AN ASSESSMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES IN NON-GOVERNMENTAL

ORGANIZATION IN MASAKA MUNCIPALITY

CASE STUDY: CHILD RESTORATION OUT REACH

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Dedication

To my lovely daughter Namiiro Maria Audrey, my husband Mr. Mukasa Stuart Arthur and my parents Stephen and AusmputaWamala for all their sacrifice, encouragement and support throughout my life and career, may God richly bless them!

Acknowledgements

Acronyms

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ANPPCAN	African Network for the Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect
CRC	Convention on Rights of the Child
CRO	Child Restoration Outreach
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IEC	Information Education Communication
LC	Local Chairperson
MDSA	Masaka District Statistics Abstract
MOESTS	Ministry Of Education Science Technology and Sports
MRC	Medical Research Council
NGOS	Non-Government Organizations
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
PTA	Parents Teachers Associations
SMC	School Management Committee
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
UNCRC	UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
US	United States
WHO	World Health Organization

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Abstract

The study was to assess the child protection issues in Masaka Municipality. The objectives of the study were to identify the cause of child abuse as revealed by Child Restoration Outreach, identify the child protection mechanisms used by CRO, to examine the challenges faced by CRO during child protection issues and establish the solutions to child protection issues. The case study adopted qualitative approaches. The sample was 50 respondents which were selected using snowballing technique who were reached because the study was purposive in nature. The observations and interviews with the respondents revealed that the situation of children in Masaka Municipality was pathetic. Almost all forms of child abuse were reported by respondents as: sexual abuse, child torture/physical abuse, child neglect, and child labour and denial of parentage. The causes of child abuse as identified involved poverty, domestic violence, poor nurturing practices, drug abuse and moral degeneration. The child protection mechanisms identified as sensitization and advocacy, the community development officer, media address and OVC stakeholders meeting.The challenges to child protection were reported as;lack   of facilitation and budget allocations, corruption, information flow ,false lies, wrong and biased strategies, nature of the law. The solutions/ strategies to address child protection were reported as: economic empowerment, community policing, developing human resource capacity, provision of IEC materials.

In conclusion, the study identified that many cases of child abuse in Masaka municipality but this was due to the failure by the government to speed up the prosecution of the suspected offenders. Although the amended section (12) of the Penal Code Act provides for a death penalty to the person found guilty of defilement, most of the offenders have walked free due to the unfriendly justice system in the country.   Hence disabling child protection in masaka municipality Therefore, the study made recommendations which focused on legal and policy frameworks to provide the enabling environment to address child abuse through child protection

CHAPTER ONE

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

Children share protected universal human rights with all other persons but because of their dependence, vulnerability they have their own rights. Uganda is one of the countries which has adopted the convention on the rights of child 1989 to protect child rights. The study assessed child protection issues in non-governmental organization in masaka municipality. Child protection is an action that individuals, organizations, countries and communities take to protect children from intentional and unintentional harm (Save the children, 2008).

Uganda has one of the youngest populations in the world with over 56 percent of its 37 million people under the age of 18, and more than 52 percent under age. (Human rights watch 2014:4). The percentage of vulnerable children in Masaka is 48.8% which is the second highest in Uganda. Masaka has 123,696 total numbers of vulnerable children, which constitute 27.6% of the children population in the district. This has largely resulted into children abuse, children running on streets in Nyendo a suburb of Masaka, drug abuse, child labor, sexual abuse, school dropout, child neglect, unwanted pregnancies, and various forms of economic, social and sexual exploitation which further predisposes children to HIV infection and subsequent death. (Chedra 2012). Child protection issues in masaka municipality are overwhelming with rampant and consistent abuse of children calling for attention of child protection which has raised an interest to conduct a study.

This chapter covered the background to the study, problem statement, purpose of the study, objectives of study, research question and hypothesis which are used to guide the study, justification of the study, scope of the study as well as definitions of terms used in the study.

1.1 Back ground of the Study

Internationally 4 million children are subjected to child abuse each year and 3 million young girls are subjected to Genital Female Mutilation/ Circumcision (FGM/C) each year, More than 125 million girls and women today have been subjected to FGM/C in the 29 countries in Africa and the Middle East whereas 30 million girls are at risk of being cut within the next decade (UNICEF, 2013). This calls for international effort to protect children against any form of violence. U.S department of health and human services (2013) estimated 1,520 children died from abuse and neglect in the United States and 679,000 children were victims of abuse and neglect (unique instances), 47 states in USA reported approximately 3.1 million children who received preventative services from Child Protective Services agencies in the United States. By 2014 the cases of child abuse would rise up to over 315,000 world-wide.

World Health Organization (2006) notes that up to 53,000 children are murdered worldwide each year, between 80 and 93 per cent of children suffer some forms of physical punishment in their homes; a third are punished using implements. WHO (2002) estimated that 150 million girls and 73 million boys under 18 experienced some form of forced sexual intercourse or violence and 218 million children worldwide are laborers, 126 million of whom work in hazardous environments, 1.8 million are involved in prostitution or pornography and 1.2 million have been trafficked up to 275 million witness domestic abuse and annually eight million worldwide are

absorbed in residential care. This has showed that children still need extra efforts to be saved from the burden of child abuse.

Worldwide child abuse and neglect is still happening, the global prevalence of child sexual abuse was estimated at 19.7%for females and 7.9% for males. There is high prevalence rate of sexual abuse geographically found in Africa (34.4%), Europe has the lowest at rate (9.2%), America and Asia at 10.1% and 23.9% respectively. And the commonest forms of child abuse are sexual abuse, range from physical (involves shaking, hitting, beating, burning or biting child), emotional (involves blaming, putting down a child, yelling or shaming) and neglect (failure to attend the needs of a child) (Wihbey, 2011).

In Africa, South Africa has the highest incidences of child abuse and infant rape in the world. In 2001, it was reported by the South African Police Service that children are the victims of 41 percent of all rapes reported in the country. About 15% of rapes are children under the age of 11. According to the Medical Research Council South Africa report(2012) more than one in four minors experience physical violence at home daily or weekly and more than one third of girls have experienced sexual violence before the age of 18. Medical Research Council South Africa report stated that in 2009, 40% of all victims who reported rape to the police were under 18 and 15% were under 12 years old.

South Africa is followed by Malawi at 55 %, Ethiopia 30% Uganda 31% of infant child rape. The ranking of countries in Africa has clearly indicated that child abuse has at least occurred in every family so immediate action needs to take place for child protection (Abrahams.et.al, 2011).

According to UNHCR (2003) there are 4.6 million refugees and 5.8 million internally displaced people (IDP) in Sub-Saharan Africa, with an increase of half a million since 2002. All this is due

to wars which have subsequently occurred because of politics and religion and at least half of these refugees in IDPs are children in Africa. The greatest numbers of refugees and in IDPs come from Burundi, Sudan, Angola and Somalia, especially children from those countries end up in Uganda being vulnerable and abused.

Amnesty International, noticed that there are 250,000 child soldiers in the world and 40 per cent of soldiers in the Democratic Republic of Congo are children of which 11, 000 children are not disarmed and 150,000 war children orphans in Africa (Wihbey, 2011). A number of child soldiers is currently 120,000 and 80,000 are so-called "abductees", that is, have been abducted to work with armed forces (ILO/PEC, 2005). UNICEF estimates that 4 million of these children live with permanent disabilities resulting from war. Tentatively estimated that 2 million are in Africa, at least the same number of children suffer from traumatic war-related experiences (UNICEF, 2011).

According to the Ugandan Annual Crime and Traffic/Road Safety Report (2010:8)7,564 cases of defilement were reported in 2010 presenting a 2.7% increase from the 7,360 cases reported in 2009. These high cases of sexual abuse have led to more children contracting HIV/AIDS, and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases, increased child pregnancies, early marriages and high school dropout rates. The rise in sexual abuse has however been faced with low prosecution rates denying thousands of children access to justice. For instance, out of the7, 564 defilement cases reported to the police in 2010, only 3,401 (45%) were taken to court, leaving a total of 4163 (55%) cases either dropped or not followed up. This has left child protection issues pending of the cases being dropped or not followed up.

A 2011 study conducted by Uganda Youth Development Link, estimated that the number of children affected by commercial sexual exploitation in Uganda increased from 12,000 to about 18,000 between 2004 and 2011with more girls affected by the practice (ILO/IPEC 2004). According to the baseline survey conducted by ANPPCAN (2011) corporal punishment are still at large in schools, with 81% of school children still beaten despite a directive from the government banning the practice. Both ANPPCAN and Uganda Youth Development Link studies have shown that child abuse is still occurring and rapidly increasing in large numbers. Many children victims get physically and/or sexually abused, completely isolated from the family and exposed to dangerous drugs like alcohol, kuba, cocaine, cannabis, heroin and marijuana (ANPPCAN, 2011).

The issue of child abuse is rampant in developing countries like Uganda; many children have been abused calling for child protection attention. In 2010 Uganda had a population of 33 million persons with 19 million children with population projection of 50 million persons by 2025 due to a high population growth rate of 3.4 percent per annum (UNICEF, 2011). Currently, the majority (56%) of the population is below 18 years of age and only about 2 percent being above 65 years of age. 20% of the population is below five years, while 25% is of primary school age (6-12 years). Out of these 3% of them are out of school. 13.7% of children below 18 years are under the care of older persons underscoring the vulnerability levels of these children. (UBOS, 2010: 8). This has prompted children continue to live in conditions characterized by inadequate access to health services, biting poverty in homes, exploitation, and violence, undermining the four cardinal rights of a child to survival, development, protection and participation.

UNICEF's statistics on the State of the World's Children mentioned that "more than 1 in out 3 children from 5 to 14 years old are involved in child labor (UNICEF, 2011). The kind of work

these children are forced to do is never suitable for their age, working conditions and arrangements are inacceptable, health and safety standards are lacking. So as a consequence, child labor leads to irreversible injuries and health problems, trauma and psychological stress, and sometimes even to death (ANPPCAN, 2010:4). This was evident on the streets of Uganda most especially Masaka Municipality where children are mostly selling vegetables, pancakes, working on truck as on and off loaders, vending sweets and crop produce in markets.

Uganda has one of the youngest populations in the world with over 56 percent of its 37 million people under the age of 18, and more than 52 percent under age. (Human rights watch 2014:4) The percentage of vulnerable children in Masaka is 48.8% which is the second highest in Uganda. Masaka has 123,696 total numbers of vulnerable children, which constitute 27.6% of the children population in the district. This has largely resulted into children abuse, running on Streets in Nyendo a suburb of Masaka, drug abuse, child labor, sexual abuse, school dropout, child neglect, unwanted pregnancies, and various forms of economic, social and sexual exploitation which further predisposes children to HIV infection and subsequent death. (Chedra 2012)

Child restoration outreach (CRO) is a non-profit organization/NGO in Uganda committed to rebuilding the lives of street children; reconcile them with God, and with their families through Rehabilitation, Education, reintegration, livelihood improvement, observance of child rights, and provision of health care and nutritional support. Being a civil society organization indicated that it has worked with the most vulnerable category of people who are children since 1992. Children face various problems which are being initiated by the family and community as well. CRO stated that 209 children have been in there custody for the last two years and the causes to child abuse are not well known to the general public and they found difficulties in

affirming child protection because of the large alarming numbers of children who are abused and are on streets.

This prompted the researcher to assess and investigate the cause of child abuse and why child protection is not showing any sign of reduction since many interventions and organizations have come up to work with the children and the whole community.

1.2 Statement of the Problem.

United Nations (2012) estimated 150 million children globally who derive their livelihood from the streets. 1.2 million Children are being estimated trafficking each year (ILO,2008).Africa has the highest prevalence rate of sexual abuse (34.4%), it includes, child labor and child trafficking and 40 per cent of soldiers in the Democratic Republic of Congo are children, Amnesty International, notes that 11,000 children have still yet to be disarmed (Wihbey ,2011).The study by ANPPCAN, estimated that there are 10,000street children in Uganda, which is 70 percent increase in the number of children on the streets since 1993(ANPPCAN, 2013).

The 2012 annual police crime report registered 530 cases of rape, 71 of child trafficking,3 of child sacrifice, 9,809 of child neglect, 2,437 of child desertion, 1,502 of child abuse and torture, 170 of kidnapping, 104 of infanticide, and 403 of other sexual-related offenses, including assault and incest (Annual police crime report,2012).Masaka is the second highest in Uganda with 48.8% out of 123,696total number vulnerable children. Nyendo suburb in Masaka municipality has the largest number of children prone to child abuse. Children end up running on Streets of Masaka, in drug abuse, child labor, sexual abuse, school dropout, child neglect, unwanted pregnancies, and other various forms of social economic and sexual exploitation which further predisposes children to HIV infection and subsequent death. (Chedra,2012), child restoration

outreach (CRO)is among the very many civil society organizations in Masaka and Child Restoration Outreach (CRO) has been working children for the last 26 years and a total number 1,722 children have been kept at the center up to date. CRO is trying to help child who have been abused with its limited budgets which cannot accommodate all children at its restoration center Therefore this prompted the researcher to conduct a study on child protection issues in Masaka municipality despite of the very many interventions of CRO and other stakeholders.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Major Objective

To assess the child protection issues at Child Restoration Outreach in Masaka municipality.

1.3.0 Specific Objectives

1.3.1   To find out the causes of child abuse.

1.3.2   To identify the child protection mechanisms used by Child Restoration Outreach.

1.3.3   To examine the challenges Child Restoration Outreach faces while responding to child protection issues.

1.3.4   To establish the solutions to ensure child protection.

1.4 Research Questions

1.4.1 What are the causes of child abuse in Masaka Municipality?

1.4.2 What are the child protection mechanisms used by Child Restoration Outreach in Masaka Municipality?

1.4.3 What challenges do Child Restoration Outreach face while responding to child protection issues in Masaka Municipality?

