

Implemented Crime Prevention Programs in Highly Urbanized City of Manila

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Abstract: *This study used the descriptive research design employing a self - made survey questionnaire distributed to 150 residents of the City of Manila and 50 Police Officers assigned in the City of Manila. The basic statistical treatment was used to interpret and analyze the data gathered. The study revealed that majority of the resident – respondents are from the age bracket of 31 - 35 years of age, male, with highest educational attainment of high school undergraduate, most of them are married and Roman Catholic, working as security guard, vendor, and driver with employment status of part - time and contractual and residing in the City of Manila for 34 – 36 years and 37 – 39 years. However, the police officer – respondents are majority from the age bracket of 36 – 40 years of age, they are mostly male, married, Roman Catholic, and with highest educational attainment of college graduate. Majority of the Police Officer – respondents are Non - Commission Officer and mostly assigned in the City of Manila for 4 – 6 years and 19 – 21 years. The study also revealed that there are implemented crime prevention programs in highly urbanized City of Manila.*

Keywords: Crime Prevention Programs, Highly Urbanized City, Philippine National Police

1. Introduction

The socioeconomic process by which cities grow and their societies become urban is known as urbanization. However, fast urbanization has additional consequences, with crime being one among them. Of course, an early observer of city life saw immigrants from rural areas with secure family traditions becoming involved in drinking, robbery, child abuse, and prostitution. It was suggested that living in a huge city caused social disorganization – broken families and broken lives – which in turn led to a slew of urban issues (Soh, 2012).

Crime and the city size have a significant relationship. Malik (2016) cited Wirth (1938) as he analyzed the apparent link between crime and urbanization and claims that this link is proof for his notion of “urbanism as a way of life.” According to Wirth (1964) cited by Malik (2016), special urban characteristics such as size, density, heterogeneity, and impersonality are responsible for a mode of living that generates more crime.

According to the Philippine Statistics Authority, the level of urbanization, or the percentage of the people dwelling in urban areas, in the Philippines was 51.2 percent in 2015. This means that a total of 51.73 million people lived in urban barangays. There were 7, 437 urban barangays and 34, 599 rural barangays. The level of urbanization in 2010 was only 45.3 percent. Based on the 2020 Rankings of Highly Urbanized Cities in the Philippines, Manila City ranked first with 65.9782 score (<https://cmci.dti.gov.ph/rankings-data.php?unit=Highly%20Urbanized%20Cities>).

Uncontrolled migration has led to the proliferation of slums, squatter areas, and sidewalk shops. It is believed that 5.48 million, or 61.2 percent of Metro Manila's eight million people, are squatters. The urban poor also face high living costs, financial challenges, precarious work, a lack of money, restricted educational options, poor health and sanitation, and a housing shortage. As a result, national and

local government planners and implementers must meet rising demand for urban amenities like as public transit, waste collection, piped water, electricity, schools, and health care facilities (NAPOLCOM Commissioner).

Crime prevention has been marked at the international level by the development and adoption of standards for crime prevention which are an essential component for encouraging and guiding the development and implantation of good policy and practice (UNODC, 2002).

The adoption of the United Nations Guidelines for Crime Prevention in 2002 aided in encouraging innovation and excellent practice in a number of towns and communities. However, crime and insecurity remain key concerns for their cities and countries, as does the ongoing search for a better balance between police, judicial, and correctional systems action in the criminal justice arena and well - planned preventative programs (UNODC, 2002).

According to Soh (2012), one of the measures highlighted in the GTP Roadmap for reducing crime is the employment of stakeouts for motorbike and auto theft and residential break - ins. Stakeouts have proven to be effective, particularly in the United Kingdom, where 57 percent of police agencies use the same techniques to prevent motor vehicle theft. The government will also increase property security features to protect it from crime, and a specific lock known as U - locks (a technology from Japan) for motorcycles will be introduced. Encourage proportional insurance premiums, eliminate illegal workers, and increase the availability and use of mobile access devices while making it compatible with the PDRM and JPJ systems have all been worked on.

