced crime cases. Similarly, Acholla's (2019) study conducted in the Kaptembwo ward in Nakuru County showed that the Nyumba Kumi initiative positively influenced neighbourhood security and the prevalence of crimes in the area.

### **2.2.2 Conflict Mitigation Strategies Employed by Nyumba Kumi Initiative**

Conflict mitigation is a critical element that will affect the effectiveness and the success of community-based policing initiatives. This kind of community policing has been noted to exist in many countries of the world, including the US, South Africa, and Kenya (Singh, 2015; Peyton et al., 2019). Conflict mitigation strategies are primarily used to try and resolve disputes within communities, thus contributing to public order maintenance in the long run. In the context of academia, research on this topic has grown over the years as different approaches have been used in different contexts.

Conflict mitigation is made up of a lot of approaches that utilize several strategies. These strategies include community policing, negotiation, mediation, and restorative justice (Arasa et al., 2012). Research has been conducted on these various aspects in nations like the US and South Africa to assess the approaches with regard to their ability to reduce conflict.

The impact of this approach in the USA and South Africa has enhanced the role of community policing with regard to addressing emergent conflicts (Brewer et al., 2016). In Rwanda, this approach existed in reconciliation efforts following the genocide that happened in the country (Williscroft, 2013). Moreover, the expanding collection of studies highlighted the significance of incorporating views from the community in the process of reducing conflicts. Engaging the community in making decisions and resolving conflicts has been observed to lead to more favorable results.

Stakeholders have been identified as a critical influence that may affect the conflict mitigation process (Ndono et al., 2019). In this case, community leaders, local law enforcement, local administration, and community members are all noted to serve a pivotal role in the success of conflict mitigation. Existing studies in the US and South Africa have explored the importance of community involvement in conflict resolution, noting that it has significant way over outcomes obtained (Brewer et al., 2016). Additionally, in Kenya, the Nyumba Kumi approach has also been investigated to ascertain its effectiveness in fostering risk consideration while also mediating conflicts.

Despite an extensive list of research related to conflict mitigation, there still exist some gaps and challenges. These challenges have slowed down advancements, at times impeding the research process (Jung and Yoon, 2018). For instance, there exist challenges measuring the impact of the various approaches when applied in different

cultural contexts. For instance, in the US, South Africa, Rwanda, or Kenya, any approaches utilized need to take context-specific practices into consideration so as to allow for comparative studies.

In the context of this research, it is necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of conflict mitigation approaches. In recent research, innovative methodologies and metrics have been used to assess the outcomes of conflict resolution attempts. These approaches have been assessed through both qualitative and quantitative methods. Such approaches are present in the United States, where they are used to evaluate the success of restorative justice programs (Katic et al., 2020). Similar programs have been implemented in other regions, such as Kenya, South Africa, and Rwanda, where the trio is noted for its development of tailor-made assessment tools to make comprehensive measurements.

As showcased in a study by Maguta et al., (2021), the Nyumba Kumi initiative is a valuable peace-making approach that is applicable in the Kenyan context. In the qualitative study, Maguta et al., assessed the effectiveness of the approach in resolving the security issues in Njoro, Nakuru County, an area with an extensive history of ethnic and politically-motivated violence. The study captured the opinions of strategic informants such as pastors and teachers, key figures in society. The study utilized the Bottom-Up Peace-Building Theory of John Paul Lederach, which emphasizes the involvement of grassroots communities in peace-building in its assessment. As such, the study collected the informants' responses where the traditional liberal approach that involved deploying outside forces such as police was pitted against the Nyumba Kumi approach. From its findings, it was established that the application of the Nyumba Kumi initiative and its community-involving mitigation strategies resulted in more positive outcomes being obtained. However, while it had its positives, it's crucial to observe that

this research had several limitations such as its limited geographical scope, its limited period of evaluation and the absence of quantitative data to back up its findings.

Understanding conflict mitigation approaches and their effectiveness is a critical aspect of obtaining the intended security outcomes. In the context of the Nyumba Kumi initiative, existing literature underscores the need for tailor-made strategies, stakeholder participation, and an inclusive approach to promoting the effectiveness of conflict mitigation. Given the effect of the Nyumba Kumi initiative on public order maintenance, this objective will work to create a foundation to assess the efficiency of conflict mitigation strategies employed.

### **2.2.3 Stakeholder Participation in Nyumba Kumi Initiative**

Stakeholder participation is a critical element of community-based policing efforts and programs (Diamond and Weiss, 2016). The role of this aspect in the attainment of intended security outcomes cannot be emphasized enough. In the United States, South Africa, Rwanda, and Kenya, research has showcased that the use of community members and local law enforcement among other stakeholders in the decision-making process will often result in enhanced public safety outcomes (Adegbile, 2017; Gascon and Roussell, 2019).

Stakeholder participation is made up of various key elements that include community engagement efforts, the use of community forums, and neighborhood watch programs. Community policing forums have been observed to have a positive impact on building community trust and promoting cooperation between law enforcement and community people in the United States (Lamarque, 2017). In the South African context, the approach has been noted to empower local leaders and community members to take up active roles in safety promotion initiatives (Bello & Olutola, 2016).

This element has showcased a diverse of benefits when used in conflict mitigation. The benefits have been documented in multiple research papers, as the involvement of community members often resulted in a responsive and accountable system of meting out justice (Young et al., 2013; Reed et al., 2018). Rwanda's post-genocide peace-making and reconciliation efforts often relied on community involvement to rebuild trust and cohesion in the community. This element also showcased the importance of inclusivity in the enactment of conflict mitigation processes.

Despite the obvious benefits, some challenges, such as inadequate resources, limited training, and power imbalances within stakeholder groups, have remained persistent, undermining the benefits that this element will bring (Young et al., 2013). Therefore, there is a need for more research in order to address the challenges that emerge in every unique context. This approach will encompass the relevant economic, cultural, and social influences.

Measuring this element is a complex affair and a critical task in the conflict mitigation process (Li et al., 2013). As such, research has embraced both qualitative and quantitative methodologies to help capture, quantify, and analyze the outcomes of community-promoted public order maintenance efforts. In this sense, studies have gone on to assess measures for elements such as the sense of security among community members, satisfaction, and trust.

Kaito and Njoroge (2023) explored the extent of stakeholder involvement such as the Nyumba Kumi initiative in implementing community policing in Taita Taveta County and to analyze its impact on crime prevention and attaining improved security outcomes. Utilizing a descriptive survey research strategy, the researchers gathered data from various stakeholders who included the national government administrative

officers, national police service, non-governmental organizations, religious leaders, and residents. The study employed the contingency theory in its approach emphasizing that the variables of the environment have a direct influence on organizational design decisions. Thus, this study highlights the importance of stakeholder involvement in implementing effective crime prevention strategies and highlights the need for stakeholder collaboration in community policing projects. From the findings, it established that stakeholder participation holds a critical position that affects the effectiveness of community policing projects. However, the research notes that despite the rising crime rates in the county, most residents don't actively participate in community policing projects. This study draws emphasis on the importance of encouraging citizen involvement in community policing and recommends that the government takes steps to promote such involvement. It's also vital to note that the study had several gaps that include failing to address potential barriers to community participation, the role of cultural and socio-economic factors in influencing stakeholder involvement and, the long-term sustainability and scalability of community policing initiatives in the area.

Stakeholder participation is a critical element in the promotion and success of community-based policing efforts and programs. Recent research showcases the importance of stakeholder participation as it promotes inclusivity, accountability, and trust building in the context of the conflicting parties. This objective worked to help properly assess the impact of stakeholder involvement in the Nyumba Kumi initiative bid to resolve conflict.

#### **2.2.4 Intelligence Gathering in Nyumba Kumi initiative**

This is another core component of community-based policing initiative around the world. The process involves collecting and analyzing information that is related to any looming security interest or incidents within a given jurisdiction (Hill, 2017). Existing literature from nations such as the US, South Africa, and Kenya has emphasized the importance of these intelligence networks in attaining intended and improved security outcomes.

This intelligence gathering involves many different aspects that include methods such as community reporting, data analysis, or even community patrols. In the United States, community reporting has been utilized to effectively snuff out threats, improving security outcomes (Ratcliffe, 2016). In South Africa, the focus has been on the use of data analytics as a complementary element in intelligence efforts (Ncontsa& Shumba, 2013).

In intelligence gathering, stakeholders play a critical role that cannot be understated. The involvement of various community members, such as local law enforcement, community members, and community leaders, plays a critical role in creating a trustworthy and effective intelligence-gathering network (Goldberg et al., 2020). The timely disbursement of critical information has been noted to vastly improve the attainment of security outcomes, promoting the general public's safety. Research in the US and Kenya has showcased the critical role played by community leaders and community members in collecting and sharing information pertaining to security threats (Gerber, 2014; Meissner et al., 2014). These findings showcase the significance of community engagement in intelligence-gathering efforts. The researchers also introduced new metrics and case researches that embrace qualitative and quantitative

methods to evaluate the outcomes of intelligence efforts when utilized in different cases and contexts.

In a study conducted by Rickards (2016), the collaborative approach involving the community was heralded as an effective means of improving security outcomes. In the study, the researcher employed a descriptive analysis, drawing insights from the author's knowledge and experience in the field of law enforcement and intelligence. In this context, the author aimed to establish whether information sharing via a holistic policing approach involving the public would improve security outcomes and mitigate organized crime. Predominantly in the context of illicit drug activities in Australia. As a result, the author established that an improved holistic approach would be more effective, tackling the complex nature of combating organized crime. Though, it's vital to note that the research in question is limited in that it fails to address the specific technological solutions or innovations to address challenges in intelligence gathering and also does not give concrete examples or case studies illustrating the successful application of intelligence strategies in countering organized crime.

Effective intelligence gathering is a critical element of the public order maintenance process used in the context of community-based policing. In existing research, the significance of timely data collection and sharing by community members has been noted for its role in obtaining improved security outcomes. Therefore, this objective works to critically assess the effect of the Nyumba Kumi initiative on public order maintenance with regard to intelligence gathering in the process.

#### **2.2.5. Stakeholder Training in Nyumba Kumi initiative**

For the success of community-based policing initiatives like the Nyumba Kumi initiative, training is a compulsory facet. In such programs, the community members

and leaders are trained through educational programs or prompts (Williams et al., 2018). These sessions will help the leaders and community members gain an understanding of the community's prevalent threats and the means through which they can help contribute to public order maintenance. Research from the United States, South Africa, and Kenya has highlighted the critical nature of training in community policing efforts.

Training programs often consist of vast elements and topics that will address key areas such as communication skills, safety protocols, conflict resolution, and community engagement (Adegbile, 2017). In the US, research has concentrated on the effectiveness of community programs that provide community leaders and members with training. These programs provide the members with skills and knowledge that may help in the community policing process. This kind of approach is replicated in South Africa, where capacity building in community policing forums has been emphasized (Brogden and Nijhar, 2013).

Stakeholders such as local leaders, community members, and law enforcement serves a critical role in these training efforts. The participation and effective deployment of acquired skills and knowledge by community members and local authorities enhances the conflict resolution process and the attainment of positive security outcomes. Research from the US and South Africa has focused on assessing the effectiveness of training in improving the ability of community members to contribute to community-based policing efforts (Peyton et al., 2019).

Comprehensive training programs have been showcased to have both benefits and challenges that influence their effectiveness within the given context. Recent research has demonstrated that training programs have led to positive impacts on conflict

resolution community and problem-solving, therefore promoting public trust and safety initiatives (Brewer et al., 2016). However, some challenges, such as lack of adequate program evaluation, extensive skill development periods, and inadequate resource allocation, have undermined the long-term impacts that training programs may have on improving the capacity of community members when dealing with security issues.

Mangai et al., (2023) investigated the effectiveness of community policing strategies such as the use of community policing forums in combating crime. The researchers deployed a qualitative approach so as to assess the effectiveness of these strategies, aiming to identify ways to improve them. From the findings, it was observed that strategies that include sector policing, community-policing forums, social media utilization and street patrollers, are effective as they involve and empower members of the community as partners. This outcome is readily apparent despite the limited resources available to carry out these strategies. However, the study has some shortcomings as it fails to address the perspectives of regular community members, only taking the perspective of officers into account. Additionally, the study fails to document the impact of the deployed militarized policing forces deployed to help maintain public order across the country.

In order to assess the effectiveness of training, the researcher assessed the knowledge and skills of individuals post-training. This assessment also checked the applicability of these acquired skills and know-how in real-world situations. Training is identified as a crucial facet of community policing, an attribute resulting from its ability to empower communities into proper partners. Through training, community members and leaders are equipped with skills that may help promote the success of initiatives such as the Nyumba Kumi initiative. This skill development and knowledge transfer efforts can help law enforcement gain crucial allies that will serve to create a watchful network.

As such, this objective served to help assess the role of this element in the Nyumba Kumi initiatives' bid to maintain public order.

