

Public Perception on the Conflicting Roles of the Nigerian Police and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps in Awka Metropolis

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ABSTRACT

Unless something is done to control it, a better, safer and more prosperous society emerging in Nigeria will remain elusive. This is because the conflict between the Nigerian Police and Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps have created a security gap which criminal culprits are taking advantage of in perfecting their crimes. Previous studies on the Nigerian Police and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps have not focus their attention on assessing the degree of conflict between them. This study therefore assesses the Public Perception on the Conflicting Roles of the Nigerian Police and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps in Awka Metropolis. The sample was drawn from 604 adult participants that reside in Awka Metropolis and systematic random sampling method was adopted. Data were generated through questionnaire administration on demographic characteristics of participants. The group conflict theory of George Vold (1958) formed the theoretical framework. The study therefore recommends that effort should be made to provide adequate awareness or orientation on the differences and similarities in the security roles played by the NSCDC and the police to curb the occurrence of clashes between them. Also the ministry of interior should ensure that there is a synergy between the NSCDC and the police while performing their official duties to avoid unnecessary conflict between them.

Keywords: Conflicting Roles, NSCDC, Public-Perception, Systematic failure, The Nigeria Police

INTRODUCTION

The inter-agency conflict and rancor between the Nigerian Police and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps has affected the security of properties, and led to loss of lives and the disruption of commercial activities in Awka Metropolis.

That is because instead of public security, operatives whose primary duties or responsibilities are to protect lives and property of the citizenry and also help in securing the territorial borders to develop professional synergy as expected of them (Alemika, 2003; Omoigui, 2006), they are rather at each other's throat thereby exposing the nation and her citizens to perpetual threats, nightmare and insecurity. These issues in Nigeria have become more worrisome as the security operatives with the duties of maintaining peace and order thereby suppressing crimes, have themselves

become engulfed in violent conflict, giving criminals the opportunity to unleash terror with impunity on the citizenry. Although other unethical practices are held accountable for the clashes, the struggle for superiority arising from their historical past has become prominent of recent. The implication of this professional misnomer is highly grievous, hence Omoigui (2006) stated that repeated violent clashes among the NSCDC and police professionals has consistently alienated them from the public, and have further caused loss of confidence and respect from the citizenry resulting to lack of co-operation which the NSCDC and the police force have been exhibiting. This explains why the nation has not been able to effectively manage insurgency and other security challenges in the country (Omoigui, 2006). According to Emeh (2013), it is the responsibility of the NSCDC to fight crime, conduct criminal investigation, prosecute

criminal offenders, control crowd in public events, control traffic, protect public facilities (including government buildings, oil pipelines and electric cables), quelling civil disturbances (including riots and communal violence) and maintaining internal security in general, peace-making and others. However, these functions are in conflict with the roles of the Nigerian Police thus leading to clashes between these outfits (Police and the NSCDC) when they go about their constitutional duties.

Relatedly, systematic failure is also considered as another potent cause of conflict especially within and between the NSCDC and the Nigerian police. According to Omoigui (2006), “this has gone hand in hand with the perception of NSCDC that the police no longer know its place and that the police which they used to work together with, now feel superior”. This has no doubt deepened inter-service animosity in the Nigerian security sector. A forum of the Military, Police and Paramilitary Public Relation Forum [MILPOPPROF] submitted that, the incessant violent clashes between the various security agencies and NSCDC/police in particular in Awka metropolis are largely due to dearth in information available to the personnel of these forces about their sister forces. This has led to widespread ignorance especially among the junior officers in such matters as the complementary roles, areas of mutual co-operation and exclusivity as well as their perception of the ranks and organizational structure of other forces. This condition had more often than not, led to many unnecessary and avoidable violent clashes in recent times (MILPOPPROF, 2007). The ignorance about other forces is however attributed to the lack of professional forum for regular interaction especially among the lower echelon and more importantly, the low educational qualification required for entry into the various security forces.

