

POLICE OMNIPRESENCE AS PREDICTOR OF CRIME PREVENTION

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to determine the police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City. The researchers employed the quantitative non-experimental research using correlational technique. In this study the respondents are the residents in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City. Random sampling was used to determine the respondents. There were a total of 198 employees in this study and it was collected accordingly to determine the level of police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City. The following summaries of findings were drawn based on the result of the study. The level of level of police omnipresence in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City described as high. The level of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City described as high. There is a significant relationship between police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City. There is a domain of police omnipresence that significantly influences crime prevention. There is domain in police omnipresence that significantly influences crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City. Furthermore, the result showed that the facilitating engagement and intervention in the police omnipresence were the domain that significantly influence crime prevention since the p-value is less than the significance level.

Keywords: *Criminal Justice Education, police omnipresence, crime prevention, regression analysis, Philippines.*

INTRODUCTION

Approaches to crime prevention has developed over time and are reflected in different United Nations resolutions and in practices and policies implemented around the world. The emphasis is not only on how crime can be reduced but also on how this can be used to maintain and reinforce social cohesion of communities themselves to collectively act and to improve their quality of life (Eck 2015).

The information provided at the 2016 study in North Carolina, wherein 46% of the respondents said they were somewhat worried or very worried about becoming a crime victim. However as for the years later these numbers of residents who have fear of crime are actually fluctuating into 42% only. Though it may seem like a few shifts, it may be a clear indication that the officials together with the residents of the state had made efforts in reducing their fear of crime by implementing safety and security programs (Cherry, 2016).

Police patrol officers have likely played a major role in police efforts to effectively address crime as these officers make up a substantial portion of police resources and are on the front lines responding to crime and citizen concerns on a daily basis. Being present, of course, is not the only activity patrol officers engage in, but it a major component of patrol and one that is important to examine systematically because agencies around the world devote such extensive resources to police patrol (Reppetto, 2016).

In Tagum City, it is in this context governments are actively mobilizing and integrating local communities into their crime prevention programs in attempts to build strong collaboration between police and ordinary civilians. There are some factors that have been observed resulting to the occurrence of crimes. Since, there are no studies where such relationship has been found the researchers have pointed that more research is needed in this area. The researchers come up to find out how efficient are the presence

of the law enforcers assigned in Barangay Mankilam who are conducting the crime prevention program. Thus, this study is proposed.

This study aimed to determine the level of police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City.

Specifically, this study aimed to answer the following questions:

1. To determine the level of police omnipresence in Tagum City in terms of:

- 1.1 facilitating engagement;
- 1.2 intervention.

2. To determine the level of crime prevention in Tagum city in terms of:

- 2.1 social crime prevention;
- 2.2 locally based crime prevention;
- 2.3 situational crime prevention; and
- 2.4 reintegration programs.

3. To determine the significant relationship between police omnipresence and crime prevention in Tagum City.

4. To determine which domain of police omnipresence significantly influences crime prevention in Tagum City.

The hypotheses were tested at a 0.05 level of significance stating that there is no significant relationship between police omnipresence and crime prevention in Tagum City. There is domain of police omnipresence significantly influences crime prevention in Tagum City.

METHOD

Research Respondents

The aimed of the random sample is to reduce the potential for human bias in the selection of cases to be included in the sample. As a result, the random sample provides us with a sample that is highly representative of the population being studied, assuming that there is limited missing data in the selection of the residents in Barangay Mankilamin Tagum City. This study were conducted by using random sampling to identify the sample size. Raosoft online calculator were used in this study.

Research Instrument/Material

The researchers used a researcher-made questionnaire in collecting the respondents. The first set of the questionnaires is about the independent variable of the police omnipresence. The second set is for the dependent variable of the independent variable of the study which is crime prevention.

Research Design and Procedure

The researchers employed the quantitative non-experimental research using correlational technique. A quantitative non-experimental using correlational technique involves descriptive and accurate interpretation of findings. This method was employed for determining police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Tagum City.

A descriptive method of research describes and interprets what are the revealed conditions and relationships that exists, practice that are prevailing, and the effects that are being felt on those trends that are developing (Herson,2005).

The researchers underwent the following steps: First, is to sought permission from the Barangay Captain in Barangay Mankilam to facilitate the research process. After which, the researchers secured a letter to conduct study and for approval letter from the selected residents as respondents in Barangay Mankilam to allow them to carry out research in the area. Primary data were used for the study. Structured questionnaires were used as a tool for data collection. The questionnaires were used prepared and distributed to the respondents Barangay Mankilam headed by the researchers. Respondents may write their names or not in the questionnaire for the purpose of confidentiality and were given a week to fill in the questionnaire, and finally, the data were analyzed and interpreted based on the research objectives.

