
**NATIONAL COHESION AND INTEGRATION COMMISSION GROUND SURVEILLANCE
TECHNIQUES AND HATE SPEECH REGULATIONS IN POLITICAL RALLIES**

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ABSTRACT

Hate speech remains a serious challenge to democratic governance, social cohesion, and the rule of law, particularly in ethnically diverse societies such as Kenya. Although the National Cohesion and Integration Commission was established under the National Cohesion and Integration Act (2008) to regulate hate speech and promote national unity, enforcement outcomes have remained inconsistent, especially during political rallies. This study examined the influence of ground surveillance techniques employed by the National Cohesion and Integration Commission in regulating hate speech during political rallies in Nairobi City County, Kenya. The study was anchored on Social Responsibility Theory and Institutional Theory, which provided a framework for understanding the ethical regulation of communication and institutional enforcement dynamics. A descriptive research design was adopted. The study targeted key officials from the National Cohesion and Integration Commission, the Directorate of Criminal Investigations, Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, Communications Authority of Kenya, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, and experts in peace and conflict resolution. Data were collected using a semi-structured questionnaire. Quantitative data were analyzed using SPSS Version 26 through descriptive statistics, Pearson correlation, and multiple regression analysis, while qualitative data were analyzed thematically. The findings revealed that ground surveillance techniques had a statistically significant positive influence on the implementation of hate speech regulation during political rallies. Ground surveillance was found to be a strong predictor of effective hate speech regulation, contributing to improved evidence collection, increased enforcement effectiveness, and strengthened regulatory outcomes. The study concluded that ground surveillance is a critical investigative tool in regulating hate speech during political rallies and recommends strengthening institutional capacity, technological support, and inter-agency coordination to enhance surveillance effectiveness.

Key Words: *Ground Surveillance, National Cohesion, Hate Speech*

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INTRODUCTION

Hate speech has become a major global concern due to its potential to undermine social cohesion, intensify political polarization, and contribute to violence in democratic societies. Recent empirical research demonstrates that exposure to political hate speech and disinformation significantly increases intergroup hostility and affective polarization, particularly in highly mobilized political environments (Vasist, Borah, & Hwang, 2023). The normalization of hostile political rhetoric has therefore generated renewed academic and regulatory attention toward mechanisms for preventing escalation and protecting democratic stability.

The global response to hate speech now depends on dedicated monitoring systems that track and report violations in real time. Recent research on public-order governance shows that effective mass gathering enforcement relies on three main factors, which include institutional capacity and structured oversight systems, and evidence collection procedures during public events (Stott, West, & Harrison, 2020). The process of effective regulation needs both operational readiness and field monitoring to support documentation of violations, which can then be used in legal proceedings.

Political rallies represent one of the primary environments where inflammatory and exclusionary rhetoric may be disseminated because campaign mobilization events provide direct platforms for political actors to communicate with large and emotionally engaged audiences. The research about modern protest and assembly policing shows that dynamic crowd situations need combined on-ground tracking systems which deliver actual-time surveillance to maintain order and lawful behavior (Maguire & Oakley, 2020). The performative and high-amplification nature of political rallies increases the need for structured investigative mechanisms.

Recent research demonstrates that public gatherings require visible surveillance through audio-visual recording technologies which create greater enforcement accountability. The system of audio and video evidence collection allows regulatory bodies to prove violations while aiding the prosecutorial process.

The existing legal frameworks against hate speech lack proper enforcement in multiple regions because of insufficient resources and difficulties with evidence and limitations on their operations. The enforcement of regulatory policies shows through empirical research that public-order regulations lose their efficiency because of two factors which are weak investigation capabilities and irregular monitoring. Enforcement results suffer when organizations do not implement organized methods to monitor their outdoor operations.

Political competition in Kenya has created stronger electoral mobilization forces, which produce aggressive political rhetoric during campaign periods. The electoral communication environment in Kenya shows that election cycles create increased polarized narratives, which result in greater chances of divisive speech during public events (Ogola, 2021). The current situation emphasizes the need to create monitoring systems that use scientific evidence to monitor political events more effectively.

