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### Impact of Crime on Social-Economic Development: A Study of Karachi

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#### Abstract

This study was conducted to explore the impact of crime on socio-economic development of the country. The purpose of the study was to comprehend the increasing crime rate and to know its influences on socio-economic progress. To examine the crime and its impacts on country development, a field survey was conducted and questionnaires were developed to understand the ground situation. For the purpose of the interviews the members of the community were selected by using simple random sample technique. This study is found that crime rate is cumulative due to dissimilar socio-economic snags like, poverty, unemployment, uses of drugs, etc. Further this study highlights the causes and recommends possible solutions for the curbing the threat of crime in Karachi. The main focus of this research paper is to find out the pathways to overcome crime in Pakistan.

**Keywords:** crime, socio-economic, development, Karachi

#### Introduction

Crimes have always been overwhelmed almost every society in the humankind history. The background history of crime is as antique as history of humankind. History informed that the first one offence was committed by Cain, the first son of Adam and Eve, when he assassinated his brother Abel out of covetousness.

Crime is defined as any unlawful act or action that is punishable by law is crime. Crime is illegal doing or action of human conduct that is damaging to other people and the state is certain to stop it. Crime reduces if offender accountable to penalty after due course of prosecution by the relevant institutions responsible to determine the nature, aggravation and the legal penalties of the person's injustice<sup>1</sup>.

There is no comprehensive and enduring definition of crime<sup>2</sup>. It varies in different times in different places. According to Allen, "A crime is action / function of human which dangerous to other people.

This is state responsibility to prevent it and to deal with iron hands<sup>3</sup>. It reduces the aberrant person accountable to penalty as a result of proceedings" (Allen, 1996)<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Fajnzylber, Pablo, Daniel Lederman and Norman Loayza (2000), Determinants of crime rates in Latin America and the world: An empirical assessment. World Bank Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

<sup>2</sup> Becker, Gary S. (1993), Nobel lecture: The economic way of looking at behaviour. The Journal of Political Economy, Volume 101(3), pp. 385-409.

Crime certainly is predominant ubiquitously in the world in diverse forms. Signifying that there prevails a linking among deprived and offenders is to attraction shrill censures and allegations on moral and ethical bases. This might have meanings that poverty-stricken persons are distinctively offender. Becker (1974)<sup>5</sup> proposed several causes of crime and numerous theoretic and experiential study has been carried through this topic since then. Many works absorbed on the developed world. Similar all replicas in finances, the financial model of crime includes rational usefulness maximizing agents.

Rendering to relative-deprivation theory, people obligate crimes to direct indication towards the system enforced by the state to live in is integrally prejudiced against them and their socio-economic standing in the society (Chester, 1976<sup>6</sup>; Hughes and Carter<sup>7</sup>, 1981; Stack, 1984)<sup>8</sup>.

Karachi is the most populated city of Pakistan and by ranking in population its hold second largest city of the world. Almost all ethnic group people, Sindhi, Urdu speaking, Pakhtoon, Punjabi, Sariki, and Balochi, are come to earn. But during last decade Karachi is suffering due to increasing rapidly crime ratio. But today Karachi is suffering due to increasing rapidly crime ratio. Specially youth is involved in snatching things and vanish in few seconds. It is sad to know that even the children of 13, 14 years are extremely spoilt in such triggers.

Karachi is very significant city in the light of economy, it holds approximately 42 percent of Pakistan GDP, more than 60 percent holds the income tax revenue, and holds more than 60 percent of sales tax revenues. But now, due to criminal's activities effecting the Karachi economy and country growth<sup>9</sup>.

Now the question is that, how they crime acts and run away easy? The criminal is not afraid of whatsoever, with the sake of money even they murdered people. Different statistics showed that crime rate is higher in underdeveloped areas like, lyari. In this area people not feel safe even in day light and evening. Liyari public are full with the terror of losing their beloved lives.

The key reason of such types of crimes occurrences is two in the view of researchers. The thieves, the teen agers and young people are mostly involved due to of their socio-economic condition. Literature identify that this poverty is foremost the uneducated people to do shortcut of these criminal activities and they find it easy way of earn money instead of dying from hunger and thrust.

All types of crime are not complete separately but they are reinforced by a head which leads a gang of thieves and killers and as it is an exposed realism to everybody that there is a nonentity fairness and the arms being vended to anybody is not a big thing in this world of crime which deals with money, only money. Secondly, as we see movies and serials are lightening the mind of the young people with the thoughts of the daring triggers by viewing the hero with such features as precisely of a criminal. These rising problems are taking control over individuals mind and nonentity is safe even in this sovereign country.

Not in-depth and methodical study, the influence of anarchy in the Pakistan's economy has been assumed so far, roam articles have seemed in magazines and newspapers identify the opposite effect of turbulences but the problems have not been inspected in any intelligible way from the position of country economy. This study is an endeavor to identify and observe the socio-economic issues liable

<sup>3</sup> Buohanno, Paolo (2003), the Socioeconomic Determinants of Crime: A Review of the Literature. Universita degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca.

