



SCALE DEVELOPMENT ON THE DIMENSIONS OF CULTURE OF SECURITY IN DAVAO CITY USING FACTOR ANALYSIS

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Abstract:

This paper aimed to develop a multidimensional framework of the culture of security in Davao City. This study employed a quantitative, non-experimental research design employing Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA). A research-developed instrument was used, based on in-depth interviews with 10 key informants and supported by related literature and studies. To determine the validity of the items, the researcher employed the Content Validity Ratio (CVR), in which experts reviewed and validated the instrument. All item statements that passed the threshold of 0.50 were selected and used for the survey questionnaire. As a result, 70-item instruments were developed and used as data-collection tools, administered to 400 residents in Davao City as research respondents. Using Exploratory Factor Analysis, 55 items remained in the model after 24 rotations and iterations, yielding 10 constructs that constitute the dimensions of the culture of security in Davao City. Using thematic analysis, the factors were clustered into the following categories: security preparedness, crisis management, community involvement, community policing, operational readiness, public trust, peace advocacy, inclusive security policing, security capability building, and collaborative governance. Revealed structures of the culture of security can underscore the sustenance of Davao City's security culture by continuously reinforcing positive attitudes, norms, and an empowered public, fostering collective peace and resilience.

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1. Introduction

Complacency—a self-satisfied and often uncritical feeling of security or safety, unaware of actual dangers or deficiencies—is the new threat, as it invalidates any security or safety concern (Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust, 2020). Complacency regarding security refers to a reactive response marked by a diminished sense of individual responsibility for personal safety (Greulich, 2024). In the Philippines, Davao City Police Office reported eight prevalent crimes from rape, murder, homicide, physical injury, robbery, motorjacking, and carjacking from 2022 to 2023, where perpetrators were victims' residences and even relatives (Mordeno, 2024).

Furthermore, there is substantial research on security culture—a set of shared values, beliefs, and practices that influence how individuals and groups manage and perceive security risks—but it is more focused on the characteristics of security information, cybersecurity, and nuclear security. Few studies have examined the development of a situated measurement tool for security culture. Nonetheless, in the Philippines, few studies on the subject are available. Additionally, exploratory factor analysis of the culture of security can help address the issue's complexity (Ledesma, 2021), identify underlying factors, and guide evidence-based resolution and arbitration to elucidate the security culture of Dabawenyos and reduce complacency among them.

Likewise, some evidence from prior research is pivotal but offers limited insight into the factors shaping security culture and the development of frameworks for Davao City's Security Canvas. In the Philippines, few criminology researchers use Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) to analyze security culture in depth (Widaman, 2023). Researchers are encouraged to develop a dimension using EFA to identify and measure the factors shaping security culture in Davao City.

1.1 Study Objective

The study aims to develop a framework for the factors describing the culture of security in Davao City. In particular, it entails achieving the following: determining the factor structure of the culture of security in Davao City and developing a multidimensional framework for the culture of security in the Context of the Dabawenyos. Additionally, this study assumes that the factor construct in the culture of security is multidimensional and a function of F_1, F_2, F_3, \dots, n .

1.2 Framework of the Study

This study was anchored in "Theory of Planned Behavior" by Icek Ajzen. The theory examines individual behavior guided by intentions shaped by attitudes, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control (1991). In a security culture, an individual's behavior reflects how they evaluate secure practices, which are influenced by the perceived ease or comfort of these practices. Ajzen showed that subjective norms are the perceived social influence to perform security behavior. Perceived behavioral control

refers to a person's belief in their ability to follow security protocols, taking into account their experiences and potential challenges.

The framework of this study, a schematic model of multiple measures or determinants of the culture of security in Davao City, is presented in Figure 1. Moreover, the measurements labelled as Factor 1...n describe the factors. At the center is the main variable, surrounded by the hypothesized factors.

