An Examination of Existing Strategies to Address Street Robberies in the Nairobi Central Business District, Kenya, and their Effectiveness

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Abstract
Street robberies are a significant source of fear among the public because victims face an abrupt risk to life, loss of control, and an intrusion of individual space. Street robberies are a particularly dread initiating crime in view of the setting in which it is probably going to happen over the span of somebody's normal life. The 2005 National Crime Victimization Survey demonstrated that street robbers assaulted most victims on their approach to or from work, school, shopping, or running errands. The danger of damage and demise amid an assault further substantiates the open's dread of theft. This study sought to examination of existing strategies to address street robberies in the Nairobi Central Business District, and their Effectiveness. The study was underpinned by the Strain theory by Robert Merton, Social Disorganization and Routine Activity Theory by Cohen & Felson. The study adopted a descriptive research design and targeted persons who had been victims of street robbery within Nairobi CBD in the course of the one year preceding the study. Simple random sampling was used to sample (30%) 107 respondents out of a target population of 356 victims as per the police records within Nairobi CBD. Questionnaires were employed to collect quantitative data from the primary sample while key informant interview guides were employed to collect qualitative data from Key informants. Data collection instruments were piloted before the actual data collection process. Validity and reliability of the study questionnaire were ascertained before commencement of the study. Research findings revealed that majority of the respondents (90.1%) highlighted the national police service as one of the key organizations that deal with the crime of street robbery, 40.2% identified the courts and the rest (19.5%) identified officials from Nairobi city county security department. Majority of respondents (92.6%) indicated that there were street lights while 59.6% agreed that there were CCTV cameras on major streets and terminals, police patrols was confirmed by 54.2% of the respondents, presence of city county *askaris* (22.3%), and a few ((9.6%) of them pointed that they could see private security guards as strategies for addressing street robberies in Nairobi CBD. When asked on the effectiveness of the existing strategies to address street robberies, most (80.9%) of the respondents asserted that the strategies were not effective. In view of the study findings, the study recommended the development of policies to address street robberies with an insight into the factors encouraging the robberies, the location and crime patterns where the crime happens, and the profiles of both the offenders and victims.
Keywords: Strategies, Street Robberies, Nairobi Central Business District, Effectiveness.
DOI: 10.7176/JLPG/81-05
Publication date: November 30th 2022

1.1 Background

The modernizing world is increasingly and interestingly witnessing an upsurge of new crimes involving complex detection mechanisms and trends. Since the start of human kind, crime has positioned itself as a crucial topic in every day's agenda. This is due to the diverse and adverse ramifications that it causes the society in general. The paradox is that, crime rates are bound to decrease over time following the economic growth and development of nations continues to increase. However, crime rates have failed to decline causing it to be crucial in the second half of this century. According to Block (2000), Crime has become more important in the twenty first century.

According to Hafiz and Muhammad (2010), urban and urbanizing areas world over are experiencing an emergence of new crimes including but not limited to: Terrorism, money laundering, human trafficking, human smuggling, burglary, house breakings, trafficking in narcotics, computer crimes, corruption, tax evasion, robberies and allied offences among other sophisticated crimes. Every society has its own value system which includes crime (Gumus, 2004). Crime has been presented in every society throughout history. However, it differs from one society to another based on its type, rate, cause, and effect (Hafiz and Muhammad 2010).

According to The British Crime Survey's, street robberies reached 421,000 cases in the year 2016 (The Home Office, 2016). About 80 percent of robbers in the United Kingdom revealed that they commit robbery for cash needs and the proceeds they received was used in gambling and drugs (Gill, 2000). Wright *et al* (2006) argued that street offenders described anger as a triggering factor for their crimes that limited their rationality.

According to the Institute of Security Studies (2012), crime in South Africa and particularly in the city of Johannesburg is increasing. Johannesburg is one of the big cities that are experiencing an upsurge of robberies. According to ISS (2017) South Africa recorded a total of 53,418 common robberies, 22,343 house robberies, 16,717 carjacking, and 140,956 robberies involving violence among other crimes. In the report, there was a general increase in crimes as compared to previous years. However, South Africa's 2016/17 victims of crime survey publicized that only 56.7% of victims conveyed crimes to the police an indication that most victims do not report crimes to the authorities due to lack of trust.

Street robbery is a significant problem that is related to urbanisation. It is therefore considered as a key cause of fear amongst the public. Street robbery is found to occur at particular times, in specific places, and occurs to a particular type of people (Tompson, 2010). From an environmental criminology perspective, urban zones have been perceived as generators of street crimes since they address express domains that are exceptionally involved (Brantingham and Brantingham, 1995). Despite whether urban zones are reflected on as crime generators or attractors, past research suggests that criminal victimization, comprising savage victimization, for instance, street theft, will occur bundle in closeness to them (Gumus, 2004).

