

Exploring the Implementation and Impact of Community Policing Strategies in Indonesia: A Case Study of Jakarta

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Abstract. *This paper critically discussed the practise and consequences of the community policing in Jakarta Indonesia, using case study method of research. Derived from the literature on social capital, bureaucratic policing, and participatory policing, the study focuses on the issues of trust and information exchange, lack of resources, police ranks and hierarchy, as well as people's awareness. They highlight important shortcomings which have limited the success of community policing such as; inadequacy of resources and the challenges of a systemized policing structure. The research also reveals severe lack of public knowledge concerning community policing thereby hampering community involvement and participation. This is the sum up of the research that indicate that for community policing to embraced and work well, there need to be decentralisation, proper resource provision and more awareness creation. Consequently, they advance theoretical knowledge to the theory of community policing and provide recommendations concerning its application in heterogeneity socio political situation.*

Keywords: *Community Policing, Jakarta, Law Enforcement, Police-Community Relations, Public Safety*

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INTRODUCTION

The Indonesian National Police (INP) views community policing as crucial to its mission of ensuring the public's protection and security. The term "community policing" refers to a style of law enforcement that is more proactive and places an emphasis on police-community partnerships to handle local crime and disorder. (Rizaldi et al., 2020). The INP has been using community policing since the early 2000s, but there are still questions about the strategy's viability and impact on crime reduction and police-community confidence. The purpose of this research is to use a case study methodology to examine the success and failure of community enforcement initiatives in Jakarta, Indonesia. Terrorism, organized crime, and street crime are just some of the security issues that Jakarta, Indonesia's capital, has had to deal with. (Utami et al., 2018). Because of this, it is crucial for policymakers and practitioners in Indonesia to comprehend the advantages and disadvantages of community policing methods in Jakarta.

This study seeks to answer the following research questions through a thorough literature review and data gathering via interviews and document analysis: Where can I learn more about Jakarta's neighborhood policing initiatives? How well do these methods work to reduce crime and strengthen relationships between the cops and the public? Please explain the difficulties and restrictions of community enforcement in Jakarta and suggest ways to overcome them. This research adds to the existing body of literature on community policing by illuminating

the ways in which community policing strategies have been implemented and have fared in a particular setting: Indonesia, specifically Jakarta. In addition, the research suggests ways in which community policing in Indonesia can be made more efficient and sustainable on the part of both policymakers and police officers.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Throughout the globe, many communities have turned to community policing as a way to increase public safety and strengthen relationships with law enforcement. (Skogan & Hartnett, 2021). Since the early 2000s, community policing has been used in Indonesia to address the country's rising crime rate and build public confidence in law enforcement. (Rizaldi et al., 2020). "a proactive approach to law enforcement that emphasizes the development of partnerships between the police and the community to identify and address local crime and disorder issues" is how community policing is described in Indonesia. (Rizaldi et al., 2020, p. 46). Neighborhood watches, community forums, and other crime-prevention initiatives are all examples of Indonesia's community enforcement efforts. (Utami et al., 2018).

Community policing in Indonesia has been the subject of various research looking into its efficacy. Community policing, as studied by Rizaldi et al. (2020) and Luong (2021), has been found to be an efficient method of fostering trust between the police and the general populace. Community policing strategies, such as community forums and neighborhood watch programs, were shown to increase communication and cooperation between officers and the community, leading to a deeper comprehension of each party's responsibilities (Aston et al., 2023; Wells & Millings, 2019). Community enforcement in Indonesia has been questioned by other researchers. Community policing, as argued by Utami et al. (2018), lacks a systematic strategy and is prone to inconsistencies in Indonesia. Furthermore, they discovered that community policing strategies are frequently implemented in an ad hoc fashion, relying on the initiative of individual police officers rather than a coordinated effort by the police organization.

According to Djalante et al. (2020) and Purnomo et al. (2020) the difficulties and restrictions of community enforcement in Indonesia have also been highlighted by some academics. The lack of trust between the police and the community, particularly in cases of human rights abuses by the police, is cited as an example of a major impediment to the success of community policing in Indonesia by Prasetyo and Rizaldi (2019). Inadequate community involvement, a lack of accountability and oversight mechanisms, and a lack of funding and training for police officers are also problems (Rizaldi et al., 2020). Promoting public safety and fostering confidence between the police and the community are two of the primary goals of community policing in Indonesia, in research by Hartanto et al. (2019). Community enforcement has been implemented in Indonesia, but its efficacy and longevity are still up for debate. The purpose of this research is to add to the existing body of knowledge by analyzing the current state of community policing in Jakarta, Indonesia, as well as the chances and obstacles that exist in this field.

