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FACULTY OF ARTS
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

IMPACT OF ORPHANAGE HOMES IN INTEGRATING ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE
CHILDREN INTO MAINSTREAM SOCIETY: A CASE STUDY OF THEMBISO
CHILDREN'S HOME, BULAWAYO

BY

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CHAPTER I

RESEARCH PROBLEM AND ITS SETTING

1.0 Introduction

The proposed research is a case study of Thembiso Children's Home, Bulawayo seeking to explore the impact of the role played by institutional care orphanage homes in integrating orphans and vulnerable children into mainstream society. This study provides an opportunity to identify and assess the challenges in integrating orphans and vulnerable children into the mainstream society when they have reached adulthood. The Bulawayo Metropolitan Province is one region that reflects many of the challenges facing OVCs in Zimbabwe notwithstanding other developing countries in Africa.

1.1 Background to the study

According to UNICEF (2010), it is estimated that globally 1.6 billion orphans lost one or both parents due to HIV and AIDS in 2009 and the trend is still continuing. Numerous ailments and fatal accidents also contribute to the increase in orphans. In recent times there has been a strong rise in the interest accorded to the predicament of Orphans and other Vulnerable Children (OVC) in Sub-Saharan Africa. According to the World Bank (2005) an orphan is a child below the age of 18 years whose mother or father or both parents are dead. According to the World Bank (2005), the term OVC refers to orphans and other groups of children who are more exposed to risks or who experience negative outcomes such as loss of their education, morbidity and malnutrition at higher rates than their peers. Though there has been a call to care for the orphans within their communities it is a reality that institutional care centres are essential and their

numbers are increasing. A study conducted by UNICEF in 2004 revealed that since 1999 the number of registered institutions increased by 24%. Due to the overwhelming numbers of orphans throughout Third-World countries, the importance of researching the effect of their adverse circumstances on their development is crucial.

Many studies report psychological trauma associated with the situations experienced by orphans in crisis (Schaal & Elbert, 2006:95). These psychological problems can become more severe if a child is forced to separate from their siblings upon becoming orphaned.

The 2004 UNICEF study of institutions revealed that the population of institutionalised OVC includes children who are below the majority age of 18 yet some institutions still have large numbers of OVCs above this age reflecting failure by the institutions to make adequate preparations for the transition of the youth to the outside world. Leliugiene and Kausyliene (2012) highlighted in their research that orphans need to be included in the social circles and must not be excluded so that they become socialised. Children as social beings face the need for security which they try to compensate by joining various groups with clear identities, moral justification and action compatibility model. A socialised person as identified by Mudork (2001) is capable of 'balancing the adaptation mechanism and the possibility of self-realisation in the society'. Thus an orphan from an institution can successfully adapt to the surroundings taking up his/her position in society, develop moral, psychological and behavioural autonomy.

A study conducted by UNICEF in 1994 concluded that more youths were worried about their future. It is therefore against this background that the researcher ventured to identify the impact orphanage homes in the integration of OVCs. Many countries are running institutions of care for OVC and thus there is need to find ways of integrating the children into mainstream society when reaching adulthood. It is against this background that this study views integration of children into society after attaining adulthood as essential to their psychological and social well-being.

1.2 Statement of the problem

While Orphanage homes based approaches for the care of orphans and vulnerable children are most effective ways of ensuring the psychological development of children, little is done on the need to also integrate children living in institutions of care into society when they have reached adulthood. Orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) are stigmatised and their condition has been a barrier to their integration into mainstream society due to immobility of resources to provide health care, education and adequate shelter to these children in an environment that is conducive to their growth and well-being. Little emphasis is placed on the transition of OVCs into mainstream society resulting in some of these children being seen in the streets and engaging into prostitution particularly the orphaned girl child and boys engaging in criminal activities. There is no strengthening of coping capacities of children when they leave orphanage homes for future development. Thus, institutional care centres are lagging behind in providing effective care and support to orphans when they leave the institutional care centres a gap the current study seeks to address.