Although reports by the NPS in the period 2013-2015 show a general decrease of robbery crimes in Kenya, a total of 9427 cases of robbery crimes were reported in the same period. However, every urban area within the country has experienced street robberies and Nairobi tops the list of cities that perpetrators have found lucrative to commit such crimes. Students within learning centres located in the county have also fallen victims of street robberies within the city (Central police station Nairobi County, 2015).

Robberies of this sort depict the most dreadful picture of crime: the likelihood of physical violence on account of strangers and property robbery (Conklin, 1972). Rather than the open resentment and journalistic worries by this kind of street crime (Stevens, 1971; Hunt, 1972; Willerth, 1974) contends that the crime is disregard with respect to urban Administrators, Criminologists and Sociologists by expansion. With the imperative special case of Conklin's (1972) chip away at burglary, investigations of the situational highlights of criminal conduct have would in general spotlight on the not so much savage but rather more 'proficient' criminal exercises.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The shere number of street robberies that are reported daily by media platforms within the County is overwhelming (NCRC, 2014). This crime is orchestrated even on broad daylight under watch by members of public who fear offering help as they may fall victims since the criminals are believed to be working in syndicates. The most disturbing actuality is that illegal activities have now suffused almost all aspects of society in Kenya. In December 2017, an American National in Nairobi was robbed off his property (including money, phones and camera worth kshs.3 million) and later assaulted by the robbers when he tried to resist (Mutuku, 2018).

According to Nairobi Region Security Research and Information Centre Report of 2014, youths, business entrepreneurs, investors, tourists, government officials, students and NGOs within the CBD have been victims to the crime of street robbery. Crime hinders development, instills fear which in turn limits freedom of movement. It is imperative to note that Nairobi is a capital city of Kenya and an economic hub not only in the country but to the international arena in extension. Tourism industry has also been negatively affected due to insecurity posed by these street robberies which have consequently had a negative impact on the economic and national security paradigms of Kenya (World Bank, 2015). Therefore, the need to record, analyze and understand the unswerving and adjoining range of influences that reinforce this wickedness cannot be over-emphasized. Not much research has been done in the area of street robberies, the study seeks to examine existing strategies to address street robberies in the Nairobi CBD and their effectiveness.

1.3 Objective of the Study

To examine existing strategies to address street robberies in the Nairobi CBD and their effectiveness.

1.4 Research Question

What are the strategies put in place in order to address street robberies in the Nairobi's CBD and how effective are they?

1.5 Justification of the Study

This study sought to examine the crime of street robberies in Nairobi CBD because it is increasingly becoming the order of events within the streets of Nairobi and its environments. Apart from it being a serious crime as stipulated in the Penal Code, it is also known to have negative and far reaching social, economic, psychological and developmental ramifications in the society (NCRC, 2014). Therefore, conducting research in crucial features of security; enabling distribution tolerated out of empirical studies will be exceptionally valuable in supporting

policy design and enhancing human security in the county (Security Research &Information Centre, 2011).

Scholars and research institutions have mostly dwelt much on criminal gangs, organized crimes, terrorism, carjacking, kidnappings, domestic violence among others. As an emerging vice within the CBD, this research will therefore add valuable information to the existing scanty literature that singly touches on mugging in Kenya. It will also aid as a reference material to future researchers in different schools of thought like criminology, policing and security studies, public administration, urban planning, political science, social work, among others. In a nutshell, Nairobi's CBD is a vital hub for reinforcing economic prospects for all Kenyans and even internationally and therefore firming up measures to make the city a safe and serene place will lead to increased prospects for all.

1.6 Literature Review and Theoretical Framework
In terms of urban crimes reported across the world, Africa leads on the reported cases. Crime and victim surveys from 1990-2010 and administered in more than 70 cities in the same period proved that both Latin America and Africa experience the highest rates of robbery. Theories have suggested that urbanisation enhances development of industries and advancement in the economy. Be that as it may, the other essence of this urbanization might be the consolation of crimes also, since, crimes regularly happen in substantial urban communities and in urbanized zones (Krivo & Peterson, 1996). In rural territories, because of lower populace thickness, criminal people have less chance of concealing themselves since individuals know one another (Krivo & Peterson, 1996).

