



THE ISSUE

A PUBLICATION FROM THE NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE (NCRC)



NCRC COMMENCE PLANS FOR NATIONAL STATE OF CRIME CONFERENCE

Written By Nancy Naburuki- Corporate Affairs

National Crime Research Centre has commenced plans to host its first-ever National State of Crime Conference. The one-day conference which has been scheduled to take place on March, 10th 2021 targeting state and non-state actors involved in crime and violence prevention has its theme as **"Tackling the dangerous drift towards crime and violence in Kenya."**

The Conference comes in play at a time where changes in the levels and dynamics of crime and violence are being witnessed in the country. This brought in the need for a well-coordinated and targeted intervention by all stakeholders within the broad framework of public-community-private partnership.

Speaking to the Issue, Mr. Stephen Muteti, Chairperson of the committee spearheading the planning of the conference, mentioned that the conference will seek to create a dialogue amongst key players within the criminal justice system towards addressing the seemingly dangerous shift in crime and violence in the country.

The conference will narrow down its theme to sub-themes addressing Family and Violence, Intimate and Partner Violence (Protecting the Kenyan Family in the Context of COVID-19), Governance and Leadership, Countering Terrorism and Election Crimes and Offences.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to observe government guidelines to mitigate against the spread of the novel virus, the conference will adopt a hybrid model where select participants will attend in-person and other invited stakeholders will follow and participate in the conference proceedings online.



Sub-themes for the Conference

1. Family and Violence (Intimate and Partner Violence and Protecting the Kenyan Family in the context of COVID-19)
2. Governance and Leadership (Fight against Corruption)
3. Countering Terrorism
4. Election Crimes and Offences (Pre, during and post-election period)

SHADOW PANDEMIC: COVID-19 AND ITS IMPACT ON THE FAMILY

Written by Nancy Naburuki- Corporate Affairs

At sixteen, Juliet would have probably been in boarding school attending her form 2 classes but instead, she is at home following the mass closure of learning institutions as a measure in battling the novel Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Her presence at home coincided with state-imposed travel restrictions and a dusk to dawn curfew which had been introduced to curb the spread of Covid-19.

These public health measures aimed at flattening the pandemic's curve had unwittingly created extra opportunities for interaction between potential perpetrators of gender-based violence and their victims. Human Rights Watch gave her story, a story of a 16-year-old kidnapped and sexually assaulted for 4 days by a man who said he "needed female company to get through the COVID-19 lockdown.

Closure of schools has led to children being idle at home and is likely to have increased their exposure to sexual and physical violence. What is more, as a woman, there was a 70 percent chance that she would be a victim. The National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) established a steep rise in crime that disproportionately affected women and children where 71 percent of the 2,416 cases reported between January and June 2020 were directed to women.

Juliet was just one of the stated 1,716 women who faced rape assault and murder as gender-related crime spiked during coronavirus lockdown according to the National Crime Research Centre. Even prior to COVID-19, Kenya was already experiencing high levels of gender-based violence, and in particular, intimate partner violence. The Kenya Demographic and Health Survey in 2014 found that around 4 out of 10 women in Kenya experienced physical or sexual violence at the hands of a spouse or intimate partner, a crime that has sadly been tolerated and normalized over years.

It was further established that young males between 18 and 33 years old were more likely to kill, maim or assault female family members or their intimate partners. The survey conducted under the directive of President Uhuru Kenyatta to map out gender-based violence on Covid-19 shows a continued trend of rising cases against women and children in society. The findings show the total number of cases of violations of children's rights rise from 51,991 in 2017 to 158,933 in 2019 representing a 205.6 percent increase within a period of three years.

