

Community policing: A technique used by the police to maintain community development, safety, and security

Derese Alehegn ^{a1}, Hawassa University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, dereseenkopa@yahoo.com

Suggested Citation:

Alehegn, D. (2025). Community policing: A technique used by the police to maintain community development, safety, and security. *Global Journal of Sociology: Current Issues*, 15(1), 48-60. <https://doi.org/10.18844/gjs.v15i1.9781>

Received from October 2, 2024; revised from December 25, 2024; accepted from April 18, 2025.

Selection and peer review under the responsibility of Prof. Dr. Carlos Rodrigues, Universidade Fernando Pessoa, Portugal

©2025 by the authors. Licensee United World Innovation Research and Publishing Center, North Nicosia, Cyprus. Cyprus. This article is an open-access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

iThenticate Similarity Rate: 2%

Abstract

This study explores the effectiveness of community policing in promoting public safety and reducing crime. Despite being widely endorsed as a progressive approach to law enforcement, community policing lacks conclusive empirical support regarding its impact on crime rates. A significant research gap exists in evaluating its practical success as a crime prevention strategy. This study aims to assess the role of community policing in maintaining peace and security within urban neighborhoods. Using a data-driven approach, the research draws on direct information collected through personal interactions with police agency representatives, focusing on various crime categories such as property and violent crimes. The analysis centers on the extent to which community policing initiatives contribute to safety within distinct municipal areas. Findings suggest that while community policing fosters improved communication and trust between police and residents, its effectiveness in consistently reducing crime remains uncertain. The study offers implications for policy-makers and law enforcement agencies seeking to enhance community-level security strategies through more targeted and evidence-based policing practices.

Keywords: Community engagement; community policing; crime prevention; policing strategy; public safety.

* ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE: Derese Alehegn, Hawassa University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
E-mail address: dereseenkopa@yahoo.com

1. INTRODUCTION

As the administration touts community policing as a new paradigm in policing, the issue I addressed in this study is that despite its practice in maintaining community safety and security, there is a dearth of research reflecting the relationships between community policing, crime reduction, and improvement in crime. Community policing, particularly in the administration, upholds public safety and security in the community (Okoka & Kheswa, 2024). While community policing has been widely discussed and implemented, researchers have not yet reached a definitive conclusion about its overall effectiveness as a crime reduction strategy, indicating that further research is needed to fully understand its impact (Bhattacharyya, 2004).

The community policing practice is important in terms of maintaining community safety and security (Suzuki et al, 2023). To ascertain whether there were any meaningful relationships between the way community policing was implemented and crime rates, we employed data analyses, the administration's use of community policing to uphold safety and security in the neighbourhood (Crowl, 2017). A systematic review found that increasing preventive patrol, a key component in some community policing models, yielded around 6–9% reductions in general crime in larger jurisdictions (Weisburd et al., 2024).

The issue this study attempts to address is that although the administration has hailed the practice of community policing as a new paradigm in policing, there is a lack of data regarding the effectiveness of policing in either decreasing or raising crime, the administration uses community policing as a means of preserving security and safety in the neighborhood (Bhattacharyya, 2004). There is still much to learn about community policing's efficacy as a strategy for reducing crime because researchers have not been able to conclusively characterize it as a successful police approach (Park et al., 2023). Academia and law enforcement leaders struggle to define and implement community policing practices for maintaining community safety and security; in the administration, it is difficult to determine the relationships among community policing, crime, and community policing practices for maintaining community safety and security; and in the administration (Reisig & Kane, 2014). Moreover, place-based hot spots policing, operationally similar to localized community policing, has been associated with up to 14% reductions in violent crime when evaluated city-wide (Tregle et al., 2025).

There is a lack of consistency across police departments and academics regarding the purpose, implementation, effectiveness, and definition of community policing (Cafer et al., 2022). A 2024 meta-analysis specific to hot spots policing within violent crime contexts found reductions in overall violence of about 24%, with firearm violence seeing the greatest declines, particularly when problem-oriented strategies were used rather than traditional patrols (Turchan et al., 2024).

To fulfill the requirements of this study, an investigation was conducted into the relationship between community policing initiatives implemented by the Addis Ababa city administration and outcomes related to community safety and security. Existing studies have not adequately addressed the extent to which community policing contributes to crime reduction practices within the administrative framework. The present study evaluates the effectiveness of community policing in reducing crime rates and enhancing the implementation of community safety measures within the administrative structure (Cantrell and Stafford, 2013).

