

THE PROPOSED STATE POLICE AND LANGUAGE: PANACEAS FOR INSECURITY IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The level of insecurity in Nigeria today is alarmingly high. Many heinous crimes are committed in nearly all the states of the federation almost every day, and most of the criminals get away with their crimes largely due to the ineffectiveness of the police. It is for this reason that a State Police Bill was introduced in the House of Representatives, the lower chamber of Nigeria's bicameral legislature. If passed in this House and in the Senate, the upper legislative chamber, and assented to by the President, it will become a law that will give the 36 states of Nigeria and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) the power to establish their own police forces. The debate on the desirability or otherwise of the State Police still rages. The present paper argues that the police will be more effective in fighting crimes and tackling insecurity if they serve in their own states of origin and among the people with whom they share and speak the same language.

Keywords: Level of insecurity, heinous crimes, ineffectiveness of the police, insecurity, state police, same language, bicameral legislature, lower chamber, upper chamber.