

COMMUNITY POLICING: PROBLEMS, ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

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Abstract

The community policing project was developed on the notion that police alone without the good will of the community may not achieve much in maintaining law and order. Community policing has over the years gained fame globally as an appropriate plan to improve public security and safety. The purpose of this research is to describe the problems, issues and challenges faced by law enforcers in carrying out their responsibilities in the community in Parang, Maguindanao. The study gathered data among the policemen and policewomen who implemented the Police Community Relations program of PRO BAR. The study describes the community policing activities, including the specific actions such as information dissemination, confidence-building measures, community safety initiatives and others. With this study, the community residents may be provided with information about what the government is doing in the prevention of criminality including drug use and drug pushing and the different forms juvenile delinquency. The police policy makers also may be informed of the problems, issues and challenges and which could be basis for the improvement of the community policing program in the future.

The participants showed peaceful orientation by resorting to dialogue when faced by a problem or a challenge. They also respect the local government officials and the informal leaders, the elders. The problems encountered are similar to problems experienced by development worker. The only difference is that community development is a professional training and part of it is trouble shooting. They also have special ways of facing the challenges and contextualized to be effective and relevant.

Community policing could be a double-edge endeavour policing and community development work. Many law enforcers manifest love for communities as revealed in the study. The Philippine National Police can capitalize on this nature. They can use community policing as a way of regaining lost confidence of the people in a way this would lead to a productive law enforcer.

Keywords: Community Policing, Philippine National Police, Police Community Relation, Bangsamoro, Maguindanao

INTRODUCTION

Community policing brings police and citizens together to prevent crime and solve neighbourhood problems. With community policing, the emphasis is on stopping crime before it happens and making police become part of the neighborhood's quest for peace and order. This helps police get a better sense of the residents needs and help them to develop greater trust in the police. Community policing gives citizens more control

over the quality of life in the community. This is the crucial step to attaining peace and order and is required in building sustainable peace in communities. It is also seen as an effective way to promote public safety and to enhance the quality of life in a community.

The concept of community policing has been around for a long time already and in the United States, it can be traced as far back as the 19th century. The primary purpose for its inception was to have police engaging with communities to build strong relationships between its members and law enforcement. One of the earliest and major tactics of community policing involved officers going on foot patrols throughout the neighborhoods they serve. In today's modern era, this has evolved to police departments incorporating social media and community engagement systems to share relevant local information with residents (<http://www.everbridge.com>)

In Canada, police patrolling on foot, bikes or in squad cars and interacting with people in high-risk neighbourhoods can gain useful intelligence in the fight against crime. They also build trust, get to know who the criminals are and how they operate, and react quickly to problems (Adam, 2019).

Community policing persuades the police to think of themselves as more than a reactive agency for calls from the public, promoting a more proactive, problem-solving role in tackling community problems. Police are regularly drawn into policy discussions on issues such as drugs, prostitution, homelessness, anti-social behaviour, sectarian issues, race relations and asylum seekers, while playing a leading role in social inclusion partnerships and community safety initiatives which are at the core of local and central politics in many European states (Donnelly, 2013).

In its simplest form, community policing creates a partnership between law enforcement and residents. The more involved law enforcement is with the residents they are sworn to protect, the more residents can help law enforcement achieve their goals (Lortz, 2016). It encourages interactive partnerships between law enforcement agencies, their officers, and the people they serve. By developing connections within the community, police are better informed and empowered to solve public safety problems.

In the Philippine National Police, clashes between law enforcement & the public which have led to increase attention on policing strategies that build trust and motivate cooperation in communities through the application of fair procedures and decision-making. Efforts geared towards community policing has gained momentum in recent years as police and community leaders search for more effective ways to promote public safety and to enhance the quality of life in their neighbourhoods. Policing officials must have been assessing what changes in orientation, organization, and operations will allow them to benefit the communities they serve by improving the quality of the services they provide. While practical approaches are evolving rapidly, community policing strategies vary depending on the needs and responses of the communities involved.

This study shows how the problem, issues and challenges encountered in community policing be addressed and dealt with by the PNP personnel assigned in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region. This also shows the contributing factors in the development and attainment of peace in the area as well as the goal to promote police community partnerships in solving problems and in reducing crime rates.