This investigation seeks to address a critical gap in the literature, namely the absence of empirical data evaluating the capacity of community policing to reduce or deter criminal activity despite its promotion by the Addis Ababa city administration as a transformative model for urban law enforcement. Community policing is currently employed by the administration as a mechanism to maintain public safety and security (Wantenaar and Govender, 2023). However, substantial ambiguity persists regarding the effectiveness of this model as a crime reduction strategy, due to the lack of consensus among scholars about its practical success (Yero et al., 2012). The complexity in establishing a clear relationship between community policing and crime prevention stems from conceptual and operational challenges faced by both law enforcement professionals and academic researchers in defining and applying the principles of community policing within the administrative context. The administration continues to utilize community policing as a method for

safeguarding the public (Reisig and Kane, 2014). Discrepancies persist between law enforcement agencies and academic perspectives concerning the objectives, methodologies, outcomes, and conceptual definitions associated with community policing (Crowl, 2017).

1.1. Purpose of study

The objective of the present study is to examine the relationship between the implementation of community policing by the Addis Ababa city administration and the promotion of community safety and security. This investigation seeks to evaluate the validity of prior research findings concerning the effectiveness of community policing in enhancing public safety within the administrative context. Existing literature has yet to offer conclusive evidence regarding the impact of community policing on crime reduction and its role in the maintenance of safety and security in Addis Ababa. Specifically, this study assesses the effectiveness of community policing in lowering crime rates and reinforcing safety and security practices through administrative structures. The technique of community policing has been adopted by the administration as a primary tool for ensuring public order and security (Van Der Giessen and Bayerl, 2022).

Addis Ababa, located in the Central Oromia Regional State of Ethiopia, is among the most densely populated and rapidly expanding industrial and commercial urban centers in Sub-Saharan Africa. Macroeconomic challenges such as inflation, unemployment, and poverty have contributed to rising incidences of criminal activity and social unrest. These conditions have led to heightened concerns regarding crimes such as property theft, robbery, assault, and homicide, all of which adversely affect the quality of life within the community. Such crimes constitute violations of human rights and are often attributed to deficiencies in law enforcement capacity, particularly in the application of proactive crime prevention strategies aimed at supporting community development. Community policing is regarded as a promising model for addressing these challenges, as its fundamental objective lies in the effective prevention of crime through the active and sustained participation of community members.

2. METHOD AND MATERIALS

This study adopts an exploratory approach, utilizing data collection techniques based on an extensive review of the literature and the examination of various records available in naturalistic settings. This methodological framework facilitates the discovery and presentation of data in an open and unbiased manner, reflecting diverse experiences within real-world contexts. Regarding research design and strategy, the primary objective is to assess the effectiveness of community policing implementation within the urban administrative framework. To accomplish this objective, a descriptive research design is employed. This design aims to outline the characteristics of community policing and to document its current practices. The research objectives are addressed through the application of a mixed-methods approach, incorporating both qualitative and quantitative data. The extent to which community policing is implemented is measured through quantitative methods, while qualitative methods are employed to identify barriers to the effective operation of community policing initiatives within urban environments (Oswald et al., 2024).

2.1. Research design

The study employed both primary and secondary data sources. Primary data were collected through surveys and interviews. The survey, which focused on aspects of community policing, was administered to frontline police personnel. Interviews were conducted with mid-level and senior community policing officials to identify the barriers impeding the success and implementation of community policing initiatives. As secondary sources, unpublished reports from reputable and verified institutions, including the Addis Ababa Police Commission (AAPC), were reviewed. These data sources were used to substantiate findings and enhance the analytical foundation of the study (Brogden, 2004). A mixed-methods research approach was adopted, allowing for objective evaluation of data, with conclusions drawn directly from the results of statistical analysis (Creswell, 2014). A descriptive research design was implemented to assess the extent and characteristics of the variables under investigation.

2.2. Participants

A descriptive case study was adopted in which the target population of 328 respondents was stratified randomly into three sub-cities, that is, Arada, Kirkos, and Addis Ketema.

2.3. Data collection tool

A structured questionnaire was used as the research instrument. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. The purpose of correlational research is to evaluate data and interpret the relationship and strength of the structure and practice of community policing in maintaining community safety and security by recognizing trends. The structure and practice of community policing in maintaining community safety and security methods were used to measure the relationship between the structure of community policing and ensuring peace and security. According to Creswell (2014) A quantitative design, or more specifically, a correlational quantitative research design, seeks to identify the extent of the relationship between two variables through a statistical analysis of the data.

According to Escaño & Pridemore (2024), the size of the population and the amount of error the researcher was willing to tolerate determine the size of the sample. The authors developed a sample size determination population that was surveyed (Simpson et al., 2024). For each stratum in the city administration, 328 community samples were collected from Arada, Kirkos, and Addis Ketema sub-cities. To provide an equal chance of being selected, simple random sampling techniques were employed to select respondents from the city. Simple random sampling is an extensively used sampling method in scientific research. The city was selected for the population, in which the members of the research were randomly selected to participate.

