

Community Policing activities of civilian militia in Rivers State, Nigeria: Implications on Community Development.

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Abstract

The study critically examines current efforts of volunteer groups to secure their communities. a model of community policing in Rivers state. This method of community policing is a strong partnership and collaborative efforts of the civilian militia groups and members of the public with a view to protecting lives and properties in the area. The effective implementation of community policing will guarantee public safety and security. It increases public awareness that victims and their offenders are community members, and that this civilian militia groups are both community members and State agents of social control, who are concerned about peace security in society. This method of policing has helped most communities to identify and incisively address societal problems with full supports of government. However, challenges such as lack of concern of some members of the society and inactive participation, limited material resource for co-ordinating policing activities, unnecessary use of coercion and threats to enforce public compliance with rules is frustrating efforts to improve stabilize co-operation which is a precondition for effective community policing. Therefore, it is suggested among other things that, the Local and State Government should by legitimation adopt the groups as State-owned vigilante group via the instrumentality of a law which must be duly passed by the Rivers State House of Assembly. However the excesses which tend to negate the success of their policing actives should be checked to avoid miss use of power.

Date of Submission: 03-04-2021

Date of Acceptance: 17-04-2021

I. INTRODUCTION

Maintenance of peace and security is an issue of concern to practically all societies in the globe be it developed or developing. Owing to the frequent rise in the rate of crime, individuals, states and nations are devising means of curbing the menaces associated with it. In Nigeria, the case is not different. This misconduct continues to devastate and ravage many lives and properties, and the rural communities becomes the most culprits. Within the reach the communities, in order to combat criminality, they form civilian militia which is viewed in this paper as community policing. The militia group has its basic objective as the protection of levies and properties of members of the community. Although the global community is persistently transiting from traditional form of policing to a more systematic and formalized community policing (Okiro, 2007). Indeed, there is a paradigm shift from the traditional police system to community participatory system of community policing. As crime inadvertently increases, the government particularly its whole criminal justice system is being pointed fingers for failing to control and maintain security, to ensure every citizen lives in a safe and secure environment. Dambazau (2011) views crime as an act or omission divergent to public concern, and which is approved by act passed by the legislature in the common interests of the society, and to which prescribed penalty is involved in the occasion of defilement. The high rate of crimes in society today can be explained by the precariousness and failure, as well as significant dynamics and societal preconceptions. Community base crime deteriorates the social fabric by destroying the sense of protection and security. It upsets the society in various methods depending on the nature and extent to which the crime is committed. Crime generates a problem when its manifestation is rampant in the society as it constitutes a menace to the security of lives and property, as well as social order and coherence. Degu (2014) view crime violation as a conduct disrespectful to the criminal laws of a state, the federal government, or a local jurisdiction, for which there is no legally acceptable justification or defense.

Community base crime is one of the major obstacles facing our society today. The index of this is obvious in that no day passes without the media resounding reports of one form of crime or another, ranging from murder, forcible rape, aggravated assault, gangsters, kidnapping, arm robbery, burglary to motor vehicle theft etc. This community base crime is a threat to the economic, political and social security of the community and a chief factor related to community underdevelopment especially in Rivers State which is the focus of this study. The reason is that it discourages both local and foreign investors, decreases the quality of life, destroys human and social capital, impedes relationship amongst citizens and the states, consequently undermining rule of law, democracy, and the ability of the society to uphold development (Degu, 2014).

The menace of criminal gangs in recent time in the axis of Emohua local government, Eleme/ Bori local government axis, Isiopko/ Elele axis of Rivers State is out of proportion. Their deadly exploits have sent countless homes with wailing and groaning. It is apparent that the insecurity of life and property is a deterrent to both local and foreign investors to the state. Although the state is fast developing, but these LGA and those with similar situations of insecurity are still far from the development wave in the state. These occurrences send danger signal to community development activities in a community.

Community development is considered as a process of given an intense determination to develop a community with the aim of improving the superiority of life of its members (Rahim and Asnarulkhadi, 2010). The ultimate objective of community development is to develop members' capabilities to affect their well-being and superiority of life through maximizing resources to benefit them socially and economically. This could only be realized through real management of community based crimes via community policing in the form of civilian militia.

