
Police and Crime Control: Challenges to Efficiency

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Abstract: *The study examined police challenges to efficiency in crime control in Kogi State with reference to Anyigba town of Dekina LGA. Consequently the study highlights the level of public police relationship in crime control, services rendered by Nigeria police personnel, factors and conditions that impede the police effective service delivery to Anyigba residents. The study method were rooted in the survey design using close and open ended questionnaire, textbooks, journals, internet materials, etc. The sample size for the study were determined statistically using Krejcie and Morgan (1970), table for finite population to select 384 adult residents in Anyigba town for the study. Data obtained were analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively on percentage tables and figures using the Special Package for Social Scientist (SPSS). Findings of the study shows among others that; institutional constraints such as inadequate manpower, insufficient education and training, inadequate equipment, poor welfare condition, corruption were the causes of police inefficiency and the effect is rising criminality in the society. The study recommends change and pro-active measures in police duty to Anyigba community, Nigeria police personnel should shun illicit act of inordinate demand for bribery, the police should be properly equipped with uniforms, barrack accommodation, modern and sophisticated crime fight technology, vehicles, stationaries and good allowance.*

Key words: Police, Crime, Crime in Nigeria, Police Crime Control and Challenges.

Introduction

According to Section 214(1) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as amended January (2011), the police institution is one of the biggest, most visible and important sub-system of criminal justice system. No wonder, Dambazau (2007), opined that the police, as an institution, provide entry point into the criminal justice system, either through crime reports from the public or its own discovery. The police organization is the main institution which provides regular direct contact with the public, a situation that makes it unique among the other components of the justice system. The police have an outstanding role in shaping the overall causes of criminal justice system of any country. In a defined political setting, the police belong to the executive arm of government charged with the responsibility of maintaining law and order. In this role, the police have the powers to investigate and detect crimes, to apprehend criminals and participate during the trial of criminal cases in court of law (Amadi 2000; Reid 2000; Agune and Carlos 2005).

In all human society, be it primitive or modern societies, the police represent the most visible agent of formal social control. According to Biltner (1990), social control and reactions to deviances are intimately bound up with the functions of the police because they all address the central problem posed by events of behavior which ought not to be happening. Indeed, the police support other social control effort and agencies by their action (Buckner 1967). The vital roles the police play in the maintenance and enforcement of societal prescribed values and regulations underscore the importance of this law-enforcement agency as the nucleus of social control in the society. The uniqueness of the police lies on the fact that decision of the police-man on the street is as important as the existence of the criminal justice system. Therefore, the policeman is the “gatekeeper” of the criminal justice system, as the institution decides who goes into the system, and its decision has wider implication for the other components of the system, (Dambazau 2007). The basic objective of policing in the society is to provide security or least a social and psychological feeling of security, for a majority of citizens, in a majority of places and for the most of the time (Odekunle 2010).

However, the persistent security problems and the inability of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) in ensuring security and safety of life and property in the country are worrisome. The sources of security challenges in the country are numerous and cannot be blamed on one part of the system alone. They vary from the government to the police down to the people in the society. On the part of the police, there are many inadequacies and problems which stand as obstacles responsible for its poor performance. Most Nigerians describe police as a motley crowd of lazy, inefficient, corrupt uniformed men and women contributing to the perpetrating of crimes such as mass killing, intimidation, rape, extrajudicial killings/summary execution and other heinous crimes against citizens they are paid to protect (Uhunmwangho and Aluforo 2011). It is also common with the police to falsely label innocent people as armed robbers, while the real criminals are working freely in the society doing what they know to do best. They falsified post mortem result and to worsen the matter, people either criminals or none criminal disappear from there custody without good explanations and families of the innocent victims are faced with extortion. It is based on the foregoing that this study is poised at exploring the challenges to police efficiency in crime control in the society, public perception of police role in crime control in the society with reference to Anyigba community, with focus to answering these questions; What is the public perception of the performance roles of the police? Do Anyigba residents enjoy the service of Nigeria police personnel? What are the challenges confronting the Nigeria police service delivery to Anyigba community?

Research Methodology

This research work adopted survey research method and made use of primary data as the main source of data collection through the instrument of structured and unstructured questionnaire. The study randomly selects three hundred and eighty four (384) respondents from Anyigba town of Dekina local government area of Kogi state. This town is commonly known as the hot bed of various criminal activities like thuggery, armed robbery, Kidnapping, cultism, prostitution etc. carried out by students, settlers and indigenous residents in the states. Out of 384 questionnaires administered only 365 were returned. The questionnaire sought information on questions that were relevant to the Nigeria police and the challenges of police efficiency in Nigeria. The data collected were statistically analyzed through Frequency and simple percentage method with table presentation via SPSS. Information gotten from field survey was categorized into three sections for easy and better interpretation. The first category was the socio-demographic characteristics of respondents such as, sex, age categories, marital status, religious affiliation, ethnic group, educational qualifications and number of years lived in Anyigba Community. The

second category was the substantive issues of the study. The third category encompassed the discussion of research (validation of research questions) findings.

