



POLICE ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR AND THE TREND OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES IN RIVERS STATE

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ABSTRACT: *This study was carried out to investigate the extent to which the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) organizational behavior has reduced the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State. A descriptive survey research method of correlational research design was employed in this study to provide detailed investigation of the procedure used to establish the relationship between the Nigeria police force organizational behavior and the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State. The population of the study was 193,392,500 persons consisting of residents drawn from the cities and rural communities in Rivers State. A sample size of 400 respondents was determined, using Taro Yamene's sample size techniques at 0.5 percent level of significance. A purposive sampling technique was adopted using a considerable percentage representation approach to ensure effective selection of the representative sample elements of the population from respondents who have adequate knowledge of the study under investigation. A structured instrument for data collection containing twenty (20) item questions was used for the study. The face and content validation of the instrument was obtained through the judgment of experts. A test-retest method was used to determine the reliability of the instrument and a reliability index of .83 was obtained. The data collected were analyzed using the descriptive statistics involving the mean score test and the percentage test method to answer the research questions, while the Z-score test of the inferential statistics method was used to test the hypothesized variables at .05 level of significance. The results obtained revealed that "Nigeria Police Force organizational behavior does not significantly reduce the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State." The implication of the finding is that the discovered weakness of the Nigeria police force organizational behavior is that it lacks the needed proactive ethical improvement value to carry out its responsible assignments as an organization. Consequently, increasing the level of police compromise with many related criminal activities is considered mephitic enough to uplift or expand the trend of criminal activities in the state if more punitive measures are not employed by the government. It was therefore advisable that the federal government should employ legal assessor that will be used to form "Police Behavioral Monitoring Task Force (PBMT)" in every local government area to oversee or monitor unethical and irresponsible behaviors of the Nigeria police officers in each state to curtail or curb police dysfunctional involvement in criminal related practices.*

KEYWORDS: Police Organizational Behavior, Trend of Criminal Activities, Rivers State.



INTRODUCTION

The origin of Nigeria Police Force (NPF) organizational behavior was traced from socially responsible activities of enforcing law and order, protecting lives and properties, detecting crimes, restricting crimes, investigating crimes and controlling unwanted criminal behaviors in the society. Police tendency to reduce the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State was not different from the original intention that called for the fundamental existence of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) in Lagos Colony, Niger Coast Constabulary and Calabar protectorate in Nigeria.

Essentially, the Nigerian Police Force began with a thirty member consular guard formed in Lagos Colony in 1861 and in 1878 a group of 1,200 armed paramilitary members was instituted to ensure more proactive security of lives and property (Armstrong, 1982). On an enlarged scale, Hausa constabulary was formed, while the Lagos police force in 1896 was also established with the core intention to promote life security (Sen, 1999). Within this context, a similar force was also formed in Niger Coast Constabulary and Calabar in 1889 under the newly proclaimed Niger Coast protectorate after which the protectorates of Northern and Southern Nigeria were therefore proclaimed in the early 1900s (Chukwuma, 2001).

However, in the 1960s, under the first republic, Nigeria Police Force (NPF) was first recognized and nationalized to perform conventional police function. On this note, the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) was considered responsible for the general internal security of Nigeria. Significantly, the NPF was subjected to the general operational and administrative control of an Inspector General (IG) as appointed by the President to maintain law and order in the country (Chukwuma, 2001).

The development of the Nigeria Police Force was therefore given a serious sense of value for security reasons. The general consideration of this responsibility seems to go out of hand in the recent past decade following the exponential increase in the level of crime associated with unwanted criminal related behaviors of members of the organization. The security of human life and property seems to be abused based on what appears to be dysfunctional management practices in the system. The Nigeria Police Force (NPF) was therefore observed to experience endemic problems with methods of recruiting, training, promotion, job performance and pattern of discipline which no longer appears to be operated on moral and ethical justification. This implies that the system seems to lack merits of responsible value, not employing professional ethics and expertise in specialized fields with disciplinary measures to ensure proper enforcement of law and order, as well as ensuring security of life and property in the society. The need for assessment of police performance is particularly crucial in a developing country like Nigeria where we have new but simultaneously burgeoning social problems whose nature, patterns, and management demand more proactive new strategies and internationally accepted norms and ethical values. The personnel concerned with these problems are relatively new and inexperienced in some situations where a myriad of needs for life security become a very scarce resource with numerous problems. This attempts to relate that there is no long-standing concern for research and professional competence to guide police related policies (Igbinovia, 2022).

Similarly, the problem of crime in Nigeria has shown a serious state of concern as connected with insecurity situation hinged on the fact that the official statistical figure of death rate in



many states, kidnappings, banditries, armed robbery, ripping, child trafficking, ritual killings, financial exploitations, economic exploitation and other social vices in Nigeria seem to be an epileptic national scourge that has ravaged the social and life security of the nation. The problem was considered to have been associated with the fast growing rate of uncontrolled criminal activities and unwanted police compromise with related criminal activities in Nigeria. This was traced to a minimal level of improper regulation of police service in the society. Without doubt, this situation tends to explain why people with great wealth resorted to hiring private security men or security officers, which was hitherto improper and unethical by moral measurement of social protection standards. The life and property of the poor were no longer considered secure in the country.

To be more exact, the Nigeria Police Force security service meant for the protection of lives and properties has not only been ineffective but also poisonous for the wellbeing of the poor in the society. In addition, the crime situation and the confidence people have in the police, especially in the prevention, detection, investigation and control of crime seems to lack considerable valued merits. In line with this reality, the attitude or behavior of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) as an organization appears to have been driven by unguided operational principles considered ineffective to restrain dysfunctional criminal related working behaviors of the police organization (Creswell, 2009). Coupled with this is the fact that most people dread the police and, as a result, they will do anything possible to avoid talking about unchecked terrible attitudes just to ensure that they do not have any dealing with the police. This adds meaning to the truth that corruption among members of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) seems to have become institutionalized by policemen at checkpoints and in their offices, where they collect money unashamedly in the full glare from criminals, passengers and other road users.

Similarly, the trend of corruption, dishonesty and indiscipline among members of the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) was widespread in the system, engendering a low level of public confidence that resorted to self-help among Nigeria citizens. Police were more adept at paramilitary operations and exercise of force in the 80s to 90s than what is being experienced at the community service functions recently concerning crime prevention, crime detection, crime investigation, crime control and adoption of appropriate punitive measures (Igwe, 2000),

In view of this, members of the public raised some dissatisfying alerts, complaining against the observed gross rate of indiscipline in the Nigerian Police Force job performance (Akpan, 2020). Many people attribute the causes of police inefficient performance and increase in crime rate to gross rate of indiscipline in the leadership management approach to police involvement in unethical practices, tribalism and god-fatherism in the system. Chukwuma (2001) opined that the problem of indiscipline, as associated with the performance of the Nigeria Police Force and increase in crime rate, has brought the attention of the researcher in this study to public security as “the police personnel functions of reducing crime rate and management of social security hazards that affects the wellbeing of the society.”

It is against this background that this study obtained its research background to examine the extent to which the Nigeria Police Force has reduced the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State.



Statement of the Problem

The fast-growing demand for security of lives and properties in Nigeria, especially in Rivers State, has received an exponential attention now than ever, following the incessant cases of kidnapping, killings, banditry, child trafficking, armed robbery and other forms of social vices in the country. This calls for the need to demand more attention of the Nigerian Police Force (NPF) towards effective enforcement of law and order, as well as ensuring proper security of lives and properties. The Nigerian Police Force, being the nation-based security organization established in the country (Nigeria), is by law empowered to enforce law and order. Contrary to this view, the practice of the Nigeria police was observed to have been negatively carried out, following the increasing rate of bribery activities and other related corrupt practices among them. In many instances, the rights of the citizens to their life and property could no longer be protected by the police following several incidents of kidnappings, banditries, armed robbery, ripping, child trafficking, ritual killings, financial exploitations, and other social vices in Nigeria.

On a large scale, the negative activities of the Nigerian Police Force was noticed to have yielded many unwanted social effects of police activities on the social wellbeing of the society. The growing effects of the negative reactions and responses from members of the public not only epitomize evidence of unwanted criminal related behaviors of the Nigerian Police Force but also lead to social distrust and lack of confidence in Nigeria police organizational behavior. This was also associated with unnecessary shooting and violent killing of innocent drivers and citizens for failure to pay fifty naira at checkpoints (Okon, 2019).

As if this was not enough, police officers have been reported to collect bribes from notorious criminals, armed political brutes, as well as hooligans and as a result setting them free from the criminal detention room in the police station (Chukwuma, 2001). In this light, the police force was observed to have failed to display the expected disciplinary actions towards unwanted criminal activities in the society. Without doubt, the trend of these irresponsible behaviors of the Nigeria police force were not questioned by the government despite a series of complaints emanating from members of the public.

Consequently, the inclining endless effects of the Nigeria police behaviors does not only seem to grant police freedom in threats to human rights security, security of personal property, and the security of human life in the society, but also encourages unconditional financial exploitation, socio-economic frustration, and untimely death of many innocent citizens. Unfortunately, the Nigeria Police Force could not correct these irregularities and dysfunctional management practices in the system to improve the positive impact of the organizational behavior on the well-being of the society.

To this end, the observed police compromise with some criminal related activities in several circumstances, as traced to the increasing trend in armed robbery activities, kidnapping, ritual killings, financial frauds, ripping practice, child trafficking, and banditries activities among others cited in Cuma and Etim (2022), appears not to have been drastically reduced. Thus, it was exigent for this study to examine the extent to which the Nigerian Police Force's organizational behavior has currently reduced the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State.



Aim and Objectives of the Study

The main purpose of this study is to examine the extent to which the Nigerian Police Force organizational behavior has reduced the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State. In order to achieve this aim, the following specific objectives were considered relevant:

- (i) To examine the extent to which the Nigeria police's organizational conducts towards crime detection have reduced the trend of robbery activities in Rivers State.
- (ii) To examine the extent to which the Nigeria police's organizational attitudes towards crime prevention have reduced the trend of kidnapping activities in Rivers State.
- (iii) To examine the extent to which the Nigeria police's organizational departments towards crime investigation have reduced the trend of child trafficking activities in Rivers State.
- (iv) To examine the extent to which the Nigeria police's organizational demeanors towards crime control have reduced the trend of fraudulent financial activities in Rivers State.

