
PRIVATE SECURITY COMPANIES AND CRIME DETECTION AND PREVENTION IN NAIROBI COUNTY, KENYA

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ABSTRACT

The security of any nation is key for the achievement of social, economic and political objectives. Given these critical aspects of the security, no country across the globe can be able to satisfy the security need without having a support from other stakeholders such as community and partnering with private security companies. With special requirement and level of training that private security companies offer to their staff, partnership of police and private security companies in crime detection and prevention is key in provision of security across the country. The general objective of this study was to examine the private security companies and crime detection and prevention within the county of Nairobi, Kenya. The four specific objectives of this study were to: examine the various roles of private security companies in crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County, examine the capacity of private security companies in crime detection and prevention, identify the constraints encountered by the private security companies in crime detection and prevention and to establish best practices for adoption by the private security companies in crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County. This study was grounded on Situational Crime Prevention Theory. The study employed a descriptive research design. The target population of this study were the employees of the 108 security companies in Nairobi County. A stratified random sampling technique was used in coming up with a sample size of 72 security private companies. The study used both questionnaires and an interview guide to collect primary data. Qualitative data was analyzed based on the content matter of the responses. Quantitative data was coded into SPSS 24 while was presented in tables and graphs and explanations was presented in prose. The findings of the study revealed that Private security companies have a great role in crime detection and protection but can be enhanced with joint operations with the state law enforcement agencies. The private security companies have the capacity of crime detection and prevention but can be boosted with the collaboration of other stakeholders especially the police service. That the constraints of lack of cooperation from the police, is not wholly true because they consider each other as partners in crime. The best practices by the private security companies in crime detection and prevention can be practiced in union to achieve the best results in pursuit to achieving security.

Key Words: Security, Private Security Companies, Crime Detection, Crime Prevention

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INTRODUCTION

The international private security companies have been existing for long, and is bigger in comparison to the private military industry, with most of them being utilized in a criminal activities deterrence, protection of companies and assets in non-conflict circumstances (Damian, 2000). The roles of Private Security firms have their growth on "mass private property" in the previous half of the 20th century. These are amenities that are privately owned but where the citizens have permission to access and to use them (Mutonyi & Sirera, 2018). These amenities include educational institutions, shopping arcades, high rise apartment blocks, residential areas, recreation complexes, banks, and commercial facilities.

Security firms have therefore been actively involved in crime control and prevention. The concept of private security has contributed significantly towards bringing sanity and as such, the role that private security plays is broad. The functions of private security firms in crime detection and prevention has significantly been witnessed especially in situations that requires security covers like corporate offices, banking halls among other distinguished places.

The role of private security companies in the USA's prevention and detection of crime has been a concern that had not been extensively deliberated or well-considered. But it immediately was a public concern discussion when, New York's city council in 2005, made a declaration that, "Private security personnel showed enormous bravery and expertise when risking themselves to prevent crime, preserve order, move out thousands and aid to save people's lives" (Howie, 2014). Howie (2014), remarks, more private security personnel lost their lives during the Twin Towers attacks, than the New York police agents, while on their duties of prevention and detection of criminality. This indicates that, the role of private security personnel exposes them to much higher danger while undertaking their contracted duties, therefore an impetus for this study on how such exposure affects crime detection and prevention by private security companies.

The main roles in the privatized sector carries out security tasks in the West Bank, and in Israel include, the everyday administration of the passages on the border of Israel and the Gaza Strip, and on the border of the West Bank and Israel. Another role is that, of the professionalization of the operations due to the privatization of the passages (Shemesh, 2013). Thereby, securing several private and public institutions in Israel, and in the settlements of the West Bank. Ronen (2010) continues to state that, the state's decision of 1995 bestowed the duty for the providence of securing learning institutions upon the police but with time, some of these protection duties have been privatized.

According to OBG (2010) in Nigeria, the public industry commenced to contract the private security industry in Nigeria to influence crime prevention and detection such as in airports. And according to Adegboyega (2012) and Inyang and Ubong (2013) in Nigeria, the private security sector has managed, to some level, to complement the roles of the state security agencies in the administration of crime prevention and detection notwithstanding the challenges being encountered by them. In their research on private security companies and crime control in Nigeria, Inyang and Ubong (2013) showed that, the private security industry in Nigeria has been compromised by individuals who are not licensed and registered, consequently creating a greater security risk in the nation. The consequence of this is the view generated that, the private security industry can be a source of insecurity in a society. On the basis of the conclusions, the liability portfolio of the private security companies in Nigeria was risen, and thereby, the cumulative effect of private security companies on crime prevention and detection remains unclear.

In Kenya, there are several private security companies including KK Security, BOB Morgan, G4S, and the Security Group Africa among others that have been in operation in the Country since independence to prevent and detect crime (Gresham, 2017). Swingler, (2017) notes that, there were more than 2000 private security forms in operation in Kenya. He further alludes that the private security companies in Kenya ensure that they are helping towards ensuring that the nation achieves its security needs like crime prevention and detection. This is due to an overstretched police service incapable of meeting the security needs (Swingler, 2017).

Andreous (2015) notes that the ratio of police to citizen in Kenya as 1:850 which is thought of as far-off much lower in consideration of the endorsed UN allotment of 1:450. Hence, private security in Kenya looks as if they are utilised to supplement an overstretched the state security agencies. But then, there exists a scarcity of knowledge on how it influences crime prevention and detection.

The private security industry, provides a varied assortment of security utilities in Kenya. And the same according to Swingler (2017) are not confined to personnel services, surveillance services, and the usage of technology. The number of private security companies in Kenya are therefore projected to continue increasing with the growth in unlawful goings-on which are resulting from the increase of people to the urban areas due to the rural urban movements (Andreous, 2015). The current study will therefore focus on bridging the knowledge gap by focusing on the influence of the private security firms with regards to crime detection together with prevention within Nairobi County.

According to Ariel (2016) the expansion of the private security companies in the city of Nairobi could be attributed to the growing rates of lack of security that are tied to the movements to the urban and the growing of individual assets as a outcome of the growing of capitalism, leading to the requirement of added security for safety. Moreover, there has been an increase in the manufacturing institutions clustering in the central business district. Therefore, Andreous (2015) notes that as a result of these development changes, majority of the organizations operating within Nairobi are engaging the private security companies to assist in the services provided by the national security agencies. The major services according to Mutonyi, Masiga and Kilongosi (2020) are alarms and electronics, investigation, manned guarding and CVIT, which would significantly progress the security situations in the nation if better regulated. This revelation and assertions therefore requires the knowledge how the private security companies affected crime detection and prevention within Nairobi County. This present research hence seeks to connect this knowledge deficiency by concentrating on the capacity of the private security enterprises in crime and detection and prevention.

Githimi and Bor (2015) in their study of crimes mitigations in the county of Nairobi stated that, the citizenry opts for private security services for their security requirement. This is because the private security is seen to have the ability to customize their roles to every single consumer, unlike the state security police who come out mutually to the public. However, how these feeds into the crime detection and prevention remains unclear.

A research by Machira *et al* (2017) on in what way the obtainability of private security services assist in crimes controls in Nairobi County, found five types of crimes control services being delivered: alarm response, mobile patrols, security observation using labelled security vehicles at strategic points, regulating people accessibility to buildings, and residential security. Therefore, this study is to examine how the five groupings of crime control services delivered respond to crime detection and prevention.

