

**HOUSEHOLD POVERTY ON THE PREVALENCE OF CHILDLABOUR IN
MASAKA DISTRICT.**

CASE STUDY: MASAKA MUNICIPALITY

A POSTGRADUATE DISSERTATION

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Dedication

This research is dedicated to all vulnerable children in Uganda

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I want to acknowledge the following people who supported me morally, financially and academically during the process of carrying out this research. These are my Husband Kabanda Charles, my children, Sempebwa Brian my research assistant, Owek Mutimbo Gonzanga and my supervisor Mr. Kabiito Benedicto, May almighty God reward you abundantly.

Declaration

I Babirye Mary to the best of my knowledge hereby declare that this thesis is my own original work that has not been submitted to any university or any institution of higher learning for any academic award.

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Approval

This is to certify that this research was carried out under my supervision that is now ready for submission with my due approval.

Supervisor's Name:

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Table of Contents

Dedication	i
Acknowledgements	ii
Declaration	iii
Approval	iv
List of Acronyms	ix
ABSTRACT	x
CHAPTER ONE:	1
GENERAL INTRODUCTION	1
1.0. INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the Study.....	2
1.2 Statement of the Problem	6
1.3. Objectives of the study.....	7
1.3.1 Major Objective.....	7
1.3.2 Specific Objectives.....	7
1.4 Research Questions	7
1.5 Scope of the study	7
1.5.1 Geographical Scope.....	7
1.5.2 Content scope	8
1.5.3 Time Scope.....	8
1.6 Significance of the Study	8
1.7 Justification of the study.	9
1.8 Definition of Key Terms	9
1.9 Conceptual framework	10
CHAPTER TWO:	12
LITERATURE REVIEW	12
2.0 Introduction	12
2.1 Child Labor	12
2.2 Household Poverty	13
2.2.1 Nature and Magnitude of Child labour in Uganda.....	14
2.2.2 The Worst Forms of Child Labour in Uganda	15
2.2.3 Child Trafficking.....	15
2.2.4 Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	16
2.2.5 Children in Domestic Work	16

2.2.6 Children in Commercial Agriculture.....	17
2.2.7 Children in the Informal Sector.....	17
2.3 Household Income and Child labour.....	17
2.4 House hold size and child labour.	22
2.5 Household unemployment and child labour.....	24
2.6 Summary of identified gaps	26
CHAPTER THREE:.....	27
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	27
3.1 Introduction	27
3.1 Research Design.....	27
3.2 Area of Study.	28
3.3 Study Population	28
3.3.1 Sample Size.....	28
3.3.2 Sampling Techniques	29
3.5 Research Procedures	29
3.6 Data collection Methods and Instruments.....	30
36.1. Primary Sources	30
3.6.1. a) In-Depth Interviews and Interview Guides.....	30
3.6.1. b) Focus Group Discussion and Focus Group Discussion Guides	31
3.6.2 Secondary Source.....	31
3.7. Quality Control Methods.....	32
3.8. Data Management and Processing	32
3.9. Data Analysis	33
3.12. Delimitations of the Study.....	34
CHAPTER FOUR:	35
PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF DATA.....	35
4.1. Introduction	35
4.2. To examine how Low household income influence child labor in Masaka Municipality.	35
4.3. To examine how household size affects child labor in Masaka Municipality	37
4.4. To examine the influence of household unemployment on child labor in Masaka Municipality.	39

4.5.	Presentations of stakeholders Views	42
4.5.1.	Main forms of child labour in Masaka Municipality	43
4.5.2	Commercial Sexual	43
4.5.3.	Hawking of Merchandise	43
4.5.4.	Domestic Work	43
4.5.5.	Child Trafficking	44
4.6.	Programs/Activities carried to combat child labour in Masaka Municipality	44
4.7.	Causes of Child labour in Masaka Municipality	45
4.8.	Challenges encountered in the fight against Child Labour	47
4.9.	Success Stories:	48
4.10	Discussion of Research Findings	51
4.10.1	To examine how Low household income influence child labor in Masaka Municipality.....	51
4.10.2	To examine how household size affects child labor in Masaka Municipality ...	53
4.10.3	To examine the influence of household unemployment on child labor in Masaka Municipality.....	54
4.11	Key actors at various levels.....	56
4.11.1	Central Government and District Local Government.....	56
4.11.2	District Level	56
4.11.3	Non-Governmental & Community based organization	57
4.11.4	Development partners and donors	57
4.11.5	Communities, self-help groups and support networks.....	58
4.11.6	Media Approach, Employers and Workers Organization.....	58
4.12	Conclusion.....	58
	CHAPTER FIVE	60
	SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	60
	5.2 Summary of the findings	60
	5.3 Conclusion.....	60
	5.4 Recommendations	62
	APPENDICES	73
	Appendix I: Focus Group Discussion Guide (Parents/Guardians).....	73

Appendix II: In-depth interview Guide (Children involved in Childlabour) 77
Appendix III: In-depth interview Guide (Officials from NGOs and District officials) 79

List of Acronyms

AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

CEDAW - Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination
Against Women (CEDAW)

CRC - Convention on the Rights of the Child

CSEC - Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

GoU - Government of Uganda

HIV - Human Immunodeficiency Virus

ILO - International Labour Organisation

IPEC - International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour

LDCs - Least Developed Countries

MGLSD - Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development

NCC - National Council for Children

OAU - Organisation of African Unity

OVC - Orphans and Vulnerable Children

SMEs - Small and Medium-sized Enterprises

STDs - Sexually Transmitted Diseases

UN - United Nations

UNDP - United Nations Development Programme

UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund UBOS - Uganda Bureau of Statistics

UPE - Universal Primary Education

CRO- Child Rehabilitation Out Reach

COTFONE- Community Transformation Foundation Network.

CRC-Convention on the Rights of a Child

ABSTRACT

Child labour is work performed by children under 18 years of age which is exploitative, hazardous or inappropriate for their age, and which is detrimental to their schooling, or social, mental, spiritual and moral development.

Child labour has been a major global issue affecting children around the world. Many children under the age of 18 are working in different sectors. It was generally established that child labour is a hindrance to developmental programmes by negatively affecting the targeted next generations.

The study attempted to assess the influence of household poverty on prevalence of child labour in Masaka Municipality. The objectives of this study were, to examine how low household income influence child labor, to examine how of household size affect child labor and to examine the influence of household unemployment on child labor in Masaka Municipality. In terms of research methodology, a qualitative research approach was used in the context of a case-study research design., which offers a critical in analysing the problem of child labour. The study sampled 32 respondents composed of children, parents/guardians, NGO managers and district officials. The study used interviews and group focussed discussions to obtain data. The findings of the study were, poverty was the main driver of child labour in Masaka Municipality, household income, household size and household unemployment influence child labour in Masaka Municipality. Recommendations were made, stronger government intervention, training and awareness raising, budget allocations for activities for combating child labour, adopting a zero-tolerance for child labour, policy and law implementation. Facilitation of the Universal Primary Education programme to be improved and stronger bye-laws should be adopted.

CHAPTER ONE:

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.0. INTRODUCTION

Uganda has made a significant advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The Government passed a law that prohibits child pornography and appointed 10 members to the Industrial Court. It also launched a national child helpline to report cases of child exploitation to district officials and conducted a child labor prevalence study. In addition, the National Council on Children established an inter-ministerial task force to coordinate resource allocation and programming on child labor across ministries. However, children in Uganda are still engaged in child labor, including agriculture and in the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation. Gaps in the legal framework persist, such as between compulsory education and minimum working ages, and enforcement information is not made publicly available. Therefore, there is need to find out the causes of increasing number of children involved in child labour.

The study examines household poverty and child labour in Masaka Municipality. House hold poverty is used as independent variable while childlabour the dependent variable. This chapter presents the background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, and significance of the study, conceptual framework and scope of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Child labor is regarded as one of the most serious problems of children rights violations in the contemporary world. Globally, almost 306 million children between the ages of 5 and 17 are in employment, 70 % (215 millions) of these children are classified as child labourers, more than half of all children are doing hazardous work (Human Rights manual, 2012). These children around the world have their rights violated every day and this is of great concern for the national and international community and is one of the major developmental challenges facing Africa as a region and it is recognized as a major source of exploitation of children and a grave violation of child rights. Across the region, there is an estimated 80 million children aged 5-14 to be engaged in worst forms of child labour, representing one in every three children. The number of child workers in Africa could potentially reach 100 million by 2017 (International Labour Organisation, 2010). In most African countries, children constitute an integral part of the household economy.

According to ILO (2013), most of child labourers are working in hazardous work and the number of children working as child labourers is increasing, even though it is forbidden by law. These children are vulnerable to various diseases and they struggle with long-term physical and psychological pain. These children work for their families and for their survival (Mapaure, 2009). Some studies like Dessy and Pallage (2003) argue that not all the work that children do is harmful or brutal, Some work may provide successful learning opportunities, such as babysitting, newspaper delivery jobs, but if the work exposes them to psychological stress and physical pain, like prostitution, domestic work, sexual exploitation and pornographic activities, then it is child labour (ILO's SIMPOC, 2013).

These children engaged in child labour perform work that far surpasses their physical age, ability and capacity, frequently enduring long hours in dangerous hazardous conditions in mines, construction sites, agriculture, manufacturing factories and quarry sites. (National Action Plan, 2012) these children are everywhere, but invisible, toiling as domestic servants in homes, labouring behind the walls of factory sites and hidden from view in hotels and bars. The plight of these children has been further exacerbated by the HIV and AIDS pandemic, as millions of AIDS orphans and children with HIV-infected parents struggle to meet their own and their families' needs for survival.

The international organizations such as UNICEF, ILO, Human rights Watch, have come up with various measures to eliminate child labour across the world. Many countries have adopted legislation to prohibit child labour; nonetheless child labour is still rampant throughout the world. It is not easy task for low income countries to achieve total elimination of child labour. Several studies and international organizations considered that education is the key strategy in addressing child labour, and it can help children to stay away from work. However not every family can afford to send their children to school even though there is universal education, still some families cannot afford to keep them attending the school.

According to the ILO-IPEC Report (2010), international and regional treaties namely; ILO Convention No.138 (1973) on the minimum age for admission to employment, the ILO Convention No.182 (1999) on the prohibition on the worst forms of child labour, the UN Convention on the rights of the child have been ratified and acceded to by the government of Uganda. The Convention on the Rights of a Child (CRC) stipulates that children should be protected from economic exploitation and any work that is hazardous or interferes with schooling or is harmful to their health and development. Further the Convention No.182

(ILO, 1999), each member state shall take immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour as a matter of urgency. In Uganda, child labour has been identified as a hindrance to social-economic development and that it has generally got serious implications on the next generation.

In Uganda alone, the number of working children aged between 5 to 17 years is two million child labourers which accounts for 16% of the entire population of 11.5 million children in Uganda (Uganda Bureau of Statistics, 2013). The Government of Uganda recognizes that the worst forms of child labour and other hazardous work for children deprive them of their dignity, rights to education, health, wellbeing and protection. At the household level, child labour increases the depth of child poverty and household income insecurity. This in turn affects the long term national economic and social development goals (including decent work for adults) by creating cycles of intergenerational poverty. Child labour is a multidimensional problem that requires a combined integrated approach to mobilize all key actors to action if the practice is to be reduced in the short term and eliminated (National Child Labour Policy, 2006).

