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## INVESTIGATING SECURITY CHALLENGES IN DELTA STATE, NIGERIA: A SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

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### Abstract

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This study investigated the security challenges prevalent in Delta State, Nigeria, examining the socio-political drivers of instability and the efficacy of current intervention strategies. Adopting a triangulation of Behavior Modification and Systems Theories, the research explored how environmental stimuli and systemic failures contribute to organized crime. This study adopted a qualitative research design because through utilization of in-depth interviews (IDI) with 25 key stakeholders across the three senatorial zones of Delta State. Data were analyzed using manual content analysis. The study demonstrates that insecurity in Delta State cannot be addressed solely through militarized responses. Instead, a comprehensive strategy involving political reforms, youth empowerment, institutional accountability, community engagement, and socio-economic development is required. The research findings demonstrate that insecurity in Delta State Nigeria is not merely a consequence of criminal deviance but a product of deep-seated sociological contradictions, including elite-sponsored violence, economic exclusion, and the normalization of illicit wealth acquisition. It discovered a reliance on political patronage to manage communal tensions, weakened institutional accountability, criminal networks thriving under the cover of elite protection, and a cycle of persistent instability across the urban and rural communities. The study recommends integrated civil-military security operations, situational crime prevention through target hardening, and launching of restorative reinforcement and alternative livelihood programs.

**Keywords:** Security challenges, Delta state, Organized crime, Systems theory,

### 1.1 Introduction

Security challenges in Nigeria have increasingly assumed complex and multi-dimensional forms, particularly within the Niger Delta region where socio-economic inequalities, political patronage,

environmental degradation, and organized criminality intersect. Delta State, one of the major oil-producing states in the Niger Delta, has experienced persistent security threats ranging from kidnapping, armed robbery, cult violence, illegal oil bunkering, pipeline vandalism, cybercrime, and politically motivated violence (Alemika and Chukwuma, 2004; Ikelegbe, 2005). While earlier agitations in the region were largely driven by demands for resource control, environmental justice, and economic inclusion, contemporary manifestations of insecurity have evolved into sophisticated networks of organized crime sustained through political influence, economic interests, and institutional weaknesses. The persistence and increasing sophistication of insecurity in Delta State, Nigeria pose serious threats to social stability, economic development, and effective governance. After elections, government sponsored armed groups often evolve into independent criminal organizations that engage in kidnapping, cult violence, illegal oil bunkering, armed robbery, and cybercrime (Watts, 2008).

From a sociological perspective, insecurity in Delta State cannot merely be interpreted as isolated criminal acts but as outcomes of broader structural contradictions within society. The persistence of unemployment, youth marginalization, corruption, weak institutions, and patron-client political relations has contributed significantly to the proliferation of criminal networks (Merton, 1968; Ninalowo, 2011).

Organized crime in Delta State operates not only as a criminal enterprise but also as a social phenomenon embedded within political and economic systems. During electoral processes, political actors often mobilize and arm youths for purposes of intimidation, electoral manipulation, and violent enforcement of political interests (Joseph, 2014). During post-election periods, these groups frequently transform into autonomous criminal gangs that sustain themselves through kidnapping, armed robbery, oil theft, cultism, and other illicit activities (International Crisis Group, 2021).

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The persistence of criminal networks in Delta State has contributed to widespread fear, loss of lives and property, declining public confidence in state institutions, and disruption of socio-economic development. Furthermore, allegations of complicity among some law enforcement personnel in illegal oil bunkering and related criminal activities have intensified public distrust in security agencies. The inability of security institutions to effectively police criminal actors, alongside accusations of corruption and selective law enforcement, has weakened the legitimacy of state authority in affected communities (Hills, 2008). Although several studies, government reports, and media accounts have examined militancy, oil theft, and violent crime in the Niger Delta, much of the existing literature has focused predominantly on economic causes, environmental conflicts, or militant movements (Okonta and Douglas, 2001; Obi, 2010), limited scholarly attention has been devoted to a holistic sociological analysis that critically interrogates the interconnections among political patronage, organized criminality, compromised law enforcement structures, and the reproduction of insecurity in Delta State. In addition, few studies have adequately explored practical mechanisms for neutralizing political protection networks that sustain criminal activities or

strategies for strengthening accountability within law enforcement institutions. It is against this backdrop that this study investigates the security challenges in Delta State from a sociological standpoint. The study further explores sustainable strategies for addressing organized criminality, strengthening institutional accountability, and enhancing public security in Delta State.

