

## **EFFECTIVENESS OF POLICE FUNCTIONING AS CORRELATE OF CRIME CONTROL IN ANAMBRA STATE, NIGERIA**

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**ABSTRACT:** *The study investigated effectiveness of police functioning as correlates of crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria. Total of 22 residents of Awka metropolis, Anambra State, Nigeria, mean-age 26.4, SD 6.13, females 13 and males 9 selected through accidental sampling participated. Instruments were Effectiveness of Police Functioning Scale, and Crime Control Scale. The study design and statistics were cross-sectional, and Pearson Product Moment Statistics respectively. Findings showed general police functional effectiveness did not have significant relationship with police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria at ( $P > .05$ ,  $r = .171$ ,  $N = 22$ ). Police crime control positively and significantly correlated with treatment police meted out to certain groups, particularly the minority group ( $P \leq .05$ ,  $r = .450$ ,  $N = 22$ ). Recommendations are for comprehensive training, incentive and motivation to be given to Nigerian police to improve their performance, and attract the right caliber of persons into the force for effective control crime.*

**KEYWORDS:** Police Functioning, Policing, Effectiveness, Crime Control

### **INTRODUCTION**

High rate of banditry, vandalism, rape incidence, armed robbery cases, political violence and many other social vices pose crime control threats. Factors in the emergence of these crime control threats include globalization, the proximity of poverty, conflict and weak rule of law to high value markets, and the rapid appearance of new forms of modern technology and global connectivity (United Nation Congress on Crime Prevention & Justice, 2015). The constant security problems and the inability of the police and other security agencies in ensuring security safety of life and property in the country are worrisome.

The sources of the security challenges in the country are numerous and cannot be blamed on one part of the system alone. They vary from the government to the security down to the people in the society. On the part of the police, there are many inadequacies and problems which stand as obstacles responsible for its abysmal effective functioning. This makes most Nigerians describe police as a crowd of lazy, inefficient, corrupt uniformed men and women contributing to the perpetrating of crimes such as mass killing, intimidation, rape, extrajudicial killings/summary execution and other heinous crimes against citizens they are paid to protect (Uhunmwuango & Aluforo, 2017). This

happens, due to inappropriate policing styles and repressive possibilities often exhibited by them in the discharge of their great task of security management have also not helped the matter (Ajayi, & Olukayode, 2015). Thus, the prevailing belief is that the police is not likely to be effective in crime abatement, prevention and control or at least reduce the incidence of crime in the community at large. The pursuit of effective crime policing has led to compromising individual freedoms, particularly in developing countries where government and security agents more easily overstep their bounds and trample on individuals' fundamental human rights.

Effectiveness of police functioning refers to the extent to which policing achieves its proper, officially sanctioned goals (Cordner, 2012; Taylor & Lawton, 2012). Sung (2016) further indicates that effectiveness of police functioning denotes the satisfactory accomplishment of socially negotiated goals for the police, and necessarily requires the maintenance of popular faith in the fair and scrupulous protection of public safety and individual liberties by law enforcement agencies and agents. He also notes that in a democratic society, effectiveness of police functioning refers to the successful maintenance of an environment of order, security, and trust in which the public attribute their abilities to go about their

daily routines without fear to the quality of police services they receive.

Consequently, effectiveness of police functioning is ultimately about what and how much the police have control crime in the eyes of the public. Some people who view a neighbourhood as having a high crime rate are more likely to have a negative perception of police relative effective to control crime to those who live in neighbourhoods with lower crime rates (Cao, Frank & Cullen, 2016). In addition, people that who view their neighbourhood as being unsafe, highly disorderly and violent view police more negatively as they hold police accountable for the disorder and inability to control crime that is occurring in the neighbourhood (Wentz & Schlimgen, 2017; Cao, Frank & Cullen, 2016).

### **Statement of the Problem**

Nigeria Police Force functioning and crime control is unsatisfactory. The police are incapacitated, ineffective and inefficient in their job of crime control, criminal investigation, and response to distress calls by citizens. The ineffective is due to several factors, but mainly to lack of development of productive and social infrastructure in society; inappropriate policing strategies; inadequate intelligence gathering, analysis and utilization skills and facilities, inadequacy of officers in terms of quality and training at various ranks; poor training and conditions of service; lack of public co-operation; grossly inadequate logistics (especially transpiration; telecommunication, arms and ammunition); poor remuneration and lack of motivation by the force and superior officers.

The challenge is that an ineffective police force cannot command the respect of the public (Adeyemi, 2017). To this, Nigeria Police Force (2018) noted that the police is incapacitated and handicapped to control crime in the society due to combination of factors that plagued them, among which are; lack of resources, poor government support, poor condition of service, lack of appropriate and adequate training and ill-equipped workforce. Coupled with these are the issue of police extortion and corruption and other vices common among the police system which contributes to their lack of effectiveness and

efficiency (Alemika, 2019). In Anambra State, Nigeria, due to police ineffectiveness and efficient functioning to response to control the crime situation, the state faces crime situations such as such as violence, killing by unknown gunmen, theft, assassination, kidnapping, rape, and burglary.

Yet in all these, there is no adequate control from the Nigeria Police Force to combat the crime. Upon huge budgets for security by government at all levels through such financial provisions to tackle crime problems. Regrettably, instead of witnessing a reduction in crime rate, the menace is still escalating at a frequency that is very disturbing. Hence, this study examined the effectiveness of Nigeria Police functioning and its' impact on crime control in Anambra State. Since, no study has identified interplay between effectiveness of Nigeria Police functioning and crime control in the State to the researcher's best of knowledge.

