



Flexible Skills for Crime Management and Home Security: A Study of Policing Strategies in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study explores flexible skills for crime management and home security, with a specific focus on evaluating contemporary policing strategies in Nigeria. Within the context of growing insecurity and dynamic crime patterns, there is an urgent need to evaluate how the adaptability of diverse flexible skills by law enforcement personnel may help ensure a minimal crime rate and domestic safety in Nigeria. The investigation employs a mixed-methods design, combining questionnaires with interviews involving 420 participants, comprising police officers, security experts, and the public. The study triangulated theoretically, drawing on community policing and routine activities theories. Data was presented in tables and frequencies and subjected to statistical analysis with SPSS. Results revealed orthodox policing techniques are generally weak in tackling contemporary criminality and insecurity. The paper advocated for the integration of flexible skills such as situational adaptability, receptivity to change, problem solving, teamwork, resilience, responsiveness, and resourcefulness into law enforcement training programs to enhance policing strategies for effective crime management and home security.

Keywords: Crime Management, Flexible Skills, Home Security, and Policing Strategies.

Original Research Articles

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1. INTRODUCTION

Crime remains a persistent threat to peace, stability, and development in Nigeria. From urban settlements to the country side, insecurity manifests in various forms such as violent theft, hostage taking, cult violence, cattle rustling, cyber-criminality, domestic terrorism and many other felonious and treasonable crimes (Jackson and Etudaye, 2025; Dauda, 2024; Aderounmu, 2021). The increased criminality has impacted negatively on home security which is an integral component of the general security landscape, prompting increased investment in security infrastructure, increased budgetary allocation to the security sector, police reforms and training, and introduction of community policing aimed at sharpening the technical and non-technical capacity of police personnel to deal with the contemporary reality of crime. However, these efforts have yielded very little positive outcomes if any in terms of home security, as criminals continue to operate unfettered, destroying lives and property, rendering people impaired, and defrauding victims across

communities in Nigeria's six geopolitical zones (Yunusa and Usman, 2022).

Several factors have been identified as accounting for the ineffectiveness of police in tackling the menace of crime and ensuring home security in Nigeria. Among the factors are obsolete policing techniques, poor intelligence gathering and utilization capability, endemic corruption, inadequate resources, poor welfare and lack of motivation, poor training and professionalism, political interference, and poor public perception and community relations (Joseph et al., 2024; Agbefe et al., 2023; Nwagboso and Nwagboso, 2021). The above situation calls for re-assessment of the current crime policing techniques with focus on how integrating flexible skills into the training programs of the police, could improve police capacity to achieve a crime minimal society.

Flexible skills sometimes called soft or agility skills refers to ability to adapt to new situations, take on unexpected hurdles and work with diverse people and task. Some of the key components of flexible skills like communication, negotiation,



emotional intelligence, community engagement, conflict management, cultural sensitivity, and strategic thinking enable law enforcement officers to effectively manage crime, interact more effectively with citizens, de-escalate volatile situations, and build trust with the public and ensure safer homes (Craig et al. 2022). Rather than the current weaponized and inflexible approach, flexible skills encourages policing techniques that are preventive, community founded, more people-centric and enduring. Moreover, the digitalized reality of contemporary crime perpetration calls for novel skills and aptitude that outpace physical enforcement.

Sadly, the prevailing training and operational strategies of the Nigerian police often do not or at best encapsulate minimal development and application of flexible skills such as communication, negotiation, conflict resolution, emotional intelligence, and cultural sensitivity. The lack of these soft skills in policing not only hampers the effectiveness of crime management but also undermines home security, as officers are ill-equipped to engage with communities in a constructive and trust-building manner (Yunusa and Usman, 2022). As a result, crime persists, public confidence in security agencies dwindles, and communities continue to bear the brunt of criminal activities.

Criminology literature is replete with empirical studies across the globe on the positive impact of flexible skills on policing activities. For example, investigation carried out by Awadh (2023) in the Indian State of Gujarat revealed that law enforcement personnel who participated in training programs centered on effective communication and conflict resolution have helped close the gaps between police and the public, bringing peace and stability and become one of the most admired models of policing techniques.