<sup>4</sup> Allen, Ralph (1996), socioeconomic conditions and property crime: A comprehensive review and test of the professional literature. American Journal of Economics and Sociology, Volume 55, pp. 293-308.

<sup>5</sup> Becker, G. (1974), Crime and Punishment: An Economic Approach.

<sup>6</sup> Chester, C. R., (1976) "Perceived Relative Deprivation as a Cause of Property Crime", Crime and Delinquency, 22 (1), 17-30

<sup>7</sup> Hughes, M. and T. Carter (1981) "A Declining Economy and Sociological Theories of Crime: Predictions and Explications" In K. N. Wright, ed. Crime and Criminal Justice in a Declining Economy, Cambridge: Oelgeschlager, Gunn & Hain, 5-25

<sup>8</sup> Stack, S. (1984) "Income Inequality and Property Crime", Criminology, 22(2), 229-57

<sup>9</sup> A.Mohammad (2017), Karachi dominance: Economic and financial hub of Pakistan, Pakistan and gulf economists.

for crime in Pakistan. The objective is to determine and analyze empirically the relationship between crime and major economic factors (unemployment, poverty and inflation) and to suggest preventive measures to help check and to counter the crime ration in Pakistan.

In this paper we will explain the state of crime in two districts of Karachi (East and west). The focus of this research paper is to understand the state of crime and to know why this crime ratio is increasing in Karachi. We will explain why/how and what extent of crime is there? We will identify the dominant reasons of crimes and give recommendation to identify and readdress the crime.

The other chapters of research paper are prearranged as shadow. In chapter two the relevant literature is reviewed, the major findings of the research study are elaborated in Chapter three, further, recommendations are given accordingly.

## Methodology Adopted

To collect evidence on the scale and socio-economic effects on crime, the researchers employed quantitative methods to comprehend the current situation of crime in Karachi. Further, to serve the purpose, the researchers devised a plan to study socio economic impact of crime in District Karachi, Sindh.

To commence the task researchers identified the most two effected districts of Karachi, east and west. To collect quantitative evidence, about 220 structured close-ended questionnaires were filled from the consenting two districts. The sample size of collected data is given below the table.

Table 1 : Respondents covered per District

East district	110
South district	110
<b>Total</b>	<b>220</b>

## *Rationale for Selection of Districts and population*

The state of crime ratio is high in Karachi as compared to others districts of Pakistan. The most two affected districts of Karachi (East and south) are selected to comprehend the state and reasons of crime. Karachi having an area of 3,782 sq Km, is divided into six districts. Karachi population is almost 21 million (almost the double the size of London). But due to lack of mismanagement and resources, problems are there. The chief aim of the research paper is to identify the picture of crime and suggest the road map for government as well as community members to readdress/overcome the crime ratio.

## Objectives of the study

- i. To comprehend the causes and important factors which are causing increased crime rate in Karachi, Pakistan.
- ii. To distinguish the socio-economic status while comparing with crime ratio.
- iii. Suggest some measures and recommendations for further road map.

## Review of Literature

In order to perceive crime, its consequences and the augmented likelihood of deterioration, a protuberant place in letters is engaged by its informal clarification and, so, by explaining its causes. Three major factors of crime are may be: (1) socio-economic factors (2) Poor education, (3) Depression whether as a result of grouped or the individual value system of those engaged in illegal activities.

The research study stresses that low income and low expected cost of crimes lead to an increase in the inclination of committing crimes. Furthermore, low income people view their legal lifetime earnings not much and they assume to lose comparatively small earnings if they have criminal record. Role of crime in Socio-Economics has become a new area of study. Literature suggest that that during last decade the crimes ratio has been increased rapidly in Asian as well as western countries.

The review of literature brings up that various socio-economic and political factors are responsible for crimes in developing countries like Pakistan. Not many studies are available in the literature which have included socio-economic and political factors responsible for crimes in Pakistan. The current study is strive to analyze the impact of socio-economic, political and factors on crimes in Pakistan. The results of this study may provide guidelines to the practitioners and policy makers to formulate and implement appropriate policies which may be helpful in reducing crimes in Pakistan.

The world is facing a growing trend in criminal and violent behavior overtime. Criminals have modelled a threat to people, life, property and activity since time immemorial<sup>10</sup>. Many Research has revealed that poor socio-economic status of people and lack of quality education is responsible for abundant of the bigotry we see; it inclines people to criminal behavior<sup>11</sup>. It is commonly believed that crimes affect the quality of life, limiting educational opportunity, impeding access to possible job opportunities and discouraging the accumulation of assets<sup>12</sup>. The extent of crimes determines the ability of a country in paving the way for sustainable economic growth. Fajnzylber (2000) discusses the role of income in committing the crimes by people<sup>13</sup>.