Ground surveillance techniques have therefore emerged as a significant investigative approach in politically sensitive environments. The techniques enable authorities to conduct field monitoring while they collect visual and audio evidence from public events to identify and document illegal activities. The recent research on surveillance governance demonstrates that proper documentation methods increase institutional responsibility and better enforcement results when organizations follow established operational procedures (Brayne, 2021). Ground surveillance enables regulatory bodies to collect real-time evidence, which supports better evidence collection during political rallies and enhances their ability to manage hate speech.

Despite growing recognition of the importance of monitoring mechanisms in public-order governance, limited empirical research has examined how ground surveillance techniques influence the regulation of hate speech during political rallies in Kenya. This study therefore seeks to examine the influence of ground surveillance techniques employed by the National Cohesion and Integration Commission in regulating hate speech during political rallies in Nairobi City County, Kenya.

Statement of the Problem

Hate speech continues to be an ongoing problem in Kenya, which particularly affects political rallies and election times because the National Cohesion and Integration Act (2008) and the Computer Misuse and Cybercrimes Act (2018) provide legal solutions to this issue. Political rallies allow people to spread their extremist and ethnic-based political messages, which can reach many viewers at once, thereby creating greater chances of social unrest and fighting. Nairobi City County, as the political and administrative capital of Kenya, experiences a high concentration of political activities and public gatherings. According to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2019), Nairobi has a population exceeding 4.4 million people drawn from diverse ethnic communities. The city experiences increased hate speech problems during political mobilization because of its mixed population. The National Cohesion and Integration Commission's annual report (2021) showed that more than 40% of hate speech cases that had been reported came from Nairobi, and several of these cases were linked to political events and campaign activities.

The National Cohesion and Integration Commission, which investigates and regulates hate speech through its legal authority, has faced difficulties when trying to track and enforce hate speech regulations at political rallies. Previous reports indicate that enforcement efforts have often been reactive because enforcement relies on witness accounts and post-event investigations, which restrict the quick identification and recording of violations (Maina, 2020). Political rallies require ground surveillance techniques, which include field monitoring and audio-visual documentation, to identify and collect evidence. The existing research has not yet established how effective these techniques are in improving hate speech regulations.

The existing research has predominantly studied legal systems and their associated implementation problems, but has not investigated how ground surveillance systems affect hate speech enforcement during political demonstrations. Maina (2020) conducted a study about hate speech regulation in Kenya, which showed that enforcement efforts face challenges because evidence collection requires additional time to complete, and investigators take too long to finish their work. Ogola (2021) studied Kenyan political communication and ethnic division during elections, finding that political rallies increase hate speech, but he did not study how enforcement agencies find and record this type of speech as it happens. Stott, West, and Harrison (2020) proved that structured field monitoring and real-time observation increase enforcement efficiency at mass gatherings because their study focused on public-order policing instead of hate speech regulation. The existing research has not shown how ground surveillance-based investigation methods affect their actual enforcement results. The study aimed to investigate how ground surveillance methods used by the National Cohesion and Integration Commission affect their ability to control hate speech during political events in Nairobi City County.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Theoretical Framework

The researchers based their study on Social Responsibility Theory and Institutional Theory, which describe how institutions should manage their ethical obligations to control dangerous public speech through institutional enforcement methods that support hate speech regulations. The theories explain how regulatory institutions use investigative methods, which include ground surveillance techniques, to identify evidence of hate speech violations that occur during political events.

Social Responsibility Theory, developed by Siebert, Peterson, and Schramm (1956), demonstrates that people must use their right to free speech in a way which protects their social responsibilities. The theory emerged because libertarian theory failed to recognize speech restrictions that create social problems. Social Responsibility Theory asserts that while individuals and institutions have the right to freedom of expression, communication should not promote harm, division, or violence (Christians & Fackler, 2014).

The theory shows that regulatory institutions need to check whether communication connects to both ethical standards and legal requirements while maintaining social order through their operational work. The theory shows that hate speech regulations need regulatory supervision because harmful speech threatens social unity through political protests that occur at sensitive political times. Ground surveillance techniques enable regulatory institutions such as the National Cohesion and Integration Commission to monitor public speech, detect violations, and document evidence necessary for enforcement. The theory therefore provides a basis for understanding the importance of surveillance-based investigative mechanisms in promoting responsible communication and protecting social stability.