1.3 Purpose (Objectives) of the study

The proposed study is guided by the following objectives:

- i. To establish the meaning of OVCs and institutional care centres
- ii. To establish the impact orphanage home centres have in the integration of OVCs into mainstream society at adulthood.
- iii. To ascertain the challenges institutional care centres face in integrating OVCs after they turn the age of majority
- iv. To establish challenges faced by OVCs when leaving the orphanage home centres.
- v. To proffer recommendations that encourages safe and healthy transition in the integration process of OVC into the community.

1.4 Research questions

- i. What impact do orphanage homes have in the integration of OVCs into mainstream society?
- ii. What integration processes are taken by OVC institutional care centres when OVCs have reached adulthood?
- iii. What are the challenges faced by the children in integrating with the communities when leaving the orphanage homes?
- iv. What processes can improve the integration process of children and community?
- v. What recommendations can be proffered that encourage safe and healthy transition in the integration process of OVC into main stream society?

1.5 Significance (Justification) of the study

To Orphans and Vulnerable Children's homes

The study results are expected to assist Orphanage and Vulnerable Children's homes in putting strategies in place that might ensure smooth integration of OVCs into mainstream society as they reach adulthood. Further, the study results are expected to be helpful in informing the OVC homes whether the support they provided was in the best interests of the OVCs when they leave these children's homes and also identifying the type of additional support required during and after integration of OVCs into society. It is hoped that this study might help in improving the living conditions of the OVCs after they are integrated into mainstream society by increasing their chances of achieving successful lives.

To the student

This research is also expected to help the researcher distinguish herself in academia and then join "the club of excellence" by attaining the Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies as the study is done in partial fulfillment of the Degree Programme.

1.6 Assumptions of the study

The researcher believes that though institutions that deal with the care of orphans and vulnerable children have been de-campaigned on the basis that they cause negative psychological and social development of the children, there is no nation or community that can do without institutionalisation of OVC.

A number of OVCs are in the street due to lack of effective transition process in the integration of these children when they reach adulthood.

1.7 Scope (Delimitation) of the study

Conceptual delimitation

The study focuses on the impact orphanage homes have in the integration of OVCs into mainstream society when attaining adulthood in a case of Thembeiso Children's Home, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

Geographic delimitation

The study is conducted at Thembeiso Children's Home, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe

Demographic delimitation

The study focuses on a population of 150 comprising of both caregivers, OVCs at Thembeiso Children' Home and the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare officials.

Time delimitation

The study focuses on the impact Orphanage Homes have in the integration of OVCs from 2008-2012 and is also going to be completed within the last semester in 2013.

1.8 Limitations of the study

The following are the limitations of the study:

(i) Scope of the study

The fundamental limitation to this study is that the scope of the study is confined to Thembeiso Children's Home only rather than the broader field of OVC institutional care centres which are

facing similar challenges due to resource and time limitations. However, the limitation is going to be addressed when this study recommends for further studies on the broader OVCs integration concept on all Orphans and Vulnerable Children's Homes across the country.

(ii) **Time frame limitation**

This is an academic project that is limited by time and as such, to address time limitation, the researcher confines herself to what is practically possible during the allocated time.

(iii) **Financial constraints**

Gathering information and data is constrained by financial resources. Internet faxes and phones are made use of in communicating and gathering data as much as possible. However, use of these is limited by budgetary constraints. To address this limitation, the researcher tightens budgetary control and ensuring that, funds budgeted for the study do not run out before the study is complete.

(iv) **Confidentiality of information by the organisation**

The unavailability of secondary data due to its confidentiality threatens the study results' credibility. The broadness of the field of the OVCs offers the risk that the researcher may omit key concepts that may otherwise enhance the validity of the study. To address this limitation, the researcher sought permission from the Administrator of the institution to be allowed to access critical and relevant information used in the study relating to the demographics and operating activities of the institution. The researcher also uses desktop review of literature to get relevant information pertaining to OVCs.

(v) **Communication barriers**

Some of the children are deaf, dumb and others speak only one language, Shona or Ndebele that can be a language barrier as the language is not English which the researcher is comfortable with.

