

EMOTIONAL IMPACT OF CRIME AS PERCEIVED BY THE RESIDENCE OF BRGY 181, CALOOCAN CITY

ABSTRACT

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Crime remains a critical issue in many urban areas, impacting not only public safety but also the emotional and psychological well-being of residents. In Barangay 181, Caloocan City—a community grappling with ongoing security concerns—exposure to crime often leads to heightened levels of fear, chronic anxiety, and social withdrawal. This study investigates the emotional and psychological impact of crime on residents, emphasizing manifestations such as depression, anxiety disorders, social isolation, diminished interpersonal trust, and adverse physical health outcomes. The research seeks to understand how persistent crime shapes daily life and mental health in vulnerable urban communities. This study utilized a descriptive quantitative research design to examine the emotional impact of crime on the local population. A total of 50 respondents were surveyed from Barangay 181, Caloocan City, comprising community residents, barangay officials, and law enforcement personnel. Participants were selected through purposive sampling to ensure they had firsthand experience or significant exposure to criminal incidents in the area. This approach ensured the collection of relevant, experience-based data to support the study's objectives. The findings of the study, based on the formulated sub-problems, are summarized as follows: Among the 50 respondents, the largest age group was 45–54 years old, accounting for 32% or 16 individuals. An equal gender distribution was observed, with males comprising 50% (25 out of 50) of the respondents. The majority of the respondents were married, representing 72% or 36 individuals. A significant portion of the participants were college graduates, accounting for 38% or 19 individuals. Residents of Barangay 181, Caloocan City, strongly agreed with all indicators of emotional impact caused by crime: Depression and Anxiety: The overall weighted mean was 4.50, indicating a strong agreement. Social Isolation: The overall weighted mean was 4.52, interpreted as strong agreement. Difficulty Trusting Others: The highest concern, with a weighted mean of 4.72, reflecting strong agreement. Physical Health Problems: The most significant impact reported, with a weighted mean of 4.86, also strongly agreed upon. The most commonly identified issue resulting from the emotional impact of crime was poverty and lack of job opportunities, cited by all 50 respondents (100%), ranking first among the challenges faced by residents. The researchers strongly recommend that local authorities, in collaboration with community organizations, launch sustained and inclusive awareness campaigns focused on crime prevention. These campaigns should not only inform residents about practical safety measures but also address the emotional and psychological impact of crime. By fostering community engagement, promoting cooperation with law enforcement, and encouraging proactive safety practices, these efforts can contribute to a more secure and resilient community in Barangay 181, Caloocan City.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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