Institutional Theory, developed by Douglas North (1990), explains how institutional structures and rules, together with their enforcement mechanisms, affect regulatory outcomes. The theory states that institutions need to function through their designated legal systems, which require systems that manage their operations to achieve compliance with existing laws and regulations. Institutional effectiveness depends on three factors, which include operational capacity and enforcement tools, and monitoring systems that track regulated activities. The National Cohesion and Integration Commission uses Institutional Theory to show how it enforces hate speech regulations through its investigation and enforcement work which includes ground tracking operations.

Ground surveillance systems strengthen institutional capacity because they provide live tracking systems which allow officials to gather proof of violations and enforce hate speech rules at political rallies. The theory shows that laws need to exist for regulations to work but their success requires proper enforcement tools to be present and utilized. Institutional Theory therefore provides a framework for understanding how ground surveillance techniques influence the regulation of hate speech during political rallies.

Empirical Literature

The ground surveillance techniques enable monitoring of hate speech which occurs during political rallies when inflammatory statements are delivered to large crowds. The techniques use physical monitoring and covert observation with audio-visual documentation methods to collect evidence which supports enforcement actions. The effective ground surveillance system allows regulatory agencies to detect violations at any time while they collect trustworthy evidence needed to build cases against offenders.

Stott, West, and Harrison (2020) performed their study of public-order policing through mass gatherings which took place in the United Kingdom. The study showed that organized field assessment systems together with planned officer distribution methods work as better controls against disturbances during events. The study showed that public assembly enforcement needs on-site monitoring which should include immediate evidence gathering methods.

Maguire and Oakley (2020) studied protest and assembly policing strategies in the United States, which established that structured monitoring systems need to be created for dynamic crowd situations that monitor illegal activities and maintain public safety. The results showed that visible surveillance systems, together with coordinated observation methods, create better situational awareness, which allows better enforcement response times. The results showed that visible surveillance systems, together with coordinated observation methods, create better situational awareness, which allows better enforcement response times. The results showed that visible surveillance systems, together with coordinated observation methods, create better situational awareness, which allows better enforcement response times.

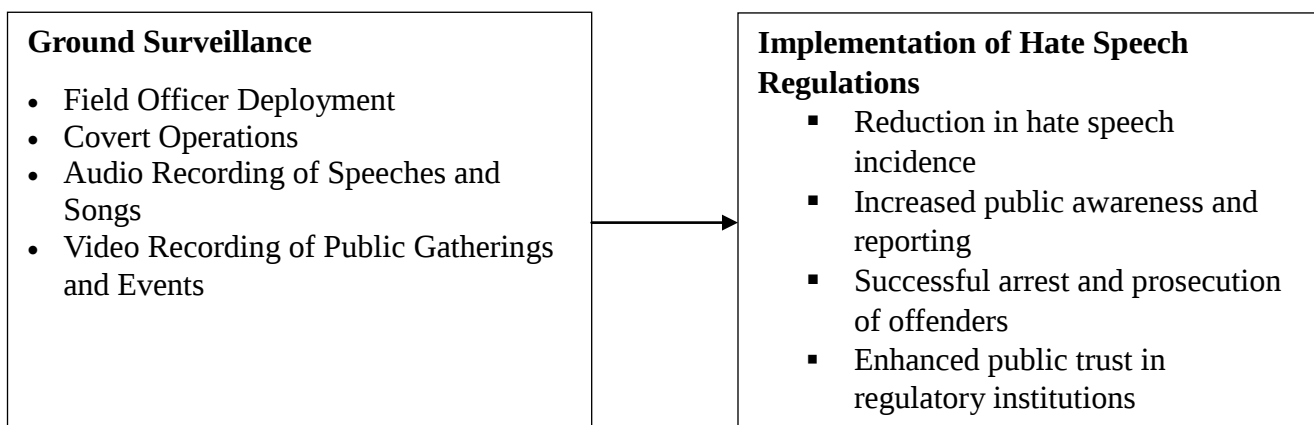
Newham and Faull (2020) investigated methods for public-order policing through their assessment of protests and mass gatherings in South Africa. The study results demonstrated that police officers who worked with their partners on event control achieved better law enforcement outcomes while maintaining accountability standards in politically dangerous situations.