A study in Denmark by Bloksgaard and Prieur (2021) to determine the effect of empathy and other emotional embodied centered police training programs revealed that it helps in enhancing police public relations and reduction in complaints against police personnel. Deduction from the above studies is that flexible skills could be learned and acquired with great potential for enhancing police performance when rightly integrated. In a related development, Oghogho et al. (2024) study in Nigeria reports that inadequate emotional and ethical content in police education programs has led to misconduct, loss of public confidence, and impacted negatively on police ability to effectively combat crime.

Although there are multiple studies on policing strategies focusing majorly on tactics and community relations, only few focused on the role of flexible skills in enhancing policing strategies for effective crime management and home security. The gap between the security needs of the public and policing techniques in Nigeria is what this study seeks to bridge. This study explore how flexible skills could be integrated into police training programs to sharpen policing techniques for effective crime management and home security. It aims to examine the current state of flexible skill application, challenges faced, and potential improvements to policing strategies in Nigeria. This is

significant because it would provide empirical insights into how non-technical competencies influence effectiveness of policing strategies, inform the design of more comprehensive training for officers, and promote mutual trust and cooperation in the management of crime.

2. CONCEPTUAL CLARIFICATION

2.1 Flexible Skills

Flexible skills such as cultural sensitivity, strategic thinking, and problem-solving are quintessential for contemporary law enforcement activities. These skills allow officers to de-escalate tense situations, understand community concerns, and promote peaceful interactions. In the Nigerian policing context, where relations between the police and the public are often strained, soft skills can help rebuild trust and foster collaboration. Officers trained in these competencies are more likely to succeed in crime prevention and community engagement, especially in diverse and volatile environments.

2.2 Crime Management

Crime refers to any act that violates the law and is punishable by the state. In Nigeria, crime takes various forms such as theft, assault, kidnapping, terrorism, cybercrime, and domestic violence. Crime management involves a range of activities aimed at preventing, controlling, and responding to criminal activities. It includes strategic planning, intelligence gathering, community involvement, and law enforcement actions.

Effective crime management is not solely dependent on brute force or technology, but also on the ability of security personnel to understand the social, cultural, and emotional dimensions of crime. This requires a balanced approach that integrates both hard and soft skills

2.3 Home Security

Home security refers to the measures taken by individuals, families, and communities to protect lives and property from criminal threats. In Nigeria, increasing insecurity has led to a rise in private security arrangements, installation of surveillance systems, and neighborhood watch groups. However, without the active support and collaboration of formal security agencies, these efforts often fall short. The presence of flexible skills among security personnel enhances public engagement, encourages information sharing, and builds trust—critical elements for promoting safety at the household and community levels.

2.4 Policing Strategies

Policing strategies refers to varied approaches deployed in ensuring social orderliness and combating criminal activities. Evolution of policing to its modern status also involved migration through different models in bid to effectively counter crime and bring criminals to justice; some of which includes traditional, hot-spots, intelligence-based, predictive, zero-tolerance, and community policing.

2.4.1 Traditional Policing

Traditional policing method focuses on reactive response to reports of crime, response to calls for service, preventive patrols, police check points and investigative work after the incidence of criminal events. The strategy ensures swift response to emergencies and encourages visible presence of guardianship that helps deter potential offenders (De Vires & Farrell 2022; Congram et al. 2013). However, it does not reduce crime, requires a large pool of personnel, tends to emphasize arrest, create a disconnect with the community, and often entails the use of force (Opio et al. 2022). Some scholars have partially blamed the use of traditional policing methodology for the ineffectiveness of the Police in managing Nigeria crime problem (Yunusa and Usman, 2022; Owonibi and Ukawilulu, 2020; Ordu and Nnam, 2017; Ikuteyijo, 2009).