**Table 2.1 Table Showing Gaps Identified in the Existing Literature**

<b>Researcher</b>	<b>Focus</b>	<b>Findings</b>	<b>Knowledge gap areas</b>
Maguta et al. (2021)	A qualitative study that examines the efficiency of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in addressing communal violence.	The Nyumba Kumi approach trumps the traditional liberal approach. This approach proves effective in cultivating peace, unity, and cooperation, aspects that resulted in sustainable peace and reconciliation between different ethnic communities.	The study fails to take into account the long-term effects of the Nyumba Kumi approach and only focused on the short-term form of sustainable peace attained.  The study also fails to back up its findings with quantitative data such as reductions in the number of incidents. Instead, it focuses on extracting information from qualitative sources which make it hard to quantify the initiative's actual impact
Kaito and Njoroge (2023)	A qualitative study to explore the extent of stakeholder involvement in implementing community policing	The results imply that the application of community policing and stakeholder involvement are positively and significantly correlated.	The research failed to address the role of sociocultural aspects in influencing community-policing

	in Taita Taveta County and to analyze its impact on crime prevention and security improvement.		involvement and its eventual effectiveness The study also failed to address the potential barriers and challenges faced by stakeholders implementing community policing
Rickards (2016)	The study focuses on the role of intelligence in law enforcement, particularly addressing the challenges posed by organized crime, with a specific emphasis on the illicit drug market in Australia	The findings showcase the effectiveness of a holistic and inclusive approach in addressing organized crime. In this case, collaboration and information sharing emerge as critical components, reflecting the interconnected nature of criminal activities in a globalized context.	The study fails to provide explicit examples of the successful application of the intelligence strategies discussed in tackling organized crime  The study also failed to capture specific technological solutions or innovations that were used to address challenges in intelligence gathering.
Mangai et al., (2023)	The qualitative study focuses on community policing strategies in Johannesburg, South Africa, and their effectiveness in crime prevention. It specifically aims to	The study's outcomes imply that social media use, sector policing, street patrols, community-policing forums, and other community-policing initiatives can all successfully involve communities as collaborators in the fight against crime.	The research fails to address the perspective of regular community members  The research also fails to address the effect of militarized policing elements deployed to

	identify the efficiency of these strategies, identify the challenges faced by the police in implementing them, and recommend ways to enhance their effectiveness		combat crime in South Africa
Munyao (2017)	This research concentrated on the impact of the initiative on security management in the Kwale sub-county.	The findings have had a significant impact on security management in Kwale sub-county, Kenya. This community policing program has played a crucial role in enhancing social cohesion, crime prevention, and public safety within the region.	The study fails to explore various security management strategies that enhance community safety and security in the region.
Brogden and Nijhar (2013)	This study concentrates on community policing, examining both national and global models and strategies.	These programs have demonstrated how communities and law enforcement may collaborate to improve safety, foster trust, and encourage proactive solutions to security issues. These approaches emphasize problem-solving, community engagement, and a focus on addressing underlying social issues that contribute to crime and insecurity.	There is a need for more research on the scalability and sustainability of community policing initiatives both nationally and internationally.

Source: Researcher 2024

## **2.3 Theoretical Framework**

The research was be guided by Public Participation Theory and Street-Level Theory.

### **2.3.1 Public Participation Theory**

The theory was postulated by Sherry Arnstein in 1969. The theory was stipulated to hail from the works of political scholars. In this theory, the main stipulation was promoting public participation more so in its development and maintenance when making important societal decisions (Reed et al., 2018). In this theory, several key assumptions were made (King et al., 2015). First off, the theory assumed that individuals and communities have a vested interest in their own well-being, and as such, they should be given the opportunity to influence the decisions and policies that affect their lives. Under this theory, it was assumed that public participation was a critical aspect of governance that worked to boost the legitimacy of policy formulation and implementation while simultaneously promoting community ownership and responsibility.

With regard to this research, the theory held a crucial role. The proper adoption and implementation of the Nyumba Kumi Initiative hinges on successful engagements between security agencies and the public. In this structure, the residents of the area are recruited as allies who help in the maintenance of public order. The Nyumba Kumi initiative, aligned with the underlying principles of this theory by promoting the involvement of community members in the decision-making process. Through this process, community members were involved in security management by having opportunity to contribute to the decision-making and implementation of security strategies. This kind of action fostered collective responsibility, hence direct influence on the security outcomes obtained.

According to this theory, it was critical to actively involve community people in the governance of their own activities and including them in decision-making processes. In the case of the Nyumba Kumi Initiative, it relied heavily on community participation and collaboration to enhance security and public order, Public Participation Theory served as a guiding principle for effective implementation. This theory shed light on the role of stakeholder participation in the Nyumba Kumi initiative in maintaining public order in Mutitu sub-county. It promotes fosters partnerships, inclusivity, accountability and trust building in the context of community policing and maintenance public order. Public Participation Theory highlights the significance of fostering transparency, communication, and trust between government institutions, law enforcement agencies, and community members. The Nyumba Kumi Initiative, by encouraging open dialogue and cooperation among these stakeholders, creates a platform for mutual understanding and collaboration in addressing security challenges.

### **2.3.2 Street Level Theory**

This theory was hypothesized by Micheal Lipsky and published in his book titled “Street-Level Bureaucracy: Dilemmas of the Individual in Public Services” in 1980 (Tummers and Bekkers, 2014). This theory was directed at addressing frontline workers in public service agencies. Under this pretext, the frontline workers in such public domains often find themselves interacting directly with the local residents while also promoting the exercising of discretion in the implementation of formulated policies.

Like other theories, the Street-Level Bureaucracy Theory is also based on several key assumptions (Cooper et al., 2015). In the first case, the theory assumes that street-level workers have a direct impact on the manner in which public policies are translated into practice. In this case, the theory recognized that the workers often made critical

decisions that would result in the attainment of some nature of outcomes, more so, those associated with policy implementation. This theory also holds the assumption that street-level workers will adapt the formulated policies in a manner that suits the local conditions. The workers' interaction with the public is, in this case, recognized to be a product of both the use of formal rules and personal judgment.

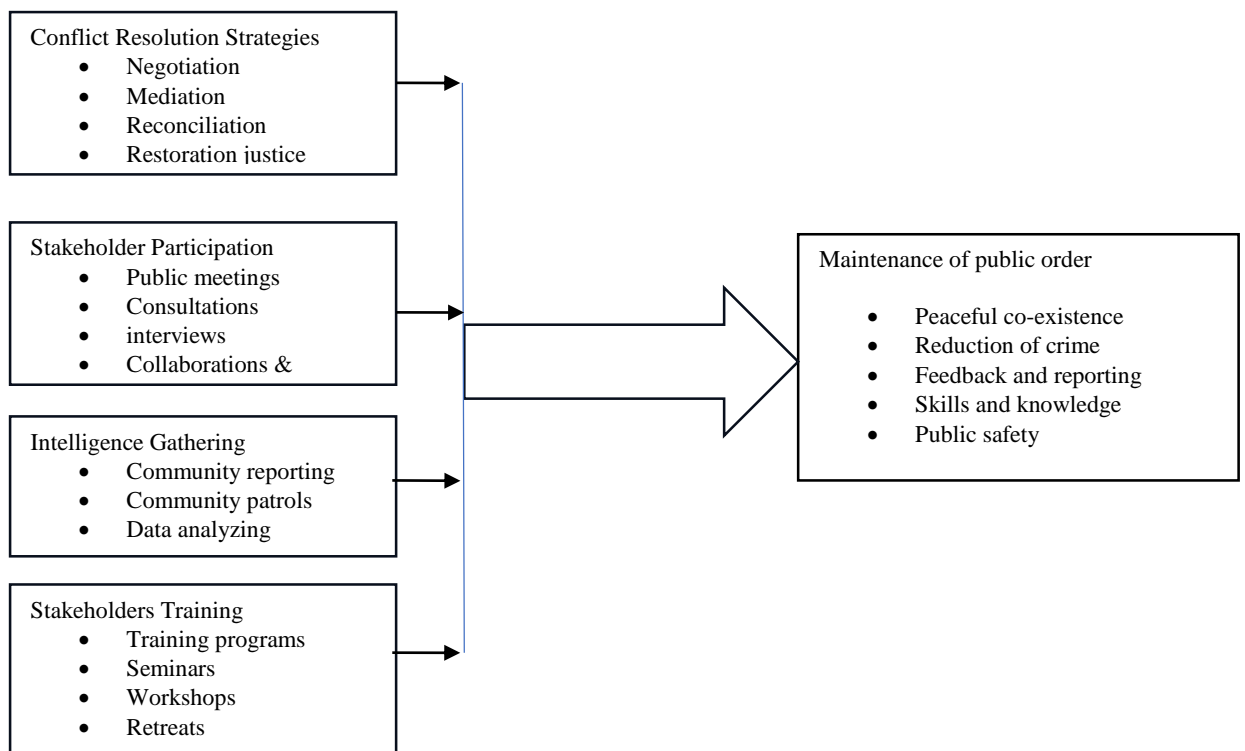
In the context of this study on the Nyumba Kumi initiative, the Street-Level Bureaucracy theory was highly relevant. The Nyumba Kumi initiative involved the local community elders, chiefs, and Nyumba Kumi members, all of whom can act as "street-level workers" in this case. These individuals were then facilitated and given the mandate to make decisions, police, and directly interact with residents while also maintaining discretion in the interaction (Hill, 2003). This kind of approach was critical in the successful implementation of the Nyumba Kumi initiative as it allowed the approach to be adjusted suiting the specific needs of each case. Through having a thorough understanding of this theory's principles, the Nyumba Kumi initiative worked on several key factors that include conflict mitigation, stakeholder participation, and intelligence gathering. Discretion, problem-solving skills, and adaptability were key factors determining how the Nyumba Kumi Initiative was realized in the community in maintaining public order.

This theory focused on the interactions and decision-making processes that occurred at the level of individual front-line service providers, such as community policing officers and social workers, who directly engaged with residents at a local level. In the case of the Nyumba Kumi Initiative, which relies on the active involvement of street-level actors to implement community policing strategies and crime prevention measures,

Street-Level Theory provided valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities for enhancing public order maintenance efforts.

## 2.4 Conceptual Framework

The research’s conceptual framework is presented in this part. The conceptual framework is depicted in Figure 2.1 below.



**Figure 2.1: Study’s Conceptual Framework**

The conceptual framework of this study offered a depiction of the connections between the research’s variables. The conceptual framework in this case highlighted the crucial components that have a major effect on the execution and efficacy of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in the Mutitu sub-county.

At the core of this framework was the dependent variable, “maintenance of public order.” This variable was the main subject explored by this research. As such, the level

of public order and safety was indicative of the effectiveness of the Nyumba Kumi approach deployed in the study area. This variable was evaluated along with other independent variables that included conflict management strategies, stakeholder participation, intelligence gathering, and training of stakeholders.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter discusses the research design, research site, target demographic, sample size and technique, the research tool, pilot study, data analysis, and ethical considerations.

#### **3.2 Research Design**

This research utilized descriptive research design. The approach involved utilizing both qualitative and quantitative techniques to gather data and analyze findings (Schoonenboom & Johnson, 2017). Qualitative method was utilized to explore the perspectives and experiences of community members, local leaders, and law enforcement officials regarding the Nyumba Kumi Initiative and its effects on public order. Descriptive design was selected since it guarantees a complete description and analysis of occurrences and ensures that the data obtained and analyzed is free from much prejudice (Creswell, 2011). This design was appropriate for gathering large information through structured questionnaires in order to summarize and describing the features of the phenomenon of interest (Abutabenjeh & Jaradat, 2018). By using descriptive research design, effectiveness of nyumba kumi initiatives was interpreted in order to clarify and draw conclusions on its contribution in maintenance of public order in Mutitu sub-county.

#### **3.3 Description of Study Variables**

The independent variable was Nyumba Kumi initiatives constructed of four variables namely conflict mitigation strategies which was measured through, Negotiation, Mediation Reconciliation and Restoration justice. Stakeholder participation through

Public meetings, Consultations and interviews, intelligence-gathering based on Community reporting and Community patrols, and stakeholder training through training programs, Seminars Workshops and Retreats. The dependent variable was the maintenance of public order in Mutitu sub-county, which is indicated by Peaceful co-existence, Reduction of crime, feedback and reporting, Skills and knowledge and Public safety.

### **3.4 Site of the Study**

This research was done in the Mutitu sub-county, Kitui County. It served as the location for this research due to its relevance to the Nyumba Kumi initiative. Mutitu sub-county was chosen as the study location because government had employed this initiative to combat insecurity within the area. The area has a diverse population that is majorly divided into various communities the Akamba, Somali, Pokomo, and Oromo (Mwikali & Wafula,2019). These communities have lived in the same area, resulting in distinct community dynamics that make the location an ideal site for conducting research pertaining to examining the effect of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in the maintenance of public order.

### **3.5 Target Population**

In this study, the population of interest was stakeholders directly involved in the Nyumba Kumi initiative process in Mutitu sub-county. These stakeholders came from different areas of the society, including 225 Nyumba Kumi leaders from the sub-county, Nyumba Kumi Committees, law enforcement officers and National government administrative office; (1 Deputy County Commissioner, 2 Assistant County Commissioners, 5 Chief, and 20 Assistant Chiefs, 112 village elders, and 75 National Police officers, making a total of 440 targeted respondents (The Deputy County

Commissioners’ office, Mutitu Sub-County, 2024). These leaders are directly involved in implementing the initiative and have valuable insights into its impact on public order within their respective areas. Their perspectives and experiences were essential in understanding the effectiveness of the Nyumba Kumi Initiative. Secondly, the inclusion of law enforcement officers, such as Deputy County Commissioners, Assistant County Commissioners, Chiefs, Assistant Chiefs, and National Police officers, was crucial as they played a key role in enforcing public order and security measures in the region. Table 3.1 displays the target population.