Relative-deprivation theory suggest that, if in a society there is a huge ratio of crime and criminal behavior then this is the signal to the administration that the running system is not favorable for the people, and their socio-economic status in the society (Chester, 1976<sup>14</sup>; Hughes and Carter<sup>15</sup>, 1981; Stack, 1984). Hence, this theory state that the people commit crimes in light of low earning opportunities and taking into accounts the human prerequisites needs and over-all imbalance in the social system.

Dissimilar disciplines of academia like law, criminology, sociology, geography, demography, and psychology and view crime in their own insight owing to its multifaceted nature. The association amid crimes and dissimilar issues has been deliberate massively which has led to the growth of dissimilar theories connected to crime<sup>16</sup>.

Fajnzylber et al. (2000) stated that demeanor cross-sectional analysis by means of income inequality, education, per capita income and urbanization ratio. The study revealed that the major reason of the crime is economic inequality. The study accomplishes that more than four percent upsurge in income disparity (Gini Index) leads to rising of carnage and bloodshed rate by fifteen percent and many fold increase in robberies<sup>17</sup>.

<sup>10</sup> Vienna 2009, 18th Session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, UNODC.

<sup>11</sup> Taimor.M 2018, crime and society, Dawn available at <https://www.dawn.com/news/1381283>.

<sup>12</sup> Victom support (2017) How can crime affect you? available at <https://www.victimsupport.org.uk/help-and-support/coping-crime/how-can-crime-affect-you>.

<sup>13</sup> Fajnzylber.P (2000), crime and victimization An economic perspective.

<sup>14</sup> Chester, C. R., (1976) "Perceived Relative Deprivation as a Cause of Property Crime", *Crime and Delinquency*, 22 (1), 17-30

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<sup>16</sup> Gumus, Erdal (2004), *Crime in urban areas: An empirical investigation*. Akdeniz I.I. B.F. Dergisi, Volume 7, pp. 98-109.

<sup>17</sup> Fajnzylber, P., Lederman, D., Loayza, N., Reuter, P., Roman, J., &Gaviria, A. (2000). *Crime and victimization: An economic perspective [with comments]*. *Economia*, 219-302

Citizens police liaison committee (CPLC) states that the crime ratio has been decreased from the year 2015 as we compare to 2016, and lot of improvement have been seeing in Sindh police<sup>18</sup>. However, it has been recorded officially that the street crimes increased 38% and the snatching of motorbike were also higher than previous year. The consulate considers that the increasing crime rate in Karachi is due to lack of police control and uses of innovative techniques to identify the criminals. No doubt, the law and enforcement agencies including rangers initiated on wide range security operations consequently betterments and fruitful results in several categories, but the brutal ratio of crime rate still on top.<sup>19</sup>

In current literature different factors have been recognized which are responsible for crimes but there is no consensus on the causes of crimes. Though, it is usually putative that crimes have produced unlike insinuations connecting to financial and communal costs to the society. Due to crimes society has to experience various costs which comprise injuries producing health problems, loss of work for victim's family, loss due to incapability to attend the school, expenses on recoveries from mental tremor caused by crimes, opposing belongings on excellence of life and expenses on security system like security guards, alarm systems, lock systems, self-defenses etc.

Faraz (2018) explained that the crime rate in Karachi is mounting gradually.<sup>20</sup> Crime is big challenge for emerging countries which militaries the states to devote an enormous amount of money on founding and upholding police and judicial system<sup>21</sup>. Also, there is an upsurge in terrorist attacks which have abridged the writ of the administration in some areas of the country<sup>22</sup>. In Pakistan, it has also observed that different types of crimes have been used for backing illegal activities and during the last decade it is very alarming situation of Pakistan<sup>23</sup>.

The criminal's activities during the four to five years have cost the city more than 60,000 lives. Further the Karachi economy collapses, many investors are frightened to invest such a bad condition. Many criminal's gangs are working, and sadly these gangs are back by political parties. So further, the Pakistan economy has been troubled and loss their way<sup>24</sup>.

In recent decade Pakistan has faced a sequence of impacts on the society, persuaded by the financial slumps, having a noteworthy influence on the insight of moral and social values. List of the crime report of Pakistan 2016 is given below<sup>25</sup>.

Table 2 : Crime reported by types and province, year 2016

Offence	Punjab	Sindh	K-P	Baluchistan	ISB	G-B	AJK	Pakistan
<b>Murder</b>	3995	1445	2481	382	94	67	50	8516
<b>Attempt to Murder</b>	4647	1955	2900	340	141	84	208	10279
<b>Kidnaping/Abduction</b>	13349	2891	1214	215	81	32	271	18057
<b>Dacoity</b>	825	707	58	30	12	04	0	1636
<b>Robbery</b>	10078	2409	206	160	185	07	42	13088
<b>Burglary</b>	11586	1472	840	154	297	59	164	14572
<b>Cattle theft</b>	5384	419	122	67	29	20	26	6068

<sup>18</sup> Citizens police liaison committee (2016), crime statistics.