The result were analyzed and interpreted in the light and purposes of the study. The following statistical tools were used. *Mean*. This test was used to determine the level of police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City. *Pearson r*. This was used to determine the significant relationship between police omnipresence and crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City. *Regression Analysis*. This statistical tool was used to determine the police omnipresence that significantly influences crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Presented in this section are the data and the results of the study. Tables are arranged in the following subheadings. The level of police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City and significant relationship between police omnipresence and level of crime prevention and regression analysis for variable predicting crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City.

Level of Police Omnipresence

Table 1 shows the level of level of police omnipresence in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City with an overall mean of 3.99 described as high with a standard deviation of 0.770. This means that level of police omnipresence in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City is much observed.

Among all the indicators, facilitating engagement got the highest mean score of 3.95 with a standard deviation of 0.802 descriptive equivalent of high, while intervention obtained a mean of 3.91 with a standard deviation of 0.829. All got a descriptive equivalent of high.

The indicator with the highest result is on facilitating engagement, this means that the community, find the police help reinforce an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect between law enforcement and the local community, recognizes all measures designed to protect and safeguard the community, represents and defend community values, norms and moral, allow members of the community a voice to highlight local problems and ensure the linkage between the community's priorities and needs, and public agencies' strategies and ensure the linkage between the community's priorities and needs, and public agencies' strategies.

Table 1. Level of police omnipresence in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City

Indicators	\bar{x}	SD	Descriptive Level
Facilitating Engagement	3.95	0.802	High
Intervention	3.91	0.829	High
Overall	3.99	0.770	High

While, intervention, this means that the community, find the police maintaining community relation through interactive crime prevention training program, measuring the performance of the police in their efforts to reduce the fear of crime and enhance personal security, the quality of policing provided in our community takes all necessary steps to ensure public safety, resolving various conflicts in the communities and exerts efforts in supporting the community.

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The result of the study confirm with the study of Maborrang (2013), who stated that there were two broad approaches of police omnipresence was seen as a means of facilitating engagement and intervention. The need for police presence in every street around the city is what counts in the heightened battle against criminality. A roving police team cannot only deter crime. It can also create a feeling of safety and security among people.

Level of Crime Prevention

Table 2 shows the level of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City with an overall mean of 3.86 described as high with a standard deviation of 0.758. This means that level of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City is much evident.

Among all the indicators, social crime prevention got the highest mean score of 3.94 with a standard deviation of 0.782 descriptive equivalent of high, followed by reintegration programs obtained a mean of 3.88 with a standard deviation of 0.892. With regards to locally based prevention obtained a mean of 3.83 with a standard deviation of 0.864. Lastly, situational crime prevention obtained a mean of 3.79 with a standard deviation of 0.892. All got a descriptive equivalent of high.

Table 2. Level of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City

Indicators	\bar{x}	SD	Descriptive Level
social crime prevention	3.94	0.782	High
locally based prevention	3.83	0.862	High
situational crime prevention	3.79	0.842	High
reintegration programs	3.88	0.892	High
Overall	3.86	0.758	High

The indicator with the highest result is on social crime prevention this means that the community, find the police help reduce the opportunities for crime to occur, assist various programs delivered by police, engaged in helping offending behavior, help prevent recidivism among people engage criminal justice system and seek to engage residents, in an effort to contribute communities crime disorder.

Followed by reintegration programs, this means that the community, find the police, seeks to reduce crime opportunities rather than punish or rehabilitate offenders, involvement and active participation of the returnee in his return and reintegration process, help support for the re-establishment of social networks by involving family members, friends and the local community in the reintegration process, have adequate skills training and financial support to empower the returnee to develop and implement a livelihood strategy and provide psychosocial support to adapt to the new reality, define one's role in the community and ensure psychosocial stability.

With regard to locally based prevention this means that the community, find the police, able to help maintain public order by maintaining appropriate visibility in the community, able to increases their community-police cooperation by communicating crime issues and trends to the community, developed appropriate policing policies and practices, as well as concentrate police efforts where they are needed the most, treat people in the community fairly by using its authority and force appropriately and cooperating with the public to address their concerns like launching a crime prevention consciousness drive.

Lastly, situational crime prevention, this means that the community, find the police, maintaining community relation through interactive training and crime prevention program, focuses on interventions to reduce very specific crimes like reduction of car theft in parking lots, not reduction of crime or even car crime, enhance soft interventions reduce situational prompts/cues that increase a person's motivation to commit a crime during specific types of events, highlights possible intervention points to remove crime and led offenders to perceive that social control was weak and that they could safely commit more serious crimes.

The level of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City described as high. This means that level of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City is much evident.

Among all the indicators, social crime prevention got the highest mean score, followed by reintegration programs. With regards to locally based prevention. Lastly, situational crime prevention. All got a descriptive equivalent of high.

The result implies that, that the community, find the police help reduce the opportunities for crime to occur, assist various programs delivered by police, engaged in helping offending behaviour, help prevent recidivism among people engage criminal justice system and seek to engage residents, in an effort to contribute communities crime disorder.