**Table 3.1 Target Population**

Population Targeted	Total No.
Village elders	112
Assistant Chiefs	20
Nyumba kumi officials	225
National Police service officers	75
Chiefs, ACCs & DCC	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>440</b>

**Source:** The Deputy County Commissioner’s office, Mutitu Sub-county (2024)

### 3.6 Sampling Techniques and Sample Size

#### 3.6.1 Sampling Techniques

Sampling techniques included a variety of approaches that helped to reduce the amount of data necessary for gathering by focusing on data from a chosen subset rather than investigating every possible instance or component. Both purposive and simple stratified random sampling methods were employed to pick responders. Simple stratified random selection was employed to select the participants, a list was created

for each segment of the population, and every third village, location, Nyumba Kumi committee, and national police service officer was chosen for the research. Further, purposive sampling technique was utilized to choose 5 chiefs, the 1 DCC, and 2 ACC's.

### 3.6.2 Sample Size

The researcher adopted Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) sample size calculation, noting that 10-30% of the total population is adequate for sample size. Moreover, if the number of people is less than 1000, having 10–30% of the people you are aiming for is enough to make a decision, as Creswell & Creswell (2017) state. However, for this study, the number of people in the sample was 30% of the total number of people targeted. This number is detailed in Table 3.2 below. The chiefs, ACCs and the DCC was sampled using census. Therefore, a total of 138 respondents formed the sample size.

**Table 3.2 Distribution of Sample Size**

S/No	Population Targeted	Total No.	30%	Sample size
1	Village elders	112	33.6	34
2	Assistant Chiefs	20	6.0	6
3	Nyumba kumi officials	225	67.8	68
4	National Police service officers	75	22.5	23
5	Chiefs, ACCs & DCC	8	8	8
	<b>Total</b>			<b>138</b>

**Source:** Researcher (2024)

### **3.7 Research Instruments**

The research employed semi structured questionnaire to gather data. The questionnaire was administered to the selected responders. According to Wa-Mbaleka (2019), a survey can effectively collect replies from a large number of people in a short amount of time. This approach guarantees anonymity, gives participants enough time to finish the survey, and is objective. The purpose of surveys was to collect data that was both descriptive and numerical in character. The questionnaire had six sections: A, B, C, D, E, and F. Hence **A** gathered demographic information from responders, **B** obtained data on conflict reduction measures, **C** acquired data on stakeholder engagement, **D** collected data on intelligence collecting, **E** gathered data on stakeholder training, and **F** compiled data on the maintenance of public order.

### **3.8. Pilot study**

In the neighborhood Mutitu North Sub-County, a pilot test was done with the goal of pre-testing the validity status of the research tool. Connelly (2008) suggests 10% of the sample size for the study is enough for the pilot study. A total of 10 respondents were recruited and provided with questionnaires for the pilot test. This action ensured that the language of the research tools was clear to understand. Moreover, it helped the researcher spot confusing directions, ambiguous questions, insufficient space for responses, and poorly worded questions. The pilot study enabled the researcher to determine if the tools met the research objectives, allowing for any modifications or amendments.

### **3.9 Validity and Reliability of the Instruments**

#### **3.9.1 Validity of the Research Instruments**

Orodho (2013) asserts that validity pertains to the phenomenon resulting from data analysis that should reflect the actual event occurring.

Content validity reflects whether the material accurately reflects the entire extent of the investigation and is often endorsed by a minimum of five experts. The instruments were evaluated and confirmed to be free of both typographical and structural errors through expert assessments. Pilot testing facilitated the identification of errors. The pilot respondents were allowed to ask questions regarding the clarity of the inquiries, which assisted the researcher in assessing the validity of the formulated questions. The comments from the pilot test necessitated an evaluation of the survey prior to the actual data collecting. The supervisor assessed the survey to ensure the absence of ambiguous or unclear items. Leveraging their expertise on the subject, they interpreted the questions and responses in the research tool. Consequently, the survey was revised based on input from the pilot test to eliminate ambiguities and inadequate phrasing in the data gathering tool.

#### **3.9.2 Reliability of the Research Instruments**

The test-retest method was employed for evaluating the reliability of the research instruments. The identical responders were administered the tools again within a week as part of a test-retest protocol. To evaluate the internal consistency of the items in the tools, a correlation between the two data sets was calculated using Cronbach's Alpha. Andrade (2018) states that the acceptable range for alpha ( $r$ ) values is between 0.70 and 0.90. The following is the Cronbach's Alpha Formula:

$$\alpha = \frac{N \cdot \bar{c}}{\bar{v} + (N-1) \cdot \bar{c}}$$

N = Total number of items –respondents

C= Average inter-item covariance

V = Average variance

When a tool's coefficient is more than 0.7, it is deemed dependable.

### **3.10 Data Collection Procedure**

The questionnaires were issued to the participants selected from the all the sampled research participants. A drop and pick method was utilized. Participants were given two weeks to fill and return the questionnaires. Whenever need be, the researcher was available to offer guidance to the respondents.

### **3.11 Analysis and Presentation**

In this instance, the data analysis entails a thorough review of the qualitative and quantitative information gathered to address the research questions and achieve the study's particular goals. To evaluate the correlations between the different variables in the context of this study, statistical analysis was applied to the quantitative data (Myers et al., 2013).

For this case, in order to rigorously analyze the associations between the key variables under investigation in this study; conflict mitigation strategies, stakeholder participation, intelligence gathering, and training within the Nyumba Kumi initiative; a regression model was employed. This term refers to a statistical tool that enables the identification and quantification of connection between research's variables (Buchinsky, 1998). Thus, the regression model in this paper's context is expressed as;

$$Y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{1i} + \beta_2 X_{2i} + \beta_3 X_{3i} + \beta_4 X_{4i} + \epsilon_i$$

- $Y_i$  represents the dependent variable, which is the level of public order maintenance.
- $\beta_0$  is the intercept, representing the expected value of when all independent variables are zero.
- $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4$  are the coefficients that measure the change in  $Y_i$  associated with a one-unit change in each respective independent variable.
- $X_{1i}, X_{2i}, X_{3i}, X_{4i}$  are the independent variables representing conflict mitigation strategies, stakeholder participation, intelligence gathering, and training within the Nyumba Kumi initiative.
- $\epsilon_i$  represents the error term, capturing unobserved factors affecting  $Y_i$ .

On the other hand, a thematic analysis was utilized on the qualitative data in order to explore any recurrent themes, patterns, and trends that may exist, (Castleberry and Nolen, 2018). This kind of analysis aimed at capturing the contextual factors and the underlying nuances that may influence the effectiveness of the Nyumba Kumi initiative. Using the open-ended questionnaire, the researcher was able to uncover deep insights related to the issue under study.

The data collected was presented in an organized, clear, and concise manner. Given that both quantitative and qualitative data were gathered, each of these categories was presented separately. The presentation of qualitative data included the utilization of tables and charts to illustrate the outcomes of the research (Rollingson, 2014). Besides, qualitative data was presented using thematic summaries and quotations from participants' responses. In this study, data was organized in order of all the variables

under investigation: conflict mitigation strategies, stakeholder participation, intelligence gathered, and training within the Nyumba Kumi initiative.

### **3.12 Ethical Considerations**

Research studies prioritize ethics because they deal with individuals or sensitive records; therefore, it's critical to remember appropriate behavior during these exchanges. In order to achieve this, the researcher requested authorization from Kenyatta University introductory letter in order to obtain access to pertinent records and collect data from a subset of respondents. Additionally, the researcher sought permission from the NACOSTI, before including respondents in the study, the researcher sought their informed consent. The researcher elucidated that the investigation was solely for scholarly intents, and the participants were guaranteed that there was no risks involved, either directly or indirectly, and that their involvement was entirely voluntary. During the data collection process, confidentiality was maintained by securely storing the information collected. In order to maintain respondents' anonymity, respondents were asked not to include their names on any study instruments that are given to them.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

#### 4.1 Introduction

The chapter presents the research results, starting with the respondent's Demographic data, the outcomes is organized per each variable, presented in tables, bar charts and pie diagrams. The results are then interpreted and supported by secondary data.

#### 4.2 General and Demographic Information

In this section the response rate and demographic information was carried out to reflect the bio data information of the respondents

##### 4.2.1 The Response rate

Table 4.1 indicted the response rate for this research

**Table 4.1 Research Study Participation**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Target Population Size</b>	<b>Participants</b>	<b>Population proportion</b>
Village elders	112	15	13%
Assistant Chiefs	20	5	25%
Nyumba Kumi officials	225	36	16%
National Police Service officers	75	26	35%
Assistant County Commissioners	8	2	25%
Community members	160	24	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>108</b>	

**Source:** Field Data (2025)

The study involved a diversified group of participants that comprised the above, it was noted that all the groups were represented by at least 13% of the target population proportion. The sample distribution was Village elders (13%), Assistant Chiefs (25%), Nyumba Kumi officials (16%), National Police service officers (35%), Assistant County Commissioners (25%), and Community members (15%). A total of 138 questionnaires were distributed amongst the target sample, and 108 participants

successfully completed them, this means that the response rate was 78.3%. This response rate was sufficient as directed by Mugenda and Mugenda (2003) that response rate above 70% is very good for a research. The response rate is tabulated in table 4.1.

#### 4.2.2 Stakeholders Involved in the Study

There were 6 stakeholders that formed part of the research as presented in table 4.2

**Table 4.2 Stakeholders Involved in the Study**

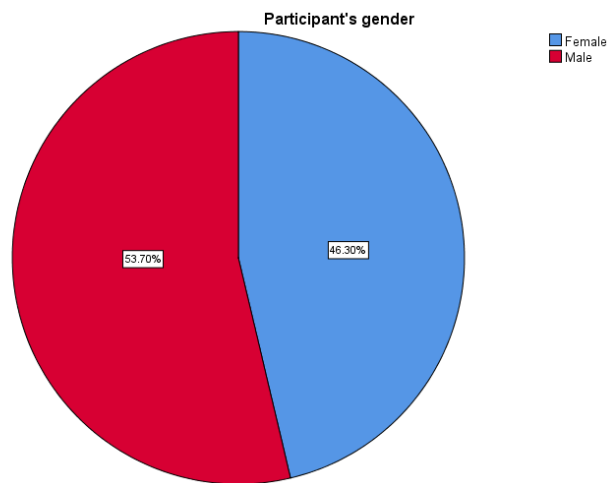
##### **Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative**

		<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Valid	Assistant County Commissioner	2	1.9
	Nyumba Kumi Officials	36	33.3
	Community members	24	22.2
	Police	26	24.1
	Assistant-chief	5	4.6
	Village elder	15	13.9
	Total	108	100.0

**Source:** Field Data (2025)

It was observed that the Nyumba Kumi officials were the largest proportion of the sample considered since it was 33.3%, followed by Police and Community members at 24.1% and 22.2% respectively. The smallest proportion of the sample representatives was Assistant County Commissioners at 1.9%. All groups of the Nyumba Kumi committee members were represented in the study, denoting that the data collected is reliable.

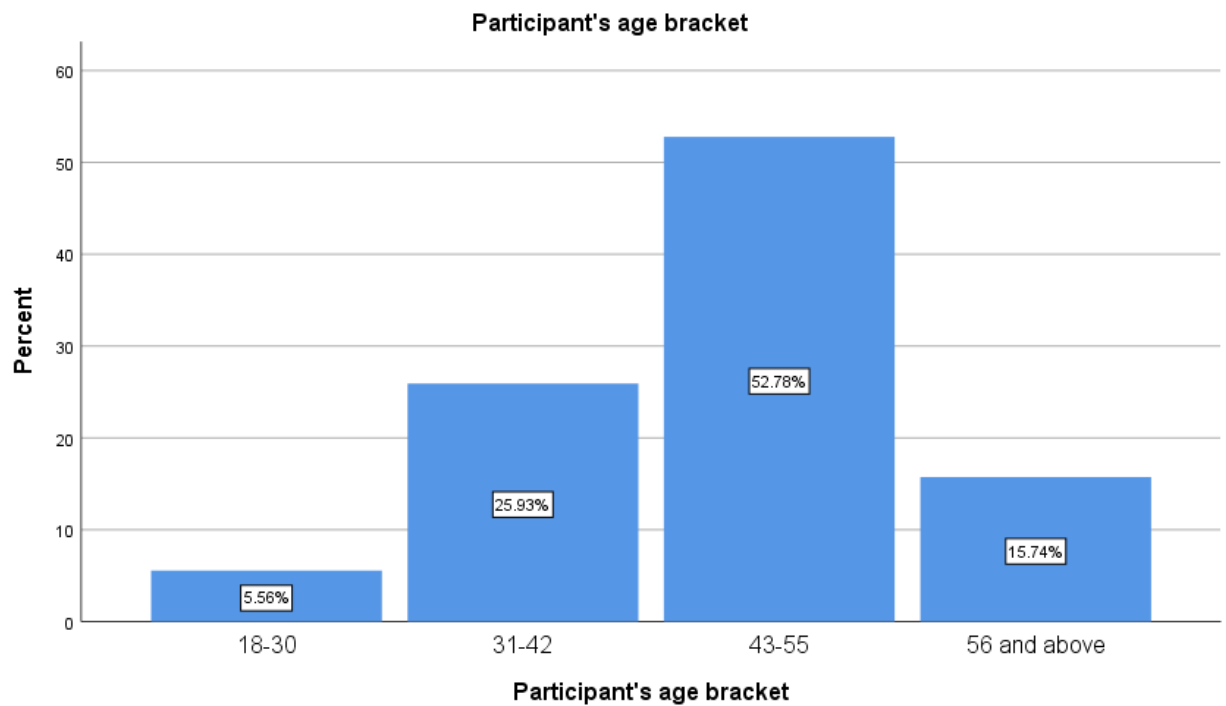
### 4.2.3 Gender of the Respondents



**Figure 4.1 The gender Representation of the Research Participants.**

It was observed that 53.7% of the participants of this study were male, this means that there were more male respondents compared with their female counterparts. Security issues is often thought to be an issue handled by men. This directly reflects the societal norms on the issue of security, which is gendered. This has been reported by Diphoorn and van Stapele (2021) who argued that issues security are culturally a gender role dominated by male.