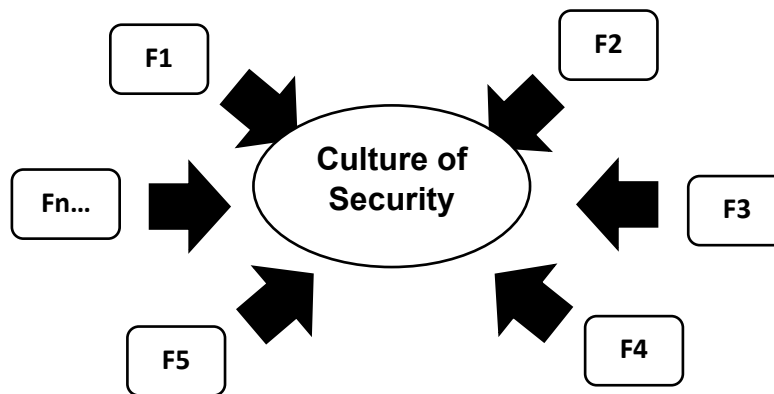


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework of the Study

The independent variable is the culture of security, operationally defined as the norms, beliefs, and practices within the community that reinforce security behavior, with shared responsibility among members of society for protecting assets against threats or vulnerabilities, particularly among the Dabawenyos.

2. Literature Review

The culture of security refers to the ideas, customs, and social behaviors that can influence the overall security of an individual, organization, or community in which they reside. These highlights of the culture of security comprise thought processes, knowledge, habits, and behaviors. Thus, an effective security culture involves more than policies and procedures; it requires a holistic approach that integrates into everyday life and individuals' mindsets (Carpenters *et al.*, 2022).

Furthermore, media literacy and community engagement thus play crucial roles in fostering a culture of security. It was exemplified that such media initiatives should promote educational and culturally relevant content that positively influences behavior and character development. Davao City's culture of security highlighted the importance of collective vigilance and community involvement in response to the Roxas Night Market explosion and terrorism threats. This necessitates that all societal sectors contribute to a resilient and secure environment, reflecting the thought processes, knowledge, habits, and behaviors essential to an organizational security culture (Morato, 2021).

The culture of security emphasizes the proactivity and dedication of Dabawenyos in participating in and supporting efforts against terrorism, crime, and insurgency. This effort aims to foster a safe and secure community, both physical and psychological. Thus, four (4) acts are embodied in the culture of security in Davao City: (1) Volunteer to any security protocols, (2) Report any suspicious activity or person, (3) Remind family members or friends about security laws in the city, and (4) Participate in advocating the culture of security within the community. The aim is to build a resilient city in which security is embedded in daily life, fostering peace and attracting investment, thereby making Davao City a leading secure city in the Philippines (Duterte, 2021).

Furthermore, Task Force Davao (2023) launches a new security infomercial in partnership with the Department of Education at Davao City National High School to provide a concrete campaign to raise awareness among young people about the city's security and safety situation. Encouraging elementary and high school students to take an empowering role in maintaining peace and order in their daily lives. Thus, limitations arise from the infomercial provided by TFD, which restricts it to a single school.

3. Materials and Method

This section presents the study participants, materials and instruments, design, and procedures.

3.1 Study Participants

This study represents the three Districts of Davao City, one of the highly urbanized cities in the Philippines. It was the largest by land area and one of the most populous cities in the country. This includes a diverse culture, high urbanization, and a growing economic movement (City Government of Davao, n.d.). Given the area's specific characteristics, crime is inevitable. In fact, the City Government of Davao issues an order encouraging Dabawenyos to adopt a culture of security as part of their daily lives, making it an ideal research subject (City Government of Davao, 2023).

The quantitative phase involved 400 respondents residing in Davao City and aged 18 years and above. The sample size was deemed very good since the lower threshold for exploratory factor analysis is at two hundred (200). Thus, the maximum sample size is above 400 (Maslakçi, Sürücü, & Yikilmaz, 2022). Moreover, the researcher employed a stratified random sampling method based on ratios and percentages. This approach is regarded as the most time- and cost-effective method for probability-based sampling in large geographic areas. It offers high accessibility and objectivity across different sample groups (Hassan, 2024).

3.2 Materials and Instrument

The research used a researcher-developed instrument derived from the literature, along with interviews with law enforcement agencies, residents, business sectors with business permits, and other experts from the academe with 10 years of service in the field of

Criminology in Davao City. Their responses served as the basis for formulating the survey questionnaire and were subject to content and expert validation. The validity of the survey questionnaire was assessed using the Content Validity Ratio (CVR), conducted by 10 expert validators from Criminology and Law Enforcement. To guarantee that the survey items were reliable and valid. Based on the Content Validity Ratio Results, only 70 items were retained out of 189. This means 119 items were eliminated. The 70-item survey instrument was distributed to 400 residents.

