



AN ASSESSEMENT OF NIGERIAN POLICE EXTRA JUDICIAL KILLING IN KETU / IKOSI LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF LAGOS STATE 2010-2015

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Abstract

The study is an assesement of Police Extra Judicial Killing in Ketu/Ikosi Local Government Area of Lagos State, Nigeria. Increase in the misuse and abuse of firearms by the Nigerian police has created a gap in the crime control strategy in Nigeria. As a result, the spate of extra legal killings in Nigeria has not only questioned the effectiveness and efficiency of the police in carrying out their duties, but has also greatly minimized the confidence people have on the police. The study adopted the conflict theory perspective. The Survery design was adopted for this study and a total of one hundred and fifty (150) respondents were interviewed using structured questionnaire based on purposive sampling method. Simple frequency table and percentages combined with Chi-square was employed to analyze the data obtained. The study concludes that the 21st century policing is more responsible for protection and promotion of human rights, keeping and maintaining the national and international peace and security rather than killing innocent citizens. The study recommends amongst others that intensive efforts should be made to control the use of firearms by the police officers in order to stop extra judicial killing in Nigeria.

Keywords: Rules of Engagement, Crime, Control, Human Rights, Police force Order 237

Introduction

The Police are the gatekeepers of the Criminal Justice process in the contemporary society. Indeed, no society can survive unless there is rule of law and its enforcement. The use of firearms by the police in the daily discharge of their duties is legitimate, but in most cases is abused by the rank and file of the police who may not be able to distinguish between the thin lines of legal and essential use of firearms. No doubt the police play important roles without which the sustenance of order, legality, development and democracy may not be obtained.

According to Alemika and Chukwuma, (2003), the primary function of police is policing which means securing compliance with existing laws and conformity with precepts of social order. In other words the main duty of the police is to maintain the peaceful coexistence of the citizens. Policing has always been necessary in all societies for preserving law and order, safety and social relations. This necessity of policing becomes even more evident in modern societies characterized by diversities and contradictions arising from population heterogeneity, urbanization, industrialization, conflicting ideologies of appropriate social political and economic form of organization (Alemika & Chukwuma, 2003). Consequently, to discharge these responsibilities; the police are empowered to use force, indeed violence when the need arises. The abuse of such rights therefore comes to play where the police in most societies use force and violence beyond the limits permissible by law, Kayode (2006).

The Police are the agents of the state, mandated to protect the society by enforcing law and maintaining order, in the discharge of their mandate, they are permitted to use force when and where necessary but in accordance with the law. In the course of carrying out their above stated duties there are manifestations of police violence, examples of which are beating and kicking citizens, unnecessary use of restraints such as handcuffs and leg chains, unnecessary use of lethal firearms against suspects and members of the public, torture of suspects in order to extract confession or extort gratification. Use of firearms and deliberate killing are inconsistent with international standards on use of force in law enforcement, and violate the right to life. The UN Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions expressed his concerns about this Police Force Order 237 in his report in January 2006: "These rules practically provide the police carte blanche to shoot and kill at will."

The most common forms of police killings occur due to excessive use of force in law enforcement operations such as during attempts to arrest suspected criminals, crowd or riot control, and purported "shoot-outs" with alleged armed criminals (sometimes called "encounter killings") Niels and Reenen (2004). While some killings are motivated by personal monetary gains, others occurred in the context of poorly planned and unlawful policing policies and operations especially where police engage in heavily militarized operations without adequate safeguards or community support.

In some countries, police engage in "social cleansing", intentionally killing suspected criminals or members of poor or marginalized communities, Campbell and Maria (2007). In extreme cases, the police operate as part of a formal death squad or militia killings also happen as a result of torture, or the denial of life-saving treatment while the victim is in police custody. In addition, lack of proper police training, particularly concerning weapons use, less than lethal measures, and training in human rights, can make police officers more likely to resort to the use of deadly force. To Benjamin and Phillips (2007) Killings can also result from the lack of appropriate weaponry or other equipment, especially in the riot or crowd control context.

Though there is no legal definition of an extrajudicial killing, but if a death is caused by a law enforcement authority without following the legal rules or due judicial process, it can be considered as extra judicial killing. Such killings effectively violate the right to life, as guaranteed by the Nigeria's constitution, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and the Africa Charter on Human and People's Rights. Somehow in Nigeria, extra judicial killing

has often targeted the ordinary and common people since they are the most vulnerable. Without money to bribe and to receive due legal representative, the police feel safer targeting this class of people.

