Ecological Strategies for Crime Management in Industrial Community, Ogun State, Nigeria

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Abstract
This research investigates ecological strategies to crime control in the Agbara Industrial Estate in Ogun State, Nigeria. Given the growing concerns about crime in industrial areas, the study intends to evaluate the efficacy of different security protocols and group initiatives in augmenting community safety and curbing criminal activity. The Agbara Industrial Estate, a crucial economic zone sandwiched between Ogun and Lagos States, has been chosen as a case study because of its noteworthy contribution to industrial and economic growth. Using a mixed-methods approach, the study combines quantitative and qualitative data. A sample of 373 respondents were given standardised surveys to complete in order to gather quantitative data about their opinions of security and crime control measures. Interviews with important informants, including security officers and community leaders, provided qualitative insights. The study focusses on how well government interventions, community activities, and security apparatus manage crime. According to the survey, 79.1% of participants think that crime can be efficiently controlled in an industrial estate, while 20.9% disagree. Of the respondents, 74.8% believe that communal efforts are essential to crime control; nevertheless, only 34.1% believe that the current security structure is successful. Although the government's preferred strategies include the use of armoured tanks (36.5%) and police posts (36.7%), 71.9% of respondents do not have access to security technology. Moreover, 86.6% of respondents confirm the presence of supplementary security forces, highlighting the significance of a collaborative approach to crime prevention. Despite these efforts, 65.9% of respondents believe the security measures are insufficient. The study comes to the conclusion that even with substantial community and governmental initiatives, better technological access and security infrastructure are still required. Increasing the deployment of contemporary security technologies, improving community-police interactions, and resolving resource constraints can all improve the efficacy of crime management. The community should be encouraged to participate more in crime prevention initiatives, security training programmes should be expanded, and monitoring technology should be invested in more heavily.

Keywords: Ecological Strategies, Crime Management, Industrial Estate, Security Measures, Communal Efforts

1.0 Introduction

One of Nigeria's major industrial hubs, Agbara Industrial Community is situated in Ogun State and draws a varied labour force as well as significant investments from the manufacturing and service sectors. Notwithstanding its economic importance, the city continues to struggle with crime, endangering both its growth and the welfare of its citizens. Agbara Industrial Community's crime dynamics are driven by a complex combination of socioeconomic, environmental, and infrastructure issues that need for in-depth research and focused intervention.

The socio-economic circumstances that are common in industrial villages like Agbara are frequently connected to crime in those regions. Large populations, including job seekers and informal labourers, are often drawn to these areas by industrialisation, as multiple studies have shown. This leads to an increase in urbanisation and the growth of informal settlements (Akpan, 2022; Oduola & Akinyemi, 2021). The absence of proper social services and infrastructure in these settlements frequently leads to an increase in social dislocation, unemployment, and poverty-conditions that encourage criminal activity (Olaniyan, 2020). Agbara's fast industrial boom has not been accompanied by equal advancements in public facilities, which has resulted in notable socio-economic divides and elevated crime rates.

Furthermore, Agbara Industrial Community's physical structure and environmental design have been found to have a significant impact on crime trends. According to the theories of environmental criminology, urban space planning can either reduce or increase crime (Brantingham & Brantingham, 1991). Agbara's inadequate road networks, inadequate surveillance equipment, and inadequate street lighting have all been identified as contributing to the city's criminal activity, especially when it comes to theft, vandalism, and assault (Adebayo & Adetunji, 2023). In addition to making criminal activity easier, these infrastructure flaws obstruct efficient law enforcement and community policing initiatives.

The Agbara Industrial Community's demographic makeup adds to the complexity of the crime dynamics. The population is now diversified and has differing degrees of social cohesiveness as a result of the entrance of various groups, such as low-income inhabitants and migrant labourers. Studies show that low social cohesiveness and low levels of trust make communities more vulnerable to crime because they weaken social relationships within the community and decrease informal social control (Sampson, Raudenbush, & Earls, 1997). The ephemeral nature of the labour force and economic disparities in Agbara have impeded the growth of robust social networks, making the community more susceptible to criminal activity.