Further, Mutonyi, Sirera and Mwai (2020) in their study on the four services of private security: alarms and electronics, manned guarding, investigation and CVIT indicated that, overall, the role of manned guarding contributed the highest input on national security, and that the industry needs stringent regulation to better serve to subscribers. But, it falls short in towards a providence of a holistic justification on private security companies and crime detection and prevention.

Therefore, there is the need to understand the constraints that are encountered by these private security companies with regards to crime detection and prevention. Therefore, given the knowledge gaps as presented above, the present research seeks to determine the effectiveness of the private security firms in crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County, Kenya.

Statement of the Problem

Crime has been a main constrain to economic growth, foreign investment and tourism in the Kenya. And in Nairobi, it has steadily risen during the last decade. The number of crimes had increased by 4.7% as from 2014 to 2015, and by 6.3% between 2015 to 2016 (the national police service annual crime report, 2016). This

being a 10.9% increase of crime in 2 years (between 2014 – 2016) after excluding the offences involving police officers and traffic offences. This is in spite of a noticeable existence of private security companies. Hence, this study will be seeking to gather the empirically data on the effectiveness of the private security firms in crime detection and prevention focusing to Nairobi County, Kenya.

Some studies undertaken in Nairobi on private security mainly centered on the expansion and progress of private security and its services, but how these services feed into enhancing crime detection and prevention is undeniably unaddressed. Githimi and Bor (2015) aimed on the roles of private security firms in crime control in Kenya; while Machira et al (2017) discussed on the availability of private security services. On their part, Mutonyi, Masiga and Kilongosi (2020) evaluated the four services of private security: alarms and electronics, manned guarding, investigation and CVIT on the state security in Nairobi, Kenya. Deducing from those above scholars and others, it is notable that most studies have skewed their focus away from the crime detection and prevention performed by private security industry. This study aimed at addressing and sealing this gap in knowledge. Consequently, the study examined private security companies and crime detection and prevention in Nairobi county, Kenya

Objectives of the Study

The goal of the research was to study private security companies and crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County. The research was led by the below objectives:

- Examine the various roles of private security companies in crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County.
- Examine the capacity of private security companies in crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County.
- Identify the constraints encountered by the private security companies in crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County.
- Establish best practices for adoption by the private security companies in crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County.

The study was guided by the following research questions;

- What are the various roles of private security companies' in crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County?
- What are the capacity of private security companies' in crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County?
- Are there any constraints encountered by the private security companies in Crime and detection and prevention in Nairobi County?
- Which best practices that should be adopted by the private security companies in crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Crime Detection and Prevention

Crime is a common occurrence that has existed since the dawn of time. And it had been characterized as actions going against the agreed norms of a given community. Because lawbreaking is a normal manifestation, not easily to be eradicated; those charged with crime control, that is, crime prevention and detection, must reduce crime to a minimal level. Iheanacho and Ojiakor (2017) noted that crime reduction is the easiest and most useful practice that law enforcement officers can engage in. The social costs and misery associated with crime are entirely eliminated if crimes are effectively stopped before they occur.

According to Wang et al (2016) crime detection involves collecting and assembling various information that are related to the crime in question. For instance, proof from eyewitnesses, victims' testimonies, questioned

people, observations, and so on, all of which should be corroborative to ensure evidence's reliability or accuracy. However, both principles work together for the greater good (Wang, et al, 2016). This inference is inevitable because you can only deter a crime if you are aware of its presence and expect it, and if you detect a crime, you are aware of its existence without being a party to it.

Tanui and Barmao (2016) pointed that identification of acts to commit a crime can and always precedes the prevention of a crime. Therefore, the private security personnel are expected to be knowledgeable, and informed on their duties and responsibilities. And the private security personnel's company must avail the resources necessary for their security personnel to complete this mission.

Roles of Private Security Companies in Crime Detection and Prevention

Andreou (2012) contends that private security shares an extreme same roles and objectives with the police, and that is, wellbeing, assurance, and a general decent connection for the general population and the individuals that they ensure their protection. Private security is driven by the benefit rationale and its primary point is the assurance of the customers' advantage first while the police target ensuring the general population as a commitment. Additionally, Trojanowicz and Bucqueroux (2015) indicated that, the national police agencies and private security organizations should engage in partnership not only to solve troubles, but to also in the prevention of crime, neighborhood decay and social disorder. Therefore, private security companies' role to partner with other agencies, comprises forward and backward linkages, networks amongst government security establishments, social providers or non-profits, community members or groups, audio or print media and private or public businesses.

According to Prenzler and Sarre (2012) the private security officer's roles make them contractually responsible to their employer unlike the public police who are legislatively mandated to serve the community. In addition, Pearson-Goff and Herrington (2013) states that, the roles of private security companies deal with a limited scope of security matters. Such narrow range of security issues which have been customized to meet the expectations of their paying customers. They include perimeter patrol, access control and assisting in parking.

And on the other hand, Alogo (2015) in her study on the strategies embraced by private security enterprises in dealing with crime in Nairobi, Kenya concluded that, the most implemented roles and responsibilities by private security enterprises were liaising with national security agencies, next by advanced degrees of surveillance, use/additional technology and pre-emptive techniques and culture. Whereas the studies by Prenzler and Sarre (2012), Pearson-Goff and Herrington (2013) and Alogo (2015) discussed the various roles of the private security officers, they were not able to demonstrate the influence of either on crime detection and prevention, which this study embarked to show.

A study by Gill (2015) that sought the views of police commanders on the work roles of the private security companies established three categories. First, the "skeptics" who regarded private security as bestowed with an insignificant function in the security dominion. Second, the "pragmatists" who perceived the function of private security as a requirement instead of as desire. And third, the "Embracers," who perceive private security as a value addition and sustained collaborative partnership. While Gill (2015) sought the views on the roles of the private security from the leadership or the police, he fell short to empirically indicate how each of the three-type perspective by the police leaders influenced crime detection and prevention.

Bedard and Guenette (2015) in their study concluded that, although there exist some duties of the police force that would not be transferrable to the private industry, there are still some undertakings that are not necessitating the authority of sworn the police agents training and expertise. They argued that, "work which can be subcontracted, would be takes up a substantial share of police officers' time." But the magnitude how either of these essential roles would influence crime detection and prevention through sourcing remains largely unexplored.

Similarly, Cordner, (2017) notes that the application inclined policing has seemingly given way to collaboration among the national security officers together with the private security companies in a cooperative determination in solving disorder and crime. Therefore, the role of private security is to engage with the other state security stakeholders in partnership to confront fear of crime, crime and social disorder by working collaboratively. Despite Andreou (2012), Trojanowicz and Bucqueroux (2015) and Cordner, (2017) showing that the key roles of private security companies are collaboration and working in partnership with the police, this research was seeking to establish the influence of this collaboration, with the working in partnership on crime detection and prevention.

Capacity of the Private Security Companies in Crime Detection and Prevention

There have been some occasions, that have questioned the capacity of the private security firm on their competence in crime control. Such occasions whereby a private security personnel has screened persons before they entered a facility, but then it happens that explosions are experienced in the same facility and thus doubts are raised on the reliability of the screening capacity (Yuksel & Tepe, 2013). Also, incidents of terrorist strike in several buildings which have a 24-hour security scrutiny and gangs have obtained admission to the facility despite the fact they are possessing explosives (Yuksel & Tepe, 2013). It therefore puts into query if the private security guards possess the technical and manpower capacity to detect and prevent explosive devices.