This especially, led to series of human right abuse of innocent citizens and extra judicial killings across the country. Some of which were:

1. On May 27, 2013 a final year University of Benin Student, Ibrahim Momodu was shot dead allegedly by the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) of Ogida Police Station, Edo State, Mrs. Carol Afegbai, and other members of her patrol team.
2. Also in February 25th 2013 Nigerian soldiers and police allegedly killed two students and grievously injured four students of Nassarawa State University.
3. The case of Emmanuel who was pursued and shot at close range in the present of his aged mother, (Thursday live, 2012).
4. In 2008 Funmilayo Abudu, a mother of three children, was shot and killed by the police and her body was later paraded before newsmen as the female head of a 20-member armed robbery gang. Till date, members of her family are still crying for justice (Newswatch, 2009).
5. In 2008, Modebayo Awosika was allegedly killed by the police and said he was an accident victim. But evidence later confirmed the contrary.
6. On 15 December 2008 at around 4am, James Ute (not his real name) was brought home from Ketu Divisional Police Station by police officers from the Anti-Robbery Squad. He had been beaten all over his body, apparently with an iron bar and a rifle-butt. He was foaming at the mouth. Before losing consciousness, he told his family that the police had beaten him. He said he could not bear the pain and that he wanted to die. He died before his family could get him to hospital.
7. Abayomi Ogundeji, a journalist was also killed by the police in controversial circumstances in Lagos (Newswatch, 2009).
8. In 2007, Izuchukwu Ayogu and Nnaemeka Nwoke, who were students of Nsukka High School, in Nsukka Area of Enugu state were arrested by the police for wandering, detained at the Nsukka police station and later found dead (Newswatch, 2009).
9. Nkechi Obidigwe was shot dead at a police checkpoint somewhere along Zik's Avenue, Fegge, Onitsha. The truth later emerged when at the intervention of Mr. Katsina (then ACP at State CID, Awka) an impartial investigation was carried out which led to the identification of the killer police corporal, who indeed, confessed during an orderly room trial. He was later charged for murder and remanded in Onitsha prison.
10. On September 20, 2012, 36-year-old Engineer Ugochukwu Ozuah was also shot and killed unlawfully- according to eye witnesses, by a policeman 5 days after his wedding on Gbagada Expressway, Lagos.

In a report replete with innumerable examples of extra-judicial killings, the Committee for the Defense of Human Rights (CDHR) reckons that innocent Nigerians are killed and maimed, while errant policemen go unpunished.

The Nigerian police force is a security outfit established to combat crime and ensure security of lives and property of the citizenry. In the process of carrying out these duties, the police have in most cases taken laws into their hands by, killing innocent people and detaining persons arbitrarily with impunity. Even the Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice, Mohammed

Adoke, SAN, described the rate of extra judicial killing by police officers within four years (2008-2011) as alarming as the number of victims rose to 7,198 in 2011 (Network on Police Reforms, 2012, Thisday live, 2012). He attributed this to the Police Force Order 237 which is described as “practically providing the police carte blanche to shoot and kill at will.”

Objectives

The main objective of this study is to examine the Nigerian Police Extra Judicial Killing In Nigeria, with specific reference to Ketu/Ikosi Local Government, Area of Lagos State. The specific objectives are to:

1. Examine the causes of police extra judicial killings in Ketu/Ikosi L.G.A
2. Examine if there is any penalty for police men that are guilty of extra judicial killing
3. Examine the rules of engagement on Police Extra Judicial Killings

Research questions

- 1 What are the causes of Police Extra Judicial Killings in Ketu/Ikosi L.G.A
- 2 Are there penalties for police officers that are guilty of Extra Judicial Killings in Nigeria?
- 3 What are the rules of engagement on Police Extra Judicial Killings

Research Hypothesis

H₁: There is a significant relationship between the penalty meted out to Police officers and Extra Judicial Killings they are guilty of.

Literature Review

The review of literature was done under three sub-headings which are; the causes of extra judicial killings in Ketu/Ikosi L.G.A, the penalties of erring police officers who are guilty of extra judicial killings and the rules of engagement of the Nigeria police force and the implication of extra judicial killings on human security in Nigeria.