1.9 Definition of key concepts

OVC

Orphans and Vulnerable Children

Orphan

Is a person below the age of 18 who has lost a parent or both

Vulnerable Children

This refers to persons below the age of 18 living in a situation that exposes him or her to significant physical, emotional or mental harm, such as a child living in an institution, child with psychosocial or physical vulnerability

Integration

It is to fit into and participate with.

Orphanage Home

Is a home where orphaned children are living together in a given environment sharing the same values and beliefs.

1.10 **Chapter summary**

This chapter dealt with the introduction, background of the problem and formulation of the statement of the research problem. The study objectives, research questions and assumptions were stated. Significance of the study, Scope (delimitation) and limitations of the study were discussed, and also key concepts were defined in the context they are used in the study. The following chapter focuses on the literature review and the theoretical framework of the study.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

The aims of this chapter are many fold. The fundamental aim though is to review critically, the existing research on the impact of the role played by orphanage homes in integrating orphans and vulnerable children into mainstream society. The chapter covers conceptual framework to explain the meaning of OVCs and institutional care centres, the impact orphanage home centres have in the integration of OVCs into mainstream society when these OVCs are over 18 years of age, challenges institutional care centres face in integrating OVCs after they turn the age of majority, challenges faced by OVCs when leaving the orphanage home centres as well as response strategies on safe and healthy transition in the integration process of OVC to the community.

2.2 Conceptual Framework

According to the UNAIDS/UNICEF (2004) report on OVCs, Walters et al (2003) and Skinner et al (2004) defined an orphan as a child under the age of 18 years whose mother, maternal orphan or father paternal orphan or both parents, double orphan are dead while the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development of Nigeria (2008) defined an orphan as a child below the age of 17 years who has lost one or both parents. Negative outcomes include malnutrition, higher morbidity and mortality, low school attendance and completion rate and increased risk of abuse and psychosocial consequences. UNICEF and USAID (2008) working paper on OVCs

reviewed the status of orphans and categorized them as “children who are without parental guardianship or care”. In comparing the current trend in Bulawayo Metropolitan Province, it should be stated that these definitions do apply especially in institutions and schools as vulnerability does vary according to the type of orphan hood one has been classified in. Al-Walid Global Classroom (2009) defines orphans and vulnerable children as “children who are compromised as a result of the illness or death of an adult who contributed to the care and/or financial support of the child”. An orphan on the other hand is a child below the age of 18 who has lost one or both parents, irrespective of the cause of death. In view of these definitions, orphan-hood and vulnerability varies from society to society; therefore definitions are community specific. In undertaking this research, the community giving care are asked who they think a child is by comparing the existing literature and the response from respondents. The definition provided by the community under study is important as it provides the guideline in understanding the target group for this research.

UNICEF (2003) concluded that children do indeed require assistance as they are vulnerable Government and non-governmental organizations have responded to the crisis by providing welfare services starting with the needs that providers deem as more urgent, for example food and blankets.

2.3 Key indicators to vulnerability

The Zambian Federal Ministry of Social Development (2007) provides some key indicators in determining children’s vulnerability and thus the researcher adopted and was guided by this

framework. These include children who have lost one or both parents, those infected by HIV/AIDS, those who have failed to attain education due to financial constraints among others.

Bicego et al (2003) further supports that these indicators show true vulnerability. But the list could be too broad and cover a wide range of categories. In view of the above, this study is concerned with children which respondents define as orphans and vulnerable. A major criterion in defining and conceptualizing orphan-hood and child vulnerability as used in this study is that members of the studied institutions, being part of the communities in which the children live are those who define which children fit in the categories and therefore which ones need care and support.

2.4 Social system and the challenge of social structure in Bulawayo

Bulawayo Metropolitan Province is multicultural and multinational social society considered as the basic building block of society found in Zimbabwe. Families dwelling in this social setup are universal components of all existing human societies found with Sub-Saharan Africa. One common characteristic of the family structure is the extended family system. The extended family system is a codependent network of relationships that connects several relations together for joint upkeep in a structure of privileges, obligations, and shared identity. The extended family is a source of collective identity and strain control. It creates a support system by extending facilities to one another, particularly the needy members such as widows, orphans, disabled, ailing, and dying ones. In Bulawayo there are well-defined child care support systems for orphans. Every member of the extended relatives plays a part in the upbringing of children. In addition, every child is expected to respect an elder, relative or non-relative. As such, every

member of the community is to contribute in the socialization of children in the community. The contributions form the basis of community development.

