CREATION OF STATE POLICE AND ITS NECESSITY IN THIS ERA OF TERRORISM AND INSECURITY IN NIGERIA*

Abstract
This paper examines the vexed issue regarding the agitation for the creation of state police in the 36 states of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, especially in this era of terrorism and insecurity. It conceptualizes state police, terrorism and insecurity. Thereafter, it briefly chronicles the history of the Police Force; analyzes its establishment, structure and functions; x-rays the arguments for and against its creation; and recommends ways which, if followed, will help the federal government of Nigeria in stamping out terrorism and providing the enabling atmosphere for the security of lives and property of Nigerians, which is the basic preoccupation of government.

Keywords: State Police, Necessity, Terrorism, Insecurity, Nigeria

1. Introduction
The Federal Republic of Nigeria consists of 36 states. However, the system of policing in the country is centralized. In other words, only the Federal Police exists in Nigeria. At the helm of affairs of the Federal Police is the Inspector General of Police, who is appointed by, and is in turn answerable to, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. It has become obvious that the Federal Police is currently being faced with myriads of challenges, especially in this era of Boko Haram insurgency, Fulani Herders/Farmers crises, armed banditry, kidnapping, attacks by unknown gunmen, amongst a blizzard of other factors. The insecurity level of the country is so alarming, despite the efforts of the Federal Police to nip it in the bud. In this connection Aleyomi remarked:

The poor performance of the Nigerian Police has necessitated the clamour for state police to be or not to be. Many people have argued that state police is a global practice where strange moments, suspicious characters and micro crimes are easily nipped in the bud before. One may be tempted to be part of this call giving the current state of insecurity the country is going through. Uncontrolled kidnapping, bombing, armed robbery and so on are some of the crimes

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1 Sections 2 and 3 of the CFRN, 1999, as amended.  
2 Section 214 of the CFRN, 1999, as amended.  
3 Ibid.  
committed daily in the country where there is police force. The weaknesses of Nigeria’s police, which have hampered its efficiency and effectiveness should be considered and addressed, first and foremost, before clamouring for the decentralization or centralization of the police force. The sobering reality, however, is that the police in Nigeria have not had great success in dealing with either urban or rural crime. A difficult environment; the police force’s traditional disinterest in the poor; and lack of resources both in terms of personnel and in skills and equipment hamper its ability to be effective.

Some of the problems bedeviling the current Federal Police Force include shortage of manpower, understaffing, bribery and corruption, misuse of resources, placing square pegs in round holes, inadequate funding, lack of management and technical skills, amongst others.\(^5\)

It is in the light of the foregoing that this paper seeks to examine whether the creation of state police will help in tackling the security challenges with which Nigeria is currently being confronted. On the one hand, it has been argued that state police, if created, will be closer to the society of its jurisdiction and it will be placed it in more proactive position for the detecting and uprooting of any emerging crime before it grows. On the other hand, there are those who hold the view that state police will create a situation where there will be two rivaling institutions saddled with the same responsibility, duty and nature in Nigeria. The two antithetical positions will be examined in this paper. Thereafter, recommendations on how a definite stance will be taken with a view to better positioning the police to effectively carry out their constitutional responsibility of tackling the current security quagmire Nigeria is currently facing.

2. Conceptual Clarification of Terms

It is germane to clarify the three key words that constitute this paper. They are: State Police, Terrorism and Insecurity. This is necessary for the enhancement of the discourse.

State Police

The word ‘Police’ is derived from the Greek word ‘Polis’, meaning that part of non-ecclesiastical administration having to do with the protection, well-being and order of the state.\(^6\) The Greek politeia, ‘meant the art of governing and regulating the welfare, security needs and order of the city-state in the interest of the public.’\(^7\) Although ‘Police’ is derived from the Greek, it was the Romans who perfected the system. The Roman ‘politia’ meant the same thing as the Greek ‘Politeia’. It was a symbol of power residing in central Authority.\(^8\) The police provide for the prevention and detection of crime, the apprehension of offenders, the preservation of law and

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\(^{5}\) Ibid.


\(^{7}\) Ibid.

\(^{8}\) Ibid.
order, the protection of life and property and the due enforcement of all laws and regulations with which criminals are directly charged, and shall perform such military duties within or outside a country as may be saddled on them by the law of such country.  

State Police envisages a situation where the 36 states of the Federation will be allowed to establish their own police. This will mean that, in addition to the Federal Police controlled by the Federal Government, states will also have their own respective states police.