Causes of Police Extra Judicial Killings in Nigeria

The causes of police extra judicial killings can be attributed to the following:

1. The colonial mentality of ‘a repressive colonial police heritage’
2. A legal framework on policing that promotes- rather than deters- abuse (Police Force Order 237 which provides the police with ‘a cart blanche’ to ‘kill at will’).
3. Infrastructural problems in terms of poorly funded and ill-equipped police force.
4. In some cases lack of State of the Art Equipment which leads to suspects being tortured for confessions since they lack the ability and means to conduct thorough criminal investigations. They lack the equipment including forensic tools; there are no ballisticians, pathologists often write reports without carrying out any examination; majority of convictions are secured through confession in contravention of Section 28 of the Evidence Act.
5. Structurally, authoritarian rule by successive military regimes were sustained by violence inflicted by the state using state apparatuses such as the police, armed forces, secret police etc
6. A highly centralized police structure plagued by political interference
7. A compromised recruitment process and poor police training, leading to the hiring of unsuitable and sometimes, mentally unstable personnel

8. Salaries are too bad, making police prone to corruption and other crimes, including violence'
9. Police officers are killed in their hundreds or even thousands every year, which may in part explain their behaviour and their attitude to the public'
10. Police complain of poor working conditions, unhealthy environments, long hours and inadequate housing (*Okechukwu, 2014*)
11. Recently in Bayelsa State, on the 21st of October, 2011; a policeman shot and killed a 26 year old man named Victor Emmanuel for resisting extortion. Emmanuel was pursued and shot at close range in the presence of his aged mother (*Thisday live, 2012*)

The penalties of erring police officers who are guilty of extra judicial killings

Although most police officers go unpunished after committing extra judicial killings, a few of them were punished according to law. The most likely reason why some go unpunished is that they were not identified (unknown officer). The officers that were identified were tried and punished through the orderly room and judicial system.

Three cases of officers that were punished are;

1. The police corporal who was charged to orderly room for the murder of Nkechi Obidigwe at a police checkpoint somewhere along Zik's Avenue, Fegge, Onitsha in 2006. He later admitted firing the shot and was charged for murder, tried, found guilty and remanded in Onitsha prison.
2. The DPO in charge of the station continued to deny and even attempted to intimidate the family until the autopsy showed that it was the police bullet that killed Nkechi Obidigwe. As a result, the DPO Mrs Edna, was not made to face the legal consequences of her misconduct, but was immediately posted out of Fegge Police Station.
3. Olusegun Fabunmi, the divisional police officer in charge of Pen Cinema, Agege who shot Ademola Aderinto during the January 2012 fuel subsidy protests in Lagos was dismissed from the police and made to face prosecution in a Lagos High Court.

These are so many officers who were shielded from justice like the case of the 36-year-old engineer, Ugochukwu Ozuah, who was shot dead 5 days after his wedding at Gbagada Lagos in 2012, by officers who have not been fished out till date despite promises by the IGP.

Nigeria Police Force Order 237

Nigeria's Constitution and the Nigeria Police Force Order 237 (Rules for guidance in use of firearms by the police),

Sections 3(d) 29 and 3(e) of Police Force Order 237 permit police officers to shoot suspects and detainees who attempt to escape or avoid arrest. "This gives the police authority to shoot and kill any person who has been arrested and detained for as little an offence as wandering and seeking to escape from custody as well as any person who refuses unlawful arrest" Little wonder they have in most cases shot victims from the back in order to prove that they attempted to escape (Author's opinion). Under section 3(e) of Police Force Order 237, the police are allowed to use firearms to "arrest a person who takes to flight in order to avoid arrest, provided the offence is such that the accused may be punished with death or imprisonment for 7 years or more". Escaping custody or resisting arrest is punishable with seven years imprisonment under Nigerian legislation. In order words, the Constitution and Police Force Order 237 allows police officers to shoot with impunity anyone who tries to run away.

The only limitations on the use of force in Police Force Order 237 are that “firearms must only be used as a last resort” and “if there are no other means of effecting [the suspect’s] arrest, and the circumstances are such that his subsequent arrest is unlikely” (1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria).

Section 6 of Police Force Order 237 instructs police officers that in situation of “riot” (1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria), “[a]ny ring-leaders in the forefront of the mob should be singled out and fired on”. Intentional use of firearm to kill at will. The misuse of this order has led to the killings, maimings and detention of many innocent citizens across the country.