1.6.1 The Nexus between urbanisation and crime
Research has shown existence of a close relationship between crime and urbanisation. This nexus relies entirely on the nature of cities and the economic, social, political and geographic environments in which they exist. Crimes against property for example tend to concentrate in urban areas as compared to rural or quasi-rural areas. However, violence is usually meted on victims during day times. Despite the economic or social advancement, the bigger the populace in a specific territory, the higher the rate of crime and victimization, a relationship regularly showed in burglary rates (Louise, 2001).Urban environments may likewise affect the manners by which the network responds or reacts to crime and how it is seen by occupants. This can be seen both institutionally within the sight of roles played by law enforcement and the mass media in enormous urban areas, and at times legitimately, as when uproars or mass violence have been started by crime or law requirement activities. (UN Economic and Social Council, 2007).

Research has demonstrated that the Percentage of populace that lives in the urban zones has been continually expanding all inclusive as appeared in table.1 and this generally implies crime and crime avoidance estimates will turn out to be increasingly critical in urban zones in years to come. While 30 percent of total populace was living in urban territories in 1950, it was around 47 percent in 2000, and evaluated to achieve 60 percent in 2030.

The crime of robbery has been considered one of the serious crimes within the criminal law and constitutions of many jurisdictions across the world. The heinous nature of robbery is due to the use of violence on the victim(s) by the offender(s). In Nairobi CBD, property crimes constitute majority of crimes committed, reported and recorded by the LEOs. For example stealing, breakings, mugging and other property crimes contributed to more than 55% of total crimes as shown by the Kenya police statistics. The urban areas are taken advantage by criminals as they provide a ripe place for concealing of criminal activities.

Different jurisdictions attach different definitions to robbery. Robbery is distinguished from other practices of theft (such us burglary and shoplifting) by its intrinsically ferocious nature orchestrated by the offender(s) on the victim(s). Developed and developing countries in the recent past are experiencing an upsurge of different types of robberies. Street robbery is a type of robbery that is conspicuously becoming an urban concern in developing countries. Street robbery or mugging is the unlawful utilization of any form of force or threat to forcefully deprive innocent people of their legitimate possessions (Khadija, 2009). Be that as it may, National robbery rates are educational, yet it is at times vague whether they vary with across the nation financial changes, sedate patterns or some other trend.

1.6.2 Crime in Nairobi CBD
Social media reports in addition indicate looming and unprecedented crimes unleashed to unsuspecting members of public within the CBD. The reports through postings and comments from social media depict high number of young people as the major perpetrators of this vice and such ever increasing incidents have elicited fear among members of public hence deepening security threats if unchecked.

Armed robbery, murder, street robbery, carjacking, burglary, assault theft and many other violent crimes have been on the increase in Nairobi for the last twenty years. Other specific forms of crimes include crimes against property (UN global report on Human Settlements, 2012). A victimization survey carried out in Nairobi Central Business District and neighbouring areas by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (2012) concluded that crime is more predominant in Nairobi than in other metropolises.

Fifty one percent of the total respondents had been victims of various types of robbery. A larger percentage

had also been physically assaulted by the assailants in the course of such robberies. Consequently, the CBD was identified as a hotspot of crimes as compared to other areas. The concentration was however higher in the lower side of the CBD. In addition, majority of the respondents opined that most criminalities occur in the open when residents are in transit to and from work or school. In most of the cases, the respondents were alone when the attack occurred. Weapons and physical strength were the common methods used by the perpetrators on the victims in order to intimidate and overcome resistance. The report also established that nearly 40% of all victims were injured as a result of violence used in the robbery and a total of 30% of the respondents in commercial enterprises revealed that they had been victims of burglary during the year preceding the survey.

1.6.3 Effects of Street Robbery

Street burglary is a significant source of fear among the public because victims face an abrupt risk to life, loss of control, and an intrusion of individual space. Street burglary is a particularly dread initiating crime in view of the setting in which it is probably going to happen over the span of somebody's normal exercises (Khadija et al, 2009). For example, the 2005 National Crime Victimization Survey demonstrated that street robbers assaulted most victims on their approach to or from work, school, shopping, or running errands. The danger of damage and demise amid an assault further substantiates the open's dread of theft. Offenders physically assault around half of burglary victims, and around 20 percent require therapeutic consideration. In 2005, the FBI assessed that 6 percent of all killings were related to street robbery. A few assessments recommend events of theft murder are significantly more prominent. The sort of weapon utilized normally recognizes robbery from robbery-murder. About 66% of theft murders include weapons, yet offenders utilize firearms in under 33% of robberies. Moreover, firearm robberies are around multiple times bound to result in the victim's demise contrasted with blade robberies, and blade robberies are multiple times more probable than robberies including different sorts of weapons.