1.4.4 What are the possible solutions/strategies to child protection?

1.5 Scope of the Study

1.5.1 Conceptual scope

The constitution of Uganda defines a child as a person below 18 years and child abuse as any voluntary action (i.e. non accidental) that causes or may cause physical, psychological or sexual harm to a child. More to that, child abuse is an omission that deprives a minor of the supervision or attention necessary for their wellbeing and development (ANPPCAN, 2011:8).

However child protection refers to the prevention and response to violence, abuse and exploitation against children. Masaka municipality has very many organizations' and institutions working with children but numbers of abuse are increasing and ending up on streets of Masaka municipality, Child protection mechanisms are practices and processes designed to ensure the safety of children from physical, psychological and emotional harm at community, local government and national levels. These mechanisms are usually considered as "a network or group of individuals at a community level who work in a coordinated manner towards child protection goals. Such mechanisms can be indigenous or externally initiated and supported. They may also be informal or formal in their structure and functioning."

The study strictly assessed the child protection issues non-governmental organization in Masaka municipality, case study Child Restoration Outreach and other key stake holders. The respondents who were involved in this study were the district community development officer, child and family protection unit, community members and child survivors. This enabled the researcher to meet the objectives of research, these respondents were asked questions as desired according to the research, which were able to raise and bring on key issues that wouldn't be aired out by other data collection methods like questioners. The child protection mechanisms assessed included child protection policy, public lectures, collaboration and referrals, causes of child

abuses included poverty, culture, ignorance of law, illiteracy, domestic violence, unemployment and the intervening variables included corruption, financial constraints, inactive laws and bureaucracy.

Despite of the very intervention and actors that have come up to work with children, child abuse is still on the raise this means that the Government, Non-government organization and the entire country will need to work together to eliminate child abuse and ensure child protection for the future.

1.5.2 Geographical scope

Masaka district is located 140 km to the south west of Kampala Mbarara high way and 37km away from the equator with an average altitude of 115om above sea level, Masaka was originally called greater Masaka, its original district were Bukomansimbi district in the north west, Kalungu district to the north, Kalangala district to the east, Rakai district in the south west and Lwengo district in the west its main town was Masaka. See appendix 1 for the map of Masaka district. Masaka municipality is the only municipality in greater Masaka, Bukoto County which is situated at the road junction of Rakia, Lwengo, Mbarara, Ssembambule and Kangalala, boarding Katwe / Butego and Nyendo /Ssenyange. (MDSA, 2009: 1) See appendix 2. For municipality map

The research was carried out at child restoration outreach which is located in Masaka municipality in Masaka District. CRO is located just 10km from the town city center. Child Restoration Outreach (CRO) is a non-profit organization/NGO in Uganda committed to rebuilding the lives of street children; reconcile them with God, and with their families through rehabilitation, education, reintegration/reunification with their families, livelihood

improvement, observance of child rights, and provision of health care and nutritional support. Child Restoration Outreach operates in three districts of Mbale, Jinja and Masaka. The researcher chose Masaka municipality because it was easily accessible and child abuse cases are very rampant in area.

1.5.3 Time scope

The study took into consideration of the time period from 2012 to 2015.The researcher was interested in this period because it would be very easy to track the variation of child abuse cases and track data for comparison. This would enable the researcher to know if there was any change in child abuse cases and child protection issues at CRO and the municipality at large.

1.6 Significance of the Study

The study findings are expected to benefit the community, as they are able to know why child abuse is not a good practice for the community. These are to enhance the community to know what are common and rear child abuse causes, how to mitigate the problems and referral areas for the child protection services, the community members are to be equipped with nurturing and parenting the study also will provide all the necessary information on child protection to the community.

The study findings are expected to cite other areas that need further research by the academicians who would like to explore more about child abuse. Findings are to help the academicians enrich their knowledge about child protection, which knowledge may be used in their various professions.

The study findings are likely to benefit the policy makers, these are to be used to formulate new policies and also amending of the old ones that will discourage child abuse hence improving

child protection in masaka municaplity.it is of great importance because the offices working with children like the probation office, human right office and other nongovernmental organizations working with children will influence the issues of child protection as of great significance to the society hence ensuring a violence free society.

The results of the study may benefit the government's stand on child's right and other documentation of child protection. The government and other lying ministries working with children are intended to revise its policies towards the rights of children by using the findings of the study to curb child abuse and promotion of child protection services in Uganda.

1.7 Justification of the Study

The study is expected to understand why so many NGOs which claim helping and working with children to wipe out child abuse in Masaka municipality and the nation at large, but little change has been seen and however many significant interventions have been encountered to ensure safety of children, more to the nation has signed and ratified many conventions, acts and policies are incorporated into the national constitution and ministries have been designed to help children. More so many international bodies have come on board to fight for child abuse. The study is to suggest recommendation that may be put into consideration if Masaka municipality is to see a violence free community.

1.8 Conceptual Frame Work

1.8.1 Conceptual frame work

The conceptual framework below helped to illustrate the causes, mechanism and challenges of child abuse and how the district authorities, NGOs dealing with children and have protected human rights.

Independent variables   **Dependent variables**

Child abuse		Child protection mechanisms
Poverty, culture, ignorance of law, illiteracy, domestic violence, unemployment	←	Governmental commitment, legislation and enforcement, monitoring and oversight, national advocacy

Intervening variables

Non-governmental organization, lining ministries, parliament of Uganda
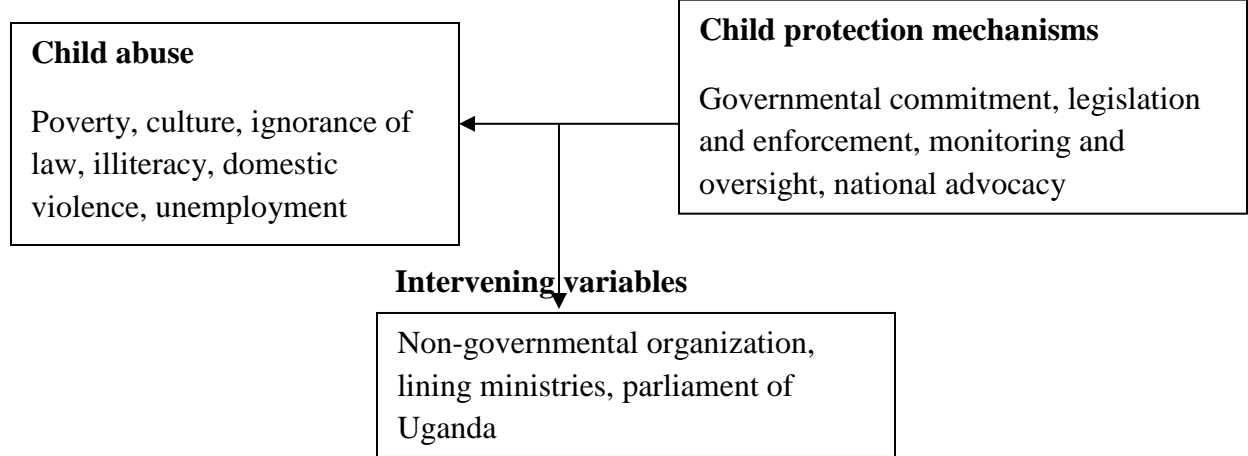
The relationship between the independent variables (Causes of child abuse) and dependent variable (child protection mechanisms) is the intervening variables.

The independent variable (causes of child abuse) are inter linked with other, these are dependent to each other one cause can led to other as poverty can cause domestic violence which can affect children and the whole family as well. The independent variable (child protection mechanism) child protection mechanism is considered as: "all the activities whose primary purposeis to prevent or respond to the abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence of children."

The overall purpose of child protection mechanisms are, to prevent harm from happening and respond to it when it does. A mechanism achieves prevention by supporting, mobilizing families and communities, raising public awareness, collecting data, setting legal and other minimum standards, regulating services, carrying out monitoring and inspection. It responds to child protection problems by initiating legal action, removing children from harmful situations, providing alternative care, supporting children's recovery and reintegration, reuniting families.

The challenges to child protection mechanisms affects the children, guardians and community as well these hinder children from achieving child protection. the coordination between sectors often have difficulty in engaging and cooperating with other sectors whose policies and practices directly impact on children's wellbeing. Many children face a number of interconnected specific issues which need holistic approach. Government's budget in many countries is less than one percent of the total government budget allocated to child protection unit even when children represent a significant proportion of the total population. With such few human and financial resources available, there has been a tendency to focus efforts towards individual children who are already recognized as abused or most likely to be abused. Given that there may be large numbers of children facing specific issues such as street connectedness, child labour and exploitation, child trafficking, the challenge is to ensure that investment is targeted at both preventative and responsive tailored services.

1.8 Definition of Key Terms

Child Protection: Is a preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse against children:- including commercial sexual exploitation, trafficking, child labor and harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation/cutting and child marriage. (UNICEF, 2006).It is an action that individuals, organizations, countries and communities take to protect children from intentional and unintentional harm (Save the children, 2008).

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter discussed the causes of child abuse from various scholars, contribution of child protection by highlighting international, regional and national laws that protect children and attempts to address the research objectives, which this study is set to investigate. The chapter discussed the challenges of child protection.

2.1 Causes of child abuse

According to ecological systems theory (Bronfenbrenner, 1979) notes that causes of child abuse are grouped in various forms. The theory highlights that children are the center of abuse who are affected by the family, neighbor and micro cultural systems which consider children as minor hence prone to abuse. in this case the micro cultural systems they are the child protection mechanisms which includes the policies, government, prevailing social economic and cultural norms which are set with the objective of helping the community and children but they end up affecting the neighborhood and family, which receives the policies in the negative and positive way, thus affecting child rights. Angus and Pilot (2000) agree with Bronfenbrenner's ecological systems theory which places the child at the Centre of the community, neighborhoods, wider structural and cultural circumstances such as government policies, prevailing social-economic and cultural norms.

Figure 1 Ecological model system theory adapted from (Angus and Pilott2000: 32)

Macro-cultural
system

Neighbourhood

Family

The
individual
child
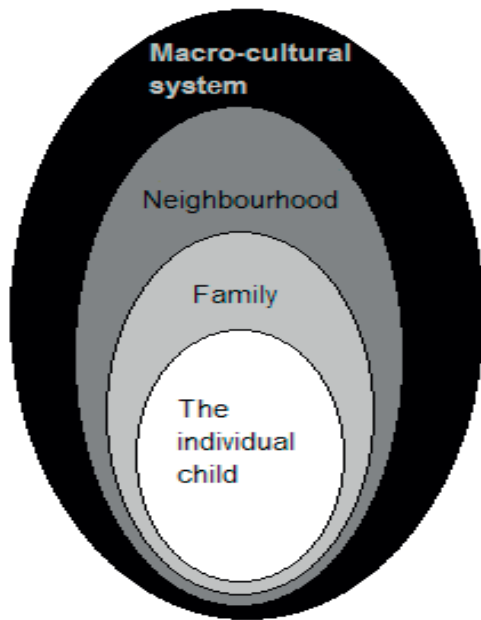
Poverty and unemployment

Unemployment and poverty are interdependent this means one leads to the other "unemployment and poverty affects children both directly and indirectly. For example, high levels of unemployment and poverty cause family stress and frustration which in turn, will result in punitive behavior towards children as well as abuse. Child abuse occurs across all socio-economic levels, but around the world poverty is found to be an important cause of child abuse" (Richter and Dawesm, 2008:79-93).

However unemployment and poverty have proven to be a problem to the world most especially to the developing nations which have almost all their population below the working age and with high fertility rates.

There are many risk factors related to poverty and social inequality which include income inequality, low economic development, health inequities, and high levels of gender inequality which are strongly associated with violence, being unemployed means loss of income and

financial stress, feelings of loss of control over one's own circumstances, anxiety, depression, and impaired physical health in the longer term. This means the longer someone is unemployed, the more pronounced these effects become to the family and mostly the family.

Vorrasi and Garbarino, (2000:62) explains that a major social contributor to impaired functioning is poverty in a greater contextual pattern of risks; it consists of multi-layered variables, for instance having to live in an unsafe area because of low income, getting less access to high quality education, and struggling with daily needs. Unemployment is very bad, especially when combined with substances like alcohol abuse and drug abuse this increases a parent's emotional volatility, creating a significant risk for children to be abused.

This is true because poverty is mostly concentrated in the informal settlements of urban areas (slams) which continue to attract poor people who migrate from rural areas in the hope that they will find employment and services. This has increased unemployment in such areas of informal settlement hence leading to high rates of child abuse because whenever parents are unemployed stress is released onto the children ending up abused. Child abuse is mostly reported to child protective services when families are poor and unemployed; the perpetrators are normally parents and community. The National Incidence Study(NIS-3) study, found that children from families with annual incomes below $15,000 in 1993 were more than 22 times more likely to be harmed by child abuse and neglect as compared to children from families with annual incomes above $30,000 (Sedlak.et.al, 1996: 33).

This study is being experienced in Uganda by where by31.1 percent of Ugandans are estimated to be poor, corresponding to nearly 8.4 million persons. That more than half of the population of Uganda (51%) is below 15 years of age this high level has forced children into child labor to give

support to their families, which indicates that poverty and un employment is among the very many causes of child abuse (UBOS, 2005/2006:60).

Since Uganda is a developing country and 51% is below the age 15 which is not a working age, so children are forced to work or to work by themselves because it's the way to survive and earn a living for the family however in Uganda it's the way to go for the children. Poverty puts one at risk "for a number of physical, social, and psychological pathologies, and children of the poor are especially susceptible as they often are relegated to threatening environments, living in insecure and economically deprived communities with violence, racism, and unstable provision of care" (Vorrasi and Garbarino, 2000:63).