Result and Discussion of findings

Table 1: Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

Variables	Respondents	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Sex	Male	207	56.7
	Female	158	43.3
	Total	365	100
Age range	Under 15 years	-	0%
	15-19 years	27	7.4
	19-24 years	62	17
	24-29 years	100	27.4
	29-34 years	92	25.1
	34+	84	23.1
Total	365	100	
Marital status	Single	92	25.1
	Married	218	59.8
	Separated	55	15.1
	Divorced	-	0%
	Widow/widowed	-	0%
Total	365	100	
Ethnic Group	Igala	116	31.8
	Ebira	62	17
	Yeroba	47	12.9
	Igbo	87	23.8
	Hausa	53	14.5
	Other	-	0%
Total	365	100	
Religious affiliation	Christian	156	42.7
	Islam	194	53.2
	African traditional religion	15	4.1
	Others	-	0%
Total	365	100	
Number of Years lived in Anyigba Community	1-5 years	35	9.6
	5-10 years	69	18.9
	10-15 years	147	40.3
	25years and above	3	0.8
Total	365	100	
Educational qualification	Primary School Certificate	2	0.5
	Secondary School Certificate	101	27.6
	NCE/OND	176	48.3
	HND/BSc and above	86	23.6
Total	365	100	

Source: field survey 2017

From table 1 on the issue of gender it was realized that, there was a dominant male participants across two sexes used for the study. The male constituted significant dominance of 56.7% while the female respondent, representing 43.3% constituted minority. Table 1 also reveals that majority 27.4% falls within the age range of 24-29, 25.1% were within age bracket of 29-34 years, 23.1% were age group of 34 years and above, 17% fell within age group of 19-24 years, while the least 7.4% were within the age range of 15-19 years, and none of the respondents fell under the age of 15. This shows that majority of study participants were within the age range of 24-29 years.

On marital status of study participants, 59.8% were married, 25.1% were single, and 15.1% were separated from spouse. Furthermore it was discovered that on ethnic cleavages, 31.8% were Igala by tribe, 17% were Ebara ethnic group, 12.9% were the Yoruba ethnic group, 23.8% constitute the Igbo ethnic group, 14.5% belongs to the Hausa's ethnic group. This shows that majority of the respondents were Igala ethnic group. The table further reveals that majority 53.2% were Muslims, and 42.7% of the respondents who contributed to the success of this study were Christian's, followed by 4.1% who were adherents of traditional African religion.

In terms of years lived in Anyigba community, table 4.1 indicates that 9.6% of study participants had live up to 5years in the community, 18.9% had lived in the community from 5-10years, majority 40.3% had have lived in the community for 10-15years and 0.8% had lived in Anyigba community for 25years and above. Investigating into educational qualification, table 4.1 reveals that 0.5% had first school leaving certificate, 27.6 has acquired secondary school leaving certificate, majority 48.3% had acquired National certificate of education (NCE) and National diploma (ND) qualification, 23.6% had Higher National Diploma (HND), Bachelor of Science(BSc) and other higher qualification. This shows that majority of respondents who participated in the study were educated and knowledgeable enough to contribute meaningfully to the study.

Table 2: Frequency Distribution showing Respondents Responses on Police Crime control related activities in Anyigba Community N=365

Variables	Responses	Frequency	Percentages
Police awareness in Anyigba Community	Yes	365	100
	No	-	-
	Total	365	100
Purpose of Police in Anyigba Community	Maintain peace, save lives and property	137	37.5
	Crime control and settlement of disputes	69	18.9
	To save life and property	91	25
	To investigate Crime related issues and make arrest	68	18.6
	Total	365	100
effectiveness of Police role in Anyigba Community	Yes	32	8.6
	No	218	59.8
	I don't know	115	31.6
	Total	365	100
Police function in Anyigba Community	Curtailling criminal activities in the Community	108	29.5
	They make unnecessary arrest for extorting innocent citizens	40	11
	Settling of dispute among the residents of Anyigba Community	107	29.3
	Investigate and make arrests on Criminal issues	110	30.2
	Total	365	100
Proportion of Police function in the community	Often	92	25
	Very often	32	8.8
	Not often	214	66

	Total	365	100
Desired role the Police should performed in Anyigba Community	Fight cultism in Anyigba Community	45	12.3
	Prevent and control Criminal activities in Anyigba Community	192	52.6
	To be more pro-active in protecting lives and property in Anyigba Community	128	35.1
	Total	365	100
Response on seeing the Police performed the desired role mentioned	Yes	45	12.4
	No	137	37.5
	Not always	183	50.1
	Total	365	100

