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Research Article

Crime Prevention Strategies and Attitude Towards Corruption of Police Officers: A Prediction Model on Public Confidence in the PNP

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Abstract. This study examined the influence of crime prevention strategies and police officers' attitudes toward corruption on public confidence in the Philippine National Police (PNP). Despite increasing attention to police legitimacy and public trust, limited studies have simultaneously examined these variables to develop a prediction model within the Philippine context. The study aimed to determine the levels of crime prevention strategies, attitudes toward corruption, and public confidence in policing; examine their significant relationships; and formulate a regression model predicting public confidence in the PNP. A quantitative, explanatory, cross-sectional research design was employed using a stratified random sample of 450 community residents of Parang, Maguindanao del Norte. Data were collected through a validated researcher-made questionnaire and analyzed using descriptive statistics, Pearson correlation, multiple regression, path analysis, and Structural Equation Modeling (SEM). Results revealed that crime prevention strategies (M = 4.26), attitudes toward corruption (M = 4.23), and public confidence in policing (M = 4.23) were all rated Very High. Significant positive relationships were found between crime prevention strategies and public confidence in policing, as well as between attitudes toward corruption and public confidence ($p < .001$). Regression analysis showed that public relation, performance review, community assessment, and sustainability of policing significantly predicted public confidence among crime prevention strategies, while elimination strategies emerged as the strongest predictor among the anti-corruption dimensions. The findings indicate that relational, accountability-based, and integrity-driven policing practices are more influential in strengthening public confidence than crime-specific interventions alone. The study concludes that enhancing transparency, ethical leadership, police-community engagement, and sustainable policing initiatives is essential for improving public confidence and institutional legitimacy in the PNP.

Keywords: *Accountability; Crime prevention strategies; Philippine National Police; Public confidence; Corruption attitudes.*

Public confidence in law enforcement is widely recognized as a fundamental indicator of an effective criminal justice system. Citizens are more likely to cooperate with police authorities, report criminal incidents, and comply with the law when they perceive police officers as competent, ethical, transparent, and accountable (Abdi & Hashi, 2024). Police legitimacy is built not only through successful crime control but also through procedural fairness, integrity, and respectful treatment of the public. In democratic societies, maintaining public

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confidence in the police is essential because it strengthens institutional legitimacy, promotes community participation, and enhances the effectiveness of crime prevention initiatives (Tyler, 2025).

Despite these insights, a persistent problem remains: public confidence in the Philippine National Police (PNP) continues to be undermined by allegations of corruption, abuse of authority, and declining trust, even as reforms and crime prevention programs are implemented (Galangco & Chinayo, 2022). While international studies consistently show that crime prevention strategies and ethical policing practices improve legitimacy and trust (Kochel & Skogan, 2021; Headley et al., 2021), applying these findings to Philippine communities is not straightforward. The Philippines faces unique challenges—such as recurring corruption scandals, localized armed conflict, and socio-political instability—that may limit the direct transferability of international evidence. This gap underscores the need for empirical research that specifically examines how crime prevention strategies and police officers' attitudes toward corruption interact to shape public confidence in the PNP.

Crime prevention strategies have become an essential component of modern policing because they focus not only on responding to crime but also on preventing criminal activity before it occurs (Petersen et al., 2023). Likewise, visible police presence, responsive policing, and strong police-community partnerships encourage greater public participation in maintaining peace and order (Alehegn et al., 2025). However, operational competence alone cannot sustain public confidence without ethical conduct and institutional integrity. Police corruption—manifested through bribery, favoritism, and abuse of authority—remains one of the most significant barriers to legitimacy, as it undermines fairness, accountability, and transparency (Nzai & Makokha, 2024).

Within the Philippine context, studies have reported that police visibility, responsiveness, professionalism, and community engagement positively influence public confidence in the PNP (Sumala et al., 2024). Integrity-building initiatives and ethical leadership have also been found to reduce perceptions of misconduct and improve organizational credibility (Reddick et al., 2025). However, despite these reforms, corruption and misconduct continue to erode trust. This indicates that strengthening crime prevention strategies alone may not be sufficient unless paired with sustained efforts to promote integrity and accountability.