Since 1999, Government has been implementing policy interventions to prevent and eliminate child Labour in partnership with key line Ministries like Education and Sports, Local Government, Finance Planning and Economic Development, and social and development partners including the Federation of Uganda Employers, Labour Unions, USDOL, IRC and ILO/IPEC, The National Child Labour Policy (2006) and its simplified version (2010), The National Action Plan (NAP) 2012-2017 on the elimination of child labour and various laws all aiming at elimination of child labour in Uganda. Despite these interventions, laws and policies, child labour phenomenon is still high (National Action Plan, 2012-2017).

Several factors contribute to the increasing prevalence of child labour in Uganda. They include high levels of poverty, the impact of HIV/AIDS, the growing levels of orphan-hood, negative cultural norms, the high and prohibitive costs of education, famines, food insecurity. HIV/AIDS has undermined the livelihoods of many households and their dependants, threatening the survival and productivity of the households and children. National estimates show that 14.8 percent approximately 2.43 million of the 17.1 million children under the age of 18 years have been orphaned. (Worst Forms of Child Labour Report, 2015).

In Uganda, Poverty and child labour are inextricably linked and poses the greatest challenge. According to *Uganda National Household Survey 2009/10 Report* estimates that 24.5% representing 7.5 million of the population is poor. Out of the 7.5 million, 5.8 million live in chronic poverty and mostly in rural areas. This degree of poverty compels households and communities to use children for labour. Children out of necessity have to work to supplement family incomes and support themselves in school. In Masaka district, the population below poverty line is 30% of the population and the number of childlabour is also increasing, according to Masaka District Local Government Statistical Abstract (2012), over 60% of children are exposed to child abuse and neglect by parents, increasing child mothers between the ages of 12-17 amounting to 213,696 child mothers and increasing number of children dropping out of school in the district despite universal primary and secondary education.

Consequently, if childlabour is to be eliminated in Masaka district, factors causing it have to be addressed, while there could be several constituting factors, household poverty may be playing a big role and hence the need for this study to investigate the effect of household poverty on childlabour in Masaka Municipality.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Uganda is a signatory to many conventions and ratified the International Labor Organization Conventions No. 138 (Minimum Age) and No. 182 (Worst Forms of Child Labor), and since 1999, the country has come up with policies, laws and interventions such as National child labor policy 2006, National Action Plan 2012-2017, Universal Primary and Secondary Education, Employment Act (2006), The children Act cap59 among others, working with partners like ILO-IPEC with the aim of eliminating childlabour. Despite these interventions, laws and policies, childlabour phenomenon is still high in Uganda, with 2 million children between the age of 5-17 are involved in child labour and 51% of (4.3million) children are engaged in hazardous work which is a violation of children rights and deprives children of fulfilled and happy childhoods. (Uganda Bureau of Statistics, 2015), In Uganda, Poverty and child labor are inextricably linked together and it poses the greatest challenge on elimination of childlabour. The Uganda National Housing Survey 2012/13 Report estimates that 19.7% representing 6.7 million of the population in Uganda is poor. Out of the 6.7 million, 5.8 million live in chronic poverty and mostly in rural areas. This degree of poverty compels households and communities to use children for labor. Children out of necessity have to work to supplement family incomes and support themselves in school.

In Masaka district, the population below poverty line is 30% of the population and the number of childlabour is also increasing, according to Masaka District Local Government Statistical Abstract (2012), over 60% of children are exposed to child abuse and neglect by parents, increasing child mothers between the ages of 12-17 amounting to 213,696 child mothers and increasing number of children dropping out of school in the district despite universal primary and secondary education.

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playing a big role and hence the need for this study to investigate the influence of household poverty on the prevalence of childlabour in Masaka Municipality.

1.3. Objectives of the study

1.3.1 Major Objective

The general objective of the study is to establish the relationship between household poverty and Childlabour in Masaka Municipality.

1.3.2 Specific Objectives

1. To examine how low household income influence child labor in Masaka Municipality
2. To examine how of household size affects child labor in Masaka Municipality
3. To examine the influence of household unemployment on child labor in Masaka Municipality.

1.4 Research Questions

1. How does low household income influence child labor in Masaka Municipality?
2. How does household size affect child labor in Masaka Municipality?
3. What is the influence of household unemployment child labor in Masaka Municipality?

1.5 Scope of the study

1.5.1 Geographical Scope

The study was carried out in Masaka Municipality. This is because the area is experiencing high levels of child labour in Masaka District.

1.5.2 Content scope

The study was intended to cover household poverty specifically household income, household size and household unemployment as independent variables and childlabour conceptualized as migrant childlabour as dependent variable.

1.5.3 Time Scope

The researcher was concerned with information between 2009 and 2016 because this was the time when Masaka Municipality has been queried for having increasing cases of childlabour.

1.6 Significance of the Study

The study is immensely significant in various ways to government, partner's practitioners, policy makers and stakeholders.

To the Government of Uganda, the findings and results that will be reported in this study will provide a more reliable scientific measure and perspective for describing and evaluating the number of childlabour in Masaka municipality.

It will also serve as a valuable source of information that brings to lime light on the causes of childlabour in Masaka Municipality.

It will essentially uncover other factors responsible for the increase of numbers of childlabour in Uganda.

This will provide empirical support for government strategic decisions in several critical areas of their operations on childlabour.

1.7 Justification of the study.

The problem of child labor still exists in Uganda despite of all government laws and policies to eliminate it. ILO and IPEC have been operating their programs in Uganda in order to eradicate the vice, less results have been achieved. There is some evidence that household poverty could be influencing prevalence of child labour in Masaka District more especially Masaka Municipality. This study, therefore, seeks to assess the causes of child labor and its effects on the lives of children. Furthermore, the study will try to establish why child labor still exists despite the government efforts to protect the children.

1.8 Definition of Key Terms

Household:

This is a group of persons who normally live and eat together. In some instances, a household will be different from a family. A household will consist of a head (male or female), a spouse, children and sometimes relatives and visitors.

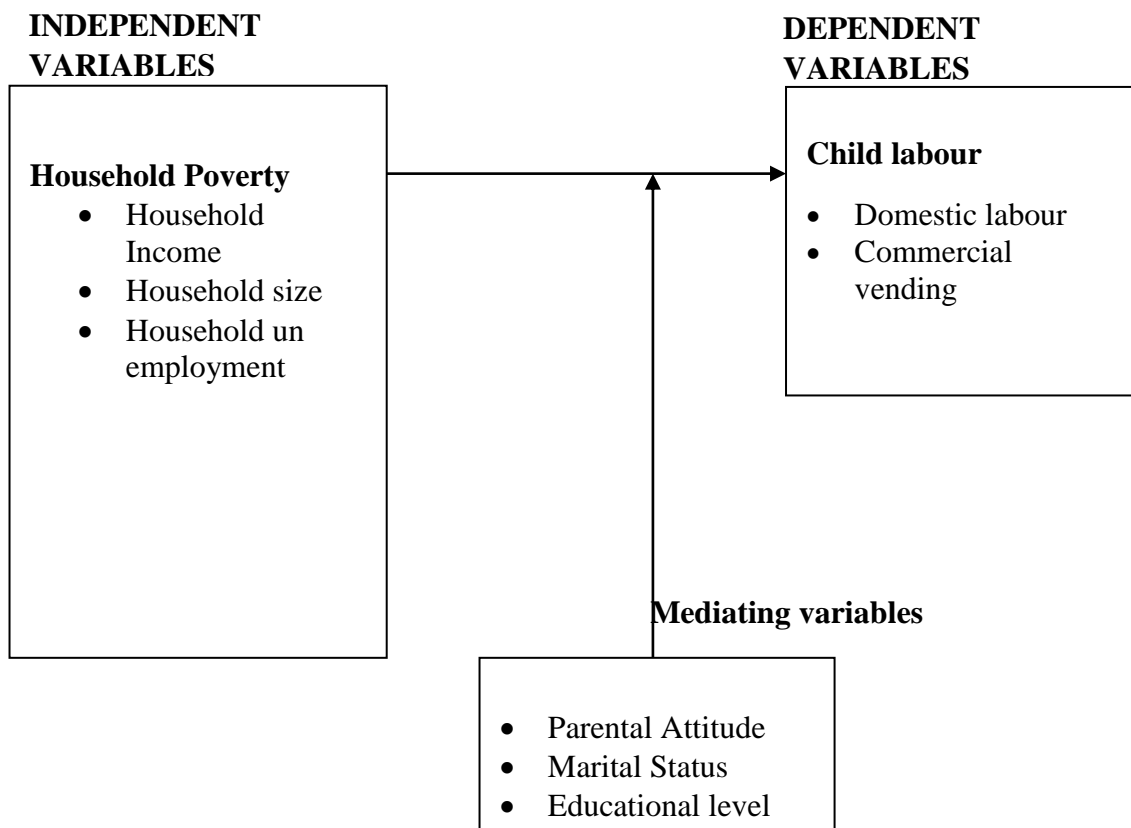
Poverty:

The inability of an individual, family or community to attain a minimum standard of living. This is evidenced by the lack of basic needs and services such as food, clothing, bedding, shelter, paraffin, basic health care, roads, markets, education, information and communication. Poverty dimensions of social exclusion, powerlessness, ignorance and lack of knowledge are also, understood as drawn to as key aspects of poverty in Uganda (MGLSD, 2006).

Child Labour:

Child labour refers to work that is mentally, physically, or morally harmful to children (MGLSD, 2006); It can negatively affect their mental, physical, or social development and interferes with their schooling; by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school; by obliging them to leave school prematurely or by requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work.

1.9 Conceptual framework



Source: own construction based on literature review

Figure 1: Conceptual Model: Childlabour related to three components of Household poverty.

The independent variable in the study is the household poverty and the dependent variable is the childlabour measured in terms of domestic labour and commercial vending. The

conceptual model (fig 1.1) depicts household poverty, conceptualized to have an influence on childlabour. As for the household poverty elements are conceptualized as household income, household size and household unemployment are assumed to have a positive relationship with childlabour.

Furthermore, the conceptual framework shows that there are moderating variables such as parental attitude, marital status and educational level of parents.

Despite the positive effect of household poverty on children, the mediating variables may have a counteracting effect.

CHAPTER TWO:

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter gives an overview of Household poverty and childlabour of the study and related literature of relevant to the study. In the context of the study, household poverty is compared against childlabour.

2.1 Child Labor

Edmonds (2007), defines child labor as any work that is harmful to a child while ILO refers child labour as to work that is mentally, physically, socially and/or morally dangerous and harmful to children; work that interferes with children's school attendance; hazardous work which by the nature or circumstances under which it is performed jeopardizes the health, safety and morals of children

Child labor involves children being enslaved by being separated from their families, being kept out of school and exposed to serious hazardous work such as long hours of work, standing, carrying heavy objects and loss of sleep. Child labor concerns all activities which are done by children for the purpose of economic gain. Many children are engaged in economic activities for low payment or no payment which are dangerous to their health.