**Terrorism**

Terrorism has no universally acceptable definition. However, several attempts have been made at defining the concept. Some of these definitions are examined below: To Laqueur, terrorism is ‘the use or threat of the use of violence, a method of combat, or a strategy to achieve certain targets…it aims to induce a state of fear in the victim, that is ruthless and does not conform with humanitarian rules…publicity is an essential factor’. Schmid and Jongman view terrorism as ‘an anxiety-inspiring method of repeated violent action, employed by (semi) clandestine individuals, group, or state actors for idiosyncratic, criminal or political reasons, whereby – in contrast to assassination – the direct targets of violence are not the main targets. The immediate human victims of violence are generally chosen randomly (targets of opportunity) or selectively (representative or symbolic targets) from a target population, and serve as message generators’. These researchers also stated that there are at least over 109 definitions of the concept of terrorism. The U.S. Department of Defense defines terrorism as ‘the calculated use of unlawful violence or threat of unlawful violence to inculcate fear, intended to coerce or to intimidate governments or societies in the pursuit of goals that are generally political, religious or ideological’. The U.S. Department of State defines terrorism as ‘the premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by sub-national groups or clandestine state agents.

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9 Section 4, The Police Act, LFN 2004. Nigeria as may be required of them by, or under the authority of this or any other Act.


11 The word terrorism, in and of itself, was coined during the French Revolution’s Reign of Terror (1793-1794). In the reign of Terror (Le Government de la Terreur), a group of rebels, the Jacobins, used the term when self-reflexively portraying their own actions in – and explanations of – the French Revolution.


14 Ibid.

15 Joint Chiefs of Staff DOD (2008), Department of Defence, Dictionary and Military and Associated Terms. Washington.

The Nigerian Terrorism (Prevention) (Amendment) Act, 2013 does not define terrorism. It instead enumerated acts which constitute terrorism. It provides that: A person or body corporate who knowingly in or outside Nigeria directly or indirectly willingly -
(a) does attempt or threaten any act of terrorism,
(b) commits an act preparatory to or in furtherance of an act of terrorism,
(c) omits to do anything that is reasonably necessary to prevent terrorism,
(d) assists or facilitates the activities of persons engaged in an act of terrorism or is an accessory to any offence under this Act,
(e) participates as an accomplice in or contributes to the commission of any Act, terrorism or offences under this Act,
(f) assists, facilitates, organizes or directs the activities of persons or organizations engaged in any act of terrorism,
(g) is an accessory to any act of terrorism, or
(h) incites, promises or induces any other person by any act of terrorism or any of the offences referred to in this Act, commits an offence under this Act and is liable on conviction to maximum of death sentence.

Subsection 2 of the Act provides that ‘act of terrorism’ means an act which is deliberately done with malice aforethought and which:
(a) may seriously harm or damage a country or an international organization;
(b) is intended or can reasonably be regarded as having been intended to:
   (i) unduly compel a government or international organization to perform or abstain from performing any act;
   (ii) seriously intimidate a population;
   (iii) seriously destabilize or destroy the fundamental, political, constitutional, economic or social structures of a country or international organization; or
   (iv) otherwise influence such government or international organization by intimidation or coercion; and
(c) involves or causes as the case may be-
   (i) an attack upon a person’s life which may cause bodily harm or death;
   (ii) kidnapping of a person;
   (iii) destruction to a government or public facility, a transport system, an infrastructural facility, including an information system, a fixed platform located on the continental sheet, a public place or private property, likely to endanger human life or result in major economic loss;
   (iv) The seizure of aircraft, ship or other means of public or goods transport and diversion or the use of the purposes paragraph (b)(iv) of this subsection.

\(^{17}\)Section 1(1) of the Terrorism (Prevention) (Amendment), 2013.
(v) The manufacture, possession, acquisition, transport, supply or use of weapons, explosives or of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons without lawful authority;
(vi) The release of dangerous substance or causing of fire, explosions or floods, the effect of which is to endanger human life.

(d) An act or omission in or outside Nigeria which constitutes an offence within the scope of counter terrorism protocols and conventions duly ratified in Nigeria.

Insecurity
The concept of insecurity connotes different meanings such as: absence of safety; hazard; uncertainty; lack of protection, and lack of safety. It is a state of fear and the absence of security. The 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria specifically states that ‘the security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government’. It is rather unfortunate that government has found it difficult to effectively carry out this constitutional responsibility. This has consequently led to a high level of insecurity as a result of Boko Haram insurgency and terrorist attacks on Nigerian citizens.

