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FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

FAMILY EXPERIENCES FOLLOWING RELEASE OF INCARCERATED FATHER.

BY

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RELEASE FORM

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DEDICATION

This dissertation is dedicated to my husband Nicolas Nyere and our three beautiful children for the unwavering support, love and encouragement. To God Almighty for this opportunity.

ABSTRACT

Incarceration can be destructive yet it is not publicly talked about. The incarceration of a father makes one a widow/widower or orphan. The incarceration of a family member has serious repercussions and normally leads to family crises yet it seems to be taken for granted by the society, government and other stakeholders. This study generally sought to look at the experiences of the ex-convicts and their families, passive victims of incarceration. The design of this study was a phenomenological exploration which employed an in depth interview guide for the collection of qualitative data. Twenty (20) respondents who were ex-convicts and their spouses and (11) children in Chitungwiza, Harare, Norton and had spent at least 5 years in the prison and at least 3 years after release were interviewed. The study revealed that the incarceration of a father has rippling effects on their spouses, children even the father himself in life beyond walls. Some of the effects of incarceration on these groups include: trauma and psychological problems associated with prison life and poor reintegration, social stigma and subsequent redraw, poor school performance and high school drop-out rate, substance abuse in the case of children as well as changes in family composition and weakened parental ties. For the spouses of ex-convicts the effects of incarceration identified include: role changes, economic hardships as well as lack of intimacy, infidelity, HIV/AIDS issues and possible divorce due to resentment. The researcher recommends that the study be done in a quantitative research to increase sample size and use of other research tools besides interviews in sensitive subjects to allow openness. It is the hope of this researcher that this valued information will guide and influence policy formulation, in relation to the ex-convicts and their families who need to be considered in the total process of incarceration and life after prison. Modified prison conditions and practices as well as new programs are needed as preparation for release, during transitional periods of parole or initial reintegration, and as long-term services to insure continued successful adjustment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To the all sufficient Jehovah Ebenezzer, God who has taken me this far. To my family, thank you for standing by me.

My heartfelt appreciation and gratitude are extended to the following people for their contribution in the completion of this research study.

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To my colleagues Agnes Muuya, Geraldeen Kanyowa and Kudzai Mugarisanwa, thank you for your constant support, encouragement and friendship. You all knew exactly what to say and do to make my life at MSU worthwhile. It is indeed a blessing to have people like you in my life.

Earnest appreciation is given to my study respondents who were of great help in the success of this study. Your amazing commitment and teamwork will remain cherished forever.

Psychology lecturers for every bit of empowerment, wisdom and knowledge imparted upon my life throughout the years.

Not forgetting my fellow Psychology students who made the four years seem like four days!

May God bless you all abundantly.

DECLARATION

I SHAMISO A. MADONDO, solemnly declare that the information in this dissertation, prepared in partial fulfillment of the bachelor of Social Sciences Honors Degree in Psychology, submitted to the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences at Midlands State University has never been presented, submitted or published in this manner or part. Previous works have been duly accredited and acknowledged.

Table of Contents

APPROVAL FORM **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

RELEASE FORM **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

DEDICATION **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

ABSTRACT **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

DECLARATION **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

LIST OF APPENDICES **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

TABLE OF CONTENTS **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

REFERENCES 80

APPENDIX ONE 965

RESEARCH INTERVIEW GUIDE 965

CHAPTER ONE 1

1.0 INTRODUCTION 1

1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY 1

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM 4

1.3 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY 5

1.4 RESEARCH QUESTIONS 6

1.5 ASSUMPTIONS 6

1.6 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY 7

1.7 DELIMITATIONS 7

1.8 LIMITATIONS 7

1.9 DEFINITION OF TERMS 7

1.10 SUMMARY 8

CHAPTER TWO 9

LITERATURE REVIEW 9

2.0 INTRODUCTION 9

2.1 THE CONCEPT OF INCARCERATION 9

2.1.1	REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION	210
2.1.2	SOCIETAL PROTECTION, JUSTICE AND CRIME DETERRENCE	243
2.2	UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF INCARCERATION	254
2.2.1	HIDDEN VICTIMS OF INCARCERATION	254
2.2.2	EFFECTS OF IMPRISONMENT ON CHILDREN.	276
2.2.3	TRAUMA OF INCARCERATION ON CONVICTED FATHERS	287
2.2.4	FAMILY EXPERIENCES	19
2.2.5	EFFECTS ON THE WIVES OF PRISONERS	311
2.3	COPING MECHANISMS	354
2.4	SOCIAL BACKING	365
2.5	THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK	387
2.6	KNOWLEDGE GAP	410
2.7	SUMMARY	421
CHAPTER THREE		432
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY		432
3.0	INTRODUCTION	432
3.1	RESEARCH APPROACH	432
3.2	RESEARCH PARADIGM	432
3.2.1	RESEARCH DESIGN	443
3.3	TARGET POPULATION	454
3.3.1	POPULATION SAMPLE	454
3.3.2	SAMPLING TECHNIQUE AND PROCESS	454
3.4	RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS	465
3.4.1	PILOT STUDY	476
3.4.2	VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY	476
3.5	DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES	488
3.5.1	INTERVIEWS	38
3.5.2	INTERVIEW TECHNIQUE	39
3.5.3	PROCESS OF GATHERING INTERVIEW DATA	500
3.5.4	NOTE TAKING DURING INTERVIEWS	510

3.6	DATA PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS	510
3.7	ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS	521
3.8	SUMMARY	533

CHAPTER FOUR 565

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS 565

4.0	INTRODUCTION	565
4.1	SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS	565
4.1.1	SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC ATTRIBUTES OF THE FATHERS	576
4.1.2	SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC ATTRIBUTES OF WIVES OF MALE EX-CONVICTS	587
4.1.3	SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC ATTRIBUTES OF THE CHILDREN	598
4.2	THEME 1 - TRAUMA AND BROKEN BONDS SUFFERED	609
4.2.1	SUB-THEME – ANGER, RESENTFULNESS AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIORS	609
4.2.3	SUB-THEME – DETERMINATION, RECONCILIATION VS. DIVORCE	621
4.3	THEME 2 - MARITAL RELATIONS AND ATTACHMENTS DURING PRISON	632
4.3.1	SUB-THEME 1- INFIDELITY	632
4.4	THEME 2- DECAY OF MORAL VALUES IN CHILDREN	654
4.4.1	SUB-THEME 2 – RESENTMENT AND DISRESPECT	654
4.4.2	SUB-THEME 3 -IMMORALITY - PRE-MARITAL SEX	665
4.5	THEME 4 - CRIMINAL LIFE-CYCLE	676
4.5.1	SUB-THEME 4 - STREET LIFE AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE	676
4.6	THEME 5 - ROLES PLAYED BY INDIVIDUAL BELIEFS	687
4.6.1	SUB-THEME 5 - RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL BELIEFS	687
4.7	THEME 6 - BROKEN HEARTS BROKEN MARRIAGES	698
4.8	THEME 7- BEHAVIORAL, PERSONALITY AND PHYSICAL CHANGES IN FATHERS	60
4.8.1	SUB-THEME 1 – ROLE CHANGES	60
4.9	THEME 8 - COPING INSTRUMENTS USED BY FAMILIES	732
4.10	THEME 9 - SOCIAL HELP AND SUPPORTIVE NETWORKS	743
4.11	SUMMARY	765

CHAPTER FIVE 776

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	776
5.0	INTRODUCTION 776
5.1	REVIEW OF METHODOLOGY 776
5.2	WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES FACED BY MALE EX-CONVICTS UPON AND AFTER RELEASE? 776
5.2.1	UNEMPLOYMENT 787
5.2.2	REJECTION 787
5.2.3	MENTAL DEGRADATION AND IDENTITY CRISIS 798
5.3	HOW ARE THE SPOUSES OF THESE FATHERS AFFECTED BY PRISON SENTENCE AND THE REINTEGRATION? 809
5.3.1	INFIDELITY AND FINANCIAL CHALLENGES 809
5.4	HOW WERE THE CHILDREN AFFECTED BY PRISON SENTENCE AND INTEGRATION AND INTERACTING WITH AN EX-CONVICT FOR A FATHER? 70
5.4.1	NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF INCARCERATION ON CHILDREN'S EDUCATION 821
5.4.2	SCHOOL DROP-OUTS 821
5.4.3	CRIMINAL LIFE-CYCLE 832
5.4.4	STREET LIFE, SMOKING AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE 832
5.5	WHAT COPING MECHANISMS WERE EMPLOYED BY THESE FAMILIES IN COMBATING THE CHALLENGES OF INCARCERATION? 843
5.5.1	RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL BACKING 843
5.6	CONCLUSIONS 865
5.7	PROBLEMS OF THE STUDY 876
5.8	RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE RESEARCH FINDINGS 887
5.8.1	RECOMMENDATIONS PERTAINING FUTURE STUDIES 898
5.9	CHAPTER SUMMARY 909

CHAPTER ONE

THE PROBLEM AND ITS SETTING

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The study focuses on the experiences faced by male ex-convicts and their immediate family members, basically the spouse and children as well as raising awareness on the effects that are brought by imprisonment into life beyond prison in Zimbabwe. The central focus of the study is on an exploratory study done on a few families within Zimbabwe. It further examines any possible coping strategies on the challenges encountered by immediate family members of these ex-convicts in order to survive. Chapter one presents background of the study, statement of the problem, significance of the study and the purpose of the study. It also focuses on the objectives, hypothesis or research questions, delimitations, limitations and assumptions. The definitions of the key terms are also provided in the chapter. Finally a summary of the topic is also presented, summing up contents of this chapter.

1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

The impacts of detainment on male ex-convicts and their families are nearly altogether ignored in scholastic examination, jail detail, open strategy and media scope. Sadly, detainees' families have not been examined in their own particular right. In any case, one can surmise from the background of these male ex-convicts and their families, that they are a profoundly powerless gathering. Characteristically family is influenced, affected and included in the jail sentence, accordingly thus to say the sentence influences everybody appended in the life of a prisoner. Inquiries or studies on the extensive impacts of incarceration and jail dividers have as of late started. This section looks to survey requirement for examination on the impacts of incarceration on ex-convicts, their families as a setting. Constrained research to date proposes that detainment can have wrecking outcomes for spouses and children of these male convicts. Concentrating on pertinent research quickly, unintended outcomes highlighted so far include: the social disruption of groups (Clear et al, 2001), decreased openings for work for ex-detainees (Holzer et al, 2004),

redirection of trusts far from schools and colleges (Hagan and Dinovitzer 1999), monetary loads on families and presumably mental impacts may emerge because of specified issues which is likewise one of the focal centers of this study. As indicated by examination, families are an imperative impact on numerous parts of detainees' lives in this way family and child rearing variables are key indicators of criminal conduct through the life-course (Farrington, 2002 and Loeber, 1986). Loss of outside connections is viewed as the most excruciating part of restriction for convicts (Flanagan, 1980 and Richards, 1978). However, because of solace and feeling of having a place and security that it gives, family contact is connected with lower rates of self mischief while inside jail (Harvey, 1992). Despite the fact that it ought to start in jail, families are a standout amongst the most critical variables influencing detainees' restoration and reintegration after discharge (Social Exclusion Unit, 2002).

As per a couple of studies done, it can additionally be contended that rehabilitation after jail is an issue worldwide also by regional standards. In a study done by Amanda Dissel in 2011 on African Prisons, it could be noted that rehabilitation and reintegration of detainees is recognized as one of the key capacities of the jail framework that are to be considered in fruitful treatment of guilty parties. Rehabilitative deliberations or routines and strategies utilized within jail and after jail ought to be seen as far as their viability both locally and universally. Over the long haul, families are thought to be the central point in the restoration of guilty parties and that is the reason this study tried to discover their encounters in life past detainee dividers. Accordingly, issues of authenticity and decency may be as vital outside jail as they are inside.

According to research done in Europe by Dodd and Hunter (2013) on prison survey, the uncommon number of individuals being discharged from jail, and the rate at which they are, no doubt discharged makes reentry a pressing contemporary social issue. In their studies they recognized that at least 95% of all individuals imprisoned in state offices come back to society. A significantly bigger rate of the individuals who spent time in prisons in the region and city prisons return to community. In 2010, more than 735,000 came back to their families, declining to a degree in 2012 to 729,295. In 2012 there were 1,998 individuals at normal who were discharged from region detainment facilities every day excluding those discharged from city prisons. The condition in which detainees come back to their families and community ought to

be of incredible open concern in light of the fact that they are psychologically hurt by the repression of the prison domain.

Johnson and Waldfogel (2004) pointed out that all inclusive jail populace has soar in the most recent 3 decades with an estimation of 10 million individuals worldwide in jails. As indicated by global research done in nations like Australia, Canada, America and Britain amongst other Western nations, over a huge number of families are experiencing the unintended results of detainment (Shaw, 1992). In America and Britain being the most noteworthy, an estimation of 1.5 million children have an incarcerated father (Parkman, 2005).

Dissel (2011) places that constrained findings to date recommends that restoration and reintegration is additionally an issue at regional level in her studies done in most African prisons facilities incorporating those in Ghana, Mozambique, South Africa, Uganda, Ethiopia, Botswana and Tanzania amongst numerous others. Dissel (2011) exceptional with incredible worry that however most information on jail effects and recovery emanate from studies conveyed in developed nations, for example, the US, UK, Western Europe and Australia, regional studies have as of late started.

The National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders in South Africa has found the criticalness and imperativeness of restoration and reintegration after a review on re-offenders which was on an increment at an assessment of 65%.

At local level, regarding facts, Zimbabwe has 42 rehabilitation facilities versus an assessment of over 18 000 prisoners furthermore 2000 criminal rate in burglary, in excess of 1400 criminal rate in assault cases consistently. The effects of exceptional levels of imprisonment are constantly being felt quietly in communities and families that are getting monstrous quantities of ex-convicts who have finished their sentences, or acquitted by the Zimbabwean President and return home jobless, most likely more perilous and furthermore retaining the abnormal state of mental trauma and issue that the vast majority of these male convicts are bringing with them.

The ramifications of these psychological impacts for child rearing and family life might be significant. Fathers who come back from detainment are said to be reliable on institutional structures and schedules, they may not be expected to successfully compose the lives of their

children or activity, they cannot be expected to effectively organize the lives of their children or exercise the initiative and autonomous decision making that are required and expected from a parent.

The excessive and disproportionate use of imprisonment over the last several decades also means that these problems will not only be large but concentrated primarily in certain families that have received and those yet to receive convicts. Thus, whatever the psychological consequences of imprisonment and their implications for reintegration back into the families and marriages from which prisoners have come, are going to be felt in unprecedented ways in these families, by their wives and children, like no others.

Not surprisingly, then, one scholar back in the 1990s has predicted that imprisonment would become the most significant factor in contributing to the dissolution and breakdown of African American families and another school of thought concluded that crime control policies are a major contributor to the disruption of the family, the prevalence of single parent families, and children raised without a father in the ghetto, and the inability of people to get the available jobs amongst many other challenges yet to be unveiled.

Prison sentence is also assumed to have an indirect impact on the physical health of the family members such as anxiety, depression, and exhaustion which may take a toll on the physical health of the families. Shaw (1987) pointed out some years ago, that if we do not attend to the effects of imprisonment on children, we face the possibility of punishing innocent victims, neglecting a seriously at risk group, and possibly causing crime in the next generation.

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The number of prisoners being pardoned yearly by the Zimbabwean President is growing together with those being released upon completion of prison sentence into the free world. According to statistics, there are 42 correctional facilities versus over 18 000 inmates, thus to say, there is an increase in number of offenders/convicts being released as well or pardoned due to economic hardships. The Zimbabwe Prisons and Correctional Services (ZPCS) has been failing to feed the inmates since 2013. Latest findings show that a large number of these inmates

are suffering from scurvy and pellagra, among other diseases. However, such experiences and psychological consequences of imprisonment may interfere with their transition from prison to home, impede with these ex-convicts successful re-integration into a social network and employment setting, and may compromise an incarcerated parent's ability to resume his or her role with family, spouse and children. Unfortunately, little has been done in terms of studying male prisoners' lives beyond walls with those of their spouses and children. As such this study sought to examine the experiences that ex-convicts, spouse and children in Zimbabwe go through and possible ways of coping in a phenomenology exploratory study done within Harare and Norton families precisely.