Children are normally hired as household servants. This is especially true for girls and sometimes for boys. When children perform the normal work/domestic work at home, it is not called child labor (Bhukuth, 2008). Child labor is any work or employment which engages a child to work more in order to attain basic needs for his or her family. These

children are working for long hours with low wages under harmful conditions which destroy their physical and mental development (Kihwelo, 2006).

Therefore, this study defines child labor as any economic activity which is done by a person under the age of 18 which prevents child from attending school.

Among various other factors, poverty is overwhelmingly accepted as the root cause of child labour (Mendelievich, 1979; Ota, 2001; Schmitz et. al. 2004; Gupta, 2009).

Poverty argument endorses that children need to work in order to prevent their families from suffering due to hunger and starvation (Sinha, 2001). Misra (2000) has given a reason for the existence of child labour that poor households tend to send their children to work in order to supplement family income, which is uncertain due to natural calamity, prolong illness, among other factors.

2.2 Household Poverty

Household poverty is the inability of a family to attain a minimum standard of living. This is evidenced by the lack of basic needs and services such as food, clothing, bedding, shelter, paraffin, basic health care, roads, markets, education, information and communication. Poverty dimensions of social exclusion, powerlessness, ignorance and lack of knowledge are also, understood as drawn to as key aspects of poverty in Uganda (MGLSD, 2006:4)

Poverty and child labour are inextricably linked and poses the greatest challenge to many countries. According to Uganda National Housing Survey *2009/10 Report* estimates that 24.5% representing 7.5million of the population is poor. Out of the 7.5 million, 5.8 million live in chronic poverty and mostly in rural areas. This degree of poverty compels households

and communities to use children for labour. Children out of necessity have to work to supplement family incomes and support themselves in school.

Swardt and Theron (2005) as reported by Kabasita (2009), point out that hunger is the most extreme expression of poverty as the basic bodily needs are not met. Internationally, a high proportion of the poor experience extended periods of hunger and they most suffer poor health, a common characteristic of impoverished communities due to risks that poor people are exposed to. They form another vicious cycle of malnutrition, poor hygiene and sanitation, natural disasters and morbidity. It is in the light of this, that a child from a poor family will most likely go out to work for economic gains in order to meet the basic needs especially where, the child is orphaned or where there is a need to supplement the meager family incomes.

2.2.1 Nature and Magnitude of Child labour in Uganda.

According to National labour force and child activities survey report (2013) survey results indicated that about 1.5 million children in the age group 5-11 years were involved in work. In addition 252 thousand children aged 12-13 years worked in non-light economic activities and an additional 307 thousand 14-17 year-old children were at work in hazardous employment. Summing these three groups yielded a total of 2 million children aged 5-17 years who were in child labour (approximately 16% of the total children). The findings further showed that one in every four working children (26%) carried heavy loads at their workplaces. The proportion of the 5-13 year olds involved in child work was almost similar by gender (19% for both males and females) but there was a wide variation by residence. The proportion was three times in rural children compared to those living in urban areas. The

regional disaggregation reveals that Central region had the highest proportion of working children below 14 years (29%) compared to only two percent in Kampala City.

Child labour manifests itself in various forms and in different sectors including domestic service, commercial agriculture (tea and sugar plantations), the informal sector, hotels and bars, commercial sexual exploitation, child trafficking, construction, fishing, stone and sand quarrying.

2.2.2 The Worst Forms of Child Labour in Uganda

Child labour in Uganda manifests itself in various forms and differs from district to district as well as within sectors. The worst forms of child labour manifest themselves through child trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, domestic service, commercial agriculture (tea and sugar plantations), the informal sector and armed conflict. Other forms of child labour are found in construction, fishing, stone and sand quarrying, hotels and bars. (NAP, 2012)

2.2.3 Child Trafficking

Recruitment, movement and eventual exploitation of children occur within Uganda as well as across the borders. Child trafficking is increasingly becoming a major area of concern for the government of Uganda. The East African Common Market Protocol launched in July 2010 allows free movement of labour within the region. However, there is a high risk that children may be trafficked and exploited through this movement of labour (NAP report 2012).

Comprehensive information on the scale and magnitude of child trafficking at the National level is still limited. An ILO/IPEC study (2007), however, confirmed that trafficking of children is a growing problem mainly fuelled by intermediaries who make false promises concerning employment opportunities and better life to children in neighbouring countries. The children end up working as child domestic workers, street beggars, bar and restaurant

attendants, exploited in sex, strippers and vendors. Others work at fish landing sites or agricultural plantations, this is very rampant in Karamoja Region.

2.2.4 Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Commercial sexual exploitation of children is among the worst forms of child labour. The numbers of children who are sexually exploited are not known owing to the hidden nature of the practice. Children exploited in commercial sex suffer exploitation at the hands of care givers comprising parents/guardians, teachers and others who have responsibilities for looking after children. Whatever the source of exploitation, the consequences are usually severe. They include psycho-social problems, early pregnancy, sexually-transmitted infections, dropping out of school and early entry into work where girls particularly suffer a vicious cycle of exploitation and poverty. The retrospective survey carried out by the African Child Policy Forum (2006) established that 89% of Ugandan girls faced verbal sexual abuse.

2.2.5 Children in Domestic Work

Child domestic work is one of the commonest practices in Uganda. Child domestic workers experience different forms of abuse and exploitation by their bosses. They lack clear terms of service from their employers, they are usually over worked, not paid or underpaid. Child domestic workers particularly girls are prone to the risk of sexual exploitation by the male employers and the boys in the homes where they work.

Children who are employed as domestic workers are deprived of an opportunity to go to school or enrol in any form of productive skills training. The adoption of a new international labour standard on promoting decent work for domestic workers, which calls for its ratification and implementation, opens an opportunity for the National Action Plan 2012-2017 to support initiatives on decent work for child domestic workers.

2.2.6 Children in Commercial Agriculture

Most Children in Uganda form a substantial part of the labour force in agriculture. According to the ILO/Uganda Bureau of Statistics, *Understanding Children's work*, (2008) the majority of working children (96%) is found in the rural agricultural sector in various hazardous and dangerous activities like tea, sugar and coffee plantations, tobacco and rice farms, in fishing and related activities. They face many hazards and risks, which include mixing, handling and applying toxic chemicals, carrying heavy loads, using cutting tools and operating machinery and long hours of work sometimes in extreme temperatures which is against their rights.

2.2.7 Children in the Informal Sector

The informal sector, which is predominantly urban, comprises micro and small enterprises that largely depend on family labour. Children form part of the family labour or work on their own as hawkers, trading assistants, tool boys in garages, assistants in carpentry workshops, domestic servants, house cleaners, cooks, waiters and waitresses in restaurants as well as in bars among others. It is estimated that 46% of the children work in various activities in the informal sector but are not paid or underpaid.

2.3 Household Income and Child labour

Studies have demonstrated that the most notable reason for child labour is low household income in many developing countries (Bhat & Rather, 2009). Decisions about child labour and schooling are generally made by parents. If the family lives below the poverty line, parents see children as source of family income through work. Basu (1998), used a theoretical model of child labour, where he showed the only reason parents send their children into child labour is because of their low income which cannot sustain family needs. Consequently, poor parents cannot afford schooling for their children. Thus, mainly poor households force their children into child labour instead of sending them to school.

Rena (2009), argues that low household income and underdevelopment drives child labour. She found out high prevalence of poverty amongst countries, such as India, China, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea, Ethiopia, Uganda, Mozambique, Malawi, Sudan, and Chad with cases of child labour. Therefore, child labour is widespread throughout Africa, and Asia. Studies conducted by Edmonds and Pavcnik (2005); O'Donnell et al. (2005) and Akarro and Mtweve (2011) argue that household poverty can be a perfect solution to elimination of child labour.

Study conducted by (ILO, 2004; Jillani, 1998) re-emphasize that there is linkage between low house income and child labour. Extreme forms of poverty play a crucial role in child labour. Child labor is part of a vicious circle and it is very important to understand how poverty is a main cause as well as a main consequence.

It is argued that, child labor depresses the already inadequate adult wages to a point where a father and a child together earn less than the father alone would. Thus, as long as children are put to work, poverty will spread and standards of living will continue to decline (Jillani, 1998). So one cannot justify child labor by saying one is depended on child labor in order to eradicate poverty. The reality is that a lot of families are depended on their children to work so that they can contribute to the family's general income, which is important for their survival. Nevertheless, the reason why the family depends on their children to work is because they are poor. It is a good description of the reality in what Jillani (1998) said, there is a vicious circle, which is very difficult for the families to get out.

UNICEF (2005), asserts that in Nigeria for example, among the fifteen million children who are working, most of them are forced to do so because their own families' survival depends upon their children work activities. In Nigeria, out of the fifteen million working children,

around six million of them do not attend school at all because they lack the time, energy and especially, school fees to do so. Furthermore, among those attending school, about one million dropout of school because their families cannot afford to pay school fees and related costs (UNICEF, 2005). The rise in the number of working children in Nigeria is said to be due to the collapse in the country's oil industry since the early 1980s and onward and the rise of cost of living (UNICEF, 2005). The growing rate of working children in the case of Nigeria is due mainly to lack of financial and material resources on the part of most families.

In most developing countries around the world, empirical evidence shows that the labor market participation rate of children increases most often when their households go through economic hardships, such as experiencing a failed harvest or contending with temporary shocks in credit markets (Admassie, 2002; Edmonds and Pavcnik, 2005). Poor households may view the children in their homes as additional labor to can generate income for the family during difficult economic times. Therefore, by sending their children to work, will supplement family income. However parents are putting the short term economic needs of their households above the long term importance of their children's education (Admassie, 2002). These parents may feel that they are better off sending their children to work rather than school in order to survive in the short run, not knowing that they are reigning the future of their children.

Several empirical studies show the linkage between living standards and child labor. Krueger (1996) showed evident trend from cross-country sample, that low income households are more likely to send their children to labour market which is not common in richer households. Duryea, Lam, and Levison (2007) found in urban Brazil that the father's unemployment compels their children to work to in order increase family income.

Moreover, poor households face inadequate basic needs such as food, clothing, shelter, education health facilities etc. People who live below poverty line, live in poor housing conditions and poor sanitary and hygienic conditions. Many of them live in slum areas and some of them lack housing, health care and nutrition sufficiency. Although illiteracy is far more prevalent among poor households, many children lack education or they drop out of school because of high cost of schooling coupled with low incomes. In general, poor people earn little and in such cases parents are not able to take care of all the responsibilities of their children and they oblige their children to work to increase household income Khan (2001). Hosen (2010) in his study showed that in Bangladesh poor rural parents can barely afford food let alone pay for school fees for their children.