Research Questions

The following research questions were used as a guide in this study:

- (i) To what extent has the Nigeria police's organizational conduct towards crime detection reduced the trend of robbery activities in Rivers State?
- (ii) To what extent have the Nigeria police's organizational attitudes towards crime prevention reduced the trend of kidnapping activities in Rivers State?
- (iii) To what extent have the Nigeria police's organizational departments towards crime investigation reduced the trend of child trafficking activities in Rivers State?
- (iv) To what extent have the Nigeria police's organizational demeanors towards crime control reduced the trend of fraudulence financial activities in Rivers State?

Research Hypotheses

Based on the foregoing questions, the following hypotheses or propositions were made. However, they are stated in null form.

H₀₁: The Nigeria police's organizational conduct towards crime detection, has no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of robbery activities in Rivers State.

H₀₂: The Nigeria police's organizational attitudes towards crime prevention have no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of kidnapping activities in Rivers State.

H₀₃: The Nigeria police's organizational departments towards crime investigation have no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of child trafficking activities in Rivers State.



H04: The Nigeria police's organizational demeanors towards crime control have no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of fraudulence financial activities in Rivers State.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

There are related previous research works into the Nigeria police's organizational behavior and the trend of criminal activities with many related empirical and theoretical underpinnings in Nigeria, but the fast growing trend of criminal activities has not been specifically examined in the recent time in Rivers State.

In line with this, the conceptual, theoretical and empirical review of this study was carried out to enhance its evocative value.

Conceptual View of Police Organizational Behavior and Criminal Activities

This study employed police behavioral concept as propounded by Demark Lugan in 1979, cited in Ojo and Okon (2018), stating that police is a paramilitary social security force which, by its typical form behavior and functions, acts and reacts in a socially responsible manner to enforce law and order in the society and, to a large extent, carries out crime detection, prevention, investigation, and control against criminal activities to ensure social and economic security of lives and properties in the society. Police behavioral concept attempts to drive home the idea of creating social value, practically perceived and believed to have compatible content benefits in eliminating criminal activities through effective behavioral enforcement of law and order in the society. The intention and idea contained in the concept projects the view that criminal activities can be isolated from police behavioral activity of detecting, preventing crime, investigating and controlling crime based on their attitudes towards crime. The concept further contends that police behavior is indispensable to the social wellbeing of the citizens. Thus, the activities of enforcing law and order that are considered capable of promoting the social wellbeing of the citizens is a function of police behavior against criminality. This implies that the outcome of such social security must generate a high beneficial value that has a great sustainable edge over other related security service expectations offered by some members of the society.

The relationship between police organizational behavior and the trend of criminal activities in the society is a conceived behavioral function of the Nigeria police. Thus, the Nigeria Police Force could be viewed to deliver quality and efficient service only when its proactive behavior falls within the context of its expectations by the citizens. Police behavioral performance is capable of producing an improved security value against criminal activities when the police related behaviors agree with the acceptable societal norms and values. This projects the need for the police to understand the relationship between what crime is and their behaviors towards it. Crime is defined as the unwanted attitude of an individual or group as considered unethical and harmful in nature by members of the society.



To justify this, the behavioral activities of the police force in detecting, preventing, investigating and controlling criminal activities is considered as the police responsibility of enforcing law and order. Based on this reality, the relationship between the quality of the Nigeria Police Force service and the criminal activities in the society is the function of law enforcement and order; its perceived value, or benefit is determined by the degree of police responsible behavior. In addition, the government as the instrumental power behind police force performance is required to assess periodically the function of the police based on their performance (Igbinovia, 1982). Firstly, the huge sums of public money expended on them are capital intensive and it requires adequate accounting in terms of quality service delivery. Secondly, the important nature of police functions as assigned, implies that ineffectiveness in behavioral performance of police function will have adverse or debilitating consequences on the system. Thirdly, the assessment of the police function has the significant value of measuring the efficiency of the police functions. The degree of fitness between the means employed and ends sought for may justify how effective is the performance, or loss of benefits. This involves identification of obstacles for effective and efficient police behavioral performance with which the suggestion of adequate and appropriate remedies focused on avoidance of criminal activities is possible (Karimu, 1999).

The need for assessment of police behavioral performance is particularly crucial and organizationally identified to police organizations' behavior in a developing country like Nigeria where we have new but simultaneously burgeoning social problems. This by its nature, patterns, and management strongly demand for more proactive new strategies. The personnel concerned with these problems are relatively new and inexperienced in some situations where myriad needs for life security becomes a very scarce resource with numerous problems. This attempt to relate that there is no long standing concern for research and professional competence to guide policies relating to irresponsible police behavior and function (Igbinovia, 1982).

Similarly, the problem of crime in Nigeria especially in Rivers State has shown a serious state of insecurity following the fact that the official statistical figure of death rate in many states in Nigeria has been high. The problem associated with the control of criminal activities to a minimal level, has not been properly regulated for the good of the low class citizens. This situation may explain why affluent people have resorted to hiring private security men which was hitherto improper in the country to protect them alone. The protection of families' lives and property with the use of police force has not only been ineffective but caused by dysfunctional behavior.

In addition, the crime situation and confidence people have in the Nigeria police especially in the detection, prevention, investigation and control of crime has waned considerably. No governmental agency in Nigeria except the defunct and present National Electric Power Supply Authority has been so severely criticized as the Nigeria police for not living up to its responsibilities and expectations (Okon, 2017). Police criticisms in Nigeria generally center on the quality of police personnel behavior, their ineffectiveness and inefficiency in carrying out their tasks especially in crime detection, preventing, investigating, and crime controlling. Thus, the fast growing level of poor attitude of Nigeria police officers and their response to social criminal activities in the society was traceable to the lack of irresponsible behavior of the police organization. This is connected with constant evidence of untreated police corruption leading to conflict and tension between the police and the citizenry. Another area which has also



resulted in the state of police inefficiency is their inability to effectively carry out their primary duties of enforcing law and order by means of ensuring proper crime detection, prevention, investigation and crime control. This has further alienated the police agency from the citizens based on their level of corruption and unwanted behavior in the country. This adds meaning to the purpose of the current study which aims to enhance the understanding of policing in Nigeria as concerned with detection of crime, prevention of crime, investigation of crime, and control of crime.

For this and similar reasons, Okon (2017) adds that in this conceptual piece, “we argue that the current approach to police performance measurement concerning crime detection, prevention, investigation and control has to a large extent been inactive. Typically, the use of traditional police metrics has failed to achieve the desired results and as such, a different strategy is required to reshape Nigeria police behavior. This implies that the traditional police prosody has a narrow focus on crime detection, prevention, investigation and control, as well as the state of police irresponsible behavior which is relatively considered weak enough to promote proactive security. In view of this, it was observed that police provide little information on how well police organizations are performing.

To justify this, the conceptual view concerning the growing emphasis on the outcome of police organizational behavior focused on the trend of criminal activity. It was significant to observe that the traditional police metrics do not incorporate responsible input from police stakeholders in goal identification, nor do they use specific designed measurement indicators to assess the extent of police behavioral progress made towards achieving the organizational goals. On this note, Dumadi and Koateh (2015) opined that “except the government exploring some degree of criticisms against police organizational behavior with the use of traditional police metrics or measurement yardsticks for organizational behavioral performance assessment, no positive result thereto could be obtained.”

Concept of Social Security Principle and Police Activities

Conceptually, the social security principle is viewed as a guiding rule that seeks to protect human social life. Significantly, social security principle is a social oriented protection rule that guides security practices and its socially responsible operation in the society (Odejide, 2015). Social security concept is concern with the defense type of social security rules, practice or tenet designed to guide and provide sustainable social security, driven by instruction, belief, and advice that guide against terrible, immoral and negative social behaviors of an individual or group of people in the society (Dumadi & Koateh, 2015). On this note, it is observed that the growing state of criminal behavior among some police officers in the society is not guided by social security principle and as a result, police organization as a law enforcement agency is expected to monitor criminal behaviors, actions, and irresponsible attitudes in the society. The question concerning whether or not, if some police activities or behavior are criminal, depends upon how well the police organization practices social security principles.

It is therefore not out of context to understand that social security rule or principle is a function of social conventional rules, beliefs, norms and values that create responsible behaviors acceptable in the society as considered capable of providing positive effects on individuals and/or the society as a whole (Hawkins, Best & Coney, 2000). This tends to relate that social security principle is specifically designed to encourage socially responsible behaviors that are



capable of reducing crime, unwanted behavior or ly harmful behaviors of people in the society. For police organizations to generate positive results on the wellbeing of individuals and the society, the organization must address the issue of irregular police behavior in the system. It is therefore useful to understand that the relationship between police organizational behavior and the trend of criminal activities is a function of police detection, investigation, prevention, control and correction of unwanted irresponsible behavior of an individual or group of people in the society.

Having observed the seeming fast growth rate of unethical behaviors of the Nigeria police and its related hazardous impact on the wellbeing of the society, Odejide (2015), adds that “Nigeria police force has failed to discover her importance in the practice of social security principle following the implications of their unwanted performance - where the life of the citizens and property are no longer protected; and the nation’s image was no more secured.” In line with this, the chronological relationship between “Police organizational behavior and the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State” was observed not to have been driven by the practice of social security principle, conceptually designed and targeted at creating social security value. Donu and Banaba (2015) submit that the society rests its oasis on social security principles that kick against armed robbery activities, kidnapping, child trafficking, and fraudulent financial activities.

Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework of this study was shown in the order presented below.