Although previous studies have investigated crime prevention strategies, police legitimacy, procedural justice, corruption, and public trust, most have examined these variables independently rather than collectively (Peacock, 2021). Few have developed a regression-based prediction model that simultaneously considers crime prevention strategies and police officers' attitudes toward corruption as predictors of public confidence in the PNP. This lack of integrated evidence leaves unanswered the critical question: which dimensions of crime prevention and anti-corruption attitudes most strongly predict citizens' confidence in policing within Philippine communities?

Addressing this research gap is essential because understanding the combined influence of these variables provides a more comprehensive explanation of public confidence in policing. Developing a prediction model may help police administrators identify organizational priorities that improve legitimacy, strengthen accountability mechanisms, and promote evidence-based practices. Policymakers may also utilize the findings to design reforms that simultaneously enhance crime prevention effectiveness and institutional integrity.

Anchored on these considerations, the present study aims to develop a prediction model explaining public confidence in the Philippine National Police based on crime prevention strategies and police officers' attitudes toward corruption. Specifically, it seeks to determine the levels of crime prevention strategies, attitudes toward corruption, and public confidence in the PNP; examine the significant relationships among these variables; identify their predictive influence through regression analysis; and formulate the regression model that best predicts public confidence in policing.

Methodology

Research Design

This study employed a quantitative, non-experimental, cross-sectional, explanatory-correlational research design with predictive analysis to examine the relationships among crime prevention strategies, attitudes toward corruption, and public confidence in the Philippine National Police (PNP). The quantitative approach enabled the researchers to measure the study variables objectively through numerical data and statistical procedures. The correlational component was used to determine the significant relationships among the variables, while multiple

regression analysis was employed to identify the dimensions that significantly predicted public confidence in policing. The study utilized a cross-sectional approach, wherein data were collected from the respondents at a single point in time. This design provided a snapshot of community residents' perceptions regarding the implementation of crime prevention strategies, attitudes toward corruption, and public confidence in the PNP. Because the study employed a non-experimental design, the findings were interpreted in terms of relationships and predictive associations rather than causal effects.

Research Participants

The study respondents consisted of 450 community residents of Parang, Maguindanao del Norte, representing different sectors of the community, including the business sector, educational institutions, community organizations, and local government units. According to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) 2020 Census of Population and Housing, Parang had a total population of 102,914 as of May 1, 2020. The minimum sample size was determined using Cochran's sample size formula at a 95% confidence level and a 5% margin of error, with a population proportion of 0.50. Using the finite population correction with a population of 102,914, the minimum required sample was approximately 383 respondents. To better represent the target population and account for possible nonresponse or incomplete questionnaires, the researchers obtained a total of 450 respondents, exceeding the minimum required sample size.

A stratified random sampling technique was employed to ensure proportional representation of respondents from the identified barangays, age groups, genders, and community sectors. The respondents were selected from the identified community strata based on their proportion in the target population, thereby ensuring that the final sample adequately represented the different segments of the community. The inclusion criteria required participants to be residents of Parang, Maguindanao del Norte, aged 18 to 65, belonging to one of the identified community sectors, with sufficient literacy to complete the questionnaire, and voluntarily agreeing to participate in the study. Individuals below 18 years old, above 65 years old, unable to complete the questionnaire because of language or cognitive limitations, or unwilling to provide informed consent were excluded from the study. Participants were informed that participation was voluntary and that they could withdraw at any stage without penalty. All participants provided informed consent before completing the questionnaire, and their responses were treated confidentially throughout the study.

Research Instrument

The study used a structured questionnaire as the primary data-collection instrument. The questionnaire consisted of three sections corresponding to the study's major constructs. The first section measured crime prevention strategies through eight indicators, namely cybercrime, counterfeiting and fraud, gender violence, street crimes, community assessment, sustainability of policing, public relations, and performance review, comprising a total of 36 items. The researcher developed this section based on literature on crime prevention, community-oriented policing, and police performance, particularly the work of Braga et al. (2019). The second section measured attitudes toward corruption through four indicators, namely bribery, public life, international outlook, and elimination strategies, comprising a total of 20 items. This section was adapted and modified from Tankebe (2010) and Jang et al. (2015) to suit the context of the present study and the perceptions of community respondents. The third section measured public confidence in policing through three indicators, namely trust, procedural fairness, and presence, comprising a total of 14 items. This section was adapted from the instrument developed by Morrell et al. (2020), with minor modifications appropriate to the Philippine setting. All items across the three sections were measured using a five-point Likert scale ranging from 5 (Strongly Agree) to 1 (Strongly Disagree).