However, in the studies conducted by Bhatta (1998), Ahmed (1999), Leiten (2000), Dev and Ravi (2002) and Kabeer (2003), among others, argued that poverty has a limited role in explaining child labour. Leiten (2000), observed that ‘the correlation between regional poverty and child labour indeed is inconclusive’ and explains the lack of strong correlation by the fact that poor regions are characterized by high fertility rates and low labour opportunities. Leiten’s argument is supported by the Pakistani evidence of Addison et. al. (1997) who noted that ‘low incomes do not necessarily increase child labour’. Bhatta (1998) cites a variety of studies on Indian child labour in support of the view that ‘income and related variables do not seem to have any direct significant effect on children’s work input.

Children from poor families have less enrolment in school (Huisman and Smits, 2009a) and tend to work more than from rich families. (Basu and Tzannatos, 2003). If parents cannot afford payment of school fees and paid labour is not a valid alternative, keeping children at home and left to help with housework or in the family business seems a reasonable option. In

recent research indicates that the effect of wealth might not be linear up to a certain threshold, poverty seems to be the driving force behind child labour, but as households obtain more resources, other factors (like the education of the parents), become important (Self and Grabowski, 2009). This is in line with Basu and Van's (1998) idea that child labour occurs when the household is below a given subsistence level.

Ray (2000), also provides evidence that shows that household poverty has an insignificant impact on the child's labour market participation in Peru and Pakistan. Swaminathan (1998) also explains the observed weak relationship between incidence of child labour and incidence of poverty by suggesting that at 'the micro-level, poverty ensures a supply of child labour, it is the structure of demand, however, and that determines the use of child labour'.

The study by Chandrasekhar's (1997), in Indian context also finds no relationship between Poverty and child labour, he stated that five states i.e. Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra have more number of child labour in comparison to poor states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa. Similarly, the study on working children in Malaysia infers that the family income affects neither child labour nor working hours for any age group of children. Therefore, will investigate whether household income influence child labour in Masaka Municipality.

Most writers are in agreement that low household income leads to child labour. However, the above literature is mainly on Asian countries but does not focus on Uganda aspect generally and Masaka Municipality specifically.

2.4 House hold size and child labour.

Large households usually have more children involved in child labour than children from smaller households, which demonstrates that family size has an effect on child labour. Parents oblige their children to work because they are not able to manage the demands of a large size family. There is also gender differences among household size. Not everyone and of all age in the family are working as child labour, which depends on the child's age and gender, for example boys are more likely to attended to school than girls (Ahamd ,2012)

Further Household size is also important in determining children's labour activities and educational opportunities. It is argued that high fertility rate is positively correlated with the incidence of child labour. In the context of poverty and basic survival needs, children are considered as preferred commodity by their parents compared with other goods because of their economic utility. High fertility increases the chances that children from large families have to do work to support household income (Khan, 2001)

In the study conducted by Buchmann C & Hannum E (2001), Stated that there is a relationship between household size and child labour in rural areas in Nigeria largely depends on land holding. This was so common in the rural areas in Nigeria where parents are predominately farmers and illiterates. Parents in the rural areas in Nigeria who are farmers give birth to more children in order to get them involved in farming because they rely more on their children to help them in cultivating their cash crops. However, most of these children end up as child labourers with no access to education. This increases the rate of child labour especially in its worst forms in the rural part of Nigeria.

According to research findings of IPEC (2006), the findings showed that majority of the child labourers were in large households that are probably unable to cope with the numbers and therefore, requires children to work in order to supplement the family incomes. Also large household's size means that adults alone cannot grow enough food for the family which necessitates children to work on the family farms. Furthermore large household sizes have meagre income which makes it difficult for such households to afford basic school requirements such as pens, books and Uniform. This requires children to work so that they can buy for themselves these scholastic materials.

In a recent review of the evidence on the relationship between household size and child labour from developing countries, suggest that larger household size reduces children's educational participation and progress in school, and reduces parent's investment in schooling (Lloyd, 1994). Both factors make it likely that larger household size increases the probability that a child will work. According to Lloyd's review, finds that the magnitude of this effect is determined by at least four factors:·the level of socio-economic development: the effect of household size is larger in urban or more developed areas;· the level of social expenditure by the state: the effect of household size is smaller if state expenditures are high;· family culture: the effect of household size is weaker where extended family systems exist (e.g. through the practice of child fostering);· the phase of demographic transition: the effect of household size is larger in later phases.

Therefore, the implication is that the empirically observed magnitude of the effect of household size on child labor varies enormously from place to place, depending upon the combination of factors which exists (Cochrane et al.,1990). The evidence also suggests that children with more siblings are likely to work longer hours on average, especially when they are older and when they are girls (Lloyd, 1993; Jomo, 1992).

It would stand to reason that the overall condition of the household size can be a powerful factor on the supply of child labor.

The above literature on household size is more about the African and Asian set up generally, but the real situation is not yet known in Masaka district especially Masaka Municipality. The researcher identified this as literature gap.

2.5 Household unemployment and child labour

Sharma and Patnaik (2001), argue that Children may be seeking work because either adult wage earners in the family are unemployed or unable to earn enough to make both ends meet. Thus, leaving the children with no option but to work and provide for themselves as well as the family. However Basu (2000) and Bhargava (2003), in their study, they considered the impact of minimum wage legislation on child labour. Their argument was that minimum wage causes adult unemployment to which parents may respond by sending children to work. Thus increased child labour as result of household unemployment.

On the other hand, the study conducted by Patil (1991), stated that child labour is a logical consequence of the rampant unemployment and underemployment of parents who force their children to do some odd jobs to supplement the meagre family income. Thus, as long as the wages earned by the parents are below the poverty line, their children will go to work to augment family income.

Basu (2000), study tracks the impact of rising and falling adult wages in poor and developing countries, where poverty and labour exploitation are the norms on child labour. One argument made is that if an increase in wages is achieved by means of a minimum wage law, it can

cause some adults to be unemployed and compel them to send their children to work, which in turn displaces more adult labour and sends more children to work.

In another study conducted by Murty (2003), on child labour in India revealed that the level of the unemployment worsens the situation than that of the poor. Low wages make a man poorer but unemployment makes him absolutely poor. This unemployment of household members in the family compels women and children to go for earning. Thus high incidence of child labour in India is due to the unemployment of household members of the family. Thus unemployment indirectly initiates child labour.

In a study conducted by Singh and Singh (1993), on child labour showed that the economic cause of the child labour is as a result of unemployment of adult workers. Unemployment cannot be treated as a mere economic problem, but a complicated psycho –social problem affecting every aspect of human life. The state of unemployment is more than that of the poor and turns the weak into a crippled, coupled by Poverty deepen one's spirit and can kill mercilessly. Thus high incidences of Child labour is as result unemployment of adult members of the family.

In the study conducted by Nangia (1987), revealed that unemployment forces the parents to send their children to work. This adult unemployment leads to iniquitous distribution of income, which in turn leads to labour displacement, migration, the break-up of family and kinship bonds and competition for survival.

2.6 Summary of identified gaps

Most of the researches cited their findings are based on data from developed world and developing Asian countries and West African countries of Ghana and Nigeria while few researches conducted in Uganda are exclusively related to poverty as the major contributor of child labour. Also most researches have been carried out in Kampala and Wakiso but no research exists on child labour in Masaka district particularly Masaka Municipality. Therefore, there is need to carry out research on influence of household poverty on prevalence of child labour in Masaka District particularly Masaka Municipality.

CHAPTER THREE:

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter presents the methods and techniques of inquiry that were used during this study. The researcher used a qualitative approach to guide the case-study design. It also presents the following elements of research; area of study, study population, sample size, sampling techniques, data collection methods and instruments, quality control method, data management and processing, research procedure, data analysis and limitation to the study in detail.

3.1 Research Design

According to Churchill (2002), a research design is a master plan specifying methods and procedures for collecting and analyzing the required data. It is a plan that is to be followed in completing a study. The research design helps the researcher to obtain relevant data to fulfil the objectives of the study (Churchill and Lacobucci, 2002).

This study employed an exploratory case study approach and qualitative research study to investigate the influence of household poverty on child labour. Key (1997) affirms that qualitative research study produces more in-depth, comprehensive information and seeks to understand people's interpretations, perceptions and lived experiences. Zainal (2007) asserts that the case study method enables a researcher to closely examine the data within a specific context, and thus gives in-depth information on the subject under investigation.

This study therefore employed the case study approach and qualitative research study because the design enabled the researcher to explore and examine in-depth the lived experiences of child labour in Masaka Municipality. More so, qualitative case study allowed the researcher

to collect data using different methods (such as interviews and document review and focus group) so as to provide the complete story (Neale, Thapa, & Boyce, 2006).

Additionally, the approach allowed the researcher to use different sources of information (such as child domestics, parents and social workers) in order to obtain in-depth information about the influence of household poverty on child labour child labour.

3.2 Area of Study.

This research investigated how household poverty influences child labour in Masaka Municipality. Given this conceptual area, the study zeroed down to the geographical location to Kimaanya Kyabakuza, Nyendo-Senyange and Katwe-Butego that compose Masaka Municipality in Masaka District whose children are gravely affected by childlabour. The study was conducted in Masaka Municipality in Masaka district. This area is characterised by so many children involved in child labour, that's why the area was chosen as case study.

3.3 Study Population

According to Mugenda and Mugenda, (2003), a target population describes an accessible population to which the researcher wants to generalize the results of the study. The study targeted a population of the children in child labour, parents/guardians, managers of NGOs involved in child welfare and officials from Masaka Municipality.

3.3.1 Sample Size

In order to avoid un-guided generalization, the researcher chose to sample as suggested by Amin (2005), who suggested that sampling is important in selecting elements from a population in such a way that the sample elements selected represent the population.

Mark (2010) asserts that samples for qualitative studies are generally much smaller than those used in quantitative studies. According to Onwuegbuzie and Leech (2007), sample sizes in

qualitative research should not be too large as it may be difficult for the researcher to extract thick and rich data. Marshall (1996) affirms that an appropriate sample size for a qualitative study is one that adequately answers the research question. In this study, the researcher purposively sampled 13 live-out child workers on the basis of their experiences. Specifically, children aged between 10 and 18 years were sampled for the study since the Ugandan Constitution and the Employment Act set the minimum age for employment at 18. The study also purposively selected 5 parents/guardians and 5 social workers on the basis of their knowledge of child labour and 5 municipality officers. This sample size was easy to manage during data analysis since the study was qualitative in nature.

3.3.2 Sampling Techniques

Purposive sampling was employed because the researcher intended to get insightful information about the influence of household poverty on child labour. Snowball sampling was also employed as a back up to purposive sampling because children were difficult to locate in private homes, streets and in farms in which they work. Bryman (2008) asserts that with this approach to sampling, the researcher makes initial contact with a small group of subjects who are relevant to the research topic and then uses these to establish contacts with others.

3.5 Research Procedures

The researcher made a one-day' field survey across the Masaka Municipality the area affected by childlabour prior to the research study. This aimed at identifying a potential area of the study along conceptual and locational measures. During this survey tour, the researcher identified elders and community leaders with whom she remained in touch. Before going to the field for the study, an introductory letter was got from the Department of Good governance and Peace Studies, which was presented to the local leaders of Kimanya-Kyabakuza, Nyendo-Senyange and Katwe-Butego. The local leaders of these areas then

introduced the researcher to local council chairpersons of Nyendo-Senyange, Kimaanya-Kyabakuza and Katwe- Butego.