### **Purpose of the Study**

The objectives of the study are:

1. To ascertain if general police functional effectiveness will have relationship with police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria.
2. To examine whether different dimensions of police functional effectiveness will have relationship with police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria.

### **Research Questions**

1. How does general police functional effectiveness relate with police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria?
2. To what extent does different dimensions of police functional effectiveness correlate with police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria?

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **Theoretical Review**

#### **Crime Control model**

**Conflict Theory:** Those who follow the teachings of German political philosopher Karl Marx (1818 – 1883: known as Marxists), who was the pioneer of the conflict theory believed that there exists a basic conflict, between those who own and control the means of production and

those who do not. Those who control economic relationship constitute a ruling class that control social relationship. The interest of the capitalist determines when and to whom the law is applied. Laws are selectively imposed against those people who threaten the interest of those who own and control the means of production. However, when members of ruling class violate such laws, sanctions are not rigorously enforced (Quinney 1974).

The conflict theory opined that law is a tool by which the ruling class exercises its control. Law both protects the property of those in power and serves to repress political threats to the position of the elite. Law is the state's coercive weapon, which maintains the social and economic order, and supports some interest at the expense of others, even when those interests are that of the majority (Vago, 2000). Furthermore, studies attempt to relate the disproportionate involvement of poor people in crime to the distribution of power in society. The assumption in these studies is that criminal law is a tool used by the social group with higher economic status to advance its class interests.

This theory asserts that criminal law is fashioned according to the needs of these elites, and to the detriment of classes with lower status (Lynch, 2009). The assertion of the conflict theory that 'who made the law, who benefits from it and who breaks the law, as well as law is a tool by which the ruling class exercises its control' clearly explain the situation in Nigeria, where the police serve as machinery through which laws are violated and manipulated to protect the interest of the politicians and the elite class in the name of maintaining law and order. Therefore, the police lack the capacity to effectively control crime on their own.

What is crime is determined by the ruling class, and laws are made through the constitution to control it. The police are the product of the constitution made by this ruling class, they serve as tools in their hands. Thus, they police what they are told to police, they use the operational facilities provided by the ruling class whether they are sufficient or not. The ruling class also have the discretion to recruit more policemen to control crime or not. And in Nigeria, they have

refused to equip the police and enhance their capacity to control crime. Therefore, crime escalates and the police are totally incapable to control it, due to the decisions of the ruling class.

## **Empirical Review**

### **Effectiveness of Police Functioning**

Akinlabi, and Ihomeje (2021) examined effectiveness of community vigilante groups in crime prevention and control. Qualitative method, demonstrated by the use of in-depth interviews guides, was employed to collect data from 58 key informants. The data were collected from residents of Ile Ife, and selected through stratified and purposive techniques. The study concluded that vigilante groups played an important role in crime prevention and control at the community level.

Dau, Vandeviver, Dewinter, Witlox, and Beken (2021) assessed the efficacy of quantitative police presence. The review also investigated concepts of police presence and differences between reported effects. PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) guidelines and protocols are used to systematically identify and review eligible studies on police presence. Further, quality assessment and findings synthesis were used to map limitations of current research as well as grounds for future avenues. The systematic search strategies yielded 49 studies focusing on testing the effects of police presence or evaluating its measurement. Dau et al. (2021) find evidence that police presence has mostly positive effects on reducing crimes related to motor theft, property, violence, and guns. Police presence also reduces calls for service and improves traffic behaviour. Police presence focused on specific areas, times, and types of crime achieves maximum efficacy.

Tengpongsthorn (2017) examined the factors relative to the work effectiveness of police officers in the Thai Metropolitan Police Bureau. The methodology in the research was the implementation of both quantitative and qualitative research using questionnaires and in-depth interviews as research tools. In the quantitative research methodology, the overall samples based on both cluster and simple random samplings included 405 police officers from

different police stations under the control of the Thai Metropolitan Police Division, whereas the 25 samples in the qualitative research were selected using purposive sampling. Statistics used for data analysis were the frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, and Pearson correlation. Tengpongsthorn (2017) found that motivator factors and hygiene factors had positive relationships with the effectiveness of work performance. The Metropolitan Police officers in all divisions felt strongly that enough equipment was a factor facilitating an increase in work performance, whereas the imbalance of manpower and scarcity of modern equipment were factors which were obstacles to work performance.

### **Crime Control**

Ajide (2021) ascertained the relevance of remittance receipts in improving the level of crime control in Nigeria. The study uses time series data spanning for a period of 1986–2017. It adopts dynamic ordinary least square (DOLS), vector auto regression impulse response function, variance decomposition and Toda and Yamamoto causality approach to analyzed the data. The following findings are established: DOLS shows that remittance receipt has negative and significant impact on crime rate in Nigeria. The impulse response function indicates that a positive shock to the remittance inflows reduces the level of crime in Nigeria. Moreover, a positive shock to the crime rate decreases the remittance. This implies that both variables respond to each other. Toda and Yamamoto causality approach shows that there is unidirectional causality moving from remittance inflow to criminal activities in Nigeria. These results persist after considering other institutional variables. These findings support the previous evidences on remittances-crime nexus and as well support the opportunity cost theory of crime

Agwanwo, Okorie, and Ebere (2021) investigated the issue of police legitimacy crisis and their capacity to control crime. The study relied solely on secondary data and content analysis. This study revealed that the absence of police legitimacy is responsible for the inability of the police to get assistance from the public in the area of crime control because they see the

police as being corrupt, using force illegitimately, lacking integrity, and bereft of trust and accountability.

