#### **CHAPTER ONE**

#### INTRODUCTION

## **Background to the Study**

Security is an essential aspect of life. It is an assurance of selfpreservation and stable environment. In a secured environment, people perform their activities without harm and fear of molestation. According to Omario (2003), Security is the quality or state of being secure, freedom from danger or freedom from fear or anxiety. Omede (2011), defined security as a dynamic condition which involves the ability of a state to protect its citizen against threat and danger. Security is related to the presence of peace, safety, happiness and protection of human and physical resources. In line with this idea, Ukpere (2012) noted that security is the protection of human and physical resources from hidden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life in homes, offices or communities. There is significant relationship between security and development, because in any country where there is insecurity, there cannot be development.

In line with this view, Greenwald and Peake (2004), asserted that security provides the requisite enabling environment for citizens of any country to live and work toward socio-economic and political development of their society. Hence, the importance of security in the development of any

society cannot be overemphasized. Okunola (2011), stated that security is important because it necessitates peace, protection of life and property, liberty as well as a precondition for economic investment and growth.

Unfortunately, in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the human society is faced with high level of insecurity. Achumba, Ighomereho and Akpor-Robaro (2013), defined insecurity as the state of being open or subject to danger or threat of danger (danger is the condition of being susceptible to harm or injury). The authors further defined insecurity as the state of being exposed to risk or anxiety (anxiety is a vague unpleasant emotion that is experienced in anticipation of some misfortune). Individuals and communities who are insecured are not only uncertain of what they may face next minute or hour, but they are also vulnerable to threats and dangers when they occur. According to Beland (2005), insecurity is a state of fear or anxiety due to absence or lack of protection.

Globally, insecurity constitutes threat to lives and properties. It retards socio-economic and political development of different countries. It is the problem of insecurity across the globe that led some countries such as Nigeria to establish Vigilante Security Services (VSS) and give them full legal and legislative backing in 2008. According to *Vigilante* (2015), Vigilante is a civilian or organization acting in a law enforcement capacity

(or in pursuit of self perceived justice) without legal authority. In the context of this study, Vigilante is a voluntary security enforcing group formed from the grassroot who has full legal and legislative backing to complement the work of the police in intelligence gathering and crime prevention.

According to Slotkin (as cited in Akaayar, 2010) in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, vigilante groups were set up in towns and rural communities in the United States of America (USA) to keep order and checkmate illegal activities by criminals. The vigilante groups in the USA protected the breakdown of law and order and supplemented the duties of legal authorities by holding formal trials before administering punishment to offenders (Stock cited in Akaayar, 2010).

Similarly, in Britain, vigilante groups were formed as a partnership in which community members work together to make their communities safer. This partnership involves the police, community safety department of local authorities, other voluntary organizations, individuals and families who want to make their neighbourhoods better place to live (Okeke, 2013). Vigilante group in Britain aims at helping people protect themselves and their properties, reduce the fear of crime by means of improved home security, greater vigilance, accurate reporting of suspicious incidents to the police and fostering neighbourhood security (Okeke, 2013). Furthermore, Okeke noted

that prior to the advent of the Nigerian police force in 1889 by the British colonial administration, various groups performed the role of policing the communities in Nigeria. For instance, in the Igbo pre-colonial societies, the role of policing is the responsibility of the entire community (facilitated by the age grade and masquerade societies). According to Ajayi (2007), the task of policing and war against crime dated back to the pre-colonial days when many local communities in Nigeria maintained warrior groups. These warrior groups comprise of able bodied young men from specific age grades who not only engage the invaders from neighbouring communities, but also enforce law and order and impose sanction within their own domain. For instance, in the South East Nigeria, there existed traditional groups commonly known as "Ndinche", which means community guards (formed by volunteers in the villages) who would arrest and arraign criminals in front of the village to their shame (Ajayi, 2007).

With the advent of European colonialism, there was change in the trend of community policing. The British sought colonial expansion across the territories of Nigeria by establishing local, decentralized police forces. The colonial police was seen as a scheme to advance the economic and political agenda of colonial masters (Garba, 2012). According to Garba, the colonial police was established neither as agent for promoting the rule of

law, human rights, community safety nor for delivering social services, rather it, was used as instrument of riot control, oppression and suppression. Furthermore, Chukwuma (2000) asserted that the use of violence and intimidation from the colonial police during the colonial era marked a dislocation between the police and local communities. In consonant to this view, Ikuteyiyo and Rotimi (2012) noted that the use of violence by the police during the colonial period alienated the police from the people they were meant to protect. This alienation according to the authors, deepened the distrust between the police and the communities, hence policing in the colonial era was described as anti-people, which left crime unabated.

Consequently, there has been rising wave of insecurity since the country attained independence in 1960. The rising wave of insecurity assumed a dangerous dimension, which threatened the corporate existence of the country as one geographical entity (Ewetan, 2011). The security situation in the country has caused enormous loss of life and property and created general atmosphere of fear and social tension in the country. In recent time, it seems there is an increase in the rate of theft, armed robbery, militancy, kidnapping, bombing, assassination and human trafficking in different parts of the country. For example, there was high incidence of armed robbery in the South West, terrorism in the North, kidnapping and youth restiveness in

the South South and South East Zone (Sanusi, 2013). Presently the clashes between cattle herdsmen and the farmers and the recent killings of many people by cattle herdsmen in Benue and Enugu States poses a great security threat to the peaceful co-existence of the country.

In the post-independence era, successive military regimes used the police to enforce authoritarian rule in Nigeria. According to Human Rights (1996), the authoritarian rule used by the police further perpetuated a culture of violence. The Human Right group noted that this situation gave the police a bad reputation and equally made people to keep distance from the police. This situation further led to lack of cooperation between members of communities and the police. This lack of cooperation worsened the community–police relation and caused unwillingness on the part of the community members to report crime or provide intelligent information to the police (Okereke, 2008). This gap and disconnect between the police and community members led to the formation of vigilante groups in most communities.

Ero (2000) noted that the formation of vigilante groups is in response to the security vacuum created as a result of lapses in the protection of lives and properties by the government which necessitated provision of security services outside the formal security structures of the state. Hence, it was the

disconnect between the police and community members that resulted to the emergence of the vigilante groups in Nigeria.

The emergence of the vigilante group in Nigeria indicated that the performance of Nigerian Police is not quite satisfactory and that police alone cannot fulfill the policing need of all communities in Nigeria without vigilante services. Phenson (2014) noted that the Nigerian Police Force was ill-equipped, incompetent, corrupt and unprofessional in maintaining law and order in the country especially as regards combating criminal activities. Conversely, the police officers complained of poor salaries which were irregularly paid, lack of life insurance policy, indecent and insufficient barracks, lack of scientific and technological equipment for detecting crimes, inadequate transport facilities, absence of motivation packages which would enable them perform effectively (Nigerian Police Force, 2008). According to Phenson (2014), there were only 205 policemen protecting 100,000 citizens in Nigeria as against the world's acceptable standard of 222 policemen per 100,000 citizens for effective policing in the country, in accordance to the United Nations standard. In consonant to this, Arase (2015) stated that the Nigerian police has only 350,000 policemen which explained the poor numerical strength of the Nigerian police force to effectively police and make good impact on the nation's security for over 170million people.

Following the rise in crime in the nation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the role of the vigilante became indispensable. The mission of the vigilante group in Nigeria is to supplement and complement the effort of the Nigerian police force in their war against crime. Consequently, the Vigilante Group of Nigeria became registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) in 1999 (Obeagu, 2014). In the South East Nigeria, vigilantism can be traced back to the explosion of violent crime which rocked the city of Aba in Abia State and its surroundings in 1997/98. The commercial town that has the large Ariaria Market was gripped by insecurity and lawlessness as armed robbery and other forms of violent crime reached unprecedented level. Robbery and extortion by armed gangs were prevalent. The most prominent of the armed gangs were known as the "mafia". This state of affairs affected not just the individuals living in Aba, but also traders from all over the country, who used to come to Aba to transact business in the Ariaria Market (Centre for Law Enforcement Education, 2001).

Due to the high level of insecurity and intimidation suffered by Aba traders, the Shoe Makers Association in Ariaria Market formed and organized a vigilante group to defend themselves against criminals (Human Rights Watch, 2001). This group (traders and shoe makers) worked as vigilante group in Abia State until the vigilante was legalized and registered

as a voluntary entity under the Abia State of Nigeria Law No. 8 of 2002, to be officially known and called, the Abia State vigilante group.

According to article (4) of the Constitution of Abia State Vigilante Group, membership of the vigilante group shall be open to all Nigerians, who

- a. Are not below the age of 20 years.
- b. Are of proven integrity.
- c. Possess a minimum of First School Leaving Certificate
- d. Are guaranteed by person of proven integrity resident in Abia State.

The functions of vigilante group as defined in article (5) of the Constitution of Abia State vigilante group include:

- (a) To assist in the maintenance of security in Abia State.
- (b) To render all lawful help and assistance to the police in the following areas:
  - a. Detection and prevention of crimes.
  - b. Making available to the police relevant information on criminals.
  - c. Protecting lives and properties of the citizens in Abia State.

The vigilante group is supposed to complement the efforts of the police in checkmating the activities of the hoodlums and identify their hideouts both in urban and rural areas. The vigilante was formed in order to work side by side with the police in the state on community policing.

According to Rooyen (as cited in Okeke, 2013), community policing is a strategy that is based on a collaborative partnership between the community and the police, in order to find creative solutions for contemporary community problems such as crime. The idea of collaborative partnership is to establish a bridge between the vigilante, community members and the police within which they operate.

Similarly, Trajanowicz (2010), defined community policing as an organizational strategy which promotes partnership between community members and the police. As an organizational strategy, community policing facilitates community involvement and partnership with the police in crime prevention programmes. Community policing involves the commitment of everyone working together to reduce crime and the fear of crime. This means that communities play a significant role in crime prevention. With community policing the police is not seen as alien to the community they serve. Rather, they are seen as partners in development. Okereke (2008) observed that a good rapport between the community members and police

would make the job of policing easier. The vigilante, community members and the police are supposed to play a cooperative role towards achieving ultimate security in any state but unfortunately, there are still cases of insecurity and criminal activities in Abia State.

The Abia State vigilante group has worked for over 12 years in the State. Though, they seem to be making some efforts in the area of combating crime, some gaps seem to exist. The vigilante group, whose sole responsibility is, protection of lives and properties of people seems to have been politicized. They seem to be personal asset of some very important personalities in the state who finance and influence their activities (Akaayar, 2010).

Furthermore, according to Nwaeze (2010), they seem to be facing challenges of poor motivation by the government, poor funding, lack of patrol vehicles (logistics), lack of modern communication gadgets, for obtaining information or intelligent gathering and shortage of voluntary manpower, hence the need for evaluation of the vigilante group.

Evaluation is a systematic process that helps people to review their activities and embark on new ones for greater effectiveness and improvement. Evaluation helps to give feedback on programme and project implementation. Tufo (2007), defined evaluation as assessing and judging

the value of a piece of work in an organization or a service. Tufo further asserted that the main purpose of evaluation is to help an organization reflect on what it is trying to achieve, assess how far it is succeeding and identify required changes. This can be achieved through obtaining relevant responses from stakeholders.

The respondents for this study will comprise of town union executives in the rural and urban areas in Abia State. They represent the interest of the community members. In addition, the respondents will include policemen working in different locations in Abia State (rural and urban). This is because the location of a community may attract more security interest, alertness and commitment than others. For example, a community where top government officials and politicians live may attract more commitment and better performance by the vigilantes and policemen than other areas (U.J. Obidiegwu, Personal Communication, July 28, 2015). This may, therefore, influence the opinion of community members and policemen on issues of security in their areas of residence and areas of work. Similarly, community members and policemen may have different opinion on issues of security in their areas of residence, services and activities. This view indicates that location is an important variable in evaluating the services of vigilante group.

Many efforts have been made to achieve effective security services and peaceful environment, but there are still some element of insecurity in communities in Abia State. Considering the pivotal role effective security play for harmonious and peaceful human existence, it is necessary that the activities of the vigilante group in Abia State be evaluated for greater effectiveness and improvement. Evaluation of Abia State vigilante security service is necessary, because it will help to reveal the areas of their weaknesses as adjudged by this study with respect to sustenance of article 4 and performance of their functions in article 5 of the Constitution of Abia State Vigilante Group. This is necessary in order to strengthen and improve their performances for effective intelligence- led policing in the communities. Hence, the researcher was motivated to evaluate the vigilante security services in both the rural and urban communities in Abia State in order to unravel the areas in their services that need improvement for greater effectiveness and decision making.

### **Statement of the Problem**

The importance of security in the development of communities and nations cannot be overemphasized. The security of persons and properties is the most fundamental need of every human society, without which life is

meaningless. This is why every responsible government strives to provide security for her citizens. For security of lives and properties of members of any society to be achieved there is need for sincere collaboration between the government and the communities.

The Abia State government recognized the necessity of this partnership at the grassroot and set up the Abia State vigilante group in 2002 to synergize with the police and compliment their efforts in combating crime and protecting lives and properties of citizens in the State. In order to carry out their roles effectively, the vigilante group are supposed to function as stipulated in the article 4 and 5 of the constitution of the Abia State vigilante groups. Unfortunately, this effort has not yielded satisfactory result because communities in Abia State still experience security challenges such as armed robbery, kidnapping, ritual killings, rape, among others.

Thus, if this situation is left unchecked, it may degenerate to chaos, disorderliness, fear of crime, loss of lives and properties. This situation therefore calls for the need to evaluate the vigilante security services in Abia State for proper reorientation, repositioning and re-strategizing of their roles in order to achieve a peaceful and crime-free environment in Abia State.

# **Purpose of the Study**

The main purpose of the study is to evaluate vigilante security services in Abia State. Specifically, the study intends to find out:

- The perception of community members on the performance of the vigilante.
- 2. The extent of collaboration between the police and the vigilante.
- 3. The extent to which the activities of the vigilante group have reduced criminal activities.
- 4. The extent to which the vigilante group protect lives and properties.

# **Significance of the Study**

To ensure security of lives and properties of citizens in communities in Abia State, there is need to evaluate the extent of the activities of the vigilante security groups in providing security for communities in Abia State. The findings of this study will be of immense benefit to members of the community, Abia State investors, the police, vigilante, local and state governments and future researchers.

The members of communities will benefit from the findings of this study because the findings of this study will help to determine whether the Abia State vigilante group is functioning in accordance to the constitutional

provision. When this gap is revealed, it will enable the vigilante group to streamline and adhere to the provisions of the law in the areas such as requirements and qualification for enrolment and integrity of members. When the requirement for enrollment are confirmed, qualified members of proven integrity will be enrolled into the vigilante service. This will lead to effective community policing for the protection of lives and properties of members in Abia State.

The Abia State investors will benefit from the findings of this study because when security of lives and properties is enhanced, they will do their business in a safe and secured environment leading to high income and productivity to the traders and the entire nation.

The police will benefit from the findings of this study because the findings of this study will help to determine whether the vigilante group is effectively complementing the efforts of the police in fighting crime. Orientation programmes, seminars, workshops and training programmes could be organized for both the vigilante and the police. This will enhance effective collaboration and synergy between the two groups.

Local and state governments will benefit from the findings of this study because the findings of this study will inform them on the gap in the performance of the vigilante service and the police. This will enable them

address the areas of needs of the vigilante and police for effective decision taking and intelligence policing. When this is done, the effectiveness of community security which is an important contemporary issue in Nigeria's security agenda will be enhanced. Finally, it is hoped that information from the study will add to the pool of available knowledge in the area of security, which future researchers could utilize as a springboard for further studies.

### **Scope of the Study**

The study was delimited to evaluation of vigilante security services in Abia State. The study focused on communities in Abia State. It covered the perception of the community members on the performance of the vigilante, the activities of the vigilante group in the reduction of crime, the roles of the vigilante group in protecting lives and properties, the collaboration between the police and the vigilante group on how to tackle security problems in the community. It is specifically concerned with the evaluation of the article 5 of the constitution of the Abia State Vigilante Group using the responses of human resources (vigilante, town union executive and policemen) who are concerned with community policing in Abia State. It is not also concerned with any other issue with security in Nigeria, since any other study can be carried out by another researcher in such areas

# **Research Questions**

The following research questions guided the study:

- 1. What is the perception of community members on the performance of the vigilante security group?
- 2. To what extent do vigilante collaborate with the Nigerian Police Force in fighting crime?
- 3. To what extent does the vigilante group reduce criminal activities in Abia State?
- 4. To what extent does the vigilante group protect lives and properties of community members?

# **Hypotheses**

The following null hypotheses were tested at 0.05 level of significance:

- Ho<sub>1</sub>: Community members living in the urban areas and those living in the rural areas do not differ significantly in their mean ratings on their perceptions on the performance of the vigilante in Abia State?
- Ho<sub>2</sub>: Policemen serving in the urban areas and those serving in the rural areas do not differ significantly in their mean ratings on the extent to which vigilante collaborate with the Nigerian Police Force in fighting crime in Abia State.

- Ho<sub>3</sub>: Community members living in the urban areas and those living in the rural areas do not differ significantly in their mean ratings on the extent to which vigilante reduce criminal activities in Abia State.
- Ho<sub>4</sub>: Community members living in the urban areas and those living in the rural areas do not differ significantly in their mean ratings on the extent to which vigilante protect lives and properties of community members in Abia State.

#### **CHAPTER TWO**

#### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter reviewed the literature related to this study. The related literature was organized under the following subheadings:

# **Conceptual framework**

**Evaluation** 

Vigilante

Security

#### **Theoretical Framework**

Theory of partnership policing and community participation

Theory of social contract

Maslow's hierarchy of needs

#### **Theoretical Studies**

Brief history of vigilante in Nigeria

Causes of insecurity in Nigeria

Services of the vigilante security group

Requirements for enrollment into vigilante in Abia State

Perceptions of community members on vigilante in Nigeria

Collaboration of vigilante with the police in Nigeria

Vigilante and reduction of criminal activities in Nigeria

Vigilante and protection of lives and properties of community members in Nigeria.