Rivers State has twenty three local government areas, only four local government areas though majorly affected by crime related activities has formed the civilian militia groups. Hanachor (2019) had earlier x-rayed the activities of Omoku Security Peace Advisory Committee (OSPAC) in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni LGA and Rundele, Odegu Security Peace Advisory Committee (ROSPAC) in Emohua local government. With the increasing wave of crime and the need to maintain peace order in these crime prone areas, more civilian militia groups sprang up with the aim of policing their communities. Notable among them are; Ogbakiri Security Peace Advisory Committee (OBGASPAC). Oduoha Security Peace Advisory Committee in Emohua LGA. Aluu Security Peace Advisory Committee in Ikwerre LGA. Akpor Security Planning and Advisory Committee in Obio/Akpor LGA. Seven brothers of K-Dere and B-Dere. Seventeen brothers, drawn from the four local government areas in Ogoni land (Eleme, Tai, Kana and Gokana) just to mention a few. These bodies and many others, are volunteer groups that are committed to the security and the policing of their communities in Rivers State. Community policing links people of the society with police to combat crime. It brings the community members directly in charge of resolving both criminal and civil maladies. The reason is to involve the community in the security of the citizenry and improvement of lives, security and community relationships for enhance community development. The essence of community involvement is born out of the view that Nigerian police force alone can neither build nor maintain a safe and sustainable security in our communities. With the incessant occurrence of internal crime, and lack of security presence in the rural communities, the task of protecting lives and property cannot be accomplished hence the shift of police responsibility (Rahim and Asnarulkhadi, 2010). Since the hope of citizens from the government to safeguard and guarantee their lives and safety seems impossible the call for other security outfits.

According to United State Nations report from the last World Population Review in July 1, 2020, Nigerian's population was estimated to be about 206 million, based on forecasts of the latest United Nations Data. Emphasizing the need for community policing in Rivers State and others in Nigeria, the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Mohammed Adamu through DIG Operations, Abdulmajid Ali at the National Assembly decried that the Force cannot cope with the current security challenges, because its strength is about 302,000 personnel (Thisday 2020, February 26 cited in Okwori, 2020). The analysis shows a police-to-citizen ratio of 1:682 which exceeds the UN's recommended ratio of 1:350/400. So, it's obvious that the country is grossly under-policed, and security agencies alone cannot do the job of protecting lives and properties of the citizenry especially in the rural areas of Rivers State. The recognition of community volunteers, in the policing of rural communities will complement the efforts of security agencies to fight crime through the Community Policing approach, though with the support of the Federal, State, Local governments as well as Traditional Rulers, Religious Leaders, the various Community Associations, Town Unions and members of the public.

It is pathetic to state that demographically, most community base crimes in the area are committed by teenagers and young adults. Lack of youth orientation is one of the factors which contribute to high crime rates in the State. In some communities, youths have regularized illegitimate activities like cultism to gain accolade or prestige, and these activities seem to be condoned. Youth crime is a common problem across the State. This high engrossment of young people in criminal deeds mirrors the ineffectiveness of the Nigerian criminal justice system on one hand, and the weakness of informal social controls (community policing) on the other hand. Some communities in the State, are predominantly occupied by youths and young adults, with few elders who

are in alignment with them occupy areas described as 'No-Go-Area' or Warzone. As a result of social vices, frequency of crime in some communities had made people relocate from the areas to less risk or more peaceful areas to avoid being victims. The major obstacle for the community is to assemble together the people to take part in fighting crime in the areas. As many living in the area are still seeing crime prevention and control as the duty of the government alone. The fact that criminals live within community and are often known by community members, makes it important and imperative that people within the community will be more useful in effort to prevent and control crime in their areas.

According to Australian Institute of Criminology AIC, (2012) crime prevention and control are methods applied by individuals, societies, industries, non-government institutions and all tiers of government to target the various social and environmental influences that upsurge the danger of crime, disorder and persecution. Since crime prevention and control is seen as actions that are envisioned to prevent, control or diminish the occurrence of various types of crime, this could be achieved through changing the environments in which they occur by introducing an alternate security outfit, or by superseding the social or other circumstances which are supposed to have fundamental implication with respect to crime. This security outfit will incorporate design of attitudes and actions concentrated at both reducing the vulnerability of crime and improving the sense of protection and security to positively influence the value of life and to develop situations where crime cannot be committed.