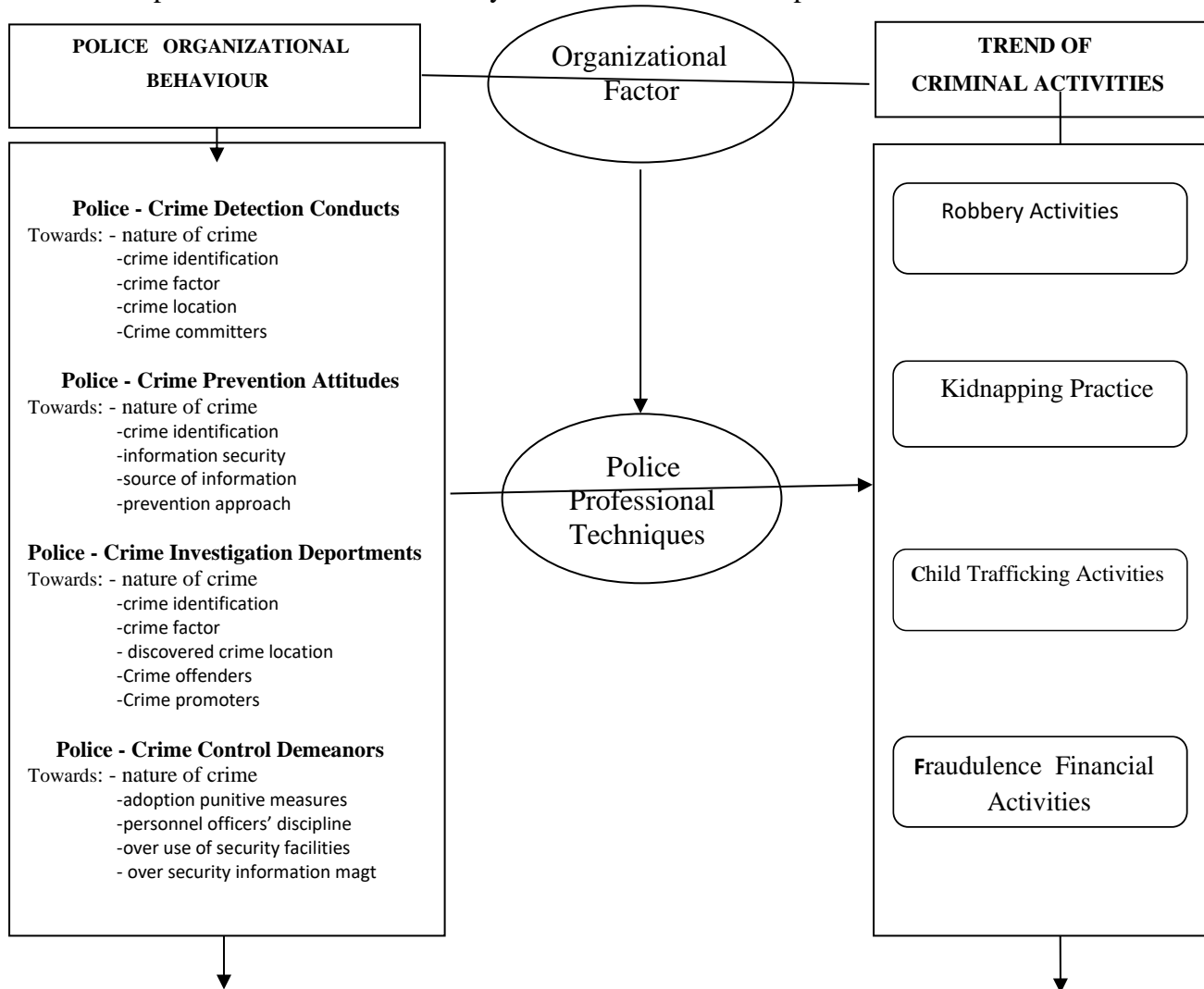


Figure 1: Analytical construct of police behavior and criminal activities in the society.

Source: James and Roger(2001), *Public Relationship Management Strategies*: Donhan. Publishers.

The diagram above explains the relationship between “Nigeria Police Organizational Behavior” and the “Trend of Criminal Activities,” as relatively identified in Rivers State. The research intention of this study was guided and moderated by professional performance techniques of the Nigeria Police Force, using police crime detection, crime prevention, crime investigation and crime control techniques as measures to reduce the fast growing rate of armed robbery activities, kidnapping, child trafficking, and fraudulence financial activities in the state. In consideration of the sub-dimensions of the predictor variables, such as “crime detection, crime prevention, crime investigation and crime control” were employed to measure or determine the extent to which the criterion variable, such as armed robbery activities,



kidnapping, child trafficking, and fraudulence financial activities has reduced the trend of criminal activities in the state.

Nigeria Police Organizational Conducts towards Crime Detection and Trend of Robbery Activities

Police crime detection activities and the trend of armed robbery reduction in Rivers State is observed to have been driven by actions generated from the citizens' reaction. The citizens' state of satisfaction and interest in police behavior is a motivated evidence of crime reduction and control. In view of this, police crime detection activities and the trend of armed robbery reduction is determined by the extent to which police organizational behavior has been rated in the society. Reiner (2017) relates that police job performance has been rated low by citizens. This unfolds the reality that the behavior of the police appears to have partially addressed the issue of crime detection and control in Rivers State. Thus, the state of criminal activity in the country could also be determined by the citizens' reaction and state of satisfaction in the quality of service provided by the police. The police organizational behavior and crime detection activities are associated with the trend of armed robbery in the society. Thus, reduction in the trend of armed robbery and the citizens' satisfaction in police behavior could be established based on the extent to which the police service was able to meet up the citizens' expectations.

In this situation, the reduction in the trend of armed robbery practice is a motivator of the citizens' interest in police performance. Therefore, the effort to enhance the relationship between police organizational behavior and crime detection activities is evidence of proactive attitude expressed in a responsible manner (Taraylor, 2019). In line with this, David and Morgan (2016) define the relationship between police organizational behavior and crime detection as a function of crime prevention and control, which influences the citizens' action and reaction towards police behavior. The citizens' action and reaction towards armed robbery practice and police organizational behavior depends upon the outcome of police activity towards crime in the society. This adds meaning to the belief that any action that guides or influences the citizen against crime requires an alternative action against criminal activities as needed to reduce crime by the police. The intention to view police behavior as a sensitive effort of reducing armed robbery practice tends to justify the degree of the citizens' satisfaction in police activities (Oko, (2018). On a large scale, Nigeria police appears not to resolve the fundamental challenges inherent in the use of its traditional organizational behavior to assess its organizational performance (Dumadi & Koateh, 2015).

In addition, it was considered vital to police officers that are concerned with the issue of irresponsible behavior to impact positively on a police organization that operates and fulfills its activities in the safety of the society' wellbeing and the property. This current context therefore enhanced few measures of what might indicate evidence of failure towards achieving the expected progress in policing goals. This was not only remarkable concerning how the police handle crime in the society, but also how police organizations handle criminal behaviors among police officers and ordinary criminals in the society. This may actually be antithetical as noticed in government reactions to the situation and the public desire. The practice of observing police organizational behavior according to organizational goals was driven by the extent to which police officers respond to issues of robbery activities. Undoubtedly, the citizens believe that a different approach to police organization behavioral performance measurement



is required to determine the extent to which people are more attuned to the expectations of local stakeholders.

This has to do with effective governance without oversight of the police behavioral performance in the society. The foundational viewpoint would require acknowledging the need for greater input and involvement of the Nigeria police with local stakeholders in discussions regarding the role of the police in a democratic society. The realistic expectations for proactive performance of police behavior seems to have been underrated. The undertaking role of Nigeria police and the consideration of the public expectations of police service was not only weak but unproductive enough to protect lives and property (Goldstein 2018).

In this vein, Moore and Braga (2003), opined that appropriate police organizational performance assessment frameworks is specific to the police service, which could then be developed based on well-established evaluation principles that hinged on goal identification, logic models, tailored indicators, regular data collection/analysis, ameliorative action based on evidence, etc.

In view of this, a growing body of literature has provided important insights into what an alternative approach might look like. In this vein, Newman (2001), for example, discusses a model that is directly involved in the identification of police organizational goals and how the police behavior is to be tailored in line with public expectations and the desire. In this way, the network of robbery practices in some communities or local government areas can be reduced with consolidated governance of Nigeria police officers to provide stakeholders with the voice to condemn the behavior of the police. The government is required to help reshape police service policies, activities and practices in Rivers State. By doing so, the needs and expectations of the citizens can be adequately addressed to reduce the trend of robbery practice (Oko, 2018).

The network drive against robbery activities in Rivers State has on a large scale enhanced police administration to control crime. The collaborative model of the Nigeria Police Force decision making was therefore used to transform homelessness policy, crime and allot of funding to mutually guided practice for effective delivery (Doberstein, 2016). This highlights the importance of the 'process' demonstrated in the nexus project in Nigeria where the participating police organizations do not work with the community's youths to determine what they want the police organizations to achieve in relation to community safety, and what their vision of policing is for the 21st century (Reiner, 2017). In this light, Odejide (2015) adds that "measuring what matters, and the extent to which it matters," is a federally. The core responsibility of the inspector general of police at the national level deals with stakeholder engagement as a means of identifying public expectations concerning police behavior in relation to robbery activities and community safety as considered a crucial effort in the scheme of security expectations (Sparrow, 2015). To confirm this, Odejide (2015) adds that if such an approach were to be used more broadly in policing, police leaders would have to work more closely with stakeholders to avoid and reduce the rate of criminal activities. To be more exact, the responsive input and guidance of the Nigeria police administration has been observed to have been more flexible and facilitative in their leadership roles to reduce the trend of crime rate in the society (Heyer, 2021).



Similarly, such a flexible approach would place the stakeholders at a more risky position than ever for employing a flexible approach to crime. Thus, the drive for stakeholders to be more engaged and willing to participate in generating the outcomes they desire to reduce crime might be frustrated because of the inactive performance of the police. In addition, the community members may engage in institutional stakeholders meeting to inform the police and the public about police issues affecting their performance (Reiner, 2017). On this note, the attitude of the citizens towards the Nigeria police may be traceable to the establishment of interest and satisfaction in police organizational behavior. For this reason, Okon (2018) opined that police organizational behavior is associated with a referral action as an outcome of satisfaction in police organizational behavior or service, which could justify the trend of crime reduction. Okon (2018) maintains also that the interest of Nigeria citizens in the police force are established based on the observed behavior of the police and the level of confidence and satisfaction people have in their job performance.

The level of public confidence in police organizational behavior is connected with the reliability of police responsibility performance to reduce the rate of criminal activities as an outcome of a developed attitude of the police in service delivered. This adds meaning to the view that citizens with lower degree of satisfaction and trust in Nigeria police behavior may not reliably support their line of actions and activities relating to crime. This implies that Nigeria police service might reliably support the line of actions and activities that agree with the norms and value of the society. According to Dumadi and Koateh (2015), private security is a welcome development in Nigeria because of the level of insecurity that resulted in the citizens' frustration in Nigeria police service in the society. Klitgaard (2018) adds that the uniqueness of police security service and its trust value is a perceived motivating interest identified in the benefit derived by members of the society. This implies that there is a significant relationship between the citizens' perceived security value of Nigeria police service and the degree of lack of confidence in crime detection, investigation, prevention and control associated with police organizational behavior. To this end, the idea in the concept of police organizational behavior cannot be completely isolated from the degree of service expectations. To justify this, Rhimon (2016) posits that criminal activities are components of unethical behavior which resulted from the abuse of human rights, destruction of life and property as well as bribery and corruption.