#### 4.2.4 Respondents Age Brackets



**Figure 4.2 The Respondent's Age Bracket.**

Among the participants, the age group of 43-55 years had the majority at 52.78% while those aged between 18-30 years were the least proportion at 5.56%. The age distribution indicates that most of the participants were older people, suggesting that they might have a better understanding of the Nyumba Kumi initiative.

#### 4.2.5 Time Served in Nyumba Kumi Initiative

The participants were asked to indicate the period they have participated in Nyumba Kumi initiative. Table 4.3 represents the obtained results.

**Table 4.3: Time Served in Nyumba Kumi**

<b>Statistics</b>		
How long have you been involved in/with the Nyumba Kumi Initiative?		
N	Valid	108
	Missing	0
Mean		8.5602
Median		9.5000
Mode		10.00
Std. Deviation		2.67449
Range		10.00
Minimum		2.00
Maximum		12.00

**Source:** Field Data (2025)

The findings showed that there were 108 Nyumba Kumi members that were considered in this research study, the average years of involvement in the Nyumba Kumi initiative was 8.56 years (SD = 2.67) for the sample used. The minimum years of involvement in the initiative was 2 years while the maximum duration was 12 years, with the sample's mode being 10 years. Further assessment revealed that the Assistant County Commissioners had the least mean experience of 4.25 years while the most experienced group was the Police Officers which had an average experience of 10.73 years. The average experience of Nyumba Kumi Officials was 7.44 years; the average experience indicates that the sample considered had sufficient knowledge to explain the various aspects of the initiative. These findings are exhibited in table 4.4 below.

**Table 4.4: Experience in Nyumba Kumi Initiative**

<b>Report</b>			
How long have you been involved in/with the Initiative?			
Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Mean	N	Std. Deviation
Assistant County Commissioner	4.2500	2	1.06066
Nyumba Kumi Official	7.4444	36	2.47784
Community members	7.8333	24	2.53097
Police	10.7308	26	1.97094
Sub-chief	8.2000	5	3.03315
Village elder	9.3333	15	1.71825
Total	8.5602	108	2.67449

Source: Field Data (2025)

### 4.3 Section B: Conflict Mitigation Strategies

Sentiments on conflict mitigation strategies were assessed and participants were required to provide answers based on a five-point Likert Scale on the level of agreement with the statement. The Likert Scale was Strongly Agree = 5, Agree = 4, Neutral = 3, Disagree = 2, and Strongly Disagree = 1.

**Table 4.5: Conflict mitigation strategies**

<b>Report</b>					
	Negotiations by Nyumba Kumi led to public order maintenance	Nyumba Kumi committees carry out successful mediation	Differences are successfully reconciled by Nyumba Kumi committees	Justice in some instances has been restored through Nyumba Kumi	Nyumba Kumi committees are effective in resolving local conflicts
N	108	108	108	108	108
Mean	2.56	2.92	2.51	2.05	2.19
Std. Deviation	1.461	1.375	1.495	.951	.961

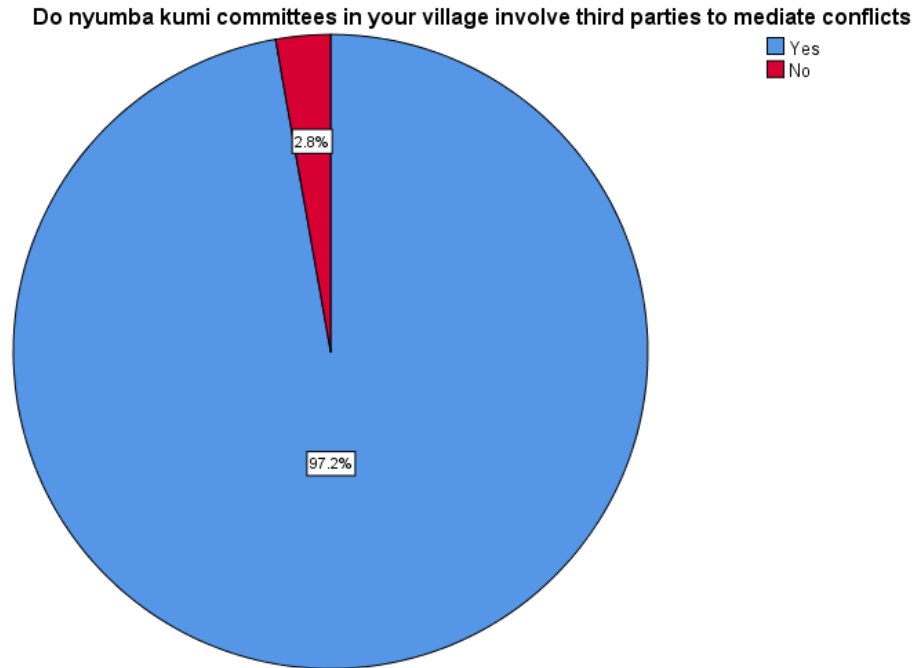
Source: Field Data (2025)

Evaluation of sentiments on conflict mitigation strategies revealed that Justice in some instances has been restored through Nyumba Kumi had the lowest mean of 2.05 which

indicates that most participants tended to disagree with such claims. On the other hand, sentiments around Nyumba Kumi committees carrying out successful mediation had a mean of 2.92 indicative of neutral views since some participants agreed while others disagreed with the claims. Additionally, the sentiments on Negotiations by Nyumba Kumi led to public order maintenance, Differences are successfully reconciled by Nyumba Kumi committees, and Nyumba Kumi committees are effective in resolving local conflicts leaned towards disagreement. Most of the participants did not agree on the conflict mitigation strategies employed by the Nyumba Kumi initiative like negotiations leading to public order maintenance, successful reconciliation of the differences, restoration of justice, and effective resolution of local conflicts. This is indicative that there is more that needs to be done to improve the sentiments to obtain positive sentiments on the issues. (Kioko,2017) urged how the nyumba kumi can provide institutional support for peaceful conflict management and crime prevention while anchoring community policy at the household.

#### **4.3.1 Involvement of Third Parties to Mediate**

Figure 4.3 shows the involvement of third parties by Nyumba Kumi members in conflict mediation. Assessment of whether Nyumba Kumi committees in villages involve third parties to mediate or arbitrate conflicts revealed that 92.7% agreed with those sentiments. This is an indication that conflicts in the villages involved mediation of third parties to resolve arising or existing issues. The commonly engaged third parties so far included police officers, chiefs, assistant chiefs, elders, community leaders, and parents.



**Figure 4.3: Involvement of Nyumba Kumi Third Parties**

**Table 4.6: Inclusive mediation adopted in resolving conflicts**

**Is the mediation adopted during local conflicts inclusive?**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Always	10	9.3	9.3	9.3
	Sometimes	98	90.7	90.7	100.0
	Total	108	100.0	100.0	

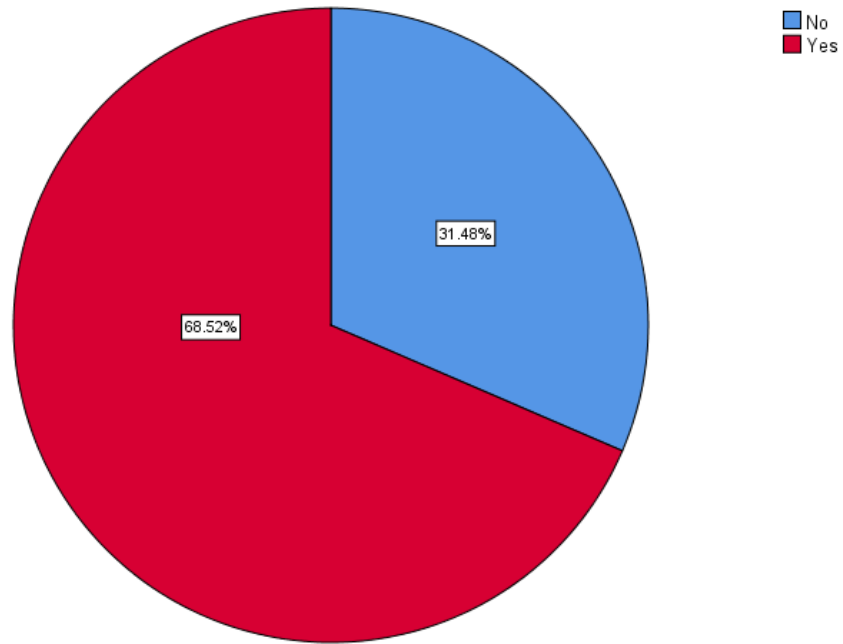
**Source:** Field Data (2025)

From the findings, it was noted that 90.7% of the participants felt that sometimes the mediation adopted during local conflicts was inclusive while only 9.3% believed that the approach was always inclusive. This suggests that the most of the responders had sentiments that there was room for improvement in how the mediation process of local conflicts was handled to make them more inclusive.

### **4.3.2 Reintegration Mechanisms for Offenders**

The participants were asked if there are mechanisms in place to ensure the reintegration of offenders into the community after successful conflicts resolutions. Findings are shown Figure 4.4 indicating that 68.52% felt that there are mechanisms in place to ensure that there is reintegration of offenders into the community after successful conflict resolutions. Given that 31.48% believed that there were no mechanisms for the reintegration of offenders into the community after successful conflict resolutions, it is indicative that more needs to be done in the Nyumba Kumi initiative to raise awareness on conflict resolution and highlight the strategies on the way forward. Some of the mechanisms in place to ensure the reintegration of offenders included guidance and counseling, seeking forgiveness, compensation to the victims, family support to oversee change, close monitoring of offenders, reconciliation, and involvement in community development projects. Wanjiru, (2017) in her study observed that there was positive community perception regarding Nyumba Kumi Initiative in crime reduction however the government has to keep sensitizing the public on importance of this initiative.

Are there mechanisms in place to ensure the reintegration of offenders into the community after successful conflicts resolutions?



**Figure 4.4: Reintegration Mechanisms for Offenders**

### 4.3.3 ANOVA on Conflict Mitigation Strategies

The ANOVA findings on the conflict mitigation strategies was assessed in SPSS and the results are shown in Table 4.7 below.

**Table 4.7: ANOVA on Conflict Mitigation Strategies**

			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Negotiations by Nyumba Kumi led to public order maintenance * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	52.991	5	10.598	6.158	.000
		Linearity	20.271	1	20.271	11.778	.001
		Deviation from Linearity	32.720	4	8.180	4.753	.001
	Within Groups		175.555	102	1.721		
	Total		228.546	107			
Nyumba Kumi committees carry out successful mediation * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	45.865	5	9.173	5.983	.000
		Linearity	8.256	1	8.256	5.385	.022
		Deviation from Linearity	37.609	4	9.402	6.132	.000
	Within Groups		156.385	102	1.533		
	Total		202.250	107			
Differences are successfully reconciled by Nyumba Kumi committees * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	17.663	5	3.533	1.628	.159
		Linearity	2.286	1	2.286	1.053	.307
		Deviation from Linearity	15.377	4	3.844	1.772	.140
	Within Groups		221.328	102	2.170		
	Total		238.991	107			
Justice in some instances has been restored through Nyumba Kumi * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	15.118	5	3.024	3.777	.004
		Linearity	4.858	1	4.858	6.069	.015
		Deviation from Linearity	10.260	4	2.565	3.204	.016
	Within Groups		81.650	102	.800		
	Total		96.769	107			
Nyumba Kumi committees are effective in resolving local conflicts * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	18.360	5	3.672	4.649	.001
		Linearity	.932	1	.932	1.180	.280
		Deviation from Linearity	17.428	4	4.357	5.517	.000
	Within Groups		80.557	102	.790		
	Total		98.917	107			

Source: Field Data (2025)

The interaction between the Role of involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative and Differences successfully reconciled by Nyumba Kumi committees was not statistically significant since the p-value was .159 ( $p > .05$ ). This means that there was no notable difference in opinions of the various groups involved in the Nyumba Kumi initiative. Hence, the Assistant County Commissioners, Nyumba Kumi Officials, Community members, Police, Sub-chief, and Village Elders had similar viewpoints on differences being successfully reconciled by Nyumba Kumi committees. However, there was a divergent viewpoint on the conflict mitigation strategies used by the Nyumba Kumi committees regarding carrying out successful mediation, negotiations by Nyumba Kumi led to public order maintenance, justice in some instances have been restored through Nyumba Kumi, and committees are effective in resolving local conflicts. This shows that these issues need to be addressed to improve the perception of the various groups of people in the communities.

#### **4.4 Section C: Stakeholder Participation in the Nyumba Kumi initiative**

This section sought to determine the role of stakeholder participation in the Nyumba Kumi initiative in maintaining public order in Mutitu sub-county. Sentiments on stakeholder participation in the Nyumba Kumi initiative were assessed and responders were required to provide answers based on a five-point Likert Scale on the level of agreement with the statement. The Likert Scale was Strongly Agree = 5, Agree = 4, Neutral = 3, Disagree = 2, and Strongly Disagree = 1.

#### 4.4.1 Stakeholder Participation Strategies

Table 4.8 reveals the Likert Scale findings on the various stakeholder participation strategies.