METHODS

Research Design

This study used the qualitative research design. Qualitative research is naturalistic; it attempts to study the everyday life of different groups of people and communities in their natural setting. According to Domegan and Fleming (2007), "Qualitative research aims to explore and to discover issues about the problem. There is usually uncertainty about dimensions and characteristics of problem. It uses 'soft' data and gets 'rich' data". The data in this study consist of narratives and descriptions.

Locale of the Study

The data were gathered in the different barangays of the Municipality of Parang located at Maguindanao, Philippines. Parang is a first class municipality in the province of Maguindanao. According to the 2015 census, it has a population of 89,194 people. It is bordered to the north by Barira and Matanog, on the east by Buldon, and on the south is Sultan Kudarat. Parang is politically subdivided into 25 barangays. It is in this municipality where the Police Regional Office Bangsamoro Autonomous Region (PRO BAR) is located. Regional Police Offices manage and administer Police Stations within the various regions of the Philippines, each of which include several provinces and independent cities. Each unit exercises independent control over all police units within their areas of operation and attached units of the PNP National Headquarters ordered to assist the Regional Offices.

Participants in the Study

The interviewees in this research are the policemen and policewomen assigned in the Police Regional Office of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region (PRO-BAR) doing community policing and the heads of their police units. The local government officials, elders, women and youth residing in the communities where the police teams implemented community policing.

Sampling Techniques

Purposive sampling was used in the selection of the interviewees. From among the law enforcers, 10 policemen, 5 policewomen were chosen. There was a total 18, including three ranking police officers. From among the community people, 2 local government officials, 2 elders, 2 adult women, 2 adult men, and 2 youth were interviewed. There was a total of 10 participants in each community. There were three communities chosen from among the barangays where community policing was implemented. All in all, there were 48 study participants.

Data Gathering Techniques

The data were gathered through interviews. The interviews gathered data on the community policing program conducted by police

teams and the problems, issues and challenges encountered by the implementers.

Interview guides were used and they were customized to the specific group of participants.

Manner of Processing and Presentation of Data

Using the manual process, the data were collated to identify the common themes or core ideas. After identifying the core ideas, the researcher proceeded with the sorting out of the significant statements that would illustrate the core ideas. The processed data are presented in tables. Each table is divided in two columns, one for the core ideas and another for the significant statements.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Community Policing Activities Done By the Law Enforcers of PRO-BAR

Community policing entails community partnership in creating a safe, secure and healthy environment and where people take active part based on their prime interest and abilities. Thus, the police is not seen as a stranger whose primary purpose is to spy on the probable criminals. This is often the suspicion of the people in the community especially those who are not used to the presence of the law enforcers.

The police are assigned to work with communities to help them in specific ways and at the same time help build their confidence on the police, and generally, on the intentions of the government (Gill, Weisburd, Telep, & Vitter (2017). Different units implement different civic and policing programs as follows:

Checkpoint Operations – Check points are established in barangay where safety and security is crucial. This is very essential especially in peripheral areas of the Police Area of Responsibility (AOR)

Police-Community Convergences/Pulong-Pulong – Here, the law enforcers and the local government officials gather the people for small conversations regarding the intentions of community policing. Issues involving criminality and programs that could be done in collaboration of both organizations may also be discussed.

Police visibility through foot patrol – The law enforcers and the members of the Barangay Tanod go around the barangay, first to acquaint with the terrain and to see people in their homes. This is being made regular until such time that they become familiar with important landmarks and houses.

Streamlining communication lines – Communication is very crucial to the relationship between the police and the community. This allows them to talk often and discuss if ever problems crop up. Sometimes there are communication facilities but are not functioning well. The detachment personnel help the people install and maintain communication facilities which they could use to send vital information or ask for emergency assistance. There are times when children do not

come home at an expected time. These facilities enable them to communicate with the police for immediate response.

Information Dissemination Program – This uses the social media and leaflets or fact sheets to disseminate vital information to the people. An example of information is about a law that has been approved by Congress. It is necessary that the people be informed or else they might be caught flat footed and may be penalized especially that “ignorance of the law excuses no one.

Adopt a Family – In this program, the law enforcers choose the poorest of the poor families and each, or sometimes a pair, would help the family regain capacities such as food getting and buying capacities. Many times, the law enforcers buy them rice and groceries, sometimes clothes. Most often, the law enforcers become close to the family that it would become hard for them when they are reassigned to another place, outside of the PRO-BAR. There were cases of the children of adopted families who also became law enforcers because during the constant visits, the children developed their appreciation, and consequently, their dream to also become policeman or policewoman.