Bosire (2019) investigated how Kenya addresses hate speech regulations and the enforcement challenges that arise during elections. The study revealed that political rallies suffer from inadequate monitoring systems, which prevent timely identification and documentation of hate speech incidents that police need to enforce effectively.

Ogola (2021) studied how Kenyan political communication during elections leads to ethnic division because political rallies function as main locations for spreading hostile political messages.

Conceptual Framework

This study conceptualizes ground surveillance techniques employed by the NCIC, which were measured through field officer deployment, covert surveillance, and audio and video recording of political rallies. The regulation of hate speech during political rallies was assessed through a reduction in hate speech incidents, improved detection and enforcement, and successful prosecution of offenders. This is illustrated in Figure 1.



Independent Variable

Dependent Variable

Figure 1: Conceptual Framework (Researcher, 2026)

METHODOLOGY

The research study used a descriptive research design to investigate how ground surveillance methods control hate speech during political rallies across Nairobi City County in Kenya. The design enabled the researcher to observe existing research methods and their results through systematic observation and description without changing any research conditions. A descriptive research design was suitable because it allowed the collection of both quantitative and qualitative data and facilitated a detailed assessment of investigative techniques and their effectiveness in regulating hate speech (Mugenda & Mugenda, 2009). The design enabled the researcher to measure both implementation patterns and stakeholder opinions about how ground surveillance techniques work.

Target Population

The target population comprised 70 stakeholders who worked on hate speech monitoring and investigation and enforcement operations throughout Nairobi City County in Kenya. The group included members from National Cohesion and Integration Commission and Directorate of Criminal Investigations and Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and Communications Authority of Kenya and Kenya National Commission on Human Rights and digital and cybercrime experts and peace and conflict studies academics. The stakeholders were chosen because they directly monitored hate speech regulations during political rallies and they possessed institutional knowledge of regulatory and investigative procedures.

Sample Size

The researchers used a census method to study all 70 stakeholders who had been identified for the research. The researcher used this approach because their target population consisted of specialized and small group whom they needed to study. The census method enabled researchers to study all stakeholders who regulated hate speech in institutions which improved study results by decreasing sampling errors.

Data Collection Instruments

The researchers collected data through a semi-structured questionnaire, which contained both closed-ended questions and open-ended questions. The closed-ended questions included five-point Likert-scale items, which assessed how ground surveillance techniques were implemented through field officer deployment and covert surveillance methods at political rallies and their effects on hate speech regulation. Respondents used open-ended questions to explain their knowledge about surveillance practices, together with their operational difficulties and enforcement efficiency. The questionnaire included sections that assessed respondents' demographics, their use of ground surveillance techniques, and their assessment of hate speech regulation efficiency. The pilot study took place at Kajiado North Sub-County with 10 respondents whose demographic characteristics matched the study's target population to evaluate instrument clarity and relevance. The researchers established validity by ensuring all questionnaire items matched the study objectives, and they used Cronbach's alpha to measure reliability through internal consistency assessment.

Data Analysis

Quantitative data were analyzed using SPSS Version 26. The researchers used descriptive statistics to present respondent characteristics through measurements of frequency, mean value, and percentage distribution, and standard deviation. The study used Pearson correlation and multiple regression analysis to investigate how ground surveillance techniques affect hate speech regulation during political rallies. The researchers used thematic analysis to examine qualitative data from open-ended responses, which revealed major themes about surveillance effectiveness and operational difficulties, and regulatory results.

The relationship between ground surveillance techniques and the regulation of hate speech was modeled using the following regression equation:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \epsilon \dots \dots \dots \text{Equation [1]}$$

Where:

Y = Implementation of hate speech regulation

X_1 = Political rallies' investigative techniques (ground surveillance)

β_0 = Constant

β_1 = Coefficients estimating the effect of ground surveillance on the implementation of hate speech regulation

ϵ = Error term.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Descriptive Analysis of Ground Surveillance

Descriptive analysis of ground surveillance was carried out, focusing on the National Cohesion and Integration Commission's strategies of physical deployment, covert observation, and audio-visual documentation at public events. Descriptive analysis was utilized to summarize the study variables and highlight their key characteristics. The respondents were asked to rate each statement on a five-point Likert scale: 5 = Strongly Agree (SA), 4 = Agree (A), 3 = Neutral (N), 2 = Disagree (D), and 1 = Strongly Disagree (SD). Frequencies (F), percentages (%), means, and standard deviations (Std. Dev) were computed to interpret this quantitative data. The results are presented in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics of Ground Surveillance