3.3 Design and Statistical Tools

This study employed a quantitative, non-experimental research design using Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA). Non-experimental research designs include those in which the researcher analyzes the relationship between pre-existing groups or characterizes a group (Sürücü, 2024). The EFA technique is the most appropriate research design for efficiently extracting information from multivariate data. Using this method, the researcher clusters associated variables in an uncontrolled, natural setting to summarize the data (Widaman, 2023).

Moreover, the statistical methods employed to analyze the collected data include Sampling Adequacy and Sphericity Tests, Data Reduction Analysis, and the Factor Rational Method. Kaiser Meyer-Olkin was utilized to test the sampling adequacy, and Barlett's Test to test the sphericity of the collected data. The utilization was done to identify the appropriateness of the data for the analysis of the factor (Shrestha, 2021). To reduce data, principal component analysis was used to derive the factor structure of the culture of security in Davao City (Sarkar, 2023). To determine which factors to retain for rotation, the factor rotation method was employed, using Percentage of Variance and Orthogonal Rotation with Direct Oblimin to simplify relationships among factors (Alordiah, 2023). To determine which factors to retain for rotation, the factor rotation method was employed, using Percentage of Variance and Orthogonal Rotation with Direct Oblimin to simplify relationships among factors (Alordiah, 2023). Lastly, thematic analysis was employed to identify themes derived from the extracted constructs. Thus, thematic analysis is a method for identifying patterns or themes within data (Christou, 2022).

4. Results and Discussion

The findings and analysis of the gathered data are presented in this section. Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) was used to evaluate survey questionnaire data. The results are presented as follows: measures of Sampling Adequacy and Sphericity; the Rotated Component matrix; the Extracted Factors characterizing the Culture of Security of Davao City; the Latent Roots Criterion of the Extracted Factors; and the Framework developed from the study's findings. A discussion is provided to clarify and explain the findings.

4.1 Measures of Sampling Adequacy and Sphericity

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy and Bartlett's Test of Sphericity are provided in Table 1. The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) is a statistical measure used to assess whether the sample size is adequate for factor analysis (Zhang, 2024). The determinant score is calculated to assess the predictor variable. The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin described as value of $>.90$ as marvelous; $.80$ s, meritorious; $.70$ s, middling; $.60$ s, mediocre, in the $.50$ s, miserable, and less than $.50$, unacceptable (Kaiser, 1974). Given the KMO score of this study (0.915), the sample size is excellent, adequate, and well correlated, indicating that the data are exceptionally well-suited for factor analysis and that factor analysis is an ideal technique for the data set.

Table 1: Measures of Sampling Adequacy and Sphericity

Measurement		Value
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy		.915
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. χ^2	33585.902
	df	2415
	Sig.	.000

Bartlett's Test of Sphericity is a statistical test used to assess the significance of all relationships across all entries in the employed matrix (Shrestha, 2021). It compares the identity matrix to an observed correlation matrix. It examines whether any commonality among the variables can be quantified. The number of degrees of freedom for the dataset is 2415. Bartlett's Test of Sphericity yielded a p-value of 0.000, indicating that the datasets are not identical. Factor analysis is the most appropriate technique for identifying variables that characterize the culture of security in Davao City. The significant p-value ($p = 0.000$) indicates that the correlation matrix is not an identity matrix, thereby rejecting the null hypothesis, as shown in Table 1.

4.2 Extracted Factors Characterizing the Culture of Security in Davao City

Table 2 presents the extracted factors retained after applying extraction and retention techniques to characterize the security culture in Davao City. Those items that exceed the criteria of > 0.50 are deemed eligible. Moreover, items with a loading of 0.50 or less were excluded. Thematic analysis was utilized to determine underlying constructs. Thematic analysis is most appropriate when researchers seek to identify patterns that categorize themes within the culture of security.

Based on the extracted factors, 10 latent constructs were identified:

- 1) Security Preparedness,
- 2) Crisis Management,
- 3) Community Involvement,
- 4) Community Policing,
- 5) Operational Readiness,
- 6) Public Trust,
- 7) Peace Advocacy,

- 8) Inclusive Security Planning,
- 9) Security Capability Building, and
- 10) Collaborative Governance.

Factor 1 was labeled as Security Preparedness (twelve items, accounting for 41.605% of the total variance). The items on this scale reflected a proactive approach to innovation and preventive measures to mitigate threats to the city. This extracted factor also aligns with the Theory of Planned Behavior, reflecting perceived behavioral control and attitude, and indicates that community and organizational members act securely when they believe they can and should prepare (Ajzen, 1991).