To effectively tackle the issues of crime in Agbara Industrial Community, ecological approaches that consider the socio-economic, environmental, and demographic aspects of the community are essential. Through an understanding of the root causes of crime in this particular setting, stakeholders may create focused interventions that improve community safety and security while fostering economic development. Using both theoretical frameworks and empirical data from other similar industrial environments, this research investigates the many ecological tactics that might be used to manage crime in Agbara Industrial Community.

2.0 Review of Literature and Theoretical Framework

The paper on ecological strategies for crime management in Agbara Industrial Community, Ogun State, Nigeria, includes a theoretical framework and a review of the literature that examine pertinent theories and earlier research. It places the ecological strategy in the context of criminology by looking at how community dynamics and environmental factors affect crime trends and guide practical management techniques.

2.1 Ecological Approaches to Crime Management

In industrialised towns such as Agbara, managing crime necessitates an awareness of the environmental elements that fuel criminal activity. The ecological approach to crime control takes into account how people interact with their surroundings and acknowledges that crime is a reflection of larger social and environmental issues as well as personal decisions (Shaw & McKay, 1942). This viewpoint contends that in order to effectively regulate crime, environmental factors that encourage criminal activity must be taken into consideration.

Enhancing environmental planning and urban design is an important ecological strategy. The way physical environments are created and maintained has a big impact on crime rates. Inadequate infrastructure, deserted buildings, and dimly illuminated areas all contribute to the criminal atmosphere in Agbara Industrial Community. Potential offenders can be discouraged by putting Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) concepts into practice, such as boosting street lighting, increasing visibility, and making sure public places are maintained on a regular basis (Cozens et al., 2005). The physical environment can be changed to decrease crime prospects and increase the difficulty of undetected criminal activity.

The development of social networks and community involvement is another essential element of ecological crime management. Studies have indicated that low crime rates are seen in areas where residents have strong social ties and actively participate in local government (Sampson, Raudenbush, & Earls, 1997). Encouraging neighbourhood watch programs, community policing, and the formation of local crime prevention committees can enable Agbara inhabitants to actively participate in environmental protection. These programs encourage collective efficacy, which results in more successful crime prevention because of the community's shared ideals and mutual trust.

An ecological strategy for crime management must also address socioeconomic disparities. Agbara's high rates of unemployment, poverty, and social disarray can make crime even more prevalent (Wilson, 1987). Thus, initiatives to increase economic opportunities, offer vocational training, and support social services that lessen the socioeconomic variables influencing criminal behaviour must all be part of crime management plans. The community may establish a more stable and secure environment by tackling the underlying causes of crime, such as a lack of jobs and education.

In Agbara Industrial Community, ecological approaches to crime management place a strong emphasis on altering physical surroundings, bolstering social networks, and resolving socioeconomic inequalities. These tactics provide a comprehensive approach to crime prevention

that may result in long-term decreases in criminal activity. They are based on the knowledge that both individual and environmental factors have an impact on crime (Brantingham & Brantingham, 1993).

2.2 Current Crime Trends and Challenges in Agbara Industrial Community

Over time, the Agbara Industrial Community in Ogun State, Nigeria, has seen notable fluctuations in crime patterns that are indicative of both broader societal changes and the particular difficulties associated with an industrial setting. Due to the high concentration of industrial activity in this area, it has become a hub for a variety of criminal activity, from small-time theft to more serious and violent crimes. The literature identifies a number of significant patterns and difficulties in controlling crime in this quickly rising area.

The growth in theft-related occurrences, especially those that target residential and commercial properties, is one of the most noticeable trends in Agbara's crime statistics. According to Adewale (2021), the flood of migrant labourers looking for work in the industrial zone has put further strain on housing and other social facilities, frequently resulting in residential neighbourhoods that are overcrowded and poorly controlled. These circumstances foster an atmosphere that is favourable to crimes including vandalism, theft, and burglary. The industrial estate's surrounding slum and informal settlement expansion has also made security issues worse and made it more difficult for law enforcement to keep the peace.

The rise in gang-related violence, which has been connected to the area's increasing young population, is another noteworthy development. Numerous young individuals in Agbara, especially those who are jobless or underemployed, have been enticed to join criminal gangs that function within the industrial neighbourhood, according to Ogundipe's (2022) study. These gangs are involved in a number of illegal activities, including as extortion, drug trafficking, and territorial disputes that frequently result in violent altercations. These gangs seriously jeopardise the safety and stability of the town, endangering both businesses and inhabitants.