<sup>19</sup> OSAC (2017), Pakistan crime and safety report Karachi, available at <https://www.osac.gov/pages/ContentReportDetails.aspx?cid=21168>

<sup>20</sup> k.Faraz 2018, Street crime: Operation failed to curb Karachi's biggest problem, the express tribune available at <https://tribune.com.pk/story/1599959/1-street-crime-operation-failed-curb-karachis-biggest-problem/>.

<sup>21</sup> Pew research center (2014), Crime and Corruption Top Problems in Emerging and Developing Countries.

<sup>22</sup> Dawn (2018), TERRORISM IN PAKISTAN, available at <https://www.dawn.com/trends/terrorism-in-pakistan>

<sup>23</sup> Numbeo (2018), Crime in Karachi Pakistan.

<sup>24</sup> Chisti. A (2012), Karachi city and ethnicity, Friday times.

<sup>25</sup> Pakistan bureau of statistics (2015), Government of Pakistan, Crime Data and Analysis (2001-2015) Ministry of Interior Islamabad.

<b>Other theft</b>	29674	2455	1093	249	489	48	67	34320
<b>Others</b>	328610	58794	163403	7051	5689	1226	5135	571018
<b>Total recorded crimes</b>	<b>408148</b>	<b>72547</b>	<b>172317</b>	<b>8648</b>	<b>7017</b>	<b>1547</b>	<b>5963</b>	<b>677554</b>

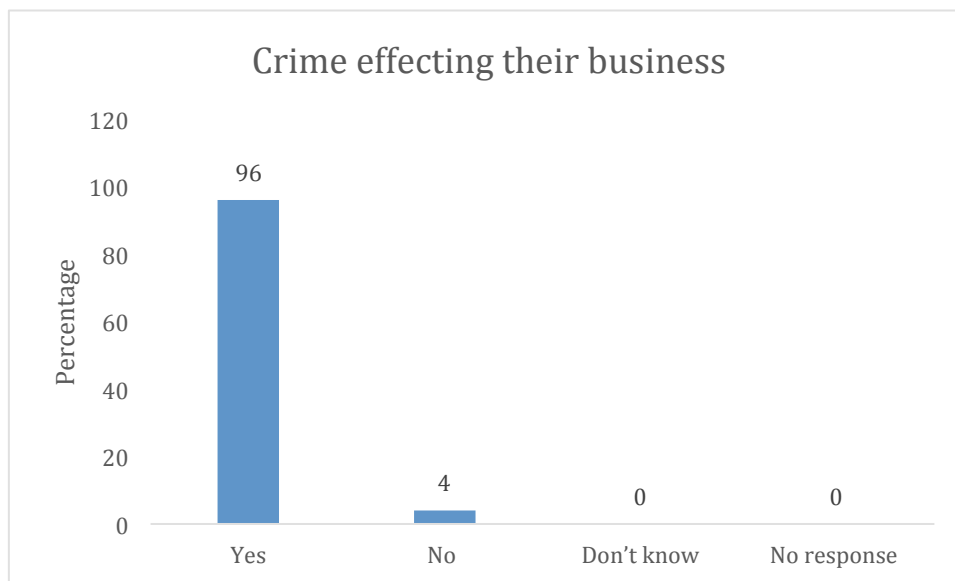
Many study revealed that the recorded data may suffer from lack of evidence and in the recording procedures of the police<sup>26</sup>. It may be lack of sufficient technology and adaptation of the innovative techniques to identify the crime<sup>27</sup>.

But, the government of Sindh has taken different innovative techniques to control crime<sup>28</sup>. Foreign countries have been acknowledged the scarification against war and terrorism. Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono has valued Pakistan's sacrifices and success in the struggle against terrorism<sup>29</sup>. Also, In the 5<sup>th</sup> consultation the Philippines officials appreciated the Pakistan role and sacrifices against terrorism<sup>30</sup>. As we discuss the current situation of the Karachi, then we can see the positive results in the light of army, rangers and police department, there work must be appreciable and more work is required to overcome/readdress the crime situation<sup>31</sup>.

### Quantitative Finding

In this chapter we will discuss the respondent’s perception and will identify the key factors behinds rapidly increasing crime rate in mentioned two districts of Karachi.

#### ***Do you think that crime is affecting on your business?***



It was asked from the respondents that Do they think that crime is affecting on their business? A significant number of respondents (96%) replied that crime is affecting their business. The researchers come to know that people were frustrated about law and order situation.

<sup>26</sup> FAJNZYLBEP.P, (2017), inequality and violent crime.