3.6 Data collection Methods and Instruments

Both primary and secondary sources of data collection were used, which are corresponding data collection methods and instruments.

36.1. Primary Sources

3.6.1. a) In-Depth Interviews and Interview Guides

In-depth-interviews, focus group discussions and self-administered questionnaires were used to collect data about the three specific objectives and their corresponding questions. An in-depth interview research method is a one-to-one data collection method, which involves an in-depth discussion of specific topics between the interviewer and the interviewee (Hennink, Hutter & Ajay, 2011). The in-depth interviews of this research work focused on; household income, household size and household unemployment but delineated in semi-structured questions. Liamputtong and Ezzy (2006) describe in-depth interviews as focus interviews, unstructured interviews, and active interaction interviews among others.

Since this research study required seeking information on individual or personal experiences encountered by children, in-depth interviews helped the researcher to know and understand children's experience, beliefs and perceptions of child labour and household poverty on the other hand. Similarly, an in-depth interview was suitable for this research work since it was appropriate for venturing into sensitive issues. It also helped the researcher to know children's feelings and emotions about the conceptual area of study. Most importantly by use of this research method, the meanings children attach to their experiences can be clarified. Under the guidance of In-depth interview data-collection method, semi-structured interview guides were used as data collection instruments.

3.6.1. b) Focus Group Discussion and Focus Group Discussion Guides

Focus group discussion is an interactive discussion method of data collection, used to gather information from members of a clearly defined target audience, composed of six to eight or a little more members and focuses on specific issues for a period of 60-90 minutes (Hennink, Hutter & Ajay, 2011; Rennekamp & Nall, n.d). The researcher opted for focus group discussions because it is very instrumental in gaining a broad range of views on a research topic, in a single session of interaction (Hennink, Hutter & Ajay, 2011). And, it is suitable for; exploring topics about which “little is known or where issues are unclear”, thus generating a range of views about the study issue in a single event of data collection, and enabling vast data collection in a short period of time (Hennink, Hutter & Ajay, 2011, p. 138).

In this study, focus group discussion method aimed at establishing ways how child labour can be eliminated by improving household incomes. Under the umbrella of focus group research method, the researcher used focus group discussion guide as instrument.

3.6.2 Secondary Source

Secondary sources used included text books, journals, articles, internet sources and conference presentation papers, research papers. These were reviewed before the field work study, to inform the research topic. The findings from secondary source were presented.

3.7. Quality Control Methods

This section is concerned with the validity and reliability of the information collected from the field. The researcher chose to use qualitative research methodology and case-study research design, which all require encounters in a natural set-up to ensure an exhaustive study as a measure of the reliability of the information collected. Contentious issues which emerged during focus group discussions were clarified in in-depth interviews for reliability. To enhance internal validity, purposive sampling was used to ensure the selection of participants rich with knowledge and child labour experiences. Internal validity is “the ability of the research design to adequately test the questions” (Bordens & Abbot, 2011, p. 114)

3.8. Data Management and Processing

As a management strategy, the tools used for data collection i.e. interview guides and focus group discussion guides were structured according to themes to enable the correlation between themes and data collected for easy follow-up. While in the field, the researcher recorded interview sessions and focus group discussion proceedings on a memory card, all with the consent of and permission from the participants. This ensured full acquisition and retention of the information given by participants for processing and analysis. To complement the recordings mentioned above, notes-taking was employed, to take note of key issues that would arise in interview and focus group discussion sessions for clarity and probing.

The data collected through recordings was processed by strict verbatim transcription at the end of the field research and are subjected to presentation, interpretation, critical but objective analysis and informed discussion.

3.9. Data Analysis

Being a qualitative research, content analysis was used. Content analysis was done by two forms of qualitative analysis, that is; Pre-determined categories mostly for secondary data and Interpretative themes for primary data (Step, 2009). By pre-determined categories one decides what s/he needs to know; he/she can look through the data and records the events, findings, perceptions according to categories. Likewise, the researcher presents literature according to categorized themes, corresponding to objectives. Content analysis means analysis of the contents of an interview in order to identify the main themes that emerge from the responses given by the respondents, for primary data, this was done under interpretative themes, which is “one way of doing the analysis by reading and re-reading documents or transcripts of interviews to identify themes that appear relevant to the program” (Step, 2009). Often such themes are helpful for exploring new areas and uncovering obstacles or problems that the researcher may not have been aware of.

3.10. Ethical Consideration

The researcher secured an introductory letter from the relevant university authorities as well as the permission of the respondents that were involved in the study. For this matter, approval from municipality officials and management of NGOs was obtained and respondents were subjected to prior consultation. In this study, ethical issues were considered when carrying out this study as all research participants were informed about the purpose of the investigation. Informed consent was obtained from individual children and parents/guardians in writing in the local language which research participants understand better. The researcher ensured that confidentiality and anonymity were employed in which the information collected was strictly used for research purposes. Identities of children, parents and key informants were not disclosed.

3.11 Limitation of the Study

Limitations are conditions beyond the control of the researcher that may place restrictions on the successful accomplishment of the study and their application to other situations. Since the study is such a lengthy and hectic process, it involves the following limitations.

The time expected to make a comprehensive study was very limited since the researcher had other commitments to attend to. It was not easy to access parents with children involved in child labour and some respondents were not willing to give out information because of fear that information may be used against them.

3.12. Delimitations of the Study

The problem of limited time was solved by increasing on the number of working hours; the researcher would wake early and work upon the research in order to beat the deadline. In response to access of parents with children involved in childlabour, the researcher used local leaders who could easily identify parents whose children are involved in childlabour. In response to respondents failing to give information, the researcher had to introduce herself with introduction letter and had to explain to them that the research was basically for academic purpose.

CHAPTER FOUR:

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF DATA

4.1. Introduction

This chapter is the Centre of this study. It deals with data presentation, interpretation and discussion of research findings gathered from Masaka municipality, regarding household income, household size, and household unemployment, and their cross sectional influences on each other, in the context of childlabour. The researcher presents the views of the participants, engages in meaning making, analysis and discussion of the research findings in light of the literature reviewed in chapter two. Since the methods of data collection and the nature of data collected were qualitative, findings have been presented, analyzed and interpreted qualitatively.

Even though data was collected, presented, analyzed, and discussed thematically in correspondence with the three objectives of the study.

4.2. To examine how Low household income influence child labor in Masaka

Municipality.

Objective one of the study was to examine how low household income influence childlabour in Masaka Municipality. The study investigated the effects of household income on childlabour. The data from the study revealed that parents/guardians earn less in terms of income which affects parents/guardians to provide for basic necessities to their families which deprives children opportunities to go to school and acquire longtime skills. Also the findings revealed that many children lack education or they drop out of school because of high cost of schooling coupled with low incomes earned by their parents. This has forced children either to look for work to supplement their family's income or work to earn a living.

The findings reveal that poor people earn little and in such cases parents are not able to take care of all the responsibilities of their children and they oblige their children to work to increase household income. With high levels of poverty in the municipality and surrounding areas, many children are pushed to work to supplement family income; work for their own income to meet their individual needs, pay for school fees and care for the young ones. One social worker from Children Restoration Outreach remarked:

“Poverty becomes a vicious cycle because children are not going to school, and therefore they will not get education and appreciate the importance of education. This is because they consider work as the best opportunity to earn a living.”

Most children interviewed said they engage in child labour as a source of livelihood, most children interviewed revealed that they are from poor family backgrounds in rural and slums areas, especially orphans and vulnerable children who have no other means of sustaining their livelihood. One of the parents remarked:

“My child has been forced to work because I am not employed and we have no money to pay school fees, buy food, clothes and other basic needs. We have no any other means to sustain our livelihoods apart from sending children to go and work as vendors and domestic workers in private homes.”

Furthermore, another resident of Ssenyange division a guardian of children engaged in child labour remarked:

“he sends his grandsons to work because he can longer manage to look after them due to ill health. He says his children in Kampala abandoned him yet he has four grandchildren he looks after. We get little money which we use to buy Items that these children need in the evening after school time. I know it’s illegal for children to work

and it affects their growth but I have no option other than sending them to work since we need money to buy scholastic materials and food”.

According to Shifah Katerega educative director of Masaka Home Rights defender, a civil society organization in Masaka; says

“because of the high levels of poverty in the area many children have been driven into working at a very tender age instead of going to school to attain formal education. she says most of the poor households especially the extended families in rural areas depend on their children in trading centers and urban centers. This says, prevents the children from attending government -provided free primary and secondary education”. She says Masaka Municipality suffers from learner absenteeism because children are in the markets working. Kiyimbwe primary school, Kimanya Noor primary school are some of the affected schools seriously suffering from this problem.

Thus, children from poor families are compelled to engage in work which may be detrimental and harmful to them, in order to assist in alleviating the hardships that their families face.

4.3. To examine how household size affects child labor in Masaka Municipality

Objective two of the study was to examine how of house hold size affects childlabour in Masaka Municipality. The study investigated the effects of household size on childlabour. The study revealed that most children engaged in childlabour in the municipality come from large families caused by polygamous parents whereby the family tends to be too large with constrained resources and limited capacity to provide for basic needs for each child. Such circumstances have paused a great risk of driving children into exploitative labour to meet survival needs.

Children interviewed revealed that most of them were coming from families with six to ten members in the family. This was also revealed by parents who said their families are too big to provide for basic needs of the family thus children are seen as alternative source of income to supplement family income. Therefore, children from large household sizes are likely to get involved in childlabour.

The findings revealed that in Masaka district, there high fertility rate which contributes to high population which is composed of mostly children. This compounded with high poverty levels have driven children into childlabour in the Municipality.

The findings further revealed that larger household sizes have reduced investment of parents in education of children and there is increased likelihood that children will engage in market work such as vending. So, in families, parents have been forced to send their children to work, for, the available resources do not allow them to send all their children to school. Only a few children of these families attend schools and other work either to support the expenses of their school going siblings or to keep away from school. This was also revealed by children interviewed who said that they are out of school due to lack of school fees and other scholastic materials. They said that despite the government's universal primary and secondary education, still they need scholastic materials which their parents cannot afford to number of children in the family. Thus they have to work and buy scholastic materials or work to earn a living since they have dropped out of school.

Mukasa a child involved in child labour in Kimanya revealed:

"I come from a big family and my parents are poor and cannot afford to provide for us with school fees and other scholastic materials, we vend merchandise to provide ourselves with scholastic materials and other necessities, some of my brothers have dropped out of school and girls have been married off. That's why am here vending,

otherwise I would be at school like other children because I want to be teacher in future if I get school fees.”

4.4. To examine the influence of household unemployment on child labor in Masaka Municipality.

Objective three of the study was to examine the influence of house hold unemployment on childlabour in Masaka Municipality. The study investigated the influence of household unemployment on childlabour. The study revealed that rampant unemployment and underemployment of parents who force their children to some odd jobs to supplement the meager family income. The low wages earned by the parents are below the poverty line, their children have to augment family income.