A questionnaire was used as an instrument to collect data from the respondents. The questions will be prepared in the Amharic language because all groups of respondents can read and understand the language by applying a quantitative technique and resorting to a questionnaire, after which the data will be collected. (Kelly et al., 2024). The researcher first contacted the police commission to obtain full support in accessing the desired respondents and relevant data. Following this, academic staff members who completed the questionnaire were identified and oriented to the purposes of the questionnaire.

2.4. Data analysis technique

To analyze the mass of data collected through the questionnaire, descriptive statistics are presented as the mean and standard deviation. After the necessary coding was performed, the data were entered into a computer for analysis using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software version 26 (Kelly et al., 2024).

3. RESULTS

Table 1

Reliability statistics result

Reliability Statistics result			
Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items	N of Items	
Structure of community policing	0.826	7	

In Table 1 above, the consistency estimates were acceptable according to the Pearson correlation, and a Cronbach's alpha value <0.70 indicated acceptable reliability. Structure CP 0.826; number of items seven, one estimate of reliability

3.1. Discussion of demographic factors

Table 2

Information about FGD participants in the Arada sub-city

Name of FGD participant	Gender	Qualification	Experience
ET-01	male	MA in leadership	22

ET-02	male	write and read	12
ET-03	male	MA in Amharic	16
ET-04	female	Write and read	18
ET-05	male	Religious leader	12
ET-06	male	Write and read	2

Table 2 indicates that in the Arada sub-city, a problem-resolving committee was established under the auspices of the community policing department. The committee was formed to address issues related to peace and security within the community and to strengthen collaborative partnerships between law enforcement and community members. Analysis of the committee's composition reveals a disproportionate representation of male members, indicating a lack of gender equality in the participation structure of the problem-resolving body.

Table 3

Information about FGD participants admitted to Ketema sub-city

Name of FGD participant	Gender	Qualification	Experience
ET-011	male	Write and read	12
ET-022	male	Diploma	10
ET-033	male	Traditional school	6
ET-044	male	BA management	8
ET-055	Female	Write and read	5
ET-066	male	Diploma	7

Table 3 shows that in the Addis Ketema sub-city, the problem-resolving committee was well organized and demonstrated adherence to the principles of community policing. However, despite the structural organization, significant challenges were observed in the form of high levels of conflict between police personnel and community members. Furthermore, the personal interests of individual police officers appeared to conflict with the foundational objective of fostering cooperative partnerships between law enforcement and the community.

Table 4

Information about FGD participants in the Kirkos sub-city

Name of FGD participant	Gender	Qualification	Experience
ET-0111	male	MA in physics	12
ET-0222	male	BA history	10
ET-0333	male	MA in Amharic	6
ET-0444	male	BA Oromiffa	8
ET-0555	male	MA English	18
ET-0666	Female	Write and read	5

Table 4 indicated that in the sub-city of Kirkos, the community policing problem resolving committee has no functional reporting system; in this FGD, there was a great difference in the philosophy of community policing implementation, and police officers did not agree with the community's high male domination among the problem resolving committee members.

Table 5

Descriptive statistics

Chi Square for Community Policing Methods and maintaining peace and security	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
The practice of community policing maintains peace and security	Pearson Chi-Square	159.499a	20 .000
	Likelihood Ratio	133.879	20 .000
	Linear-by-Linear Association	58.113	1 .000
	N of Valid Cases	328	

Table 5 indicates that the Asymptotic only. The significance level is based on the asymptotic distribution of a test statistic. Typically, a value of less than 0.05 was considered to indicate statistical significance. The asymptotic significance is based on the assumption that the dataset is large. Take a look at the column on

the far right of this output table. The asymptotic significance, or p-value, of the chi-square test was calculated in SPSS. This value determines the statistical significance of the relationship we tested. According to all the tests of significance, if $p < 0.05$, there is a statistically significant relationship between the two variables; the p value in our chi-square output is $p = 0.000$. This means that the relationship between community policing and ensuring community safety and security is significant. The chi-square test for association was used to assess the associations between the dichotomous variables of community policing policies, community policing training, community policing partnerships and community policing activities and between the property crime rate and the property crime clearance rate, and I found that there was no statistically significant relationship between the study variables ($p > .05$). Table 4 shows the chi-square test results for community policing implementation methods and property crime rates. The chi-square test for community policing implementation methods and property crime is shown. The practice of community policing in maintaining community safety and security is shown; in the administration, it is the asymptotic significance, or p-value, of the chi-square we have just run in SPSS. This value determines the statistical significance of the relationship we tested. According to all the tests of significance, if $p < 0.05$, there was a statistically significant relationship between the two variables (Crowl, 2017).