The research also highlights the difficulties of policing in an industrial community such as Agbara. The industrial setting poses special challenges for law enforcement because of its large land area, large machinery, and substantial people and cargo flow. Effective crime prevention and response are hampered by the local police force's insufficient resources and manpower, claims Ajayi (2020). Tracking and apprehending offenders in such a complicated context is made more difficult by the lack of technical tools and intelligence gathering skills.

Agbara Industrial Community's current crime trends are influenced by a number of socioeconomic issues, such as population increase, increasing industrialisation, and poor infrastructure. In order to address these issues and provide a safer environment for both citizens and companies, a multimodal strategy that involves enhancing urban planning, bolstering police enforcement, and encouraging community involvement is needed.

2.3 Implementing Ecological Strategies: Best Practices and Case Studies

Globally, the application of ecological solutions to crime control has become increasingly popular, especially in urban and industrial environments. These tactics are based on the ideas of environmental criminology, which holds that social and physical environments have an impact on crime in addition to individual motivation. The goal is to alter the surroundings in order to lessen the likelihood of criminal activity, which will increase community safety and resilience.

The application of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is one of the greatest approaches for putting ecological solutions into reality. CPTED places a strong emphasis on managing and designing physical areas to discourage criminal activity. This strategy has been successfully applied in a number of urban communities, where actions like better street lighting, placing surveillance cameras in strategic locations, and designing public areas to encourage natural surveillance have significantly decreased crime rates (Cozens & Love, 2015). The adoption of CPTED concepts in the Agbara Industrial Community could address particular issues including poor illumination in industrial zones, which has been connected to an increase in criminal activity.

Integrating community-based methods into environmental crime management is another crucial tactic. Research indicates that incorporating people of the community in efforts to prevent crime promotes a sense of accountability and ownership, both of which are essential for the long-term viability of these programs (Lab, 2020). In actuality, this can take the form of local crime prevention organisations, community policing initiatives, and neighbourhood watch programs. These strategies could be modified for Agbara's particular socioeconomic dynamics in the industrial town to guarantee that locals and employees take an active part in efforts to reduce crime.

The success of fusing ecological tactics with technical advancements has been shown by case studies from comparable industrial areas. For example, mapping crime hotspots and implementing targeted interventions using geographic information systems (GIS) has been shown to be effective in lowering crime in industrial areas (Brantingham & Brantingham, 2013). Such technological integration could help the Agbara Industrial Community by providing more accurate and effective crime management.

Incorporating CPTED concepts, community interaction, and technological advancements into an integrated approach is necessary to apply ecological techniques for crime management in the Agbara Industrial Community. These tactics, which are based on successful case studies and best practices from throughout the world, present a viable framework for raising security and lowering crime in industrial settings.

2.4 Assessment of Existing Crime Prevention Strategies in Agbara

In industrial areas like Agbara, Ogun State, crime prevention measures are essential to preserving public safety and promoting economic stability. Numerous studies have looked at current tactics in these situations, outlining the advantages and disadvantages of different solutions.

Community policing is one of Agbara's most well-known tactics. By strengthening the bonds between locals and law enforcement, community policing seeks to promote collaboration in attempts to reduce crime. Smith and Adams's (2019) research highlights how community policing can effectively enhance public safety in industrial settings. According to their research, community policing programs in comparable settings enhanced public confidence in law enforcement, which in turn led to a significant drop in property crimes and vandalism.

This strategy places a strong emphasis on the value of customised interventions and local involvement in crime prevention. Nonetheless, there are several obstacles to community policing effectiveness in Agbara. A research by Oladejo (2021) claims that poor training for officers, a lack of community involvement, and a lack of resources all contribute to the limitations of community policing in Agbara. According to Oladejo, these elements neutralise the potential advantages of community policing and call for the implementation of a more all-encompassing plan that includes extra crime prevention measures.

Using surveillance technologies, such as Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) systems, is another important tactic. According to research by Adeyemi and Ojo (2020), CCTV systems can be useful in preventing criminal activity and supporting criminal investigative efforts. According to their findings, communities with high levels of CCTV surveillance saw a decline in crime, including theft and vandalism crimes. Adeyemi and Ojo do, however, also draw attention to privacy issues and the necessity of managing and maintaining surveillance technology properly in order to maximise its efficacy.