According to interview with one of the parents, he remarks:

“Some parents or guardians are unemployed especially widows send their children to go and vend merchandise, work as domestic house workers to supplement their family income since the adults are not working, moreover employers like shop owners prefer employing young children who are paid less than adults”

The children interviewed also revealed that their parents who are unemployed and under employed, unstable occupation and wages as well as the engagement of parents in non-wage based occupation like farming and self-employment influence them to go and work to supplement their parents with basic needs like food and scholastic materials to use at school.

According to the district report (2016), there is high unemployment among men and women in Masaka district which forces children into child labour. This unemployment of adult

members in the family compels the children to go for earning. Thus unemployment indirectly initiates child labour.

According to Viola Nakyanzi, of 8 years old, who lives Nyendo Slum in Masaka with her father, step mother, two sisters and a brother. Says

“We came to Nyendo Slum in 2007, after my mother had died. My two sisters and I are sick of sickle cells so we do not feel very strong but many times we had nothing to do because we had to find money to feed the family. My father and step mother did not have any job but they asked us to bring money at home every day. We fetched water and washed clothes for people to earn income. Sometimes we were lucky and took back home Shs2000 which they usually used to buy food for us. But sometimes we get nothing and we stay without food for the day. Life is very difficult for us”.

Paul Matovu, another victim of child labour and a resident of Kimaanya zone in Kimaanya/Kyabakuza division in Masaka District, remarked:

“is the breadwinner of the household where he lives with his siblings and this came as a result of his parents fell ill when he was still in primary four (2014). He then began working, vending merchandise to look after his mother who was unemployed and ill, before she died late last year, leaving him to take care of the home and his two siblings. We go to school during day and in the evening I go with one of my siblings to vend merchandise at night to get some money for buying school requirements and save some for our welfare. We usually leave our younger sister at home with our grandmother who is not working to help her at home”

Like Matovu and Mukasa, a number of such children have lost their parents and therefore find that they have to fend for themselves to provide for themselves and the family with basic needs, thus engaging in child labour.



A picture showing child labour involved in selling grasshoppers in Masaka Municipality(Monitor2017)

The study findings revealed that most household have been greatly affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, which has left several children orphaned. This phenomenon has created a number of households that are headed by children and these children have to work to take care of their younger sisters and brothers.

James Mukasa a victim of childlabour had this to say:

“I dropped out of school in 2013 after the death of my mother who was providing school fees in Primary three, I spend most of my time hawking food items on the streets instead of studying and reading books. I have been doing this for four years”.

4.5. Presentations of stakeholders Views

This section presents the discussion to do with the child labour as addressed by the stakeholders and related development partners. Their success stories were presented as well as the future plans they as organizations had for the future. Also, some achievements and challenges were registered as well as the importance of combating child labour.

The findings discovered that child labour exists and that the magnitude of the problems is big. A number of stakeholders and partners were selected and chosen as interviewed. These were chosen in line with their past contributions towards Uganda's development programmes but specifically their contributions towards children's rights and welfare.

Five stakeholders that have had a history of dealing with children's affairs of different categories were selected and interviewed. There are various stakeholders but due to the limited time and busy schedules of the officials concerned, only 5 were conveniently covered.

The number was found to be good enough for sample representation that enabled the researcher arrive at these given conclusions.

The study findings indicate that there are various stakeholders involvement in combating child labour for example Child Restoration Out Reach(CRO) Uganda, Human Rights defenders, Community Transformation Foundation Network(COTFONE), Municipality Community Development and divisional community development among others.

All the stakeholders visited and interviewed agreed to have heard about child labour, its worst forms and all the related issues concerning this diverse global threat. They had heard about it through the Mass media, documentaries, seminars and some were even practically involved in combating child labour. The stakeholders visited and interviewed were, Child Restoration Out Reach(CRO) Uganda, Human Rights defenders, Community Transformation Foundation Network(COTFONE), Community Development Offices both at municipality and divisions

Some stakeholders were not directly involved in child labour issues though they heard about it.

4.5.1. Main forms of child labour in Masaka Municipality

4.5.2 Commercial Sexual

Commercial sexual exploitation of children is among the worst forms of child labour. The numbers of children who are sexually exploited are not known in Masaka Municipality owing to the hidden nature of the practice. The aunts of these children are brought from the village and young girls find themselves in the practice as narrated by Municipality Senior Community Officer. These children are encouraged into commercial sex and suffer exploitation at the hands of care givers comprising parents/guardians, teachers and others who have responsibilities for looking after children.

4.5.3. Hawking of Merchandise

Vending of merchandise on the streets. Shop owners employ these young ones to hawk especially vegetables, fruits and other merchandise. These children walk long distances and work for long hours, which affects their health as narrated by Mukasa a victim of childlabour.

4.5.4. Domestic Work

Child domestic work is one of the commonest practices in Masaka. Child domestic workers experience different forms of abuse and exploitation by their bosses. They lack clear terms of service from their employers, they are usually over worked, not paid or underpaid. Child domestic workers particularly girls are prone to the risk of sexual exploitation by the male employers and the boys in the homes where they work.

Children who are employed as domestic workers are deprived of an opportunity to go to school or enrol in any form of productive skills training

4.5.5. Child Trafficking

Recruitment, movement from the villages and eventual exploitation of children occur within Masaka as well as across the borders. Child trafficking is increasingly becoming a major area of concern for district officials. There is a high risk that children are trafficked and exploited through this movement of labour. Trafficking of children is a growing problem mainly fuelled by intermediaries who make false promises concerning employment opportunities and better life to children in neighbouring countries and urban centres. The children end up working as child domestic workers, street beggars, bar and restaurant attendants, exploited in sex, strippers and vendors. While others work at fish landing sites.

4.6. Programs/Activities carried to combat child labour in Masaka Municipality

Some of the programs for combating child labour by stakeholders for example CRO

In order to reach and empower the parents and caregivers of children on the streets, CRO is involved in different community based activities like; home visits, family resettlement, literacy lessons, health care information, community trainings, Income Generating Activities, women and men clubs, Family planning and immunization, Self Help Groups and Village savings and Loans Association.

In the regular women and men club meetings, the members learn about important issues like child nutrition, personal hygiene, child participation and protection, parenting skills, gender relations HIV/AIDS and skills development. Most of these activities take place in the slum areas of Nyendo in Masaka

Other stake holders are involved in the following activities/programs

Sensitization of parents about their roles in providing for their families and children's rights

Case handling where children are involved in cases of childlabour. Some cases are referred to court for execution.

Counseling of children who have been integrated from childlabour, this is done to rehabilitate these children.

4.7. Causes of Child labour in Masaka Municipality.

From the interview the researcher had with the stakeholders, the following were mentioned as the main causes of child labour

Poverty was the main cause of child labour in Masaka Municipality as narrated by the Senior Community Officer Masaka municipality. He said household poverty has driven most children into child labour. This is as a result of rural poverty which is more explicit compared to urban areas. So children come to town to look for survival by engaging in vending merchandise, selling drugs, engaging in commercial sex and doing domestic work.

Rural- Urban migration due to deterioration of living conditions in rural areas of Masaka and surrounding districts has also encouraged people to migrate from rural to urban. Environment includes children and youth who migrate to urban areas in order to search for jobs and end up as child labourers.

There other factors in addition to poverty such as parental ignorance, which means lack of knowledge about education of children, particularly girls. Therefore, in order to eliminate child labour, government and partners must deal with poverty reduction.

HIV/AIDS pandemic in Masaka and surrounding districts. According to Kizza Wilson senior community development officer Masaka Municipality, says some families in the municipality have been greatly affected by HIV/AIDS which has left several children orphaned. This has

created children to become household heads taking care of young ones, therefore, the older ones have to look to earn money to look at young ones. Thus engaging in child labour.

Weak laws. The situation is exacerbated by inadequate policy and weak laws. What is in place is not appropriate at all and this puts the rate of child labour high in the district. This is because enforcement of existing laws and policies is not done, for example policy on Universal Primary Education, Laws on child labour are not implemented, thus the vice continues

Low Income. Low household income is usually a push factor for children to go looking for employment to supplement household incomes. This is common with children headed households, children with sick parents and children from generally poor families.

Cultural beliefs have also affected certain sections negatively for example, some parents/guardians still believe that a girl does not have to go to school but support her parents until she is married to the benefit of her parents to get them dowry. So, the girl-child always end up suffering at the peril of being a young woman by doing domestic work and working on subsistence agriculture in preparation for womanhood. This belief resulted into young girls engaging in commercial sex in Nyendo and Katwe.

Irresponsible Parenthood. This is experienced in polygamous families where many forms of violence including drunkenness, battering and neglect of the family threaten family stability and harmony. Polygamous families tend to be too large with constrained resources and limited capacity to provide for basic needs for each child. Such circumstances pose a great risk of driving children into exploitative labour to meet survival needs.

Social attitudes and ignorance of parents/guardians. Social attitudes and ignorance have strong influence on society as whole including child labour practices and exploitation both in homes and outside. There is lack of understanding regarding the difference between child work and exploitative labour. In many settings, child labour is considered normal even if it poses risks to the health and development of the child. There is acceptance of child labour which prevents school attendance, especially for the girl child.

4.8. Challenges encountered in the fight against Child Labour

Most stakeholders interviewed were of the following opinions that, child labour in the absolute reality and a potential threat to children, families, communities and the entire nation at large. Child Labour alerts us to the fact that it has a negative impact on education. In developing institutional mechanisms while addressing problems related to combating child Labour, key sectors like the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Internal Affairs through the police's Family & Child Protection Unit, the Judiciary, Labour and Gender and other development and implementing partners should be at the forefront. Challenges identified by the stakeholders and development partners in the fight against child labour were as follows:

Ignorance and lack of awareness of the dangers of childlabour in communities, inadequate funding /lack of funding by government to carry programs for elimination of childlabour. According one community development officer said there is no budgetary allocation for activities/programs to eliminate the vice in the Municipality.

Extreme poverty in households which forces the parents and guardians to allow their children to work and contribute to basic needs at home, donors are interested in the magnitude of the problem yet planning is based on meager resources which affects the activities of NGOs to carry out their mandate, moreover the government does not them through funding, bad

attitude of the community against the elimination of the child labour programmes. Community leaders sabotage the activities carried out to stop the vice in the Municipality.

Failure of policy makers to implement and follow up the drafted proposals and policies for example Universal Primary Education where all children should be at school but implementers don't care. In certain communities, culture is a hindrance because a child has to work and contribute to the family.

The employers have chased children away from their homes after finding out that they have been enrolled back to school.

Children who have been withdrawn from child labour have developed a dependency syndrome whereby they keep coming back asking for more assistance.

Diseases like the HIV/AIDS pandemic that has left many orphans and child –headed households

Political sabotage by politicians who sabotage cases and interference in investigations thus making difficult to prosecute culprits.

Corruption in the judicial system and delay of cases in courts which affects prosecution of cases involving childlabour.

4.9. Success Stories:

There were some success stories from the stakeholders which were a manifestation that them as development partners can bring about a positive change by ending child labour and contribute to better livelihoods. Henceforth, this would be contributing to the breaking of poverty chains in some family settings.