Table 6
The Status of the Partnership b/n Community and Police

S.no	Descriptive statistics	N	Mean	STD. Deviation
Status of partnership b/n the community and police				
1:	The goals of the community-police partnership are clearly stated	328	2.21	1.34
2:	Community members collaborate with police in identifying community problems	328	2.46	1.18
3:	In community policing, there is a mutual trust between the community and the police.	328	2.44	1.30
4:	The community is encouraged to reduce crime through community policing.	328	2.26	1.31
.5:	There is a fair treatment of the community in community policing.	328	2.69	1.37
.6:	All citizens are treated equally in community policing.	328	2.61	1.32
7:	Police officers are not intimidating our community.	328	2.39	1.27
.8:	Partnership increases local capacity and develops local solutions to local problems	328	2.84	1.54
9:	Partnership empowers local communities to solve local issues	328	2.68	1.44
10:	Develops partnerships between law enforcement and the community	328	2.64	1.43
	Aggregate mean & SD		2.52	1.35

Table 6 presents quantitative results assessing perceptions of community policing across multiple dimensions. For Item 1, which evaluated whether the goals of the community police partnership are clearly stated, the mean score was $M = 2.21$ ($SD = 1.34$), indicating limited clarity and variability in goal articulation relevant to daily policing operations. Item 2 examined whether community members collaborating with police incorporate issues critical to practical policing. The mean score was $M = 2.46$ ($SD = 1.18$), suggesting responses clustered between neutrality and agreement. Supplementary interviews and focus group discussions emphasized that public safety relies on effective partnerships among law enforcement, civil society, businesses, non-profit organizations, and individuals, underscoring the shared responsibility for community protection.

Item 3 addressed mutual trust between the community and the police, with a mean of $M = 2.44$ ($SD = 1.30$). This score suggests a lack of trust, which scholars consider foundational for effective law enforcement. Positive police conduct strengthens community relationships and enhances communication. Item 4 measured whether the community is encouraged to reduce crime through community policing, yielding a mean score of $M = 2.26$ ($SD = 1.31$), which indicates limited engagement of the community in proactive crime reduction despite its recognized value in improving police service quality.

Item 5, a reverse-coded statement, examined whether fair treatment of the community in policing is viewed as irrelevant to current policing duties. The mean score was $M = 2.69$ ($SD = 1.37$), reflecting

Alehegn, D. (2025). Community policing: A technique used by the police to maintain community development, safety, and security. *Global Journal of Sociology: Current Issues*, 15(1), 48-60. <https://doi.org/10.18844/gjs.v15i1.9781>

disagreement with the idea that fair treatment lacks practical significance. Interview data further revealed that perceived unfairness correlates with increased crime rates, unmet community needs, and weakened law enforcement legitimacy (Kasdan and Markman, 2017).

For Item 6, the assessment of equal treatment in community policing showed a mean score of $M = 2.61$ ($SD = 1.32$), indicating general disagreement and suggesting that not all citizens are treated equitably. Qualitative data from group discussions highlighted significant discrimination based on religion, ethnicity, region, and socioeconomic status, despite police claims of impartial service delivery (Aduugna and Italemahu, 2019).

Item 7 evaluated perceptions of whether police officers avoid intimidating the community. The mean score was $M = 2.39$ ($SD = 1.27$), suggesting disagreement and indicating concerns about unaddressed police misconduct. This result reflects gaps in accountability and oversight mechanisms. Excessive force, as a form of police misconduct, remains prevalent and undermines public trust (Wantenaar and Govender, 2023).

Item 8 examined whether community-police partnerships increase local capacity and foster local solutions. The mean score of $M = 2.84$ ($SD = 1.54$) indicates a neutral stance, suggesting that current practices may not fully support collaborative problem-solving. Although community policing is intended to build local capacity, the data suggest limited realization of this potential (Craig, 2001).

Item 9 addressed whether partnerships empower communities to resolve local issues through indigenous resources and cultural knowledge. The mean score was $M = 2.68$ ($SD = 1.44$), suggesting moderate agreement. Participants emphasized the integration of local traditions, religious institutions, and social networks as mechanisms for sustaining peace and supporting law enforcement efforts (Sulaiman et al., 2014).

Finally, Item 10 assessed the general development of partnerships between the police and the community. The mean score was $M = 2.64$ ($SD = 1.43$), reflecting modest agreement. While participants acknowledged the benefits of such partnerships, qualitative findings noted that their implementation remains inconsistent and sometimes ineffective due to political, social, or institutional constraints. Despite these limitations, community-based policing continues to be perceived as a promising strategy, although its impact on crime prevention and legal enforcement requires further empirical validation (Puschner, 2024).