1.3 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The research is going to provide insight for future researchers on the experiences of Zimbabwean ex-convicts and their immediate family members thus spouse and children. The researcher has discovered that not much has been written about or done in Zimbabwe on the experiences of these families compared to research done in other continents. The effects and experiences are said to differ demographically though common factors may be discovered. Effects may include psychological effects which the majority of the population is not aware of and I would like to believe the government, also. It is therefore the researcher's hope that the study will benefit the following:

The Families and Community

This study will help the families and community at large to become more conscious and sensitive to the challenges and psychological effects on inmates and immediate family members and how they can endanger their well being and ruin relationships henceforth assist them in any way.

The academic field

The research project can be both a guide and a reference to other students carrying out similar projects at the University. It can also probably give closure, understanding and answers to researchers who have similar questions.

The government

The study would also assist the government to take note of these dysfunctional families and come up with policies and budgets that cater for such families and more effective free counseling sessions for the affected and introduce long term follow up programs.

The ex-convict, spouse and children

The study will help and encourage the ex-convict, spouse and children to be aware of psychological effects and also help them come forward and get every possible help. Above all, to be fully equipped with coping life skills in order to face and overcome any challenge.

1.4 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The research seeks to answer the following questions:

- What are the challenges faced by incarcerated fathers upon and after release.
- How are the spouses affected by the prison sentence, integrating and interaction with an ex- convict?
- How are the children also affected by the prison sentence, integrating and interactions with an ex -convict for a father?
- What coping strategies have been employed by ex-convicts, spouses and children in dealing with consequences of incarceration?

1.5 ASSUMPTIONS

It is assumed that psychological consequences of imprisonment may interfere with transition from prison to home and impede with ex-convict successful integration into a family that is also assumed to be already dysfunctional due to prison sentence and separation. To make this research a success, the researcher assumes that all the data collected and used in this research is truthful and correct. Furthermore, the researcher assumes that there was maximum cooperation from the participants and that they gave the right information of the subject in question, which are experiences by male ex-convicts and their immediate families preferably their spouses and

children in Zimbabwe. It is also assumed that the sample chosen was a true representative of the target population and the instruments used had validity and measured desired constructs.

1.6 PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The study sought to investigate the challenges faced by male ex-convicts, their spouses and children upon and after release. The research also seeks to raise awareness of these challenges that may include psychological effects in Zimbabwe. The researcher intends to use the findings from interviews carried out and observations to come up with possible coping strategies and practical recommendations on how to assist such dysfunctional families.

1.7 DELIMITATIONS

This study was confined to former male inmates and their immediate family members preferably the spouse and children and challenges surrounding their day to day life within the Zimbabwean context. The research specifically focused on the psychological effects adjusting to normal life after incarceration. The research also investigated challenges faced by spouses and children on interacting and integrating with the ex-convicts as a father and a husband.

1.8 LIMITATIONS

The research was however, subject to limitations which included failure of some respondents to answer all interview questions accurately and openly due to sensitivity of topic under discussion and relations. Thus limited complacency from participants under survey and this is a common trait because people are usually unwilling to undress their private lives especially if it involves sensitive matters and strangers. Children were not all able to participate due to inability to understand the topic under discussion and the sensitivity of most interview questions.

1.9 DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Ex-convict A prisoner who has been released from prison custody after serving the terms of imprisonment/incarceration.

- Spouse** a marital partner either male or female.
- Children** Any persons below the age of 18.
- Coping strategy** Particular efforts, both behavioral and psychological, that people use to tolerate, reduce, or minimize stressful experiences.

1.10 SUMMARY

Chapter 1 has defined the research problem and given justification on why it is of importance by providing a background study, purpose of study and its significance. It further went on to give research questions that are guiding and driving the research. Delimitations, limitations together with definitions of the key terms have been highlighted. However, Chapter 2 will focus on the review of literature in relation to this study.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 INTRODUCTION

According to Hart (1999, 2004) review of literature is a critical analysis or synthesis of portions of published body of knowledge available through the use of summary, classification, and comparison of previous research studies, reviews of literature, and journal articles which examines current scholarly work or research at hand.

This chapter focuses on other scholarly work relevant to the experiences that ex-convicts and their families go through beyond prison walls. The chapter also presents a thematic literature review of global, regional and local case studies and journal articles on unintended consequences of incarceration, rehabilitation, reintegration and interaction experiences and coping strategies for male convicts, spouses and children. It also revisits experiences during prison sentence from the point of view of other authors in order to fully understand the current developments.

2.1 THE CONCEPT OF INCARCERATION

A jail/prison is a designed institution that is used to securely keep convicts thus people who commit crimes. Such people are also known as prisoners or inmates. These individuals are kept in continuous custody on a short, long term or lifetime basis depending on the severity of the crime committed. According to Adler et al (1996) in most cases first degree murder and other murder cases attract lifetime prison sentence or death penalty depending on circumstances surrounding crime.

However, all individuals accused of committing crime go through trial process in court where final verdict is given in favor (acquitted) or against the accused (convicted) pertaining to substantial evidence regarding crime. Those found guilty are then sentenced or assigned to different punishments such as fines, probation normally given to first time offenders or

incarceration to those offenders with more serious crimes and previous crime records or history (Ajayi, 2012).

Worth noting is the fact that there has been a widespread and persistent use of lifetime and long term confinement as a way or means of punishment in the contemporary world since the 15th century. In most nations, such confinements systems are run by the governments though there are a few countries including the US that allows private organizations to construct and operate own prisons under government contract.

Ajayi (2012) posits that several functions of prisons are universal and these may include the prevention of crime, retribution/vengeance against criminals, for rehabilitation of prisoners and protection of society. To add on, imprisonment goals may also include prevailing of justice and its assurance based on the philosophy of ‘getting what one deserves’ and also the re-entry of inmates back into their families and communities following their release upon completion of jail term.

However, not all countries place same value on these goals, for instance prisons in the Scandinavian countries value more rehabilitation and reintegration whereas in the US in as much as they value rehabilitation and reintegration programs, their penal philosophy emphasizes more on societal protection, crime deterrence and justice.

2.1.1 REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION

Though most studies were done in Europe, it can also be argued that rehabilitation after prison is an issue at regional level. This may be so due to the fact that, prisons in Africa are one of the colonial inheritances henceforth most of the systems, consequences and operations/culture are uniform in terms of rehabilitation. In a study done by Amanda Dissel in 2011 on African Prisons, it could be noted that rehabilitation and reintegration of detainees is recognized as one of the key capacities of the jail framework that are to be considered in fruitful treatment of guilty parties. Rehabilitative deliberations or routines and strategies utilized within jail and after jail ought to be seen as far as their viability both locally and universally. Over the long haul, families are thought to be the central point in the restoration of guilty parties and that is the reason this study tried to discover their encounters in life past detainee dividers. Accordingly, issues of authenticity and decency may be as vital outside jail as they are inside.

According to research done in Europe by Dodd and Hunter (1992) on prison survey, the uncommon number of individuals being discharged from jail, and the rate at which they are, no doubt discharged makes reentry a pressing contemporary social issue. In their studies they recognized that at least 95% of all individuals imprisoned in state offices come back to society. A significantly bigger rate of the individuals who invest time in region and city prisons return. In 2010, more than 735,000 came back to their families, declining to a degree in 2012 to 729,295. In 2012 there were 1,998 individuals at normal who were discharged from region detainment facilities every day excluding those discharged from city prisons. The condition in which inmates come back to their families and community ought to be of incredible open concern in light of the fact that they are psychologically hurt by the repression of the prison domain.

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Dissel (2011) places that constrained information to date recommends that restoration and reintegration is additionally an issue at territorial level in her studies done in most African prisons facilities incorporating those in Ghana, Mozambique, South Africa, Uganda, Ethiopia, Botswana and Tanzania amongst numerous others. Dissel (2011) exceptional with incredible worry that however most information on jail effects and recovery exude from studies conveyed in developed nations, for example, the US, UK, Western Europe and Australia, regional studies have as of late started generally in Southern Africa.

The National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders in South Africa has found the criticalness and imperativeness of restoration and reintegration after a review on re-offenders which was on an increment at an assessment of 65%.

At local level, regarding facts, Zimbabwe has 42 rehabilitation facilities versus an assessment of over 18 000 prisoners furthermore 2000 criminal rate in burglary, in excess of 1400 criminal rate in assault cases consistently. The effects of exceptional levels of imprisonment are constantly

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Prisons attempt to reform inmates in order to avoid future criminal behavior through the intensive use of both vocational and educational programs and as posited by Glasner & Sheridan (2005), psychological counseling and an array of services may also be available to assist inmates on their self concept and enhancing their life skills. Programs designed to reintegrate convicts into the community are offered by most prisons worldwide. However, despite efforts by prisons to rehabilitate inmates through different programs such as counseling, education and vocational training, not all inmates benefit from it due to shortages of resources in developing countries such as Zimbabwe. Even globally in countries such as Australia, released inmates who benefit from such facilities are not monitored or offered long term counseling programs to assess the effectiveness of the programs.

In release programs, prisoners may be involved in activities outside of prison such as work or education and as they get closer to their parole some are permitted on their own to visit families on weekends. Such programs may help prisoners readjust to society upon and after their release. Ajayi (2012) posits that there is growing concern in finding out the most effective ways or methods of rehabilitation. There is great belief that, the public, societies' attitudes towards inmates play a greater role in their rehabilitation and reintegration. However, the social structure and prison experiences may also impede rehabilitation and reintegration for instance inmates may be involved in violence, adopt negative attitudes and knowledge from other inmates making them worse criminals than they were.

Agboka (2008) study on Ghana jail framework said that prisoners procure new practices in jail that fortifies the ones they had. In this way as opposed to being improved in the jails, or of being reformed in the prisons, they are however, more dangerous than before (Lynch & Sabol, 2004 cited in Agboka, 2008), thus to say jail subculture is some way or another ready to change over convicts into more modern criminal introductions than they were before.

The detainees' separation from society blocks a fruitful restoration as the jail situations are one of a kind and unique from different populaces. As depicted in America, detainment facilities are said to act naturally contained independent social frameworks that are interesting and different. As prisoners are set altogether in confinement, they are in some way or another denied of their societal obligations and rights. This thus, as expounded by Champion (2006) will influence a fruitful reintegration as they are not ready to adjust to societal standards in the wake of having been presented to jail society.

Additionally as contended by Lynch (2008), inside a jail society, prisoners turn out with their own particular subculture as they have a tendency to secure their own particular principles including pecking order of power amongst themselves. He likewise happened to contend that, such subcultures in detainment facilities are unavoidable along these lines they do exist. Agboka (2008) concurs with this idea and includes that through socialization such jail encounter that has been endured and succeeded, is changed to genuine experience upon and after discharge.

Most prisoners fear and acknowledge a larger number of this casual subculture than the formal jail society or the organization tenets and regulations. The reception of this casual subculture is however said to have brought about more damage than good to detainees regarding behavioral change in life inside and out of jail hence making them more unsafe upon discharge (Champion, 2006).

2.1.2 SOCIETAL PROTECTION, JUSTICE AND CRIME DETERRENCE

Sentencing of perilous criminals or whatever other non-violent yet persevering wrongdoers to imprisonment is in a manner securing justice on people and society on the loose from such criminals for the period they are in jail. In this way to say, the risk or peril that they force on the general public is incidentally dealt with or killed pretty much to the extent that these detainees are temporarily disabled.

Also, it is a societal desire that when criminals are detained, they will lament their moves and make a positive change towards life. Likewise, that this imprisonment will stop them from perpetrating future wrongdoings yet this is not really the case, as noted in a 2006 June article by

the National Prison Commissioner of America which cannot help contradicting the above idea by belligerence that, what happens inside a jail does not stay behind.

Hastings (2006) adds that detainees have a tendency to obtain new advanced and more hazardous practices and conceiving a life-cycle of criminal conduct. Criminologists have named this cycle or methodology a turnstile equity implying that most crooks get to be constant guilty parties and come back to penitentiary for perpetrating with new criminal acts and skills (Ajayi, 2012).

Accordingly some way or another in an exertion to utilize mass imprisonment as a method for securing and achieving equity and wrongdoing discouragement, it appears that detainment facilities have served as hatcheries for sustaining offenders just to discharge them more dangerous, more accomplished and harmful to society.

2.2 UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF INCARCERATION

According to Richards et al (1995) prisoners families may tend to experience similar problems or stresses, there is however growing appreciation that families and partners of prisoners are not a homogeneous group. Therefore there is need for a research within Zimbabwean context in order to justify already existing literature using findings of this current research.

Even within cultural and penal contexts, prison effects on family/family experiences are likely to differ according to length of sentence, types of offence, prior relationships, social support systems and other socio demographic factors. For instance, research findings by Light (1994) concluded that black prisoners and their families endure additional harassment in the English penal system. However in some instances, one's imprisonment may bring relief to family that was being threatened by an individual's violent and difficult behavior at home. Hence, in such cases, when individual is released from prison, he or she may face instant rejection and no social support in addition to the supposed traumatic prison experiences.

2.2.1 HIDDEN VICTIMS OF INCARCERATION

As mentioned before in Chapter One, the impacts of detainment on male ex-convicts and their families are nearly altogether ignored in scholastic examination, jail detail, open strategy and media scope. Sadly, detainees' families have not been examined in their own particular right. In any case, one can surmise from the background of these male ex-convicts and their families, that

they are a profoundly powerless gathering. Characteristically family is influenced, affected and included in the jail sentence, accordingly thus to say the sentence influences everybody appended in the life of a prisoner. Inquiries or studies on the extensive impacts of incarceration and jail dividers have as of late started. This section looks to survey requirement for examination on the impacts of incarceration on convicts, their accomplices as a setting for a more itemized talk of the same consequences for their families. Constrained research to date proposes that detainment can have wrecking outcomes for spouses and children of these male convicts. Concentrating on pertinent research quickly, unintended outcomes highlighted so far include: the social disruption of groups (Clear et al, 2001), decreased openings for work for ex-detainees (Holzer et al, 2004), redirection of trusts far from schools and colleges (Hagan and Dinovitzer 1999), monetary loads on families and presumably mental impacts may emerge because of specified issues which is likewise one of the focal centers of this study.

According to global research done by Farrington (2002) in Oakland and Loeber (1986) including studies done in Australia on the effects of imprisonment on the families, the two studies argued that families are an important influence on many aspects of prisoners' lives thus family and parenting variables are key predictors of criminal behavior through the life-course. Flanagan (1980) agrees loss of outside connections is viewed as the most excruciating part of restriction for convicts (Flanagan, 1980 and Richards, 1978). However, because of solace and feeling of having a place and security that it gives, family contact is connected with lower rates of self mischief while inside jail (Harvey, 1992). Despite the fact that it ought to start in jail, families are a standout amongst the most critical variables influencing detainees' restoration and reintegration after discharge (Social Exclusion Unit, 2002).

Richards (1992) in his study in London and San Diego recommended that as detainment rates are progressively developing, it is however of imperativeness to evaluate the results of imprisonment on people, especially mothers and children as all features of a detainee's life are influenced by the experience. It is apparent that our perception of who is, actually being punished by detainment is extremely restricted (Richards, 1978).

Dyer (2006) as referred to in studies by Council on Crime and Justice in North Minneapolis contended that, climbing rates in imprisonment have prompted a disturbing increment in broken

homes and disappointed groups. Dyer (2006) consequently proposed that exploration on the procedure of reentry into both family and community is required so as to completely understand the degree of the results of mass imprisonment.

Shaw (1992) noted in the United Kingdom that negative effects are directly experienced by male offenders, their wives and children. These effects are said to be pervasive, persistent and may include personal, social, financial, emotional, psychological and even physical concerns.

2.2.2 EFFECTS OF IMPRISONMENT ON CHILDREN.

Mumola (2000) noted that in America an estimate of 1.5 million children have an incarcerated father and slightly below that estimate are women having to endure the absence of a partner and a double burden of having to both work and look after the children. Other strains in parental relationship include having broken up, infidelity, personality change, financial concerns, and resentment towards offender for having been incarcerated (Parkman, 2005).

