

THE IMPACT OF GUN SAFETY MEASURES ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN BARANGAY MALIGAYA, CALOOCAN CITY

ABSTRACT

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DISCIPLINE

Criminology

KEYWORDS

*gun safety; domestic violence;
barangay maligaya; caloocan
city; community safety; public
awareness*

ARTICLE ID

AASGBCPJMRA-B33710

This study investigates the influence of firearm regulations on incidents of domestic violence in Barangay Maligaya, Caloocan City. Domestic violence remains a critical concern, and the presence of firearms has been shown to escalate the severity of such cases. Implementing gun safety measures is essential for promoting community safety; however, issues in enforcement and public awareness continue to hinder their effectiveness. This study aims to assess the impact of gun safety practices on the reduction of domestic violence, focusing on residents' perceptions of safety, awareness of firearm laws, and overall satisfaction with current policies. It also explores implementation challenges and proposes potential interventions to improve gun safety and victim protection. A descriptive research design was employed to examine community perceptions and challenges associated with firearm regulations. The study involved 50 purposively selected respondents, including 40 residents and 10 police officers from Barangay Maligaya, all of whom had relevant knowledge or experience regarding gun safety and domestic violence. Data were collected using structured survey questionnaires, which addressed topics such as perceived safety, policy awareness, and satisfaction with current gun control measures. The gathered data were analyzed using statistical tools to determine weighted means and identify key trends. The results indicated strong agreement among respondents on the effectiveness of gun safety measures in enhancing community safety, with an overall weighted mean of 3.332. The highest-rated response showed that residents, particularly women, felt less intimidated by the presence of firearms, resulting in a heightened sense of security. Awareness of gun control laws was also positively rated, with a mean score of 3.54, suggesting improved understanding of legal frameworks and their role in preventing domestic violence. In terms of community satisfaction, a weighted mean of 3.52 reflected general approval of the implemented gun control policies. Despite the positive perception of gun safety measures, several challenges were identified. These included insufficient coordination among local agencies (reported by 52% of respondents) and inadequate monitoring of domestic violence cases (48%). To address these issues, the study recommends the establishment of a confidential reporting system with community incentives, the formation of a multi-agency task force for coordinated interventions, and enhanced public education campaigns on gun safety and domestic violence prevention. The findings emphasize the importance of comprehensive gun safety enforcement, inter-agency collaboration, and community engagement in reducing domestic violence and fostering a safer living environment.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

Cabaya, I.-A., Centillas, C. J., Dela Cruz, M. W., Pino, C., & Que, P. (2025). The Impact Of Gun Safety Measures On Domestic Violence In Barangay Maligaya, Caloocan City. *Ascendens Asia Singapore – Bestlink College of the Philippines Journal of Multidisciplinary Research Abstracts*, 7(1), 38.