

Level of Effectiveness of Community Policing

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Abstract- The purpose of the study aimed to determine the level of effectiveness of community policing in the field of patrol operations, traffic investigations, and criminal investigations of police officers in the 5th District of Iloilo for the year 2014. The data gathering instrument was adopted from Basic Procedures of the PNP Manual(2010). The respondents of the study were the one hundred seventy seven local government units in the municipalities of the 5th District of the province. The findings revealed that the level of effectiveness of community policing in patrol operations was generally effective and when grouped as sex and old respondents. The young respondents on the other hand rated very effective. The level of effectiveness of community policing in traffic investigation was effective when grouped as to various categories. Finally the level of community policing in criminal investigation was effective when classified as to old, and male respondents, and the young and female respondents as very effective.

I. INTRODUCTION

The demand for public safety services involves a wide range of issues and considerations to be effective police officers. Reforms in the operating rules and procedures in the police operations by providing police units the appropriate work tools, and training for the effective implementation of police operations to ensure peace and order condition, and safety of the people and their property in the community.

This study is anchored on the theory of reciprocal responsibility of the Police Community Relations Manual of 2003 of the Philippine National Police (PNP) which provides that the police on their own cannot effectively prevent and control crime. To ensure the success of Community Oriented Policing System (COPS), the community must be viewed as the stakeholder. It is true that crime is everybody's business. However, some citizens are not aware of this responsibility. The community must help in eradicating the causes of criminality such as the following:

Manwong and Delizo (2006) state that intensive or massive poverty can be singled out as the primary cause of crime in the underdeveloped countries such as the Philippines. This is characterized by intensive widespread of unemployment, underemployment due to lack of job opportunities, low income and productivity, rapid population growth rates, and others. Due to poverty, many of the people become desperate and forced by circumstances to resort to crime for them to escape from their miseries and frustrations.

The basic idea behind community policing is that, the community must be involved with police to solve problems. As

simple as this may sound, police must accept the fact that the community has to be involved in the process from the beginning. The goal is to promote police community partnerships. Problem solving is a new way of policing to address not only the causes of crime and the fear of crime but all quality of life issues in the community.

II. RESEARCH ELABORATIONS

This study was conducted to check the level of effectiveness of the community policing programs as provided for by the Police Community Relations Manual (2003) in the municipalities of the 5th District of Iloilo in patrol operations, traffic investigation, and criminal investigation.

Likewise the present study used a descriptive survey. The respondents were the local government units of the said district.

According to Ardales (2001) descriptive research involves description of the nature and situation as it exists at the time of the study and explores the causes of particular phenomenon and the interpretation of the condition exist. He further emphasizes that descriptive research involves the collection of data in order to answer questions concerning the current status of the subject under study. This design is considered appropriate for this study because the aim is to determine the effectiveness of police officers in community policing as perceived by the elected barangay officials.

What is the level of effectiveness of community policing programs as provided by Police Community Relations Manual in patrol operations, traffic investigation, and criminal investigation hence, this study.

What is the level of effectiveness of community policing in patrol operations, traffic investigation and criminal investigation as perceived by the barangay officials as an entire group, and when classified as to age, and sex?

Are there significant differences in the level of effectiveness of community policing in patrol operations, traffic investigation, and criminal investigation as perceived by barangay officials of the classified as to age, and sex?

The subjects of the study were the one hundred seventy-seven (177) randomly selected barangay officials of the different municipalities in the 5th District of Iloilo, represented the civilian sector. These barangay officials were taken from different towns of the 5th Congressional District of the Province Iloilo namely Ajuy, Balasan, Barotac Viejo, Batad, Carles, Concepcion, Estancia, Lemery, San Dionisio, San Rafael, and Sara.

Table I
Distribution of Respondents

Categories	N	Percentage
Entire Group	177	100
Age		
Young	77	44
Old	100	56
Sex		
Male	81	46
Female	96	54

The questionnaire-checklist has Two parts. Part I – contained the personal profile accomplished by the respondents.

Part II – consisted of items that determined the assessment of the respondents to the existing community policing as implemented in the 5th District of Iloilo.