2.4.2 Problem oriented Policing (POP)

This method entails identifying and dealing with the root causes of crimes and social disorder through information analysis, design of a tailored response, assessment of the effects of the response, and collaborative problem-solving. According to Bullock, et al (2021), a popular formula of problem-oriented policing is the SARA Model which involves identifying and prioritizing problems, analyzing the causes and characteristics of the problem, developing and implementing tailored solutions, and **assessing** the effectiveness of the implemented responses.

Although the strategy may yield solutions in the long-run, ensure resources are more efficiently deployed, minimize crime rates, and promote feeling of community safety, it is often criticized for requiring costly specialized training and time-intensive (CP, 2022).

2.4.3 Intelligence -based Policing (IBP)

Intelligence-based policing is a model that focused on data collection and the utilization of analytics technology to generate intelligence, intended to avert criminal acts before they occur (Okoru et al., 2024, Carter, et al. 2014). The model uses intelligence gathering and analysis to identify crime trends, predict future crime, and target resources effectively.

According to Khalifa and Hardyns (2023), the cardinal principles of intelligence -led policing are data founded decision making, risk evaluation, proactive policing, optimum deployment of resources, collaboration, and information sharing. The effective use of this model depends on triple structure and triple processes. While the structure consists of the criminal space, intelligence and decision-making, the structure embodies interpretation, influence and the impact (Okoru et al., 2024; Ibrahim, Alblooshi & Kassim, 2022).

Advocates of intelligence-led policing list improved resource allocation, reduced crime rates, encouragement of targeted investigations, and improved community relations among others as the strong points of the model. Nonetheless, the model over reliance on digital technology raises privacy concerns (Okoru et al., 2024).

2.4.4 Hot Spots Policing (HSP)

Hot spot policing is a crime prevention strategy that focuses police resources and enforcement on hot-bed of crime within a community, such as buildings, street blocks, and subway stations. This policing strategy is a fall out from studies which reported that most crimes are clustered in hot spots where large number of criminal activities takes place, and that most crimes could be effectively combated if law enforcement officers target these deviant neighborhoods and potentially minimizing crime in the broader surroundings (Ariel, 2023; Bragga, et al. 2019).

The key aspect of this model as identified by Ariel (2023), includes targeted allocation of resources to the epicenters of crime, aggressive enforcement, problem- oriented policing, crime mapping and spatial analysis to optimize patrol routes and improve effectiveness.

Weaknesses of this technique include displacement of criminal activity, stigmatization of certain areas and residents as crime prone and concentration of policing in some areas to the detriment of other vicinities (Telep, 2023; CP, 2022).

2.4.5 Predictive Policing

This strategy uses computer systems to analyze large sets of data, including historical crime data, to help decide where to deploy police or to identify individuals who are potentially more likely to commit or be a victim of a crime. Its attraction lies in the ability of computer algorithms to precisely forecast crime incidents without bias compared to law enforcement personnel who may be depending on their instincts alone. Also, predictive policing reduces expenditures in police departments through efficiency of crime-reduction efforts. However, agencies that administer predictive policing generally lacks transparency and may reinforce racial biases in the system of justice provision (Lau, 2020).

2.4.6 Community Policing.

Community policing strategy focuses on building relationships with the community, addressing local priorities, and involving citizens in problem-solving. The method ensures increased community trust, improved crime prevention, and reduced fear of crime. This requires significant investment in training and community engagement, and sometimes can be challenging to implement effectively. The above strategies have over the years been integrated in one form or the other into the management of crime in Nigeria, but challenges of lopsided training, poor funding, corruption, and minimal community trust hinder their success. The thesis of this paper is that integration of flexible skills in law enforcement training will sharpen policing strategies for effective crime management and home security.

3. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The study was grounded on two established criminological theories; community policing and routine activities theory that provides useful insights in understanding

policing techniques, crime management and home security, especially as it relates to flexible skills.