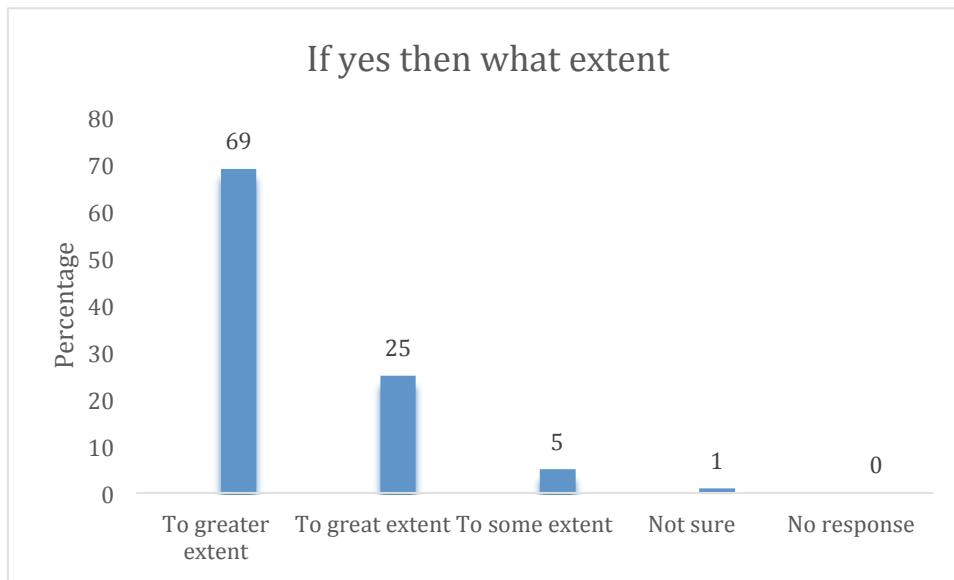
<sup>27</sup> William.S (2017), Challenges and Choices for Crime-Fighting Technology Federal Support of State and Local Law Enforcement.

<sup>28</sup> Ali.I (2017), Sindh police recommend steps to improve criminal justice system, Dawn.

<sup>29</sup> Radio pakiatn (2018) Japan lauds Pakistan's sacrifices in war on terror.

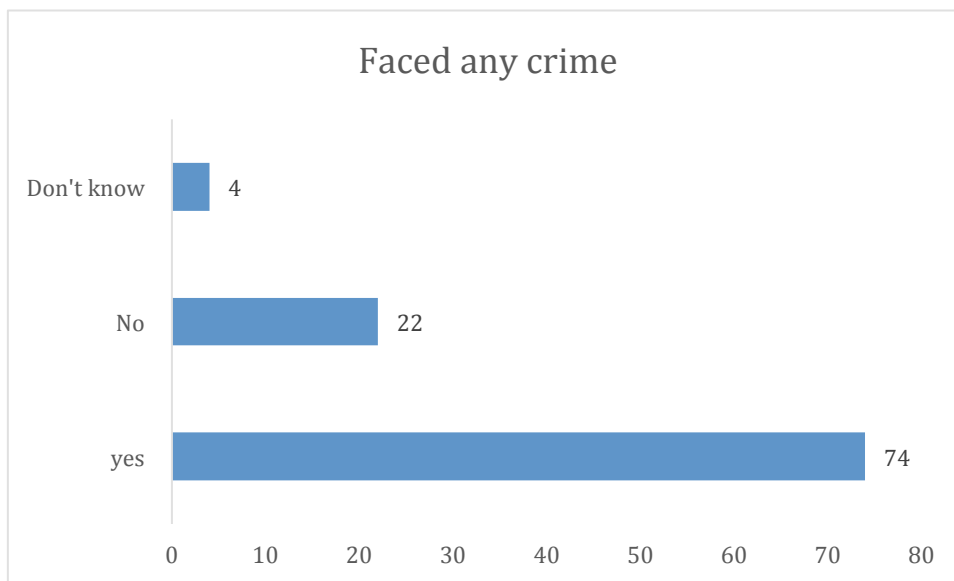
<sup>30</sup> PT (2018), Philippines appreciates Pakistan’s role in fight against terrorism.

<sup>31</sup> Sulaiman.G (2017), Karachi Street Crime Report 2017: Districts With the Highest Crime Rate.



Majority i-e 69% of the respondents told that their business is stopped and effected due to of law and order situation in their area. But some people were saying that situation is better as compared to last decade and they were hoping to improve further. Thus, it is clear that majority of the respondents are facing lot of problems due to of crime.

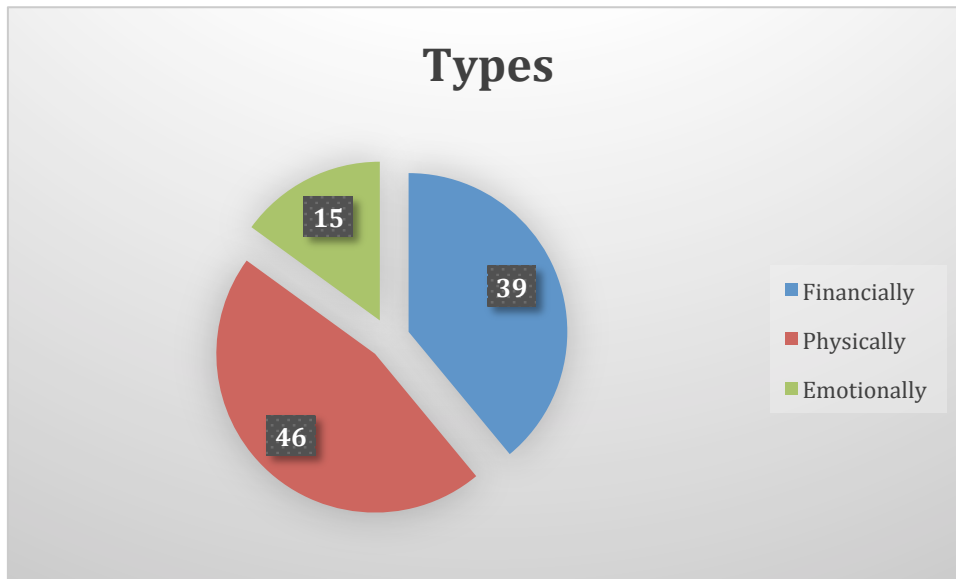
***Are you or your family member faced any criminal act in your surroundings?***