1.6.4 Implementing Responses

One of the characteristics of street robbery is that it is mobile and in most cases completed in a few or so minutes. This makes a bit hard for the law enforcement agencies to investigate such crimes due to the circumstances under which they happen. For example, the victim fails to recognize the perpetrator and lack of reporting by the same victim. Despite the fact that some robberies are easily detectable than others, proof exists that high discernibility patrols are capable of helping to decrease street robbery occurrences (Tompson, 2010). However, some of these responses to counter the vice are usually too costly and in most cases are short term. Victims of such robberies ought to be supported in some way as this may also help increase the chance of apprehending the perpetrator. Awareness campaigns will also supplement law enforcement efforts. Hotspot places and times need to be mapped and right responses made. Protecting victims is enhanced when supplemented by strategies that target the offenders or places (Tompson, 2010).

Any exercises ought to likewise be done related to neighborhood policing groups as these frequently have the best comprehension of the nearby setting. A key issue for offenders is the capacity to discard the property they take locally and quickly in the event that they are to advance the prizes of their crime. Correspondingly, any wrongdoer hoping to change over their stolen merchandise into medications should be near their street pharmacist. For these two reasons it is regularly trusted that the areas where robbery happens are proximal to stolen products markets and medications markets. Market minimization strategies are therefore believed to potentially reduce robbery related offences. However, little has been documented about the effectiveness of this particular suite of tactics (Tompson, 2010).

1.6.5 Crime Prevention Initiatives in Nairobi CBD
1.6.5.1 Nairobi Central Business District Association (NCBDA)

This is as a community policing initiative that was adopted since the beginning of 1990s. It was established with the provision of the private sector retorting to definite security pressures under the auspices of the Nairobi's CBD Association (Nairobi Region Security Research and Information Centre, 2003). NCBDA was thus developed so as to help the police in carrying out their functions with a major object of sharing of informing. In its initial stages it entailed the training of the police, installation of police booths across the CBD to raise police visibility and facilitate police with a car to enhance their reaction to criminal events. The booths were seen as a means of bringing law enforcement agencies closer to peoples and also served as sources of information and as places where people can report security problems. These police booths however collapsed in 2004 due to revelation that they never helped to bring security agencies closer to the people.

1.6.5.2 The National Police Service

In Kenya, the National Police Service Act, 2011 stipulates the roles of the National Police Service as;-
a) Provision of assistance to the public when in need;
b) Maintenance of law and order;
c) Preservation of peace;
d) Protection of life and property;
e) Investigation of crimes;

f) Collection of criminal intelligence;

g) Prevention and detection of crime;

h) Provision of specialized stock theft prevention services;

i) Apprehension of offenders;

j) Enforcement of all laws and regulations with which it is charged; and

k) Performance of any other duties that may be prescribed by the Inspector-General under this Act or any other written law from time to time.

This act gives the police the mandate to ensure crime prevention in order to protect life and property. However for successful crime prevention strategies to be put in place, it is necessary to ensure that all stakeholders are included for positive results to be achieved. There is also a wide CCTV surveillance within the CBD in order to help curb crimes within the streets of Nairobi and major buildings with vital installations.

1.6.5.3 The Anti-Street Robbery Unit

This is a special unit comprising of officers from the special crime branch unit, Administration police unit and the flying squad unit whose sole responsibility was to deal with muggings within the Nairobi City. This was due to the observation that criminal syndicates trail and stalks suitable victims and attacks them at suitable hotspots where chances of detection of arrest are minimal. However the problem still persists. The Nairobi security chiefs also directed their blame to the street families for being part of the cause of insecurity in the city. The creation of the unit came amid a public outcry over rising cases of insecurity in the CBD.

1.6.5.4 The County Government

In a bid to restore the security of Nairobi, the county government of Nairobi saw the need to establish a special unit to deal with street robberies. Following a public outcry over insecurity, a special unit called Anti-mugging Unit was formed in January 2018. The governor in Nairobi News (2018) states that his office has formed an anti-mugging group that will work closely with Kenya Police. He also stated that they have received intellect that some politicians and business people are funding youths to terrorize people. The city dwellers responded with disillusionment since there was no legislation to mandate the unit with such function. However, the presence of '*city askaris* within the CBD has helped to reduce the incidents by serving as guardian angels hence deterring potential offenders.

1.6.5.5 Laws and legislations

The government through the legislature has enacted Laws in order to combat street robberies by making potential perpetrators fear the punishment. This is captured in the Penal code Chapter 63 Laws of Kenya section 295 to 297. The Kenyan law states that any individual who takes anything, and, at or preceding or following the season of taking it, uses or takes steps to utilize real violence to any individual or property so as to acquire or hold the thing stolen or to forestall or beat protection from its being stolen or held, is blameworthy of the lawful offense named robbery and is obligated to detainment for a long time.

1.6.6. Theoretical framework

The study was underpinned by the strain theory, social disorganization theory and the routine activities theory.