In Scotland it was noted on Scottish Prisoners and their families by Peart and Asquith(1992) that separation limits father's ability to remain connected and maintain a parental role and this may unfortunately affect children as the father-child relationship is immensely important for child's development (Hairstone, 2002). Research by Farrington (2002) in California, America also suggests that, a strong father-child relationship is not only preventative of the father's recidivism but may also protect the child from future involvement in criminal activities (Seymour, 2002).

At regional level information on the subject of incarceration is highly limited compared to global studies. Regional studies so far done by Dissel (2007) and NIACRO (2008) on the effects of imprisonment on families in Uganda and Nigeria tend to agree with studies done at global levels on families preferably children arguing that they suffer in silence and have been termed orphans of justice as they have found out in their studies that most of these children are heading families, being involved in crimes and suffer psychologically.

Joseph Brenyah (2013) conducted a study in Ghana and South Africa, a study of the Kumasi Metropolis and found out that, there are no follow up programs being practiced when ex-convicts are reintegrated and no further assistance being offered to them beyond prison. He also added

that not only do these ex-convicts suffer but their children suffer a greater deal such as emotionally, psychologically and developmentally as they are faced with lots of adjustments in their critical stages of development without knowing how to cope and are somehow forced to mature at an early stage and miss out on the childhood activities.

Mendez (2001) found out in Mozambique and other close regions that children who had an incarcerated mother had problems at school and developed anti social behaviors in studies he conducted at primary schools. His research also compared the level of damage to those who had an incarcerated father and still had a mother to care for them. In his findings, most effects of incarceration of a parent on children were uniform though a few results varied due to a number of factors such as gender, age and sex.

Locally in Zimbabwe, not much has been written on the subject but however in an article by The Standard Local News 2014 on 53 year old Maxwell Bowa, it can also be noted that children are hidden victims of incarceration as Bowa and his wife Elnath narrates how their A' Level son was affected by his father's arrest to the extent of being mentally disturbed. Therefore in as much as these effects on families have become a global issue, it is important that the extent of the problem at a local level be researched before it destroys the younger generation.

2.2.3 TRAUMA OF INCARCERATION ON CONVICTED FATHERS

According to global studies done in America cited in a Journal Article by Mika'il De Veaux (2013) an in-depth review on what goes on inside a prison can be quite shocking and traumatizing as one goes through his narrations. Though the current study is focusing on life experiences beyond prison, it is of paramount importance to also revisit prison experiences of these fathers in order to understand them better in life after prison. This literature review by De Veaux (2013) is still quite recent and contributes to my study by shedding some light to the state in which these incarcerated fathers are, in terms of physical and mental well being when reunited with their families and also a lime light on the current state of this research at a global level. In this journal article author argues that the experience of being incarcerated is traumatic based on his personal experience in the US Correctional population for 32 years of a life sentence which really gives a deep insight on what transpires during incarceration enabling this current research have a strong background foundation to base arguments on.

Although there is much debate about the psychological effects of incarceration, literature describing prison as a site of trauma is still uncommon but however, in his journal article, De Veaux (2013) argues that being behind prison walls is traumatic drawing additional support for the arguments from personal experience.

In his book 'The Prison Community', sociologist Clemmer (2005) noted with concern that confinement is not normal and has the most degrading experiences that one can ever endure. Adapting to continuous harassment, scrutiny of guards and other inmates, lack of privacy can be psychologically debilitating. Other authors have suggested that apathy, mental degradation, changes in personality, identity crisis can be experienced in prisons. Several studies as such done by McDermott in London UK on 'Prison Rule' have shown the brutality and abuse that goes on when one is in confinement. The beatings, deprivations, harassments and violence at all levels are more than enough to cause permanent damage to its victims.

In Northern Ireland and Australia, a research by Horner et al (1999) also showed that inmates can be diagnosed with psychiatric disorders as well as post traumatic stress disorders, for instance, paranoia, depression and panic attacks and such inmates when released find social adjustment and social integration quite difficulty.

Scraton and McCulloch (2009) also supported this notion by Clemmer (2005) and Holzer (2004) as they added that incarceration experience promotes dependence, helplessness, and introversion and may impair one's judgment pertaining decision making and even endanger one as a father to make family decisions in life after prison. Past studies assert that both knowledge and witnessing of violence can be traumatic to these fathers. Such traumatic events experienced during incarceration may have effects that are likely to endure for a period of time following release.

At regional level, studies mostly done in Ghana Joseph (2013) are current and have shown that, the systems, activities and operations that go on in prisons are not different from those that have been recorded at global level since Africa adopted the use of prisons from the colonial rule. The main difference being that in Africa resources are scarce and failing to meet even basic needs of inmates.

Dissel (2010) conducted a study in most African prisons such as in Mauritius, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia, South Africa amongst many others and also had similar findings in terms of

scarce resources to cater for inmates. As violence is the most traumatic event in western prisons, Africa has poverty as its number one enemy in traumatizing inmates and threatening their health.

Locally in Zimbabwe, a senior game ranger with the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management, Maxwell Bowa who escaped the death penalty is yet to believe that he is a free man due to the trauma he experienced in Whawha prison. He agrees with these past studies that prison experiences are traumatic as quoted by The Standard July 2014;

‘Most of my fellow inmates on death row have lost their minds. Many no longer have hope or the will to live.’

Still on the local issue, Zimbabwe Association for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders agreed that prisons needed urgent address. Latest findings by health experts show that most inmates are suffering from scurvy and pellagra among many other diseases and no medication is readily available for them apart from failing to attend their pending trials due to lack of fuel/funding in terms of transport.

2.2.4 FAMILY EXPERIENCES

According to a case study done in Scotland on 12 ex-convicts by Peart (1992), these fathers were cognizant of the continued negative effects of imprisonment on their lives and the lives of those around them. They are said to have faced further challenges by returning to their homes and transient neighborhoods without any back up in terms of support and jobless as the commercial industries were lacking.

A study done in Hawthorne neighborhood North Minneapolis highlighted in a journal article done by the Council on Crime and Justice, showed that ex-convicts still suffered even after serving their sentences together with their families. The purpose of the study was to examine the effects of imprisonment on the family relationship from the perspective of fathers along with their strengths and struggles during incarceration. This study relates to incarcerated fathers’ experience in and out of prison. It reflects on traumas experienced in prison and rejection and sufferings that await them outside prison.

Researchers such as Haney and Zimbardo (1973) argue that psychological pain during incarceration is inflicted by design and cannot be coincidental, and Stohr (2009) adds that such

design experiences can be severely damaging. Gresham Sykes (2009) categorized these damaging experiences as frustrations or deprivations and posited that;

“...such frustrations appear as a serious attack on the personality, as a threat to the life goals of the individual, to his defensive system, to his self esteem, or to his feelings of security.”

De Veaux (2013) in his personal experience in American prisons found prison adjustment and life very painful and traumatizing as he had to endure and witness several assaults and murders, constant violence and suicidal cases that took place.

“I remain haunted by the memories and images of violence — violence I experienced violence I witnessed, and violence that I heard or learned about. I can still see the murders I witnessed. I still see the image of a person being hit at the base of his skull...The entire scene plays like a silent movie.... sight of blood seems to satisfy his attacker....” (DeVeaux narrates).

From the descriptions of his experiences, it can be clearly noted from the quotes, that even upon and after release, these incarcerated fathers are still traumatized and are in no good shape to live on life normally with their wives and children.

Therefore researchers may conclude that adapting to confinement can be quite devastating and difficult for inmates as the experience may cause dysfunctional habits and thoughts and may permanently affect those enduring it and impede with their reintegration.

However, De’Veeaux study does not cover family experiences, thus the spouses and children of the incarcerated fathers. He mainly focused on his personal experience in prison and rarely touched on his life after incarceration. His argument mainly centers on him being the main victim of incarceration where as in the study done by Joseph Murray (2005).

2.2.5 EFFECTS ON THE WIVES OF PRISONERS

Murray (2005) included both the children and the wives of the incarcerated. He concluded in his journal article that family is as much involved and affected by prison sentence. He argued that it affects everyone close to the prisoner in every possible way thus supporting my reasons for

studying spouses and children of incarcerated fathers. He emphasized on the wives even though he agreed that children also suffer.

Murray (2006) in his research in United Kingdom found out that imprisonment of a partner can be emotionally devastating and practically debilitating as also noted by other authors. According to his findings, most wives complained of extra burdens of childcare, loss of income, social isolations, and difficulties in maintaining contact with their husbands leading to deterioration of relationships.

In Murray's research interviews, anonymous wife of a prisoner had this to say;

"...it is like someone has died."

It shows the extent and the extremes to which a prison sentence can affect wives of the incarcerated partners. Limited research suggests that imprisonment affects partners and children more severely than prisoner's parents although parents and other relatives also suffer practical psychological difficulties (Noble, 1995). However, children in some studies are said to suffer the most depending on age and sex of the child though this can be an ongoing debate as they are not a homogeneous group. An anonymous boy with father in prison quoted by Murray had this to say;

'I was very upset and shocked at first. Over 3 years I have come to terms with it but I had to develop a 'hard streak' and grow up quickly...nobody cares after all.'

Thus apart from the wives of prisoners, Murray (2006) also studied their children. He argued that these children have been often referred to as the 'orphans of justice'. Shaw (1992) in his studies had also referred to them as the, 'forgotten victims of crime'. Murray (2006) noted that during their parent's imprisonment, these children often suffer from depression, hyperactivity, aggressive behavior, withdrawal, regression, clinging behavior and poor grades. He also argued that the assumption that it may cause psychosocial difficulties is pervasive in the literature henceforth there is need for further studies.

Murray (2006) however does not cover life experiences of these families and incarcerated fathers upon and after release. He also recommended that there is need to identify how prison effects on families vary over time, as well as between individuals and demographical areas.

Ary et al (2006) in a research done in Canada, also highlighted that little is known about the effects on partners after prisoners are released. There are no follow ups on male prisoners' lives beyond walls with their wives and children (Noble, 1995).

In a 2013 study done at a regional level by Brenyah Joseph, it can be argued that, families with an incarcerated father suffer silently. His research focused on regional countries such as Ghana and South Africa and discovered that, several wives and children are affected during and after incarceration of a parent. Amongst the several challenges that are assumed to destroy most of these wives and children's future is emotional, psychological, developmental or financial problem or a combination of all (Travis, 2005).

Even though research is quite limited in the African context compared to global studies, available knowledge shows clearly that children are the most affected, though women whose partners are in prisons also suffer a great deal. Children are affected differently though there maybe be uniform or common problems found globally but age, sex, culture, social, economic and physical come into play in terms of validity.

It is also important to note that much research focuses on incarcerated mothers when it comes to concerns of children as they are the primary caregivers. However, fathers who have been active, loving and supportive before convicted of a crime can also cause an impact on the well being of their families when they are no longer there to fulfill their roles. Mendez (2001) also added that, even in life after incarceration, these fathers still want to resume their roles in their children and families' lives.

Skinner and Swartz (1989) found that besides pre-school children, male adolescents even in Africa basically Namibia and South Africa, also exhibited anti social behaviors due to incarceration of their fathers and that such a loss is as much traumatic as losing a parent to death or divorce. Though locally there are no such studies done on effects of incarceration on families, however, it is beginning to be noted as individuals like Bowa aged 53 together with his wife Elneth from Zimbabwe narrate their story or life experiences in The Standard Local News July 2014 and in their narration it was also evident that children suffered the most especially the male adolescents in the absence of their fathers and this is what Bowa's wife Elneth had to say:

'My son who was doing A' level actually developed a mental problem because he could not handle it'.

Worse still children living with a single parent are completely left alone when the parent is convicted forcing the older ones to carry the burdens and witnessing the arrest of their one parent may be an added blow to the already traumatized children as such experiences are quite hostile (Myers et al, 1999). In a study done by (Kampfner, 1995) in Ghana and Uganda an estimation of 300 children who witnessed their parent's arrest were interviewed and findings pointed out that these children developed sleeping disorders as they had to relive that dramatic moment and ended up having nightmares of the incident thus in agreement to other authors mentioned above.

Travis (2005) as highlighted in a regional study done in South Africa by (Brenyah, 2013) argue that, imprisonment does not only affect children but alters all family dynamics as many significant changes take place in all family dimensions such as living arrangements, finances, family structure and role changes amongst many other facets.

The above notion by Brenyah (2013) in his studies at regional level in Ghana and South Africa is also in agreement with past studies done in 2006 in Hawthorne neighborhood North Minneapolis highlighted in a journal article done by the Council on Crime and Justice. The purpose of their studies was to examine the effects of imprisonment on the family relationship from the perspective of fathers along with their strengths and struggles during incarceration. This study relates to incarcerated fathers' experience in and out of prison. The research states that these formerly incarcerated fathers were very aware of the impact that their imprisonment had on their children and spouses in terms of increased financial burden, emotional distress, social alienation and relationship strain.

This journal article contributes to my research in that it provides background information on the incarcerated fathers before reunited with their families, therefore giving my research on life experiences after imprisonment the nature or state of these fathers before release.

However, Brenyah (2013) research at regional level did not focus much on the experiences of incarcerated fathers and their families upon and after release and in his conclusion, researcher recommended that the study should be replicated in other parts of the country, neighborhood countries in order to see the variation of the effects of incarceration in respect to rural and urban

areas, demographical boundaries which is one of the main reasons of this current research in Zimbabwe in order to see where findings tally and differ on the experiences of these families. Researcher also recommended in his 2013 journal article that this study be carried out on reunification of incarcerated parent and family after serving at least a minimum of 3 years and the study at hand includes a case study of 10 years' incarceration.

2.3 COPING MECHANISMS

During difficult periods or times of transition, individuals rely on a variety of coping mechanisms and support systems to deal with increased pressure and anxiety from looking within one's spiritual being to turning outward to family, friends, or support groups such as one's church or religion. Numerous coping strategies have been identified and attempts made in terms of classifying strategies into conceptual domains (Moos & Billings, 1982). However, there appears to be no current universal agreement on the right coping strategy.

However, three basic measurements of adapting reactions appear to incorporate those that: (1) adjust the circumstances from which the stressful experience emerges; (2) control the importance of the issue; and (3) deal with the anxiety (Pearlin & Schooler, 1978). These three measurements are not considered fundamentally unrelated and might be connected all the while or successively to a given issue. Basically no examination exists that particularly looks at the constructive or pessimistic adapting components (for instance, individual deep sense of being, substance use) relatives and groups of detainees use to moderate the strain, passionate issues, and anxiety connected with incarceration.

A related study by Lane (2012) at a regional level in South Africa on "the function of religion as a coping mechanism for prison wives and girlfriends" however revealed that religious and spiritual beliefs are important sources of strength for prisoner wives and pen girlfriends during the incarceration of their partners.

Literature on coping mechanisms adopted by individuals and families to stressful life situations indicates that a person's well being may be enhanced by certain dimensions of spirituality

(Ellison, 1991). Research has also shown that religious coping mechanisms, when compared to other coping mechanisms, help individuals to better react to stressful situations (Seeman & McEwen, 1996). Furthermore, religious groups can be important emotional and tangible support systems (Bradley, 1995).

On the other hand, non-criminal justice research indicates that drug and alcohol use is related to stressful life situations and may be used as a negative coping mechanism (Saxon et al. 2001; José et al. 2000; Butters, 2002). These issues have been virtually unexplored when it comes to understanding how families deal with the additional stress associated with incarceration.

2.4 SOCIAL BACKING

In America, as per studies done by Morris (1965) in Woking, the high rates of incarceration influence a moderately little number of groups crosswise over America. In his discoveries, he sets that these groups are now battling with high rates of unemployment, wrongdoing, medication utilize, and neediness yet they need to manage an included trouble postured by the record levels of group occupants who are sent to, and come back from, jail. These groups thusly have a personal stake in the results of returning detainees and the state of their family systems amid and after detainment.

In a careful investigation done on Asian and Black prisoners including Thailand and China, Liebling (2011) on rehabilitation and reintegration in Black and Asian families, discoveries were that groups can assume a dynamic part in enhancing the results of discharged prisoners and their families. Group based associations are decently situated to give aid lodging, substance misuse treatment, social insurance, vocation, child mind, advising, and professional preparing. They can reach detainees preceding discharge to aid in the reentry process. These gatherings likewise assume a vital part in setting up the group for a detainee's return (Travis, 2005).

