

# Curfew Hours in Ilocos Norte

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**Abstract:-** This study was undertaken to determine the implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte. The study made use of a quantitative research method through a descriptive research design. Five (5) Barangay Officials and 15 Barangay residents of selected Barangays from the municipalities of Dingras, Sarrat, San Nicolas and Banna, Ilocos Norte were taken as respondents.

Percentage and frequency was used to analyze the demographic profile of the respondents and weighted mean was used to determine the level of implementation and the problems encountered by Barangay officials and residents on the implementation of curfew hours.

The findings of the study revealed that most of the respondents are between 26-30 with a frequency of 24 or 20.00%. Majority of the respondents are male (70.83%) and majority of them lived in the poblacion or urban areas.

On level of implementation of curfew hours, the study showed that the enforcement of curfew hours is "always" implemented. However, though the results showed that it is always implemented, there are times when Barangay officials and residents encountered problem in the implementation of curfew hours, though those problems are "sometimes" or "rarely" encountered.

Based on the findings, it was therefore recommended that the Barangay Officials as the implementers of curfew hours in their respective area of responsibility should maximize the use of social media platforms like Facebook. This social technological platform would serve as a great help for the publication of curfew hours and its consequences to increase the awareness of the residents. In addition, Barangay Officials should develop a scheduling scheme to conduct patrol prior and during the implementation of curfew hours. Furthermore, the strict implementation and giving of teeth to the law should also be observed. SK Officials should also develop programs for the students to refrain them from violating curfew hours because of academic requirements. Lastly, the Barangay Officials should adapt the proposed action plan

**of this study as their basis to enhance the implementation of curfew hours.**

**Keywords:-** Curfew Hours, Implementation, Problems Encountered to Curfew Hours, Coping Mechanisms.

## I. THE PROBLEM AND ITS SETTING

### *Introduction*

Safety is something that the world needs. And the government is imposing rules and regulations to follow for the security of its people wherein these could inhibit them in their wrongdoings and to prevent them from harm and threat.

The government has responded to the Corona Virus Disease-2019 (COVID-19) pandemic in the Philippines with various restrictions to avoid the spread of the virus such as lockdowns, limited movement of people aside from the residents who are authorized to go out, and closing of schools, parks, and other public places where people may gather. On March 7, 2020, the first localized transmission was recorded which caused the Department of Health (DOH) to raise the emergency level to Code Red Sub-Level 1 and the President issued Proclamation No. 922, formally declaring a public health emergency and authorizing Local Government Units (LGUs) to employ their Local Disaster Risk Reduction Management Agency. Furthermore, it is stipulated on the Executive Order No. 95 series of 2020 "Prescribing General Guidelines for the country while it is under Modified General Community Quarantine", whereas, a general curfew from 9 o'clock in the evening until 4 o'clock in the morning shall take effect in the entire country except for those who work in the medical field and other people who are authorized to go out in public.

Curfews have been observed in many places even when the pandemic has not started yet. These are laws that limit the action of the people and when violated, punishment follows. Curfews are observed in cities and municipalities as a simple method to reduce crime opportunities and to lessen the instances where people may become crime victims. Curfews

are beneficial because it gives control to the officials over the behavior of the residents especially the minors which supports parental supervision (Ruffle & Reynolds, 1999).

Curfews are promoted as beneficial to law enforcement; they give police additional control over the presence and behavior of people on the street during curfew hours. They are also endorsed as a valuable complement to parental supervision; they provide community support to parents placing limits on the hours that their children may be out at night (Ruffle & Reynolds, 1999).

On these days of pandemic, it has been imposed to lessen instances that people might be infected from the virus and curfews have been made because of the belief that it deters crimes, harm, threat, and victimization. However, there are instances where a lot of people are violating this for reasons. The Ilocos Norte Police Provincial Office (INPPO) registered a more than 60% reduction in crime rate since the implementation of the Luzon-wide enhanced community quarantine (ECQ). The claim may be true or not; hence, this prompted the researchers to determine the level of implementation of curfew in Ilocos Norte and to know the problems they have encountered during the implementation.

#### *Statement of the Problem*

This study aimed to determine the level of implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte.

Specifically, this study sought answers to the following questions:

1. What are the profiles of the respondents as to:
  - a. age;
  - b. gender; and
  - c. area of residence?
2. What is the level of implementation of curfew hours?
3. What are the problems encountered by the respondents in the implementation of curfew hours?

#### *Theoretical Framework*

This study used the following theories served as evidence and justification to the study.

##### *Social Control Theory*

Curfews are made because of the idea that it limits the movement of people in public which may lessen crime, threat, and harm. Similarly, these controls are programmed and had been reinforced in an individual through social bonds. Usually, the family is the first agent to inculcate these bonds within an individual and it is beyond formed between the individual and society. Thus, both the family and society mold the actions, attitudes, and behavior of an individual. It has also been noted that curfew laws have the ability to increase the parents' control by limiting the time their children to be out in public.

This study is anchored on Social Control Theory developed by Walter Reckless (cited in David et al., 2016) that posited a person's inner and outer controls both work

together to negate deviant tendencies. According to Reckless, a person's behavior depends on what he or she wants most of the time. A person has to follow rules and norms which the inner and outer controls discourages him or her from untypical instances. If he or she does not comply, a punishment is further given. Curfew laws aim to reduce criminal acts as well as victimization which can also be said as a general deterrence strategy. Wilson, et.al (2016) said that curfews reduce committing and opportunity on crimes and when imposed, it prevents someone from engaging crimes, McDowall (2000) added.

##### *Deterrence Theory*

Deterrence is a theory that does not just punish on criminal activities done by an individual but also discourages people from committing the same mistake in the future. Some people point into considerations where a high-profile offender receive a lighter sentence but some argues that a tougher sentence would prevent an offender to commit the similar tragedy in the future. In connection to the speculation on the study by Lundman (2012), research on deterrence has shown lots of interest on street crimes. There's a major correlation between curfew laws and therefore the reduction or deflection of deviant criminal activities. In other words, strict curfew enforcement follows deterrence theory, which argues that certain, swift, and severe punishments will cause juveniles to rationally weigh consequences and commit fewer criminal acts.

In connection, the researchers corresponded questions to ask among the local residents on what are the problems they have encountered during its implementation. The researchers also asked the Barangay Officials on what are the most common instances that residents violated the order.

##### *Conceptual Framework*

Curfew is imposed in the Province of Ilocos Norte to reduce the number of crimes committed by the residents, to promote enforcement of the law, and to lessen the spread of Covid-19 on these days of pandemic.

According to Galabin (2018), studies of curfews conducted by municipalities may have severe methodological flaws of which does or may not necessarily prove that these ordinances do not work. Analyzing such impacts are important because curfew policies can be thought of as constituting treatments. Indeed, if, as basic economic models, crime is a purposive activity, then curfew should only reduce delinquency if the technology used to produce this behavior is imperfectly substitutable between curfew and non-curfew hours (Becker, 1968).