Each response was assigned a corresponding value for statistical purpose as follows:

Weight	Responses
4	Strongly Agree
3	Agree
2	Disagree
1	Strongly Disagree

To determine the significant differences in the implementation of the community policing according to categories, the Mann-Whitney Test was used as inferential statistics set at 0.05 alpha.

III. RESULTS

The initial findings of the investigation revealed the level of effectiveness of community policing in patrol operations, traffic investigation, and criminal investigation as an entire group, and when classified as to age, and sex is reflected in Table 2.

Level of Effectiveness of Community Policing in Patrol Operations

The findings revealed that the level of effectiveness of community policing in patrol operations is effective when the respondents are taken as an entire group ($M=3.2571$, $SD=.3890$).

As to age of the barangay officials, the young perceived the community policing as very effective ($M=3.2610$, $SD=.3763$); the old perceived it as effective ($M=3.2540$, $SD=.4004$).

As to sex, both the male ($M=3.2568$, $SD=.4012$) and female ($M=3.2573$, $SD=.3805$) perceived the policing as effective.

Table 2
Level of Effectiveness of Community Policing in Patrol Operations

Categories	N	Mean	Description	S.D.
Entire Group	177	3.2571	Effective	.3890
Age				
Young	77	3.2610	Very Effective	.3763
Old	100	3.2540	Effective	.4004
Sex				
Male	81	3.2568	Effective	.4012
Female	96	3.2573	Effective	.3805
			Scale	Description
			3.26-4.00	Very Effective
			2.51-3.25	Effective
			1.76-2.50	Less Effective
			1.00-1.75	Not Effective

Level of Effectiveness of Community Policing in Traffic Investigation

In traffic investigation, the perceived level of effectiveness was effective as an entire group ($M=3.1966$, $SD=.4548$). When grouped according to age, both the young ($M=3.2442$, $SD=.4396$) and the old ($M=3.1600$, $SD=.4649$) perceived it as effective. When classified according to sex, both male ($M=3.2136$, $SD=.4027$) and female ($M=3.2136$, $SD=.4027$) perceived it as effective.

Table 3
Level of Effectiveness of Community Policing in Traffic Investigation

Category	N	Mean	Description	S. D.
Entire Group	177	3.1966	Effective	.4548
Age				
Young	77	3.2442	Effective	.4396
Old	100	3.1600	Effective	.4649
Sex				
Male	81	3.2136	Effective	.4027
Female	96	3.1823	Effective	.4961
<i>Scale</i>		<i>Description</i>		
3.26-4.00		Very Effective		
2.51-3.25		Effective		
1.76-2.50		Less Effective		
1.00-1.75		Not Effective		

Level of Effectiveness of Community Policing in Criminal Investigation

In criminal investigation, the perceived level effectiveness as entire group was effective when taken as an entire group ($M=3.2492$, $SD=.4168$).

When classified according to age, the young respondents rated it as very effective ($M=3.2623$, $SD=.4283$). While the old respondents rated as effective ($M=3.2390$, $SD=.4097$). When grouped according to sex, the male respondents perceived it as effective ($M=3.2333$, $SD=.4542$) while the female respondents perceived it as very effective ($M=3.2625$, $SD=.3834$).

This is reflected in Table 4.

Table 4
Level of Effectiveness of Community Policing in Criminal Investigation

Category	N	Mean	Description	S.D.
Entire Group	177	3.2492	Effective	.4168
Age				
Young	77	3.2623	Very Effective	.4283
Old	100	3.2390	Effective	.4097
Sex				
Male	81	3.2333	Effective	.4552
Female	96	3.2625	Very Effective	.3834
<i>Scale</i>		<i>Description</i>		
3.26-4.00		Very Effective		
2.51-3.25		Effective		
1.76-2.50		Less Effective		
1.00-1.75		Not Effective		

IV. CONCLUSIONS

Based from the findings above, the researcher established the following conclusions:

The community policing in patrol operations was rated effective by most of the respondents, except for those belonging to the young group who rated it as very effective. With these findings in hand, it goes to show that the members of the police force had been treating people with respect and sensitivity and maintaining a good working relationship with the people in the community. Patrol operations has something to do with being visible to the people in the community which gives them a

feeling of security while taking away the opportunity from the would-be criminals.