3. Brief History of the Police
A historical overview confirms that the earliest police force was found in 1861 by the British colonial government in the regions recognized in the present day as Nigeria. It was a 100-man deputation which was fundamentally a consular protection force stationed in Lagos State, which afterwards branded as ‘Hausa Force’, so-named after the ethnicity of the men recruited into the unit. The British enlarged their reach to the eastern and northern regions and they formed other police forces which, largely, were comprised of recruits from outside the community in which they were to be deployed. These foremost forces were famous for their ill-treatments as well as wide-ranging lawlessness. In 1891, the Consul General of the Oil Rivers Protectorate in what is at present eastern part of Nigeria expressed his surprise at the ‘numerous acts of lawlessness and pillage’ by the police, who were commonly referred to in the community as the ‘forty thieves’ in police uniform. The principal rationale of the colonial police was to guard British economic and

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19 See the CFRN, 1999, as amended.
22Ibid. Likewise, the Governor of Lagos colony acknowledged in 1897 that the Hausa Force ‘no doubt behaved very badly in the hinterland by looting, stealing and generally taking advantage of their positions.’

The British merged Lagos colony and the Southern and Northern Protectorates in 1913 and named the new colony Nigeria. The Northern and Southern regional police forces were later merged, in 1930, to form the colony’s earliest national police—the Nigeria Police Force (NPF). These colonialists also formed local
Before the British came to Nigeria, law and order was maintained only by the local chiefs and their messengers by means of traditional institutions and age grades.

Near the beginning of Independence of Nigeria from Britain in 1960, the foremost Constitution of Nigeria delegated extensive influence, power and authority to three regional governments, that is, the Northern, Western, and Eastern regions. The government at the centre, which is the federal government, held on to the control of the Nigerian Police Force (NPF), while the regional governments carried on with the maintenance of their respective local police forces. The military government that arose after two military coups in 1966 discontinued the local police forces amidst allegations that the local police had been used for partisan purposes by the regional governments against political opponents. Following this development, by 1972, the local police forces were completely incorporated into the NPF. From then, the NPF, a nationwide force under the central control of the federal government, has been the exclusive body in charge of policing in Nigeria.

4. Establishment, Structure and Functions of the Nigerian Police Force

Section 214 (1) of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria 1999 (as amended) established the Nigeria Police Force. In specific terms, the section provides ‘there shall be a police force for Nigeria, which shall be known as the Nigeria Police Force, and subject to the provisions of this section no other police force shall be established for the Federation or any part thereof. It is relevant to state that subsection (2) of the above section provides that, subject to the provision of this Constitution:

(a) the Nigeria Police Force shall be organized and administered in accordance with such provisions as may be prescribed by an act of the National Assembly;
(b) the members of the Nigeria Police shall have such powers and duties as maybe conferred upon them by law;
(c) the National Assembly may make provisions for branches of the Nigeria Police Force forming part of the armed forces of the Federation or for the protection of harbours, waterways, railways and air fields.

The Nigeria Police Force is made central by the provisions of the constitution and is controlled by that tier of government. It is an institution established by the Constitution and it is meant to

police forces under the control of traditional leaders and communal heads. During the colonial period, both the NPF and the local police forces were implicated in numerous acts of abuse and corruption.

Ibid.


Ibid.

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protect the constitution and discharge its duties. It is an institution created by the federal government structured in a way with a centralized command arrangement which is being led by the Inspector General of Police (IGP) who reports directly to the President.

There shall be an Inspector-General of the Nigeria Police, such number of Deputy Inspectors-General, Assistant Inspectors-General as the Nigeria Police Council considers appropriate, a Commissioner for each State of the Federation and such ranks as may, from time to time, be appointed by the Nigeria Police Council. The Force shall be under the command of the Inspector-General, and contingents of the Force stationed in a State shall, subject to the authority of the Inspector-General, be under the command of the Commissioner of that State.

Accordingly, the Nigerian Constitution provides that the President must ‘consult’ with the Nigeria Police Council prior to appointing or removing the Inspector General. However, the Council, a civilian oversight body whose membership includes the 36 state governors, has rarely met in the past 10 years. The independent Police Service Commission (PSC) is responsible for appointing, promoting, and disciplining all members of the police force, with the exception of the IGP. However, the PSC has delegated these powers back to the police force for all junior and rank-and-file police personnel. Over the years, civilian oversight of the police has fallen under several government ministries, including the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Police Affairs. Since 2008, the Ministry of Police Affairs has had budgetary and general administrative oversight of the police. Each of Nigeria’s 36 states, as well as the Federal Capital Territory, is served by an administrative unit known as a state command. The state commands are grouped into 12 zonal commands with two to four states in each zone each under the supervision of an Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIG). Each state command is headed by a Commissioner of Police (CP) who is directly accountable to the AIG in the respective zone. State commands are further divided into smaller area commands, police divisions (headed by a divisional police officer, or DPO), police stations, police posts, and village police posts.