The risk is ever on children because they ever find themselves trapped in the situation of poverty with a number of excuses as Vorrasi and Garbarino indicate in the above paragraph children suffer the most with the outcomes of poverty. Poverty and unemployment puts children at risk of abuse as stress is released on them from poor and unemployed parents. "Parents describe poverty as being a constant struggle, and trying to make ends meet and dealing with finances as the hardest part of their daily existence" (Russell, Harris and Gockel , 2008: 88).

Parents in the developing world tend to malice their children as they are the leading problems to the family as they are struggling to make ends meet they always torture them psychologically but in Uganda parents blame the existence of children as a source of poverty and their struggle to make ends meet. Parents withdraw from attending to their children while trying to secure an income, dealing with employment or housing issues (Cyr et al. 2010). Hence poverty and un employment exposing children to abuse.

Social norms and values

Yoder et al., (2004) notes that cultural beliefs have gone forward by inflicting physical, emotional and sexual abuse on child by practicing female genital mutilation. There are an estimated 3 million girls in Africa who are at risk of undergoing female genital mutilation every year.

Cultural beliefs and norms such as early child marriages, genital mutilation, child sacrifice including bad cultural rituals are a risk factor for violence against children where children are viewed as the property of adults, thus denying them recognition and rights. The "unquestioning obedience of children and their loyalty to adults especially men, enable child abuse to go undetected which means since children are minors so they have to do what is expected of them. Linked to this is the belief that child abuse, domestic violence, is a "private" matter and should not be discussed outside of the home this has made many children to suffer psychologically. Sexual abuse of girls is also often kept hidden due to the fear that the child will be stigmatized in the wider community" (Madu .etal, 2002:.8).

This has left many children who are sexually abused and their cases unattended to. Traditional gender norms also have a negative impact on men as they are required to express masculine traits such as toughness, aggression and bravery. "Men use violence as a way of demonstrating their masculinity, especially if they feel disempowered due to social inequalities, and the belief that sex with a virgin can cure HIV and AIDS in the rape of babies and children is practiced hence leading to abuse of children sexually" (Jewkes.et.al,2006: 12).The fact that men are the head of family it means that they are supposed to head everything and no one is supposed to comment or

criticize the decisions made, this indeed has made children suffer and children face the repercussions of culture.

Societal attitudes and the promotion of violence in cultural norms and the media are also risk factors for physical abuse of children. Children living in dangerous neighborhoods have been found to be at higher risk than children from safer neighborhoods for severe neglect and physical abuse, as well as child sexual victimization (Garbarino and Ganzel, 2000). There is little doubt that the wider social environment can increase or mitigate the risk of violence towards or neglect of children, however, if identifying risks in the context of the family is difficult, assessing risks within a child's neighborhood, social and cultural environment is more so, especially when individuals' and families can exhibit different responses to the same or similar circumstances (Begle et al. 2010). This is actually applies to Uganda situation because the social environment has abused children with no adult response.

According to Jack (2000) Elaborates that societal and Neighborhood factors impact on child abuse which include community tolerance of violence; racial/gender/social economic inequality; lack of family or neighbor support and welfare services; lack of programs that might ameliorate the likelihood of children being maltreated; inadequate/poor quality housing; transience; high levels of unemployment and associated reliance on benefit income; poverty; access to alcohol and a local drug trade.

Individual/ parents and other stressors

In the ecological model of Bronfenbrenner (1979), the individual and personal history factors cause child abuse. Some of these factors are age, sex, education, substance use, lack of self-control when angry, and caregiver involved criminal activity or history of abuse. A parent's

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childhood history plays a large part in how he or she may behave as a parent, Individuals with poor parental role models or those who did not have their own needs met may find it very difficult to meet the needs of their children whereby if the parent was abused when still young he or she was traumatized so this means the child will suffer the consequences of trauma.

Low education attainment of caregivers is a risk factor for child abuse which means a parent has less understanding of issues associated with parenting, limited ability to learn themselves and child related issues (Cyr et al., 2010). Parent's lack of knowledge about normal child development may result in unrealistic expectations, unmet expectations can culminate in inappropriate punishment for instance parent hitting a one-year-old for soiling his pants. Other parents may become frustrated with not knowing how to manage a child's behavior and may lash out at the child. Still others may have attitudes that devalue children or view them as property. For example, mothers who physically abuse their children have both more negative and higher than normal expectations of their children, as well as less understanding of appropriate developmental norms.

Children living with single/sole parents are at higher risk of experiencing physical and sexual abuse and neglect than children living with two biological parents. As Taylor (2010:345) pointed out "Single parent households substantially have incomes below the poverty line. Lower income, the increased stress associated with the sole burden of family responsibilities, and fewer supports contribute to the risk of single parents maltreating their children. Sole parenthood / single parenting is associated with lack of family or community-based support networks which means the parent is doing the work for two people"

Sole parenthood is combined with a lot of problems because of its cause like domestic violence, early marriage leaving sole parents (single parents) especially mother in care of their children hence abusing them by blaming them of their own problems.

Domestic violence

Children have little contact with their parents and it is due to irregular and unstable family homes. This weakens parent-child bond. This negatively effects, and means that children are left with people who do not care for them adequately and who may mistreat them. According to the child and family protection unit, 15% of children report times in their lives when one or both parents were too drunk to care for them(APPCAN, 2011). Hence a contributing factor to domestic violence in homes which has led to child abuse.

Parents significantly affected by the use of drugs and alcohol, neglect the needs of their children and spend money on drugs instead of household expenses like school fees, food, beddings, household items and clothing, medication, these parents mostly get involved in criminal activities that jeopardize their children's health or safety. Substance abuse and child abuse often co-occur with other problems, including mental illness, HIV/AIDS or other health problems, domestic violence, poverty, and prior child maltreatment(Blacket.al. 2001). These co-occurring problems produce extremely complex situations like domestic violence that can be difficult to resolve, because many of the problems may be important and urgent, it can be difficult to prioritize what services to provide. Additionally, identifying and obtaining appropriate resources to address these needs is a challenge in many communities facing domestic violence.

For example, South African research found out that children who witness domestic violence in their homes are also likely to be victims of child abuse. One explanation for this is that children who witness abuse between their parents are at risk of being abused by either the abusing or abused parent in the home (Wardet.al. 2001).Therefore, children who are exposed to violence at home may avoid their home environment, which places them at risk of community violence ending up street children, taking drugs and alcohol, engaging in bad peer groups and activities like child commercial sex. And all this is due to lack of respect and violence within the household.

Children in violent homes, who witness parental violence, are at most times victims of physical abuse themselves, neglected by parents who are focused on their partners or unresponsive to their children due to their own fears of being left alone. A child witnessing parental violence is at risk for also being maltreated, but even if the child is not maltreated, he or she may experience harmful emotional consequences from witnessing the parental violence.

Inadequate knowledge and information on national and international laws and policies

Ignorance or inadequate knowledge of international human rights framework, national laws and policies, their application on child abuse issues, poor administration of justice causes child abuse. District leaders, NGOs, local leadership in the country are the first contact of any case of child abuse and yet children are ignorant of the laws that protect children. This has a general impact on how they deal with human rights and child abuse in the area. As result many parents / guardians and victims of child abuse don't know or have any idea on what is child rights, duties and responsibility also do not know the proper procedures to follow in case their children are abused because of fear to report these cases.

According to MOESTS (2013) 87% of children surveyed knew there exist laws to keep them safe. 79% of primary and 96% of secondary school children feel the laws aren't working. This indicates there are gaps in equipping the communities with knowledge of child protection, abuse and child rights and therefore is attributed to the procedure to enforce constitutional provisions in Uganda's courts which is stiff, expensive and takes a long time to complete, making it difficult to prosecute, and to improve system, the active participation of local actors is missing, and village councils handling children's issues are weak, Culture and traditions hold back enforcement of child protection laws (for example, in the case of persistent early marriage).

2.2 Child protection mechanisms

Child protection mechanisms are practices, policies and processes designed to ensure the safety of children from physical, psychological and emotional harm at community, local government and national levels (Save the children, 2008).

These mechanisms are usually considered as "a network or group of individuals at a community level who work in a coordinated manner towards child protection goals. Such mechanisms can be indigenous or externally initiated and supported. They may also be informal or formal in their structure and functioning"(Eynon, 2010).

 Child protection mechanisms is a comprehensive and sustainable approach to preventing and responding to child protection issues, comprising of the set of laws, policies, regulations and services required across all social sectors, especially social welfare, education, health, security and justice to respond to and prevent protection-related risks (Wolczyn,2010).

Child protection is a special concern in all situations and failure to protect children undermines national development and has costs and negative effects that continue beyond childhood into the

individual's adult life. While children continue to suffer violence, abuse and exploitation, the world and nation has failed in its obligations to children; it has also failed to meet its development aspirations as laid out in such documents as the Millennium Agenda with its Millennium Development Goals. The following are the child protection mechanisms both international and national.

Internationally they are quite a number of mechanisms that protect children and these are international instrument which every country is obligated to sign and incorporate in its constitution and polices which comprise of the UN convention on the rights of the child (UNCRC 1989) which has been signed by at least all countries in the world except three countries Somalia, Timor-Leste and united states of America. The UNCRC provides a comprehensive code of rights which offers the highest standards of protection and assistance for children any international instrument, it legally binds on every government which is a party to it and applies to all children within the jurisdiction of each state, not only to those who are nationals of the state but also those who are not nationals. The UNCRC has many functions and among them is to review the reports that all the States parties to the Convention are required to submit periodically. The reports are expected to contain information on the laws and other measures the State has adopted which give effect to the rights recognized in the Convention and the progress made on the enjoyment of those rights.

African charter on the rights and welfare of the child (1990) was adopted by the organization of African unity and entered into force in 1999 this recognizes and prohibits all forms of abuse against a child spell out the principal responsibility of the government under international law to protect the specific rights of children. This takes into account especially African children due to their unique and critical factors of the nature of their societies.

International Labor Convention (2006) which was the first convention ratified to No. 138 (1973), which states that, in general, persons under the age of 18 may not be employed in jobs that are dangerous to their health or development, and International Labor Convention No. 182 (1999)concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor and it is one of the most effective method of ensuring that children do not start working too young certain age has been stipulated at which children can legally be employed or otherwise work.

The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (1986) "known as the Banjul Charter", that is intended to protect and promote human rights and basic freedoms of African content which protects the fundamental civil, political, economic, and social rights of all people, including children and it a primary treaty for African region and it inspire by the values and traditions of African people to protect and promote their rights.

The UNCRC, African charter on the rights and welfare of the child and African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights have been signed by the government of Uganda and has made it visible to the national constitution of Uganda but child protection is still a myth.

In Uganda, multiple nation child protection mechanisms exist and include the constitution of Uganda (1995) chapter four, protection and promotion of fundamental and other human rights and freedoms. Under this section Article,34 Rights of children which clearly stipulate rights and freedoms of the child that all children have right of to know their parents, education, health, and to be protected from all social economic and hazardous environment or work which means the government has a duty to respect, promote and to protect.

Human rights commission which was established by the 1995 Ugandan constitution whose mandate is protect and promote human rights as provided in article 52 of the constitution. This was enacted by in 1997 by the Ugandan parliament detailing the function and operation of commission some of the functions are to investigate if any complaint is made, conduct research to enhance human rights and others all these are in place to enhance the protection and promotion of humans including the rights of the children.

The children act (1996), was enacted to reform and put together the law relating to children, provide for the care, protection and maintenance of children, provide for local authority support for children, establish the family and children court and make provision for children charged with offences and for other related purposes.

The children act puts into effect the Constitutional provisions on children and emphasizes the protection of the child by upholding the rights, protection, duties and responsibilities as contained in the Convention on Rights of the Child and Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the African Child, with appropriate modification to suit the circumstances in Uganda and other International and regional instruments.

The ministry of gender labor and social development is the lead agency mandated to promote the protection of children in Uganda. The ministry has developed a national plan for orphans and other vulnerable children (2012) in which the ministry recognizes street children, disabled children and orphans as a group in high need of support. However, it protects vulnerable children from deprivation and lively hood risk.

Child restoration outreach has endeavored to use different child protection mechanism and among these includes: Governmental commitment to fulfilling protection rights this involves

social welfare policies, adequate budgets, public acknowledgement and ratification of international instruments.

Open discussions with the media, children, civil society and community acknowledge silence as a major impediment to securing government commitment, supporting positive practices and ensuring the involvement of children and families in discussion. The open discussion helps the children, civil society and the community to forge away forward of having a violence free environment.

2.3 Challenges of child protection issues

Countries have made significant progress to strengthen and build child protection systems, there remain a number of challenges in the process of developing formal national strategies of child protection. There are gaps in communication and coordination among relevant national Ministries as well as between the different levels of government (Thomas, 2011).

Proposing strategies that are realistic with regard to available resources, strategies and policies which are promoted that are outside the range of available resources. These strategic approaches don't utilize rigorous approach to prioritizing possible interventions, and plan multiple phases where ambitious end results are not reached through the attainment of sequential milestones. This defies to child protection issues in the country.

In many countries, less than one percent of the total government budget is allocated to child welfare and protection even when children represent a significant proportion of the total population (Thomas, 2011). With such few human and financial resources available, there has been a tendency to focus efforts towards individual children who are already recognized as abused or most likely to be abused. Given that there are large numbers of children facing specific

issues such as street connectedness, children in labor, child sex workers, and child trafficking. So this is a challenge to ensure that both preventative and responsive tailored services.