Agbara's crime prevention strategies incorporate environmental design ideas, such as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), in addition to technical solutions. The goal of CPTED is to change the physical surroundings in order to lessen the likelihood of crime. According to studies by Eze and Onuoha (2022), industrial regions like Agbara have seen a drop in crime rates as a result of implementing CPTED principles, which include better illumination, natural surveillance, and access control. Along with improving security, these actions also make the area safer and more aesthetically pleasant.

Notwithstanding these strategies, a thorough evaluation conducted by Ogunleye (2023) indicates that a deficiency in cooperation among stakeholders—law enforcement, local administration, and community members—hinders the overall efficacy of crime prevention in Agbara. In order to address the complex nature of crime in Agbara, Ogunleye is an advocate for an integrated approach that incorporates environmental design, technological solutions, and community engagement.

The efficacy of the current crime prevention techniques in Agbara, such as environmental design, community policing, and surveillance technologies, has varied. Although these tactics have the potential to be beneficial, in order to maximise their overall influence on community crime prevention, issues like lack of coordination, budget constraints, and privacy concerns must be resolved.

3.0 Theoretical Framework: Human Ecological Theory of Crime

The interaction between environmental influences and human behaviour is examined in the Human Ecological Theory of Crime. The term "ecology," which was first used to describe plants and animals in 1873 by Ernest Haeckel, was later extended to include human environments. The ecological models of Bronfenbrenner (1979) emphasise the importance of human development in both nearby (micro) and far-off (macro) surroundings.

This idea was applied to crime by the Chicago School, which concentrated on the effects of industrialisation and social disarray on criminal behaviour, especially through the work of Park and Burgess. The theory's simplicity and possible tautological presumptions have drawn criticism. However, human ecology continues to play a significant role in crime prevention tactics due to the recognition that people actively shape their surroundings (Shaw & McKay, 1942; Cohen & Felson, 1979; Newman, 1972; Sampson et al., 1997).

3.0.1 Utilising Human Ecological Theory to Comprehend Agbara's Crime Trends

Within the field of environmental criminology, the Human Ecological Theory of Crime investigates the ways in which the environment shapes criminal behaviour. Rapid industrialisation may upset social structures in Agbara Industrial Community, resulting in social disarray and an increase in the likelihood of criminality (Shaw & McKay, 1942). Opportunities for crime are increased in Agbara by the availability of motivated perpetrators, appropriate targets, and insufficient guardianship (Cohen & Felson, 1979). Inadequate urban planning, like inadequate lighting, makes criminal activity worse (Newman, 1972). Improving Agbara community cohesion may reduce crime (Sampson et al., 1997), offering important information for creating successful crime reduction plans.

4.0 Discussion of Findings

The usefulness of ecological strategies to control crime in the Agbara Industrial Community, Ogun State, Nigeria, is examined in the discussion of the findings. It offers insights into issues and effective practices by closely examining the relationship between environmental factors and crime rates.

Table 4.1 perception of respondents addressing criminality in the area

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Perception on respondents		
Yes	295	79.1
No	78	20.9
Communal efforts in crime control		
Yes	279	74.8
No	94	25.2
Roles of government in curtailing criminality		
Deployment of armoured tank	140	36.5
Constitution of police post	137	36.7
Arrests Frequent police patrol	51 22	14.7 5.9
All of the above	23	6.2

According to the findings, 79.1% of respondents, or a sizable majority, think that the Agbara Industrial Estate community can effectively combat crime. A smaller percentage, 20.9%, on the other hand, disagreed, implying that criminal activity in the region is out of control. Given that they are created and structured with the express purpose of promoting industrial and economic development, industrial estates are integral to the economic fabric of communities. Usually located far from densely populated areas, these zones include all the utilities needed to support economic growth and industrial expansion, including underground sewage systems, industrial parks, and well-kept road networks. One prominent example of such a development is the Agbara Industrial Estate, which is situated near the intersection of Ogun and Lagos State.

According to the study, over 79.1% of participants expressed optimism regarding crime control in the industrial community, and they attributed this optimism to the efficacy of current tactics. Frequently scheduled police patrols, the use of armoured personnel carriers (APCs), vigilante organisations, CCTV monitoring, electric fencing, and private security guards are a few examples. Even though these zones lack a formal policy framework for managing crime, it is clear that the organisations within the industrial estate take aggressive measures to ensure security. Many managers decide to invest in extra security measures because they believe the estate has a higher risk for crime than nearby regions. The degree of contemporary security technology used is influenced by this increased awareness of possible criminal activity.