# **Empirical studies**

Studies on Human Safety Needs

Studies on Vigilante Services

Summary of the Review of Related Literature

# **Conceptual Framework**

The conceptual framework is discussed in the following section:

## **Evaluation**

The concept of evaluation is not limited to a single definition. Various researchers in the field of education have defined it from diverse perspectives. According to Gitlin and Smyth (1989) evaluation from its Latin origin means 'to strengthen' or 'to empower'. In addition, Tufo (2007), stated that evaluation is assessing and judging the value of a piece of work, an organization or a service. This aims at helping an organization reflect on what it is trying to achieve, assess how far it is succeeding and identify required changes.

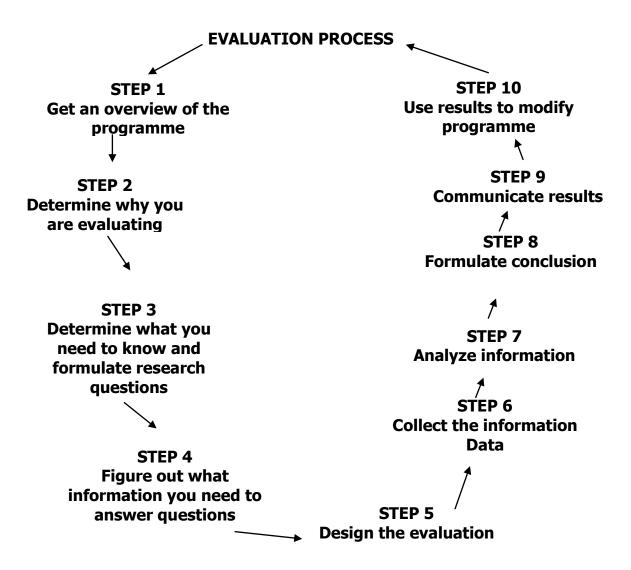
According to Trochim (2010), evaluation is the systematic assessment of the worth or merit of an organization or a service. Kellong (2007) and

Rossi and Freeman (1993) further defined evaluation as the systematic application of social research procedures for assessing the conceptualization, design, implementation and utility of programmes.

Rowlands (1991) viewed evaluation as the systematic exploration and judgment of working processes, experiences and outcomes. Rowlands noted further that evaluation pays special attention to aims, values, perceptions, needs and resources which entails gathering, ordering and making judgments about information in a methodical way; monitoring or keeping track which involves making careful judgments about the worth, significance and meaning of phenomenon. Thus, evaluation is used to explore and judge practice, programmes and services which must take into consideration the people involved, the processes and any outcomes that can be identified. In this study, the practices, programmes and services of the vigilante will be evaluated. The study will further seek the opinion of the community members and the police to determine empirically how far it is succeeding and identify required gaps that need to be filled for necessary improvement, decision making and policy formulation.

Evaluation can be referred to as systematic. In accordance to this view, Rossi and Freeman (1993) made an overview of the steps of a 'typical' evaluation process as follows:

Fig 1: Flow chart of Evaluation Process



Source: Rossi and Freeman, Evaluation Concepts (1993).

Fig. 1 illustrates a flow chart of the evaluation process. An overview of the programme or services to be evaluated is the first step in the flow chart. This provides knowledge on what is to be evaluated. The next step is formulation of research questions based on the information needed. This is followed by collecting data and analyzing information gathered from the

data which will inform the conclusions to be drawn. Results obtained are then disseminated for the purpose of modification of the programme or service.

Evaluation is more than a mere description. It measures something against criteria or standards to determine its worth or its value. In this study, the legal provisions and the goals of the Abia State Vigilante Security Services will be empirically assessed to find out the merits of their service and whether they are succeeding or not. This makes 'value' or 'worth', a key concept in evaluation.

There are different types of evaluation in educational activities, namely formative and summative evaluation. Tufo (2007) stated that formative evaluation strengthens or improves the services being evaluated; it examines the delivery of the service or technology, the quality of its implementation, the assessment of the organizational context, personnel, procedures and inputs. In other words, formative evaluation is used to improve a programme or service while it is still in progress. It helps in gaining increased attention and efficiency. Summative evaluation in contrast, examines the effect or outcomes of a service.

Tufo further asserted that the type of evaluation used for a particular programme or service depends on the object or service being evaluated and the purpose of the evaluation.

Similarly, Rogers and Smith (2006) identified two types of evaluation; formative and summative evaluation. Formative evaluation according to Smith enables people and agencies make judgments about the work undertaken so as to identify knowledge, attitudes, skills and to understand the changes that have occurred. This is with a view to increase effectiveness and performance. Summative evaluation enables people and agencies to demonstrate that they have achieved the standard required. Evaluation, in this study, will involve both formative and summative evaluation since it involves assessing the processes as well as the outcome of the services of the vigilante security group in Abia State, with the view to improving their effectiveness and performance.

To determine the effectiveness and performance of evaluation in a programme or service, feedback becomes necessary. Trochim (2010) asserted that the generic goal of most evaluation is to provide "useful feedback" to a variety of audiences including sponsors, donors, client-groups, administrators, staff and other relevant constituencies. It is the wish of the researcher that the findings of this study will provide useful feedback

for decision-making. Feedback is useful as it aids decision-making. Trochim further noted that despite the fact that evaluation sometimes has a long effect, there is broad consensus that the major goal of evaluation should be to influence decision-making or policy formulation through the provision of empirically-driven feedback.

Muraskin (2010) stated that the key to successful evaluation is a set of clear, measurable and realistic programme objectives. If objectives are unrealistic or not measurable, the programme may not be able to demonstrate that it has been successful even if it has done a good job. Muraskin further asserted that evaluation process can identify programme or service effects, helping staff and others to find out whether their services have an impact on people's knowledge or attitudes. The different dimensions of evaluation are process, outcome and impact evaluation.

Process evaluation involves analyzing how programme activities are delivered, implemented and attempts to determine how successful the programme followed the strategy laid out. In other words, process evaluation looks at the programme from start to finish, assess cause and effect relationships between the programme components and outcomes. Outcome evaluation tells us what kind of change has occurred, that is, it measures the direct effect of programme activities on targeted recipients; while an impact

evaluation looks at the long-term, deeper changes that have resulted from that programme (USAID, 2009). In this study, the input, process and impact of the vigilante services will be measured by finding out from the vigilante their minimum age of enrollment, issues on their integrity and membership and determining the perception of the community members and police, the extent vigilante collaborate with the police, reduce criminal activities and protect lives and properties. This will altogether judge the performance of the vigilante in Abia State.

Evaluation objectives should also be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bound. In other words, evaluation should have clearly stated objectives in measurable terms which should be achievable and realized within a given time. In this study, the specific objectives are stated in measurable terms. The main objective is to evaluate the vigilante security services in Abia State for proper reorientation, repositioning and strategizing in their roles in order to achieve a peaceful and crime-free environment in Abia State.

# Vigilante

The term vigilante is derived from the latin word 'vigilans' which means to be 'watchful' (Akaayar, 2010). According to Abraham (2007), vigilantism is an organized attempt by a group of ordinary citizens to

enforce norms and maintain law and order on behalf of their communities, in the absence of effective official state action through the police. Vigilantism in Nigeria has been considered as a community reaction to crime. Similarly, Baker (2002) defined Vigilante as a security outfit mostly composed of volunteers operating under the mandate of communal concensus to fight crime.

According to *Vigilante* (2015), Vigilante is a civilian or organization acting in a law enforcement capacity (or in pursuit of self-perceived justice) without legal authority. However, in Nigeria, vigilante has legal backing. In the context of this study, vigilante is a voluntary security enforcing group formed by community members to control and prevent crime due to the ineffectiveness of the police to bring the increasing crime wave in Abia State under control.

# **Security**

Security is a whole set of actions by which the government guarantees the safety of lives and properties of its citizens from internal and external influences (Institute for Security and Open Methodologies, 2005). Similarly, Oduneye (2008) define security as the establishment and maintenance of protective measures which are intended to ensure that a state is inviolable from hostile influences. In the same vein, Ukpere (2012) asserts security

to mean protection from hidden and hurtful disruptions in the patterns of daily life in homes, offices or communities.

Hence, security is used to describe all measures, precautions, actions and personnel put in place to ensure safety to lives and assets. Security is similar to safety, because it includes activities, institutions and technologies that are involved in the protection of a country, property or persons against attack, danger and so forth. It is these activities, institutions and technologies that constitute essentials or basic elements of security. According to Phenson (2014) essential or critical elements of security implies those critical elements that constitute and facilitate effective security management. These include human, materials and technical elements that support security activity in a given community.

Man's search for security is continuous. Over the ages, emerging forms of human, social and political organization have stimulated a necessity for the protection and safety of individual, family, community and the nation. As threats continue to increase, there is fear of insecurity. The fear of insecurity which manifests at the individual or group level can also be projected to institutions and corporate entities, countries and regional blocs (Otubu, 2011). Hence, this study is concerned with the security of lives and properties of community members in Abia State and Nigeria in general. This

is because the increase in crime wave such as kidnapping, armed robbery, human trafficking, cattle rustling, terrorism/insurgents attacks, political assassinations, rape, has caused enormous loss of lives and properties, which creates a general atmosphere of fear and social tension in the country.

## **Theoretical Framework**

This section is discussed under the following subheadings: Theory of Partnership Policing and Community Participation, Theory of Social Contract and Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs.

# Theory of Partnership Policing and Community Participation.

The theory of partnership policing and community participation is a human safety need theory propounded by Denis R. Rosenbaum in the year 1994. In the partnership policing theory, the author posits that the criminal justice system cannot, by itself, solve the complex problems of crime, disorder and insecurity including terrorism that afflict society. The theory advocates that resources from outside the criminal justice system are needed, as a means of solving diverse problems of insecurity. Rosenbaum (2003) admits that this can be achieved through the creation of partnerships between the police (Formal policing) and the vigilante (Informal policing).

According to Inyang and Abraham (2013), the creation of partnership between the police and vigilante will bring distinctive and complimentary

skills and resources that can produce coordinated and targeted responses to public safety problems.

Furthermore, community partnership theory is a theory that advocates that community members should control and make decisions that affect them. Community partnership theory involves people in solving their own problems. When community members are involved in solving their own problems, it brings lasting benefits to them and allows for the redistribution of power that enables the less privileged, who are excluded from the political and economic processes, to be deliberately included. Involving community members in programmes that concerns them is a way of incorporating and building local values and attitudes. Confirming this, Bratcht and Tsouros (1990) noted that involving community members in programmes that concerns them can help in providing access to local leaders, resources and technical skills.

In line with the view of Bratcht and Tsouros, the theory of community participation brings people together in creating and making decisions about their environment. Similarly, participation brings about individual empowerment. As people gain skills in assessing their needs, it will help them to set their priorities right and gain control over the environment (Kreuter, Lezin & Young 2000).

The twin theories of partnership policing and community participation as a human safety needs theory is related to this study, in the sense, that the police alone cannot fulfill the policing need of all communities in Nigeria without the complementary role of the vigilante security services. The community members know themselves, their structure, their topography and terrains better than an outsider. This explains the increasing demand for vigilante security services in rural and urban communities, an arrangement which would bring policing closer to the people in order to achieve safe and crime-free environment.

# **Theory of Social Contract**

Thomas Hobbes propounded the theory of social contract in 1751. According to Johari (2005), the social contract theory is otherwise known as the Consent theory or Mechanistic theory. The social contract theory is a theory which emphasizes an agreement between the sovereign state and its citizens. The theory spells out the relative rights and duties of both the sovereign state and its citizens. In the theory of social contract, Hobbes pointed out that the citizens owe the sovereign state absolute obedience in exchange for protection against domestic law violators, criminals or deviants and foreign enemies. According to Hobbes, order could be achieved if all

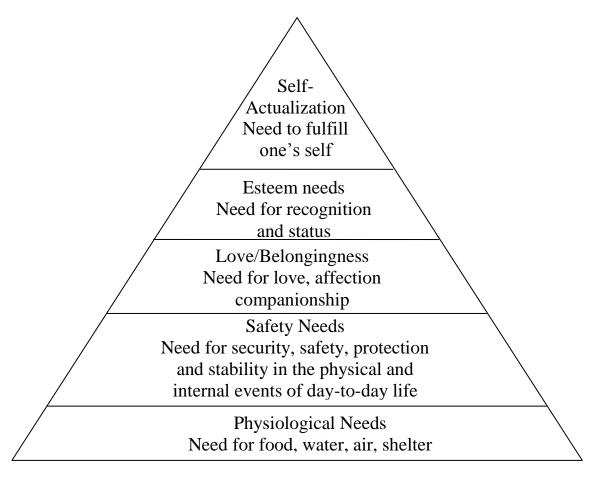
citizens enter into a contract to surrender their individual powers to the sovereign state in return for the protection of life and property.

The social contract theory is related to this study, because in Nigeria, it is the responsibility of the government to protect lives and properties of the citizens. The citizens in turn are expected to be absolutely obedient to laws and order. However, the Nigeria Police, which is the foremost state agent in the war against crime seems to be understaffed and not so effective in many communities in Nigeria, including communities in Abia State. As a result, the Abia State government formed the Abia State vigilante security group in 2002 to synergize with the police and compliment their efforts in combating crime, as well as protection of lives and properties of community members in the state in order to ensure harmonious living.

## Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

Maslow hierarchy of needs was a theory of human motivation developed by Abraham Maslow in 1943. Maslow posited a hierarchy of human needs based on two groupings mainly, basic (deficiency needs) and growth needs. Maslow's hierarchy of needs is represented diagrammatically below:

Fig 2: Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



Source: V.F Peretomode, Educational Administration, Applied Concepts and Theoretical Perspectives (2001)

According to Maslow, the physiological needs as a basic need has to do with the physical survival of a human being, that is, the maintenance of the human body which include the need for air, water, food, clothing and shelter. According to Maslow, if these basic needs are not met, the human body cannot function properly and will ultimately fail. The physiological

need is followed immediately by the safety and security needs, which are the major concern of this study.

The safety and security needs refer to the need to feel safe in the world, to feel safe from personal and environmental danger and threats. Once the physical survival needs of an individual are met, the individual's safety needs take precedence and dominate behaviour. Safety and security needs have to do with people's yearning for a predictable and orderly world in which injustice, crime, fear of crime, inconsistency are under control. These security needs are important for human existence and survival. Safety and security needs include personal security, financial security, emotional security, environmental protection, comfort and peace, assurance of long term economic well-being. Without security to life, one cannot be alive to think of other needs. Hence, safety and security needs are of utmost importance to the researcher because security necessitates peace as well as protection of lives and properties.

Need for love and belongingness emanates when an individual lives in a safe and secured environment. Love and belongingness need involves need for one to belong and be accepted as member of a group. It involves affiliation, affection, acceptance and group participation. The esteem needs are primarily concerned with a person's view or notion of himself. The esteem need covers the desire for independence and freedom which one can achieve in a secured environment. The desire to become the best that one can be is self-actualization. Self-actualization is achieved when an individual realized his own potential in a safe and secured environment. Beyond the general level of self-actualization, Maslow made reference to self-transcendence, which is helping others to achieve their potential in a stable, secured and organized environment.

Maslow's hierarchy of needs is relevant to this study in the sense that it portrays the deficiency needs of individuals which has to be satisfied before the growth needs can be attended to. Human beings battle with the deficiency needs which most often has to be satisfied before the growth needs can be attended to. However in the researcher's view, security needs surpasses all other needs and is the most prominent because if life is not secured, one cannot plan effectively for the deficiency needs which include feeding and clothing. Nothing gives meaning and essence to life than security. Human beings prefer a safe, orderly, predictable, lawful and organized environment. The theory gives insight to the fact that these identified needs are very critical to human existence and survival. The

accomplishment of the safety and security needs will guarantee the attainment of the growth need.

#### **Theoretical Studies**

## **Brief History of Vigilante in Nigeria**

The origin of vigilante in Nigeria has been traced to pre-colonial administration (Baker, 2002). In the Northern region of Nigeria, the local Vigilante groups known as the "Yan-Banga" and the palace guards are responsible for crime fighting and the law enforcement (Rotimi, 2001). Similarly, in the South Eastern part of Nigeria, the security of the communities was the duty of the young, able-bodied men, commonly known as "Ndinche" (community guards). These community guards operate under the mandate of communal consensus to fight crime. They enforce the decisions of the council of elders, arrest and handover people violating the laws and customs of the people (Ajayi, 2007). Similarly, Okafor (2007) noted that the vigilante security group consists of able bodied young community members, who are supported financially and materially by other community members and charged with the task of securing the community and enforcing the law. Furthermore, Ngwu (2014) posited that in Igbo ethnic groups, the various age- grade from the age of 18-30 years also form themselves into vigilante groups in order to arrest, discipline offenders and guard their communities. The emergence of the vigilante security group in Nigeria is a measure to supplement the social security service of the Nigerian Police Force, whose unsatisfactory performance could not curtail the rising trend of urban and rural violence, crime and loss of lives and properties.

At different times in the history of Nigeria, the government was faced with security challenges, the exit of the military in 1999 and the institutionalization of the liberal democratic government witnessed dramatic increase in security problems and the proliferation of the vigilante groups could be regarded as an outcome of the situation. Ero (2000) observed that the creation of the vigilante group in different states in Nigeria is in response to security vacuum created as a result of lapses in the protection of life and property of citizens by government. Ero further noted that this situation gave rise to provisions of security from outside the formal security structures of the state.

For instance, Aba, the commercial city of Abia and its surroundings in 1997/98 experienced explosion of violent crime. According to Human Rights Watch (2001), the shoe maker's association in Ariaria market formed and organized a vigilante group to defend themselves against criminals. During the early period of vigilante group operation in Nigeria, the Nigeria

Police Force considered the vigilante group as rivals and released certain suspects arrested by the vigilante group without trial. Akaayar (2010) contends that the vigilante security groups under the auspices of community policing are not militarized and have no specific interest to protect rather than help the police in providing social security. Akaayar further noted that the vigilante group do not represent the political, economic and religious interest, but only tackles crime in communities in Nigeria.