Child protection services are primarily delivered by the non-government sectors with large gaps in services, particularly in rural areas with shortages of skilled staff and resources (CASE, 2005). This has compromised the child protection services that is to say rural child protection workers are empowered with training of trainers which is brief and summarized leaving out some information and techniques of which are use full to them hence leading to inefficiency in child protection services.

There is limited discussion within the international and national child protection communities, including national governments, NGOs, academia and the private sector, about how to design and develop child protection systems that recognize and address specific issues faced by children (Save the children,2010). However smaller grassroots, issue-specific agencies, often working in direct contact with children, families and communities, hold extensive knowledge and experience of the daily realities and needs of children with specific issues. However, for a variety of reasons, issue-specific agencies have tended not to be involved in the debate on systems thinking generally, or in shaping individual country systems.

There is paucity of information on the prevalence of child abuse, violence, neglect and exploitation at the national level, with limited data on the actual functioning of the system. This means that policy-makers and practitioners have little information at hand to guide and shape the priorities of an emerging system capable of meeting the needs of children facing specific issues. For example, reliable national data about street-connected children tends to be scarce and lack depth (Thomas, 2011). Indeed, few countries collect systemic data which can be disaggregated to document the changing numbers of child abuse situations.

Solutions to child protection issues

Raising awareness of the impact of domestic violence on children much can be changed by bringing this problem into the open. The message to all must be that domestic violence is damaging everyone, including children who are exposed to it, and that it can be stopped. Customs that validate domestic violence and dismiss its impact on children must be challenged through public education. One public information campaign in the United States succeeded in challenging common beliefs and in changing attitudes towards domestic violence (Wolfe.etal, 1999). Protective policies put in place by governments must be matched by efforts to change attitudes and traditions which condone abuse. As long as violence in the home is shrouded in silence, the violence will continue.

 Child protection issues can only be effective in partnership with well-resourced child protection services that are monitored and evaluated (Richter& Dawes, 2008). Having committees that protect children is very important working in collaboration and partnership to ensure children do receive justice and they are protected from harm.

 The government should create public policies and laws that protect children, legislation and policies must reinforce the message that child abuse is a crime that perpetrators will be punished and victims protected. These policies must focus on the protection of children and address the impact of violence in the home on children. Criminalizing child violence sends a clear message that violence is not a private matter and is unacceptable. It is essential that protective laws are enforced and offenders held accountable. Courts and government departments must have specialized policies in place to address the safety of adult victims of domestic violence and their children, including in connection with custody and visitation rights (Asian and Pacific Islander

Institute on Domestic Violence, 2005). The particular impact of domestic violence on children must be taken into account by all government agencies responding to violence in the home.

Governments must specifically allocate resources to support children who are exposed to violence in the home, within the overall context of prevention and support for children victims of child abuse. Interventions that support children who are exposed to child abuse are crucial in minimizing the long-term harm. Some innovative programs must exist to address the needs of these children, for example through training staff who work with children to detect early warning signs and to provide appropriate responses and support.

Providing services and support to child victims of child abuse can benefit children, especially when the specific needs of children are considered. Support for locating safe housing, income assistance, access to health care and referrals for psychosocial support services should be considered as means to assist all victims of child abuse.

Training in parenting, through providing parents/guardians with information about child development and nurturing like attachment, bonding and teaching them to use consistent child rearing methods (WHO, 2002).Parents/ guardians should also be taught how to manage family conflict like domestic violence which can bring harm to children by affecting them physically and psychologically.

Community-based initiatives are also increasingly being used to tackle the problem. While some are school based instructing children how to recognize threatening situations and providing them with skills to protect against abuse others involve the collaboration of many sectors to increase knowledge and awareness, and improve services. Media and other types of prevention campaigns have also been used to stimulate community action and change behavioral patterns.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter discussed how research would be conducted by the use of case study design, area of study, population of study, sample size, sampling procedures, methods and instruments of data collection, data analysis and quality control.

3.1 Research design

The study was a case study design which was at child restoration outreach because it was analytical in nature providing in depth qualitative information. Case study methodology is defined by Zucker (2001) as a systematic inquiry into an event or a set of related events which aims to describe and explain the phenomenon of interest a case study methodology was selected because it is a particular method of qualitative research that involves in-depth examination of a single instance or event. A research design task was to accomplish the following: identify causes and effects of child abuse, identify the child protection mechanisms, and identify the challenges faced by CRO in child protection issues and their mitigations to ensure children get justice.

The strength of the case study was to provide a systematic way of looking at events at CRO, collecting data, analyzing information, and reporting the results. As a result, the researcher was to gain sharpened understanding of causes and effects of child abuse and why the respondents deal with cases as they do, and what becomes important to look at more extensively in future research.

3.2 Area of study

The research was carried out at child restoration outreach which is located in Masaka municipality in Masaka District. Masaka municipality is situated at the road junction of Rakia, Lwengo, Mbarara, Ssembambule and Kangalala, boarding Katwe / Butego and Nyendo /Ssenyange with a population 103,829 people. (MDSA, 2009:1) See appendix 2 for municipality map. CRO is located just 10km from the town city center. The researcher chooseMasaka municipality because it will be easily accessible and child protection issues are very rampant in area. But also CRO was chosen because it has been working with children for so long and this has singled it out to act as case study for research because of its experience in child protection issues. Other reasons why the area was chosen are: -

   i. It was very accessible and all cases of child abuse are easily identified.
  ii. CRO and government institution dealing with children are in one area so it is very easy to collect data.
 iii. There were a good number of cases and child survivors that have never got justice.

3.3 Population of study

According to the population census (2014), 296,649 persons and the municipality constitutes of 103,829 persons, 3 sub counties in the municipality, 43 sub county executives/ councils (stakeholders), 24,943 children under 18 years and 47 non-governmental organizations.

The study population targeted 1 Sub County, 8 non-governmental organizations, 17 sub county executives/ councils, 6,942 persons and 1,426 children below 18 years.

3.4 Sampling size

Sampling is the selection of a part to represent the whole, also it a process of selecting your participants (Sarantokos, 2005).The sample size was determined on a basis of purposive study that the researcher was conducting this clearly indicated that key respondents with purposive information on were interviewed. The sample size included 50 respondents plus key stakeholders to fill in and answer the structured questionnaires, focused interviews and other questions as desired by the research this was to be determined according to purposive information that is needed from them. The 50 respondents were chosen because of the research since it was purposive in nature and it required referrals from the interviewed person. The 50 respondents categorized as follows:

Category of respondents	Sample size
Stakeholders	4
Child workers	10
Child survivors	20
Community members	16
Total	50

Stake holders include: 1 District community development officer, 1 in charge of child family and protection unit, 1 Manger of children Homes River of life and1 from human rights defenders.

Child workers: 5 from CRO and 5 from MIFUMI

Child survivors: 10 from CRO, 3 from child family and protection unit, 2 from probation office.

Children in   the community: 5 from the guardians

Community members: 16 parents/guardians will be sampled.

3.5 Sampling techniques

The researcher employed the following techniques

3.5.1Purposive sampling technique

It is referred as judgmental sampling which means respondents are selected purposively to fit the study and to meet the objectives of the study (Sarantokos, 2005). It is also applied when the study requires specific information. This was done because respondents with required information were selected to be interviewed.

The purposive sampling technique was used because the study required a small population sample with purposive information to fit the objectives of the study. however only selected child workers, non-governmental organizations and stakeholders who work with children were selected to give information about the study.

3.5.2 Snowballing sampling technique

Snowballing sampling technique is when you identify a respondent who then assists you to identify other individuals in the same field and with relevant information. This helps to identify new information (Sarantokos, 2005).

The technique was used because the very respondents selected were able to identify others in the same field as they work with children. The snowballing sampling technique was used by asking one respondent who in return identified other this was used on stakeholders and child workers

who gave relevant information about the research. This helped to identify new information and it saved time of looking for stakeholders and child workers with relevant information.

3.5 Data collection and instruments

Focused Group Discussion

Focused interview is a formal discussion where questions are asked to explore in-depth information on a particular topic (Gomm, 2004). The focused interview was very important for study because of in- depth discussion about child protection issues. Focused interview was also very important because it allowed enough time to participants to express their views and opinions and this was administered to the stakeholders and these were administered to stakeholders. The focused group discussion was administered to the community members and community children each group consisted of 5 to 6 members who were enough to discuss about the study and asked questions as desired according to the research, which were able to raise and bring on key issues that won't be aired out by other data collection methods.

Questionnaires

A questionnaire is a list of questions that is used to obtain information from the respondents (Amin, 2005). A self-administered questionnaire was used with open ended questions was used on child workers from MIFUMI, CRO and Child survivors because it helped to reduce time spent on respondent asking questions. It was very important for the study because it gives privacy to the respondent and answer to their convenience. The researcher was able to get detailed information because of the open ended nature of the questionnaire.

Observation

 Observation is an intentional examination of something particularly for purposes of collecting data, here the researcher attempts to observe what is taking place on what is being researched on and shares the experiences being recorded and analyzed (Saunders, Lewis and Thornhill, 2007). Observation checklist and being a complete observer was used. The observation checklist is where you have of list of things to be observed and recorded while being a complete observer is where the researcher is a full member of the group or lives in the community to record daily life and discovers about the research.

This method helped to observe and present the situation of child abuse, through observation respondents facial expression and body language was also observed. the check list involved what effect does child abuse have on children, on site report checks and observation ofchild abuse on streets and in the community. This helped to compare the information generated by the other methods above. This method consisted of detailed descriptions of participants' behaviors, the full range of human interactions and direct observation of available facts were used on all respondents.

Document review

Document review is where materials containing the information about phenomenon were studied (Sarantokos, 2005). Document review was used to verify and back up the data that were collected and it acted as reference for former researches. Here primary documents were viewed these are documents/stories of the eyewitnesses people, the event were also reviewed which include notes, ministry reports, project reports and letters. Secondary documents written by those

who were not present on the scene were also reviewed including books, newspapers, magazines, journals and media were viewed to generate data for the research.

3.6 Validity and Reliability

Validity is the extent to which an item accurately measures or describes what it is intended to measure or describe. Data collected from the field was considered valid by designing a good and understandable data collection tools to enable the respondent to adhere to them by giving relevant information which were not divergent. Also cross checking questions was asked to prove the information through the use of Para phrasing questions.

Reliability is the extent to which the data collection method produces similar or consistent results under a condition on all occasion's. Data collected from the field was considered reliable by using different data collections tools and these helped to make sure whether the information got the field was reliable because they produced similar data but from different data collections tools. Also the data collections tools were pretested on 5 people to give the right information which is reliable.

3.7 Procedure of Data Collection

Upon approval of the proposal from Uganda Martyrs University, the researcher was given a letter of introduction to CRO in Masaka Municipality. This obliged to secure permission in order to carry out the study. The researcher then presented a letter of consent to the Manager at CRO, community members, stakeholders and child survivors at the centre of child restoration out, the researcher was oriented on how to handle children, a child protection policy was given to consent then introduced to the staff and children to know the objective of the study. Questionnaires were distributed for those who never wanted focused interviews which is one on one, the respondents were given time of convenience within which the questionnaires should be picked from them.

Dates were scheduled for some interviews with the Human rights defenders and MIFUMI, other dates for interview was not allocated because it was snowballing nature.

3.8 Data analysis

Qualitative data analysis

Data analysis is the process of bringing order, structure and meaning to the mass of information collected (Mugenda and Mugenda, 1999). The data that was generated from the observations, focused interviews, document reviews, observation and questionnaires was transcribed, grouped and categorized into cording frames indicating themes that were emerged to make the report. These were linked to the objectives of the study, generalized and were argued out in a detailed research report.

3.9 Ethical considerations

The researcher in study adhered to the relevant professional code of conduct; this meant that the researcher was to take into account seriously the research ethics when carrying out research. The researcher was sure that the information given is confidential and not to be aired out to anyone without the interviewee's permission. Protecting the dignity and rights of every individual who actively got involved in this research project was taken into consideration by not exposing any given information before any one until the research work was done and ready for everyone to read. Personal consent from the participants of this study was obtained. This ensured observation of their rights as employees and human beings. Participants received full disclosure of the nature of the study, the risks, benefits and alternatives, with an extended opportunity to ask pertinent questions regarding the research. The researcher treated all information provided by participants with maximum confidentiality. Honesty was maintained throughout the research process in

reporting data, results, methods and procedures in order to avoid fabrication, falsification, or misrepresentation of data. All quotations used and sources consulted were clearly distinguished and acknowledged by means of references. A letter of authorization from the Uganda Christian University was provided as a request for permission to conduct the study. A covering letter accompanied the research instruments explaining the purpose of the study and the questionnaires were distributed directly to the respondents in their respective areas for filling and were collected immediately the filling in was completed. The cover letter was also used to provide access to the interview process, which was done on appointment.

3.10 Limitations of the Study

The limitations of the study the researcher was encounter during the course of carrying out the study.

The researcher found a problem of biasness when carrying out research because the research was purely academic so they expected facilitation in return which the researcher never had. The problem of bias was solved by elaborating to them the objectives and the purpose of the study in order to deliver reliable information.

The researcher encountered a problem of weather, which is unpredictable due to global warming and changing weather patterns and this means it could be very sunny or a rainy to travel. However, umbrella was at stand by to help out in situations of too much sunshine and rainfall in order to conduct the research in time.

The researcher faced a problem of high transport costs; with the high inflation in the country affected the study. The researcher to overcome high transportation cost, managed to walk some distances to reduce on the high transportation and to fit into the budget.

The researcher encountered a problem of emotional and psychological trauma to survivors and community members how were interviewed. Researcher managed to counsel the respondents and sensitizing them about child rights.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

4.0 Introduction

Chapter four is the presentation, interpretation and discussion of the findings of the research.