Lapis at Papel Program- Law enforcers assign in an area give poor children school supplies (not only paper and pencil) and teach them basic writing. Sometimes, they would assist the children in their assignments. This is one way of teaching the children compassion at the same time inspiring them to pursue their studies.

Kabataan Kontra Droga at Terorismo (KKDAT)- This has long been an anti-drug campaign but recent happenings involving violent extremism made the police decide to include terrorism.

Home Visitations – Law enforcers visit the homes of the families whom they have established friendship with. They engaged in short conversations with them, bring them food sometimes, and discuss with them their tasks as community police. This is where the law enforcers could learn more about the community they work with, their difficulties, their joy, their aspirations, and their capacities or lack of capacities.

Feeding Program – This is implemented in collaboration with the staff of the Barangay Health Center. List of malnourished children are taken from the center. Then they are gathered on specific schedule and given nutritious in the presence of parents.

Risk Reduction and Crisis Mitigation Program – Law enforcers participate in preparing the community for coming crises. For example, teaching them earthquake and storm preparedness by means of drills and of the steps what to do when storms are raging or even before it comes.

Youth Camp – Holding youth camps is a national activity. In the local level, in many areas of PRO-BAR, the holding of youth camp get significant assistance from the law enforcers such transporting the youth participants to the venue and ensuring the safety and security of the venue.

Leadership Summit – This is aimed at developing the leadership capacities of the youth. This is to veer them away from harmful activities or to leave them become vulnerable to recruitments of violent extremists.

Blood-letting – This is aimed at developing compassion and also to make the community part of the priority list when blood is needed especially in conflict-affected communities.

Walk for a Cause – Aside from the physical health that this activity offers, this has also been used as a fund raising activity. There may be civilians who would like to participate but because they could not, they give a certain amount and others walk for them. The fund may support some community activities such as buying medical kits.

Clean Up Drive – This is a national government program. In the local level in the PRO-BAR, this is usually initiated in collaboration with the police unit who work with the people, at the same time provide safety and security.

Confidence Building Activities- Heads of the police unit in the area and the local government officials usually meet and discuss issues and problems affecting the community in the presence of leaders and their respective people and also law enforcers and their families and relatives, if they live in the community. These gatherings could also serve as dialogue of perspectives and cultures. Part of this activity is an open forum.

Barangay Peacekeeping by the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Team (BPAT) – The activities here include consciousness rising on the roles and responsibilities of the different sectors including the law enforcers. This is also a collaborative effort between the police and the local government. The main objective is to prevent armed non-state actors to go to post-conflict communities and do illegal actions. Providing a police detachment after an armed conflict between state actors and non-state actors is a form of peacekeeping task. The idea is taken from peacekeepers of the United Nations which will be deployed in the country after a massive armed fighting. They often take a defensive rather than an offensive posture.

Problems, Issues and Challenges

The Community Policing program ought to be a collaborated action between the police and the community. Supposedly, this would benefit both organizations. The program began as early as 1996. However, there are still problems, issues and challenges that the law enforcers are faced. In the AOR of the PRO-BAR, those assigned and who have been selected as participants of the study have discussed with the researcher several problems which have not been solved completely since the start of the implementation in 1996.

Problems Encountered

The problems by the participants were as follows:

Safety and security in the Area of Responsibility due to the presence of lawless elements.

There are assignments that are in conflict-affected areas and are far from the main police units. Going to the barangay itself is already a problem especially that the law enforcers go by teams only and they could be ambushed by organized crime groups such as the Abu Sayaff or Bangsamoro Freedom Fighters. Community policing is not done by full weeks or months. Law enforcers work in communities by hours. There will be four shifts; One in the morning, in the afternoon, evening, and from dawn to morning of the next day. After a duty of four hours, for instance, they go back to the headquarters and another team replace.

The Unending Cycle of Poverty

Poverty makes people disinterested to join in the activities because their main purpose in life is not even security of life but being able to feed themselves and their families. Sometimes, the reason could be disheartening such as “*Wala kasi akong maisuot na desenteng damit sa miting*” (I do not have decent clothes to wear to the meeting).