Based on the findings, 74.8% of participants think that the community is working together to fight crime, while 25.2% disagree. This shows a shared commitment to enhancing security and safety, which has resulted in the adoption of more sophisticated security measures than in the past. Nonetheless, the industrial zone's infrastructure and health and safety procedures

are under a great deal of stress due to development and the migration that has moved there. Consequently, it is now everyone's obligation to meet the safety and security needs of the industrial community. According to 74.8% of respondents, the significant collective effort helps to improve overall security in the area by deterring criminals from targeting the industrial estate.

When it came to the government's efforts to combat crime in the region, most respondents (36.5%) said that armoured tanks should be deployed. A comparable percentage (36.7%) agreed that police posts should be established as important tools in the fight against crime. In the meantime, 5.9% of respondents chose a combination of all three methods, while 14.7% of respondents supported the arrest of offenders.

Security management and crime prevention place a strong emphasis on averting crime as opposed to only dealing with it once it happens. Alternative resources have historically been used as a result of rising crime rates, rising public safety concerns, and the perception that the police are ineffective. These issues have been made worse by issues like poor equipment, tight budgets, corruption, decreased funding, a lack of manpower, and resource shortages.

Table 4.2 Frequency on communal effort at addressing trend of criminality in the area

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	279	74.8
No	94	25.2
Total	**373**	**100**

Based on the information shown in Table 4.2, it is evident that 74.8% of respondents felt that the community is working to solve criminal trends, while 25.2% disagreed. This suggests that a sizeable section of the community is actively working to combat crime. As a result, community involvement is emphasised as a key component of the industrial community's safety and security policy.

As previously said, 74.8% of respondents think that these kinds of group initiatives help lower crime rates by discouraging criminal activity in the industrial region. By increasing community involvement and security, the strategy seeks to reduce criminal impulses and make the community less desirable to criminals (Clarke, 1995; Clarke & Mayhew, 1980).

Table 4.3 Role of government in curtailing criminality in the estate

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Deployment of armoured tank	140	36.5
Constitution of police post	137	36.7
Arrests	51	14.7
Frequent police patrol	22	5.9
All of the above	23	6.2
Total	**373**	**100**

Of those surveyed, 36.5% were in favour of armoured tank deployment as part of the government's attempts to tackle criminality in the area. Comparably, 36.7% of respondents said that the creation of police posts was an important step. And 5.9% of respondents supported all of the above options, with 14.7% of respondents preferring to arrest criminals.

The idea of crime prevention is to deter crime rather than let it happen and then deal with offenders. The high crime rates that have persisted over time have increased public anxieties about security and brought attention to the police's inadequacy. A few of the issues that the police have had to deal with are poor equipment, tight finances, corruption, a lack of personnel, and inadequate resources. Due to these problems, using alternative tactics to combat crime—like hiring private security companies and local vigilantes—has proliferated. Numerous security agencies, such as contained zones and private security guards and neighbourhood vigilantes monitoring commercial and residential areas, are in favour of this strategy.

Table 4.4
Frequency on awareness of any security apparatus constituted by government in the Estate

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	282	75.6
No	91	24.4
Total	**373**	**100.**

According to the information in Table 4.4, 75.6% of respondents said they were aware of the security measures put in place by the neighbourhood to keep residents and property safe. On the other hand, a smaller percentage of respondents-24.4%-said they were not aware that the community had put in place any such security measures. In Nigeria, neighbourhood vigilante groups and community policing are two examples of contemporary community-based approaches to crime control. By acting as the eyes and ears of the police, these strategies urge citizens to assist in managing crime and improve community safety.

However, the community's initiative frequently determines the choice of crime prevention tactics in a neighbourhood (Quisenberry & Jones, 2003). The Agbara industrial community is no different; the neighbourhood's distinct environmental characteristics have had a major impact on the development of security measures to uphold peace and order in the estate.

