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| Book Name: | **"RURAL JUSTICE IN AFRICA: RETHINKING CRIME, POLICING, AND COMMUNITY SECURITY IN MARGINALISED SPACES"** |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_BPR\_5912.5** |
| Title of the Manuscript:  | **THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF RURAL COMMUNITIES AS VICTIMS OF CRIME AND THEIR ENGAGEMENT WITH FORMAL AND INFORMAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS** |
| Type of the Article | **Book Chapter** |

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**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 Multidisciplinary Studies, 2(6): 1-17, 2025.**

**DOI:** [**https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15575000**](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15575000)

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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.** | **I find this manuscript informative in the field of criminology. The work contributes to victimology, especially rural crime in Africa. Most of the research on victimology has concentrated on urban settings and therefore this study is timely.**  |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?****(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | **Even though the title of the article captures the scope of the study, I find it too lengthy. The author should consider revising it. I suggest the following: “**THE LIVED EXPERIENCES OF VICTIMS OF CRIME IN RURAL SETUPS AND ACCESS TO FORMAL AND INFORMAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS” |  |
| 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 ir rather long – 850 words. Ideally, an abtract is an excutive summary of the study. The author(s) appear to include too much details. For instance, the background has unncesary information. I suggest that the author(s) revise the abstract to a maximum of 300 words. I suggest that the abstract includes the following: a background to introduce the topic and show the gap the study addreses, state the objective of the study, present the methods used, highlight the key findings of the study, then offer a conclusion as well as the implications of the study findings. Otherwise as it is, the abstract takes the form of an entire main section of the study.**  |  |
| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.**  | **I find the manuscript scientifically correct. The choice of triangulation, both in methodoly and data analysis has enhanced the credibility and validity of the study findings. The authors have combined survey and interview method. In addition, they have a combination of thematic and case study analysis as well as use of secondary data.**  |  |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.****-** | **The author(s) need to confirm the existence of the cited works. For instance, search for the following journal article return a different author altogether.:** Kekana, T. (2020). Traditional Justice Systems and Their Role in Rural Communities in South Africa. Journal of African Law and Society, 19(1), 47-61. |  |
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| Optional/General comments |  |  |

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|  | 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:**

**Bernard Munyao Muiya, Kenyatta University , Kenya**