Factor 2 was labeled Crisis Management (seven items, accounting for 6.89% of the total variance). The items on the scale reflected how the community and organization respond to an incident or crisis, emphasizing not only prevention but also response. Crisis management effectiveness indicates that security is embedded in the system rather than merely an ad hoc response (Tejon *et al.*, 2023). It provides a framework for security decision-making that aligns with the organization's strategy and culture, sets direction, establishes guidelines and principles, and prioritizes security investments (Koh *et al.*, 2005).

Factor 3 was labeled as Community Involvement (six items, accounting for 4.902% of the total variance). This measures the extent to which community members are involved in security planning, risk reduction, local monitoring, and participatory decision-making, implying shared responsibility and ownership of the security culture (Nubani *et al.*, 2023). Reid (2020) found that when communities are directly involved in security initiatives, the perceptions of policing and safety improve. Foster mutual accountability and strengthen behavioral norms to sustain a culture of security.

Factor 4 was labeled as Community Policing (8 items, accounting for 4.184% of the total variance). This factor shapes the presence and practice of modern policing, whereby the community and law enforcement reinforce a culture of security through participation and shared ownership of security outcomes. According to Alehegn (2025), collaboration between law enforcement and local communities in problem-solving and implementing structural reforms within the security or policing system fosters innovation and a proactive approach to deter and address crime.

Factor 5 is labeled as Operational Readiness (4 items, accounting for 3.824% of the total variance). This factor represents the effectiveness and preparedness of security institutions in the routine operations, simulations, and respectful engagement with civilians. Zuhroh (2021) states that readiness mediates the relationship between organizational culture and security performance, indicating that readiness is one component of security culture, such as joint exercises and checkpoints.

Factor 6 labeled as Public Trust (5 items, accounting for 3.009% of the total variance). It measures the level of public trust in various security institutions, and vice versa. Trust is foundational; without it, a culture of security will not be embedded, and the public won't cooperate with any service or help they can provide to institutions. Schaap (2020) inferred that law enforcement agencies require public trust to perform their

duties effectively and that citizens feel more secure. Because law enforcement represents the state's authority, trust in the police also reflects the state's legitimacy.

Factor 7 is labeled as Peace Advocacy (3 items, accounting for 2.769% of the total variance). Promoting peace, preventing conflict, and pursuing nonviolent resolution are integral to the culture of security. Security is more than the prevention of crimes; it also includes positive environments of peace. The concept of community-shared peace norm-building involves roles in cohesion and conflict prevention (Vandrevala, 2024), and the implication of security governance is peacebuilding and collaborative engagement to explore strategies for nonviolent resolution (Donais, 2021).

Factor 8 is labeled as Inclusive Security Planning (3 items, accounting for 2.433% of the total variance). This factor notes that security planning processes involve diverse stakeholders, such as women, minorities, the business sector, and other non-governmental groups, to ensure equity and participation. According to Panagiotou (2024), the roles of the minority and majority in community preparedness and engagement emphasize the importance of genuine partnership and inclusion in security planning.

Factor 9 is labeled as Security Capability Building (4 items, accounting for 2.212% of the total variance). The factor encompasses skills, competencies, knowledge transfer, and proactive institutional actors capable of instilling security behavior and trained to implement a culture of security. Al-Abbadi & Karim (2022) developed strategies to cultivate a culture of security that enhances institutional performance. In achieving a security culture, awareness of programs and training is a key factor.

Factor 10 is labeled as Collaborative Governance (3 items, accounting for 1.87% of the total variance). This explains that the culture of security is not internal to a single institution but rather a collective governance mechanism: distributed, cooperative, and reliant on a network of institutions. Khudzaifi, Polyando, & Dione (2024) state that collaborative governance, which outlines multiple institutions, their coordination, and the governance mechanisms, can identify obstacles and enablers.