1.6.6.1 Strain Theory

Strain Theory was first developed by Robert Merton in 1940 to clarify the rising crime rates experienced in the USA around then. Merton (1960) contended that the cultural arrangement of the USA was based on the 'American Dream' which alludes to a lot of meritocratic standards which guaranteed the American public that fairness of chance was accessible to all, paying little mind to class, gender or ethnicity. The 'American Dream' urged people to seek after an objective of accomplishment which was to a great extent estimated regarding the obtaining of riches and material belongings. Individuals were required to seek after this objective through real methods, for example, training and work. The predominant cultural message was on the off chance that you are driven, capable and buckle down, at that point pay and riches ought to be your prizes. In any case, Merton called attention to that these objectives were not achievable by all, that the auxiliary association of the USA implies that the way to jump on were not genuinely dispersed and it was troublesome, if certainly feasible for some to contend and make budgetary progress.

Merton contended that when people are faced with a gap between their objectives (typically funds/cash related) and their present status, strain happens. At the point when looked with strain, individuals have five different ways to adjust: conformity, innovation, ritualism, retreatism and rebellion: Conformists allude to the classification of individuals pressing together cultural objectives through socially affirmed methods: Innovators alludes to the classification of individuals who use socially unapproved or eccentric intends to acquire culturally endorsed objectives. For instance, stealing to accomplish financial security. Ritualists allude to those utilizing the equivalent socially endorsed intends to accomplish less slippery objectives. Retreatants are the individuals who dismiss both the cultural objectives and the way to get it, at that point figure out how to escape it and in conclusion, Rebels are the individuals who dismiss the cultural objectives and means, at that point work to supplant them.

Cloward and Ohlin (1960) further contributed to Merton's concept of conflict by amalgamating the

perspectives of a Chicago ecologist Edwin Sutherland. They posited that most wrongdoing is performed by young men who look for development in their financial position and furthermore to expand their status. In this manner they are bound to respond against the white collar class or the blessed rich class esteems by taking part in reprobate conduct as a method for endeavoring to improve their financial circumstances. At the point when there are no equivalent and authentic open door for the adolescents to improve their financial position and ill-conceived openings are accessible, their disappointment and discontent will be expanded prompting the speculation that absence of chance is frequently an indication of an absence of social association in the network which implies there will be less control on the behaviour of individuals.

This theory is thus important in understanding the aspect of street robbery within the city of Nairobi by trying to elucidate and demystify some of the factors compelling individuals to engage in crime. There are problems of poverty and unemployment, and emphasis on material success by the middle class, being rich and famous. As a result, those who are disadvantaged by these societal values and expectations through legitimate means look for illegitimate opportunities like engaging in crime in order to get what society expects of them hence creating a condition of 'anomie' in the society. This theory also assists in expounding the idea that muggers are in some way hitting back at the society due to the existence of expectations for all members of society whose means or opportunities to achieve are differentially available.

1.6.6.2 The Social Disorganization Theory

Social disorganization theory was developed by Clifford Shaw and Henry McKay and is associated with the "Chicago School" of sociology. The hypothesis joins crime rates to neighborhood ecological qualities. A center guideline of social complication hypothesis is that place matters. In this manner, an individual's private area is a considerable factor forming the probability that that individual will end up engaged with crimes.

It limits its concentration to the advancement of high crime regions that are encountering deterioration of regular qualities brought about by urbanization. As indicated by Shaw and McKay (1942), crime is viewed as a result of uneven development in the public arena, with change and struggle which influences the conduct of those inside it. A social association exists when there is a high level of inner connection to individual and organizations in a network, a condition that is uncommon in urban setups. (Gaines and Miller, 1981) contend that crime is to a great extent a result of negative conditions in specific networks". As indicated by the social disorder hypothesis, there are ecological components that lead to high rates of crime in these networks, and these variables are connected to always raise dimensions of secondary school dropouts, joblessness, breaking down frameworks, and single-parent home.

This theory is important in looking at the aspect of street crimes in urban areas that are experiencing congestion problems due to poor urban planning and Nairobi city falls under this category. The influx of people in urban cities coupled with unemployment, drug abuse among other variables forces individuals to engage in street crimes. Therefore, if there is some form of social organization within the city, the rate of muggings is likely to reduce.

1.6.6.3 Routine Activities Theory

Created by Cohen & Felson (2009), routine activities hypothesis requires three components for a crime to happen: an inspired wrongdoer with criminal goals and the capacity to follow up on these tendencies, an appropriate victim or target, and the nonattendance of a fit gatekeeper who can prevent the crime from occurring. These three components must merge in reality for a crime to happen.

