A MULTIDIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECOLOGICAL FACTORS INFLUENCING CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR

Kent Eldon Curato Daligdig

[1] *Student, Graduate School, Philippine College of Criminology*

ABSTRACT

The primary aim of this qualitative research was to examine the experiences of the residents of the different barangays within the CARCANMADCARLAN cluster pertaining to the intersection of crime and the degradation of the environment. Based on the theories of environmental criminology, social disorganization, feminist criminology, and critical governance theory, the research problem revolved around the socio-ecological and institutional failures that lead to the community becoming a target of crime. The study employed data triangulation, using crime data and qualitative interviews with field observations and 15 participants. Respondents reported an overwhelming conviction regarding spatial inequity, where a combination of inadequate facilities, environmental disregard, and the absence of policing made an area highly criminogenic. Concerns of informal social control, especially those which pertain to the recessive elements of a community, were informal peer groups and structures, and the vulnerable relations of those particular areas which were characterized by dark passageways, and the absence of community youth programs. While some of the communities were able to resiliently respond to the absence of support systems with grassroots enabled solidarity and faith community organizations, they were spatially distributive and weakly formalized. The data showed the absence of the social contract of the state and governance which was characterized as responsive, and hence the left communities with the unregulated, moral coping strategies that demonstrated how communities create systems to respond to crime. The study expanded the interpretations of crime to encapsulate the idea that crime as a sole act, is a disempowerment, a neglected act of fragmented governance, and a system of control. The study gave an explication of the importance of localized crime prevention and the primary community framework. The research concluded with the formulation of a multisectoral crime prevention framework advocating for co-produced governance and inclusive public safety policies in resource-deficient areas.

Keyword: *Crime prevention, Community resilience, Environmental injustice, Governance gaps, Gender-based vulnerability.*

INTRODUCTION

For a long time, and especially in relation to the Control, punish, and reform mechanisms of the state power, the coastal communities of the Philippines are some of the most vulnerable populations, environmentally and socio-economically due to the dependency of the communities on ecosystems and the inordinate risk of climate change. The weakening of some of the ecosystems of the seas coupled with the coastal and fishery policies that are not assimilated and applied have constituted and aggravated the livelihood insecurities of a good number of the coastal areas of the country [1]. There exists a nexus between these elements and the socio-economic challenges which continue to aggravate these stressors. Some of these challenges are the limited opportunities of employment diversification, the irregular and sporadic accessibility of social services, and the weak structures of local governance. (Santos, 2021). As a result, the coastal areas are characterized by households that have and continue to

suffer from diverse and multiple socio-economic vulnerabilities. These vulnerabilities shape the living standards of the households and the adaptive strategies that the living standards will allow. [2].

The CarCanMadCarLan Coastal Cluster—encompassing Carrascal, Cantilan, Madrid, Carmen, and Lanuza in Surigao del Sur—brilliantly displays these intersecting power relations. Coastal and marine resources abound in the area, but nearby communities reported lessened fish catches, degradation of reefs and mangroves, and shoreline retreat, as well as overexertion of scarce livelihood opportunities. These factors are compounded by the differential availability and effectiveness of the support services of the concerned institutions relating to environmental control, livelihood support, and community resource management. In spite of these factors, the community members exhibit localized resilience owing to their shared labor systems, social networks, and flexible adaptive practices in their livelihoods.

The primary aim of this research is to explain the intersection of environmental degradation, livelihood constraints, and the nature of support (or lack of) institutions have on the everyday life of the people in the coastal municipalities of CarCanMadCarLan. To this end, the research employs qualitative descriptive approach in the analysis of the narratives, and accounts of the community, in order to extract certain patterns of vulnerability, adaptation, and resilience. Socio-environmental realities in the coastal milieu are intended to be better understood, and evidence is expected to be obtained to assist in the environmental governance and social welfare planning, and other sustainable development efforts in the region of Surigao del Sur, and other coastal areas of the same nature.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Environmental disruptions affect coastal populations and ecosystems with adverse consequences, especially disruptions in climate-related marine ecosystems. Declining fisheries and loss of biodiversity, and active and passive disruption of ecosystem services are all linked to climate-related marine ecosystem degradation [1]. Declining coastal natural protective features, such as the loss of mangroves, coral reefs, and protective barriers from flooding and surge storms, are the result of coastal erosion and depletion [2]. Changes in the environment, especially in small fishing communities, affect the economics of the community and are more focused directly on food security / labor availability. People in these small fishing communities face severe economic constraints.