Arisukwu et al. (2020) explored community participation in crime prevention and control in rural Nigeria. Qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection were used to unravel the potentials inherent in informal crime prevention and control in rural localities in Nigeria. The social capital theory was used to bring out the benefits of community participation in crime control in rural Nigeria. Findings from the study indicated high theft cases as common crime in rural Nigeria. Youths were observed to constitute greater percentage of suspects at police stations for crime. Unemployment and poverty among the rural populace especially youths were responsible for these criminalities. The absence of social infrastructure, inadequate police presence and government support to unemployed youths made the crime situations worse in rural areas. There was low level of community interactions with the police in crime prevention and control in rural Nigeria.

Eder (2017) examined the nature causes and effects of the assessment of performance of Nigerian police by the populace. Study participants were randomly selected while data analysis was done quantitatively with simple frequency and percentage tables based on responses to the questionnaire which was the key instrument used. Generalizations were made on the sample drawn from the populace. The research findings revealed that the police were perceived as inefficient, corrupt and ineffective in crime control by respondents. Also, they perceptions about ability of the police to provide overall security of lives and property in Nigeria.

### **Hypotheses**

1. General police functional effectiveness will not have significant relationship with police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria.
2. Different dimensions of police functional effectiveness will not have significant relationships with police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria.

## METHOD

**Participants:** The participants contained 22 adults residing in Awka metropolis, Anambra State, Nigeria. The participants' age ranged from 34 to 47 with a mean age of 26.41 and a standard deviation of 6.13. The study comprised 13 females and 9 males. Marital status showed that 15 were married, and 7 were unmarried. Educational level data revealed that 8 had B. Sc, 4 had HND, 5 had OND, and 5 had SSCE. Selection of the participants was based on non-probability accidental sampling. Because the participants who were at the time of the study, and were willing participated in the study.

**Instruments:** Two Scales were used for the study. They were Effectiveness of Police Functioning by Parratt (1938) and Crime Control Scale by Edkins, and Royal (2011). **Effectiveness of Police Functioning by Parratt (1938)** which had 128 items designed to assess personal characteristics, selection, political influence, public and press relation, investigation and apprehension, treatment of groups and minorities, treatment of suspect and witness, vice. The scale is rated on the format: 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = somewhat disagree, 4=Moderately, 5 = somewhat agree. The scale has Cronbach alpha of 0.89. The subscales have the following Cronbach alphas: Personal characteristics= 0.76, selection=0.71, political influence=0.82, public and press relation=0.66, investigation and apprehension= 0.77, treatment of groups and minorities=0.82, treatment of suspect and witness=0.91, and personal vice=0.83. The researcher using the participants of the study reported Cronbach alpha of 0.93 for overall scale. The subscales have the following Cronbach alphas: Personal characteristics= 0.66, selection=0.81, political influence=0.88, public and press relation=0.79, investigation and apprehension= 0.82, treatment of groups and minorities=0.84, treatment of suspect and witness=0.86, and personal vice=0.75.

**Crime Control Scale by Edkins, and Royal (2011)** contained 25 items designed to measure attitudes and actions directed at both decreasing the danger of crime and improving the sense of protection and security to definitely

influence the quality of life and to develop situations where crime cannot commit. For each statement, individuals were asked to indicate their agreement on a 5-point Likert scale ranging from 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = somewhat disagree, 4=Moderately, 5 = somewhat agree. The scale has Cronbach alpha of 0.74, and test-retest of 0.78. The researcher reported Cronbach alpha of 0.86 using the participants of the study.

**Procedure:** The researcher also recruited three research assistants that help her with the collection of the data. The three assistants' assisting in the collection of the data were debriefed about the nature of the study and how to administer the questionnaires. The researcher used self-introductory letter to secure approval of the participants. Written instructions on how to respond to each of the items on the questionnaire booklet were spelled out for the participants. The participants that were involved in the study are those that willingly accept to participate in the study, while the exclusion criteria for not participating in the study were on the premises of un-willingly to participate. On the whole, a total of 35 copies of the questionnaire were distributed out of which 32 were returned but 22 were properly completed.

**Ethical considerations** adopted were informed consent, confidentiality, and freedom from harm. For informed consent, the participants were informed the purpose, context and broad direction of the study. The essence is to avail them the opportunity to decide whether to participate or not. While carrying out the research, the participants were not put under pressure nor intrude their privacy in any way. The information gathered was treated with extreme caution and the identity of respondents remains confidential. The consent of the participants was sought and obtained before commencement of the research. This research also avoided any form of inappropriate use of information such that may affect the safety of the participants.

**Design and Statistics:** The study design used for this study was a cross-sectional study. The reason for this research design is that it focuses on collection of data from a large population at the same point in time using a sample population

(Babbie, 2007; Obasi, 1999). The researcher chose this research design method because the samples drawn to represent the various elements of the population generalize the population of the study. Pearson Product Moment Statistics, because the study was geared toward gaining insight into the possible relationships between the study variables. This design and statistics help to

find out the relationship that exist among independent variables and dependent variable and consequently builds a model of the relationship between variables

### RESULTS

The results of the analyzed data and hypotheses of the study are presented below. The data were analyzed with the IBM SPSS version 25.