Conceptual framework

The following concepts are hereby discussed for easy understanding of the paper.

Policing: Policing refers to measures and actions taken by a variety of institutions and groups (both formal and informal) in society to regulate social relations and practices in order to secure the safety of members of community as well as conformity to the norms and values of society. It is therefore a “sub-set of control processes” which involves “the creation of systems of surveillance coupled with the threat of sanctions for discovered deviance – either immediately or in terms of the initiation of penal process or both (Reiner, 2000:3).

The use of Force: The use of force refers to the right of a state to exercise legitimate authority or violence over a given territory (Kristoffel, 2014). Within the framework of International Law, the use of force ought to be applied only as a last resort when a conflict threatens peace and international security. Most times, trigger happy police officers shot at the slightest provocation at unarmed citizens leading to their death. Most of the cases cited in this paper did not warrant shooting, but the officers shot and killed their victims at will.

Extra Judicial Killing: An **extrajudicial killing** is the killing of a person by governmental authorities without the sanction of any [judicial proceeding](#) or legal process. Killings of criminal suspects and innocent citizens by the security forces in Nigeria are reported in the media almost on a daily basis (Pérouse de Montclos, 2014). Extra judicial killing is defined as “the unlawful killings of civilians, staged by the security forces to look like lawful killings in combat of guerrillas or criminal” (UN, 2010 p8, Amnesty international, 2009). The term extrajudicial means the process, which is done, given, or affected outside the course of regular judicial proceedings.

Conflict Theory and Police Extra judicial killing

No society, organization or group is without conflict and so police is not an exception, more so police and citizen’s relationship. Conflict arises between the police and the public as a result of so many reasons some of which have been explained earlier in this study. This section looked at conflict theory in relation to police extrajudicial killings in Lagos state.

The importance of the utilization of state power and resources led to development of two major competing perspectives among sociologists on these sorts of governmental decisions. Conflict theorists view society as an aggregation of competing and stratified populations, with each group using every available resource to improve and maintain its socioeconomic position (Collins 1975). This also has led to the Consensus theorists’ belief that state actions are generally the result of broad agreement among members of a society on singular goals (Cohn, Barkan, and Halteman

1991; Sheldon 2001). As such police actions/duty is seen as a consensus between the government and its citizens. The police are seen as the representatives of the government who are supposed to uphold the social order as well as maintain law and control crimes in the society. As a result every police officer on uniform is given due respect.

Hence, Police violence is not seen as a social control outcome determined by the interests of dominant groups, but the proportional response of police to higher civilian violence or other departmental-environmental factors that can make policing more difficult and dangerous (Kane 2003). Consequently, police violence is seen as a means for privileged societal elites to suppress and control any potentially threatening groups (Chevigny 1995). This explains why the police go on raids, arresting people for wandering following tip-off of information on a particular area or community. A police officer, Late Insp. David Joe Kulajolu always advised that “you do not as a civilian and armless person, argue with a man with the gun, weather a police officer in uniform or mofty, an armed robber etc”. So long as he is with a gun, weather loaded with amunition or not, he dictates while you obey. Another officer said to a student trying to escape as a word of advise that “you cannot run faster than a bullet shot”.

The police IGP Mr Solomon Arase also commented that “The contents of that Force Order have been construed as both controversial and the progenitor of human rights abuses by the NPF. It is also not in question that there is a virtual policy vacuum in respect of how and when firearms may be deployed and the circumstances governing the use of force by officers of the NPF” (information.com 2015). These in some cases are the reasons for police extra judicial killings in riots, demonstration, arrests, patrols and road blocks. Most of them are borne out of unnecessary and risky arguements, sturburness of the civilian, disobedient to simple instruction and accidental discharge of bullet though some are out of excessive power intoxication. The role of the police is paramount in this conception of social control, as they possess a permanent monopoly on coercive force and legally sanctioned violence against members of the society itself, as has been extensively discussed in numerous theoretical works (Chevigny 1995; Quinney 1974; Sherman 1980).

It was suggested that both perspectives (Conflict and Consensus) focus on external, non-departmental constituencies as the driving force behind police behavior and policies (Nalla, Lynch, and Leiber 1997). In reality, conflict theorists merely assert that observable consensus and moral strictures are by themselves insufficient to generate social order (Goode 2002), hence the police use of force is necessary in some cases for police effectiveness.