In the coastal environment of the Philippines, coastal degradation has been associated with the lack of sustainable management of the coastal environment, such as resource over-exploitation, predatory fishing, the absence of regulations, and the lack of enforcement of the rules in the environment. This has been documented in Mindanao and Visayas, with fishing households migrating to other regions [3]. These adaptations are focused on the environment, and it also restructures the social, relational, and survival mechanisms of the households.

Factors such as limited access to markets, credit, education, and public services worsen the vulnerability of coastal communities to livelihood vulnerability [4]. Small coastal communities are exposed to not only the natural threats but also the governance voids that hinder adaptive capacity. (Adger, 2000). When there is a lack of cohesion in governance policies and regulations, communities that depend on resources are in a greater state of precariousness and vulnerability [5].

In the Philippines, the differences in infrastructures in urban and rural coastal areas are the reasons of the inequity of public goods such as health care, access to water, waste disposal and management, and the provision of livelihood aid (Reyes, 2021). The community level economic variety is weak, which leaves the households vulnerable to changes in the environment, to the seasons and to changes in the economic market. This fact combined with the daily unpredictable situation, influence the people's feeling of certainty and their future planning.

Research on resilience states that communities are not just passive sufferers of the ecological and economic stress, but that they also create adaptive mechanisms based on shared knowledge, culture, and collective action [6]. Studies from different parts of the world showcase the way local cooperation, informal labor exchange, kinship, and community based resource systems enhance the capacity to cope with adversity and improve the ability to respond to disruptions (Norris et al., 2008).

According to Alcazaren (2019), bayanihan, or community collaboration, along with local leadership, and micro livelihood diversification, contributes to community resilience. However, the degree of resilience also hinges on the

gaps in power, resource distribution, and participation in decision making (in governance) (Alcazaren, 2019). Thus, to assess resilience, one must look at not just adaptive capacity, but also at who can adapt of the rest of the community.

The degree of resilience also hinges on institutional support, or the absense thereof. In the literature on coastal governance, it is generally accepted that effective and sustainable resource management requires some degree of collaborative management among local governance, national governance, and civil society (Spaargaren, 2017). However, many developing countries are still trying to close the gaps in policy integration, unified policy frameworks, and sustainable funding to coastal governance.

Certainly the CarCanMadCarLan region has both the oportunities and the challenges of decentralised local governance. The several municipal programs that focus on marine conservation, solid waste management, and livelihood training are geared to help everyday people. However, these programs are highly variable on the governance of the barangay (smallest administration level in the Philippines) with regards to political will, management capacity, and financial resources. Thus, it may seem that the local governance is not in some points in time, while they are.

The interdependence of socio-economic precarity in coastal settings and environmental decline has been well established in literature. Studies on both the globe and the Philippines have indicated that livelihoods are at risk due to a nexus of inequalities and vulnerable ecosystems and poor governance. Nevertheless, resilience emerges from organized adaptive tactics and local supportive alliances. The goal of this study is to examine how these processes are experienced and sustained, and further extends knowledge on the socio-ecological dynamics of the coastal municipalities of CarCanMadCarLan in Surigao del Sur.

METHODS
RESEARCH DESIGN

This study focused on qualitative descriptive research design that is suitable for understanding the lived experiences, struggles, and coping mechanisms of individuals and groups, and of communities within their social environments. The descriptive approach enables the researcher to capture individual participants' viewpoints, and to paraphrase their words, and situate them to the prevailing socio-environmental context. The researcher is not trying to produce the result of generalizable cause-and-effect relationships, but to construct a sufficient understanding of the socio-environmental conditions that exist in the study area.