In the United Kingdom, a study completed by Social Exclusion Unit (2011) figured out that, numerous social administration organizations give administrations to previous detainees and their families. On the other hand, the conveyance of these administrations may not be adjusted to reflect the extraordinary requests of the detainment and reentry forms. For instance, a returning

detainee may be qualified for group based medication treatment however may be alluded to join a holding up rundown upon his or her discharge from jail, amid a high-hazard time for backslide. Essentially, a government funded school may offer advising to understudies encountering troublesome life emergencies, yet may not be mindful that a youngster is extremely focused by the looming return of a detained guardian.

By perceiving the administration cover and deliberately arranging these administrations to react to the needs made by the criminal equity process, Murray (2000) contends that children and families are more prone to profit. Furthermore, there is likewise a part for connected youngster formative hypothesis and examination, where college group joint efforts can upgrade project plan and assess current system execution. Anyhow there is likewise a hazard that including numerous administration orgs conceivably expands the requests and conditions set on relatives, bringing on additional strain to families. Thusly, the community endeavors of children defensive administrations, wellbeing and human administrations, research associations, and the criminal equity framework are a focal piece of enhancing the results of detainees and their families. Making extensive techniques to moderate the destructive impacts of imprisonment and reentry upon detainees, their children, and their families is a huge challenge (Travis 2005).

Lately, various creative deliberations have indicated the way new models for reentry administration. In urban communities, for example, Oakland, Chicago, Fort Wayne, and Cleveland, leaders have assigned detainee reentry a necessity for their city organizations. These urban areas have made arranging panels that cut crosswise over city administrations and group associations. Different urban areas, including Baltimore, San Diego, and Winston- Salem, have shaped group coalitions to work with returning detainees and their families at the area level. These fledging endeavors underscore both the potential and troubles inborn in neighborhood preparation exertions in the interest of the families and offspring of detained parts of the group (Travis, 2005).

Regionally, in a study done by Swartz (1998) and Joseph (2013) in South Africa and Ghana respectively, it has been discovered that, social help even regarding guiding administrations need in Africa because of monetary strains and just a couple of therapists are working in detainment facilities and cannot meet the congestion number on prisoners. Apart from South Africa, other

African nations, for example, Ghana as examined by Dissel (2010) have turned to chapel or religious backing with a couple of people looking for assistance from family and group.

By regional standards, Zimbabwe is no exemption to the above thought by Dissel (2010) and Joseph (2013) as highlighted above at provincial level, as religious associations have been recently been the most steady instruments in the lives of convicts in and out of jail and their families. However the current study will need to take a gander at how viable and sufficient has been the social backing to such families.

2.5 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This research endeavor has a few speculations and theoretical points of view that have been utilized to clarify the encounters of male ex-convicts and their immediate families after imprisonment. The study draws knowledge from different hypotheses and points of view, the most comprehended and significant underpinning theories used in this setting are, the Bowen's family systems theory initially from (Bertalanffy, 1928), Social control theory (Ivan Nye, 1958) and Adult attachment theory.

General systems theory was influenced by the early works of Durkheim and Max Weber as it also leads to the basic assumption that, “the whole is greater than the sum of its parts”. This theory was originally proposed in 1928 by biologist Ludwig von Bertalanffy. It emerged as a synthesis of developments in a variety of disciplinary fields, including the behavioral sciences and as a way in elaborating increasingly complex systems across a continuum that encompasses the person-in-environment. Clear et al (2001) highlighted that it enables us to understand in order to interpret problems and develop balanced intervention strategies with the good of enhancing the ‘goodness of fit’ between individuals and their environments.

The family systems theory is likened to a science of wholeness that emphasizes consideration of an organism as a whole or a system suggesting that individuals can only be understood in the context of their respective families or society and not eliminated from one another. As propounded by Bowen, the hypothesis is said to be a sorting out schema for practice that catches

the way of what we do and takes a gander at and clarifies the communications inside an organic entity and between frameworks. Along these lines to say a family is a framework in which each part has parts to play and principles to admiration and are required to carry on in a certain manner towards one another guided by the standards of the family or society (Genopro, 2012). On the other hand, it might be noted that, inside family limits certain examples of conduct create because of diverse reasons furthermore creating parts to carry on in unsurprising ways. Uniform examples of practices if kept up inside a framework, are prone to prompt either an offset or brokenness inside families.

Changes within a family are liable to happen because of detainment of a part subsequently a conceivable disequilibrium over a continuum and dissensions in the family framework and a push towards another harmony. This new balance because of detainment is prone to cause family to glitch/malfunction and other unintended results.

Social control theory of misconduct/delinquency proposed by Ivan Nye (1958) recommends that the misuse of socialization and social learning forms restraint and diminishes hostile to social practices that may be created by the encounters of imprisonment. As indicated by the four sorts of control given by Ivan in this hypothesis to be specific Direct, Indirect, Internal and Control through necessities fulfillment, it is along these lines obvious that when individual essential needs are met, for example, nourishment and sanctuary, there is no need in engaging in criminal activity.

Social Control Theory additionally contends that dedication to a decent occupation decreases re-offending. This could be noted from studies done by Jim Casey (2009) in his book Re-Entry, he contended that with a specific end goal to address these reentry issues, programs for imprisoned individuals and their families must grasp a therapeutic approach, one that analyzes the issues of reentry in the connection of family reinforcing, financial open door, long range interpersonal communication and group building from the snippet of detainment to well past the beginning time of discharge go into the group and such approach incorporates instruction, employment preparing and livelihood so as to evade and decrease wrongdoing. Along these lines as contended by social control hypothesis, responsibility to a relentless and great employment gives an individual a high ground in re-building life after incarceration and soundness.

Expanding on Social Control Theory, it contends that conjugal connection can trigger desistance by cultivating casual social and expanding social capital, the improvements of these social bonds in adulthood clarifies pathways to desistance free of individual contrasts in criminal penchant. Albeit conjugal connection works as a manifestation of casual social control that represses affronting, Labhuub et al (1998) exhibit that the great marriage impact has a tendency to be slow and combined and this is additionally upheld by Adult Attachment Theory by Bowlby (1960-1988) which was originally formulated to describe and explain infant-parent emotional bonding but has recently been applied to the study of adolescents and adult romantic relationships. The theory argues that adult relationships differ from infant-parent relationship in that they are mutually interactive. Unlike the infant-parent relationship which is egocentric, the adult relationship one is both a giver and a receiver. Therefore in terms of an incarcerated father being reunited with his partner and children, he may be traumatized, stressed and in greater need of support requiring his wife to be more nurturing and giving. Horney (1995) adds that it is the mutual give and take with understanding and the capacity to receive less for a period of time which characterizes healthy adult attachment relationships.

Barthomolow and Horowitz (2002) point out different types of adult attachments namely:

- Secure individuals
- Preoccupied individuals - lack sense of self worthiness
- Fearful individuals - avoid love in fear of rejection, pain and hurt
- Dismissal individuals - detach from others generally those not trusted, yet they feel worthy of love.

From the above notion, it can be noted that both spouse and children may fall in any of the four given types of attachment when reunited with the incarcerated father. For instance, if the spouse is a secure individual, it may be possible to mend the relationship but if fearful or dismissal it may be difficult for the incarcerated partner to be accepted back though redeveloping a secure adult attachment is possible through Attachment Focused Therapy and is worth the effort and pain required to achieve it.

2.6 KNOWLEDGE GAP

It is insufficient to reason that the unintended outcomes of detainment as have been reported by restricted studies in America, Australia, Ghana and other encompassing nations are the same in Zimbabwe, however without exact proof this conclusion cannot be drawn, subsequently an indigenous and demographical research, for example, the one being conducted is required

In addition, most researchers including latest research by Brenyah (2013) did not focus much on the experiences of incarcerated fathers and their families upon and after release and in his journal article conclusion, Researcher also recommended that this study be carried out on reunification and reintegrated of incarcerated parent and family after serving at least 3 years and the study at hand includes a study of 10 years of incarceration and three or more years following release.

Brenyah (2013) recommended that the study should be replicated in other parts of the country, neighborhood countries in order to see the variation of the effects of incarceration in respect to rural and urban areas, demographical boundaries which is one of the many reasons for this current research in Zimbabwe in order to see where findings tally and differ on the experiences of these families.

It is also important to note that much research focuses on incarcerated mothers when it comes to concerns of children as they are the primary caregivers. However, fathers who have been active, loving and supportive before convicted of a crime can also cause an impact on their families therefore they deserve to be heard. Murray (2002) though he did a good research on families and children of prisons, he did not cover life experiences of these families and incarcerated fathers upon and after release. He also recommended that there is need to identify how prison effects on families vary over time, as well as between individuals and demographical areas.

McDermont and King (1992) also highlighted that little is known about the effects on partners after prisoners are released. There are no follow ups on male prisoners' lives beyond walls with their wives and children (Noble, 1995).

Therefore this study will fill the literature gap in Zimbabwe as recommended above in as far as the effects of incarceration are concerned. It will also provide baseline data and information on

what other authors have recommended in their journal articles and studies as noted above. Findings from the study will again serve as valuable information for further studies, as a guideline for formulation of policy in prisons/rehabilitation and reintegration processes.

Finally, it is expedient and imperative that the governments, families and societies understand and embrace the need and the urgency to rectify the depth and the extent of the unintended consequences of incarceration at a global level, in their own countries and communities and stand together before it gets out of hand and kills the future generation.

2.7 SUMMARY

This chapter focused on other scholarly work relevant to the experiences that ex-convicts and their families go through beyond prison walls. The chapter also presented a thematic literature review of global, regional and local case studies and journal articles on unintended consequences of incarceration, rehabilitation, reintegration and interaction experiences and coping strategies for male convicts, spouses and children. It also revisited experiences during prison sentence from the point of view of other authors in order to fully understand the current developments. Several theories have also been used in order to explain criminal behavior, rehabilitation and reintegration at family levels.

CHAPTER THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 INTRODUCTION

This section discusses the research design, population and target population for the study, sampling size and sampling techniques used, methods used in the collection of data and how data collected would be analyzed.

3.1 RESEARCH APPROACH

The current study is qualitative in nature and researcher employed phenomenology approach as the main research methodology. The strengths of qualitative research methods is derived primarily from its inductive approach, its focus on specific situations of people and their values as well as its emphasis on words rather than numbers (Patton, 2000). It is used to reflect on, understand, and interpret the shared meanings of people's living experiences, beliefs, perceptions thus social realities.

3.2 RESEARCH PARADIGM

Qualitative exploration standard was utilized as it suited the examination inquiries and purposes of this study. Smolders and Grove (2003:19) portray a qualitative approach as a methodical subjective methodology used to depict backgrounds and circumstances to provide for them importance. Parahoo (1997:59) expresses that it concentrates on the encounters of individuals and focusing on uniqueness of the single person. Holloway and Wheeler (2002:30) allude to it as a type of social enquiry that concentrates on the way individuals decipher and comprehend their experience and the world in which they live.

Researcher utilized the qualitative methodology to investigate the conduct, viewpoints, encounters and sentiments of individuals and underline the understanding of these components.

Nonetheless, qualitative researchers additionally encompass a person centered approach and a humanistic viewpoint to comprehend human existed encounters without concentrating on the particular ideas (Field & Morse 1996:8).

The researcher concentrated on the encounters from the participant's viewpoint and was submerged in the study. Her interest in the study added to the uniqueness of information accumulation and dissection (Streubert & Carpenter 1999:17). Complete objectivity is unimaginable and qualitative approach is not totally exact in light of the fact that people do not generally act sensibly or typically (Holloway & Wheeler 2002:3).

The reason for using a qualitative approach within this exploration was to investigate and depict the supposition of the fathers upon and after release and that of their families. A qualitative methodology is suitable to catch the conclusions, sentiments, convictions, observations and encounters of these families. This study included three stages, in particular the interpretation, analysis and presentation stages (Field & Morse 1996).

3.2.1 RESEARCH DESIGN

The phenomenology exploration as outlined by Burns and Grove (2003:195) is a diagram or blueprint that leads a study with greatest control over variables that may meddle with the legitimacy of the discoveries while Parahoo (1997:142) characterizes it as an arrangement that depicts how, when and where information are to be gathered and broken down. For this situation phenomenology exploration methodology was used within request to investigate and find all the more on constrained research on the experiences of formerly incarcerated fathers and their families in Zimbabwe and hence as indicated by Polit et al (2001:19), explorative studies are embraced when little is known about a subject of premium. In this case, it was the best that could be applied due to limited information regarding the lives of these families in order to increase validity of findings.

It is utilized to research the full nature of the wonder and different elements identified with it. In this study, the suppositions of detained fathers, spouses and children were explored through the use of one on one in-depth interview and family interviews.

3.3 TARGET POPULATION

The study targets atomic groups of male ex-convicts who have been in confinement for more than three years and had companions and at least a child before imprisonment. Ex-convicts who have been in jail for more than three years and have likewise been out for at least two years were main focus in light of this study as it has been recommended that such a study is required as there have not been any follow up projects on such families. It has additionally been anticipated that the consequences of incarceration would mostly be felt by their families in relation to the time frame spent in prison, thus the longer an inmate spends in custody the likelihood the severity of the effects of incarceration on his/her family and community. Contact was made with the key ex-convicts who directed the researcher to their respective families and their fellow inmates whom they had befriended during imprisonment.

3.3.1 POPULATION SAMPLE

Fathers who were in confinement for more than three years in Whawha or Chikurubi prisons and their families constituted the population of the study. The respondents consisted of (10) male ex-convicts aged 30-55years and their (10) spouses aged 25-50 years. There were also (4) single parents (divorcees) bringing sample to a total of (25) adults and (11) minors.

3.3.2 SAMPLING TECHNIQUE AND PROCESS

The snowball sampling technique was employed since it is used to gather information about a particular or sensitive topic and involves a limited number of participants or test subjects due to nature of study, sensitivity, confidentiality and unavailability of participants (Burns and Grove, 2003). Therefore, snowball was used as it increases the efficiency of the study as it relies on referrals and by word of mouth from key participants.

Snowball technique was used as it is justifiable in terms of the validity of getting the rightful and relevant participants within short space of time and also allows the use of focus group as participants know and relate well to each other. This technique was done through (5) key participants (with one being a close relative to the researcher) who were male ex-convicts who

had spent between (5) and (10) years in Hwahwa and Chikurubi prisons who eventually made contacts by word through telephones and physical visits to those they had befriended during prison time and their families.

Saturation of the data initially depended on this gradual increase in number of participants by key referrals and actual number of participants finally grew to a total of 25 Adults and 11 children though a few were mature enough to understand and be interviewed.

3.4 RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

In-depth interviews and observations were the fundamental instruments for the gathering of information incorporating in the pilot study directed. An interview guide/aide was utilized to direct questions to participants. This technique was chosen and utilized for a few reasons. The meeting aide methodology permits the interviewer to have full control and to choose the order in which questions are required and to alter the phrasing of questions to best suit the specific interview (Rubin & Babbie, 2008 referred to in Abraham, 2011). Utilization of the interview aide methodology helped the researcher build some level of affinity and trust with members by empowering collaboration instead of just requesting answers to particular questions.

Likewise, it improved the opportunity for the researcher to pass on compassion to members furthermore to experience their feelings. Since the researcher was extremely acquainted with the study range in connection to dialect, societal expectations and beliefs along these lines she managed to do all interviews, interpretations and analysis independently to guarantee that gathered information is legitimate.

Ten families were interviewed at their residences and every family had in any event a child/children. Regarding numbers, there were 5 detained fathers, 5 spouses as key participants out of the 25 Adults and 11 children barring also broken families and widows. Each one interview session went on for between forty five (45) minutes and one hour. Notwithstanding in-depth interviews as the primary technique for information accumulation, observation method was utilized as an included strategy for information gathering.

3.4.1 PILOT STUDY

As indicated by Holloway and Wheeler (2002:80), pilot studies are not generally utilized as a part of qualitative studies yet tenderfoot researchers could direct interviews as a pre-exercise, to get used to the sort of information accumulation. A pilot study was carried out two days before information accumulation to orientate researcher and give her the knowledge into the marvel. A pilot study guarantees legitimacy in that slips could be amended furthermore at almost no expense.