Routine activities hypothesis gives a large-scale viewpoint on crime in that it predicts how changes in social and economic conditions impact the general crime and victimization rate. Cohen & Felson (2009) propose that crimes are a "fundamentally huge marvel," implying that infringement are neither irregular nor inconsequential occasions. In outcome, it is the routine of activities individuals share in through the span of their day and night experience that makes a few people progressively defenseless to being seen as reasonable focuses by an objectively calculating wrongdoer. Routine activities relate the example of culpable to the regular examples of social cooperation. Crime is in this manner ordinary and is reliant on accessible chances to affront. On the off chance that there is an unprotected target and there are adequate prizes, an inspired guilty party will perpetrate a crime.

As far as appropriate focuses on, the decision is impacted by the wrongdoer's view of the objective's vulnerability; the more reasonable and open the objective, the almost certain that a crime will happen. The quantity of persuaded culprits in the populace additionally influences crime levels. It is held that offenders are more averse to carry out crimes in the event that they can accomplish individual objectives through authentic methods. This infers criminal inspirations can be decreased if offenders see that there are options in contrast to crime.

The presence of proficient guardians is held to deter people from committing crimes. Guardianship can be the physical nearness of an individual who can act in a defensive way or as progressively inactive mechanical gadgets, for example, video observation or security frameworks. These physical safety efforts help limit a guilty party's entrance to reasonable targets. The basic part of routine activities hypothesis is the communication of

inspiration, opportunity and targets. Along these lines, the nearness of guardians will dissuade most offenders, rendering even appealing focuses forbidden. In this way, the nearness of chance combined with an absence of guardianship expands criminal inspirations and the probability of an offense occurring.

This theory is significant in this study of street robberies and the dynamics behind it within the city of Nairobi since it tries to explain why some individuals fall victims of mugging while others are not largely because of their vulnerability. It also helps to gain insight into the features that must be existent in order for street crimes to occur. These elements as postulated earlier on include: a potential/motivated offender, apt target, and lack of a capable guardian. It is therefore easy to understand why there are increasing rates of muggings in Nairobi city by linking the three elements that make it favourable for criminals to engage in street robberies.

1.7 Research Methodology

This study adopted a descriptive research design which entails relating the behaviour of a subject devoid of manipulating it in any way. This design was chosen as it would help obtain pertinent information on the aspects of the crime of street robbery namely; existing strategies to address street robberies in the Nairobi CBD and their effectiveness. A triangulated methodological method involving amalgamating quantitative and qualitative approaches was used. Quantitative information was obtained through social survey and qualitative information was provided by key informants. This was important as it provided for combination of strengths and weaknesses of each method so as to enhance data validity. Observation was also adopted to find out the nature of the environment where street robberies are rampant, strategies and their effectiveness within the CBD and also involved sampling views from business operators and the law enforcement officers within the area of study. The primary population for this study were the male and female persons who had been victims of street robbery in the area under study. The victims were obtained from police stations within the area of study. Three sample techniques were adopted in this study; simple random sampling, systematic sampling and purposive sampling. A questionnaire was administered to persons who had been victims of street robbery within the CBD. The questionnaire was designed using closed and open-ended questions and had five sections. Key informant guide was used on key informants.

1.8 Findings of the study

This study sought to understand the strategies put in place to address street robberies within Nairobi CBD and how effective they were. Respondents were asked information on; organizations dealing with street robbery, strategies that are already in place to address the problem of street robbery and their effectiveness, and opinions on the best way to address street robberies in the CBD.

1.8.1 Organizations dealing with Street Robbery.

The study found out majority (93.0%) of the study participants were aware of some organizations that exist to address the problem of street robberies in the CBD. The organizations identified by those who were aware of them are shown in table 4.15 below.

Table 1: Organizations dealing with Street Robbery in the CBD.

Organizations	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
National police service	79	90.1
Courts	35	40.2
Nairobi City county security department	17	19.5

According to sample respondents, majority (90.1%) highlighted the national police service as one of the key organizations that deal with the crime of street robbery. 40.2% identified the courts and the rest (19.5%) identified officials from Nairobi City county security department. Views from key informants also complimented the findings. A senior male crime research officer above youth age from National Crime Research Centre noted that,

> "The criminal justice system which includes police officers from National police service, the judiciary, and to some extent county security officers. These are the main organisations that deal with any sort of crime including street robberies within the CBD. We have for example Central police station, Kamukunji police station, and Parliament police station. There is also Milimani law courts for trial of arrested suspects."

The findings illustrate that different organizations have played a role in ensuring safety of persons within the CBD. Unequivocally, most of the identified organizations are government organizations which imply that the government has made concerted efforts towards preventing street robberies in the CBD. This means that it is the primary role of the government to ensure safety of its people.