The result conform to the proposition of Capobianco (2010) who stated that crime prevention encompasses a wide range of approaches, these are social crime prevention, locally based crime prevention, situational crime prevention and reintegration programs. The crime prevention signifies a broader set of interest in crime prevention and as well as for the set of non-crime hazards.

Significant Relationship between of police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City

The main purpose of this study is to determine the relationship between of police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City. Pearson (r) was used to determine the correlation between the two variables.

Table 3 shows the test on the significant relationship between police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City. The findings showed that the p-value 0.000 is lesser than the 0.05 level of significance. Thus, lead to the decision of rejecting the null hypothesis. The r-value 0.742** indicates a

positive relationship, meaning police omnipresence positively affect crime prevention.

Table 3. Correlation between the police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City

Variables	Mean	SD	r- value	p -value
police omnipresence	3.94	0.770		
crime prevention	3.86	0.758	0.792*	0.000

Legend: *Very Significant at $\alpha=0.05$

Regression Analysis for Variables Predicting crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City

Presented in Table 4 is the regression analysis to determine the domains of p police omnipresence that significantly influence crime prevention.

The results show that the police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City is statistically significant. Furthermore, the result showed that the facilitating engagement and intervention in the police omnipresence were the domain that significantly influence crime prevention since the p-value at 0.000 and 0.001 is less than the significance level at 0.05.

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This validated the claim of Reiss (2010) who stated the idea between the relationship of the two variables which he pointed out that crime prevention is viewed quite broadly, particularly in relation to diverse ways that public and private protection and security function in contemporary societies, and policing varies in terms of organization, legal mandate, and territorial jurisdiction.

Table 4. Regression Analysis for Variables Predicting Start-Up Business Intentions among Young Adults

Indicators	B Unstandardized Coefficients	β Standardized Coefficients	t Value	ρ value
Constant	0.955		5.06	0.00
facilitating engagement	0.497	0.526**	6.90	0.00
intervention	0.238	0.261**	3.42	0.00

Dependent Variable:

R = 0.747 R² = 0.558
 F = 123.301 ρ value = 0.000

** $p < 0.01$

Using the Multiple Regression Analysis the data revealed that the influence of police omnipresence towards crime prevention has the F-value of 123.301 and corresponding p-value of 0.000. The R² value of 0.558 implies that 56% of the variation of crime prevention is explained by the variation of police omnipresence in Barangay

Mankilam, Tagum City while the remaining 44% were influence by other factors.

The indicator facilitating engagement has a beta of 0.526** and corresponding p-value of 0.000 which means that the facilitating engagement has a significant influence on the crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City since the probability level is 0.000 which is less than the level of significance at 0.05. While, intervention has a beta of 0.261** and corresponding p-value 0.001 which means that intervention has a significant influence on the crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City since the probability level is 0.001 which is less than the level of significance at 0.05.

The regression analysis to determine the domains of police omnipresence that significantly influence crime prevention.

The results show that the police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City is statistically significant. Furthermore, the result showed that the facilitating engagement and intervention in the police omnipresence were the domain that significantly influence crime prevention since the p-value is less than the significance.

This validated the claim of Reiss (2010) who further stated that, substantial organizational specialization units vary in the scope of crime prevention activities. A common sense vies of crime is that a visible police presence prevents people from committing crimes, either individually or in groups. Empirical studies, however, do not provide sufficient information on the role police presence visibility in crime prevention. Somewhat paradoxically, both covert and visible policing can be used to prevent victimization by certain crime types.

Conclusion

The following conclusions were drawn based on the result of the study.

The level of level of police omnipresence in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City described as high. The level of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City described as high. There is a significant relationship between police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City. There is a domain of police omnipresence that significantly influences crime prevention. There is domain in police omnipresence that significantly influences crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City. Furthermore, the result showed that the facilitating engagement and intervention in the police omnipresence were the domain that significantly influence crime prevention since the p-value is less than the significance level (Reiss, 2010).

Recommendation

After a thorough review of the aforementioned findings and conclusions of the study, the following recommendations offered:

Since the level of level of level of police omnipresence in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City described as high it has to be raised to very high by improving public confidence in the police, perceptions of crime, and feelings of safety as well as reducing crime when implemented alongside community engagement and problem-solving. Importantly, foot patrol was used by the police to initiate positive, informal contact with members of the public and in response to local priorities. The visible presence of an officer patrolling on foot may also act as a 'control signal' a sign that the authorities are taking the problems of local people seriously.

Moreover, the level of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City described as high it has to be raised to very

high by highlighting the importance of targeting very specific forms of crime in certain circumstances. This involves identifying, manipulation and controlling the situational or environmental factors associated with certain types of crime.

Furthermore, since there is a positive significant relationship between police omnipresence as predictor of crime prevention in Barangay Mankilam, Tagum City, the researchers suggest that a visible police presence prevents people from committing crimes, either individually or in groups. However, visible policing can be used to prevent victimization by certain crime types.

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