RESEARCH LOCALE

This study was conducted in the CarCanMadCarLan Coastal Cluster of Surigao del Sur, composed of five municipalities which are Carrascal, Cantilan, Madrid, Carmen, and Lanuza. These municipalities have the same coastal ecological and socio-economic profiles. At this site, there is a high level of reliance to marine resources, a diversified small-scale livelihood, and environmental exposure to changes on the coastline, diminishing biodiversity, and pressures of resource overuse. The local communities provided the socio-cultural and environmental context which was key to the focus of the study.

PARTICIPANTS

This research involved the residents of specific barangays of the municipalities of Car Can Mad Car Lan who had first-hand experience of the local livelihood activities, the state of the coastal resources, and the community's decision-making processes. These people were chosen because their experience were most relatable to the focus on the changes in the environment and the possible adaptive responses. The participants were purposely sampled because of the rich, in-depth information they were presumed to hold. These were the small-scale fishers, the local traders, the community leaders, and the households. Participation in the study was voluntary.

DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE

There were two data collection methods that were employed in the study, namely, semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions. The former provided the participants the opportunity to narrate their experiences, observations, concerns, and the possible strategies to mitigate the challenges brought about by the environment and the livelihood crises brought about by the crises of the environment. The latter provided and space of community members for a deep reflection and collaborative analysis of their situations. All sessions took place in venues that were comfortable and familiar to the participants. A great deal of attention was given in order to respect the usual practices and protocols of the locals, especially in terms of animal and cultural traditions. During the sessions, notes were taken and, after seeking permission, discussions were recorded to assure that the transcripts and interpretations were accurate.

DATA ANALYSIS

Thematic coding was used to analyze the collected data. The materials for the interviews and discussions were transcribed and examined numerous times to determine the primary and common concepts, patterns, and consistencies within the discourse. The developed codes were classified into different segments which were then fused into broader explanatory strands. Such a technique of analyzing text thematically led to the elaboration of the core socio-environmental issues affecting the different communities together with the coping and resilience mechanisms employed by the community members.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

In conducting the study, the basic principles of conducting ethical research were observed. Before taking part in the study, the participants were informed of the study's aim, the procedures involved, and that their participation was voluntary. Their personal details were kept private, and their absence of personal identifiers would be protected in the reports. Participants were free to leave the study anytime without any negative repercussions. The data were kept in a safe place and utilized only for research and educational purposes.

RESULTS

SOP 1: Lived Experiences of the High-Crime Community Members as to the Response to Environmental Factors That Influence Criminal Behavior

Prevailing themes: Spatial Dispossession and the Architecture of Vulnerability; Conditional Presence and the Logic of "Depende" Policing; Poverty-Driven Offending and Survivalist Criminality.

Theme 1: Spatial Dispossession and the Architecture of Vulnerability

In the barangays of CARCANMADCARLAN, the physical landscape is not neutral—it actively shapes the conditions under which crime occurs. Spatial neglect, environmental fragility, and economic precarity are entangled, creating a criminogenic architecture where residents must navigate survival within zones of infrastructural abandonment.
Codes / Key Concepts: "Ngitngit nga dalan" (dark alley), "sayun ra sudlan" (easy to access), forced recruitment, reactive policing, state absence, resource precarity, informal settlements.

> RP01: "Tungod sa layout sa among lugar nga daghang eskinita ug ngitngit nga agianan, dali ra kaayo buhaton ang krimen."
> (Translation: **Because of our area's layout—many alleys and dark passageways—it's very easy to commit crimes.**)

Echoing this, another farmer described the porous nature of their forest boundaries:

> RP04: "Ang bukid sayon ra kaayo sudlan. Dili gyud ni mabantayan pirme."
> (Translation: **The mountains are very easy to access. They're rarely monitored.**)

Multiple participants reinforced how lack of livelihood opportunities pushes people into illegal work. One explained:

> RP06: *"Ang silingan nako gi-recruit sa loggers. Gipugos na lang kay walay laing trabaho."*
> (Translation: **My neighbor was recruited by illegal loggers. He was forced because there were no other job opportunities.**)

Another added:

> RP05: "Kung wala ka'y kwarta, bisan ilegal musugot na lang."
> (Translation: **If you don't have money, you'll agree to illegal work, even if you don't want to.**)

Ascertaining these narratives indicates institutional abandonment and 'criminogenic' spatial order. As Wacquant (2022) argues, spatial neglect is statecraft. While White (2020) argues that ecological crime is a product of the collapse of the economy and of the ecosystem under deregulated rule, it would be difficult to argue against the notion that the crime is a product of the ecosystem's collapse by the economy.