3.1 Community Policing Theory

This theory is a democratic-based framework that centers on the partnership between police and the community as a fundamental strategy for curbing crime and maintaining public order (Okpa and Tyover, 2024). It advocates for decentralized policing where officers engage with locals to collaboratively develop locally tailored solutions (Weerawardhana and Wijewardhana, 2024; Yero et al. 2012). Other key aspects of this theory include problem solving, decentralization, proactive engagement and accountability which ultimately promotes public trust, improve relationships, and enhance the overall safety of neighborhoods. In the current context flexible skills such as communication, empathy, and conflict resolution are quintessential for effective crime management and home safety when applying community policing. Community policing manifested in foot patrols, town hall gathering, neighborhood watch, and youth outreach programs was introduced in Nigeria as a paradigm shift to close the gap between the police and the public, promote mutual understanding, and foster collaborative crime management.

3.2 Routine Activities Theory

According to Jubaer and Hassan (2021), routine activities theory which was popularized by Cohen, Felson, and Clarke direct attention to the processes that produce criminal events rather than causal factors behind criminal behaviors. The theory posits that the daily activities of individuals such as the path they follow to and from school, where they worship, the people they interact with, the market they patronize, and the organizations where they work, play key role in determining the time, location and who becomes a victim of crime. These activities could make crime less difficult and less risky, or difficult and highly risky because opportunities vary over period, locations and among people, so also is the possibility of crime.

The theory offers an explanation of crime events based triple conditions that characterize regular activities of people; presence of attractive targets and opportunities, low level of guardianship, and the presence of motivated offenders. The conditions singly or together could create a high possibility for individuals or groups to be victimized (Hollis, Felson and Welsh, 2013; Arelys and Fisher, 2012). Neighborhoods having adequate guardianship, digital surveillance installations, and non-state self-protection teams (vigilante) are less likely to have

their resident experiencing victimization, hence provision of guardianship is an instrumentality for reducing crime (Abdullahi et al., 2022). This probably explains the reduced levels of crime in rich areas such as Maitama, Wuse, Festac, Broad Street, Gwarimpa, Asokoro in Abuja despite availability of suitable opportunities.

This theory supports the integration of flexible skills by encouraging police officers to be observant, adaptive, and proactive in identifying vulnerabilities in home security and public spaces. Flexible skills enable officers to communicate risks effectively to residents and engage them in preventative measures. Together, the theories provide a holistic framework for understanding how integration of flexible skills into police training curriculum would positively impact on policing strategies for effective crime management and home safety. They underscore the shift from military centered enforcement to more participatory, situational, and relational approaches that prioritize community engagement and adaptability.

4. METHODOLOGY

The target population consisted of the totality of police officers in selected state headquarters A (67), B (67), C (67), D (67) and E (67), security experts, traditional rulers and youth organization leaders.

The investigation employs a mixed-methods design combining questionnaires with interviews involving 420 participants, comprising police officers (402) purposively selected from state police headquarters of Nigeria six geopolitical zones, traditional rulers (6) selected from each local government area closest to the selected police command, security experts (6), and leaders of youth organizations (6) from each local government area. The choice of traditional rulers was based on their role as chief custodian of tradition and culture of the people, while youth leaders were included in the sample because they are often the main perpetrators and victims of crime (Baier and Kliem, 2019; Adegun, 2013) and therefore, collectively are in good standing to evaluate effectiveness of policing strategies.

The data from questionnaires was analyzed using statistical package for social science and presented in descriptive statistics employing frequencies, charts percentages and tables, while qualitative information was analyzed thematically; identifying recurring patterns and themes relevant to flexible skills and policing strategies and used to support quantitative data.

Table 1: Breakdown of Interview Respondents

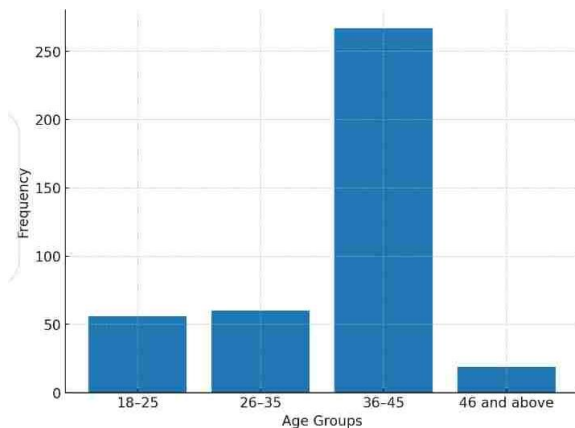
Time	SEs	TRs	YLS	Total
3 HRS	A1	B1	C1	9 HRS
3 HRS	A2	B2	C2	9 HRS
3 HRS	A3	B3	C3	9 HRS
3 HRS	A4	B4	C4	9 HRS