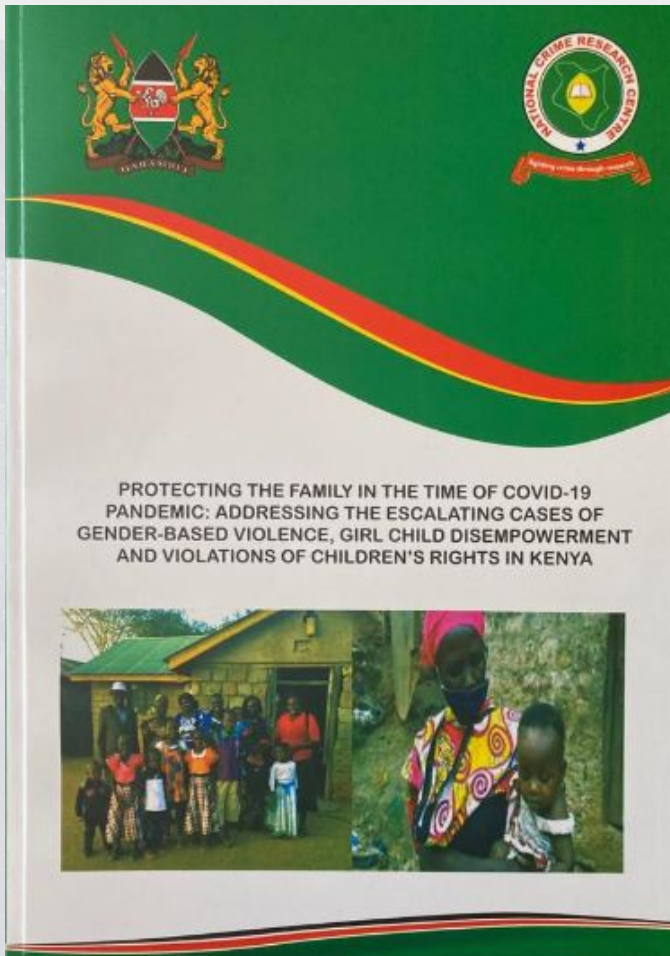
It underscores years of work at crime research which has been able to reveal the main perpetrators of violations of children's rights and girl child disempowerment as immediate family members and extended family members. These are followed by outsiders such as schoolmates, neighbors, boy/girlfriends. Others are Female Genital Mutilation practitioners, the person in authority (e.g. some chiefs, some police officers), some teachers, some doctors and nurses, other children, house help/caregivers, sections of Boda Boda operators, some matatu touts and operators and estate caretakers.

The situation only got worse under Covid-19 as a result of an increase in alcohol, drug, and substance abuse, as well as idleness created by the 'stay at home' orders, economic desperation due to loss of economic opportunities as a result of the pandemic and limited access to outside support as a result of restricted movement.

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THERE IS A LIKELIHOOD OF POST-COVID-19 PERIOD CONFOUNDING THE FORMS OF FAMILY-BASED CRIMES AND VIOLATIONS IN THE COUNTRY BECAUSE OF THE UNCERTAINTIES AND UNPREDICTABILITY OF THE PANDEMIC.

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The report further confirmed the escalating trend of violations of children's rights including girl child disempowerment. It pointed to a likelihood of increased teenage pregnancy, school drop-out, and juvenile delinquency. "There is a likelihood of post-COVID-19 period confounding the forms of family-based crimes and violations in the country because of the uncertainties and unpredictability of the pandemic," the report mentioned.

It was not long before the economic strain manifested when in June 2020, a female teacher in Naivasha, Kenya, who was financially challenged partly as a result of COVID-19 killed her four children aged between 2 and 7 years saying she was ready to go to jail for her actions.

Something needed to be done.

During President Uhuru Kenyatta's 9th state address on June 6th 2020, he raised concern over the increasing tensions within homes.

He noted that cases of Gender-Based Violence had increased, mental health issues had worsened, and instances of teenage pregnancy had escalated.

"I appeal to social institutions, including the religious institutions, to exercise civic responsibility to bring these unfortunate trends to an end. We must always remember that the family is a projection of the State. If the family is under attack, the State is under attack. If the family is weak, the country is weak," President Kenyatta said.

The initiative calls on all stakeholders in the national and county governments, schools, and local leaders to rally against the normalization of violence in the family and violence against women and children with a special focus being on persistent retrogressive/harmful cultural and traditional practices such as female genital mutilation (FGM), early/forced child marriages, wife battery and wife inheritance which demean and disempower girls and women in Kenya.

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**"NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE
NOW RECOMMENDS THAT REFORMS
SHOULD BE SPEARHEADED FROM THE
TOPMOST OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT TO
LEAD THE COUNTRY ON A NATIONAL
AGENDA AND CAMPAIGN TO
'RECLAIM THE KENYAN FAMILY'**

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WHAT DO YOU IMAGINE FOR YOUR RETIREMENT

Written By Dr. Victoria Gioto (PhD)- Snr. Research Officer

Retirement can be simply defined as the action or fact of leaving one's job and ceasing to work. This is meant to happen at some point and therefore imagining for your retirement can take very many angles ranging from Traveling to far-flung destinations, Indulging in your favorite hobbies, Enjoying unhurried time with friends and family, Devoting more time to volunteering, Starting your own business among others the choice is personal. A successful retirement begins with envisioning a rewarding, healthy and responsible lifestyle.