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Table 2: Extracted Factors Characterizing the Culture of Security in Davao City

Item	Extracted Dimensions	Loading
Factor 1 – Security Preparedness		
Culture of Security is characterized by...		
50	Provide security drills and evacuation training to personnel to prepare for potential threats such as hostage-taking and bomb threats.	0.769
45	Use innovation and new technologies to protect the public	0.759
51	Requires their security guards to log incidents and reports.	0.746
55	Support law enforcement presence in commercial zones.	0.663
49	Support peace and order campaigns through community partnerships.	
61	Informed about cybercrime trends and recognized the importance of community awareness about modern security threats	0.639
52	Conducts background checks on key personnel in their workplace.	0.612
54	Support barangay patrols for local safety and security.	0.609
60	Support and knowledgeable about the culture of the security community in the exercise of the city.	0.600
48	Follow security advisories by suspending operations in response to credible threats to public safety.	0.574
46	Regular safety briefings are conducted among safety and emergency personnel (e.g., 911, DCRRMO, BPAT, PNP, TF Davao).	0.554
44	Improved system performance based on user and/or civilian feedback.	0.505
Factor 2 – Crisis Management		
35	Command center protocols based on international best practices.	0.844
34	Crisis communication protocols are effectively managed during emergencies.	0.801
39	Ensure system remains operational during mission-critical applications.	0.744
38	Shares real-time alerts with responders in the field.	0.675
33	Coordinates directly with DCPO, BFP, and Task Force Davao for immediate responses	0.674
37	Validates information before escalating alarms	0.673
36	Provide digital support to DCPO for crime-solving.	0.519
Factor 3 – Community Involvement		
67	Residents are aware of the emergency hotlines and have them saved on their phones.	0.735
66	Collaboration between the barangay and DCPO in community crime prevention programs helps establish public relations.	0.699
70	The discipline instilled by the city's leadership contributes to our secure environment.	0.677
69	That everyone in the city is confident in reporting suspicious activities to local authorities without fear of reprisal.	0.642
65	Safe to walk to, even at night, due to the visible presence of security forces.	0.589
68	Collaborating with Task Force Davao in checkpoints adds a strong layer of deterrence against crime and terrorism.	0.585
Factor 4 – Community Policing		
14	Collaborates with Task Force Davao to conduct joint patrols to ensure public safety.	0.719
12	Collaborate with barangay officials to secure local areas.	0.656
13	Recognize the value of cultural sensitivity when conducting operations in diverse communities.	0.656

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15	Prioritize crime prevention through visibility and community presence.	0.640
18	Encourage citizens to join Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams (BPATs).	0.635
11	Actively take part in school and community initiatives to raise awareness on public safety and crime prevention.	0.600
17	Perform proactive patrolling in crime-prone areas.	0.587
9	Use standard operating procedures for checkpoint operations.	0.554
Factor 5 – Operational Readiness		
2	Respect and cooperate with civilians during a security operation	0.754
3	Together with LGU Davao, 911, DCRRMO, PSSCC, BFP, and the BJMP team are participating in joint simulation exercises with other security units.	0.733
1	The presence of checkpoints prevents major threats to the city.	0.713
29	Regularly update their peace and order contingency plans.	0.541
Factor 6 – Public Trust		
22	Aims to build public trust through integrity and fairness.	0.804
20	Actively engage with marginalized communities to foster trust and cooperation.	0.758
23	Public cooperation is essential for successful crime prevention.	0.743
21	Value feedback from the community to improve police services	0.729
7	The core mission in the city is discipline and professionalism.	0.613
Factor 7 – Peace Advocacy		
63	Engaging with NGOs in peace and conflict resolution also enhances security.	0.786
64	The peace model can inspire national policies.	0.679
62	Support comprehensive approaches to security education.	0.657
Factor 8 – Inclusive Security Planning		
31	Ensure that vulnerable sectors, including older people and PWDs, are included in community security planning.	0.670
30	Assess past responses to public security incidents to enhance future performance.	0.663
32	Integrates real-time incident reports to DCPO, BFP, and TF Davao	0.520
Factor 9 –Security Capability Building		
25	Conduct training programs to build the security capabilities of barangay officials.	0.744
27	Schools coordinate with DCPO to promote awareness of community safety and crime prevention.	0.640
24	Collaborates with PSSCC, TF Davao, and DCPO to strengthen the city's integrated security operations.	0.607
26	Respond quickly to criminal threats and public safety concerns	0.549
Factor 10 – Collaborative Governance		
57	Participates in public forums and seminars to promote awareness about peace and order.	0.704
56	Collaborating with LGU Davao, DCPO, and PSSCC to share information and insights enhances crime-prevention and public-safety strategies.	0.583
58	Help to design and implement policy-based programs to strengthen community security.	0.558

4.3 Latent Roots Criterion of the Extracted Factors

Presented in Table 3 was the latent root criterion of the extracted factors, which indicates that ten (10) dimensions characterizing the culture of security in Davao City can be rooted out from the data set submitted for factor analysis after 24 iterations.