Indicator	SD_F	%	D_F	%	N_F	%	A_F	%	SA_F	%	Mean	Std. Dev
Law enforcement officers are regularly deployed	2	2.9	4	5.8	12	17.4	35	50.7	16	23.2	3.85	0.93
Presence of field officers has improved detection	3	4.3	5	7.2	11	15.9	34	49.3	16	23.2	3.80	1.00
Undercover surveillance is frequently used	4	5.8	6	8.7	14	20.3	31	44.9	14	20.3	3.65	1.06
Covert operations enhance evidence gathering	3	4.3	5	7.2	13	18.8	32	46.4	16	23.2	3.77	1.01
Audio recordings are systematically collected	2	2.9	4	5.8	12	17.4	36	52.2	15	21.7	3.84	0.92
Audio recordings effectively used as evidence	3	4.3	5	7.2	13	18.8	34	49.3	14	20.3	3.74	1.01
Video recording is consistently conducted	3	4.3	5	7.2	14	20.3	32	46.4	15	21.7	3.74	1.01
Video recordings strengthen enforcement actions	2	2.9	4	5.8	12	17.4	35	50.7	16	23.2	3.85	0.93
Overall											3.78	0.99

Source: Researcher, 2026

Your training data extends until the month of October in the year 2023. The majority of respondents (35; 50.7%) agreed while 16 (23.2%) strongly agreed about the existence of law enforcement officers who monitor public gatherings. People consider law enforcement officer deployment as their primary enforcement method because it shows $\bar{x} = 3.85$ and $\sigma = 0.93$ measurement results. The study shows that when law enforcement officers show themselves at public events their presence helps manage crowd behavior and strengthens institutional authority while stopping people from becoming violent.

The study results show that 34 (49.3%) of the participants agreed with field presence detection improvements and 16 (23.2%) strongly agreed, while 15.9% of the participants chose to remain neutral. The $\bar{x}$ value of 3.80, together with the σ value of 1.00, indicates that people possess strong confidence regarding their ability to monitor physical locations through surveillance methods. The concealed surveillance method produced results which showed a mean value of $\bar{x} = 3.65$ and a standard deviation of $\sigma = 1.06$. The study results align with Brayne (2021), who found that surveillance practices often raise concerns related to transparency, accountability, and the potential for misuse, particularly when oversight mechanisms are weak.

The study results show that 32 participants (46.4%) and 16 participants (23.2%) confirmed that concealed surveillance improves evidence collection. The mean value of $\bar{x} = 3.77$, together with the standard deviation of $\sigma = 1.01$, indicates that people need more information about these operations and the related evidence handling procedures to understand this evidence properly. The research findings demonstrate that 36 participants (52.2%) and 15 participants (21.7%) supported the use of audio recording as a method to collect evidence. The $\bar{x}$ value of 3.84 and σ value of 0.92 demonstrate strong backing for this technique. The study

results show that 32 participants (46.4%) agreed and 15 participants (21.7%) strongly agreed that video recordings are conducted and effective. The study results show that 50.7% of respondents agreed and 23.2% strongly agreed that video recordings strengthen enforcement actions. The findings show that audiovisual documentation serves as an essential tool for investigations and legal enforcement activities.

The overall mean score of $\bar{x} = 3.78$, together with a standard deviation of $\sigma = 0.99$, shows that respondents evaluate ground surveillance as an effective and powerful investigative method. The public strongly supports the deployment of field officers and the use of audiovisual evidence, although opinions regarding concealed surveillance remain more moderate due to operational and transparency concerns.