Source: field survey, 2017

Table 2 reveals that all respondents, 100% knows about police activities in curbing criminality in the community, the study further shows that majority 37.5% indicated that the purpose of the police is maintain Peace, Save Lives and property in the Community, 18.9% in agreement with majority response claimed that Crime control and Settlement of dispute is the purpose of the Nigeria Police personnel in their community, and 25% indicate that Saving of Life and Property is the sole purpose of Police establishment in Anyigba community, the least 18.6% reveals that investigating Crime related issues and making arrest is sole purpose of police existence in Anyigba community. This findings shows that the fundamental duties of the Nigeria police personnel in Anyigba among others includes, maintain peace, save lives and property, control crime rate and settle disputes among the residents. This finding is line with Section 4 of Police Act of 1967, Cap 359 of the Laws of the Federation, 1990 that conferred power upon the Police Force for the maintenance of law and order throughout the country. This research findings is also in consonance with Section 4 of Police Act and Decree No. 23 of 1979 cited by Alemika and Chukwuma (2000), that the functions of the Nigeria Police Force are prevention and detection of crime, apprehension of offenders, the preservation of law and order, the protection of life and property, and due enforcement of all laws and regulations with which they are directly charged and perform such military duties within or without Nigeria as may be required of them by, or under the authority of this or any other Act.

Furthermore, on the issues of Police effectiveness in their duty dispensation, 8.6% claimed that the Nigeria Police personnel have been effective in their duty in Anyigba community, majority 59.8% indicated that the Police have not been effective in their duty dispensation, and 31.6% are apathetic to Police role in the community. This means that the Nigeria police personnel in Anyigba community are not effective in performing their constitutionally empowered duty of maintaining law and order, crime control, settlement of disputes etc as 59.8% of total population size attest to this.

While on the functions, the Nigeria Police personnel have carried out in Anyigba community includes curtailing criminal activities in the Community as revealed by 29.5% respondents, 11% opined that the unnecessary arrest for extorting innocent citizens includes functions the Police execute in the community, while 29.3% reveals that the Police has been Settling dispute among the residents of Anyigba Community, 30.2% indicated that Investigation and making arrests on Criminal issues are among the functions Anyigba Police division carry out in the community. This means that inspite of Police ineffectiveness claimed by study participants, they acknowledge the functions of the Police in the community. Investigating the frequency of the police in executing the functions mentioned, it was discovered that, majority 66% reveals that the Police are not regular on their duty, 25% claimed that the police are frequent on their duty in the community, and 8.8% concur sturdily that the police are very frequent in their duty to the community. These findings show that the Police personnel in Anyigba community are frequent in their duty to the community.

Data contained in table 2 on the residents desired role the Police should perform in the community, shows us that 12.3% wish the Police to fight cultism in Anyigba community, majority 52.6% wanted the Police to prevent and control criminal activities in Anyigba community, and 35.1% desire the police to be more pro-active in protecting lives and property in the community. Based on data at hand we can conclude among other problem facing man in the society, that crime has more negative impact on the society as evident in total response of study participants. This findings uphold the central argument of Dambazau, (2007) that Crime rate in Nigeria has assumed a worrisome dimension and Nigeria are among the developing countries of the world experiencing prevalence crime waves, criminal intentions and varying degree of delinquencies. In the light of the worsening crime situation, and the ineffectiveness of the crime control apparatuses, Nigeria can be deemed to have a crime problem. And the nature of this crimes according to (Daily Sketch 1990; Aremu and Ahmed 2011) among others includes armed robbery, murder, rape, car theft, burglary, fraud, bribery and corruption, food and drug adulteration, gambling, smuggling, human trafficking, kidnapping, drug trafficking, money laundering, internet scam, advanced fee fraud (419) and other illegal activities.

However, exploring into the Respondents view Police performed the desired role, it is apparent from data at hand that that the proportion of police response to these desired role is relatively poor as indicated by the study participants of which 12.4% claimed they have seen the Police perform these roles, 37.5% indicates no, and majority 50.1% reveals that the police have been responding to these roles but not always. From the interview conducted, it was discovered that the police monitor residents affaires, take cognizance of human ideas, the way people relates and in a situation where there are problems, it is the duty of the police to settle dispute, investigate criminal related activities and Anyigba community to a considerable extent have enjoyed these services. However, the Nigeria Police personnel in Anyigba town have not been efficient in their service delivery. This means that the Nigeria Police personnel inefficiency in meeting this fundamental roles/duty must be as a result of some constraints.