Statement of the Problem

There have been reported cases of violent clashes between the NSCDC and police in some parts of Awka metropolis. Precisely, Oladeji (2014) noted that there was a serious violent clash between the NSCDC and the police around Kwata junction in Awka that led to the loss of the life of one civil defence officer, and several policemen were wounded. Oladeji (2014) argues further that conflicts or clashes have resulted to wanton destruction,

pandemonium, anxiety and panic among the inhabitants of the area. Another notable incident of violent clashes between the NSCDC and police in Awka metropolis occurred at Eke Awka round-about where three civil defence officers and two mobile policemen were killed. Also, ten civilians were seriously wounded amidst tension, threats to security, and fear among the inhabitants according to results of some investigations (Ayobami, 2016). Again, a similar situation between the NSCDC and the police force took place at Unizik junction when a traffic police officer was said to have abused the NSCDC on patrol, and this led to assault and humiliation of the traffic police officer on duty. Although, as revealed, no life was lost, but such clashes always lead to serious tension, withdrawal of police from checkpoints, lawlessness among security agencies and threat to security of lives and property (Nwaogu, 2014).

It is worthy to also note that the prolonged cases of kidnapping which seem to have defied all security prescription may not be unconnected with the lack of synergy between security operatives such as police and Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC).

In other words, the security operatives because of lack of synergy have not been able to form a formidable resistance to the eradication of kidnapping and other social vices within the metropolis (Nwaolise, 2005).

In the same vein, frequent frictions between security agencies due to their conflicting roles have made the inhabitants of the metropolis to hardly enjoy the confidence of the security mercenary in the area. Sadly, many have expressed that the security operatives, rather than exploring avenues of collaboration in security provision, capacity building and sharing intelligence reports, have over the years been engulfed in unhealthy rivalries. Such rivalries according to many have been frequently noticed between the Nigerian police force and the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) over security duties especially in Awka metropolis (Elaigwu, 2015).

Since the creation of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), not many studies have been conducted to examine public perception on the conflicting roles of these security organizations in Nigeria. This gap in literature is therefore the essence of this study

LITERATURE REVIEW

Odoma and Aderinto (2014) carried out a study on peoples' opinion on the causes of frequent clashes between the police and prison warders in Abeokuta, Ogun state. Four research questions and two hypotheses guided the study. The study employed the descriptive survey research design. A sample of 340 respondents comprising youths and adults drawn from residents of Abeokuta was used for the study. The result revealed that the respondents viewed the frequent clashes between the police and prison warders to be due to the conflict in the roles perform by both of them. The result also showed that lack of cooperation between the police and prison warders result to conflict between them. Furthermore, the finding also indicated that fighting for superiority and jurisdictional control are the major causes of fracas between police and prison warders with 73% and 81% rating for male and female respectively.

In another study carried out by Bolatunde (2012) that investigated the factors responsible for the violent clashes between the personnel of the Nigeria army and the police in Lagos state, three research questions and one hypothesis guided the study. Descriptive survey research design was adopted for the study. One thousand, six hundred and eighty (1,680) respondents made up of civilians and personnel from the army and the police were purposively sampled for the study. The findings showed that ignorance, corruption and struggle for superiority in security functions were considered as major factors responsible for the violent clashes between the personnel of the Nigeria army and the police in Lagos state with a mean rating of 3.87 and a corresponding standard deviation of 0.74. The result also showed that lack of cooperation or collaboration between the personnel of the Nigeria army and the police promote incessant clashes personnel of the Nigeria army and the police. Furthermore, the findings also revealed that there was no significant difference between the views of the male and female participants on the factors responsible for violent clashes between army and the police with a t-value of 0.08 and a corresponding exact probability of 0.09 at 0.05 level of significance.

A study was also carried out by Ogeneseweh and Ogbede (2010) on the perceptions of the public on the frequent clashes between the

Nigerian Army and the Navy in jurisdictional control of pipe lines and water ways in the Niger Delta region. Two research questions and one hypothesis guided the study. The opinion survey research design was employed. Ogeneseweh and Ogbede focused on four Niger Delta states: Delta, Rivers, Bayelsa and Akwa-Ibom. A sample of 1,600 respondents comprising 800 males and 800 females was sampled for the study. A questionnaire designed by the researchers was used as the instrument for data collection. Data collected were analyzed using mean and standard deviation to answer the research questions and t-test in testing the hypothesis. The findings indicated that males with a mean rating of 2.77 and a corresponding standard deviation of 0.56 and females with a mean rating of 2.68 and a corresponding standard deviation of 0.53 in the region attributed the frequent clashes between the Nigerian Army and the Navy on jurisdictional control of pipe lines and water ways in the Niger Delta region to lack of understanding and cooperation, poor orientation of the security forces and struggle for superiority. The findings also showed that clashes between the Nigerian Army and the Navy threaten the security of lives and property, and the peace of the area. More so, the findings also revealed that the perceptions of both males and females on the frequent clashes between the Nigerian Army and the Navy in the region did not differ significantly with a t-value of 1.97 and a corresponding exact probability of 0.12 at 0.05 level of significance. In another study by Olatunji and Adeyemi (2013) on the perceived causes of incessant clashes between the police and the NSCDC in Lagos, two research questions were raised. The researchers employed the descriptive survey design to carry out the study. A sample of 750 respondents sampled from the area was used for the study. Data were collected using a questionnaire designed by the researcher. Data collected were analyzed using simple percentage. The findings showed that unclear distinction of duties and functions, lack of orientation, poor educational backgrounds, lack of joint training and lack of cooperation were perceived to be responsible for the incessant clashes between the police and the NSCDC in Lagos, since these items had a percentage response of 76%, 89%, 68%, 83% and 75% respectively.