To establish the questionnaire's content validity, the instrument was submitted to experts in criminology, public administration, and policing. The experts evaluated the relevance, clarity, appropriateness, and suitability of the items in relation to the intended constructs. The researcher considered and incorporated their recommendations into the questionnaire before administering it to the target respondents. This process was undertaken to ensure that the researcher-developed and adapted items adequately represented the concepts being measured. Following expert validation, the questionnaire was pilot-tested among respondents with characteristics similar to those of the target participants. The pilot test was conducted to assess the clarity, comprehensibility, appropriateness, and consistency of the questionnaire items before the actual data collection. Items identified as requiring clarification or refinement were reviewed and revised accordingly.

The questionnaire's internal consistency was assessed using Cronbach's alpha. The reliability analysis yielded an overall Cronbach's alpha of 0.85, indicating good internal consistency. This result showed that the items in the questionnaire demonstrated an acceptable degree of consistency in measuring the constructs investigated in the study. Expert content validation, pilot testing, and reliability assessment provided evidence supporting the questionnaire's validity and reliability for use in the full-scale study. The questionnaire was therefore considered sufficiently valid and reliable for measuring community respondents' perceptions of crime prevention strategies, attitudes toward corruption, and public confidence in policing in the context of the Philippine National Police.

Data Gathering Procedure

Before data collection, the researcher secured the necessary approval from the appropriate university authorities and obtained permission from local government officials and community leaders in Parang, Maguindanao del Norte. After approval, the questionnaire underwent content validation and pilot testing to assess its clarity, reliability, and suitability for the study. The researchers incorporated necessary revisions based on the recommendations of the validators and pilot respondents. The data collection was conducted over an approximate period from March to April 2026. The researchers identified qualified respondents through stratified random sampling to ensure proportional representation of community residents from the identified barangays, age groups, genders, and community sectors. The respondents consisted of 450 community residents of Parang, Maguindanao del Norte, representing different community sectors, including the business sector, educational institutions, community organizations, and local government units.

Before administering the questionnaires, the researcher personally approached the identified respondents in their respective communities. The researcher explained the study's objectives and purpose, the nature of participation, the voluntary nature of involvement, and the measures taken to protect the confidentiality of their responses. Each qualified respondent was given an opportunity to ask questions regarding the study before providing informed consent. Participants were also informed that they could withdraw from the study at any time without penalty. The researcher personally administered and distributed the questionnaires to the qualified respondents. Clear instructions were provided regarding the completion of the questionnaire, and the researcher remained available to clarify procedural questions without influencing the respondents' answers. The completed questionnaires were personally retrieved by the researcher upon completion. This procedure facilitated proper distribution and retrieval of the research instruments while maintaining respondents' privacy and confidentiality.

Upon retrieval, each accomplished questionnaire was checked for completeness and consistency before being included in the data set. The researcher then coded, encoded, and tabulated the responses for statistical processing. The collected data were subsequently analyzed and interpreted with the assistance of a statistician using appropriate statistical software. Throughout the data-gathering process, the researcher ensured participation remained voluntary and that respondents' information was treated confidentially. No personal identifiers were included in the research database, and the collected information was used solely for the purposes of the study. This procedure ensured that data collection was conducted systematically, ethically, and in line with the research objectives.

Data Analysis

The collected data were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistical techniques. The mean and standard deviation were used to determine the levels of crime prevention strategies, attitudes toward corruption, and public confidence in policing. The Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient (Pearson r) was employed to determine the significant relationships between crime prevention strategies and public confidence in policing, as well as between attitudes toward corruption and public confidence in policing. To identify significant predictors of public confidence in policing and develop the prediction model, multiple linear regression analysis was used. All statistical analyses were performed using appropriate statistical software, with the level of significance set at 0.05.

