



**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF COMMUNITY STRATEGIES ON SECURITY OF  
PROPERTY: A CASE STUDY OF KISAARA VILLAGE, KENGA PARISH, KAGADI  
SUBCOUNTY IN KAGADI DISTRICT**

**BY**

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**Table of contents**

DECLARATION ..... 6

APPROVAL ..... 7

ABSTRACT..... 8

CHAPTER ONE ..... 9

GENERAL INTRODUCTION ..... 9

1.1. Introduction ..... 9

1.2. Background of the study ..... 9

1.3. Vision statement..... 9

1.4. Purpose of the study ..... 10

1.5. Objectives of the study..... 10

1.6. Study Questions..... 10

1.7. Scope of the study ..... 10

1.7.1. Content scope ..... 10

1.7.2. Geographical scope ..... 10

1.7.3. Time scope ..... 11

1.8. Significance of the study ..... 11

1.9. Delimitation of the study..... 11

CHAPTER TWO ..... 12

LITERATURE REVIEW ..... 12

2.0. Introduction ..... 12

2.1. Theoretical Framework ..... 12

2.1.1. Routine Activity Theory ..... 12

2.1.2. The Broken Window Theory..... 13

2.1.2. The conceptual framework..... 14

2.2.1. The concept of security of property .....	15
2.3. Community strategies for security of property .....	15
2.4. The effectiveness of community strategies on security of property.....	17
2.5. Challenges community members face in implementing Community strategies for security of property .....	18
CHAPTER THREE .....	19
METHODOLOGY .....	19
3.0. Introduction .....	19
3.1. Study Design .....	19
3.2. The target population .....	19
3.3. Sample size.....	19
3.4. Sampling design .....	20
3.5. Data collection methods and tools .....	20
3.5.1. Community Dialogue .....	20
3.5.2. Focused group discussions .....	20
3.5.3. Interviewing method .....	20
3.5.4. Questionnaire administering .....	21
3.5.5. Observation .....	21
3.5.6. Recording method .....	21
3.6. Procedure.....	21
3.7. Data Analysis .....	22
3.8. Ethical Considerations.....	22
CHAPTER FOUR.....	23
DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION .....	23
4.0 Introduction .....	23

4.1 SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS .....	23
Table 4.1.1: Gender Distribution of the Respondents.....	23
Table 4.1.2: Age category of respondents.....	24
Table 4.1.3: Marital status of the respondents .....	24
Table 4.1.4: Level of education of the respondents .....	25
Table 4.1.5: Occupation of the respondents.....	25
4.2 SECTION B: CATEGORY OF PEOPLE THAT ARE INVOLVED IN THEFT OF PROPERTY IN KISAARA VILLAGE .....	26
Table 4.2.2: Causes of theft of property.....	27
4.3 SECTION C: COMMUNITY STRATEGIES THAT ENHANCE SECURITY OF PROPERTY IN KISAARA VILLAGE AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS.....	28
4.4 Community strategies for security of property * Effectiveness of community strategies ..	30
4.5 SECTION D: CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY IN IMPLEMENTING COMMUNITY STRATEGIES FOR SECURITY OF PROPERTY .....	32
Table 4.5.2: Solutions to the challenges faced by the community in implementing community strategies for security of property.....	34
4.6 SECTION E: RECOMMENDED ACTIONS AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION BY THE COMMUNITY .....	36
CHAPTER FIVE .....	38
CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	38
5.1 Conclusion.....	38
5.2 Recommendation.....	39
References .....	41
APPENDICES .....	45
Appendix (i): AN INTERVIEW GUIDE.....	45
Appendix (iii): A SKETCH MAP OF KISAARA VILLAGE.....	46

Appendix (iv): ENROLLING STAKEHOLDERS IN THE RESEARCH PROPOSAL..... 49

Appendix (v): DURING DATA COLLECTION..... 49

**DECLARATION**

I, Barungi Juliet, declare that this report is out of my research effort with the community of Kagadi Sub County and it has never been submitted for any award in any university or other Institution of Learning.

Signature..... Date.....

Barungi Juliet

19/ARU/BRD/005

**APPROVAL**

This research report has been written under my close supervision and I do approve that this is Barungi Juliet's work.

Sign.....

Date.....

Mr. Tusiime John (Lecturer)

Sign.....

Date.....

Mr. Twesiime Paulino (TWS)

Sign.....

Date.....

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## ABSTRACT

This study on the effectiveness of community strategies on security of property in Kisaara Village, Kenga Parish, Kagadi Subcounty in Kagadi District aimed to explore the community strategies and their effectiveness on security of property in Kisaara Village. The focus was put on domestic animals and crops since these are the major farm produce from agriculture sector in Uganda. The sector contributes over 20% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs over 70% of the population (UBOS, 2022).

The study utilized a descriptive study design in which qualitative data was collected. The target population included men, women, and children, with a sample size of 220 respondents. The stakeholders included; community members of Kisaara Village, extension workers, community leaders and other relevant stakeholders including LCIII and the Officer in Charge (OC) Isunga Police Post. These stakeholders were selected using purposive sampling and the community members were selected using simple random sampling. Various data collection methods such as community dialogue, focused group discussions, interviews, questionnaire administration and observation were employed to gather information on community strategies.

The findings reveal a mix of participatory and non-participatory strategies, including patrolling, security meetings, animal shelters, and even the unconventional use of witchcraft. Aligning with routine activity theory (James & George Keilling, 1982), the study explores the perceived effectiveness of these strategies. The challenges faced in implementing these strategies include issues like bars, limited cooperation among community members, and a deficiency in police presence. To address these challenges, community members suggest solutions such as community policing, sensitization meetings, engaging various stakeholders, and mobilizing members for meetings. Furthermore, respondents recommended actions to improve property security, including the construction of a police station, sensitization of the masses and pupils, formation of a patrol unit, and having animal shelters in every household which were implemented during internship since it is a Participatory Action Research.

In conclusion, the study contributes valuable insights into the dynamics of community-driven security strategies, their effectiveness, and challenges faced in Kisaara Village. The findings provide a foundation for policymakers, law enforcement agencies, and community leaders to strengthen partnerships and governance, fostering a more secure environment for residents.



# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **GENERAL INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1. Introduction**

This chapter includes the background, vision statement, general objective, specific objectives, and study questions, scope, significance and delimitations of the study

### **1.2. Background of the study**

The study looks at the effectiveness of community strategies on security of property. Community security focuses on promoting a community driven approach to understanding and providing security to people and their properties (Bennett, 2014). Clarke and Cornish (1995) believe that, security of property is based on the adequate strategies the community come up with. These properties like livestock and agricultural produce need to be protected and safeguarded against thieves since they are the major income generating activities to the citizens of Kisaara Village. Property security breaches are impacting not just Kisaara Village but also neighboring villages within Kenga Parish. This poses a significant risk to the economic stability, productivity, and food security of the affected households. Therefore, the study was done to benefit citizens of Kisaara and other villages in Kenga Parish, policy makers and law enforcement agencies like the police. It strengthened partnership and governance among leaders and enhance relations between community members thus contributing to a more secure environment (Michael Tonry).