Somehow, the society necessarily shapes police behavior through governmental directives, formal accountability mechanism and the influence of societal norms (Bayley 2005). This suggests that any violence employed by law enforcement must also follow the same principles, and will reflect the will of societal elites when the interests of those groups are threatened.

Methodology

Survey design and focus group discussions were employed as the resaerch design in this paper. Research design is the overall scheme or programme of the research. Survey is useful in describing the characteristic of a large population without any attempt to manipulate or control the variable. While focus gruop discussion is a research design that consist of 6 to 12 participants which are gathered to discuss a topic with a facilitator anchoring it. The population of study is generally a

large collection of individuals or objects that is the main focus of a scientific query. The population of this study is residents of Ketu/Ikosi Local Government Area.

Due to the large size of the population of the area, the researcher cannot afford to test every individual in the population hence there is need for sampling technique. Therefore multistage sampling technique was adopted for this paper. Stratified sampling was applied to divide the population of Ketu/Ikosi Local Government area into 5 areas; Alapere, Ketu, Kosofe, Ajelogo, and Ikosi for easy sampling. While simple random sampling was used to select 30 respondents from each area which made the whole population sampled to be 150. The research instrument adopted for this paper were the questionnaire and list of questions for the focus group discussants. Section A of the questionnaire dealt with the demographic status of the respondents and section B dealt with the questions raised from the research objectives. The data collected were analysed with the use of simple frequency tables and percentages and chi square.

Presentation and Analysis of Data

The research findings were based on the supplied data from the respondents through the questionnaires, hypotheses testing and its interpretation. The data collected was analyzed using Chi-Square(χ^2) One Hundred and fifty (150) questionnaires were administered and 137 were returned while (13) thirteen were not returned. The questionnaires were divided into sections according to their demographic details. The section A of the questionnaires dealt with demographic information of the respondents such as sex, marital status, religion, age, year in service, educational level and number of children. The section B centered on the chosen option and the expression or perception toward the questions by using five (5) point liker scale used in the construction of the questionnaire to elicit the respondent's options and scales are as follows: strongly agree = (5), agree = (4), undecided = (3), disagree = (2), strongly disagree = (1). This table shows majority of (29%) of respondents were between the ages of 40 and 49 years, followed by (26.3%) between 20 and 29, (25.5%) respondents between 30 and 39 years.

TABLE 4.1 Qualification of Respondents

Qualifications	Frequency	Percentage
OND/NCE/HSC	38	39.1%
HND/B.sc	56	40.9%
M.Sc/MBA	8	8.2%
Other pls. specify	35	36.1%
Total	137	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 4 This table shows that 40.9% constituted the majority of respondents that obtained HND/BSc, 39.1% had OND /NCE while 36.1% respondent obtained other qualification, 8.2% obtained MSc/MBA. The educational status of the respondents is imperative to ensure that the respondents understood the meaning and importance of the subject matter.

Table 4.2 Abuse of power and accidental discharged of bullet are the major causes of police extra judicial killings in Nigeria.

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly agree	65	47.4 %
Agree	37	27%
Undecided	12	8.8%
Disagree	16	11.7%
Strongly disagree	7	5.1%
Total	137	100

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 4.2 shows that majority of the respondents 47.4% agreed that accidental discharge of bullet is a major cause of police extra judicial killings, 27% of the respondents agreed, 8.8% respondents neither agreed nor disagreed, 5.1% strongly disagreed that “Abuse of power and accidental discharged of bullet are the major causes of police extra judicial killings in Nigeria.

TABLE 4.3 There are penalties for the police officers that are guilty of extra Judicial Killings in Nigeria?

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Strongly agree	69	50.4%
Agree	47	34.3%
Undecided	9	6.6%
Disagree	8	5.8%
Strongly disagree	4	2.9%
Total	137	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2015

Table 4.3 above shows that 50.4% strongly agreed, 34.3% respondents agreed, 2.9% strongly disagreed that there are penalties for police officers who are guilty of extra judicial killings in Nigeria. An example is the police corporal who was charged to orderly room for the murder of Nkechi Obidigwe at a police checkpoint somewhere along Zik’s Avenue, Fegge, Onitsha. He was later remanded at Onitsha prison. Though there are many other cases where the police officers could not be identified or penalized.