**Table 4.8: Stakeholder Participation Strategies**

<b>Report</b>					
	Nyumba Kumi committees carry out regular monthly meetings	The members of the public can openly consult with local security agencies	Members of the public are open to interviews by security agencies	Members of public and security agencies collaborate in maintaining public order	Stakeholder participation in Nyumba Kumi has brought peace
N	108	108	108	108	108
Mean	2.45	2.30	2.19	2.33	2.87
Std. Deviation	1.397	1.225	1.320	1.381	1.395

**Source:** Field Data (2025)

Examining the mean sentiment regarding stakeholder participation revealed that the lowest was that Members of the public are open to interviews by security agencies (2.19), this suggests that participants seemed to disagree with the claim. The highest mean sentiment was noted on Stakeholder participation in Nyumba Kumi has brought peace (2.87), this is inclined to be neutral on the matter since it shows that some participants agreed while others disagreed with the claim.

#### 4.4.2 Stakeholder Participation Leading to Law and Order

In assessing stakeholder participation in the area, the findings suggested that 100% of the responders agreed that it led to the maintenance of law and order. Similarly, the sentiments were similar on stakeholder participation aiding in the maintenance of public order.

#### 4.4.3 Participation Methodologies used by Nyumba Kumi Committees

Table 4.9 shows the methodologies used by Nyumba Kumi committees to allow citizen participation in the initiative.

**Table 4.9: Methodologies to Allow Citizen Participation**

**Which of the following methodologies are used by Nyumba Kumi committees to allow citizen participation?**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Public Barazas	94	87.0	87.0	87.0
SMS	9	8.3	8.3	95.4
WhatsApp	5	4.6	4.6	100.0
Total	108	100.0	100.0	

**Source:** Field Data (2025)

It was noted that there were various methodologies that were used by Nyumba Kumi committees to allow citizen participation. The most popular at 87.0% was Public Barazas, SMS and WhatsApp were the other avenues at 8.3% and 4.6% respectively. This indicates that Public Barazas were the most preferred methodology to allow citizen participation in matters regarding the Nyumba Kumi initiative. Public Barazas were cited to bring people together and offered an opportunity for community members of all ages to discuss matters affecting them in community policing.

#### 4.4.4 ANOVA on Stakeholder Participation Strategies

Table 4.10 shows the ANOVA findings on stakeholder participation strategies across various role of involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative.

**Table 4.10: ANOVA on Stakeholder Participation Strategies**

			ANOVA Table				
			Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Nyumba Kumi committees carry out regular monthly meetings * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	46.601	5	9.320	5.862	.000
	Within Groups		162.167	102	1.590		
	Total		208.769	107			
The members of the public can openly consult with local security agencies * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	15.413	5	3.083	2.167	.064
	Within Groups		145.105	102	1.423		
	Total		160.519	107			
Members of the public are open to interviews by security agencies * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	22.562	5	4.512	2.811	.020
	Within Groups		163.734	102	1.605		
	Total		186.296	107			
Members of public and security agencies collaborate in maintaining public order * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	53.218	5	10.644	7.200	.000
	Within Groups		150.782	102	1.478		
	Total		204.000	107			
Stakeholder participation in Nyumba Kumi has brought peace * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	32.661	5	6.532	3.796	.003
	Within Groups		175.524	102	1.721		
	Total		208.185	107			

**Source:** Field Data (2025)

ANOVA results on the interaction between the Role of involvement in the Nyumba Kumi initiative and members of the public openly consulting with local security

agencies seems to be the only claim that had sentiments that were similar among various groups involved in the initiative. A deeper exploration of the matter was done to determine if various groups of Nyumba Kumi had openly consulted with local security agencies. The findings in Table 4.11 below revealed that almost all the participants across the various groups disagreed with the sentiments that members of the public could openly consult with local security agencies.

This can be explained to mean that rarely did members of public and local security agencies openly collaborate on matters related to the Nyumba Kumi initiative. However, there were divergent opinions among various groups considered in this study on carrying out regular monthly meetings, members of the public being open to interviews by security agencies, members of the public and security agencies collaborating in maintaining public order, and stakeholder participation in Nyumba Kumi bringing peace.

This suggests that Nyumba Kumi committees needed to make improvements in those areas so that there could be regular monthly meetings, more interviews by security agencies in villages, collaboration with security agencies to maintain public order and increased stakeholder participation to bring peace. Tackling these aspects of stakeholder participation can improve the perception among various groups involved in the Nyumba Kumi initiative. For instance, Ndono et al,(2019) observes that youth participation under nyumba kuma initiative are largely excluded thus limiting the initiative.

**Table 4.11: Openly consult with Local Security Agencies.**

		<b>Report</b>
Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative		The members of the public can openly consult with local security agencies
Assistant County Commissioner	N	2
	Mean	2.50
	Std. Deviation	2.121
Official	N	36
	Mean	2.67
	Std. Deviation	1.219
Community members	N	24
	Mean	2.33
	Std. Deviation	1.167
Police	N	26
	Mean	1.69
	Std. Deviation	1.192
Sub-chief	N	5
	Mean	2.00
	Std. Deviation	1.414
Village elder	N	15
	Mean	2.47
	Std. Deviation	.990
Total	N	108
	Mean	2.30
	Std. Deviation	1.225

Source: Field Data (2025)

#### **4.5 Section D: Intelligence Gathering**

This section sought to determine to what extent intelligence gathering in the Nyumba Kumi initiative contributed to the maintenance of public order in Mutitu sub-county. Sentiments on intelligence gathering in the Nyumba Kumi initiative were evaluated and participants were needed to provide answers based on a five-point Likert Scale on the level of agreement with the statement. The Likert Scale was Strongly Agree = 5, Agree = 4, Neutral = 3, Disagree = 2, and Strongly Disagree = 1. Table 4.12 shows the

perceptions on the extent of intelligence gathering and its contribution to the maintenance of public order in the Nyumba Kumi initiative.

<b>Report</b>					
	The community members have means to report criminal activities	The local members have own patrol and intelligence gathering mechanisms	Whistle blowers are protected by Nyumba kumi leaders	Collection of intelligence proactively prevent criminal activities	Collection and analysis of intelligence and crime adhere to the legal and provision
Mean	2.68	2.55	3.05	2.56	2.69
N	108	108	108	108	108
Std. Deviation	1.570	1.349	1.671	1.307	1.412

**Source:** Field Data (2025)

Examining the mean sentiment on intelligence gathering among the participants exposed that the lowest was Collection of intelligence proactively prevent criminal activities (2.56), this suggests that participants seemed to somehow disagree with the claim. The highest mean sentiment was noted on Whistle blowers are protected by Nyumba Kumi leaders (3.05), this illustrates a neutral perception on the matter, meaning that some participants agreed while others disagreed with the claim. The perceptions among the participants on intelligence gathering were inclined between disagreeing to neutrality, this means that majority did not support the claims regarding intelligence gathering in the Nyumba Kumi initiative. However, according to Kiplagat & Muna, (2021) on how effective information sharing improves the Nyumba Kumi Initiative implementation found out challenges in insufficient funding and equipment facilitation.

#### **4.5.1 Technological Advancement Enhancing Intelligence Gathering**

The findings showed that some of the available means of sharing criminal information with security agencies included phones, village elders, in-person reporting to police

stations, WhatsApp, reporting to the chief, and through local barazas. Table 4.12 shows the sentiments on technological advancement in enhancing intelligence gathering on criminal information in the area. The assessment revealed that the majority of the participants stated that Sometimes (63.9%) while those claiming Always stood at 30.6%. However, about 5.6% of the participants claimed that never technological advancement enhances intelligence gathering on criminal information in the area. This is indicative that there is room for improvement by the Nyumba Kumi committees to enhance the perception of the various groups of people on how technology contributes to intelligence gathering.

**Table 4.12: Intelligence Gathering on Criminal Information**

**Technological advancement enhances intelligence gathering on criminal information in the area.**

		Frequency	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Always	33	30.6	30.6
	Never	6	5.6	36.1
	Sometimes	69	63.9	100.0
	Total	108	100.0	

Source: Field Data (2025)

#### 4.5.2 ANOVA on Intelligence-Gathering Strategies

Table 4.13 shows the ANOVA findings on the intelligence-gathering strategies depending on the role of involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative.

**Table 4.13: ANOVA on Intelligence-Gathering Strategies**

			ANOVA Table				
			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
The community members have means to report criminal activities * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	65.006	5	13.001	6.676	.000
	Within Groups		198.651	102	1.948		
	Total		263.657	107			
The local members have their own patrol and intelligence-gathering mechanisms * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	35.842	5	7.168	4.601	.001
	Within Groups		158.926	102	1.558		
	Total		194.769	107			
Whistleblowers are protected by Nyumba Kumi leaders * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	97.816	5	19.563	9.930	.000
	Within Groups		200.952	102	1.970		
	Total		298.769	107			
Collection of intelligence proactively prevents criminal activities * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	6.907	5	1.381	.802	.551
	Within Groups		175.759	102	1.723		
	Total		182.667	107			
Collection and analysis of intelligence and crime adhere to the legal provisions * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	24.486	5	4.897	2.646	.027
	Within Groups		188.810	102	1.851		
	Total		213.296	107			

**Source:** field data (2025)

The findings on intelligence gathering revealed that only the interaction between the Collection of intelligence proactively preventing criminal activities and the Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative was not statistically significant since the p-value was .551 ( $p > .05$ ). This can be explained to mean that there is no difference on opinion among the various groups of people considered in this study, the Assistant County Commissioners, Nyumba Kumi Officials, Community members, Polices, Sub-chief, and Village Elders had similar perspective on that collection of intelligence

proactively prevent criminal activities. However, there were differing opinions among these groups of people on matters regarding community members having means to report criminal activities, local members having their own patrol and intelligence gathering mechanisms, Whistleblowers being protected by Nyumba Kumi leaders, and collection and analysis of intelligence and crime adhering to the legal provisions. Addressing these issues can improve the perception of the various groups as it relates to intelligence gathering.

#### **4.6 Section E: Stakeholder Training**

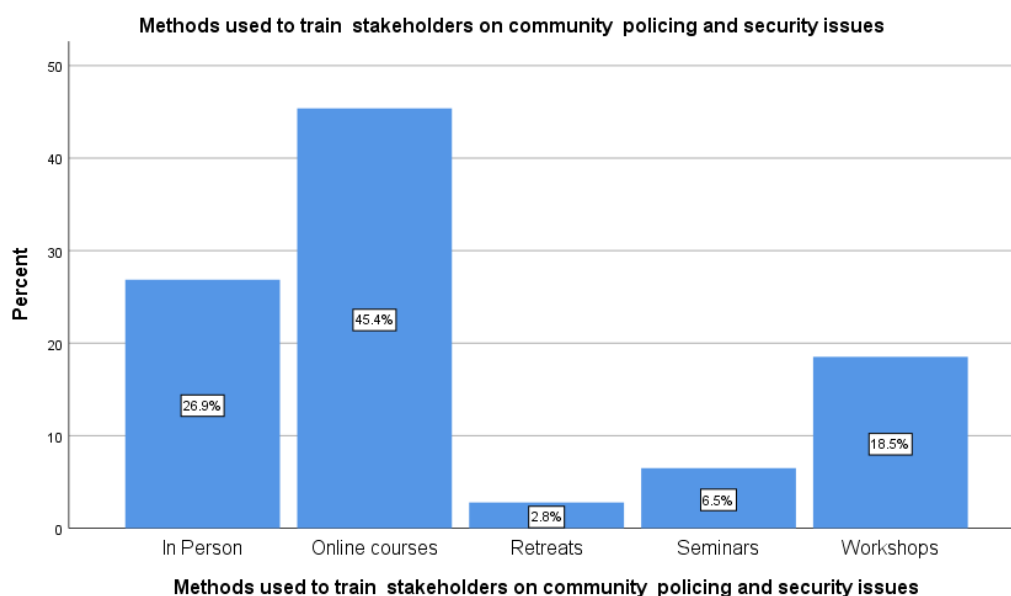
This section sought to determine to what extent stakeholder training in Nyumba Kumi initiative contributed to the maintenance of public order in Mutitu sub-county. Sentiments on stakeholder training in the Nyumba Kumi initiative were examined, participants were obligated to provide answers based on a five-point Likert Scale on the level of agreement with the statement. The Likert Scale was Strongly Agree = 5, Agree = 4, Neutral = 3, Disagree = 2, and Strongly Disagree = 1. The findings are shown in Table 4.14 below. The exploration revealed that there were those who strongly agreed with the claims and those that strongly disagreed with the sentiments. This implies that the various stakeholder training approaches need to be more effective so that there can be a convergence of opinions on various aspects of training among the various stakeholders. Hence, it is important that stakeholder training on Nyumba Kumi be executed in a manner that carries out regular security training needs assessment, security training be done regularly, enhances public safety in the area, increased participation in security training, and training to tackle ethical and legal requirements and security concerns. According to Wanjiru, (2017) the community requires more public education and more government policy support.