Testimonies corrobor data at the barangay level showing Bon-ot and Carmen (Puyat) are hotspots for illegal logging, opportunistic theft, and forestry infractions. As Verona and Fox (2025) point out, systemic poverty and lack of access to institutions amplify one's vulnerability to illegal economies, whereas Dovey and Pafka (2020) demonstrate how low visibility design generates "ambient criminality." This aspect of the analysis resonates with the spatial justice discourse: the presence of roads and lights symbolizes presence, while their absence is a marker of sites of neglect.

Theme 2: Situational Absence and the Logic of 'Depende' Policing

Police presence is described as erratic, contingent on logistics and discretion. The idiom "depende" captures inconsistent availability and ambiguous accountability.
Informs/Key Concepts: 'Depende kung naa sila,' slow-onset response, non-proactive policing, fuel scarcity, 'tawag lang mi,' absence during the commission of the offense.

From the above, the key logic of 'depende' policing is encapsulated, as there is a complete absence of substantive accountability.

> RP09: *"Usahay okay, usahay dili. Depende kung naa sila o wala. Usahay dugay pa kaayo moabot."*
> (Translation: **Sometimes it's okay, sometimes not. It depends if they're around. Sometimes they arrive very late.**)

Others spoke on how lack of transportation inhibits timely assistance,

> RP08: "Kung walay gasolina, dili gyud makagikan."
> (Translation: **If there's no gas, they really can't come.**)

Another spoke on the distress of the lack of assistance.

> RP11: "Tawag lang mi, pero kung busy sila, wala gyud mutabang."
> (Translation: **We just call, but if they're busy, no one will help.**)

One participant spoke on the distinction of preventative measures vs. reactionary measures to crime.

> RP13: "Kung wala pa ang krimen, wala sad ang kapulisan."
> (Translation: **If there's no crime yet, the police aren't around either.**)

The foregoing of emergency assistance based on surrounding conditions demonstrates delays in reactive response. This aligns with Loader (2020) Peripheral police to be more symbolic than functional. As evidenced by local crime reports, there are lower response time rates in barangays with reports of high levels of property crime, illegal logging, and drugs. This is consistent with the research by Jones and Newburn (2021) regarding uneven crime reporting in rural areas. This overall lack of police presence often leads to what is termed "privatization of security," in which informal security systems, vigilante systems, or self-policing systems are utilized (Goldstein, 2019).

Theme 3: Offenses Motivated by Economic Need and Survival Crime

Engaging in crime due to economic scarcity derives from surviving, not a crime ideology.
Codes / Key Concepts: "Walay kwarta," "nangawat kay gigutom," hunger, informal work, theft for children, crime as necessity, moral ambivalence, illegal livelihood.

> RP06: "Ang uban mangawat kay walay pangpalit og bugas."
> (Translation: **Some steal because they have nothing to buy rice with**.)

> RP05: "Gigutom sila. Ang uban mobuhat og dautan tungod ana."
> (Translation: **They're hungry. Some do bad things because of it.**)

> A resident from San Pedro stated:

> "Walay trabaho diri. Mao na nga moapil sa pagpangilog og kahoy o baligya og drugs."
> (Translation: **There are no jobs here. That's why some join illegal logging or sell drugs.**)

> Another, too, explained the economic necessity:

> RP08: "Dili man unta sila gusto, pero tungod sa kalisod, napugos."
> (Translation: **They don't really want to, but due to hardship, they're forced to.**)

This aligns well with Young's (2019) Left Realist theory and Marginalization. Local testimonies in Carmen, Madrid and Baybay point to the existence of theft and petty trading as crimes. Research participants justified the existence of petty theft and trading as not criminal acts, but of "surviving". In Wacquant's (2021) coined term, "Penal Populism," the author refers to the criminalization of acts of survival as a form of state punishment.