Countless struggles by government to prevent and control community base crime in the region through the use of police, courts, correction officers and others who work in the criminal justice structure and in related institution have proved abortive. Observation shows that government considers formal sanctions as a principal deterrent to community base crime and other deviant behaviours, but yet to realize the potency of community outfits in deterring crime. According to Faull, (2011) some mechanisms of the criminal justice system are allegedly ineffective and inefficient due to bureaucracies. Consequently, criminals are often not arrested, and some of those arrested are released on bail without being arraigned and many community based crime cases go undetected (Singh, 2005). Many crime victims withdraw their cases even before they go on trial because they have lost faith in the criminal justice system and due to delays in the criminal courts and also the fear of the subsequent gangs attack on the victim. Hence, collaboration between the criminal justice and community members in fighting, preventing and controlling crime in Rivers State will yield the desired result. Thus, this paper discusses the modalities in which sustainable peace and community development could be restored in unaffected communities of Rivers State through the policing activities of volunteer security outfits.

Concept of Community Policing

Community policing, or policing with the involvement of the community, originated in England, as both a philosophy and organizational strategy that allows the police and the community to work together to solve problems of crime and disorder (Adeyemo, 2005). He further viewed community policing as a paradigm shift established at the bedrock of community partnership in ensuring safe and secure atmosphere, for enhanced community development. Community policing is a dramatic change in the philosophy that determines the way police agencies work with the public to prevent or control crime. It incorporates a philosophy that broadens the police mission from a narrow focus on crime and law enforcement to a mandate encouraging

the exploration of creative solutions for a host of community concerns-including crime, fear of crime, perceptions of disorder, quality of life and neighborhood conditions. It is a policing model whereby the people take active measure in their own affairs. This interventions are not seen as problems but as partners in development and those members of the community are co-producers of justice and quality community service. This fact point to the need of involving the community members, the local government and the police to work together to tackle crime in the communities. Community policing by civilian militia in Rivers State, as a matter of importance emerged as a result of the state of crime in the areas. It started with a civilian militia group "Onelga Security Peace and Advisory Committee", popularly known as OSPAC. Their major aim and objectives is predominantly the safety of lives and properties and improved community development. This security outfit or group was set up in 2016 at Omoku, capital of Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni LGA in Rivers State to combat crime.

Although, the term community policing has at recent time appears to be increasingly popular around the world, and has received a widespread support from government, academics and the media. It has a strong intuitive demand to the general public.

Policing activities of civilian militia in Rivers State.

Community policing seeks to focus on constructive engagement with people who are the end users of the service and re-negotiate the contract between the people and the police thereby building the community co-producers of justice and quality police service (Okeshola & Mudiare, 2013). The civilian militia groups are security outfits whose operations, though local but has logical and useful approach to community policing for crime prevention and control, which entails full involvement and participation of community members. It is an

art of policing that helps to improve in crime detection, prevention and control, which ordinarily would have been difficult, if the local residents were excluded in the art. The moral necessity to adopt this new method (community policing), came as a result of the perceived crime rate in the area, which led organized volunteer civilian militia, a devoted security outfit to enforce of law and order for sustainable peace and development.

The objectives is to ensure that crime and anti-social behavior are totally eradicated by reassuring the local community residents of peace and safety, reduce fear of crime and anti-social behavior, encourage hospitality and closer communities, and enhance the quality of life for local residents and tenants (Okeshola & Mudiare, 2013).

To achieve these objectives the groups carry out policing activities ranging from patrol, stop and search, responding to distress calls, mounting of road blocks, mediating over disputes, fight against cultists or criminals etc.

Routine patrol: The civilian militia groups carry out routine patrols in all the communities where they operate. They patrol both day and night to make their presence felt by criminals, and a way to deter criminal minded persons from crime.

Stop and search: In addition to patrolling communities of operation, the militia groups also stop and search any person or group with suspicious look or action. By this act the militia militia groups are able to keep the community from criminal activities.

Responses to distress calls. In all the communities where civilian militia groups operates in Rivers State, they make their phone numbers available to the public. In the event of any crime related act they respond promptly. Their quick response to distress calls in many communities of Rivers State, had prevented so many attempts on lives and properties of members of the community.

Mounting of road blocks. The civilian militia in communities of Rivers State usually mount road blocks in crime prone areas. The road blocks are on road that link one community to the other. The belief is that most criminals and criminal activities come from outside the community, though in collaboration with the criminals in the community.