The pilot study was done on three members who met the determination criteria. Every one of the three was a casualty of detainment. This was carried out in their homes and was rehashed at a later date. The meeting was note-taken as researcher made utilization of examining inquiries, concentrated listening abilities and verbal responses. Perception system amid the activity was likewise used to non-verbal communication and non-verbal reactions, for example, outward appearances and dithering in verbal reaction. This upgraded the researcher's level of certainty and confidence. As the researcher was the fundamental information gathering instrument, the pilot study expanded her knowledge of questioning and additionally her interpersonal abilities, furthermore guaranteed that she was acquainted with qualitative information accumulation and examination.

It gave the researcher the chance to, test important reactions from members, approach the members with affectability and receptiveness, dismiss her preconceived thoughts; guarantee reflexivity and intuiting all through the study, distinguish the weaknesses of the pilot study in regards to the environment setup, interpret and analyze information, which was a chance to build data analysis abilities furthermore fabricate in additional insurances to avert errors in the actual interviews and improve validity. Pilot study also helped in redefining of interview questions, in boosting confidence and also in how to control the research in channeling it into the desired direction.

3.4.2 VALIDITY AND RELIABILITY

As indicated by Trochim and Donnelly (2006) validity in a study originates from the legitimacy of the exploration, the dependability of the discoveries, and the utilization of triangulation in

information gathering. A substantial work must be backed, satisfactory, and convincing. Each part of research adds to specific control and regularly does so, by sticking to the rules for valid research.

Trochim and Donnelly (2006) legitimacy alludes to the highest degree of reality of any suggestion or conclusion or surmising depicted in any research. Legitimacy will be utilized to evaluate the nature of the exploration conclusions. The internal and external validity of the research was evaluated to determine the effects of incarceration in relation to research questions. This was made possible by use of pilot study. Pilot study was conducted among few ex-convicts to identify any difficulties that may affect the respondents' feedbacks and do away with unreliable questions.

According to Creswell (2003), legitimacy assumes a noteworthy part in a qualitative study in that it is an influential source used to focus the exactness of the study's discoveries. To build the legitimacy of this study, both interviews and observations methods were used and these techniques helped in overcoming conceivable inclinations as another member helped in note taking to allow researcher have ample time in observing non verbal cues.

Validity and reliability include checking the status of the information gathered to figure out whether it is substantial and dependable (Struwig & Stead, 2004). Internal validity ascertains the degree to which the reactions from the respondents reflect the same properties (Fink, 2008). The use of in-depth interviews guaranteed the validity and reliability of the information assembled from the participants in relation to the questions (Fink, 2008). The recorded qualitative data taken from ensured/trusted sites and associate journals guaranteed that the data utilized as a part of the writing survey was correct and legitimate (Creswell, 2003; Trochim & Donnelly, 2006). Therefore, researcher, in line of this viewpoint, also made sure she had the correct sample representation of the ex-convicts and their families and the relevant interview questions as the valid research instrument as well as responses that drove the research to desired destiny.

3.5 DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Researcher sought authority or approval letter from Psychology Department in the Social Sciences faculty of Midlands State University to carry out research. Researcher further took the

letter to the ex-convicts and their families as means of approval then research was conducted accordingly.

The use of in-depth interviews as the major source of data collection method was influenced by the nature of the research problem, exploration questions, which on account of this study, was an endeavor to comprehend the impacts of detainment on the existed encounters of individuals, their society and worth frameworks of which the researcher proposed not to be an aloof member but instead a dynamic one.

The above was achieved through the use of in-depth interviews and observations in order to find out the experiences of formerly incarcerated families. The interviews were carried out by researcher herself in order to improve validity.

All interviews were done in the homes of members. After approbation from the detainees to permit their families to take part in the study, initial contact was made with the mates through phone calls. From that point arrangements were made for one on one collaboration at which the reason and purpose of the exploration was made known to participants.

Research was done in Zimbabwe preferably on a few families in Harare, Chitungwiza and Norton between the 20th and 22nd of September 2014 in their homesteads. Interviews were conducted every morning and evening of the two days.

3.5.1 INTERVIEWS

The researcher acquainted herself with the members to secure rapport. The members were educated about the motivation behind the study. The researcher was the facilitator of the center gathering dialog. A relative was asked to take notes and work the recording device. The researcher planned to keep up an open-personality and utilization of relational abilities keeping in mind the end goal to inspire data. The climate was decently hot and non-undermining. No significant presentations were made as the members were not utilizing real names however most males knew one another from jail but still utilized outsider names.

The members picked or rather liked to sit in a half circle for better correspondence, to guarantee profit and also trust in unveiling data. The researcher built guidelines, for example, no utilization

of cell telephones amid the meeting, one individual to talk at once and for members to address each other with deference. These principles were important for the smooth running of the meeting. The researcher set the members quiet and acquainted the theme to be examined.

Respondents were interviewed inductively, from all the interview questions, continuing from general to specific questions arranged before the session and after that, proceeded to in-depth interviews. All the members were included. Moral issues, specifically respect and confidentiality, were tended to.

The participants were guaranteed that the interview was private and confidential. As Holloway and Wheeler (2002:115) argued, facilitators must have social and refereeing aptitudes to guide the participants to collaborate viably and push control over the point without administering discourse or forcing the respondents. The researcher managed pernicious comments and partiality by rehashing the guidelines and utilizing great encouraging aptitudes. The researcher likewise ought to have the capacity to utilize the instrument needed to support in information gathering. Notwithstanding, to gather information viably while in the meantime constraining issues, the researcher was included in pilot study interviews to support her certainty.

3.5.2 INTERVIEW TECHNIQUE

The researcher utilized strategies for individual/family interviews, for example, she directed the center gathering meeting with the members utilizing an interview guide with semi-structured interview and in-depth interview questions on individuals, utilization of testing inquiries, (verbal and non- verbal systems, quiet, inciting and in addition compressing. She used a semi-organized interview guide, yet the line of addressing and reactions from members needed to keep up adaptability and consistency. She offered room to questions or remarks to support in the conclusion of the interviews. The researcher condensed the meeting events by summarizing the plans, perceptions and sentiments of the members, to guarantee understanding and conceivable input. The members were made mindful that a few angles may not be clear, thusly, meetings for clarity may be needed.

3.5.3 PROCESS OF GATHERING INTERVIEW DATA

During the interview data was collected through observation method and note taking simultaneously by both a non-member and researcher to improve observations.

3.5.4 NOTE TAKING DURING INTERVIEWS

As indicated by Holloway and Wheeler (2002:237), note taking is a paramount movement, yet it may bother the participants. To avoid mistrust, the researcher educated the members that notes would be taken during the interviews. A non-member was asked to take notes so non-verbal conduct of the members and also the researcher's responses and remarks would be noted with the consent of members (Holloway & Wheeler 2002:237). This technique for gathering information utilizing family member went about as a reinforcement framework to notes taken via researcher as she needed to observe and connect with participants all the more frequently. On the other hand, note taking was carried out to abstain from diverting the members.

3.6 DATA PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS

Social research creates data that must be coded, investigated and dissected. The information gathered was analyzed qualitatively. The analysis and interpretation of information is a key segment of any qualitative examination exertion. Rubin and Babbie (2008) signify qualitative examination as the non-numeric examination and understanding of perceptions with the end goal of finding underlying implications and examples of connections. Patton (2002) portrayed substance dissection as a term used to allude to any qualitative information decrease and sense-production exertion that takes a volume of qualitative material and endeavors to recognize center textures, meanings and implications.

The Nvivo (variant 7) product system was the fundamental instrument to be utilized for the analysis and translation of information. The raw information gathered from the research utilizing the meeting guide was entered into the computer to make an information record which would then be further analyzed.

Keeping in mind the end goal to translate the information, the researcher needed to compose all perception and interview data into significant themes. The starting qualitative information was overseen physically and manually. This methodology comprises of transcribing and interpreting findings from members and sorting out them into compelling classes. Coding was utilized to classify the information in a manner that permits the researcher to search for patterns and to

make a recovery framework for later audit of particular pieces of information (Patton, 2002; Rubin & Babbie, 2008 referred to in Abraham 2011).

3.7 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

This identifies with good measures that the researcher ought to consider in all examination routines in all phases of the exploration outline. The study looked for regard from the Committee of the Psychology division at Midlands State University to guarantee that it fit in with the benchmarks of social science research. Moral leeway was obtained from stakeholders before information gathering. To fulfill moral contemplations in connection to savvy or scholarly property and genuineness, all auxiliary information utilized within the study was referred to likewise.

The researcher emulated the standards in particular informed consent, beneficence, regard for human nobility, privacy and confidential and in addition equity (Polit et al 2001:75). Individual informed consent was acquired from all members before directing the interviews. To guarantee namelessness of interviewees, they were not to give any type of individual identification. Confidentiality of the data given by study members was censured by not imparting the information gathered to the individuals who were not nearly connected with the study. A percentage of the standards are clarified underneath:

Freedom from harm

Despite the fact that mental harm is not generally considered yet in a study like this, researcher needed to hold up under at the top of the priority list that the mental results some way or another required affectability. The researcher was sensitive to the members' feelings when testing inquiries that could mentally hurt the members. The researcher told the members that in the event that they felt that a few parts of the meeting were excessively for them they were allowed to withdraw from the study or pick not to answer the question.

Freedom from exploitation

Members in a study ought to be ensured from antagonistic circumstances. They ought to be guaranteed that data that they give to the researcher or their investment would not be utilized against them. The researcher-participant relationship should not be abused (Polit et al 2001:76). The interviews notes and composed narratives were securely put away and crushed after the study (Robson 1997:472).

Right to determination toward oneself

This rule implies that prospective members should not be forced into participating in the study. Members have the right to choose whether to take an interest without bringing about any punishment (Polit et al 2001:78). Members are to be approached and the motivation behind the study must be clarified.

The right to full divulgence

Full divulgence implies that researcher has completely clarified the way of the study, and the individual's entitlement to reject support. Determination toward oneself is reliant on full divulgence (Polit et al 2001:78). The researcher imparted the point and reason for study, the kind of meeting and other information gathering techniques with the members just as required.

The right to consent

This implies that the data given by members would not be imparted without their endorsement (Burns & Grove 2003:172). As the study was directed in the members' characteristic setting; there was no interruption of security concerning data given. Confidentiality was hence maintained. Anonymity is the failure to connect data to members. This was accomplished by recording the meeting led. The members were guaranteed of privacy verbally and in the composed assent structure. Insurances were utilized to guarantee privacy, for example, rundown of names, translations and notes were kept private and safe and rundown of names was differentiated from interview note taking and names were not attached (Polit et al 2001:82).

3.8 SUMMARY

This part depicted the research approach. The motivation behind an examination configuration is to boost legitimate and valid responses to an exploration question. This was attained by using a

qualitative, phenomenological approach that was context oriented. The Researcher was the fundamental data collector. Information was gathered through interviews and observations. The researcher understood information by utilizing an enlightening strategy to dissect it and furthermore guaranteed that the information is valid. Moral considerations were observed. Chapter 4 discusses the data analysis and findings.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

4.0 INTRODUCTION

This section exhibits a topical presentation and dissection of information gathered from the field. Information was gathered from twenty five (25) respondents who were male ex-convicts, their spouses and also (11) children through the use of in-depth interviews. It should, in any case, be stressed that despite the fact that the children were part of this research, due to maturity and sensitivity of the research, most of the children were not allowed to participate by their parents. Therefore most of the findings presented in this section are from a few key participants due to uniform results amongst respondents.

This part is presented under the accompanying sub-headings or themes: the demographic qualities of the participants and also the experiences of fathers in prison, upon release and up to date, the relationship between them and their spouses and children putting into consideration how it used to be before incarceration. Moreover how such changes brought about by incarceration have influenced the family living styles and in addition the adapting systems embraced by families to manage or to cope with these unintended consequences of incarceration and the social backing frameworks accessible to groups or victims are under discussion.

4.1 SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

The male ex-convicts, their life partners and children were the key respondents in this study and for that matter the researcher thought that it was perfect to gather information on their demographic attributes to support the study. Furthermore it was likewise discovered practical to gather information on the demographic qualities of the detained to empower the researcher to have a clearer perspective of the circumstances on the ground.

4.1.1 SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC ATTRIBUTES OF THE FATHERS

To guarantee consistency and intelligibility in the information gathered, the researcher saw the need to gather information about the lives of the male ex-convicts during and after serving their prison sentences, who in this case are fathers. It is accepted that such data was going to help successfully examine the experiences within prison and those outside in order to reach valid conclusions. It is therefore important that socio-demographic qualities of detained persons are introduced beneath.

The data in connection with the socio-demographic qualities was collected from the formerly incarcerated fathers themselves as biographical data as they were the key respondents in the study. The motivation behind this shifted data sources was to affirm the legitimacy of the data assembled in connection to wrongdoing sort, the span of the sentence and the quantity of years served too as time remaining. Despite the fact that the researcher was not given individual access to the documents of detainees, certification from the jail powers, it was sufficient enough that biographical data from those who experienced prison life was evident enough to understand their experiences in what goes on inside prison walls.

A presentation of the socio-demographic attributes of these fathers was gathered from a very small sample of ten (10) ex-convicts within them five (5) were the key respondents and most data used was from the five (5) key participants who shared and revealed much during the one on one in-depth interviews. The 10 respondents were in the range of 30 - 55 years, with the majority of them in their late 30s and early 40s meaning most of them were convicted in their early stages of fatherhood and each had at least a child or more before incarceration though some had even five (5) and even as far as six (6) children after incarceration.

During imprisonment most of these fathers had achieved some level of training, with only four detainees having finished auxiliary training while one detainee had finished tertiary level. It must be underscored that however the specimen is not a true representation of the prison population but it was of value to note their level of education upon release. Essentially in light of the poor education foundation of these fathers, they had no proper occupations before imprisonment and were involved in self-employments as a method of sustenance which made them constantly

unemployed in the formal sectors. Be that as it may, there were only two of them who completely had nothing to do before imprisonment and revealed that if “stealing was a job” that was the only experience they had.

The offences that these fathers committed were almost similar and varied a little, however according to the principles of the jail administration and the lawful frameworks of the nation, the crimes were classified and sentence periods resolved. There were four (4) fathers sentenced for ten years for rape, two (2) fathers were convicted for assault, three (3) were sentenced to six years for domestic violence and attempted rape, with only one (1) father sentenced to five (5) years for several robberies.

Fundamentally for any of these fathers to be part of this study they were supposed to have spent at least three years of life in prison. Nonetheless, these fathers were less intrigued by the number of years spent in prison since that was an indication of acknowledgement of their status as ex-convicts and were more intrigued by the fact that they were now back with their families though somehow still felt they were still in bondage psychologically. One father had this to say,

‘It still feels like am a prisoner of life itself.....or rather a prisoner for life’.

After a watchful investigation of the interviews with these fathers certain topics or themes rose such as the relationship between the family and the ex-convict in the recent life past imprisonment, changes that have happened in the family as a consequence of incarceration, how such changes have influenced their children, marriages and adapting components received to manage current situation from relatives or if any other social help supportive networks were accessible to such groups. The following is a presentation and translation of gathered information as highlighted above.

4.1.2 SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC ATTRIBUTES OF WIVES OF MALE EX-CONVICTS

As mentioned before, these interviews also included spouses of the incarcerated fathers in order to understand the family experiences. The main reason for the interviews carried on them was to

understand the unintended consequences of incarceration had affected them as mothers, wives and as a person.

In each of the ten (10) wives of ex-convicts questioned, mostly data from the five (5) key respondents was used as much information seemed to be uniform amongst most of these participants. The ages of these spouses ranged from twenty-five (25) to fifty (50) years of age. Most of these women did not do well at their ordinary level and did not bother to pursue it and only two (2) of them ended at primary level. Then again, there was one unconventional circumstance where three (3) of the respondents attended college for practical courses as sewing and catering though due to financial challenges could not capitalize their own business but continued to work for certain firms. The other seven (7) were involved in a variety of projects such as selling vegetables, cross boarder trading, buying and selling of air-time cards and poultry amongst many other small projects. In connection to their religious association, it was discovered that four (4) of the respondents were Christians, two (2) were traditionalists and four (4) were non-believers. Of all these spouses, each had more than one child though a few could go as far as five or six children

4.1.3 SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC ATTRIBUTES OF THE CHILDREN

Though in this study, children who were not mature enough and those whose parents had not given right of consent due to psychological reasons, nature and sensitivity of the issues surrounding them did not participate, researcher still considered the few that participated and had to give their socio-demographic characteristics in brief as much was not revealed by them. Amongst the children, eleven (11) were mature and able to understand the effects of incarceration and amongst the eleven (11) most data was drawn from six (6) participants as they had experienced life without their fathers and had had to re-unite with a father who now seemed more like a stranger.