The key steps to consider can be summarized to:

- Step 1 – Visualization & Goal Setting
- Step 2 – Create a Plan
- Step 3 – Focus on what you can control
- Step 4 – Save, Save, Save
- Step 5 – Eliminate Debt
- Step 6 – Monitor Progress

SAVING FOR RETIREMENT IS UP TO YOU

A few questions to consider:

- What would make a perfect week for you?
- What would you like to do during each season of an ideal year?
- What day-to-day activities would motivate your mind, maintain your health, and help build relationships in your community? We're living longer, so retirement lasts longer.

Three main sources:

- Social Security benefits
- Employer-provided retirement plan accounts
- Personal savings



Life stage	Potential roadblocks to saving	Tips
20s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paying for your wedding • Repaying student loans • Paying rent 	Save Save Save Start contributing to your employer-sponsored retirement plan Invest
30s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making a down payment on a home • Monthly mortgage payments • Life and medical insurance • Child care expenses 	Save Save Save Continue to contribute to retirement plan Invest
40s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saving for college • Health care costs • Family vacations • Lessons/activities for children • Caring for aging parents 	Save Save Save Invest Maximize all retirement plan options. If you have your own business, see whether you can take advantage of higher contribution limits.
50s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paying for child's college expenses, wedding or home purchase • Providing financial support to parents, sibling or adult child • Economic recession 	Save Save Save Invest Take advantage of catch-up contribution provisions.
60s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retirement eliminates income • Loss of employer-provided health insurance 	Seek advice from a qualified professional about your options for when to begin collecting Social Security benefits and making withdrawals from retirement accounts.
70s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health care costs • Inability to work • Nursing home • Outliving your savings 	If you continue to work, seek out advice on how earned income may affect retirement benefits.

NCRC BRINGS ON BOARD 20 STUDENTS UNDER ITS ATTACHMENT PROGRAMME

Written By Nancy Naburuki- Corporate Affairs

National Crime Research Centre has enrolled 20 attaches from various Kenyan Universities in its attachment program. The attaches who joined the Centre on 18th January 2021 have been placed in different divisions within the Centre for a period of 3 months.

The Centre has also received 4 interns from the Public Service Commission (PSC) under its Public Service Internship Programme (PSIP) who will intern at NCRC for a period of 1 year.

During an interview with The Issue team, NCRC's Human Resource and Development Officer Mr. Ronald Ruwa mentioned that the interns and attaches will be taken through the working of NCRC on a rotational basis of all divisions to ensure that they get first-hand experience of the activities within the Centre.

Mr. Ruwa further added that the interns and attaches will among other activities be taken through NCRC's research processes which include data coding, analysis of questionnaires and writing concept notes.

"During their working at NCRC, we expect the interns and attaches to be disciplined, conduct their work with integrity, embrace teamwork, respect diversity, observe NCRC's dress code and confidentiality of information," Mr Ruwa added.

Further, Mr. Ruwa said the interns and attaches working at NCRC is a an achievement as it is a requirement under the Performance Contract (PC).

Present during the interview was NCRC's Clerical Officer Lynn Atieno who mentioned that the interns and attaches have been placed to work with Procurement, Corporate Affairs, ICT, Research and Development and Finance and Accounts divisions.



NCRC ROLLS OUT RESEARCH STUDIES

Written By Nancy Naburuki- Corporate Affairs



A researcher's workshop led by Dr. Victoria Gioto to discuss data collection techniques in the preparation of research studies by NCRC on Factors Shaping Police Performance in Kenya, Residential Housing Related Crimes, Role of Chiefs in Localized Crime and Security Management in Kenya and Crime Mapping, 2020.

National Crime Research Centre has rolled out research studies on key thematic areas as per the Centre's Annual Workplan for the financial year 2020/2021. The studies commenced in 2020 with approvals of the various research proposals under the thematic areas (listed below) are expected to be disseminated to stakeholders before the lapse of the financial year 2020/2021.

OVERVIEW OF NCRC'S RESEARCH PROCESS:

1. Agenda Setting to Prioritize Research Theme for the Planning Period.
2. Desk/Secondary Research from all Crime Related Data Reports Collated from Agencies.
3. Primary (Field Research) Conduct Field Study in Specified Regions Of The Country.
4. Data Analysis to Establish Trends, Root Causes Consequences & Prevention
5. Managing Findings, Issuance of Advisory Policy Briefs, Issues Briefs, and Research Reports.

PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS AND EXPERIENCES OF CRIME PATTERNS AND TRENDS IN KENYA, 2020

Objectives of the Study:

To map and analyze crime incident patterns across the country to inform crime prevention policy and contribute to the establishment of a national crime database at the National Crime Research Centre.

Specific objectives:

1. To assess the prevalence and typologies of crimes by county.
2. To establish factors contributing to crimes in the country.
3. To identify the perpetrators of crimes in the country.
4. To examine the mode of operation, map and analyze crime hot spots across the country
5. To identify the consequences of crimes in the country
6. To assess crime prevention strategies and their effectiveness in the country.



URBAN AND PERI-URBAN RESIDENTIAL HOUSING RELATED CRIMES



Objectives of the Study:

To find and analyze patterns of residential housing-related crimes in Nairobi, Mombasa, and Kisumu Cities in Kenya

Specific objectives:

- 1.To ascertain the forms of residential housing-related crime that the housing project is likely to face during implementation.
- 2.To find out the driving factors behind the residential housing-related crime
- 3.To analyze the players managing residential housing-related crimes and their capacities
- 4.To recommend ways that the government could be more involved in addressing the social dimensions of residential housing-related crimes

FACTORS SHAPING POLICE PERFORMANCE IN KENYA



Objectives of the Study:

The general objective of this study is to explore factors shaping police performance in Kenya.

Specific objectives:

- 1.To establish the socio-economic, environmental, and cultural characteristics of selected police officers
- 2.To document comparative analysis of characteristics between high performing officers and other officers
- 3.To establish factors for performance in difficult policing settings in Kenya.
- 4.To establish selection and recruitment process factors in identifying candidates with the potential for police performers in Kenya.
- 5.To identify barriers to police performance in Kenya.

THE PREPAREDNESS OF CHIEFS IN DYNAMIC CRIME AND SECURITY MANAGEMENT SITUATION IN KENYA

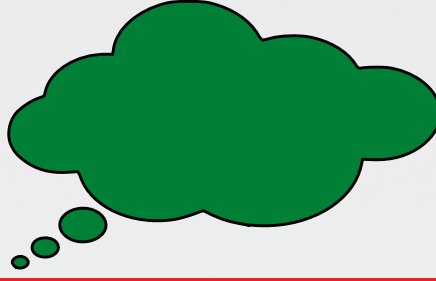
Objectives of the Study:

This study intends to bring more understanding on the role of chiefs in the provision of security and examine the capabilities and competency of chiefs in handling their mandate in their area of jurisdictions. Further, it elaborates on the societal perception of the role of chiefs and the challenges they are faced within their line of duty; the study also involves the chiefs to extract their views on how to minimize the challenges that have bedeviled the institutions for many years.

Specific objectives:

- 1.Assess public perception in the institution of the chief
- 2.Examine the performance of chiefs in handling their mandate in Kenya
- 3.Examine the role of chiefs in crime management in Kenya.
- 4.Identify challenges associated with the work of the chiefs in ensuring safety and security.

PICSPEAK



NCRC's Research Officer Mr. Kenneth Bundi (seated) taking NCRC's attaches through setting up SPSS platform for purposes of data entry



A researcher's workshop led by Dr. Victoria Gioto (Snr. Research Officer) to discuss data collection techniques in the preparation of research studies by NCRC on Factors Shaping Police Performance in Kenya, Residential Housing Related Crimes, Role of Chiefs in Localized Crime and Security Management in Kenya and Crime Mapping, 2020.