Mediating over disputes. In many communities, since the emergence of civilian militia groups, aggrieved community members report issues of disagreement to the groups. This is due to the fact that militia group employs both legal and traditional methods to elicit truth from the accused.

Fight against cultism. The fight against cultism is one of the cardinal reasons for the formation of the civilian militia groups in the state. Virtually all crimes in communities in recent time are associated to cultism. In most communities, the militia groups gave option to the cultists to either renounce cultism or leave the community. Those who renounced were given oath accordance with native laws and tradition, never to participate in cult related activities or face the wrath of the gods of the land. This measure attracted mixed reaction for lack of constitutional backing, but it is the core of the reduction of cultism in the affected communities in River State. Usually at the expiration of the option time, the group will hunt and arrest unrepentant cultists and hand them over to the police for prosecution.

However, many persons have been wrongly arrested, detained and treated in an inhumane and degrading manner by the civilian militia. This deliberate violation of the presumption of innocence accused persons, constitutes an abuse of human rights and a violation of Section 36(5) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1999 (as amended) which states that an accused person shall be deemed innocent until proven guilty.

Although, several community groups have expressed their support for the crude methods deployed by civilian militia group and deemed such human rights violations, a necessary evil, in order for kidnapping to be stopped and peace restored to the communities. It is widely believed that their extra-judicial methods, despite being against the fundamental principles of human rights, produce the desired results. Hence, the human rights violations could be condoned in the interest of maintaining security.

Prospects of Community Policing of civilian militia in Rivers State.

An obvious prospect of community policing, according to Coquilhat (2008) is that, it offers the public a larger window into police activity and provides opportunities for 'grass roots' support for police. However, communities with existing capacity are more likely to participate in community policing, but are less likely to benefit from it because, in general, they are already proactively addressing issues to increase community safety. Okeshola & Mudiare (2012) also note that, community policing in Nigeria presumes that it demands better communication and understanding between police and public. It also encourages more liberal and tolerant attitude towards criminal. Thus, as a proactive policing, community has prospect in Nigeria as it is more effective both in preventing offending and in achieving offender detection and remedial action post offence.

The popularization of community policing activities of volunteer civilian militia in Rivers State in 2018, was applauded by a good number of people, for combating and abating criminal related activities. It was commendable and at the time when the height of insecurity in the zone became agonizing and untold hardship experienced, as residents no longer indulge in their normal economic and social activity. This security outfits

since their inauguration had made a profound change in the entire state, in the restoration of peace, safety and co-existence of the citizens. Their presence had helped other security agencies to curb the threat of insecurity, gang group menace and other criminal related activities in the area.

This form of community policing in Rivers State shares common features with problem-oriented policing methods which targets at detecting and fighting crime from the onset while keeping sense of balance and control in the community with the help of the public. They play encouraging and significant roles in restoration of peace, promotion of peaceful coexistence, introducing standard and interferences to check or fight insecurity and threats to public order at the neighborhood level. It is vital to acknowledge the fact that, since the advent of this strategic security outfits in Rivers State, the communities have experienced a relative peace and secured environment. The activities of these security outfits in combating crime in the areas cannot be overemphasized, as they serve as an agent to protect the general public from harm, and help to preserve individuals' fundamental human rights at all cost and provides security to all community populace.

Emphasizing the role and importance of community policing the Punch Newspaper of June 16, 2019 revealed that Ospam vigilante group in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni local government area arrested ten suspected kidnapers. They were apprehended along the East-West road in Ndele Emohua local government where they mounted a roadblock. Same Ospam vigilante group rescued a police officer, Inspector O. Egwi and a civilian, Collins Isaac from kidnapers den in the course of their operation (Okwori, 2020). According Daily Post March 19, 2019, cited in (Okwori, 2020), the same Ospam vigilante group raided the criminal den at Egbeda, Omudioga and Ubimini communities in Emohua Local Government Area and rescued victims from harm without ransom.

The activities of community policing is not peculiar to only Rivers State. A local vigilante group in Egoro Na Oka community in Esan West Local Government Area of Edo State rescued five victims kidnapped by unknown gunmen. When they heard, they quickly mobilized and cordoned off the forest between Egoro Na Oka, Urohi, Opoji, Ebudin and Ekpoma. The leader of the group Henry Anuge said it took them the whole night to comb the forest round before they could rescue victims.

