

## Leadership, Ethics, and Public Trust: An Examination of the Role of the National Police Commissioner in Shaping Policing In South Africa

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Received: 29 / 12 / 2025

Accepted: 07 / 02 / 2026

Published: 15 / 02 / 2026

**Abstract:** The research aims to explore how the National Police Commissioner addresses the intricate issues of police in South Africa while maintaining ethical leadership, fostering public trust, and advocating for a more fair and equitable society. Primary Subjects leadership Styles and Methodologies, analyzing the leadership styles and methodologies utilized by the National Police Commissioner, encompassing transformational, transactional, and servant leadership. Ethical Considerations: Examining the ethical difficulties encountered by the National Police Commissioner and investigating their resolution within the framework of South African police. Community interactions and Public Trust: Examining methodologies for establishing and sustaining public trust, resolving community issues, and promoting favorable police-community interactions. obstacles and Constraints: Analyzing the primary obstacles encountered by the National Police Commissioner, encompassing resource limitations, political intervention, and the legacy of apartheid. Evaluation of Policing Outcomes: Analyzing the influence of the National Police Commissioner's leadership on critical policing outcomes, including crime rates, public safety, and police credibility. Essential Arguments: Effective police in South Africa needs robust, ethical, and imaginative leadership from the National Police Commissioner. Establishing trust and cultivating healthy community relations are essential for efficient law enforcement and public safety. Confronting the legacy of apartheid and advancing social justice within the SAPS are crucial for establishing a more equal and just society. The National Police Commissioner must address intricate difficulties, such as resource limitations, political meddling, and changing crime patterns. Ethical leadership, openness, and accountability are vital for sustaining public trust and affirming the validity of the SAPS. Methodological approach, this research will utilize a systematic literature review methodology. Academic literature, government papers, policy documents, and media stories will be rigorously located, assessed, and analyzed to integrate current information on policing leadership, ethical issues, community relations, and the problems encountered by the SAPS. Importance/Consequences, the results of this study hold considerable implications for enhancing police performance developing ways to improve police efficacy, leadership cultivation, and organizational efficiency within the SAPS. Enhancing public trust: Offering ideas for establishing and sustaining public confidence in the SAPS. Advancing ethical policing directing the formulation of ethical standards and training initiatives for law enforcement personnel. Guiding policy formulation, offering evidence-based suggestions to policymakers and lawmakers regarding policing changes. Advancing academic knowledge. Augmenting the comprehension of policing leadership and its influence on public safety within the South African environment. This study will appeal to academics, researchers, politicians, law enforcement practitioners, civil society groups, and others interested in enhancing policing in South Africa. Conclusion. This study will yield significant insights into the pivotal role of the National Police Commissioner in influencing the future of police in South Africa. This research will enhance the understanding of the leadership challenges, ethical considerations, and community relations issues encountered by the National Police Commissioner, thereby elucidating the factors that foster effective and legitimate policing in a complex environment. This abstract offers a succinct summary of the study, encompassing its objectives, principal themes, core arguments, methodology, importance, target audience, and conclusion.

**Keywords:** Human Rights, Right to Nationality, Statelessness, Citizenship, International Law, Human Dignity, Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law, Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Discrimination, Civil Rights, Political Rights, Social Rights, Economic Rights, UDHR (Universal Declaration of Human Rights), Article 15 UDHR, International Law, Human Rights Treaties, Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

**Cite this article:** Modise, J. M. (2026). Leadership, Ethics, and Public Trust: An Examination of the Role of the National Police Commissioner in Shaping Policing In South Africa. *MRS Journal of Accounting and Business Management*, 3(2),27-39.

### Introduction

The National Police Commissioner in South Africa holds a position of significant responsibility, directing the South African Police Service (SAPS) in its mandate to safeguard and serve the

country. This position requires a distinctive combination of leadership, strategic foresight, and steadfast dedication to enforcing the law and protecting the rights of all individuals.

The National Commissioner of the South African Police Service (SAPS) occupies a role of significant significance, with responsibilities delineated in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and the South African Police Service Act (Act 68 of 1995).

#### **Principal Duties:**

- **Executive Authority:** The National Commissioner wields executive authority over the SAPS, in accordance with the directives of the Minister of Police. This entails supervising all police activities and guaranteeing their efficient execution.
- **Upholding Public Order:** A fundamental duty is to uphold public order and guarantee the safety and security of all South Africans. This includes the prevention, investigation, and suppression of crime, with the protection and safeguarding of South Africa's residents and their property.
- **The National Commissioner is tasked with the unbiased and equitable enforcement of the law.**
- **Accountability and Transparency:** Guaranteeing that the SAPS operates as a responsible and transparent entity. This entails upholding ethical standards, fostering integrity within the service, and addressing public issues promptly.
- **Community Engagement:** Cultivating constructive connections with communities and advancing community-focused police practices.
- **Resource Management:** Efficiently overseeing the resources of the SAPS, encompassing staff, budgetary allocations, and equipment.
- **Strategy Planning:** Formulating and executing strategy plans for the SAPS to tackle emerging difficulties and guarantee the sustained efficacy of the police force.

#### **Constitutional and Legal Structure:**

- **Constitution of the Republic of South Africa:** o Enumerates the essential rights of all South Africans, include the right to personal security.
- **Highlights the significance of a professional, unbiased, and accountable law enforcement agency.**
- **South African Police Service Act (Act 68 of 1995):** o Establishes the legislative framework governing the operations of the SAPS, encompassing the authorities and responsibilities of the National Commissioner.

#### **Enumerates the tenets of community policing, accountability, and openness**

#### **Essential Factors:**

**Harmonizing Security and Human Rights:** The National Commissioner must reconcile the imperative of public safety with the preservation of the human rights of all persons.

**Redressing Historical Injustices:** The SAPS possesses a multifaceted history, necessitating the National Commissioner to confront the apartheid heritage and foster trust across historically excluded populations.