3 HRS 3HRS	A5 A6 6	B5 B6 6	C5 C6 6	9 HRS 9 HRS 18/54 HRS
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Table 1 above shows that a total of sixteen (16) participants were interviewed made up of six (6) security experts (A1-A6), six (6) traditional rulers (B1- B6), and six (6) youth leaders (C1-C6)). Each interview session took three hours.

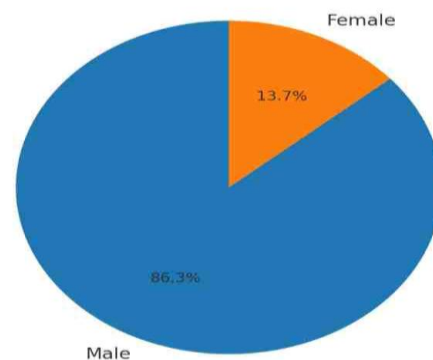
5. FINDINGS

Figure 1: Age Distribution of Respondents



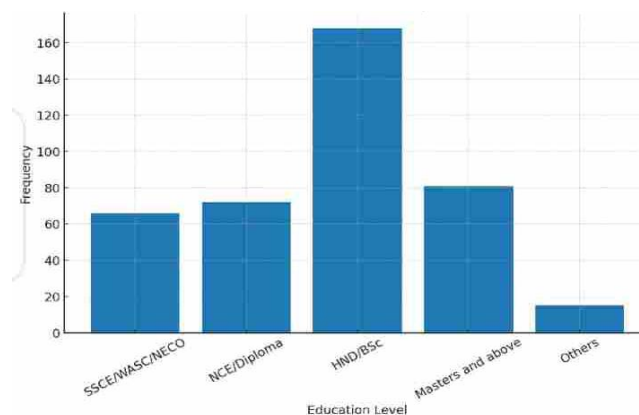
Source: Field report 2025

Figure 2: Sex Distribution of respondents



Source: Field report 2025

Figure 3: Educational Level of Respondents



Source: Field report 2025

Figure 1 indicates that majority of the respondents (86.3%) were male, indicating a higher male representation in the study. Figure 2 shows that most respondents (66.4%) are within the 36-45 age groups, which suggest they adults who have served at least ten years in Nigeria police. Figure 3 reveal that majority

of the respondents (41.7%) are educated to degree or HND and those with the least academic qualification of SSCE are 20.1%. This suggest that most of the respondents are likely to be in the senior officer cadre of the police and all respondents have intellectual capacity to understand items in the research tool.

Table 2: Policing techniques and Police Officers Training

Response Items	Frequency	Percentage
Random patrols and police check points are the most common techniques deployed for managing crime by your unit		
Yes	338	84.0
No	64	16.0
Total	402	100
How would you rate the use of modern policing technology in your unit?		
Adequate	54	13.4
Inadequate	257	64.0
Unsure	91	22.6
Total	402	100
How effective are the policing techniques deployed by your unit?		
Very effective	27	6.70
Effective	69	17.1
Neutral	17	4.2
Very ineffective	88	22.0
Ineffective	201	50.0
Total	402	100
When last did you attend any police training course?		
Last 2 years	187	46.5
Last 4 years	133	33.0
Last 6 years	30	7.5
Never attended	52	13.0
Total	402	100
Are emotional intelligence, conflict resolution, effective communication, cultural sensitivity, and strategic thinking part of the training?		
Yes	41	10.2
No	262	65.2
Not sure	99	24.6
Total	402	100
How would you rate the gaps in police officers training?		
High	175	43.5
Moderate	131	32.5
Low	96	24.0
Total	402	100
Reports of security breaches and theft in homes is very high		
Yes	341	84.8
No	61	15.2
Total	402	100
Majority of community members are often willing to join Neighborhood Watch organizations		
Yes	373	92.7
No	29	7.30
Total	402	100