Table 7

Model summary

Model Summary											
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics						Durbin-Watson
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. Change	F	
1	.23	.054	.031	14.125	.054	2.297	8	319	.021		1.470

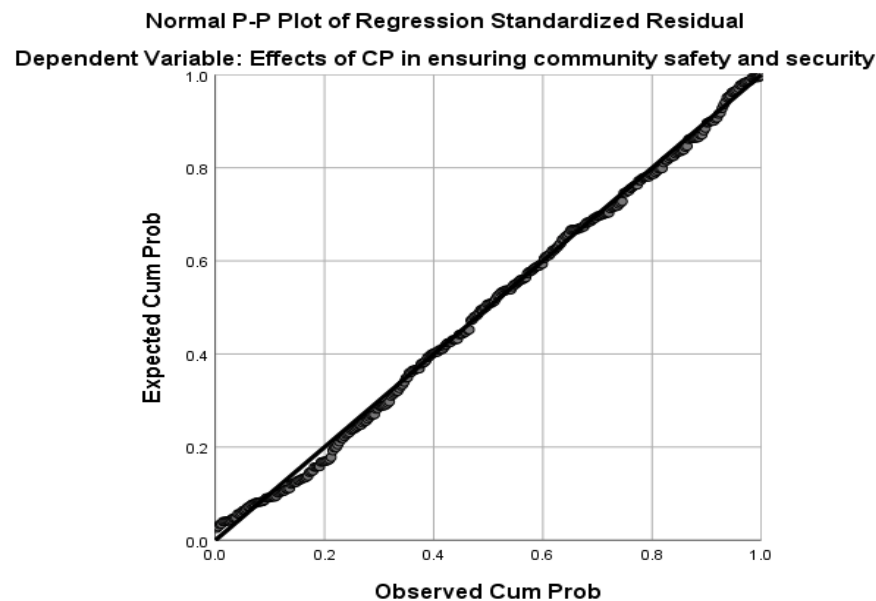
a. Predictors: (Constant), Monthly income, police station, Age, Gender, Educational level, sub city, kebele/wereda, Marital status

b. Dependent Variable: Effects of CP in ensuring community safety and security

Table 7 presents key statistical indicators used to evaluate the overall fit and significance of the regression model. The residual standard error quantifies the variability of the response variable that remains unexplained after accounting for the effects of the included predictors. This measure is expressed in the units of the response variable, providing insight into the average distance between observed and predicted values. The R-squared value represents the proportion of variance in the dependent variable that is explained by the model, ranging from 0 to 1, with a value of 1 indicating a perfect model fit. The Adjusted R-squared statistic refines this measure by accounting for the number of predictors, thereby preventing artificial inflation of explanatory power when additional variables, whether meaningful or not, are introduced into the model. The F-statistic tests the overall significance of the model, with a statistically significant result typically indicated by a p-value less than 0.05. Degrees of freedom (DF), associated with the F-statistic, are used to calculate this p-value and assess the reliability of the model's explanatory capacity (Craig, 2001).

Figure 1

Normal P-P Plot of regression



The above plot illustrates a model that explains 22.6% of the variation in the response. The more variation that was explained by the model, the closer the data points fall to the fitted regression line. Theoretically, if a model could explain 100% of the variation, the fitted values would always equal the observed values, and all of the data points would fall on the fitted line. However, even if R^2 is 100%, the model does not necessarily predict new observations well (Puschner, 2024).

4. DISCUSSION

The analysis anticipated a negative correlation between property crime, violent crime, and institutional dedication to community policing. Community policing is employed by the administration as a mechanism to preserve public safety and security. However, the observed statistically significant relationships did not align with the expected direction of association. Specifically, the negative correlation between crime rates and clearance rates may be attributed to the method used to calculate clearance rates, which involves dividing the number of cleared crimes by the total number of reported crimes. A decline in overall crime may, therefore, result in a corresponding reduction in clearance rates (Craig, 2001). This outcome highlights a potential limitation in the interpretation of clearance metrics in evaluating community policing outcomes.

Although a negative correlation was anticipated between both violent and property crime rates and the level of commitment to community policing, the findings revealed a statistically significant correlation only between commitment and violent crime. This suggests that community policing may be more closely associated with reductions in violent crime than in property crime. Unexpectedly, the administration's deployment of community policing as a strategy to maintain public order was found to be positively correlated with commitment to the practice, indicating that agencies demonstrating greater investment in community policing also tended to report lower violent crime rates. Anomalies within the data may account for the absence of a similar correlation with property crime. In certain municipalities, property crime remained a significant issue despite the adoption of community policing measures, suggesting inconsistencies in implementation or contextual challenges that limit effectiveness (Lozano-Solano et al., 2020).