With regards to this, curfew plays a major role in the society not only to reduce crime but to prevent the people to become crime victims. It is along with this perspective, that this study was conceptualized and undertaken.

It is then important to look onto the implementation of curfew hours to determine if it is highly observed and if there is a need for improvement.

To come up with this study, the researchers gathered data from the five municipalities of the province of Ilocos Norte, which was then discussed and justified by these theories.

Figure 1 shows the paradigm of the study. It presents how the researchers conducted the study which serves as the basis in the formulation of an action plan. Data in the profile of the respondents, level of implementation of curfew hours, and the problems encountered during the implementation were tabulated, analyzed, and interpreted. The findings, implication, and insights from the survey was used as a basis in the formulation of an Action Plan for the Effective Implementation of Curfew Hours.

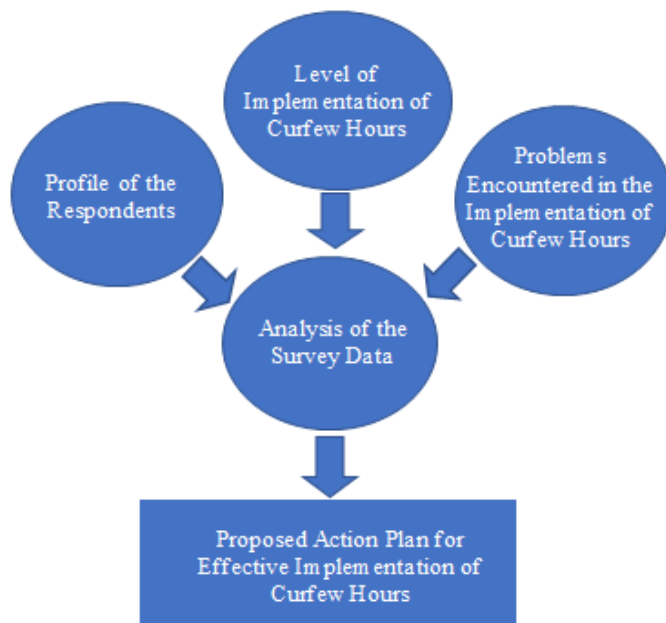


Figure 1. Research Paradigm

#### Significance of the Study

The study could give benefits to the following:

**Residents.** The study can provide thorough understanding on the importance of curfews not only to them but to the community as a whole.

**Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte.** The results of this study would benefit the province specifically its officials in a manner that the result would provide ample data as to numbers of residents violating curfew hours and the possibility that they would be acquainted with different problems encountered during the implementation. With the results, the government can provide alternatives for residents not to encounter such problems and to look forward for strict enforcement if it is needed.

**Barangay Officials.** The study can serve as a guideline for them in monitoring and enforcing curfew to their respective Barangays to ensure the promotion of safety and peaceful community to live in.

**Students.** The study could provide students a better understanding and awareness on the implementation of curfew and the problems that may arise during its implementation so they also avoid if in cases they encounter it. With understanding and awareness of what curfew law could possibly bring to community, the students can engage themselves in helping how to improve the place they belong to.

**Researchers.** As future criminologists, this study could give benefits to them by examining the pros and cons of implementing the curfew hours. With the results of the study, they would determine not only the value of law but how the law provides order and peace; hence, avoid victimization and protect the people from potential harms as the state has moral duty towards its citizens in providing brighter future. This study will be of a great use for them in the future especially when dealing with instances same as the study.

**Future Researchers.** It has been looked forward that the study could serve as a reference material when they conduct similar and related studies.

#### Scope and Limitation

The research study focused on the level of implementation of curfew hours and the formulation of action plan for its effective implementation.

The study looked into the description of the demographic profile of the respondents, the level of implementation of curfew hours, and the problems encountered in its implementation. The results of the survey were the bases for the crafting of the Action Plan for the Effective Implementation of Curfew Hours.

The respondents of the study were the Barangay Officials and residents of selected Barangays of the selected municipalities of Ilocos Norte, namely: Barangay Peralta and Barangay Purugunan of Dingras, Barangay Sto. Tomas and Brgy. San Vicente of Sarrat, Barangay San Rufino of San Nicolas, and Barangay Crispina of Banna.

This study was conducted from October 2020 to February 2021.

#### Definition of Terms

**Area of Residence.** This refers to the location of the respondents' permanent residence either in the rural or urban.

**Barangay Officials.** Barangay officials are the elected government official who are members of a particular Barangay.

**Curfew.** Curfews are laws that prohibit people to be outside their vicinity and roam around in public at a certain time.

**Enforcement.** Law enforcement or enforcement is the generic name for the activities of the agencies responsible for maintaining public order and enforcing the law, particularly the activities of prevention, detection, investigation and apprehension.

*Implementation.* Implementation is the carrying out, execution, or practice of a plan, a method, or any design, idea, model, specification, standard or policy for doing something.

*Ordinance.* An ordinance is a law set forth by a governmental authority, specifically a municipal regulation.

## II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND STUDIES

This chapter presents the review of related literature and studies that bear implications on the study. This chapter also includes original researches, legal documents, results of experiments, statistical data, interviews, and surveys.

### *Curfew*

Curfew ordinances are typically local registration that identifies a particular time which does not allow residents to be out in public. In general, curfews seek to reduce juvenile crime and victimization, and empower parents to help control children's behavior. The assumption behind curfew legislation is that; individuals who are at home or under adult supervision are less likely to be involved in criminal activity, either as a perpetrator or a victim. Similar to probation practices, the use of general curfews across the country has almost alike trends in juvenile justice sentencing policy. Curfews have again become popular in recent years as a response to increased crime and violence, but research on their effectiveness is mixed. There are some thoughts available on what respondents think about curfews and how the rules actually affect their lives and criticisms of unconstitutionality threaten their very existence (Ruffle & Reynolds, 1999).

### *History of Curfew Ordinances*

The origin of curfew ordinances is closely tied to the origin of the juvenile court itself as with the probation practices. Requiring residents to be out in public by a certain time maintained some people's control over behavior. Curfews are highly variable between jurisdictions, as well as differentially enforced, but some notions can be made about their use through a test of time. Juvenile crime and curfew ordinances and their enforcement goes together. If juvenile crime increases, so do curfew ordinances and their enforcement. Marketos (1995) set the 1950s and 1990s as examples of this. The 1990s "get tough" rationale was adopted as a strategy for increased number of offenders and to restrict the access of the juveniles at the streets. Others created ordinances for the first time while some jurisdictions revised the old ones (Ruffle & Reynolds, 1999). Curfew violations are usually considered status offenses, which would indicate a less serious response from the formal criminal justice system. The number of juveniles arrested for curfew, however, is a substantial proportion of arrests. Considering the number of juveniles that come to the attention of the police and the courts because of curfew violations, information regarding the effectiveness of ordinances is essential (Maguire & Pastore, 1994).