Table 4.5: Effectiveness of security apparatus in the Estate

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	127	34.1
No	246	65.9
Total	**373**	**100**

Source: Field Survey (2023)

Table 4.5 shows that a substantial 65.9% of respondents disagreed with the assertion made by just 34.1% of respondents regarding the effectiveness of the estate's security measures. Nevertheless, in spite of this sense of inefficiency, the low crime rate that locals encounter is due to the existence and cooperation of other security mechanisms within the larger industrial community.

Table 4.6 : The availability of security post in the Area

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	338	90.6
No	35	9.4
Total	**373**	**100.0**

The vast majority of respondents-90.6%-confirmed the existence of a security post in the estate, whilst a tiny portion-9.4%-said there wasn't one. People in Nigeria generally feel unsafe because of the pervasive belief that the country's crime rate is extremely high. Crank (1990) contended that policing tactics in industrial communities are adopted mostly because of community characteristics. Any human community must recognise the critical role that police play in managing and controlling crime. To preserve law and order, protect people and their property, and promote social cohesion, economic growth, and democratic consolidation, effective policing is necessary. In order to handle the particular difficulties of policing Agbara, which is an industrial community with an inter-sovereignty boundary, all Nigerian military and paramilitary organisations must be involved in ongoing security measures.

Table 4.7: Availability of security outfits in the area

	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	323	86.6
No	50	13.4
Total	**373**	**100**

Source: Field Survey (2023)

The study also sought to confirm whether other security groups were present in the region. With a huge majority of respondents (86.6%) saying "yes" and only 13.4% saying "no," the results, as displayed in the above table, verify that additional security agencies are in fact present. The list of security mechanisms protecting the environment is highlighted in the summary of answers. These mechanisms include AEL Security, AESS, ELALAN, ASCO, PROTON, Agbara Estate Security & Police, Estate Security (AESS), Agbara Vigilante/OPC, Security Guards, and the Nigeria Police Force. Effective policing inside the industrial community has been made possible by this cooperative approach.

Table 4.8: Relationship with security personnel in the area

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Very cordial	174	46.7
Not too good	135	36.2
Very poor	64	17.1
Total	**373**	**100**

Survey (2023)

The majority of respondents, 46.7% on average, stated that there was a friendly relationship amongst the security personnel in the region; nevertheless, 36.2% assessed the relationship as "not so good," and a lesser percentage, 17.1%, ranked it as "very poor." A calm and crime-free business environment exists within and surrounding the Agbara industrial community thanks to the strengthening of the current Police/Community Relations Committees (PCRCs). This improved cooperation encompasses many security agencies, including the community's private security firms, local vigilante groups, the OPC, and traditional police.

The results indicate that 49.4% of respondents, or the majority, thought the neighbourhood was calm, which suggests a decrease in crime. In addition, 42.6% of respondents thought the area's security was average, compared to just 6.4% and 1.6% who said it was extremely poor and poor, respectively. Every neighbourhood has a different physical layout and environmental circumstances, and these factors have an impact on crime. Consequently, what works in one group could not work in another (Mabogunje, 1998; Quisenberry & Jones, 2003).

Table 4.9: Adequacy of personnel available at the police station

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	176	47.2
No	107	28.7
Not too effective	90	24.1
Total	**373**	**100.**

Survey (2023)

According to the research, 47.2% of participants think that there is enough staffing at the estate police station. Conversely, ninety-six respondents, or 28.7% of the sample, believe that there is not enough staff at the police station. Furthermore, 24.1% of respondents had doubts on the efficacy of the current police force.

Table 4.10: Satisfaction with security personnel performance

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Very satisfied	22	5.9
Satisfied	175	46.9
Not too satisfied	157	42.1
Unsatisfied	19	5.1
Total	**373**	**100**

Survey (2023)

The distribution of satisfaction ratings is generally balanced, as seen in the above table. In particular, 46.9% of respondents are happy with the performance of the local security staff, while 5.9% of respondents are extremely satisfied. However, 5.1% of respondents are unsatisfied and 42.1% are not very satisfied.

Table 4.11: Major source of security in the community

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Conventional Police	125	33.5
Security guard	116	31.1
Estate security	71	19.0
All of the above	61	16.4
Total	**373**	**100**

Survey (2023)

According to Table 4.11, conventional police provide 33.5% of the community's security, making them the main provider. Estate security makes up 19.0% and security guards come in second with 31.1%. Furthermore, 16.4% of respondents said that their preferred sources of security were all of the aforementioned. Ogbeche (2012) asserts that the first responsibility of any responsible government is to protect people and property.