**Table 1: Descriptive Stats. on Effectiveness of Police Functioning and Crime Control in Anambra State, Nigeria**

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Sum	Mean	Std.Error	Std.Deviation	Skewness	Std.Error	Kurtosis	Std.Error
GENDER	22	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
MARITAL STATUS	22	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
RELIGION	22	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
AGE	22	18.00	41.00	581.00	26.4091	1.30709	6.13079	.529	.491	-.093	.953
LOCALITY STATE	22	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
EDUCATION	22	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
OCCUPATION	22	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
EMPLOYMENT POSITION	22	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
POLICE CRIME CONTROL	22	38.00	99.00	1552.00	70.5455	3.37980	15.85268	.032	.491	-.539	.953
POLICE FUNCTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS	22	112.00	514.00	7908.00	359.4545	15.66516	73.47609	-1.414	.491	6.149	.953
Personnel Characteristics	22	24.00	112.00	1484.00	67.4545	3.86108	18.11005	.003	.491	2.030	.953
Personnel Selection	22	30.00	105.00	1009.00	45.8636	3.28469	15.40654	2.945	.491	10.617	.953
Political Influence	22	10.00	54.00	405.00	18.4091	2.00719	9.41457	2.839	.491	9.765	.953
Public Relation	22	40.00	81.00	1376.00	62.5455	2.45807	11.52937	-.271	.491	-.998	.953
Investigation	22	38.00	78.00	1139.00	51.7727	2.12686	9.97584	.822	.491	.897	.953
Group/Minority Treatment	22	28.00	80.00	1237.00	56.2273	3.09722	14.52725	-.106	.491	-.702	.953
Suspects Treatment	22	26.00	70.00	1073.00	48.7727	2.70316	12.67894	.005	.491	-.319	.953
Personnel Vices	22	11.00	90.00	632.00	28.7273	4.02222	18.86590	2.242	.491	5.199	.953
Valid N (listwise)	22										

#### SOURCE: Questionnaire Primary Data

From the table 1 above, the skewness for police crime control was positive (.032) but abysmally low, indicating desired but awful police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria. The kurtosis was negative (-.539) below the kurtosis 3-point benchmark, indicating uniformity of appalling and absence of extraordinary police crime control performance in the State. With the standard deviation of 15.85268, the personnel vary so much in police crime control performance. The mean was 70.5455 above the average point of 49.5, indicating the appalling police crime control was high. The skewness for police functional

effectiveness was negative (-1.414) indicating a morbid and pathetic functional ineffectiveness of police work in Anambra State, Nigeria. The kurtosis was positive (6.149) double above the kurtosis 3-point benchmark, indicating pronounced outlier of functional ineffectiveness that is beyond control. With the standard deviation of 73.47609, the personnel seemed to be uncontrollable in their functional ineffectiveness. The mean was 359.4545 above its average point of 257 indicating functional ineffectiveness on a very high side.

**Table 2: Correlations for Nigerian Police Functional Effectiveness and Crime Control**

Pearson Correlation	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
1.CRIME CONTROL	1									
2.POLICE FUNCTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS	.17	1								
3.Personnel Characteristics	.05	.66**	1							
4.Personnel Selection	-.35	.02	.178	1						
5.Political Influence	-.25	-.52*	-.18	.41	1					
6.Public Relation	.052	.50*	.32	.40	-.07	1				
7.Investigation	-.25	.25	.03	.50*	.40	.27	1			
8.Group/Minority Treatment	.45*	.63**	.04	-.40	-.49*	.10	.07	1		
9.Suspects Treatment	.36	.44*	.12	-.45*	-.080	.08	.18	.78**	1	
10.Personnel Vices	.06	.28	.47*	-.05	.01	-.21	.12	.25	.47*	1

\*\* significant @  $P \leq .001$  or \* significant @  $P \leq .05$ ; Ho; N = 22;

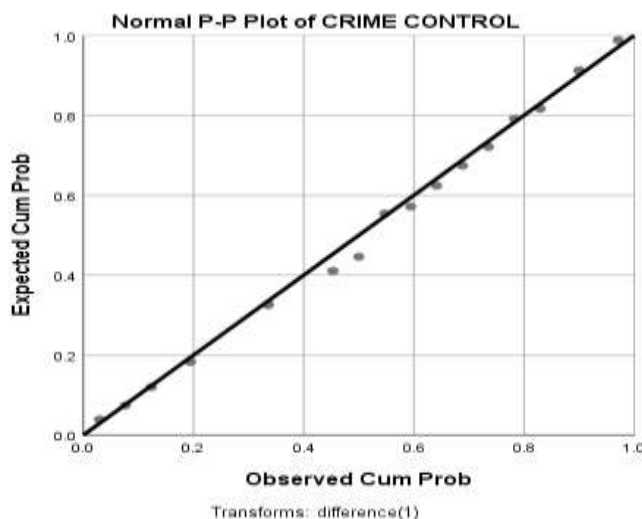
**Hypothesis One:** The first hypothesis states that “general police functional effectiveness will not have significant relationship with police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria”. Table 2 showed that general police functional effectiveness police did not have relationship with crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria at ( $P > .05$ ,  $r = .171$ ,  $N = 22$ ). This affirmed the hypothesis one. It indicates that the police crime control in Anambra, Nigeria, was at variance and inconsequential with police functional effectiveness in the State.