The qualitative findings established that ground surveillance functions as the primary method for identifying and controlling hate speech during political rallies. The respondents showed that ground surveillance systems enable them to find hate speech incidents which digital systems currently fail to identify during their active operations. Field officers can detect hidden signals, including chants, songs, gestures, and crowd reactions, because these elements indicate dangerous content. Respondent R018 declared that *"being physically present allows officers to hear chants and coded messages that would never appear on social media."* Respondent R041 reported that *"ground officers can immediately pick up on rising tension in a crowd before it turns into violence."* The research results show that ground surveillance serves as a fundamental tool which detects hate speech that occurs in its natural environmental and community settings. The field officers enable regulators to witness non-verbal communication together with group reactions, which include chants and songs, gestures, and crowd responses that digital platforms do not show. The method of real-time observation enables the identification of increasing violent conduct and the incitement of activities that cause violent crises before they escalate into major threats. Ground surveillance systems improve digital monitoring systems because they identify hate speech contextual indicators that digital systems cannot detect. The results of this study confirm the research findings of Olteanu et al. (2018), which found that offline contextual signals together with crowd behavior patterns serve as critical indicators for monitoring rising hate and collective hostility that digital data cannot completely track. The research findings match Kahan et al. (2021) which demonstrated that audio-visual evidence improves evidentiary reliability and leads to better investigation results. The respondents stated that public events which use audio and video recordings provide better evidence for hate speech investigations. The process of recording speeches and crowd chants together with their behavior created valuable evidence that supported law enforcement activities and legal proceedings. R056 explained that *"video recordings provide clear proof of what was said and how the crowd responded, which is very important for investigations."* The use of audiovisual evidence enables investigators to establish what actually happened during rallies while increasing the trustworthiness of their findings. According to respondent R024, *"recordings help investigators avoid relying solely on witness accounts, which can be contested."* The research shows that audiovisual documentation improves the reliability of evidence in public order cases and hate speech situations. The findings show that Kahan et al. (2021) proved video and audio recordings increase evidentiary trustworthiness while they decrease uncertainty which affects enforcement and judicial processes.

Correlation Analysis

Table 2: Correlation between ground surveillance and implementation of hate speech regulation

Variables	Ground Surveillance	Implementation of Hate Speech Regulations
Ground Surveillance	1.000	
Implementation of Hate Speech Regulations	0.935**	1.000

Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

Table 2 demonstrates that ground surveillance establishes a strong positive connection which researchers confirmed as statistically significant ($r = 0.935$, $p < 0.01$) with hate speech regulation implementation. The

study demonstrates that enhanced deployment of ground surveillance methods which encompass field monitoring and audio-visual documentation leads to better outcomes in regulating hate speech during political rallies. The strength of this correlation demonstrates that ground surveillance functions as an essential component which improves the processes used for detecting evidence and executing law enforcement duties. The study results demonstrate that ground surveillance operates as an institutional capacity-building tool which enhances hate speech regulation enforcement throughout Nairobi City County in Kenya. The findings of the study support Lum et al. (2020) which demonstrated that structured surveillance technologies including body-worn cameras enable better evidence collection while they improve accountability and law enforcement outcomes in public-order policing contexts.

Regression Analysis

To assess the extent to which ground surveillance predicts hate speech regulation implementation, a multiple regression analysis was conducted.

Table 3: Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.788a	.621	.617	.381

Predictor: Ground surveillance

Table 3 demonstrates that ground surveillance research reveals more than half of the variations observed in hate speech regulation implementation. The coefficient of determination ($R^2 = 0.621$) indicates that 62.1% of the variation in hate speech regulation is explained by ground surveillance techniques. The adjusted R^2 value of 0.617 confirms that ground surveillance is a strong predictor of regulatory effectiveness. The model fails to explain 37.9% of the variation because other elements like institutional capacity and coordination and operational resources are necessary to understand hate speech regulation. The standard error of the estimate (0.381) indicates that the model provides a reliable prediction of the relationship between ground surveillance and hate speech regulation.

Analysis of Variance

To evaluate the overall significance of the regression model, an Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was conducted. The F-statistic tests whether the independent variable significantly predicts the dependent variable.

Table 4: ANOVA

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	92.184	3	30.728	118.463	.000 ^b
	Residual	56.193	291	0.193		
	Total	148.377	294			

Dependent Variable: Implementation of hate speech regulation

The table 4 results show that the regression model achieved statistical significance through its F value of 118.463 and p value that reached below 0.001. The study shows that ground surveillance techniques serve as essential predictors which determine whether political groups implement hate speech regulations during their rallies. The F-value and p-value results confirm that the regression model correctly represents the data while showing that ground surveillance relates to hate speech regulation which exists between them. The study results show that ground surveillance methods play a major role in determining how hate speech regulations get enforced across Nairobi City County in Kenya. The study results demonstrate that ground surveillance functions as a vital investigative method which enhances detection abilities while improving evidence collection and enforcement outcomes.