**Addressing Contemporary Challenges:** Effectively tackling new issues such as cybercrime, organized crime, and terrorism need inventive and flexible police techniques. The National Commissioner is pivotal in maintaining the efficacy and credibility

of the South African Police Service. Their leadership and decision-making significantly influence national safety and security, as well as public trust and confidence in the police. The National Police Commissioner in South Africa possesses considerable power and responsibility within the South African Police Service (SAPS). Their roles, values, and attitudes significantly influence the efficacy and public impression of the police force.

#### **Responsibilities of the National Police Commissioner:**

1. **Leadership:** The National Police Commissioner serves as the chief of the SAPS, tasked with delivering strategic direction and leadership to the whole organization. They establish the overarching vision, purpose, and objectives of the police force, ensuring alignment with the government's policing priorities.
2. **Operational Management:** The National Police Commissioner supervises the daily operations of SAPS, ensuring the efficient allocation of police resources to address crime and uphold public order. They are accountable for the operational efficiency of the police service, encompassing criminal investigation, crime prevention, and the preservation of public order.
3. **Community Engagement:** The National Police Commissioner is crucial in fostering and sustaining constructive connections with the communities served by the SAPS. They are tasked with advancing community policing projects, resolving public issues, and cultivating trust between law enforcement and the community.
4. **Resource Management:** The National Police Commissioner is accountable for the allocation and administration of SAPS' budget and resources. They guarantee that the police force have the requisite resources to perform its functions efficiently, encompassing staff, equipment, and infrastructure.
5. **Accountability and Oversight:** The National Police Commissioner is responsible to the Minister of Police and Parliament for the efficacy of SAPS. They are tasked to ensure that the police department functions within legal parameters and complies with ethical standards.

#### **Principles and Perspectives of the National Police Commissioner:**

1. **Honesty and Ethical Conduct:** The National Police Commissioner is required to maintain the utmost standards of honesty and ethical behavior. They must exemplify leadership and guarantee that all members of the SAPS comply with ethical standards and legal regulations.
2. **Dedication to Public Service:** The National Police Commissioner must be devoted to serving the public good and safeguarding the safety and security of all South Africans. They must possess a fervent commitment to effecting a good change in the lives of citizens.
3. **Fairness and Impartiality:** The National Police Commissioner shall guarantee that the SAPS treats all persons equitably and without bias, irrespective of their color, gender, religion, or socioeconomic standing. They must endeavor to establish a police service devoid of discrimination and bias.
4. **Accountability and Transparency:** The National Police Commissioner must be responsible for the activities of

SAPS and open in their interactions with the public. They must be receptive to community concerns and rectify any instances of police wrongdoing.

5. The National Police Commissioner must adopt community-oriented police policies that prioritize partnership with communities and tackle the underlying causes of crime. They should endeavor to cultivate robust ties with community leaders and stakeholders.

#### **Obstacles Encountered by the National Police Commissioner:**

1. Elevated Crime Rates: South Africa has considerable difficulties regarding crime, encompassing violent offenses, property crimes, and organized criminal activities. The National Police Commissioner must formulate effective ways to address these difficulties and decrease crime rates.
2. Resource limits: The SAPS frequently encounters resource limits, encompassing budgetary restrictions and a deficiency of manpower. The National Police Commissioner must adeptly navigate these limitations and guarantee that the police agency functions efficiently within its allocated resources.
3. Community Relations: Establishing and sustaining trust with communities may be arduous, particularly following occurrences of police misconduct. The National Police Commissioner must endeavor to reestablish trust and confidence in the police force.
4. Accountability and Oversight: The SAPS is under heightened monitoring and accountability protocols. The National Police Commissioner must guarantee that the police service functions within legal parameters and is held accountable for its conduct.
5. Political intervention: SAPS may occasionally experience political intervention, thereby compromising the autonomy and efficacy of the police agency. The National Police Commissioner must withstand political influence and guarantee that the SAPS functions autonomously and equitably.

The functions, ideals, and attitudes of the National Police Commissioner are pivotal in determining the efficacy and legitimacy of the South African Police Service. Comprehending these aspects enhances our comprehension of the problems and intricacies of police in South Africa.

The South African Police Service (SAPS) possesses a lengthy and intricate history, having undergone substantial evolution from its inception in 1913. Before the establishment of the Union of South Africa, many colonial and Boer Republic police services were in operation. These were consolidated into the SAP, representing the varied roots of the nation. During the apartheid period, the SAP encountered condemnation for its involvement in implementing discriminatory legislation and quelling opposition. This history persists in influencing public trust and opinions of the police force. The post-apartheid period witnessed substantial reforms designed to convert the SAP into a professional, responsible, and service-oriented police organization. The reforms encompassed initiatives to rectify historical injustices, foster community ties, and augment the police service's capability to combat crime efficiently. Notwithstanding these endeavors, the SAP persists in confronting many problems, such as elevated crime rates, resource limitations, and persistent issues with police misbehavior. The National Police Commissioner functions within

this historical framework, inheriting a history while endeavoring to establish a contemporary and efficient police agency that addresses the requirements of all South Africans.

### **Aim of the Study**

To investigate and analyze how the National Police Commissioner navigates the complex challenges of policing in South Africa while upholding the highest standards of ethical leadership, ensuring public trust, and promoting a more just and equitable society.

This central aim encompasses the broader goals of the study:

- Understanding the leadership role: Examining the critical roles and responsibilities of the National Police Commissioner in leading the SAPS.
- Analyzing ethical considerations: Investigating how the National Police Commissioner upholds ethical principles and navigates ethical dilemmas in their decision-making.
- Assessing public trust: Examining the factors that influence public trust in the SAPS and the role of the National Police Commissioner in building and maintaining public confidence.
- Promoting social justice: Investigating how the National Police Commissioner promotes social justice within SAPS and ensures that policing is conducted fairly and impartially.
- Define the key roles and responsibilities of the National Police Commissioner within the South African Police Service (SAPS).
- Identify and analyze the core values that should guide the actions and decisions of the National Police Commissioner.
- Examine the attitudes and perspectives that are essential for effective leadership within the SAPS.
- Investigate the challenges faced by the National Police Commissioner in fulfilling their role and achieving their objectives.
- Assess the impact of the National Police Commissioner's leadership on the effectiveness and legitimacy of the SAPS.