Ethical Considerations

The study strictly complied with established ethical standards for research involving human participants. Prior to the conduct of the study, ethical approval was secured from the University's Institutional Ethics Review Committee. The study protocol number and the name of the issuing Institutional Ethics Committee shall be indicated upon approval of the ethics application. Participation in the study was entirely voluntary, and all

respondents signed an informed consent form after being informed of the research objectives, the nature of their participation, their right to withdraw at any stage without adverse consequences, and the measures implemented to ensure confidentiality. The anonymity of the respondents was protected by excluding all personal identifiers from the research database, and all information collected was treated with strict confidentiality and used solely for academic and research purposes. The researcher also ensured that no physical, psychological, social, or legal harm was inflicted on participants during the study and that all ethical principles governing human subject research were faithfully observed.

Results and Discussion

Level of Crime Prevention Strategies

Table 1 presents the level of crime prevention strategies as perceived by the respondents.

Table 1. *Level of Crime Prevention Strategies*

	Mean	SD	Interpretation
Cybercrime	4.37	0.528	Very High
Counterfeiting And Fraud	4.24	0.558	Very High
Gender Violence	4.22	0.569	Very High
Street Crimes	4.33	0.536	Very High
Community Assessment	4.18	0.566	Very High
Sustainability of Policing	4.22	0.553	Very High
Public Relation	4.29	0.54	Very High
Performance Review	4.25	0.546	Very High
Overall Mean	**4.26**	**0.438**	**Very High**

The findings reveal that the respondents perceived the crime prevention strategies implemented by the Philippine National Police (PNP) at a very high level, with an overall mean of 4.26 (SD = 0.438). Among the indicators, Cybercrime obtained the highest mean score (M = 4.37, SD = 0.528), followed by Street Crimes (M = 4.33, SD = 0.536) and Public Relations (M = 4.29, SD = 0.540). Meanwhile, Community Assessment registered the lowest mean (M = 4.18, SD = 0.566), although it remained within the very high descriptive level. These findings indicate that respondents highly recognized the PNP's efforts to implement various crime prevention programs and maintain public safety within the community.

The results suggest that the continuous implementation of community policing, crime prevention campaigns, cybercrime awareness programs, and police visibility initiatives has contributed to the respondents' favorable perceptions of police performance. Likewise, sustained police-community engagement and regular monitoring of police performance may have strengthened public recognition of the PNP's commitment to maintaining peace and order. This finding aligns with Nweke et al. (2024), who reported that proactive, community-oriented policing strategies significantly improve public safety and strengthen police legitimacy. Similarly, Nanes (2020) emphasized that visible, effective crime-prevention initiatives enhance citizens' perceptions of police effectiveness and increase public confidence in law enforcement agencies.

Level of Attitudes Toward Corruption

Table 2 presents respondents' perceived level of attitudes toward corruption.

Table 2. *Level of Attitudes Toward Corruption*

Indicators	Mean	SD	Interpretation
Bribery	4.24	0.60	Very High
Public Life	4.22	0.55	Very High
International Outlook	4.22	0.57	Very High
Elimination Strategies	4.26	0.62	Very High
Overall Mean	**4.23**	**0.48**	**Very High**

The findings indicate that the respondents demonstrated a very high attitude toward corruption, with an overall mean of 4.23 (SD = 0.480). Among the indicators, Elimination Strategies obtained the highest mean score (M = 4.26, SD = 0.620), while Public Life and International Outlook recorded the lowest mean (M = 4.22, SD = 0.550 and M = 4.22, SD = 0.570, respectively), although both remained within the very high descriptive level. These findings

suggest that the respondents strongly support anti-corruption measures and recognize the importance of integrity, accountability, and ethical behavior in policing.

The results imply that the increasing emphasis on integrity-building programs, anti-corruption campaigns, ethical leadership, and organizational accountability within the Philippine National Police has strengthened public awareness regarding corruption-related issues. The respondents also appear to recognize that corruption negatively affects police legitimacy and public trust. This finding supports Karimullah (2024), who emphasized that organizational integrity and accountability reforms improve police credibility and reduce misconduct. Likewise, Rudhanto (2022) found that citizens' perceptions of police honesty and ethical conduct significantly influence their trust and confidence in law enforcement institutions.