Andreou, (2012) also notes that the fact that a majority of the private security personnel are not kitted with firearms, and that has certainly tested their capacity to prevent incidents involving guns. Thus, raising concerns on if the private security sector could be entrusted with the security requirements of the citizens. Therefore, the assumption that private security agents always detect and prevent crimes, may have challenges. It was therefore imperative to find out the how the lack of being armed by guns impacts on crime detection and prevention in Nairobi.

Hayes-Jonkers, et al (2012) in their study on comparing strategic and operational good practices for private security guards of the night economy stated that, the private security personnel have the capacity of being “the guardians of customers during the night economy”. But they fell short to highlight how such roles as “the custodians of customers during the night-time economy” would influence crime detection and prevention. And such a gap gave an impetus to this study.

Montgomery and Griffiths (2015) in their argument were advocates of increasing the capacity of private security so that it rises the sum of their personnel to the streets, even though there has been no empirical data to back how this would impact on crime detection and prevention. Whereas Heaton, et al (2015) stated that, were proposing the expansion of the training capacity as a vital element as efforts of elevating the standards of private security. Thus far, there is a scarce of studies on how such an enhanced capacity would affect crime detection and prevention.

According to Cheron (2018) the capacity of the private security profession is mainly male dominated, being determined by the client and the hiring organizations. And concluded to state that, the leadership styles of these private security companies affected this capacity. However, the influence of the male dominated capacity on crime detection and prevention was not addressed, and that is what this research intended to find out.

According to Mutonyi, Sirera and Mwai (2020) private security companies have the capacity of being the most visible security entity, as their uniformed security guards are the ones who the people interact with the most in either the private and public zones where the wellbeing of people is of importance. And those guards are utilized in the patrols of shopping malls, office facilities, apartment developments, sports grounds, store houses, parking spaces, assets and events needing security. And according to Mutonyi, Sirera and Mwai (2020) security personnel are utilized for patrolling these spaces, as they are normally targets for vehicle

stealing, theft, destruction, muggings, and various other various types of criminalities. But they fell short to explain how this capacity of visibility influences crime detection and prevention, which is what this study sought to understand.

Constraints encountered by the private security Companies in Crime Detection and Prevention

In their study Prenzler and Milroy (2012) on the implications for regulation on the current examinations into private security sector in Australia, using an assortment of innovative investigative techniques, they revealed that, a varied range of problems including, and the misuse of security personnel by under rewards, corruption in security guards' training and criminal activity, and by the intrusion by organized criminals amongst private security companies. The magnitude of these transgressions informs an upward adjustment of the risk portfolio of the sector. This hence arises the interest on the influence of Private security companies and crime detection and prevention in Australia.

Choi, (2014) contends that the private security officials feel that the police officers request data that they need from private security suppliers yet only sparingly will they give part of data they possess to the private security organizations. He furthermore noticed that, the state security agencies consider the private security officers to be security as amateurish and that their preparation is subordinate to theirs and not normalized thus this has always undermined the presumed partnership between the two security bodies. Similarly, Martin (2015) in his study also concluded that, lack of trust and lack of respect exists among the private security industry and the police, as the latter believes that the private security are ineffective in reducing crime and are only after profits. This position is further reinforced by works of Gresham, (2017) who alluded to the fact that the partnership is portrayed by strife and rivalry, the affiliation is described by opposition because of poor correspondence, mentalities, observations and methods. Therefore, this current study analyzed how the mistrust of the police officers over the private security officers, affects crime detection and prevention in Nairobi County.

Kaguru and Ombui (2014) in their conclusion on factors influencing performance of private security companies in Nairobi County, found that, G4S plus other private security companies operate within an industry with a missing regulation structure. They then recommended that, Kenya would create a private security regulations framework as it would affect the discharge of duties of the private security companies, and perhaps mend the security situations in Kenya in addition to the creation of more prospects for employment. This then implies that, part of the services given by private security companies could not be even with state concerns, thus formed a necessity for a research on the influence of private security firms on crime detection and prevention.

According to Murunga (2015) low pay and long hours are some of the reasons that make some private security guards to leave their employment. guarding. Also, the private security personnel choose to quit their jobs as a result of deficiency in career advancements, low salaries and absence of employment satisfaction, and the general poor job settings (Murunga, 2015). Therefore, it is a key field that needs vital consideration to progress the value of security guarding.

Best Practices adopted by the Private Security Companies in Crime Detection and Prevention

Andreou (2012) argued that, the collaboration amongst the national police and the private security at the national level, they participates in data sharing while at the neighborhood level takes the form of operational organizations. This is genuine in light of the fact that the data given at the national stage is conveyed to the nearby levels for the implementation. In addition, Anicent (2014) in her study states that, the provider's private security are at a more advantage than the state police agents in their access to intelligence on criminal activities as a result of their higher confidence by the public, their stationary positioning, besides their superior numbers in placement in comparison to the national police. The current study examined the advantage of having information and data about crime by the private security personnel and how influences crime detection and prevention.

Cote-Lussier (2013) noted that, there are numerous best practices that the private security companies engage in to control crimes within their particular designated zones. Such according to them include stationing their response personnel within the proximity of the areas of their operation. On the same premise Munneke (2012) further states that, organizations choose to engage burglary and fire alarm triggers with security companies that are close to them. That way, there is rapid correspondence to their headquarters each time there occurs a security concern. However, the two studies of Munneke (2012) and Cote-Lussier (2013) did not inform on the best practices of the proximity of private security industry to their customers on crime detection and prevention, which this study strived to engage.

Yuksel and Tepe, (2013) stated that, the private security agents regularly are requested to support in reacting to those small crises such as where a person is lost, lockouts or even stalled vehicles where their assistance is needed. Likewise, Armitage, (2015) noted that, the private security officers also document what happens in emergencies, and they support the state police with the initial account of the incidence. The studies, though, did not purpose at explaining the influence of Private security companies that is considered important in either enhancing or impairing crime detection and prevention.

Masood, et al (2014) in their research on the factors that affected worker's satisfaction of both the private and public industries in Pakistan, concluded that, there was a substantial association of job safety and security, working conditions, employees empowerments and trainings and development on worker fulfilment and work performance. And that, promotion and pay has no noteworthy relationship with work performance. But worker fulfilment holds a substantial negative relationship with mass departure intentions. Similarly, Mutonyi and Kavivya (2018) in their research in Kenya on incentives as factors of retaining work amongst the private security personnel found that, incentives were a determinant of private security guards' job retention. Some of the incentives included guards, Sacco loans, career growth, overdrafts and work security. Incentives, should therefore be a habit that is a part of an establishments' value to raise the level of work retention which will result in an institution's productivity (Mutonyi & Kavivya, 2018). This research therefore, embarked on finding out whether these factors of working conditions, employee empowerment and incentives as best practices, contribute to crime detection and prevention.

Guracha and Kiruthu (2019) in their study on the attitudes in the direction of subcontracting security on the service output in business-related state-owned firms concluded that, subcontracting the services of private security industry, had a substantial effect on security service delivery in Nairobi City County, Kenya. Particularly, the research established that, subcontracting of people guarding, cash protection, data security and property guarding, were having a positive and substantial consequence on security provision in Kenya. However, their studies did not inform on crime detection and prevention, therefore, the researcher set out to discover the impact of outsourcing security services on crime detection and prevention.