Poverty is also the reason for a number of out-of-school youth in communities who become problems because they are the most vulnerable to criminality. The worst to happen is when they engage in drug addiction or become pushers. It becomes more difficult now for the police to seek the cooperation of the poor parents, when the law enforcers not turn to their children who have engaged in the prohibited drugs.

Existence of clan feud

The *rido* or clan feud is a common occurrence in the AOR of the PRO-BAR. This phenomenon could paralyze the operation of the local government unit especially if most residents are displaced and they do not come back to the community for several weeks and even months. The community policing activities that may have been started could suddenly stop. When the residents come back, the priority would be survival and the repair of their dwellings that may have succumb to the wear and tear during the time when they were displaced or may have been hit in the crossfire.

Uncooperative members of the community

One possible group of uncooperative members may be those who are suspicious on the real intentions of the police and who refuse to give information necessary to solve an existing problem.

Bad Police Image

Since the aggressive pursuits against the drug lords, pushers and drug dependents, many have died already. People look at the police as they villain. Because of this, some barangay may not cooperate with the police especially the pushers and the users.

No monitoring and follow-up activities programs and project

There was no monitoring and assessment to find out what had been successful and what had failed so that plans for improvement could be done.

Lack of financial support for the program

Among the law enforcers there had always been discussions on the need for financial support. Even simple activities like information dissemination which would need sheets to be distributed, need money. If the law enforcers would spend their own money all the time, in the future, no one would be willing to implement the program well. The communities are usually poor. They could not even provide snacks for themselves during gatherings or convergences. Snacks are important during these occasions. They bring more joy or pleasure during the get together.

Issues

What usually prevent successful implementation of programs are the issues that are not discussed and thus, they are not addressed. The following are the issues involving the community policing program that should be addressed:

Lack of transparency about the program

There are things not discussed in the ground level. What happens most of the time is that implementers get instructions from their immediate superiors. Because the program has been there for a long time, sometimes there are no more discussions, the law enforcers get basic information from the colleagues. It could have been inspiring if during a briefing given by the officers of the higher headquarters, the law Enforcers are there so they could feel that they are really part of the program.

People always expect programs that give them immediate economic benefits

In conflict-affected communities, aside from government agencies, many Non-Government Organizations have come to the rescue, distributing humanitarian goods, shelter facilities, water facilities, and others. Even when they are asked to attend convergences, their transportation expenses would be refunded. This becomes an issue because cooperation is based on how much an organization could give them for transportation, travel allowance, and others. The people are given two free snacks and one meal in a day. If a law enforcer calls for a meeting and could not even provide for coffee, attendance will be low. It seems difficult now how to convince the people that the activities for community policing are not for the law enforcers alone, they are also for the community.

Law enforcers who are so engrossed with community policing sometimes forget that they are not community workers but law enforcers

There are law enforcers who had been so engrossed with community policing that sometimes they forget that their main task is not community development work but policing. This is not surprising. There are many of them who are by nature compassionate and they have emphasized with the people. The relationship has been close and cordial

that they could not distinguish anymore how they should relate as community police and as ordinary individuals.

Challenges

As law enforcers, the policemen and policewomen, together with their officers, are always confronted with issues and challenges. As implementers of community policing program, given the problems and issues, there are also challenges that they have to face apart from their regular policing work. The study participants identified the following as the challenges that they had to face:

How to get the full cooperation of the people

The full cooperation of the people is crucial. Without it, the specific activities of the projects cannot proceed properly. This proved a little difficult to the law enforcers especially in communities where there are many poor people because their priority is the survival of the family. Security is not in the top of the list. Sometimes, there are people who are suspicious of the main intentions of community policing. In addition, they become responsive most likely when there is a promise of economic benefits that they get.

How to convince the high ranking officers that there is a need for financial support

The thinking is that as a collaborative endeavor, the local government officials are supposed to provide financial support; anyway the benefits go to the community. But the LGU cannot allot for funds for projects that are not theirs. Community policing is a project of the police. Thus it now depends on the relationship between the implementers of the community policing program how they could get the support from the LGU.

How to balance policing and community work

To some law enforcers who had long been implementing community policing, this task is fulfilling and this makes the community less threatening. But they could be so engrossed that they forget their main task and which is policing. There is a need for the immediate officer to periodically ask for reports and to regularly, personally monitor what has been going on in communities in relation to community policing so they would know how much of the work is community policing, and how much is allotted for the main task which is policing.