The community policing in traffic investigation was rated effective regardless of the respondents' age and sex. It reflects that there are areas that need to be improved and enhanced, especially with the maintenance of traffic facilities. The response may also be due to the fact of the continuous rise of vehicular accidents in the municipalities of the 5th District of Iloilo.

The community policing in criminal investigation was rated generally as effective with the exception of the young and female group who rated it as very effective. This maybe a reflection that some police officers persevere to finish the task despite of the

many obstacles that surrounds a case. The slight difference between the responses of the young from the old group stressed that maybe the young group are more observant or more involved in cases. The female group gave the response of very effective maybe because they tend to follow a particular case until it is solved.

- [2] Manwong, R. & Delizo, D. (2006). Law enforcement administration, RK: Manwong Publications.
- [3] Police Community Relations Manual (2003).

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REFERENCES

- [1] Ardales, V. (2001). Basic concepts and methods in research . Quezon City, Great Books Trading.

Questionnaire of the Level of Effectiveness of Community Policing

I Respondent's profile

Name: _____ Age: _____ sex: _____
Municipality: _____

II the questionnaire proper

Instruction: please answer this questionnaire properly and sincerely by putting a tick mark (on the space that best corresponds to your observation on the following items using the following criteria:

Scale	Description	Responses
4	Strongly agree (SA)	
3	Agree (A)	
2	Disagree (D)	
1	Strongly disagree (SD)	

Patrol operations

1. PNP personnel have a collaborate partnership with individuals and organizations and the community 4 3 2 1
2. The police officers are most of the time visible in the community. 4 3 2 1
3. The police treat people with respect and sensitivity. 4 3 2 1
4. Police officers maintain a good working relationship with the common people. 4 3 2 1
5. The presence of the police in the local area helps reduce the occurrence of crimes. 4 3 2 1
6. The police officers report to barangay authorities the movement of questionable people in the community. 4 3 2 1
7. PNP creates programs activities that are useful to the community to reduced and solve crime and crime-related problems. 4 3 2 1
8. There is equal distribution of police services and resources among barangays in the municipality. 4 3 2 1
9. Electronic communication equipment and devices are properly provide to ensure easy and fast response to the needs of the community. 4 3 2 1
10. The presence of the policemen in the local areas creates awareness of the occurrence of crimes. 4 3 2 1

Traffic investigations

11. The PNP members are quick to respond in reported vehicular accidents.	4 3 2 1.
12. The PNP officers conduct seminars about traffic law, rules and regulations.	4 3 2 1
13. The police officers collaborate with the LGU in the effective construction and maintenance of traffic facilities.	4 3 2 1
14. The PNP officers are particulars with presence of road sign.	4 3 2 1
15. The police officers are conducting periodic assessment of the factors contribution to road accidents.	4 3 2 1
16. The PNP officers can establish the chain of events in vehicular accidents from proper reporting system.	4 3 2 1
17. The police officers can conduct at-scene investigation properly.	4 3 2 1
18. The PNP personnel are knowledgeable of vehicular crime scene reconstruction.	4 3 2 1
19. The PNP officers perform proper collection of data to help them identify and classify a motor vehicle.	4 3 2 1
20. Most of the hit and run cases are more likely to be solve.	4 3 2 1
Crime investigation	
21. The police officers preserve or stick to the task in spite of the many obstacles which surrounds the case.	4 3 2 1
22. The police instigators treat all individuals according to the constitutional rights That officers are sworn to protect and enforce.	4 3 2 1
23. The police investigators observed proper procedures and methods in conducting search of the crime scene.	4 3 2 1
24. The police investigators follow the rules and elements of sketching the crime scene.	4 3 2 1
25. The police investigators consider interviews and interrogation as important tools in establish the suspect's identity.	4 3 2 1
26. The police investigators maintain contact with different groups of people as sources of information.	4 3 2 1
27. The police officers conduct surveillance activities to know the connection of the suspect to the crime.	4 3 2 1
28. The police investigators conduct follow-up investigation of reported cases.	4 3 2 1
29. The police investigators are updated with the new methods and scientific approach of investigation.	4 3 2 1
30. Report and files are properly maintained for easy retrieval of data that would help in the investigations.	4 3 2 1