The issue under study was identified during my practicum in April 2022 when I conducted Community Action Plan (CAP) in Kisaara Village. During this exercise, community members envisioned the village they want and assessed the current reality. One of the challenges people aired out that is affecting their development is insecurity of property particularly, livestock and agricultural produce. In the meetings that followed, they decided that a study must be conducted to understand the issue holistically before they can address the gap.

### **1.3. Vision statement**

A peaceful and secure village through community-oriented approaches by 2027

#### **1.4. Purpose of the study**

The Purpose of the study was to assess the effectiveness of community strategies on security of property in Kisaara village

#### **1.5. Objectives of the study**

To identify community strategies for security of property in Kisaara village

To identify the challenges community members face in implementing community strategies for security of property in Kisaara Village

To identify and implement the best community approaches to enhance security of property.

#### **1.6. Study Questions**

What are the community strategies for security of property in Kisaara Village?

What are the challenges faced by community members in implementing community strategies for security of property in Kisaara Village?

What are the best strategies that can be implemented to strengthen security of property in Kisaara Village?

#### **1.7. Scope of the study**

This represents the content scope, geographical scope, demographic scope, and time scope of the study

##### **1.7.1. Content scope**

The study was to assess the effectiveness of community strategies on security of property in Kisaara Village

##### **1.7.2. Geographical scope**

The study was carried out in Kisaara Village, Kenga Parish, Kagadi Sub County, Kagadi District in Western Uganda.

### **1.7.3. Time scope**

This study started during practicum that began in April and ended in May 2022. Therefore, it was a continuation of a process that began with a practicum and ended with internship in October 2023.

### **1.8. Significance of the study**

The study enabled community members to identify and implement the best community approaches to enhance security of property

The study enabled community members to develop knowledge, skills and abilities to enhance security of property

Students and other researchers in educational institutions will make use of the findings from this study for further academic study and explanations.

### **1.9. Delimitation of the study**

I got facilitation in terms of money from African Rural University for transport, airtime and for the entire study.

I was guided by the Faculty Supervisor and Field Mentor

The community members and the leaders provided information that the study team needed to answer the study questions. The study team also helped the researcher in the process of study.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.0. Introduction**

This chapter deals with the theoretical framework, conceptual framework and it comprises the literature review that focuses on the following sub-headings: The concept of security, community strategies for security of property, the effectiveness of community strategies in enhancing security of property, and the challenges of community strategies for security of property.

#### **2.1. Theoretical Framework**

In this study, theories were used to explain the community strategies for security of property. In view of this study, we based on Routine Activity Theory and the Broken Window Theory as theoretical frame of reference.

##### **2.1.1. Routine Activity Theory**

Routine Activity Theory was developed by Cohen and Felson in 1979. Routine activity theory as a crime prevention method focuses on essential elements that make up a crime. This theory provides a frame work within which to prevent crime. The theory suggests that for a crime to occur, three elements must converge in space and time: a motivated offender, a suitable target, and the absence of a capable guardian. In other words, the daily routine activities of people including where they work, family groups, and the groups with whom they socialize among others strongly influence when, where and to whom insecurity of property occurs.

The theory further illustrate that insecurity of property can only occur in the absence of a capable protector, as it leaves a suitable target unprotected against a motivated offender when they come together in time and space (Cohen & Felson, 1979). In this way, protectors can be viewed as control agents within the routine activity theory of insecurity (Felson, 2006). Current developments in routine activity theory highlight the various roles assumed by the actors who are responsible for security enhancement.

The theory has relevance in security of property because it conceives not only formal law enforcement agents (such as police) as capable protector but also family and community members serve the same purpose of ensuring security of property. In this respect, the theory is

said to spread community based strategies like neighbourhood watch to protect a suitable target (victim) and discourage a motivated offender.

### **2.1.2. The Broken Window Theory**

The paradigm was published by James Q. Wilson and George Kelling, American criminologists, in 1982; the theory looks at the relationship between crime and disorder. Wilson and Kelling argue that local citizens are particularly concerned about public order and that disorder and crime are linked. This theory is grounded on the assumption that lawlessness and crime are closely related in the developmental sequence. For example, if a window in a house is broken and is not repaired in time, all the remaining windows will also be broken soon. Because the unrepaired window is an indication that nobody cares about what is happening in the house, breaking more windows will not lead to any permission.

In other words, a window that is broken transmits to criminals the message that a community displays a lack of informal social control and is therefore unable to or unwilling to defend itself against a criminal invasion (Barley, 1994). It is not so much the actual broken window that is important, but rather the message the people receive from the broken window. It is a symbol of defencelessness and vulnerability by the community and is a representation of lack of cohesiveness of the people within (Dickson, 2007). Neighbourhoods that have a strong sense of cohesion will fix broken windows and assert social responsibility upon themselves and effectively giving themselves control over their space. Increased police presence and enforcements of informal rules of conduct and laws can make a community seem less chaotic and safer thus increased presence and involvement of residents in their community and lowering crime rates (Palmiotto, 2000)