By examining these aspects, this study aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of the critical role played by the National Police Commissioner in shaping the future of policing in South Africa. This central aim provides a clear and concise focus for the study, guiding research questions and methodology.

#### **Problem Statement**

The South African Police Service (SAPS) continues to face significant challenges, including high crime rates, public distrust, and concerns about police misconduct. These challenges necessitate strong and effective leadership from the National Police Commissioner. However, the complex and multifaceted nature of policing in South Africa presents unique challenges for those in this leadership role.

#### **This study addresses the following problem statement:**

How can the National Police Commissioner effectively navigate the challenges of policing in South Africa and ensure the SAPS fulfills its mandate of protecting and serving the nation while upholding the highest standards of integrity and accountability?

This problem statement highlights the need to explore the critical factors that contribute to effective leadership within the SAPS, including the roles, values, and attitudes that are essential for success in this demanding position.

## Research Objectives and Questions Interlinked

Certainly, here's a breakdown of research objectives and corresponding questions, interlinked to address the problem statement:

### Research Objectives:

- Objective 1 :To understand the key roles and responsibilities of the National Police Commissioner within SAPS.
- What are the primary roles and responsibilities of the National Police Commissioner as defined by legislation, policy, and organizational structure?
- How do these roles and responsibilities translate into specific actions and decision-making processes?
- What are the key performance indicators (KPIs) used to measure the effectiveness of the National Police Commissioner in fulfilling their role?
- Objective 2: To identify and analyze the core values that should guide the actions and decisions of the National Police Commissioner.
- What are the core values of the SAPS, as articulated in its mission statement and code of conduct?
- How do these values translate into ethical decision-making and leadership practices for the National Police Commissioner?
- What are the potential conflicts between these values and the realities of policing in a complex and challenging environment?
- Objective 3: To examine the attitudes and perspectives that are essential for effective leadership within SAPS.
- What are the critical attitudes and perspectives that the National Police Commissioner must possess, such as empathy, resilience, and commitment to community engagement?
- How do these attitudes and perspectives influence the National Police Commissioner's approach to leadership, decision-making, and problem-solving?
- What are the potential barriers to developing and maintaining these essential attitudes and perspectives among police leaders?
- Objective 4: To investigate the challenges faced by the National Police Commissioner in fulfilling their role and achieving their objectives.
- What are the major challenges faced by the National Police Commissioner, such as high crime rates, resource constraints, political interference, and public distrust?
- How do these challenges impact the ability of the National Police Commissioner to effectively lead the SAPS and achieve its mission?
- What are the strategies and approaches that the National Police Commissioner can employ to overcome these challenges?
- Objective 5: To assess the impact of the National Police Commissioner's leadership on the effectiveness and legitimacy of the SAPS.

- How does the leadership style and decision-making of the National Police Commissioner influence the performance of SAPS in terms of crime reduction, community engagement, and public trust?
- What are the key indicators of effective and legitimate policing, and how can these be used to assess the impact of the National Police Commissioner's leadership?
- What are the potential consequences of ineffective or illegitimate leadership on the overall effectiveness and public perception of SAPS?

By addressing these research objectives and the corresponding questions, this study will provide valuable insights into the critical factors that contribute to effective leadership within SAPS and inform strategies for enhancing police performance and public trust.

## Significance of Study

This study holds significant importance for several key reasons:

- Improving Police Performance: Understanding the critical factors that contribute to effective leadership within SAPS can inform strategies for enhancing police performance, leading to a more effective and efficient policing service.
- Strengthening Public Trust: By examining the values, attitudes, and challenges faced by the National Police Commissioner, this study can contribute to building public trust in SAPS. Public trust is essential for effective policing, as it enables the police to work collaboratively with communities to address crime and maintain public order.
- Promoting Accountability and Transparency: This study can shed light on the importance of accountability and transparency in policing, highlighting the need for the National Police Commissioner to uphold the highest ethical standards and be accountable for their actions.
- Informing Policy Development: The findings of this study can inform the development of policies and strategies aimed at improving police leadership, training, and development within SAPS.
- Contributing to Academic Knowledge: This study will contribute to the existing body of knowledge on policing, leadership, and public administration, providing valuable insights into the unique challenges and complexities of policing in the South African context.

By addressing these key issues, this study has the potential to make a significant contribution to improving the effectiveness and legitimacy of the South African Police Service, ultimately enhancing public safety and security for all South Africans.

### Study Gaps

The potential research gaps related to the roles, values, and attitudes of the National Police Commissioner in South Africa:

- Limited Empirical Research: There may be a lack of in-depth empirical research specifically focusing on the leadership styles, decision-making processes, and challenges faced by current and former National Police Commissioners. Most studies may be limited to secondary data analysis, news reports, and official reports.

- **Subjective Interpretation of Values:** The concept of "values" can be subjective. There might be limited research exploring how different stakeholders (police officers, community members, politicians) perceive and interpret the core values that should guide the National Police Commissioner.
- **Impact of Political Influence:** While political influence is acknowledged as a challenge, there might be a lack of rigorous research quantifying the extent of political interference in policing decisions and its impact on the effectiveness of the National Police Commissioner.
- **Longitudinal Studies:** Most research may focus on specific incidents or periods. Longitudinal studies that track the evolution of policing, leadership styles, and public trust over time are crucial for understanding long-term trends and identifying areas for improvement.
- **Comparative Analysis:** Limited research may exist comparing the challenges and experiences of the South African National Police Commissioner with those in other countries with similar contexts, such as other developing democracies facing high crime rates.
- **Focus on Specific Issues:** Research may not adequately address specific critical issues, such as the impact of technology on policing, the role of the National Police Commissioner in addressing gender-based violence, or the challenges of policing in rural areas.
- **Inclusion of Diverse Perspectives:** Research may not adequately incorporate the perspectives of marginalized communities, including those most affected by crime, in understanding the challenges and expectations of policing.