### *Evaluation of Curfew*

Contemporary general curfew ordinances are highly variable across the country and receive a significant amount of both support and criticism. Supporters cite drops and consider the youth as grounds while opponents look for discriminatory enforcement, constitutional issue and resources for it to be abolished. As to jurisdiction, some police officers support this, while others find it a burden (Watzman, 1994).

Most support for curfew enforcement comes from individual jurisdiction evaluations. In general, programs that are collaborative and include multiple components obtain the best results. For example, New Orleans, USA got the support from the government, religious groups, Police and Juvenile Bureau Staff, and medical personnel to staff a Central Curfew Center (CCC) to provide services and counseling to curfew violators. Summer employment and some recreation programs were also given the youths to supply their prosocial activities. A comparison of juvenile crime rates between 1993 and 1994 showed a 27% reduction in juvenile crime overall, with a 33% decline in armed robbery and a 42% drop in auto theft during curfew hours. These doesn't only address the issue on curfew violation but it also strengthens community ties and provides opportunities for juveniles in building their skills which shows decreased juvenile involvement in crime. The subject of juvenile curfews is highly controversial, however, and unwavering support is difficult to find (Bilchik, 1996).

### *Legal Challenges*

Curfews have received numerous legal challenges. Bast and Reynolds (2003) present a detailed discussion of four legal cases brought against a curfew ordinance within the locality. Two of these curfew ordinances were upheld and two were struck down. A common basis for these challenges was that the curfew ordinance violated the civil rights of adolescents (most of whom are not adjudicated delinquents) by restricting their freedom of movement or other individual liberties. Watzman (1994) argues, however, that the more exceptions for "acceptable activities" (for example, legitimate employment) a given policy provide, the more likely it is to survive a challenge on constitutional grounds.

Fried (2001) argued that an important legal consideration in the debate over the constitutionality of juvenile curfews is their effectiveness. The legal justification for restricting the rights of juvenile rests on the state's interest in protecting juveniles from victimization and in reducing juvenile crime. If juvenile curfews are found to be ineffective in furthering these interests, then legal challenges may become more successful context. However, as argued by Bast and Reynolds (2003), the certainty of the evidence on the effectiveness needed for a legal justification is likely to be low, only needing to establish a reasonable expectation of positive benefits.



### *Importance of Curfew Hours*

The use of a curfew serves the same purpose, it is to ensure the safety and control for the people and also those in authority.

A curfew assists in ensuring the safety of the people. When curfew is implemented, it can be said to be safer during riskier times especially at night. Additionally, a person who is authorized or required to go out during the implementation is recommended not to go to places he or she is not comfortable of. This can prevent them from engaging in an unwanted situation. It also ensures the safety of people from harm and behaviors such as drinking liquors, doing drugs, promiscuity, and violence. In days where a person may face harm and threats, we need to be using curfew as a tool as our disposal. It is obviously important to ensure that the curfew is reasonable, manageable and indeed, that it is appropriate and valid. It is not to be used as part of an autocratic style of parenting, but rather as a tool that benefits all members of the family. Often negotiation between parent and child will allow for some interesting discussions. Negotiating a curfew will also allow the child to feel his/her opinion is taken into consideration. Ultimately, of course, the decision needs to be that of the parent. The negotiation of a “curfew discretion” needs to be considered by parents too where the child is perhaps participating in something out of the ordinary. There needs to be a degree of give and take around curfew times (Pretorius, 2019).

### *Types of Curfew Laws*

The initial type of curfew is the *Juvenile Curfew Law*, it was set by state and local governments to restrict minors, specifically those who are 18 years old and below to be out in public at a specific time unless they are being accompanied by their parent or guardian, attending religious and school activities, instructed by an adult, experiences emergency, and on their way or from their work. Its purpose is to prevent and protect the minors from criminal activities, threat, and harm. If a juvenile happen to violate the curfew law, the following may be given as reciprocal action: monetary fees, mandatory community service, revoking of driving privileges, and confinement to a juvenile detention center (usually for repeat offenders). But are also instances where parents are accountable for their children’s violations wherein they can be fined. If crime rate increases on a local government, officers activate curfew laws like issuing tickets or arresting violators, otherwise, officers escort the violators home and give verbal warning.

The second type is the *Emergency Curfews*, these are being imposed during times of crisis, catastrophe or natural disaster such as to prevent the spread of Covid-19, hurricanes, blizzards, wildfires, public riots, and other dangerous fugitives. When emergency curfews are implemented, the local government typically specifies certain conditions. For instance, on these days of pandemic, local governments allow those who work in the medical field, BPOs, and other essential fields to go outside but they are also encouraged to limit their movements.

Lastly, the *Business Curfews* restrict the operation of certain establishments at a certain time where people may gather especially in places with high level of crime, loitering, and otherwise disorderly conduct (LawFirms, 2021).

### *Curfew Ordinance in the Philippines*

It is an act imposing curfew hour from ten in the evening (10:00 pm) to five in the morning (5:00 am) for persons below eighteen (18) years of age and prescribing penalties for violations thereof. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

*Section 1. Imposition of Curfew Hours; Covered Persons* - There is hereby imposed curfew hours from ten o'clock in the evening (10:00 pm) to five o'clock in the morning (5:00 am) for persons below eighteen (18) years 4 of age.

*Section 2. Exceptions* - During curfew hours, no minors shall be allowed in the streets, commercial establishments, recreation centers, malls or any other areas outside the immediate vicinity of their residence except: a) Those accompanied by their parents, family members of legal age, or guardians upon proper verification; b) Those running lawful errands such as buying of medicines, using of telecommunication facilities for emergency purposes and the like upon proper verification; c) Students of night school and those who by virtue of their employment are required to stay in the streets or outside their residence after ten o'clock in the evening (1 0:00 pm); Provided, that minors falling under these categories shall secure a certification from their Punong Barangay exempting them from the coverage of this Act, or present a document or identification proving their qualification under such category.

*Section 3. Role of the Barangay* - The Punong Barangay, Members of the Barangay Council and the duly designated Barangay Tanods are hereby authorized to implement the provisions of this Act.

*Section 4. Guidelines in Apprehension* - Offenders of this Act shall be apprehended in accordance with the following guidelines: The apprehending official or officer shall, without unnecessary delay, notify the parents or guardians of the offender and release the offender in recognizance to said parents or guardian with the understanding that the offender shall be submitted to the Punong Barangay for the corresponding penalty under Section 5 of this Act; In cases where the offender is not a resident of the Barangay where the apprehension was made, during the determination of the identities and residence of the offender's parents or guardian for purposes of their information and release of the offender to their custody, the offender shall be held in the holding facility of the Barangay where the apprehension was made for not more than twenty-four (24) hours, and thereafter if the release of the offender to his/her parents' or guardian's custody cannot be reasonably accomplished, the Punong Barangay concerned shall turn over the offender to the Municipal or City Social Welfare Office concerned for proper disposition; For an offender who is homeless, abandoned, neglected or have no known parents, relatives or

guardians, the apprehending official or officer shall refer the offender to the custody of the Municipal or City Social Welfare Office concerned within twenty-four (24) hours of apprehension.

