

ABSTRACT

Crime is one of the major concerns facing cities all over the world Kenya being one of those countries where crime is menace in its cities particularly Nairobi. Using crime data compiled from household interviews, business enterprise interviews and information from key informants, this research project examines crime happenings and socio spatial characteristics relationship in Mlango Kubwa, exploring the relationship between the spatial distribution crimes and neighborhood characteristics. The specific objectives of the study are to identify the nature and incidences of crime in Mlango Kubwa, to identify how and whether the different land uses in Mlango Kubwa influence crime, to identify whether crime occurrence have any relationship with time in the study area with an overall objective of proposing proper planning interventions that can be brought on board to deal with crime in Mlango Kubwa area. Causal-comparative method was employed in the research as it would perfectly determine the cause and effect relationship between crime and the spatial characteristics in Mlango Kubwa.

The study used both primary and secondary methods of data collection. Secondary data was sourced from published journals, documents, past research document and other books relevant to this study, while primary data was obtained through among others, administration of questionnaires, interview schedules and observation. The questionnaires were administered to 30 households and 11 business owners around the study area while the method applied as it was best for this study and sample distribution was casual comparative. A sample of 2 key informants was chosen through purposive sampling for the administration of the interview schedules basing on the experience or knowledge of the group that is to be sampled. The research found out that the natures and incidences of crime in the study area include Mugging, housebreaking and burglary and were the most prevalent crimes in the study area. It also found out that there is a relationship between the land uses in the study area and crime considering the land uses influenced the various types of crime in Mlango Kubwa. The study concludes that among other issues such as poverty, unemployment amongst the youth and poor infrastructure as per the findings, the spatial existence of different activities has greatly contributed towards the current state of insecurity in the study area therefore recommending among others, a reorganization of the streets in a way that they don't attract crime through an integrated street design which will be enacted in the development project