Reduction of Anti-Social Activities Initiatives on Facilitation of Social Justice in Nigeria. A Critical Literature Review

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Dr. Elizabeth Wangare Kiama

Kenyatta University, School of Humanities and Social Science

Corresponding author's email: journals@carijournals.org

Abstract

Purpose: Antisocial behavior is a matter of major public concern, especially in neighborhoods perceived to have poor quality of life and in which incidents of more serious crime are likely to occur. The overall objective of this study was to examine reduction of anti-social activities initiatives on facilitation of social justice in Nigeria. A critical literature review

Methodology: The paper used a desk study review methodology where relevant empirical literature was reviewed to identify main themes and to extract knowledge gaps.

Findings: The study concluded that most of the respondents disagreed that the government has campaigned against illicit alcohol consumption. Most of the respondents also disagreed that the county government ensures that no alcohol drinking places are located near schools or within residential areas. The study also disagreed that the county government offers guidance to citizens on handling and management of anger.

Unique Contribution to Theory, Policy and Practice: This study recommended that the government of Nigeria should give its members the opportunity to report crime and work with the members to reduce the criminal cases that take place in the country as well as deal with the illegal business that take place within the country regions.

Keywords: *Examining, Reduction, Anti-Social Activities, Initiatives, Facilitation, Social Justice, Nigeria.*

INTRODUCTION

Anti-social behaviours include regular crimes and disorders that occur almost on daily basis and range from vandalism to graffiti as well as drugs and harassment (Home Office, 2014) a behaviour that hugely affects the quality of life to citizens. Mostly, these anti-social behaviours targets the vulnerable members of society who cannot protect themselves. Nonetheless, stakeholders such as the police and social workers work hard to tackle these problems, but against a backdrop of more than a decade of targets driven by government initiatives and endless legislation, annually the police receive more than 3.5 million reports of antisocial behaviour while many more incidents go unreported (Place Survey,2017).

Antisocial behaviour is therefore a matter of major public concern, especially in neighbourhoods perceived to have poor quality of life and in which incidents of more serious crime are likely to occur (House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts, 2017). Antisocial behaviour is subject of political interest for a decade and has led to new policies and legislations. In the US, it is a matter of concern to the government as evidenced by the launch of the 'Together' campaign in October 200 under the Home Office's Anti-Social Behaviour Unit (ASBU), as well as the Respect Action Plan (RAP) launched in January of 2006. Reduction of anti-social behaviours is a priority to government's agencies such as the police especially when it is a crime done against vulnerable individuals (Place Survey, 2017).

When there is no control, anti-social behaviour leads to increased disorder and low-level crime while fear of crime in a neighbourhood increase. Prevalent policy framework and discourse on handling anti-social behaviour in the UK emphasises the spatial concentration management of disorders especially in social housing estates (National Community Safety Network, 2015). Attempted response from the police is devolution of disorders management and social control to neighbourhoods while the role of both local authorities and the social housing agencies within multi-agency working partnerships have increased. The government is able to militate against antisocial behaviour through 'community triggers' that would compel local agencies at the behest of devolved government to investigate on repeatedly reported antisocial behaviour (Home Office Consultation, 2008). In addition, the government uses criminal behaviour orders and crime prevention injunctions, as alternative to orders since they are speedier and less bureaucratic (Home Office, 2014). These efforts are for 13 purposes of providing effective reliefs to communities by removing individuals that cause the problems while addressing root causes of anti-social behaviour that among others include substance abuse(alcohol and drugs) and anger management between individuals).

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

harmony embodies the aspects of conflict avoidance as well as a creative participation by various stakeholders with a society in the pursuit of common goals. In a harmonious society, conflicts are triggered by political, social and/or economic differences but could be resolved where members are allowed to communicate openly and participate. Through participation, conditions are created that allow for pooling of societal talents in a way that involves all its segments for the benefit of all. Re-energized clamour for good governance reforms through devolution is to a major extent due to failures of inefficiencies of centralization command and control systems (Lodiaga, 2018) that have been largely abused by authorities. This has led into a desire and pressurization for a more responsive governance order to ensure public policies and institutions are responsive to the needs of all citizens. In the same light, both public participation and good governance have become intertwined together with devolved governance. Informed citizenry, expanded representation, and enhanced governance systems are factors that bring about quality participation. These factors can be enhance through sharing of information, allowing consultation to citizens, and receiving feedback(The World Bank, 2015).Allowing for feedback from the public and putting in place measures that facilitate is as important as developing public participation legislation (CIC, 2014).