There was also a case of two brothers that were rescued from kidnapers den inside Egbo forest of kokori by a team of vigilante from Kokori community in Ethiope East Local Government Area of Delta State. The vigilante group invaded the den of the kidnapers and a gun duel ensued leading to the death of three of the suspected kidnapers (Vanguard 2019, May 13 as cited in Okwori, 2020).

The success of civilian militia to combat insecurity in parts of Rivers State is premised on the fact that, members of the security outfits knows and understands the terrain and topography of their communities better than government security agents that are seen as strangers in their domain, and it's easier for them to halt suspicious movements and identify strangers since criminals live within the communities.

Since security is everyone's responsibility, the security outfits assume the role of the police by enforcing law and order, protect lives and property, and render other critical services in the society. However, since the most visible part of criminal activities take place at the neighborhood level, it is pertinent to state that this security outfits need public support and co-operation. Intensive partnership and collective efforts of both the formal and informal agents of social control remains pivotal in achieving crime-free society for an enhanced and effective community development. Institutionalizing civilian militia groups as security apparatus of the Local government and State will go a long way to mitigate internal security challenges in Rivers State and enhance rural community development.

Since the advent of these security outfits there has been relatively peace and order in almost all parts of the state. People can now go about their normal daily businesses and economics activities restored. The East-West road axis of Emolga which was a major service link road to other parts of the states, formally construed as kidnapers territories has now been redeemed by the security outfits, as motorist can operate 24hrs without any form of molestation. Also, those communities tagged as cultist enclave and criminal hide-out inaccessible by well-meaning citizens are now reclaimed.

However, it is worthy to note that, for this relative peace and order to continue, the civilian militia groups and other security agencies rely on the community to report crime and provide important information that is necessary to address community concerns and solve problems. In recent time, the scope of this relationship has expanded. The security agencies and community have begun to expect more from each other as they increasingly realize they must actively work as partners. The civilian militia groups in the state is seen as an aid to combating security challenges hence incorporated officially as a policy at various community levels. It is impossible to get statistics on its effectiveness in the area for now though its role in improving and restoring communities' safety and development, assisting in reducing crime and providing the area with more effective surveillance of the population is apparent.

Local government Council and Crime Prevention and Control.

Local government by organizational is closer to communities than the state and federal authorities.

Constitutionally, the governance and welfare of local communities is directly under the Local government

councils. It is therefore expected that all matters of security should be a top priority to the council, not minding weather the state or federal authorities are concerned.

In a research conducted by Australian Institute of Criminology (2012), it was revealed that, Local government is the central agency in the development of local crime prevention and control plans, which recognize and prioritize anxieties about community safety and crime prevention and control in a local government area, and recognize key action areas accountable for these actions. Local crime prevention and control plans offer a valuable background to better establish various creativitiesdirected at the causes of crime, enable improved collaboration and cooperation between main stakeholders, and ensure an all-inclusive approach to local crime problems(Funda, 2017). The report further argued that, they are vital mechanisms for engaging the local community in plans and policies to solve local crime and safety problems to enhance community development activities. The report supported its argumentswith the following facts;

1. Research has discovered that a great deal of crime is very local in nature, and there is everyindication about the increased efficiency of crime prevention and control activities initiated at the local level.
2. Local government stands the chance to manage and coordinate crime prevention and control responses within the community through its existing machineries such as community counseling processes.
3. Local government is the closest level of government to be reflective of the needs and aspirations of the people. So, there is a great expectations, by the community, that local government will shoulder some level of responsibility for directing or initiating plans for social problems that are seen to be affecting the community safety and development.
4. Local government often has the most suitable management substructure and skill base for conveying the multi-agency programs that are often required.

In a related development, the 13th United Nations Congress on Crime prevention and criminal justice in (Degu, 2014) positsthat, governments are slowlyconnecting with communities and civic society organizations to prevent and control crime due to their information and knowledge of local crime issues and the capacity to reach out to susceptible, vulnerable sections of the society. Therefore, local government'sinvolvement in community policing will be an essential element forlocal crime prevention and control. This reflection was observed in the warm welcome of the civilian militia groups in Rivers State by their respective Local Government Councils.