In Nigeria, some states have legalized and regulated the activities of the vigilante security groups, because the groups have been found to be helpful and complementary to the police in ensuring peace and security. Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi, Edo, Enugu and Imo States legalized vigilante in the years 2002, 2000, 2002, 2001, 2006 and 2000 respectively (Okeke, 2013). In addition, Benue state legalized its vigilante in 2000 (Akaayar, 2010). Furthermore, Jigawa, Kano and Lagos States legalized vigilante in the year 1998, 1987 and 1996 respectively (Baker, 2002 & Adejoh, 2014).

# Causes of Insecurity in Nigeria

Nigeria as a country has suffered myriad of security problems such that, the country's stability and integration are seriously threatened. Presently, the security situations still remain adverse due to the increase of criminal violence which seem to have gone deep-rooted and is increasing faster with each passing day (Niger Delta University cited in Phenson, 2014).

According to the Global Peace Index (2015), Nigeria was ranked the third most insecured (terrorized) country after Iraq and Afghanistan, which were ranked first and second respectively in the world (Adeyanju, 2015). The high level of insecurity in Nigeria can be alluded to some internal factors such as unemployment, poverty, terrorism, corruption, porous borders, ethnic violence, communal clashes and kidnapping.

The failure of successive administration to address the challenges of unemployment left number of youths unemployed. Adagba, Ugwu and Eme (2002) confirmed that unemployment among Nigerians, especially the youths is a major cause of insecurity and violent crimes in communities in Nigeria. The number of unemployed youths in Nigeria has not only deepened unemployment rate, but has resulted to poverty (Finintell Magazine, 2015).

Poverty breeds insecurity by undermining the capacity of states to deliver basic physical security, legitimate governance, economic growth and social welfare (Rice, 2015). Poverty is most prevalent in Nigeria. According to World Bank Report, Nigeria ranked third in the world with 7% of the world poor (Gbemre, 2015). In consonance to this report, Council on

Foreign Relations (2015), noted that the pattern of poverty level in Nigeria has been regionalized, 72% in the north and 35% in the South.

Kidnapping is a major factor that causes insecurity in communities in Nigeria. According to Nwagboso (2012), kidnapping could be traced to hostilities, conflicts and violent crime in the South East. The author further stated that from 2007 to 2010, several prominent residents and indigenes in Aba and its environs were kidnapped for ransom. This adversely affected the economy of Abia State as many businessmen and manufacturing companies relocated to other states such as Enugu and Anambra. Terrorism, bombing and frequent attacks by Boko Haram insurgent assumed a political undertone and has claimed thousands of lives in the communities in the Northern region of Nigeria since 2009 till date (Achumba, et al, 2013).

Similarly, corruption is another cause of insecurity which poses a challenge to development in Nigeria. According to Iyare (2008), corruption hampers economic growth and undermines the effectiveness of investment and aid. Corrupt practices, made the Nigerian borders to be continuously porous. Achumba, et al (2013) noted that the porous frontiers of the Nigerian border contributed to the level of insecurity in communities and the entire nation. As a result of this, there is an unchecked inflow of small arms and light weapons into the country which has aided militancy and criminality.

Ethnic violence and communal clash are among the causes of insecurity in communities in Nigeria. Resentment and disaffection among ethnic groups resulted to ethnic and religions violence in different parts of the country which led to destruction of lives and properties, disrupted businesses and economic activities and retarded economic growth and development in the country.

Recently, the attack of cattle herdsmen in some communities, is another cause of insecurity in Nigeria. According to Chris (2016), the recent attacks of Cattle Herdsmen in Nimbo Community in Uzo Uwani Local Government Area of Enugu State, has caused loss of lives and properties as well as destruction of farm lands of community members. Also, Umar (2016) observed that in Tambor Jumor Community of Girei Local Government Area of Adamawa State, the activities of Cattle Herdsmen had continued to have negative effects on the community. It has led to loss of lives and destruction of farm crops.

However, efforts have been made globally to curb insecurity in Nigeria, through the assistance of international communities such as USA, Germany, France, Israel, Columbia. These international communities have been in the forefront of rendering assistance to Nigeria, through sending training teams and equipment, rendering technical assistance to disrupt

insurgents hideouts, weapons' flow and recruitment, expanding intelligence sharing and providing variety of assistance programmes designed to advance regional cooperation, bolster rule of law and strengthen security institutions (Nwabughiogu, 2015). In addition to the efforts of the international communities, several efforts have been made by the Federal government to curb insecurity and ensure protection of lives and properties of her citizenry. Such efforts made by the country include regrouping with her neighbouring countries such as Cameroon, Chad, Republics of Niger and Benin, to form a multinational Joint Taskforce. The joint taskforce work together to fight insurgency within the regional framework of the Lake Chad Basin. In addition, the federal government employed 10,000 police officers and established a proper, well-equipped multi-lateral, anti-terrorism, multiagencies taskforce, to beef up security in the country. Furthermore, the federal government strengthened security of public space through the setting up of Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) monitoring systems in major cities and towns in the country (Obalonye, 2015).

Despite these efforts made by the federal government, there is still high level of insecurity in Nigeria (Nkire, 2015). According to Nzeshi and Miringa (2016), the death toll of victims of Boko Haram bomb blast was put at 3,120 in Nigeria in 2015. Recently, the displacement tracking matrix

conducted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) put the total number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) at 2,151,79 in Nigeria. These great loss and associated problems are among the factors that moved the researcher to embark on the evaluation of the vigilante security services, so that the findings of the study will go a long way to inform decision making on issues of security in the country.

#### **Services of the Vigilante Security Group**

To maintain sustainable peace and security, community policing is therefore imperative. Community policing demands that community members and the vigilante collaborate with police to protect and safeguard their environment against crime and disorder. It therefore offers opportunity for the vigilante, community members and the police to work together to resolve problems that exist in the communities. This is one of the major reasons for the provision of vigilante service laws in Nigeria.

Adejoh (2013) noted that the emergence of the vigilante security group in communities in Nigeria is due to high level of insecurity and the unsatisfactory performance of the Nigerian Police. In order words, the vigilante security group emerged to fill an unmet need. Strengthening and improving the services of the vigilante security group in the rural and urban

communities in Abia State will enhance safety and security of the community members.

Baker (2002) noted that in order to enhance safety and security of the community members, the police must recognized the usefulness and positive role the vigilante could play in the maintenance of law and order. This cooperation and the synergy between the vigilante security group and the police will reinforce trust and facilitates exchange of intelligence sharing. This collaborative partnership will lead to the identification of other areas that could benefit the communities in the fight against crime. In other to fight against crime, the vigilante security groups are expected to provide the following security services. Such services are as follows: making prompt report of suspicious and criminal activities to the police, keeping effective and prompt surveillance of the communities, providing intelligence information to the police and alerting community members on prevalent and emerging crimes.

Prompt reporting of suspicious and criminal activities to the police is one of the services of the vigilante in fighting crime in both rural and urban communities in Nigeria. This strategy is effective because community members work closely with the vigilante security group and provide them with information and assistance needed to detect, identify and arrest

criminals in their hideouts. For instance, community members at Amapu village in Osisioma Ngwa LGA, gave useful information to the vigilante security group about kidnappers hideout that led to the successful arrest of the gang. According to Sampson (2016), the vigilante security group arrested the gang in their hideout and immediately hand them over to the police for further interrogation.

Another service of the vigilante in the fight against crime is unit patrolling for effective surveillance of the rural and urban communities. A unit is an area in which a group of vigilante is detailed to patrol. It may be streets or roads depending on the density of the population. It may also be an area, where the rate of crime occurs frequently or where economic or administrative establishment or building is located. In the rural areas, it may be a collection of villages or hamlets. In unit patrol surveillance, the vigilante group disperse its members in such a way to fight and frustrate criminal activities which seem to have a strong deterrent effect on potential offenders. According to Ismail and Abiodun (2007) the immediate apprehension of criminals will have a strong deterrent effect on potential offenders or hoodlums.

Moreso, prompt surveillance squad is another service provided by the vigilante security group which is an anti vice squad that is used to fight

crime in the rural and urban communities. Anti vice squad is a vigilante surveillance squad that operates in disguise and carry out intelligence surveillance of areas, such as large gatherings, public places and motor parks, that are potentially breeding grounds for various vices, such as armed robbery, kidnapping, human trafficking, gambling, theft and prostitution (Ikuomola, 2011). For instance, the Abia state vigilante security group has used the prompt surveillance squad services to carry out raids on crime prone areas, that are breeding places of crime, in rural and urban communities. Such raids have led to the arrest and prosecution of kidnappers, armed robbers and hard drug dealers. These services have contributed immensely in the fight against crime to the barest minimum in the state.

The vigilante security group offers the service of providing intelligence information to the police in the war against insurgence. According to Adejoh (2013), in this era of constant threats of terrorist attacks across the country, nothing can be more important than intelligence gathering by community members, a function which the vigilante has been orientated to perform. Adejoh further noted that the presence and activities of the vigilante security group has helped to curb the rate and incidence of crime in the communities where they exist. This is because the vigilante

security group is part and parcel of their communities and therefore understand their people and their environment.

Furthermore, the vigilante security group plays the services of alerting the communities about the prevalent crimes, especially emerging crimes through organizing community meetings, seminars and workshops for community members. According to Travis (2005), this is aimed at sensitizing the community members about prevalent crime and as well provide opportunities for community members to voice their concern. Travis further noted that, it is a forum where the vigilante, community members and the police develop problem solving strategies or ideas on how to tackle the prevalent and emerging crimes in their communities.

# **Requirements for Enrollment into the Vigilante**

Enrollment is a process of attracting and accepting potential applications for placement into specific job in an organization (Okereke, 2008). Enrollment of Vigilante member is guided by the constitution of the Abia State Vigilante Security Service Law No. 8 of 2002.

Qualification criteria for enrollment into the vigilante are well articulated in the article (4) of the Constitution of Abia State Vigilante Security Service, as follows: Membership of the vigilante group shall be open to all Nigerians, who:

- (a) Are not below the age of 20 years.
- (b) Are of proven integrity.
- (c) Possess a minimum of First School Leaving Certificate.
- (d) Are guaranteed by person of proven integrity resident in Abia State.

(See attached in Appendix J, (pp 160), the constitution of Abia state Vigilante Security group). In addition to the stated qualification criteria, any prospective member wishing to be enrolled into the vigilante group is supposed to be duly certified, screened and identified by the traditional ruler of his community. This is to avoid recruiting criminals into the vigilante security group and to prevent corrupt practices such as extortion, since the vigilante security group is largely voluntary (Olaniyi, 2005). Similarly, Nigerian Finder's Report (2016) affirmed that the vigilante security group is a voluntary organization, that screens their new recruits. This is to avoid recruiting people of questionable character because membership into the vigilante security group comprise of people from the very community where they operate.

Furthermore, the selection and screening process for recruitment into the Abia State vigilante security group include physical excursive drill and stamina, as well as basic training. Otubu (2011) noted that serving law officers such as the Police and vigilante should be sent for refresher courses to acquire more knowledge and professional skills for effective discharge of their duties. The author further noted that training and retraining of members must be carried out on a regular basis with special focus on human rights, weapon handling, communication skills, new interrogation techniques (torture is out-dated), exposure to new equipment and technology. In line with the view of Otubu, Ogbozor (2016) affirmed that vigilantes need to be trained about human rights and international humanitarian law, so that they learn not to infringe on people's rights.

Also, Mohammed (2013) noted that in order to avoid the vigilante security groups members from taking the laws into their hands, the police should organized lectures and other forms of sensitization workshops for them and stress the need to be civil in dealing with their victims. The author further noted that the vigilante security group members should be made to understand that handing over arrested suspects alive to the police as the case may be will be more useful because of the information that may be extracted from the arrested suspects

# **Perceptions of Community Members on Vigilante**

Since the inception of vigilante services in Nigeria, different people have expressed their opinions on the group. The different opinions of people on the services of the vigilante security group are guided by the community

members' interest, as to what they want from the vigilante security group as regards safety and security in their communities.

The activities of the vigilante security group is being recognized in communities in Nigeria because they provide speedy, safety and security services, which the Nigerian Police are unable to offer (Alemika & Chukwuma, 2004). Also, they authors noted that as high as 50% of Nigerians living in the rural and urban communities patronize the services of the vigilante security group for their protection from criminal attacks. Similarly, Okafor (2007) noted that the vigilante group are closer to the people than the formal police, who are alien and detached from the community members.

According to Baker (2008), the vigilante security group in its complementary role to the efforts of the Nigerian Police Force has gained public acceptance and recognition as part of the wider strategy in the maintenance of law and order. In consonant to Baker's view, the security situations in the communities in Nigeria have improved as a result of the presence and activities of the vigilante security groups (Adejoh, 2013). Furthermore, Adejoh noted that the vigilante security group are deeply entrenched in communities and that they form an integral part of the security architecture of communities where they exist. This is because the vigilante

security group are rooted in the traditions, customs and native practices of the people and would more readily understand and cooperate with community members, which will be useful in information and intelligence gathering.

In addition, Yaqub and Olaniyi (2004) noted that in several cases, communities trust the vigilante security groups more than the police, because of their effectiveness, reliability and prompt ways of tackling and handling criminal issues. This position is also shared by Umar and Bappi (2014), when they noted that the vigilante security groups are more familiar with the environment and they are usually more acceptable to members of the community, as the police are often portrayed in bad light. The authors further asserted that, if this trend is allowed to continue, the community members will completely loose hope and confidence in the Nigerian Police. However, there are aspects of operations of the vigilante that are cause for concern.

According to Akaayar (2010) the vigilante seem to be personal assets of some very important personalities in the state who finance and influence their activities. In consonant to Akaayar's view, the politicians and rich businessmen use the vigilante group for intimidating political opponents during campaigns and election and against their enemies and by some rich

people against their enemies in businesses and land dispute as well as against their debtors to enforce payment of loans and even landlords against their tenants for eviction (Okeke, 2013). Thus, the vigilante were used as political thugs by politicians.

#### Collaboration of Vigilante with the Police

Collaboration means partnership built between the vigilante, community members and police for the purposes of crime prevention, crime reduction and maintenance of law and order (Umar & Bappi, 2014). Collaboration require platforms for deliberation, joint decision making and actions as well as allocation of roles to vigilante, community members and police, involved in promoting safety and security in the communities. Globally, due to the raving security challenges and the inability of the conventional police to satisfactorily handle the problem of insecurity, collaborative partnerships between government, private and community organizations in addressing crime was encouraged and promoted. According to Umar and Bappi, crime has multiple causes, and the solutions must be equally multifaceted and cannot be handled by the police alone. The vigilante and police collaborate in the maintenance of law and order. Before the advent of the vigilante, the maintenance of law and order is usually the exclusive role of the conventional police, but presently in most states in

Nigeria, the vigilante security service plays a supplementary and complementary role in support of the Nigerian Police Force in the war against crime (Baker, 2002). However, sometimes there is conflict of roles between the vigilante and the police. The vigilante accuses the police of being too slow in dispensing justice. Reversely, the police accuses the vigilante of violating the law. According to Harris (as cited in Akaayar, 2010) a vigilante is seen as enforcing law, the members cannot be enforcing law and as well defying it. Vigilante and law should be compatible to be able to control crime in the rural and urban communities.

According to Adejoh (2013), policing function is more effective, when it is carried out as a collaborative and collective responsibility among community members, vigilante and the police. In addition, Umar and Bappi (2014) noted that the vigilante, the community members and the police, should develop cooperative and collaborative ties for the purposes of crime prevention, crime reduction and maintenance of order. The collaboration of the vigilante security group and the police create a proper milieu for interaction, discussion, negotiation, bargaining and decision-making in public safety.

In other to achieve public safety, there is need for the integration of the informal mechanism of crime detection and prevention into the formal policing strategies. Inyang and Abraham (2013), noted that the informal policing strategies are incorporated to assist the formal policing institutions when they have difficulties in detecting perpetrators of specific crimes. When this strategy of traditional policing and techniques are adopted, people who engage in crimes like kidnapping, terrorism and robbery, who could evade detection and apprehension from the formal policing may be easily caught and made to face the full wrath of the law.

The vigilante collaborates with the police in crime prevention and control in Nigeria. They collaborate through crime detection and intelligent gathering in rural and urban communities. According to Phenson (2014), planning for effective security in the rural and urban communities must involve the acquisition of timely and accurate intelligence information passed across by the community members to the police concerning criminal activities and their hideouts. Security is a collective responsibility. However, sometimes, the poor rate of crime reporting among community members, affect the rate vigilante report cases to the police (Okunola, 2011). It is relevant that the community members should work cooperatively with the vigilante security group for effective crime control measure. Intelligence information formed the basics of the Federal Government jingle "If you see something, say something". Phenson maintained that the timely and accurate

flow of information and intelligence sharing between police and vigilante security group as well as community members will address security challenges and ensure stability and safeness in the rural and urban communities in Nigeria.

In order to maintain effective security in the rural and urban communities in Nigeria, it is necessary to timely identify and assess the potential threat areas or dangers which can impinge on the security of any person or place (Alemika, 2013). The author further noted that for security to be effective in the rural and urban communities in Nigeria, it is necessary to undertake assessment of the threats that are prevalent in the affected areas. On the basis of such assessment, the vigilante security group will determine the extent, pattern and trend of crime and disorder in such area.

Consequently, Akaayar (2010) noted that the vigilante security group in close liaison with police, provides surveillance network on the activities of persons or movement considered as security risks by halting suspicious movements, making arrests of suspicious person and handing them over to police for further interrogation, investigations and prosecution if need be. In addition, Phenson (2014) observed that close liaison or networking of vigilante security group with police is important especially in intelligence sharing, security planning and operations. For instance, police men from

Aba, the commercial town of Abia state, shot dead a notorious armed robbery and kidnap syndicate leader, identified as "Onye Army". According to Nta (2016), the police patrol team stationed along Ngwa Road and the vigilante security group tracked down the criminals, after they got intelligence report that the robbers were heading towards the popular bridge in Ngwa Road in Aba, which the criminals have been using as escape route.