In this regard when it was asked from the researchers that they or their family member faced criminal activity? Then researches were shocked to know that about 96% respondents told that they were faced or their relatives.

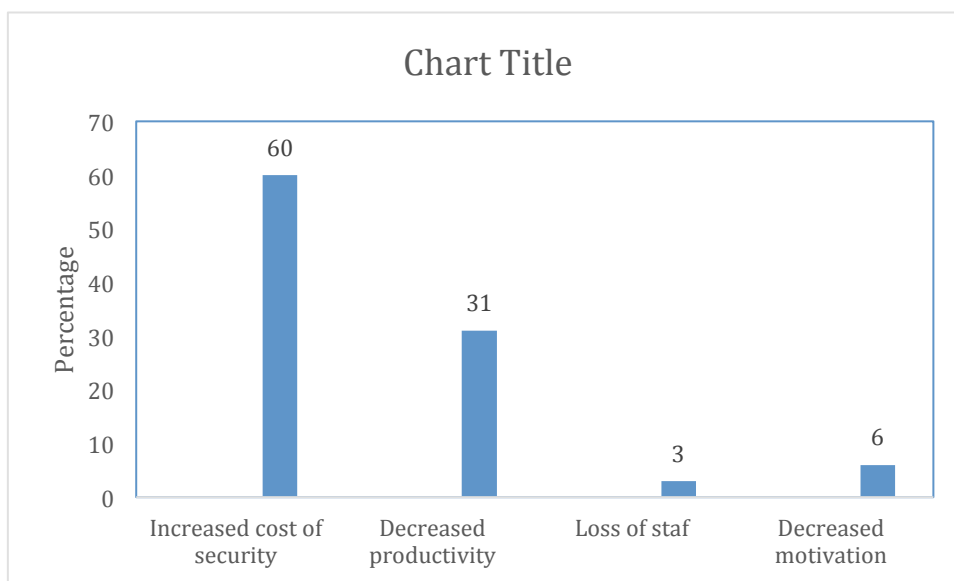
***If yes then what type of loss they faced?***

A vast majority of the respondents (46%) affirms that they were faced physical torture and (39%) respondents confirmed that they affected by financially when they were outside home. Rest of (15%) respondents hurt emotionally.



***Due to of crime what kind of financial burden you are facing?***

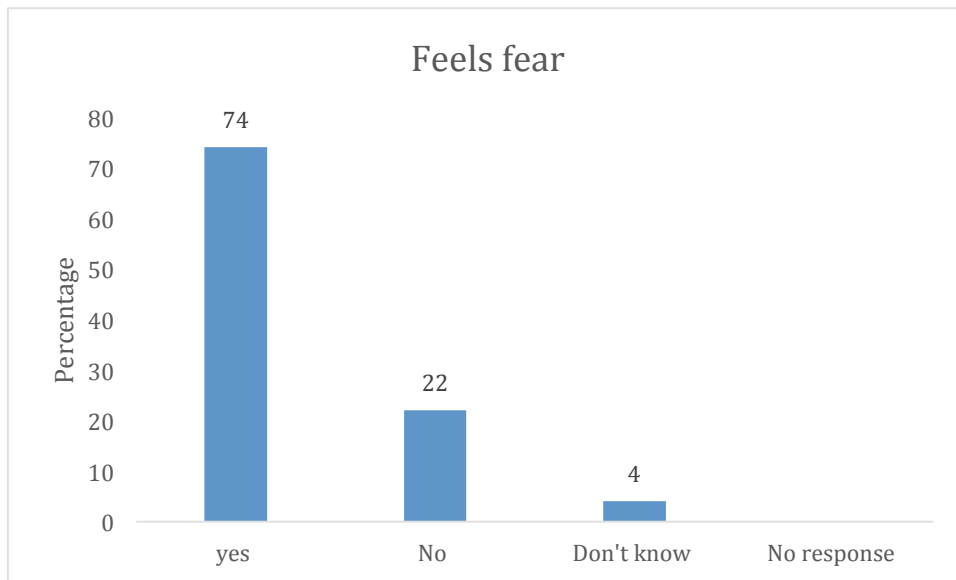
Upon asking due to crime what type of crime they are facing? A higher percentage of (60%) told that due to bad law and order situation their cost has been increased. There are deprive to hire security guards and other security measures to control crime. Only (31%) respondents feel that their business is affected badly and their growth of business has been decreased.