However, the magnitude of Nigeria's security concerns is too big for the government to tackle alone. Therefore, it is essential that all parts of society-stakeholders, corporate organisations, civic society, religious institutions, and the general public-participate actively in efforts to manage crime.

Table 4.12: Accessibility to security technology in the estate

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	105	28.1
No	268	71.9
Total	373	100.0

Survey (2023)

The findings of study 4.12 show that 71.9% of respondents said they did not have access to security technology in the estate, while 28.1% said they did, confirming that they are in possession of such equipment. Security technology that have been recognised as being utilised by the estate's security staff include phones, walkie-talkies, CCTV, security alarms and check tools.

These security technologies, along with other alternative methods of managing crime, support traditional policing by integrating technologically aided materials like alarms, surveillance services, investigation services, and Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) strategies to help maintain a crime-free environment in industrial areas, according to Ngoveni (2004) and Minnaar (2005).

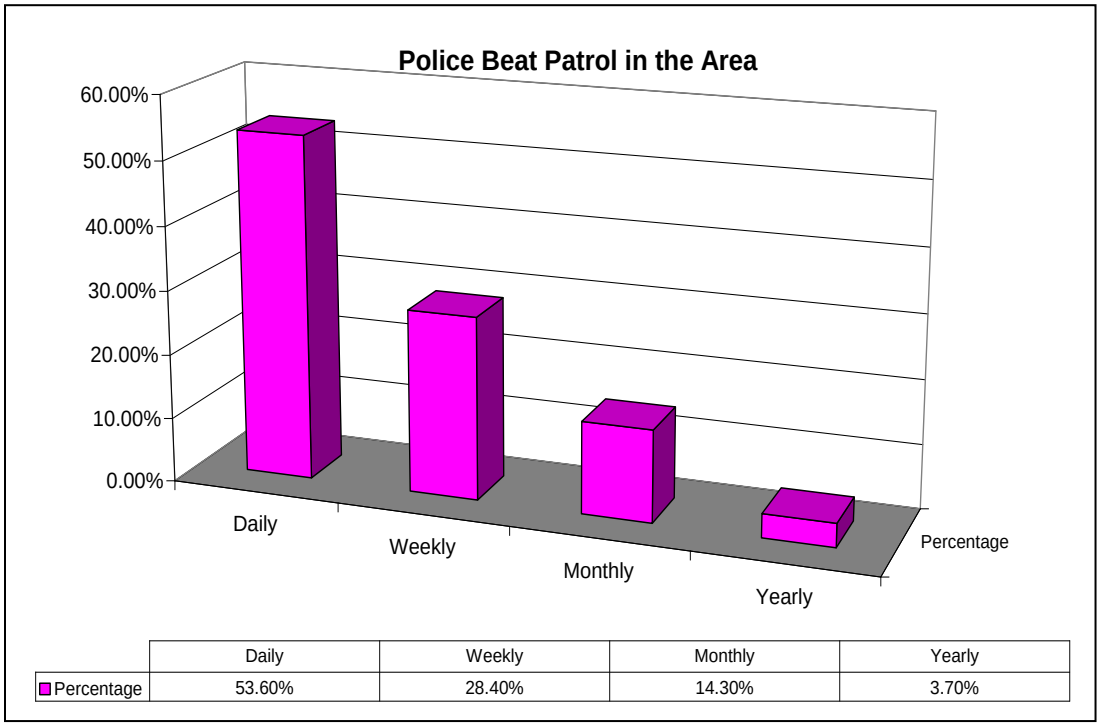
Table 4.13: Relationship among different security groups in the estate

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Very Cordial	50	13.4
Cordial	142	38.1
Not Cordial	145	38.9
Confrontational	36	9.6
Total	373	100.

Survey (2023)

According to the results of section 4.13, 38.1% of the people surveyed thought there was a hostile connection between the various security forces in the estate. A comparable percentage, 38.9%, said that their relationship is friendly. Furthermore, a higher proportion of respondents-13.4%-described the relationship between the security groups as extremely friendly, whereas a lower percentage-9.6%-characterized it as aggressive.