Nigeria Police Organizational Attitudes towards Crime Prevention and the Trend of Kidnapping Activities

The value of the Nigeria Police Force is determined by their attitude towards crime. This implies that the Nigeria Police Force performance is judged based on their attitudes towards crime. On this note, the Nigeria Police Force is the major law enforcement agency saddled with the responsibility of crime investigation in the country. However, the increasing impact of crime and the sophisticated nature of its law enforcement execution makes the functions of the Nigeria Police Force very cumbersome and arduous. The issue of crime investigation and the trend of reduction in kidnapping practice in Rivers State appear to have gone out of control based on the silent political support to cultism and kidnapping practices.

The Nigeria Police Force and the government are instrumental to the state of insecurity which shows drastic evidence of failure on the part of the force and the government to save the citizens from the menace of kidnapping in the society (Dumadi & Koateh, 2015). The need to assess



the Nigeria police force and the government activities periodically regarding their functions and performance towards security of life and property was not only important but necessary as a means of ensuring effective delivery of police services.

The use of attitudes theory and teleology theory to assess the Nigeria police behavior in crime investigation as connected with the citizens beliefs about police behavior towards crime was necessary. For this reason, this study utilized a survey discussion approach to determine the extent to which police investigation performance has reduced the growing rate of crime in the society. To this end, Reiner (2017) opined that police disorderliness is a prevalent event in Nigeria. The high level of bribery and corruption has made the crime situation overwhelming for the police to control effectively. Heyer (2021) argues that for the police to effectively prevent and control crime, there is the need to improve police public relationship in crime investigation. To this end, observers recognized that in order to identify significant declines in crime rates, one needed to identify the comparable cause of the crime in the first place (Sparrow, 2015). Also, critics claim that it is difficult to reduce crime rates below a certain level because of the increasing level of political influence connected to crime motivation. The continuous attempt to embark on politically expedient was a means of wasting valuable police resources on a pursuit that cannot succeed against kidnapping in Nigeria (Sparrow, 2015).

It is observed that the level of crime rates in Nigeria has been increasing without reliable investigation to reduce the trend of criminal activity. However, that of developed countries has been declining to some extent for more than two decades today (Farrell, 2013). There is no doubt that the NPF actually have limited ability to influence the crime rate as critics argue that they play a large symbolic role that primarily serves to reassure the confidence of the public (Dumadi & Koateh, 2015). This does not mean that the practice of reducing crime is not a valuable policing goal in Nigeria, but it needs to be considered as one of the several contributions needed to be made by moldering policing activities against kidnapping that are worth to be measured. According to Odejide (2015), kidnapping practice in Nigeria is criminal and has been a source of huge income to the people involved that are known to members of the society and the police. Police effort to reduce the trend of this irregularity was an uphill task based on the compromising nature of their behavior towards crime (Sauder, 2007).

Therefore, the negative consequences associated with the use of performance metrics, linked with the excessive emphasis on crime control metrics such as arrest rates, can lead to violations of civil liberties or kidnapping activities in the urban and rural community (Shilston, 2011). This is problematic by nature of police activities in Nigeria since, according to procedural justice, researchers and public confidence in the police behavior cited in Okon (2017) relates that police activity is an important predictor of overall feelings and prediction about crime in the society for life security and property that fall in compliance with the law (Shilston, 2011).

Suggesting and overemphasizing on the performance measurement of police activity on kidnapping and other related crimes, Sauder (2007) puts that the huge amount involved in kidnapping and other related crimes has led some officers to engage in playing the system game in various forms for failure to report negative incidents known to them; engaging in huge income conspiracy activities, manipulation of data, and the refusal to respond to emergency situations on time have become their criminal behavior, not minding their responsible status as police officers. The need for assessment of police performance is particularly crucial in a developing country like Nigeria where kidnapping, armed robbery, child trafficking and



financial fraud is commonly practiced without stress. The NPF as a known security organization is saddled with the responsibility of crime detection, prevention, investigation and control in the country. According to Odejide (2015), the external factors are those about which the police as an organization have little influence, for example, the overall budgetary allocations which are made in competition with other government organs by politicians and bureaucrats. Such things as manpower shortages, lack of equipment, funds, etc. are problems that come to the police and limit their capacity to perform the task of crime prevention and control effectively (Reiner, 2017). This adds meaning to the fact that despite efforts by the Nigeria police to detect crime, investigate, monitor and control crime in the country, issues of robbery, child trafficking, kidnapping and financial fraud seem to be out of police control. For example, police behavior and conduct during their work, the content and extent to which they respond to the application of training they receive, the control of superiors' exercise over patrolman, and the degree of corruption within the agency are all constituents of internal negative factors affecting police behaviors in the system. Also, many of these internal factors are actually exacerbated by external factors that render the system meaningless (Heyer, 2021).

Nigeria Police Organizational Departments towards Crime Investigation and the Trend of Child Trafficking Activities

The acceptable value of Nigerian police by their responsibilities anchors in the norms and value of their department. To add meaning to this, the Nigerian police by their responsibilities are expected to be more organized towards effective prevention of crime and safety measures that can prevent people from committing child trafficking and other related terrible crimes. The practice of making significant advancement in police advocacy to correct wrong alternatives to ethical social activities seems to have been overlooked. (Alemika, 2018). The policing methods, operations and proper organization towards crime prevention have become questionable in the recent time, following the inactive performance of the Nigeria police (Butter, 2018). This implies that the drive to prevent crime, control crime, combat criminality and maintain public peace and order by the police was overtaken by the selfish intention of the police to make a huge sum of money. Thus, the public support for police activities in preventing crime was in doubt because of police inaction and unethical department to prevent child trafficking. For this reason, Okon (2017) opined that the seeming endless practice of child trafficking in Rivers State has shown inactive performance of Nigerian police activities.

On a large scale, the measurable scope and return of Nigerian policing activities is concerned with the maintenance and prevention of unacceptable conduct of human department in the society. In order to ensure that successful prevention of crime is maintained in an ideal nature and character, police requirement for efficient performance in the society is necessary. Child trafficking crime and the related provocative crime prevention measures were not adopted. An abuse of the police responsibility with the use of dysfunctional management practices appears to have been employed to promote corruption technically. Relatively, poor approach to crime prevention seems to have imposed significant costs of policing mostly in Rivers State. This suggests that the weak administration of the NPF seems to have been responsible for extra cost of paying for crime by the citizens. This also indicates that the increase in crime rate has caused the citizens to spend more on crime both by their involvement in prevention and by suffering the cost effect of not being able to prevent it. In practice, the growing rate of police corruption has promoted an increase in the cost of child traffic crime on members of the society (Butter, 2018). Thus, police corruption associated with crime prevention is very prevalent. It has



become transparent for police officers to demand bribes from child traffickers, armed robbers and rapists to gain their freedom. In line with this, Reiner (2017) adds that there is a slow space of crime prevention in Rivers State traceable to political leaders' self security intention. Reiner (2017) confirms that the citizens have become helpless in the hands of child traffickers because of the weak police security effort to protect life and property in the country.

Nigerian police by their responsibilities are expected to be organized to prevent people from making significant advancement in their advocacy for wrong alternative social activities (Alemika, 2018). The policing methods, operations and organization towards crime prevention have become questionable following the inactive performance of the police (Butter 2018). This implies that the responsibility of preventing crime, controlling crime, combating criminality and maintaining public peace and order by the police in the society was overtaken by the selfish intention of making money. Thus, the public support for police activities of preventing crime was in doubt because of police inaction to prevent child trafficking.

For this reason, Odejide (2015) opined that the seeming endless practice of child trafficking in Rivers State has shown inactive performance of Nigerian police activities. On a large scale, the measurable scope and return of Nigerian policing activities is concerned with the maintenance and prevention of unacceptable conduct of human behavior in the society in order to ensure that successful prevention of crime is maintained in an ideal nature and character of police requirement for efficient performance in the society. Child trafficking crime and the related proactive prevention measures were not only abused with dysfunctional management practices but with technical corruption.

Relatively, a poor approach to crime prevention seems to have imposed a significant cost of policing in Rivers State. This suggests that the weak state of administration of the NPF was responsible for the extra cost of paying for crime by the citizens. In practice, the growing rate of police corruption has promoted the rate of child traffic crime on members of the society. Thus, where police corruption associated with crime prevention is very prevalent, it becomes transparent for police officers to demand bribes from child traffickers, armed robbers and rapists to gain their freedom (Alemika, 2018). In line with this, Smith (2017) adds that there is a slow space of crime prevention in Rivers State as traceable to political leaders' selfish security intentions. Okini and Jockey (2019) confirms that the citizens are becoming helpless in the hand of child traffickers.

The Nigerian police by their deport-mental responsibilities are expected to be organized to prevent people from making significant advancement in their advocacy for wrong alternative social activities (Alemika, 2018). The policing methods, operations and organization towards crime prevention has become questionable following the inactive performance of the police (Butter, 2018). This implies that the responsibility of preventing crime, controlling crime, combating criminality and maintaining public peace and order by the police in the society was overtaken by the selfish intention of making money. Thus, the public support for police activities of preventing crime was in doubt because of police inaction to prevent child trafficking. For this reason, Sharman (2017) opined that the seeming endless practice of child trafficking in Rivers state has shown inactive performance of Nigerian police activities.

On a large scale, the measurable scope and performance of Nigerian policing activities is concerned with the maintenance and prevention of crime. Having considered this unacceptable



conduct of human behavior as crime in the society, successful prevention of such crime is maintained in an ideal nature and character of police requirement in the performance of their duty in the society, this adds meaning to the fact that the crime of child trafficking and its related prevention measures were not only abused with the application of dysfunctional management practices by the Nigeria police force; but technically promote high level of corruption and criminal activities in the society.

The practice of preventing child-trafficking crime in Nigeria by the police has bitterly exposed the public dissatisfaction in police job performance. This attempts to pose that the general view of police engagement in preventing child trafficking requires more proactive security attention than ever. Okini and Joeku (2019) assert that the Nigeria police has been more proactive in the arrest of child traffickers than the rapists. This implies that police seem to protect the interest of rapists more than child-traffickers.

It is therefore relevant to understand that police is a part of the political system in Nigeria as a country where politicians appear or seem to carry along cultists, kidnappers, thugs and other categories of criminals in the administration of the government to encourage criminal practices, of which child trafficking is one. The political relationship between the police political thugs and cultists is a function of criminal tendency in child trafficking practices and other social vices.