*Section 5. Penalties* - Any offender of this Act shall be penalized as follows: a) First Offense - Four (4) hours of community service consisting of cleaning and sweeping of surroundings, among others. b) Second Offense - Twelve (12) hours of community service consisting of cleaning and sweeping of surroundings, among others, c) Third Offense and Subsequent Offenses — Forty (40) hours of community service and loss of parental authority over the offender by the parents or guardians concerned.

*Section 6. Suspension of the Provisions of the Act in Special Cases* - The President, through administrative issuances, may suspend the implementation of this Act nationwide or in specific areas for a length of time as may be necessary in celebration of fiestas and special and legal holidays.

*Section 7. Role of the Philippine National Police (PNP)* – The Philippine National Police shall provide police support to the Punong Barangays whenever needed for the enforcement of this Act.

*Section 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), in consultation with the Philippine National Police (PNP), shall, within ninety (90) days from the passage of this Act, promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

*Section 9. Separability Clause* - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or inoperative, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force and effect.

*Section 10. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the Act or the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

*Section 11. Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

#### *Curfew Ordinance in the Province of Ilocos Norte*

Residents in Ilocos Norte can now have more time to do economic activities as curfew hours have been reduced in the province. In the latest public advisory of Governor Joseph Matthew M. Manotoc, he said that curfew hours from 11:00 pm to 4:00 am will encourage people to enjoy the outdoors but with safety precaution. The old curfew hours were from 10:00 pm to 4:00 am but this has affected some businesses which opted to close between 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

From a straight penalty of Php 5, 000 for violating curfew hours, the provincial government through an amended ordinance has reduced the penalty to Php 1, 000 for first

offense, Php 2, 000 for second offense, and a maximum of Php 5, 000 for the third offense (PNA, 2020).

*Statistics on Curfew Violators in the Province of Ilocos Norte* Sustaining its annual "generally peaceful" status, the Province of Ilocos Norte through the Ilocos Norte Police Provincial Office (INPPO) registered a more than 60% reduction in crime rate since the implementation of the Luzon-wide enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) (Adriano, 2020).

According to Provincial Police Director, PCol. Christopher Abrahano, the intensified police presence, and maintenance of 24-hour checkpoints stationed in strategic locations contributed to the general peacefulness of Ilocos Norte. In an overview of the peace and order situation of Ilocos Norte, PCol. Abrahano said that based on their records, there are incidents of theft and physical injuries while murder-homicide incidents lowered down. However, 61 people violated the guidelines on total lockdown imposed across the province. They violated the curfew hour, liquor ban, and disobedience to a person in authority or the Article 151. Another four people were also arrested for overpricing of alcohol and masks. As a member of the Provincial "Salun-at" Task Force, INPPO is actively performing its function to ensure enforcement of lockdown guidelines. Among its initiatives include the protection of four boundary checkpoints to certify that only authorized person can enter the province, including the integrated checkpoints in each city and municipality; enforcement of "one entry, one exit" policy in places of convergence such as groceries and public markets; and support in the regulation of price control and temporary closure of non-essential establishments (Adriano, 2020).

#### *Crimes Deterred When Curfew is Implemented*

A dated curfew outcome study examined the effects of a summertime curfew law in a large Midwestern city. Rates of serious crimes such as rape, robbery, burglary, etc. committed by juveniles during the month of August were calculated for the four years prior to adoption of the summer curfew and compared with rates after the curfew took effect. The findings suggested that crime rates were reduced during curfew hours (Hunt & Weiner, 2017).

Ruffle and Reynolds (1995) reviewed more than 160 newspaper stories about curfews which appeared during 1993 and part of 1994. They found that the rationale for adoption of curfews in most cities was to reduce juvenile crime and crime victimization. Several cities were reported to have adopted curfews both as a hedge against the geographical displacement of juvenile crime to their cities from other areas and as part of a domino effect when surrounding cities and municipalities passed them. At the time of the survey, three major American cities (Denver, Phoenix, Orlando) had adopted city-wide curfews that had specific application to hot spot high crime areas.

#### *How Curfews Might Affect Crime*

According to Adams (2003), the logic of juvenile curfews is to keep people home during late evening and early

morning hours and this will prevent them from committing crimes and to become crime victims.

Reduced opportunity to commit crime should translate into fewer crimes. Furthermore, the potential for fines or other sanctions is presumed to deter people from being out in a public place during curfew hours. It is also argued that curfews provide police with a useful tool for managing people in public places during curfew hours. Finally, curfews may make it easier for parents to enforce a rule for when a youth must be home in the evening (Ruffle and Reynolds, 1995).

The statement above has been questioned. Gottfredson and Soule (2005) argued that most of the crimes committed by juveniles happened in the hours before and after school. This means that only few proportion of crimes were committed during curfew hours. Additionally, it is rare for curfew ordinances to be associated with increased law enforcement resources, reducing the likelihood of effective enforcement. Studies have shown that overstretched and under-resourced police departments may forego the enforcement of a curfew law in favor of focusing on more urgent demands. Thus, having a curfew ordinance in place does not always translate into vigorous enforcement, further limiting any potential effect (Bannister and Reynolds, 2001).

#### *The Effect of the Curfew Implementation*

Curfew is an order specifying a time throughout that positive rules apply. The main purpose of the study is to determine the effect of the curfew hour implementation as to the perception of the Barangay Official, Barangay Police, and Police Officer of Nasipit, Agusan del Norte. A descriptive correlational research design was used in the study. The result shows that the curfew hour was implemented regularly by the continuous efforts rendered by the Barangay Officials, Barangay Police, and Police Officers. The result proves that the safety and security needs of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs are essential, including the security of our body, employment, resources, the morality of the family, and health. It was recommended that communities living in the Barangay cooperate and participate in the curfew implementation (Ruffle and Reynolds, 1995).

According to Galabin (2018), studies of curfews conducted by municipalities may have severe methodological flaws of which does or may not necessarily prove that these ordinances do not work. Analyzing such impacts is important because curfew policies can be thought of as constituting treatments. Indeed, if, as basic economic models, crime is a purposive activity, then curfew should only reduce delinquency if the technology used to produce this behavior is imperfectly substitutable between curfew and non-curfew hours (Becker, 1968).