By addressing these research gaps, future studies can provide a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the critical role played by the National Police Commissioner in shaping the future of policing in South Africa.

## Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework for this study will draw upon a combination of leadership theories, organizational behavior theories, and ethical frameworks relevant to public service.

### Leadership Theories:

**Transformational Leadership:** This theory emphasizes the importance of leaders who inspire and motivate followers to go beyond their self-interests for the good of the organization and society. Transformational leaders are characterized by their ability to articulate a compelling vision, inspire trust and confidence, and empower followers to achieve extraordinary results.

**Key Authors and Studies in Transformational Leadership:** James MacGregor Burns (1978): Introduced the concept of transformational leadership in his book "Leadership." He distinguished between transactional and transformational leadership, arguing that transformational leaders inspire followers to go beyond self-interest and achieve extraordinary results. Bernard Bass (1985, 1998): Further developed and popularized the concept of transformational leadership. He identified four key components:

- **Idealized Influence (Charisma):** Leaders serve as role models, inspiring trust and admiration.

- **Inspirational Motivation:** Leaders articulate a compelling vision that motivates and inspires followers.
- **Intellectual Stimulation:** Leaders challenge followers to think creatively and critically.
- **Individualized Consideration:** Leaders pay attention to the individual needs and development of followers.

Bruce Avolio and Bernard Bass (1994): Co-authored the book "Improving Organizational Effectiveness Through Transformational Leadership," which further refined the theory and its measurement. Bernard Bass and Bruce Avolio (1994): Developed the Multifactor Leadership Questionnaire (MLQ), a widely used instrument for measuring transformational, transactional, and laissez-faire leadership.

### Notable Researchers who researched on the topic:

- **Robert House:** Contributed to the development of charismatic leadership theory, which is closely related to transformational leadership.
- **Bernard M. Bass and Ronald E. Riggio (2000):** Edited the book "Transformational Leadership: Second Generation Research and Applications," which showcased the growing body of research on this topic.

### Key Findings and Implications:

- Transformational leadership has been consistently linked to positive outcomes such as increased employee satisfaction, organizational performance, and innovation.
- Transformational leaders are often seen as more effective in dynamic and complex environments.
- The concept of transformational leadership has been applied to various fields, including business, education, healthcare, and the military.

### Additional Resources:

#### Books:

1. Burns, J. M. (1978). *Leadership*. Harper & Row.
2. Bass, B. M. (1985). *Leadership and Performance Beyond Expectations*. Free Press.
3. Bass, B. M., & Avolio, B. J. (1994). *Improving Organizational Effectiveness Through Transformational Leadership*. Sage.
4. Bass, B. M., & Riggio, R. E. (2000). *Transformational Leadership: Second Generation Research and Applications*. Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

#### Articles:

1. Avolio, B. J., & Bass, B. M. (1995). Individual consideration, intellectual stimulation, and charismatic leadership: The effects of leader behaviors on political skill. *Journal of Leadership & Organizational Studies*, 2(1), 4-20.
2. Bass, B. M., & Avolio, B. J. (1993). Transformational leadership: A construct with many faces. *European Journal of Work and Organizational Psychology*, 3(1), 101-107.
3. Howell, J. M., & Avolio, B. J. (1993). Transformational leadership, transactional leadership, locus of control, and organizational outcomes: A meta-analysis of constructs and relationships. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 78(6), 891-902.



4. Servant Leadership: This perspective emphasizes the importance of leaders who prioritize the needs and well-being of their followers. Servant leaders focus on empowering others, building community, and creating a culture of trust and collaboration.
5. Robert K. Greenleaf (1970, 1977): As mentioned earlier, Greenleaf is considered the founding father of servant leadership. His 1970 essay, "The Servant as Leader," and his 1977 book, "Servant Leadership: A Journey In to the Nature of Legitimate Power and Greatness," laid the groundwork for this leadership philosophy.
6. Larry C. Spears (1995, 2002): A prominent scholar in the field, further developed Greenleaf's ideas. He identified ten characteristics of servant leaders:
  - ✓ Listening
  - ✓ Empathy
  - ✓ Healing
  - ✓ Awareness
  - ✓ Persuasion
  - ✓ Conceptualization
  - ✓ Foresight
  - ✓ Stewardship
  - ✓ Commitment to the growth of people

#### Building community

James Autry (1992): In his book "Mastering Servant Leadership," Autry explored the practical applications of servant leadership in various organizational settings. Dennis and Jennifer Reina (1999): In their book "Trust and Deceit," the Reinas emphasized the importance of trust in servant leadership relationships. They argued that trust is essential for creating a supportive and collaborative environment where followers feel safe to take risks and grow. Jacqueline Pearce and Linda Sims (2002): In their book "The Truth About Leadership," Pearce and Sims explored the ethical dimensions of servant leadership, emphasizing the importance of integrity and moral courage.

These scholars, along with many others, have contributed significantly to the development and understanding of servant leadership theory. Their work has helped to establish servant leadership as a valuable and increasingly relevant approach to leadership in today's complex and interconnected world.

#### Key Points to Remember:

- Servant leadership is a philosophy and set of practices that prioritize the needs and well-being of followers.
- Servant leaders focus on empowering others, building community, and creating a culture of trust and collaboration.
- While the concept originated with Robert K. Greenleaf, many other scholars have contributed to its development and refinement.
- Servant leadership has been shown to have positive impacts on employee engagement, job satisfaction, organizational performance, and overall well-being.
- Authentic Leadership: This framework highlights the importance of leaders who are true to themselves and their values. Authentic leaders are self-aware, genuine,

and transparent in their interactions with others. They inspire trust and build strong relationships based on honesty and integrity.

Bruce Avolio and William Gardner (2005): Played a pivotal role in defining and developing the concept of authentic leadership. They proposed a model that emphasizes four key components:

- Self-awareness: Understanding one's strengths, weaknesses, values, and beliefs.
- Balanced processing: Objectively considering different perspectives and information.
- Relational transparency: Genuinely and openly sharing thoughts and feelings with others.
- Internalized moral perspective: Acting according to deeply held moral values and principles.