Similarly, Soh (2012) stated that street crime is a serious concern in Malaysia, particularly in urban areas. Kuala Lumpur, Johor, Selangor, and Penang (the four states with the most urban population in the country) account for almost 70% of the country's street crime statistics. As a result, the government plans to increase police presence, improve

CCTV facilities in high - traffic areas, establish courts for street crime and community sentences to deter reoffending, establish partnerships at the local level to reduce street crime, improve in - prison rehabilitation programs, and implement post - release resettlement programs (Soh, 2012).

The Philippine National Police (PNP) is making every effort to reduce the incidence of street crimes such as robbery, hold - ups, and theft, particularly in Metro Manila and other densely populated areas, through increased police visibility and patrols, community vigilance activities, and increased community relations activities. The Police presence on the ground was intensified through the implementation of the Community - Oriented Policing System (COPS) (Sanidad - Leones, n. d.). Based on the study conducted by Mojica et al., (2017), in 2010, the reported murder in Metro Manila were higher in cities of Malabon, Manila, Navotas, and Pasay. Most of the cities observed to have high murder incidences are located alongside of the coast of Manila Bay.

Essentially, *Patrulya ng Pulis* directed all PNP Units to deploy uniformed troops assigned to administrative functions to execute limited beat patrol tasks. In addition, *OplanLambat - Sibab*. Under the "whole of PNP" approach, it employs both broad dragnet and intel - targeted operations to apprehend small - time criminals and repeat offenders (Eusebio, 2018). Furthermore, the Philippine National Police Highway Patrol Group (PNP - HPGOplan:) 's *Lambat - BitagSasakyan* is making progress in its attempts to track down stolen or unregistered cars and motorcycles while simultaneously promoting road safety and discipline by strictly enforcing the Land Transportation Code (Eusebio, 2018). Finally, *OplanTokhang* is a national law enforcement initiative that has been implemented across the country. TOKHANG is a Visayan word that means "to approach and chat. " This was launched as part of a campaign to inform drug traffickers and users about the dangers of drug usage (Eusebio, 2018).

With this, the researcher would like to determine the implemented crime prevention programs in highly urbanized city of Manila, Philippines.

Objectives of the Study

Based on the existing literatures and results of previous studies there are different studies about the crimes. But there is a dearth of study about the crime prevention programs implemented in the City of Manila. With this, the researcher would like to:

- 1) Determine the demographic profiles of the respondents in terms of age, sex, civil status, highest educational attainment, religion, occupation, employment status, and years of residency in the City of Manila; and
- 2) Determine the implementation of the crime prevention programs in highly urbanized City of Manila.

2. Methodology

This part discussed the research design, respondents and sampling technique, research instrument, and limitation of the study.

Research Design

The descriptive research design was used employing a self - made survey questionnaire to determine the crime prevention programs implemented in highly urbanized city of Manila.

Respondents and Sampling Technique

The respondents are the residents and police officers in the city of Manila. The residents are chosen because they are the one who mostly observed the crime prevention programs implemented in the city of Manila. While, the police officers are chosen because they are the implementors of the crime prevention programs. With these, self - survey from the police officers alone can be lessened and it can be compared to the responses of the resident - respondents of this study. The 150 resident – respondents of the city of Manila are selected randomly and the 50 police officer – respondents are selected purposively. The researcher set a fixed - criteria for the police officer - respondents: first, the police officer must be assigned in the city of Manila for more the three (3) years; second, he/she must be one of the implementors of the crime prevention programs; and third, he/she must be willing to take part on this study.

Research Instrument

The structured self - made survey questionnaire is formulated based on the existing literatures and results of previous studies. It is composed of two parts: the first part is about the profiles of the resident and police officer – respondents; and the second part is about the crime prevention programs implemented in the city of Manila. The five - point likert scale was used to guide the respondents in answering the survey questionnaire: *highly implemented, moderately implemented, implemented, sometimes implemented, and not implemented.*

The structured self - made survey questionnaire was programmed in the google form by the ICT expert and the link was shared to the target respondents. After, 1 month, the data gathering was done. The descriptive statistics were used such as frequency, percentage, and weighted mean to interpret and analyze the data gathered.