Test of Hypotheses

- Hi: There is a significant relationship between the penalty meted out to police officers and the extra judicial killings they are guilty of
- H₀: There is no significant relationship between the penalty meted out to police officers and the extra judicial killings they are guilty of

Contingency Table

Responses	O	E	O-E	(O-E) ²	$\frac{(O-E)^2}{E}$
Strongly agree	69	27.4	41.6	1730.56	63.16
Agree	46	27.4	18.6	345.96	12.63
Undecided	3	27.4	-24.4	-595.36	-21.73
Disagree	13	27.4	-14.4	-207.36	-7.57
Strongly disagree	6	27.4	-21.4	-457.96	-16.71
Total	137	137			29.78

Where H_0 is the null hypothesis; H_1 is alternate hypothesis

Decision Rule

When the calculated value of the test statistic exceeds the critical level (tabulated) at the appropriate level of significance and degree of freedom, we reject the alternate hypothesis; the calculated value is 29.78 which is greater than the tabulated value 26.30 at 0.05 level of significance and freedom.

Decision

Since the calculated value is 29.78 which is greater than the tabulated value 26.30 significance level of 0.05 and the degree of freedom is 16. We therefore reject null hypothesis and accept alternative hypothesis that is “There is a significant relationship between the penalty meted out to police officers and the extra judicial killings they are guilty of

Discussion of Findings

Table 4.2 shows that majority of the respondents 47.4% agreed that abuse of power and accidental discharge of bullet are major causes of police extra judicial killings, 27% of the respondents agreed, 8.8% respondents neither agreed nor disagreed, 5.1% strongly disagreed that “Abuse of power and accidental discharged of bullet are the major causes of police extra judicial killings in Nigeria. The result of Table 4.3 above shows that 50.4% strongly agreed, 34.3% respondents agreed, 2.9% strongly disagreed that there are penalties for police officers who are guilty of extra judicial killings in Nigeria.

The outcome of the hypothesis also supports that there is a significant relationship between the penalty meted out to police officers and the extra judicial killings they are guilty of. Examples are the police corporal who was charged to orderly room for the murder of Nkechi Obidigwe at a police checkpoint somewhere along Zik’s Avenue, Fegge, Onitsha in 2006. He was tried found guilty and later remanded at Onitsha prison. In another case, Olusegun Fabunmi, the divisional police officer in charge of Pen Cinema, Agege who shot Ademola Aderinto during the January 2012 fuel subsidy protests in Lagos was dismissed from the police and made to face prosecution in a Lagos High Court. These are few out of many who were shielded from justice like the case of the 36-year-old engineer, Ugochukwu Ozuah who was shot dead 5 days after his wedding at Gbagada Lagos in 2012, whose killers have not been fished out till date despite promises by the IGP.

Conclusion

This study revealed that the Nigeria Police are guilty of extra judicial killings. It also showed that the police force order 237 contributed to the killings and it needs to be revisited if extra judicial

killings must stop or be reduced. Most interestingly, the study showed that erring police officers are usually tried, made to go through the judicial processes and punished. Generally, the researcher thinks that the police officers need more training on the handling and use of firearms.

Recommendation

The study recommended the followings:

Intensive efforts should be made to control the use of firearms by the police officers in order to stop extra judicial killing in Nigeria. Continuous police training on citizens' rights should be done on regular basis. The Nigerian police should be more responsible in dealing with the public in terms of twisting cases in their favour because they have more knowledge of the law more than most of the citizens.

The issue of trust should also be built into citizens by the police officers in their dealings with the public by being objective in most cases. The police should endeavour no matter the clarity of the case to follow due process of the law before any suspect is killed. There is also the need for the immediate review of Force Order 237 on the use of firearms.

There is the need to continue the process of reorienting the Nigeria police away from the doctrine and mentality of the colonial and military era which emphasized force, violence and brutality, to a democratic mindset that emphasizes service and partnership with the community they serve. There is the need to maintain integrity and dignity of labour in the police. The days of 'good name is better than gold' should be reinstated and instilled in the minds of the police. "Good name is better than money".

There is need for better salaries, welfare and housing for the police in order for them to give their best in the discharge of their duties. There is the need to award university education sponsorship (Locally and internationally) to children of officers who have done very well in the discharge of their duties to serve as boosters and encouragers to other police officers. The Nigeria government is rich enough to grant this. This must also be publicly announced so that it will not be highjacked by senior officers.

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