#### *Implementation of Curfew Ordinances in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija*

Curfew ordinances are widely praised, but little researched, enforcement mechanism that local police departments can use to combat juvenile delinquency. The study used a descriptive method which describes the current

level of implementation of the curfew hours on selected Barangays in Cabanatuan City. There is a total of one hundred fifty respondents that majority of them were the youths/juveniles ages ranges from eleven to seventeen of different Barangays in Cabanatuan City. As to the level of implementation of curfew ordinance, it is the consistency which is missing which is happened to be one of the most essential thing in the process of implementation. As to the perception of the youths to the programs given by the Barangay Officials to those who violate the said curfew ordinance, as to the data gathered by the researcher, the programs given or offered doesn't even work as a deterrence for the youths aren't afraid of the potential pain they will be incurring because the Barangay Officials do not give sanctions to the apprehended violators (Carpio, 2020).

#### *House Bill 1035- Karaoke Curfew*

As cited on Philippine Star (2016), the anti-videoke bill has been filed by the House of Representatives, which prohibits the use of loud musical instruments such as videoke and other sound-amplifying equipment past 10 p.m nationwide to avoid disturbance in the community Anyone who violates the law will be fined one thousand pesos, or worse, may face imprisonment of not more than six months. If in case a business establishment violates this, their permits or license shall be rescinded.

This study will also determine if this is always being followed by the residents.

#### *Safe Neighborhood*

According to study of safe neighborhood by Sampson (2010), neighbors with high levels of crime are often densely populated, mixed use (businesses and residences in the same area) areas, with concentrated poverty, a transient population, a high proportion of single-parent households, and dilapidated buildings. Children and adolescents living in neighborhoods characterized by crime or disorganization are more likely to become victims of violent are more likely to experience social and emotional problems such as aggression, stress, and withdrawal, as well as delinquency and low school achievement.

This concept shows the importance of safe and sound environment among the residents. It is important to ensure one's environment because this determines his or her progress on acquiring positive and ideal attitude.

#### *Problems Encountered During Curfew Hours*

In March 2020, a news report stated Barangay Officials from Sta. Cruz, Laguna are facing charges after detaining curfew violators in a dog cage. This was followed by a police officer caught on video beating up several residents in Manila for violating quarantine protocols; the PNP responded with an investigation of the incident.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of April, 2020, a Barangay Official in Mexico, Pampanga forced three LGBTQI+ people to perform humiliating acts as punishment for violating the curfew; the punishment was recorded on video and posted on Facebook by the Barangay Captain. The rest of the group were

subjected to other forms of degrading punishment (Amnesty International Philippines, 2020).

These review of related literature and studies were used by the researchers in attaining the objectives and completion of the study.

### III. METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents and discusses the research method and design that were used in the study, the respondents of the study, the sampling procedures, data gathering instrument utilized, the data gathering procedures, and the treatment of data.

#### *Research Method*

The quantitative-descriptive method of research was used in this study. It was used to measure and describe the level of implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte including the problems encountered by the respondents during the implementation of curfew.

Quantitative-descriptive is a research method that attempts to collect quantifiable information for statistical analysis of the population sample. It is a popular market research tool that allows us to collect and describe the demographic segment's signature (Alonzo, 2017).

#### *Population and Locale*

The participants of this study were a total of 120 residents from the different Barangays of the municipality of Dingras, Sarrat, San Nicolas and Banna in the province of Ilocos Norte. There are 20 respondents which is composed of 15 local residents and 5 Barangay officials from each of the selected Barangays of the aforementioned municipalities. Respondents were from: Brgy. Peralta and Brgy. Puruganan of Dingras; Brgy. Sto. Tomas and Brgy. San Vicente of Sarrat; Brgy. San Rufino, San Nicolas; and Brgy. Crispina of Banna, Ilocos Norte. Each of the six researchers randomly chose local residents from the different puroks of their Barangays as respondents of the study.

The researchers used the stratified random sampling in choosing the respondents. Stratified random sampling is a

method of sampling that involves dividing a population into smaller groups—called strata. The groups or strata are organized based on the shared characteristics or attributes of the members in the group. The process of classifying the population into groups is called stratification (Nickolas, 2020).

#### *Data Gathering Instrument*

The tool that the researchers used to gather data was a survey questionnaire to determine the level of the implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte. The survey questionnaire was composed of three (3) parts. The first part was for the demographic profile of the respondents such as name, age, gender, and place of locality. Part two covers the level of implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte. Lastly was focused on the problems encountered during the implementation of curfew hours.

#### *Data Gathering Procedures*

In realizing the objectives of the study, the researchers followed a definite procedure. First, the researchers formulated questionnaires and draft letters of request to the Barangay Captains and respondents then submitted them to the research adviser for approval. Second, upon approval from the research adviser, the researchers immediately sent the letters to the Barangay Captains for the conduct of the study. Third, upon approval from the Barangay Captain to conduct the study, questionnaires were administered observing the proper health protocol. Lastly, the researchers retrieved, tallied, analyzed, and interpreted the data gathered.

#### *Treatment of Data*

The data gathered from the respondents were subjected to a statistical treatment using frequency, weighted mean, and percentage. Percentage and frequency was used to analyze and interpret the data on the demographic profile of the respondents. Weighted mean and ranks was used to analyze the data on the level of implementation of curfew hours and the problems encountered in the implementation of curfew hours.

The responses of the respondents on the level of implementation of curfew hours were coded and interpreted as follows.

<b>Interpretation on the Level of Implementation of Curfew Hours</b>			
<b>Value</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Descriptive Interpretation</b>	<b>Verbal Description</b>
4	3.26-4.00	Always	Every day the problem was encountered on curfew hours
3	2.51-3.25	Sometimes	5-6 days a week the problem was encountered on implementation of curfew hours
2	1.76-2.50	Rarely	1-4 days a week the problem was encountered on the implementation of curfew hours
1	1.00-1.75	Never	Never the problem was encountered on curfew hours



The responses of the respondents on the problems encountered in the implementation of curfew hours were coded and interpreted as follows.

Interpretation on the Problems Encountered During the Implementation			
Value	Range	Descriptive Interpretation	Verbal Description
4	3.26-4.00	Always	Everyday implementation of curfew hours
3	2.51-3.25	Sometimes	5-6 days a week of implementation of curfew hours
2	1.76-2.50	Rarely	1-4 days a week of implementation of curfew hours
1	1.00-1.75	Never	None implementation of curfew hours

#### IV. PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION, AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

This chapter integrates the results of the study after data gathering. After the data tables are prepared with its corresponding frequency, mean, and percentages, the researchers presented it in a table format.

##### *Demographic Profile of the Respondents*

Among the residents of the province of Ilocos Norte, one hundred twenty residents from its different towns/municipalities served as the respondents of the study.