Through collaborative policing, every successful security operation is dependent upon effective planning and extent of intelligence information sharing between the police and vigilante security group. Therefore, sources and agents for procurement of critical timely information and pertinent intelligence is a vital strategy for effective community policing. In community policing, there is need to use methods, techniques and plan in security management. This will aid the flow of information and intelligence sharing between the police, vigilante and community members. According to Phenson (2014), it will further enhance the capacity to face security challenges that will ensure a crime-free society. An example of the flow of information and intelligence sharing is illustrated in Figure 3.

Collection

Evaluation

Collation

Analysis

Dissemination

Fig. 3: Flow of Intelligence Information

Source: Police Information and Intelligence System (2006).

Fig. 3 shows that intelligence information is supposed to be collected by the vigilante from the communities. Collection of information is followed by evaluation of such information by the police, in order to determine its veracity and reliability, before it is filed and collated for use. The information is analyzed in the context of the problem before conclusion is drawn. The results of the process will then be disseminated to those who need to know it. The "need to know' principle is fundamental to working with sensitive information and intelligence. It means, that unless there is a clear professional reason for sharing intelligence information with another person, that information should not be shared even if the person has the appropriate security clearance to receive it. The fewer people who know about an intelligence or valuable information the better and easier to keep it

confidential. In other words, confidentiality and extent of passing across intelligence information to the police by the vigilante and community members can be done proactively while dealing with security issues and threats through modern methods of intelligence gathering and sharing (Ewetan & Urhie, 2014).

### **Vigilante and Reduction of Criminal Activities**

Criminal activities refers to violation of a law that poses threat to public safety. No one agency can successfully reduce crime in any country. According to Gumus (2003), crime is an illness that attacks rights of individuals. Criminal activities such as rape, theft, armed robbery, kidnapping, killings are rampart in Nigeria. According to Invang and Abraham (2013), any comprehensive strategy to reduce crime must not only include the contribution of the police and the criminal Justice system, but should include other factors such as environmental, social, economic, deterrent variables in form of police force, vigilante security group, severity of prison and jail conditions, which affect the likelihood of crime. To reduce crime, the vigilante Security Groups are expected to assist the police in detecting crime by promoting effective communication, by promoting sense of security and community spirit, particularly among the more vulnerable

members of the community. This partnership between the community members and the police as well as the vigilante security group will promote public safety and reduce crime activities in the rural and urban communities in Abia State.

In the rural and urban communities in Abia State, the vigilante security group in its strategic roles has an average of 10 to 15 vigilantes who either operate rotationally or stationed at strategic locations to frustrate any criminal activities in the rural and urban communities. One of the major roles of the vigilante security group is to work cooperatively with community members, traditional rulers, town union executives and police to develop solutions that will enhance a secured environment. This cooperation and support help to foster synergy between the police and the vigilante security group, where everybody is seen as a stakeholder in the act of community policing (Akaayar, 2010).

# Vigilante and Protection of Lives and Properties of Community Members

Protection of lives and properties of community members implies providing security for community members and their properties in a secured environment devoid of fear, harm or molestation. Man lives in a not so ideal world where crime such as armed robbery, murder, kidnapping, theft, occur on a daily basis. As a result of the unsecured nature of the human world and the role of security in man's life, Okeke (2013) noted that community safety and crime prevention should not be seen as the sole duty of the police, but a shared responsibility between the vigilante, community members and police. The responsibility of the vigilante security group in the provision of efficient and effective security service delivery for the protection of lives and properties of community members cannot be overemphasized. Musa (2016) stated that the vigilante group is charged with the responsibility of rendering all lawful help and assistance to the police in times of emergencies and other threats to public safety, including the protection of lives and properties in the various nooks and crannies in their communities.

The position of the vigilante security group in their functions as regards community security is aimed at helping community members protect themselves and their properties through the following roles: Improving home security, increasing surveillance joint patrol with police, submission of monthly progress reports to the police and arrest of criminals in their hideouts.

Improving home security is a community policing function that involves community members working in partnership with the vigilante

security group to make their home security condition safer and a better place to live in. In order to improve home security, the community is reliant upon the vigilante to curb crime and help in times of emergency. The vigilante on the other hand, rely on the community to report crime and provide vital information that is necessary for them to solve crime and address community concerns. This cooperation and support provides an avenue for vigilante to establish a working relationship with the community where they operate (Okeke, 2013).

In recognition of the importance of improving home security in communities in Nigeria and the need for vigilante security group to be closer to the community, the vigilante security group establishes vigilante units in some communities, in Abia State. For instance, in Abala autonomous community in Obingwa Local Government Area of Abia State, a new vigilante unit was established to assist the police in combating crime. According to Musa (2016), the essence of establishing the vigilante unit in Abala community was to involve community members in policing, because they know each other and are better placed to fight crime.

Furthermore, the vigilante plays the role of security surveillance in the protection of lives and properties of community members. According to Travis (2005) increase in vigilante surveillance will not only prevent crime,

but make the vigilante to always be in contact with the community members. This allows the vigilante to gain knowledge about the problems or issues plaguing a community. Travis further noted that the highly visible presence of the vigilante gives community members an increased sense of safety and security. Moreso, Alemika and Chukwuma (2004) stated that the emergence of the vigilante security group is in response to community members' quest for safety and security of their lives and properties.

To maintain safety and security in the rural and urban communities, the vigilante security group help to arrest criminals in their hideouts. According to Baker (2008), criminals were often more afraid of the vigilante security group than the police because of their ability to arrest criminals in their hideouts. The vigilante security group arrest criminals, hand them over to the police and furnish the police with information about crime and criminals that are beyond their ability to deal with (Adejoh, 2013). In other to keep the police abreast of their activities and progress, the vigilante security group submits monthly progress reports to the police units nearest to them. The police then evaluate the extent of the vigilante's supplementary security services and makes its observation available to the State Police Headquarters (Akaayar, 2010).

### **Empirical Studies**

There is still paucity of empirical literature on studies on human safety needs and vigilante services. However, the researcher strived to review empirical literature under the subheadings.

#### **Studies on Human Safety Needs**

Yol (2013) carried out a study on the analysis of active citizenship in crime prevention in Nigeria. The purpose of the study was to examine the participation of active citizenship in crime prevention in Makurdi metropolis. The study used a descriptive survey research design. Data was collected using questionnaire.

A total of 150 respondents were used for the study. Results showed that the citizens play active roles in ensuring crime prevention in Nigeria, most especially in Makurdi town.

The study is related to the present study, in the sense, that it bordered on citizens participation towards crime prevention. However, the study dealt with active citizenship participation in crime prevention. The study did not cover other areas of crime prevention strategy such as the vigilante collaboration with the police to ensure effectiveness and efficiency in crime prevention. Hence, a gap has to be filled by this study.

Umar and Bappi (2014), carried out a study on the role of community policing and partnership in Gombe State. The purpose of the study was to examine community members involvement in community policing in Gombe State. The study used descriptive survey research design. The methodology adopted was the use of secondary data with the aid of content analysis approach. A total of 1200 youths were used for the study. Results showed that the collective efforts of the formal security agency, the vigilante security group and community members can help alleviate the rate of crime in the community.

The study is related to the present study in the sense that it dealt on community-led policing and community members involvement in curbing crime. However, the study did not incorporate the activities of the vigilante in collaboration with the police. Hence, the study leaves a gap to be filled by this study.

Alemika and Chukwuma (2004), carried out a study titled: Informal policing structures and poor peoples' search for safety and security. The purpose of the study was to provide a comprehensive understanding of the expectations, priorities and perceptions of people living in poverty, with respect to safety and security in general and informal policing structures in particular. The study used survey research design. The study was conducted

in four states in Nigeria, namely: Benue, Ekiti, Enugu and Jigawa States. The method of data collection used in this study were interviews and focus group discussions. Qualitative method of data analysis was used in the analysis. Eight focus group discussions were organized with a total of 76 participants which comprised a broad spectrum of community members in the eight LGAs where the study took place. Results showed that safety and security were very important in communities because it affects aspects of individual health, family coexistence and lives and properties.

The study is related to the present study in the sense that it bordered on informal policing, safety and security. The study revealed the necessity of security and focused only on the poor and the vulnerable, while the present study focuses on evaluation of the services of the vigilante security group. Hence the present study has a gap to fill.

# **Studies on Vigilante Services**

Adejoh (2013), carried out a study titled: An Assessment of the performance of informal security structures in community crime control in Metropolitan Lagos. The purpose of the study was to examine the performance of informal security structure in community crime control. The study used a cross-sectional survey research design to generate quantitative data from 1,017 members aged 18 years and above for the study, while in-

depth interviews and focus group discussion methods were utilized to generate qualitative data. The study area covered Ikeja, Mushin, Ikorodu and Eti- Osa Local Government Areas of Lagos State, which were selected based on reported high crime rate. Forty- six in depth interviews were conducted with purposively selected members of identified informal security structure, police personnel, executives of community development associations and traditional rulers. Five focus group discussions were held with purposively selected groups of adult male, adult female and youth community members. The results showed that informal security structures are closer and more preferred by the community members due to its effectiveness, reliance and speedy security services which the police cannot satisfactorily guarantee.

The study by Adejoh is related to the present study, in that it deals on the performances of the informal security group with regards to only crime control. However, the present study focuses on the vigilante performance based on the provisions of the constitution of the Abia State vigilante services, which covers issues on membership and performance based on collaboration with the police, reduction of criminal activities and protection of lives and properties. The present study therefore has a comparatively wider scope, with regards to content and geographical area.

Okunola, Lawal and Ganiyu (2011) carried out a study on the appraisal of inter-agency cooperation in crime management in Lagos State. The purpose of the study was to determine the substantial role of the police and the vigilante security agencies in its war against crime. Survey research design was adopted. Data were obtained through field observation, in-depth interviews and administration of questionnaire. A total of 100 respondents were used for the study. The study area was clustered into 2 parts. The first part consisted of the traditional area; while the second part included the newly developed area. From each of these clusters, equal numbers of households were randomly selected. From each of the selected households, a total number of 40 respondents were picked making 80 respondents altogether. The findings of the study showed that partnerships between members of the community and the police and partnership between the vigilante and the police on the other hand, will enhance public safety and reduce crime.

The study is related to the present study, in the sense that it focused on the partnership between the police and the vigilante security agency. However, the study focused only on the partnership and cooperation between the vigilante and the police and used only 100 respondents in Lagos State. The present study is focused on the evaluation of vigilante security

services in Abia State as provided in the Abia State Constitution of the vigilante security services.

Thakre (2014), carried out a study on the impact of community policing in Nagpur, India. The purpose of the study was to examine the impact of community policing in the study area. Survey research design was used. Questionnaire was used to collect data from community members using 240 respondents. The data were analyzed to find impact of community policing on partnership between police and public, fear of crime and public image. The results showed that lack of training given to the community members on community policing coupled with poor level of awareness results to weak implementation of community policing, thereby making community members to be ignorant about the underlying principles of community policing.

The study is related to the present study in the sense that it dealt on community policing. However, the study did not embark on any kind of assessment to determine the worth and the value of the programme in the study area and the extent it achieved what it set out to achieve. Hence, a gap is created to be filled by the present study.

### **Summary of the Review of Related Literature**

The review showed that vigilante security service evolved as a voluntary and informal security outfit which supplements the police in securing lives and properties. In this study, security is defined as all measures, precautions, actions and personnel put in place to ensure safety to lives and assets as well as provide a peaceful atmosphere for citizens and government to pursue their legitimate activities without fear, threats or hindrances.

The literature revealed that the human society is faced with high level of insecurity and that insecurity retards socio economic and political development of different countries. The literature reviewed described the emergence of vigilante in Nigeria as a measure to supplement and complement the social security services of the Nigerian Police Force, whose unsatisfactory performances could not curtail the rising trends of urban and rural violence and crime.

The study was anchored on the theory of partnership policing and community participation which dwelt on the fact that the police alone cannot fulfill the policing needs of all communities without the complementary role of the vigilante and community members. Also, the study was anchored on the theory of social contract which dwelt on the agreement between the

sovereign state and its citizens. All citizens should be absolutely obedient to laws and orders in exchange for the protection of lives and properties by the government. Furthermore, the study was anchored on the theory of Maslow's hierarchy of needs, which dwelt on the fact that if life is not secured, one cannot plan effectively for other needs which include feeding, clothing and shelter.

It was shown in the literature that unemployment, poverty, terrorism, corruption, porous borders, ethnic violence, communal clashes, kidnapping and recently the Cattle herdsmen's attacks on some communities are causes of insecurity in Nigeria. The section on perception of community members on vigilante shows that although some people have worries about the performance of some vigilante personnel, they still prefer the usefulness of the group in reducing crime as well as protection of lives and properties. From the views of many authors in the literature, if the vigilante synergizes effectively with the police, intelligence information could be passed across in good time and immediate action taken to frustrate criminal activities.

Review of empirical studies on human safety needs and vigilante services were equally done. It focused on collective efforts of the vigilante, community members and the police involvement in crime prevention, detection and reduction in the rural and urban communities. It was found out that literature were not replete in the area.

Finally, the researcher noted that although some studies have been conducted on community policing, no study known to the researcher has been conducted on the evaluation of vigilante security services in Abia State, hence a need to fill the gap.

# CHAPTER THREE METHOD

This chapter describes the methods and procedures which were adopted in carrying out the study. The chapter covered the following subheadings: Research design, area of the study, population of the study, sample and sampling techniques, instrument for data collection, validation of the instrument, reliability of the instrument, method of data collection and method of data analysis.

#### **Research Design**

The design which was adopted for this study is the descriptive survey research design. The survey research according to Nworgu (2015), is one in which a group of people or items are studied by collecting and analyzing data from only a few people or items considered to be representative of the entire population. In addition, the author noted that the choice of this design was guided by the facts, that it involved the use of questionnaire to collect data from the respondents and describe in a systematic manner, the characteristics, features or facts about a given population. It is therefore deemed appropriate in this study. In effect, this design enabled the researcher to collect and analyze data in order to evaluate the security services of the vigilante outfit in Abia State.

# Area of the Study

This study was carried out in Abia State. Abia State is one of the 36 states that make up Nigeria. It was created in 1991 from Imo State. The State is located in the south east geopolitical zone of Nigeria. It has 17 local government areas. Abia State is bounded in the North by Enugu State, in the South by Rivers State, in the East by Akwa Ibom State and in the West by Imo State. The indigenous people of Abia State are the Igbos, who speak the Igbo language. The Igbo people are hardworking and highly talented in commerce and industry.

The commercial town of Aba in the state is densely populated with people from almost every part of Nigeria. The justification for carrying out this study in Abia State is that the state experiences lots of security challenges which include armed robbery, kidnapping, murder, rape, human trafficking and recently menace of the Cattle herdsmen. Thus, these security challenges resulted in the creation of the vigilante security outfit as a measure to assist the police in the maintenance of peace and order, as well as, securing lives and properties of community members in Abia State.

#### **Population of the Study**

The Population of the study consisted of a total of 9947 respondents, which comprised of 737 vigilantes, 6699 town union executives and 2511 policemen in all the 17 Local Government Areas in Abia State (See Appendix E, p 130). Abia State has 17 Local Government Areas. Among the 17 LGAs, only 10 LGAs have registered vigilante units. For this reason, the 10 local government areas with registered vigilante units were purposively used for the study (See Appendix F, pp 131).

The rationale for using the town union executives and the policemen for the study is because they pilot the security affairs of their towns and states respectively. In addition, they work closely with the vigilante in all their services. (Sources: Police Area Command Headquarters, Umuahia; Vigilante Security Office, Ubakala Umuahia and Ministry of Culture and Chieftaincy Affairs, Umuahia, June, 2016).

# **Sample and Sampling Techniques**

The sample of the study consisted of a total of 792 respondents which comprised of 708 town union executives and 84 policemen selected through purposive sampling. The researcher used purposive sampling technique because her intension was to ensure that only those elements of the

population that are relevant to the research were included. According to Nworgu (2015) in purposive sampling, specific elements which satisfy some pre-determined criteria are selected. The sample for the town union executives comprised of the president of each town union and any other member; while the sample for the policemen consisted of the Divisional Police Officers (DPO), Divisional Crime Officers (DCO), Station Officers (SO), and Police Public Relations Officers (PPRO). This is shown in Appendix G, pp 132. These groups were purposively selected for the study because they play pivotal roles on security matters in their communities. Information relating to issues of security in their towns and their places of work get to them first. In addition, they have the statutory right to interact and disclose any security information to the public more than others.

#### **Instrument for Data Collection**

Questionnaire on Evaluation of Vigilante Services in Abia State (QEVSS) was used to collect data for the study. There were two structured questionnaires for the town union executives (QTUE) and policemen (QP). The instrument for the Town Union Executives (that represent the interest of community members) has 5 sections and contained 36 items. Section A, addressed the personal data of the respondents. Section B, sought information on the perception of the community members on the

performance of the vigilante security group. Section C, focused on the extent of vigilante collaboration with the police in fighting crime. Section D, sought information on the extent of reduction of criminal activities by the vigilante and section E, dealt with the extent of protection of lives and properties by the vigilante. Items from sections B- E has multiple response options. In section B, the respondent (Town Union Executives) requested to indicate the options which correspond to their opinion using a four point rating scale of Strongly Agree (SA) 4 points, Agree (A) 3 points, Disagree (D) 2 points, Strongly Disagree (SD) 1 point. In sections C, D, and E, four point rating scale of Very High Extent (VHE) 4 Points, High Extent (HE) 3 points, Low Extent (LE) 2 points and Not At All (NAA) 1 point was used. The instrument for the police has 4 sections and contained 26 items. Section 1, addressed personal information, section 2, sought information on the extent of collaboration with the police in fighting crime. Section 3, dealt with extent of reduction of criminal activities by the vigilante and section 4, focused on extent of protection of lives and properties by the vigilante. The items have multiple response options in which respondents were requested to indicate the options which correspond to their opinion using a four point rating scale of Very High Extent (VHE) 4 Points, High Extent (HE) 3 points, Low Extent (LE) 2 points and Not At All (NAA) 1 point.