Out of these six key participants, four (4) were boys and two (2) were girls and all were now teenagers. Only one (1) boy aged nineteen (19) had enrolled into university through cadetship, two (2) boys aged sixteen (16) and fourteen (14) were school dropouts and the other boy aged

thirteen (13) had just come back home from the streets. On the two (2) girls, one is aged seventeen (17) a school dropout working as a housemaid on part time bases and the other is fifteen (15) and suspected of pregnancy termination after eloping to boyfriend's house and was later chased away.

4.2 THEME 1 - TRAUMA AND BROKEN BONDS SUFFERED

Another general point of this study was to discover the lives of these families preferably spouses and children during the absence of these male convicts in order to fully understand the adjustments they had to make in the reintegration process after such a long period of time. The researcher also felt that such information would assist in the understanding of the level of changes they had gone through as mothers and children. Most of these families had trying times in coping with the trauma of the arrest and days that lay ahead of them without a father in the family, which in their cases were the breadwinners.

4.2.1 SUB-THEME – ANGER, RESENTFULNESS AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIORS

A thirty year old unemployed woman with four children and whose husband served seven years in prison highlighted the challenges she had with her children, back then she had two boys who found it hard to adjust to the trauma of having witnessed their father's arrest. She was worried about the children and no longer knew how best to relate to them as she could not keep on lying to her children about the truth of the situation. She also added that, there were times when the children refused to eat and had been stubborn and disrespectful due to the anger they felt for their mother for not being able to bring their father back home. With eyes full of tears as she relived the painful moment she had this to say;

'How could the boys not blame me for just standing there helpless watching their father being beaten up and dragged in chains into the windowless van? How could they not feel the pain? For God's sake, he bled furiously. They continuously asked of their father's return'.

While a percentage of the children knew their father had been captured and detained in light of the fact that they witnessed the event, it was just the adults who were mindful of the reason for imprisonment. Initially though exceptionally, the adolescents were not mindful of the reason for conviction even in spite of the fact that they knew their father had been captured and indicted. However, it was the passage of time and maturity that somehow made them realize all facts. As for the little ones who never witnessed the arrest, they had been living in the falsification that the detained father had gone abroad in search of greener pastures. Only those mature enough knew about the arrest and those who kept on searching for answers, came to know of the reasons for the arrest which further traumatized them and family relations further soured. One of the mothers who had her husband arrested for rape had this to say;

'I suffered the embarrassment on my own as I could not share it with my little ones. Out of anger I told them that their father had abandoned us but it did not do them any good, they somehow grew up in isolation, up to now they have no friends and rarely talk even to me'.

After having been allowed to interview one of her two children, who are now adolescents, the researcher really noticed the anti-social behavior they portrayed and had even difficulty in capturing their attention. After a long struggle, one of them had a few things to say about the relations in the family and the experiences they had in the absence of their father, though now they know the truth about his whereabouts, in the brief in-depth interview the fourteen year old boy whose father served ten (10) years said,

'When our mother told us that Dad had abandoned us my sister and I were only four (4) and five (5) years old, scared and betrayed by someone we loved the most. We hated him, we feared that one morning we will wake up without even mum. We blamed ourselves for Dad's decision, maybe, just maybe, we were bad kids and... .'. The boy narrated and could not go on as he trembled with pain and shame.

This mother had noted the anti-social behavior and the distance that grew between her and her own children. She added that at such a tender age, they had even stopped asking or crying for their favorite toys or candy sweets, never complained to any injustice and this worried her a great

deal but did not know how best to handle the situation as she also was terribly in need of psychological help.

4.2.3 SUB THEME – DETERMINATION, RECONCILIATION VS. DIVORCE

One mother who had a teenage boy thirteen (13) years of age at the time of his father's arrest and had to serve six (6) years, complained that, she had difficulties in paying for the boy's fees and had to drop him out of school for a year or two despite of his good grades and hardworking. The boy became overprotective of his mother due to the abusive nature of his father that he had witnessed before his arrest. As a mother motivated by the boy's determination, she sold most of their possessions and raised capital for cross-border trading and humbly, business flourished and had her son back in school.

She further went on to say that despite all the beatings and abuse she got daily from the husband, she never stopped worrying about him and whenever necessary would pay him a prison visit and lighten him up on how well the boy was progressing in high school and how well she had managed to cope with the financial problem. However, she visited her husband without alerting her son as he never wanted anything to do with his father anymore. With a smile on her sullen face from loads of hard work, she said;

'I remember one Sunday afternoon nearing the end of his sentence, when I had transport problem visiting my husband just to tell him that our son had been accepted into the cadetship payment plan for his college studies and I had to walk a three hour journey just to get there'.

There was however one special case of a woman who gave an account of how the husband's arrest and prison sentence had actually been welcomed into the family as they could no longer live in fear of him and how they had actually wished a more severe punishment on him. She was wife to one of the four men convicted for rape and had been sentenced to ten (10) years. The wife had this to say;

'I moved out of our matrimonial home just to make sure I no longer had anything of his besides the children. A beast like him cannot be accepted back or else it will swallow you...'

This case showed the differences in the experiences and relations of these families during incarceration and determines to a certain extent what was awaiting these fathers upon release and the reintegration process. In this rehabilitation, had they been prepared enough to face life outside prison walls? Was the family psychologically prepared to accept these inmates back into their lives? The researcher had to explore further.

4.3 THEME 2 - MARITAL RELATIONS AND ATTACHMENTS DURING PRISON

Due to the sensitivity of this particular issue most men and women did not give convincing responses as they seemed to be on the defensive side not on the vulnerable side but however a few during one on one interviews revealed some of their secrets concerning their marital needs. One significant problem that has influenced many other problems has been the diminishment in the monetary stand of the family, but as interviews progressed, a few women confessed that, there were other factors that contributed.

4.3.1 SUB-THEME 1- INFIDELITY

They confessed that, besides money, a woman needs to feel attached to a man and that certain needs cannot be compensated for with money. It is pitiful though that these women had expressed completely that one of the painful results of imprisonment on them has been the reality that they had been unfaithful to their imprisoned husbands and had submitted to infidelity at one time or the other. A couple of them had been involved with other individuals to fulfill their sexual longings and according to these women, it had been after two years or so following the arrest of their husbands. A woman in her late thirties (30s) highlighted that;

'I was left at the early stages of our marriage and each time I would think of our intimacy, those feelings of wanting, rather needing him will resurface and would not leave unless I would have another man and pretend I were with my husband to avoid guilty conscience'.

They however all agreed that even if they cheated, there were no serious commitments made and practiced safer sex to keep themselves healthy for the children's sake.

The other part of infidelity was caused by poverty in their homes and most men offered to help on the condition that they had slept with them. Most of these men were married to their fellow women friends and these men knew everything about them. They argued that as bad as it may seem, being in that situation one can be driven off limits without caring.

Moving on to the husbands' experiences in prison in relation to sexual needs as each of them had been in prison for more than three (3) years, most men were quite open that they somehow lost trust in their wives outside prison and had given up hope that their wives would wait that long to be with them again despite the prison visits that some of these fathers received from their wives. The husbands, ex-convicts in this case, colluded that, in prison life is not in your hands, prison sub-culture takes over even one's reasoning.

They confessed that even on the very first day, a misfortune could befall one depending on one's sensual appealing. One ex-convict during his interviews brought to light the trauma and torture he had endured from the first day as he narrated that;

'They called me 'fresh meat', tied my hands and took turns enjoying themselves regardless of the pain I had to endure. They called it baptismal into prison community of rapists'.

Somehow, to those who were convicted for rape, this kind of baptism did not matter much to them as they took it as part of their punishment from above. The only thing that worried them the most was that none of the old prison mates who took turns on them, wore any form of protection and they seemed not to care at all.

Strangely but true though, two of the four men convicted of rape confessed that as time went by, they learnt to take pleasure in this activity and ended up with multiple intimate relationships inside prison which gave them satisfaction they desired and true feelings of passion, jealousy and gentleness were involved unlike their first day harassment. From this confession, it can therefore be noted that, these men had somehow developed sexual disorders or psychological problems and yet they still had to come back into the society and resume responsibilities normally.

All in all, it can be agreed upon, from these findings that, infidelity despite different causes surrounding it or justifying it, it was fairly emanating from both males and females though not necessarily within same marriage. This also poses as a risky factor in the health of these parties.

4.4 THEME 2- DECAY OF MORAL VALUES IN CHILDREN

The children who had problems accepting back their fathers were those who knew and understood the trauma they had to go through and the reasons and shame accompanying their father's arrest. Those who knew little about the arrest of their father and had been involved in prison visits bonded securely with their fathers upon and after release with a number negatively affected in relating to their fathers.

4.4.1 SUB THEME 2 – RESENTMENT AND DISRESPECT

Amongst the mature children, were a nineteen (19) year old boy now in University on cadetship who openly pointed out that, though his mother accepted back his father and are trying to be family again and preaching forgiveness to him, he still does not have any feelings towards his father and he had this to say,

'Firstly, I will forever be thankful to my mother for taking care of me and will in turn take care of her. As for her husband, I cannot even afford to call him 'father'; he is long dead in my life'.

Though a few children participated, the information on how they handled reunification was astounding. A girl aged seventeen (17) a school dropout currently working as a maid seemed to have gladly received her father back as it gave her the hope to resume her studies and better herself in life and become the accountant she has always wanted to be. She shared with researcher that, now that the family was back together, her father is helping her mother raise money for the siblings she had been caring for, and that she decided to continue working for her fees and currently doing weekend and night classes.

However, she agreed that, there are times when feelings of resentment emerge when certain things are going wrong in her life and finds herself taking it upon her father and at one time, threatened to pour acid on him or food poisoning him.

4.4.2 SUB THEME 3 -IMMORALITY - PRE-MARITAL SEX

Immorality was other key finding from the discoveries and has been evident in children being engaged in pre-marital sex with even cases of falling pregnant and abortions. During interviews another girl, from a different family aged fifteen (15), had been giving her mother problems since the arrest of her father and even after her father's release.

She was said to have been engaged in pre-marital sex with even married men, dropped out of school on her own regardless of mother's efforts to keep her in school. She had eloped to an unknown boyfriend's house after being suspected of having fallen pregnant and terminating it. Several months following the incident, got chased away from the boyfriend's house and came back home where she is said to never pay attention to both parents and had at one time scolded her father saying;

'What manners can he teach me? When he, himself can't even control his hands, retched thief, leave me alone or go back to jail'.

The teenage girl during interviews showed no shame at all in her behaviors and she has also experienced a lot of things that most girls at her age are clueless of. She said when her father and mother reconciled, she felt sorry for them because according to her, it was too late for old love to be rekindled as there was no more trust in the marriage. Asked why she felt that way, the teenage girl had this to say;

'I don't care what you may think of me but I always stick to the truth. My parents think am blind but I know my mum is still seeing her lovers, who had been there for her in Dad's absence and Dad is just being in the marriage because he is useless without my mother'.

It is evident that during and after imprisonment these family ties soured and there is no trust, respect, no forgiveness amongst many other conflicting feelings in the relations and control over children has been lost by most parents as shown in the above themes. Even though some accepted back their fathers, feelings of resentment have a tendency of emerging when there are faced with new challenges.

4.5 THEME 4 - CRIMINAL LIFE-CYCLE

Though in some cases, such as those of two teenage boys who had dropped out of school due financial constraints, were happy to reunite with their fathers as they hoped for life to return to normal as those of other children who had bullied and stigmatized them, there were however, instances whereby most adolescent boys, had been involved in dangerous activities as means of escaping the traumas of their lives.

4.5.1 SUB THEME 4 - STREET LIFE AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

In this study, one thirteen year old boy had just returned home from the streets and is always stealing from the parents' little savings and also involved in unknown drugs and smokes a lot. From the interviews researcher managed to have with the boy, she realized that a number of these street children are coming from such broken families.

Most of them are said to be living under influence of unknown drugs and these children stand a higher chance of living criminal lives and end up in incarceration just as their fathers did, thus to say, a family cycle of criminal behavior. The boy is said to go in and out of the house and streets freely and once threatened his father with a knife and had a gang to ambush his mother on her pay day. The thirteen year old boy had this to say;

'You are very lucky that am even talking to you, nobody tells me what to do, Ninja like me? We rule man. Not even afraid of police and even if I go to jail, I will rule there ha ha ha...' He laughed it all out and bid farewell puffing out smoke.

From the experiences of most children, it can be noted with sincere regret the decay of moral values in children at such tender ages due to incarceration and the need or urgency of addressing

the matter should be considered before the future generation and leaders drown in crime. Though not much could be drawn out of this teenage boy due to his drunken, stubborn status, the evidence of this key finding is however, overwhelming.

4.6 THEME 5 - ROLES PLAYED BY INDIVIDUAL BELIEFS

As for the mothers, life after imprisonment also had not been easy as some ended up divorcing their husbands due to pain, mistrust and abuse from past experiences, with some living with them out of pity and a few had a successful reintegration that took a lot of trust, patience, love, endurance and forgiveness. In the interviews held, researcher discovered that women, who maintained relationships through prison visits and encouragement from church members, were able to forgive and accept back their husbands from prison.

4.6.1 SUB THEME 5 - RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL BELIEFS

Religious and cultural beliefs have influenced most of these women's decisions pertaining to marriage despite how they really felt and wanted for themselves. In the interviews one Christian woman who had managed to accept back her husband commented;

'The road has been stiff and rocky, but through scriptural encouragements from the bible that tells us to forgive and to be submissive to our husbands, I was able to give him back his place in the house as the head of the family. All, in the fear of the Lord'.

In other cases some women stayed in the marriage for the sake of cultural beliefs and expectations, though in their hearts they no longer felt love and trust. Most women confessed that they were living in the fear of contracting HIV/AIDS from their husbands as they were not able to question them on what transpired during imprisonment and the rumors that they had heard concerning gay relationships. They added that, intimacy felt like a duty they had to fulfill, a demand upon their shoulders as they had to play their role in the conjugal rights of their husbands but without any passion. One of the four women whose husbands had been sentenced to ten years had this to say;

'I have been treated for STI since he came back but whenever I try to talk him into going for HIV testing, he accuses me for infidelity saying I am the one who had all the freedom to sleep around'.

She explained how difficult the situation was for her and the fact that as a woman she cannot initiate the use of condoms as it is a taboo in her culture for a woman to seem way forward in such matters concerning sexual life. It is an unfortunate situation for her and other women who were scared to open up, and they lamented that, until help comes, their lives were in danger.

4.7 THEME 6 - BROKEN HEARTS BROKEN MARRIAGES

In the discoveries made, women who have decided to stay within marriage are still broken hearted and some who have been strong enough, have decided to break the marriages in order to heal and move on.

As mentioned before, a woman who had been abused for several years by her husband, failed to accept him back into her life and she had already moved out of their matrimonial home by the time that the husband came home from the prison. According to her, the prison sentence was a relief to the family as they could now live a normal and happy life. Asked to explain why she still felt that way after all the years the husband had served in prison for his punishment and rehabilitation, she had this to say,

'The jail can take care of the offender but cannot cure the internal wounds of the victim. If it were possible to be in my shoes and feel the pain, maybe you would understand me but all I can say for now is, my heart is scarred for life and those scars will continue demanding justice beyond prison'.

Currently the woman has their two children with her who also seemed to have been turned against their father as they too, have failed to forgive and accept him back into their lives. The mother agreed that in the initial phases of the arrest, the children were not doing well and the tell-tale of stress were showing on their faces. She also mentioned that, at some point the little girl back then, would even refuse to go to pre-school and the older brother who was just sitting

for final grade seven exams, actually developed a mental problem and has never been fully recovered from the trauma.