Table 1. Demographic Profile of the Respondents n=120		
Variables	Frequency	Percentage
<b>Age</b>		
16-20	19	15.83 %
21-25	13	10.83 %
26-30	24	20.00 %
31-35	9	07.50 %
36-40	11	09.17 %
41-45	13	10.83 %
46-50	8	06.67 %
51-55	11	09.17 %
56-60	7	05.83 %
61-65	5	04.17 %
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	85	70.83 %
Female	35	29.17 %
<b>Area of Permanent Residence</b>		
Poblacion	80	66.67 %
Periphery	40	33.33 %

Table 1 shows the demographic profile of the respondents compared according to their age, gender, and area of permanent residence.

*Age.* The researchers grouped the respondents' age with an interval of five (5). Most of the respondents are aged 26-30 with a frequency of 24 or 20.00%. While the least number of respondents are aged 61-65 with a frequency of five (5) or 4.17%.

With the result of the age of the respondents, the researchers were able to determine that the minors in the province of Ilocos Norte always follow the curfew laws that were implemented and they rarely encountered problems. This opposed to the statement of Aduhan (2019) on his

study that revealed that most curfew laws are being violated by minors than the adults. Before and during the implementation of their municipal ordinance, crimes were increasingly being violated by the minors and they are experiencing most problems during curfew hours than the adults.

*Gender.* The gender of the respondents was categorized into male and female. 85 of the respondents were males while 35 of them were females. The results show that in Ilocos Norte, the curfew laws that were always implemented are being followed by the respondents regardless of their gender.

This opposes the study of Sutphen (2001) where males were cited much more frequently to violate curfew laws than the females. The most frequent violation scenario encountered by the police involved two or more males walking the streets or hanging out in public places even if the curfew is always being implemented. It also revealed that most males are more likely to encounter problems during the implementation because they were not able to go out for leisure purposes.

*Area of Permanent Residence.* The area of permanent residence was categorized into poblacion/urban areas and periphery/rural areas. 66.67% of the respondents are from the poblacion, while 33.33% of them came from the periphery. The results showed that in the province of Ilocos Norte, the curfew laws that were always implemented are being followed by the respondents regardless of their place of locality and they rarely encounter problems during the implementation.

This opposes the study of Ford (2001), that curfew violations who has a higher rate are from the residents who live in the city or urban areas than of those residents who are from the rural areas. Though there is a larger number of residents in the urban areas, there are more curfew violators from the rural areas who has a lower number of residents. Knowing that the curfew implementation is not always implemented and that officers in the rural areas rarely conduct patrol, this gives the residents the chance to roam in the streets during curfew hours.

##### *Level of Implementation of Curfew Hours in Ilocos Norte*

The results in the implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte according to the Barangay Officials and to the residents of the barangays were shown in tables 2 and 3.

*As to the Barangay Officials.*

Table 2 shows the results of the level of implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte according to the officials. The result of the study revealed that respondents answered “always” in most of the variables. The top three that was “always” implemented are: *Residents who are outside their vicinity are warned by Barangay Police to enter their house (3.83); Barangay Officials informed the residents about the implementation of the curfew hours (3.80); and videoke/videoke bars are turned off/closed during curfew hours ( 3.70).*

Others that was “always” implemented during the curfew hours are: *Parks are being closed (3.63), PNP/Barangay police conducts patrol prior and during curfew hours (3.47), establishments such as stores follow curfew hours like closing it before the time (3.47), computer shops are closed even for non-minorities during curfew (3.47), there are limited movements among the residents during curfew hours (3.30) and the officers arrest the violator of curfew hours (3.27).*

**Table 2. Level of Implementation of Curfew Hours as to the Officials n= 30**

Variables	Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. PNP/Barangay Police conducts patrol prior and during curfew hours.	3.47	Always
2. Barangay Officials informed the residents about the implementation of the curfew hours.	3.80	Always
3. The officers arrest the violator of curfew hours.	3.27	Always
4. People do not roam around the streets, or in any public places when curfew hour begins.	3.20	Sometimes
5. There are limited movements among the residents during curfew hours.	3.30	Always
6. Establishments such as stores follow curfew hours like closing it before the time.	3.47	Always
7. Residents who are outside their vicinity are warned by Barangay Police to enter their house.	3.83	Always
8. Computer shops are closed even for non-minorities during curfew.	3.47	Always
9. Videoke/videoke bars are turned off/closed during curfew hours.	3.70	Always
10. Parks are being closed.	3.53	Always

**Legend**

Range	Descriptive Interpretation	Verbal Description
3.26-4.00	Always	Everyday implementation of curfew hours
2.51-3.25	Sometimes	5-6 days a week of implementation of curfew hours
1.76-2.50	Rarely	1-4 days a week of implementation of curfew hours
1.00-1.75	Never	No implementation of curfew hours

There is only one statement which was interpreted as “sometimes” by the officials with a mean of 3.20. It is the item: *people do not roam around the streets, or in any public places when curfew hour begins.* The result of the study implies the implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte is always implemented.

*As to the Residents.*

Table 3 shows the results of the level of implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte according to the residents. The result of the study revealed that the top three that was “always” implemented curfew programs were:

*videoke/videoke bars are turned off/closed during curfew hours ( 3.52); parks are being closed (3.51); and; residents who are outside their vicinity are warned by Barangay Police to enter their house (3.39).*

Others that were “always” implemented were: *Computer shops are closed even for non-minorities during curfew (3.39); PNP/Barangay police conducts patrol prior and during curfew hours, with (3.33); Barangay Officials informed the residents about the implementation of the curfew hours (3.30).*

On the other hand, there are four statements which were answered “sometimes” by the residents. These statements are: *establishments such as stores follow curfew hours like closing it before the time (3.24); there are limited movements among the residents during curfew hours (3.23); people do not roam around the streets, or in any public places when curfew hour begins (3.16) and; the officers arrest the violator of curfew hours (3.07).*

**Table 3. Level of Implementation of Curfew Hours as to the Residents n=90**

Variables	Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. PNP/Barangay Police conducts patrol prior and during curfew hours.	3.33	Always
2. Barangay Officials informed the residents about the implementation of the curfew hours.	3.30	Always
3. The officers arrest the violator of curfew hours.	3.07	Sometimes
4. People do not roam around the streets, or in any public places when curfew hour begins.	3.16	Sometimes
5. There are limited movements among the residents during curfew hours.	3.23	Sometimes
6. Establishments such as stores follow curfew hours like closing it before the time.	3.24	Sometimes
7. Residents who are outside their vicinity are warned by Barangay Police to enter their house.	3.39	Always
8. Computer shops are closed even for non-minorities during curfew.	3.39	Always
9. Videoke/videoke bars are turned off/closed during curfew hours.	3.52	Always
10. Parks are being closed.	3.51	Always

**Legend**

Range	Descriptive Interpretation	Verbal Description
3.26-4.00	Always	Everyday implementation of curfew hours
2.51-3.25	Sometimes	5-6 days a week of implementation of curfew hours
1.76-2.50	Rarely	1-4 days a week of implementation of curfew hours
1.00-1.75	Never	No implementation of curfew hours

The result of the study according to the residents implied that implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte is always implemented.