How the Law Enforcers Cope

As a law enforcer herself, the researcher is aware that difficulties in community policing had to be addressed because when compounded by other physical and psychological problems, breakdowns could happen. The participants of the study revealed varied coping strategies as follows:

Stress Management

People who work with communities may also be bothered by community problems and without their being conscious of it, they become psychologically bothered and this could take its toll on their physical and psychological health. Stress management strategies should be performed by experts.

Dialogue with Community Elders

The meddling capacities of elders are usually developed after years of practice of ways that are described by culture and religion. They are also classified as experts as third parties. Their assistance should be sought.

Inviting the Immediate Officer to Also Immerse in the Community

The immediate officer may be mediocre in listening to the woes of the implementers. They are not always there so they are not exposed to the situations. There were implementers who invited their immediate officers to come to the community more often and observe closely how some processes are done, so he could see for himself in which activities are difficulties experienced. One law enforcer shared "*Yong aking boss dinala ko sa community at nakita nya na wala masyadong nag-attend ng meeting pero nong inilabas na ang mga kape ate tinapay, dahan daang lumabas ang mga tao* (I brought my boss to the community and he saw that there were few people attending. When we took out the coffee and bread that we brought, gradually, the others came to the venue).

In an interview with some adults, they shared that actually, they are happy that they talk to each other or participate in discussion, with coffee. One elder said; *Para din mga nag-iinuman ba, maganda ang istorya habang umiinom. Basta masaya lang kung may kape, lalo na kung may tinapay* (It is like in a drinking situation, discussions become more vibrant while drinking. Indeed, it is pleasurable when there is coffee, all the more when there is bread). Hearing the stories, my boss quite understood why there should be a regular budget for the activities.

Seeking the Help of Other Community Policing Implementers

There are law enforcers who have gained long years of experience of community policing and this gave them opportunities for close observation and insights. It is worthwhile to seek their advice. One participant said: "*May kasama ako na ten years na ang experience dyan sa community policing na yan, alam nya na lahat ng pasikot-sikot sa implementation. Sya lagi kinukonsulta ko. Marami syang maishare*" (I have a fellow law enforcer who has a ten-year experience in community policing. He knows the twists and turns of community policing implementation. He is always the one that I consult. He has much to share).

Indeed, experience is the best teacher. Dealing with people whose cultures are different could be stressful because you need to understand and unlock information not revealed. For example, children are not

supposed to speak if there are adults. They may, but not ideas opposite to those already expressed by adults.

A law enforcer who has the ten-year experience was interviewed. On dealing with the community leaders, he said: *Kailangan makipagkaibign ka talaga sa mga leaders, both official and tribal. Una, sila yan magpa-snack sayo pero paglaon, ikaw na. Kung baga, para kang nanliligaw sa kanila. Pinakagusto nilang dala mo, kape at asukal. Tsaka, wag kang lalapit lapit at makipagtitigan sa kababaihan nila. Kung may magustuhan kang babae at magustuhan ka rin nya, kung sino may gusto sa kanya maging kalaban mo na. At yong mga kaibigan at kamag-anak nang kalaban mo, kalaban mo na rin. Hindi dapat magkaroon ng kahit isang kalaban sa community* (You need to establish friendship with the leaders, both official and tribal. First, they are the ones who serve you snack but later, it will be your turn. Later, it would be you. It would be like you courting them. The most that they would like you to bring are coffee and sugar. And don't get near and establish relationship with their women. If you like someone, who also likes you, those who also like the

woman will become your enemies. The friends and relatives of your enemies will be your enemies too. You should not have an enemy in the community).

To win the trust and confidence of the people by being transparent to them

This has been a great challenge because the people in the community are aware of the bad public image of the police. One respondents shred that he was once bullied. He said: *Nabully ako minsan ng mga ilang kabataan. Sinabi nila at narinig ko na ang mga pulis walang karapatang magdesiplina ng mga tao kasi marami sa kanila mga criminal din, mga drug adik din. Napahiya talaga ako. Nagalit. Pero totoo kasi. Ang ginawa ko, nagpatawag ako ng dialog sa lingo ding yon. Nag attended ang mga local government officials, at mga elders. Ang pinag-usapan ay yong narinig ko sa mga ilang kabataan. Inexplain ko sa kanila na totoong may mga pulis na nagkamali pero marami nang kasong nai-file against sa kanila. Sinabi ko na wag sanang lahatin kasi ang president naman nagsisikap na maayos and PNP. Naintindhan naman at nagsorry ang mga kabataan.* (One time, I was bullied by a few youngsters. They said within my hearing distance that the police do not have the right to discipline the people because many of them are also criminals, also drug addicts. I was embarrassed. I was angry. But it is true. What I did was to call for a dialogue. The local government officials and the elders attended. The