Table 3: Frequency Distribution showing Public perception of the Nigeria Police force Division in Anyigba Community N=365

Variables	Response Frequency		Percentages
Perception of Police performance in crime control in Anyigba Community	Very Effective	3	0.8
	Effective	33	9
	Ineffective	182	49.9
	Very ineffective	147	40.3
	Total	365	100
performance proportion of the Nigeria Police personnel in Anyigba community	Very satisfied	-	0
	Satisfactory	46	12.6
	Unsatisfactory	319	87.4
	Total	365	100
Residents and Police working together to control crime	Yes	365	100
	No	-	0
	Total	365	100
Civility of Policing style and strategies	Yes	3	0.8
	No	362	99.2
	Total	365	100
Proportion of Police function in the community	Often	92	25
	Very often	32	8.8

	Not often	214	66
	Total	365	100
Types of uncivilized handling the residents suffer from police inappropriate policing styles and strategies	Verbal assault and attacks	84	23
	Slapping	41	11
	Kicking and beating	75	20.6
	Injuring	60	16.5
	Torture and threat to kill	102	28
	No response	3	0.8
	Total	365	100
Police and Anyigba residents description	Cordial	1	0.2
	Indifferent	36	9.8
	Antagonist	86	24
	Very antagonist	242	66
	Total	365	100

Source: field survey, 2017

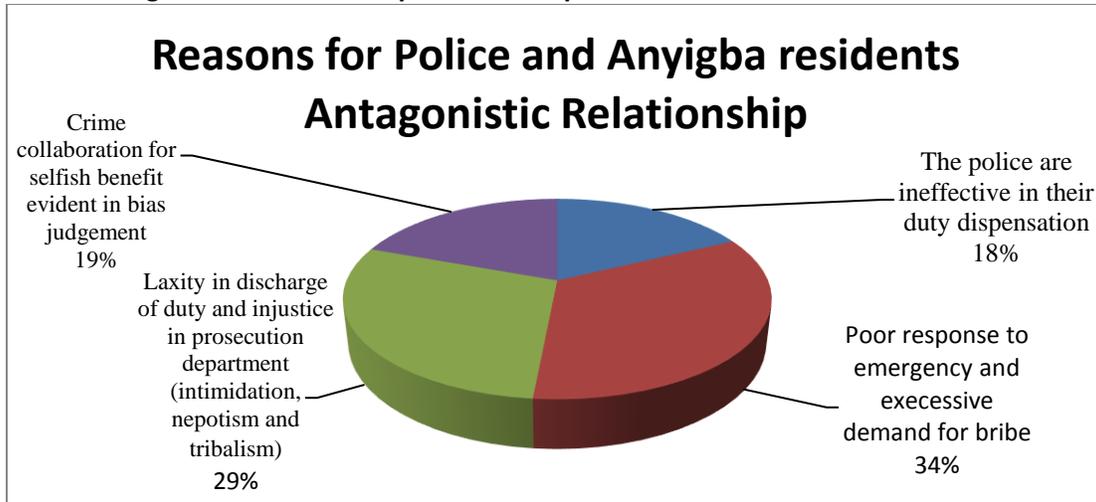
Table 3: percentage distribution of respondent's responses

Data contained in table 3 above, on perception of police performance in crime control in Anyigba community shows us that 0.8% strongly believes that the police have been very effective in performing their duty in Anyigba community, 9% concur that the police have been effective in their duty dispensation, however, majority 49.9% said that the police have not been effective in crime control in the community, followed by 40.3% who sturdily affirms that the police ineffectiveness in crime control in Anyigba community. This findings shows that the rating of police in crime control in the community is very poor as indicated by 90.2% of total response which is statistically significantly above average 50%, with 40.2% margin dominance. Consequently, on public evaluation of Nigeria police personnel in Anyigba community, majority 87.4% of total participant of the study registered unsatisfactory perception of police performance in the community, while the least 12.6% registered satisfaction with the police performance in the community. Information from the interview conducted also shows that Anyigba residents are not happy with Nigeria police personnel in the community due to poor role in curtailing criminal activities in the community. This means that the police personnel in Anyigba have not been viable, efficient and effective on their duty in the community as indicated by data contained in table 3 of the study. Findings from the table also reveals that total study participants 100% claimed that police and Anyigba residents can work together to control crime rate in the community.

While on civility of policing styles and strategies in combating crime, it was discovered that the police are not civil in carrying out their duty as indicated by majority 99.2%, and 0.8% claimed that the police are civil in their duty. Investigating into the types of uncivilized handling the public suffer from police inappropriate policing styles and strategies, it was discovered that 23% suffer verbal assault and attacks from the police personnel, 11% had suffered from slapping, 20.6% suffered from kicking and beating, 16.5% suffered from police injuring, and majority 28% of the respondents claimed that they had suffered from torture and threat to kill from Anyigba police personnel in the community, while 0.8% are indifferent. This findings is in line with Okafo, (2007) and Akuul, (2011) findings that the police uncivilized handling of matters is manifest in their actions, for example, political opponents of government, workers, student radicals and human rights activist have always suffered excessive waves of brutalities, abductions, unwarranted searches and violations of privacy, extra-judicial killings, body injury and intimidation, harassment and loss of personal liberties in the hands of police in Nigeria.