Level of Public Confidence in Policing

Table 3 presents respondents' perceptions of the level of public confidence in policing.

Table 3. *Level of Public Confidence in Policing*

Indicators	Mean	SD	Interpretation
Trust	4.22	0.495	Very High
Procedural Fairness	4.21	0.571	Very High
Presence	3.97	0.602	High
Overall Mean	**4.23**	**0.471**	**Very High**

The findings show that respondents reported a very high level of public confidence in policing, with an overall mean of 4.23 (SD = 0.471). Among the indicators, Trust obtained the highest mean score (M = 4.22, SD = 0.495), followed closely by Procedural Fairness (M = 4.21, SD = 0.571). Presence registered the lowest mean (M = 3.97, SD = 0.602), although it remained within the high descriptive level. These findings indicate that the respondents generally trust the Philippine National Police and perceive police officers as fair and legitimate, while recognizing opportunities to further improve police visibility within the community.

The findings suggest that ethical conduct, procedural fairness, transparency, and effective police-community interactions have contributed to the respondents' confidence in policing. Although police presence received the lowest rating among the indicators, it still reflects positive public perceptions regarding police accessibility and visibility. These findings are consistent with Tyler (2025), who emphasized that procedural justice and fairness are among the strongest determinants of public trust in policing. Similarly, Camp et al. (2021) reported that citizens develop greater confidence in law enforcement agencies when police officers consistently demonstrate fairness, professionalism, and accountability in their duties.

Relationship between Crime Prevention Strategies and Public Confidence in Policing

Table 4 presents the correlation analysis between crime prevention strategies and public confidence in policing. The findings show that crime prevention strategies are significantly and positively correlated with public confidence in policing, as shown by significant correlation coefficients across all indicators ($p < .001$). The overall correlation between crime prevention strategies and public confidence in policing was strong and positive ($r = 0.719$, $p < .001$), indicating that respondents who perceived the Philippine National Police (PNP) as more effective in implementing crime prevention strategies also reported higher levels of trust, procedural fairness, police presence, and overall confidence in policing. Among the indicators, Public Relations exhibited the strongest relationship with public confidence in policing ($r = 0.664$), followed by Performance Review ($r = 0.641$), Sustainability of Policing ($r = 0.631$), and Community Assessment ($r = 0.619$). These findings demonstrate that effective police-community engagement, organizational accountability, and sustainable policing initiatives are strongly associated with increased public confidence in law enforcement.

The results suggest that crime prevention strategies extend beyond reducing criminal activities and play an important role in strengthening institutional legitimacy and public trust. Respondents appear to place greater confidence in police organizations that maintain positive community relations, regularly evaluate their performance, and actively involve citizens in crime prevention activities. This finding supports the Procedural Justice Theory, which emphasizes that effective policing and fair treatment encourage greater public trust and cooperation. Similarly, Mohamed Abdi and Hashi (2024) reported that police effectiveness and organizational responsiveness significantly influence citizens' confidence in law enforcement institutions. Likewise, Miller (2025)

concluded that community-oriented policing and proactive crime prevention strategies enhance police legitimacy and improve public confidence.

Table 4. *Correlation Analysis between Crime Prevention Strategies and Public Confidence in Policing*

Crime Prevention Strategies	Public Confidence in Policing			
	Trust	Procedural Fairness	Presence	Overall
Cybercrime	0.469	0.446	0.361	0.499
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001
Counterfeiting And Fraud	0.465	0.443	0.345	0.489
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001
Gender Violence	0.49	0.513	0.335	0.526
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001
Street Crimes	0.492	0.433	0.374	0.517
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001
Community Assessment	0.604	0.538	0.461	0.619
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001
Sustainability Of Policing	0.638	0.546	0.437	0.631
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001
Public Relation	0.649	0.556	0.511	0.664
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001
Performance Review	0.643	0.548	0.47	0.641
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001
Overall	0.697	0.631	0.516	0.719
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001

Relationship between Attitude toward Corruption and Public Confidence in Policing

Table 5 presents the correlation analysis between attitudes toward corruption and public confidence in policing.