The continued operation of illegal oil refining sites and organized criminal syndicates despite government interventions suggests the existence of entrenched protection networks that enable criminality to flourish (Human Rights Watch, 2007). Despite numerous security interventions, policy initiatives, and media reports on insecurity in the Niger Delta, there remains insufficient sociological inquiry into the structural and institutional dynamics sustaining these security challenges in Delta State.

Existing studies have not adequately examined how political patronage, institutional corruption, and weak social control mechanisms interact to reproduce organized criminality. Consequently, there is a need for a comprehensive sociological investigation into the nature of contemporary criminal networks, the role of political actors and compromised security personnel, and the mechanisms through which effective policing and institutional accountability can be achieved.

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The broad objective of this study is to investigate the security challenges in Delta State, Nigeria, from a sociological perspective by examining how political structures, criminal networks, and institutional weaknesses collectively shape insecurity in the state, while the specific objectives are to:

- i. Examine the role of political actors in crime proliferation and mechanisms for checking their excesses in Delta State.
- ii. Identify strategies for monitoring and enhancing accountability and professional effectiveness of law enforcement agents.
- iii. Categorize the major contemporary criminal groupings operating in Delta State and examine their modes of operation.

### **2.1 Review Of Literature**

**2.2 Conceptual Definition of Security:** At the core of understanding state stability is the conceptualization of security. Giddens (2006) posited that security extends beyond the mere absence of physical conflict as it encompasses the state's capacity to dismantle the networks of organized criminal groups and neutralize their elite sponsors. Though intensive struggle over oil rents revenues breeds localized corruption, creates political gate-keeping, and structurally marginalizes traditional local economies like subsistence fishing and farming.

**2.3 Theoretical Framework:** This study integrated Systems Theory and Behaviour Modification Theory to construct a robust, dual-layered conceptual framework.

- **Systems Theory**

Systems Theory emerged primarily from the biological sciences before being adapted into social sciences and cybernetics. It was formulated by the Austrian biologist Ludwig von Bertalanffy in the 1930s to 1940s, culminating in his seminal work: *General System Theory* (1968). Bertalanffy challenged the traditional reductionist approach of scientific inquiry which sought to understand a whole by breaking it down into isolated parts arguing instead for a holistic paradigm where entities are studied in their entirety (Laracy and Marlowe, 2018). In the 1940s and 1950s, Norbert Wiener introduced Cybernetics, adding the crucial concepts of information loops, control 1960s and 1970s, Sociologists mechanisms, and feedback to systems theory. By the late like Niklas Luhmann and political scientists like David Easton modified the framework to analyze social systems and political outputs, establishing that human societies operate as highly differentiated, self-regulating systems interacting with volatile external environments. Systems theory postulates that a system is a whole that cannot be understood merely as the sum of its individual parts. The system exhibits emergent properties, behaviours and characteristics that only manifest when components interact within a broader, unified structure (Laracy and Marlowe, 2018). Furthermore, it postulates that social systems are open; constantly exchange energy, matter, and information with their external environment through permeable boundaries. Systems import variables from the environment (inputs), process or transform these variables internally (throughput), and export the results back into the environment (outputs). Systems maintain internal stability (homeostasis) through feedback loops. Negative feedback corrects deviations and restores balance, while positive feedback amplifies deviations, potentially driving the system toward chaos or structural transformation.

- **Behaviour Modification Theory**

Behaviour Modification Theory is rooted in the psychological paradigm of Behaviourism. The foundational architecture was established by John B. Watson (1913), but it was formalized into operational therapy and behavioral science by B.F. Skinner in his seminal publications, including *The Behaviour of Organisms* (1938) and *Science and Human Behaviour* (1953). Skinner advanced the concept of Operant Conditioning, demonstrating that behavior is shaped, maintained, or extinguished by its environmental consequences (Scott, 2021).

Behaviour Modification Theory postulates that behaviour is analyzed through three components: Antecedents which includes environmental cues or triggers behaviour, including the observable action, and consequences including the immediate feedback that follows the action (Scott, 2021). Behaviors followed by Positive Reinforcement (rewards or gains) or Negative Reinforcement (the removal of an adverse condition) are highly likely to recur (Scott, 2021). Behaviours followed by Positive Punishment (introducing a direct penalty) or Extinction (ensuring the behavior yields zero reward) will decline in frequency (Scott, 2021). Rather than treating criminal propensity as an immutable internal trait, the theory posits that behavior is governed largely by environmental

structures; altering these structural designs will predictably modify behavioral outputs (Ayllon, 2023).