The table further, reveals the relationship between the police and Anyigba resident’s relationship description. The data contained in table 3 present a very antagonistic relationship description of the majority 66% sturdy response, followed by 24% concurring to antagonist relationship, and 9.8% are indifferent, while 0.2% claims a cordial relationship. This findings clearly shows the undertone factor that also contributes to police inefficiency in the community, this is because public perception of the police to great extent affects crime rate in the society. Furthermore, the findings reveals one of the causes of police residents antagonistic relationship in the table which reveals typologies of uncivilized handling the residents suffer from police inappropriate policing styles and strategies.

Figure 1 Percentage distribution of respondent’s responses



Source: field survey, 2017

Figure one of pie chart illustration shows that majority of the respondents constituting 34% claimed that poor response of the police to emergency situation and excessive demand for bribe are the reason for antagonistic relationship as depicted by the red colour pie chart, and 29% of the respondents reveals that laxity in discharge of duty and injustice in prosecution department (intimidation, nepotism and tribalism) constitute reason for police residents antagonistic relationship as shown in the grey colour pie chart, and 19% indicated that crime collaboration for selfish benefit which is evident in bias judgment contribute to police residents antagonistic relationship, while the least 18% claimed that ineffectiveness in police dispensation of duty constitute reasons for resident police antagonistic relationship.

Figure 2: Percentage distribution of respondent’s responses

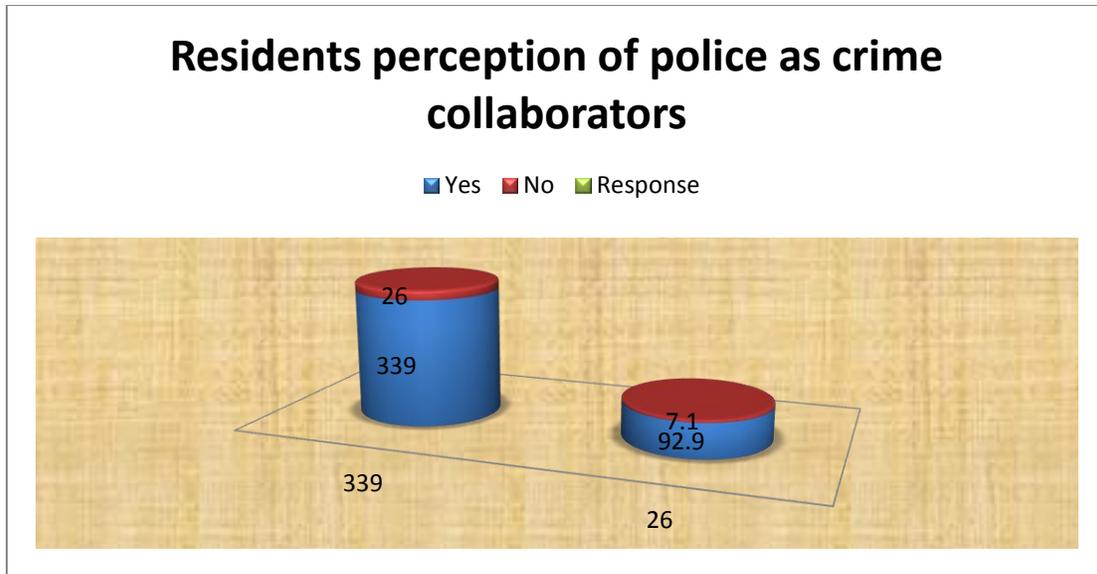


Figure 2 of stacker cylinder illustration above reveals that majority 92.9% as shown in the stack perceived the police to be crime collaborators in the study area, while the least 7.1% of the respondents indicate that the police are not crime collaborators. This finding is in line with the perception Okoiye, (2011), that the police force who in his intellectual contribution asserted that the Nigeria Police organization has consistently been under serious negative public criticisms. This view was also shared by Aremu, (2009), in his word the police has always been accused of being inhuman and lacking behavioural integrity, a situation which usually leads to suspicion of the police by the public, even when the police are embarking on their rightful duties

