

Barangay Peace and Order Committee Level of Knowledge: Duties and Function in Crime Prevention in Northern Samar

Ena Rose J. Barojabo

Faculty, Department of Social Science, College of Arts and Communication, University of Eastern Philippines, Catarman, Northern Samar
jisrhajhane@gmail.com

Abstract

This Study was conducted to determine the Barangay Peace and Order Committee Level of Knowledge: Their Duties and Function in Crime Prevention in Northern Samar. Specifically, it aimed to document the demographic profile of respondents in terms of age, sex, civil status, educational attainment, number of years in service as a member of the Barangay Peace and Order Committee in relation to crime prevention and detection and determine the duties and function as well as the level of knowledge in crime prevention and detection.

The descriptive-correlational method of research was used in this study. Forty members of the Barangay Peace and Order Committee in selected barangays in Palapag, Northern Samar served as the respondents of this study. Frequency counts, percentages and weighted mean, were used to analyze the descriptive data collected from the respondents.

Most of the respondents were male, forty to fifty years old, married, and college graduates, and had been in service for six to ten years. The respondents were very much "knowledgeable" on their duties and function in crime prevention and detection. It is then recommended that committee members should continue to perform well and to ensure the effectiveness of the member there is a need to systematize their daily routine activities in implementation of peace and order.

Keywords: Barangay Peace and Order Committee, Crime Prevention, Duties, Functions, Knowledge, Position.

INTRODUCTION

Crime is everywhere

It is a known fact that crime exists in every society and eradicating or at least reducing its rate has always been the major concern in every

government throughout the world. The government exerts its full effort in addressing problems related to criminal activity so to be able to maintain peace and order because it is very much indispensable in order to smoothly carry-out nation building. Hence there can be no progress in a place where crime rate is relatively high.

Crime prevention and detection are considered to be the major duties of the law enforcement agencies specifically the police. However, in order to effectively carry out these tasks it needs help from other sectors of the government as well as from ordinary citizen because crime prevention and detection efforts should be a multidisciplinary and integrated endeavor.

In as much as the ordinary citizen rely to the police in protecting their lives and properties, and in the maintenance of peace and order the police effectiveness and efficiency is dependent upon the help of the people. That is why crime prevention and detection should be everyone's effort. Furthermore, making the public aware of their contribution in the fight against criminality should be the concern of the local government heads specifically the heads of the barangay.

Prevention and detection of crime must be initiated from grass-root level. In the Philippines for example, where the eradication of crime and criminal activities has always been the major concern and goal of the government it should strengthen not only the law enforcement agencies; the police and the military it must also take into consideration strengthening and empowering the barangay peace and order committee.

Barangay peace and order committee was created by the virtue of executive order 366 dated September 5, 1996. E.O 366 states that every Barangay shall organize a Peace and Order Committee to serve as implementing arm of the City/Municipal Peace and Order Council at the Barangay level. Because of the importance of this institution in acting as quasi-judicial body to render justice in the barangay, it is further strengthened in the local Government Code of 1991. The body that actually performs conciliatory functions is the barangay, which is well defined in the code. The Barangay and Order Committee shall implement projects and activities under the integrated community public safety plan of Municipality regarding activities within the barangay.

However, it can be observed that the barangay peace and order committee is not effective enough in carrying out their tasks for the prevention and detection and crime as well as in maintaining peace and order in the community. It can also be observed that the members of the barangay peace and order Committee are not fully aware of their respective duties and functions. When people choose a place to live, they consider a variety of factors, including the ideal community's ability to achieve specific conditions that fit their lifestyle. Nowadays, individuals

prefer to settle in areas where they can achieve a peaceful life. Living in harmony with their neighbors, having a quiet surrounding, and having a child friendly environment all provide benefits not only for the residents but for the entire community.

Furthermore, this study was conducted to determine the Barangay Peace and Order Committee Level of Knowledge their Duties and Function in Crime Prevention in Northern Samar.