### 2.1.2. The conceptual framework

A conceptual framework on community strategies for security of property

#### Independent Variables

##### Community Strategies

##### Community strategies

Use of dogs

Monitoring of suspicious persons

Targeting of crime hotspots

Fencing

Community policing

##### Effectiveness of community strategies

Increased trust and communication

Improved coordination

Enhanced local governance

#### Dependent Variable

##### Security of property

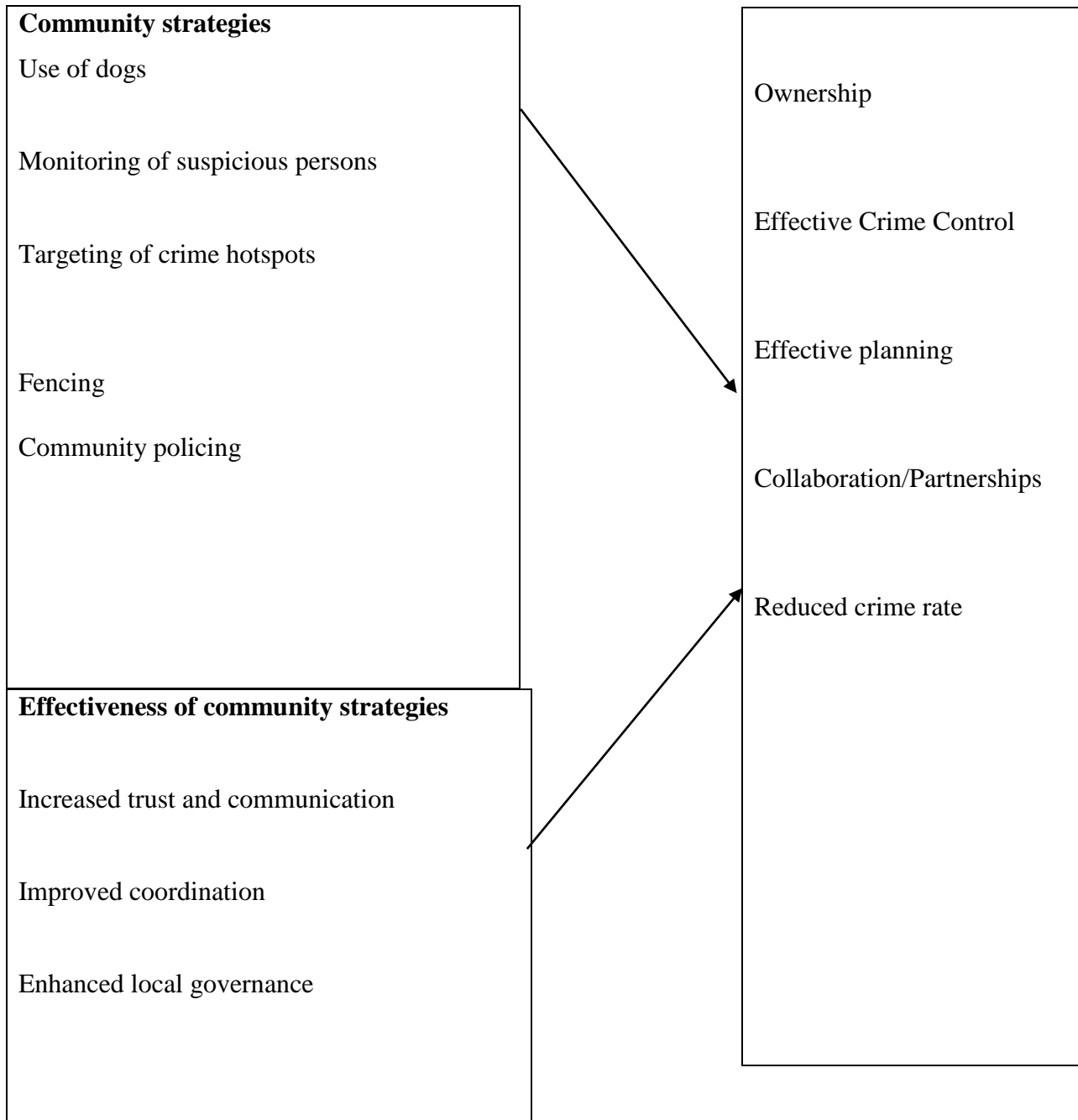
Ownership

Effective Crime Control

Effective planning

Collaboration/Partnerships

Reduced crime rate



### **2.2.1. The concept of security of property**

Security is generally agreed to be about feeling of being safe from harm, fear, anxiety, oppression, danger, poverty, defence, protection and preservation of core values and threat to those values (Afolabi, 2015). Therefore, Security of property is most commonly associated with the alleviation of threats to property like livestock, land and farm products. Insecurity of property leads to poverty and this hinders development in communities that have that challenge. This can sometimes lead to mob Justice and death. In addition, Non-traditional school argues that issues like environment, political, economic and social threats endanger the lives and properties of individuals.

According to the Constitution of Uganda 1995 (as amended) Chapter 12, Security is a sensitive area and several institutions participate in its maintenance. These include the Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF), the Uganda Police, intelligence organisations such as the Chieftaincy of Military Intelligence, and internal and external security organisations.

According to Ugandan Local Governments Act 1997 CAP 243 (as amended), the National Security Council should be built from the lower levels of Government by establishing District Security Committees, District Intelligence Committees, and Lower Local Government Security Committees.

The District Security Committee comprises the Residential District Commissioner who is the Chairman, the District Internal Security Officer (DISO), LCV Chairman, Secretary for Defence, District Police Commander, District Army Commander and the District Prisoners' Commander.

The Lower Government Security Committee comprises the Chairperson LCIII who is the Chairman, the Secretary of Defence, the Gombolola Internal Security Officer (GISO), Area Police Commander, Chairperson LCII and the Parish Internal Security Officer (PISO).

### **2.3. Community strategies for security of property**

The community strategies incorporate interventions to change social conditions that influence offending in residential communities and these strategies include;

Anti- insecurity Committees: Through these committees which are selected amongst the community members, the police can easily share information about the insecurity trends, prevention techniques and other useful information.

Community policing: This process calls for partnerships in addressing the root causes of community problems. The approach entails community and stakeholder mobilization to actively participate in decision making. This includes “Cluster Policing” which provide for the formation of anti -insecurity committees which encourages the formulation of anti-insecurity strategies and task forces at farms aimed at addressing the issue.

Community Surveillance: Neighbourhood Watch Strategy: Polk (1972) suggests that the movement toward the organizing of community surveillance came with the recognition that much of the earlier forms of urban planning were misguided because they obstructed natural means by which communities maintain order. Thus, a major task for planners was to organize ways whereby resident might regain informal social control over behaviour in public places through the encouragement of natural surveillance in order to strengthen a neighbourhoods informal defences against predation by strangers: Intentional organizing embodied a two-fold expectation: first, that organizing communities into collective crime prevention projects would have a direct preventive effect on crime (by increasing natural surveillance) and on fear (through joint participation); and second, that participation would indirectly reduce crime and fear through increased social interaction; a stronger sense of community solidarity, and thus more effective informal social control in the neighbourhood. (Polk, 1972).

The security survey is a site inspection designed to identify security weaknesses and make recommendations for strengthening security. Normally, such surveys are conducted by police personnel. The security checklist is completed on the first visit by an inspector, who may be a police officer, a special service technician, or a trained volunteer. (Luizzo, 2008)

Monitoring of suspicious persons/behaviours. Suspicious people may often be identified by their behaviour. While no one behavioural activity is proof that someone is planning to act inappropriately (and many of the following behavioural indicators are perfectly consistent with innocent behaviour), factors like nervousness can help you assess whether someone poses a threat and if you notice someone call the police.



Targeting crime hot spots or geographic areas where there are high levels of crime, is primarily a place-oriented strategy. This could include increasing police presence, such as changing traffic patterns. Hot spot strategies can align with people-oriented strategies. For example, offenders who have court-ordered restrictions on where they can be, when they can be out, and who they can associate with, may be checked by police more frequently in hot spots, thus discouraging attendance.