Additionally, Achu, Owan, Uyang and Francis (2018) recognized that, local communities can play a very momentous role toward prevention and control of society due to the facts that, the local communities possessnumeroussystem used in combatting crimes. Such systems include; the councils of elders, chiefs, community development committees, village /district heads, religious heads etc. whose function is to explain and impart the community's code of conduct and behavior to younger once as pass down from generation to generation. They further revealed that, although the local communities may not civilized, but not withstanding they have a well-dependabletradition for preventing and controlling crime and upholding peace and development. The above view coincides with that of Akintola (2019) who posits that, the traditional methods of crime prevention and control, even though primitive but nonetheless were very useful in its true sense. According to him, urbanization and industrialization were the factors the led to the separation of local communities from taking vigorouspart in crime prevention and control that will enable community development.

Obstacles to Effective Community Policingactivitiesof civilian militia groups in Rivers State.

Obviously, every social institute is faced with a number of challenges that hamper the achievement of its operationalobjectives.Civilian militia groupsareoverstockedwith obstacles that tendto hinder its effective operationsuch as; community negative perception, public loss of trust and confidence, poor community relations, suspected gang protection, lack of visionary schemes and poor funding among others.Thecivilian militia groupsin all the local government areas within the state are facing serious obstacles which have continued to affect its legitimacy and the performance of their functions of crime prevention, control, for enhanced community development activities.

These challenges according to (Otu and Aro, 2013) include lack of fund, systemic corruption and internal decadence, inadequate trained manpower,lack of accountability, defects in constitutional provisions, and apparent lack of public confidence, further leading to weak or low legitimacy.The community most times turns against the civilian militia when they use coercion to secure social control. This was a reality in the case of Rumuodogo where about two ROSPAC members were ambushed and killed. Sometimes the negative attitudes of the public towards the militia groupstend to clash with the activities of the groupsto maintain peace and order. The community negative perception of civilian militia groups affect their ability to remain focused.

According to a remarkable Foundation, the Centre for Law Enforcement Education in Nigeria (CLEEN), the police retain its power to exercise force in any situation, to enable them play their important roles without which the sustenance of order, legality, development and democracy may be difficult (Akuul, 2011). This immunity is not extended to the civilian militia groups operating in the state.

Despite the success stories of these civilian militia groups, their relationship with the Nigerian Police is an issue of concern. The members of the Nigerian police see these civilian militia groups as threat to their relevance even when they know the militia groups had succeeded in confronting criminals and combating crimes in places where they had failed. This is evidence to the recent threat to withdraw all the arms and ammunition in the possession of the civilian militia groups. One wonders if there could be an effective operation with mere knives, club and stakes. This situation is pathetic to civilian militia operations and capable of infiltrating frustration and ushering in a new dawn and renewed criminal activities in the communities.

II. CONCLUSION

Community policing is both a logical and useful methodology to crime prevention and control, which requires full endorsement and participation of community members. It is an art of policing that helps to improve the lives and safety of the common citizens and foster community development activities. This can only be achieved if the local residents were involved in the art of policing. The security outfits are established to play pivotal and constructive roles in peace-keeping, promotion of peaceful coexistence in communities. Giving the usefulness of civilian militia groups in local crime prevention and control in the state, there is need to create enabling environment to encourage more volunteers while their excesses must be checked and the challenges critically addressed in order for effective community development activities to be achieved in Rivers State.

III. SUGGESTIONS

Based on the study, the following suggestions were made;

1. The Local and State Government may wish to legitimately adopt these groups as a government-owned vigilante group via the instrumentality of a law which must be duly passed by the Rivers State House of Assembly.
2. Collaboration between the criminal justice and community groups and members in fighting, preventing and controlling crime in Rivers State is highly advocated.
3. There should be regular training of all members of community security outfits to complement the efforts of the Police force, and not replace the Police.
4. Suspected persons or criminals, should be handed over to the Police for proper investigation and prosecution, if deemed necessary.
5. Civilian militia group as instrument of community policing, should be checked, to avoid impunity, such as human rights abuse, extra-judicial killings, which could lead to communal clashes, given the fragile peace and volatility of some communities in the State.
6. Local residents should imbibe the culture of rectitude, social justice, and total conscience-overhauling so as to reach an understanding and maintain mutual support necessary for proactive community policing in the State.

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DR. M.E. HANACHOR. "Community Policing activities of civilian militia in Rivers State, Nigeria: Implications on Community Development." *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science (IOSR-JHSS)*, 26(04), 2021, pp. 35-42.