**Hypothesis Two:** The second hypothesis states that “Different dimensions of police functional effectiveness will not have significant relationship with police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria”. From table 2, police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria, positively and significantly did correlate with the treatment the police meted out to certain groups, including the minority group ( $P \leq .05$ ,  $r = .450$ ,  $N = 22$ ). This disaffirmed this dimension of

hypothesis two. It indicates that the police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria, seemed to be targeted to a particular group, especially the minority group. Again, table 2 showed that police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria, positively lowly and non-significantly did not correlate with “personnel characteristics” ( $P > .05$ ,  $r = .051$ ,  $N = 22$ ); negatively and non-significantly did not correlate with “personnel selection” ( $P > .05$ ,  $r = -.348$ ,  $N = 22$ ); negatively and non-significantly did not correlate with “political influence” ( $P > .05$ ,  $r = -.251$ ,  $N = 22$ ); positively lowly and non-significantly did not correlate with “public relation” ( $P > .05$ ,  $r = .052$ ,  $N = 22$ ); negatively and non-significantly did not correlate with “investigation” ( $P > .05$ ,  $r = -.246$ ,  $N = 22$ ); positively and non-significantly did not correlate with “suspects’ treatment” ( $P > .05$ ,  $r = .359$ ,  $N = 22$ ); as well as positively lowly and non-significantly did not correlate with “personnel vices” ( $P > .05$ ,  $r = .057$ ,  $N = 22$ ), all of the dimensions of police functional effectiveness.



**Figure 1: Normal P-P Plot of Crime Control in Anambra State, Nigeria**

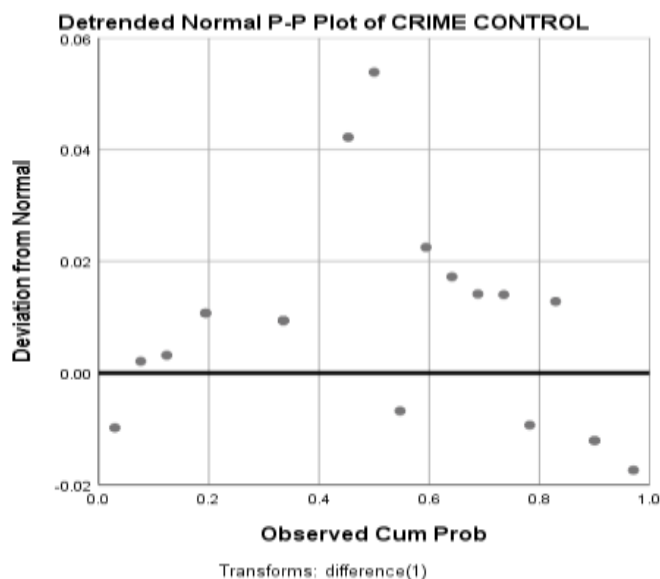


**SOURCE: Questionnaire Primary Data**

Figure 1 showed the plot along the linear graph for police crime control. The plot showed tangential performance along the linear line. This is an indication of lack of fit. The observed

probability showed some lateral outliers vis-à-vis the expected probability as the plots deviate from the line of fit. The police crime control has left more to be desired or accomplished.

**Figure 2: Detrended Normal P-P Plot of Crime Control in Anambra State, Nigeria.**



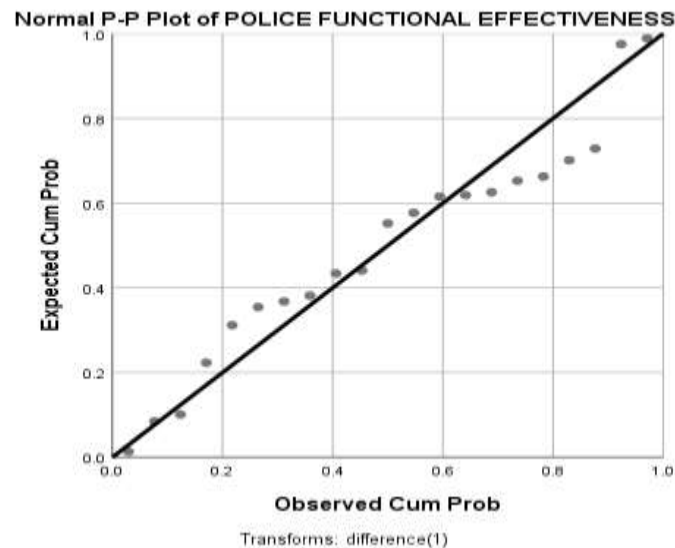
**SOURCE: Questionnaire Primary Data**

Figure 2 above showed that too little has been achieved by the Police in terms of police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria. The observed probability showed that the achieved crime control below the average (0.00) was too

infinitesimal. Above the average point (0.00) is the crime control expectation yet to be attained, which is substantially large. It is therefore a deviation from the expected normal crime control that has not been attained.