#### **2.4. The effectiveness of community strategies on security of property**

Community strategies to security of property produce benefits at local, national, and international levels. At the local level, by focusing on the concerns that communities themselves prioritize, Community strategies to security of property can help address the causes of tension and violence. Similarly, supporting the ability and opportunity for civil society to engage in issues around conflict and security builds and reinforces important capacities for peace within conflict-affected or fragile societies. It also recognizes that, in many contexts, local governance is fundamental to the organization of social, political, and economic life and as such can be considered as the first social contract that people experience. Addressing dysfunctional relationships and accountability at this level is key to ensuring sustainable ways of addressing many kinds of problems, including insecurity and violence. (Ismail, 2018)

At the national level, in the longer term the increased trust and communication between communities, authorities, and security providers can improve policing, counter-terrorism, and efforts to combat violent extremism. Community strategies to security can contribute to improved state-society relationships and increased state legitimacy.

The benefits of community strategies to security are; improved coordination between local, national, and international security actors, improved trust and relationships between communities and security providers as well as local government representatives, enhanced local governance by building the capacity of communities to constructively demand better service provision and supporting all actors to identify and implement solutions to community problems, redistribution of resources to meet community needs, increased civil society capacity to inform the work of security providers, trust built between social groups, women empowered to debate concerns around their security needs and make decisions to address those needs, improved women's and

girls' experience of safety and security and youth mobilized to address security issues. (SAFERWORLD, 2013)

## **2.5. Challenges community members face in implementing Community strategies for security of property**

Firstly, the historical and present day realities of community mistrust in law enforcement affects the effectiveness of community strategies. Waddington (as cited in Ferreira, 1996) observed that lack of support from government hinder the effectiveness of community based approaches to security (Yunusa, 2022).

CLEEN Foundation (2013) further observed the following as challenges to the effectiveness of community participatory strategies: Low turn up from the side of community members, lack of funding from government and lack of monitoring and evaluation from the police.

The study identified the key constraints to implementation of community strategies as follows: poor public image of the police force; poor customer service procedures within the police force which discourage the residents from reporting crime, lack of citizen participation, belief by the residents that crime is a source of livelihood for some people, hence the difficulty of eliminating it, persistence of mistrust between residents and the police (Onyeozili, 2005), unfriendly implementation approaches, failure of the programme to incorporate civic education on the principles and practice of community participatory strategies, government laxity in providing civic education resources and equipping the police force adequately, mismanagement of confidential information by the police.

## CHAPTER THREE

### METHODOLOGY

#### 3.0. Introduction

This chapter comprises of the study design, the target population, sample size, sampling techniques, data collection methods and instruments, data analysis, procedure and ethical considerations

#### 3.1. Study Design

The study used descriptive study design. This was used to obtain information concerning the current status of community strategies for security of property as it exists with respect to variables and conditions in the situation.

Descriptive study design helped to accurately and systematically describe a population or the situation and also answer the what, where, when and how but not why.

#### 3.2. The target population

This Population included; children, men and women.

#### 3.3. Sample size

The sample size constituted 220 respondents of participation. The study included 80 women, 89 men, 44 Children, 7 Government officials that is to say; police personnel, LCIII Chairperson, the community development officer, the Parish Internal Security Officer (PISO) and Gombolola Internal Security Officer (GISO), 2 Local leaders that is to say the LCI Chairperson and the defence.

I used Slovin's formula to determine the size of the sample to be included in the study.

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e^2)} \quad N = 493$$
$$n = \frac{493}{1+493(0.05^2)} \quad e^2 = 0.05$$
$$n = \frac{493}{1+493(0.05^2)}$$

$$n = \frac{1+493 (0.0025)}{493}$$

$$n = \frac{1+1.2325}{2.2325}$$

$$n = 220$$

### **3.4. Sampling design**

The study employed purposive sampling and simple random sampling design. This gave equal opportunity to eligible respondents so as to avoid biased findings. The key informants were selected using purposive sampling and all community members were given an equal chance of being selected. (Datta, 2018)

### **3.5. Data collection methods and tools**

The study used several data collection methods such as community dialogue, interviews, focused group discussions, observation and recording method. These methods were used to collect data on all the objectives.

#### **3.5.1. Community Dialogue**

The study used this method to enrol different stakeholders in the study proposal in order to collect the required data through simple random sampling.

#### **3.5.2. Focused group discussions**

The study used focus group discussions in order to generate an interactive discussion amongst community members and this allowed the research team to develop further insight about the study. This was done amongst groups that is to say 21 men, 34 women and 44 teenagers and all responses were valued and appreciated.

#### **3.5.3. Interviewing method**

This method was used to collect data directly from respondents through face to face question and answer process. The study used an interview guide which contained the relevant questions which

the interviewer needed answers for. It was used on the key informants in order to have vast information in relation to the study.

#### **3.5.4. Questionnaire administering**

The questionnaire was the tool mainly used together with oral interview. The questionnaires were both open and closed ended and were used on community members.

#### **3.5.5. Observation**

The research team observed the activities community members are involved in to enhance security of property and assessed their effectiveness enhancing security of property in Kisaara Village.

#### **3.5.6. Recording method**

The research team used a note book, flip charts, a pen and markers to jot down the information that was given by the community members; a smart phone was also used to take photos during the study.

### **3.6. Procedure**

The researcher got an introduction letter from the Faculty of technologies for Rural Transformation of African Rural University after the approval of the study proposal. The letter was used to introduce her to the local authorities to seek further collaboration with LCI and the community members of Kisaara Village.

Given the sensitive nature of her topic of study (the issues of security), the letter proved very useful in helping her to collect valuable data from Security and other Governmental Officials during her research.

A community dialogue was held with an aim of enrolling different stakeholders in the study proposal. They were enlightened on the objectives and study questions. The community members added more questions in the questionnaire and interview guide. These questions included those that probed the causes of theft and the category of people who steal property. The community members selected a team of four people who would be involved in the study (data collection, analysis and implementation of actions). The study team was then trained on how to carry out field study using the questionnaire. Data was collected and analyzed with the

community members who later implemented the actions that they had recommended during the study.

### **3.7. Data Analysis**

All the respondents' opinions were obtained from the field, cleaned, sorted, matched and coded. Descriptive statistics in the form of pie charts and contingency tables was used to describe the data. The data was summarized, entered and analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) by the study team. The results are presented on frequency distribution tables and pie charts.

### **3.8. Ethical Considerations**

The researcher introduced herself to the Chairman LCI and asked for community collaboration with her in the study from his Village. She also asked permission from the respondents before asking those questions and taking photos. According to Cooper and Schindler (2013), three main issues need to be considered when conducting a study. They are the falsification of results, data reliability, and confidentiality. The study team upheld anonymity of the respondents and assured them that the information would be used for their own good in improving security of property.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### DATA ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

#### 4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents, analyses as well interprets the data collected in the process of this study. The chapter is divided into four sections; section A covers the Demographic Data of the Respondents, section B deals with the category of people involved in theft and the causes of theft, section C covers the community strategies for security of property and their effectiveness. Section D covers the challenges people face in implementing community strategies for security of property and their solutions and section E deals with the actions recommended and their implementation. The field data has been summarized and presented in tables, pie charts and finally explained in detail.