In the 1970s, the theory underwent a significant cognitive modification through Albert Bandura's Social Learning Theory (1977). Bandura demonstrated that human behavior is not just a passive reaction to direct reinforcement, but is also acquired through observational learning (modeling) and cognitive evaluations of environmental risks and rewards (Ayllon, 2023). In contemporary criminological control and security management, this has evolved into Situational Crime Prevention (SCP) and Rational Choice Theory, which treat criminal acts as calculable behaviours highly sensitive to immediate environmental manipulation (Britt and Rocque, 2015).

While Systems Theory maps out Delta State's broader structural networks, Behaviour Modification Theory targets the granular reality of criminal decision-making on the ground. Illegal oil bunkering or kidnapping persist because the Consequence provides positive reinforcement that far outweighs the perceived risk of arrest. By targeting the financial pipelines and asset recovery channels of criminal networks, security managers can introduce extinction mechanisms rendering the operational risks of these illegal enterprises economically non-viable. Security architecture can alter the Antecedents by increasing the effort and risk required to carry out a crime. Deploying visible technological surveillance, hardening physical infrastructure around oil assets, and implementing community-policing checkpoints serve as structural antecedents that signal a high probability of immediate detection, suppressing the impulse to engage in illegal behavior (Britt and Rocque, 2015).

#### **2.4 Review of Empirical Studies on Security Challenges in Delta State**

This review organizes the empirical literature into distinct and localized thematic domains. Recent field research shifted critical focus onto how operational insecurity directly sabotaged agrarian output and traditional rural livelihoods. Quantitative assessments measuring regional security crises demonstrated that operational instability disproportionately affected fundamental, labour-intensive farming activities, specifically land preparation, crop planting, and the timeliness of weeding cycles (Okpara, 2025).

Furthermore, in empirical trials evaluating crop vulnerability, stable staples like cassava, yam, and maize outputs emerged as the most severely diminished by violent disruptions. Conversely, deep-rooted or less labour-dependent crops, such as plantains and localized vegetables, recorded lower comparative losses (Okpara, 2025). This conflict-livelihood cycle established that intensified competition for land resources and escalating herder-farmer confrontations do more than trigger short-term displacements. They structurally inflate local market food prices and systematically discourage long-term agricultural investments (Ndubueze-Ogaraku, 2017; Okpara, 2025). Inquiries framed around ecological vulnerability models show that stability in Delta State cannot be isolated from environmental health. Long-term environmental degradation driven by oil spills, gas flaring, and unregulated artisanal refining, acts as an accelerant for systemic conflict. It structurally erodes the traditional aquaculture and agricultural bases that historically insulated coastal communities from external shocks (Folami, 2017; Ndubueze-Ogaraku, 2017).

Empirical data highlights that target communities experienced insecurity as a compound economic and psychological "shock" characterized by a volatile cost of living, low farm productivity, youth restiveness, and high communal stress (Anierobi et al., 2024; Ndubueze-Ogaraku, 2017). To survive, rural populations are forced into distress migration to ecologically fragile urban peripheries, escalating the severity of poverty among rural dwellers (Anierobi et al., 2024). Field studies mapping Delta State's extensive riverine terrains emphasize the immediate nexus between structural unemployment and maritime crimes. Employing Human Needs Frameworks, empirical surveys targeting coastal community residents and law enforcement personnel showed that chronic youth unemployment directly fuels localized security threats (Folami, 2017; Oyibokure et al., 2023). This socio-economic vacuum results in measurable incidences of sea and land armed robbery, tactical pipeline vandalism, illegal oil bunkering, hostage-taking, and active clashes over territorial control (Folami, 2017). The data indicates that human insecurity serves as the primary incubator for coastal criminality within the region (Ndubueze-Ogaraku, 2017). Beyond localized community impacts, econometric models trace how regional instability damages formal financial ecosystems and macro-development. Causality and regression analyses tracking security indices against capital accumulation showed a direct, negative causal relationship between persistent security challenges and localized investment potential (Arefa, 2025). While specific "resource-seeking inflows" within isolated, highly secured oil and gas installations can occasionally fluctuate upward during lulls in pipeline sabotage, general regional insecurity drives widespread domestic and foreign capital flight. This dynamic resulted in widespread business closures and corporate relocation out of high-risk corridors of the state (Arefa, 2025; Folami, 2017).