Theoretical Review

The study was based by situational crime prevention (SCP) theory. The theory was chosen as a suitable theoretical framework for examining and explaining the private security companies' phenomenon and crime detection and prevention, not only in Kenya but worldwide as well.

Situational crime prevention (SCP) is an attempt to crimes deterrence that according to Clarke (1995) strives to decrease prospects for some types of misconduct by heightening their related dangers and decreasing benefits. As a method of multiple phases, it is made on a theoretical context, where one looks to comprehend how, when and where misconduct instances happen. Grounded on examining of instances and dispersal by particular criminal crisis. SCP as an approach, hence recognizes danger elements, invents and undertakes suitable remedies, then assesses the outcomes. The SCP approach considerably differs from other criminological views, in the sense that, it endeavors to foresee crime behaviors by making focus on near roots of crimes in the surroundings where crime occurs instead of apprehending and reprimanding lawbreakers

(Clarke, 1997). Hence not intending to avert crimes by attending the referred to as the “root causes” of criminal transgressing for instance, social inequalities, but instead achieves by reducing criminal prospects. Situational crime prevention therefore seeks to modify surroundings that harbor criminal behaviors so as to render them not as much appropriate for offenders. Grounded on the examination of incidences and distributions of a certain criminal dilemma, the SCP method hence recognizes risk elements, formulating and implementing suitable answers, and evaluating the answers. That way, a person “susceptibility” to offenders, as personal analyses, turn out to be none consequential, as a way of deterrence.

Conceptual Framework of the Study

The conceptual figure comprises the independent variable, intervening variable and dependent variable as summarized in Figure 1:

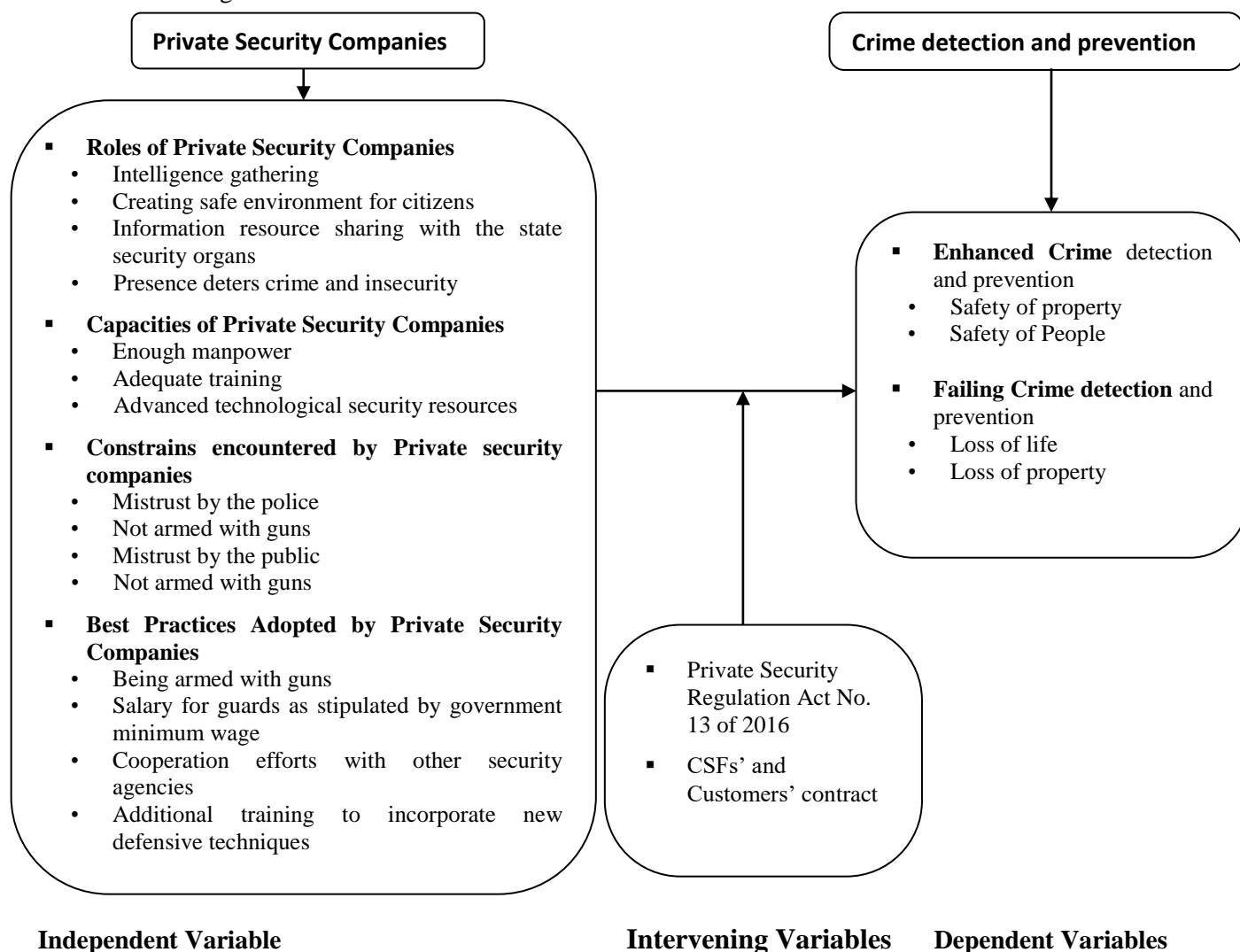


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework of the Study

The independent variables in the study were the roles of private security companies, capacities of private security companies, constraints encountered by private security companies and best practices adopted by private security companies. The dependent variables in the study were: Succeeding Crime detection and prevention and Failing Crime detection and prevention. The association of the independent variable and the dependent variable was established by integrating the intervening variables too.

METHODOLOGY

The research was guided by a case study descriptive survey design using mixed method approach in data collection to analyze private security companies and crime detection and prevention. This design was suitable as it gathered data systematically, described facts and also was able to identify their characteristics, regularities, inclinations and types of topics of interest. Nairobi County was the site of the study. It is one of Kenya's 47 counties, which were formed in 2013 following the division of Kenya's eight provinces into 47 counties. Private security firms in Nairobi are used by many global corporations and international organizations, and the results are assumed to be representative of other parts of Kenya because Nairobi has the most diverse experiences with private security companies at work.

The target population of the research comprised of 108 security companies in Nairobi County. The population involved the Private security industrial association, Kenya security industrial association and Protective & Safety Association of Kenya (PROSAK) and the four OCS's from various police stations, that is OCS Nairobi Central Police station, for Central business area and business community, OCS industrial area police station, for industrial area, OCS Kileleshwa Police Station, for residential areas and OCS Kasarani police station, for general public.

Stratified random sampling was used to come up with a sample size of 72 in the categories of PROSAK, PSIA and KSIA. One respondent was interviewed in each company. The study sampled 40% of the total respondents as Guest et al (2006) recommends 20% of an n compared to the general N. Since the number of OCS target was small and manageable, all (4) OCS were involved in the study. This contributed to 76 total number of samples targeted for this study. Stratified random sampling is an impartial sampling process of categorizing a diverse populace into a uniform subgroup thereafter having a choice within the particular subset to guarantee representation. Therefore, it aimed to attain a desired representation from numerous sub-groups of the population.

The study used questionnaires and one-on-one interviews. The questionnaires were dispensed utilizing both 'closed-ended' questions and the 'open-ended' questions. One-on-one interviews were undertaken on the sampled OCS's who represented the senior echelon of the police service. These interviews allowed for more inquiry to explain further and make clear on any responses from the respondents.