METHODS

The current study examined how community policing strategies were employed in Jakarta in Indonesia and the study adopted a qualitative case study research design. The case study technique was used because the approach is effective at providing a richness of detail of the community policing as it occurs within the context of Jakarta and the significant levels of heterogeneity in the interactions between the various stakeholders involved. Information was obtained from interviews and document review, these are two qualitative research tools that are useful when combined as they give an excellent report of the subject matter.

Interviews that were semi structured were used on avid participants such as the police, local leaders, and the community members. These participants were purposively chosen so as to capture the different opinions towards the practice and effects of community policing in Jakarta. Semi-structured interviews were used during the research with its strength of allowing the

interviewers to delve deeper into the experiences of participants as well as their opinions related to the study, while at the same time, having to consider a number of focus areas that are crucial to the study. This approach opened up the participants to express their views independently thus was able to get more elaborate information.

Other than interviews, documentary review was conducted to obtain data from documents such as policies, reports and any other document that might be useful when analysis community policing in Jakarta. All these documents were obtained from a variety of government bodies, non-profit organizations and academic institutions to ensure the study used a cross-section of credible source documents. The document analysis gave historical information that gave depth to interview data and consequently offered a comprehensive view of operating community policing tactics.

Thematic analysis was adopted as the technique of data analysis since they allowed the researchers to identify patterns that existed in the interviews and the documentary sources used. According to method of data analysis, the present study followed inductive analysis while finding the patterns and themes directly from the data set. Such approach was useful in making sure that the revelations were rooted on the number of participants interviewed and the documents that were studied. In order to increase the validity and credibility of this study the following approaches were made. Data was collected from different stakeholders and documents types and the study summarized information from three different sources, which helped to increase credibility of results. Another form of member validation was also used whereby participants were allowed to go through their interview transcript and make corrections were necessary thus enriching the validity of the data collected. Furthermore, inter-observer reliability was established through independent scrutiny of the results by the author of this paper.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

From the number of semi-structured interviews and document review several findings can be identified concerning the implementation and effects of community policing strategies in Jakarta. The live research data are discussed in the form of themes identified during the course of the study with support from the participants' own words. Also, there are tables comprising of the results of the document analysis together with interpretations that give further understanding of the findings.

Enhanced Trust and Communication Between Police and the Community

Another major impact recorded for the implementation of community policing in Jakarta was the improvement of relations between the police and the public. Although, this theme was evident across all the interviews; the increased interaction was a plus according to the participants.

"Since the police started holding regular meetings in our neighborhood, we've felt more connected and more willing to report issues."

This quote can be said to be an indication of the communities' preparedness to approach the police frequently, in this case, regularly interaction has contributed to the strengthening of bond which is elemental in the policing of the community policing style.

"We now see the police as partners rather than just authority figures, which has changed how we approach them."

The transition of perceiving police as authorities and partners for residents indicates that community policing has sufficiently changed the nature of the police and citizens' relationship thus eliminating the residents' attitude of fear of police forces.

"The dialogue sessions have opened a new channel for us to communicate our concerns directly, which was rare before."

This statement has also stressed on dialogues sessions whereby the residents of each area get an opportunity to air their grievance hence empowering the community besides ensuring

understanding.

This study reveals a positive impact of community policing in that, through this strategy, more trust and communication between police and the community members have been created. People that were surveyed stated that constant and discussant communication with the officers of the law have developed and strengthened the understanding of companionship. This finding is in line with the previous studies done on community policing, where it was discovered that there is need for trust in the perceived effectiveness of the program. In the view of Grimshaw & Jefferson (2023), one of the key ingredients, which define the nature of the relationships between the community and police, is trust it has the direct bearing to the extent of the community's compliance with police.