Limitation of the Study

This study has certain limitation that is the only basis of this study is the data from the responses of the 150 resident and 50 police officer – respondents based on the structured self - made survey questionnaire.

3. Results and Discussion

Table I: Profiles of the resident and PNP - respondents

Resident – Respondents				PNP – Respondents			
Age	F	%	Rank	Age	f	%	Rank
21 – 25 years of age	43	28.67	2	21 – 25 years of age	6	12	5
26 – 30 years of age	26	17.33	3	26 – 30 years of age	10	20	2.5
31 – 35 years of age	51	34	1	31 – 35 years of age	10	20	2.5
36 – 40 years of age	15	10	4	36 – 40 years of age	12	24	1
41 – 45 years of age	10	6.67	5	41 – 45 years of age	10	20	2.5
46 – 50 years of age	5	3.33	6	46 – 50 years of age	2	4	6
51 – 55 years of age	0	0	7.5	51 – 55 years of age	0	0	7.5
56 – 60 years of age	0	0	7.5	56 – 60 years of age	0	0	7.5
Total	150	100		Total	50	100	
Sex	F	%	R	Sex	f	%	R
Male	112	74.67	1	Male	35	70	1
Female	38	25.33	2	Female	15	30	2
Total	150	100		Total	50	100	
Highest Educational Attainment	F	%	R	Highest Educational Attainment	f	%	R
High School Undergraduate	68	45.33	1	College Graduate	32	64	1
High School Graduate	63	42	2	Master’s with Units	6	12	2.5
College Undergraduate	9	6	4	Master’s Graduate	6	12	2.5
College Graduate	10	6.67	5	PhD with Units	4	8	4
Master’s with Units	0	0	6.5	PhD Graduate	2	4	5
Master’s Graduate	0	0	6.5	Total	50	100	
Total	150	100					
Civil Status	F	%	R	Civil Status	f	%	R
Single	23	15.33	2	Single	18	36	2
Married	108	72	1	Married	29	58	1
Widow/Widower	12	8	4	Widow/Widower	1	2	4
Separated/Solo Parents	7	4.67	3	Separated/Solo Parents	2	4	3
Total	150	100		Total	50	100	
Religion	F	%	R	Religion	f	%	R
Roman Catholic	102	68	1	Roman Catholic	41	82	1
Baptist	8	5.33	3	Baptist	1	2	4.5
Iglesiani Cristo	31	20.67	2	Iglesiani Cristo	5	10	2
Jehovah’s Witness	4	2.67	4	Jehovah’s Witness	2	4	3
Adventist	5	3.33	5	Adventist	1	2	4.5
Specify, if not listed	0	0	6	Specify, if not listed	0	0	6
Total	150	100		Total	50	100	
Occupation	F	%	R	Rank	f	%	R
Teacher	17	11.33	4	Non - Commission Officer	35	70	1
Vendor	34	22.67	2	Commission Officer			
Businessman/woman	16	10.67	5	Total	15	30	2
Driver	28	18.67	3		50	100	
Manager	4	2.67	7				
Security Guard	41	27.33	1				
Specify, if not listed	10	6.67	6				
Total	150	100					
Employment Status	F	%	R				
Regular	37	24.67	3				
Contractual	43	28.67	2				
Part - Time	50	33.33	1				
Specify, if not listed	20	13.33	4				
Total	150	100					
Years of Residency in the City of Manila	F	%	R	Years of Residency in the City of Manila	f	%	R
1 - 3 years	5	3.33	13	1 - 3 years	0	0	10
4 - 6 years	12	8	5.5	4 - 6 years	10	18.52	1.5
7 - 9 years	8	5.33	9	7 - 9 years	4	7.41	8
10 - 12 years	15	10	4	10 - 12 years	6	11.11	4
13 - 15 years	3	2	14	13 - 15 years	2	3.70	9
16 - 18 years	12	8	5.5	16 - 18 years	5	9.26	5.5
19 - 21 years	5	3.33	11.5	19 - 21 years	10	18.52	1.5
22 - 24 years	10	6.67	8	22 - 24 years	7	12.96	3
25 - 27 years	7	4.67	10	25 - 27 years	5	9.26	5.5
28 - 30 years	12	8	5.5	28 - 30 years	5	9.26	5.5
31 - 33 years	16	10.67	3	Total	50	100	
34 - 36 years	22	14.67	1				
37 - 39 years	18	12	2				
40 - 42 years	5	3.33	11.5				
Total	150	100					