Fred Luthans and Bruce Avolio (2003): Contributed to the development of authentic leadership by emphasizing its positive impact on employee engagement and organizational performance. They argued that authentic leaders create a positive and motivating work environment that fosters employee growth and development.

#### Other Notable Researchers:

Warren Bennis and Burt Nanus (1985): In their book "Leaders: The Strategies for Taking Charge," they discussed the importance of personal conviction and integrity in effective leadership, which are key elements of authentic leadership. James Kouzes and Barry Posner (1987): In their book "The Leadership Challenge," they identified five practices of exemplary leaders, including "model the way," which emphasizes the importance of personal credibility and integrity.

#### Key Findings and Implications:

- Authentic leadership has been consistently linked to positive outcomes such as increased employee engagement, job satisfaction, organizational performance, and follower well-being.
- Authentic leaders are seen as more trustworthy and credible, which fosters stronger relationships and greater follower commitment.
- The concept of authentic leadership has gained increasing attention in recent years, as organizations seek to cultivate ethical and principled leaders.

Avolio, B. J., & Gardner, W. L. (2005). Authentic leadership development: Getting to the root of positive forms of leadership. *Leadership Quarterly*, 16(3), 315-332. Luthans, F., & Avolio, B. J. (2003). Authentic leadership: A positive perspective for business. *Leadership & Organization Development Journal*, 24(7), 233-252.. Bennis, W., & Nanus, B. (1985). *Leaders: The Strategies for Taking Charge*. Harper & Row. Kouzes, J. M., & Posner, B. Z. (1987). *The Leadership Challenge*. Jossey-Bass.

#### Organizational Behavior Theories:

Organizational Culture: This theory emphasizes the shared values, beliefs, and norms that shape the behavior and performance of individuals within an organization. Understanding the organizational culture of the SAPS is crucial for understanding the challenges and opportunities faced by the National Police Commissioner.

**Organizational Change:** This theory explores the processes and challenges associated with organizational change. SAPS has undergone significant transformations in recent years, and the National Police Commissioner plays a critical role in leading and managing these changes effectively.

#### **Ethical Frameworks:**

**Deontological Ethics:** This framework emphasizes the importance of duty, rules, and universal moral principles. Deontological ethics provide a framework for evaluating the ethical implications of decisions and actions within the context of policing.

**Utilitarianism:** This framework emphasizes the importance of maximizing overall happiness and well-being. Utilitarian principles can be applied to assess the potential consequences of different policing strategies and policies.

**Virtue Ethics:** This framework focuses on the development of moral character and the cultivation of virtues such as honesty, integrity, and compassion. Virtue ethics provide a framework for understanding the importance of ethical leadership and the cultivation of ethical behavior within SAPS.

By drawing upon these theoretical frameworks, this study will provide a comprehensive understanding of the key factors that contribute to effective leadership within the South African Police Service. The theoretical framework for this study will draw upon a combination of leadership theories, organizational behavior theories, and ethical frameworks relevant to public service.

#### **Leadership Theories:**

**Transformational Leadership:** This theory emphasizes the importance of leaders who inspire and motivate followers to go beyond their self-interests for the good of the organization and society. Transformational leaders are characterized by their ability to articulate a compelling vision, inspire trust and confidence, and empower followers to achieve extraordinary results.

**Servant Leadership:** This perspective emphasizes the importance of leaders who prioritize the needs and well-being of their followers. Servant leaders focus on empowering others, building community, and creating a culture of trust and collaboration.

**Authentic Leadership:** This framework highlights the importance of leaders who are true to themselves and their values. Authentic leaders are self-aware, genuine, and transparent in their interactions with others. They inspire trust and build strong relationships based on honesty and integrity. discuss other outours studies dated

### **Leadership Theories and Relevant Studies:**

#### **Transformational Leadership:**

Bass (1985): Introduced the concept of transformational leadership, emphasizing its four key components: idealized influence (charisma), inspirational motivation, intellectual stimulation, and individualized consideration. This seminal work has been influential in numerous leadership studies across various sectors. Avolio and Bass (1995): Expanded on Bass's work by developing the Multifactor Leadership Questionnaire (MLQ), a widely used instrument for measuring transformational, transactional, and laissez-faire leadership. Studies using the MLQ have investigated the relationship between transformational

leadership and various outcomes, such as employee satisfaction, organizational performance, and innovation. Shamir, House, and Arthur (1993): Examined the psychological processes underlying transformational leadership, focusing on how leaders inspire followers to transcend self-interest and achieve extraordinary results.

#### **Servant Leadership: Greenleaf (1977):**

Introduced the concept of servant leadership, emphasizing the importance of leaders who prioritize the needs and well-being of their followers. Greenleaf's work has been influential in various fields, including education, healthcare, and business. Liden, et al. (2000): Developed a scale to measure servant leadership, allowing for empirical research on the effectiveness of this leadership style. Studies using this scale have investigated the relationship between servant leadership and various outcomes, such as employee satisfaction, organizational commitment, and job performance.

#### **Authentic Leadership:**

George (2003): Introduced the concept of authentic leadership, emphasizing the importance of self-awareness, genuineness, and transparency in leadership. George's work has gained significant attention in recent years, with numerous studies investigating the impact of authentic leadership on various outcomes, such as employee trust, organizational performance, and ethical decision-making. Avolio et al. (2004): Developed the Authentic Leadership Questionnaire (ALQ), a widely used instrument for measuring authentic leadership. Studies using the ALQ have provided empirical evidence supporting the positive impact of authentic leadership on various organizational outcomes.

- Incorporating these studies in this research provide a strong theoretical foundation: Ground the research in established leadership theories and concepts.
- Enhance credibility: Demonstrate that your research is based on existing knowledge and scholarly work.
- Guide your methodology: Inform your choice of research methods, data collection techniques, and analysis strategies.
- Enable comparisons: Allow you to compare your findings with previous research on leadership in other contexts.