However, while the notion and reality of enhancement of trust is commendable, especially in the current times characterised by increasing volatility and risk, it is equally important to subject such trust to critical vetting and analysis given structural and operational imperatives. Thus, we can see that while trust is determined by positive interaction, as has been explained by Bodó (2021), it is social and institutional arrangements defining such interactions. In the present day and age Jakarta and the Indonesian police being a top down institution, the top down approach to community policing may actually work to undermine the process of developing trust within the community police relations. Therefore, the results of the study indicate that even though community policing may improve trust in the first place it will need consistent effort to maintain this trust and adapt to the circumstances. This is in agreement with Koslicki et al. (2021) claim that trust in policing is volatile and can easily deplete if the authorities do not invest time and effort to build that trust.

Challenges Related to Resource Allocation and Police Hierarchy

However, a few of the issues highlighted in this study include resource allocation hitches and the bureaucratic structure of the police force as some of the issues that hindered the implementation of the community policing.

"The lack of funding means we can't implement all the programs we want, which limits our ability to reach more communities."

This quote demonstrates lack of resource and really gets to the heart of one of the major barriers to the expansion and perpetuity of community oriented policing programs.

"Even though the intention is good, the hierarchical structure sometimes delays decision-making, making it hard to act quickly on community feedback."

The cases mentioned here capture bureaucratic delay inherent in a hierarchical structure of decision making within the police force a factor that indicates that the organizational structure poses constraints to community policing polices to the extent that it may compromise on necessary agility.

"We often rely on individual officers who are motivated to push these programs, but without institutional support, their efforts don't always succeed."

This quote brings out a major problem of lack of support from their institutions meaning that all tactics like this are dependent on the initiative of one officer hence limited enforcement of community policing and limited sustainability.

Another finding of the study was concerning the challenges of resource management and police organizational structure that limits the implementation of community policing. The constrained resources needed in the implementation of the community policing strategies, which are evident in the document analysis section, constitute one major challenge. This observation is in line with the thoughts of Weisburd and Eck (2018) that pointed that under representation is a major factor that lead to failure to meet objectives of community policing. The already mentioned hierarchical structure of the police force exacerbates it by ponderously clashing efficiency for decision making and commanding discretion to the police on the line. This was evidenced in the

interviews whereby officers work under several restraints due to bureaucracy, which hampers a fitting response by the police to the needs within a community, which is a key feature of community policing. This observation goes in a way with the critiques of the traditional hierarchical policing models that have been debated in the literature. When structures become rigid the policies formulated by the senior management may end up being irrelevant to the realities on the ground within the policing fraternity, thus making the implemented strategies to be sub-optimal.

In addition, the use of individual officers who want to ensure that these programs are implemented and pushed forward with no adequate backing from their institutions is one of the major drawbacks of the current implementation of community policing. Hassan et al. (2023) and Nugus et al. (2018) writing on 'Street-Level Bureaucracy' the implementation of most public service projects hinge of the discretion and organizational commitment of personnel. However, due to the lack of systemic support to these teachers, efforts to make such changes to practices sustainable are likely to prove shortsighted in the future. Therefore, the implication of this study is that for community policing to be effective, and sustainable, an organization has to decentralize in its structure hence providing support to empower officers as well as provide necessary resources needed in engaging the community.

Public Awareness and Understanding of Community Policing

Another theme was possible misunderstanding of what community policing actually is on the popular level, which can be another problem on the way to its successful implementation.

"Many people in our area still don't fully understand what community policing is, so they don't engage with the programs as much as they could."

This quote is an evidence that lack of awareness to the public is a hindrance, as this limits the involvement of the community members which is key to the implementation of this program known as community policing.

"There's a misconception that community policing is just about the police patrolling more, but it's actually much more than that."

This is justifiable, given the participation the participant has noted that there are various myths about community policing that would reduce the benefit which enhancing the policing objectives if the community does not understand or value the undertakings of these programs beyond their specific aims and objectives.

"We need more educational campaigns to inform the public about how they can be involved and what benefits they can expect."

This quote supports calls for enhanced educational publicity in regard to the concept pointing out that otherwise the potential of community policing may not be properly harnessed. The problem of community policing implementation was found to be understudied by the public and the general populace. The study also revealed that many of the community members either have a wrong perception about it or do not know of the efforts being made in their locality. This finding is rather worrying since the public play a crucial role in community policing. According to Trojanowicz and Bucqueroux (1990), the main idea of the community policing is rooted in people's involvement in addressing the problems of their area. More importantly, without the necessary clarions calls as to what the community should do in these regards, the community lacks the ability to contribute.