#### Validation of the Instrument

To ascertain the face and content validity of the instrument, the researcher gave copies of the instrument together with the specific purposes of the research to two experts in the Department of Adult Education (one of them have specialization in measurement and evaluation) in Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka and an expert in the Department of Measurement and Evaluation in Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. These experts were required to assess the instruments with regards to the relevance and adequacy of language and comprehensiveness of the items. The suggestions and recommendations made by the experts were reflected in the final draft.

#### **Reliability of the Instrument**

The reliability of QTUE and the QP were established using Cronbach alpha. According to Uzoagulu (2011), Cronbach Alpha is a generalized formula which can be applied to polychotomous items more specifically in a scale that has no right or wrong answer. The QTUE, yielded a reliability coefficient of 0.72, 0.80, 0.78 and 0.72 for sections B, C, D and E respectively. Furthermore, QP, yielded a reliability coefficient of 0.78, 0.74 and 0.70 for Sections 2, 3 and 4 respectively. The reliability analysis for the instrument is shown in Appendix H, pp 133

#### **Method of Data Collection**

involved twelve research assistants The researcher the administration of the questionnaire. The research assistants were informed on how to distribute the questionnaires and do some explanations when needed by the respondents. The researcher presented introductory letters to the Commander General of the Vigilante, the town union executives and the Commissioner of Police respectively. (See Appendices A, B, C pg. 118-120). In order to seek their consents for the administration of the questionnaire, the researcher was given information in relation to their meeting days which takes place fortnightly, monthly and weekly for vigilante, town union executives and policemen respectively. On the day of their meetings, the researcher with the research assistants went to the different locations of their meetings and distributed the questionnaire. However, all of the respondents were not able to fill the questionnaire onthe- spot. This made the researcher to go back during their next meetings to collect the questionnaire. A total of 792 questionnaires were administered to the respondents; Town Union Executives (708 copies) and policemen (84 copies). However, 764 copies were returned as follows, town union executives (648 copies), policemen (78 copies) and used for the analysis.

#### **Method of Data Analysis**

In analyzing the data, the researcher used descriptive and inferential statistics. Mean statistics were used to answer research questions 1-4, while the t-test statistics was used to test the hypotheses. The t-test was used because according to Ogomaka (2004), it is a statistical test that can be used to test hypotheses about the difference between two independent samples' mean in order to ascertain whether the difference is significant.

Therefore, the use of t-test as the appropriate statistical test for the study was deemed most suitable.

#### **Decision Rule**

The decision rule for research questions 1-4, was based on the boundary true limit of the four point rating scale as follows:

Response Options	Rating Point	<b>Boundary Limits</b>
Very High Extent (VHE)	4	3.50 - 4.00
High Extent (HE)	3	2.50 - 3.49
Little Extent (LE)	2	1.50 - 2.49
Not at All (NAA)	1	1.00 - 1.49

The extent of agreement to an item was determined as follows:

- 1. Values equal to or greater than 2.50 were regarded as high extent with regards to the context of each research question from 2-4.
- 2. Values below 2.49 were regarded as low extent.

For research question 1, response options of Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D) and Strongly Disagree (SD) was used. The decision was also based on the boundary true limit of the four point rating scale. Values equal to or greater than 2.50 were regarded as agreed; while values 2.49 and below were regarded as disagree. t test was used to test hypotheses 1-4. A null hypothesis was accepted when the calculated t is less than the t-table value and rejected when calculated value of t is equal to or greater than t-table value.

#### **CHAPTER FOUR**

#### PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

This chapter presents the result of data analysis of study. The presentation is organized with respect to analysis of interview conducted, research questions and hypotheses formulated to guide the study.

#### **Analysis of interview conducted**

The interview was conducted with four (4) vigilante unit heads and thirty four vigilante members in Abia State.

Issues on age range of enrolment into the vigilante security group, screening of vigilante members and minimum qualification of members into the vigilante security group were addressed.

The interviewees affirmed that the age range of enrolment into the vigilante security group is between the range of 20 - 25 years and that prospective members were screened. This is to avoid recruiting criminals into the vigilante security group.

Furthermore, the interviewees agreed that the minimum qualification into the vigilante security group is First School Leaving Certificate.

Research Question One: What is the perception of Community members on the performance of the vigilante security group?

Table 1: Mean Ratings of community members on their Perception on the Performance of the Vigilante Security Group.

(N=648)

S/N	Items	SA	A	D	SD	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}$	Remark
1.	I like how vigilante operate in my community	166	174	155	153	2.54	Agree
2.	Members of the vigilante constitute menace in my community.	159	149	173	167	2.46	Disagree
3.	I have trust in vigilantes' effectiveness in my community.	180	139	165	164	2.52	Agree
4.	Vigilantes' services are mainly used as thugs in my community	159	189	158	142	2.56	Agree
5.	Members of my community do not see vigilante as doing any security work.	145	162	185	156	2.46	Disagree
6.	The vigilante maintain security to the expectation of members of my community	146	156	171	175	2.42	Disagree
7	The setting up of vigilante is a good development for reducing crimes in my community	172	157	167	152	2.54	Agree
8.	There have been lots of improvements on security services in my community since the inception of the vigilante.	166	159	158	165	2.50	Agree
9.	Members of the vigilante in my community collaborate with robbers in crime.	141	170	167	170	2.44	Disagree
10.	I see the vigilante as being reliable in fighting crimes.	172	153	164	159	2.52	Agree
	Mean					2.50	Agree

Table 1 shows that the mean scores of the respondents ranged from 2.42-2.56, with a grand mean of 2.50 (though at the border line). This implies, that with reference to the decision rule, community members agreed that the vigilante group were effective in the fight against crime.

Research Question Two: To what extent do the vigilante collaborate with the Nigerian Police Force serving in urban and rural areas in fighting Crime.

Table 2: Mean Ratings of the Respondents on the Extent to which Vigilante Collaborate with the Nigerian Police Force in Fighting Crime.

(N=726)

S/N	Items	TUE (N=648)	Police (N=78)	Mean	Remark
11.	The vigilante report any observed sign of criminal activity to the police immediately	2.51	3.01	2.76	High Extent
12.	The vigilante arrest criminals and take them to the Police for formal prosecution	2.46	3.08	2.77	High Extent
13.	The vigilante respond quickly to police calls for operational assistance.	2.50	2.89	2.70	High Extent
14.	The vigilante take operational instructions from the police to handle some criminal problems in your community.	2.50	2.91	2.71	High Extent
15.	The vigilante treat criminal matters by cooperating with the police.	2.49	3.00	2.75	High Extent
16.	The vigilante do not respond to police instruction accordingly in your community	2.41	1.89	2.15	Low Extent
17.	The collaboration between the police and the vigilante for crime prevention is cordial.	2.50	3.12	2.81	High Extent
18.	In your community, the vigilante provide police with report on how to trace and control the menace of cattle herdsmen	2.41	2.03	2.22	Low Extent
19.	In your community, the vigilante gives report of criminal activities to the police to facilitate prosecution of criminals.	2.49	2.83	2.66	High Extent
20.	Information sharing between the police and the vigilante has not helped to stop the sale and consumption of hard drugs in your community.	2.52	2.59	2.56	High Extent
21.	The vigilante do not like reporting any incidence of crime to the police.	2.53	1.61	2.07	Low Extent
	Mean			2.56	High Extent

Table 2 shows that the mean scores of the respondents ranged from 2.15 to 2.81, with a grand mean of 2.55. This implies, that with reference to the decision rule, the vigilante collaborate with the Nigeria Police Force in fighting crime to a high extent in Abia State.

Research Question Three: To what extent does the vigilante group reduce criminal activities in urban and rural areas in Abia State?

Table 3: Mean Ratings of Respondents on the Extent to which Vigilante Reduce Criminal Activities in Abia State.
(N=726)

S/No	Items	Tue	Police	Mean	Remark
		(N=648)	(N=78)		
22.	The presence of vigilante makes criminals afraid to operate freely in your community	2.55	3.00	2.78	High Extent
23.	Some criminal hideout are identified and demolished by the vigilante in your community	2.52	2.77	2.65	High Extent
24.	Human trafficking in your area has not been reduced because of the emergence of vigilante	2.46	2.54	2.50	High Extent
25.	Kidnapping has reduced due to the presence of the vigilante in your community.	2.47	2.73	2.60	High Extent
26.	Daily robbing of people's home has not been reduced since the inception of vigilante in your area	2.52	2.99	2.76	High Extent
27.	Raping of innocent girls in your community has not reduced because of the presence of the vigilante	2.52	2.67	2.60	High Extent
28.	Murder and assassination of people in your community has reduced due to the emergence of the vigilante	2.58	2.63	2.61	High Extent
	Mean			2.64	High Extent

Table 3 shows that the mean ratings of the respondents ranged from 2.25 to 2.78, with a grand mean of 2.61. This implies, that with reference to the decision rule, the vigilante group reduces criminal activities to a high extent in Abia State.

Research Question Four: To what extent does the vigilante group protect lives and properties of community members living in Urban and Rural areas.

Table 4: Mean Ratings of Respondents on the Extent to which Vigilante Security Group Protects Lives and Properties of community members. (N=726)

S/No	Items	Tue	Police	Mean	Remark
		(N=648)	(N=78)		
29	House breaking has been reduced since the inception of the vigilante in your community	2.46	2.31	2.39	Low Extent
30	Killing of innocent people by criminals has been tackled by the				
31.	vigilante in your community.  Early morning robbery of commuters has reduced in your community since	2.47	2.68	2.58	High Extent
32.	the inception of the vigilante Frequent harassment of people by criminals has reduced in your community due to the presence of	2.49	2.96	2.73	High Extent
	the vigilante.	2.49	2.85	2.67	High Extent
33.	Destruction of crops by herdsmen has reduced in your community due to the presence of the vigilante	2.48	1.83	2.16	Low Extent
34.	Human trafficking has not reduced in your community due to the presence of the vigilante	2.49	2.42	2.46	Low Extent
35.	Kidnapping has been combated by the vigilante in your community.	2.43	2.99	2.71	High Extent
36.	Car theft has not reduced since the inception of vigilante in your community	2.50	2.04	2.27	Low Extent
	Mean			2.50	High Extent

Table 4 shows that the mean ratings scores of the respondents ranged from 2.16 to 2.73, with a grand mean of 2.50 (at the border line). This implies, that with reference to the decision rule, the vigilante group protects lives and properties of community members in Abia State to a high extent.

#### **Test of Hypotheses**

#### **Hypothesis One**

H0<sub>1</sub>: Community members living in the urban area and those living in rural areas will not differ significantly in their mean ratings on their perceptions on the performance of the vigilante in Abia State?

Table 5 t-test of significant difference between community members living in urban and rural areas on the performance of the vigilante in Abia State.

Variable	N	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}$	SD	Df	t-cal	t-crit	LS	Decision
Urban	298	2.49	0.39					
				646	-0.47	1.96	0.05	Not sig
Rural	350	2.50	0.33					

Table 5 indicates that at 0.05 level of significance and 646 degree of freedom, the calculated t-value (-0.47) is less than the critical t-value (1.96). Therefore, the hypothesis which states that there is no significant difference between the mean ratings of community members living in urban and rural areas on the performance of the vigilante in Abia State was not rejected.

#### **Hypothesis Two**

**HO<sub>2</sub>:** Policemen serving in the urban areas and those serving in the rural areas will not differ significantly in their mean rating on the extent to which vigilante collaborate with the Nigerian Police Force in fighting crime in Abia State.

Table 6: t-test of significant difference between policemen serving in Urban and Rural areas on the extent to which vigilante collaborate with the police in Abia State.

Variable	N	$\overline{\mathbf{X}}$	SD	Df	t-cal	t-crit	LS	Decision
Rural	44	2.67	0.36					
				76	1.00	1.96	0.05	Not sig
Urban	34	2.58	0.36					

Table 6 shows that at 0.05 level of significance and 76 degree of freedom, the calculated t-value (1.00) is less than the critical t-value (1.96). Therefore, the hypothesis which states that there is no significant difference between the mean ratings of policemen serving in urban and rural areas on the extent vigilante collaborate with the Nigerian Police Force in Abia State was not rejected.

# **Hypothesis Three:**

HO<sub>3</sub>: Community members living in urban areas and those living in the rural areas will not differ significantly in their mean ratings on the extent to which vigilante reduce criminal activities in Abia State.

Table 7: t-test of significant difference between community members living in Urban and Rural areas on the extent to which vigilante reduce crime in Abia State.

Variable	N	X	SD	Df	t-cal	t-crit	LS	Decision
Urban	298	2.53	0.41					Not sig
				646	0.72	1.96	0.05	
Rural	350	2.51	0.70					

Table 7 shows that at 0.05 level of significance and 646 degree of freedom, the calculated t-value (0.72) is less than the critical t-value (1.96). Therefore the Hypothesis which states that there is no significant difference between the mean ratings of community members living in urban and rural areas on the extent vigilante reduce crime in Abia State was not rejected.

# **Hypothesis Four:**

HO<sub>4</sub>: Community members living in the urban and those living in the rural areas will not differ significantly in their mean ratings on the extent to which vigilante protect lives and properties of community members.

Table 8: t- test of significant difference between community members living in the urban and rural areas on the extent to which vigilante protect lives and properties of community members.

Variable	N	X	SD	Df	t-cal	t-crit	LS	Decision
Urban	298	2.45	0.35					
				646	-1.53	1.96	0.05	Not sig
Rural	350	2.50	0.39					

Table 8 shows that at 0.05 level of significance and 646 degree of freedom, the calculated t-value (-1.53) is less than the critical t-value (1.96). Therefore, the hypothesis which states that there is no significant difference between the mean ratings of community members living in Urban and Rural areas on the extent vigilant protects of lives and properties of community members in Abia State was not rejected.

#### **Summary of the Major Findings:**

# The major findings of this study include the following:

- 1. Age range of enrolment in the vigilante security group is 20-25 years of age.
- Proposed members of the vigilante are screened before enrolment into
   Abia State Vigilante Security Service.
- 3. The minimum qualification for enrolment into Abia State Vigilante Security Service is First School Leaving Certificate.
- 4. Community members agreed that members of the Abia State Vigilante is effective in curbing crime.
- 5. Vigilante collaborate with the Nigerian Police Force in fighting crime to a high extent in Abia State.
- 6. Vigilante reduce criminal activities to a high extent in Abia State.
- 7. Vigilante protect lives and properties to a high extent in Abia State.
- 8. There is no significant difference in the mean ratings of rural and urban community members on the performance of the vigilante security group.
- 9. There is no significant difference in the mean ratings of the community members and the police on the extent to which the

- vigilante security group collaborate with the Nigerian Police Force in fighting crime.
- 10. There is no significant difference in the mean ratings of the community members and the police on the extent the vigilante group reduce criminal activities in Abia State.
- 11. There is no significant difference in the mean ratings of the community members and the police on the extent to which the vigilante security group protect lives and properties in Abia State.

#### **CHAPTER FIVE**

#### DISCUSSION, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In this chapter discussion of findings, conclusion, implication of the findings, recommendations, limitation of study and suggestions for further study are highlighted.

#### **Discussion of Findings**

The findings of the study were discussed under the following subheadings;

- Age range for enrolment.
- Screening of prospective members.
- The minimum educational qualification of members of vigilante.
- Perception of community members on the performance of the vigilante.
- The extent which vigilante collaborates with the police.
- The extent which vigilante reduces criminal activities.
- Extent which vigilante protects lives and properties of community members.

#### **Age Range for Enrolment**

The findings of the analysis of the interview conducted showed that members were enrolled into the group between the ages of 20-25. Members of the vigilante security group within this age range are described as able bodied young men. The finding agreed with Ajayi (2007), who asserted that the task of policing and war against crime dated back to the pre-colonial days when local communities maintained warrior groups which comprise of able bodied young men. These able bodied young men enforce law and order and impose sanction within their domain. In line with the findings of Ajayi, Okafor (2007) noted that the vigilante security group consists of able bodied young community members, who are supported financially and materially by other community members. These able bodied young men are charged with the task of securing the community and enforcing the law. In support of these, Ngwu (2014) pointed out that in the Igbo ethnic group, the various age grade from the age of 18- 30 years also form themselves into vigilante groups, in order to arrest, discipline offenders and guard the communities.

# Screening of prospective members into the vigilante security group

The findings of the analysis of the interview conducted revealed that members of the vigilante security group are screened to avoid recruiting criminals into the vigilante security group. This in line with the idea of Olaniyi (2005) who asserted that screening of members will help to avoid recruiting criminals into the vigilante security group as well as prevent corrupt practices such as extortion, since the vigilante security group is largely voluntary. In line with Olaniyi's finding, Nigerian Finder's Report (2016) also noted that the vigilante security group is a voluntary organization, that screens their new recruits. This is to avoid recruiting people of questionable character because membership into the vigilante security group comprise of people from the very community where they operate.

# The minimum educational qualification of members of Vigilante

The analysis of the interview conducted indicated that the minimum qualification for enrolment into the vigilante security group is First School Leaving Certificate. This qualification may not be regarded as too poor. However, the researcher agrees with Otubu (2011) who noted that serving law officers such as the police and vigilante should be sent for refresher courses to acquire more knowledge and professional skills for effective discharge of their duties. The author further noted that training and retraining of members must be carried out on a regular basis with special focus on human rights, weapon handling, communication skills, new interrogation techniques (torture is out-dated), exposure to new equipment

and technology. Confirming Otubu's findings, Ogbozor (2016) affirmed that vigilantes need to be trained about human rights and international humanitarian law, so that they learn not to infringe on people's rights. This agrees with Mohammed (2013) who noted that in order to avoid the vigilante security groups members from taking the laws into their hands, the police should organized lectures and other forms of sensitization workshops for them and stress the need to be civil in dealing with their victims. The author further noted that the vigilante security group members should be made to understand that handing over arrested suspects alive to the police as the case may be will be more useful because of the information that may be extracted from the arrested suspects. This is very necessary for optimal performances.