Nigeria Police Organizational Demeanors towards Crime Control and the Trend of Fraudulence Financial Activities

Nigeria police demeanor towards crime control have been viewed to generate negative reactions from members of the public based on their interest in corrupt activities in the society (Sharman, 2017). The word police and control have a broad meaning. Caldwell (1965) used the word police to include all officers and men who are involved in law enforcement. Bittner (2019) asserts that police is one that is concerned with law enforcement and crime control. Crime control as the main function of the police is associated with the social activities of exerting control over all forms of criminal related activities in the society. Okini and Jocku (2019) described police crime control as the activities of managing and exerting control over criminal activities. This was not out of context in the view of Sharman (2017) who described police crime control as the maintenance of standard, actions or measures against criminal activities in the society.

This implies that the crime problem in Nigeria has assumed a serious dimension despite the fact that official statistics downplay the problem to a minimal level. This situation may explain why affluent people have resorted to hiring a private security system, which was hitherto foreign to the country, to protect them, their family and properties. This calls for the rhetoric question asking whether police control over financial fraud in Rivers State has actually produced reliable results to be given attention. To this end, Smith (2017) pointed out that imposition of duties not related to crime control has diluted the basic intent of controlling criminal activities in Nigeria. This adds meaning to the fact that the Nigeria police has rather concentrated on taking bribes, collecting money at check points and going into illegal duties than employing novel policy techniques of controlling crime in Nigeria (Bitter, 2017). Thus, the effective law enforcement process and control of criminal activities seems to have been



abated for selfish reasons and the police responsibility of defending the status quo (enforcement of the laws, values, ethical and legal ideologies) was relatively abused.

In society, when the level of crime control and police demeanors fall below the mark of expectations, the level of crime will also tend to increase and the level of financial fraud will definitely increase. This is associated with the appointment of police officers and government officers in top positions in Rivers State and other states in Nigeria. Thus, a policeman is seen as a hero or villain and protector when financial crime is committed for safety. The practice of corruption committed therefore seems to be inevitable in police and political institutions where control of (financial) fraud is easily abused.

Basically, policemen are lower-middle class civil servants, but a large number of policemen by their corrupt demeanors towards financial crime in Nigeria appear to come from the major ethnic group in the country. This becomes more practical when evidence of more criminal finance related fraudulent activities are traced from major ethnic groups in the country where a large number of top police officers come from the majority tribes. Alemika (2018) confirms that the high rate of financial fraud in Nigeria is committed by citizens from the 3 major ethnic groups in the country where large numbers of corrupt police officers come from. It is therefore not out of context to justify that the increasing rate of financial fraud and police control is determined by the activities and decisions of key police officers and politicians from these 3 major ethnic blocks in control of government power in Nigeria. Thus, the growing trend of financial frauds and police control in the country appears not to improve the wellbeing of the entire society.

Irrespective of the Nigeria police effort to detect crime, investigate, monitor and control crime in the country, issues of robbery, child trafficking, kidnapping and financial fraud seem to be out of the police control. For example, police demeanors or conduct during their work, the content and extent to which they respond to financial frauds they receive, and the degree of corruption within the agency totally constitute internal negative factors affecting the behavioral reality of the system. Many of these internal factors are actually exacerbated or are brought about by external factors that render the system meaningless (Igbinoia, 1982).

Similarly, justifiable evidence of police attitude appears to confirm the actual position of police officers' involvement in some irresponsible practices. The personality of these police officers seems to be questionable in crime control and abuse of the process. For this and other related reasons, Okon Reiner (2017) adds that great evidence of financial fraud has not ceased among police officers at all levels in Nigeria and Rivers State respectively where adequate or effective punitive measures are not employed by the NPF and the government to curb the practices when violations are made. In addition, Okini and Jocku (2019) posit that Nigeria police officers have encouraged financial fraud to a large extent and the Economic Financial Crime Commission has not actually employed some proactive efforts to investigate and punish such highly placed political fraudulence offenses.

In confirmation, Dumadi and Koateh (2015) put it that personalities from the ruling majority ethnic class who commonly engage in financial fraud are not punished with their strong belief that they are above the law, and will be protected by the majority power of their relations in the police force, while the minority group will continue to suffer for related evidence of



financial fraud in the hand of the police. Thus, evidence of bias in the discharge of police responsibility on criminal issues also epitomize the criminal nature of the Nigeria police.

Observation of crime prevention concerning financial fraud in Nigeria shows that there is an increasing trend in crime development in the workplace, cities and rural areas. This opts for solutions deduced from the rhetoric question: "To what extent does the police organizational behavior reduce the trend of fraudulence financial activities in the society?" Okon (2017) responded that the Nigeria police job performance has on a large scale promoted corruption associated with kidnapping, child trafficking, fraudulence financial activities, robbery, money laundry and ritual killing traceable to abuse of police rights, power and authority. Hence, its related oppression, corruption, false arrest, and apathy among others become the outcome of police behavior in the society. To this end, the state of ignorance of the law, violation of the law and the increasing interest of criminals in fraudulent financial practices justifies the level of relationship between police behavior and the trend of criminal activities in the society (Sharman, 2017).

Theoretical Framework

This study employed attitude drive theory propounded by Fishbein, and named after him as "Fishbein Model." It is adopted in this study to explain more about police attitudes towards the performance of their jobs as a trace to multi-attitudes associated with crime, based on the beliefs people hold about police officers and crime. It is deduced from "Multi-Attribute to Attitude Model." To be more exact, the Fishbein Model is adopted in this study to explain the salient beliefs people have about a group of people or service rendered which has to do with object-attribute linkages. Fishbein 'Multi-Attribute and Attitude Model' demands that the people or services rendered have very important attributes and the evaluation of each of the important attributes to people in the society have silent beliefs about them. The model therefore anchors on the assumption that "people usually express favorable attitudes towards those people or services that they believe to have adequate needed quality or evaluated attributes considered to have positive value, and capable of satisfying their needs." On a large scale, the theory suggest that that "the citizens usually express favorable attitudes towards police behavior or service" based on what they believe about it, if considered capable to generate adequate needed confidence, trust or attributes evaluated to have positive value that can reduce criminal tendencies, and capable of satisfying the public expectations about the police behavior or service.

Theoretically, the Fishbein Model in this study attempts to be more direct to express the actual or real life behavior of people in the society than does the attitude towards the object model. It also seeks to explain more about the proactive nature of the model in the explanation that people express their positive or actual attitudes towards what they like, and their negative attitudes towards what they dislike. The functional reality of the model was therefore represented by its basic formula given as: $A_{ijk} = \sum B_{ijk} I_{ik}$ (as applied in this study). where: 'i' stands for attribute/capacity of telling more about the quality of a group of people service, 'j' stands for the nature, brand or type of service (such as the Nigeria Police Service), 'k' stands for citizens that benefit from police service, while 'B' represent the belief about the nature of the perceived quality of service or attributes; 'i' stands for important weight attached to the perceived quality of service rendered, and finally, 'A' stands for individual person's attitude score for the service



attributes. Fishbein's explanation of the model formula analytically shows its theoretical application in the understanding that:

$$\frac{\text{Attribute (i) + Brand (nature) of service (j) + Citizens (k) + Attitude Score (A).}}{\text{Individuals' Perceived Importance (\beta)}} \text{ Equals to: citizens' Attitude Expression}$$

It is therefore not out of context in this study to understand that people usually express their state of satisfaction concerning the quality or *attributes of a person, group or service (i)*, of police force **nature of service** being (*j*), when the *people* who consume the service are the citizens (*k*), and the perceived belief about the quality of the service, *being the importance* (β), is directly expressed in the attitudes of the citizens that benefit from police service based on how they perceived the service quality.

This implies that the model by its relevant or useful application indicated that "the citizens that benefit from police service may demonstrate favorable attitude towards the perceived service quality received if the citizens have positive feelings about police activities, thus believing that the Nigeria police force attitude possesses the needed or expected attributes, capable of providing the right quality of service needed."

It is pertinent to understand that the theoretical application and implication of the model attempts to explain how citizens that benefit from police service perceive the attributes or quality of the police service activities. However, if the service is not properly applied as expected, the citizens will likely create a high level of dissatisfaction when they notice that the service provided is ranked below expectation by standard as considered corrupt enough to provide security of life and property (Cronin & Taylor, 2017). Undoubtedly, this adds meaning to the fact that the perceived attributes of the NPF service by the citizens has failed to meet up the society's expectations (Omonona, 2001). The question about if the perceived value of the Nigeria police service is capable of providing quality service as linked to their behavior concerning crime detection, investigation, prevention and control was necessary.

Theoretically, the model does not only present the actual or real life situation of police service but adds meaning to the implication of police behavior on criminal activities. The seeming failure of the police organizational behavior to meet up with the society's expectations, attempts to explain how the citizens or members of the society perceived the attributes of the Nigeria police service to the society in the expression of their feelings or attitudes towards how police officers handle crime detection, investigation, prevention and control. Okon (2016) adds that Fishbein's theoretical model emphasizes on the reality of service attributes and the citizens' perception towards police behavior is a vital tool in the determination of quality service about how the NPF socially responds to crime detection, investigation, prevention and control in the society.

Empirical Review

The empirical review of this study considers the review of previous related studies in the following order. Anderson and Anchora(2016) carried out an empirical survey research, reporting evidence of greater and deeper effects of police involvement in related armed robbery activities discovered to have caused the death of many people in Nigeria following the trend of shared corruption associated with their ineffective job police performance. The result obtained



using Z-scores statistical tools for data analysis shows that “Nigeria police job performance was not proactive enough to generate the expected impact on social security in the society as justifiably confirmed that 76% increase in criminal tendencies identified among high rank and lower Nigeria rank police officers spread in the rural and urban areas was harmful to the future workforce of police and causing lack of trust reposed in them by the citizens. It was advisable that more sustainable disciplinary measures should be adopted to enhance the standard of Nigeria police job performance by the government. The relevance of this study was traced to its concern against the criminal-related nature of robbery activities in Nigeria; the implication of the finding is that the criminal involvement of some Nigerian police officers appears to stem from the level of public confidence in Nigeria police, which indicates evidence of insecurity of life and property in the society, and if this is not improved upon, the level of life insecurity in the society will increase.

