

## **Assessment of Insurgency and the State of the Insecurity Strategies in Combatting Security Forces Against Criminal Behaviour in Nigeria**

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### **Abstract**

Insurgency is an embodiment of social ills that has threatened the security globally. The ugly trends have affected the entire social existence and gamut of the human society both individual, social group and society as a whole. The problem of insurgency in Nigeria has negative connotation and impacts in the society. Insecurity in Nigeria have led to wanton destruction of lives and properties and social dislocation which necessitates government diversion of its resources that are meant for developmental programmed to the fight against insurgencies. Insecurity in the country is the major challenges confronting the society as a result of the system failure and dysfunctional governance. The system required synergy and collaboration both national and international in the country to fight insurgency. Theory of demolished crime security was used. The study utilized both primary and secondary methods. Sample size of 351 was drawn and the multi-stage sampling techniques designs with the ultimate sampling units being clusters were derived. The study revealed that security apparatus and law enforcement in Nigeria have significant role in the management of security challenges in fighting or combatting insurgent. Provision of useful information, identification of insurgents and the formation of community policing are fundamentals in fighting the menace. The study concludes that the problems associated with the fight against insurgency are because of the system failure and lack of internal and external control mechanism to checked the dysfunctions of the social system and lack of sufficient and inadequate international and national collaboration and synergy among the sister agencies and community policing. The study recommends that internal control system and adequate information disseminations would have enhanced security strategy in the country. Security need to be strengthened through provision of modern gadget or techniques, security mapping, general pocket radio service (GPRS), tracking system, welfares and encouragement. Therefore, security require injecting new blood and geo-sociological mapping in the system to address the ugly phenomenon.

**Keywords:** *Security, Strategies, Combatting, Insurgency and Criminal Behaviour*

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### **Background to the Study**

Insurgency connotes a condition of revolt against a government that is less than an organized revolution and that is not recognized as belligerency. This process demands an advancement of security strategies to tackle the challenge in the contemporary society which requires multidimensional approached and scientific techniques methods to combatting the insecurity challenges in Nigeria. This collaborate Daniel (2021) that the insurgency is a global threat that have hindered development. The security challenges are embodiment to the society. This have causes serious havocked, damaged in the country which has become a universal global phenomenon through which every human being desire to achieve peaceful co-existence in the society.

Takwa (2018), submitted that the society has been plagued with an endemic security challenges and issues posing a variety degree of threats, calamity and destruction of lives and property. The challenges have become unprecedented to the national affairs and national development. Zems (2013) maintain that the security strategies and techniques in modern times is the degree of protection against danger, damage, loss and victimization of citizens. The fundamental of security strategies consists of security architecture of social structures and processes that provide and to improve security as a condition for the protection where a separation is created between the assets and the threats (Daniel, 2021). The security strategies in combating insecurity in the country is germane and necessary with the criminological expert's involvement and international collaboration.

Security is a state of resistance of any type of illegal behavior that causes harm or damage to a person or property as well as protection against criminal's behavior. Smah (2019), State offending and crime against the state law. The locus for crimes against the state is in the expressed helplessness of citizen consequent upon the inaction of government to protect him. That is why in criminology, state crime is any activity or failure to act that break the state's own criminal law or public international. Oftentimes, the state has not been clearly understood and appears to be amorphous or hidden from being clearly identified the nature of insecurity. This has a disastrous consequence on the identification of who take the responsibility for failures to protect the citizens from harmful and potentially injurious situation on the insecurity challenges in the society. Daniel (2021) maintain that the Security challenges demands excessive internal collaboration and scientific modern techniques strategies to nipped the insurgency and insecurity uprising. However, effective information dissemination as well as instruments of modern gadget and information techniques system through satellite, General Pocket Radio Service (GPRS), Greenwich time zone (GMT), Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) or Video Surveillance, Display Monitors, tracking information system and control mechanism system in nipping the menace in the current time.

Curbing criminality process encompasses the diverse ways of collaborating the insecurity threat and to enhance safety and harmony in the society. Security connotes fundamental social process with some instinctive spontaneous properties aimed at achieving relatively safe, social, political and economic. The capability of the country to protect its core values both in terms that state need not sacrifice core values in avoiding war and can maintain them. Security

is a very subjective concept which only assumes real meaning when we pose additional issues which enable us to see it in terms of particular actors, groups, organizations societies and nation. The fragility vulnerability of our social life.