Validity of instruments was measured through counter validity. In order for the instrument to pass validity, the researcher worked with the supervisor who checked the instruments and made observations on whether the contents of the questionnaire measure the elements that they were supposed to measure.

This pilot study was undertaken in Nakuru County, on a purposively sampled 20 security professionals mostly security managers, and 2 OCS's: 11 males and 11 females who were not be participants of the research but having related features as the sample. The outcome from the pilot study helped the researcher in refining the study tools, by amending ambiguities, misconceptions and annoying language. It also helped to improve the validity and reliability. The pilot study also assisted to approximate the sufficient time for the interviews.

Primary data was gathered by the usage of questionnaires and interview guides. Each entry in the questionnaire was developed to tackle a specific objective of the research and showed how the data from every question was analyzed. The investigator being aided by two research assistants visited the sampled participants to dispense the questionnaires.

Qualitative data was analyzed using the themes that had come out, centering, pointing, probing and taking records of patterns. Then presenting an account of vital results below each key theme and categories, by the use of suitable verbatim speech marks to demonstrate those results. While quantitative data analysis used descriptive statistics like pie charts, mean, average and percentages. The researcher fed in information in an inferential statistics software especially ANOVA, to discover the impact of private security organizations and

crime detection and prevention. The data from both qualitative and quantitative analysis was triangulated to see the impact of private security companies and crime detection and prevention.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Role of Private Security Companies in Crime Detection and Prevention

The participants were asked to mark on their acceptance on aspects related roles of private security firms in crime detection and prevention. The findings were as shown in table 1 below.

Table 1: Roles of Private Security Companies in Crime Detection and Prevention

Roles	Frequency	Percent
Private security companies' information resource sharing with the state security organs	56	79
Private security companies' presence deters crime and insecurity	71	100
Creating safe environment for citizens	62	87
Intelligence gathering	34	48

As indicated on the table 1 above, a majority of respondents indicated that, the private security companies' presence deters crime and insecurity with 71 (100%) respondents indicating so whereas creating safe environment for citizens indicated with 62 (87%) respondents. Third was private security companies' information resource sharing with the state security organs with 56 (79%) respondents' indication. And last, was private security companies' intelligence gathering with a frequency of 34 respondents which is 48 percent of the total respondents. The same are discussed in the subsections below.

Presence that Deters Crime and Insecurity

Presence of private security that deter crime and insecurity was the most identified role of private security companies with all the 71 (100%) respondents acknowledging it helped in crime detection and prevention, thereby boosting security. This is an indication that in the presence of private security personnel and services, the people have a feeling of being secured from harm. A respondent explained...

"We can see private security guards and their gadgets in most areas. And most of the time, in such places, insecurity is not there. For, examples, the shoppers freely go about their businesses"

Their presence in engagements is very noticeable. By the words of another respondent...

"It is rare not to notice the private security personnel and their gadgets. Without difficulty, they are easy to identify. It is so comforting when they are visible"

It can be presumed that the presence of private security deters crime and insecurity for the citizens whether or not, they are paying to the private security companies or not. The presence of private security therefore, negatively affects unlawful activities which could bring harm and harm to individuals and their properties. This concurs with Gerasimoski (2013), who had stated that, when the private security are visible, it foils criminality and harm on people. This is in line with Noaks (2000), who had also argued that, patrolling in one British city was made of great significance to deter criminalities on the city's streets. This aspect consequently benefits the whole society despite the service and goods having been paid for by a few.

Creating Safe Environment for Citizens

The creation of safe environment for citizens was the second most identified role in crime detection and prevention with 62 (87%) respondents mentioning it. Since most of the public spaces like malls, restaurants and fields are equipped with electronic security systems, they assist in discouraging criminality, and assist to alert when harm is could be taking place. One of the police officer participants narrated...

“We have often responded to attempted break-ins during the night in industries. This not only has saved the lives of the guards on the premise but has helped to secure the properties of the owners”

A private security manager respondent described...

“Our alarm response teams have responded to sites and facilities that were in distress, and their presence only has been able to make our subscribers to secure their investments. They can always sleep well knowing that we are on the ground”

It is acknowledged that, private security response component that has been taken up by individual people and corporates, has been able to give alerts when there is a breach of security. On their own, security response measures would be limited on their role in crime detection and prevention. Nevertheless, they are integrated with other components like the police and alarm response teams, in order to thwart any breaches of security. The results support the wide-ranging hopes of crime detection and prevention. Blevins et al (2012), had earlier observed that, the Equipping of electronic security systems, discourages thwarts and deters robbery attempts on facilities hence giving a peace of mind to the owners of the facilities. Likewise, Grove et al (2012) in their study on the prevention of repeat victimization found out that, where there is a use of the private security services, there was a prevention repetitions of burglary. This role subsequently, enhances crime detection and prevention as the citizens feel safe as they go about their errands.

errands.

Information Resource Sharing with the State Security Organs

Information resource sharing with the state security organs was the third identified role of private security on crime detection and prevention. It was identified with 56 (79%) of the respondents. One of the managers of a private security firm explained...

“We get to have monthly meetings with the local police boss and his team, just to review our working relation and share information that we have come across or that are in our possession. Nonetheless in dire instances, text messages are sent out to the officers that we deal with, so that we can get assistance”

A manager of a private entity was in agreement that...

“Every week we undertake interactions, either formal or informal, where we just discuss official issues and personal things too. That bonding goes a long way building trust to be able to share information with our police officers”

Both respondents recognized the usefulness of information resource sharing with the state security organs. The meetings are more general, giving out information or a breakdown on the existing and expected security state of affairs in the surrounding. Whereas meetings might be general, others would be critical, with emergency-related information which includes directives and recommendation in real-time by the private security operators. Such information would be inclusive of demonstrations, significant road blockages and accidents, plus other emergency situations. In that way, crime detection and prevention can be achieved on the basis of the reliable information, thereby enhancing security and safety.

This agrees with the situational crime prevention (SCP) theory's premise that, misconduct could be detected and decreased by lowering chances of the offenders to undertake a wrongdoing (Clarke, 1997; Hirschi & Gottfredson, 1986). When the private security personnel are utilized as means of suitable data, the decrease of some kind of misconduct is achievable. This agrees with Taylor (2014) who had indicated that, private security personnel and equipment can be relied upon as security information that can be shared by the police for unraveling criminal cases or thwarting planned crimes. Using the data and report provided by the private

security officers, crime detection and prevention can be achieved and the people can go about their businesses without fear of harm.

Intelligence gathering

And last, was private security companies' intelligence gathering with a frequency of 34 respondents which is 48 percent of the respondents indicating it. Due to the observation nature of their occupation, the private security personnel are witnesses to numerous happenings in the surroundings. One of the managers of a security firm interviewed explained...

“Because we have the capacity on the ground, we are always knowledgeable on crime patterns and insecurity trends. This information are most of the time brought in by our security guards”

A senior police officer also had this to say...

“We have severally given alerts to the would be a victim of a robbery or burglary. We have also used the same information to be able to ensure security of those who would have been victims, and dealt strictly with the offenders”

From the responses, the theme of intelligence gathering is present. The private security guards when on their duties, are able to be tipped off by the public, their colleagues and even colleagues from different firms on types of unlawful happenings in the neighborhood. Also, by their attentiveness and observation, private security guards, would be aware of unusual goings-on. This is can be shared with the police agents, who utilize it for the deterrence crime. The private security industry is therefore, an additional set of ears and eyes on the neighborhood that listens, observes and reports on insecurity. And this helps to improve crime detection and prevention. This agrees with Montgomery and Griffiths (2015), who had stated that, the intelligence gathering by private security agents, improves security for people.