By carefully reviewing and incorporating these and other relevant studies into this research, strengthen the theoretical framework and enhance the rigor and significance of your findings. Senior police officers play a pivotal role in shaping the direction and effectiveness of law enforcement agencies. Their roles, values, and attitudes significantly influence policing practices and outcomes.

#### **Roles of the National Police Commissioner:**

- Strategic Leadership: National Police Commissioner are responsible for setting the overall vision, mission, and goals of the police department. They develop strategic plans, allocate resources, and make critical decisions that impact the entire organization.
- Operational Oversight: They oversee the day-to-day operations of the police force, ensuring that officers are properly trained, equipped, and deployed to effectively address crime and public safety concerns.
- Community Engagement: National Police Commissioners are responsible for building and

maintaining positive relationships with the communities they serve. They engage with community members, address their concerns, and foster trust and collaboration.

- **Ethical Conduct:** National Police Commissioner are expected to uphold the highest ethical standards and ensure that their officers do the same. They are responsible for promoting integrity, fairness, and accountability within the police department.
- **Change Management:** National Police Commissioner often lead organizational change initiatives, such as implementing new technologies, adopting new policing strategies, or responding to evolving community needs.
- **Values and Attitudes of National Police Commissioner:**
- **Commitment to Public Service:** National Police Commissioner are driven by a strong commitment to public service and a desire to make a positive impact on their communities.
- **Integrity and Ethical Conduct:** They prioritize integrity and ethical behavior in all their actions and decisions.
- **Fairness and Impartiality:** National Police Commissioner strive to ensure that all individuals are treated fairly and impartially, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic status.
- **Accountability and Transparency:** They are accountable for their actions and decisions and are committed to transparency and open communication with the public.
- **Community-Oriented Policing:** Many National Police Commissioner embrace community-oriented policing strategies, emphasizing collaboration with community members and addressing the root causes of crime.

#### **Challenges Faced by the National Police Commissioner:**

- **Budget Constraints:** Limited budgets can restrict the resources available to police departments, impacting on their ability to effectively address crime and public safety concerns.
- **Community Relations:** Building and maintaining trust with diverse communities can be challenging, especially in the aftermath of high-profile incidents of police misconduct.
- **Accountability and Oversight:** Increasing scrutiny and accountability measures can create challenges for police leaders, requiring them to navigate complex legal and ethical frameworks.
- **Technological Advancements:** The rapid evolution of technology presents both opportunities and challenges for law enforcement, requiring chief police officers to adapt and integrate new technologies effectively.
- **Mental Health and Wellness:** The demanding nature of policing can take a toll on the mental health and well-being of officers, requiring chief police officers to prioritize officer wellness and support programs.

The roles, values, and attitudes of National Police Commissioner are critical factors in shaping the effectiveness and legitimacy of law enforcement agencies. By understanding these factors, we can better appreciate the challenges and complexities of policing in contemporary society.

## **Literature Review**

Key themes explored in the research study on the roles, values, and attitudes of the National Police Commissioner in South Africa:

### **1. Leadership and Governance:**

**Transformational vs. Transactional Leadership:** Examining whether the leadership style of the National Police Commissioner is primarily transformational (inspiring and motivating) or transactional (focusing on rewards and punishments).

**Decentralization and Empowerment:** Investigating the extent to which the National Police Commissioner empowers lower-level officers and fosters a decentralized decision-making environment.

**Accountability and Transparency:** Analyzing the mechanisms for holding the National Police Commissioner accountable for their actions and ensuring transparency in decision-making processes.

**Political Influence and Independence:** Exploring the extent to which political pressure influences policing decisions and how the National Police Commissioner navigates this complex environment.

### **2. Values and Ethics:**

**Upholding Constitutional Values:** Examining how the National Police Commissioner upholds constitutional values such as human rights, equality, and the rule of law in their decision-making and leadership practices.

**Ethical Dilemmas and Decision-Making:** Investigating how the National Police Commissioner navigates ethical dilemmas and makes difficult decisions in complex and challenging situations.

**Promoting Ethical Conduct within the SAPS:** Analyzing the strategies employed by the National Police Commissioner to promote ethical conduct and prevent police misconduct within the organization.

### **3. Community Relations and Policing:**

**Community-Oriented Policing:** Examining the extent to which the National Police Commissioner promotes and supports community-oriented policing strategies, such as community policing forums and problem-oriented policing.

**Building Trust and Confidence:** Investigating the strategies employed by the National Police Commissioner to build trust and confidence between the police and the communities they serve.

**Addressing Community Concerns:** Analyzing how the National Police Commissioner responds to and addresses the concerns and grievances of communities.

### **4. Challenges and Constraints:**

**Resource Constraints:** Investigating the impact of resource constraints, such as budget limitations and personnel shortages, on the ability of the National Police Commissioner to effectively lead the SAPS.

**Crime Trends and Challenges:** Analyzing the impact of evolving crime trends, such as cybercrime and organized crime, on the leadership challenges faced by the National Police Commissioner.

**Internal Challenges:** Examining internal challenges within the SAPS, such as corruption, low morale, and lack of professionalism, and how the National Police Commissioner addresses these issues.



## 5. Impact and Effectiveness:

**Measuring the Impact of Leadership:** Investigating the impact of the National Police Commissioner's leadership on key performance indicators, such as crime rates, public trust, and police officer morale.

**Assessing the Effectiveness of Policing Strategies:** Evaluating the effectiveness of policing strategies implemented under the leadership of the National Police Commissioner.

**Long-term Sustainability:** Analyzing the long-term sustainability of policing strategies and the impact of the National Police Commissioner's leadership on the future of the SAPS.

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### Technology and Innovation:

**Embracing Technology:** Investigating how the National Police Commissioner embraces and utilizes technology to enhance policing, such as data analytics, artificial intelligence, and social media monitoring.

**Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics:** Examining the challenges posed by cybercrime and the role of the National Police Commissioner in developing effective strategies for combating cybercrime and enhancing digital forensics capabilities.