The findings as well showed that incessant clashes between the police and the NSCDC are

perceived to have negative implications to the security of lives and property in the area with 86% response. There was no significant difference ($P < 0.05$) in the perceptions of males and females on negative implications to the security of lives and property.

Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework for this study is group conflict theory of George Vold (1958) which presents human beings as fundamentally group-involved beings. According to the theory, when new groups are formed, new interests arise; while existing ones may get weakened and fizzled out if they no longer serve their usual purposes. More so, groups when formed become effective action unit through the direction and co-ordination of the activities of members by their leaders. However, inter group conflict according to the theory begins when their interests and purposes tend to overlap and or encroach on one another which could be responsible for the clashes between the NSCDC and the police. This competitive conflict engenders members' emotional attachment and loyalty to their various groups. Odoma and Aderinto (2014) used the group conflict theory to study the power consciousness of security operatives: the bane of inter-agency feud in Nigeria. The theory helps to explain clashes between the personnel of the Nigerian Army and the police in the study. Thus, the strength of this theory is its elaborate explanation of conflicts among groups, which provide insights to this present study. The theory enables people to understand that there is a high possibility of clashes among groups whose roles are similar or overlap. Nonetheless, the theory failed to state in precise terms the remote causes of such clashes among security agencies.

METHODOLOGY

Design and Area of the Study

Cross-sectional survey design was adopted for this study. The study was carried out in Awka metropolis, which is also the capital of Anambra state. Awka metropolis is the headquarters of Anambra state and it is in the centre of the densely populated Igbo heartland in South Eastern Nigeria. The area is made up of three (3) towns namely; Awka, Amawbia and Okpuno. The towns have grown to merge with each other, forming a conurbation. The area is chosen for this study because it is one of the major urban centers of Anambra state.

Population of the Study

The population of this study consists of all adult residents in Awka metropolis of Anambra state. Awka metropolis has a total population of sixty eight thousand, one hundred and ninety six (68,196) adult residents comprising 30,689 males and 37,507 females (Source; National Population Commission, Anambra State office, January, 2016).

Sample Size

A sample size of six hundred and nineteen (619) respondents (adult residents) was drawn from the population using Yaro Yamane's formula: $n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$. This formula is applicable when the population is known (finite).

n = sample size

N = population size

E = acceptable sampling error

$$n = \frac{68,196}{1 + 68,196(0.04)^2}$$

$$n = \frac{68,196}{110.1136}$$

$$n = 619$$

Sampling Technique

Systematic sampling procedure was employed for this study. According to Nworgu (2015), systematic sampling has both probability and non-probability characteristics. It is easier and quicker to apply. Hence, this sampling procedure became appropriate for this study due to the largeness of the population. According to Anambra State Ministry of Urban and Regional Planning (2016), Awka metropolis is estimated to be made up of about 172 streets, which 32 street has larger number of households while 140 streets has small number of households and a minimum of 12 households in each. Based on the above information, the study adopted systematic random sampling technique (balloting) in selecting 75 streets from which the respondents to the study is drawn. The 75 streets were selected through balloting (i.e. after writing the names of the streets on a piece of paper), and 66 streets with small number of households were selected from which 4 household were drawn from each. Then, the remaining 9 streets were selected from those with larger number of households from which 5 households were drawn from each. In total, 309

Public Perception on the Conflicting Roles of the Nigerian Police and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps in Awka Metropolis

households were chosen (45 households from the 9 larger streets and 264 from other streets). In each of the streets selected (after selecting the first household) every third household were included in the sample until the number of households needed in the streets was completed. In each of the household selected in the sample, the modified random sampling was adopted to select one male and female for the administration of the questionnaires. In total, 619 respondents were selected from the 309 households in the 75 streets in Awka metropolis.