With the present type of unlawful behaviors where adversaries is undistinguishable, full tactical kitting and with assault rifles supremacy will not deter them. But with intelligence gathering on unlawful happenings, it will with time will guarantee enhanced crime detection and prevention for the people.

Capacity of Private Security Companies in Crime Detection and Prevention

The respondents were requested to indicate level of agreement on aspects related to capacity of private security companies in crime detection and prevention. The findings are shown in table 2.

Table 2: Capacity of Private Security Companies' in Crime Detection and Prevention

	Frequency	Percent
Numbers of manpower deployed at a facility is enough and adequate	68	96
The private security companies have more advanced technological security resources for curbing crime	37	52
The private security companies have trained their personnel adequately and well	56	79

From the results above, the participants strongly are in agreement that, numbers of manpower deployed at a facility is enough and adequate at 68 (96%) of the respondents. The private security companies have trained their personnel adequately and well was second, being indicated by 56 (79%) respondents. Lastly, the private security companies have more advanced technological security resources for curbing crime with 37 (52%) respondents. The same is discussed below by subheadings.

Numbers of Manpower Deployed at a Facility is Enough and Adequate

Numbers of manpower deployed at a facility is enough and adequate was the most identified capacity of private security on crime detection and prevention with 68 (96%) respondents acknowledging, that it helped in deterring criminality. The manpower are the physical security personnel that people encounter often in both

the private and public spaces where crime or insecurity can happen. They are the part of private security industry that is the most known because the public interact with them often. Their deployment makes them the “front office” of most organizations. One of those security managers interviewed alluded...

“Private security personnel are nearly in most space and they are mostly preferred by people whenever they require help, either to get directions or when in distress”

The numbers of deployed security guards, is demonstrated by their visibility so that the citizens feel their presence, as depicted in this excerpt ...

“The private security guards have an advantage over other security agencies as they are everywhere, and approachable”

As has been captured from the quotes, the manpower deployment of the private security guards, is utilized by the people to get assistance. This aids in the reduction opportunistic crimes on the individuals who might be lost, or those seeking assistance to be safe. Hence, the private security guards not only secure the spaces where they have been deployed, and likewise they unconsciously guarantee peoples’ protection.

This concurs with the theory of situational prevention of crime, which is premised on the fact that, misconduct can be decreased by the reduction of chances for wrongdoers to undertake an offense (Clarke, 1997; Hirschi & Gottfredson, 1986). When deployed adequately as agents of security, the reduction of opportunities for some type of crime can be executed. Consequently, other criminalities would by extension be stopped as the hazard carrier’s capability to initiate the harm is decreased. Also, Taylor (2014) had argued in his study that, the private security guards are trusted by the public due to their adequate placement which makes them accessible and available. Howie (2014) also had argued that, an adequate number of visible private security guards deployed would assist in the detection and prevention of crime. Therefore, their adequate deployment which makes them highly visible, counters fears of insecurity leading to freedom which is an important effect of crime detection and prevention security.

The Private Security Companies Have Trained Their Personnel Adequately and Well

The private security companies have trained their personnel adequately and well was second, being indicated by 56 (79%) respondents. The private security companies have been trained in various aspects that make them valuable in crime detection and prevention. Private security guards use their keen powers of observation to prevent criminal and harmful acts. A senior police officer respondent had this to say...

“I remember an incident when security guards due to their keenness, rescued a lady whose handbag was nearly snatched as she walked to where she had parked her car during the evening. Our officers later on escorted the lady to her car after being alerted by the guards”

The private security personnel have been trained to be able to conduct surveillance in their surroundings and investigate any suspicious incidents. This is an indicator that they have been trained adequately and well. The training of the security persons equips them with kind of ownership on the spaces they are deployed. The private security personnel, therefore, are involved in vital obligations of prevention and detection of probable crimes in the vicinity. This conclusion agrees with Adegboyega (2012) whose study showed that, owing to the guard’s alertness they are able in complementing the national state security agencies in security provision.

The private security officers have, also been trained adequately and well to vet guests. A security manager participant explained...

“We guard learning institutions where the flow of people is a lot. Therefore, our personnel have to be so much trained to vet the employees, students and other guests who are accessing our institution”

Visitors, students and staff have to be screened to guarantee that they are duly authorized to access the various learning facilities. The screening also involves frisking by use of handheld metal detectors at the entrances, in order to ensure that harmful substances or those that prohibited are not sneaked in. Adequate and accomplished training is utilized to ensure that the private security personnel of such facilities are able to undertake their responsibilities thoroughly and on many standing hours. It is therefore able to prevent and detection some crimes thereby helping to secure the safety of people and property.

The Private Security Companies Have More Advanced Technological Security Resources for Curbing Crime

Lastly, the private security companies have more advanced technological security resources for curbing crime with 37 (52%) respondents. Some of the advanced technological security resources include alarms and electronics such as the CCTVs, panic buttons, access controller systems and other electronic gadgets equipped for crime detection and prevention purposes. As per the utterance of a private security manager participant...

“Alarm and electronic we install assure our customers calmness of the mind. They become their eyes and ears when not on the premise. Our customers can stealthily monitor occurrences from the comforts of their homes or vehicle”

The awareness that the private security firms can provide the more advanced technological security resources for curbing crime, is an aspect contributing to intensified use of the alarms and electronic systems. As communicated from the narration, the advanced technological security resources utilization is influenced by the acceptance of protection that is linked to tranquility for the subscribers. And the same can only be procured from the private security agents. This agrees with Hearnden and Magill (2004) who argued that, the installation of more advanced technological security resources outside an establishment, reduces feelings of threats to the users.

And because the state security agencies are not into the business of trading in security items, the public has the perception that they are less equipped. A senior police officer respondent explained...

“Security for all citizens is our core business. Therefore, the intrigues of the provision is a state secret. Therefore, the public will also measure our equipment from some of our beat-up vehicles, and stations which are not equipped with the latest technologies”

From the narration, the officer seems to politely own up to the deficiencies that the police have in terms of the technologies and equipment. The same would be expected because the police service is not a revenue generating agency in comparison to the private security firms. The private security service firms have intensified in giving more advanced technological security resources for curbing crime alongside their core business of security guards as one bundle aimed to be a solution to crime detection and prevention. This was echoed by Kiama and Bor (2015), that, the private security alarm response service was perceived as more favorable in comparison to the police, due to their integration of their technologies that report breach of security in real time.

Also, the more advanced technological security resources by the private security companies fit into the situational crime prevention theory that recommends seeking to modify the surroundings that harbor criminal behaviors so as to render them not as much appropriate for offenders. Grounded on the examination of incidences and distributions of a certain criminal dilemma, the SCP method recognizes risk elements, formulating and implementing suitable answers, and evaluating the answers. And some of the answers would include, the installation of alarms and electronics include CCTV, alarm systems, access control systems and other electronic equipment installed for crime detection and prevention purposes.

Constraints Encountered by the Private Security Companies in Crime Detection and Prevention

The respondents were requested to indicate level of agreement on aspects related to indigenous cultural practices as impediments on police strategies on fight against cattle rustling. The findings are as shown in table 3.

