

# Communal Violence and Socio-Economic Development in Benue State, Nigeria: An Exploratory Study of Odugbo Community in Apa Local Government Area

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## Abstract

Violence permeates all dimensions of human life and activity, including political, physiological, social, economic, racial, cultural, and religious spheres. Communal violence is however rooted in ethnic background of individuals and groups, tribe, race, religion, sect, and language. It arises from differing interests, desires, goals and aspirations of individuals in relation to their struggle for resources to meet their basic needs and defend their socio-physical environment. This paper adopted the relative-deprivation theory which is generated from the theory of frustration-aggression model. The survey research design, both the primary and secondary methods of data collection were used. This research used basic percentage for data analysis, whereas a content analytical model was utilised for secondary data analysis. The chi-square statistical method was used to evaluate the hypothesis. This paper argued that communal violence had significant negative effects on socio economic development in Odugbo community in Apa Local Government Area. It further proved that communal violence leads to disruption of socio economic activities, agricultural/farming activities, and destruction of communal harmony/unity. The paper concludes that socio economic development is essential for an improved standard of living of individuals in a society and can only take place in such communities devoid of violence. The paper recommends among others that there is need for proper resources allocation to the different units that make up the community. This will help to prevent or limit the scale of communal violence arising from the struggle for resource control in the community.

## Keywords

Communal Violence, Socio Economic, Development and Community

## **Introduction**

The interaction between humans and their socio-physical environment entails an ongoing process of dependency and interdependence, which may give rise to contradiction and conflict. Violent conflict denotes the use of fatal force by parties to assert dominance over contested and considered indivisible resources, such as land or local political authority. Demarcation along these lines often incites 'sons of the soil' disputes, since the indigenous populations see themselves as the legitimate proprietors of the land (Fearon & Laitin, 2011). According to Orji (2012), "conflict is fundamentally a reality of social relations (p. 514)." Conflicts emerge at any level due to differences in interests, ambitions, objectives, and values in the fight for resources to satisfy pressing needs within a specific socio-physical context (Otite, 2001). Indeed, individuals within a socio-physical environment exist in a perpetual state of dependency and interdependence, often resulting in paradoxes and conflicts. Communal wars are not novel, especially in socio-culturally intricate countries characterised by a multitude of ethnic nations and linguistic groupings, such as Nigeria. Nigeria, throughout the pre-colonial and colonial periods, saw dynastic rivalries among kingdoms and warfare amongst communities (Ogban-Iyam, 2005). Onwe et al. (2015) contended that "human history is marked by conflict" (p. 78). Scholars today agree on the inevitability of conflict in human connections (Okoh & Ewhariemen 2001).

## **Statement of Problems**

Over the years, there has been occasional eruption of violent conflicts among the people of Odugbo community. Villages in Odugbo have constantly engaged in serious squabble for land which degenerates into land and boundary disputes. It is the confrontational nature of the conflicts which arises from the struggle over scarce resources like land, and the struggle for power and control of leadership in the form of chieftaincy tussle. These confrontational violent conflicts pose negative implications on the development of Odugbo community. As such, there has not been any meaningful development in Odugbo community. Unfortunately, Odugbo community is among the few communities in Rivers State where the government presence is not seriously felt as regards to be provision of basic infrastructural facilities and social amenities needed by the community. The outbreak of communal violence in Odugbo community resulted from the struggle for power and leadership struggle which have been over-stretched and degenerated into group affairs as well as reaching the climax whereby lives and property are wantonly destroyed. The occurrence of the communal conflict in the community poses adverse effects not just on development but the entirety of lifestyle of the people of Odugbo. It is against this backdrop that this paper examined the communal violence and socio economic development in Odugbo community in Apa Local Government Area.

## **Research Questions**

This research work is predicted on the following research questions.

1. What are the implications of the communal violence on Odugbo community development?
2. What are the possible means of reducing violence and achieving community development?

## **Objectives of the Study**

The broad objective of this study is to examine the impact of communal violence on socio economic development with focus on Odugbo community in Apa Local Government Area. The specific objectives include to:

1. Examine the implications of the communal violence on Odugbo community socio economic development.

2. Identify the possible means of reducing violence and achieving development.

### **Research Hypothesis**

**H<sub>0</sub>:** Community violence has no significant negative effects on Odugbo community socio economic development.