These are determined factor structures:

- 1) security preparedness, with an initialized eigenvalue of 29.123 and a variance of 41.605;
- 2) crisis management with an initialized eigenvalue of 4.823 and a variance of 6.89;
- 3) community involvement with an initialized eigenvalue of 3.431 and a variance of 4.902;
- 4) community policing with an initialized eigenvalue of 2.929 and a variance of 4.184;
- 5) operational readiness with an initialized eigenvalue of 2.677 and a variance of 3.824;
- 6) public trust with an initialized eigenvalue of 2.107 and a variance of 3.009;
- 7) peace advocacy with an initialized eigenvalue of 1.938 and a variance of 2.769;
- 8) inclusive security planning with an initialized eigenvalue of 1.703 and a variance of 2.433;
- 9) security capability building with an initialized eigenvalue of 1.548 and a variance of 2.212; and,
- 10) collaborative governance with an initialized eigenvalue of 1.309 and a variance of 1.87.

Table 3: Latent Roots Criterion of the Extracted Factors

Factors	Initialized Eigenvalue	Percentage of Variance	Cumulative Variance (%)
Security Preparedness	29.123	41.605	41.605
Crisis Management	4.823	6.89	48.494
Community Involvement	3.431	4.902	53.396
Community Policing	2.929	4.184	57.58
Operational Readiness	2.677	3.824	61.404
Public Trust	2.107	3.009	64.413
Peace Advocacy	1.938	2.769	67.183
Inclusive Security Planning	1.703	2.433	69.616
Security Capability Building	1.548	2.212	71.827
Collaborative Governance	1.309	1.87	73.697

4.4 Multidimensional Framework on the Culture of Security

A thematic framework shown in Figure 2 depicts the ten (10) dimensions characterizing the culture of security in Davao City. These factors include security preparedness, crisis management, community involvement, community policing, operational readiness, public trust, peace advocacy, inclusive security policing, security capability building, and collaborative governance.