Recent empirical critiques evaluate the institutional state response, highlighting a significant structural contradiction in the Delta State security framework. Studies show that successive state interventions favoured a heavily militarized, state-centric approach over structural peace-building. This narrow focus on protecting federal resource infrastructure effectively pacified symptoms without resolving underlying socio-economic grievances (Arefa, 2025; Oyibokure et al., 2023). This dilemma is further evidenced by field mapping, which records an intense proliferation of military and police checkpoints across regional transit corridors. Empirical feedback indicated that instead of fostering safety, this dense centralization and under-equipped policing presence frequently leads to systemic challenges in internal security delivery and a degradation of public trust (Arefa, 2025; Oyibokure et al., 2023). Global trends indicate that organized crime thrives most effectively in environments characterized by rapid wealth accumulation coupled with weak institutional oversight. Historically, parallels are drawn between the Nigerian situation and the criminal-political infiltrations observed in the United States and Italy (Adler et al., 1996). The European Commission has frequently underscored that organized crime represents a direct existential threat to state institutions and economic stability, necessitating high-level, consistent intervention.

In the Nigerian context, the Niger Delta has been identified as a hotspot for organized criminal activities, including maritime piracy and kidnapping. Research by Ajefu (2012) highlighted that between 2008 and 2010, this region accounted for a disproportionate volume of national kidnapping cases. Scholars have attributed this proliferation to the existence of "cabals" within the petroleum

industry and the strategic use of elite sponsors who leverage insurgent groups to secure political and economic interests (Oduaghan, 2013). The security landscape in Delta State is deeply historical, with the "Warri crisis" serving as a primary catalyst for the widespread arms proliferation that occurred between 1999 and 2003, as political actors mobilized youth for electoral influence (Adler et al., 1996). These dynamics have persisted into the current decade. Data from the European Union Agency for Asylum (2021) revealed that in 2020 alone, Delta State recorded 100 significant security incidents resulting in 120 fatalities, highlighting the volatility of the region. Recent scholarly and policy discussions focus on the shift from traditional militancy to more modern, decentralized forms of crime, such as cyber-fraud and ritualistic offenses. To mitigate these, state-level interventions like "Operation Delta Hawk" and the "Delta Security Trust Fund" have been introduced. Adeniyi (2024) emphasized that the efficacy of these initiatives remains contingent upon the quality of civil-military cooperation and the success of efforts to neutralize local criminal networks.

## 2.5 Sociological Gap

Reviewed literature showed reliance on political patronage to manage communal tensions. This has paradoxically weakened institutional accountability, allowing criminal networks to thrive under the cover of elite protection, thereby creating a cycle of persistent instability across both urban and riverine communities. Systems Theory reveals that when governance and security institutions fail to provide legitimate pathways for socio-economic mobility, individuals increasingly turn to alternative, illegitimate behaviours such as kidnapping, illegal oil bunkering, and vigilante justice to secure their livelihoods and safety.

## 3.1 Methodology

This study adopted a qualitative research design to provide an in-depth understanding of the nature, causes, and dynamics of insecurity and organized criminality in Delta State, Nigeria. The study population comprised key stakeholders with relevant knowledge and experience regarding security challenges in the state, including community leaders, vigilante operatives, local elites, civil defense personnel, anti-cult operatives, and reformed former offenders. A purposive sampling technique was employed to select 25 information-rich participants from five strategically selected axes across the three senatorial zones of Delta State: Ughelli, Ndokwa, Agbor-Asaba, Warri-Sapele, and Bomadi-Patani. Snowball sampling was further utilized to identify difficult-to-reach participants, particularly reformed actors and individuals with insider knowledge of organized criminal activities.

Data were collected primarily through in-depth interviews using a structured Interview Guide containing open-ended questions aligned with the study objectives. Face-to-face interviews were conducted in English, Pidgin English, and local dialects where necessary, with participants' consent obtained prior to participation. Secondary data were also sourced from scholarly publications, official reports, policy documents, and relevant literature on insecurity and organized crime in Nigeria. The collected data were transcribed and analyzed using manual content analysis, which involved coding, categorizing, and interpreting responses to identify recurring themes and patterns

related to insecurity, criminal networks, youth criminality, vigilante activities, and law enforcement effectiveness in Delta State.