## **5.0 Conceptual Literature Review**

### **5.1 Communal Violence**

Violence or the threat of violence is a ubiquitous phenomena. Throughout history, individuals and organisations have used violence or its potential as a tool for political activity. Violence, as a concept in social science and as a fact, is characterised by an excess of interpretations (Rasheeduddin, 1981). When an individual or collective is persistently denied what they see as their rightful entitlements, and is continually plagued by feelings of powerlessness that undermine their self-esteem, violence becomes a foreseeable outcome. community violence is a kind of violence enacted along community boundaries, when the aggressors exhibit solidarity with their respective groups, and victims are selected based on their group affiliation. It encompasses confrontations, riots, and other manifestations of violence among groups of differing religious beliefs or ethnic backgrounds. The scenario involves violence perpetrated along ethnic lines, with victims selected depending on their ethnic affiliation (Horowitz, 2002). Communistic violence refers to conflicts between two or more groups about territorial land, agricultural land, and territorial waters for fishing purposes (Dzurgba, 2006). These definitions indicate that communal conflict is essentially synonymous with community conflict or ethnic conflict.

Communal violence may be rooted in religious conflicts, land disputes, political strife, resource competition, local governance, and chieftaincy matters. It is seen as violence involving people from community-based identity groups. It often pertains to collective identity. Brosche and Elfversson (2012) defined communal identity as "subjective group identification based on common history, a common culture, or common core values (p. 35)." Egwu (2006) said that communal violence, as an identity struggle, is "characterized in ethnic, communal, regional, and religious terms, either manifesting in lethal confrontations among themselves or against the central government (p. 408)." A notable characteristic of communal violence is that the participants are often citizens of the same State (Elfversson, 2013). Communal violence manifests as a conflict about the allocation of resources. It is a kind of structured violence executed by informal ethnic militias, manifesting in many forms such as intense confrontations and assaults on people (Raleigh & Kniveton, 2010). The aforementioned conceptualisations indicate that communal violence is a manifestation of aggression stemming from the ethnic backgrounds of people and groups. It relies on factors such as ethnicity, race, religion, sect, and language. It also encompasses relatively permanent ethnic militias and advanced local weaponry in the devastation of life and property, centring on rivalry over socio-economic territory, political authority, land, and natural or mineral resources.

### **Concept of Socio-Economic Development**

Socio-economic development on the other hand, refers to the process of improving the social and economic well-being of individuals, communities, and societies as a whole. It involves enhancing people's quality of life, reducing poverty, promoting economic growth, and addressing social inequalities (UNDP, 1990; Todaro & Smith, 2015). Socio-economic development encompasses various dimensions, including economic, social, and environmental aspects. It involves creating opportunities for productive employment, improving access to education, healthcare, and basic services, promoting gender equality, fostering social cohesion, and ensuring environmental sustainability (UNDP, 1990; Todaro & Smith, 2015). A key objective of socio-economic development

is to achieve sustainable and inclusive growth that benefits all segments of society. It aims to create an enabling environment that supports equitable distribution of resources, reduces disparities, and promotes social justice (UNDP, 1990; Todaro & Smith, 2015). Efforts towards socio-economic development require a multi-sectoral approach and collaboration between various stakeholders, including governments, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. It involves formulating and implementing policies and programs that address the specific needs and challenges of different communities and regions (UNDP, 1990; Todaro & Smith, 2015).

### **Community Development**

The notion of community development has been articulated in many ways. A community is defined as a collective of individuals with a common identity and history, residing within a certain geographical region. Community is characterised in various manners: geographically, as in a neighbourhood or town (referred to as "place-based" or communities of place), or socially, as in a collective of individuals engaging in common online chat rooms, a national professional association, or a labour union (identified as communities of interest). Numerous academics attribute the inception of contemporary community development as a field to the rebuilding initiatives after World War II aimed at enhancing underdeveloped nations (Wise, 1998). Some reference the American "war on poverty" of the 1960s, which prioritised addressing neighbourhood housing and social issues, as a major impact on modern community development (Green & Haines, 2002). This indicates that the roots of community building are very ancient.