Ogbugu and Cajietan (2016) also carried out a study of police performance and kidnapping practices in Niger Delta. The objective of the study was to examine the impact of police performance on kidnapping activities in Niger Delta, using a survey research method with which 22 question items were served on a sample of 400 respondents. Data collected and analyzed were tested using Pearson moment correlation and t-test statistics. Results obtained revealed that the relationship between police performance and kidnapping practices in Niger Delta was weak and not significant enough to generate sustainable security reduction in kidnapping practices in Niger Delta. Hence, it was recommended that the Nigerian government should develop a robust national policy and law on kidnapping practices that will be connected to the death sentence of the kidnapper. The relevance of this study is associated with its relationship with criminal activities which this present study seeks to examine. The implication of this finding is that kidnapping practices were criminal and harmful and the government failure to employ proactive control and punitive measures will do more harm than good if immediate sensitive attention is not provided for security reasons. The concern of this study to specifically look at kidnapping practice and police performance indicates an existing empirical gap, which this study seeks to close by examining police organizational behavior and criminal activities in Rivers State.

Dumka (2010) studied “Ripping Practices and Social Threats in Kaduna State.” The objective of the study was to find out if there is a significant relationship between ripping practices and social threats in Kaduna State. The study adopted 20 questions administered on 350 respondents drawn from urban and rural community dwellers in Kaduna State. Data collected were analyzed with the use of Pearson product moment correlation coefficient. Results reveal that there is a significant relationship between ripping practices and social threats in Kaduna State. The usefulness of this study was discovered in the finding of the study as associated with the empirical gap, which indicates that this study specifically examines the relationship between ripping practices and social threats in Kaduna State but does not directly examine the relationship between police organizational behavior and criminal activities in Rivers State, which this study seeks to close the gap.

Kemnu and Yukon (2017) carried out a study of the Menace of Sex Commoditization and Child Trafficking: The place of Social Security in South Africa. The study sought to investigate if the Menace of Sex Commoditization and Child Trafficking have negatively affected the social security of residents in South Africa. Data obtained with the use of 24-item test questions was administered to a sample of 350 respondents in the cities. The data were analyzed with the use



of Z-score statistics. Results obtained revealed that: “There is a negative impact of Sex Commoditization and Child Trafficking on the social security of residents in South Africa.” It was advisable that the government should employ more proactive security oriented policies to be enforced by the police to stem the state of social insecurity among residents in South Africa. The implication of this finding is that more negative impacts of Sex Commoditization and Child Trafficking on the social security of residents in South Africa will be created and this will not distort the social security life value of residents in the country. The relevance of this study is traced to the criminal activity of “Child Trafficking” which is related to the present study. Thus, it forms the empirical gap upon which this study established its research thrust to close the gap.

Ogbalu (2012) studied Unethical Social Activities of Nigeria Police Officers: A Focus on Increase in Crime Rate in Edo State. The aim of the study was to examine the relationship between Unethical Social Activities of Nigeria Police Officers and the Increase in Crime Rate in Edo State. A sample of 420 persons was used and data was obtained with the use of 24 item questions analyzed with the use of robust t-test statistics. Results obtained revealed that there is a significant relationship between Unethical Social Activities of Nigeria Police Officers and the Increase in Crime Rate in Edo State. This implies that the increase in crime rate is associated with Unethical Social Activities of Nigeria Police Officers. It was advisable that the State and federal government should promote social security policy that will correct unethical social activities of Nigerian police officers. The relevance of this review to the present study was traced to its relationship with the concern for unethical social activities of police officers’ relationship with crime rate. However, in this study, a difference by its title, main objective, and location of study was noted in comparison with the main objective of the previous study and its location. This forms an empirical research gap which this study seeks to close in the current study.

Popnen and Bonalo (2018) carried out a study of “Criminal Activities and Financial Fraud: The Position of Police Officers in Kumasi-Ghana.” The study aimed at finding out the position of officers in reducing “Criminal Activities and Financial Fraud” in Kumasi-Ghana. A 20-item questionnaire administered to 399 respondents in Kumasi was conducted. The use of simple percentage and the mean(x) score statistics was adopted to analyze useful data obtained. Results obtained revealed that “the position of police officers in Kumasi-Ghana was partially weak to control the menace of criminal activities involving financial fraud in Kumasi-Ghana.” It was advisable that the government should employ proactive police officers trained to reduce criminal activities and financial fraud in Kumasi-Ghana. The implication of this study is relevant in the study as it concerns the position of police officers with criminal activities and financial fraud. This study shows a specific gap in the view that the previous study was carried out in Kumasi-Ghana and not in Nigeria, specifically not in Rivers State, with different objectives from the present study. This established an empirical gap not closed, which this study intends to close.

In view of this, it is generally observed that the empirical review of this study could not establish any living evidence of a study which specifically examines “Nigeria police organizational behavior and criminal activities in Rivers State.” This is an indication that there is a fundamental difference in the background of this present study, its objectives, problem statement and findings, and other related previous reviews, thus showing that there are existing



empirical gaps not covered in the empirical review, which calls for the need to form the research landmark upon which the investigating thrust of this study is built to close the gap.

METHODOLOGY

The descriptive survey method of correlational research design was adopted in this study to provide a detailed investigation of the procedure used to establish the relationship between police organizational behavior and the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State. Best (2007) and Gay (2010) also recommended that the use of correlational research design is better since it permits the description of relationship surveys as they exist in their natural conditions. The study used the finite population determination formula based on which the sample population was determined, using Taro Yamane population formulae cited in Uzuaguru (2000). A purposive based sampling technique was adopted to choose respondents from the different strata that make up the population of the State. The variables investigated in this study were operationalized, using “Police organizational behavior and the trend of criminal activities” to measure the level of reduction of criminal activities in Rivers State. The study was carried out in Rivers State where the population of this study mainly consists of 193,392,500 residents drawn from cities and rural communities in Rivers State (see projected population figure, “National Population Commission of Nigeria-Web”). In order to determine a valid sample size for the study, Taro Yamane’s sample size technique at 0.5 percent level of significance, cited in Ani (2012) and Uzuaguru (2000), was used. A purposive sampling technique was adopted using a considerable percentage representation approach to ensure effective distribution of the questionnaire to 400 respondents.

With the purposive sampling techniques, Rivers State was split up into senatorial zones from which local government areas were deduced and the different strata of the population in the 23 local government areas that make up the state were represented. Out of the 23 local government areas that form the 3 senatorial zones, 7 local government areas (LGAs) each were drawn, indicating 21 LGAs selected out of 23. A total of 400 respondents from the 3 senatorial zones were chosen. The primary source of data was employed for the study to elicit relevant responses from the respondents with the use of a structured questionnaire administered to four hundred (400) respondents. However, the secondary sources obtained from magazines, newspapers, journals, and books among others were merely supportive. Five research assistants were employed with which the questionnaires were administered and retrieval was successful. Out of the four hundred (400) questionnaires administered, three hundred and sixty-eight (368) copies (being 92%) were returned, while thirty-two (32) copies (being 8%) were not returned. In line with this, a total of 162 (40%) copies of the questionnaire were allocated to the male respondents and 238 (60%) copies were distributed to the female respondents. To ensure an effective measuring instrument for the study, the questionnaire was prepared with inbuilt modernized 4-point Likert measurement scale values that determine the extent to which respondents agree or disagree with the opinion presented.

Conventionally, the administered instrument was operationalized, using Nigeria police organizational behavior and the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State to determine if there is a significant relationship between them. The validation of the research instrument used was carried out using content and face validities as well as logical and non-statistical methods to



identify relevant characteristics necessary for performing a fussy task. A questionnaire containing the appropriate test items that measure what is intended to be measured was drafted as the instrument. Vetting, modifications and validations of the instrument was done by experts drawn from the department of management, and measurement and evaluation of Ignatius Ajuru University of Education Port Harcourt and University of Port Harcourt. The observations, corrections, views, suggestions, vetting, modifications, and recommendations of the research experts were employed to have jointly affirmed the instrument as one having the required validity. Cohen and Swerdlick (2010) assert that ‘if experts who assess the instrument do not perceive its test as valid, the validity of the instrument is questionable.’ Gay (2010) confirms also that the validity coefficient of a valid instrument is determined based on the reliability of the instrument validity to measure what is intended to be measured, and the ability of the instrument to yield repeated scores, which the reflected difference is the true difference of the measured variables, is considered valid. The study adopted the test-retest technique based on which questionnaires were administered twice (first and second test) to the same group of respondents within a given time interval of 3 weeks. With the aid of the scores obtained, the test-retest method of reliability was adopted, using Spearman’s Rank Order Correlation Coefficient employed to determine how consistent and stable the scores were. When the internal consistency of the instrument was determined, the result of reliability coefficient of the instrument obtained was ‘R’ = .83. The stability of the test result was thus established. For the analysis and test of data obtained, the study employed the descriptive test approach involving the means score statistics, and the simple percentage test method to test responses obtained for the research questions, and used an inferential statistics test approach involving the **Z**-test model for the test hypotheses of the study. The interpretation of the mean test result was done using the following benchmarks: 1.00 - 1.99 (10%-29%) stands for **low extent**, 2.00-2.99 (30%-49%) shows **moderate extent**, 3.00 - 3.99 (50%-69%) stands for **high extent**, and 4.00 & above (70%-100%) indicates **very high extent**. The hypotheses of the study were tested based on the conventional or traditional condition that, if the calculated Z score is greater than the tabulated value, then the null hypothesis will be rejected and the alternate hypothesis will be accepted (Mason, Lind & Marshall, 1999).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Out of the **400** questionnaires served, only 386 copies were useful and successfully collected for analysis to determine the extent to which police job performance has reduced the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State with the use of the mean (X) score test approach and simple percentage test method for the interpretation of results obtained as answers to the research questions. Thus, the following benchmarks were employed: 1.00 - 1.99 (10%-29%) stands for **low extent**, 2.00 - 2.99 (30%-49%) shows **moderate extent**, 3.00 - 3.99 (50%-69%) stands for **high extent**, and 4.00 & above (70%-100%) indicates **very high extent**. The hypotheses of the study were tested, using the Z-test model of inferential statistics. The data generated for the study were therefore presented, analyzed and interpreted in the following order.