topic was what the youngsters said. I explained that it is true that there are many erring law enforcers but many cases have already been filed against them. I said that they should not generalize because the President is doing everything to straighten the Philippine National Police. The people understood and the youngsters said sorry).

It is always worthwhile to have a dialogue with the people when something goes wrong, or even before this happens. The dialogue has

many purposes, one of which is to resolve a conflict before it worsens. This skill is needed in community policing to impress upon the people that the police is not a punishing organization. When conflicts are easily resolved, the people will get the impression that the intention is sincere, thus trust and confidence will gradually develop.

It is always an environment conducive to community policing when there is trust and confidence by both sides. It should not only the implementers wanting to gain the trust and confidence of the people but the community should also strive to get the confidence of the police.

To keep oneself from being carried away by the desire to help the people, bear in mind to keep a little distance all the time

There is always a danger of being engrossed with the community policing work especially that having worked with them for some time, you become closer to them. If it were the relationship between the guard and the prisoner, it is called the Stockholm syndrome.

It is necessary that the law enforcer also keeps a little distance from the community. When he becomes too close, there is a risk that he could feel the difficulties of the people. Their miseries become the miseries of the law enforcer. When the time comes that the law enforcer is transferred to another assignment, it would be too difficult for him to say goodbye.

Some participants said that in their first assignment as community police, it was difficult for them to leave the community. They had become too close to the children, to the elders and to some women. When the reassignment order came, they felt frustrated because they were not yet able to help the people solve their problem. One adopted family had a son who met an accident and the law enforcer who adopted the family felt as if he had the responsibility to help the family until the son is out of the hospital.

As advised by few who had been in the field for five to ten years, one should always remember that the police is not there to solve the problems of the people but to help them solve their problems.

Policies That Could be Formulated to Strengthen Community

Policing Towards Contributing to Peace

The participants gave several suggestions on policies that could be formulated so that community policing could contribute to building peace in the designated communities. They are as follows:

Conduct of a peace-oriented training on community policing shall be made mandatory

Training for community policing shall be made mandatory for all law enforcers including the officers. The training shall last for two weeks including a five day-immersion in communities. The trainers shall be coming from respectable schools offering Bachelor of Arts in Community Development or Master of Arts in Community Development and from schools offering Master of Arts in Peace and Development.

The Higher Headquarters shall allot a significant amount for Community Policing.

The expenses allowed are for the community projects, not for the law enforcers assigned as community police. This is to ensure that the law enforcers do not take the amount from their own pockets, making community policing doubly stressful. Serving coffee to the people during meetings or convergences is already a show of respect to the culture and compassion to those who are hungry.

The researcher upholds the recommendations of the participants for policy formulation. The conduct of training is very essential. It would make the community police well prepared from the smallest to the biggest tasks. A community worker who is not prepared runs the risk of absorbing all the problems in the community thereby affecting his personal and professional life. The funding is crucial. Although law enforcers have enough salary, they have families to feed and sometimes even siblings to send to school.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Part of the study is the generation of recommendations from the participants for policy formulation. They gave two: (a) Conduct of a peace-oriented training on community policing shall be made mandatory; and allotting a budget solely for community policing.

1. The researcher recommends to the Higher Headquarters of the Philippine National Police the recommendations of the participants for policy formulation;

2. Creation of a separate division of the Philippine National Police that would be in-charge of law enforcers who will be dispatched as community police. Before they are dispatched to other divisions, they undergo extensive training in rights-based approach to community development including peaceful monitoring and evaluation.

3. Peace and Development shall be made an integral part of the training of recruits and of the different police regional training centers. This is already done in the PRO-BAR RTC. In other RTCs such as of PRO-RTC 11 (General Santos) and RTC 12 (Davao City), peace education is discussed as an offshoot of the topic on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, not as a separate topic as done at PRO-BAR RTC.

This training makes it easier to understand the training on peace-oriented community policing.

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