Statement of the Problem

Despite the mandated issues to the Nigeria government being critical to law and order in the country, it is not completely clear how the regional governments are handling these functions and how this is subsequently affecting maintenance of law and order at the regional level. There is no data that shows the influence of devolved administration on social harmony and in dealing with anti-social behaviour at the devolved units within Nigeria in general. This study filled this gap to provide insight and information that could inform future interventions on maintenance of law and order at the regional levels in the country.

Objective of the Study

The overall objective of this study was to examine reduction of anti-social activities initiatives on facilitation of social justice in Nigeria. A critical literature review.

Significance of the Study

This study will provide insight to the policy implementers in the country on matters of peace social justice departments and shed some more light on their role on maintaining law and order. The information gathered will also provide knowledge valuable to students, academicians, economists and other researchers who might be interested in the subject matter of the study.

THEORETICAL REVIEW

This study will benefit from classical theory of management proposed by Gullick and Urwick (1937) and social legal theory, proposed by Schiff (1972).

Socio-legal Theory

This study was also be based on the socio-legal theory whose main proponent among others is Schiff (1972) the basic tenets of the theory is the relationship law in its many aspects to social situations (Schiff , 1976). This theory posits that in analyzing law, there is need to consider the direct link to the social situation in which the law applies and thus it is needful to consider different aspects of a situation by looking in to the part of the law that has a role in the creation, the maintenance and change of the situation. This theory puts into focus the legal and social interrelatedness since there are common grounds between the two, the main purpose is to comprehend the law and legal systems since though legality is driven by philosophical tools, its subject matter is largely a social phenomenon, and its purpose is social ends (Galligan, 2010). The theory posits that legal ideas must be interpreted sociologically and thus sociology is needed in order to fully understand law. This implies that sociology provides an understanding on the level of legal doctrine: - for example, clarification on the questions concerning the interpretation of provisions of legislation or a court's decision (Cotterrell, 1998). In the context of this study, the theory informed assessment of the moderating influence of legal framework in maintenance of social justice. To the extent that the law is fitting in to its role will imply the precepts of the theory are in place but where there is no coherence between the existing legal framework and the actual situation of law and order would imply there is need to review the laws

Classical Theory of Management

The main proponents of this theory, that is also known as administrative management theory, are Gullick and Urwick (1937) which projects public administration as a science. In addtion to the two being greatly influenced by Henri Fayol and Frederick Taylor, major classical economists, who combined knowledge and their military background to propose the Classical Theory of Management, and motivated by the need to increase productivity and efficiency. The focus was on finding the best way for getting most work done through examination ofboth actual work processes and the workforces kills (Cliffs Notes, 2016).The authors arguments were based on the assumption that just the same way a stream of engineering became science due to empirical methods of observation and systematic findings and recordings over time, public administrators could as well develop science of administration (Management Study Guide, 2017).This theory has several components: the hierarchical structure, the division of labor, the monetary incentive and an autocratic leadership. Its main advantages is the clear hierarchical organizational structure with distinct management levels. It also incorporates division of labor where projects are broken down into smaller and easy to complete tasks. The theory posits that employees should be motivated by monetary reward in an organizaton with a single leader who make decisions, organizes and directs staffs (Russ, 2017).

In their paper on administrative management theory, Gullick and Urvick (1937) formulated the acronym POSDCORB that represent the functional responsibilities of the chief executive officer under classical management theory This stands for planning, organizing, staffing, directing, coordinating, reporting, and budgeting. Planning involves establishing a broad sketch for the work

on the table and the accompanying procedures to implement them. Organizing involves formal classification, definition and synchronization of the various work's subprocesses and/or subdivisions while staffing focuses on recruitment and selection of the right candidates for the right job and facilitation of their induction/orientation and training within favorable work environment. It also involves directing, a decision-making activity where there is delegation through structured instructions and orders, executing them and coordination of activities in an orchestrated manner that inter links all components of work at hand. The approach also includes reporting which involves regular updating to the superiors on the work progress or on related activities. The information is transmitted through maintained records or inspections. Finally, there is budgeting that encompasses fiscal planning, accounting, auditing and control. In this study, classical theory was used to contextualize the operations and functions of the devolved government in maintenance of law and order so as to assess its effect and influence.