Success story 1 from Child Restoration Outreach Uganda

Since its inception in 1992, CRO has impacted the lives of over 7,000 children, who were living on the streets with resettlement education and skills.

Through its various activities; education, training, and individual counseling sessions, CRO is encouraging children on the streets to make life choices that positively impact their future. A number of young people from CRO projects have successfully completed their courses and are gainfully employed. Others are attending tertiary institutions. Many other boys and girls attend primary, secondary or vocational training.

Over 780 have completed vocational training, and over 35 young people have completed tertiary institutions.

CRO is celebrating the third decade of restoring children from the streets.

Children's Success Stories.

My name is Viola Nakyanzi. I am 8 years old. I live in Nyendo Slum in Masaka with my father, step mother, two sisters and a brother. We came to Nyendo Slum in 2007, after my mother had died. My two sisters and I are sick of sickle cells so we do not feel very strong but many times we had nothing to do because we had to find money to feed the family. My father and step mother did not have any job but they asked us to bring money at home every day. We fetched water and washed clothes for people to earn income. Sometimes we were lucky and took back home USH2000 which they usually used to buy food for us. But some of the times we got nothing and we stayed without food for the day. Life was very difficult for us.

CRO Masaka found us on the streets in 2008, when I was fetching water. They talked to me and invited me to join the rehabilitation program. I was very happy to come to CRO because there I could eat good food daily. I feel little a bit better than I used to be. It is good that CRO also gives us treatment whenever I and my sisters are sick. CRO has also helped my step mother to start a small business of selling second hand clothes. She can now earn some little money to take care for us.

I am in primary two in Nyendo Public school. I like school very much and I like to study science. In the future I hope to become a nurse so that I can help other sick people.

Thank you CRO for helping me.

Success Story 3

Municipality Community Development Office with support from district officials, police and development partners have been carrying out constant arrests of children on streets, child vendors in areas of Nyendo and Katwe. In this activity over 100 children have been arrested, rehabilitated and taken back home, however, the activity is not sustainable due to lack of funding by the district and government.

Success story 4

Community Transformation Foundation Network, have been integrating vulnerable children back to school, training and community sensitization, empowering communities with self-help projects and giving out soft loans to parent to start income generating project in order to boost household income. Below are some school buildings built for vulnerable children.



Photo showing vulnerable children integrated into school by (COTFONE) Masaka Municipality.

4.10 Discussion of Research Findings

4.10.1 To examine how Low household income influence child labor in Masaka Municipality.

The findings from the study revealed that parents/guardians earn less in terms of income which affects parents/guardians to provide for basic necessities to their families which deprives children opportunities to go to school and acquire longtime skills. Also the findings revealed that many children lack education or they drop out of school because of high cost of schooling coupled with low incomes earned by their parents. This has forced children either to look for work to supplement their family's income or work to earn a living.

The findings reveal that poor people earn little and in such cases parents are not able to take care of all the responsibilities of their children and they oblige their children to work to increase household income. With high levels of poverty in the municipality and surrounding areas, many children are pushed to work to supplement family income; work for their own income to meet their individual needs, pay for school fees and care for the young ones.

The implications of child labour is that children are subjected to poor terms of employment and working conditions which deny them the right to better salaries and economic security. Hence, children are trapped in the vicious cycle of family poverty. In this regard child labour is a violation of children's right to adequate standard of living as children and their families struggle to earn a living. They hardly survive because their income is not enough to cater for their families. In the above case, child labour perpetuates socio-economic inequalities and injustice among children. This in turn results in children becoming vulnerable to various forms of abuse, discrimination, marginalization and oppression in society.

Furthermore, from the findings, childlabour has jeopardized children's rights, including the right to education, adequate standard of living, psychosocial wellbeing and development. Therefore, childlabour is not the best alternative for employment as it denies children schooling opportunities and skills training which would be beneficial to them.

The results of this study were corroborated by empirical evidence provided by various studies which demonstrated that the most notable reason for child labour is low household income in many developing countries (Bhat& Rather, 2009). Decisions about child labour and schooling are generally made by parents. If the family lives below the poverty line, parents see children as source of family income through work. Basu (1998), used a theoretical model of child labour, where he showed the only reason parents send their children into child labour is because of their low income which cannot sustain family needs. Consequently, poor parents cannot afford schooling for their children. Thus, mainly poor households force their children into child labour instead of sending them to school.

According to Rena, (2009), argues that low household income and underdevelopment drives child labour. She found out high prevalence of poverty amongst countries, such as India, China, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea, Ethiopia, Uganda, Mozambique, Malawi, Sudan, and Chad with cases of child labour. Therefore, to eliminate child labour, reduction in household poverty can be a perfect solution to child labour.

However, the research findings are contrary to Kabeer (2003), Leiten (2000), Addison et. al. (1997), Bhatta (1998) among others, who argued that poverty has a limited role in explaining child labour, that 'the correlation between regional poverty and child labour indeed is inconclusive' and explains the lack of strong correlation by the fact that poor regions are characterized by high fertility rates and low labour opportunities and that 'low incomes do not necessarily increase child labour'.

4.10.2 To examine how household size affects child labor in Masaka Municipality

The study findings revealed that most children engaged in childlabour in the municipality come from large families caused by polygamous parents whereby the family tends to be too large with constrained resources and limited capacity to provide for basic needs for each child. Such circumstances have paused a great risk of driving children into exploitative labour to meet survival needs. This implies that children from large families have to work to provide for basic needs through childlabour to economically support their larger families.

The findings also revealed that parents have large families which are too big to provide with basic needs, thus children are seen as alternative source of income to supplement family income. Therefore, children from large household sizes are likely to get involved in childlabour.

The findings revealed that in Masaka district, there high fertility rate which contributes to high population which is composed of mostly children. This compounded with high poverty levels have driven children into childlabour in the Municipality.

The findings further revealed that larger household sizes have reduced investment of parents in education of children and there is increased likelihood that children will engage in market work such as vending. So, in large families, parents have been forced to send their children to work, for, the available resources do not allow them to send all their children to school. Only a few children of these families attend schools and other work either to support the expenses of their school going siblings or to keep away from school. This was also revealed by children interviewed who said that they are out of school due to lack of school fees and other scholastic materials. They said that despite the government's universal primary and secondary education, still they need scholastic materials which their parents cannot afford to number of

children in the family. Thus they have to work and buy scholastic materials or work to earn a living since they have dropped out of school.

The study findings are supported by World Bank (2008) that children from large households are more likely to be involved in child labour than from small households. Also research findings of IPEC (2006), the findings showed that majority of the child labourers were in large households that are probably unable to cope with the numbers and therefore, requires children to work in order to supplement the family incomes. Further large household's size means that adults alone cannot grow enough food for the family which necessitates children to work on the family farms. Large household sizes have meagre income which makes it difficult for such households to afford basic school requirements such as pens, books and Uniform. This requires children to work so that they can buy for themselves these scholastic materials.

The findings are contrary to Katunguka (2007), who argued that the large number of people in household can be a major motivator for children to study hard, where by the eldest in the family supporting the young ones to fulfil their goals to education. The household income will be generated by many people in the family and make the family to have sufficient basic needs all the time.

4.10.3 To examine the influence of household unemployment on child labor in Masaka Municipality.

The study findings revealed that rampant unemployment and underemployment of parents force their children to do odd jobs to supplement the meager family income. The low wages earned by the parents are below the poverty line; their children have to augment family income.

The study findings also revealed that parents who are unemployed and under employed, with unstable occupation and wages as well as the engagement of parents in non-wage based occupation like farming and self-employment influence them to go and work to supplement their parents with basic needs like food and scholastic materials to use at school.

The study findings revealed there is high unemployment among men and women in Masaka district which forces children into child labour. This unemployment of adult members in the family compels the children to go for earning. Thus unemployment indirectly initiates child labour. When this, is complemented with high levels of illiteracy among parents as revealed by the study, there are higher chances of children engaging in child labour.

The findings are in support of studies conducted by Sharma and Patnaik (2001), who argued that Children may be seeking work because either adult wage earners in the family are unemployed or unable to earn enough to make both ends meet. Thus, leaving the children with no option but to work and provide for themselves as well as the family. However, Basu (2000) and Bhargava (2003), in their study, they considered the impact of minimum wage legislation on child labour. Their argument was that minimum wage causes adult unemployment to which parents may respond by sending children to work. Thus increased child labour as result of household unemployment.

On the other hand, the study conducted by Patil (1991), stated that child labour is a logical consequence of the rampant unemployment and underemployment of parents who force their children to do some odd jobs to supplement the meagre family income. Thus, as long as the wages earned by the parents are below the poverty line, their children will go to work to augment family income.

4.11 Key actors at various levels

The stakeholders interviewed went on to propose the following. That in order to join efforts as a way of combating child labour effectively and successfully, the following key actors must play their role;

4.11.1 Central Government and District Local Government.

The ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development should take a lead role in coordination, networking and building link at national level. The existing National steering committee on Child Labour must take a lead role to guide and coordinate the programmes and activities. The Committee must ensure that child labour concerns are integrated in the policy reviews, programmes, plans, budgets and activities. The child labour unit which is a focal point on child labour matters must coordinate the implementation of the program activities.

4.11.2 District Level

The roles of the national level should be reproduced and implemented at the District Level. The District labour officer as a lead person should engage and undertake the capacity building activities of partners at the District, especially the District Council Social Services, adult literacy and HIV/AIDS committees on planning committees, Sub -county and community level through holding coordination meetings, training seminars on child labour in order to ensure integration in District Budgets and Logistical matters including data gathering and dissemination. As the central government coordinates at the national level, the following should be done;

Government support for institutions such as the national steering Committee on child labour to drive the development and implementation of appropriate social protection efforts to combat child domestic labour. Local governments have unique strengths on which they can

capitalize to contribute to policy development and awareness raising on child labour at the district level.

Targeting which involves disaggregating data of the vulnerable children affected by domestic laborers import in for costing, selecting a delivery channel and method to be used for families when accessing the nature and type of support.

Capacity building of institutions in terms of human resource and their infrastructures which can be done through training on the issue of child labour. Such training should include social protection appeals, labour act and policies on thematic and sectoral studies reports as well as exposure through literature and site study visits.

4.11.3 Non-Governmental & Community based organization

The International Labour Organization has for over the last 10 years supported the Action programmes geared towards combating child labour and all its worst forms in Uganda. There is absolutely every need to continue this support, especially building capacity of partners in both supply and receiving areas.

4.11.4 Development partners and donors

Development partners especially ILO-IPEC, should liaise and mobilize resources and work with and other development partners such as UNICEF and save the children in Uganda, to strengthen efforts to eliminate child labour. They can further do the following;

Identify child protection ambassadors both regionally, nationally and internationally on issues of child labour. They should be able to help monitor the child domestic worker's street children young commercial sex workers, gather data and reports as well as training.

Assistance should be targeted towards the development of relevant and specific effective programmes which reinforce the rehabilitation of children in their communities and ensure long term sustainability and success of such interventions.

Provide adequate resources and funding to key stakeholders for the rehabilitation of children for example COTFONE and CRO. These are doing good job for child rehabilitation.