Understanding the state of the nation security is beyond the traditional military ways of protecting the state against internal and external aggression. Insecurity challenges wreaking unspeakable havoc across the North-East region, militancy, oil, bunker, ritual killing and kidnapping in South-South, South-West and South East down to Fulani farmers clash, ethno-religions mayhem and cattle rustling in North-West and North-Central are the recent criminal activities that have continued to threaten the corporate existence of human society in Nigeria (Takwa, 2018).

The issue of the insecurity had led to multidimensional approach in security discourse and management. These trends have led to the popularization of criminology and security science to bring the needful awareness on what can constitute crime sanction. Security relates to those problems where people act deliberately to gain profit. Security incidents are results of planned action acting in way in order to achieve a wanted outcome. The security are mainly malicious and criminal acts (Kjellen,2000; Rajpurohit,2019). The range of consequences is broad for security the losses are mainly related to physical assets and information. The losses are to a large extent directly related to economical loss, material, loss of technology. It is easier to replace the losses within security than within safety (Feyemi, 2013). Underscoring the fundamental of security synergy and strategies for effective insecurity threats in Nigeria demands an urgent comprehensive review of the conceptual and operational assumptions at the heart of our national security architecture and redesign where necessary to build institutional capacities to meet the current threats. Nigeria government response to these threats has been mainly through the use of military forces to restore law and order and to maintain peace (Udounmula,2013; Sonia,2019). Security challenge needs a serious synergy between the law enforcement agencies, experts, community to fight against insurgency and all manner of Banditries in Nigeria.

### **Conceptual Understanding of Security**

Combatting security challenges in Nigeria required serious collaboration and synergy among law enforcement agencies, community policing, vigilante groups, neighbourhood watch as well as external and internal collaborations among members of the security body including criminologist and security experts.

Adesola (2015), The issue of the state of the nation security has become a global affair and security encompassing condition in which individual citizen lives in freedom, peace and safety, participates fully in the process of governance and enjoys protection of his or her fundamental human rights including access to resources and the basic necessities of life and inhabit an environment which is not detrimental to the well-being. The state of being free from any threat underscores the importance of putting in place actions and structures that can ensure the shelving of a people away from any harm (Babangida, 2013). In contemporary times, security is beyond human comprehension and security affairs have assumed new

dimension, external threat resulting from international hostilities and aggression that characterized the cold war era has been replaced with non-traditional security threats like information warfare, drug trafficking, murder, pollution, corruption, terrorism and shortage of basic social amenities.

### **Method of Investigating Security Challenges**

Criminologists use the same type of research methods similar to sociologists. The unique quality of crime is its hiddenness means that those who do it hide it. As a result, criminologists must be a bit of a detective even while engaged in social science investigation. To do this criminologists use observational studies such as those conducted in studying security threats and criminal behavior. The quantitative methods frequently used data generated by the criminal justice system, victimization survey, self-reports conducted Sonia, (2019). All of these data collection procedures have strengths and weaknesses are the key best used for research investigation or techniques or both. The data were mostly generated and produced by security and law enforcement departments and published by the Federal Bureau Investigation of the crimes reported to police, security arrest data, police manpower statistics and other data potentially of interest to researchers (Sharma, 2019).

Self-report studies and methods simply ask a sample of people about their involvement in criminal activities and survey conducted by the researchers. Quantitative methods have provided the primary research methods for studying the distribution and causes of crime. Quantitative methods provide numerous ways to obtain data that are useful in the survey research; field research is evaluation research as well as gather reliable and valid data.

### **Collaboration Context of Combatting Security Architecture**

Human security is inevitable. The problems of man in the society cannot be solved scientifically without a clear statement of the relationship between security men and society as seen in the primary collectively – the family, instruction of social groups, the production team and other types of formal or informal collectivity (Chandra, 2019). Everybody performs certain functions in a group and the unity of man and member of society is fundamental through which a person's whole intellectual make-up bears the clear imprint of the life of society as a whole. The individual is a link in the chain of the generations his affairs are regulated by the social standards by the collective reason or mind. Security combatting is a kind of super-dense living atom in the system of social reality. It fights no battles. It grows no grain. It produces no tools for making weapons for destroying them. Man, who does all this, who possesses everything and fight for everything (Devendra, 2019).