# Perception of community members on the performance of the vigilante security group.

The result of the analyses in relation to the perception of community members on the performance of the vigilante security group revealed that community members perceive the vigilante as being effective in curbing crime in Abia State. This implies that the vigilante security group is reliable and trusted by community members because of the prompt ways they fight and frustrate any criminal activities which seems to have a strong deterrent

effect on potential offenders or hoodlums. This agrees with the findings of Yaqub and Olaniyi (2004) who noted that communities trust the vigilante security group more than the police, because of its effectiveness, reliability and prompt ways of tackling and handling criminal issues. Moreso, the vigilante security group is more familiar with their environment. This is because vigilantes form an integral part of the security architecture of communities where they exist. This makes the vigilante security groups to readily understand and cooperate with community members which is useful in information and intelligence gathering. In consonant to Yaqub and Olaniyi's findings, Baker (2008) affirmed that the vigilante security group in its complimentary role to the efforts of the police, has gained public acceptance and recognition as part of the wider strategy in the maintenance of law and order, more especially in the rural communities. In line with Baker's findings, Adejoh (2013) also noted, that the security situations in the communities have improved as a result of the presence and activities of the vigilante security groups. However from the analysis, it was shown that the grand mean was at the borderline of decision rule (2.50) on this issue of performance of the vigilante. In addition, it was shown that community members did not agree that the vigilante maintained security to their expectations. Inspite of the usefulness of the vigilante security group, some

community members still have reservations about certain aspect of their operations. This is because some vigilantes are being used as political thugs. This calls for concern because as Okeke (2013) observed, politicians and rich businessmen use the vigilante security group for intimidating political opponents during campaigns and election and against their enemies and by some rich people against their enemies in businesses and land dispute as well as against their debtors to enforce payment of loans and even landlords against their tenants for eviction.

However, the test of null hypothesis one, showed that there was no significant difference in the mean ratings of town union executives living in urban and rural areas on their perceptions on the performance of the vigilante security group in Abia State. This implies that town union executives who represent the interest of the community members living in rural and urban areas agreed that the vigilante security group is effective in curbing crime in Abia State. This is in agreement with the findings of Adejoh (2013) who noted that the vigilante security group is being recognized in the communities because they are closer and more preferred by community members due to its effectiveness, reliance and speedy security services which the police cannot satisfactorily guarantee.

#### The Extent which Vigilante Collaborate With Police

The findings of the study in relation to the extent which vigilante collaborate with police revealed that the vigilante collaborate with the police to a high extent. This shows that the vigilante security group work together with police in community policing functions to ensure protection of lives and properties of community members. Thus, both the vigilante and police collaborate effectively in crime control. This is because there exist a cordial relationship between vigilante and the police. This relationship if maintained will yield fruitful results in Abia State. This finding is in agreement with Adejoh (2013), who affirmed that policing function is more effective, when it is carried out as a collaborative and collective responsibility between the vigilante and police. In addition, Phenson (2014) noted that, every successful security operation is dependent upon effective planning and extent of intelligence information sharing between the community members and police. However, it seems that poor rate of crime reporting commonly found among some community members, as observed by Okunola (2011), affect the rate vigilante reports cases to the police in the areas where they are serving. This may be one of the reasons why the sale and consumption of hard drugs is still high in the communities as shown in the study. In addition, the study reveals that the vigilante provides police report on how to trace and control the menace of cattle herdsmen to a low extent. This implies that the poor rate of crime reporting by some community members to the vigilante may affect timely sharing of intelligent information between the vigilante and the police. In this instance, Umar and Bappi (2014) affirmed that information sharing between the vigilante, community members and police will help to develop cooperative and collaborative ties for the purpose of crime prevention, crime reduction and maintenance of law and order.

The test of the second null hypothesis showed that there is no significant difference in the mean ratings of policemen serving in the urban and rural areas on the extent to which vigilante collaborate with the police in Abia State. Thus, Policemen serving in the rural and urban area agreed that the vigilante collaborate with the police in the war against crime in Abia State.

### The Extent Vigilante Reduce Criminal Activities

The findings of the study in relation to the extent vigilante reduce criminal activities revealed that the extent vigilante reduce criminal activities as perceived by the respondents was to a high extent. This shows that the vigilante security group synergizes and complement the efforts of the police in curbing criminal activities in communities in Abia State in order to ensure stability and harmonious living. Regarding this finding, one might wonder,

why there are still some elements of crime in communities in Abia State. However the study revealed that human trafficking, daily robbing of peoples homes and raping of innocent girls was to a high extent. This implies that the vigilante security group in Abia State still have some work to do in order to ensure effective crime prevention and control from their domain.

This agrees with Inyang and Abraham (2013) who noted that any comprehensive strategy to reduce crime must not only include the contribution of the police, but it should be a shared responsibility between the vigilante and community members. Gumus (2003) asserted that crime is an illness that attacks rights of individuals. Hence, one may attribute some of these elements of crime to the fact that the police alone cannot fulfill the security needs of communities in Abia State since they cannot be everywhere. This implies that, the vigilante and the community members should take proactive interest in the safety of their communities. This agrees with Akaayar (2010) who noted that the vigilante security group should work cooperatively with community members, traditional rulers and town union executives as this will help to foster synergy between the vigilante security group and police, where everybody is seen as a stakeholder in the act of community policing.

The test of the third null hypothesis showed that there was no significant difference in the mean ratings of town union executives living in urban areas and those living in rural areas on the extent to which vigilante reduce criminal activities in Abia State. This implies that town union executives who represent the interest of community members living in rural and urban areas agreed that the vigilante group reduce criminal activities in Abia State. This agrees with the findings of Adejoh (2013) who noted that the vigilante group has helped to curb the rate and incidence of crime in the communities where they exist.

#### The Extent Vigilante Protect Lives and Properties

The findings of the study in relation to the extent vigilante protect lives and properties showed that the extent vigilante protect lives and properties of community members as perceived by the respondents was to a high extent in the fight against crime. This implies that the presence and activities of the vigilante has helped in curbing criminal activities in most of the communities across the local government areas covered by the study. This agrees with Travis (2005) who noted that increase in vigilante surveillance allows the vigilante to gain knowledge about the problems or issues plaguing a community. Thus, the highly visible presence of the vigilante serves as a deterrent to criminals and also gives community members an increased sense

of safety and security. Furthermore, Musa (2016) expressed concern that inspite of the vigilante security group being charged with the responsibility of rendering all lawful assistance to the police in times of emergencies and other threats to public safety, there are still incidences of crime such as menace of cattle herdsmen, housebreaking and car theft which often occur during the day time, perpetrated mainly by criminals who live and know the security loopholes of the area. This shows that crime can only be reduced and not totally eliminated. To maintain safety and security of life and properties of community members, the vigilante security group relies on community members for useful information or intelligence reports on emergency situations.

The test of the fourth null hypothesis showed that there was no significant difference in the mean ratings of town union executives living in urban and rural areas on the extent to which vigilante protect lives and properties of community members. This implies that town union executives who represent the interest of the community members living in rural and urban areas agreed that the vigilante group protect lives and properties of community members in Abia State. This agrees with the findings of Alemika and Chukwuma (2004) who noted that the emergence of the vigilante

security group is in response to the community members' quest for safety and security of their lives and properties.

#### Conclusion

Based on the findings of this study the following conclusions were drawn:

The perception of the community members on the performance of the vigilante security group, the extent vigilante collaborate with the police in fighting crime and reduce criminal activities in Abia State is high. Furthermore the extent vigilante protects lives and properties in the fight against crime is equally high. There is no significant difference in the mean ratings of town union executives living in urban and rural areas on their perceptions on the performance of the vigilante in Abia State. In addition, there is no significant difference in the mean ratings of town union executives and the police on the extent to which vigilante collaborate with the police in fighting crime, in reduction of criminal activities and protection of lives and properties of community members in Abia state.

# Implications of the study

The findings of the study have implications to community members, investors, the police, the vigilante, local and state governments and all stake holders on security matters.

The study shared that the community members agreed that the vigilante in Abia State is effective in curbing crime. This implies that the vigilante security group is reliable and effective in its efforts towards complementing the activities of the police in the war against crime. But there are still some gaps in the performances of the vigilante. This means that efforts should be made by the police, stakeholders on security matters with the view to enriching and repositioning the vigilante, as well as work on their weaknesses in order to strengthen and improve their performances for intelligence-led policing in the communities.

In addition, the result of the findings revealed that the respondents perceive the collaboration between the vigilante and the police and the extent to which the activities of the vigilante security group have reduced criminal activities to a high extent. This entails that the vigilante and the police synergize in their fight against crime. However, there are still some elements of insecurity in communities in Abia state. This implies that all stakeholders on security matters should intensify their efforts in developing a problem solving strategy that will enhance a secured environment. Community members should work cooperatively with the vigilante and police in making the act of policing easier in communities in Abia state.

Furthermore, the result of the findings showed that the respondents perceive the extent vigilante protect lives and properties of community members to a high extent. This involves the community members working in partnership with the vigilante to make their home security condition safer and a better place to live in. Therefore, peace, safety and security are both necessary and indispensable requirements that promotes community development, which is a component of adult education. Hence, security needs of these community members to improve their quality of life and families surpasses all other needs. It is most prominent because if life is not secured, one cannot plan for any other deficiency needs. The researcher believed that nothing gives meaning and essence to life than security. The study observed that the security of persons and their properties is the fundamental needs of human beings, without which life is meaningless. Human beings prefer a safe, orderly, lawful and organized environment for human activities to thrive without losing life and other valuables of life. Therefore, every community takes appropriate measures to protect the lives and properties of people living within its community. These appropriate measures include promoting values, norms, rules and law that uphold peaceful coexistence.

However, with adequate security in Abia State, investors can now do their business in a safe and secured environment. This will lead to high income

and productivity. Moreso, the socio-economic and political development of the entire state in particular and the nation at large will be improved. Thus community members should work in harmony and in unity with the vigilante to ensure effective crime prevention and control.

#### Recommendations

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

- 1. Communities in conjunction with the local government authorities should plan and organize constant seminars and training programmes for the vigilante security group to get them aware of the required novel practices and services on community policing.
- 2. Security committees should be established at the local government level and these committees should meet periodically to discuss security matters in the state in order to develop a problem solving strategy that will enhance a secured environment.
- 3. Government should recruit more members into the Abia State

  Vigilante security group to ensure optimal coverage of communities in the state.
- 4. Government should establish vigilante units at the local government areas where the units do not exist. This is because the vigilante

security group has been found to be helpful and complementary to the Police in protecting lives and properties and reducing the fear of crimes in most of the communities across the Local Government Areas covered by the study.

- 5. Serving members of the vigilante security group should be sent for refresher courses or in-service training, in addition to their basic training on a regular basis. This should focus on the rule of law, new interrogative techniques, communication skills, human rights, information technology and limits of the powers of the vigilante security service. This is to acquire more knowledge and professional skills for the effective discharge of their duties. This is very necessary, since the minimum qualification into the vigilante security group is First School Leaving Certificate.
- 6. The collaboration between the vigilante and the police should be enhanced with a view to enriching and strengthening their relationship in a manner that will ensure more robust security arrangement.

# **Limitation of the Study**

The study did not use all the local government areas in Abia State which may pose problem to the generalizability of the study, however, the reason is

because the ten local government areas that were used have registered vigilante units, while others have not.

### **Suggestions for Further Studies**

The following were suggested for further studies;

- 1. The role of Neighbourhood Watch Group in community policing in rural and urban communities in Abia State.
- 2. The use and effectiveness of community policing in communities in Abia State.
- 3. This study can be replicated in other states of the federation.
- 4. Community members' involvement on security as correlates of crime control management in Abia State.
- Informal security and crime management in communities in Abia
   State.

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#### APPENDIX A

# INTRODUCTORY LETTER TO COMMANDER GENERAL ABIA STATE VIGILANTE SECURITY GROUP.

Department of Adult Education, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2016.

The Commander General, Abia State Vigilante Security Group, Ubakala, Umuahia.

Sir,

### **An Introductory Letter**

I am a post graduate student of the above named institution. I am carrying out a research on Evaluation of Vigilante Security Services in Abia State.

I am soliciting for the cooperation of your members to fill the questionnaire meant for the study. This questionnaire is aimed at eliciting information on the minimum age and qualification for enrollment into the vigilante group, issues on integrity and membership. The study is necessary because its findings will enhance the improvement and performance of the vigilante in Abia State.

The information will be used solely for academic purposes and all information will be treated with absolute confidentiality.

Thanks.

Yours faithfully,

Elekwa, Blessing C. (Researcher)

#### **APPENDIX B**

### INTRODUCTORY LETTER TO TOWN UNION EXECUTIVES

Department of Adult Education, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2016.

The President, Town Welfare Union,

Sir,

### **An Introductory Letter**

I am a post graduate student of the above named institution. I am carrying out a research on Evaluation of Vigilante Security Services in Abia State.

I am soliciting for the cooperation of your members to fill the questionnaire meant for the study. This questionnaire is aimed at eliciting information on the perception of the community members on the performance of the vigilante, the extent the vigilante collaborate with the police, reduce criminal activities, protect lives and properties. The study is necessary because its findings will promote public safety and security of lives and properties of community members.

The information will be used solely for academic purposes and all information will be treated with absolute confidentiality.

Thanks.

Yours faithfully,

Elekwa, Blessing C. (Researcher)

#### **APPENDIX C**

# INTRODUCTORY LETTER TO COMMISSIONER OF POLICE AREA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, UMUAHIA.

Department of Adult Education, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2016.

The Commissioner of Police, Area Command Headquarters, Umuahia. Sir.

### **An Introductory Letter**

I am a post graduate student of the above named institution. I am carrying out a research on Evaluation of Vigilante Security Services in Abia State.

I am soliciting for the cooperation of your members to fill the questionnaire meant for the study. This questionnaire is aimed at eliciting information on the extent vigilante collaborate with the police, reduce criminal activities and protect lives and properties of community members. The study is necessary because its findings will strengthen the collaborative partnership between the vigilante and the police for the protection of lives and properties of community members in Abia State.

The information will be used solely for academic purposes and all information will be treated with absolute confidentiality.

Thanks.

Yours faithfully,

### Elekwa, Blessing C.

(Researcher)

#### APPENDIX D

#### **Letter of Transmittal**

School of Post Graduate Studies Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Anambra State. 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2016.

Dear Respondent,

### **EVALUATION OF VIGILANTE SERVICES QUESTIONNAIRE**

I am a post graduate student of Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka. I am conducting a research aimed at evaluating the services of the Abia State Vigilante Security Services. The research is conducted purely for academic purposes. It is hoped that the findings of the study will help to improve the services of the vigilante in Abia State and Nigeria as a whole.

I therefore, request you to carefully read through the questionnaire items and respond to them as objectively as you can. I assure you that all your responses will be used only for academic purposes and treated with absolute confidentiality.

Yours faithfully,

Elekwa, Blessing C.

(Researcher)

### **EVALUATION OF VIGILANTE SERVICES**

# Oral interview questions for vigilantes

1.	What is the age range for enrolment into the vigilante group in	your
	area.	

- a) 15-19
- b) 20-25
- c) 26-30
- d) 31-35
- 2. Do you screen to ensure the integrity of new applicants into the vigilante security group before enrolment in your area?
- 3. The minimum qualification for enrolment into the vigilante is
- a) NO certificate is required
- b) First School Leaving Certificate
- c) WAEC, SSCE or NECO attempted
- d) NCE

### **EVALUATION OF VIGILANTE SERVICES QUESTIONNAIRE**

### Part A: Questionnaire For Town Union Executives (QTUE) only

### **Section A: Personal Data of Respondents**

### **INSTRUCTION**

Please provide the following information as each applies to you.

1. Your LGA of residence is .....

**Section B:** Community Perception on the performance of the Vigilante Security Group.

#### INSTRUCTION

The following items address perceptions of community members on the performance of the vigilante services in their communities. Please you are requested to express your level of agreement or disagreement to the items below using the following responses categories:

SA - Strongly Agree

A - Agree D - Disagree

SD - Strongly Disagree

S/No	Community perception on the performance of the Vigilante	SA	A	D	SD
1	I like how the vigilante operate in my community				
2	Members of the vigilante constitute menace in my community.				
3	I have trust on vigilante's effectiveness in my community				
4	Vigilante services are mainly used as thugs in my community				
5	Members of my community do not see the vigilante as doing any				
	security work				
6	The vigilante maintain security to the expectation of members of				
	my community.				
7	The setting up of vigilante is a good development for reducing				
	crime in my community.				
8	There have been lots of improvement on security services in my				
	community since the inception of the vigilante				
9	Members of the vigilante in my community collaborate with				
	robbers in crime				
10	I see the vigilante as being reliable in fighting crime				

### **FOR TUE**

**Section C:** Extent of Vigilante Collaboration with the Police in fighting crime.

### **INSTRUCTION**

The following items address the extent of vigilante collaboration with the police in fighting crime. Please indicate your opinion by ticking ( $\checkmark$ ) in the appropriate column using the response options as shown below:

VHE – Very High Extent

HE - High Extent

LE – Low Extent

NAA – Not At All

S/no	Extent of vigilante collaboration with the police in fighting crime	VHE	HE	LE	NAA
11	The vigilante reports any observed sign of criminal activity to the				
	police immediately in your community				
12	The vigilante arrest criminals and take them to the police for formal				
	prosecution in your community				
13	The vigilante respond quickly to police calls for operational				
	assistance in your community				
14	The vigilante take operational instructions from the police to handle				
	some critical problems in your community				
15	The vigilante treat criminal matters by cooperating with the police.				
16.	The vigilante do not respond to police instructions accordingly in				
	your community				
17	The collaboration between the police and the vigilante for crime				
	prevention is cordial.				
18.	In your community, the vigilante provide police with report on how				
	to trace and control the menace of cattle herdsmen.				
19	In your community, the vigilante gives accurate report of criminal				
	activities to the police to facilitate prosecution of the criminals.				
20	Information sharing between the police and the vigilante has not				
	helped to stop the sale and consumption of hard drugs in your				
21.	community.  The vigilante do not like reporting any incidence of crime to the				
	police				

### FOR TUE

**Section D**: Extent of Reduction of Criminal Activities by the Vigilante.

### **INSTRUCTION**

The following items address the extent of reduction of criminal activities by the vigilante. Please indicate your opinion by ticking ( $\checkmark$ ) in the appropriate column the extent, the following criminal activities are reduced by the vigilante.