Garba (2007) concludes that colonization has done away with the African norms as witnessed by the failure of the extended family to cater for their needy, that is, the poor, the sick and the elderly. Sanda (2002) also agrees that colonization brought with it a sense of individualism which was previously absent in the society. Derefaka (2004) however disagrees and states that globalization and the internet contribute to youth problems. He asserts that most African countries are experiencing the ills of globalization. Similarly, Mensah et al (2008) believe that globalization is often tied to the emerging world order, couched by neoliberalism, which is not beneficial to Africa and its people.

2.5 History of government responses to OVC challenges

The Zimbabwean government is a signatory to two significant international Declarations on the Rights of children. These are the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Children (CRC) and the African Charter on Rights and Welfare of Children (ACRWC). The two Declarations emphasize the rights of the children. In compliance with these declarations, the government of Zimbabwe became committed to the issue by establishing a strategic plan 2005-2010 for all children by creating BEAM under the Ministry of Social Welfare charged with the responsibility of coordinating the national response to the OVC phenomenon in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare. Other countries which are signatories to the two declarations include Nigeria which also responded by organizing a national conference in 2004 which

reviewed the OVC situation in this country and made recommendations on ways to tackle the issue. In addition, the government embarked on a 5-year National Plan of Action from 2005-2010 on OVC to provide framework for accelerating the responses to OVC and other need children, and build on previous and existing experiences to reach more children with basic services on sustainable basis. In addition, the program was intended to be all-encompassing, covering all members of the society.

The top-down approach to the issue of OVCs discourages the public from participating and cooperating with some of the strategies. The researcher therefore argues that government efforts alone cannot solve the problem without some positive joint responses from the general public. This can be geared through the activities of Non-governmental Organizations that are part of the communities in which the children live and as a transition to adulthood, the government with its intervention partners should economically prepare OVCs by providing economic resources, shelter, skills and even jobs necessary to start new and uninstitutionalised life in the community.

2.6 Conceptual issues on care of OVCs

There have been heated debates as to who is responsible for the needs of children, especially orphans, the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Welfare, NGOs or the community. Fraser (2003) presents two views by philosophers. First, Aristotle indicated that children lacked the intellectual and emotional capacity for self government. This capacity can be developed through the guidance of an adult who is respected by the child such as a mother or father or both. Plato, although he agreed, noted that the raising of young children was a fundamental concern of the public and of society as a whole. From these two philosophical positions we can understand that

the responsibility of child fostering begins with the parents and subsequently with members of the community or any agency charged with the responsibility.

Similarly, Nisbet (2002) contends that a community progresses when it has a fusion of feeling and thought, of tradition and commitment, of membership and volition. It may be found in, or be given symbolic expression by locality, religion, nation, race, occupation, or crusade. There are similarities of the philosophical position stated above with the Zimbabwean situation obtained in Bulawayo area of study. Mills et al (2005) construct an assumption of understanding childhood as, children as innocent, children as apprentice, children as persons in their own, children as members of a distinct group, children as vulnerable, and children as animals. This shows that children have the potential, as well as the tendencies, to grow up as conformist or deviant members of their own societies depending on the opportunities, situation, and circumstances.

The society contributes to making them what they become, but the outcome of what they become has immense impact on the society in which they live. From this account, one can understand that children are mostly shaped by the proximate surroundings in which they grow. In other words, it is a societal responsibility to make the necessary provisions for the children to grow as productive members of the society. Family is the primary socialization agent. Mivanyi (2006) describes the family structure as patrilineal in kinship, tracing descent through the father and grandfather. The extended family is composed of the grandparents, the sons and fathers, daughters and mothers and, cousins, aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews and in-law relationships. The oldest male on the father's side is usually the head of the family. As history dictates over years, strong ties existed among the family clusters and communities, because they

were economically and socially interdependent. However, those strong ties no longer hold and family functions in the study area are really becoming more structural or theoretical than practical. This is in part depending on whom among the members of the family is more privileged to carry out what function, economically and socially. In some families the father's power is minimally felt, while the mother's increases. From the foregoing conceptual issues, we can understand that the responsibility or 'burden' of ensuring that orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) grow up under proper care and support is not a sole responsibility of the government alone but also of their relatives and the general public. In other words, the society has a vital role to play in improving the conditions of the OVC, and by extension in drastically reducing the tendencies for the risks the children and societies are exposed to.