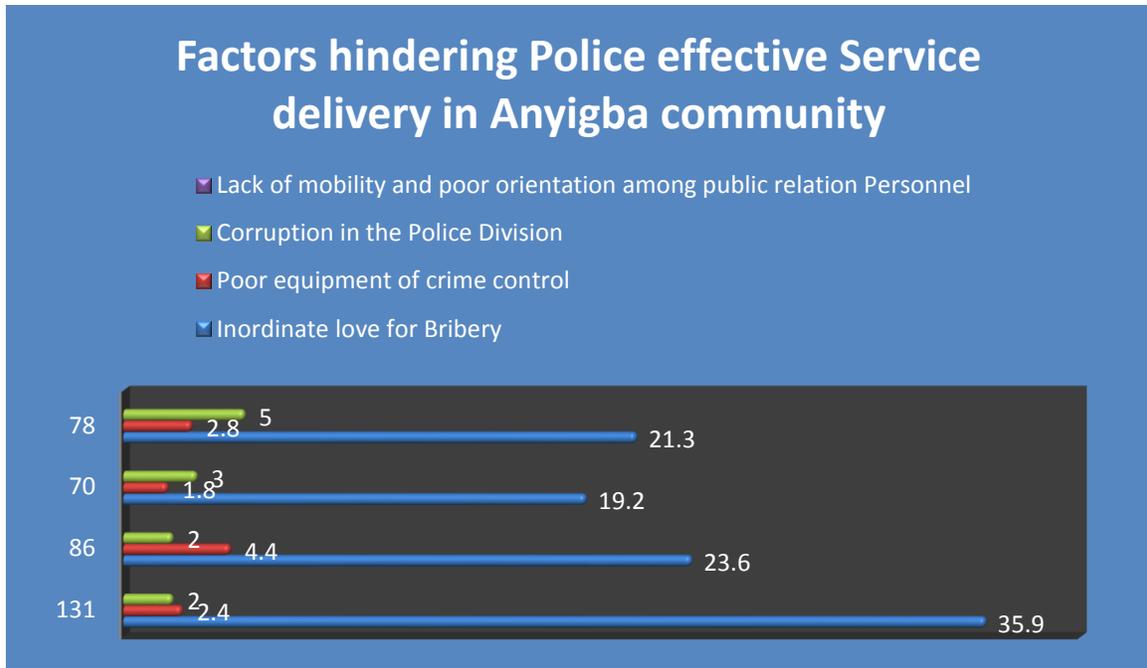
Table 4: Frequency Distribution showing Public perception of the Challenges to Nigeria Police efficiency Anyigba Community N=365

Variable	Response	Frequency	Percentages
Are they Factors hindering Police effective Service delivery in Anyigba Community	Yes	365	100
	No	-	0
	Total	365	100

Source: field survey, 2017

Analysis of data contained in table above, it is apparent that they are factors that hinder police effective service delivery in Anyigba community as total study participants 100% attest to this. This finding agrees with the view of Osayande (2008) who observes that the Nigeria police, from inception, was built on a wrong foundation, and according to Onyeozili (2005), these foundational policing orientations and pre-occupations, have overtime encouraged police brutality and terror against their opponents in post-independence political power struggles.

Figure 3: percentage distribution of respondent’s responses



Source: field survey, 2017

Figure 3 present respondents view points on factors hindering police effective service delivery in Anyigba community. Findings from field survey shows that majority 35.9% asserts that inordinate love for bribery by police personnel in the community constitute factors hindering effective service delivery to the community, followed by 23.6% who claimed that poor equipment of crime control hinders police effective service delivery, and 19.2% reveals that corruption in the police division serve as constraints to effective service delivery, while 21.3% indicates that lack of mobility and poor orientation among public relation personnel constitutes factors hindering police effective service delivery in Anyigba community. This means that demand for bribe, poor equipment, corruption and poor orientation of the police personnel among others are constraints to police effective service delivery. These findings uphold the views of Ladapo, (2012), that corruption is major challenge militating against effective performance of the Nigeria police. This is because Nigeria police is not immune to the culture of corruption which is pervasive in the Nigeria society. Furthermore, the findings concur with Adebayo and Ojo (2009) and Kasali (2012), the problem of corruption in the Nigeria police force has really gone too far to mar the image of the agency in the eyes of the public. Consequently, the findings also justifies Osayande (2008), who asserts assertion that evidence abound of the involvement of personnel of the Nigeria police force in organized acts of pretense and collusion with unknown persons to perpetrate different offences, such as escape from lawful custody, obtaining money from suspects for closure of case files, escorting of contraband and stolen goods, stealing from suspects and accident victims, receiving bribes in order not to effect arrest of crime suspects, receiving bribes from a person in order to arrest an innocent citizen who is not in good terms with the bribe giver, and supplying of police arms and uniforms to armed robbers for a fee, among others.