SOP 2: Environmental and Ecological Factors Contribute to Criminal Behavior Based on the Available Literatures

Prevailing themes: Normalized Disorder and the Rise of Deviant Youth Subcultures; Gendered Silences and the Politics of Invisibility; Rhythms of Risk — Temporal and Spatial Patterns of Crime.

Theme 1: Normalized Disorder and the Rise of Deviant Youth Subcultures

A lack of Pillars of Guidance and Support, sufficient Employment Opportunities and the Hence presence of Dominant Institutions Accounts for the Deviance of the Youth in the Area of Study.
Codes / Key Concepts: "Barkada nga bastos," "tambay," drug trade, visible addiction, lack of guidance, informal influence.

> RP 13: *"Akong anak giimbitar sa pulis kay gikuyog sa grupo nga nagpadagan og shabu."* (Translation: **My child was summoned by the police for being seen with a group that sells shabu.**)

Another respondent shared the same concerns as follows:

RP11: Ang akong barkada nadakpan tungod sa pangawat og cellphone."
(Translation: **My friend was arrested for stealing a cellphone.**)

RP08, from Madrid, explained how the visibility of deviance has become normalized:

"Daghan tambay, way trabaho. Ang mga adik magsuroy-suroy."
(Translation: **There are many idle youth, no jobs. Addicts just roam around.**)

The absence of consistent state presence has been a concern for many. Even police officers share the same concern:

RP09: "Usahay okay, usahay di. Dipende kung naa mi ronda."
(Translation: **Sometimes it's okay, sometimes not. It depends if we are able to patrol.**)

A teacher from Baybay added a moral perspective:

"Ang mga estudyante mismo wala nay kabalo sa nature conservation."
(Translation: **Even the students no longer understand environmental responsibility.**)

This is in line with the decline of collective efficacy (Sampson, 2012), the adaptation of the youth which is a product of intelligence in the face of adverse conditions surrounding environmental destruction (Baysal, 2023; Singh et al., 2021). In San Pedro, Agsam, and Madrid there is an alarming rate of crimes perpetrated by the youth especially in drug offenses, serious threats, and robbery.

Theme 2: Gendered Silences and the Politics of Invisibility

There are still not enough discussions and conversations addressing gender-based violence due to stigma, institutional apathy, and fear of repercussions.
Codes / Key Concepts: "Gikuyawan mi," "gikahadlokan nga isulti," rape, shame culture, underreporting, victim-blaming.

RP03: "Daghan na kaayo ang mga rape karon, pero gikahadlokan nga isulti kay basin pasanginlan pa ang biktima."
(Translation: **There are many rape cases now, but people are afraid to report them for fear the victim will be blamed.**)

Community silence compounds this fear, echoed by a further respondent:

RP15: "Nahadlok ko muduol sa kapulisan kay basin sabton ko nga sayop."
(Translation: **I was afraid to approach the police because they might think I was the one at fault.**)

The sense of threat is further described by the lack of adequate free outside space and lighting:

RP03: *"Ngitngit ang agianan, usahay bayot o babae ang biktima. Wala gyuy mutabang."* (Translation: **The alleyways are dark, and sometimes gay men or women become victims. No one helps.**)

RP 07: "Kung babaye ka, magdali ka lakaw kay basin unya hilabtan ka."
(Translation**: If you're a woman, you walk quickly because you fear someone might touch you.**)

The statements intersect with existing knowledge on ambient violence and the geographies of fear (Pain, 2020), gendered invisibility (Baines, 2019; Archer & Mann, 2021), and the politics of whose suffering is deemed worthy (Merry, 2021). The crime reports in San Pedro and Agsam confirm the presence of sexual crimes, threatening behavior, and a significant level of underreporting.