Holes in the Structure of the Nigeria Police Force
It is germane to state that the Nigeria Police Force has some structural inadequacies which have hampered effective performance of its constitutional functions. This segment explicates some of these structural inadequacies of the Nigeria Police Force. The aim is to rationalize whether fixing the structural defects will obviate the need for a state police. First, the opaque processes by which

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30 Section 5 and 6 of the Police Act. Also see Chapter 6 Part 3 Section 215 of the 1999 Constitution.

31 Section 215 (1) of the Constitution provides that the IGP ‘shall be appointed by the President on the advice of the Police Council from among serving members of the Nigerian Police Force’.

32 Ibid.


34 Ibid.

35 Ibid.

36 Ibid.
the IGP is appointed is a matter of serious concern. The Nigerian Constitution does not provide for competence and other requirements for the appointment of an IGP, except that they should be appointed from serving officers. Significantly, it did not even provide that the officers must be of any particular rank. For the sake of argument, then it will be constitutional to appoint a constable as an Inspector General of Police in Nigeria.\(^{37}\) Second, there is no provision in the Constitution, the Police Act or the Police Regulation, elaborately on the procedure for the appointment of the IGP, or indeed, any other leadership position in the Nigeria Police Force. Consequently, Alemika also noted:

> Appointments into the Nigerian Police Force are determined largely by seniority and representation, and influenced by nepotism, political patronage and regime interests and preferences. As a result, organizational management and leadership development has been lacking, leading to organizational ineffectiveness.\(^{38}\)

Third, there is no definite period or secured tenure for those that occupy the office of the IGP. This has undoubtedly led to high turnover in the leadership of the police. Thus, it has become difficult to plan for the improvement of the police in Nigeria.\(^{39}\) In the 20 years of civilian rule, that is, since 1999, Nigeria has had over 10 IGPs,\(^{40}\) a ratio of one IGP roughly every two years.

The foregoing structural holes have, no doubt, affected the effective functioning of the Nigeria Police Force. Assuming that state police is needless, these structural defects in the Nigeria Police Force should be looked into with a view to strengthening the institution for the effective and efficient discharge of its functions.

5. **Arguments for and Against the Establishment of State Police in Nigeria**

In current times, the clamour for the creation of state police has come to the front burner. The executive, the legislature and many other prominent persons in Nigeria have recently given more attention to this issue. This is because of the current acts of terrorism being perpetrated in all the 36 states of the federation, the resultant effect of which is the insecurity that looms in the country.

There are arguments for and against the creation of state police in Nigeria. These arguments shall be examined below. First, it has been argued that the creation of state police will help in tackling the security challenges facing the country. Aremu notes:

> For a long time the national police as presently practiced in Nigeria fractured in many ways primary security and also render same ineffective given visibility limitations and culture of incompetence, other things. The federal police, as presently constituted, is also limited in many ways and not in tandem with the present security challenges and realities of the country. One of the failures of the federal government in Nigeria is its inability to contend with the gale of terrorism, insurgency and kidnapping in the country. This has resulted in the infiltration of

\(^{37}\)Ibid.

\(^{38}\) Ibid.


other security agencies into what ordinarily should be the primary responsibility of the police. And if for any reason other agencies will be invited, they should merely complement the effort of the police who are primarily in charge of the protection of lives and properties in the country. The military for example has, in the last eight years, been routinely involved in police functions in some states of the federation. In countries where security architecture is properly articulated and segmented, especially in police agency, such security anomaly would not be experienced.41

On the other hand, Eme and Andrew42 hold the view that the creation of state police will foster national disunity as the current unitary system of policing, like any other such programmes, serves to integrate the country. Cross country posting of policemen and women make them to understand that Nigeria is broader than their villages. It also enables the locals to interact with serving policemen from other regions. This therefore fosters national integration and unity. The establishment of state police will erode this attempt. It is further argued that the current security challenges confronting the nation can be solved if the police is well funded and structure anomaly of the Nigeria Police Force created by the Constitution are properly addressed. Second, it has been argued that the creation of state police accords with the concept of true federalism. This is because in a country that practices true federalism, like the US, the states, which are the component parts of the federation, have and maintain their police. Nigeria should have embraced the civility which goes with the creation of state police, since it is a country that practices federalism. It is a misnomer of great degree and crucial security compromise for this nation to have jettisoned territorial or sub-national policing from independence till date. The major consequence of this dastardly act is, among other things, undermining the quality of living due to lack of security co-ordination which the practice of state policing would have brought about.43