Community development is described as a collective choice by individuals to start a social action process aimed at altering their economic, social, cultural, and environmental circumstances (Christenson & Robinson, 1989). According to the aforementioned description, the notion was examined via the lens of actions conducted by a collective residing in a specific geographical region, united by the fundamental objective of starting and executing endeavours that enhance their lifestyle in that area. Community development can only transpire when individuals within a community unite and collaborate to enhance their collective welfare. It enhances the capacity of communities to collaboratively make informed choices on the allocation of resources, including infrastructure, labour, and knowledge. It depends on interpersonal connection and collaborative action, rather than solitary effort, which some sociologists refer to as "collective agency" (Flora & Flora, 1993). Community development is a process in which individuals collaborate with governmental authorities to enhance the economic, social, and cultural conditions of their communities, thereby facilitating their integration into national life and enabling full contribution to national progress (Briggs, 1999). This indicates that a community actively participates in a process designed to enhance its social, economic, and environmental conditions (Shaffer, 1989). The process involves the collaboration of citizens and government authorities to enhance the social, economic, and cultural conditions of communities, thereby integrating them into national life and facilitating their full contribution to national progress (United Nations, 2014). This is the venue for community members to unite in collective action and devise solutions to shared issues. Community development aims to provide individuals and organisations with the necessary abilities to instigate change within their communities. These talents are often developed via the establishment of social groups pursuing a shared purpose.

### **Theoretical Framework**

This paper adopted the relative-deprivation theory which is generated from the theory of frustration-aggression model that tends to explain the cause and effect of a given situation in its social context. It explains the tension that developed from the discrepancy between "What ought to be" and "What is" of collective value satisfaction. The relative-deprivation theory was first

coined by Sam Stouffer and his associate in their wartime study: "The American Soldier" in 1949. Other protagonists of relative-deprivation theory include W.G. Runciman; S. Stack, etc. This theory was however, properly propounded by Ted Gur in 1967 for the purpose of intellectual discourse. Ted Gur emphasized the relative deprivation gap between expectations and capabilities. The 'gap' creates frustrations, frustrations lead to anger, leading in turn to aggression and violence. It is clear that the causal mechanism underlying violent behaviours among the members of a community arises from frustration. The central premise of the relative-deprivation theory is which is interpreted in terms of a state of mind where there is a discrepancy between what men seek and what seems attainable. As such, the greater the discrepancy in what they seek and what is achieved, the greater their anger and their propensity towards violence. According to Gurr (1967), relative deprivation is the sense of obstructive conditions. He asserts that when we experience obstruction in our pursuit of a desired objective, we are prone to anger, and in such a state, the most gratifying instinctual reaction is to retaliate against the cause of our frustration. This implies that dissatisfaction is now seen not as an obstruction to current goal-oriented actions, but as a preemptive irritation arising from the incongruities between what is genuinely achievable within the social environment and what is desired.

In the context of communal violence in Odugbo community, the relative deprivation model locates the violence among youths, traditional rulers, politicians, the elites, and the poor masses on the foundation of perceived discrepancy between the value expectation and value satisfaction. However, the contenders for power within Odugbo community include all groups which are collectively struggling for scarce resources and control of power. Nonetheless, the relative-deprivation theory will help a great deal in the understanding of the intrigues communal violence in Odugbo community, and in the improvement of my analytic strength throughout this research.

## Methods

The survey research design was employed for the purpose of this study. The population for this study was drawn from the adult population of males and females, indigenes of Odugbo community, who have attained the age of (18) years and above. The sample for this study is the portion of the population that research used for this study. The research sample included 200 volunteers randomly chosen from the seven zones of the Odugbo community. The used sampling method is random sampling. The research used both primary and secondary data collecting techniques. The researcher used a questionnaire as the primary tool for data gathering. This research used simple percentage for primary data analysis and a content analytical model for secondary data analysis. The chi-square statistical method was used to test the hypothesis. The research was carried out in the Odugbo community.