Source: Field report 2025

Table 2 reveal that majority of participants (84%) agree that random patrols and police road blocks are the most common techniques deployed by the police. More than half (64%) of the respondents believe police application of modern technology in their operations is inadequate. A significant proportion (50%) rate policing strategies in Nigeria ineffective. Majority of respondents (46.5%) have attended police training in the last two years. Most respondent (65.2%) said flexibles skills were

not part of their training curriculum. For majority of respondents (43.5%), the gap in police training was high. More than half (84.8%) said reports of security breaches and theft in homes was very high, which calls for better strategies. Majority of respondents (92.7%) reported high interest of community members in enlisting into community watch groups which suggest community engagement potential.

Table 3: Improving Policing Techniques

Response Item	Frequency	Percentage
Rate public trust in police institution		
Very high	25	6.2
High	31	7.7
Moderate	50	12.4
Low	198	49.3
Very low	98	24.4
Total	402	100
Which of the following is the most appropriate for improving police effectiveness?		
Buying more weapons	31	7.70
Increased funding	49	12.2
Use of new technologies	93	23.1
Improving community policing	187	46.5
Motivation of police officers		
Total	42	10.5
	402	100

Source: Field report 2025

Table 3 shows that majority of respondents (49.2%) rated public trust in the Nigeria police low suggesting poor police public relation. Data also shows majority of respondents (46.5%) believe in the potential of community policing in effectively addressing Nigeria crime problem. general dissatisfaction with current policing strategies. This agree with the premise that flexible which are critical in actualizing community policing should be fully incorporated into police training.

6. DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The study found out that conventional methods of crime management such as random patrols and police check points often deployed by the Nigeria police area ineffective. The findings are in tandem with Joseph et al. (2024) and Agbefe et al. (2023) that identified obsolete policing techniques as one of the factors responsible for failure of the force to effectively counter the menace of crime and insecurity in Nigeria. Correlating the finding a respondent said:

The Nigerian police are known for using the same old methods and expecting new results. The average police officer still operates with colonial mentality of using force, intimidating citizens, using outdated techniques such road blocks, random arrest and using outdated communication gadgets. This I believe is why different types of crime especially kidnaping happens every day across the country with no hope of coming down. Policing styles have been modernized globally focusing on new digital technology and friendly relationship with communities to help prevent crime, but Nigeria police refuse to change. We are really not safe in this country (A2).

In a related development, another respondent explained:

I believe police people in Nigeria must change their tactics if they actually want crime to reduce drastically. Just imagine, police men mounting check point on the express way of our community were attacked by armed robbers. Their immediate

action was to jump into my community shooting up and arresting innocent youths indiscriminately and in the process about five person women and children inclusive were hit by stray bullet. Why did they not equip themselves with body camera to capture the pictures of the armed robbers? If the suspect any one in my community, evidence in the camera is enough to identify the offenders rather than beating, shooting and arresting anyone they see. Honestly, there is need for reform in the police (B2).

The expressions of these participants suggest the need for a more dynamic, modernized and community friendly strategy for addressing the current reality of crime.

The study uncovered that majority of police officers attend regular training at least once in two years. However, a significant proportion of respondents lack awareness of key soft skills like emotional intelligence, cultural sensitivity, and strategic thinking, thereby negatively impacting on capacity to effectively deliver on their core mandate. The findings are supported by Yunusa and Usman (2022) whose study reveal that absence of soft skills among Nigerian police officers result to poor crime management strategies and undermines internal safety, and Awadh (2023) who reported that police officer's participation in training programs on communication and conflict management have fostered positive police public relations, minimal crime levels and community orderliness. Supporting the findings, a participant said:

The truth is that most Nigeria police personnel behave as if they are not well trained. They are not friendly, rather than resolving conflict peacefully, they tend aggravate disagreement between complainants by their approach to issues. When persons in conflict even decide to settle out of police sometime the IPO will say the law must take its course. They have no respect for elders, youths and women. They forget that these people can help provide useful information on criminal gangs in their domain (C3).