### **Strategy of Crime Control**

The strategy of crime control is regulation of the third broad class of gun control policy instruments is concerned with limiting unsafe and criminal uses of guns. Most prominent are sentencing enhancement provision for the use of a gun in crime. This approach as compared with other gun policies is that it does not impinge on legitimate uses of gun. The fundamental tactic is to focus local law enforcement efforts on illegal possession and carrying the potential effectiveness of this gun approach as serious measure to apprehend illegal use of weapons

put in jeopardy millions of otherwise law abiding people who carry for self-protection rather than a general effort to get guns off the streets, a more focused effort can be directed at prohibiting guns in particularly dangerous locations such as homes with histories of domestic violence or bars with drunken brawls or parks where gang fights tend to break out schools where teachers and students have been assaulted (Sharma,2019). Often, in seeking to reduce the presence of weapons in these particularly dangerous places. Groups other than security apparatus may be mobilized to help make the laws effective. Victimized spouses or their advocates might help enforce rules against guns in violence-prone households, liquor-licensing agencies might be enlisted to help keep guns out of the streets, bars and reduce gun carrying in public targeted innocent citizens and massive killing of people across the country.

### **Gun Control**

In search for more effective ways to reduce violent crime in the society. Establishing more stringent controls on gun immediate cause of almost 40,000 and above deaths in a year and increasing use of illegal guns, weapons and used to threaten or injure victims in hundreds of thousands of robberies and assaults (Sharma and Hema,2019). It makes sense that to find a way to make guns less readily available, especially to those inclined toward crime and violence, we could reduce the seriousness of crime. But not everyone accepts this perspective on guns. Some argue that guns are mere instruments of criminal intent with no more importance than the type of weapon used by the perpetrator to commit criminal activity or anti-social behavior or misconduct.

### **A Theory of Crime Problems**

The crime triangle (also known as the problem analysis triangle) comes straight out of one of the main theories of environmental criminology-routine activity theory. According to (Clark; 1997, Felson, 1994) cited in (Sharma and Hema, 2019) Routine activity theory provides a simple and powerful insight into the causes of crime and insecurity impediments across the country. At its heart is the idea that in the absence of effective controls, Offenders will prey upon attractive targets. To have a crime, a motivated offender must come to the same place as an attractive target. For property crimes the target is a thing or persons. Crime and insecurity take place where handlers are absent, weak or corrupt. Next consider targets or victims. Guardians try to protect targets from theft and damage and potential victims from assault and attack. Formal guardians include police, security guards and other who job is to protect people and property from crime. Informal guardians include community policing, vigilante groups, neighbourhoods watch, friends and others who happen to be in the same place as the attractive target. Parents, teachers, peers and others close to potential victims are also potential guardians. Problems occur when offenders are the same place targets without effective controller. Routine activity theory can be found in the references cited, particularly (Clarke, 1997) and (Felson, 1994) cited in Sharma and Hema (2019), crime and punishment.

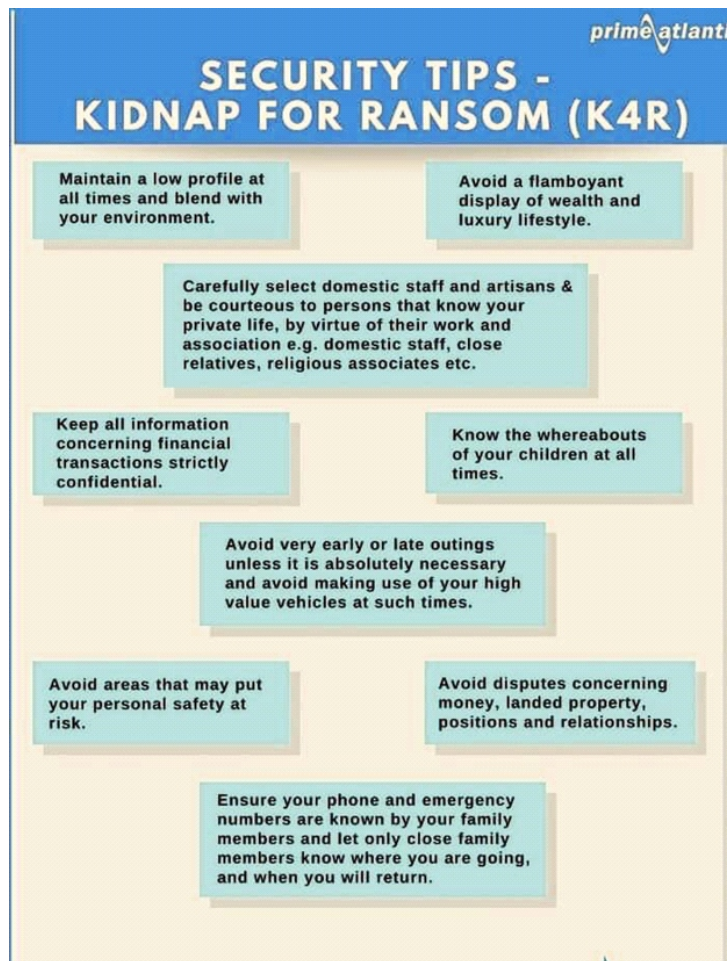
### **Demolished Theory of Crime Security**