**Figure 3: Normal P-P Plot of Police Functional Effectiveness in Anambra State, Nigeria**

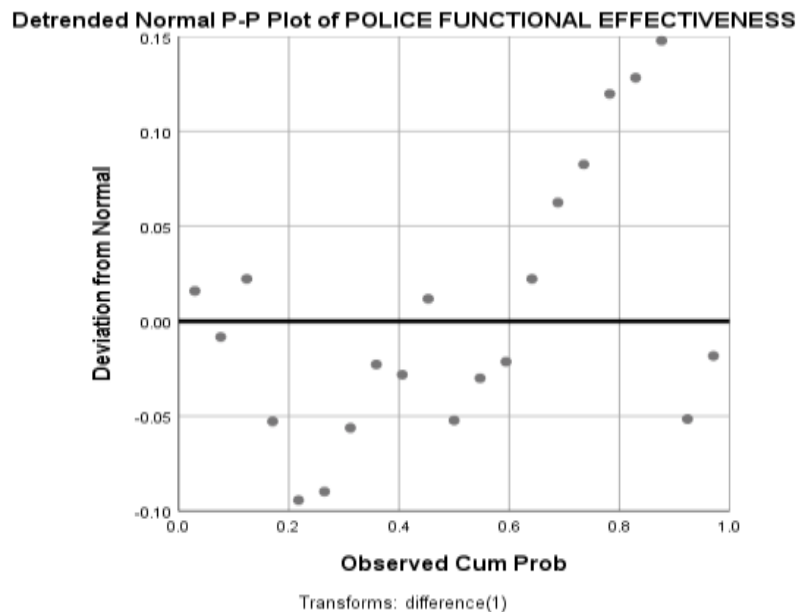


**SOURCE: Questionnaire Primary Data**

Figure 3 showed the plot along the linear graph for police functional effectiveness. The plot showed inconsistency and zigzag performance along the linear line. This is an indication of comprehensive lack of fit. The

observed probability showed crisscrossing outliers of observed probability as the plots meander along the line of fit, which depicts extensive police functional ineffectiveness in Anambra State, Nigeria.

**Figure 4: Detrended Normal P-P Plot of Police Functional Effectiveness in Anambra State, Nigeria**



**SOURCE: Questionnaire Primary Data**

Figure 4 above showed inconsistency in Police functional effectiveness in Anambra State, Nigeria. The observed probability showed that

the achieved police functional effectiveness below the average (0.00) seemed undifferentiated from what is yet to be attained, which is above the

average (0.00). This is an indication of haphazard police functional effectiveness that is disorganized.

### **Summary of Findings**

#### **Findings/Results of Hypotheses Tested**

1. Police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria, positively but lowly did not have significantly relationship with general police functional effectiveness, indicating police crime control been inconsequential with police functional effectiveness in the State.
2. Police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria, positively and significantly did correlate with the treatment the police meted out to certain groups, including the "minority group" as dimensions of police functional effectiveness.
3. Police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria, positively lowly and non-significantly did not correlate with "personnel characteristics" dimensions of police functional effectiveness.
4. Police crime control negatively and non-significantly did not correlate with "personnel selection" dimensions of police functional effectiveness.
5. Police crime control negatively and non-significantly did not correlate with "political influence" dimensions of police functional effectiveness.
6. Police crime control positively lowly and non-significantly did not correlate with "public relation" dimensions of police functional effectiveness.
7. Police crime control negatively and non-significantly did not correlate with "investigation"
8. Police crime control positively and non-significantly did not correlate with "suspects' treatment" dimensions of police functional effectiveness.
9. Police crime control positively lowly and non-significantly did not correlate with "personnel vices" dimensions of police functional effectiveness.

#### **Fallout Findings/Results**

10. Police crime control was positive but abysmally low, indicating desired but

awful police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria.

11. There was uniformity of appalling and absence of extraordinary police crime control performance in the Anambra State, Nigeria.
12. Police functional effectiveness was negative, indicating a morbid and pathetic functional ineffectiveness of police work in Anambra State, Nigeria that is beyond control.

### **DISCUSSION**

The findings of the study affirmed the first hypothesis that states that general police functional effectiveness will not have significant relationship with police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria. It indicates that the police crime control in Anambra, Nigeria, was at variance and inconsequential with police functional effectiveness in the State. This is not line with the statement of Ajide (2021) that police effective function reduces the level of crime in Nigeria.

Consequently, inconsequential of police effective is responsible for the inability of the police to get assistance from the public in the area of crime control because they see the police as being corrupt, using force illegitimately, lacking integrity, and bereft of trust and accountability (Agwanwo et al., 2021). Due to effective crime control and prevention depend on proper and effective utilization, as well as management, of police personnel.

Police authorities are culpable of mismanagement of police personnel for personal gain to the detriment of citizens; most states are under-policed and under-staffed (Chinwokwu, 2017). This however give rise to high theft cases as common crime in rural Nigeria. Youths were observed to constitute greater percentage of suspects at police stations for crime. So, unemployment and poverty among the populace especially youths were responsible for these criminalities. Hence, the absence of social infrastructure, inadequate police presence and government support to unemployed youths made the crime situations worse in some areas (Arisukwu et al., 2020).

The second hypothesis which state that different dimensions (personnel characteristics, personnel selection, political influence, public relation, investigation, suspects treatment, and personnel vices) of police functional effectiveness will not have significant relationship with police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria. It indicates that the police crime control in Anambra State, Nigeria, seemed to be targeted to a particular group, especially the minority group.