Table 3: Constraints Encountered by the Private Security Companies

	Frequency	Percent
Mistrust by the public	33	46
Mistrust by the police	30	42
Private security officers are considered not adequately trained	17	24
Not armed with guns	17	24

Mistrust by the public was the most mentioned by 33 (46%) respondents. Mistrust by the police was second, being mentioned by 30 (42) respondents. Private security officers are considered not adequately trained and not armed with guns were tied at by 17 respondents, which is 24%. The same is discussed in the subheadings below.

Mistrust by the Public

Mistrust by the public was the most mentioned by 33 (46%) respondents. This is less than half the respondents. Hence it would mean that, most of the respondents felt that there was trust towards the private security personnel. Without trust, information seeking by the public which is the key role of service delivery will be hampered to a great level. As one security firm manager commented...

“The reason why the public relies on us for information, is because we have facts on the most unusual activities. Therefore, they can advise us accordingly”

From the responses, the theme of mistrust by the public was not receiving support. Private security guards are almost in all public and private places, offering various services to people in order to ensure that they are safe. The feeling of safety from danger and harm to the people is therefore pronounced. This can also be because, the private security firms encourages their personnel to be highly interactive with their customers so that they do not risk losing their customers and contracts to other firms. This contradicts, Martin (2015) in his study who had concluded that, lack of trust and lack of respect exists amongst the public and private security personnel as the public believes that the private security are ineffective in reducing crime and are only after securing their service and goods buying customers.

Mistrust by the police

Mistrust by the police was second, being mentioned by 30 (42%) respondents. This is less than half of the respondents. It would then insinuate that, the mistrust towards the private security by the police agents is not a strongly felt by the respondents. From the findings the respondents weakly agreed that private security officers feel the mistrust by the police. An OCS mentioned that...

“Yes, there are misunderstandings. But we consider the private security industry as an integral part of security providers who supplement our roles. Therefore, there is much respect between us”

A private security practitioner added that...

“There are occasions when we feel that the police are using our guards as scapegoats when undertaking investigations where our guards are deployed. But those are some of those few occasions which should not be allowed to spoil our cordial relation”

The state security agents' mistrust with the private security personnel stems from the fact that, the private security are always the first suspects when a security incident occurs where the private security guards are deployed. Not only is it because of the assumption that the security guards are the first suspects, but it is because that in any investigation the first suspect and who would be suspected accomplices, are those who are supposed to have ensured the safety of the assets. And when such standard investigation, misunderstandings arise which are then generalized as mistrust.

The private security personnel on their part feel that, that investigation by the police error when they incriminate their guards before completion of investigation. Such actions aggravate the created lack of trust between the two institutions who are partners in crime detection and prevention, and thereby undermining a collective effort to combat insecurity. The two views concur with Martin (2015) also stated that, mistrust and respect, all those mixtures exist between the police agents and private security industry as the former believes that the latter can be accomplices in crime and they are also effective in fighting crime.

Private security officers are considered not adequately trained

Private security officers are considered not adequately trained was with 17 respondents, which is 24%. The training for the private security officers is in days, and typically 5 – 14, while training for police officers is lasts in months and on average 9 – 18 months. A private security manager explained...

“The police see use as untrained and unprofessional because our training is so short. What they not realize is that, our is a basic training of induction and specialization comes in later”

The private security personnel have the perception that the police view them as short-lived and poorly trained. The private security industry encourages their personnel to be highly interactive with their customers so that they do not risk losing their customers and contracts to other firms.

A senior police officer explained...

“The private security guards are expected to be working for more than 12 hours in a day. How then is their training able to instill that zeal and discipline within those less training days?”

From the narratives, the result of the different trainings, instills significantly dissimilar security values and attitudes. The approach that either of the institutions intermingles with their customer base is strikingly dissimilar. With the police and other state security agencies, they get programmed to limitedly be involved with their clientele, mostly the people in their jurisdiction. Therefore, the national police officers, have a perception that there is lack of professionalism, when the private security personnel are extremely free with people.

When one or both of the two agencies that are supposed to protect people display, an obvious show of mistrust due to perceived different training, then partnership of enhancing crime detection and prevention is compromised. Stevens (2018) stated that the police have difficulties with the private security personnel because they feel that they are more well trained in safeguarding the citizens and their properties, hence the police should wholly do it.

Not armed with guns

Private security officers not armed with guns was also tied at 17 respondents, which is 24%. Offenders are becoming innovative by using sophisticated means of commit crimes. And one of the means includes the use of guns. A backup manager reasoned that...

“My crew are not equipped with guns, while it is needed that we intervene and deal with offenders armed with guns. This complicates our work so so much”

An alarms manager explained...

“Our teams are not equipped with firearms. Whereas in most occasions respond to instances where the offenders have firearms”

Another manager of a security firm restated...

“As our teams are not equipped with firearms, they have too been stolen from. They just surrendered and laid down”

Private security officers are challenged numerous dangers that presents themselves. Thus, the private security officers are mostly singled out by offenders who want to bring about some destruction if not undertake illegal activities. As the private security officers are not equipped with guns, this puts their lives in danger any moment they are out on deployment. Therefore, the private security officers confront much harm including confronting assailants armed with firearms.

The presence of unarmed security officers consequently does not discourage efforts of armed offenders. Definitely, potential offenders and other criminals will not be discouraged to violate venues where there are unarmed private security officers. And this aspect, reduces their ability to contribute positively to crime detection and prevention. In his study, Adegboyega (2012) had observed that not having firearms while encountering offenders who are armed with firearms, was a constrain confronted by the private security industry.

Best Practices for adoption by the Private Security Companies in Crime Detection and Prevention

The respondents were requested to indicate level of agreement on aspects related to best practices private security companies. The findings were as shown in table 4.

Table 4: Best Practices for adoption by the Private Security Companies

	Frequency	Percent
Cooperation efforts with other security agencies	68	96
Additional training to incorporate new defensive techniques	38	54
Being armed with guns	54	76
Salary for guards as stipulated by government minimum wage	63	89

From the findings the respondents strongly agreed that cooperation efforts with other security agencies represented 68 (96%) respondents followed by salary for guards as stipulated by government minimum wage represented by 63 (89%) respondents. Being armed with guns represented by 54 (76%) respondents was third. And fourth was, additional training to incorporate new defensive techniques represented by 38 (54%) respondents.

Cooperation efforts with other security agencies

From the findings the respondents strongly agreed that cooperation efforts with other security agencies was needed with a representation of 68 (96%) respondents. Despite their differences, private security firms and the other security agencies have a similar agenda which is fighting crime and enhancing security. A manager tasked in alarms response operations in his security company enlightened...

“Collaboration achievements begin when persons in both private security and other security organizations discover that efficiency and effectiveness can be harnessed as a result of the professional associations they made in their midst”

A senior police officer explained...

“The private security are our eyes and ears in most areas. We then often quickly respond when they request on us. The achievements from these cooperations trickles to crime prevention hence benefitting their customers and the general public”

The professional acquaintances formed through cooperation assist in security provision. Such networking attains advantages for exchanges of information and skills through social and official gatherings. The contacts can direct those knowledgeable in their respective security areas of expertise and may develop records of specialized skills, for example, a private alarms and electronics installer, a first aid instructor or a fire instructor. These results contradict with Choi, (2014) who had argued that, the private security personnel feel that the state security agents rarely cooperate with them when they need them. It also is in contrast with Martin (2015) in his study who had asserted that, lack of trust and lack of respect exists amongst the private security industry and state police with the police believing that the private security practitioners are ineffective in detecting and preventing crime.