1.8.2 Strategies in Place

The respondents were further probed of the specific strategies that were already in place to address street robbery in the CBD. They highlighted the following strategies as indicated on table 2 below.

Table 2: Existing strategies/measures

Intervention	Frequency(f)	Percentage (%)
Street lights	87	92.6
CCTV Cameras	56	59.6
Police patrols	51	54.2
City *askaris*	21	22.3
Private security	9	9.6

The respondents gave varied opinions when asked about the existing strategies to deal with the problem of street in the following ways; majority of them (92.6%) showed that there were street lights while 59.6% agreed that there were CCTV cameras on major streets and terminals, police patrols was confirmed by 54.2% of the respondents, presence of City county *askaris* (22.3%), and a few ((9.6%) of them pointed that they could see private security guards. This is supported by the then Ministry of Nairobi Metropolitan (2012) which indicated that the government spent a total of 437 million to install the CCTVs in major streets of Nairobi County as part of the government's plan to fight crime.

Views from key informants also gave vital information and complimented information provided by respondents in relation to strategies in place to curb street robbery in the CBD. A plain cloth male police officer who has worked within the jurisdiction of the CBD for about three years gave out the following information,

> "The government has invested a lot in installing CCTVs and street lights in all areas of the CBD and this has helped to detect and monitor street crimes. Our able officers also carry out vehicle and foot patrols to ensure safety our area. The city security officers and private security providers have also enhanced security by discouraging and apprehending criminals who they forward to us for processing to court."

The above findings imply that most people were aware of the measures that were already in place to address street robberies. In addition, the findings on strategies in place as shown in table 2 were associated to those in table 1 which showed the critical role of the national and county governments in preventing street robbery through the criminal justice system.

1.8.3 Effectiveness of the Strategies

When asked on the effectiveness of the existing strategies to address street robberies, most (80.9%) of the respondents asserted that the strategies were not effective due to the rising number of street robberies being witnessed in the CBD despite all the security measures already in place while 19.1% said that the strategies were effective in dealing with street robberies. This implies that there was need to look into other approaches on how best to address street robberies in the CBD by seeking opinions of respondents and key informants.

1.8.4 Suggested Measures to Combat Street Robberies in the CBD

The respondents identified the following measures which if put into action, would reduce street robberies within the CBD as shown in table 3 Majority 77.6% suggested on creation of employment opportunities especially the youths. Other measures included; Increasing police visibility (69.1%), installation of adequate CCTVs and street lights (68.1%), street decongestion (66.0%), strengthening community policing initiatives (62.8%), Rehabilitation of street children (47.9%), Small arms & light weapons disarmament (27.7%), and Curbing corruption among security officers (25.5%).

Table 3: Measures to be put to address street robberies

Strategies to be put	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Creation of employment opportunities	73	77.6
Increasing police visibility	65	69.1
Installation of adequate CCTVs and street lights	64	68.1
Street decongestion	62	66.0
Strengthening community policing initiatives	59	62.8
Rehabilitation of street children	45	47.9
Small arms & light weapons disarmament	26	27.7
Curbing corruption among security officers	24	25.5

Observations by key informants also complimented those of respondents and shed more light on what should be done so as to prevent street robberies. A male research officer aged between 46-55 years and based at the National Crime Research Centre had this to say,

> "There is need to provide employment opportunities for the youths who idle around the CBD and engage in crimes to fund their addictions. Decongesting the city, getting rid of street children and taking them to rehabilitation centres would also help. Community policing initiatives will also help a lot in addressing these crimes."

Another middle aged female officer from the city county security department also observed that,

> "The government needs to allocate more resources to install more street lights & CCTV cameras

> *(mostly in dark and congested streets) and also to maintain them to be functioning throughout. Campaigns on small arms and light weapons disarmament, nyumba kumi initiatives, increased day and night police patrols and quick response rate will reduce these crimes to a large extent."*

Earlier revelations by respondents established that increasing poverty and unemployment levels were some of the main factors that encouraged street robberies especially among the youths. This means that increasing poverty levels among members of public coupled by youth unemployment provided incentives to engage in street robbery. Therefore, in order to address street robberies and other crimes, there is need by the government to empower communities especially the youths by creating employment and economic opportunities for example through Uwezo funds and other empowerment progammes.

Inadequate police patrols within the CBD was also perceived as one of the factors increasing street robberies. Police were perceived as one of the lead agencies in preventing crimes within the CBD and therefore there is need to effect some changes to improve on their responsiveness and capabilities. Based on the unique nature of street robbery which is mobile and occurs within a short period of time (few minutes), approaches like increasing police visibility through frequent patrols both day & night and helping victims to report their victimization may help increase chances of arresting the criminals (Tompson, 2010). Frequent foot and vehicle patrols within the CBD especially during the night and the times identified as peak time for robberies (*pp 53*) will be the best way of preventing detectable crimes like street robbery among others.