Empirical Review

Nafula (2022), carried a study on influence of social media on personal security and to identify challenges facing the prosecution of social media crimes to identify challenges facing law enforcement in investigating, prosecuting and preventing social media crimes in relation to personal security among the youths in Nairobi County. Qualitative data was analyzed using content analysis, coding, classification and text inferencing. The findings of this research showed that about 84% of youth respondents in Nairobi City County had opinion that Facebook was most insecure. Further, about 52% of the youth respondents confirmed that they had been victims. Tracking offenders, lack of technological capacity and legal challenges. It was recommended that future research can focus on the issue of spatial dispersion of social media security influences on in Nairobi City County. Such dispersions should be based on real social media crime incidences by type time and location to give insights on how policing can be enhanced in response to such dispersion and temporal diffusion of such crimes especially on mobile platforms.The study presented a conceptual gap as it focused on influence of social media on personal security and to identify challenges facing the prosecution of social media crimes to identify challenges facing law enforcement in investigating, prosecuting and preventing social media crimes in relation to personal security among the youths in Nairobi County while our study will focus on examining reduction of anti-social activities initiatives on facilitation of social justice in Nigeria

Karamuta (2022), conducted a study that examined the use of modern technology by investigators, to establish the Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) in relation to ICT among investigators and to establish legal procedures influencing use of modern technology. The study used Performance Theory to explain the use of modern technology. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design and targeted a population of 120 serving police officers. The results were presented in narrative and verbatim quotation marks. 68.2% of respondents strongly agreed that use of DNA analysis in investigation improve accuracy of results. 68. 1% percent of the respondents fully agreed that many police officers are not knowledgeable on matters ICT due to

minimal allocation of time to train on the same in all courses offered at the police training institutions. 41 percent of the respondents also felt that some of the prevailing legal procedures fully affect the performance of investigators. For instance, the fear of being sued when a case flops, may affect the judgment of an investigator. The study used descriptive research design presenting a methodological gap as our study will use desktop review design.

Njoronge (2021), conducted a study to examine the international legal framework applicable towards addressing child trafficking in Kenya, assess the extent of Kenya's compliance with its international obligation towards addressing child trafficking and analyze the challenges in efforts to address Child trafficking in Kenya. The research used exploratory research design. This enabled the collecting of data on several variables which were then examined for recurring patterns using thematic analysis later presented as themes. The overall conclusion of this study was that Kenya's implementation of anti-Child trafficking laws was lax. Kenya is a Child-friendly nation; however, a lot needs to be done to implement Child protection laws and awareness creation. The study however presented a conceptual gap as it focused on influence of stakeholders and resource availability, determine the socio-economic elements and the extent to which management techniques influence the sustainability of donor funded projects at FAO Kenya while our study will focus on examining reduction of anti-social activities initiatives on facilitation of social justice in Nigeria

Muthoni (2021), conducted a study aimed at establishing factors associated with use of modern contraceptives among men in union in Mukuru kwa Njenga informal settlement. Questioners were administered to 398 men in union to collected quantitative data while three focused group discussions were conducted to gather qualitative data to complement quantitative. The study found that among social demographic characteristics only age had a significant association with modern contraceptive use. Men aged 25-29 were more likely to use modern contraceptive (P=0.034) compared to men in the other age bracket. Significant association (p=0.009) was also found between men who thought modern contraceptives are good as well as those who believed people are incomplete without children (p=0.009). Those who discussed (p=0.025) with their partner on how many children to have and those who initiated the discussions themselves (p=0.000) were more likely to use modern contraceptive. Media (56%) and friends (23.8%) remained the main source of information on modern contraceptives. However, there was no association found between knowledge of modern contraceptive and use. This study concluded that among the social demographic characteristics only age was significantly associated with use of modern contraceptives. The study however presented a conteceptual gap as it focused on factors associated with use of modern contraceptives among men in union in Mukuru kwa Njenga informal settlement while our study will focus on examining reduction of anti-social activities initiatives on facilitation of social justice in Nigeria.

Ndonye (2019), conducted a study to establish the implications of technological advancements on performance of police officers and suggest the best ways to enhance technology use in the Kenya

Police Service. The study established that there was use of technology in Kenya police service though not very much advanced. It also established that Globalization and new technologies have facilitated certain cyber-criminal operations, thereby placing an additional burden on law enforcement agencies. Fifty two percent of the respondents noted that lack of funds to acquire updated equipment was a major challenge facing police officers in their effort to adopt new technology. The study presented a contextual gap as it focused on Kenya police officers while our study will focus on crime reduction initiatives on maintenance of law and order.The study presented a contextual gap as it focused on technological advancement while our study will focus on social justice.