S/no	Extent of reduction of criminal activities by the vigilante	VHE	HE	LE	NAA
22	The presence of the vigilante make criminals afraid to operate freely in your community				
23	Some criminal hideouts are identified and demolished by the vigilante in your community				
24	Human trafficking in your area has not reduced because of the emergence of the vigilante				
25	Kidnapping has reduced due to the presence of the vigilante in your community				
26	Daily robbing of people's homes has not reduced since the inception of vigilante in your area				
27	Raping of innocent girls in your community has not reduced because of the presence of the vigilante				
28	Murder and assassination of people in your community has reduced due to the emergence of the vigilante				

### **FOR TUE**

**Section E:** Extent of Protection of Lives and Properties by the Vigilante.

### **INSTRUCTION**

The following items address the extent of protection of lives and properties by the vigilante. Please indicate your opinion by ticking ( $\rightarrow$ ) in the appropriate column the extent, the following activities of the vigilante has helped in the protection of lives and properties of community members.

s/no	Extent of protection of lives and properties by the vigilante	VHE	HE	LE	NAA
29	House breaking has been reduced since the inception of the vigilante in your community				
30	Killing of innocent people by criminals has been tackled by the vigilante in your community				
31	Early morning robbery of commuters has reduced in your community since the inception of the vigilante				
32	Frequent harassment of people by criminals has reduced in your community due to the presence of the vigilante.				
33	Destruction of crops by herdsmen has reduced in your community due to the presence of the vigilante.				
34	Human trafficking has not reduced in your community due to the presence of the vigilante.				
35	Kidnapping has been combated by the vigilante in your community				
36	Car theft has not reduced since the inception of vigilante in your community.				

### **EVALUATION OF VIGILANTE SERVICES QUESTIONNAIRE**

PART B: Questionnaire For Police (QP) only.

# **Section 1: Personal Data INSTRUCTION**

Please provide the following information as each applies to you.

a. In which LGA do you work? .....

Section 2: Extent of Vigilante Collaboration with the Police in Fighting Crime

#### **INSTRUCTION**

The following items address the extent vigilante collaborate with the police in fighting crime. Please indicate your opinion by ticking ( ) in the appropriate column using the following response code:

VHE – Very High Extent

HE – High Extent

LE – Low Extent

NAA – Not At All

s/no	Extent of vigilante collaboration with the police in fighting crime	VHE	HE	LE	NAA
1	In the area where you serve, the vigilante reports any observed sign of criminal activity to the police				
2	The vigilante in your area arrest criminals and hand them over to the police for further investigation				
3	In the area where you serve, the vigilante respond quickly to police calls for operational assistance				
4	In the area of your service, the vigilante t take operational instructions from the police to handle some criminal issues				
5	In the area where you serve, the vigilante treat criminal matters by cooperating with you.				
6	In the area where you serve, the vigilante do not respond to police instructions accordingly				
7	In the area of your service, the collaboration between the police and the vigilante for crime prevention is cordial.				
8.	In the area of your service, the vigilante help to provide police with report on how to trace and control the menace of cattle herdsmen				
9.	In the area of your service the vigilante gives accurate report of criminal activities to the police to facilitate prosecution.				
10.	Information sharing between the police and the vigilante has not helped to stop the sale and consumption of hard drugs in the area where you serve.				
11.	The vigilante do not like reporting any incidence of crime to the Police.				

### FOR POLICE ONLY

**Section 3**: Extent of Reduction of Criminal Activities by the Vigilante.

### **INSTRUCTION**

The following items address the extent of reduction of criminal activities by the vigilante. Please indicate your opinion by ticking ( $\checkmark$ ) in the appropriate column the extent, the following criminal activities are reduced by the vigilante.

S/no	Extent of reduction of criminal activities by the vigilante	VHE	HE	LE	NAA
12	In your area of service, criminals are afraid of operating freely because of the presence of the vigilante				
13	In your area of service, some criminal hideouts have been identified and destroyed by the vigilante				
14	In your area of service, human trafficking has not reduced because of the involvement of the vigilante				
15	In your area of service, daily robbing of people's homes has not reduced since the inception of the vigilante.				
16	Kidnapping has reduced due to the presence of the vigilante in the area where you serve				
17	Raping of innocent girls in the area where you serve has not reduced because vigilante collaborate with criminals.				
18	Murder and assassination of people in your community has reduced due to the emergence of the vigilante				

#### FOR POLICE ONLY

**Section 4:** Extent of Protection of Lives and Properties by the Vigilante.

### **INSTRUCTION**

The following items address the extent of protection of lives and properties by the vigilante. Please indicate by ticking  $(\protection)$  in the appropriate column the extent, the following activities of the vigilante has helped in the protection of lives and properties in your area of service.

s/no	Extent of protection of lives and properties by the vigilante	VHE	HE	LE	NAA
19	House breaking has been reduced since the inception of the vigilante in the area where you serve				
20	Killing of innocent people by criminals has been tackled by the vigilante in the area where you serve				
21	Early morning robbery of commuters has reduced in the area where you serve due to the presence of the vigilante				
22	Frequent harassment of people by criminals has reduced in the area where you serve due to the presence of the vigilante				
23	Destruction of crops by herdsmen has not reduced in the area where you serve due to the presence of the vigilante				
24	Human trafficking has not reduced in the area where you serve due to the presence of the vigilante				
25	Kidnapping has been combated by the vigilante in the area where you serve				
26	Car theft has not reduced since the inception of vigilante in the area where you serve				

APPENDIX E

Population Distribution of Town Union Executives, Vigilantes and Policemen according to Local Government Areas in Abia State.

S/N	Local Govt	Location	Number	Number of	Number of	Number of	Number	Number
	Area		of	Town Union	Registered	Vigilante	of Police	of
			Registered	Executives	Vigilante	Members in	Divisions	Policeme
			Town		Units	each Unit		n in each
			Unions					division
1	Aba North	Urban	11	110	2 🗸	100	2	232
2	Aba South	Urban	13	130	3 🗸	130	3	489
3	Arochukwu	Rural	32	288	*	-	1	35
4	Bende	Rural	110	990	*	-	2	67
5	Ikwuano	Rural	45	450	*	-	1	39
6	Isikwuato	Rural	62	538	*	-	2	58
7	Isiala Ngwa	Rural	42	378	1 🗸	28	1	41
	North							
8	Isiala Ngwa	Rural	48	432	*	-	2	75
	South							
9	Obingwa	Rural	75	675	*	-	2	144
10	Ohafia	Rural	33	297	2 🗸	88	3	73
11	Osisioma	Urban	50	450	2 🗸	100	2	211
	Ngwa							
12	Ugwunagbo	Rural	25	225	2	65	2	96
13	Ukwa East	Rural	21	189	2 🗸	56	1	34
14	Ukwa West	Rural	27	243	*	-	1	77
15	Umuahia	Urban	41	410	2 🗸	60	3	602
	North							
16	Umuahia	Urban	46	460	1	50	2	173
	South							
17	Umunneochi	Rural	72	648	2 🗸	60	2	65
	Total		753	6699	19	737	32	2511

# Note below:

( ✓ ) – Has vigilante units

(\*) – has no vigilante units

APPENDIX F

Population Distribution of Town Union Executives, Vigilantes and Policemen in the Ten Local Government Areas with registered vigilante units.

S/n	Local Govt	Location	Number of	Number of	Number of	Number of	Number	Number
	Area		Registered	Town Union	Registered	Vigilante	of Police	of
			Town	Executives	Vigilante	Members in	Divisions	Policemen
			Unions		Units	each Unit		in each
								division
1	Aba North	Urban	11	110	2	100	2	232
2	Aba South	Urban	13	130	3	130	3	489
3	Isiala Ngwa North	Rural	42	378	1	28	1	41
4	Ohafia	Rural	33	297	2	88	3	73
5	Osisioma Ngwa	Urban	50	450	2	100	2	211
6	Ugwunagbo	Rural	25	225	2	65	2	96
7	Ukwa East	Rural	21	189	2	56	1	34
8	Umuahia North	Urban	41	410	2	60	3	602
9	Umuahia South	Urban	46	460	1	50	2	173
10	Umunneochi	Rural	72	648	2	60	2	65
	TOTAL		354	3297	19	737	21	2016

### APPENDIX G

Sample Distribution of Town Union Executives and Policemen according to Ten Local Government Areas with registered vigilante units in Abia State.

S/N	Local Government Area	Location	Number of Town Union Executives	Number of Policemen in each Division
1	Aba North	Urban	22	8
2	Aba South	Urban	26	12
3	Isiala Ngwa North	Rural	84	4
4	Ohafia	Rural	66	12
5	Osisioma Ngwa	Urban	100	8
6	Ugwunagbo	Rural	50	8
7	Ukwa East	Rural	42	4
8	Umuahia North	Urban	82	12
9	Umuahia South	Urban	92	8
10	Umunneochi	Rural	144	8
	Total		708	84

#### APPENDIX H

### **Alpha Reliability Coefficient (Section 2)**

Inter-item correlation coefficient will be used for this analysis.

Reliability Part B: For Town Union Executives

**RELIABILITY ANALYSIS** – Community Perception on the Performance of the Vigilante.

#### SCALE (ALPHA)

- 1. Item 1 I like how the vigilante operates in my community.
- 2. Item 2 Members of the vigilante constitute menace in my community
- 3. Item 3 I have trust on vigilante's effectiveness in my community.
- 4. Item 4 Vigilante services are mainly used as thugs in my community.
- 5. Item 5 Members of my community do not see the vigilante as doing any security work.
- 6. Item 6 The vigilante maintain security to the expectation of members of my community.
- 7. Item 7 The setting up of vigilante is a good development for reducing crime in my community
- 8. Item 8 There have been lots of improvement on security services in my community since the inception of the vigilante
- 9. Item 9. Members of the vigilante in my community collaborate with robbers in crime
- 10. I see the vigilante as being reliable in fighting crime.

#### **Item Statistics**

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Cases
Item 1	2.6333	.96431	30
Item 2	2.9333	1.01483	30
Item 3	3.1000	.88474	30
Item 4	3.0667	.90719	30
Item 5	2.6000	1.00344	30
Item 6	2.6667	1.02833	30
Item 7	2.8333	.87428	30
Item 8	2.5333	.97320	30
Item 9	2.5667	1.04000	30
Item 10	2.76667	1.00630	30

# **Data for Community Perception on the performance of the Vigilante**

	Item									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Respondent 1	3	1	3	3	3	2	3	3	1	2
Respondent 2	2	3	3	3	2	1	3	2	2	2
Respondent 3	2	2	3	2	1	3	3	1	2	3
Respondent 4	3	3	1	1	3	4	1	2	3	1
Respondent 5	4	3	4	2	4	4	4	4	2	4
Respondent 6	4	1	2	2	4	3	2	4	1	2
Respondent 7	3	2	3	3	3	1	3	3	2	2
Respondent 8	1	4	2	2	1	1	2	1	4	2
Respondent 9	1	4	1	1	1	3	1	1	4	1
Respondent 10	3	4	4	4	3	3	4	3	2	4
Respondent 11	4	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	2
Respondent 12	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	3	3
Respondent 13	3	4	4	4	3	3	2	3	4	4
Respondent 14	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	3
Respondent 15	1	4	3	3	1	3	3	1	4	3
Respondent 16	3	2	4	4	3	3	4	3	2	4
Respondent 17	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	3
Respondent 18	2	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	4	4
Respondent 19	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	4	4	4
Respondent 20	3	1	4	4	3	3	4	3	1	4
Respondent 21	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 22	3	2	2	4	2	1	2	3	2	2
Respondent 23	1	2	2	4	1	3	2	1	2	2
Respondent 24	3	4	4	2	3	3	4	3	2	2
Respondent 25	3	4	4	4	3	2	2	3	4	4
Respondent 26	2	4	4	4	2	1	4	2	4	2
Respondent 27	1	2	3	3	1	3	3	1	2	3
Respondent 28	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	3
Respondent 29	2	4	4	4	2	2	4	2	1	4
Respondent 30	2	3	3	3	2	4	3	2	2	1

# Case Processing Summary

	N	%
Cases valid	30	100.0
Excluded <sup>a</sup>	0	.0
Total	30	100.0

# Summary Item Statistics

	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Range	Maximum	Variance	No of
					/ minimum		items
Item means	2.7770	2.533	3.100	.567	1.224	.043	10
Inter-item correlation	.205	461	.950	1.412	-2.060	.105	10

# Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items	No of Items
.712	.721	10

#### **Alpha Reliability Coefficient (Section C)**

Inter-Item Correlation Coefficient will be used for this analysis.

**RELIABILITY ANALYSIS** – Extent of Vigilante Collaboration with the Police in Fighting Crime. SCALE (ALPHA)

- 11. The vigilante reports any observed sign of criminal activity to the police immediately in your community.
- 12. The vigilante arrest criminals and take them to the police for formal prosecution in your community.
- 13. The vigilante respond quickly to police calls for operational assistance in your community.
- 14. The vigilante take operational instructions from the police to handle some criminal problems in your community.
- 15. The vigilante treat criminal matters by cooperating with the police.
- 16. The vigilante do not respond to police instructions accordingly in your community.
- 17. The collaboration between the police and the vigilante for crime prevention is cordial.
- 18. In your community, the vigilante provide police with report on how to trace and control the menace of cattle herdsmen.
- 19. In your community, the vigilante gives accurate report of criminal activities to the police to facilitate prosecution of the criminals.
- 20. Information sharing between the police and the vigilante has not helped to stop the sale and consumption of hard drugs in your community.
- 21. The vigilante do not like reporting any incidence of crime to the police

#### **Item Statistics**

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Cases
Item 11	3.2333	.85836	30
Item 12	2.6333	.99943	30
Item 13	2.6667	1.02833	30
Item 14	3.2333	.85836	30
Item 15	2.6333	.99943	30
Item 16	2.6333	.99943	30
Item 17	3.1667	1.01992	30
Item 18	2.5000	.81603	30
Item 19	3.0000	.94686	30
Item 20	2.4333	1.00630	30
Item 21	2.5333	1.07425	30

# Data for Extent of Vigilante Collaboration with the Police in Fighting Crime

	Item										
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Respondent 1	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	2	2	1	3
Respondent 2	3	4	3	3	4	4	3	3	3	4	4
Respondent 3	4	3	3	4	3	3	4	2	1	3	3
Respondent 4	3	3	1	3	3	3	4	1	3	3	3
Respondent 5	3	1	3	3	1	1	4	3	3	1	1
Respondent 6	4	3	3	4	3	3	4	2	2	3	2
Respondent 7	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3
Respondent 8	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	4	2	1
Respondent 9	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4
Respondent 10	4	3	3	4	3	3	1	3	4	3	3
Respondent 11	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 12	4	3	1	4	3	3	4	3	4	3	3
Respondent 13	4	1	3	4	1	1	4	3	4	3	1
Respondent 14	4	3	3	4	3	3	4	3	4	3	3
Respondent 15	4	3	2	4	3	3	4	2	4	3	3
Respondent 16	4	2	1	4	2	2	4	1	4	2	2
Respondent 17	3	1	3	3	1	1	2	2	4	2	2
Respondent 18	3	3	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3
Respondent 19	2	2	2	4	2	2	4	2	4	2	2
Respondent 20	4	2	4	3	2	2	3	4	3	2	2
Respondent 21	3	3	2	3	3	3	1	2	3	3	3
Respondent 22	3	2	1	3	2	2	3	1	3	2	2
Respondent 23	3	1	3	3	1	1	2	3	3	1	1
Respondent 24	1	3	4	1	3	3	3	3	2	1	1
Respondent 25	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4
Respondent 26	2	4	3	2	4	4	1	3	2	4	4
Respondent 27	3	3	1	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	4
Respondent 28	2	1	1	2	1	1	4	1	2	1	1
Respondent 29	1	1	3	1	1	1	4	3	1	1	1
Respondent 30	4	3	3	4	3	3	4	2	2	1	4

# Case Processing Summary

		N	%
Cases	valid	30	100.0
	Excluded <sup>a</sup>	0	.0
	Total	30	100.0

# **Summary Item Statistics**

	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Range	Maximum/	Variance	No of
					Minimum		item
Item means	2.788	2.433	3.233	.800	1.329	.095	11
Item Variances	.943	.737	1.154	.417	1.566	.021	11
Inter-Item correlation	.272	273	1.000	1.273	-3.666	.112	11

# Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items	No of Items
.803	.804	11

#### **Alpha Reliability Coefficient (Section D)**

Inter-item Correlation Coefficient will be used for this analysis.

**RELIABILITY ANALYSIS** – Extent of Reduction of Criminal Activities by the Vigilante. SCALE (ALPHA)

- 16. Item 22 The presence of vigilante makes criminals afraid to operate freely in your community.
- 17. Item 23 Criminal hideouts are identified and demolished by the vigilante in your community.
- 18. Item 24 Human trafficking in your area has not reduced because of the emergence of the Vigilante.
- 19. Item 25 Kidnapping has reduced due to the presence of the vigilante in your community.
- 20. Item 26 Daily robbing of people's homes has not reduced since the inception of vigilante your area.
- 21. Item 27 Raping of innocent girls in your community has not reduced because of the presence of the vigilante.
- 22. Item 28 Murder and assassination of people in your community has reduced due to the emergence of the vigilante.