The study showed that both the residents and the Barangay Officials perceived that the curfew hours is always implemented, though there were small differences to their responses.

According to Galabin (2018), studies of curfews conducted by municipalities may have severe methodological flaws of which oppose or may not necessarily prove that these ordinances do not work. Analyzing such impacts is important because curfew policies can be thought of as constituting treatments. In addition, policies on curfew must be strictly enforced and implemented to really lessen the crimes and to prevent people from becoming crime victims.

This result has also been supported by McDowall's statement (2000) that if curfew is imposed, it can prevent someone from engaging crimes in the future. Curfews are built upon the idea that—restricting the hours when people maybe in public should limit their opportunities to commit crimes or become victims. Similarly, these controls are programmed and had been reinforced in the individual through social bonds. Usually, the family is the first agent to inculcate these bonds within an individual. Beyond the family, social bonds are formed between the individual and society. Thus, both the family and society form bonds with the individual who inculcates certain controls that limits deviance from the social norms and customs. It has also been noted that curfew laws have the potentials to strengthen parental control by making it easier for parents to limit the amount of time that their children are allowed to spend out of the house.

**Problems Encountered During Curfew Hours**

The results on the problems encountered on the implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte according to the Barangay Officials and to the residents of the barangays were shown in tables 4 and 5.

**As to the Officials.**

Table 4 shows the results of the problems encountered during the implementation of curfew hours according to the officials. The three most encountered problems were: *residents still practice leisure time or mass gatherings during curfew hours (2.70)*; *Barangay Police do not conduct patrol during curfew (2.57)*, and; *some residents, especially the students, still go to computer shops for entertainment and for educational purposes during curfew hours (2.33)*. The first two statements were interpreted as "sometimes" while the third was interpreted as "rarely".

The other problems encountered "rarely" during the implementation of curfew hours were: *residents still roam around the streets during curfew hours (2.23)*; *residents who are outside their house vicinities are not warned by the Barangay Police to enter their house (1.97)* *residents lack of knowledge about the implementation on curfew (1.87)*.

Interestingly, Barangay Officials answered that the following problems were never encountered by most of them. The four statements were: *there were still open stores/establishments during curfew hours (1.67)*; *officers arrest violators in an illegal way (1.63)*; *residents still use videoke even during curfew hours (1.27)* and; *parks are still open during curfew hours (1.17)*.

**Table 4. Problems Encountered During the Implementation of Curfew Hours According to the Officials  
n= 30**

Variables	Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. Barangay Police do not conduct patrol during curfew.	2.57	Sometimes
2.Residents lack of knowledge about the implementation on curfew.	1.87	Rarely
3. Officers arrest violators in an illegal way.	1.63	Never
4.Residents still roam around the streets during curfew hours.	2.23	Rarely
5.Residents still practice leisure time or mass gatherings during curfew hours.	2.70	Sometimes
6. There were still open stores/establishments during curfew hours.	1.67	Never
7. Residents who are outside their house vicinities are not warned by Barangay Police to enter their house.	1.97	Rarely
8.Some residents, especially the students, still go to computer shops for entertainment and for educational purposes during curfew hours.	2.33	Rarely
9. Residents still use videoke even during curfew hours.	1.27	Never
10. Parks are still open during curfew hours.	1.17	Never

**Legend**

Range	Descriptive Interpretation	Verbal Description
3.26-4.00	Always	Everyday implementation of curfew hours
2.51-3.25	Sometimes	5-6 days a week of implementation of curfew hours
1.76-2.50	Rarely	1-4 days a week of implementation of curfew hours
1.00-1.75	Never	No implementation of curfew hours

As to the Residents.

Table 5 shows the results of the problems encountered during the implementation of curfew hours according to residents. The result revealed that seven (7) out of ten (10) indicators of the problems encountered were “rarely” encountered by them. *Barangay Police do not conduct patrol during curfew and residents still practice leisure time or mass gatherings during curfew hours (2.34)* have the highest means of both 2.34.

Other problems “rarely” encountered by the residents include: *some residents, especially the students, still go to computer shops for entertainment and for educational purposes during curfew hours (2.16); residents still roam around the streets during curfew hours (2.12); residents who are outside their house vicinities are not warned by the Barangay Police to enter their house (2.04); residents lack of knowledge about the implementation on curfew (1.92),*

*there were still open stores/establishments during curfew hours (1.88) and; officers arrest violators in an illegal way (1.72).*

Interestingly, as per the results the following problems were never encountered by the residents: *residents still use videoke even during curfew hours (1.27); and parks are still open during curfew hours (1.43).*

The results indicated that the residents and the Barangay officials encountered some problems in the implementation of the curfew hours. However, most of the indicators relative to the implementation of curfew hours were answered “rarely” or “never” both the Barangay officials and the residents. This implied that though there are problems encountered but is still manageable or controllable.

**Table 5. Problems Encountered During the Implementation of Curfew Hours According to the Community  
n=90**

Variables	Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. Barangay Police do not conduct patrol during curfew.	2.34	Rarely
2.Residents lack of knowledge about the implementation on curfew.	1.92	Rarely
3. Officers arrest violators in an illegal way.	1.67	Never
4.Residents still roam around the streets during curfew hours.	2.12	Rarely
5.Residents still practice leisure time or mass gatherings during curfew hours.	2.34	Rarely
6. There were still open stores/establishments during curfew hours.	1.88	Rarely
7. Residents who are outside their house vicinities are not warned by Barangay Police to enter their house.	2.04	Rarely
8.Some residents, especially the students, still go to computer shops for entertainment and for educational purposes during curfew hours.	2.16	Rarely
9. Residents still use videoke even during curfew hours.	1.72	Never
10. Parks are still open during curfew hours.	1.43	Never



**Legend**

<b>Range</b>	<b>Descriptive Interpretation</b>	<b>Verbal Description</b>
3.26-4.00	<i>Always</i>	<i>Everyday implementation of curfew hours</i>
2.51-3.25	<i>Sometimes</i>	<i>5-6 days a week of implementation of curfew hours</i>
1.76-2.50	<i>Rarely</i>	<i>1-4 days a week of implementation of curfew hours</i>
1.00-1.75	<i>Never</i>	<i>No implementation of curfew hours</i>

According to Lundman (2012), there is a significant correlation between curfew laws and the reduction or deflection of deviant criminal activities. In other words, strict curfew enforcement follows deterrence theory, which argues that certain, swift, and severe punishments will cause residents to rationally weigh consequences and commit fewer criminal acts.

But with the results from the data gathered, criminal acts are less likely to happen because the level of implementation of curfew hours in the province is always implemented.