## Demography of Respondents

**Table 1: Demography of Respondents**

| <b>Variable</b>   | <b>Category</b> | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percentage</b> |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Gender</b>     | Male            | 125              | 62.5              |
|                   | Female          | 75               | 37.5              |
|                   | <b>Total</b>    | <b>200</b>       | <b>100</b>        |
| <b>Occupation</b> | Farming         | 55               | 27.5              |
|                   | Civil Servant   | 50               | 25                |
|                   | Business        | 60               | 30                |

| Variable       | Category           | Frequency  | Percentage |
|----------------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| Age Bracket    | Student            | 35         | 17.5       |
|                | <b>Total</b>       | <b>200</b> | <b>100</b> |
|                | 25-30 Years        | 30         | 15         |
|                | 31-35 Years        | 45         | 22.5       |
|                | 36-40 Years        | 50         | 25         |
|                | 41 years & above   | 75         | 37.5       |
| Marital Status | <b>Total</b>       | <b>200</b> | <b>100</b> |
|                | Single             | 25         | 12.5       |
|                | Married            | 145        | 72.5       |
|                | Divorced/Separated | NIL        | NIL        |
|                | Widowed            | 30         | 15         |
| Qualification  | <b>Total</b>       | <b>200</b> | <b>100</b> |
|                | FSLC               | 72         | 36         |
|                | SSCE/WAEC          | 65         | 32.5       |
|                | NCE,ND,HND,BSc     | 35         | 17.5       |
|                | M.Sc/PhD           | 28         | 14         |

**Source:** Field Survey, 2024

The data indicated that 125 respondents, constituting 62.5%, were male, while 75 respondents, representing 37.5%, were female. This indicated that men respondents exceeded female respondents in number. According to this table, 55 respondents, constituting 27.5%, are farmers; 50 respondents, representing 25%, are public workers; 60 respondents, accounting for 30%, are merchants; and 35 respondents, comprising 17.5%, are students. Thirty respondents, or 15% of the population, were aged 25-30 years; forty-five respondents, or 22.5%, were aged 31-35 years; fifty respondents, representing 25%, were aged 36-40 years; and seventy-five respondents, accounting for 37.5%, were aged 41 years and beyond. It also stated that 25 respondents, or 12.5%, were single; 145 respondents, or 72.5%, were married; no respondents were divorced or separated; and 30 respondents, representing 15%, were widowed. The table indicates that 72 respondents, or 36%, possess a First School Leaving Certificate (FSLC); 65 respondents, or 32.5%, have SSCE/WAEC; 35 respondents, representing 17.5%, have NCE/ND/HND/B.Sc; and 28 respondents, accounting for 14%, possess an M.Sc/PhD.

**Table 2:** Issues of the communal violence in Odugbo community socio economic development?

| S/N | Items  | SA(%)      | A(%)      | D(%)     | SD(%)   |
|-----|--|------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| 1   | Cases of violence exist in your locality   | 105(52.5%) | 68(34%)   | 17(8.5%) | 10(5%)  |
| 2   | Violent cases in your locality arise from the incompatibility of goals and interests | 94(47%)    | 58(29%)   | 28(14%)  | 20(10%) |
| 3   | Land scarcity, territorial disputes and competition for                              | 96(48%)    | 75(37.5%) | 15(7.5%) | 14(7%)  |

| S/N | Items  | SA(%)     | A(%)      | D(%)    | SD(%)     |
|-----|--|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| 4   | the use of land resources account for violence in your locality<br>Community violence had significant negative effects on Odugbo community development | 106(53%)  | 66(33%)   | 16(8%)  | 12(6%)    |
| 5   | Socio-cultural and political factors contributed to conflicts in your locality   | 95(47.5%) | 78(39%)   | 12(6%)  | 15(7.5%)  |
| 6   | Chieftaincy tussle contributed to conflict in Odugbo community   | 86(43%)   | 77(38.5%) | 16(8%)  | 21(10.5%) |
| 7   | Communal violence in Odugbo community reduced the rate of agricultural production and free trade in the community                                      | 98(49%)   | 72(36%)   | 12(6%)  | 18(9%)    |
| 8   | Youth unemployment contributed to communal violence in Odugbo community  | 70(35%)   | 48(24%)   | 40(20%) | 42(21%)   |
| 9   | Signing a peace accord by chieftaincy competitors can reduce violence and in turn improve socio economic development in Odugbo community               | 102(51%)  | 59(29.5%) | 20(10%) | 19(9.5%)  |
| 10  | Awareness creation and peace education can promote peace, stability and security in Odugbo community   | 88(44%)   | 76(38%)   | 10(5%)  | 26(13%)   |