The data used in this study may have limited the conclusions of the study, but the findings did suggest that community policing and the kinds of crimes it reduces may be significantly correlated. These results supplement those of Rohe et al., (2001), who concluded that there was insufficient evidence to conclude that community policing and decreased crime rates were related because two of the major cities included

in the study had either decreased or leveled off by the year before the study. On the other hand, Sozer (2008) found in a more recent study that there was a significant correlation between higher crime rates and the percentage of community policing officers, which contradicts the findings of this study. Additionally, Sozer (2008) discovered that the highest correlation with property crime rates and the lowest correlation with violent crime rates were associated with community policing. Although my study's results did not agree with the magnitudes of the associations found in earlier research, they did agree that the associations' strength varies depending on the type of crime. This suggests that community policing might work better to lower particular kinds of criminal activity (Van Der Giessen & Bayerl, 2022).

5. CONCLUSION

The analysis proposed a significant correlation between commitment to community policing and violent crime indicators. Community policing, as implemented by the administration, serves as a strategic tool to maintain public safety and security. Findings revealed that the agency's commitment to community policing, measured by the number of officers assigned to related duties, was significantly and negatively correlated with both the violent crime rate and the violent crime clearance rate. This suggests that increased personnel assignment to community policing is associated with a decline in both the occurrence and clearance of violent crimes. While the negative relationship between commitment and the clearance rate may appear paradoxical, it can be attributed to the clearance rate being calculated as the ratio of cleared cases to total reported violent crimes. A simultaneous reduction in both crime and clearance volumes could yield this outcome.

Further analysis demonstrated a strong positive correlation between the practice of community policing and the preservation of community safety and security, as well as a correlation between the violent crime rate and the violent crime clearance rate. These findings suggest an operational linkage between crime trends and the effectiveness of community policing initiatives.

The study also examined potential statistical correlations between violent crime rates, violent crime clearance rates, and institutional factors such as community policing mission statements, training programs, problem-solving methodologies, and community partnerships. Results indicated no statistically significant relationships between violent crime indicators and the aforementioned components of community policing policy and practice.

Additionally, the study investigated the relationship between community policing commitment and property crime. Results revealed a statistically significant negative correlation between the agency's commitment to community policing and the actual practice of community policing as it pertains to property crime prevention. This indicates that increased organizational commitment may not translate into enhanced practical engagement with community safety, as measured through property crime metrics. This inverse relationship is likely influenced by the administration's calculation of community policing effectiveness based primarily on property crime data.

Finally, the study assessed whether mission statements incorporating community policing, as well as related problem-solving practices and community partnerships, were significantly correlated with the rate of property crime. The findings showed no statistically significant relationships between these factors and the property crime rate or the administration's use of community policing for maintaining safety and security. These outcomes suggest a gap between formal policy commitments and measurable community policing outcomes.

This study's sample size was determined by analyzing the effectiveness of community policing in preserving public safety and security. The government used data from six administration police departments to assess whether community policing officers behaved differently from conventional police officers. It can be argued that even though this study's sample size was greater than that of the government, it might still be insufficient to identify a meaningful effect. The data that were gathered for this study may also be a limitation, as some community policing practices maintain community safety and security; in Addis Ababa, for example, the city administration reported that more than 100% of crimes were resolved. Additionally,

one city had a violent crime rate of "0," which might indicate that the data were unavailable. Due to the small sample size, these kinds of data, which are normally excluded from the analyses, could not be eliminated.

6. RECOMMENDATION

Promoting gender inclusiveness: Addressing the underrepresentation of women in community policing as identified in the study. The administration should implement policies and initiatives to encourage the active participation of women and ensure that their views and concerns are adequately represented in the decision-making process.

Strengthening the Administration Structure and Practice: In view of the information that the Administration Structure and Practice do not often work in the COP, the Administration should take active steps to strengthen the coordination between the various Administration agencies engaged in community police. This can be achieved through regular meetings, joint training programs and establishing clear roles and responsibilities for each agency.

Allocation of sufficient human resources: Realizing the human challenges faced by community police activities, the administration should allocate sufficient resources to support CPC meetings and related activities. Adequate sources of input ensure the sustainability of community policing efforts and reduce reliance on external policing, such as an independent advisory unit.

Community Participation Authority of the Police Commission: According to the Administration's community policy, the Police Commission should establish independent police bodies, and community participation should be prioritized. They should serve as participants in discussion forums on policy issues at the administrative level by bringing together different stakeholders, such as administration representatives, community leaders, and civic associations.

Implementation of monitoring and evaluation: Establishing a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system for community policing initiatives should be a reality. The study of monitoring and support practices involves accurate criminal information and transparency issues; moreover, there is a lack of police independence, which hinders the evaluation of program effectiveness. A regular review helps identify areas for improvement and evidence-based crime reduction.

Community Engagement: The government should invest in community engagement programs that help build trust between law enforcement agencies and the community. Initiatives such as sporting events, transparency of police operations, and regular community-police meetings can foster positive relationships and increase public trust.