Interview conducted also show that that the socio-political order has adversely influenced police performance because as an agency it is underfunded and the state government is doing nothing about it. The respondents suggested that there is the need for necessary facilities to be provided for the police to enable them to perform their functions effectively. These respondents concluded by pointing out that police/public relationship should be strengthened to improve the performance of the police, and the

police should shun collection of bribery at road side, demand for money for bailing a suspect and collaborating with some thugs in the community for illicit gain.

Table 5: Frequency Distribution showing Public perception of the Nigeria Police force Crime control approach/impact of public perception of police on crime Division in Anyigba Community N=365

Variables	Response	Frequency	Percentages
Do you think police approach to crime management makes them ineffective in crime control	Yes	365	100
	No	-	0
	Total	365	100
Do you agree that public perception of the police influence crime rate/reduces crime rate	Yes	365	100
	No	-	0
	Total	365	100

Source: field survey, 2017

Investigating into the impact of police crime control management approach in the community, it was discovered that the crime management pattern to a great extent make the Nigeria police personnel ineffective in crime control as evident in the total (100%) study participants. Data contained in table 5 above also shows that total respondents, representing 100% reveals that public perception of the police does influence crime rate and reduces crime in the society. This findings show that the Nigeria police personnel cannot combat crime in the society without the citizens seeing them as institution of law and order and machinery for social re-engineering.

Discussion of Findings

The main purpose of this study was to bring to lime light the role of the police in crime control and challenges to service delivery efficiency by personnel of the Nigeria police. The Research Questions of study linked with findings are:

Q.1 Do Anyigba residents enjoy the service of Nigeria police personal?

This question was asked to find out if Anyigba residents enjoyed the service of Nigeria Police personnel.

Analysis from the field survey reveals that Anyigba residents to a large extent enjoyed the services of Nigeria police personnel in the community. Such services among others as shown in table 2 includes; maintenance of peace (law and order), saving life and property, curtailing criminal activities, settlement of disputes among the residents and investigating crime related activities and arresting deviants.

Q.2 what is the perception of Anyigba residents on the service rendered by the police?

The question aimed at exploring the resident perception of services rendered by the Nigeria police personnel in the community.

Result of analysis of data reveals that majority (90.2%) of the residents are not satisfied with the services rendered to the community by the Nigeria police personnel in the community. A total of 87.4% of the residents expressed dissatisfaction with these services of the police. Furthermore, findings from table 2 shows that irrespective of resident dissatisfaction with the police services, both can still work together to control crime in the community as indicated by total (100%) of the participants. However, 99.2% suffered from uncivilized policing styles and strategies in the community. Such uncivilized practices include; verbal assault and attacks, slapping, kicking and beating, injuring, torture and threat to kill. These have resulted in about 90% resident becoming antagonistic to the police in Anyigba community. Findings

in Figure one of pie chart illustration reveals fundamental reasons aside from police uncivilized policing styles and strategies which includes; poor response of the police to emergency situation and excessive demand for bribe, laxity in discharge of duty and injustice in prosecution of crime (intimidation, nepotism and tribalism), crime collaboration for selfish benefit, bias judgment, and ineffectiveness in police dispensation of duty constitute reasons for resident police antagonistic relationship. The interview conducted reveals that the public do not have good perception of the police irrespective of the fundamental role they in the protecting of lives and property due to some illicit attitudes of the Nigeria police personnel.

Q.3 What are the challenges confronting the Nigeria police service delivery to Anyigba community?

The question was asked to investigate the problems breaching the police performance in their role to Anyigba community. The answer to the question was found in table 4, 5 and figure 3 of the study. Analysis of data contained in table 4 apparently shows that there are factors that hinder police effective service delivery in Anyigba community. responses from the interview shows that that there are possible factors that impede police effective service delivery in the community which includes social factors high increase in youth involvement in crime due to unemployment, poverty etc. although the police have their own lapses. To some extent these variables have created some problems for the police. The respondent went further to state that the police would not be able to fight the war against crime without the support of the public (Anyigba community). The respondent believed that the depressed economy in the Nigeria is one of the factors that has exacerbated the crime problem and argued that those who are gainfully employed are earning incomes that cannot sustain them. The respondent indicated that the unemployment situation in the country has also deepened the crisis. With all these, the respondent posited that there is no way the police can perform effectively in preventing and controlling crime.

However, data contained in figure 3 highlights these factors which includes; inordinate love for bribery, poor equipment of crime control, corruption in the police division, and lack of mobility and poor orientation among public relation personnel. This finding agrees with Alemika, (2010), that the staff strength of the Nigerian police is grossly inadequate compared to the population of Nigeria. Also in harmony with Osayande (2008), poor funding constitute factor which has greatly inhibited the effective performance of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF), and in accord with the views of Osayande (2008), Adebayo and Ojo (2009), Ladapo, and Kasali, (2012), corruption is major challenge militating against effective performance of the Nigeria police.