**Table 4.14: Means of Stakeholder Training**

Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative		Report				
		The local authorities carry out regular security training needs assessment.	Stakeholder training security and nyumba kumi is regularly done	Training has enhanced public safety in my area	I have participated in security training in my Nyumba Kumi committee	I have been trained ethical and legal requirements of Nyumba Kumi and security concerns
Assistant County Commissioner	Mean	2.00	2.00	1.50	1.00	1.00
	N	2	2	2	2	2
	Std. Deviation	1.414	1.414	.707	.000	.000
Official	Mean	3.67	3.17	3.56	4.00	3.75
	N	36	36	36	36	36
	Std. Deviation	1.434	.971	1.382	1.549	1.663
Community members	Mean	2.79	2.50	2.67	3.13	3.21
	N	24	24	24	24	24
	Std. Deviation	1.474	1.063	1.435	1.597	1.641
Police	Mean	2.23	2.42	1.69	1.85	2.46
	N	26	26	26	26	26
	Std. Deviation	1.107	.902	.970	1.047	1.067
Sub-chief	Mean	2.60	3.00	2.80	2.60	3.40
	N	5	5	5	5	5
	Std. Deviation	1.517	1.000	.447	1.517	1.517
Village elder	Mean	3.13	2.93	3.13	3.40	3.87
	N	15	15	15	15	15
	Std. Deviation	1.302	1.033	1.125	1.805	1.552
Total	Mean	2.97	2.78	2.78	3.08	3.27
	N	108	108	108	108	108
	Std. Deviation	1.443	1.026	1.416	1.692	1.592

#### 4.6.1 Training Methods Used to Train Stakeholders

Figure 4.5 shows the training methods employed to train stakeholders on community policing and security issues in the maintenance of public order.



**Figure 4.5 Training Methods Used to Train Stakeholders**

Examining methods used to train stakeholders on community policing and security issues revealed that online courses (45.4%) were the most used approach, in-person sessions (26.9%) were the second method followed by workshops (18.5%). The least used method was retreated (2.8%).

#### 4.6.2 Factors Hindering Training Initiatives on Nyumba Kumi

Additionally, some of the factors that hindered training initiatives on Nyumba Kumi in the area included limited support from the national government, limited resources, lack of communication from senior security leaders, poor leadership, lack of awareness of training events, illiteracy levels, lack of motivation, and corruption. Addressing these issues can improve the way trainings are executed in the Nyumba Kumi initiative to contribute to the maintenance of public order. The police reforms and nyumba kumi

initiative appears to have potential to improve police -public cooperation however, the implementation has proven difficult due to trust and partnership Gjelsvik,(2020)

#### **4.6.3 ANOVA of Stakeholder Training**

Table 4.15 shows the ANOVA findings on stakeholder training based on the role of involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative.

**Table 4.15: ANOVA of Stakeholder Training**

			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
The local authorities carry out regular security training needs assessment * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	35.410	5	7.082	3.852	.003
	Within Groups		187.507	102	1.838		
	Total		222.917	107			
Stakeholder training security and Nyumba kumi is regularly done * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	12.387	5	2.477	2.520	.034
	Within Groups		100.279	102	.983		
	Total		112.667	107			
Training has enhanced public safety in my area * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	57.873	5	11.575	7.530	.000
	Within Groups		156.794	102	1.537		
	Total		214.667	107			
I have participated in security training in my Nyumba Kumi committee * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	81.440	5	16.288	7.390	.000
	Within Groups		224.810	102	2.204		
	Total		306.250	107			
I have been trained ethical and legal requirements of Nyumba Kumi and security concerns * Role of Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups	(Combined)	41.110	5	8.222	3.645	.004
	Within Groups		230.103	102	2.256		
	Total		271.213	107			

Assessment of the stakeholder training using ANOVA revealed that all the factors were statistically significant ( $p < .05$ ), this can be explained to mean that there were divergent viewpoints on the matter among the various groups involved in the Nyumba Kumi initiative. There were diverse opinions on local authorities carrying out regular security

training needs assessment, stakeholder training security and Nyumba Kumi being done regularly, training enhancing public safety in the area, participation in security training in Nyumba Kumi committees, and being trained ethical and legal requirements of Nyumba Kumi and security concerns.

#### 4.7 Section F: Maintenance of Public Order

The study sought to understand if the community has adequate law enforcement personnel to maintain public order. Sentiments on maintenance of public order in the Nyumba Kumi initiative were evaluated, participants were obligated to provide answers based on a five-point Likert Scale on the level of agreement with the statement. The Likert Scale was Strongly Agree = 5, Agree = 4, Neutral = 3, Disagree = 2, and Strongly Disagree = 1. Feedback collected from the participants is shown in the Table 4.16 below:

**Table 4.16: Sentiments on Maintenance of Public Order**

		<b>Report</b>				
Role or Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative		There is peaceful co-existence in my community	Nyumba Kumi initiative has reduced crime in the community	Feedback and reporting mechanisms on crime and violence are adequate	Public safety in my area is guaranteed	Arrest and prosecution of offenders is done accordingly
Total	Mean	2.83	2.35	2.44	2.17	2.77
	N	108	108	108	108	108
	Std. Deviation	1.418	.930	1.320	.942	1.378

Exploring the mean sentiment on maintenance of public order among the participants exposed that the lowest was Public safety in my area is guaranteed (2.17), this suggests that participants seemed to disagree with the claim of public safety being guaranteed in their area. The highest mean sentiment was noted on There is peaceful co-existence in

my community (2.83), this signifies a neutral perception on the matter, meaning that some participants agreed while others disagreed with the claim of peaceful co-existence in their community. The average perception among the participants on maintenance of public order seemed to be inclined towards disagreeing, this means that majority did not support the claims regarding maintenance of public order in the Nyumba Kumi initiative.

#### 4.7.1 Adequate Law Enforcement Personnel

Participants were asked if they had adequate law enforcement personnel to maintain public order, the findings are revealed in Table 4.17 below.

**Table 4.17: Adequate Law Enforcement Personnel to Maintain Public Order**

**Does your community have adequate law enforcement  
personnel to maintain public order?**

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	No	77	71.3	71.3	71.3
	Yes	31	28.7	28.7	100.0
Total		108	100.0	100.0	

**Source:** field 2025

The findings showed that 71.3% of the participants did not believe that there were adequate law enforcement personnel to maintain public order. This is to indicate that there is skepticism about the deployment of adequate law enforcement officers to help maintain public order in the villages. The majority of the participants cited that few police officers can handle urgent matters and sometimes it makes security cases in villages go unhandled. Also, it was noted that the police posts or police stations are far

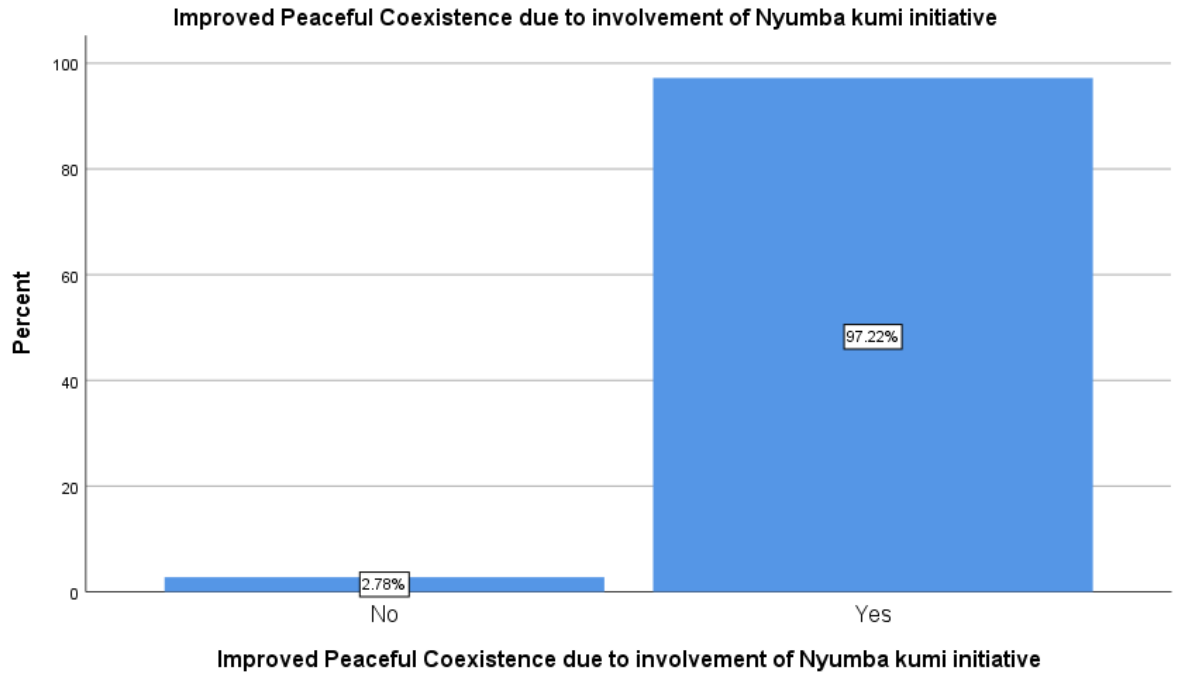
away from some villages, which makes it hard for villagers to report or involve police officers to intervene in maintaining public order.

#### **4.7.2 Commonly Reported Crimes**

Furthermore, some of the commonly reported crimes in the area included livestock theft, stealing, family conflicts, land disputes, rape and school dropout cases. The most prominent crime was stealing, which included stealing property, livestock, and foodstuffs. The lack of adequate law enforcement personnel to maintain public order shows that the existence of the Nyumba Kumi initiative can help in addressing the noted crimes in the area.

#### **4.7.3 Nyumba Kumi on Improving Peaceful Co-Existence**

The study sought to evaluate if the Nyumba Kumi initiative had improved peaceful co-existence between different communities in the area. The findings are exhibited in Figure 4.6 below.



**Figure 4.6 Peaceful coexistence due to involvement of Nyumba kumi initiative**

The study sought to understand if the Nyumba Kumi initiative has improved peaceful co-existence between different communities in the area, the findings reveal that 97.22% of the participants agreed that the initiative had achieved that objective. This is an indication that the Nyumba Kumi program was effective in the maintenance of public order in communities.

**Table 4.18: ANOVA on Maintenance of Public Order**

		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
There is peaceful co-existence in my community * Role or Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups (Combined)	58.471	5	11.694	7.620	.000
	Within Groups	156.529	102	1.535		
	Total	215.000	107			
Nyumba Kumi initiative has reduced crime in the community * Role or Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups (Combined)	26.717	5	5.343	8.269	.000
	Within Groups	65.912	102	.646		
	Total	92.630	107			
Feedback and reporting mechanisms on crime and violence are adequate * Role or Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups (Combined)	19.873	5	3.975	2.432	.040
	Within Groups	166.674	102	1.634		
	Total	186.546	107			
Public safety in my area is guaranteed * Role or Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups (Combined)	24.482	5	4.896	7.082	.000
	Within Groups	70.518	102	.691		
	Total	95.000	107			
Arrest and prosecution of offenders is done accordingly * Role or Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative	Between Groups (Combined)	33.979	5	6.796	4.096	.002
	Within Groups	169.234	102	1.659		
	Total	203.213	107			

**Source:** field data 2025

The ANOVA test on various aspects of the maintenance of public order showed that there is divergent opinion among the various groups of people involved in the Nyumba Kumi initiative. Participants holding various roles in the program did not have a converging opinion on peaceful co-existence in the community, reduced crime in the community, feedback and reporting mechanisms on crime and violence are adequate, public safety in the area is guaranteed arrest and prosecution of offenders is done accordingly. This can be interpreted to mean that there were those that were in

agreement with the claims while there were those that were disagreeing with the sentiments on the maintenance of public order. Hence, this is an indication that there is room for improvement on how Nyumba Kumi approaches the issue of maintaining public order so that convergence of viewpoints can be achieved. According to Andhoga & Mavole (2017) the initiative to be successful calls for improving stakeholder collaborations, transparency and democratic processes.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter summarized the results of this study, discussed the obtained findings, highlighted policy implications, and made conclusions that are supported by the study findings, as well as identified areas for further research.

#### **5.2 Summary**

This study was inspired by the fact that although the Nyumba Kumi initiative has the potential for fostering security and cohesion in communities, its effectiveness in maintaining public order in Mutitu Sub County had been under-examined. The gap in understanding posed a challenge for local authorities and residents striving to improve security and reduce crime. It was believed that without clear evidence of the initiative's effects, the efforts to mobilize community support and allocate resources effectively would be hindered. It was noted that Kitui county region has a long history of conflicts between different communities, particularly between Kamba farmers, Somali and Oromo herders. These conflicts have escalated in recent years, leading to displacement, loss of life, and damage. The lack of trust and cooperation between communities and law enforcement has made resolving these issues difficult. The Nyumba Kumi initiative seems like a potential solution to maintain public order in the Mutitu Sub-County region. Although adaptive and flexible security measures are needed to bring peace and prosperity to the region, this current study sought to examine the influence of the Nyumba Kumi initiative on the maintenance of public order in the area. The research employed a mixed methods approach incorporating both quantitative and qualitative research tools.

The approach involved both techniques to gather data and analyze findings to investigate the effectiveness and some crucial factors that may affect the outcomes of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in the upkeep of public safety. The qualitative method was used to explore the perspectives and experiences of community members, local leaders, and law enforcement officials regarding the initiative's impact on public order.

The obtained findings highlighted the effects of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in maintaining public order in Mutitu sub-county. It was revealed conflict mitigation strategies, stakeholder participation, intelligence gathering and stakeholder training contributed to community security. However, there were areas that needed improvement to enhance the effectiveness of the initiative. The first objective was conflict mitigation strategies like negotiations, mediation and reintegration efforts were widely acknowledged but needed more inclusivity and structured approaches to improve justice restoration and reconciliation outcomes. The second objective investigated stakeholder participation was a vital factor since public barazas played an important role in citizen engagement. Nevertheless, the findings indicated the need for collaboration between the public and security agencies to strengthen their relationship and build trust that would nurture open consultation. The third objective results showed intelligence gathering in the region was partially effective because technological advancements provided some support but there were challenges in ensuring that whistleblower protection was adequate and adhered to legal provisions. The last objective found that stakeholder training was inconsistent since there were notable hindrances that were linked to limited government support, lack of resources, and communication gaps. It was believed that if the noted challenges and barriers were addressed, training effectiveness would be improved, and security efforts would be strengthened.