#### 4.1 SECTION A: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE RESPONDENTS

This section consists of information regarding the basic characteristics of the respondents including gender, age, occupation and the level of education of the community members and key informants who participated in the study. Such variables were important since they could easily influence individual's perception on the matter.

**Table 4.1.1: Gender Distribution of the Respondents**

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Female	100	45.5
Male	120	54.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The majority of the respondents were male, representing 54.55% and female representing 45%. Generally, security related engagements are male dominated both in formal and the informal sectors. Men are involved in household security compared to the women who are usually involved in domestic work. This explains why the majority of the respondents in the study were male.

**Table 4.1.2: Age category of respondents**

<b>Age Category</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
12-18	35	15.9
19-30	68	30.9
31-45	62	28.2
46 and above	55	25.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 4.1.2 shows that 30.9% of the respondents were between 19-30 years of age, 28.2% were between 31-45, 25.0% were between 46 and above and 15.9% were between 12-18. Age increases experiences, skills and performance. It was thus key to find out the age of those who were interviewed in order to confirm the authenticity of the results.

**Table 4.1.3: Marital status of the respondents**

<b>Marital status</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Single	64	29.1
Married	145	65.9
Widow/Widower	11	5.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 4.1.3 above shows that 65.9% of the respondents were married, 29.1% were single and these mainly fall in the age category of 12-18. However, there are others in the category of 19-30 years of age who are still single. Five per cent (5.0%) of the respondents were widows or



widowers. By way of analysis, married people had more reliable knowledge on community strategies for security of property.

**Table 4.1.4: Level of education of the respondents**

<b>Education level</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
None	21	9.5
Primary	100	45.5
Secondary	78	35.5
Tertiary	21	9.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100.0</b>

On the educational background of the respondents, table 4.1.4 above indicates that 45.5% of respondents attended primary, 35.5% secondary, 9.5% tertiary education and 9.5% did not attend school at all. Therefore, respondents with primary education in the study area have the highest percentage. This is a clear indication that majority of the respondents are not enlightened and cannot contribute immensely to security enhancement in their community because knowledge is power and education is a good measure of performance and productivity.

**Table 4.1.5: Occupation of the respondents**

<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Peasant/Farmer	152	69.1
Government officials	7	3.3
Student	44	19.9

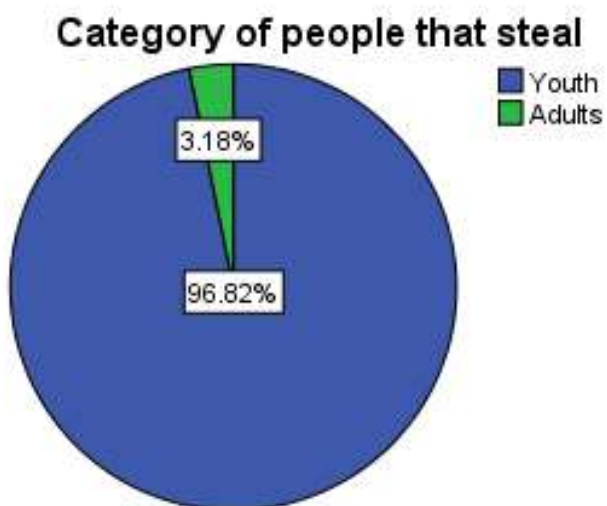
Others specify	17	7.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The data on the occupational distribution of respondents shows that 69.1% are farmers, 19.9% are students, 7.7% engage in other activities like teaching, tailoring and attending to shops and 3.3% are Government officials (key informants). This indicates that the majority of the respondents are farmers, thus justifying the relevance of the study on community strategies for security of property (crops and domestic animals).

#### 4.2 SECTION B: CATEGORY OF PEOPLE THAT ARE INVOLVED IN THEFT OF PROPERTY IN KISAARA VILLAGE

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
<b>Youths</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>96.82</b>
<b>Adults</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3.18</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Fig 1: A pie showing the category of people that steal



From table 4.2.1 and fig1 above, 96.8% of the responds mentioned that the youths are the key category involved in stealing property while 3.2% accounts for the adults. In addition, during an in-depth interview with community leaders, they revealed that; the youths that steal are majorly school dropouts who are idle.

**Table 4.2.2: Causes of theft of property**

<b>Responses</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Laziness	53	24.1
Unemployment	33	15.0
Alcoholism and Drug abuse	45	20.5
Illiteracy	40	18.2
Peer groups	49	22.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100.0</b>

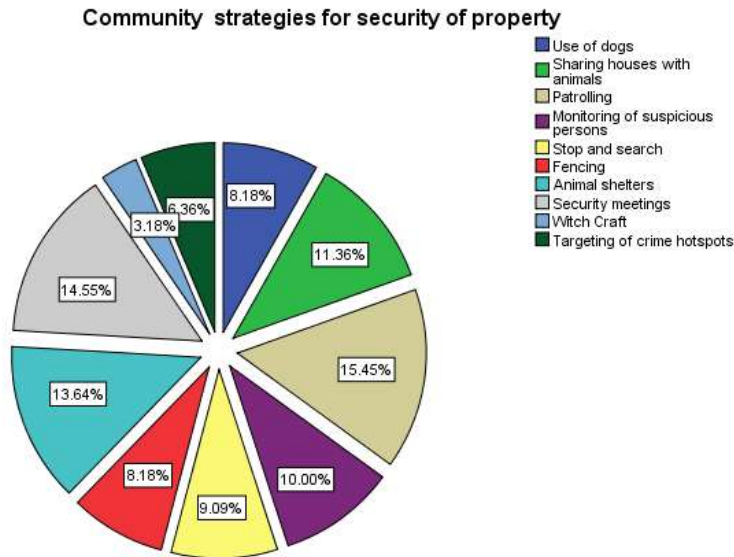
Table 4.2.2 above shows 24.1% of the respondents present laziness as a major cause of theft followed by peer groups (22.3%), alcoholism and drug abuse (20.5%), illiteracy (18.2%), and unemployment (15.0%). Based on the findings, this shows that when people are lazy, they start joining peer groups because they are easily influenced by other bad groups which results into taking alcohol and drugs, thus resulting into stealing and other crimes like rape.