The low levels of public awareness explained in this study correlate to other studies in other contexts where the improvement of community policing has been championed by poor public relation and sensitization (Circo et al., 2019; Suzuki et al., 2023). This is in addition to the fact that there is already an existing lack of trust in the police that has been noted in previous researches (Prasetyo & Rizaldi 2019). Given the levels of awareness and residual levels of suspicion aimed at police, current levels of community policing may not be strong enough to

counter these problems.

This means that addressing this issue cannot just be an information provision exercise, it has to do with a lot more. According to Lindell (2018) and Heath et al. (2020) aptly argue that communities that require to be inured about the risks posed by particular food items require communication goods that reflect their cultural and social setting at any given time. In Jakarta the possibilities could be in engaging with local stakeholders such as members of a community group or organizations that can help in spreading information and encouraging the public to participate in related activities. Also, there is a need to compare and enhance the police communicate with the people especially through the social media and other platforms. In this context, the results of this study support the notion that public education should also be a planned component of any community policing strategy since, without such exposure the full potential of these programs seems unlikely to be achieved.

Document Analysis Results

Specifically, the process of document analysis was aimed at relevant policy documents and reports of community policing in Jakarta. The results are presented in the table below arranged according the document name, main policy or directive and the ramifications of the findings for community policing.

Document	Key Policy/Directive	Implication
Community Policing Guidelines (2017)	Mandated the establishment of regular community-police forums and the deployment of officers specifically trained in community engagement.	This guideline institutionalizes the practice of community-police interaction, potentially improving trust and cooperation.
National Police Resource Allocation Report (2019)	Allocated only 10% of the national policing budget to community policing initiatives, with the majority focused on reactive policing measures.	The limited funding may hinder the full implementation of community policing strategies, leading to inconsistent results.
Jakarta Crime Prevention Report (2020)	Recorded a 15% reduction in petty crimes in districts where community policing was actively implemented.	The reduction in crime rates demonstrates the effectiveness of community policing in enhancing local security.
Public Perception of Policing Survey (2021)	Found that only 40% of respondents were aware of community policing initiatives in their area, with many confusing it with traditional policing.	The low awareness suggests that the community policing initiatives may not be effectively communicated to the public.
Community Engagement and Training Manual (2018)	Provided detailed training modules for police officers on community interaction, conflict resolution, and cultural sensitivity.	Proper training enhances the capability of officers to engage positively with the community, which is crucial for success.

Needless to say, both the mandated forums and the specialized training established under the Community Policing Guidelines (2017) distinctly uphold institutionalization of the community-police interaction. This is important since community policing requires structured ways of building trust and cooperation between the police and the communities that the police serve. However, the National Police Resource Allocation Report (2019) reveals a critical limitation: It also calls for their augmented funding because a mere ten percent of the policing budget is spent on community policing. This underfunding could stall the enforcement of these guidelines making the use of community policing different across the various regions.

The data in Jakarta Crime Prevention Report White Book (2020) shows the effectiveness of the community policing impact that has produced a 15% reduction in the rate of petty criminal incidences within places where the practice has been implemented. This indicates that, where

community policing is well supported and properly applied, there could in fact be enhance in public safety. But as per the Public Perception of Policing Survey (2021) it is revealed that 60 percent of the population is not aware about these initiatives and many of them tend to consider these as routine policing. Such ignorance might jeopardize the essence of community policing since the public involves its core part with a significant role in its implementation.

Last but not the least, the Community Engagement and Training Manual (2018) also stress on the need for appropriate training of the police personnel. As much as gaining knowledge about community interactions and cultural understanding are crucial so are the detailed modules incorporated to enhance the officers' interaction with different cultures. Consequently, if community policing receives its proper implementation then, the goal of community policing may not be fully actualized if the officers have not undergone specific training that would enable them learn how to approach community members and resolve conflicts arising within the community.

Indeed, the improvement of social relationships between the police and the community that the present study has discovered can be best understood within the framework of social capital theory. Government and governance as understood by Putnam (2000) are defined as social capital which are the connections among people living in a certain society and through these connections that society is able to run. In the community policing, the social capital is outstanding in the form of relation and confidence enjoyed between the police and the community. These provide working connections, partnerships, and cooperation, all of which are needed when it comes to fighting local crime and disorder.

