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| Book Name: | **"RURAL JUSTICE IN AFRICA: RETHINKING CRIME, POLICING, AND COMMUNITY SECURITY IN MARGINALISED SPACES"** |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_BPR\_5912.2** |
| Title of the Manuscript:  | **ENHANCING RURAL SAFETY IN SOUTH AFRICA: A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE NATIONAL RURAL SAFETY STRATEGY (NRSS)** |
| Type of the Article | **Book Chapter** |

**Special note:**

**A research paper already published in a journal can be published as a Book Chapter in an expanded form with proper copyright approval.**

**Source Article:**

**This chapter is an extended version of the article published by the same author(s) in the following journal.**

**IRASS Journal of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, 2(6) 27-34, 2025.**

**DOI:** [**https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15574718**](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15574718)

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| PART 1: Comments |
|  | Reviewer’s comment**Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | Author’s Feedback *(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | **The manuscript addresses a critical gap in literature on rural policing in the Africa, especially South Africa’s effort to provide security services in rural areas through its National Rural Safety Strategy (NRSS). The strength of this manuscript is that it evaluates the NRSS’s implementation and highlights the challenges unique to the country and provides highly relevant recommendations. With theoretical and empirical grounding of multiple frameworks, this study provides an actionable insight for academics and policy practitioners a practical guide to overcome safety issues in rural settings, although they are unique to South Africa but can be replicated with local modifications.**  |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?****(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | **An alterative title could be “Rethinking and Enhancing Rural Safety in South Africa: A critical evaluation of National Rural Safety Strategy (NRSS)”** |  |
| Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here. | **The abstract seems to be drafted for a research paper for academic journal; however, it could be enhance with condensing the key contributions for brevity, focusing on impactful recommendations.** |  |
| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.**  | **The manuscript relies on secondary data and complies with all the requirements. However, it could benefit for use of another methods of data collection and its interpretations such as reliance on primary data such as interviews (rural community members, leaders, law enforcement officers working in rural settings), or survey as the manuscript deals with implementation and challenges to NRSS.**  |  |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.****-** | **The references are recent and the following may be used as additional refences**1. Ezekiel Joshua Akpa (2024). The Role of Community Policing in Crime Reduction: Comparative Analysis of South Africa and Kenya. NEWPORT INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CURRENT ISSUES IN ARTS AND MANAGEMENT, 4(1):12-14.  <https://doi.org/10.59298/NIJCIAM/2024/4.1.121413>
2. Arisukwu, O., Igbolekwu, C., Oye, J., Oyeyipo, E., Asamu, F., Rasak, B., & Oyekola, I. (2020). Community participation in crime prevention and control in rural Nigeria. *Heliyon*, *6*(9), Article e05015. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2020.e05015>
3. Zikhali, W. (2019). Community policing and crime prevention: Evaluating the role of traditional leaders under Chief Madliwa in Nkayi District, Zimbabwe. *International Journal for Crime, Justice and Social Democracy*, *8*(4), 109–122. <https://doi.org/10.5204/ijcjsd.v8i4.1179>
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| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | Proofreading is suggested to polish the manuscript.  |  |
| Optional/General comments |  |  |

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| **PART 2:**  |
|  | Reviewer’s comment | Author’s comment *(if agreed with the reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?**  | *(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in detail)* |  |

**Reviewer details:**

**Kashif Hussain, Australia**