Table I shows the profiles of the resident and PNP – respondents. The data shows that majority of the resident – respondents are belonging from the age bracket of 31 – 35 years of age with a frequency of 51 (34%) followed by the age bracket of 21 – 25 years of age with a frequency of 43 (28.67%). There are no respondents from the age bracket of 51 - 55 years of age and 56 – 60 years of age.

With regards to the sex of the resident – respondents. The majority of the resident – respondents are *male* with a frequency of 112 (74.67%) and the least of the resident - respondents are *female* with a frequency of 38 (25.33%). It indicates that majority of the respondents are male.

With regards to the highest educational attainment of the resident – respondents. The majority are *high school undergraduate* with a frequency of 68 (45.33%) followed by the *high school graduate* with a frequency of 63 (42%). However, there was *no masters with units* and *master's graduate* resident – respondents. It indicates that majority of the respondents are high school undergraduate.

With regards to the civil status of the resident – respondents. The majority of the respondents are *married* with a frequency of 108 (72%) followed by *single* with a frequency of 23 (15.33%). The least of the respondents are *separated/solo parents* and *widow/widower* with a frequency of 7 (4.67%) and 12 (8%), respectively. It indicates that most of the respondents are married.

With regards to the religion of the resident - respondents. The majority of the respondents are *Roman Catholic* with a frequency of 102 (68%) followed by *Iglesiani Cristo* with a frequency of 31 (20.67%) However, the least of the respondents are *Jehova's Witness* and *Adventist* with a frequency of 4 (2.67%) and 5 (3.33%), respectively. It indicates that majority of the respondents are roman catholic. That the City of Manila is still dominated by the roman catholic.

With regards to the occupation of the resident – respondents. The majority of the respondents are *security guard*, *vendor*, and *driver* with a frequency of 41 (27.33%), 34 (22.67%), and 28 (18.67%), respectively. However, the least of the resident – respondents are *manager*, and responded *specify, not listed*. e. MMDA personnel with a frequency of 4 (2.67%) and 10 (6.67%), respectively. It indicates that majority of the resident - respondents are security guard, vendor, and driver.

With regards to the employment status of the resident – respondents. The majority of the respondents are *part - time* and *contractual* with a frequency of 50 (33.33%) and 43 (28.67%), respectively. However, the least of the respondents are did not specify their employment status with a frequency of 20 (13.33%). It indicates that majority of the resident – respondents are part - time and contractual. This employment status is expected for the individual who are working as security guard, vendor and driver.

With regards to the years of residency in the City of Manila of the resident – respondents. The majority of the respondents are residing in the City of Manila for 34 – 36

years, 37 – 39 years, and 31 – 33 years with a frequency of 22 (14.67%), 18 (12%), and 16 (10.67%), respectively. However, the least are residents of the city of Manila for 13 – 15 years and 1 – 3 years. It indicates that majority of the resident – respondents are naturally born in the City of Manila. They are not considered migrated from other provinces outside the City of Manila, Philippines.

However, with regards to the age of the PNP - respondents. The majority of the respondents are belonging from the age bracket of 36 – 40 years of age with a frequency of 12 (24%) followed by the age bracket of 31 – 35 years of age and 41 – 45 years of age both have a frequency of 10 (20%). However, the least of the respondents are from the age bracket of 46 – 50 years of age with a frequency of 2 (4%). It indicates that majority of the police officer – respondents are from the age bracket of 36 – 40 years of age, and the least are belonging from the age bracket of 46 – 50 years of age.

With regards to the sex of the PNP - respondents. The majority of the respondents are *male* with a frequency of 35 (70%) and *female* respondents have a frequency of 15 (30%). It indicates that Philippine National Police is still dominated by the male population.