Areas that were reported as hotspots were established to be inadequate of lights and CCTV cameras and this encouraged street robbery according to the findings. Therefore, the government need to ensure that all streets, and bus stops within the CBD are adequately connected with street lights and CCTV cameras to enhance monitoring and detection of street crimes in a timely manner as this will enhance responsiveness by security agents. This is a proactive approach that will provide a long term solution to street crimes.

Street decongestion was highlighted by most respondents (66.0%) and most key informants as key in addressing street robberies in the CBD. Both governments that is; the national government and the Nairobi city county government should come with a solid plan that also recognizes public participation with an aim of decongesting the CBD for example through policy formulation like banning *Matatus* in the CBD, establishing bus stops outside the CBD, prohibiting hawking in the CBD among other strategies. These findings are also in tandem with the UN-Habitat (2012) report on crime prevention strategies in urban areas advocating for decongesting congested areas. According to Yaksic & Nelson (2016), crime prevention through proper designing and planning of the environment will also help in preventing street robberies in urban areas as this strategy will make the urban environment more safe to pedestrians and attractive to investors.

Respondents reported the need for strengthening community policing initiatives as a best way towards curbing the problem of street robbery. A male key informant aged about 40-50 years who works with the National Crime and Research Centre clarified the understanding of community policing as,

> *"An approach to monitoring whereby the police and the local community jointly work together to ensure a safe and secure setting for all people. The community shares information to the police like names and profiles of suspects or criminals within the neighborhood and then the police act upon that information".*

Another male DCI police officer who has worked within the CBD for about three years gave the following information,

> *"community policing is one of the best ways to deal with criminals because as a police officer, I have received various reports from members of public about people they suspect to be robbing Nairobi residents and upon acting on the information, we have arrested most of the suspects and members of public have helped by being witnesses in court hence we have succeeded in prosecuting most of them"*

Therefore, this implies that strengthening community collaborations with the police and other stakeholders within the CBD will proactively help to fight street robbery as criminals will be exposed and deterred from committing crimes. This suggestion agrees with Khadija et al (1996) who emphasized on the need for the law enforcement and the community to coordinate in order to resolve the problem of crime in the community.

Street children were also perceived as contributing to the problem of street robbery in the CBD. Slightly less than half (47.9%) proposed that the government should get rid of street children from the streets and offer rehabilitation and skill training programs to make them useful members of society. This will empower them to have a sense of responsibility by dissuading them from criminal behavior and also facilitate their reintegration and reunification with families.

Small arms and light weapons disarmament was suggested by 27.7% of study participants as a measure to address street robbery. This was based on earlier findings (*pp.47*) which revealed that majority of victims of street robbery had been attacked by small arms and improvised crude weapons. This implies that small arms including crude weapons are increasingly becoming preferred tools for committing most violence related atrocities. The government should therefore increase efforts aimed at preventing proliferation of small arms and

weapons as they pose a grave and imminent threat to security within the CBD and other areas through awareness campaigns, community policing, disarmament, legal framework, vetting, and governance (Wepundi et al, 2012). Corruption among security officers was perceived as a major impediment towards government and community efforts to combat street robbery as police were perceived to receive illegal proceeds of these crimes from the perpetrators. In order to curb these robberies, 25.5% suggested for swift measures by the government to deal with those who are found complicit to crimes through prosecution and dismissal.

1.9 Conclusion
The study established that street robbery is an opportunistic crime which occurs at specific locations/spaces and to particular types of persons. Developing policies to address street robbery therefore demands for an examination into existing strategies to address street robberies in the Nairobi CBD and their effectiveness.
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1.10 Recommendations
In view of the findings made during the study, the following recommendations if implemented would improve security of the city especially the affected streets;

- The National and County governments of Nairobi should form a strong security team with special techniques and skills to deal with street robberies and also to ensure that all the demarcated hotspot areas are assigned at least a team of plain cloth security officers.
- Physical infrastructure, street designs and planning should be adopted and street lights to be put up in dark lanes and streets so as to reduce the opportunity for occurrence of street robberies. In addition, CCTV installations should be prioritized in hotspot areas to curb robberies and other crimes. This will enhance surveillance, quick communication, and response by security officers in case such incidents occur.
- The government should put in place mechanisms and resources to ensure availability of employment opportunities to vulnerable groups especially the youths and offer rehabilitation services and training to street families to make them useful and productive.

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