Therefore, the Nyumba Kumi initiative was attributed to have contributed positively to peaceful co-existence and significantly reduced crimes in the communities within the region. However, concerns regarding inadequate law enforcement personnel, inefficient reporting mechanisms, and gaps in the law enforcement process indicate the need for strategic interventions to bolster public safety. Hence, the enhancement of community-police collaboration, refining training programs, and integrating advanced intelligence-gathering mechanisms have the potential to improve the overall effectiveness of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in sustaining public order in the region.

### **5.3 Conclusion**

The findings of this study highlight the effects of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in maintaining public order in Mutitu sub-county. The analysis reveals that while conflict mitigation strategies, stakeholder participation, intelligence gathering, and stakeholder training contribute to community security, there are areas that require improvement to enhance the initiative's effectiveness. Conflict mitigation strategies, such as mediation and reintegration efforts, are widely acknowledged but require more inclusivity and structured approaches to improve justice restoration and reconciliation outcomes. Stakeholder participation remains a crucial factor, with public Barazas playing a significant role in citizen engagement. However, the study shows that collaboration between the public and security agencies needs strengthening to build trust and encourage open consultation. Furthermore, intelligence gathering within the Nyumba Kumi framework is partially effective, with technological advancements offering some support, but challenges remain in ensuring adequate whistleblower protection and adherence to legal provisions. Additionally, stakeholder training is inconsistent and hindered by limited government support, lack of resources, and communication gaps.

Addressing these barriers could improve training effectiveness and strengthen security efforts.

Despite these challenges, the Nyumba Kumi initiative has contributed positively to peaceful co-existence and significantly reduced crimes in the community. However, concerns about inadequate law enforcement personnel, inefficient reporting mechanisms, and gaps in the arrest and prosecution process indicate the need for strategic interventions to bolster public safety. Therefore, in moving forward, enhancing community-police collaboration, refining training programs, and integrating advanced intelligence-gathering mechanisms can improve the overall effectiveness of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in sustaining public order.

The empirical results on the effectiveness of Nyumba Kumi in maintaining public order established that the initiative plays a noteworthy role in the reduction of criminal activities and promoting peaceful coexistence in Mutitu sub-county region. This section seeks to discuss various aspects of the findings including exploring the effectiveness of Nyumba Kumi in maintaining public order, the effects of conflict mitigation strategies, stakeholder participation, effectiveness of intelligence gathering and the role of training in Nyumba Kumi implementation.

### **5.3.1 Effectiveness of Nyumba Kumi in Maintaining Public Order**

The community-based approach is vital in fostering trust among residents and creates an avenue for early conflict resolution whenever a crisis occurs. However, challenges like insufficient law enforcement personnel and weak collaboration between security agencies and community members tend to create notable gaps in the reporting mechanisms in a manner that limits the initiative's overall effectiveness. It is evident that increased coordination and collaboration would improve the effectiveness of

Nyumba Kumi in maintaining public order, community members, security agencies and police officers need to work together to ensure that existing and arising issues are addressed (Kioko, 2017). Also, it was noted that the reliance on volunteerism without having adequate government support tended to reduce the sustainability of the initiative. Some of the feasible approaches that can address the effectiveness of Nyumba Kumi in maintaining public order include developing strategies for mobilizing funds to support the program and improving reporting mechanisms by digitalizing crime-reporting systems (Luheja, 2025).

### **5.3.2 Effects of Conflict Mitigation Strategies**

Secondly, on the effects of conflict mitigation strategies, the study discovered that conflict mitigation in Nyumba Kumi was mainly reliant on community-led mediation and reconciliation efforts. It was noted that the approaches had effectively worked in resolving minor disputes at the local level in a manner that minimized the burden on law enforcement and the judicial system. Collaboration among the key stakeholders of the Nyumba Kumi initiative can increase conflict mitigation in the region to support better coexistence within communities (Ndonu, Muthama, & Muigua, 2019). However, the approach is challenged by a lack of structured dispute resolution frameworks and increased discrepancies in the application of justice, posing a risk to fairness and long-term stability among community members. A lack of clear policies or guidelines may tend to cause some conflicts to remain unresolved or might escalate them because of perceived bias existing in mediation processes. Some of the probable solutions for conflict mitigation include developing standardized mediation guidelines, enhancing community mediation training, and establishing Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) centers (Luheja, 2025).

### **5.3.3 Stakeholder Participation in Nyumba Kumi Initiative**

Stakeholder participation was another important aspect of promoting public peace and increasing the effectiveness of the Nyumba Kumi initiative. Stakeholder involvement was among the leading emergent critical factors that would determine the success of the initiative. The findings of the study highlighted that public barazas served as important platforms for engagement among residents, local leaders, and security personnel to discuss security matters and share intelligence. However, the existing gap in collaboration between the community and the police service often instigated distrust, perceived cases of corruption and slow response to reported incidents. Reinforcing communication and strengthening trust by having regular engagement can greatly enhance cooperation and improve security outcomes in the communities (Ngigi, 2018). Some of the probable solutions for enhancing stakeholder participation include strengthening community-police trust, enhancing the participation of women and youth, and improving incentives for community engagement.

### **5.3.4 Effectiveness of Intelligence Gathering**

Furthermore, intelligence gathering was noted to be a cornerstone of the Nyumba Kumi initiative because community members served as the first line of defense in the identification of probable security threats. The findings of this study specified that although intelligence gathering had aided in crime prevention, it was noted that it remained hindered by a lack of technological support, legal constraints regarding information sharing, and inadequate protection mechanisms for whistleblowers (Kioko, 2017).

Some of the probable solutions to the noted challenges include implementing secure intelligence-sharing platforms, ensuring legal protection for whistleblowers, and leveraging technology for data analysis.

### **5.3.5 Role of Training in Nyumba Kumi Implementation**

The findings of this research discovered that training was a vital yet underdeveloped element of the Nyumba Kumi initiative. It was discovered that inconsistent training among community leaders and law enforcement officers had created knowledge gaps and limited the initiative's efficiency. It was noted that challenges like inadequate financial resources, minimal government involvement, and deficiency of standardized training programs had hampered skill development among stakeholders. Some of the probable solutions included developing standardized training modules, increasing funding for capacity building, leveraging online and mobile training platforms and training community members in legal awareness (Godia & Muna, 2024).

### **5.4 Recommendations**

In addressing the noted issues in this research study, this section aims to provide targeted recommendations focused on enhancing the effectiveness of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in Mutitu sub-county region. These recommendations have been dichotomized into policy-related interventions to ensure a comprehensive approach is attained regarding improving community policing strategies. These policy-related recommendations put emphasis on structural and legislative measures that are implementable by government agencies, law enforcement bodies and relevant stakeholders for a strengthened framework and improved operational capacity of the Nyumba Kumi initiative (Kappeler, Gaines, & Schaefer, 2020). It is in adopting these recommendations that policymakers, security agencies, and Nyumba Kumi leaders can

work collaboratively to enhance the effectiveness of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in promoting sustainable security and public order in the region and beyond.

#### **5.4.1 Effectiveness of Nyumba Kumi in Maintaining Public Order**

- i. The Nyumba Kumi committee needs to develop strategies on how they can raise funds aimed at supporting the initiative and also engage the local governments for increased support to ensure the efficacy of the initiative is achieved.
- ii. Improving reporting mechanisms by digitalizing crime-reporting systems to increase efficiency and promote awareness among community members to anonymously report crimes. This can be achieved through introducing mobile applications and toll-free helplines to facilitate secure and quick reporting of criminal activities.

#### **5.4.2 Effects of Conflict Mitigation Strategies**

- i. In developing standardized mediation guidelines, the government needs to collaborate with local leaders to ensure the establishment of clear guidelines on dispute resolution for consistent and fair conflict mediation. It is advocated that these guidelines ought to be legally documented and integrated with existing formal judicial processes.
- ii. To enhance community mediation training, the Nyumba Kumi leaders must undertake professional training in mediation, conflict de-escalation and negotiation skills to empower them in handling diversified cases within the communities. One of the ways to achieve that is by partnering with government agencies or legal aid organizations to facilitate the provision of structured training programs.

- iii. In the establishment of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) centers, such hubs need to be set up within the community and be supported by government agencies and legal professionals to ensure that all the needed resources and facilities are available.

These would help guarantee that serious conflicts among community members are addressed fairly and accordingly in a way that reduces the burden on law enforcement agencies.

#### **5.4.3 Stakeholder Participation in Nyumba Kumi Initiative**

- i. In strengthening community-police trust, it is important for law enforcement agencies to actively engage in community outreach programs that can cultivate better relationships with residents. There can be sensitization campaigns aimed at endorsing transparency and accountability in police operations to help rebuild trust within communities.
- ii. Increasing the participation of women and youth in the Nyumba Kumi initiative would promote public peace. Given that security efforts ought to be inclusive, warranting that marginalized groups like women and youth are actively engaged in decision-making processes can lead to the development of stronger frameworks. It is of paramount necessity to have special programs that raise awareness, train and encourage their participation in community matters.
- iii. Another vital element that can promote public peace is improving incentives for community engagement. Sustenance of community interest and commitment requires the inclusion of incentives like stipends for Nyumba Kumi leaders, security training workshops and recognition awards to acknowledge outstanding community policing efforts.

These foster the essence of promoting public peace and prompt many community members to participate in the initiative since their efforts have a likelihood of being awarded.

#### **5.4.4 Effectiveness of Intelligence Gathering**

- i. In implementing secure intelligence-sharing platforms, it would be recommended that digital platforms need to be established to allow community members to anonymously report suspicious activities to encourage participation. Mobile applications and SMS-based tools can be effective reporting approaches.
- ii. It is of paramount importance to ensure there exists legal protection for whistleblowers. The government in collaboration with the Nyumba Kumi committee should endorse policies that offer legal protection to individuals committed to reporting crimes to safeguard their safety from retaliation.
- iii. Leveraging technology for data analysis is another solution that would help in integrating artificial intelligence and data analytics tools into the collection of intelligence to support security agencies in the detection of crime patterns and initiate proactive responses. Enhancing technological capabilities would take the Nyumba Kumi initiative to another level and enhance its effectiveness in ensuring peaceful coexistence is achieved. Providing basic training in crime detection and data collection to Nyumba Kumi leaders can also advance intelligence efficiency.

#### **5.4.5 Role of Training in Nyumba Kumi Implementation**

- i. In developing standardized training modules, there is a need for the government and security agencies to develop a standardized curriculum for Nyumba Kumi

leaders exploring topics like crime detection, misconduct prevention, conflict resolution, human rights and intelligence gathering.

- ii.** Increasing funding for capacity building requires the allocation of government funds particularly for training programs to warrant that community policing teams are adequately supported by receiving suitable resources to enhance their skills. Also, the involvement of international donors and NGOs can make a notable difference in supporting training initiatives.
- iii.** Due to financial and logistical constraints, the initiative can leverage online and mobile training platforms by providing virtual training through mobile applications, online workshops and instructional videos to increase access to training resources.
- iv.** Community members can be trained in legal awareness to educate them on their rights and responsibilities in the Nyumba Kumi framework in a way that ensures suitable adherence to legal and ethical considerations that govern community policing.

The noted issues in the Nyumba Kumi program can be addressed through the implementation of structured training sessions, efficient resource allocation, and policy support to significantly augment the effectiveness of initiative in the maintenance of public order.

### **5.5 Policy Recommendations**

Based on the obtained study findings, it was apparent that the Nyumba Kumi initiative had managed to significantly contribute to community policing in maintaining public security. However, various structural and operational challenges tend to limit the overall effectiveness of the program, the identified gaps need to be addressed (Peyton, Sierra-

Arévalo, & Rand, 2019). This section highlights policy recommendations categorized into two areas:

1. Enhancement of existing policies by addressing noted weaknesses in the current legislation and implementation strategies.
2. Formulation of new policies through the introduction of frameworks to initiate best practices and address emerging security concerns.

### **5.5.1 Enhancing Existing Policies**

#### **a. Strengthening the Legal Framework for Community Policing**

The existing policy is that the Nyumba Kumi initiative is largely guided by the Community Policing Policy (2015) and the National Police Service Act. However, the legal framework tends to be vague and makes enforcement inconsistent in various regions.

#### **Recommendations**

- i. Amendment of the National Police Service Act to ensure that it has clear legal structures that govern Nyumba Kumi operations by including defined roles, accountability structures and reporting mechanisms.
- ii. Establishment of legal protections for community policing leaders to protect them from retaliation or victimization by criminals.
- iii. Development of obligatory guidelines for standardization of the Nyumba Kumi operations across the country and ensuring uniformity in training, intelligence-sharing and conflict resolution.

## **b. Refining Coordination Between Nyumba Kumi Leaders and Law Enforcement**

The existing policy is the National Community Policing Framework that promotes collaboration between police and local security structures. Nevertheless, poor coordination has been observed because of distrust and limited engagement strategies.