With regards to the highest educational attainment of the PNP - respondents. The majority of the respondents are *college graduate* with a frequency of 32 (64%) followed by *with Masters units* and *Masters graduate* both have a frequency of 6 (12%). However, least of the respondents are *PhD graduate* with a frequency of 2 (4%). It indicates from the data that there are police officers who study for graduate school and most have no intention to upgrade their status academically. They stick with the minimum educational qualifications of the applicant for the Philippine National Police and that is any four - year baccalaureate degree.

With regards to the civil status of the PNP - respondents. The majority of the respondents are *married* with a frequency of 29 (58%) followed by *single* with a frequency of 18 (36%). However, the least of the respondents are *widow/widower*, and *separated/solo parents* with a frequency of 1 (2%) and 2 (4%), respectively.

With regards to the religion of the PNP - respondents. The majority of the respondents are *Roman Catholic* with a frequency of 41 (82%). The least of the respondents are *Baptist* and *Adventist* both have a frequency of 1 (2%). It indicates that the Philippine National Police organization is dominated by the Roman Catholic.

With regards to the rank of the PNP - respondents. The majority of the respondents are *Non - Commission Officer* with a frequency of 35 (70%) and the *Commission Officer* have the frequency of 15 (30%). It indicates that majority of the PNP - respondents are Non – Commission Officer these are from Patrolman/Patrolwoman up to Police Executive Master Sergeant. However, the Commission Officer are from Police Lieutenant up to Police General.

With regards to years of residency in the city of Manila of the resident - respondents. The majority of the respondents

are resident of the City of Manila for 4 – 6 years and 19 – 21 years both have a frequency of 10 (18.52%). However, the least of the respondents are residents of the City of Manila for 13 – 15 years and 7 – 9 years with a frequency of 2

(3.70%) and 4 (7.41%), respectively. It indicates that majority of the PNP – respondents are residents of the City of Manila for 4 – 6 years and 19 – 21 years.

Table II: Level of implemented crime prevention programs in highly urbanized City of Manila

Implemented crime prevention programs in highly urbanized city of Manila...	Resident - Respondents			PNP – Residents		
	M	VI	R	M	VI	R
1. Regular dialogue and coordination with the barangays officials, force multipliers and different companies are conducted.	4.09	MI	10	4.48	HI	10.5
2. Mobile and foot patrolling are conducted regularly.	4.18	MI	8	4.76	HI	5.5
3. CCTVs are effectively supervised and monitored by police personnel and other private persons.	4.01	MI	11	4.08	MI	13
4. Seminars on crime prevention tips are conducted in the different barangays in the community and participated by the private individuals.	4.39	HI	6	4.48	HI	10.5
5. OplanBakal Sita is being conducted regularly where checkpoint is conducted.	4.52	HI	3	4.1	MI	12
6. Curfew hour and liquor ban are strictly implemented regularly.	4.64	HI	1	4.78	HI	4
7. Establishment of Police Assistance Desk in Economic Key Points/Vital Installations	4.46	HI	4	4.84	HI	2
8. Coordination with Security Agencies/Private Security Providers	4.3	HI	7	4.7	HI	8
9. Development of Security Awareness (Conduct of “Pulong - pulong” and crime awareness campaign)	4.41	HI	5	4.76	HI	5.5
10. Stakeholders Coordination/Establishment of Community - Based Support	4.17	MI	9	4.56	HI	9
11. Bombing/Emergency Simulation Drills/Exercises	3.59	MI	13	4.76	HI	5.5
12. Simulated Evacuation of Casualties Drills/Exercises	3.91	MI	12	4.9	HI	1
13. Police Station Defense Plan Drills/Exercises	4.63	HI	2	4.8	HI	3
General Weighted Mean	4.25	HI		4.62	HI	

Legend:

Highly Implemented (HI) – 4.21 – 5.00 Sometimes Implemented (SI) – 1.81 – 2.60

Moderately Implemented (MI) – 3.41 – 4.20 Not Implemented (NI) – 1.00 – 1.80

Implemented (I) – 2.61 – 3.40

Table II shows the level of implemented crime prevention programs in highly urbanized City of Manila.

