

NIGERIA POLICE FORCE PERFORMANCE IN CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL: AN ASSESSMENT

Olusola O. Karimu, Ph. D.
Center for Juvenile & Family Studies Inc.
NEW YORK

ABSTRACT

Government instrumentalities need to be assessed periodically with regards to their function and performance as a means of ensuring effective delivery of services. The current study used political economy model to assessed Nigeria Police performance in crime prevention and control from the perspectives of civilian population. The study utilized in- depth interview supplemented with focus group discussion to obtain data from the respondents. The study findings indicate that the socio political order prevalent in Nigeria inhibits effective police performance in addition to the fact that high level unemployment has made the crime situation overwhelming for the police to control effectively. The study recommends that for the police to effectively prevent and control crime, there is the need to improve police-public relationship, recognize the importance of different private security organizations to work side-by-side and hand –in –hand with the police and other government agencies of law enforcement like we have in other societies such as the United State of America.