**Source:** Field Survey, 2024

The table in item 1 revealed that 68 respondents, constituting 34% of the total, agreed that conflicts exist in their locality; 105 respondents, representing 52.5%, strongly agreed; 17 respondents, amounting to 8.5%, disagreed; and 10 respondents, or 5%, strongly disagreed. In item 2, the table reveals that 58 respondents, constituting 29% of the total, concurred that violent incidents in the locality stem from goal and interest incompatibility; 94 respondents, or 47%, strongly concurred; 28 respondents, representing 14%, disagreed; and 20 respondents, accounting for 10%, strongly disagreed with the assertion. In item 3, the table revealed that 75 respondents, including 37.5% of the total responses, agreed that land scarcity, territorial conflicts, and rivalry for land resources contribute to violence in your community. Ninety-six respondents, constituting 48%, strongly agreed; fifteen respondents, equating to 7.5%, disagreed; and fourteen respondents, representing 7%, severely disagreed. In item 4, the table revealed that 66 respondents, constituting

33% of the total, concurred that community violence significantly impacts Odugbo community development; 106 respondents, representing 53%, strongly concurred; 16 respondents, accounting for 8%, disagreed; and 12 respondents, comprising 6%, strongly disagreed. In item 5, the table revealed that 78 respondents, constituting 39% of the total responses, concurred that socio-cultural and political factors contribute to conflicts in the locality. Additionally, 95 respondents, representing 48%, strongly concurred, while 12 respondents (6%) disagreed, and 15 respondents (7.5%) strongly disagreed.

The table in item 6 indicated that 77 respondents, constituting 38.5% of the total, concurred that chieftaincy disputes contribute to conflict in the Odugbo community; 86 respondents, or 43%, strongly concurred; 16 respondents, representing 8%, disagreed; and 21 respondents, accounting for 6%, strongly disagreed. The table in item 7 revealed that 72 respondents, constituting 36% of the total, concurred that communal violence in the Odugbo community diminished agricultural production and free trade. Additionally, 98 respondents, representing 49%, strongly concurred, while 12 respondents, or 6%, disagreed, and 18 respondents, accounting for 9%, strongly disagreed. In item 8, the table indicates that 48 respondents, constituting 24% of the total responses, concurred that youth unemployment contributed to communal violence in the Odugbo community. Additionally, 70 respondents, representing 35%, strongly concurred, while 40 respondents, or 20%, disagreed, and 42 respondents, accounting for 21%, strongly disagreed. In item 9, the aforementioned table revealed that 59 respondents, constituting 29.5% of the total responses, concurred that herder-farmer conflicts result in loss of life and human insecurity. Additionally, 102 respondents, accounting for 51%, strongly concurred, while 20 respondents, representing 10%, disagreed, and 19 respondents, comprising 9.5%, strongly disagreed. The table in item 10 indicated that 76 respondents, constituting 38% of the total responses, concurred that awareness creation and peace education can foster peace, stability, and security in the Odugbo community. Additionally, 88 respondents, representing 44%, strongly concurred, while 10 respondents (5%) disagreed, and 26 respondents, accounting for 13%, strongly disagreed.

### **Test of Hypothesis**

**H<sub>0</sub>:** Community violence has no significant effects on Odugbo community socio economic development.

This hypothesis was tested with respect to item 4 in the above table 2 which states that community violence had significant negative effects on Odugbo community socio economic development. The statistical tool used was the Chi-Square of simple percentage. The formula for Chi-Square is given as:

$$X^2 = \frac{\sum (fo - fe)^2}{fe}$$

Where  $X^2$  = chi-square;  $\sum$  = summation;  $fo$  = observed frequency;  $fe$  = expected frequency

**Table 3.** Contingency Table

| Alternatives      | Frequency (No) | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Agree             | 66             | 33             |
| Strongly Agree    | 106            | 53             |
| Disagree          | 16             | 8              |
| Strongly Disagree | 12             | 6              |
| Total             | 200            | 100%           |