The main focus of the research was to assess the child protection issues in Masaka Municipality.

The study was based on four objectives namely,

1. To find out the causes of child abuse.

2. To find out the child protection mechanisms used by CRO.

3. To find out the challenges CRO faces while responding to child protection issues.

4. To find out the solutions to child protection.

These objectives were transformed into research questions, upon which data. The researcher, solicited responses from research questions which were presented in analytical themes of statements which argued out systematically.

4.1 Background Characteristics of respondents

Figure 2 the respondent's sex

Sex	Frequency	Percentage
Male	10	20%
Female	20	40%
Children		
Male	10	20%
Female	10	20%
Total	50	100%

According TABLE1, 20% were male and 40% were female, and 20% were children male and 20%children female were interviewed while carrying out research.

1.2 Human rights definition

Respondents asked during the focused interview had an idea on what is human right. The stake holders including child protection unit, human rights defenders, MIFUMI, district community development officer and child workers knew what human rights was as the entitlement, inherent and God given. Amnesty international (2013) defined human rights as inherent to all human being irrespective of sex, nation, origin, region, language and status. This implied that only people who worked with children or in human rights sections knew what is human rights, however also guardians/ parents and some few children traced out what is human rights but with no clear definitions and others understood it but could not express it.

1.3 Child rights definition

Respondents that were asked about child rights meaning, only stake holders including child protection unit, human rights commission, human rights defenders, district community development officer and child workers knew child rights as the entitlement children have to be with this includes the roles, responsibilities and duties that government, parents and children have to play. Child rights is a minimum entitlements and freedoms that should be afforded to all persons below the age of 18 regardless of opinions, origins, wealth, birth status or ability and therefore apply to all people everywhere UNCRC (1986). This implied that only people who worked with children or in human rights sections knew what is child rights, however also guardians/ parents and some few children had an idea on what child right is as rights for children, not being abused, rights to education, food and shelter.

1.4 Child protection definition

The stake holders including child protection unit, human rights defenders, district community development officer defined it as structures to prevent and respond to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation affecting children. However save the children (2008) defines child protection as a preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse against children, This implied that only people who worked with children or in human rights sections are informed on what it is child protection, however some few children traced out what is child protection but with no clear definitions and others understood it but could not express it.

1.5 Forms of child abuse in Masaka Municipality

The stakeholders, parents and child survivors knew the forms of child a child abuse and they went ahead to elaborate and explain them more in depth.

Child labor was simply defined as the abuse of children by surrendering them to work above their age and weight as the district community development officer explains.

> "It is the type of work that is given to children to work either for housework
> or monetary implication".

ILO (2012) defined child labor as the employment of children in any work that deprives children of their childhood, interferes with their ability to attend regular school, and that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful which is not different form the research findings. Community development officer went ahead to give an example of the very many children in Masaka Municipality "there are many children below 18 years sent by their parents to sell fruits and vegetables in order to generate fees and income of the family but this is done sometimes during schooling hours or in the evening and it is very hard to walk on the streets of Masaka municipality and you don't find any child selling anything at any time".

Child neglect was defined by human rights defenders as the abandonment, desertion, carelessness that parents /guardians do to their children. Human rights defenders also went ahead to explain that mostly children that are abandoned are those are not leaving with their parents or parents that have separated and they are no longer leaving together. MIFUMI went ahead to elaborate more on the child neglect as children who are unaccompanied because some of them have parents but they don't care for their children as they say it is the era of working and development so children are left all lone with no support and direction. However child welfare information gateway (2006) who defined it as any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent / caregiver, which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm.

Physical abuse was also defined by the child survivor as the torture; sever beating, frequent beating, and burnings, pouring of hot water and acid to children. Child survivors also went ahead to comment that parents/ guardians physically abuse them even when it needs some simple verbal communication to them to affect what is being told to them. One of the child survivors also noted that it's not only guardians that physically abuse them but also teachers at school abuse them by caning, slapping, pinching them which makes them to be tortured psychologically hence making them to hate school and the teachers too. WHO (2006) defined physical as the intentional use of physical force against a child that results in or has a high like hood of resulting in harm for the child's health, survival, development or dignity.

Psychological abuse was explained by the child worker as emotional abuse which results from a number of factors. The Child worker continued that every form of abuse causes psychological abuse these are tortured in the mind of being neglected, physically abused, defilement, denial of parentage and others. The child worker also added that these children are traumatized and this

inflicts on their future life, however some children learn to leave with trauma which turns them to be horrible, disreputable to life and to everyone around them. Psychological abuse is any action (normally verbal) or attitude that causes or may cause psychological harm to a child,Acts of emotional abuse may be passive such as non-attachment attitudes towards children such as ignoring them or depriving them of affection and security (ANNPCAN, 2009:8) both the research findings and ANPPCAN did agree on psychological/ emotional abuse.

Krug.et.al (2002) defined sexual abuse as "any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed against a person's sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting including but not limited to home and work". The study findings defined Sexual abuse as a form of child abuse where an adult sexually abuses a child; this act can be once or on recurrent occasion. however the child protection officer elaborated that children are sometimes harassed by older people having bad touches on them, show pornographic photos, videos and obscene words that humiliate children them. The officer went ahead to state that children who are sexually abused face a lot of challenges like damage of their reproductive system, having no trust for adults especially men because they are the most abusers of children.

Denial of parentage and basic needs like education was defined as form of child abuse where parents deny their children the right to family, name, protection and basic needs. The parents' elaborated children are denied a right to family, protection and basic needs because of so many reasons for instance some parents who deny parentage say "they were not prepared to have children, poverty, family prestige, fear of responsibilities, fear of their first wife to know and the public. This causes a lot of problems most especially to children who feel that they were a

mistake to the world, it also traumatizes them a lot and this is mostly done by men who deny their children parentage.

Child to child abuse was also identified as a form of child abuse. This was further elaborated by District Community Development officer, who noted that children continue to abuse fellow children because either they were brought up in slum areas, ill-mannered parents, children left to maids with bad behaviors. Children who are unruly have continuously abused other children by bulling, sexually, physically, and emotionally. she gave a scenario of a child who sexually abused the other child and it lead to a big conflict to both parents where a child got pregnant, other child to child abuse include; children beating other children, abusing obscene words to other children, telling pornographic videos and showing pornographic photos to other children.

1.6 Causes of child abuses in Masaka Municipality

The study findings identified causes of child abuse this question was asked all respondents which include children, guardians and stakeholders they gave their views as discussed below.

Death of parents

Death of parents was identified as a cause of child abuse in Masaka municipality where children are abused because they are orphans. This normally happens when both parents have died or one has died. The child survivors identified death of parents as a cause of child abuse because some of them were victims; the children went ahead to state that after the death of parents, relatives pledged that they will be good and treat them as their own but situations changed as time went on. N. S a child survivor testified that noted that.

> "I don't know my father, but after the death of my mother my Aunt took me
> in but I was being used as a maid at home and I was doing everything and

my Aunt used to say after all you are an orphan she continued to insult me, false accusation and ill treatment until when I run away from home".

The police also noted that death of parents has caused child abuse because the guardians who take upon these children neglect them and sometimes if it is one parent who has died the parent left will mistreat the children directly or indirectly, where by these parents are left with no support for the children and in most cases they have very many children of which this single parents cannot handle with low income that's why they end up on streets working or stealing, doing drugs and unruly children which is a threat in the community.

However also the parents/guardians supported the above statement where by one parent stated that there are some parents who mistreat these children are traumatized with the burden of children of which they cannot take care of. However some of these guardians take up these children willingly and just mistreat them because of their vulnerability.

Children's stubbornness

Children's stubbornness also causes child abuse where by the child protection officer noted that their children who are big headed, this has made parents to repeatedly abuse them with various forms like physical and verbal abuse as a way of punishment. Their parents who have abused their children by burning them with hot water, acid, hot knives, chaining them, starving them and verbal abuse which has affected these children physically and psychologically.

Child survivors also supported the statement by saying there are children who are unruly who lead to their own abuse by their own parents and the community at large. The child survivors also went ahead to say in their questionnaire that sometimes children are so stubborn and it is due to the adolescent stage, peer pressure and their nurturing which has made these children to be continuously abused.

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The parents also noted that unruly children lead to their own abuse even when a parent does not want to. One parent A.R commented that

> "A child can force you to abuse him or her not because you want but because he or she is dumb and unruly to the extent that you hate the child and abuse the child in such way to unleash your anger".

Parents also continued to say that children who are in adolescent stage tend to act as if they are so mature and they are not be directed and instructed which causes a conflict between them and their parents hence leading to abuse.

The child workers also noted that children tend to adopt new ways of behaviors from other children, media sources and also from the modern and changing environment. This has made them to be abused by own self for instance the child turns out to be unruly, changes dressing code, the way to talk and to behave in the public because of peer pressure and other forces which cultivate to the child's mind of thinking he/she is superior than others. But also these children miss interpret the children's rights without thinking they have duties and responsibilities to take on.

Marrying of other partners

Due to the cause of death of mothers or fathers, parents tend to marry other partners to complete their lives but this has caused child abuse. Where by child survivors noted that some of their parents married other partners after the death of their own parents and these abuse them sexually, emotionally and physically. Sometimes these parents just marry of other partners not because they have separated with their partners or their parents have died, this is commonly done by fathers.

Marrying of other partners who are commonly referred to as step parents has caused child abuse in Masaka municipality whereby they abuse these children since they are not their own parents. K.D testified that

> "My mother got married to another man because my father was not supporting us and we were in a very bad situation with no food, clothes, school fees and rent. So she got married to another man who supports my mother but this man never wanted us in the house he accused us falsely of what we have not done and even when we have done something wrong or a mistake he used to over punish us, but surprisingly also our mother was not supporting us at all so we decided to run to the streets".

Children like K.D had issues where by some child survivors said that after when their parents died their remaining parents marry or get married to other partners who maltreat them, to the extent that they run away from their homes which is so risky to their lives and has endangered their lives because they are defiled on streets, have no food, no shelter, no protection. But however others don't run away they stay home and continue to suffer because they have nowhere else to go or to talk to.

N.A a child worker at MIFUMI also stated that marrying of other partners has caused child abuse in Masaka municipality where by the parents who get married sometimes are poor to take care of their own children so the partners they get married to are rich and not interested in the children but rather in their relationship. And most times the partners they get married to or marry intimidate them by words like "I leave you" in case it is a women and for men they say I will throw you out of my house with your children. So this has made child abuse to happen continuously even when some partners do not want it to happen.

Moral degeneration

Child survivors at CRO noted that moral degeneration has caused child abuse in Masaka municipality where by children's morals are decaying every day because of the following:- new technology, like smart phones, Facebook, WatsApp, Radios, Televisions, Songs, Video halls and also the new type of dressing code. Children also stated that these have spoilt children, with visual observance the researcher was able to notice that these children had phones and listening to songs which are not appropriate to their lives. Garbino and Gazel (2000) stated that cultural norms and media are risk factors for abuse of children which was proved right according to the research findings.

The researcher also continued to observe on the streets of Masaka, children were having radios, phones and other matching to video halls with no restrictions from the entry point this evidently proved that children were abused directly and indirectly by the community because no one was minding on what these children were listening to and watching.

The parents/ guardians during the focus group discussion agreed that the moral degeneration that is to say one guardian commented that in the past when they were growing up the music and media section was producing good entertainment and music with good messages but today the technology has destroyed the children because they are brought up by radios, televisions, phones and computers. The guardian also went head to say that now children consult internet instead of the parents unlike in the past, this proved be to a leading cause to child abuse.

The parents attitudes towards technology and modernization has continuously abused children says the human rights defenders, in that parents have not understood their duty and responsibilities towards children and the changing environment of technology and rapid

modernization. The parents have embraced the change and not helped the children like protecting them from the wide spreading technology which is not adequate to their age. She also added that the dressing code of this new generation is very bad like you find parents dressed in the way that abuses a child and itis depicted by the children who get know that any individual is supposed to dress like that which is moral decay and most times seducing, appetizing men and women to rape and defile the children.

Drug abuse

When talking about drug abuse this means any substance which mentally damages one's mind to not think in the right proper way for instance alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, kuba, cannabis, heroin and other. Child survivors mentioned drug abuse as their cause to their abuse and pointed out alcohol where by their parents were drunkards and this made them to be victims of abuse and anger of their parents that is say K.B testified that

> "my father was drinking too much this means that every time he was drunk and I never knew what job he was doing to get all that money for drinking and yet he was not leaving any money or if he left it was little. My mother had a stall where she was selling vegetables and fish but most times my father picked money from her yet she used this money to pay for rent and our school fees, however he was not beating anyone but whenever he was drunk he used to speak obscene words which made my mother so angry. And whenever we could ask for school fees and requirements from mother she could reply rudely referring us to the shameless father we had, so this humiliated my life and left off to streets".

However there were very many children who were abused and the cause was drug abuse and other substance despite the fact some cases were violent where by parents used to hit and punish the children terribly together with their mothers. As more to that, there also mothers who drink and become a disgrace to their children this makes children to hate them and to disrespect them because of what they have become.