Figure 4.1 Frequency on Police patrol in the Estate



The frequency of police beat patrols in Agbara Estate is shown in the above histogram. As per the data, a total of 53.6% of the respondents reported doing daily patrols, 28.4% reported conducting weekly patrols, and 14.3% and 3.7% reported monthly and annual patrols. This pattern illustrates the respondents' broad agreement that their comparatively crime-free area is a result of the police, skilled private security, and local vigilantes working together. The Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of Agbara Police Station affirmed this claim, saying as follows:

> To safeguard people's lives and property, police beat patrol the Agbara Estate and surrounding area daily. This has significantly raised people's productivity levels and reduced crime in the neighbourhood**(KII/Male/ Head of community /Vigilante/2023).**

Table 4.14: Recent crime experience in the estate

Response	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Fair	91	24.4
Better	73	19.6
Intimidation	137	36.7
Appalling	43	11.5
Brutal & Loss	29	7.8
Total	**373**	**100**

Regarding recent criminal encounters that respondents in the estate reported, Table 4.14 shows that 36.7% of respondents characterised their event as "intimidating." In the meantime, 24.4% thought it was "fair," 19.7% thought it was "better," and 11.5% and 4.8%, respectively, said their experience was "appalling" and "brutal." The Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of the Agbara area police station, who made the following statement, concurs with this assessment:

> The recent event that took place on the estate was heinous, brutal, and derogatory. At this point, millions of Naira were stolen, a police officer was killed, and all of the estate's commercial banks were attacked. Nonetheless, the subsequent measures and the strong relationship that currently exists regarding crime management with the police, organisations, and the community. Consequently, the community is currently experiencing a decrease in crimes**(KII/Male/ Head of community /Vigilante/2023).**

5.0 Policy Implications for Sustainable Crime Management, Conclusion, and Recommendations

5.1 Policy Implications for Sustainable Crime Management

The Agbara Industrial Community's policy implications for sustainable crime management highlight the necessity of an integrated strategy that includes ecological strategies. The creation of green areas and urban planning projects that improve community cohesion and natural surveillance should be given top priority by policymakers. By putting environmental design concepts like better lighting and wide sightlines into practice, criminal activity can be discouraged.

Moreover, it is imperative that local businesses, governmental organisations, and community members work together to guarantee that crime prevention strategies are customised to the particular difficulties faced by the region. In addition, policymakers ought to think about funding neighbourhood-based initiatives that advance economic opportunity and social inclusion, thereby tackling the underlying socioeconomic causes of violence. To guarantee long-term efficacy and adjust to changing security requirements, these measures must be routinely monitored and evaluated. Agbara can achieve sustained crime control and build a more resilient and safe community by incorporating these ecological solutions.

5.2 Conclusion

In conclusion, the Agbara Industrial Community's use of ecological solutions for crime management marks a significant advancement in addressing the particular security concerns of this quickly industrialising region. These tactics, which combine proactive enforcement, community involvement, and environmental design, have the ability to lower crime rates and improve general safety for both companies and residents. The emphasis on territorial reinforcement, natural surveillance, and maintenance fits well with established frameworks for

preventing crime, which emphasises the necessity for an all-encompassing strategy that is long-lasting.

Furthermore, for these programmes to be successful in the long run, the active involvement of local stakeholders such as companies, residents, and law enforcement is essential. Case studies from comparable industrial towns show that putting these measures into practice will probably make the surrounding area, which will help the area's socioeconomic growth in the long run.

5.3 Recommendations

The Agbara Industrial Community in Ogun State can benefit from the following ecological strategies to improve crime management:

First and foremost, it is crucial to put in place comprehensive community policing programs that promote cooperation between local communities and law enforcement. This tactic builds trust, which facilitates more efficient reporting and prevention of crimes.

Second, you may discourage criminal activity by creating well-lit public areas and strategically placing CCTV cameras. Improved visibility fosters a safer atmosphere by lowering the likelihood of crime.

Thirdly, to detect and remedy physical components like abandoned buildings or poorly maintained infrastructure that may encourage crime, frequent environmental evaluations should be carried out.

Fourth, by implementing ongoing community education and awareness initiatives, locals can be better equipped to prevent crimes and take a proactive approach to their safety.

Finally, in order to effectively execute sustainable crime management techniques, it is imperative to cultivate relationships between local businesses, government agencies, and non-governmental organisations in order to pool resources and knowledge.

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