Instruments for Data Collection

A questionnaire and interview schedule was used as the instrument for data collection in this study. The questionnaire was named; Public Perception Questionnaire on the Roles of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps and the Police (PPQRNSCDCP). The questionnaire was comprised of two sections, section "A" and "B". Section A elicited information about respondents' personal data such as gender. Section B contained a total of 29 questions/items arranged in six (6) clusters; B1, B2, B3, B4, B5 and B6. Cluster B1 elicited responses on the extent of the conflict in the roles of the NSCDC and the police. Cluster B2 elicited responses on the extent to which NSCDC and the police engage in violent clashes due to lack of synergy while performing their official roles. Cluster B3 elicited responses on the extent to which NSCDC and the police engage in rivalry due to lack of orientation/awareness of the differences in their

security roles. Cluster B4 elicited responses on the extent to which frequent clashes between NSCDC and the police affect the security of lives and property. Then cluster B5 elicited responses on the extent to which frequent clashes between NSCDC and the police threaten the peace and order of law abiding citizens, while cluster B6 elicited responses on the causes of the clashes between the NSCDC and the police in the discharge of their duties

Methods of Data Analysis

Data collected were analyzed using frequency and percentage, Mean and Standard deviations and t-test statistic. Specifically, frequency and percentage was used to analyze data on respondents' gender. Mean and Standard deviations were used to answer the research questions that guided the study. The mean was interpreted using real limit of numbers as follows; 3.50-4.50 which implied Very High Extent, 2.50-3.49 which implied High Extent, 1.50-2.49 which implied Low Extent, and 0.50-1.49 which implied Very Low Extent. The t-test statistic was used to test all the hypotheses at 0.05 level of significance. Responses based on the interview guide were analyzed qualitatively.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The questionnaire was distributed to 619 respondents out of which 604 were correctly filled and returned. The number that returned their questionnaire formed the basis for this analysis.

Perceived Extent of the Conflict in the Roles of the NSCDC and the Police by the Respondents.

Table 2. Mean and Standard deviation on perceived extent of the conflict in the roles of the NSCDC and the police by the respondents

S/N	Item Statement	(N=604)	\bar{x}	SD	Dec.
1.	Both NSCDC and the police are charged with responsibility of preventing crimes.		3.23	0.89	HE
2.	Both NSCDC and the police are responsible for the protection of lives and property.		2.89	0.67	HE
3.	Both NSCDC and the police are responsible for enforcement of the law.		3.42	0.72	HE
4.	Both NSCDC and the police are charged with the duty of maintaining peace and public order.		2.98	0.80	HE
5.	Both NSCDC and the police have the power to arrest and detain suspects.		3.19	0.98	HE
	Grand Mean		3.14	0.39	HE

(Source: Survey, 2017). Key: N = Number of respondents, \bar{X} = mean, SD = Standard Deviation, Dec = Decision, HE = High Extent. Interpretation base on real limit of numbers, where a mean of 3.50-4.50 implies Very High Extent (VHE), 2.50-3.49 implies High Extent (HE), 1.50-2.49 implies Low Extent (LE), and 0.50-1.49 implies Very Low Extent (VLE) (Adopted from Nworgu, 2015)

Result in Table 2 shows the means and standard deviations of the respondents' responses on perceived extent of the conflict in the roles of the NSCDC and the police. The distribution of

respondents' responses shows that the mean response obtained for items 2 to 6 were 3.23, 2.89, 3.42, 2.98 and 3.19 respectively, with corresponding standard deviations of 0.89, 0.67,

Public Perception on the Conflicting Roles of the Nigerian Police and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps in Awka Metropolis

0.72, 0.80 and 0.98. The means for all the items were between 2.50 and 3.49 range which indicate high extent. This implied that both NSCDC and the police are perceived to be charged with the responsibility of preventing crimes, responsible for the protection of lives and property, responsible for enforcement of the law, charged with the duty of maintaining peace and public order, and the power to arrest and detain suspects to a high extent. Moreover, a grand mean of 3.14 with a standard deviation of 0.39 was also obtained. Since the grand mean was also between 2.50 and 3.49, this implies that the respondents perceived that the conflict in the roles of the NSCDC and the police is to a high extent. Corroborating this finding was the qualitative data obtained from an IDI with one of the respondents who opined that:

I think there is no clear difference in the duties assigned to the NSCDC and the police by the Government in terms of security of lives and property that is why they don't know the boundaries of their operations, resulting to

clashes among them when carrying out their official duties. Besides, both of them are assigned with the responsibilities of arresting and detaining suspects or offenders, maintaining peace and order, and protection of public property, so why won't they have clashes among themselves for having similar roles to play? Asked by the respondent, so he thinks their roles are conflicting too much (a male resident of Emma-Nnemeke Street, Awka Metropolis).