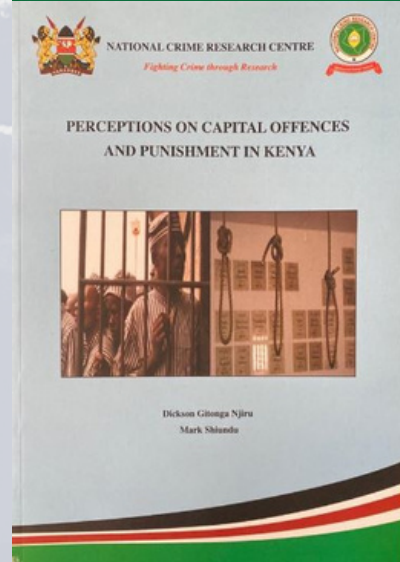
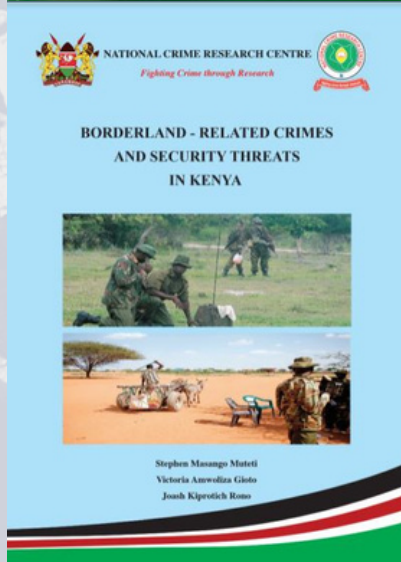
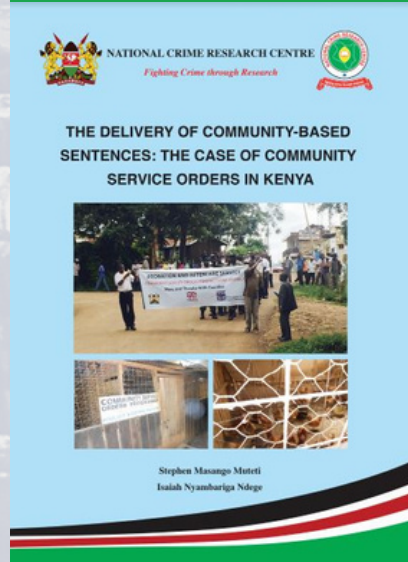
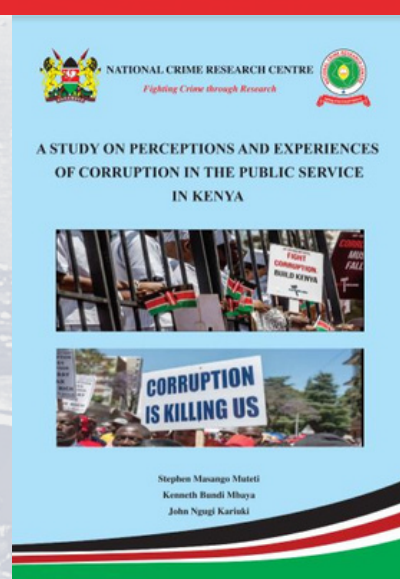
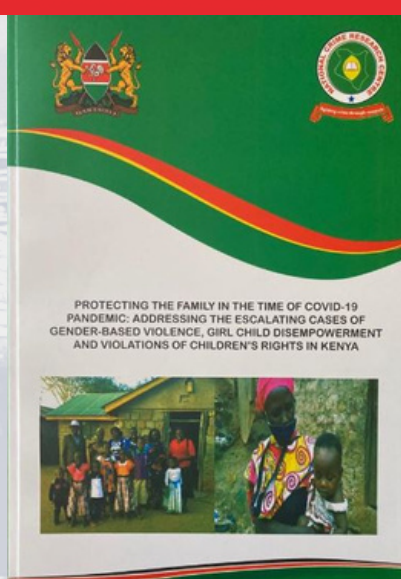
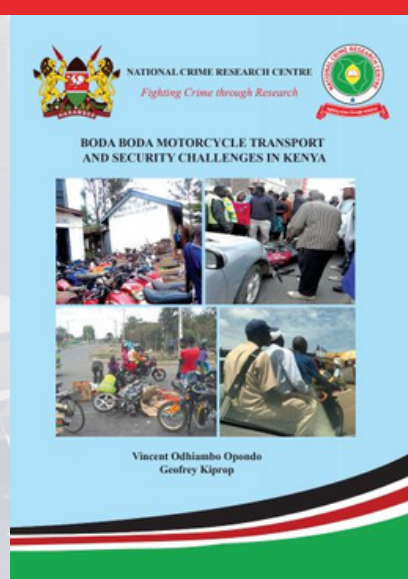
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Fighting Crime through Research





Dr. Victoria Gioto (Snr. Research Officer) and Mr. Joash Rono (Research Officer) explaining coding of thematic variables on the recently concluded study on Factors Shaping Police Performance in Kenya



NCRC'S crime reports which were recently disseminated to stakeholders. They can be accessed at the Centre's website www.crimeresearch.go.ke



NCRC's Human Resource Management and Development Officer (also in-charge of PC co-ordination) Mr. Ronald Ruwa and Ms. Lynn during a meeting with The Issue secretariat



NCRC's Security personnel Mr. John Muroki at NCRC's customer care desk/reception.



NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE

Fighting Crime through Research





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