This shows that effective and efficiency of combating crime is lacking. Probably, due to lack of formal strategies of crime control and protecting the society from crime and violent criminals. This invariably pose as a threat to crime control, detecting, repressing, prosecuting and ultimately punishing suspect that have committed crime in the society. This statement above, does not agree with Dau et al. (2021) observations that police presence has mostly positive effects on reducing crimes related to motor theft, property, violence, and guns. Police presence also reduces calls for service and improves traffic behaviour. Police presence focused on specific areas, times, and types of crime achieves maximum efficacy.

### **Implications of the Study**

1. The findings of this study are beneficial to scholars that have interest in understanding the link between crime control and effectiveness of police function. This will help them in making informed decisions, that may translate into policy making that will aid in police functioning for effective crime control.
2. The police management through this study will gain an insight that will help them know how to restructure their organization for effective functioning in order to redeem their image and control crime effective

### **Conclusion**

Nigeria Police Force as it is known is the major organ that is saddled with responsibility of crime prevention and control in the country, but the burgeoning crime and the sophistication with which it is executed makes the functions of the Nigeria Police Force very cumbersome and

arduous. This situation is aggravating considering the low morale of members of the police force and the numerous external and internal problems confronting the agency which include manpower shortages, lack of essential police equipment and quality of police personnel (Igbinovia, 2018; Karimu, 2019). Consequently, this study x-lay how effectiveness of Police functioning can correlate with crime control in Anambra State. The study revealed that effectiveness of police functioning did correlate with crime control in Anambra State.

### **Recommendations**

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Adequate incentive and motivation are needed in police organization. This will help raise morale of those in the system and even attract the right caliber of persons into the force needed to be used to control crime.
2. Training programmes that is tailored towards effective and efficient functioning of the police is needed periodically. This training should be packaged in such a way that personnel that pass through it, will be able to stand through the test of time and combat crime effectively.
3. Collaboration is also needed among the police and other security agencies in order to achieve success over crime activities.

### **Limitations of the Study**

One limitation of the study is that it was carried in one State of Nigeria. It is suggested that future research should involve population of other States in Nigeria.

### **Suggestions for Further Studies**

1. Studies that will explore police officers themselves is needed. This study focused only on how the masses perceived the police organization and its effectiveness on crime control.
2. Addition of more variables in the future studies maybe needed. The variables like officers' rank, work experience, training and reward are needed to be incorporated, in order to ascertain

whether the same finding like these findings will emerge.

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#### APPENDIX 1

##### Effectiveness of Police Functioning Scale

1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = somewhat disagree, 4=Moderately, 5 = somewhat agree.

S/N	Items	1	2	3	4	5
	<b>Personal Characteristics</b>					
1	Too fat to perform duties efficiently					
2	Usually in good physical condition					
3	Mostly in poor physical condition					
4	Mostly men of ordinary intelligence					
5	Majority of men of more than ordinary intelligence					
6	Mostly men of low or inferior intelligence					
7	Mostly men having at least elementary school education					
8	Usually men of little or no education					
9	Usually men of high school education					
10	Usually conscientious in performing duties.					
11	Mostly men having less than ordinary ambition					
12	Usually dependable					
13	Seldom dependable					
14	Make quick and intelligent decisions					

15	Smoke occasionally when on duty					
16	More concerned with appearance than performance of duties					
17	Usually dress to appear spic and span					
18	Dress to command public respect					
19	Habitually dress sloppily					
20	Seldom have military bearing and appearance					
21	Do not smoke when on duty					
22	Have slight professional interest in work.					
23	Have moderate professional interest in work					
24	Have high professional interest in work					
	<b>Selection</b>					
25	Members usually selected for personal merit and ability					
26	Members seldom selected for personal merit and ability					
27	Always have officers bearing and appearance					
28	Operate under fairly good discipline					
29	Operate under poor discipline					
30	Operate under rigid discipline					
31	Very disorderly and undisciplined					
32	Mostly poorly trained men					
33	Without scientific training in modern police methods					
34	Use out of date police training methods					
35	Use practically no police training methods.					
36	Use modern police training methods					
37	Specially trained to give advice to boys and girls					
38	Specially trained to educate public how best to protect property					
39	Specially trained to recognize situations which may lead to crime					
40	Make use of modern equipment					
41	Do not understand use of modern equipment					
42	Have experts available having facilities and understanding of scientific methods of handling difficult crimes					
	<b>Political Influence</b>					
43	Active as political party workers					
44	Lose jobs by refusing to obey orders of political bosses					
45	Membership changes when new political party comes into power					
46	Apprehend criminals indiscriminately, without regard for pressure brought by influential forces					
47	Customarily use influence to help political party in power					
48	Show favoritism to politicians					
49	<b>Public and Press Relation</b>					
50	Lose temper easily when dealing with public					
51	Habitually tactful in dealing with public.					
52	Civil in dealing with public					
53	Courteous in regulating traffic					
54	Take criticism from members of public grudgingly					
55	Make effort to obtain suggestions from members of public					
56	Resent suggestions being made by members of public					
57	Seldom conduct campaigns on dangers of traffic violations					
58	Make effort to gain confidence of boys and girls					
59	Make consistent effort to educate public in how best to protect property					
60	Conduct regular campaigns on dangers of traffic violations					
61	Seldom try to educate public in means of crime prevention					
62	Watchful to prevent child delinquency					
63	Change strictness of traffic enforcement when newspapers protest laxness					
64	Make serious effort to suppress crime only when newspapers complain					
65	Keep newspapers posted upon every step taken in trying to solve crimes					
66	Carefully censure information given newspapers when attempting to solve crimes so as not to interfere with solution					

