Policing Frameworks, Policing Systems, Policing Strategies, and Policing Models within the South African Context

by

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1. INTRODUCTION

- Policing is arguably an institutions characterised by challenges and obstacles often difficult to overcome.
- Many countries have experienced difficulties in dealing with crime decisively, owing to global technological advancement and development.
- Developments and advancements in crime have also overwhelmed technological resources in a strange indescribable way.
- Policing strategies, policies, frameworks, systems and models are forced to assume the status of flexibility as in the case of global markets, to meet the demands of evolving flexible criminal activities.
2. Methodology

- Probability sampling and comparative study were used in sampling countries such as Russia, UK, US, Canada, in comparison to African countries such as Algeria, Burkina Faso and Botswana.

- Probability sampling was selected on the basis of the work studies conducted by institutions and authors such as Semukhina (2017), Taylor (2017), the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO, 2017), the U.S. Department of Justice (2003), African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum (APCO, 2008), and the Council of Canadian Academies (CCA, 2014).

- The above work studies provided a secondary data in comparing policing systems utilised in the sampled overseas countries with African countries, especially South Africa.
3. Worldwide policing frameworks, policies, strategies and models

- To determine whether South African policing systems, policies, models, frameworks, and models are effective and workable, it is necessary to compare such with worldwide trends and systems in policing.
- White Paper on Transformation of the Public Service of 1995, (6.1.1); Service standards, defined outputs and targets, and performance indicators, benchmarked against comparable international standards;
- Policing in countries such as Russia, UK, US, Canada, Algeria, Burkina Faso and Botswana will be summarised.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Policing practice/system/policy/</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Good practice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>The recertification process</td>
<td>Semukhina (2017)</td>
<td>The recertification process</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>the Peelian Principles;</td>
<td>Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO, 2017)</td>
<td>The use of Peelian principles</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Basic mission to prevent crime and disorder.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Police to perform duties dependent upon public approval.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• willing co-operation of the public in voluntary observance of the law</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Police seek and preserve public favour.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Police use physical force to the extent necessary.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Police, at all times, maintain relationship with the public.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Police should always direct their action strictly towards their functions.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• The test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Policing practice/system/policy/</td>
<td>Author</td>
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<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>Adheres to the following values;</td>
<td>U.S. Department of Justice (2003)</td>
<td>All the US Policing values are sound and inevitable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• The police department must preserve and advance the principles of democracy.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• The police department places its highest value on the preservation of human life.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• The police department believes that the prevention of crime is its number one operational priority.</td>
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<td>• The police department will involve the community in the delivery of its services.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• The police department is committed to professionalism in all aspects of its operations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Policing practice/system/policy/</td>
<td>Author</td>
<td>Good practice</td>
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<td>Canada</td>
<td>The police system is formed by municipal or provincial police services, the military police and the state civilian police.</td>
<td>Council of Canadian Academies (CCA, 2014)</td>
<td>Division of police force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>Algeria, policing is split between country and city.</td>
<td>African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum (APCOF, 2008)</td>
<td>Splitting of police force into rural and urban police forces (May be good or bad depending on the type of communities served by the policing system)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>Burkina Faso, police organisations include a national police force (under the Ministry of Security) and a municipal police force (under the Ministry of Territorial Administration)</td>
<td>African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum (APCOF, 2008)</td>
<td>Division of police force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>Botswana has two main police forces.</td>
<td>African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum (APCOF, 2008)</td>
<td>division of local police and Ministerial police force (May be good or bad depending on the type of communities served by the policing system)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The Botswana Police Force, established under the Botswana Police Act of 1987, operating under the Ministry for Presidential Affairs and Public Administration.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Local Police, established under the Local Police Act which falls under the Ministry of Local Government.</td>
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</table>
In contrast to the above listed international countries, the South African Policing system is guided by the Constitution of the Country. The Constitution supersedes every piece of Legislation. All Acts are derived and formulated from the Constitution as the guiding document. All policies such as the South African Police Act, 68 of 1995, the National Crime Prevention Strategy of 1996, the White Paper on Safety and Security of 1998, the Reservists Policy, etc. are all based on the prescriptions of the Constitution of South Africa.
Section 198 of the Constitution of South Africa provides principles governing the national security services in the Republic of South Africa as follows:

- National security must reflect the resolve of South Africans;
- The resolve to live in peace and harmony precludes any South African citizen from participating in armed conflict, nationally or internationally.
- National security must be pursued in compliance with the law, including international law.
- National security is subject to the authority of Parliament and the national executive.
Section 205 provides the following prescripts on police services:

- The national police service must be structured to function in the national, provincial and, where appropriate, local spheres of government.

- National legislation must establish the powers and functions of the police service and must enable the police service to discharge its responsibilities effectively, taking into account the requirements of the provinces.