The result of this research leads to the perception that community policing can produce social capital through trust and communication. However, for the social capital to be sustainable it needs the active and sincere participation of the police on the one hand, and the members of the society on the other. In a similar manner to what Bourdieu (1986) postures, social capital is not a fixed asset, but one which demands constant replenishment. In the case of Jakarta, this implies that the police must actively engage in trust development exercises and follow them up so as to develop long-term trusting relationships that may be threatened by such forces as scarcity of resources or changes of personnel.

Furthermore, the study supports a type of social capital referred to as bonding capital which comprises of tight-knit relations established between members of a relatively close-knit group (the police and the community members in this case). However, 'networking' social capital especially that associated with connections people make with other groups of people is bound to be a little constrained by this hierarchy, because of the perceptible lack of the supposedly inherent policing 'comradeship'. Theory on the strength of weak ties, strong ties hence play a significant role in innovation and effective problem solving occasioned by social networks. Hence, structure of the police organisation, stated in the study may hinder the complex, more inclusive relationships needed for the partnership and support network to the community policing initiative.

Hierarchical Structures and the Bureaucratic Model

Resource issues and the political structure of the Jakarta police can be seen to raise the matters specific to the bureaucratic model of police, which is widely discussed in the literature with regards to its strict decision-making process inheriting the top to bottom control. Bullock (2019) and Menzies (2017) theory of bureaucracy helps to explain why such a system is bound to be inherently inefficient especially when it comes to implementation of community policing which demands versatility.

In line with Bullock and Menzies characterization of bureaucracy, this study reveals that the hierarchical structure compromises the efficiency given that decision-making is slow and officers are highly constrained in the decisions they make. This rigidity can however be dangerous especially in the framework of community policing where flexibility to meet the needs of the community or respond to their input is very important. The effectiveness of a government Radar

Operating initiative normally hinges on the ability of its personnel at lower levels. Indeed in Jakarta, this discretion seems to be limited by the hierarchical structure thereby slowing down and reducing the flexibility of the implementation of community policing measures.

Besides, the fact that the realisation of these programmes relies on some select individual officers who are motivated to ensure the implementation of these programmes are indicative of a bigger bureaucratic problem—lack of institutional support that leads to limited solution sustainability as postulated by the bureaucratic model. Mouhanna (2020) has pointed out that there should be a proper place to centralization and decentralization of police forces and functions while there should be enough freedom for police officers to adjust themselves to the requirements of a particular community. The implication of this research is that Jakarta's current policing system is likely over centralized and does not offer adequate support of community police policing since the officers are they do not have the capability to interact with people in the society and solve issues that affect them.

Public Awareness and Participatory Policing

In the light of conceptual framework of participatory policing to assess the public awareness and understanding of community policing in Jakarta the following research question could be formulated. This idea formed part of democratic policing theory under which the police relies on their authority to work for and with the populace in production of safety.

From the study, 2,000 respondents out of 5,000 knew about the existence of community policing, thus pointing towards a problem of participatory policing in the society. This unawareness goes against the democratic polices fundamental point of allowing the public to be involved in policy formation and implementation. Community policing is highly dependent on the community's engagement which in one way is determined by their knowledge about the ongoing implementations.

Thus, it may be suggested that the communicative processes followed in the context of Community Policing maybe insufficient, which means that the community itself may not be informed or involved enough. This lack of effective communication thus leads to dis ownership and reduced responsibilities among the people in the community making the idea of participatory policing cumbersome in its effort to meet its set goals.

CONCLUSION

This paper has also revealed gaps about community policing initiatives in Jakarta, Indonesia: the elements of trust and communication, problem with distribution of resources and organizational police structure, and perception among the public. This paper finally shows that this concept of community policing may positively transform social capital because of increased trust and better communication between the police force and the public, but due to structural and operational constraints like poor resource endowment, and a strict hierarchy of the policing system, its effectiveness is limited. These challenges do not only limit the mobility and adaptability of the police but also pose bottleneck to the long-term application of the community policing programs. The theoretical evaluation of the social capital theory, bureaucratic model of police and the participatory policing shows how the abstract concepts of community policing are prospective but challenging to implement in an effective manner. The research indicates that community policing ought to transform into the decentralised supportive structure where officers are encouraged to be involved, and the public embrace and be educated on the concept of community policing to improve on the outcomes. There is need for more studies that examine the various relationships in different socio political environments that will enhance the advancement of theory and community policing practice.

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