Another respondent who was interviewed posited that; in fact, I don't know why the government instituted NSCDC when the police force has been carrying out the same security functions they are employed for. This is more reason why most of the time, they fight each other even before those they are employed to secure and protect, causing unnecessary tension in the town. I believe their duties are the same and they should be merged together to avoid clashes among them (a female resident of Ezeuzu Street, Awka Metropolis).

Perceived extent to which the NSCDC and the police engage in violent clashes due to lack of synergy while performing their official roles.

Table 3. Mean and Standard deviation on perceived extent to which the NSCDC and the police engage in violent clashes due to lack of synergy while performing their official roles

S/N	Item Statement (N=604)	\bar{x}	SD	Dec.
7.	How do you feel in terms of violent clashes between the NSCDC and the police in security roles	2.57	0.80	HE
8.	How often does NSCDC and the police engage in violent clashes due to lack of exchange of intelligence reports on security issues?	2.84	0.59	HE
9.	How often do you think the NSCDC and the police fail to agree on how best to tackle security challenges?	3.31	0.65	HE
10.	How often does NSCDC clash with the police due to struggle for superiority in security roles?	3.24	0.66	HE
11.	In the past few years (let's say three), what would you say about the lack of cooperation between NSCDC and the police?	2.75	0.48	HE
	Grand Mean	2.94	0.31	HE

(Source: Survey, 2017).

Result in Table 3 shows the means and standard deviations on the respondents' responses on perceived extent to which the NSCDC and the police engage in violent clashes due to lack of synergy while performing their official roles. The distribution of respondents' responses indicates that the mean response obtained for items 7 to 11 were 2.57, 2.84, 3.31, 3.24 and 2.75 respectively, with corresponding standard deviations of 0.80, 0.59, 0.65, 0.66 and 0.48. The means for all the items were between 2.50 and 3.49 range which shows high extent. In addition, a grand mean of 2.94 with a standard deviation of 0.31 was also obtained. Since the

grand mean was also between 2.50 and 3.49 range, this implies that the respondents perceived that the NSCDC and the police engage in violent clashes due to lack of synergy while performing their official roles to a high extent. Supporting the result, a respondent who was interviewed mentioned that:

To me, I don't think there is any kind of collaboration between the police and NSCDC even when they are both in charge of security issues, instead of seeing themselves as partners in fighting crimes and providing security to the public, rather they antagonize each other,

Public Perception on the Conflicting Roles of the Nigerian Police and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps in Awka Metropolis

creating enmity between them. Like the situation I witness when one NSCDC officer was trying to settle a misunderstanding between an Okada rider and his passenger along Zik's avenue, the passenger who was related to a police officer called him to the scene, and when he came with his colleague and met the NSCDC officer, instead of cooperating with her to jointly settle the issue, they started insulting each other. Their lack of cooperation is disappointing I tell you (a female resident of Ezechudo Street, Awka

Metropolis).

In a related opinion, another participant that was interviewed noted that:

The nature of work the NSCDC and police do, they are suppose to be highly cooperative in order to successfully fight crime in the town. But surprisingly, they don't seem to cooperate at all, resulting to most of their clashes in several parts of the towns in Awka ((a male resident of Esther-Obiakor Street, Awka Metropolis).

Perceived extent to which NSCDC and the police engage in rivalry due to lack of orientation /awareness of the differences in their security roles.

Table 4. Mean and Standard deviation on perceived extent to which NSCDC and the police engage in rivalry due to lack of orientation/awareness of the differences in their security roles

S/N	Item Statement	(N=604)	\bar{x}	SD	Dec.
12.	The NSCDC and the police may not have been adequately orientated on their security roles		3.16	0.84	HE
13.	The NSCDC and the police may not have been aware of the differences in their security roles		2.59	0.66	HE
14.	Conflicts between the NSCDC and the police are due to similarities in roles performed by them		3.24	0.56	HE
15.	The rivalry between the NSCDC and the police are most times avoidable if they understand their roles.		3.06	0.70	HE
	Grand Mean		3.01	0.37	HE

(Source: Survey, 2017).