**4.1 Research Findings**

**Data from Respondents (R) on Security Challenges in Delta State Based on research objectives**

**Table 1.**

R	Profession /Locality/Axis	Gender	Age	Data Collected from Respondents
R1	Community Leader Ughelli Axis	M	52	“The politicians recruit these boys during elections and discard them afterward. We need a law that bans the use of private youth groups during campaigns. Without limiting the cost of elections, these 'cabals' will continue to buy violence as a commodity.”
R2	Petty Trader Ughelli Axis	F	34	“Many young men have left the creeks. Militancy is 'hard' and dangerous. Now, they prefer 'Yahoo-Yahoo' because it is perceived as 'office work' no need to carry a rifle into the bush”
R3	Retired Civil Servant Ughelli Axis	M	68	“If the community sees them as 'businessmen' instead of criminals, they will keep hiding them. We need to change that perception.”
R4	Youth President Ughelli Axis	M	29	Now, they prefer 'Yahoo-Yahoo' because it is perceived as 'office work', no need to carry a rifle into the bush. However, the greed is the same; they now use charms and rituals to stay 'successful' in their cyber-fraud.”
R5	Farmer Ughelli Axis	F	47	“If the community sees them as 'businessmen' instead of criminals, they will keep hiding them. We need to change that perception.”
R6	Civil Society/Activist Ndokwa Axis	F	38	" If we enforce financial transparency in elections, the 'protection' these politicians offer to thugs will become too expensive to maintain.”
R7	Teacher Ndokwa Axis	M	42	"Political protection rackets thrive because there are no consequences for funding chaos.”
R8	Market Women Leader Ndokwa Axis	F	55	"The game has changed. Many young men have left the creeks. Militancy is 'hard' and dangerous.
R9	Lawyer Ndokwa Axis	M	35	"The police are often viewed with suspicion. Effectiveness won't come from just more guns; it requires a collaborative

				partnership where local communities have a formal channel to report misconduct by officers who collude with oil thieves."
R10	Nursing Officer Ndokwa Axis	F	31	"The community sees them as 'businessmen' instead of criminals"
R11	Former Militant (Reformed) Bomadi/Patani Axis	M	31	in their neighborhoods. If the community sees them as 'businessmen' instead of criminals, they will keep hiding them. We need to change that perception."
R12	Commercial Driver Bomadi/Patani Axis	M	39	"The neighborhood keeps hiding them. We need to change that perception."
R13	Fisherman Bomadi/Patani Axis	M	27	"The community keeps hiding them. We need to change that perception."
R14	Student Bomadi/Patani Axis	F	22	"Political protection rackets thrive because there are no consequences for funding chaos. If we enforce financial transparency in elections, the 'protection' these politicians offer to thugs will become too expensive to maintain."
R15	Religious Cleric Bomadi/Patani Axis	M	50	"They think it is a business, you have to hit them where it hurts by cutting off the support systems"
R16	Academic/Elite Bomadi/Patani Axis	M	45	"Political protection rackets thrive because there are no consequences for funding chaos"
R17	Journalist	F	37	"If we enforce financial transparency in elections, the 'protection' these politicians offer to thugs will become too expensive to maintain"
R18	Civil Engineer Agbor-Asaba Axis	M	41	"Local communities do not have a formal channel to report misconduct by officers who collude with oil thieves."
R19	Public Servant Agbor-Asaba Axis	M	53	"The police requires a collaborative partnership where local communities have a formal channel to report misconduct by officers who collude with oil thieves."
R20	Tech Entrepreneur Agbor-Asaba Axis	M	28	"It is not just about catching the boys anymore. Because they think it is a business, you have to hit them where it hurts by cutting off the support systems"
R21	Community Vigilante Lead Warri/Sapele Axis	M	40	"The issue is systemic; politicians recruit these boys during elections and discard them afterward"

R22	Dock Worker Warri/Sapele Axis	M	33	" The formal police should focus on supervision and training, while we provide the intelligence
R23	Fashion Designer Warri/Sapele Axis	F	26	"Police hierarchy must be purged of those who profit from the illegal sites we are trying to clear."
R24	Hotel Manager Warri/Sapele Axis	M	44	"The state-level security outfits work better when they coordinate with us."
R25	Transport Union Official Warri/Sapele Axis	M	58	"The police are often viewed with suspicion"

