

THE POLICEWOMAN LEADERSHIP IN POLICE COMMUNITY RELATION AN ASSESSMENT

ABSTRACT

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The role of women in policing has gained increasing attention, particularly regarding their leadership within police departments. Effective police-community relations are essential to law enforcement, as positive interactions between officers and community members foster public safety, trust, and mutual respect. This study aimed to assess the leadership role of policewomen in strengthening police-community relations. This study employed a qualitative descriptive research design, using a survey questionnaire to systematically observe and describe a specific subject, population, or phenomenon. The primary aim is to provide an accurate portrayal of characteristics or behaviors without manipulating any variables. The researchers focused on investigating policewomen's leadership, dedicating significant time to the development of well-structured interview questions. This approach allowed for a deeper exploration of the phenomena under study, capturing insights into leadership roles and experiences within the context of police-community relations. The results of the analysis and interpretation revealed the following: Respondents' demographic profiles were categorized based on age, sex, and educational attainment. The effectiveness of policewoman leadership was assessed across several key dimensions, including trust and relationship-building, community engagement and outreach, mediation and capabilities, effective policing and implementation, and leadership style. A major issue identified was that female police officers often face unwanted behaviors, such as sexist comments, stereotyping, unequal treatment, and a general lack of respect and credibility, with 48 out of 50 respondents (98%) confirming these experiences. To address this concern, all respondents (100%) recommended the implementation of policies aimed at actively combating gender discrimination, harassment, and bias within police departments. The most recommended solution proposed by the respondents were the implementation of policies that actively combat gender discrimination, harassment, and bias within police departments, with a frequency of 50 or 100%. Additionally, the respondents emphasized the importance of ensuring access to quality communication within the force. Female officers can serve as role models and mentors, particularly for young women and girls in the community, by demonstrating the value and impact of careers in law enforcement. It is also recommended to expand community policing initiatives, where officers engage with the public in non-enforcement roles, allowing them to build stronger, more meaningful relationships with residents. Lastly, the researchers encourage future scholars to further explore and expand upon this topic, contributing to the growing body of knowledge on policewoman leadership and gender equity in law enforcement.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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