### 4.3 SECTION C: COMMUNITY STRATEGIES THAT ENHANCE SECURITY OF PROPERTY IN KISAARA VILLAGE AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS

**Table 4.3.1: Community strategies for security of property**

Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
Use of dogs	18	8.2
Sharing houses with animals	25	11.4
Patrolling	34	15.5
Monitoring of suspicious persons	22	10.0
Stop and search	20	9.1
Fencing	18	8.2
Animal shelters	30	13.6
Security meetings	32	14.5
Witch Craft	7	3.2
Targeting of crime hotspots	14	6.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Fig 2: A pie chart showing



The community strategies in table 4.3.1 and fig 2 above are both participatory and non-participatory. The table shows that 15.5% of the respondents are involved in patrolling at

household level, 14.5% attend security meetings, 13.6% have animal shelters, 11.4% share houses with animals, 10.0% are involved in monitoring of suspicious persons, 9.1% stop and search, 8.2% fence their homes and use dogs for security, 6.4% target crime hotspots where criminals usually sit and have meetings from, and 3.2% use witchcraft.

The use of one strategy does not stop a person from using another strategy. Therefore the above data simply indicates a respondent's preference number one on the various strategies employed in ensuring security of property.

These findings were in agreement with the routine activity theory (James & George, 1982). The theory suggests that for a crime to occur, three elements must converge in space and time: a motivated offender, a suitable target, and the absence of a capable guardian. In the context of the study, Patrolling (15.5%) can be seen as a form of capable guardianship. Individuals actively monitoring their surroundings act as deterrents to potential offenders. It creates a presence that may discourage criminal activity.

Attending security meetings (14.5%) suggests an organized effort to share information and coordinate actions. This can enhance the community's capability to respond to potential threats and make potential offenders aware of the collective vigilance.

Animal shelters (13.6%) and sharing houses with animals (11.4%) contribute to reducing the vulnerability of livestock, making them less suitable targets. By securing animals, the community minimizes the opportunities for theft or harm.

Monitoring suspicious persons (10.0%) and stop and search (9.1%) target potential offenders directly. They are proactive measures to identify and deter individuals who might be motivated to engage in criminal activities. According to our findings, fencing homes and using dogs (8.2%) are physical barriers and a form of capable guardianship. Field observation on fenced homes during the study confirmed that fencing can deter trespassers, and dogs can act as both deterrents and alarms thus enhancing the security of the property.

A very interesting finding from the study was on the use of witchcraft (3.2%). This can be viewed as a symbolic or cultural approach to creating a perception of capable guardianship. During one of the group discussions and home visits, respondents testified that they apply witchcrafts to a suitable target to deter or arrest thieves. Whether or how this method works was

not clear to the study team. However, it was thought that the fear of witch craft could create a perception among the community members that no one can steal their property without being arrested.

In summary, these findings align well with the routine activity theory. The various strategies employed by the community members either reduce the suitability of targets, increase capable guardianship, or actively target and deter motivated offenders. It's a comprehensive approach that combines both traditional and more unconventional methods to ensure the security of crops and livestock.

#### **4.4 Community strategies for security of property \* Effectiveness of community strategies**

Objective one assessed the effectiveness of community strategies on security of property in Kisaara Village. The respondents were asked whether community strategies in Kisaara Village had been effective in security enhancement of property. The findings are shared in Table 4.4

**Table 4.4.1: Effectiveness of community strategies**

Community strategies	Effectiveness of community strategies					Total
	Very effective	Effective	Slightly effective	Ineffective	I don't know	
Use of dogs	1	3	12	5	0	<b>21</b>
Sharing houses with animals	0	5	9	11	0	<b>25</b>
Patrolling	1	8	13	13	0	<b>35</b>
Monitoring of suspicious persons	1	7	8	3	1	<b>20</b>
Stop and search	0	7	8	9	1	<b>25</b>
Fencing	5	8	5	1	1	<b>20</b>
Animal shelters	2	5	5	2	3	<b>21</b>

Security meetings	1	9	14	8	0	<b>32</b>
Witch Craft	0	0	2	5	0	<b>7</b>
Targeting of crime hotspots	1	6	10	0	1	<b>14</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>220</b>
Percentage	5.5%	26.4%	39.1%	25.9%	3.1%	<b>100.0%</b>

Table 4.4.1 above shows that the majority of the respondents use patrolling (35) security meetings(32 ), and sharing houses with animals and stop and search (25). A small number of respondents(7) indicated witch craft as one of the community strategies used in crime prevention. Yet, another small number of respondents (14) indicated targeting of crime hotspots.

Table 4.4 above also shows that 39.1 % of the respondents indicated that the community strategies are slightly effective, 26.4% effective, 25.9% ineffective, 5.5% very effective and 3.1% said they don't know.

The overall analysis on strategies indicated only 5.5% of the strategies being used were very effective and 25.9% ineffective. This is why there were rampant theft and high crime rates in the area. 3.1% said they don't know. These fall under 9.5% who said they did not attend school at all. This indicates that they lack awareness on the effectiveness of the strategies and its an area of improvement.

These findings are in the context of both the routine activity theory and the broken window theory that suggests that visible signs of disorder and neglect can contribute to an increase in crime (Felson and Cohen, 1979).

Slightly effective (39.1%): This indicates that the routine activities implemented by the community have a moderate impact on reducing the convergence of motivated offenders and suitable targets. The community's efforts, while not completely thwarting criminal activities, seem to be making it more challenging for offenses to occur. In agreement with the broken window theory, this indicates that while the community is addressing visible signs of

vulnerability, there are still some areas of disorder or neglect that need attention. The slight effectiveness could be due to residual elements that contribute to a sense of insecurity. While conducting home visits, the study team observed that certain participants employ dogs as a security measure. Nevertheless, as we approached the houses, the dogs continuously barked and there was no subsequent response or investigation from the residents, suggesting areas of neglect that warrant further attention.

26.4% indicated that community strategies are effective: This suggests that the routine activities are indeed having a positive impact. It aligns with the idea that when communities actively engage in securing their environment, the likelihood of criminal incidents decreases. However, other respondents (25.9%) indicate that the strategies are ineffective. These respondents feel that the current strategies are not adequately addressing the routine activities leading to criminal behavior and in line with the broken window theory, these respondents perceive that there are visible signs of disorder or neglect that are not being adequately addressed. It's essential to identify these areas and understand how they might contribute to the perception of ineffectiveness.

#### **4.5 SECTION D: CHALLENGES FACED BY THE COMMUNITY IN IMPLEMENTING COMMUNITY STRATEGIES FOR SECURITY OF PROPERTY AND SOLUTIONS**

Objective two was to identify the challenges community members face in implementing community strategies for security of property in Kisaara Village. The findings are shared in Table 4.5.1 below

<b>Responses</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Lack of police	44	20.0
Bars	51	23.2
Limited cooperation	50	22.7
Diseases	25	11.4
Low turn up	32	14.5
Corruption	18	8.2



<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100.0</b>
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The data presented in Table 4.5.1 above reveals that the primary obstacle encountered by the community in implementing security strategies for property is bars, accounting for 23.2%. This is closely followed by challenges such as limited cooperation among community members (22.7%), a deficiency in police presence (20.0%), low attendance in meetings (14.5%), diseases (11.4%), predominantly impacting those employing the strategy of sharing houses with animals, and corruption (8.2%). These findings suggest that the difficulty in dealing with bars during the execution of strategies may stem from the absence of stringent regulations governing their operations, particularly regarding opening and closing times. The challenges identified in the findings can be illuminated by various criminological and sociological theories as discussed below;

The high percentage (23.2%) of respondents citing bars as a challenge suggests that social or recreational spaces contribute to an environment conducive to criminal activities. This could be due to factors such as increased vulnerability of individuals in these settings or reduced vigilance. Ronald V. Clarke, (1995) in his work on situational crime prevention, emphasizes the importance of managing the environment to reduce opportunities for crime. In the case of bars, the absence of strict regulations contributes to an environment where criminal activities are more likely to occur.