On the contrary, it has been argued that Nigeria, as a country, is not yet ripe for state police. Adamu states:

We are not yet ripe for state police. I’m not saying there shouldn’t be state police; we are not yet ripe for it. I’ll cite several examples. Check countries which are operating the state police. How many years of independence? Take Britain, take the United States, and take any European country that you can call. Do they have the challenges of ‘I was born in Lagos, but I’m not a Lagosian?’ Do they have the religious crises that we have? I’m a Muslim, you’re a Christian? Do they have the level of tribal differences in the states- that I’m Ijaw, you’re Itsekiri, you’re Igbo, or you’re Eka-Igbo? Do they have such challenges? So, these are issues that should be put into consideration. Do they have the same political issues that we have- the same political problems, that you want to contest as president, but because you’re not from the North, you cannot contest, or because you’re not from

41Ibid.
43Ibid.
the South or West or South-south or South-east you cannot contest, or it’s not your turn? And I continue to ask questions. Tell me one state in Nigeria today where you have party A in power and local government election is conducted and party B wins all the seats. Why is it so? It’s not state police. Now what happens when you have a commissioner of police appointed by the state governor? We just concluded the Anambra election, in Imo, we arrested 230 persons from Osun State with voters’ cards, with ID cards of INEC. The commissioner of police arrested them, went to a hotel based on intelligence information, searched for them and got them, rigorously. Tell me what would have happened if the commissioner was appointed by the governor of Imo State. Would he have arrested them? Would he have prosecuted them? These are issues that we should consider very seriously.

Third, it has been argued that the current incidences on security compromis- es as occasioned by ‘herdsmen’ mayhems in some parts of the country tells a lot on the need to interrogate the primary security architecture, which is the duty of the federal police. In this connection, Ogundimu states:

The increased wave of kidnapping, killing and other criminal activities calls for urgent decentralization of the Police. With the current realities in our security experience, coupled with the recent abduction of schoolgirls in Yobe, the Police must be decentralized. We need this urgently because it is long overdue to improve our security; it is obvious now that we need state police.

As a matter of emphasis, the present primary security as provided by the current police structure is woeful and unrealistic, given the international standard of one police officer to 400 citizens. The contention here is that the present police structure and population are greatly ineffective. The test for police inefficiency as presently obtained is the continuous perpetration of crimes and disorderliness in many parts of the country. The establishment of state police would not only stem the increasing tide of insecurity; it would also bring policing to the neighborhoods. Several countries have state police. Examples of countries with state police include the United States of America, United Kingdom, India, Pakistan, Belgium, Trance, Algeria and South Africa. The expediency of the establishment of state police is also hinged on the fact that our country is grossly under policed, given about 190 million people in a country of less than 400,000 police personnel. This number translates to ratio one policeman to about 494 Nigerians. And when we

45 Ibid.
46 ‘Dapchi schoolgirls’ abduction confirms the need for state police - Lawmaker’<www.punch.ng.com> accessed on 14th October, 2019. Ogundimu, the chairman of the Lagos State House of Assembly Committee on Finance, made this assertion in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lagos. NAN reported that the Federal Government confirmed that on February 19, 2018, by 5:30pm 110 schoolgirls aged 11-19 years old were kidnapped after suspected Boko Haram terrorists invaded the Government Girls Science Technical College (GGSTC), Dapchi, Yobe, on February 19, 2018. 
47 Ibid.
approximate this to the nearest hundred, it is ratio 1:500. In the real sense of it, is even more than this figure, given the fact that one-third of the Nigerian police personnel are providing security, and or carrying the briefcases or bags of top Nigerians, including their legitimate spouses or concubines. This grossly falls short of the United Nations recommendation of ratio one police to 400 citizens.\textsuperscript{48} And although many states in Nigeria had invested much in funding federal Police, states are still not well secured.