These results imply that, though residents follow the curfew laws, there are instances where they encounter problems but these problems do not deter them from following the curfew law.

The results of the study is in contrary to the study being done by Ruffle and Reynolds on 1995 which proves that the safety and security needs of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs are essential, including the security of our body, employment, resources, the morality of the family, and health. Safety and security needs are about keeping us safe from harm. These needs include shelter, job security, health, and safe environments. If a person does not feel safe in an environment, they will seek to find safety before they attempt to meet any higher level needs.

But it was then recommended that communities living in the Barangay needs to cooperate, participate, and provide remedies or solutions to their problems in the curfew implementation for continuously having good results.

## **V. SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION**

This chapter presents the summary, conclusions and recommendations based on the findings of the study.

### *Summary of Findings*

This study was undertaken to determine the level of implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte.

The participants of this study were a total of 120 residents from the different municipalities of Dingras, Sarrat, San Nicolas and Banna in the province of Ilocos Norte. It was composed of 20 participants which consists of 15 local residents and 5 Barangay officials from each of the selected Barangays namely: Brgy. Peralta and Brgy. Puruganan of Dingras; Brgy. Sto. Tomas and Brgy. San Vicente of Sarrat; Brgy. San Rufino, San Nicolas; and Brgy. Crispina of Banna, Ilocos Norte.

The salient findings of the study were:

Demographic profile. Most of the respondents are between 26-30 with a frequency of 24 or 20.00%. Majority of the respondents are male (70.83%) and majority of them lived in the poblacion or urban areas.

Level of implementation of curfew hours. Barangay Officials answered "always" in the nine (9) out of ten (10) indicators in the level of implementation of curfew hours. *Residents who are outside their vicinity are warned by Barangay Police to enter their house* has the highest mean of 3.83 interpreted as "always" and *people do not roam around the streets, or in any public places when curfew hour begins* has the lowest mean of 3.20 interpreted as "sometimes." On the other hand, residents responded "always" in six (6) out of ten (10) indicators in the level of implementation of curfew hours in Ilocos Norte. *Videoke/videoke bars are turned off/closed during curfew hours* has the highest mean of 3.52 and *people do not roam around the streets, or in any public places when curfew hour begins* has the lowest mean of 3.16.

Problems encountered in the implementation of curfew hours. The Barangay officials and the residents encountered some of the problems during the implementation of curfew hours. As to the Barangay officials problems like: *residents still practice leisure time or mass gatherings during curfew hours and Barangay Police do not conduct patrol during curfew*. Other indicators were answered "rarely" or "never". As to the residents (7) out of ten (10) indicators of the problems encountered were "rarely" encountered by them. *Barangay Police do not conduct patrol during curfew and residents still practice leisure time or mass gatherings during curfew hours* (2.34) have the highest means of both 2.34.

### *Conclusion*

Based on the above findings that the residents of the different Barangays of Ilocos Norte followed the implementation of curfew hours, regardless of their age, sex and area where they live. In addition, curfew hours were always implemented in the province. There are problems sometimes encountered by the Barangay Officials and residents however these problems were manageable or controllable.

### *Recommendations*

Based on the above findings, the researchers concluded that:

1. Barangay Officials must maximize the use of social technology platforms like Facebook for easy dissemination of information such as curfew advisory to

their constituents especially amidst the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. Barangay Officials must develop an effective scheduling scheme to conduct patrol prior and during curfew hours for them to maximize their personnel, resources, and to have an effective maintenance of peace and order in their area of responsibility.
3. Barangay Officials should continuously and strictly implement the curfew hour ordinance in their area of responsibility. Giving of threat of the ordinance to the violators of such, so that other people will obey and follow the ordinance.
4. SK Officials must develop programs such as installing of WiFi and printing services and use of computers and laptops for the students so that it would retain them to violate curfew hours because of academic requirements.
5. The Barangay Officials to adapt the action plan to enhance the implementation of curfew hours.

**Proposed Action Plan to Enhance the Implementation of Curfew Hours**

*Rationale*

Curfews have been imposed and observed in the Province of Ilocos Norte to lessen instances that people might be infected from the virus on these days of pandemic and curfews has been made because of the belief that it deters crimes, avoid victimization and even provide guidance for the people against harms. However, there are instances where a lot of people encounter problems during the implementation of curfew hours. With this, the researchers created an action plan to lessen the instances

where residents encounter such problems for the effective implementation of curfew hours.

*Objectives*

The general objective of this action plan is to give an alternative solution to the Barangay Captains to lessen the instances where residents encounter such problems.

The specific objectives include:

- a. For faster dissemination of incoming/implementation of programs and information especially amidst Covid-19.
- b. To strictly enforce the curfew ordinance to deter residents in violating the curfew ordinance.
- c. To provide consequences to the violators of ordinance and will serve as a deterrent tool so that others will obey and follow.
- d. To help and support students of all levels in making their assessments, projects and the like to finish their studies.

*Strategies*

The following are the strategies which will help to attain the objectives of the action plan.

- a. Invite the residents to like and follow the Facebook Page of the Barangay for immediate dissemination of information.
- b. Barangay Captain should schedule Barangay Tanods, Barangay Officials, and SK Officials per day to conduct patrol during curfew hours.
- c. Encourage them to inform their customers about the changes of their closing time on the implementation of curfew hours.
- d. Installing of free WiFi, use of laptops and printing services during their asynchronous class.

**Table 6. Action Plan to Enhance the Implementation of Curfew Hours (Matrix)**

Proposed Program	Objectives	Strategy	Time Frame/Frequency	Proposed Budget	Responsible Person/Agencies
1. Barangay Facebook Page.	For faster dissemination of incoming/implementation of programs and information especially amidst Covid-19.	Invite the residents to like and follow the Facebook Page of the Barangay for immediate dissemination of information.	Every day during office hours.	Free	Barangay Secretary and Barangay Service Point Officers (BSPOs).
2. Scheduling Scheme	To strictly enforce the curfew ordinance to deter residents in violating the curfew ordinance.	Barangay Captain should schedule Barangay Tanods, Barangay Officials, and SK Officials per day to conduct patrol during curfew hours.	During the implementation of curfew hours.	Included in the salary.	Barangay Captain and Barangay Officials, Tanods and SK Officials.
3. Community service and fine.	To provide consequences to the violators of ordinance and will serve as a deterrent tool so that others will obey and follow.	Encourage them to inform their customers about the changes of their closing time on the implementation of	During the implementation of curfew hours.	N/A	Barangay Officials

		curfew hours.			
4. Barangay Assistance on Education Program.	To help and support students of all levels in making their assessments, projects and the like to finish their studies.	Installing of free WiFi, use of laptops and printing services during their asynchronous classes.	Every class schedule of the students or when their requirements such as activities and projects need to be printed.	A monthly fee of Php 1,900 with 10 mbps. for internet connection.	SK Chairman and SK Officials.

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