- The objects of the police service are to prevent, combat and investigate crime, to maintain public order, to protect and secure the inhabitants of the Republic and their property, and to uphold and enforce the law.
4.2 The 1996 National Crime Prevention Strategy

The National Crime Prevention Strategy that gave birth to four pillars of crime prevention as follows;

- **Pillar 1:** An effective and legitimate criminal justice system that provides certain and rapid deterrence and assists with the protection of human rights;
- **Pillar 2:** Reducing crime through environmental design;
- **Pillar 3:** Public values and education that would change “the prevailing moral climate within communities and the willingness of citizens and communities to take responsibility for crime”; and
- **Pillar 4:** Trans-national crime reduction.
4.3 The 1998 White Paper on Safety and Security

- The 1998 White Paper is aimed at redressing some of the inadequacies of the NCPS, and it was intended to provide a policy framework for safety and security until the year 2004.

- Arguably, the White Paper on Safety and Security was designed to provide an intertwined approach to safety and security. This would be realized through implementing interlocked law enforcement approaches in dealing with crime.
The South African Police Services implementations and operations are guided by the South African Police Act, 68 of 1995. Chapter 7, of the South African Police Act, 68 of 1995 outlines the following provisions on community policing:

- Section 18 objects of Police Forums and Boards;
- Section 19 Establishment of Community Police Forums
- Section 20 Establishment of Area Community Police Boards
- Section 21 Establishment of Provincial Community Police Boards
- Section 22 functions of Community Police Forums and Boards
4.5 The Reservists Policy of 2009

- The South African policing system also utilizes the reservists, whose employment and functions are guided by the South African Police Reserve Policy Framework and Guidelines.

- According to the South African Reserve Police Service (SARPS, 2009) the reservists perform duties allocated to permanent police, that of preventing, combating, investigating crime, maintaining order, protect and secure the inhabitants of the Republic of South Africa and their property, and to uphold and enforce the law as enshrined in the Constitution of South Africa.
4.5 The Reservists Policy of 2009...

The reservists system has a fair share of challenges as follows:

- Increasing operational challenges and unrealistic expectations.
- Most reservists expect to be given first priorities when recruiting and selection processes are done in SAPS.
- Most reservists expect remuneration as issued to their counterparts in the SANDF.
- There is a risk of losing well trained reservists, as they already know some basic secrets of the SAPS system.
- The disgruntled reservists may turn to be the worst enemy of the system in criminal activities.
### 4.6 Summary of the nature of the South African Police Service systems and its guiding documents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAPS guiding document(s)</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Prescription(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Constitution of South Africa</td>
<td>Government Printing</td>
<td>Supreme law that gives effect to formulation of all legislations, frameworks, systems, etc. of all institutions including the SAPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 1996 National Crime Prevention Strategy</td>
<td>Government Printing</td>
<td>Basically focuses on four pillars;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- <strong>Pillar 1:</strong> An effective and legitimate criminal justice system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- <strong>Pillar 2:</strong> Reducing crime through environmental design;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- <strong>Pillar 3:</strong> Public values and education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- <strong>Pillar 4:</strong> Trans-national crime reduction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White paper on transformation of public service 1995</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Part 1: Setting the scene for transformation</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>• Part 2: Creating a strategic framework for change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Reservists Policy of 2009</td>
<td>Government Printing</td>
<td>The use of reservists who are required to perform duties of the SAPS</td>
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</table>
5. Recommendations

The following recommendations may add value to the South African Police Services;

- The introduction of recertification process as effectively implemented by the Russian police agencies.
- The introduction of values as an addition to the SAPS code of conduct as implemented by the US police agencies, as means of strengthening commitment and hard work.
- Strengthening the use of SAPS principles as effectively implemented in the UK police force through the use of the Peelian Principles.
- Increasing the creation of more units to meet all forms of criminal activities.
5. Recommendations.....

- Strengthening relationships with sister departments such as justice, health, social development, etc. to be able to deal decisively with unexpected and new forms of criminal activities.
- There is a need for a continental approach to policing.
- There is a need to determine the root cause of crime (modus operandi).
- There is a dire need to conduct an intensified research on why all South African National Police Commissioners do not complete their terms of office, especially post 1994 as that may impacts negatively on evaluating the successes and failures of a any police model.
6. conclusion

- Countries worldwide implement various forms of policing designed to fit the countries’ demographics and types of communities.
- The South Africa policing is guided by the Constitution as the supreme law.
- The Constitution provides guidance to all Acts, policies, systems, frameworks and guidelines for all public institutions including the SAPS.
- As in any country, police are expected to fulfil their mandates by observing frameworks, policies and systems while remaining responsive to change in their environment as prescribed by development and advancement in technology.
- South Africa can develop a comprehensive, flexible and applicable policing model by incorporating some of the worldwide good policing practices.
References

References

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