***Do you feel fear due to crime in your home, or working place?***

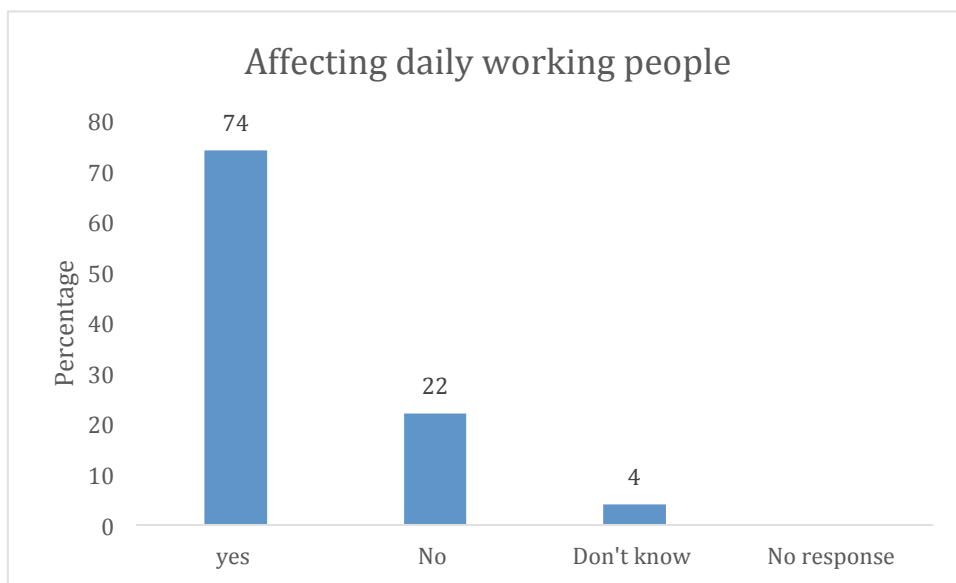
A major chunk of (74%) respondents told that they feel fear to go outside in evening or night. The researcher come to know that many respondents were in stress and they were in strong concern about their security.





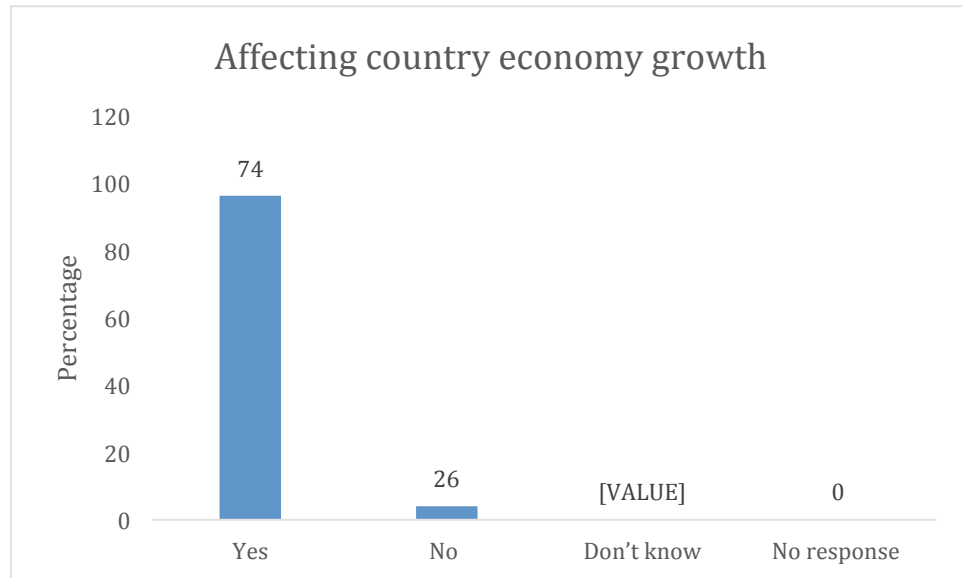
***Do you think crime effects especially on those people who are working on daily basis?***

When researcher asked to the respondents that do they agree that crime affecting daily base earning people. Almost (82%) respondents agreed that due to of crime daily working people are more affected, and they are facing trouble to earn money and feed of their child.