Omondi (2019), conducted a study on whether attitudes, practices and knowledge of policy makers play any role in the enactment of nuclear energy laws in Kenya. The researcher adopted a descriptive research design and used a combination of primary and secondary data sources in order to meet the objectives of this project. Primary data was collected through interviews and questionnaires, whilst secondary data was collected through a literature review that entails extensive and rigorous desktop research. The study established that indeed Knowledge, attitudes, and practices do have an influence on the enactment of nuclear energy laws in Kenya. The study recommended that there be increased knowledge dissemination to counter the knowledge deficit, negative attitudes and inform practices that will lead to successful enactment of nuclear energy laws in Kenya. The study presented a geographical gap as it was conducted in Kenya while our study will be based in Nigeria.

Mohammed (2018), conducted a study to investigate the impact the migration policy in Kenya on human trafficking at the Kenya-Somalia border, Garissa town, Garissa County. This study used the descriptive research design. This research design was beneficial to the researcher, as it allowed triangulation in the study. Findings indicate that whereas there exist clear and well laid out migration policies, they have not been significantly effective in curbing human trafficking in the study area, owing to a variety of inadequacies in their formulation, enactment and execution. It was also found that various socio-economic factors constitute the underlying factors and are responsible for increasing human trafficking cases across the Kenya-Somalia border, as well as inhibiting enforcement efforts to curb the same. Findings further reveal that a myriad of challenges hamper efforts to implementation migration policies in the country, with a view to curb human trafficking. The study used descriptive research design presenting a methodological gap as our study will use desktop review design

Davidi (2015), conducted a study aimed at finding out the state of copyright law implementation in libraries in Kenya with specific reference to reproduction of informational materials. The study aimed at specifically establishing the rules, regulations and procedures of reproduction of informational materials used in the libraries. The survey also aimed at finding out the level of copyright law awareness by the library staff and library users and the methods used in creating the awareness. The other objective of the survey was to establish the views of librarians and publishers

on Copyright Law in Kenya and its application in libraries. The study revealed that the rules, regulations and procedures of copying in libraries are not, clear. It was also found out that the copyright law is inadequate and does not meet the needs of the libraries. The copyright law awareness among the library users and library staff was found to be low. The study presented a methodological gap as it was a survey while our study will utilize desktop review approach.

METHODOLOGY

The study adopted a desktop literature review method (desk study). This involved an in-depth review of studies related to reduction of anti-social activities initiatives on facilitation of social justice in Nigeria. Three sorting stages were implemented on the subject under study in order to determine the viability of the subject for research. This is the first stage that comprised the initial identification of all articles that were based reduction of anti-social activities initiatives on facilitation of social justice in Nigeria. The search was done generally by searching the articles in the article title, abstract, keywords. A second search involved fully available publications on the subject on reduction of anti-social activities initiatives on facilitation of social justice in Nigeria. The third step involved the selection of fully accessible publications. Reduction of the literature to only fully accessible publications yielded specificity and allowed the researcher to focus on the articles that related to reduction of anti-social activities initiatives on facilitation of social justice in Nigeria which was split into top key words. After an in- depth search into the top key words (examining, reduction, anti-social activities, initiatives, facilitation, social justice, Nigeria), the researcher arrived at 8 articles that were suitable for analysis. This were findings from:

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SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusion

The study concluded that most of the respondents disagreed that the government has campaigned against illicit alcohol consumption. Most of the respondents also disagreed that the county government ensures that no alcohol drinking places are located near schools or within residential areas. The study also disagreed that the county government offers guidance to citizens on handling

and management of anger. The study also sort data on whether the county government regulates noise pollution by putting in place restrictive measures where most of the respondents disagreed. Majority of the respondents also disagreed that the government is proactive in ensuring illicit drugs are not abused. Majority also disagreed that the laws to be passed in the county are always subject to public participation. In fact, there was a strong positive correlation between the Anti-social activity reduction mean and the maintenance of law and order.

Recommendations

This study recommended that the government of Nigeria should give its members the opportunity to report crime and work with the members to reduce the criminal cases that take place in the country as well as deal with the illegal business that take place within the country regions.

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