Salary for guards as stipulated by government minimum wage

Second was salary for guards as stipulated by government minimum wage represented by 63 (89%) respondents. There is a feeling that, this would lead to acceptable duty provision to their clientele and more so improve roles like crime detection and prevention. One private security general manager respondent pointed out that...

“The improvement of our personnel salaries, can be an enhancer to their drive. Let the security guards know that they are in an appreciative working setting for them to work better, for example giving something more than the stipulated government minimum salary”

Another security manager advised that...

“Were our personnel to be given the minimum salaries as per to the government’s set requirement, it can be an enhancer to their working condition”

As per the responses, enhanced wages in the private security industry could influence the whole performance of the security personnel, as this would translate easy connection to their work setting. This then increases their work productivity thus translating to better crime detection and prevention. As Karacan (2011) had also stated that, even the smallest attempt to fulfill the physiological aspects of the working of the private security personnel, would contribute significantly to their perception of their duties and responsibilities.

The private security officers should be given salaries which are within the minimum government requirement and in sync with the country’s inflation rate, to safeguard the income that is being depended upon to make day to day running of the guard’s life including food, clothing and shelter. This can be reinforced by Victor Vroom’s Expectancy Theory which links effort, performance, and outcome. Therefore, an employee has the belief that the more the effort and better performance, the higher will be the reward. Similarly, Mutonyi and Kavivya (2018) in their study alluded to better salaries being a best practice that improves the input of the private security personnel thereby decreasing insecurity.

Being armed with guns

Being armed with guns represented by 54 (76%) respondents was third. The private security personnel can in some extent, boost the activities of the national security agencies in security provision if they were armed the same way the criminals are. That way, they are able to confront the offenders who are having firearms. A general manager had this to say...

“If the all can allow us to arm our guards so that they can be at par with criminals, it can really enhance security. This is because, incidents of armed offenders have risen”

An officer commanding station confirmed as follows...

“It is a dilemma as the police we are facing, as the private security crew have to respond to incidents where they encounter who have guns and they are shot at. So, you find us now

responding to two incidents involving the who would have been rescuers. We look forward to when the law would allow the private security practitioners to have firearms”

Security personnel who would be equipped with guns, would not be putting their lives in danger whenever they are working. This is because, all lives are as significant as for those being protected. Hence, any risks and injury that they might encounter would limit their input to enhancing safety. Due to their role of intervening whenever they observe criminality or illegal activities where it is their responsible to guard, exposes the private security personnel to danger’s path. It is then imperative for the, private security guards should be armed so that they confront most dangers that presents itself including challenging aggressors armed with firearms. The presence of armed private security guards therefore, would discourage attempts of armed criminals. Indeed, probable criminals will be deterred to intrude upon spaces where there are armed private security guards. And this would increase their ability to contribute positively to crime prevention. Adegboyega (2012) in his study had also echoed in his study on the evolution of security guards and their restrictions to security provision in Nigeria that, by being armed, the private security industry would to some level, reinforce the roles of the state police in security provision. And this this would drastically increase their capacities to effectively provide essential services to their customers (Adegboyega, 2012).

Additional Training to Incorporate New Defensive Techniques

And last was, additional training to incorporate new defensive techniques represented by 38 (54%) respondents. Private security companies provide a huge source of career development for those interested to pursue a career in security. Developmental principles therefore have consequences on the quality of security service delivery, including crime detection and prevention. A manager of a large private security company affirmed that...

“Our clientele are having a high expectation on the quality of their investment in terms of security. Consequently, the standards of our training are rigorous so that, from 30 candidates only around 20 succeed in qualifying for employment”

A manager of a small sized private security company said...

“A training school is advantaged for its capability to instill a firms’ culture into the candidates. Not forgetting the lifelong basic security development and training the candidates will receive. Thus, we understand our deficiency by lacking a good quality school”

The training and developmental of expertise for the private security personnel is an important factor for the success of deterring insecurity and criminality. The private security firms would be best placed if they initiated training to incorporate new defensive techniques on top of the basic induction training. This would offer some sorts of new defensive techniques for instance; fire response drills, first-aid, public relations, premises and establishment evacuating skills, and night duties induction. It would be expected that, the private security guards who have undergone adequate training incorporating new defensive techniques, would have abilities to be aware of probable dangers and innovate ways to defeat them. In their study, Jehanzeb and Beshir (2013) had indicated that, through training that incorporate new defensive techniques, private security guards can identify the risks and provide the appropriate ways to neutralize the dangers. Similarly, Julie and Vavariro (2015) had proposed that, training of private security personnel should articulate their powers and limitations when they are in the field, and therefore require to be frequently looked over and made up-to-dated in order to fulfil progresses and expansions.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study concluded that the roles of private security companies in crime detection and prevention as ranked by the study as, the private security companies' presence deters crime and insecurity, second as creating safe environment for citizens, third was private security companies' information resource sharing with the state security organs. And last, was private security companies' intelligence gathering. But these roles would be a multiplier to security if there was collaboration with other security agencies

The study also concluded by ranking, the private security companies' capacities for crime detection and prevention as the first one being, that numbers of manpower deployed at facilities are enough. Second was that, the private security companies have trained their personnel adequately. And lastly was, the private security companies have more advanced technological security resources for curbing crime. But with the integration of the manpower and technologies, the detection and prevention of crime would be more enhanced.

Further the study concludes that, the private security companies' encounter constraints with their capacity for crime detection and prevention. And the constrains being studied were ranked as follows, mistrust by the public was the most first. mistrust by the police came in at second. Then private security officers being considered not adequately trained and not armed with guns were tied at third place. But the constrains were considered by less than half of the respondents, therefore seemingly not being grave enough to interfere crime prevention and prevention.

And lastly the study concludes by ranking the four best practices by the private security companies that are supportive in crime detection and prevention as being, first, the cooperation efforts with other security agencies. Second was, salary for guards as stipulated by government minimum wage. The third being, armed with guns, and fourth was, additional training to incorporate new defensive techniques. If the four would be practiced consistently, then the enhancement of crime detection and prevention would be lifted.

As per the conclusions, the study makes the following recommendation:

- The benefits from the responsibilities of private security companies in crime detection and preventions can be reaped more if the security companies enhanced their cooperation with the police agencies. Therefore, there should be continued emphasis on both the formal and partnership.
- That the capacity of the private security companies in crime detection and prevention, can get a huge boost by their continued investment in both the equipment, manpower and training and development.
- The constraints encountered by the private security companies in crime detection and prevention, can be lessened if there was a continued partnership with other security stakeholders in the community and the county at large.
- If there are four best practices by the private security companies that are supportive in crime detection and prevention, it means that there are more. And if more are identified, they would go a long way in informing the security stakeholders on how to enhance security for the people and their property.

Further Research

Basing on the scope's and the findings of this research, the following recommendations for imminent studies were made as below:

- This researcher confined to the private security companies in Nairobi City, County. Extending it to extending it to other counties across the nation, would give a broad understanding of how the phenomena is in Kenya.
- A research on the evaluation of private security companies on crime detection and prevention from the perceptions of the consumers would be prudent. And it can include both the individual subscribers and corporate subscribers. The perception of such stakeholders would greatly improve the knowledge on private security industry.

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