**Table 1: Questionnaire Distributed and Returned by Senatorial Zones**

<i>Rivers State Senatorial Zones</i>	<i>Number Distributed</i>	<i>Number Returned</i>	<i>Number Not Returned</i>
<i>South/East</i>	133(33%)	122(31%)	7(1%)
<i>South/ South</i>	133(33%)	122(31%)	9(2%)
<i>South/West</i>	134(34%)	124(31%)	16(4%)
Total	400(100%)	368 (93%)	32 (7%)

Source: *Field Survey Data 2023*

The table above shows how the questionnaires were distributed and retrieved with the aid of five research assistants within the 3 senatorial zones of Rivers State. A total of four hundred (400) questionnaires were successfully administered to respondents. However, only three hundred and sixty-eight (368) copies being 93% was returned, while thirty two (32) copies being 7% was not returned.

Table 2: Questionnaires Distributed and Returned By Gender

<i>Respondents Categorie</i>	<i>Women Total Leaders.</i>	<i>Traditional Rulers</i>	<i>Youth Leaders</i>	<i>Pastors</i>	<i>Teachers</i>
<i>Males</i> 236(59%)	0(0%)	97(24%)	54(14%)	40(10%)	45(11%)
<i>Female</i> 164(41%)	59(15%)	0(0%)	37(9%)	33(8%)	35(9%)
Total 400(100%)	59(15%)	97(24%)	91(23%)	73(18%)	80(20%)

Source: *Field Survey Data 2023*

The table above shows how the questionnaires were distributed to male and female respondents in the categories of Women Leaders 59 (15%), Traditional Rulers, 97 (24%), Youth Leaders 91 (23%), Pastors 73 (18%) and Teachers 80 (20%) respectively to confirm a total distribution of 400 (100%) questionnaires used to elicit raw information from respondents.

Table 3: Distributions of Respondents by Age

<i>Age Bracket</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
18 -25	73	18%
26 -35	122	31%
36 -45	114	29%
56 -55	91	22%
Total:	400	100%

Source: *Survey Data 2023*



The table above shows the analysis of the various age brackets within the age bracket of 18-25, 26-35, 36-45, 36-45 and 46-55, which have the frequency distribution values of 73 (18%), 122 (31%), 114 (29%) and 91 (22%) respectively, in confirmation of 400 copies of questionnaire administered at 100% distribution rate to the respondent

Table 4: To what extent have Nigeria police organizational conducts towards crime detection reduced the trend of robbery activities in Rivers State?

	Item	SA	A	D	SD	TOTAL	X	DEC	
1.	Police crime detection efforts has to large extent created a sustainable reduction in robbery practice in the rural communities in the Rivers State	102/408 (28%) (A+SA) = 232	130/190 (35%)	64/128 (17%) (D+SD) = 136	72/72 (20%)	798/368 100%	2.16	-V	
2.	To a large extent, police detection of robbery crime in the cities has being low in the Rivers State.	82/328 (22%) (A+SA) = 204	122/366 (33%)	48/96 (14%) (D+SD) = 164	116/116 (32%)	906/368 100%	2.46	-V	
3.	On a large scale, police detection of robbery crime in the sub-urban in the Rivers State has improved.	70/280 (19%) (A+SA) = 143	73/219 (20%)	113/226 (31%) (D+SD) = 225	112/112 (30%)	837/368 100%	2.27	-V	
4.	Detection of robbery activity in the town has being very low in the Rivers State.	52/208 (14%) (A+SA) = 138	86/258 (23%)	131/262 (36%) (D+SD) = 130	99/99 (27%)	827/368 100%	2.24	-V	
5.	Police crime detection activity has to large extent created a drastic reduction in robbery practice in the local governm areas in the Rivers State .	81/324 (22%) (A+SA) = 126	45/135 (12%)	137/274 (37%) (D+SD) = 245	108/108 (29%)	841/368 100%	2.28	-V	
Total Percent		46%		54%		= 100%			
Grand Mean								2.28	-V

Source: Field Survey Data 2023

The descriptive content of the question presented on the table above, clearly shows the total grand mean value of **2.28** that falls within the mean value of 2.5-2.99 (30%-49%) showing a **“low extent”** in confirmation of the **54% disagreed** responses value obtained in support of the opinion that: **“Nigeria police organizational conducts towards crime detection has to a low extent reduced the trend of robbery activities in Rivers State.** However, **46% of the agreed responses** was low by its contrary response to the same opinion. Indeed, the result on the table revealed that **Nigeria police organizational conducts towards crime detection** actually generate some sustainable impacts but the impacts were low and weak enough to produce and create positive or significant improvements that can reduce the increasing trend of **robbery activities in Rivers State.**

Table 5: To what extent have Nigeria police organizational attitudes towards crime prevention reduced the trend of kidnapping activities in Rivers State?

	Item	SA	A	D	SD	TOTAL	X	DEC
1.	Police crime prevention efforts has to large extent created a sustainable reduction in kidnapping activities in the rural communities in the Rivers State	102/408 (28%) (A+SA) = 232	130/190 (35%)	64/128 (17%) (D+SD) = 136	72/72 (20%)	798/368 100%	2.16	-V
2.	To a large extent, police prevention of kidnapping activity in the cities has being low in the Rivers State.	82/328 (22%) (A+SA) = 204	122/366 (33%)	48/96 (14%) (D+SD) = 164	116/116 (32%)	906/368 100%	2.46	-V



3	On a large scale, police prevention of kidnapping activities in the sub-urban in the Rivers State has improved.	70/280 (19%) (A+SA) = 143	73/219 (20%)	113/226 (31%) (D+SD) = 225	112/112 (30%)	837/368 100%	2.27	-V	
4	Prevention of kidnapping activities in the town has being extremely low in the Rivers State.	52/208 (14%) (A+SA)= 138	86/258 (23%)	131/262 (36%) (D+SD)= 130	99/99 (27%)	827/368 100%	2.24	-V	
5	Police crime prevention activity has to large extent created a drastic reduction in kidnapping activities in the local government areas in the Rivers State .	81/324 (22%) (A+SA) = 126	45/135 (12%)	137/274 (37%) (D+SD) = 245	108/108 (29%)	841/368 100%	2.28	-V	
Total Percent		46%	54%	=	100%				
Grand Mean								2.28	-V

Source: *Field Survey Data 2023*

The descriptive content of the question presented on the table above clearly shows the total grand mean value of **2.28** that falls within the mean value of 2.5-2.99 (30%-49%) showing a **“low extent”** in confirmation of the 54% disagreed responses obtained in favor of the opinion that: “Nigeria police organizational attitudes towards crime prevention has to a low extent reduced the trend of kidnapping activities in Rivers State.” However, 46% of the agreed response obtained was low and contrary to the same opinion. Thus, both 54% and 46% of the mean result of **2.28 strongly** indicate that Nigeria police organizational attitudes towards crime prevention actually generate some sustainable impacts but the impacts were too low and weak to produce or create positive improvement that could reduce the growing trend of robbery activities in Rivers State.

Table 6: To what extent have Nigeria police organizational departments towards crime investigation reduced the trend of child trafficking activities in Rivers State?

	Item	SA	A	D	SD	TOTAL	X	DEC
1.	Police crime investigation efforts has to large extent created a sustainable reduction in kidnapping activities in the rural communities in the Rivers State	102/408 (28%) (A+SA) = 232	130/190 (35%)	64/128 (17%) (D+SD) = 136	72/72 (20%)	798/368 100%	2.16	-V
2	To a large extent, police investigation of kidnapping crime in the cities has being low in the Rivers State.	82/328 (22%) (A+SA) = 204	122/366 (33%)	48/96 (14%) (D+SD) = 164	116/116 (32%)	906/368 100%	2.46	-V
3	On a large scale, police investigation of kidnapping activities in sub-urban in the Rivers State has improved.	70/280 (19%) (A+SA) = 143	73/219 (20%)	113/226 (31%) (D+SD) = 225	112/112 (30%)	837/368 100%	2.27	-V
4	Investigation of kidnapping activities in the town has being extremely low in the Rivers State.	52/208 (14%) (A+SA) = 138	86/258 (23%)	131/262 (36%) (D+SD) = 130	99/99 (27%)	827/368 100%	2.24	-V
5	Police crime investigation activity has to large extent created a drastic reduction in kidnapping activities in the local government areas in the Rivers State .	81/324 (22%) (A+SA) = 126	45/135 (12%)	137/274 (37%) (D+SD) = 245	108/108 (29%)	841/368 100%	2.28	-V
Total Percent		46%	54%	=	100%			



Grand Mean	2.28 - V
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Source: *Field Survey Data 2023*

The descriptive content of the question presented on the table above clearly shows the total grand mean value of **2.28** that fall within 2.5-2.99 (30%-49%) showing a **“low extent”** in confirmation of the 54% disagreed responses obtained in support of the opinion that: “Nigeria police organizational departments towards crime investigation has to a low extent reduced the trend of child trafficking activities in Rivers State.”

However, the percentage response value of 46% showing agreed response was low and contrary to the same opinion. Therefore, justifying the same to be true that “Nigeria police organizational departments towards crime investigation actually generate some sustainable impacts but too low and weak to produce or create positive or significant improvement that can reduce the cumulative trend of child trafficking activities in Rivers State.

Table 7: To what extent have Nigeria police organizational demeanors towards crime control reduced the trend of fraudulence financial activities in Rivers State?

	Item	SA	A	D	SD	TOTAL	X	DEC	
1	Police crime control efforts has to large extent created a sustainable reduction in kidnapping activities in the rural communities in the Rivers State	100/400 (27%) (A+SA) = 229	129/387 (35%)	72/144 (20%) (D+SD) = 139	67/67 (18%)	998/368 100%	2.71		
2	To a large extent, police control of kidnapping crime in the cities has being low in the Rivers State.	134/536 (36%) (A+SA) = 234	100/300 (27%)	62/124 (17%) (D+SD) = 134	72/72 (20%)	1032/368 100%	2.80	- V	
3	On a large scale, police control of kidnapping activities in the sub-urban in the Rivers State has improved.	103/412 (28%) (A+SA) = 224	121/363 (33%)	74/148 (20%) (D+SD) = 144	70/70 (19%)	993/368 100%	2.69	- V	
4	The control of kidnapping activities in the town has being extremely low in the Rivers State.	122/488 (33%) (A+SA)=235	113/339 (31%)	49/98 (13%) (D+SD)=133	84/84 (23%)	995/368 100%	2.70	- V	
5	Police crime control activity has to large extent created a drastic reduction in kidnapping activities in the local government areas in the Rivers State .	107/428 (29%) (A+SA) = 245	138/414 (38%)	72/144 (20%) (D+SD) = 123	51/51 (14%)	1037/368 100%	2.81	- V	
Total Percent		63%		37%		= 100%			
Grand Mean								2.74	+V

Source: *Field Survey Data 2023*

Based on the descriptive content of the question presented on the above table, the total grand mean value of **2.74** confirms the 63% agreed responses that fall within 2.5-2.99 (30%-49%) indicating a **“low extent”** in favor of the view that “Nigeria police organizational demeanors towards crime control has to a low extent reduced the trend of fraudulence financial activities in Rivers State. However, 37% of the response generated was low and contrary to the same opinion to justify the result that Nigeria police organizational demeanors towards crime control actually generate some sustainable impacts but too low and weak to produce or create positive or significant improvement that can reduce the rising trend of fraudulence financial activities in Rivers State.