Black .et.al(2001) illustrated that the use of drugs and alcohol causes child abuse and it jeopardize their children's health or safety, however this tallies with the findings as the human rights defenders and the child and family protection unit also mentioned that alcohol and other substance have caused child abuse in Masaka municipality whereby they said Masaka municipality is surrounded by slum areas where by the people who work in Masaka come from these slum areas which are associated with small drinking points, video halls and all sorts of awful, terrible behaviors of living. So alcohol associated with slums has changed children behavior making them to be vulnerable to all situations of defilement and use of these drugs

Ignorance of children about their rights

Out of 20 children questioned,15(30%) had no knowledge about children rights, responsibilities and duties. The rights, responsibilities and duties were inter changeably used and miss used for instance they mistook their responsibilities to be their rights this showed that children were ignorant about their rights. MOSETS (2013) report stated that 87% of children surveyed knew the existence of laws that keep children safe. The study findings indicated a gap that children are ignorant about their rights so this has made them vulnerable and paramount to abuse, this was evident through observation that children could not identify that they were are abused and if they were, they don't know where to report or who to talk to in any case of abuse.

Poor nurturing practices

Nurture is the care for, look after, foster, raise and rear children, children are nurtured in different way which causes positive and negative effects to children. Nurturing is done by parents/guardians and the community at large. Parents have different ways of nurturing which abuse children, these poor nurturing practices have made children to grow up unruly and

disobedient. All this is attributed to the new technology and changing society where by parents behave and dress indecent which has abused children also parents have gone ahead to pamper their children instead of educating them.

According to the human rights defenders indicated that poor nurturing practices by parents have abused children. Where parents abuse children by saying obscene words to children, watching pornographic videos and songs, watching serious quarrels and domestic violence from their own parents then children grow up when they are unruly and most times they are not advised because their parents are not willing to sacrifice and help their children.

Miss conception of the children's rights

Among the focus group discussions conducted many parents/ guardians miss interpreted child's rights as these are mistaken to be giving children freedom to be spoilt as the saying goes

"Spare rod and spoil the child"

This does not mean that children are to be beaten or punished in order to nurture them. Many parents/guardians have perceived children's rights in the wrong way as for now some parents don't punish their children because it is prohibited or against the law and other do punish the children because they say it's not the rights or government that gave birth to their children so this has brought a lot of conflicts between the parents, children and child workers.

Miss conception of child's rights is all attributed to the ignorance of parents. The human rights defenders showed that child rights are miss interpreted by parents/ guardians as they are ignorant on what is abuse and how cases of child abuse are handled. The technical people who present the information is packaged in a different way which confuses the audience hence miss interpretation of the rights. Many of the care givers who are mostly women are ignorant which

also increased child abuse. Low education attained by caregivers is a risk factor for abuse Cyr et.al (2010).

Domestic violence

Wrangles and disputes in families have caused domestic violence as the child and family protection unit and the human rights defenders illustrate that most cases received are a result of domestic violence. The child and family protection unit noted that they receive 2 to 4 cases of domestic violence in a week and for the human rights defender also noted that they receive 8 to 7 cases a month of domestic violence but all these include abuse of children.

According to ANPPCAN (2011) 15% of children report in their lives when both parents were too drunk to care them which a contributing factor to domestic violence but it does not agree with the human rights defenders who noted that in the families there is a lot of miss interpretation of gender equality and roles, which have brought a lot of disagreements and clashes between the couple leading to series of conflicts and problems, like denial of parentage to children. The children are deprived of the right to the family, negligence of children as the couple quarrels of who is who, who is doing what, when, where and why, children are neglected and abused as time passes. The other effects of domestic violence as the child worker at MIFUMI elaborates that fathers have left mothers with heavy work load which has made mothers to abuse their children by having uncontrolled anger because they feel insecure and fear to be single. Children are neglected, denied parentage and most times physically abused by the couple in anger displacement.

Weakness in the laws and enforcers

Uganda has very many laws, policies and acts which are formulated to enhance child protection. According to the child and family protection unit officer, illustrated that they have sensitized families, communities and children at schools. The child and family protection unit has collaborated with service providers like NGOs to ensure that parents/ guardians and children get to know about child rights and other related areas of human rights but still parents are reckless and they have neglected the law making it weak. This statement slightly agrees with the MOESTS (2013) which indicated that there are gaps in equipping the communities with knowledge of child protection. Due to the following reasons the human rights defenders and the district community development officer showed that the laws are weak in that they have lost follow up and re- engaging of the community in their work, the district community development officer also noted that packaging of information flow has also contributed to the weak laws leading to child abuse

The child worker also noted that the corruption and bureaucratic nature of the police has made the laws weak where by the police asks for facilitation which the community does not have and they take long to respond waiting for approvals with in the sector from the superiors, which has increased child abuse. According to the parents/ guardians they commented that police has not helped at all as sometimes they free the perpetrators' who repeatedly abuse the children and inmost case these people pay some money to the police to free them, so this has made the community to negotiate with the perpetrators on mutual grounds and sometimes they do mob justice to such people who abuse the children.

Poverty

In Uganda few people can earn more than a dollar a day. This according to the district community development officer who added that poverty has forced community and families in acts of child abuse which include early child marriages to their female children whereby they have forced these children to get married at a tender age before they are 18 years as the Ugandan constitution displays. Maddu. et.al. (2002) noted that cultural briefs and norms such as early child marriages led to child abuse. However, this statement does not agree with district community development officer who states that it is poverty which has forced parents to marry off their children before the age of 18. This has made many parents to force these children to drop out of school and get married in order to sustain themselves, yet early marriage has very many problems and complications to the lives of these children.

Vorrasi and Garbarino (2000) agreed with the district community development officer on poverty and unemployment as a cause and reason to child abuse. The district community development officer outlined that poverty in Uganda is as a result of climatic change and so many others. In Uganda   the entire population depends on agriculture and this is affected high inflation with other related issues of poor technology in farming, high fertility rate which has contributed to poverty and enhance child abuse. The district community development officer continued to note that poverty has forced some of these parents to send their children to labor these are mostly boys who work for the family and in no time turn out to be thieves since they have nothing to take back home and girls are taken to work as maids. However, child sacrifice and trafficking is a new form of child abuse in Masaka municipality. And this is due to poverty where children are trafficked with and without the know of the parents by other people to get

some money and child sacrifice is also done with and without the consent of parents who sometimes give and take other people's children for traditional rituals in order to get wealth.

The counselor at MIFUMI also commented on poverty where she illustrated that it has affected almost every family where by children have now stopped schooling because even the universal education for primary and secondary schools need to meet a cost of which the parents cannot afford plus other scholastic materials. So forcing children out of school and being prone to many forms of abuse like physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

According to the parents / guardians also commented that poverty has made parents to abuse children by malnourishing them because they have no food, the parents have denied their children proper medication, a right to education and so many other rights associated with money.

Figure 3 Statistical data of the trend abused children from 2012-2015 from CRO

Case handled in Masaka Municipality

2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
14	82	72	52	220

Source: field findings by the researcher 2016

Figure 3: Clearly indicated the number children cases handled by CRO and children were helped, are clearly showed by years and the number of children cases handled.

Figure 4 Cases handled in masaka municipality disaggregated by sex

2012		2013		2014		2015		Total	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
3	11	15	67	15	57	5	47	38	182

Source: field findings by the researcher 2016

Figure 4: Shows the number of children according to sex and who are mostly abused from 2012 to 2015.

Figure 5: Children at the residential center at CRO as from 2015-september to present

Male	174
Female	35

Source: field findings by the researcher 2016

Figure5: also goes ahead to indicate the number of residential children survivors that are under CRO, some are waiting to be reunite to their families and other do not have anywhere to go.

1.2 Child protection mechanisms

The district community development officer defined child protection mechanism as measures, techniques used to ensure children's protection and these can be community based or government enforced. The district community development along with other stakeholders were able to illustrate different child protection mechanisms that are used in Masaka municipality.

Police

The police was identified as one of the child protection mechanisms in Masaka municipality which is formal and this was mostly noted by the child survivors at CRO where by children identified it as a place one could go to seek assistance in case of any abuse conducted to children which showed a great impact that children knew where to go in case of abuse. The police was also identified by child workers as one of the child protection mechanisms that have they worked amicably with other NGOs on issues of children. The police has the child and family protection unit which offers services to children and families that is to say it has provided sensitization to

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the NGOs and the general public. The child worker testified that they worked with the child and family protection through sensitizing the community and referred cases that need legal support. However, much police was identified as child protection mechanisms guardians and child workers highlighted police not reporting in time at the crime scene, need of facilitation/ fuel and brake down of motor vehicles, failure to follow up cases and investigation, corruption in police, not having separate remand homes for children and adults.

Human rights offices

Human right commission office was identified as one of the formal mechanisms in child protection. The human rights commission was established by the 1995 Ugandan constitution to ensure protection and promotion of human rights including child rights. The human rights office was identified as an office that conducts research to enhance human rights, investigates, provides sensitization to the community, and it protects and promotes human rights. The human rights office is open but few community members knew about it. This has hindered both the community and human rights commission to fulfill their duty of promoting and protecting child rights.

The community development officers

Child restoration outreach identified, community development officers as one of the formal child protection mechanisms. Community development officers (CDOs) are sub county personnel's who are in charge of the community issues including child protection services these work with the local chair persons, police and probation office and other community leaders to ensure child protection. This mechanism was identified by a child survivor who noted that if any child is abused she/he can contact the community development officer for assistance to ensure

child protection. The community development officer conducts meetings with the community, conducts research for cases of abuse, conducts follow up, and refers to other agencies and authorities for further assistance. The guardians reported that community development officers have not followed up children because of no transport means and a lot of absenteeism from the office which has made guardians to withdraw cases.

Sensitization and advocacy

CRO clearly stated that sensitization and advocacy is one of the mechanisms used in child protection issues where by they have carried out sensitization in communities by training local leader's, sensitizing guardians, in and out school children and other stakeholders about child rights. MIFUMI and CRO testified that they have used peer educators and Para educators among children for in school children to help them sensitize and advocate for children rights and to report abuse cases that happen at school.

MIFUMI has gone ahead to put up advocacy campaigns and national celebration like participating in the day of African child where region celebrations where held in Masaka Municipality, to continue with the sensitization and advocacy of children rights. This sensitization and advocacy is not only for parents and stakeholders but also children are sensitized and trained on how to report, file case and where to seek help in case of any abuse in the community, these have helped in child protection, however the turn up of the community is always low as the community and stakeholders needs to be facilitated to attend trainings and workshops that are to benefit them, which has caused a failure to pass on the information to all individuals.

Media address

CRO noted that they have used media as a child protection mechanism in that they have paid airtime to radio and held talk shows which have hosted children, parents and stakeholders to talk about children issues. The mechanism has worked because they received immediate response via phone calls from the community where abuse has taken place and they have addressed the problems and challenges the children are facing. Also other interviewee like MIFUMI, human rights defenders and child protection officer testified that press conferences are held to address the community on the challenges faced concerning child abuse and also to seek for assistance in child protection issues.

Media address has helped NGOs of publicizing cases and offer systems of reporting child abuse. However counselor at MIFUMI noted that they do have a toll free number 0800 200 250 which is distributed and shared with the community to call in case of any problem for attention, Media has worked a lot but sometimes it has made case to be ambiguous and reporting false results. The guardians identified the media as a child protection mechanism used which has not helped because most of the information is in English which has made it very hard to understand the message.

OVC stakeholders meeting

The child worker at CRO identified OVC stakeholders meetings as mechanism. The district together with all NGOs working with children are invited in workshops, trainings and meeting and discuss about child protection issues in the areas of operation. The senior probation officer; district community development officer invites the NGOs and other service providers to discuss success, share challenges, solution and way forward to child protection issues. This is done on a

bi annual or quarterly basis to keep track to share experience and reports, in the meeting also linkages and partnerships with service providers get to know each other. Meetings are scheduled but service providers don't participate and excuse themselves of work load and sometimes they have no facilitation to attend the meeting which has made this mechanism to fail because coordination and operation is blocked, some few NGOs in the end become a problem in child protection issues.

Child protection policy

Child workers provided prof of child protection policy which act as a guide line for every person working with children in the organization, they also claimed that they have a visitors policy for that person who interact with the children. This was evident because the interviewer was subjected to a child protection policy before talking to children and it was field to keep records. This child protection policy is a good mechanism because it has minimized the abuse of children at the work place especially for CRO and MIFUMI who have residential homes for the children. CRO child worker testified that one visitor come with good intentions of talking to a child but he ended up abusing a child sexually which was a lesson to them that why they have taken serious precautions on children issues.

 Not all NGOs working with children have child protection policy which is risky to the organization especially to beneficiaries that need to be interacted with.

Setting of committees

Committees have been set depending on who is offering the service and where, a counselor at MIFUMI stated they have set up and stirred the existing structures like:-Parents Teachers Associations (PTA) and School Management Committees (SMC) these have worked closely

with MIFUMI to advocate for children rights. The committees have reported cases of child abuse and they have provided peer counseling. This mechanisms has really worked where by clubs have been formed at school and helped to share common goals and values to address issues of child abuse and other aspects of life. The child worker at CRO stated that clubs formed not only address child protection issues but other aspects of life like behavior change which have helped children to change their behaviors and child survivors who joined CRO testified that they have practiced it and it is working as child protection mechanisms. The district community development officer noted that OVC Coordination committees are formulated and they referred to as Sub county Orphans and Vulnerable Children Committee (SOVCC). These have helped service providers to forge a way forward on child related issues. Despite the committees achievements these have failed to fulfill their duties because they are not funded to monitor and provide support supervision leading to failure to address child protection issues.

Linkage and referral

The child workers, child and family protection unit and counselor at MIFUMI noted that when handling child protection issues sometime they are so complicated that cannot be handled by one person so referral and linkage is very important during child protection, this mechanisms of referring case has worked and helped a lot where by the children are able to receive some services that are not provided by some NGOs, so linkage has helped the children to find help and services from where they could not reach. The linkage and referral is affected by other issues of no funds to help children that are linked or referred, hence children not finding help.