Prior studies have demonstrated that the administration lacks a precise definition of the practice of community policing in preserving public safety and security (Lord & Friday, 2008). Additionally, they demonstrated that every organization engaged in or putting into practice community policing has a unique approach for preserving community safety and security, as demonstrated by the administration. The findings of my research could help Addis Ababa's city administration define and apply community policing as a means of preserving public safety and security. This guidance could be given to police officers and agency administrators. They can create policies and procedures based on this research that will help them address concerns related to the quality of life for both police officers and the public they serve. The practice of community policing, which aims to maintain community safety and security, could be adapted to existing programmed arrangements such as Addis Ababa, Neighborhood Watch, community meetings, and other similar programs. In Addis Ababa, the city administration practices are geared toward preventing certain types of crime.

Practice: The results of this study could be used by police departments to better direct their time and efforts in implementing community policing to maintain community safety and security in the administration and in determining the types of crime that are best mitigated by community policing. This direction may also allow them to release valuable resources that are currently bound by the ineffective

Alehegn, D. (2025). Community policing: A technique used by the police to maintain community development, safety, and security. *Global Journal of Sociology: Current Issues*, 15(1), 48-60. <https://doi.org/10.18844/gjs.v15i1.9781>

practice of community policing in maintaining community safety and security in administrative systems.

Policy: The findings of this study may influence how community policing is implemented not only in but also throughout the state and the nation to preserve public safety and security. This study closes a research gap on the effectiveness of community policing as a strategy for reducing crime. Since community policing was implemented as a national project, an estimated billion dollars have been spent (Yero et al., 2012). The results of this study could help allocate financial resources more wisely to reduce violent crime. The results of this study, I hope, will not only help the people living. I hope that the findings of this research will benefit not only the residents of the country but also the citizens of the country as a whole.

To reach more conclusive findings, future researchers examining the impact of community policing practices on crime rates may want to consider utilizing a larger sample base. G*Power software can be used to perform an a priori power analysis with standard parameters for data analysis before data collection. Potential avenues for future research include expanding the geographic scope of the study. While I concentrated on the administration in this study, future research may examine community policing and how it affects crime rates across the board in the administration. This kind of broader focus could increase the generalizability of the study.

Conflict of interest: No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

Ethical Approval: The study adheres to the ethical guidelines for conducting research.

Funding: This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

REFERENCES

- Aadugna, M. T., & Italemahu, T. Z. (2019). Crime prevention through community policing interventions: evidence from Harar City, Eastern Ethiopia. *Humaniora*, 31(3), 326. <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/76ed/9b32ae0589bdbf6291dc591779dfd27d2943.pdf>
- Bhattacharyya, J. (2004). Theorizing community development. *Community Development*, 34(2), 5-34. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15575330409490110>
- Brogden, M. (2004). Commentary: community policing: a panacea from the West. *African affairs*, 103(413), 635-649. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/3518494>
- Cafer, A., Green, J., & Goreham, G. (2022). A community resilience framework for community development practitioners building equity and adaptive capacity. In *Community development for times of crisis* (pp. 56-74). Routledge. <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.4324/9781003212652-5/community-resilience-framework-community-development-practitioners-building-equity-adaptive-capacity-anne-cafer-john-green-gary-goreham>
- Cantrell, R. A., & Stafford, A. (2013). The introduction and development of the community-flow measurement instrument. *Community Development*, 44(3), 305-322. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15575330.2012.761640>
- Craig, G. (2001). SAFE AND SOUND: A study of community safety partnerships in Scotland. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/44257632>
- Creswell, J. W. (2014). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches*. Sage.
- Crowl, J. N. (2017). The effect of community policing on fear and crime reduction, police legitimacy and job satisfaction: an empirical review of the evidence. *Police Practice and Research*, 18(5), 449-462. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15614263.2017.1303771>
- Escaño, G. J., & Pridemore, W. A. (2024). Population-level alcohol consumption and homicide rates in Latin America: A fixed effects panel analysis, 1961–2019. *The British Journal of Criminology*, 64(3), 656-