*Compiled by Researchers, 2026*

#### 4.2 Discussion of Research Findings

The consensus across diverse ages, genders, and professions suggests the following key thematic conclusions:

- **The Politicization of Violence:** The data shows a cross-generational consensus that security in the Ughelli and Agbor-Asaba axes is inextricably linked to political campaign cycles. The agreement between the Academic and the Petty Trader highlights that the "political protection racket" is not just an elite-level concern; it is felt at the grassroots level. The findings suggest that the commoditization of violence whereby youth groups are mobilized for elections and abandoned post-election is viewed as the primary driver of regional instability.
- **The Credibility Gap in Law Enforcement:** Findings on monitoring law enforcement agents revealed widespread distrust toward security agencies. Respondents argued that corruption, collusion with criminal networks, and lack of accountability reduce the effectiveness of policing. Participants strongly supported community policing, civilian oversight mechanisms, and collaboration between formal security agencies and local vigilante structures as strategies for improving security governance. This optimizes the system's throughput mechanisms by ensuring that data collected at the community boundary level are processed in real time, converting fragmented inputs into coordinated, systematic operations and eliminating institutional hoardings. Respondents agree that until the police hierarchy is sanitized of internal corruption, intelligence-sharing will remain stunted. The reliance on informal security (vigilantes) is a reaction to the perceived failure of formal state institutions to remain neutral.
- **Socio-Economic Evolution of Criminality:** The shift from traditional militancy to digital-age fraud ("Yahoo-Yahoo") as identified by some respondent reveals an economic transition in crime. Criminality in Delta State is becoming "modernized." And this challenge is no longer just about controlling creek access (militancy) but about addressing the systemic glorification of wealth in urban hubs. Regarding criminal groupings, the study found a transition from traditional militancy to cybercrime and organized fraud. Respondents explained that many youths now perceive

cybercrime as safer as and more profitable than armed militancy. This shift reflects changing economic realities, unemployment, and evolving criminal opportunities in Delta State.

▪ **Multi-dimensional Criminality:** The findings reveal that insecurity in Delta State is multi-dimensional, involving political, institutional, economic, and socio-cultural dynamics. Across the various localities studied, participants consistently identified political patronage, institutional corruption, unemployment, and community complicity as major drivers of insecurity. Concerning political excesses, respondents emphasized the role of politicians in recruiting and financing violent youth groups during elections. Participants agreed that weak institutions, poor electoral accountability, and financial inducements sustain political violence. The findings suggest that electoral reforms, enforcement of campaign finance regulations, and prosecution of political offenders are necessary for reducing politically motivated insecurity.

**4.3 Implications for Policy:** The consistency of responses suggests that security in Delta State cannot be solved through the formal use of fire-arms alone. Instead, the research points toward:

- i. Legislative reform to separate political funding from youth employment.
- ii. Trust-building frameworks that legitimize community-led security initiatives through oversight boards.
- iii. Rebranding success away from the ritualistic and fraudulent models currently dominating the youth demographic.

#### **4.1 Conclusion:**

The study concludes that the security architecture of Delta State is currently undermined by a confluence of systemic failures, where legitimate institutional mechanisms are eclipsed by informal power structures. Insecurity in Delta State Nigeria is not merely a consequence of criminal deviance but a product of deep-seated sociological contradictions, including elite-sponsored violence, economic exclusion, and the normalization of illicit wealth acquisition. Politicians sponsor and manipulate youths during elections, thereby contributing to insecurity and violence. There is emphasis on community policing, accountability, and collaboration between security agencies and local vigilantes.

**4.2 Recommendations:** Based on the integrated postulations of the two theoretical frameworks, the following systemic and behavioural interventions are recommended for the security of Delta State:

- i. Establishment of an Integrated Civil-Military Security Operations Center (Systems Approach), to unify state security forces, corporate maritime security, local vigilante structures, and tele-communication networks into a single info-sharing platform.
- ii. Implementation of Situational Crime Prevention through Target Hardening (Behavioral Approach) and deployment of localized, tech-driven situational interventions such as

installing real-time drone surveillance corridors along volatile waterways, setting up solar-powered smart street lighting in high-risk urban sectors, and using geo-fencing systems around critical infrastructure.

- iii. Launching of Restorative Reinforcement and Alternative Livelihood Programs to build state-sponsored institutional pipelines that offer certified vocational specialization, agricultural technical grants, and employment placement tied strictly to verifiable participation in local peace-building initiatives.

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