Limited Cooperation by Fellow Community Members (22.7%) indicates potential social challenges in implementing security strategies. Robert Sampson and John Laub (1993), in their social control theory, emphasize the role of informal social control mechanisms within communities. Limited cooperation among community members is linked to social cohesion and the strength of community bonds. Sampson (1993) argues that strong social ties within a community can act as a deterrent to crime but limited cooperation may increase crime in the community and this affects the effectiveness of security strategies.

The absence of police presence (20.0%) attributes to various factors, including resource constraints or the need for community-oriented policing programs and low turn up in meetings (14.5%) hinder effective communication and coordination of community strategies as pointed out by one of the respondents during the interview. This is in line with social capital theories by Robert Putnam (1995) who suggests that low attendance in community meetings is indicative of

declining social capital within the community. Increased social capital, characterized by trust and cooperation, is linked to better community outcomes, including crime prevention.

**Table 4.5.2: Solutions to the challenges faced by the community in implementing community strategies for security of property**

Responses	Frequency	Percent (%)
Community policing	57	25.5
Sensitization in meetings	43	20.0
Engage different stakeholders	51	23.2
Improve public-police relations	33	15.0
Mobilizing members for meetings	36	16.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Fig 3: A pie chart showing the solutions to the challenges

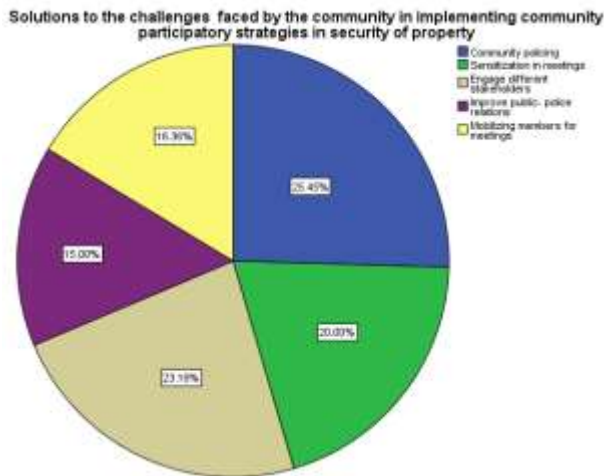


Table 4.5.2 and fig 3 above illustrates that 25.5% of the respondents view community policing as the primary solution to the challenges encountered in implementing community strategies for the security of property.

Additionally, 20.0% advocate for sensitization meetings, 23.2% suggest engaging various stakeholders, 15.0% propose enhancing public-police relations, and 16.4% recommend mobilizing members for meetings as a solution. These findings indicate that, with bars identified as a significant challenge, implementing policies such as community policing is perceived as a viable solution

The findings are in line with Gitau (2017) who observes that community policing must involve partnership between citizens and the police as well as inter-governmental and interagency collaboration between state and other sectors. Such collaborations and partnerships enable collection and exchange of intelligence sharing of resources as well as identification of threats and vulnerabilities in the event of an attack.

The endorsement of sensitization meetings (20.0%) highlights the perceived value of community awareness and education. This suggests that informing and educating community members about security issues, potential risks, and available resources is crucial for fostering a collective understanding and responsibility.

The emphasis on engaging various stakeholders (23.2%) indicates a recognition that a collaborative and inclusive approach is essential. Involving different community groups, businesses, and organizations in security initiatives can enhance the overall impact and effectiveness of strategies and the focus on improving public-police relations underscores the importance of a positive and trusting relationship between law enforcement and the community. Building trust facilitates better communication, cooperation, and the sharing of information, contributing to more effective security measures.

The recommendation to mobilize members for meetings (16.4 %) suggests that active community participation is seen as a key factor in overcoming challenges. This aligns with the

idea that a committed and engaged community is better equipped to implement and sustain security strategies.

In summary, the emphasis on community-based solutions highlights a bottom-up approach to security, where the community plays an active role in shaping and implementing strategies.

Addressing the challenges posed by bars through community policing policies suggests a recognition of the need for regulatory measures to manage potential sources of disorder in the community.

#### **4.6 SECTION E: RECOMMENDED ACTIONS AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION BY THE COMMUNITY**

Objective three was to identify and implement the best strategies for security of property (crops and livestock) in Kisaara Village. The findings are shared in Table 4.6.1 below

This research was Participatory Action Research. The community members made a plan of how they are going to implement actions resulting from the finding of the research.

Some of these actions were implemented during internship together with the community members of Kisaara Village and other stakeholders like the GISO, Parish Chief, CDO, and LCIII of Kagadi Sub County. Actions that were implemented include; sensitization of the masses, sensitization of pupils and students, forming a patrol unit and construction of animal shelters as were explained in the internship report under chapter four.

<b>Responses</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percent (%)</b>
Construction of the police post	96	43.6
Sensitization of the masses and pupils in schools	51	23.2
Forming a patrol unit	54	24.5
Construction of animal shelters	19	8.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The above table 4.6.1 shows the actions that were recommended and implemented by the community to enhance security of property. The majority of the respondents (43.6%)

recommended that a police post should be constructed in the Kagadi Sub County to help in handling crimes, 23.2% of the respondents recommended sensitization of the masses and pupils in schools, citing the need for career guidance especially considering insights from respondents indicating that many thieves are dropouts. Twenty four and a half ( 24.5% ) advocated for the formation of a patrol unit, while 8.7% suggested that each household should have animal shelters as a deterrent against theft.

Here's how each action aligns with the positive aspects of the Broken Window Theory:

1. **Construction of police post (43.6%):** Building a police post in Kagadi Sub County aligns with the Broken Window Theory by addressing the visible signs of disorder. A visible police presence can act as a symbol of order and authority, deterring potential offenders. It also signifies that the community is actively addressing and preventing another window to be broken.
2. **Sensitization of masses and pupils (23.2%):** This action recognizes the importance of community awareness and education. By sensitizing the community and providing career guidance to students, the community is addressing the root causes of crime. This proactive approach contributes to creating an environment that values education and discourages criminal behavior.
3. **Formation of patrol unit (24.5%):** This is a direct application of the Broken Window Theory. Regular patrols contribute to maintaining visible order in the community. The presence of a patrol unit not only deters potential offenders but also signals to the community that active measures are being taken to prevent and address criminal activities promptly.
4. **Animal shelters in every household (8.7%):** This recommendation focuses on securing potential targets (livestock) and reducing the visibility of vulnerable property. By having animal shelters in every household, the community is addressing a specific aspect of disorder and vulnerability, making it less attractive for thieves to target animals.