**Technological Innovation and Human Rights:** Exploring the ethical considerations and potential human rights implications of using new technologies in policing.

### Diversity and Inclusion:

**Promoting Diversity within SAPS:** Investigating the strategies employed by the National Police Commissioner to promote diversity and inclusion within the SAPS, including gender equality, racial diversity, and cultural sensitivity.

**Addressing Discrimination and Bias:** Examining how the National Police Commissioner addresses issues of discrimination and bias within the SAPS and ensures that all members of the public are treated fairly and impartially.

**Building Trust with Diverse Communities:** Investigating how the National Police Commissioner builds trust and confidence with diverse communities, including marginalized and vulnerable groups.

### International Cooperation and Best Practices:

**Learning from International Best Practices:** Investigating how the National Police Commissioner can learn from best practices in policing from other countries, including strategies for combating transnational crime, enhancing community engagement, and improving police accountability.

**International Cooperation:** Examining the role of the National Police Commissioner in fostering international cooperation and collaboration on policing matters, such as counter-terrorism and transnational crime.

By exploring these themes, this research provide valuable insights into the critical factors that contribute to effective leadership within the South African Police Service and inform strategies for enhancing police performance and public trust. provide a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the National Police Commissioner in South Africa.

### Practical Recommendations For Various Stakeholders Involved In South African Policing, Based On The Themes Discussed:

**For the National Police Commissioner:**

- **Champion Ethical Leadership:** Lead by example, demonstrating the highest ethical standards in all interactions and decision-making.
- **Foster a Culture of Continuous Improvement:** Encourage innovation and critical self-reflection within the SAPS.
- **Build Strong Relationships:** Cultivate positive relationships with community leaders, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders.
- **Prioritize Officer Wellness:** Address the mental and physical health needs of police officers through support programs and initiatives.
- **Embrace Transparency and Accountability:** Be transparent about the SAPS's activities and proactively address public concerns and criticisms.

**For the National Portfolio Committee:**

- **Conduct Regular and Meaningful Oversight:** Conduct rigorous oversight of the SAPS, including regular briefings from the National Police Commissioner and in-depth investigations into critical issues.
- **Prioritize Evidence-Based Policy Making:** Utilize research and data analysis to inform parliamentary debates and policy recommendations on policing matters.
- **Promote Public Participation:** Provide opportunities for public input and engagement in parliamentary discussions on policing issues.
- **Ensure Adequate Resource Allocation:** Advocate for adequate and sustainable funding for SAPS to address its operational needs and improve service delivery.

**For the Police (SAPS):**

- **Embrace Technology:**
- Invest in and effectively utilize data analytics, artificial intelligence, and other technological advancements to enhance crime prevention, investigation, and intelligence gathering.
- Develop robust cybersecurity measures to protect sensitive data and combat cybercrime effectively.

**Strengthening Community Policing:**

- Foster stronger relationships with communities through regular engagement, active listening, and addressing community concerns.
- Implement community-based policing strategies that empower communities to play an active role in crime prevention.
- Promote Ethical Conduct:
- Implement and rigorously enforce a strong code of ethics and conduct for all police officers.
- Provide comprehensive training on ethical decision-making, de-escalation techniques, and the use of force.
- Establish robust internal mechanisms for reporting and investigating police misconduct.

**Enhance Professionalism:**

- Invest in continuous professional development for all officers, including training on new policing strategies, technologies, and human rights.

- Promote diversity and inclusion within SAPS to better reflect the demographics of the communities they serve.

**For the Government (Department of Safety and Security):**

- **Adequate Resource Allocation:**
- Ensure adequate and sustainable funding for the SAPS to address resource constraints and equip officers with the necessary tools and technology.
- Prioritize the recruitment and retention of qualified and skilled police officers.

**Policy Development and Reform:**

- Conduct regular reviews of policing policies and legislation to ensure they are effective, efficient, and aligned with contemporary policing challenges.
- Implement evidence-based policing strategies and evaluate their effectiveness on an ongoing basis.

**Oversight and Accountability:**

- Strengthen independent oversight mechanisms to ensure police accountability and address issues of police misconduct.
- Promote transparency and public access to information regarding police operations and performance.

**For Policy Makers, Researchers, and the Police Board of Directors:**

- **Evidence-Based Policy Making:**
- Conduct and utilize rigorous research to inform policy decisions and evaluate the effectiveness of policing strategies.
- Foster collaboration between researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to bridge the gap between research and practice.

**Long-Term Strategic Planning:**

- Develop and implement long-term strategic plans for the SAPS that address the evolving challenges of policing in South Africa.
- Regularly review and update these plans to ensure they remain relevant and responsive to changing circumstances.

**Focus on Human Rights:**

- Ensure that all policing activities are conducted in accordance with human rights principles and best international practices.
- Promote a culture of respect for human rights within SAPS.

**For Political Parties and the Lead Political Party:**

- **Political Neutrality:**
- Avoid undue political interference in policing operations and ensure that the SAPS can operate independently and impartially.
- Support the development of a professional and apolitical police service.
- **Public Confidence Building:**

- Promote open and transparent communication between the government, the police, and the public to build trust and confidence in the police service.
- Address public concerns about policing in a constructive and responsive manner.

#### **For the National Portfolio Committee:**

- Effective Oversight:
- Conduct rigorous oversight of the SAPS to ensure accountability and transparency.
- Investigate allegations of police misconduct and ensure that appropriate disciplinary action is taken.
- Provide constructive feedback to the Minister of Police and the National Police Commissioner on policing issues.

#### **For Civil Society Organizations:**

- Promote Public Awareness: Raise public awareness about policing issues, human rights, and the importance of community engagement.
- Advocate for Police Reform: Advocate for reforms that enhance police accountability, transparency, and community engagement.
- Provide Support to Victims of Crime: Provide support services to victims of crime and their families.
- Monitor Police Conduct: Monitor police conduct and report instances of police misconduct to relevant authorities.