### **Recommendations**

- i. Introduction of a structured communication framework mandating systematic joint meetings between Nyumba Kumi leaders and law enforcement officers to evaluate progress and project the future.
- ii. Establishing a cohesive reporting system like a regional or national database to allow Nyumba Kumi leaders to log security concerns to enhance police response.
- iii. Implementing compulsory police training on community engagement for improved trust and collaboration with other community policing groups.

## **5.5.2 Formulation of New Policies**

### **a) Establishing an Intelligence-Sharing Policy for Community Policing**

There is a policy gap since there lacks a formalized policy that governs how Nyumba Kumi committees gather and share intelligence about the communities they serve with law enforcement agencies.

### **Recommendation**

- i. Development of a National Community Intelligence Framework for regulating data collection and transmitting security information while shielding whistleblowers within Nyumba Kumi initiative.

- ii. Integrating technology-driven intelligence systems that can empower information sharing like mobile applications and digital reporting platforms for streamlined flow of information.
- iii. Establishing clear data protection protocols that would guarantee there is no unauthorized use of the collected data and community intelligence reports.

**b) Introducing a Compulsory Training Policy for Nyumba Kumi Leaders**

There exists a policy gap because there is limited or no standardized training curriculum focused on Nyumba Kumi officials, this results in inconsistencies in conflict resolution, intelligence gathering and crime prevention.

**Recommendation**

- i. The Ministry of Interior and National Administration should partner with security agencies to develop a mandatory certification program requiring all Nyumba Kumi leaders to be engaged and empowered.
- ii. Training modules should cover legal frameworks, crime prevention approaches, mediation techniques and human rights awareness to increase effectiveness.
- iii. Ensuring there is continuous professional development that offers refresher courses and workshops tackling emerging security challenges and developments.

**c) Institutionalizing Community Engagement in Security Policy Development**

Another policy gap is that community members are offered limited or no input in shaping security policies that affect their communities. This leads to little or no participation in the initiatives developed by Nyumba Kumi leaders to improve security and peaceful coexistence in communities.

## **Recommendations**

- i.** Establishment of Nyumba Kumi Advisory Committees at national and county levels to offer guidance in policy recommendations based on gathered intelligence and providing feedback to the government.
- ii.** Introducing public participation forums that allow residents to express their security concerns, and probable solutions, and propose necessary policy amendments.
- iii.** Have mandatory annual reviews of Nyumba Kumi policies to assess what needs to be incorporated based on community perspectives and emergent challenges.

Execution of these recommendations can help empower the Nyumba Kumi initiative and foster security and cohesion in communities by effectively maintaining public order.

### **5.6 Recommendations for Further Research**

Although this research study has offered valuable insights into the effectiveness of the Nyumba Kumi initiative in maintaining public order in Mutitu sub-county, there are numerous areas that need further investigation to intensify comprehension and advance the implementation of community policing. Future research needs to focus on tackling the limitations encountered in this research study and explore other influences of the success of the Nyumba Kumi initiative. The subsequent recommendations highlight key areas that can be considered for further research:

**i. The Long-Term Impact of Nyumba Kumi on Crime Reduction**

Future research can expand this study that focuses on examining the effectiveness of Nyumba Kumi by increasing the limited research on its long-term effects on crime reduction and assessing overall security trends. Some of the recommended research focuses include conducting longitudinal studies to scrutinize the effects of Nyumba Kumi on crime rates over an extended period as well as comparing crime statistics in regions with active Nyumba Kumi programs versus those where it is not operational.

**ii. Gender Dynamics in Community Policing Initiatives**

The current study acknowledged challenges in gender inclusivity, women often had limited involvement in Nyumba Kumi leadership roles. Further research can help explore the impact of gender-based disparities and their influence on security efforts. Some research focus that can be recommended include evaluation of the role of women in community policing and barriers faced in participating in security initiatives in addition to investigating the influence of increasing female representation in Nyumba Kumi leadership on community trust and security outcomes.

**iii. The Effectiveness of Training Programs for Nyumba Kumi Leaders**

This research observed that many Nyumba Kumi leaders lack formal training to empower them in intelligence gathering, crime prevention, and conflict resolution. The direct effectiveness of training needs further examination and the recommended research focus entails conducting comparative studies on trained versus untrained Nyumba Kumi leaders to establish if training increases their effectiveness. Also, identification of the most relevant training modules can improve Nyumba Kumi leadership and empower them on how they approach the arising security concerns.

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## **APPENDICES**

### **APPENDIX 1: INTRODUCTORY LETTER**

Paul Muthangya,  
Kenya University,  
P.O BOX 43844-00100,  
Nairobi.

Dear Participant

My name is Paul Muthangya, a master student from Kenya University, Department of Public Policy and Administration. I am carrying out a research project as part of the requirements to fulfill my Masters degree.

Kindly help me achieve this dream by filling the provided questionnaire. Kindly Note that, the research is solely educational reasons and not any other reason.

Your responses will be handled with high confidentiality and anonymity,

Yours sincerely

Paul Muthangya

## APPENDIX II: RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE

This study's purpose is to explore the deployment of the Nyumba Kumi Initiative in the Mutitu sub-county. This investigation will assess its effectiveness and some crucial factors that may affect the outcomes obtained. In the case you opt to voluntarily participate, your responses will be confidential. To the best of your knowledge, skill, and experience, kindly respond to the following questions. **DO NOT WRITE YOUR**

### **NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS**

#### **SECTION A: Demographic Data**

1.1 Gender: Male  Female

1.2: Age bracket: 18-30  31-42  43-55  56 and above

1.2 Role or Involvement in the Nyumba Kumi Initiative.....

1.3 How long have you been involved in/with the Nyumba Kumi Initiative? .....

#### **SECTION B: Conflict mitigation strategies**

i. The table below contains five statements. Kindly provide your answer based on a five point likert scale on your level of concurrence with the statement.

1=strongly disagree (SD), 2= Disagree (DA), 3=Neutral(N), 4=Agree(A), 5=Strongly Agree (S.A)

No		SD	DA	N	A	SA
1	Negotiations by Nyumba kumi led to public order maintenance					
2	Nyumba kumi committees carry out successful mediation					
3	Differences are successfully reconciled by nyumba kumi committees					
4	Justice in some instances have been restored through nyumba kumi					
5	Nyumba kumi committees are effective in resolving local conflicts					

ii. Do nyumba kumi committees in your jurisdiction /village involve third parties to mediate or arbitrate conflicts s o

If yes indicate the third parties so far engaged.....

iii. Is the mediation adopted during local conflicts inclusive?

Sometimes  All the times  Never

iv. Are there mechanisms in place to ensure the reintegration of offenders into the community after successful conflicts resolutions? Yes  No

Explain your answer.....

**SECTION C: Stakeholder Participation**

i. The table below contains five statements. Kindly provide your answer based on a five pointlikert scale on your level of concurrence with the statement.

1=strongly disagree (SD), 2= Disagree (DA), 3=Neutral(N), 4=Agree(A), 5=Strongly Agree

(S.A)

No		S D	D A	N	A	S A
1	Nyumba kumi committees carry out regular monthly meetings					
2	The members of public can openly consult with local security agencies					
3	Members of public are open to interviews by security agencies					
4	Members of public and security agencies collaborate in maintaining public order					
5	Stakeholder participation in nyumba kumi has brought peace					

ii. Do you think stakeholder participation in your area has led to the maintenance of law and order? Yes.....No.....

If No, explain your answer.....

iii. Which of the following methodologies are used by nyumba kumi committees to allow citizen participation? Tick more than one if apply

Public barazas....SMS.... Online platform.... Whatsapp....., Other.....

- v. Which stakeholder’s participation in your local nyumba kumi.  
 .....  
 .....
- vi. In your opinion, does stakeholder participation aid in maintenance of public order? Yes.... No....  
 Explain your answer.....

**SECTION D: Intelligence Gathering**

i. The table below contains five statements. Kindly provide your answer based on a five point likert scale on your level of concurrence with the statement.

1=strongly disagree (SD), 2= Disagree (DA), 3=Neutral(N), 4=Agree(A), 5=Strongly Agree

(S.A)

No		SD	DA	N	A	SA
1	The community members have means to report criminal activities					
2	The local members have own patrol and intelligence gathering mechanisms					
3	Whistle blowers are protected by Nyumba Kumi leaders					
4	Collection of intelligence proactively prevent criminal activities					
5	Collection and analysis of intelligence and crime adhere to the legal and provision					

ii. What are the available means of sharing criminal information to security agencies?.....  
 .....

iii. Technological advancement enhances intelligence gathering on criminal information in the area: always.....  
 Sometimes.....Never.....

**SECTION E: Stakeholder Training**

i. The table below contains five statements. Kindly provide your answer based on a five point likert scale on your level of concurrence with the statement.

1=strongly disagree (SD), 2= Disagree (DA), 3=Neutral(N), 4=Agree(A), 5=Strongly Agree

(S.A)

No		SD	DA	N	A	SA
1	The local authorities carry out regular security training needs assessment					
2	Stakeholder training security and nyumba kumi is regularly done					
3	Training has enhanced public safety in my area					
4	I have participated in security training in my nyumba kumi committee					
5	I have been trained ethical and legal requirements of nyumba kumi and security concerns					

ii. The following are methods used to train stakeholders on community policing and security issues (Tick more than one if applicable)

- In person workshops
- Online course
- Seminars
- Retreats
- Other.....

iii. What factors do you think hinder training initiatives on nyumba kumi in your area.....  
 .....  
 .....

**SECTION F: Maintenance of public order**

i. The table below contains five statements. Kindly provide your answer based on a five pointlikert scale on your level of concurrence with the statement.

1=strongly disagree (SD), 2= Disagree (DA), 3=Neutral(N), 4=Agree(A), 5=Strongly Agree

(S.A)

No		SD	DA	N	A	SA
1	There is peaceful co-existence in my community					
2	Nyumba Kumi initiative has reduced crime in the community					
3	Feedback and reporting mechanisms on crime and violence are adequate					
4	Public safety in my area is guaranteed					
5	Arrest and prosecution of offenders is done accordingly					

ii. Does your community have adequate law enforcement personnel to maintain public order? Yes..... No.....

If NO, explain.....

iii. What are the crimes commonly reported in the area?

## APPENDIX III: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION



**KENYATTA UNIVERSITY  
GRADUATE SCHOOL**

E-mail: [dean-graduate@ku.ac.ke](mailto:dean-graduate@ku.ac.ke)

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

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

**Our Ref: C153/CTY/PT/20707/2021**

**DATE: 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2024**

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

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION FOR PAUL K. MUTHANGYA – REG. NO.  
C153/CTY/PT/20707/2021**

I write to introduce **Paul K. Muthangya** 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**.

**Paul** intends to conduct research for a MPPA Project Proposal entitled, “**Nyumba Kumi Initiative and Maintenance of Public Order in Kitui County, Kenya.**”

Any assistance given will be highly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Eliud Njagi'.

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

*EM/mo*

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Page 1 of 1



**KENYATTA UNIVERSITY  
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Yours faithfully,

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

*EM/mo*





**THE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION ACT, 2013 (Rev. 2014)**  
Legal Notice No. 108: The Science, Technology and Innovation (Research Licensing) Regulations, 2014

The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, hereafter referred to as the Commission, was established under the Science, Technology and Innovation Act 2013 (Revised 2014) herein after referred to as the Act. The objective of the Commission shall be to regulate and assure quality in the science, technology and innovation sector and advise the Government in matters related thereto.

**CONDITIONS OF THE RESEARCH LICENSE**

1. The License is granted subject to provisions of the Constitution of Kenya, the Science, Technology and Innovation Act, and other relevant laws, policies and regulations. Accordingly, the licensee shall adhere to such procedure, standards, code of ethics and guidelines as may be prescribed by regulations made under the Act, or prescribed by provisions of International treaties of which Kenya is a signatory to
2. The research and its related activities as well as outcomes shall be beneficial to the country and shall not in any way;
  - i. Endanger national security
  - ii. Adversely affect the lives of Kenyans
  - iii. Be in contravention of Kenya's international obligations including Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN).
  - iv. Result in exploitation of intellectual property rights of communities in Kenya
  - v. Adversely affect the environment
  - vi. Adversely affect the rights of communities
  - vii. Endanger public safety and national cohesion
  - viii. Plagiarize someone else's work
3. The License is valid for the proposed research, location and specified period.
4. The license any rights thereunder are non-transferable
5. The Commission reserves the right to cancel the research at any time during the research period if in the opinion of the Commission the research is not implemented in conformity with the provisions of the Act or any other written law.
6. The Licensee shall inform the relevant County Director of Education, County Commissioner and County Governor before commencement of the research.
7. Excavation, filming, movement, and collection of specimens are subject to further necessary clearance from relevant Government Agencies.
8. The License does not give authority to transfer research materials.
9. The Commission may monitor and evaluate the licensed research project for the purpose of assessing and evaluating compliance with the conditions of the License.
10. The Licensee shall submit one hard copy, and upload a soft copy of their final report (thesis) onto a platform designated by the Commission within one year of completion of the research.
11. The Commission reserves the right to modify the conditions of the License including cancellation without prior notice.
12. Research, findings and information regarding research systems shall be stored or disseminated, utilized or applied in such a manner as may be prescribed by the Commission from time to time.
13. The Licensee shall disclose to the Commission, the relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee, and the relevant national agencies any inventions and discoveries that are of National strategic importance.
14. The Commission shall have powers to acquire from any person the right in, or to, any scientific innovation, invention or patent of strategic importance to the country.
15. Relevant Institutional Scientific and Ethical Review Committee shall monitor and evaluate the research periodically, and make a report of its findings to the Commission for necessary action.

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