Objectives of the Study

This study aimed at determining the Barangay Peace and Order Committee Level of Knowledge: Their Duties and Function in Crime Prevention in Northern Samar. Specifically, this study aimed to:

1. Identify the demographic profile of the respondents in terms of: Age, Sex, Civil Status, Educational Attainment;
2. Identify the duties and function of the barangay peace and order committee;
3. Determine the Barangay Peace and Order Committee Level of Knowledge their Duties and Function in Crime Prevention in Northern Samar

METHODOLOGY

This study used a descriptive-correlational method of research design. Descriptive methods were used to determine the profile of the respondent and the level of knowledge and duties and responsibility among barangay peace and order members. This study made use of the descriptive-correlational design of quantitative research by utilizing a researcher-made instrument which was in the form of a questionnaire to scientifically measure the level of knowledge of barangay peace and order as member of committee and their duties and responsibilities. An interview guide to determine the veracity of their answers. In this paper, the respondents' demographic profile, was determined using the frequency and percentage; while their level of knowledge about their duties and responsibilities, were determined using the weighted mean. The weighted mean involves multiplying each data point in a set by a value which is determined by some characteristic of whatever contributed to the data point.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents the results obtained from the survey conducted regarding Barangay Peace and Order Committee Level of Knowledge, their Duties and Function in Crime Prevention in Northern Samar. Furthermore, an interview guide was also established to determine their answers.

Table 1 shows the profile of the respondents and the data revealed that majority of the peace and order members or 27.5 percent of the respondents forty to fifty years old. This indicates that the member of the peace and order committee are responsible adults who were fulfill their duties and responsibilities. Same table present that majority of the peace and order committee 60% were male dominated. This is to emphasized that masculinity exist.

Moreover, it revealed that majority of the respondents or 82.5% were married. It means that the barangay peace and order members were performing their duties and responsibilities in their respective area, and were also own their family. Same table present, majority of the respondents or 42.5% are college graduates. The barangay peace and order committee as to the number of years as member, majority of the respondents were 35% or six to ten years in service.

Table 1 Profile of the Respondents

PROFILE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
61 years old or above	10	25
51 to 60 years old	8	20
41 to 50 years old	11	27.5
31 to 40 years old	8	20
30 years old or below	3	7.5
Sex	40	100
Male	24	60
Female	16	40
Civil Status	40	100
Single	3	7.5
Married	33	82.5
Separated	1	2.5
Widow/widower	3	7.5
Educational Attainment	40	100
Master's Degree	4	10
College Graduate	17	42.5
College Level	5	12.5
High School Graduate	4	10

High School Level	2	5
Elementary Graduate	6	15
Elementary Level	2	5
Number of Years in service	40	100
11 years or above	13	32.5
6 to 10 years	14	35
1 to 5 years	13	32.5
Total	40	100

Barangay Peace and Order Committee their duties and function of the in-crime prevention and detection.

Table 2 presents the Barangay Peace and Order Committee their duties and function of the in-crime prevention and detection. The result shows that the highest mean 4.52 which strongly agree with the public's safety and crime prevention goals and objectives should be the priority. This implies that the Providing for the public's safety is ultimately the responsibility of municipal government and one of its highest priorities. "Public safety" means not only putting an end to the levels of crime and violence that impact the everyday lives of our residents, but just as importantly, delivering lifesaving rescue services, preventing fires, and preparing for and responding effectively. The realization of the Filipino people's long-term vision of a matatag, maginhawa, at panatag nabuhay para sa lahat rests upon an environment that is safe, secure, and orderly. It is the government's duty to ensure that all Filipinos feel secure to walk and travel around all places in the country, without fear of harm to themselves and their property, and are able to go about their business, economic, and social pursuits. Moreover, as the barangay peace and order committee must incline the government long term goal.

While the lowest score with weighted mean 4.2, the department to focus limited resources on specific problems and direct its actions toward those strategies which will the greatest impact and altering the physical environment to 168 reduce opportunities for problems to occur.