Regression Coefficients

The regression coefficients show how ground surveillance contributes to the implementation of hate speech regulations.

Table 5: Regression Coefficients

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	0.512	0.298	–	1.718	0.087
	Ground Surveillance	0.412	0.064	0.429	6.438	0.000

Source: Researcher, 2026

The findings from Table 5 show that ground surveillance creates a strong positive impact on hate speech regulation implementation which reaches statistical significance through the measurements ($B = 0.412$, $\beta = 0.429$, $p < 0.001$). The research shows that businesses will achieve a 0.412 unit improvement in hate speech regulation success when they increase their ground surveillance activities through deploying field officers and creating audio-visual records. The standardized coefficient ($\beta = 0.429$) confirms that ground surveillance serves as a strong predictor for regulatory implementation outcomes. The research shows that field monitoring systems which operate continuously will improve organizations' ability to identify and report and address hate speech violations that occur during political events. The results support the argument that physical surveillance strengthens institutional enforcement capacity and improves regulatory outcomes. The findings support the conclusion that visible surveillance systems enable organizations to enforce laws better and improve their evidence collection processes according to Ariel and Partridge (2022) who proved this through randomized and quasi-experimental research. The research found that structured surveillance systems help organizations improve their ability to enforce regulations.

Summary of Research Findings

The research examined the impact of National Cohesion and Integration Commission ground surveillance techniques on their ability to enforce hate speech regulations during political events in Nairobi City County, Kenya. The research proved that officials had successfully implemented ground surveillance techniques which were critical for upholding hate speech regulations. Field officers used audio-visual documentation as their best monitoring tool while organizations implemented hidden monitoring methods at intermediate assessment levels. The total average rating ($\bar{x} = 3.78$, $\sigma = 0.99$) shows that participants considered ground surveillance to be an effective method which helped them detect and document hate speech violations for enforcement purposes. The analysis showed a very strong correlation between ground surveillance and the implementation of hate speech regulation which reached statistical significance at ($r = 0.935$, $p < 0.01$). The finding shows that higher ground surveillance technique usage leads to better regulatory performance. The analysis showed that ground surveillance explained about 62% of the changes in hate speech regulation which resulted in 62.1 % of regulatory effectiveness being determined by ground surveillance methods. The remaining 37.9% of the variation remains unidentified, indicating that other institutional and operational elements might also affect regulatory results. The regression coefficient results further demonstrated that ground surveillance has a statistically significant positive influence on hate speech regulation ($B = 0.412$, $\beta = 0.429$, $p < 0.001$), confirming that increased deployment of surveillance techniques improves regulatory implementation.

The qualitative findings confirmed the quantitative results through their demonstration that ground surveillance systems improve both real-time hate speech detection and evidence gathering at political events. Respondents emphasized that field officers need to be present at crime scenes because their presence enables regulators to see the actual dangerous speech conditions which exist, while audio and video recordings deliver trustworthy evidence to support law enforcement activities. The respondents identified two operational

problems which include equipment shortcomings and the requirement for particular training, which will reduce their ability to monitor activities.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The study concluded that ground surveillance techniques have a significant and positive influence on the implementation of hate speech regulation in Nairobi City County. Ground surveillance enables regulatory authorities to detect hate speech in real time through field officer deployment, observation of crowd behavior, and identification of contextual and non-verbal indicators of harmful speech. The use of audio and video documentation further strengthens the credibility and reliability of evidence, thereby enhancing enforcement effectiveness and supporting investigative and prosecutorial processes.

The study recommended creating a national framework which coordinates essential organizations to establish their specific duties that include NCIC, DCI, ODPP, and communication regulators who work during political rallies. The NCIC needs additional funding and staffing resources to establish operational independence while establishing internal policies which will improve its enforcement capabilities and public trust. The operational system needs standardized investigation methods which require better surveillance evidence collection training and development of dedicated investigative teams to improve operational performance and evidence collection results. The recommendation includes establishing inter-agency coordination through shared systems and shared review processes which will strengthen inter-agency cooperation.

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