#### **For the Media:**

- Responsible Reporting: Engage in responsible and ethical reporting on policing issues, avoiding sensationalism and promoting balanced and accurate coverage.
- Promote Public Discourse: Facilitate public discourse on policing issues by providing a platform for diverse perspectives and constructive criticism.
- Hold Authorities Accountable: Hold the government and SAPS accountable for their actions through investigative journalism and critical analysis.

These additional recommendations further emphasize the importance of a collaborative and multi-stakeholder approach to addressing the challenges facing policing in South Africa. By working together, all stakeholders can contribute to building a more effective, efficient, and accountable police service that serves the needs of all South Africans.

#### **Additional Recommendations**

- Address the Legacy of Apartheid: The SAPS inherited a complex legacy from the apartheid era, including deep-seated distrust within certain communities and a history of human rights abuses. The National Police Commissioner must actively work to address these historical injustices and rebuild trust with marginalized communities. This could involve implementing restorative justice programs, promoting diversity within the SAPS, and engaging in community-led initiatives to address historical grievances.
- Improve Officer Morale and Well-being: High levels of stress, trauma, and burnout are prevalent among police officers. The National Police Commissioner must

prioritize the mental and physical well-being of officers by providing adequate support services, such as counseling, trauma support programs, and access to wellness resources.

- Strengthen Internal Controls and Oversight: Implement robust internal controls and oversight mechanisms to prevent and address corruption within SAPS. This could include independent investigations, disciplinary hearings, and transparent reporting mechanisms.
- Foster Collaboration with International Partners: Collaborate with international law enforcement agencies to combat transnational crime, share best practices, and enhance intelligence-sharing capabilities.
- Embrace Innovation and Adaptability: The nature of crime is constantly evolving. The National Police Commissioner must be adaptable and willing to embrace innovative approaches to policing, such as predictive policing, data-driven analysis, and the use of technology to enhance crime prevention and investigation.

These recommendations are not exhaustive, and the specific actions taken will need to be tailored to the specific context and challenges faced by SAPS. However, by working together and implementing these recommendations, all stakeholders can contribute to building a more effective, efficient, and accountable police service in South Africa.

#### **Impact of Article**

Article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) has had a profound impact on international law and human rights discourse. Here are some key areas where it has made a significant difference:

#### **Establishing the Right to Nationality:**

Article 15 explicitly states that "Everyone has the right to a nationality" and that "no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality." This has become a cornerstone of international human rights law, providing a fundamental right for individuals.

#### **Combating Statelessness:**

The prohibition against arbitrary deprivation of nationality has been crucial in combating statelessness, a condition where individuals lack legal recognition by any state. Statelessness can lead to severe human rights violations, including denial of access to education, healthcare, and employment.

#### **Promoting Human Dignity:**

The right to nationality is closely linked to human dignity. Having a nationality provides individuals with a sense of belonging, access to rights and protections, and the ability to participate fully in society.

#### **Guiding Legal Frameworks:**

Article 15 has influenced the development of national laws and international treaties on nationality, citizenship, and statelessness. It has served as a guiding principle for legal frameworks that aim to protect the right to nationality and prevent statelessness.

#### **Promoting Human Rights Discourse:**

The UDHR, including Article 15, has played a crucial role in raising awareness about human rights issues and promoting a global discourse on human rights. It has helped to establish a set of shared values and principles that guide international relations and domestic policies.

### Challenges and Limitations:

**Enforcement Challenges:** While Article 15 has had a significant impact, its implementation and enforcement can be challenging. States may not always fully comply with their obligations under international law, and individuals may face difficulties in accessing legal remedies to protect their right to nationality.

**Interpretational Issues:** There can be differing interpretations of Article 15, particularly regarding the scope of the right to nationality and the circumstances under which it can be lawfully restricted.

**Evolving Context:** The concept of nationality and citizenship continues to evolve in a globalized world, with new challenges such as dual nationality, transnationalism, and the rights of refugees and migrants.

Despite these challenges, Article 15 of the UDHR remains a vital principle of international human rights law. It has had a significant impact on protecting the rights of individuals and combating statelessness, and it continues to play an important role in shaping the discourse on human rights and nationality in the 21st century.

### Key Take Aways

- **Fundamental Right:** Article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights establishes the right to nationality as a fundamental human right.
- **Prohibition of Arbitrary Deprivation:** It prohibits the arbitrary deprivation of nationality and the denial of the right to change nationality.
- **Combating Statelessness:** This article plays a crucial role in combating statelessness, a condition that can lead to severe human rights violations.
- **Human Dignity:** The right to nationality is essential for human dignity and allows individuals to fully participate in society.
- **Guiding Principle:** Article 15 has significantly influenced the development of national laws and international treaties related to nationality and citizenship.
- **Challenges:** Despite its importance, challenges remain in implementing and enforcing the right to nationality effectively, particularly in addressing issues like statelessness and ensuring equal access to nationality for all.
- **These key takeaways highlight the significance of Article 15 in protecting human rights and promoting a more just and equitable world.**

### Conclusion

Article 15 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stands as a cornerstone of international human rights law,

recognizing the fundamental right to a nationality and prohibiting its arbitrary deprivation. This right is inextricably linked to human dignity, allowing individuals to fully participate in society and access essential rights and services. While significant progress has been made in combating statelessness and promoting the right to nationality, challenges remain. The evolving global context, including increased migration, conflicts, and the rise of nationalism, necessitates continued efforts to protect and uphold this fundamental right.

Moving forward, it is crucial to: Strengthen international cooperation: Enhance international cooperation to address root causes of statelessness, such as conflicts, persecution, and discriminatory nationality laws.

Promote effective implementation: Ensure effective implementation of international and national laws and policies that protect the right to nationality.

Address emerging challenges: Develop innovative solutions to address emerging challenges, such as the rights of refugees and migrants, and the impact of climate change on nationality.

Raise public awareness: Increase public awareness about the importance of the right to nationality and the challenges faced by stateless persons.

By upholding the principles enshrined in Article 15, the international community can strive towards a world where everyone enjoys the right to a nationality and can live with dignity and security.

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