4.11.5 Communities, self-help groups and support networks

Communities which include; parents, informal leaders and clan heads should take a lead in awareness raising programmes and social mobilization against child labour. There is a need for regular counseling and promotion of life skills for potential and affected children to increase sensitivity of the issues, mobilization and enhance problem identification so that emotional support is enhanced.

4.11.6 Media Approach, Employers and Workers Organization

The IPEC supported media initiatives such as the IPEC-UNICEF on child labour and the Rural Development Media Communication agency (RUDMEC) a consortium of journalists on the worst forms of child labour. Employers and worker's organizations can play a role in serving as key allies if supported and retained to combat child labour through media by exposing the organizations employing children and sensitizing people about children rights and dangers of childlabour.

4.12 Conclusion

Through the interviews conducted it was generally confirmed that child labour is one of the most dangerous human crimes against humanity. It is the modern day slavery and it targets children who have lost their parents and relatives, those out of school, those hardest hit by poverty and those that mainly live in abusive family environments. If left unchecked, the future of development is doomed since the future of any country depends on the young

generation. Data on child labour is scanty and those who are practicing it don't want to believe that they are possible accomplices in this degrading act.

Children involved in child labour are mentally, physically, socially and morally affected. They are subjected to torture like verbal abuse, uncaring attitudes, they are beaten at work, made to carry heavy physical work they are sexually assaulted and at worst, they are robbed of their earnings either by the employers or those they fend for. In combating child labour, key levels have been identified and should be supported. These include victim support, education, policy, advocacy and institution sustained media campaigns. There is need to initiate a periodic collection of information to up-date the database on child labour using the Uganda Bureau of statistics and other stakeholders. Community involvement including parents, guardians, children and parents, support groups and volunteers in highly needed. These can also be helpful in prevention, coping and mitigation of causes of child labour.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Introduction

Owing to the search for data, presentation and discussion of the findings in the chapters above, this chapter comes to draw a conclusion of the study, with keen focus on field work findings. It presents the summary of the findings, conclusions and their corresponding recommendations. These rests on the aims of the objectives and their corresponding research questions. Therefore, they are related how household income influences childlabour, how household size affects childlabour and influence of household unemployment on childlabour in Masaka Municipality.

5.2 Summary of the findings

From the study findings, the major cause of childlabour is low income of parents and the people who care for these children. Other reasons include the family size where most children engaged in childlabour were from big families that could not afford to cater for children schooling requirements and welfare thus forcing children to work and support their big families.

Some guardians and parents are unemployed and are vulnerable to poverty, they encourage their children to work and support them.in addition to that some parents are sick due to HIV/AIDS which disables them to work forcing children to find work and contribute towards the family.

5.3 Conclusion

The findings indicate that child labour in all its forms exists and is mainly targeting poverty affected people as well as the vulnerable children. The current law on protection of children of children and their rights needs to be emphasized.

According to study findings, the major cause of child labor in Masaka Municipality is low income of the parents/guardians who care for these children. Other reasons included family size, house hold employment and a lack of recognition of the importance of education by parents/guardians

It has been established from this study that children who engage in child labour come from households affected by HIV/AIDS and families whose income levels are very low. It is also revealed that child labour perpetuates child poverty because it deprives children of schooling opportunities and lifelong skills which they can use to fight Poverty.

Study findings revealed that Child labour acts as a source of livelihood for most of the children from poor families, especially orphans and vulnerable children who have no other means of sustaining their livelihood. Thus, child labour acts as a means to earn ends meet for children and their larger families. Largely, it is established from the study findings that child labour exacerbates feminization of poverty because it deprives children of their right to education which is the key to enjoyment of their rights.

Government of Uganda introduced Universal Primary Education in 1996 to have free primary education and later secondary education, in reality it's not free. Parents/guardians are supposed to contribute to buying stationaries, such as exercise books, text books, pencils, pens, uniforms, feeding at school. The families which are poor and have financial problems cannot afford this, which leads children to drop out of schools and engage in working activities to contribute to their educational needs.

5.4 Recommendations

This section presents what should desirably be done by government, local community and development partners in an attempt to address the fate of the of childlabour in Masaka Municipality. The recommendations given hereof are based on the findings about the needs, interests and position of the community studied, implementation of recommendations will lessen the feeling of betrayal and neglect, facilitate the needed for elimination of childlabour in Masaka District

Poverty Alleviation Programmes: Poverty in a family is the biggest hazard to child development. It leaves children vulnerable to all forms of abuse from homelessness to child labour, teenage pregnancy or even death. The poverty alleviation programmes in Uganda like wealth creation should immediately be implemented so that it can benefit all vulnerable children through their families. If the poorest can be reached through this programme, then the risk of children dropping out of school for financial and economic reasons shall have been minimized.

There is a need to train law enforcement personnel, teachers, local and community leaders, civil society and other stakeholders on how to deal with the problem of child in general. The study revealed that child labour exists and the population is quite about it thus putting the lives of many innocent children in danger.

Programs directed specifically at improving child welfare are urgently needed to protect these children who are working. Disadvantaged children are losing invaluable opportunities to improve their lives due to poverty which forces them to do any type of work to survive.

Children's involvement: There is a need to raise awareness about child labour matters among the children. Most of these children do not know that their rights are being violated. Schools should be visited regularly so that they are sensitized. Use of the mass media to highlight

these grave misfortunes through educational materials, music, dance and drama among the activities that should be adopted if we are to address this global problem.

Parents' Involvement: Parents and possible guardians should urgently intervene and get involved in the programmes aimed at mapping out their children's future. They need to collectively come out and speak against child labour and all its worst forms

Government Policy The government of Uganda on 1st May 2007 launched child labour policy. This needs to be seriously implemented and not ending on paper like many others policies. There is need to adopt a zero- tolerance for child labour.

Universal Primary Education: There is a need to strengthen the Universal Primary Education sector. It is now appreciated that the early years of life to a child's physical, cognitive and emotional development are very important. As a result, more early and pre-school provision is available for children. Young children should be taught to think and make judgment about the world more than in the past, and to participate more actively in society. This approach allows to be more resilient and to make the most of their rights to make autonomous decisions Teachers, school inspectors and head teachers must report incidences of absenteeism to relevant authorities for appropriate action.

Having realized that there is a direct link between HIV/AIDS and child labour which is manifested in form of HIV/AIDS-Induced child labour, there is also need to eliminate this social evil. Uganda has been highly rated for its efforts and sensitization programmes regarding AIDS but a lot is still desired to reach out especially to the rural poor. This too can be done through religious sections and local councils who are directly involved with the local and rural communities.

Fighting the invisible Phenomenon Child Labour being an invisible Phenomenon can be eradicated with the help of local councilors and local councils who are involved with their respective communities. In Uganda, the local council system is so vibrant and is well founded on a “door-to-door model” of mobilization. With this kind of model, the leaders can be utilized to reach out families and run mass awareness programmes regarding the dangers associated with child labour.

Funding to Non-Government Organizations The government should support NGOs involved in child labour activities through funding because the organizations are doing a commendable work of combating child labour in the district. These organizations lack adequate funding.

Women Empowerment Women are the ones who spend much time with children. When empowered will have the ability to improve the quality of social life for children’s lives. Education for women in rural areas will lead the women to support their families and help women and families who are living in rural areas from where domestic child labour is coming from. Knowledge on how to their small businesses so that they can support their families will improve financial status and assist in supporting children who are in need.

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APPENDICES

Appendix I: Focus Group Discussion Guide (Parents/Guardians)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for allowing to be my respondents, thank you for coming. My name is **Mary Babirye**.

I am a student of the Uganda Martyrs University Nkozi, pursuing MA in local governance and Human Rights. For a period of one month my research team will be conducting research in Masaka Municipality, entitled: Influence of household poverty on prevalence of childlabour in Masaka District.

Ladies and gentlemen, I wish to propose to you how we shall conduct the discussion. Your participation is very important, however, out of free will. Therefore, nobody will be forced to share what they don't wish to. I request that one person shares at a time, to avoid missing out on some information share. We encourage you all to share your views without reservation because we value and respect all your views, so feel free to say what you feel and think about the topic.

I wish to inform that during this session I will be taking notes and recordings the proceedings. Each member is free to ask us questions or ask for clarity, if anything is not clear.

Introduction Questions

Since we need to know each other, Ladies and Gentlemen, let's go around introducing our names, what we do (jobs), the name of the village or place we live

Theme 1: Household income

1. Are you working?
2. What is the source of income?
3. How much do earn per month?
4. Do you earn enough money to cater for family needs?
5. Are your children going to school or not?
6. If not, why?
7. Do your children contribute to family income?
8. Would you accept your children to work and contribute to family income?

Theme 2: Household Size

1. How many children do you have?
2. How big is your family?
3. Are you the only breadwinner in the family?
4. Do your children contribute to family needs?
5. Do all your children go to school, if not why?
6. If not going to school, are they involved in work

Theme 3: Household Unemployment

1. Do both parents work?
2. If not working, how do you earn?
3. If not working has it affected your family income?
4. As parent do you provide basic needs to the family
5. Has it affected your children schooling? Or your children work to supplement on school fees?

Conclusion

As we reach the end of our discussion, if anyone has a comment, concern, or a question, it is welcome. I would like to thank you for your productive participation, contribution and valuable assistance. I believe it will help in making our nation better for all.

Appendix II: In-depth interview Guide (Children involved in Childlabour)

Introduction

You are welcome for today's sharing. My name is Mary Babirye. The research I am doing is being conducted to investigate the influence of household poverty on prevalence of childlabour in Masaka Municipality. I am conducting this research as a requirement of my masters' course at Uganda Martyrs University.

Back ground information

Name of the interviewee: _____

Age: _____

Place of residence: _____

Gender: _____

Opening question

1. Are your parents living?
2. Do you go to school or you don't go to school?
3. What forced you out of school?
4. Did your parents/Guardians accept that?
5. If not going to school, do you work?

6. What do you do?
7. Why don't you go to school when there is free education?
8. What problems are you experiencing at work?
9. Do you prefer to work?
10. What forces you to work?
11. Have you been assisted and by which organization?
12. Have you heard about children rights?

Appendix III: In-depth interview Guide (Officials from NGOs and District officials)

Introduction

You are welcome for today's sharing. My name is Mary Babirye. The research I am doing is being conducted to investigate the influence of household poverty on prevalence of childlabour in Masaka Municipality. I am conducting this research as a requirement of my masters' course at Uganda Martyrs University.

Back ground information

Name of the interviewee: _____

Place of residence: _____

Gender: _____

Opening question

1. Have you heard about childlabour?
2. What is the main form of childlabour in Masaka Municipality?
3. Is your Organization involved in the fight against childlabour?
4. Do you have programmes fighting against child labour?
5. What kind of programmes do you have?
6. What could be the causes of childlabour in Masaka Municipality?
7. Any achievements registered in the fight against childlabour in Masaka Municipality?
8. What are the challenges your organization face in the fight against childlabour?
9. What are suggestions do you propose to eliminate childlabour and its forms.
10. Any future plans for eliminating childlabour in Masaka Municipality.