1.2 Challenges faced during child protection

Lack of facilitation and budget allocations

According to the child and family protection officer noted that facilitation is a challenge to child protection services where the government does not allocate funds to the unit for the fuel. And worst of all they don't have budgets allocated towards the safety of children that is to say the regional police of masaka has no home to place children, no shelter and also there is no custody for children, children are joined with adults who abuse them. This issue of safe custody was also identified by the district community development officer who said police has no remand home and children are enclosed together with adults who abuse. Thomas (2011) noted less than one percent of the total government budget is allocated to child welfare and protection, but actually this does not tally with the research findings which indicated that there is no budget allocated to children as the respondents indicated, even when children represent a significant proportion of the total population of Uganda.

The child worker at CRO also noted that they receive a lot of children who are in need of help but due to the fact that they are donor funded, donors cannot meet all costs for children that why children are left with half-baked services, hence leading to more abuse of children. The child worker also continued to state that they don't receive any funds from the government to work hand in hand to overcome child abuse. But also the government bodies ask for money (bribe) in order to take on the case that is to say to notify the police to convict a perpetuator they need facilitation, the medical personnel also needs facilitation in case of defilement which has made the wok of child protection difficult.

Information gaps and flow

The information given out to the community has a lot of loop holes which is a challenge to child protection service, the child worker at CRO stated that information flow in the community is so poor where by different people have different perception of ideas and themes to child protection, so this has created a big difference to the understanding of child rights and child protection issues. An example of community members who think children are a concern of the individual alone and no one has right to them in case they are doing something wrong Thomas (2011) noted that child related data who are abused is very scare and lacks depth however Thomas findings do agree with the research fining at a small extent as CRO indicated that they cannot cover the whole district because of donor fund constricts. This has created a gap where information disseminated to the community has loop holes.

However gaps in information has created lack of awareness to new development about child rights and protection to the community, many people in the community don't know where start in case a child is defiled, physically abused or any other abuse, lack of awareness most times is brought about by information flow to the community which is understood in fragments without clear knowing what is what and how to go about it which is a challenge to child protection.

Corruption

As many interviewed identified corruption as a challenge to child protection service, the child worker at CRO noted that corruption has hindered child protection issues in Masaka municipality and this has been brought about by poverty in the communities. That is to say parents of the victims and the perpetuators connive together and they don't report or proceed with the case this can be a two way it can be parents victim or the perpetuator. It has been a challenge to child

protection because children are left unassisted and they have not seen justice taking place that why they seek revenge with is mob justice.

Also there stills stands a big problem of corruption to the legal system where by parents reported that in order to get justice you need to have money for bribe, of they don't have to proceed to courts of law which becomes a challenge to them because police, LC persons, community development officers, and other people to proceed to courts need money which is frustrating to their income.

False lies

So many people fear justice and the law that is say children have not spoken out the truth because of fear and intimidations that may be they will also be imprisoned or sometimes they speak falsely of what did not happen to them because of fear. The child and family protection unit noted that they had a lot of scenarios where children lie because of fear and they have not reported what exactly happened, which has made the work of the police very difficult to make investigations.

The child worker at CRO also noted that is not only that children lie but also parents lie because they fear the law and responsibility to their children, the child worker noted that many children come and report that they have been abused but on reaching to report to police they fail to illustrate what happened. But also parents falsely lie because they fear responsibility and sometimes they need help because of chronic poverty which has not enabled them to take care of their children hence a challenge to child protection.

The human rights defender also commented that there is a lot of lack of openness and confidentiality in the sense that if a perpetuator is a famous person or rich person at the village,

the community fails to open up because of fear to report and also the person does not want anyone know about the crime committed. Community members are not confident enough to share out what they have seen because of fear. The MIFIMI counselor also noted that families fail to report because of fear she testified by saying

> "The chairperson LCI was using children to work on his farm and these children were being taken away from parents by a promise of paying for them school fees but they were supposed to stay at his place but these children were not schooling instead working on the farm from morning to evening with one meal a day and serious physical abuse was done to a child because she failed to go the farm, but a concerned parent reported but the community failed to testify because the chair person had a shrine and they feared to be bewitched"

It became a challenge to collect evidence a jail the local chairperson because also the police station in the area knew about.

Political attitudes

The district community development officer noted that political attitudes have caused a big challenge in child abuse where by the politicians have not helped at all the community. The politicians are the same people that sent to the wider platform to advocate, speak and fight for the voiceless. But they have not helped at all whereby there some political representatives that have never stepped a foot in their area of constituency to help children or any other issues concerning the communities, they have not advocated for children rights and other rights for the community , they have not brought feed back to the community in case of new amendments of laws, acts and policies, they have not sensitized the community about child protection and other issues of development that are going on in the parliament.

Wrong and biased strategies

The government has put up a lot of strategies which sometimes are biased and wrong to achieve child protection in the country. The human rights defenders noted that it is challenge to child protection where by most of strategies are wrong and biased to the communities which have not helped to achieve child protection that is to say the SAUTI call 116 it is a good idea but it is not immediate it has a lot of bureaucracy by the time you revive help you are tied. This however agreed with save the children (2010) that the government does not consult the NGOs when designing the strategies to address child abuse. The other strategies which are biased are not allowing a child to testify in courts of law this has made children to feel they are unaided because sometimes the person presenting for them might lie of what did not happen or what happened which is a challenge to child protection.

The other strategy is the sensitization mode concerning child rights and child protection, where by some of these strategies used are not effective to the communities because of the different goals and aims of the NGOs this was stated by the human rights defenders who noted that NGOs have different targets and services they offer to children so they only stress where there center point of work is and leave out the other necessary information which might be very vital to the communities. Also the entire community is not invited and sometimes they don't engage the sub county leaders to attend their training and sensitization which is a challenge to child protection.

The nature of laws

Uganda has very nice and wonder full laws but these have become a challenge to child protection that say the child worker at MIFUMI noted that the laws are too weak to help the issue of child protection, there is a weakness in the laws that these appear in English and they were meant for

the community and children, they are not translated into local languages for the community to understand, they are also not predisposed to the community.

The human rights defenders and the child and family protection unit stated that they are very many NGOs working with children in Masaka municipality but you find they have few or no written literature on child rights, protection, children acts, constitution and code of conduct which is too dangerous for such NGOs. These are supposed to be well equipped, which creates a gap to achieve their goals and also having loop holes in their work.

Chain link with the parents and authorities

The child worker noted that parents / guardians receive a lot of challenges in following up cases to the authorities which has created a challenge to achieve child protection. That is the parents are so poor to meet the frequent transport costs to the police and court of laws for court hearing and other necessary details to achieve justice for their children.

Also the authorities fail to track and follow up case because of budget related issues which most times make them to fail to achieve child protection service for the children. Due to the fact that NGOs are 99% funded by donors and these donor are becoming frustrated with funding so following up of children in far places is a myth because they don't have such fuel costs to track the children details, hence a challenge to child protection.

Self esteem

Child abuse cases and child protection are facing a big challenge of self-esteem of individuals who abuse children that to say many people abuse children but because of esteem, popularity and respect they have corrupted the systems and authority to shadow the cases of child abuse, the

child worker stated that many perpetuators connive with the victims or the authorities to lose the files of child abuse in order to clear their names, the child worker testified that

> "A school teacher was seriously abusing children sexually for girls and physically for boys as for the parent's victim got to know he filed a case and other cases also came on board but the respect of the school the head teacher bribed the police to close the file that parents withdrew the acquisitions of which he bribed some parents by giving them sponsorships and bursaries for their children".

The child worker also noted that its only school head teachers that do that but also other people do the same for instance people who use children to work, traffic children, sacrifice children they bribe in order to cover their wrong deeds hence which is a challenge to child protection.

NGO services are not comprehensive

As masaka municipality has very many NGOs that work with children but there services are not comprehensive in nature in that a child receives one or two services which is not comprehensive to their needs, instead of working on few children and their households but they end up working on very many children to impress the donors with half services on children leaving them vulnerable and more prone to abuse. The district community development officer noted that many NGO provide services but actually it is disservice to children because they are left as they were and sometimes even more badly, she also acknowledged that there is fatigue of donor fund and constraints in budget allocation to NGOs which has made disservice to children.

However she stated that if any NGO is provide a service to a child, let it be widespread even to the house hold level to make an impact in their life because the biggest challenge to child abuse is poverty. Also the child and family protection unit stated that NGOs in masaka municipality provide duplicated service to a child that is you find so many NGOs providing the same service to children which are not helping in terms of service delivery to children.

NGOs should not only please the donors but also the communities where these children come from by providing integrated services to include the family to appreciate the services that NGO has provided to their children and the household.

1.2 Solutions / strategies to child protection issues

Economic empowerment

Creating economic development project to the community most especially to the households where these children come in to address the issue of poverty, the district community development officer stated that such a strategy and a solution to poverty which has mothered all the causes of child abuse is to help in addressing child protection issues. The child worker also noted that economic empowerment should be considered but however they cannot make it because their budget cannot allow them to so in order to provide comprehensive services to children, but instead they refer to other NGO who can provide such services to children

Devising new means of sensitization and advocacy

The child worker stated the new modernized strategies and efforts should be allocated to sensitization of the community even when it needs to divide the groups according to sex and other categories like children, fathers, mothers and local leaders. In order to get a clear picture of what section has to say in order to clear out the doubts of child rights and protection. She also noted that sensitization and community change is in the process at CRO in order to have understanding of child rights and also giving of feed back to the community.

In devising new means children should be trained to in different aspects like peer educators and Para educators to provide services to their fellow collogues, the child worker at MIFUMI stated that this is being done to make sure that children to talk to fellow children in order to get the

right information, share experience and also counsel each other which has helped a lot and probably it can worker for other NGOs working with children.

however sensitization was in favor for all the respondents because they noted that sensitization is to help if more efforts is put in for instance to include the local leader, police and other NGOs who work with children in order to share their experience with children. The human rights defender also commented that intensive sensitization is to work to achieve child protection where by working with the law makers to interpret the laws, policies and changing acts in local languages to make them available to the community in order to be effectively used. Also the district community development officer also commented that stakeholders should be include when making sensitization in the community so that they get to know what new development of child protection issues are on board.

Community policing

The child and family protection officer Identified that community should be used in order to achieve child protection services, that is the community has to work with the police and also the community has to work as the police to every ones backs in order to achieve child protection. She commented that community policing does not mean mob justice but working amicably with the community and police in order to achieve the common goal of which they long for, she also noted that they are encouraging the community to take police as a place where you can find someone to talk too for help.

Review and restructuring of community structure mechanism

Long ago there existed community structure which guided children and the entire community these should be awakened, the parents / guardians noted once these systems are structured again

where by children are handled as a matter of very one in the community and a concern taking other community children as your own. The parents testified that by their days these community structures where working a lot and that's why there were no cases of child abuse as they are now today so these have to come up and to be initiated by the local chairpersons to embraces, adopt and sensitized to the community in order to resolve child abuse.

Human resource capacity building

The human resource working with children should be educated and provided with adequate information concerning child protection, since this is cut crossing issue to all sectors. These need to be provided with information about children that is to say health sector, education, community services, justice law and order sectors because children need services from them. All these sectors need to have the appropriate knowledge, skills and attitudes for responding appropriately to child abuse cases. The community development officer noted stakeholders meeting are held in order to address issues of children and to build capacities of other service providers who work with children.

Motivation is also vital to the human resource working with children this is true that whenever child workers is paid well he/she will provide quality standard work because it very disturbing work for them. These have been paid well and trained in child friendly services in order not to scare children and to capture all the details of children.

Strengthening Networking and collaboration

To address the issue of NGOs not being comprehensive, NGOs have networked and collaborated with each other due the fact they have donor frustration and fatigue which cannot help them to provide services to children, so NGOs have networked with the government and with each other

to provide services to children. However, due to limited resources, effective child abuse programs require inter-sectoral and intra-sectoral collaboration that can provide resources and preventative measures to address the institutional filings in the justice system. This can lead to impunity for perpetrators, so that the vicious circle of human rights and child abuses are minimized.

Provision and disseminating of IEC materials

The information education and communication (IEC) materials have been provided to the community that is CRO stated that it gives out T-shirts with printed information in local languages to children, community members and the stakeholders to circulate the children messages; they have conducted radio talk shows at Impact FM, Buladde FM and Buddu FM to sensitize the community about child rights and child protection, they also noted that they provide books, banners, chats and other printed materials to sensitize the children and the community about child rights. This has somehow helped to address the challenges of ignorance and lack of awareness of child rights in the community

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter is divided in to three subdivisions. The first presents summary of the study, highlighting the problem purpose. The second part outlines the conclusions derived from the research finding. Details of the major findings were reported and discussed in the previous chapter. The third presents recommendations of the study.

5.1 Summary

The research aimed at assessing the child protection issues in masaka municipality. In order to achieve the objectives of this study the research questions were progressive by the research were as followsWhat are the causes of child abuse in Masaka Municipality?, What are the child protection mechanisms used by CRO in Masaka Municipality?, What challenges do CRO face during child protection issues in Masaka municipality?, What are the possible solutions/strategies to child protection issues?

The research finding cannot be all that overstated because child protection is still an issue in the country. However so many studies have been in and outside Uganda but there is still much more efforts that need to be done in Masaka municipality.

The study established that there are so many causes of child abuse in the municipality which are currently going on which included death of parents, children's stubbornness, marrying of other partners, domestic violence, drug abuse, moral degeneration these and more others really contributed to the abuse of children in masaka district.

The study also established that however they are so many child protection mechanisms that are used but in masaka police, community development officers, human rights offices, media address, sensitisation and advocacy, OVC stakeholders meetings, child protection policy were among the mechanism used to achieve child protection services in the municipality.