The theory undercut security challenges as one of the most destructive social theories that came out of the social existence in security techniques and approaches. The idea is that the root causes of crime and insecurity threats lies in the inequality and social injustice that result to wanton destructions of lives and properties of human society (Devendra, 2019).

The theory holds that depression on the economy started shedding jobs and criminologists and pundits predicted that crime and security threats would increase or shoot up. Since poverty, unemployment, discrimination, injustice, nepotism and social ills in the society are the major impediment and the root causes of separatist group division in the country. Theory holds and maintain to be gets criminals. Instead, the opposite happened. Crime has plummeted to its lowest level since the inception. The consequences and dangers of this drop for how the think about social order are significant.

The notion that crime is an omission and commission against the state. Certain indicator that are understandable reaction to poverty, ethnicity, ideology and frustration method on the social groups and social deprivation or inequality in the social system of the society may likely trigger criminal behaviour. Sociologists (Richard and Lloyd, 2016) argued that the juvenile delinquency was essentially a form of social criticism. Poor minority youth come to understand that the upper class and authority promise of upward mobility is a sham, after a bigoted society denies than the opportunity to advance. These disillusioned teens then turn to crime out of thwarted expectations. The theories put forward and provided an intellectual foundation for many great society eras programmed. Member of society need mobilization and supporting system to integrated into the social system and avoid social ills or crossing road. If crime was a rational response to income in equality, the thinking went, government can best fight it through social services and wealth redistribution, not through arrest and incarceration. Even security men and law enforcement officials came to embrace the root causes theory which let them off the hook for rising challenges, lawlessness and woes or nation blending in the society (Rajpurohit,2016). Prevention and safeguarding of the citizen welfare is the key and fundamentals solving insecurity as a phenomenon.

**Figure 1: Security Tips and Strategies**



### **Security Strategies and Methods of Combatting Insecurity**

Punishment is an effective means of changing behavior and it is people's everyday appreciation of this – supposed clear-cut “common sense” – that perhaps leads them to expect that a similar outcome will be obtained in the larger setting of the criminal justice system (Rajpurohit, 2016). The evidence surveyed suggests the latter is not what happens. The apparent contradiction can be resolved when we look at other research showing that punishment only works when certain conditions are met in its application.

Elimination strategies are based on the expectation that problem behavior can be suppressed or even eradicated by linking it to negative consequences for the individual. In Criminal Justice the consists instead of deterrence-based sentences or punitive sanctions. Restriction of liberty to varying degrees, including the use of custody, surveillance, shock incarceration or the imposition of demanding physical regimes (Sonia, 2019). Constructional strategies, by contrast, are based on the proposal that a reduction of socially undesirable behavior can be achieved more efficiently and more ethically through the building of new repertoires of action. The immediate consequences of an act unpleasant in the constructional system effort

is directed towards increasing the frequency of alternative behaviors through which goal can be derived. This can be done through as a variety of methods such as behavioural skills training, attitude change, education, employment and other reforms of intervention. Punishment and other elimination strategies have consistently been shown to be a much weaker method of behavior change than constructional techniques involving positive reinforcement and variations upon it.

**Table 1: Socio-Demographic Characteristic**

Age Category	Frequency	Percentage
15-20	105	29.9
25-30	905	27.1
35-40	83	27.6
45 and above	68	19.4
Total	351	100
Sex Male	201	57.3
Female	150	42.7
	351	100
<b>Religious Affiliation</b>		
Christianity	93	26.5
ART	110	33.3
ISLAM	148	42.2
Total	1	100

**Source:** Field Survey, 2021

Table 1 above revealed the age categories were 15-20 (29.9), 25-30 (27.1) and 23.6%, 19.4. However, sex indicates the population male 57.3% and female 42.7% were dominate. While, (42.2)(33.3) and 26.5% Islam, ATR and Christianity respectively.