Also, a respondent explained;

The reason I cannot report suspicious activities to the police is because of the way most of them react. A friend of mine while going to farm found some persons he believed were kidnappers sharing booties in an abandoned farm house. He quickly ran to the nearest police station to give them the information. At first, the police did not believe him and started dragging feat, when he insisted, a team from the station decided to raid the farm house with no one at sight as they already finished the sharing and dispersed. My friend was detained and beating to stupor. I am not ready for that ugly experience while trying to help the police (C4)

The view above highlights the gap in police training curriculum, the security needs of the public, and policing methodologies

Data revealed that majority of respondent's rate public trust in police institution low, but most show a strong willingness to join Neighborhood guardianship groups. This point to a serious credibility and trust gap and suggest great optimism in the potential of community policing technique in tackling Nigeria crime problem. Thus, apart from concern about crime, Nigerians are willing to actively participate in collaboration with law enforcement agencies to ensure safety.

Corroborating the data, an interviewee said:

Well, if I observe the presence of suspicious person in my community, I will not go to the police direct. I prefer to report to local vigilante for action, because even if they could not find the suspects I will not be arrested or beaten because they know I cannot lie to them if I did not see such persons. And if the community select me to join the vigilante, I will gladly join because it is much easier for the vigilante group to collaborate with the police than I as an individual (C6)

The above view suggests that apart from concern about crime, Nigerians are willing to actively participate in collaboration with law enforcement agencies to ensure safety.

7. CONCLUSION

The study examined the current state of flexible skill application, challenges faced, and potential for enhancing policing strategies for effective crime management and home security in Nigeria. Findings reveal that while **security** breaches, home theft and other criminal activities remain worrisome among Nigerians, the conventional crime management strategies deployed by the police are considered largely ineffective. This calls for a paradigm shift to a more inclusive, dynamic and people- oriented policing founded on the integration of flexible skills into police training programs to content with the current reality of crime.

The study concludes that flexible skills are not only useful but quintessential for modern crime management. A shift in paradigm to a more inclusive, skill-driven, and community-centered policing technique will be vital in building safer homes and a minimal crime Nigerian society.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, we propose the

following to sharpen policing strategies for effective crime management and home security in Nigeria.

First, there should be deliberate investment in the training and retraining of police personnel on flexible crime management skills. These skills should include emotional intelligence, digital surveillance, intelligence gathering, negotiation techniques, community relations, and the use of modern technology. Such training will enhance their capacity to respond effectively to the current reality of crime in Nigeria.

Second, citizens should be sensitized vigorously on their important role as security stakeholders and the advantages of community policing. Sensitization through the instrumentality of mass media, town hall meetings, and outreach programs could encourage participation and foster the principle of collective responsibility for crime management.

Third, the state and police leadership should tap into the benefits of digitalized operations through the use of tools like body cameras, crime mapping software, digital surveillance cameras, and advance communication systems. The availability and deployment of these tools in police operations will promote efficiency and ensure accountability.

Fourth, public trust is a quintessential ingredient for effective policing, since it impacts on the readiness of citizens to report crimes, provide intelligence, and participate collaborative security operations. Therefore, attempts should be made towards continuous building of citizen's trust in the police. This is possible through transparency and fairness in handling cases, proactive reactions to crime events, and police accountability. Furthermore, a more potent police-community partnerships is possible through establishment of community security committees where members of neighborhood and police teams gather frequently to articulate security issues and how to counter them.

Finally, the Nigerian Police authority should adopt flexible and community-based policing as part of national security plan. The plan will ensure a more responsive, local specific and inclusive policing strategy for managing crime and ensuring community safety.

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