However, a woman whose son is in his first year at a local university, had been able to accept back her husband despite the fact that her heart has been broken and this has also been made easier due to prison visits she had maintained for the ten years her husband had been sentenced to. She pointed out that, in as much as she try to make the husband feel at home and respected, the further she senses the distance growing between them. She added that, he rarely talks and sometimes he seems to be lost in his senses and a world of his own in addition to the fact that, she cannot love again but only try to be there for him financially. With great concern in her eyes, she said;

'I fear that the trauma of being in prison for so long could have damaged him beyond our imagination. He no longer has any zeal for life, sometimes he can go for days without a word, just silence but his facial expression speaks loads of stories that I dare not even ask'.

The trauma as explained by this woman could have been further caused by the rejection he got from his son who is now nineteen and a University student. She suspects that, despite the harm of being in prison, his hope of reconciling with his family and rebuilding his life was shattered right in front of his very own eyes by this rejection. She further went on to say;

'I know my son, as stubborn as his father, will take time or even never be able to forgive his father. All I can do is praying that he forgives him for the sake of his condition, it's not good at all'.

From the above quote, and other above mentioned interviews with different spouses of these ex-convicts, it can be noted that, even those who accepted their husband back into the family, the reintegration is still an ongoing battle and has not been successful even after a number of years being in the family. It is clear that, the problem is also two sided, thus either the family has rejected the inmate or the inmate has failed to fit in psychologically, financially and so forth.

4.8 THEME 7- BEHAVIORAL, PERSONALITY AND PHYSICAL CHANGES IN FATHERS

Finally, moving on to the experiences and relations of these ex-convicts after prison, it was noted during interviews and observations made that indeed the rehabilitation and reintegration process does not end upon release but an going process that only the success of it is determined by the individual progress.

4.8.1 SUB THEME 1 – ROLE CHANGES

Most men who had found their wives already progressing well without them had difficulties in resume their responsibilities as they felt belittled by their new status and being penniless and dependent also further damaged their ego. Though some said that they learnt to help with household chores and yet still felt the need to do more than that. Some even went to the extent of cooking and washing as some had been cooking and washing in prison before release and no longer had problems playing such roles. The fact that they could not put food on the table and had to beg for some pocket money was so shameless to them. One man who had served for the smallest number of years amongst others had this to say;

‘To think that just about three years ago, I was the boss of this house and now have to just be content with everything my family says or do. Eisssh , this is just too much garbage to chew for a man who used to have his ways’.

There was one father who confessed that being back with his family was a dream that came true as he had prayed daily in prison for the day to come to pass despite the fact that before prison he never acknowledged there was God. So being back with his family was an answered prayer for him. The only problem worrying him at the moment is that, he cannot stop the nightmares of the horrors he experienced inside jail and start reliving every bit of it. He fears that for the rest of his life, he may remain stuck in prison and the joy he thought freedom would offer may remain an illusion. In the interviews conducted, the fifty year old man had this to say,

'I am in desperate need of soul cleansing as I am still stuck in the evils of prison life and cannot embrace the reunion with my family as much as I ought to'.

Prison experience has scarred the inner being of these fathers and being with their families not fully equipped and prepared to face life independently has affected their successful reintegration as these ex-convicts are still dependent individuals.

Amongst the few men who were open enough to share their experiences after prison, there was a father of four, who admitted that, prison life had damaged or rather changed his sexual preferences as he still kept in touch with other ex-convicts he had befriended and became intimate with during the ten years he spent in prison. He shared that after prison life, he tried really hard to remain faithful to his wife and had even managed to give her two more children in addition to the two they had before incarceration. Unfortunately, as he had put it, he could only be satisfied by his new boyfriends, who in turn could understand his new image and self better than his wife. In light of his life after prison, he had this to share;

'I appreciate my wife and care for her so much, but I sense that she is still judging me in a way. Regardless of the efforts, I still turned back to my prison mates who had become more than that and could understand me, satisfy my sexual needs without judging me'.

He added that, the only reason why he is still with his wife is the fact that, she had stood by him during the hard times and cannot hurt her feelings by abandoning her after all the effort. Somehow, he still feels that when the right time comes, he will move on with his life. Currently, cannot disclose his sexual preferences to her or anyone who knows him as it is still illegal but when he manages to move to South Africa with his boyfriends, then, they will openly consider it.

Finally, though there were still a few fathers who could come into the open with their experiences after prison, researcher learnt a great deal from their wives that they had been psychologically traumatized by prison experiences and the rejection they got from their grown up children. These fathers were suffering in silence and living a sorrowful life that speaks volumes of effects of incarceration. One special case that researcher encountered was that of a father, who only got to have his matrimonial home back and lost his family as they rejected him

and vowed to never see him again. This father, with resignation, regrets and reformation written on his face, had this to say;

'No words can apologize enough for what I did to my family. Jail taught me to value life and those we love things I was not even aware of. I have been a fool and now that I know what to, life has denied me a second chance and this freedom seems to be the worst prison'.

It can be noted from these fathers' experiences, that life after prison is still an ongoing battle they have to fight. It is evident enough that in as much as they have been fighting it at an individual level, it is a battle they cannot win on their own.

4.9 THEME 8 - COPING INSTRUMENTS USED BY FAMILIES

In an offer to comprehend the states of the inactive casualties of incarceration, there was an exertion by the researcher to learn the different ways and measures that had been embraced by these groups to cope with the difficulties postured by unintended consequences of incarceration.

Most of these families had shown that in the wake of experiencing the beginning phases of the trauma of imprisonment, the first battle they had to fight was the ability to accept and deal with the truth on the ground. The first thing they needed to do was to acknowledge the circumstances in compliance with common decency and stand up to the test and the facts surrounding them at an individual level.

Moreover, those who had a Christian background confessed that in these most difficult times they had depended on religion by means of prayer and fasting and requesting that men of God pray for them and additionally going to religious services, prayer meetings and bible studies even though deep within they knew those systems were not the functional answers for the issues at hand. However, they agreed that it somehow instilled a great sense of hope that gave them strength to carry on with life. One Christian woman had this to say,

'Whenever I would lose hope and think of committing suicide, I would look at my children and remember that they were blessings from God and fear of leaving them alone in this world would take over'.

Despite the confessions by respondents of turning to religious practices in order to cope though they agreed that it was at minimum relief for them as most issues needed physical, financial and social assistance compared to spiritual answers, there were some Christians who were tempted together with the non believers and traditionalist to seek help from counseled sanctuaries, cults and witch specialists for counsel and profound charms to mediate for their benefit. Despite the fact that some of those who practiced these witchcrafts did not want to avail much about it, there were a few who confessed that, they did not yield any beneficial results from it.

A fifty year old man had this to say;

'Regardless of the fear I had about those underworld practices by witch doctors, I had to turn to them because at that moment they seemed to be the only ones who were willing to help...'

In terms of coping with financial issues, some families had to move their children out of lavish schools to reasonable ones and some to an extent of dropping out of school completely. One family in Harare moved out of a costly leased house to a convenient one. Those who owned a house had to fill it up with tenants and squished themselves into a one big room which used to be their lounge, so they could gain some income from tenants.

For a few families they needed to move to another territory in totality to turn away the disgrace connected to the family as consequence of detainment while others needed to move to their main residences where typical cost for basic items and also convenience and instruction was relatively less expensive and moderate.

4.10 THEME 9 - SOCIAL HELP AND SUPPORTIVE NETWORKS

One of the key zones of this examination was to discover the manifestations of social backing frameworks that are at the transfer of the groups of detainees both at the micro and macro level.

The relatives on both sides had been exceptionally useful from the introductory phases of the capture in some of the respondents' lives as far as material and monetary support was needed but however seized as years went by and some took advantage of the situation and took children of the incarcerated father in the disguise that they would cater for the children's needs but ended up using these children as free labor. In some cases some of these children ended up running away or back to their parents' homestead.

Fundamentally while a small number of these male ex-convicts highlighted that from the time of imprisonment, their male friends had been supportive in specific circumstances, which in contrary was not so with their spouses as they complained that they had not been useful and in curious cases needed to exploit the circumstances to engage in sexual relations with them and for that matter had overlooked any type of support from them. One of the spouses had this to say concerning the nature of the supposed support they got from their husbands' friends;

'After a while of what seemed to be genuine support, my husband's close friend called me to collect some fees for the children as loan and when I got there, he was home alone and but most shockingly in his underwear, I just had to run away without the loan'.

In most cases, these families never got support from friends and relatives and those who did, it was insufficient or came at a price. So eventually they just had to suffer in silence. A few individuals had sent their children to go and seek help from religious group mainly inform of groceries. One woman confessed that she had to beg for some piece work in low density suburbs in exchange for food items and clothes since it was difficult for most homes to open doors to strangers after her church had pretended not to know about her plight. She had been at one point been confronted about not participating in financial matters of the church as women's subscriptions and tithes which were compulsory to every member regardless of their status.

For those who were fortunate enough, during imprisonment and after, had been given what they termed 'spiritual advice' on marriage matters and had been able to cope with the challenges that their marriage had fallen into. A Christian couple agreed and appreciated that the teachings and counseling sessions from their religion had brought back the trust that had been lost and above all, unconditional love had been restored.

The government due to economic constraints had not been able to budget for such families as they are not also fully aware of the extent of their burdens and a few non- governmental organizations could only offer basics when approached by such groups as they mainly catered for HIV/AIDS pandemic and Cancer issues within the region and were also being affected by socio-economical issues as well.

4.11 SUMMARY

This Chapter has managed to present and analyze results from exploratory interviews done on the experiences of male ex-convicts, their spouses and children. A thematic presentation has been given in relation to the findings. The Chapter also showed the demographical attributes of each individual who participated. Chapter 5 will now discuss the findings in relation to Literature reviews, methodology, tie together findings and conclude. Recommendations will also be given.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study was to discover the states of the aloof casualties of incarceration who in this case are the formerly incarcerated fathers with their spouses and children. This Chapter however discusses and ties together current findings and past studies on the subject in relation to the objectives of the study, research questions and aims to also draw possible conclusions on the findings and make suitable recommendations.

5.1 REVIEW OF METHODOLOGY

The study however is qualitative in nature and in-depth interviews have been used to gather data from suitable respondents in order to increase validity through the use of snowball sampling technique. Purpose of the study was to explore on the experiences that formerly incarcerated fathers go through with their families. Motivation was drawn from the fact that there is extremely limited information on such subject and lack of knowledge on the experiences that these families go through making the general public and stakeholders lack concern.

The information gathered is from the viewpoints of a few families in Harare, Norton and Chitungwiza in general. The testimonies from these victims of the detainment are critical to this examination in light of the fact that these are issues that influence them daily and cannot be explained better by anyone else but themselves. Below are the research questions and discussions.

5.2 WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES FACED BY MALE EX-CONVICTS UPON AND AFTER RELEASE?

One significant finding of this examination is that the ex-convicts have genuine economic difficulties. This finding is backed by Arditti (2005) in a qualitative work which demonstrates

that the loss of immediate wage can make a noteworthy load on battling families, particularly when the economy is already compromised.

5.2.1 UNEMPLOYMENT

As common as this problem may be in such studies, it is huge set back in the successful rehabilitation and reintegration of these fathers. According to current study, the ex-convicts due to such economic challenges, pointed out that, they still felt like prisoners of life despite being out of jail.

According to Casey (1948) in his book 'Helping Convicts Return Home', being out of prison with no source of income or capital to inject into business has been their greatest disadvantage and finding a decent job in an economically challenged industry with a criminal background is a non starter. Therefore, it can be argued that, the same problem if it were a financial challenge that drove these fathers to commit crime, and have been released back to the same problem, and then honestly, they would reoffend (Casey, 1948). The system of justice needs to revisit, the appropriate means of dealing with criminal issues urgently (Arditti, 2005).

Also due to economical challenges that have affected the Zimbabwean industry, findings by Council on Crime and Justice (2006); Dyer (2005) and Casey (1948) tend to be inconsistent with current findings. Thus to say, a continued financial and increased burdens on women in the struggle to put food on the table and making all ends meet. Unfortunately, this in the long run, may put a strain on the relationship and physical and mental health of both these fathers and family members.

5.2.2 REJECTION

A violent or abusive father's imprisonment may be a relief to a family that was being threatened by this individual at home (Murray, 2000). Hence, in such cases, when this father is released from prison, he may face instant rejection and no social support in addition to the supposed traumatic prison experiences and further damage him. This key factor was noted, as one mother left her matrimonial home due to internal scars of the abuses she suffered at the hand of her husband, despite the fact that he served for it in prison. Henceforth, as put by DeVeaux (2013) in

his personal experiences, that these fathers can be psychologically affected for life without family support and findings are also similar to study done by (Mendez, 2001).

5.2.3 MENTAL DEGRADATION AND IDENTITY CRISIS

Though the current study is focusing on life experiences beyond prison, it was of paramount importance to also revisit prison experiences of these fathers in order to understand current behavior better. In his book 'The Prison Community', sociologist Clemmer (2005) noted with concern that confinement is not normal and has the most degrading experiences that one can ever endure. Adapting to continuous harassment, scrutiny, lack of privacy can be psychologically debilitating. Other authors have suggested that apathy, mental degradation, changes in personality, identity crisis can be experienced in prisons and out of prisons (Noble, 1995).

The above notion by Clemmer (2005) can be said to be in agreement with regards with findings from current local study as shown by one father who no longer acts normal and seems to have developed a world of his own in which no one can tell, understand or help him. This father who had been in prison for ten years and had shown to be withdrawn from his surroundings due to psychological trauma was said to have witnessed several insults, violence and he himself had been a victim to those prison brutalities.

Such findings are also similar to De Veaux (2013) who in his personal experience in American prisons found life after prison adjustment very painful and traumatizing as he had to relive several assaults and murders, constant violence and suicidal cases that took place inside prison despite family support.

A different finding that is new is that of Identity crisis in terms of sexual orientation whereby prison turns a father to a lifetime gay. After ten years of being exposed to gay relationships, he is said to have gradually developed genuine feelings and serious relationships with same sex. Upon and after release, as he reunited with his wife, the feelings for gay relationships still remained stronger.

These changes in families included financial changes, trust and psychological issues amongst many others. Given changes such as, rejection, sexual orientation and psychological issues, as one of these formerly incarcerated fathers, really has mental issues and financial issues may also lead these fathers to re-offend in the long run as put by Casey (2005) in his book *Helping Convicts Return Home*. Indeed in spite the fact that these findings are not underpinned by accessible writing, they are a reasonable discovering which must be addressed at local level and research questions on the marital issues and attachment have however been addressed though to a lesser extent as the subject is quite sensitive.

Therefore from the descriptions of their experiences, it can be clearly noted and argued that even upon and after release, these incarcerated fathers are still traumatized (Mendez, 2001) and are in no good shape to live on life normally with their wives and children, without proper interventions put in place to help them heal psychologically henceforth issues of such nature cannot be ignored. Therefore to a greater extent the question has been answered.

5.3 HOW ARE THE SPOUSES OF THESE FATHERS AFFECTED BY PRISON SENTENCE AND THE REINTEGRATION?

5.3.1 INFIDELITY AND FINANCIAL CHALLENGES

Another major finding from the work is that it is exceptionally hard to keep up personal conjugal association with a companion in jail in light of the limited nature of the penitentiaries which ordinarily makes passionate and mental issues for the remaining mates convincing them to search for camaraderie from somewhere else and conceivable separation with their accomplices in jail.

This finding is verified by (Travis, 2005) who states that it is hard to do personal connections from jail. Hindrances to contact and correspondence, changes in family parts, and mental changes because of confinement block the advancement and upkeep of closeness and responsibility (Travis, 2005).

In this case of infidelity from the findings, it appeared to have been experienced by both parties but special attention was given to women who confessed that due to multiple burdens and desire to be loved, at several points when their husbands were still in prison, they cheated on them. This result of infidelity is consistent with findings from other scholarly work by (Dyson, 2005).

The change due to time and experience prompts a trade off of the relationship and conceivable divorcé. This finding is confirmed by Fishman (1990) qualitative meeting results which uncovered that convicted father's nonappearance and previously imposed behavior may affect relationship after release. In agreement, current finding was on a mother who developed personality change, marriage perceptions and had resentment (Parkman, 2005) over incarcerated father of her children that even after prison could not accept him back nevertheless forgiving him for the past abusive behavior and prison term seemed to have given her closure and rest.