**Table 2: Relationship between Security Agencies and the Public**

Opinion on the relationship	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly Agreed	48	13.7
Agreed	37	10.5
Undecided	44	12.5
Disagreed	149	42.2
Strongly disagreed	73	20.8
Total	351	100

**Source:** Field Survey, 2021.

Table 2 above shown that (42.5) (20.8) Disagreed and strongly disagreed that there is no cardinal synergy between security forces and member of the public to combated security challenges bedeviling the country insecurity while 13.7%, 12.5% and 10.5% strongly agreed and undecided that there is relationship between security forces and general public.



**Table 3:** Methods of Combatting Insurgency with the Security Forces

Combatting Insurgency	Frequency			Percentage	
	SA	A	UD	D	SD
Dissemination of Information to security agency	157 (44.7)	103 (29.3)	-	40 (11.4)	51 (14.5)
Identifying and fighting insecurity	182 (51.9)	78 (22.2)	40 (11.4)	27 (7.7)	13 (3.7)
Collaboration with community and others Groups	192 (54.7)	84 (23.9)	20 (5.7)	30 (8.5)	25 (7.1)

**Source:** Field Survey, 2021

Table 3 above revealed that information dissemination on the insurgency where by 44.7% and 29.3% strongly Agreed the significant role of security memo in security in the country while 14% and 11.4% show displeasure. While 51.9% and 54.7% revealed the identity of fighting insurgency and collaboration efforts between security and community respectively.

**Table 4:** Assessment of Insecurity Problems and Modern Security Techniques

Assessment of Insecurity Problems and Modern Techniques	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	247	70.4
No	104	29.6
Total	351	100

**Source:** Field Survey, 2021

Table 4 above shows that 70.4% agreed that security agency was founded and supported in terms of modern techniques to combats insurgence while 104 (29.6) refuse that security were allowing purling equipment.

### Discussion of Findings

The findings revealed that security agencies contribute meaningfully in combating insecurity in the country more especially using different techniques or strategies and methods in fighting or combating the terrorist groups. This collaborates the work of Takwa (2018), civilian – military cooperation in fighting against insurgency where by security and general public engaged on serious battled against all manners of crime and criminality bedeviling human society. Similarly, the study recommended strongly engagement and synergy between community relations and law enforcement in terms of information dissemination. This is supported by Daniel (2021) and Sonia (2019) National tragedy and insecurity threats in Nigeria through which security men acquired useful information in fighting insurgency through general public and equally identify their location and methods of operation.

The study discovered that both community policing and security agencies play crucial role in the fight against insurgency and equally contribute meaningfully in the provision of useful information, identification of the insurgent activities and critically examine basic rudiments

as well as impediments to achieve a successful collaboration. There was greater number of terrorist groups that are operating ignorantly and government are willing to support the entire security agency to curb the ugly trends in the society. Babangida (2013), Adesola (2015) and Devendra (2019), Supported the collaboration on the Submission in the ways of combating Insecurity and the techniques to be adopted by the security agencies to enhanced safety and protections of lives and property of the citizens. Smah (2021) The current reality of criminal is that it knows no bound, whether in terms of social class or location of perpetrators and victims, thus challenging the traditional criminological and sociological nations of its origin, nature, density and control.

### **Conclusion and Recommendations**

The relationship or synergy between security architecture and public is germane to address the fundamental problems of insecurity in pursuit of collective goals. Security apparatus need to redouble their effort in deployed counter-terrorism in fight against insurgency are not members of the communities that are affected by the activities of the insurgents. Collaboration efforts is the core and germane in security strategies and the effective control techniques. While the information dissemination system would aid to curb and subdue any inadequate operation in combatting fight against insurgency.

The study recommends partnership and understanding between security apparatus and community policing or neighbourhood watch for adequate protection of lives and property of the citizenry. There should be a provision for modern facilities to curb and regulate the security challenges and to effectively control the social system. This would help in strengthening the institution and the management of the mechanism of the social system as well as to sustain the fights against insurgency. Decriminalization and radicalization of insecurity challenge in the society would impose confidence in the operation of the security personnel and law enforcement agency.

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