Test of the Hypotheses

+Assumptions of the Employed Z-test Model for the Hypotheses

1. The oil firms under this study are arguably observing that the firms are engaged in environmental marketing practices that cause seemingly uncontrolled oil pollution hazards in Niger Delta without considering the negative impact on the agricultural economic wellbeing of the natives in the oil-bearing communities. The issue is to ascertain if the oil firms' environmental marketing practices have presently created some significant improvement on the agricultural economic wellbeing of the natives in oil-bearing communities.
2. A one-tailed test alternative is the accepted alternative hypothesis only when the null hypothesis is rejected.
3. A Z-test of the hypothesis would be used with one critical value of 0.2088 derived from the 5% level of significance as obtained from the critical table value of Z scores.
4. The question items were designed in a modernized 4 point Likert scale format, and only strongly agree and agree were used as positive responses, while strongly disagree and disagree were considered as negative responses (Ani, 2012).
5. If the calculated Z score is greater than the tabulated value, then the null hypothesis would be rejected and the alternate hypothesis is accepted (Mason, Lind & Marshall, 1999).

Using the Z score formula:
$$Z_c = \frac{P - P_0}{\sqrt{\frac{P_0(1-P_0)}{n}}}$$

where:

P = Percentage of positive responses

P₀ = Probability of rejecting the null hypotheses

n = Sample size



Test of Hypothesis 1:

H₀₁: Nigeria police organizational conducts towards crime detection, has no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of robbery activities in Rivers State.

$$Z_c = \frac{0.229 - 0.5}{\sqrt{\frac{0.5(0.5)}{(368)}}} = \frac{-0.271}{\sqrt{\frac{0.25}{368}}} = \frac{-0.271}{\sqrt{0.6}} = \frac{-0.271}{0.774}$$

$$= Z_{cal} = -0.397$$

$$Z_{tab} = 0.2088$$

Since Z_{cal} (-0.397) is less than Z_{tab} (0.2088), the null hypothesis (H_0), is **Accepted** and the alternate hypothesis (H_A) is Reject. This established that “Nigeria police organizational conducts towards crime detection, has no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of robbery activities in Rivers State”.

Test of Hypothesis 2:

H₀₂: Nigeria police organizational attitudes towards crime prevention, has no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of kidnapping activities in Rivers State

$$Z_c = \frac{0.317 - 0.5}{\sqrt{\frac{0.5(0.5)}{(368)}}} = \frac{-0.183}{\sqrt{\frac{0.25}{368}}} = \frac{-0.183}{\sqrt{0.6}} = \frac{-0.183}{0.774}$$

$$= Z_{cal} = -0.236$$

$$Z_{tab} = 0.2088$$

Since Z_{cal} (-0.236) is less than Z_{tab} (0.2088), the null hypothesis is accepted (H_0), and the alternate hypothesis (H_A) is rejected. This indicates that “Nigeria police organizational attitudes towards crime prevention, has no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of kidnapping activities in Rivers State”.

Test of Hypothesis 3:

H₀₃: Nigeria police organizational departments towards crime investigation, has no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of child trafficking activities in Rivers State.

$$Z_c = \frac{0.192 - 0.5}{\sqrt{\frac{0.5(0.5)}{(368)}}} = \frac{-0.308}{\sqrt{\frac{0.25}{368}}} = \frac{-0.308}{\sqrt{0.6}} = \frac{-0.308}{0.774}$$

$$= Z_{cal} = -0.397$$

$$Z_{tab} = 0.2088$$



Since Z_{cal} (-0.397) **is less than** Z_{tab} (0.2088); the null hypothesis is accepted (H_0), and the alternate hypothesis (H_A) is rejected. This means that “Nigeria police organizational departments towards crime investigation, has no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of child trafficking activities in Rivers State”.

Test of Hypothesis 4:

H₀₄: Nigeria police organizational demeanors towards crime control, has no significant correlation

with the reduction in the trend of fraudulence financial activities in Rivers State.

$$Z_c = \frac{0.229 - 0.5}{\sqrt{\frac{0.5(0.5)}{(368)}}} = \frac{-0.271}{\sqrt{\frac{0.25}{368}}} = \frac{-0.271}{\sqrt{0.6}} = \frac{-0.271}{0.774}$$

= $Z_{cal} = -0.350$

$Z_{tab} = 0.2088$

Since Z_{cal} (-0.350) **is less than** Z_{tab} (0.2088). Thus, “Nigeria police organizational demeanors towards crime control have no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of fraudulence financial activities in Rivers State.”

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

This study focused on investigating the extent to which Nigeria police organizational behavior has reduced the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State. It was discovered that Nigeria police organizational behavior has to a low extent reduced the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State. This was a confirmation of the results obtained in Table 4 to 7, which are in consonance with the result obtained from the test of Hypothesis 1 to 4. This shows that “Nigeria police organizational behavior towards crime detection, prevention, investigation, and control has no significant correlation with the reduction in the trend of robbery, kidnapping, child trafficking and financial frauds in Rivers State.”

This implies that there is no positive relationship between police organizational behavior and the reduction in the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State. This is in harmony with the assertion in Okon (2017), who confirms that Nigeria police behavior is inconsistent, lacking merits of sustainable value in social trust that is qualified by poor service quality delivery. To justify the result, Cajietan (2016) adds that evidence of the increasing rate of criminal activities associated with armed robbery, kidnapping, financial fraud, raping, ritual killing, and other forms of bandit activities are common in Rivers State.” Thus, the null hypothesis of the study is accepted (H_0) and the alternate hypothesis (H_A) is rejected. This justifies that, though little or much has been done by the Nigeria police to reduce the increasing rate of crime in the society, the impact of the organization's behavior was not significant enough to produce positive results that can reduce the rising trend of criminal activities in Rivers State.



This calls for the need to adopt more proactive measures to enhance effective and reliable crime detection, prevention, monitoring, investigation, and crime control to reduce the increasing trend of robbery, kidnapping, and child trafficking and financial frauds in Rivers State. The implication of this finding is that if the behavior of the NPF continues to fall below public expectations, social insecurity and criminal activities might increase and the lives and properties of the citizens and the police will no longer be safe.

DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

The computed grand mean result of **2.28** in Table 4, **2.74** in Table 5, **2.26** in Table 6 and **2.28** in Table 7, and its related supporting total percentage result of 54% in Table 4, 63% in Table 5, 62% in Table 6, and 54% in Table 7 respectively, reveal that “The extent to which Nigeria police organizational behavior in Rivers State has reduced the trend of criminal activities in the State is low.” Also, this result was separately confirmed based on the empirical findings and/or observations deduced from the review of related literature in Dumka (2010), Kemnu and Yuogon (2017), Chukwuma (2001), Rhimon (2016), Omonona (2001), Ogbugu and Cajietan (2016), and Anderson and Anchora (2016), who jointly confirmed the content validity of the result indicated in the finding that: “Nigeria police organizational behavior has not only been low enough to reduce the increasing level of criminal activities in the Nigeria, but discovered to lack merits of proactive result oriented value, to detect, investigate, prevent, monitor and control criminal activities in the society.” This implies or indicates that the provision of reliable and sustainable security services by the Nigeria police was not promising enough to protect human lives and properties in Rivers State and Nigeria at large, except more proactive disciplinary measures are employed to improve the quality of Nigeria police force behavior with sustainable motivational inputs.

CONCLUSION

This study examines the extent to which Nigeria police organizational behavior has reduced the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State. Based on the analysis of data collected, analyzed and interpreted, the study reveals that “the extent of improvement in Nigeria police organizational behavior on crime detection, prevention, investigation, and control has been low enough to reduce the trend of robbery, kidnapping, and child trafficking and financial fraudulent practices in Rivers State. In line with this, the study concludes that the existing state of inconsistencies in police organizational behavior on crime reduction does not only appears poisonous or harmful to the security of lives and properties but terribly capable of causing lethal or deadly impact on human existence, as well as resulting in economic frustrations caused by robbery activities, kidnapping, and child trafficking and financial fraud on residents in Rivers State. This conclusively relates that the threats of criminal activities are directly traceable to the increasing trend of robbery, kidnapping, child trafficking and fraudulent financial practices, which Nigeria police job performance on crime detection, prevention, investigation, and control has to a low extent reduced in Rivers State. To be more exact, though little has been done by the Nigeria police to reduce the rate of crime in the society, it was not



actually significant enough to improve police behavioral expectations in reducing the trend of criminal activities in Rivers State.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings obtained from this study, the following recommendations were deduced:

1. The government should formulate “Police Job Performance Evaluation Policy” (PJPEP),” that will enhance critical evaluation of internal and external job performance of the Nigeria police. This will to a large extent guide and improve their job performance in crime detection activity and consequently reduce the trend of robbery activities in Rivers State.
2. The Nigeria Police Force authority should also establish “**Human Life Security Protection and Responsibility Monitoring Centers (HLSPARMC)**”, in all the urban centers in the state to oversee all issues concerning police irresponsible behavior towards prevention of kidnapping activity. This will help the government and the NPF authority to improve the behavioral quality of police officers concerning kidnapping activities in Rivers State.
3. The Nigeria Police Force authority in collaboration with the government should also embark on the establishment of “**Mobile Crime Investigation Monitoring and Discipline Team(MIMDT)**” in each local government area to oversee how police officers handle issues concerning child trafficking crimes in Rivers State. This will help to identify criminals in each village to reduce the high rate of child trafficking resulting from financial-economic crimes and killings in Rivers State.
4. The federal government should also formulate or establish a “**Special Financial Crime Reduction & Control Policy (SFCCRP)**” that will consider employment and training of professional crime detection officers spread to various offices and local communities to detect fraudulent financial activities. This will help to enable the government to adopt proactive improvement measures on financial fraud reduction.

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