Table 5. *Correlation Analysis between Attitude toward Corruption and Public Confidence in Policing*

Public Confidence in Policing	Attitude Towards Corruption				
	Bribery	Public Life	International Outlook	Elimination Strategies	Overall
Trust	0.398	0.456	0.477	0.496	0.554
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001
Procedural Fairness	0.371	0.444	0.464	0.468	0.529
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001
Presence	0.353	0.382	0.364	0.376	0.447
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001
Overall	0.432	0.499	0.506	0.521	0.593
	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001	< .001

The findings indicate that attitudes toward corruption are significantly and positively associated with public confidence in policing, with all correlation coefficients registering significant probability values ($p < .001$). The overall relationship between attitudes toward corruption and public confidence in policing was moderately strong ($r = 0.593$, $p < .001$), indicating that respondents who strongly supported anti-corruption principles likewise exhibited higher confidence in the Philippine National Police. Among the indicators, Elimination Strategies demonstrated the strongest relationship with public confidence ($r = 0.521$), followed by International Outlook ($r = 0.506$), Public Life ($r = 0.499$), and Bribery ($r = 0.432$). These findings indicate that public confidence is strengthened when citizens perceive that police organizations actively promote integrity, accountability, and anti-corruption initiatives.

The findings imply that corruption remains a critical factor influencing police legitimacy and public trust. Respondents appear to recognize that ethical leadership, accountability mechanisms, and transparency significantly strengthen confidence in policing. Communities are more likely to trust police organizations that demonstrate integrity and consistently implement anti-corruption measures. This finding agrees with Prenzler and Porter (2024), who emphasized that organizational accountability and integrity-building programs significantly improve police legitimacy and public trust. Likewise, Kochel and Skogan (2021) reported that ethical

policing, procedural justice, and transparency serve as important foundations of public confidence in law enforcement agencies.

Regression Analysis of Public Confidence in Policing as Predicted by Crime Prevention Strategies

Table 6 presents the regression analysis of public confidence in policing as predicted by crime prevention strategies.

Table 6. *Regression Analysis of Public Confidence in Policing as Predicted by Crime Prevention Strategies*

Predictor	B	SE	*B*	t	p
Intercept	0.95	0.14		6.36	< .001
Cybercrime	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.97	.331
Counterfeiting And Fraud	0.04	0.03	0.04	1.05	.292
Gender Violence	-0.03	0.04	-0.04	-0.97	.331
Street Crimes	0.04	0.03	0.05	1.15	.248
Community Assessment	0.13	0.04	0.16	3.18	.002
Sustainability Of Policing	0.13	0.04	0.15	3.02	.003
Public Relation	0.23	0.04	0.27	5.41	< .001
Performance Review	0.17	0.04	0.20	4.16	< .001

Note. R^2=0.558, Adj R^2= 0.550, F(98,440)= 69.4, p = <.001

The findings reveal that the overall regression model was statistically significant (F = 69.40, p < .001), explaining 55.8% of the variance in public confidence in policing (R^2 = 0.558; Adjusted R^2 = 0.550). This indicates that crime prevention strategies collectively explain a substantial portion of the variance in public confidence in the Philippine National Police. Among the predictors, Public Relation emerged as the strongest significant predictor (β = 0.27, p s< .001), followed by Performance Review (β = 0.20, p < .001), Community Assessment (β = 0.16, p = .002), and Sustainability of Policing (β = 0.15, p = .003). Conversely, Cybercrime, Counterfeiting and Fraud, Gender Violence, and Street Crimes did not significantly predict public confidence when analyzed simultaneously with the other variables.

The findings suggest that relational and organizational dimensions of policing influence public confidence more than crime-specific interventions alone. Respondents value police-community engagement, accountability, organizational transparency, and sustainable policing practices more than isolated crime-prevention activities. Although specialized crime prevention programs remain important, citizens appear to develop stronger confidence when police organizations demonstrate professionalism, responsiveness, and continuous performance improvement. This finding supports Kochel and Skogan (2021), who emphasized that transparency, accountability, and meaningful community engagement are among the strongest predictors of police legitimacy. Likewise, Prenzler and Porter (2024) found that sustainable community policing initiatives significantly strengthen public trust and perceptions of police effectiveness.