Result in Table 4 presents the means and standard deviations on the respondents' responses on perceived extent to which NSCDC and the police engage in rivalry due to lack of orientation/awareness of the differences in their security roles.

The distribution of respondents' responses showed that the mean response obtained for items 12 to 15 were 3.16, 2.59, 3.24 and 3.06 respectively, with corresponding standard deviations of 0.84, 0.66, 0.56 and 0.70.

The means for all the items were between 2.50 and 3.49 range which indicates high extent. Also, a grand mean of 3.01 with a standard deviation of 0.37 was also obtained. Since the grand mean was also between 2.50 and 3.49 range, this means that the respondents perceived that the NSCDC and the police engage in rivalry due to lack of orientation/awareness of the differences in their security roles to a high extent.

In consonance with the above result, the qualitative data gathered from one of the respondents that was interviewed associated the rivalry between the NSCDC and the police to lack of orientation/awareness of the differences

in their security roles. The interviewee opined that:

I think the police and NSCDC are not well informed of the differences in their security functions; this has often resulted to several clashes between them especially in Awka here. If they know the specific duties they are suppose to carry out, why then should they be fighting here and there for nothing? In fact, they see themselves as enemies rather than partners on duty. They really need to be adequately aware or sensitized on specific security roles they are expected to play in order to avoid this unnecessary tension they do cause in the town (a male resident of Author Eze Avenue, Awka Metropolis).

Tests of the Hypothesis

H₁: There would likely be a statistically significant difference between the perceptions of male and female respondents on the conflicting roles of the NSCDC and the police in Awka metropolis.

H₀: There would likely be no statistically significant difference between the perceptions of male and female respondents on the conflicting

Public Perception on the Conflicting Roles of the Nigerian Police and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps in Awka Metropolis

roles of the NSCDC and the police in Awka metropolis.

Table 8. Independent t-test analysis of the significant difference between the perceptions of male and female respondents on the conflicting roles of the NSCDC and the police in Awka metropolis

S/N	Item Statement	Gender	N	\bar{x}	SD	t-val	Df	P	Dec
2.	Both NSCDC and the police are charged with responsibility of preventing crimes.	Male	298	3.01	0.91	-0.83	602	0.41	NS
		Female	306	2.99	0.87				
3.	Both NSCDC and the police are responsible for the protection of lives and property.	Male	298	3.18	0.69	-1.55	602	0.12	NS
		Female	306	3.06	0.65				
4.	Both NSCDC and the police are responsible for enforcement of the law.	Male	298	3.09	0.75	-0.21	602	0.84	NS
		Female	306	3.16	0.69				
5.	Both NSCDC and the police are charged with the duty of maintaining peace and public order.	Male	298	3.11	0.78	-0.52	602	0.61	NS
		Female	306	2.73	0.82				
6.	Both NSCDC and the police have the power to arrest and detain suspects.	Male	298	2.92	1.00	0.40	602	0.69	NS
		Female	306	3.18	0.96				
	Cluster t	Male	298	3.02	0.41	-0.58	602	0.56	NS
		Female	306	3.01	0.37				

Key: N = Number of respondents, \bar{X} = mean, SD = Standard Deviation, t-val = t-test value calculated, Df = degree of freedom, P = Associated probabilities, Dec = Decision, NS = Not Significant (level of Significance (α) = 0.05)

CONCLUSION

The conflict in the roles of the NSCDC and the police as revealed by this study is very high as perceived by both male and female respondents. This can result to violent clashes due to lack of synergy while performing their official roles, thereby engaging in rivalry due to struggle for superiority, struggle for jurisdictional control, corruption, protection of group interest and lack of orientation/ignorance among the NSCDC and the police, which affects the security of lives and property and also threaten the peace and order of law abiding citizens.

This among other issues suggests that studies of this nature should be expanded in scope to cover perhaps the conflicting roles of other security agencies in Nigeria.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations are made. They include:

- Effort should be made to provide adequate awareness or orientation on the differences and similarities in the security roles played by the NSCDC and the police to curb the occurrence of clashes between them.
- The ministry of interior should ensure that there is a synergy between the NSCDC and the police while performing their official duties to avoid unnecessary conflict between them.
- The NSCDC and the police should be made to understand the consequences of their

conflicts on the security of lives and property, as well as how it threatens the peace and order of law abiding citizens.

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Public Perception on the Conflicting Roles of the Nigerian Police and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps in Awka Metropolis

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