67	Give newspapers brief statements of outcome of investigations of crimes, but not until after solution has been achieved				
68	All information to newspapers released by head of department				
69	Operate independently from newspaper publicity				
	<b>Investigation and Apprehension</b>				
70	Change traffic enforcement spasmodically				
71	Accept bribes for fixing parking violations				
72	Make practice of fixing traffic tickets for friends of members of department				
73	Occasionally arrest innocent persons				
74	Inconsistent in making effort to apprehend petty criminals				
75	Usually tolerate petty criminals, without making serious effort to apprehend them.				
76	Usually follow up all telephone calls reporting suspected crimes				
77	Try to enforce laws which public opinion most supports				
78	Rarely get their man in difficult cases				
79	Never slow and superficial in investigating suspected crimes				
80	Do not understand use of scientific methods in investigating suspected crimes				
81	Seldom use up-to-date scientific methods in apprehending criminals				
82	Keep close contact with underworld by means of ex-convicts acting as stool pigeons				
83	More likely to arrest the agents than the principals or head men in organized criminal activities				
84	Seldom able to return stolen property to owner				
85	Careful not to arrest innocent persons				
86	Usually apprehend criminals in difficult cases				
	<b>Treatment of Groups and Minorities</b>				
88	Usually fair in dealing with employers.				
89	Usually fair in dealing with strikers				
90	Usually fair in dealing with farmers				
91	Force merchants and business men to buy tickets to entertainments as means of retaining good will				
92	Use harsher methods with ex-convicts than with other persons				
93	Unfriendly to ex-convicts				
94	Make honest and consistent effort to help ex-convicts to go straight				
95	Use harsher methods with Negroes than with other persons				
96	Interfere with radical meetings only when public order is threatened				
97	Feared by boys and girls				
98	Liked by boys and girls				
99	Use harsher methods with aliens than with citizens				
100	Use harsher methods with radicals (communists for example) than with citizens				
101	Use harsher methods with "gangsters" than with other persons				
102	Use harsher methods with those suspected of murder than of other crimes				
103	Break up radical meetings with clubs and tear gas whenever such meetings are known				
	<b>Treatment of Suspect and Witness</b>				
104	Always careful to explain a suspect's legal rights so that he understands them before asking questions to gain information				
105	Seldom treat suspected criminals civilly.				
106	Occasionally promise leniency to suspected criminals to force confessions				
107	Use whatever degree of force found convenient				
108	Usually respect constitutional rights of suspected criminals				
109	Never treat suspected criminals brutally				
110	Treat suspects civilly				
111	Sometimes use third degree on witnesses to gain information				
112	Careful to use 'no more force than necessary				
113	Occasionally beat suspects to death trying to force confessions				
114	Ask suspects leading questions to gain information				
115	Habitually treat suspected criminals civilly				
116	Always respect constitutional rights of suspected criminals				
117	Often conscienceless and brutal in performing duties				
118	Deliberately mislead suspected criminals as to their legal and constitutional rights to gain information or force confessions				



119	Disregard constitutional rights in the interest of efficiency					
	<b>Vice</b>					
120	Make effort to keep prostitutes in segregated areas					
121	Make practice of protecting bootleggers					
122	when they have influence					
123	Confiscate and destroy illegal slot machines					
124	Make practice of protecting prostitution when operators pay bribes					
125	Make effort to have prostitutes medically examined					
126	Arrest prostitutes only when reformers rouse public opinion					
127	Ignore the operation of illegal lotteries					
128	Make effort to suppress betting on horse racing only when reformers protest					

**Developed by Parratt, S.D. (1938).**

#### **Crime Control Scale**

1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = somewhat disagree, 4=Moderately, 5 = somewhat agree

S/N	Items	1	2	3	4	5
	In our legal system, everyone receives a fair trial					
1	Judges only take the facts of a case into consideration during sentencing					
2	Plea-bargaining allows too many criminals back on the street					
3	People with more money are more likely to win their trials					
4	Lawyers will often lie to win their case					
5	Prosecutors are only concerned with their conviction rate					
6	In our legal system, everyone receives a fair trial					
7	Too many criminals are given lighter sentences than they deserve					
8	Sentences given to racial minorities are often too harsh					
9	Too often a defendant gets off because of technicalities					
10	It is too easy for criminals to appeal their case and get off					
11	Police often overstep their boundaries when pursuing a suspect					
12	Defense attorneys are generally very honest					
13	Police will charge the first suspect that comes along					
14	Prosecutors are generally very honest					
15	Defense attorneys are only in it for the money					
16	It is too easy for a violent offender to be paroled					
17	Out of every 100 persons brought to trial, at least are actually guilty					
18	If the police arrest someone, then that person is almost certainly guilty					
19	Too often a defendant is convicted on evidence that was collected illegally					
20	Use of informants (who pose as friends but actually work for the police) is allowable if that is what it takes to catch lawbreakers					
21	Too often people who commit crimes are given too harsh of sentences					
22	The crime rate is so high that we should give the police the power to catch criminals, whatever it takes					
23	Police should be allowed to do whatever is necessary to catch those who are breaking the law					
24	Police often bend the rules in order to strengthen a weak case					
25	All evidence collected against a person, no matter how it was collected, should be admissible in court					

**Developed by Edkins, V.A., & Royal, K.D. (2011).**