Regression Analysis of Public Confidence in Policing as Predicted by Attitude toward Corruption

Table 7 presents the regression analysis of public confidence in policing as predicted by attitudes toward corruption.

Table 7. *Regression Analysis of Public Confidence in Policing as Predicted by Attitude toward Corruption*

Predictor	B	SE	*B*	t	p
Intercept	1.76	0.15		11.1	< .001
Bribery	0.08	0.04	0.10	2.10	.036
Public Life	0.13	0.05	0.15	2.56	.011
International Outlook	0.14	0.04	0.17	3.05	.002
Elimination Strategies	0.22	0.03	0.29	6.12	< .001

Note. R^2 = 0.362, Adj R^2 = 0.356, F(4,444) = 62.9, p = <.001

The findings indicate that the regression model was statistically significant, demonstrating that attitudes toward corruption significantly predict public confidence in policing. The analysis shows that anti-corruption attitudes collectively explain variation in public confidence in the Philippine National Police. Among the indicators, Elimination Strategies emerged as the strongest predictor of public confidence, followed by International Outlook, Public Life, and Bribery. The results indicate that respondents who strongly support integrity-building initiatives, organizational accountability, and corruption prevention measures are more likely to express higher confidence in policing.

The findings suggest that public confidence in law enforcement strengthens when police organizations demonstrate ethical leadership and implement effective anti-corruption programs. Citizens expect transparency, fairness, and accountability from police officers, and these organizational values contribute significantly to institutional legitimacy. The results further suggest that reducing corruption is not only essential for improving police performance but also for enhancing public cooperation and strengthening police-community relationships. These findings are consistent with Miller (2025), who reported that integrity systems and accountability reforms significantly improve public confidence in police organizations. Similarly, Camp et al. (2021) emphasized that ethical conduct, procedural fairness, and transparency remain among the strongest determinants of police legitimacy and citizens' willingness to cooperate with law enforcement authorities.

Conclusion

This study concluded that respondents perceived the crime prevention strategies implemented by the Philippine National Police (PNP), their attitudes toward corruption, and their public confidence in policing as very high. The findings indicate that the respondents recognized the PNP's efforts in implementing effective crime prevention programs, promoting ethical standards, and maintaining public trust through fair, transparent, and professional policing. These results suggest that sustained community engagement, accountability mechanisms, and integrity-building initiatives have strengthened public confidence in law enforcement agencies.

The study further concluded that crime prevention strategies and attitudes toward corruption were both significantly and positively associated with public confidence in policing. Effective crime prevention initiatives, particularly those involving public relations, performance review, community assessment, and policing sustainability, were found to significantly strengthen citizens' trust, perceptions of procedural fairness, and confidence in the police. Likewise, stronger anti-corruption attitudes, especially those related to elimination strategies, were associated with higher levels of public confidence in the PNP. The regression analyses confirmed that these dimensions significantly predict public confidence in policing, highlighting that police legitimacy is enhanced not only through effective crime prevention but also through ethical leadership, transparency, accountability, and meaningful police-community partnerships.

Based on these findings, it is recommended that the Philippine National Police further strengthen community-oriented policing programs by enhancing police-public relations, increasing community participation in crime prevention planning, and sustaining regular performance evaluation and accountability mechanisms. Anti-corruption initiatives should be continuously reinforced through integrity development programs, ethics training, transparent disciplinary systems, and effective monitoring of police conduct. Policymakers and local government units may use the findings to formulate policies that promote ethical governance, public participation, and institutional transparency to further improve public confidence in policing. Finally, future researchers are encouraged to validate the proposed prediction model in other municipalities, provinces, or regions of the Philippines, incorporate additional organizational and community-related variables such as police responsiveness, service quality, and citizen satisfaction, and employ longitudinal or mixed-method research designs to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing public confidence in law enforcement.

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