Thus, the overall result or weighted mean the respondent were strongly agreed with their duties and function as barangay peace and order committee.

Table 2 The Duties and Function of the Respondents

Duties and Functions	Weighted Mean	Interpretation
1. Adopt the model that called for a dedicated crime prevention unit to assume virtually full responsibility for delivering crime prevention services.	4.37	Strongly agree
2. Enable a department to focus limited resources on specific problems and direct its actions toward those strategies which will the greatest impact.	4.2	Strongly agree
3. Public's safety and crime prevention goals and objectives should be the priority.	4.52	Strongly agree
4. A need to have a formalized unit which directs, manages, and coordinates crime prevention activities, and resource for the agency's crime prevention activities, and serve as a resource for agency's Crime prevention effort.	4.35	Strongly agree
5. Equal access to both operational and administrative units as an integral, it must keep the command apprised of community problems recommended strategies.	4.35	Strongly agree
6. Crime prevention personnel should also review demographic furnished by the locality's planning and should work to review site and construction plans in order to enhance environmental safety and security.	4.45	Strongly agree
7. They also describe, in detail, the specific crime prevention mission, as well as the crime prevention roles and responsibilities of all applicable	4.35	Strongly agree

units and divisions within the agency.		
8. The crime prevention policies and procedures should provide the basis for educating new recruits about their crime prevention and responsibilities.	4.32	Strongly agree
9. Mobilizing the community (as witnesses) in patrolling the community for peace and order advocacy.	4.3	Strongly agree
10. Using mediation and negotiation skills to resolve disputes.	4.27	Strongly agree
11. Altering the physical environment to reduce opportunities for problems to occur.	4.2	Strongly agree
12. Advocating enactment of new laws or regulations to control conditions that create problems.	4.45	Strongly agree
13. To be most effective, the analysis should drive the development of a comprehensive plan, not just isolated prevention activities.	4.35	Strongly agree
14. Crime prevention unit should develop, or otherwise obtain public awareness material and work with others in the agency, government, and community to disseminate it.	4.37	Strongly agree
15. Crime prevention personnel should have the expertise to assist with the preparation of the agency's crime prevention policy and procedures.	4.35	Strongly agree
Total	4.35	SA

Legend:

SA – Strongly Agree

Level of Knowledge their Duties and Function in Crime Prevention in Northern Samar

Based on the result as presented in table 3, majority of the respondents were very much knowledgeable on their duties and functions in crime prevention and detection as members of the Barangay Peace and Order Committee.

Table 3 Level of Knowledge and their Duties and Function in Crime Prevention

Level of Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
Very Much Knowledge	27	67.5
Much Knowledge	13	32.5
Total	40	100

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings, the following conclusion are drawn: larger number of respondents are forty to fifty years old. This implies that the higher the age of the respondents the higher their experience and contribution when it comes to the participation and other activities participation in governance and in the administration of law. The respondents are college graduates. This means that the members of the Barangay Peace and order Committee are highly eligible when it comes to their educational qualification. Majority are six to 10 years in service. Respondents are also very much knowledgeable towards their duties and function in crime prevention and detection. This implies that they conversant the Executive Order 366 – Law that created the barangay Peace and Order Committee.

The following recommendation are forwarded: to ensure equal opportunity for men and women as members of the barangay peace and order committee, efforts must be made to facilitate equal representation of both sexes in the committee, to compensate for the lack of seminars attended they should attend essential training regarding crime prevention and detection, to enhance level of knowledge on the duties and functions of the barangay peace and order committee in crime prevention and detection, department of interior and local government unit must regularly conduct seminars and workshop on crime prevention and detection strategies, similar study should be conducted to further assess the level of knowledge and include other variables not included in this study. It is then recommended that committee members should continue to perform well and to ensure the effectiveness of the member there is a need to systematize their daily routine activities in implementation of peace and order.

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