Over millions of families are suffering from the unintended consequences of incarceration (Mumola, 2000). Unintended consequences highlighted so far have included: the social disorganization of communities (Clear *et al*, 2001), reduced job opportunities for ex-prisoners (Holzer *et al*, 2004), financial challenges for schools and universities fees (Hagan and Dinovitzer 1999), financial burdens on families and probably psychological effects may arise due to mentioned problems though in some few cases have brought relief to some families.

Findings on the women's experiences have surprisingly been uniform and consistent across board though in this current study, only a few women opened up to the infidelity and other sensitive subjects henceforth questions have been partially answered and results cannot be generalized to all wives of ex-convicts across nations.

5.4 HOW WERE THE CHILDREN AFFECTED BY PRISON SENTENCE AND INTEGRATION AND INTERACTING WITH AN EX-CONVICT FOR A FATHER?

Children have fallen victims of incarceration from a tender age and as noted by other scholars in terms of statistics, in America being the highest, an estimation of 1.5 million children have an

incarcerated father (Mumola, 2000) shows the extent of the degree of the impact of incarceration on children.

According to the current findings at local level, it can be agreed upon with the above notion that indeed, incarceration has caused more harm than good to the children, their mothers and even the inmates themselves. It was also noted that many children had dropped out of schools, developed anti-social behavior (Shaw 1992), with some being informally employed in order to help their mothers at an inappropriate age. At some point a child was mentally affected with others even running away from home seeking haven in the streets and some being involved in pre-marital sex.

5.4.1 NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF INCARCERATION ON CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

The NIACRO (2008) argued that children suffer in silence and have been termed orphans of justice by one scholar as they have found out in their studies that most of these children are heading families, being involved in crimes and suffering psychologically.

5.4.2 SCHOOL DROP-OUTS

In this current study, researcher discovered that, despite the common challenge of children dropping out of school due to insufficient funds, there were also cases of children dropping out of school due to drug abuse Bilchik et al (2001), teenage pregnancies and anti-social behaviors they had developed. It is evidenced by findings on a teenage girl who dropped out of school and eloped after having fallen pregnant and another teenage boy who ran away from both home and school and lived in the streets.

These findings are supported by Murray (2006) who noted that during their parent's imprisonment, these children often suffer from depression, hyperactivity, aggressive behavior, withdrawal, regression, clinging behavior and poor grades. He also argued that the assumption that it may cause psychosocial difficulties is pervasive in the literature henceforth there was need for further studies which is what this current study has managed to do at a local level.

Joseph Brenyah (2013) also added that not only do these ex-convicts suffer but their children suffer a greater deal such as emotionally, psychologically and developmentally as they are faced with lots of adjustments in their critical stages of development without knowing how to cope and

are somehow forced to mature at an early stage and miss out on the childhood activities and school programs for their age groups.

This is also in agreement and similar with the findings on a seventeen (17) year old girl who has been working as a maid in order to look after her mother and other siblings. She really showed that over the years she was forced to mature very quickly by family demands and she is even working to pay own fees to further her studies as her father can now help out and achieve her goals though delayed, of becoming an Accountant.

One key result of this work which is different from past studies is that in some children, who have been mature enough to understand what this incarceration did to their family images have in a strange way been able to cope positively, and have drawn lots of energy from the sufferings in order to better their lives in the face of poverty. A nineteen year old boy, who is now enrolled at a local University, has become overprotective of his mother, extra hardworking in his studies and all in the name of becoming a better person in life and erase the shame that his incarcerated father had brought upon the family.

However, though incarceration experiences at family level has affected this boy in a what may seem a positive way, most children have been negatively affected as shown in the number of school drop outs and teenage pregnancies including aggressive behaviors as noted in the current findings and past studies (Arditti, Smock and Parkman, 2005).

5.4.3 CRIMINAL LIFE-CYCLE

Research by Heinlein (2013) in California, America also suggests that, a strong father-child relationship is not only preventative of the father's recidivism but may also protect the child from future involvement in criminal activities (Seymour, 2002). In other words, children whose parent is in incarceration or has been, tend to have higher chances of them also being involved in criminal activities or those that may eventually lead them into, thus breeding of criminal life-cycle.

5.4.4 STREET LIFE, SMOKING AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

In the current study, it can be agreed upon that indeed, father-child relationship protects child from future involvement in crime (Bilchick et al, 2001) to a greater extent as there have been

findings on children, mostly boys who have been in the streets living a criminal life in the absence of their fathers who have been in prison for years (Hairston, 2002). The imprisonment of their fathers has affected their bonding and in trying to cope, children have negatively chosen street life as an escape from reality and in the long run ended up on drugs, alcohol abuse and who knows, could also be stealing from people in order to meet basic demands as food.

In order to buy alcohol and drugs, they also need money as they are in a constant mood of wanting to stay high, drunk and lost in a world they think is peaceful. These findings are in pair to a comparable finding by Reed and Reed (1997) who likewise noted that youngsters whose folks are imprisoned may be presented to persevering trauma that leads them to mishandle substances as an adapting instrument.

Therefore, it can be argued from these findings that, children engaging in such activities as means of escaping from the trauma of fathers' incarceration, generally male adolescents, might end up being criminals themselves hence, if they do, a criminal life-cycle has been born (Bilchik, Seymour and Kreisher, 2001). These findings have also been consistent over time thereby questions on these children have been answered to a greater extent. Murray and Farrington (2005) had the most convincing results on children as they did both a qualitative and a quantitative methodology on children.

5.5 WHAT COPING MECHANISMS WERE EMPLOYED BY THESE FAMILIES IN COMBATING THE CHALLENGES OF INCARCERATION?

5.5.1 RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL BACKING

Due to the shame connected with imprisonment anyone who has a life partner in jail or even after release loses all procured informal help since they are viewed a disgrace. This circumstance even gets to be more significant when the imprisoned individual and the family are originating from a low pay status family where they will require some type of backing from relatives and companions. It even deepens when the criminal record is as serious as murder and rape. Even though these findings are not authenticated by any known exploration, the social settings of different studies must however, be considered as a key finding.

In an effort to find out the sort of back up or types of social help accessible to them, researcher found out that only casual support was available and it radiated from crew parts and companions and from religious bodies despite the fact that these types of backing continued waning as the years pass by. Despite the fact that this finding is not backed by accessible writing where the significant manifestations of social backing are said to be given from casual sources, it is however of paramount that they should be expanded and increased in value as they are of use to these individuals.

In exertion to discover how groups of the detained can manage and contain the impacts of imprisonment, it was figured out that most families depended on dynamic interest in religious exercises and additionally direction and advising from religious pioneers as opposed to counseling proficient advisors when the need be.

This finding is confirmed in a study by Lane (2012) on "the capacity of religion as an adapting component for jail wives and lady friends" which uncovered that religious and profound convictions are essential wellsprings of quality for prisoners' wives and lady friends amid the imprisonment of their accomplices.

In connection to this it was additionally discovered that some of the children of formerly imprisoned fathers depended on the utilization of smoking, street life, premarital sex as an adapting components despite the fact that it is a negative adapting system. This attestation is upheld by a number of scholars such as Saxon et al. (2001); José et al (2000); Butters (2002) who showed that, non-criminal equity examination shows that such methods are identified with upsetting life circumstances and may be utilized as a negative adapting system despite the fact that these issues have been for all intents and purpose unexplored in the matter of comprehension how families bargain with the extra stretch connected with detainment.

Therefore, it can be clearly noted that, in trying to survive the fate of their lives, if help is not offered by any stakeholder thus, family, relatives, society at large, these groups will sort own refugee from any source available regardless of the negative future implications of that source on their lives.

5.6 CONCLUSIONS

This study tried to discover the unintended outcomes of imprisonment on the atomic groups of the detained. The study uncovered the lives of formerly incarcerated fathers, their partners and children. A section on their demographical attributes was also given in order to understand their experiences as recommended by Brenyah (2013) in his study. Most findings were consistent with and similar to past studies though a few were different and new to the field.

It was discovered that, it is indeed true as put by Murray (2000) and other scholars that all members of the family were fallen victims of incarceration as the ex-convicts upon and after release continued to suffer in different and common ways such as facing rejection, infidelity, financial setbacks and though a few were forgiven and accepted back by their partners, psychological issues still kept them prisoners of the mind and these results are consistent.

Children were also suffering and affected by the jail term and even after release, they had difficulties in accepting their father back and in making their relationship go back to normal as some could not forgive, some had developed anti-social behaviors, dropped out of school, resentment, some had moved on and with others having turned themselves into future criminals by living life in the street and on drugs and all sorts of immorality (Arditti, 2005; Murray 2000; Council on Crime and Justice, 2006). Even though current study used qualitative method and use of in-depth interviews, results found on children through quantitative research method tallied and were consistent.

The unintended outcomes of detainment on the mothers' part during and after incarceration were also explored and these included radical part changes, monetary hardships, loss of closeness, infidelity and consequent separate as well as disengagement, including loss of effectively settled informal communities and relations (Murray, 2000; Brenyah Joseph, 2013). These findings are consistent with past studies.

However issues pertaining to HIV/AIDS and STI's are a different and inconsistent finding, it is a major key as it is a life threatening challenge faced by these wives. However these findings

answered research questions to a lesser extent as sample size was very small and hesitancy from respondents to interview questions of this nature limited the validity of this subject result.

Notwithstanding, there is a minor classification of respondents who confirmed that the detainment of their life partners has yielded some positive results for their families. In connection to the adapting components utilized by groups of the detained to contain the circumstance, it was discovered that the resort to religious exercises and religious guiding as well as the utilization of liquor and other hurtful substances were pervasive.

It was additionally found out that formal types of social backing in the cluster of institutional courses of action were definitely not accessible. Then again, casual manifestations of social backing in unmistakable and non substantial structures were given by religious bodies but however, only for a short while. Such findings are similar to other past studies at regional level.

5.7 PROBLEMS OF THE STUDY

Likewise with all observational examination, the study has impediments and it is vital to highlight some of its real confinements. The main confinement of this study was getting the chosen respondents to open up but due to disgrace and negative meanings connected with imprisonment, a few respondents felt hesitant to take an interest in the study thus limiting the sample size.

It is suspected that respondents may have misrepresented some of their reactions as a consequence of their enthusiastic and mental states and also their desires of some requesting some financial help from the researcher. This could halfway influence consequences of the study.

The last confinement of this study is its failure to sum up the consequences of the discoveries due to the qualitative nature of the study which underscores on the top to bottom nature of data assembled instead of on numbers. Geologically, the study was restricted to a few families of formerly incarcerated fathers in Zimbabwe which likewise make it hard to sum up examination discoveries.

5.8 RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE RESEARCH FINDINGS

After having explored issues pertaining to male ex-convicts, their wives and children, researcher recommends the following to be implemented or considered by the government, families, communities and ministry of justice and human rights in order to lessen or eradicate the effects of unintended consequences of imprisonment on targeted families.

The Government and Policy Makers

- Detainment forms must, in this way, guarantee that such ex-convicts are not unduly influenced by putting set up social moderating measures to guarantee viable detainment and reintegration.
- Strategies that ensure mental safety, medicals and HIV/AIDS testing, counseling and treatment, financial balance, housing and projects for income source for ex-convicts' re-entry should be put in place by the government.
- Ensure that children with incarcerated fathers just as orphans should all have their fees, medicals, all basics catered for as a right by the government in order to avoid life cycle of criminals, school drop outs and above all to avoid children suffering from the consequences of imprisonment or injustice which may doom their future bearing in mind that, they are also victims.

The Families and Community

- The families of formerly incarcerated fathers and the general public must be educated, empowered on the ills sustained by these inmates.
- It is in reality a fact and a law that criminals must be confined from the coherence of such acts and be punished accordingly. Then again, it must be admired that upon completion of the jail term, accepting them and giving them another chance to rebuild their lives positively, is not too much to ask of rather than making these ex-convicts prisoners of their wives and children.
- On the same view relatives, community and organizations both governmental and non-governmental should be informed of these experiences that they may also be considerate, forgiving and supportive of these families.

- Shun discrimination and instead join hands in building the lives of these mothers and their children, not allowing them to fall casualties of the criminal acts of their fathers, through massive campaigns.

Social Organizations for Justice and Human Rights

- Stakeholders must urgently address the violence, traumas, and prison subcultures that these inmates are exposed to, which instead of making rehabilitation a success, is severely further damaging them, as they are released from prison in dilapidated states.
- To also make proficient advising administrations accessible to families of the detained to improve their adapting components, as some of them specially mothers in search of help, are putting their own lives at risk factors such as, broken marriages, infidelity that may make them vulnerable to abuse, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted disease and rape.
- Address monetary issues by improving the capability of detainees to work while in jail and upon release for this could make ex-convicts monetarily dynamic. In addition, having small capital or assets to help themselves and to transmit their families at home would help them settle positively.

5.8.1 RECOMMENDATIONS PERTAINING FUTURE STUDIES

With respect to further research, an evaluation on the local rehabilitation process, its effectiveness, the nature and activities of prison sub-cultures that may impede with the administration culture, policy and regulations should be done in order to deal with these issues faced after release at root level and to also be able to come out with new strategies or readdress existing strategies.

In terms of current statistics on the victims of incarceration and the level of the degree that families have suffered at local level as done by global studies, this research must be done as a quantitative research instead of a qualitative as this one, by increasing sample size and increase the generalizing of findings. Use of questionnaires in place of interview questions pertaining to sensitive matters, may allow more openness and validity of results.

The researcher cannot say for certain that she interviewed ex-convicts who are argued by other scholarly work to be more dangerous, more experienced and harmful upon release due to prison experiences. This notion however calls for a more careful in-depth investigation in future studies.

5.9 CHAPTER SUMMARY

This Chapter has discussed results, tied up findings that are consistent and those that are new and different from past studies. Conclusions have been drawn and possible recommendations have been given. Therefore researcher can safely conclude that formerly incarcerated fathers and their families even in life after prison are still suffering the unintended consequences of incarceration. The children and life partners of these fathers have become casualties of this justice system and are need of help from all stakeholders before the nation starts breeding a life cycle of criminals and sentencing future generation to death. Coping mechanisms have been discussed and recommendations for future studies have been proffered.

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APPENDIX ONE

RESEARCH INTERVIEW GUIDE

Q.1 WHAT WERE THE CHALLENGES FACED BY EX-CONVICTS UPON AND AFTER RELEASE?

- How did the prison term/sentence affect you as a father?
- Did it change your perception of life in general and if so, How?
- Were there any challenges in terms of gender roles, finances and social interactions?
- Were there any challenges experienced before incarceration?
- Are there any challenges upon and after reintegration within marriage e.g intimacy, attachment?
- Any role changes made?

Q.2 HOW WERE THE SPOUSES AFFECTED BY PRISON SENTENCE AND REINTEGRATION?

- How did the prison term/sentence affect you as a spouse?
- Did it change your perception of life in general and if so, How?
- Were there any challenges in terms of gender roles, finances and social interactions?
- Were there any challenges upon and after reintegration in marriage in terms of attachment etc?
- Any role changes made?

Q.3 HOW WERE THE CHILDREN AFFECTED BY PRISON SENTENCE AND REINTEGRATION?

- How were the children's lives affected socially, academically, physically etc?
- Were there any challenges experienced before incarceration?
- Were there any challenges in family interactions/relations?

Q.4 WHAT COPING MECHANISMS WERE APPLIED?

- Was/is there any help from social workers, agencies, government, church or communities offered to help you cope? And how effective (if there is) has it been?
- How have you been managing to cope (coping strategies if there is no help) as a father, mother or child?
- Is there any other information you would want your family, community or the world to know about effects of incarceration on your lives?
- What do you expect from them in terms of assistance in any area?
- Any other comments?

NB: RIGHT TO CONSENT WAS VERBALLY SOUGHT AND GIVEN BY EACH ADULT RESPONDENT AND ON BEHALF OF MINORS. ALL NECESSARY ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS, OBJECTIVES OF STUDY WERE CLEARLY EXPLAINED. INTERVIEWS WERE THEN CARRIED OUT AT THEIR RESPECTIVE HOMESTEADS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION AND ASSISTANCE!