#### **Item Statistics**

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Cases
Item 22	2.6000	1.03724	30
Item 23	2.7000	.98786	30
Item 24	3.3000	.74971	30
Item 25	2.7667	.97143	30
Item 26	2.5333	.97320	30
Item 27	3.1667	.91287	30
Item 28	3.2333	.77385	30

# **Data for Extent of Reduction of Criminal Activities by the Vigilante**

	Item 22	Item 23	Item 24	Item 25	Item 26	Item 27	Item 28
Respondent 1	4	3	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 2	3	1	3	3	3	4	4
Respondent 3	1	3	4	1	1	4	4
Respondent 4	3	3	4	3	3	4	4
Respondent 5	4	2	4	3	3	4	4
Respondent 6	2	1	4	2	2	4	4
Respondent 7	1	3	3	1	1	3	3
Respondent 8	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 9	2	2	4	2	2	4	4
Respondent 10	2	4	3	2	2	3	3
Respondent 11	2	4	4	4	2	1	3
Respondent 12	1	2	3	3	1	3	3
Respondent 13	3	2	3	3	3	2	3
Respondent 14	2	4	4	4	2	2	4
Respondent 15	2	3	3	3	3	4	3
Respondent 16	4	3	2	4	4	2	2
Respondent 17	3	1	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 18	1	1	2	1	1	2	2
Respondent 19	1	3	1	1	1	1	1
Respondent 20	3	3	4	3	3	4	4
Respondent 21	3	4	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 22	4	3	3	4	4	3	3
Respondent 23	3	3	4	3	3	4	2
Respondent 24	3	1	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 25	1	3	3	1	1	3	3
Respondent 26	3	3	4	3	3	4	4
Respondent 27	3	4	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 28	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Respondent 29	4	3	4	4	4	4	4
Respondent 30	3	3	4	3	3	4	4

# Case Processing Summary

	N	%
Cases Valid	30	100.0
Excluded <sup>a</sup>	0	.0
Total	30	100.0

# **Summary Item Statistics**

	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Range	Maximum/	Variance	No of
					Minimum		item
Inter-item Correlation	.349	134	.970	1.104	-7.249	.090	7

### **Scale Statistics**

Mean	Variance	Std. Deviation	No of item
20.3000	18.079	4.25198	7

### Intra class Correlation Coefficient

	95% Confidence Interval			F Test with True Value O			)
	Intra class Lower Upper v		value	df1	df2	Sig.	
	correlation <sup>a</sup>	Bound	Bound				
Single measures	.310 <sup>b</sup>	.178	.487	4.620	29	174	.000
Average measures	.758°	.603	.869	4.620	29	74	.000

# Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized Items	No of Items
.784	.789	7

#### **Alpha Reliability Coefficient (Section E)**

Inter-item correlation coefficient will be used for this analysis.

**RELIABILITY ANALYSIS** – Extent of Protection of Lives and Properties by the Vigilante. SCALE (ALPHA)

- 23: Item 29 House breaking has been reduced since the inception of the vigilante in your community.
- 24. Item 30 Killing of innocent people by criminals has been tackled by the vigilante in your community.
- 25. Item 31 Early morning robbery of commuters has reduced by the vigilante in your community since the inception of the vigilante.
- 26. Item 32 Frequent harassment of people by criminals has reduced by the vigilante in your community due to the presence of the vigilante.
- 27. Item 33 Destruction of crops by herdsmen has reduced by vigilante in your Community due to the presence of the vigilante.
- 28. Item 34 Human trafficking has not reduced in your community due to the presence of the vigilante.
- 29. Item 35 Kidnapping has been combated by the vigilante in your community.
- 30. Item 36 Car theft has not reduced since the inception of vigilante in your community.

#### **Item Statistics**

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Cases
Item 29	2.5000	.93772	30
Item 30	3. 1667	1.01992	30
Item 31	3.1000	.92289	30
Item 32	3.0667	.90719	30
Item 33	3.5333	.97320	30
Item 34	3.6000	1.00344	30
Item 35	3.0333	.88992	30
Item 36	2.5667	.97143	30

# Data for Extent of Protection of Lives and Properties by the Vigilante

	Item 29	Item 30	Item 31	Item 32	Item 33	Item 34	Item 35	Item 36
Respondent1	3	1	3	2	3	2	3	3
Respondent 2	2	3	3	3	2	1	3	2
Respondent 3	1	2	3	3	1	3	3	1
Respondent 4	3	3	1	1	3	4	1	3
Respondent 5	4	3	4	4	2	4	4	2
Respondent 6	2	1	2	2	4	3	2	4
Respondent 7	3	2	3	3	3	1	3	3
Respondent 8	1	4	2	2	1	1	2	1
Respondent 9	1	4	1	1	1	3	1	1
Respondent 10	3	4	4	4	3	3	4	3
Respondent 11	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 12	4	3	2	3	4	2	3	4
Respondent 13	3	4	4	2	3	3	4	3
Respondent 14	3	4	3	3	3	1	3	3
Respondent 15	1	4	3	3	1	3	3	1
Respondent 16	3	4	4	4	3	3	4	3
Respondent 17	3	3	2	3	3	4	3	3
Respondent 18	2	4	4	4	4	4	2	4
Respondent 19	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	4
Respondent 20	3	1	4	2	2	3	2	3
Respondent 21	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 22	3	4	4	4	3	1	4	3
Respondent 23	1	4	2	4	1	3	2	1
Respondent 24	3	4	4	4	3	3	4	3
Respondent 25	3	4	4	4	3	2	4	3
Respondent 26	2	4	4	4	2	1	4	2
Respondent 27	1	2	3	3	1	3	3	1
Respondent 28	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3
Respondent 29	2	4	4	4	2	2	4	2
Respondent 30	2	3	3	3	2	4	3	2

# Case Processing Summary

	N	%
Cases Valid	30	100.0
Excluded <sup>a</sup>	0	.0
Total	30	100.0

# **Summary Item Statistics**

	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Range	Maximum/	Variance	No of
					Minimum		item
Inter-Item correlations	.259	216	.982	1.199	-4.543	.105	8

### Scale statistics

Mean	Variance	Std. deviation	No of items
22.5667	19.978	4.46969	8

### Intra Class Correlation Coefficient

	95% Co	F Test	with Tı	ue Valu	ie O		
	Intra class Lower Upper		Value	df1	df2	Sig.	
	correlation <sup>a</sup>	bound	Bound				
single measures	.233 <sup>b</sup>	.122	.398	3.652	29	203	.000
Average measures	.708°	.526	.841	3.652	29	203	.000

### Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha based on standardized items	No of item
.726	.736	8

#### **Alpha Reliability Coefficient (Section 2)**

#### **Reliability Part C: For Police Only**

Inter – item correlation coefficient will be used for this analysis

**RELIABILITY ANALYSIS** – Extent of Vigilante Collaboration with the Police in fighting crime. SCALE (ALPHA)

- 1. In the area where you serve, the vigilante reports any observed sign of criminal activity to the police.
- 2. The vigilante in your area arrest criminals and hand them over to the police for further investigation.
- 3. In the area where you serve, the vigilante respond quickly to police calls for operational assistance
- 4. In the area of your service, the vigilante t take operational instructions from the police to handle some criminal issues
- 5. In the area where you serve, the vigilante treat criminal matters by cooperating with you.
- 6. In the area where you serve, the vigilante do not respond to police instructions accordingly.
- 7. In the area of your service, the vigilante help to provide police with report on how to trace and control the menace of cattle herdsmen.
- 8. In the area of your service, the vigilante help to provide police with report on how to trace and control the menace of cattle herdsmen.
- 9. In the area of your service the vigilante gives accurate report of criminal activities to the police to facilitate prosecution.
- 10. Information sharing between the police and the vigilante has not helped to stop the sale and consumption of hard drugs in the area where you serve.
- 11. The vigilante do not like reporting any incidence of crime to the Police.

#### **Item Statistics**

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Cases
item 1	2.667	.95893	30
item 2	2.7000	.98786	30
item 3	3.0000	.94686	30
item 4	2.8667	.97320	30
item 5	2.7667	1.00630	30
item 6	2.9000	.95953	30
item 7	2.6000	.93218	30
item 8	2.3333	1.02833	30
item 9	2.4000	.89443	30
item 10	2.5333	.89955	30
item 11	2.8000	.92476	30

Data for Extent of Vigilante Collaboration with the Police in Fighting Crime

	Item	Item 2	Item 3	Item 4	Item 5	Item 6	Item 7	Item 8	Item 9	Item 10	Item
Respondent1	2	3	4	4	3	1	4	1	2	2	2
Respondent 2	1	3	3	3	3	3	2	1	3	3	3
Respondent 2  Respondent 3	2	1	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3
Respondent 4	4	3	2	2	4	3	3	3	2	2	1
	3	3	3	4	2	1	1	3	3	2	1
Respondent 5									2		
Respondent 6	1	1	2	1	2	4	1	1		2	4
Respondent 7	3	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	1	1	3
Respondent 8	3	3	4	3	3	3	2	1	2	2	3
Respondent 9	4	3	3	3	2	4	2	4	3	2	4
Respondent 10	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	3	2	3
Respondent 11	3	2	3	4	3	4	1	3	3	4	3
Respondent 12	2	2	4	2	1	4	3	2	2	3	2
Respondent 13	3	4	3	2	1	4	3	2	3	1	4
Respondent 14	3	3	2	4	3	4	3	3	2	3	4
Respondent 15	1	3	3	3	4	4	2	1	3	2	4
Respondent 16	2	4	4	2	4	3	3	2	4	4	3
Respondent 17	3	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	1	3	3
Respondent 18	2	3	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	3
Respondent 19	1	3	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Respondent 20	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	2	3	2
Respondent 21	4	2	4	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3
Respondent 22	4	2	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	3
Respondent 23	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4
Respondent 24	3	4	4	3	3	3	3	1	2	4	2
Respondent 25	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	3
Respondent 26	3	1	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	2
Respondent 27	3	3	4	3	4	2	2	2	1	2	2
Respondent 28	3	3	4	3	3	3	2	3	4	3	4
Respondent 29	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3
Respondent 30	3	1	3	1	1	1	3	2	2	3	2

# Case Processing Summary

	N	%
Cases Valid	30	100.0
Excluded <sup>a</sup>	0	.0
Total	30	100.0

# **Summary Item Statistics**

	Mean	Minimum	maximum	Range	maximum/	Variance	No of
					Minimum		Items
Item Means	2.688	2.333	3.000	.667	1.286	.043	11
Item Variances	.915	.800	1.057	.257	1.322	.007	11
Inter- Item Correlation	.223	034	.736	.770	-21.333	.028	11

### Scale Statistics

Means	Variances	Std. Deviation	No of Items		
29.5667	34.599	5.88208	11		

# Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on	No of Items
	Standardized Items	
.780	.782	11

### **Alpha Reliability Coefficient (Section 3)**

Inter-item correlation coefficient will be used for this analysis.

# **RELIABILITY ANALYSIS** – Extent of Reduction of Criminal Activities by the Vigilante SCALE (ALPHA)

- 12. In your area of service, criminals are afraid of operating freely because of the presence of the vigilante
- 13. In your area of service, some criminal hideouts have been identified and destroyed by the vigilante
- 14. In your area of service, human trafficking has not reduced because of the involvement of the vigilante.
- 15. In your area of service, daily robbing of people's homes has not reduced since the inception of the vigilante.
- 16. Kidnapping has reduced due to the presence of the vigilante in the area where you serve.
- 17. Raping of innocent girls in the area where you serve has not reduced because vigilante collaborate with criminals.
- 18. Murder and assassination of people in your community has reduced due to the emergence of the vigilante.

#### Item Statistics

	Mean	Std Deviation	Cases
Item 12	2.6333	.99943	30
Item 13	3.1667	1.01992	30
Item 14	3.2333	.85836	30
Item 15	3.6667	1.02833	30
Item 16	3.2333	.85836	30
Item 17	2.6333	.99943	30
Item 18	3.2333	.85836	30

# **Data for Extent of Reduction of Criminal Activities by the Vigilante**

	Item 12	Item 13	Item 14	Item15	Item16	Item 17	Item 18
Respondent1	4	1	2	3	2	4	2
Respondent 2	3	2	3	1	3	3	3
Respondent 3	1	4	2	1	2	1	2
Respondent 4	1	4	1	3	1	1	1
Respondent 5	3	4	4	3	4	3	4
Respondent 6	2	4	4	1	4	2	4
Respondent 7	1	2	3	3	3	1	3
Respondent 8	3	2	3	2	3	3	3
Respondent 9	2	4	4	2	4	2	4
Respondent 10	2	3	3	4	3	2	4
Respondent 11	3	3	3	4	3	2	3
Respondent 12	4	3	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 13	3	4	4	3	4	4	3
Respondent 14	3	4	3	1	3	3	3
Respondent 15	1	4	3	3	3	1	3
Respondent 16	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 17	3	4	4	1	4	3	4
Respondent 18	1	4	4	3	4	1	4
Respondent 19	3	4	4	3	4	3	4
Respondent 20	3	4	4	2	4	3	4
Respondent 21	3	4	4	3	4	3	4
Respondent 22	3	3	3	4	3	3	3
Respondent 23	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Respondent 24	4	4	4	3	4	4	4
Respondent 25	3	1	4	3	4	3	4
Respondent 26	3	1	3	2	3	3	3
Respondent 27	2	3	3	1	3	2	3
Respondent 28	1	2	3	3	3	1	3
Respondent 29	3	3	1	4	1	3	1
Respondent 30	4	3	4	4	4	4	4

# Case Processing Summary

		N	%
Cases	Valid	30	100.0
	Excluded <sup>a</sup>	0	.0
	Total	30	100.0

# **Summary Item Statistics**

	Means	Minimum	Maximum	Range	Maximum/	Variance	No of
					Minimum		Item
Inter- Item Correlation	.298	141	1.000	1.141	-7.095	.142	7

### **Scale Statistics**

Mean	Variance	Std. Deviation	No of items	
20.8000	16.648	4.08023	7	

### Intra Class Correlation Coefficient

	95% Con	F Test with True Value O					
	intra class	Lower	Upper	Value	df1	df2	Sig.
	Correlation <sup>a</sup>	Bound	Bound				
Single Measures	.253 <sup>b</sup>	.132	.426	3.687	29	174	.000
Average Measures	.703°	.515	.839	3.687	9	174	.000

# Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on Standardized	No of Items
	Items	
.725	.748	7

#### **Alpha Reliability Coefficient (Section 4)**

Inter- item correlation coefficient will be used for this analysis

**RELIABILITY ANALYSIS** - Extent of Protection of Lives and Properties by the vigilante. SCALE (ALPHA)

- 19. House breaking has been reduced since the inception of the vigilante in the area where you serve.
- 20. Killing of innocent people by criminals has been tackled by the vigilante in the area where you serve.
- 21. Early morning robbery of commuters has reduced in the area where you serve due to the presence of the vigilante.
- 22. Frequent harassment of people by criminals has reduced in the area where you serve due to the presence of the vigilante
- 23. Destruction of crops by herdsmen has not reduced in the area where you serve due to the presence of the vigilante.
- 24. Human trafficking has not reduced in the area where you serve due to the presence of the vigilante.
- 25. Kidnapping has been combated by the vigilante in the area where you serve.
- 26. Car theft has not reduced since the inception of vigilante in the area where you serve.

#### **Item Statistics**

	Mean	Std. Deviation	Cases
Item 19	2.5333	1.00801	30
Item 20	2.8333	.98553	30
Item 21	2.9667	.88992	30
Item 22	2.5333	.97320	30
Item 23	2.6333	.96431	30
Item 24	2.6333	.99943	30
Item 25	2.8333	.87428	30
Item 26	3.0000	.87099	30

# Data for Extent of Protection of Lives and Properties by the Vigilante

	Item 19	Item 20	Item 21	Item 22	Item 23	Item 24	Item 25	Item 26
Respondent1	3	2	2	3	3	3	4	2
Respondent 2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 3	4	4	4	2	2	4	2	4
Respondent 4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	4
Respondent 5	3	1	3	3	3	3	4	4
Respondent 6	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Respondent 7	2	2	2	3	3	1	2	4
Respondent 8	1	2	4	1	1	3	2	4
Respondent 9	3	4	4	3	3	3	4	2
Respondent 10	3	4	4	3	3	2	2	4
Respondent 11	2	3	3	3	2	1	4	3
Respondent 12	1	2	3	1	1	3	3	3
Respondent 13	3	2	4	3	3	2	3	3
Respondent 14	2	4	3	2	2	2	4	4
Respondent 15	2	3	3	2	2	4	3	3
Respondent 16	2	1	3	2	3	2	3	3
Respondent 17	2	3	3	2	2	1	3	3
Respondent 18	1	2	1	1	2	3	3	2
Respondent 19	3	3	4	2	3	4	1	1
Respondent 20	4	3	2	4	4	4	4	2
Respondent 21	4	1	3	4	4	3	2	2
Respondent 22	3	2	3	3	3	1	3	3
Respondent 23	1	4	2	1	1	1	2	3
Respondent 24	1	2	1	1	1	3	1	1
Respondent 25	3	4	2	3	3	3	4	4
Respondent 26	3	3	3	3	4	4	3	3
Respondent 27	4	3	3	4	4	3	3	3
Respondent 28	3	4	4	3	3	3	2	4
Respondent 29	3	3	3	3	3	1	3	3
Respondent 30	1	4	3	1	1	3	3	3

# Case Processing Summary

		N	%
Cases	Valid	30	100.0
	Excluded <sup>a</sup>	0	.0
	Total	30	100.0

# Summary item statistics

	Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Range	Maximum/	Variance	No of
					Minimum		Item
Inter- Item Correlation	.226	238	.914	1.515	-3.844	.078	8

### **Scale Statistics**

Mean	Variance	Std. Deviation	No of Items
21.9667	18.585	4.31104	8

### Intra Class Correlation Coefficient

	95% Confidence Interval			F Test with True Value O			
	Intra class	Lower	Upper	Value	df 1	df2	Sig.
	Correlation <sup>a</sup>	Bound	Bound				
Single measures	.224 <sup>b</sup>	.113	.390	3.350	29	203	.000
Average	698 <sup>c</sup>	.504	.837	3.350	29	203	.000
Measures							

# Reliability Statistics

Cronbach's Alpha	Cronbach's Alpha Based on	No of Items
	Standardized Items	
.701	.700	8