Theme 3: Rhythms of Risk — Temporal and Spatial Patterns of Crime

Residents correlate and observe patterns of time and space regarding crime in relation to economic deprivation, idleness, and inadequate illumination.
Codes / Key Concepts: "Sa gabii," "alas dyes pataas," repeat offenders, hotspot alleys, crimes during school hours, dark surroundings.

>RP06: "Kasagaran magnanakaw, gabii gyud. Mga alas dyes pataas."
>(Translation: **Most of the thieves come at night, usually after 10 p.m.**)

>To this, another individual spoke on specific targets:

>RP03: *"Balik-balik ra ang mga kawatan. Kabalo na ka kinsay mangawat, pero wa gyud silay kahadlok.*
>(Translation: **The same thieves keep coming back. We already know who they are, but they don't seem afraid.**)

>RP11: "Kasagaran ma-hit ug butang kung walay tawo sa balay, labi na buntag."
>(Translation: **Crimes usually happen when no one is at home, especially in the morning.**)

>A teacher echoed this based on student reports:

>RP13: "Ang mga estudyante mo-report nga naa'y bag-ong droga nga gibaligya. Kasagaran kabalo na sila kinsa."
>(Translation: **Students report new drugs being sold. Most of them already know who's involved.**)

Such observations coincide perfectlywith Routine Activity Theory (Cohen & Felson, 1979) and micro-place dynamics (Braga & Weisburd, 2020). Residents develop local knowledge of danger but lack institutional response, reinforcing place stigma (Hirschfield, 2021).

SOP 3: Relationships of Crime Patterns to the Physical, Social, and Economic Factors Based on Reports and Policies

Prevailing themes: Selective Surveillance and the Politics of Prioritization; From Bystanders to Bantay: Grassroots Guardianship and Collective Vigilance.

Theme 1: Selective Surveillance and the Politics of Prioritization

Enforcement is perceived as stratified by status, visibility, and connections.
Codes / Key Concepts: "Naay proteksyon," "taga-barangay," selective arrest, reputation-based policing, "gitagad kung dako nga tawo."

>RP05: "Kung ordinaryo ka lang, walay maminaw. Pero kung naay koneksyon, dali ra kaayo sila mo-aksyon."
>(Translation: **If you're just an ordinary person, no one listens. But if you're connected, the police act quickly.**)

>Similarly, another participant commented,

>RP02: "Kung dako kag tawo o naa kay koneksyon, dili gyud ka madakpan dayon."
>(Translation: **If you're someone big or connected, you won't be arrested quickly.**)

>From Baybay, one respondent described a particular example of selective enforcement.

"Gidakop ang pobre, pero ang amo sa logging wala."
(Translation: **The poor were arrested, but the boss of the logging operation was not.**)

This prioritization was bluntly summarized by another interviewee.

RP11: "Kung unsay dali makit-an, mao ra na ilang dakpon."
(Translation: **Whatever they can easily catch, that's all they'll arrest.**)

This demonstrates a pattern of visible lower-order crimes that can be acted upon while other, more serious crimes remain unattended. Garland's (2019) "criminologies of the other" and Beckett & Murakawa's (2020) performance justice come to mind.

Theme 2: From Bystanders to Bantay: Grassroots Guardianship and Collective Vigilance

Communities step into security roles amid inconsistent policing.
Codes / Key Concepts: Community-led patrols, informal surveillance, "Bantay Barangay," texting networks, whistleblowers, night watches.

RP07: "Kung walay pulis, kami nalang magbantay."
(Translation: **If there are no police, we just guard the place ourselves.**)

RP10: "Naay mga ginikanan nga maglibot sa gabii kung naay kasikas."
(Translation: **Some parents go around at night if there's suspicious noise.**)

RP12: "Magtextay mi kung naay makit-an nga dili pamilyar."
(Translation: **We text each other if we see someone unfamiliar.**)

A teacher explained how students are trained as watchers,

RP13: *"Among mga estudyante motabang og report. Gitudluan namo unsaon pagbantay sa ilang palibot."*
(Translation: **Our students help report incidents. We teach them how to observe their surroundings.**)

The community-initiated protective actions reflect the procedural justice of a community (Tankebe, 2021) and participatory governance in crisis (Arias, 2019) with some ethical concerns of vigilante justice (Loader & Sparks, 2020).