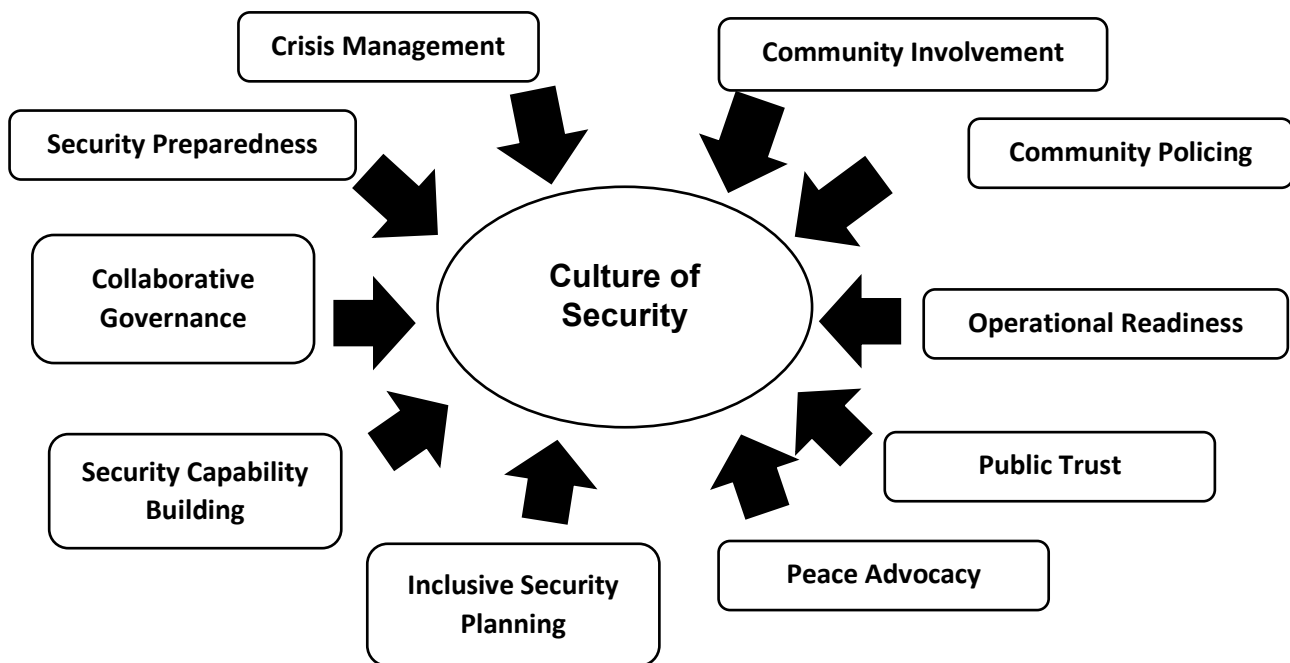


Figure 2: Thematic Framework on the Culture of Security

5. Recommendations

The study has provided valuable insights into understanding the culture of security. Using exploratory factor analysis, the researcher concluded that the culture of security in Davao City has a multidimensional factor structure. The ten (10) factors are as follows: security preparedness, crisis management, community involvement, community policing, operational readiness, public trust, peace advocacy, inclusive security policing, security capability building, and collaborative governance.

Based on the findings, beneficiaries may use the tools recommended. Security Preparedness and Operational Readiness highlights the importance of maintaining up-to-date contingency plans and ensuring that, in regular simulation exercises, most or all institutions participate. Additionally, various stakeholders and security sectors may use the identified factor as a benchmark for designing policies that strengthen operational coordination and preventive security programs. Equally, Crisis Management establishes crisis protocols that clarify roles, streamline the incident-command structure, and standardize risk messaging to mitigate confusion during emergencies—thereby strengthening after-action reviews to enhance learning and resilience within the city's security culture.

Thus, the emphasis on Community Involvement and Community Policing should be sustained among residents, businesses, the academe, and the security sectors. Confidence and vigilance as part of the grassroots consultation and initiation of the Barangay Peacekeeping Action Teams in a joint patrol operation. Likewise, Public Trust and Peace Advocacy suggest that long-term peace and order depend on the clarity of law enforcement, fair treatment of citizens, and the proactive promotion of peace education.

Educational institutions in Davao City integrate civic education to develop a culture of peace and security consciousness.

Furthermore, Inclusive Security Planning is part of the security culture, as it emphasizes that security efforts are recognized across diverse societies, including women, youth, and marginalized groups. The LGU Davao ensures that security and crisis management frameworks incorporate cultural and gender sensitivity as an inclusive approach. Thus, Security Capability Building and Collaborative Governance point to the vital significance of strengthening institutional capacity building in the continuous training, not just national training, but internationally, shared resources and benchmarking from international partners. Collaboration among different security and business sectors to sustain interagency drills and training among their personnel to promote readiness and shared accountability.

Moreover, a research gap is evident: a behavioral and attitudinal gap among Dabawenyos. Although Dabawenyos are known for discipline and compliance, little is known about the motives underlying such behavior. Future research may work on whether adherence to security protocols arises from genuine civic knowledge or fear of sanctions. Understanding the distinction can guide authorities in redesigning the culture of security campaigns. Additionally, the legitimacy of participation and collective efficacy, despite Davao's structured peace and order programs, have been examined through the level and quality of citizen participation in security drills and neighborhood watch initiatives. Future research could examine how community engagement sustains a culture of vigilance.

In addition, the information and awareness gap remains apparent. The LGU Davao and other security sectors invested in multiple information-sharing efforts through advisories, but the reach and comprehension of these efforts across demographics remain unclear. Future researchers may validate and evaluate the effectiveness of such campaigns to reveal whether security advisories influence behavior. Finally, although the study offers a foundational scale, the measurement-evaluation gap remains; future research should conduct confirmatory validation of the instrument and develop standardized indicators that can be applied across institutions.

6. Conclusion

The findings of the study support the theoretical framing of the Theory of Planned Behavior (Ajzen, 1991), which explains individuals' behavior as guided by their attitudes toward the behavior, subject to social norms, and by internal behavioral control. In the context of Davao City, this theory explains how security culture shapes the public's positive attitudes toward safety precautions and vigilance. The ten factors, security preparedness, crisis management, community involvement, community policing, operational readiness, public trust, peace advocacy, inclusive security policing, security capability building, and collaborative governance, are not merely an institutional mandate but intentional behaviors influenced by individual and collective perceptions.

Aligned with the Theory of Planned Behavior, the policies and programs of the security sector, LGU Davao, and community leaders encourage volunteerism and participation in all security efforts, thereby sustaining the city's long-standing reputation for peace, justice, resilience, and public trust.

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