**Source:** Field Survey, 2024

$$\text{Expected frequency (E)} = \frac{200}{4} = 50$$

**Table 4.** Chi. Square Table

| Option (fo) | Exp. Freq. (fe) | fo-fe | (fo-fe) <sup>2</sup> | (fo-fe) <sup>2</sup> /fe |
|-------------|-----------------|-------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 66          | 50              | 16    | 256                  | 5.12                     |
| 106         | 50              | 56    | 3136                 | 62.72                    |
| 16          | 50              | -34   | 1156                 | 23.12                    |
| 12          | 50              | -38   | 1444                 | 28.88                    |
| Total       |                 |       |                      | 119.84                   |

Therefore, calculated frequency = 119.84

To compute the degree of freedom (DF) or critical value =  $DF = (R - 1) (C - 1)$

Where R = number of rows which is 4; C = number of columns which is 2

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore DF &= (4-1)(2-1) \\ &= (3) (1) \\ &= 3 \times 1 = 3 \end{aligned}$$

The researcher assumed 90% level of confidence and 10% level significance. At 90% level of confidence and 10% significance, the degree of freedom (DF) at 3 = 11.35

### Decision Rule

If the computed Chi-Square ( $X^2$ ) value exceeds the critical value at three degrees of freedom, the alternative hypothesis is accepted, while the null hypothesis is rejected, and vice versa. The null hypothesis is rejected because the computed frequency value ( $X^2$ ) of 119.84 exceeds the critical threshold of 11.35.

### Results and Discussion

The four hypotheses in the aforementioned survey research were evaluated using the Chi-Square statistical method and tables presenting simple percentages. To calculate the degree of freedom (DF) or critical value, use the formula  $DF = (R - 1) (C - 1)$ , where R represents the number of rows (4) and C is the number of columns (2). Consequently,  $DF = (4-1) (2-1)$ , which results in 3. The hypothesis was evaluated about item 4 in table 2 of the given interview question, which indicated that community violence adversely impacts the development of the Odugbo community. A 90% confidence level and a 10% significance level were assumed in this analysis.

At a 90% confidence level and 10% significance, the degrees of freedom (DF) at 3 is 11.35. The hypothesis was rejected since the computed frequency value ( $\chi^2$ ) of 119.84 exceeds the critical threshold of 11.35. This is based on the decision rule indicating that if the computed Chi-Square ( $\chi^2$ ) value above the critical value at three degrees of freedom, the null hypothesis is rejected. The interview indicated that communal violence adversely impacted the growth of the Odugbo community.

## Conclusion

Virtually all communities had at one time or the other experienced violence. Suffice to say that violence as an escalated conflict exists in all facets of life. Thus, violent conflict is said to arise from differing interests, desires, goals and aspirations of individuals in relation to their struggle for resources to meet their basic needs and defend their socio-physical environment. This research aimed to investigate the effects of communal violence on community development, specifically in the Odugbo community within the Apa Local Government Area. The research conducted a conceptual examination of violence, demonstrating that it permeates all aspects of human life and activity, including political, physiological, social, economic, racial, cultural, and religious domains. Communal violence is therefore a manifestation of aggression stemming from the ethnic backgrounds of people and organisations. It is predicated on factors such as ethnicity, race, religion, sect, and language. The research examined that communal violence has both direct and indirect effects on community development. As such, communal violence leads to disruption of economic activities, agricultural/farming activities, and destruction of communal harmony/unity. The paper concludes that community development is essential for an improved standard of living of individuals in a society and can only take place in such communities devoid of violence. The paper offered the following recommendations:

- i. For a sustained peace and development of a community, there is a need for equitability in the allocation of resources to the people of Odugbo community. This will help to prevent or limit the scale of communal violence arising from the struggle for resource control in the community. The struggle over resource control is one of the major causative factors of communal violence. Resources could be in the form of land, fiscal allocation, and economic avenues.
- ii. The State government and Apa Local Government should come up with youth empowerment and skills acquisition programs to engage the youths meaningfully. Thus, when the youths of community are gainfully employed, it becomes difficult for them to be lured into communal violence.
- iii. Stakeholders in Odugbo community and chieftaincy competitors should be engaged by the State government to sign a peace accord. This will reduce violence and in turn improve development of the community.
- iv. The government and community stakeholders should engage in constant awareness creation and peace education in the community through the use of Radio programs, workshops, and rallies. This will ingrain in the people, a peace oriented mindset and in turn promote peace, stability and security in the community. Awareness creation is a major strategy which can be adopted to prevent the occurrence of violence in any community.

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