- Alehegn, D. (2025). Community policing: A technique used by the police to maintain community development, safety, and security. *Global Journal of Sociology: Current Issues*, 15(1), 48-60. <https://doi.org/10.18844/gjs.v15i1.9781>
674. <https://academic.oup.com/bjc/article-abstract/64/3/656/7304370>
- Kasdan, A., & Markman, E. (2017). Participatory budgeting and community-based research: Principles, practices, and implications for impact validity. *New Political Science*, 39(1), 143-155. <https://read.dukeupress.edu/nps/article-abstract/39/1/143/397309>
- Kelly, M. M., Martin-Peters, T., & Farber, J. S. (2024). Secondary Data Analysis: Using existing data to answer new questions. *Journal of Pediatric Health Care*, 38(4), 615-618. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0891524524000531>
- Lord, V. B., & Friday, P. C. (2008). What influences officers' attitudes toward COP? The importance of context. *Police Quarterly*, 11(2), 220-238. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1098611108314569>
- Lozano-Solano, D., Reales-González, J., Catoe, H. W., Raya, R. R., & Acosta-Hoyos, A. J. (2020). Genome sequence of the Siphoviridae Staphylococcus aureus phage vB_SauS_BaqSau1. *Microbiology resource announcements*, 9(15), 10-1128. <https://journals.asm.org/doi/abs/10.1128/mra.00147-20>
- Okoka, H., & Kheswa, J. G. (2024). Community policing practice in the Nigerian police: Implications of employee burnout. *Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology*, 1-12. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11896-024-09711-9>
- Oswald, R., Soppitt, S., Spencer, N., Powell, L., Richardson, C., & Coombs, S. (2024). 'Safe spaces and places': the value of design-led methodologies in developing online narratives. *International Journal of Social Research Methodology*, 27(3), 327-340. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13645579.2023.2169489>
- Park, S. H., Cho, Y., & Bong, H. C. (2023). Action learning for community development from the lens of the UN's SDGs: a systematic literature review. *Action Learning: Research and Practice*, 20(3), 252-281. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14767333.2023.2262410>
- Puschner, S. M. C. (2024). Bread for today, hunger for tomorrow. Social impacts of community development agreements in the North of Chile. *The Extractive Industries and Society*, 18, 101448. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214790X24000467>
- Reisig, M. D., & Kane, R. J. (Eds.). (2014). *The Oxford handbook of police and policing*. Oxford University Press.
- Rohe, W. M., Adams, R. E., & Arcury, T. A. (2001). Planner's notebook: Community policing and planning. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 67(1), 78-90. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01944360108976357>
- Simpson, R., Charman, M., Tumilowicz, V., & Johnston, R. (2024). What are the most important components of a police uniform? Qualitative insight from a sample of Canadians. *Police practice and research*, 25(4), 498-506. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15614263.2024.2325700>
- Sozer, M. A. (2008). *Assessing the performance of community policing: The effect of community policing practices on crime rates*. Indiana University of Pennsylvania. <https://search.proquest.com/openview/14dd7f5b1e2c8e8ea3017f23775a8600/1?pq-origsite=gscholar&cbl=18750>
- Sulaiman, A. H., Othman, J., Samah, B. A., Yero, A., D'Silva, J. L., & Ortega, A. (2014). Determinants of community participation in the community policing program in Malaysia. *Journal of Applied Sciences*, 14(20), 2439-2449. https://www.academia.edu/download/34496068/cp_paper_recent.pdf
- Suzuki, A., Shimada, T., & Yamamoto, I. (2023). Analysing the Levels of Fear of Crime Before and After the Implementation of Security Box: a Community Policing Case Study in Chiba Prefecture, Japan. *Asian Journal of Criminology*, 18(4), 371-389. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11417-023-09409-7>
- Tregle, B., Smith, M. R., Fahmy, C., & Tillyer, R. (2025). More than meets the eye: examining the impact of hot spots policing on the reduction of city-wide crime. *Crime Science*, 14(1), 3. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s40163-025-00247-9>

- Alehegn, D. (2025). Community policing: A technique used by the police to maintain community development, safety, and security. *Global Journal of Sociology: Current Issues*, 15(1), 48-60. <https://doi.org/10.18844/gjs.v15i1.9781>
- Turchan, B., & Braga, A. A. (2024). The effects of hot spots policing on violence: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Aggression and Violent Behavior*, 79, 102011. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1359178924001010>
- Van der Giessen, M., & Bayerl, P. S. (2022). Designing for successful online engagement: Understanding technological frames of citizen and police users of community policing platforms. *Government Information Quarterly*, 39(3), 101711. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0740624X22000442>
- Wantenaar, A. A., & Govender, D. (2023). Experiences of community policing forum members in liaison with SAPS, private security, and community members regarding community policing. *African Security Review*, 32(4), 458-472. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10246029.2023.2248095>
- Weisburd, D., Petersen, K., Telep, C. W., & Fay, S. A. (2024). Can increasing preventive patrols in large geographic areas reduce crime? A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Criminology & Public Policy*, 23(3), 721-743. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1745-9133.12665>
- Yero, A., Othman, J., Samah, B. A., D'Silva, J. L., & Sulaiman, A. H. (2012). RE-VISITING CONCEPTS AND THEORIES OF COMMUNITY POLICING. *International journal of academic research*, 4(4). https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Aliyu-Yero/publication/255960287_RE-VISITING_CONCEPT_AND_THEORIES_OF_COMMUNITY_POLICING/links/00463520f3eb010dc3000000/RE-VISITING-CONCEPT-AND-THEORIES-OF-COMMUNITY-POLICING.pdf