DISCUSSION

CARCANMADCARLAN's high-crime barangays case study shows high-crime barangays as socio-ecological systems that endure spatial neglect, economic deprivation, and relative institutional absence, and as spatial neglect where unlit roads and alley ways, edges of thick forest poorly visible areas that serve as escape routes for unidentified criminals form architectures of crime offending environments conjointly with the criminology literature on the role of environmental design and crime opportunity structures. Philippine coastal peripheries where there is a livelihood and where ecologies are contested, the lesser the guardianship, the more visible the area, the greater the opportunistic crime and survivalist crime activities (routine activities and crime hot spots).

The reactive logistics presence is symbolically present, and evidence of rural policing episodic enforcement, response times and resource driven discretion is also present in the study in the policing of the rural peripheral jurisdiction. Conditional presence of policing in the rural peripheral jurisdiction is absence of procedural justice, is a violation of taught procedural justice, and gives rise to a sense of unregulated informal security systems. Moving from 'bystanders' to 'bantay' of the community, with 'bantay' self policing, withdrawal of negative institutional restraints is concerning self plac's community orientated self guardian opportunistic initiative and self defence agency. Comparative literature shows that the rational arrangements for self policing a community risks ungoverned

self vigilantism, and it is also of concern that there are no companion frameworks, partnerships and protective measures.

The outcomes on poverty-driven offending and survivalist criminality reflect Left Realist perspectives: in conditions of extreme relative deprivation and scant legal avenues, low-level acquisitive crime and entry into criminalized economies can be seen as rational, adaptive strategies rather than ideological deviance. The gendered sub-theme of gendered silences and invisibility further extends the analysis by documenting how fear of the consequences, underreporting, and stigma leave certain harms, even when they exist in considerable amounts, structurally absent, and this stigma is statistically unwarranted. This is consistent with the literature on the "slow violence" of gendered harm and the politics of missed opportunity of certain suffered injuries as crime in peripheral victims' spaces.

To conclude, selective surveillance and the politics of prioritization connect micro-level experiences to macro-level legitimacy issues. When policing is disproportionately directed towards the most visible petty offenders, while it is alleged that higher tier offenders remain unpoliced, residents perceive it as classed injustice, and a performance-driven policing regime. This pattern diminishes collective efficacy, and social disobedience, stigma, and resignation.

When collected together, the evidence illustrates that within the CARCANMADCARLAN zone, durable prevention of crime will require multi-sectoral collaboration encompassing spatial modifications (improvements in lighting, sightlines, and dedicated pathways) coupled with the stabilization of livelihoods (improvements in income diversification and youth skill development), the establishment of procedural justice partnership (co-policing with patrol plan and open access to complaints), and the provision of gender responsive services (reporting confidentiality, and provision of care to victims). Your proposed Programme of Community-Based Crime Resilience Programme (CBCRP) is a logical step to take in operationalizing the aforementioned: combining environmental design, community guardianship, and institutional collaboration.

CONCLUSION

This research highlights that there is a nexus consisting of forged together neglected areas, poor socio-economic conditions, and the absence of government services that inform the patterns of crime within CARCANMADCARLAN. Residents of this zone operate within a crime generating ambiance where means of survival are interwoven with illegal activities, a complete absence of youth controlling mechanisms leads to widespread deviance, and the risks faced by women are overlooked due to fear and stigma. It is important to note that this is in contrast with the grassroots surveillance and community members support that these communities exhibit.

Hence, the need for integrated actions: prevention now hinges upon the redesigning of dangerous areas, the stabilization of livelihoods, the institutionalization of co-governed policing, and the integrating of gender responsive services. The CBCRP, with targets that are measurable and with feedback loops in the inter-barangay system, offers a viable way to shift from reactive policing to radical preventive resilience.

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