On the other hand, opponents of the state police have advanced the argument that the state police, when created can only help in increasing the number of ethnic and tribal militias in Nigeria. They argued that state and local governments might have been outlawed form creating state police, hence their recourse to ethnic militias like Bakasi Boys, Egbesu Boys, the O.P.C etc, to wreak havoc on political opponents.\textsuperscript{49} They have also argued that the revelation that members of the dreaded Boko Haram has shown that they have sponsors among prominent politicians in Nigeria.\textsuperscript{50} Therefore, to the people who hold this view, the current population in the Nigeria Police should be properly managed and utilized, with a view to contending the present security realities facing the country. Fourth, some have argued that the federal government control Police Force enables it to use the Police power for selfish purposes, and in some cases, leading to abuse of the Force.\textsuperscript{51} Although Governors are the chief security officers of their respective states, they have no sufficient control of the Nigeria Police Force, a situation described as ‘responsibility without power’.\textsuperscript{52} State governors are empowered, by the Constitution, to serve in the Nigerian Police Council, and give directives to state commissioners of police provided that such directives are lawful and not for oppressive political and other selfish purposes.

Proponents of the state police hold the view that, other than make state governors, who are the so-called chief security officers of their respective states mere figures without any power, it is absolutely necessary to donate full powers to them via the creation of state police. This will, undoubtedly, assist in curbing the security challenges confronting the nation in the contemporary era. Fifth, there is also the argument that, although Nigeria is a federation, its democracy is not mature enough to allow states to establish their forces. Their argument is predicated their on the fact that many state governments cannot fund separate police forces of their own because of the enormous financial resources involved in running the Nigeria Police. On the contrary, it has been

\textsuperscript{48} Mary Kimani ‘Security for the highest bidder’ October 2009 <www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine> accessed on 15\textsuperscript{th} October, 2019. In her paper written in 2015, based on her analysis, she said ‘not all African countries struggle to provide enough police. Nigeria has more than 370,000 police officers and a Police-to-citizen ratio of 1 to 400, which more than meets the UN recommended figure.’ Paradoxically, say Rita Abraham and Michael Williams, researchers at the University of Wales, Nigerian society ‘is over-policed and under-secured’.


\textsuperscript{50} Ibid.

\textsuperscript{51} SE Arase, ‘A Critical Analysis of the Pros and Cons of State Policing: To be or Not To be’, being a paper presented at the NBA Law Week on the 11\textsuperscript{th} June, 2018. P. 10.

\textsuperscript{52} Ibid.
argued that if state police is created state governments are not financially strong to fund policing in their respective states. Even the federal government is to finding it easy to fund the federal police because of the dwindling economic resources in the country. \(^{53}\) It is their further contention that state governments have, of late, found it extremely difficult to even pay staff salaries in their respective states. It will be suicidal to recommend the establishment of state police. \(^{54}\)

In concluding this segment, it is relevant to state that the argument can go on and on, but it need not be said that there is something fundamentally wrong with the federal police in Nigeria. There is certainly a need to look for or consider new and better ways of handling the insecurity in Nigeria posed largely by the activities of Boko Haram, Fulani Herdsmen, Unknown gunmen, kidnappers, amongst a host of other terrorist organizations, whose goal is to destroy our dear country.

6. Conclusion and Recommendations

It worthy of note, at this juncture, that this works has examined the concepts of terrorism, state police and insecurity. It has also discussed the history of the state police for from the pre-colonial era to the present stage where we are. The establishment, structure and functions of the Nigeria Police have been examined. The paper has also gone ahead to x-ray the arguments for and against the creation of state police in Nigeria. There is certainly a need to look for or consider new and better ways of handling the insecurity in Nigeria posed largely by the activities of Boko Haram, Fulani Herdsmen, Unknown gunmen, kidnappers, amongst a host of other terrorist organizations, whose goal is to destroy our dear country.

It is not in doubt that Nigeria is a federation. It should, then, be seen as practicing true federalism. In other federations, especially, in the United States of America, where we copied this idea of governance from, they have their own State Police Department and there is the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) that is in charge of the whole country. The FBI is not called until an issue has crossed border between two states and immediately that happened, it becomes an FBI affair. Because of lack of manpower in the police force, the Army whose primarily responsibility is defending the territorial integrity of the country, have been deployed in virtually every state of the country where there is crisis. The deployment of the army to such crisis ridden areas has, no doubt, brought the consequence of inviting them into the governance of the country, which we are currently being grappled with in the country. The creation of state police will help in decentralization of the Nigeria Police Force for effective and efficient functioning at the state and local government levels. State governments should be able to fund state police for effective and efficient functioning.

\(^{53}\) Ibid.  
\(^{54}\) Ibid.