The data shows based on the responses of the resident – respondents that items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 14, seminars on crime prevention tips are conducted in the different barangays in the community and participated by the private individuals, OplanBakal Sita is being conducted regularly, curfew hour and liquor ban are strictly implemented regularly, establishment of Police Assistance Desk in Economic Key Points/Vital Installations, coordination with security agencies/private security providers, development of Security Awareness (conduct of “pulong - pulong and crime awareness campaign”, and police station defense plan drills/exercises, obtained the highest means of 4.39, 4.52, 4.64, 4.46, 4.3, 4.41, and 4.63, respectively, with a verbal interpretation of Highly Implemented. It indicates that seminars about the crime prevention tips conducted by the Philippine National Police to the different barangays in the community are participated by the private individuals. Likewise, the OplanBakal Sita and strict implementation of curfew hour and liquor ban are implemented regularly in Manila City. The data also shown that the security and private security providers have established coordination with the Philippine National Police to ensure the peace and order in the premises.

Likewise, the data shows based on the responses of the resident - respondents that items 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, and 12, regular dialogue and coordination with the barangay officials, force multipliers and different companies are conducted, mobile and foot patrolling are conducted regularly, CCTVs are effectively supervised and monitored

by police personnel and other private persons, stakeholders coordination/establishment of community - based support, bombing/emergency simulation drills/exercises, and simulated evacuation of casualties drills/exercises, obtained the least means of 4.09, 4.18, 4.01, 4.17, 3.59, and 3.91, respectively, with a verbal interpretation of Moderately Implemented. It indicates that the Philippine National Police have moderately implemented the conduct of regular dialogue and coordination with the barangay officials, force multipliers and different companies. Likewise, moderate implementation of the regular conduct of mobile and foot patrolling, and CCTVs are effectively supervised and monitored by police personnel and other private persons. Further, the simulation drills/exercises and simulated evacuation of casualties’ drills/exercises are moderately implemented based on the responses of the resident - respondents.

However, the data shows based on the responses of the police officer – respondents that items 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, regular dialogue and coordination with the barangays officials, force multipliers and different companies are conducted, mobile and foot patrolling are conducted regularly, seminars on crime prevention tips are conducted in the different barangays in the community and participated by the private individuals, curfew hour and liquor ban are strictly implemented regularly, establishment of Police Assistance Desk in Economic Key Points/Vital Installations, coordination with Security Agencies/Private Security Providers, development of Security Awareness (Conduct of “Pulong - pulong” and crime awareness campaign), stakeholders Coordination/Establishment of Community - Based Support, bombing/Emergency

Simulation Drills/Exercises, simulated Evacuation of Casualties Drills/Exercises, and police Station Defense Plan Drills/Exercises, obtained the highest weighted means of 4.48, 4.76, 4.48, 4.78, 4.84, 4.7, 4.76, 4.56, 4.76, 4.9, and 4.8, respectively, with a verbal interpretation of *Highly Implemented*. It indicates that all crime prevention programs implemented in the highly urbanized city of Manila are highly implemented, except the items 3 and 5, *CCTVs are effectively supervised and monitored by police personnel and other private persons*, and *OplanBakal Sita is being conducted regularly*, obtained a weighted means of 4.08 and 4.1, respectively, with a verbal interpretation of *Moderately Implemented*. It indicates that CCTVs must be effectively supervised and monitored by the LGUs instead of the police personnel. Since, the CCTVs are installed in the barangay hall. Likewise, *OplanBakal Sita* can be conducted too by the LGU i. e., force multiplier, barangay police and barangay tanod with full coordination and cooperation of the Philippine National Police.

In general, the resident and police officer – respondents have a general weighted mean of 4.44, with a verbal interpretation of *Highly Implemented*. It indicates that the crime prevention programs in highly urbanized city of Manila are highly implemented.

4. Conclusion and Recommendations

The implemented crime prevention programs in highly urbanized city of Manila are highly implemented. This implementation must be maintained continuously to prevent future occurrence of crimes in the City of Manila. Likewise, there are some crime prevention programs that needs to improve its implementation like the effective supervision of CCTV's, and OplanBakal Sita to be conducted regularly.

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