The challenges found out by research were lack of facilitation, information flow and gaps, false lies, wrong and biased strategies theses were among the challenges found out in the research which hindered the children protection. Among the solutions in addressing the research objectives included new strategies of sensitisation, economic empowerment, community policing, networking and collaboration, restructuring of community mechanisms where some of the solution used to resolve some of the challenges facing child protection.

5.2 General conclusions

The widespread child abuse in masaka municipality reveals that the role of the stakeholders and police to protect the children was a major gap. Negative police attitudes, inadequate protection of victims of child abuse and non-achievement of justice are debilitating. These acts therefore discourage, frustrate and create fear in the victims from reporting cases of child abuse to the police. Therefore, the victims will not guarantee that police will take their cases seriously instead they will remain traumatized, confused and unable to understand the role of the police in assisting them in these matters. The active participation of community development officer, local chairpersons and village councils is missing handling children's issues.

Failure to adequately address child abuse in all its forms poses a serious challenge towards achieving the goal of poverty eradication and improved quality of life in Uganda especially for women and children. It also makes it very difficult for Uganda to achieve the 17sustainable Development Goals.

Procedure to enforce constitutional provisions in Uganda's courts is stiff, expensive and takes a long time to complete make it difficult to prosecute and to improve system.

Therefore, the state and non-state actors have the primary responsibility to implement international, regional and national laws that protect children from child abuse in all communities of Uganda. To this end, a major challenge will be to ensure that government policies, international, regional, national instruments, the 1995 Constitution of Uganda and the Guiding Principles on child rights are widely disseminated to the stakeholders; district officials, government officials, NGOs dealing with children so that they are equipped with knowledge and skills to improve their capacity to handle cases of child abuse accordingly. This will reinforce attitudes and behavioral change among the stake holders and can maximize protection and fair treatment of children with respect and social justice that apply to the rest of Ugandan children. This will enable the stakeholders to seek guidance on how to address child abuse issues and encourage the government of Uganda to embark on the peaceful resolution of the conflicts in northern Uganda.

5. 3 Recommendations

Comprehensive services for survivors of child abuse

Psychosocial and legal support services for survivors of child abuse need to be comprehensive. This means a package of assessment, treatment, rehabilitation, legal support, documentation and

appropriate referral. There must be compassion, empathy and an environment where the survivors are assured of personal security. The following basic elements are necessary for ensuring that services for survivors of child abuse are comprehensive.

Making the relevant laws operational

Uganda has ratified and signed various international conventions and declarations. There has also been some progress, though slow to domesticate these and also to revise others for instance those relating to sexual offences. The President recently signed the Domestic Relations Law, which outlaws widow inheritance and marital rape. There is also the law on genital mutilation. There is need, however, for commitment by all relevant sectors to make these laws operational by developing appropriate policies and strategic plans. Also an effort has to be made to translate such laws in local languages which community members can understand and notify the public in case new laws, policies and acts come on board for the community to know what is taking place in their own nation.

Evidence based interventions

Policy makers and service providers in the area of child abuse need to be empowered to carry out operational research and direct studies to be able to appropriately plan and to deliver quality services for survivors of child abuse. There is need for instance for studies into the current preventive strategies and the current counseling approaches used.

To have child abuse policies and strategic plans that are effective, information is vital. This requires child abuse plans to be incorporated into the existing management information systems. This information should not only be collected but should be analyzed and disseminated to the key actors.

Government bodies working with children to be field based

All the government bodies should stop working in office but be field based because they are around to serve children but not office; this means that professionalizing the police in terms of recruiting social workers and psychologists to enhance the effectiveness of the police in ensuring that the rights of child survivors are protected. These should be trained and make field trips not only when called upon but also make researches and surveys about child abuse and follow up of cases this needs to work to all sectors to be friendly to community social services, victim friendly health services, victim friendly police services and victim friendly courts.

Networking and collaboration

The government and NGOs need to collaborate and network, but also linked to each other for instance the government should bring on board the NGOs that work with children to supplement on the ongoing Agendas of children and also before passing new policies and laws because NGOs are the true people to give relevant information which the government cannot give but this should not be biased. Furthermore, there is need to involve the private sector with public-private partnerships to be encouraged at the national and community levels as regards policy making, resource mobilization and service provision. Networks between service providers will facilitate the sharing of information and lessons learned.

Parliament to affect the children rights

As the parliament enacts laws, policies and acts it should stop compiling the laws but to also see are these working, the parliament should also be field based whereby they should have technical team which is field based to see that all the laws enacted are they working this monitoring and evaluation has to be made to ensure effectiveness of child rights.

Allocation of budgets

The government should allocate a budget to child protection issues in that the government should budget for the child and family protection unit, medical personnel to conduct tests on abused children and also it should provide support to NGOs that work with children because the NGOs are helping the government to deliver services which cannot be offered by the government so it should make efforts to work with NGOs to provide at least homes for children, remand houses and also in any way possible to the NGOs.

Incorporate child rights in the curriculum

Children rights should be joined and incorporated into the curriculum at primary, secondary and higher institutions of learning where by at any level someone drops out of school has an idea on what is child abuse, child rights, child protection and other related issues about children in order to address the issues of ignorance and lack of awareness in the communities.

Media regulations

Government should regulate the information, music, videos and shows that are conducted which happen to be abusive to children. The government should do so because it is in control of their license of operation, so this means that the government should regulate whatever social media that goes to the public because it might cause abuse to children.

Transparency

All the government and NGOs working with child should strive hard to be transparent in nature that is to say the government bodies should be transparent enough to gain the trusts of the communities where by the police for instance has work hard to be transparent enough to clear it

name in order to gain trust from the community because it was found out that community does not trust the police so much efforts need to take place in order to be transparent. Also the NGOs need also to be transparent whereby should be clean enough to provide services which are satisfying to the community in order to achieve child protection.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Figure 6; Map of Masaka district
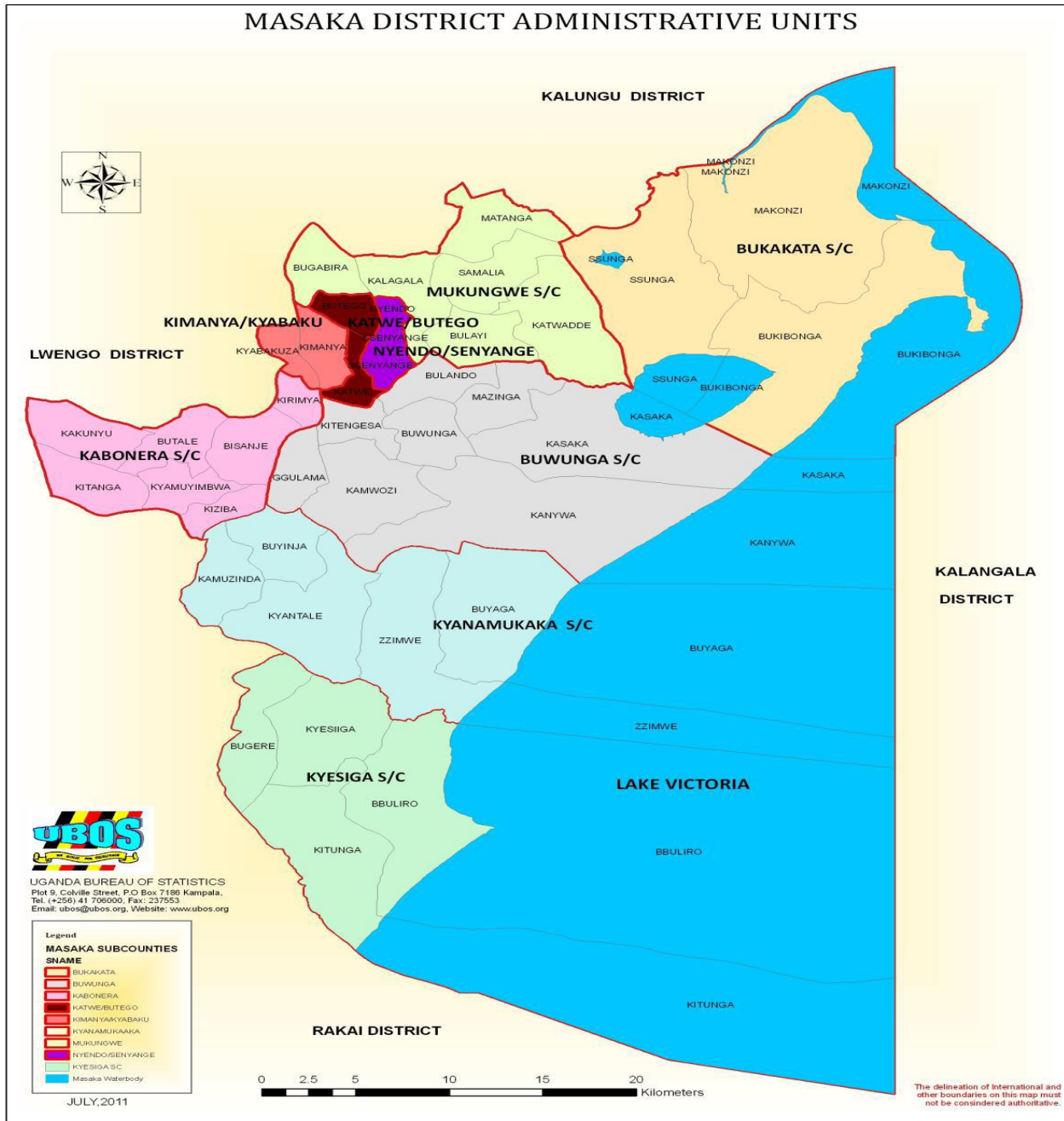
Appendix 2

Figure 7 Map of Masaka municipality

Appendix 3

Questioner and interview guide

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UGANDA MARTYRS UNIVERSITY

FACAULTY OF SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE, DEPARTMENT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE AND PEACE

QUESTIONAIRES ON THE ASSESSMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES IN MASAKA MUNICIPALITY

</div>

I am Nabunya Stella a third year student carrying out research on the assessment of child protection issues in Masaka municipality. This research is a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Award of a Master of Arts degree in local governance and human rightsat Uganda Martyrs University.

You are kindly requested to fill in the questionnaire below to assist me generate primary data to complete my dissertation. I wish to state clearly, that the information provided will be strictly confidential and purely for academic purposes.

Name of respondent (optional) …………………………………………

Sex…………………………………………………….

Age (optional)…………………………………………

Employment level (status)…………………………………………………….

1. In your own understanding, how can you define human rights?

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2. In your own understanding, how can you define child rights?

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3. In your own understanding, how can you define child protection?

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4. Mention some forms of child abuse that occur in Masaka municipality.

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5. What are the cause's child abuses in Masaka municipality?

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6. What child protection mechanisms are used in Masaka municipality by child restoration outreach?

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7. Are child protection mechanisms effective? if yes, give reasons and mention those that are effective.

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If no, mention those that are not effective. And why?

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8. What challenges does child restoration outreach face during child protection issues in Masaka municipality?

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9. What are the possible solutions/strategies to child protection issues

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Thank you for your co-operation

God bless you

UGANDA MARTYRS UNIVERSITY

FACAULTY OF SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE, DEPARTMENT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE AND PEACE

QUESTIONAIRES ON THE ASSESSMENT OF CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES IN MASAKA MUNICIPALITY

I am Nabunya Stella a third year student carrying out research on the assessment of child protection issues in Masaka municipality. This research is a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Award of a Master of Arts degree in local governance and human rights at Uganda Martyrs University.

You are kindly requested to fill in the questionnaire below to assist me generate primary data to complete my dissertation. I wish to state clearly, that the information provided will be strictly confidential and purely for academic purposes.

Name of respondent (optional) ……………………………………………

Sex…………………………………………………………………………

Age (optional)………………………………………………………………

1. In your own understanding, how can you define human rights?

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2. In your own understanding, how can you define child rights?

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3. In your own understanding, how can you define child protection?

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4. Have you ever been abused yes or no?

    If yes, how

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    ………

5. Mention some forms of child abuse that occur in Masaka municipality.

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6. What are the cause's child abuses in Masaka municipality?

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7. Do you know any child protection mechanisms are used in Masaka municipality?

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8. Do you know where to go or any person to contact in case of any abuse? mention

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9. Are child protection mechanisms effective? If yes, give reasons and mention those that are effective.

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If no, mention those that are not effective. And why?

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10. What challenges are faced during child protection issues in Masaka municipality?

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11. What solution / recommendations would you give to reduce child abuse in Masaka municipality?

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Thank you for your co-operation

God bless you

UGANDA MARTYRS UNIVERSITY

FACAULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE,DEPARTMENT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE AND PEACE

Focused Interview on the assessment of child protection issues in Masaka municipality

I am Nabunya Stella, a third year student carrying out research assessment of child protection issues in Masaka municipality. This research is a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Award of a Master of Arts degree in local governance and human rights at Uganda Martyrs University.

This therefore, is to kindly request you to answer the questions below to assist me generate primary data to complete my dissertation. I wish to state unequivocally that the information provided will be strictly confidential and purely for academic purposes.

Name of respondent (optional) …………………………………………

Sex…………………………………………………………………………

Age (optional)……………………………………………………………

Employment level…………………………………………………………

1. What do you understand by the concept child rights?
2. What are the different forms of child abuse that occur in Masaka municipality?
3. What are the cause's child abuses in Masaka municipality?
4. What child protection mechanisms are used in Masaka municipality?
5. Are child protection mechanisms effective? If yes, give reasons and mention those that are effective. If no, mention those that are not effective. And why?
6. What challenges are faced during child protection issues in Masaka municipality?
7. What are the possible solutions/strategies to child protection issues?
8. What recommendation would you like make towards child protection?