Findings from interview conducted further shows that the police themselves are not patriotic enough to perform effectively with the equipment at their disposal. Some other problems facing the police according to this respondent include corruption, Nepotism, poor salary and crime curtailing amenities which could prevent them from performing their duty diligently and as well as the fact that the system generally does not allow the police to be patriotic. The Nigeria society structure according to the respondent is very defective and as a result one should not expect optimum efficiency from the police organization.

Some of the measures to make the police effective according to the respondents include good salaries, better equipment and facilities and as well as the decentralization of the police organization in Nigeria. The respondent further noted that the relationship between the police and the public is not cordial. It was stated further that the society does not see the police as good human beings because of corruption, harassment and intimidation. The respondents concluded that the police are very hostile to members of the public unlike in the developed countries. This, the respondent concluded has adversely affected the performance of the police in Nigeria and for them, the police to a have failed in duty to Anyigba community. To them, they score the police performance in Anyigba Community $^{35}/_{100}$.

The findings of this study applies for the whole country and not one region as various studies by scholars from different field of study have at one point in time conducted studies on police inefficiency to

crime control in Nigeria. Studies like Johnson Olusegun Ajayi and Olukayode Longe (2014) on their study findings in six states of the south western region which are Lagos, Ogun, Oyo, Osun, Ondo and Ekiti titled Public Perception of the Police and Crime–Prevention in Nigeria outlined many factors in line with findings of this study. Similar study was also carried out by Ezenwa Ihedigbo Monday, Felix Aromo Ilesanmi and Haruna Ali, (2013) of their study on Security and Safety Planning in Slum Areas of Jimeta, Adamawa State, Nigeria in Jimeta Local government area of Adamawa state in North East of Nigeria with similar findings. The findings of the study, further proves that the challenge to police inefficiency in combating crime in Nigeria is attributed to many factors as the findings agrees with the findings of Adegok (2014) on the study of Nigeria police and the challenges of security in two Local Government area of Rivers state of the south south Nigeria namely Gokana Tai/Elemo and Bonny which ranges from among others bribery, corruption, quality of training and welfare, logistics and some other materials given to police personnel has significant impact on their performance.

Conclusion

Since human nature is characterized by vigorous struggle for the acquisition of property, people motivated by selfish interest with implicit intentions of recognition and undue advantage at the detriment of others, it is necessary to put these unwholesome attitudes in check. Crime problem can also be solve by improvement in the economy through economic transformation if not police alone cannot be able to control crime as long as there is structural blockage, unemployment, concentration of wealth in few land. These factors cause or force some people into criminal behaviours. So as to have “crime free” society is not by the effort of police alone but by creating a good atmosphere where citizen can have opportunities to realized their ambition and the socially approve goals of society. And for effectively combating crime in the society, the public and the police has to work together to curtail criminality in the community, and the police have to have to be effective and civilized in their policing styles and strategies in the community sweeping uncivilized approached like verbal assault and attacks, slapping, kicking and beating, injuring, torture and threat to kill in performing their duty. There is also moderate level of confidence and trust instead of high level in the police by the public because they are not cooperating with the police in crime control. Lack of logistic, corruption, lack of professionalism and inadequate support by government has impeded the effectiveness of the police in crime control. That is why Alemika (2010) argues that the police are “instrument of oppression and for protecting unjust socio-economic order very corrupt, police suffered crisis of legitimacy and poor performance, lack the autonomy, education, discipline, motivation and effective and efficient crime control”.

Recommendations

This study has identified that the police has not being living up to it primary expectation of crime control in Anyigba community as a result of weak institution. This is not to say that the police cannot be rejuvenated back into being effective and efficient in its primary role and societal expectation. Base on the findings from the study, the following recommendations are made:

- i. The Nigeria police personnel should be more pro-active in their duty to Anyigba community in curtailing criminality, maintaining law and order (peace), and settlement of dispute, and in doing these, they should be fair and just not letting tribalism and nepotism take priority.
- ii. The Nigeria police personnel should shun illicit act of inordinate demand for bribery.

- iii. Existing laws and new ones against corrupt officers among the Nigerian police should be enforced. This requires that corruption in the law enforcement agencies and the judiciary should be combated. Adequate and effective policing with appropriate equipment and good pay are also essentials.
- iv. The police should be properly equipped with uniforms, barack accommodation, modern and sophisticated crime fight technology, vehicles, stationaries and good allowance.
- v. There is need for reorientation of both the senior officers and rank and file of the force toward professionalism. This is because most of them has lost what is called police ethnic of selfless service to the police institution.
- vi. The police – community relation should be reorganized in such a way that it will restored confidence of the public in the police. This can be done through creating awareness through mass median and seminar to the public on their role in assisting the police in crime control and to create avenues where public can report any criminal hide – out with being victimized.

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