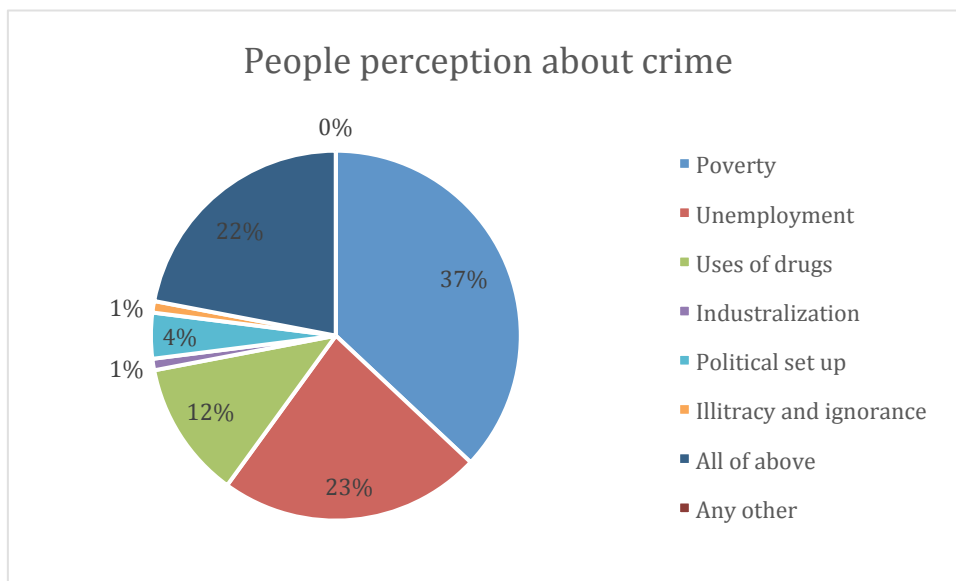
***Do you think due to crime country facing trouble in socio-economic growth?***

In the same vein, when asked to the respondents that do they think that country facing socio-economic problems? About (74%) respondents told that due to crime the country growth has been stopped.



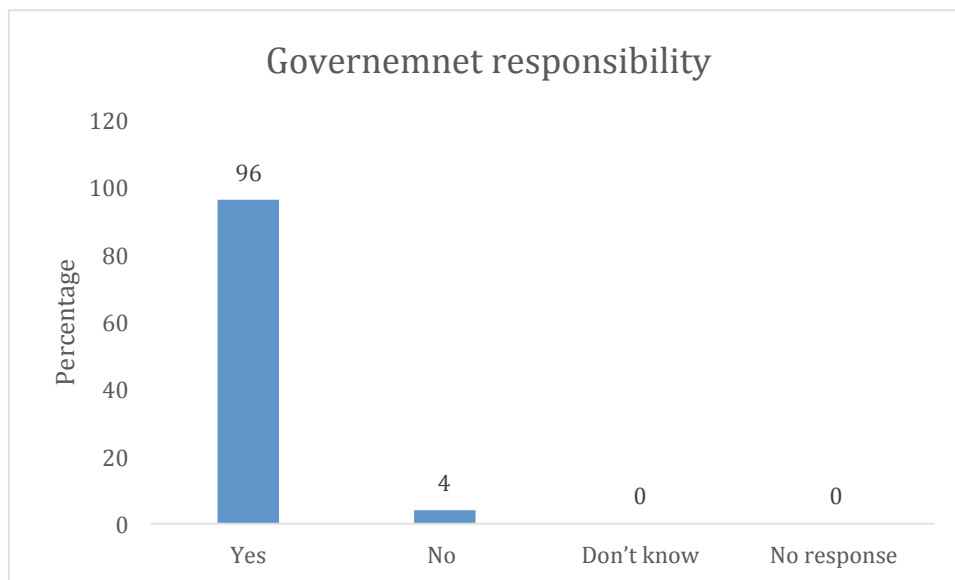
***In your view what is reasons behind crime in your area?***

About 37 percent people told that due to of poverty crime in increasing rapidly. They were their opinion that by reducing poverty we can reduced the crime.



***Do you think government need to control or overcome crime ratio?***

When asked to the respondents that do they think that government need to control/overcome crime ratio? In this regard, strikingly (96%) of respondents feels that government should take responsibility to control law and order situation.



## Recommedations

To diminish the crime rate, it is substantial that economic growth would be beneficial for poverty-stricken persons of the society. The resources should be utilize particularly in those sectors where overwhelming poor have been living and work on daily wages (comparatively less developed areas).because poverty is root of crime actually.

There is utmost need to use campaigns through mass media and well print media to give awareness to overcome crime. We need to progress those tools to make sure that everyone feels important and be concerned for through parenting interferences, family involvements, wellbeing campaigns, and most important early childhood education.

There is need to empowers the highly educated people because survey revealed that unpeopled people are really struggling to find out the way and to earn money to feed their children. when they could not get jobs then they turn towards crime to meet their bread and butter.

Karachi is one of the biggest city of Pakistan. And due to availability of employment, number of people are come there to work on daily basis. All ethnic group people who are working here need to give awareness to respected and encourage other ethnic group people so that they can live positive way.

There is need to improve the security system with implementation of innovative technologies, so that criminals could be identify easily.

Socio-economic justice should be first and foremost goal of the policy makers and think tanks and by alleviating poverty the crime ratio can be decrease.

It is imperative to have writ of state by implementing the rule of law and speedy justice system and justice should not only be done but should also appear to done, by implementation of rule of law the society would flourish and socio-economic status of people would be uplifted.

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