In summary, the recommendations made by the community align well with the positive aspects of the Broken Window Theory. They emphasize the importance of visible order, community engagement, and proactive measures to prevent and address potential sources of disorder and crime. Implementing these recommendations contributes to creating a safer and more orderly environment in Kagadi Sub County.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.0 Introduction**

This chapter generates conclusions and recommendation guided by the objectives of the study. The overriding purpose of this study was to identify community strategies that enhance security of property in Kisaara village.

#### **5.1 Conclusion**

1. The data collected indicated that communities adopt various strategies for security of property (crops and animals) that is to say; community policing, stop and search, monitoring of suspicious persons, dogs, fencing and other strategies as seen in chapter four under section C. In this study, an attempt was made to measure the effectiveness of community strategies for security of property and it was revealed that they are slightly effective with the biggest percentage of 39.1%, followed by effective with the percentage of 26.4% while other strategies were ineffective with the percentage of 25.9%. This called for collective actions to enhance security of property in the study area like strengthening joint police-community patrols, sensitization of the mass and students to create awareness, construction of animal shelters because majority of the strategies were slightly effective.
2. Based on the findings, the study concluded that though the community strategies are slightly effective, some of them had a positive impact in reducing insecurity of property in Kisaara Village like awareness, cooperation and development.
3. The study also identified various challenges facing the effectiveness of community strategies for security of property: low turn up from the side of community members,

limited cooperation by both the police and fellow community members, lack of awareness, bars and corruption. Further analysis was made on how the challenges can be solved and during data collection, every respondent was giving a solution to the challenge that he/she thinks can boost the effectiveness of community strategies for security of property. Solutions given were; strict laws on bars, sensitization in meetings, engaging different stakeholders, improving public- police relations, and mobilizing members for meetings.

4. These findings underscore the importance of collaborative, community-driven approaches to address security challenges. The diverse range of proposed solutions indicates a holistic understanding of the complexities involved, with an acknowledgment that effective security strategies require the active involvement of both the community and external stakeholders.

## **5.2 Recommendation**

1. Study should be conducted on community strategies for security of property in Kagadi District so as to identify areas that require improvement and to identify the best strategies to be adopted by both the community members and the Government in order to enhance security of property in the country.
2. There is the need to establish liaison between the police and the members of the community so that the members of the community can serve as informants to the police because during data collection no one talked about working with the police.

3. The security agencies like the police should work closely with community members (including community leaders, youths and residents) within every community to ensure that crime does not flourish in their areas.
4. Government and the police authorities should intensify efforts on mass mobilization and awareness campaigns on the importance of the communities to partner with the police in enhancing security. This will help to enlighten community members who are not fully aware of the existence and importance of community strategies for security of property.
5. Research should be carried out to explore the cultural application of witchcraft as a potential method for crime reduction, examining whether its efficacy is grounded in reality or merely perceived.



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## **APPENDICES**

### **Appendix (i): AN INTERVIEW GUIDE**

#### **Section A: Demographic Data of Respondent**

- Sex
- Age
- Marital Status
- Level of Education
- Religion
- Occupation

#### **Section B: The role of community participation in combating crime**

1. What do you understand by the term security of property?
2. What are the causes of theft of property in Kisaara Village?
3. What category of people is involved in theft of property?
4. What are the community strategies that you have put to enhance security of property in your area?
5. How effective are these strategies in enhancing security of property in Kisaara Village?
6. What challenges do you face when implementing these strategies?
7. How do you think these challenges can be solved?
8. How do community strategies impact security of property in Kisaara Village?
9. Among the above strategies, what is the best community strategy that can be used to enhance security of property in your Village?

**Appendix (ii):A QUESTIONNAIRE FO THE RESPONDENTS**

Dear respondents, I am a student from African Rural University conducting a research work on the topic: The effectiveness of community strategies on security of property as part of the requirements for the award of a Bachelors Degree in Rural Development. Kindly assist me to fill in the questionnaire by ticking or filling in the spaces provided as necessary. Whatever information you provide will be used for academic purposes and will be confidential.

**Section A: Social-Demographic Data of the respondents**

<p>A. SEX</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Male</li> <li>2. Female</li> </ol>	<p>B. AGE CATGORY</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12-18</li> <li>19-30</li> <li>31-45</li> <li>46 and above</li> </ol>
<p>C. MARITAL STATUS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Single</li> <li>2. Married</li> <li>3. Widow/widower</li> </ol>	<p>D. LEVEL OF EDUCATION</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. None</li> <li>2. Primary</li> <li>3. Secondary</li> <li>4. Tertiary</li> </ol>
<p>E. OCCUPATION</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. None</li> <li>2. Farmer</li> <li>3. Business owner</li> <li>4. Government officials</li> <li>5. Others specify.....</li> </ol>	

**SECTION B**

F) What are the category of people that steal?

1. Youths
2. Adults

G) What are the causes of theft?

1. Laziness
2. Unemployment
3. Alcoholism and Drug abuse
4. Illiteracy
5. Peer groups

H) What are the community strategies for security of property in Kisaara Village?

1. Use of dogs
2. Sharing houses with animals
3. Patrolling
4. Monitoring of suspicious persons
5. Stop and search
6. Fencing
7. Animal shelters
8. Security meetings
9. Witch Craft
10. Targeting of crime hotspots

I) How effective are the community strategies on security of property?

1. Very effective
2. Effective
3. Slightly effective
4. Ineffective
5. I don't know

J) What challenges do community members face while implementing community strategies for security of property in Kisaara Village?

1. Lack of police
2. Bars
3. Limited cooperation
4. Diseases

5. Low turn up
6. Corruption

K) Do the challenges affect the performance of these strategies?

1. Yes
2. No

L) How can these challenges be solved?

1. Community policing
2. Sensitization in meetings
3. Engage different stakeholders
4. Improve public- police relations
5. Mobilizing members for meetings

M) What are the best strategies that can be implemented to enhance security of property?

1. Construction of the police post
2. Sensitization of the masses and pupils in schools
3. Forming a patrol unit
4. Construction of animal shelters

THANKYOU

**Appendix (iii): A SKETCH MAP OF KISAARA VILLAGE**





**Appendix (iv): ENROLLING STAKEHOLDERS IN THE RESEARCH PROPOSAL**



**Appendix (v): DURING DATA COLLECTION**