2.7 Orphan hood and vulnerability as related to Zimbabwean values

Zimbabwe is a Christian country and OVC care is related to a Christian view point. Since the Zimbabwean people are predominantly Christians, the values or conception of fostering OVC as highlighted by Badamasiuy (2009) embraces the provisions of the rights of treating the children with equity and benevolence. It is the right of the children that they be loved, cared for and treated equally regardless of sex. She asserts that the law must be sensitive to and conscious of the child's dependency on the parents, the parents' role in performing its personality and far-reaching effects of socialization. More so, in the operation of parents and child relationship under the Zimbabwean constitution, it is quite clear that from infancy to adulthood, it is the unmatched warm love and attention of parents that brings the child from the state of outright weakness and helplessness to perfect strength and independence. Children are a trust and sole responsibility of

their parents. But in the absence of the parents, when orphaned, the relatives or community take over. Both relations and the communities are expected to embark on showing care and concern through providing services that will cater for the needs of the orphans, the weak, the aged, the widows, and all those that require assistance. This clearly encourages fostering and taking good care of the marginalized members of the society like OVC. It is worthy to note the obligations and Rights of the Parents under the Child's Rights and Protection Act.

2.8 Factors responsible for OVC's conditions

A cause of social phenomenon according to Schutt (2006) is "an explanation for some characteristics, attitudes, or behavior of groups, individuals, or other entities or for events." In an attempt to explain the major causes of orphan hood and children's vulnerability in the study area, a number of social, economic, political factors are considered responsible for the orphan hood and vulnerability of the children. Garba (2007) blames colonization for disrupting the comprehensive traditional social welfare provisions for children, the elderly, the poor, the sick and the needy. Colonization brought about disruption in the family structure and significant alterations were made in all the social, economic, political, educational systems, thereby making life very difficult. Disruption of traditional values and the idea of communal living and spirit of brotherhood was replaced with money-economy and excessive individualism. Mivanyi (2006) argues that in families, "individualism, in all facets of family life, is strengthening among family members." Birmingham (2007) buttresses this position, identifying some of the negative conditions brought by the process of colonization to include hunger, arbitrary government, foreign exploitation, neglect of indigenous cultural heritage, and also, urban bias, introduction of foreign alien values that contradict the rich traditional ones, ecological neglect, and many more

which have later brought about an alien inadequate formal social welfare policy. Another factor responsible for children's vulnerability linked to urbanization is high rate of divorce, leading to single-parenthood, especially female headed households.

The culture of female headed households is viewed as alien in Zimbabwean cultural norms and values thereby creating some problems including urban bias and increase in the deteriorating conditions of children. Similarly, Coles (2007) identified some factors that jeopardize the efforts of maternal resources in providing subsistence needs and socialization of the younger ones. These include kin dispersal, ecological pressures, environmental stress, economic disasters, growing burdens of labor-intensive work, increasing number of women depending on their children for current survival and future security. Most of the above mentioned factors are linked to colonization.

Yet, Derefaka (2004) believes that we should not overburden colonization, instead, we should consider globalization as the major cause of Africa's contemporary problems including those associated with OVC. He argues that if a democratic culture is firmly established in a country, then the country would have become a significant player in the process of globalization. But Norman (2002) argues that there will be no successful children developmental programs without recognizing and addressing the critical role that poverty plays in the poor development of the children from the grass roots level. Similarly, Oguonu (2005) sees poverty as a major hindrance to sustainable development in a global setup. He believes that the increase of the poverty level within nations led to the increase in the number of orphans and vulnerable children as well as their deteriorating conditions. Lanchman et al. (2002) identify the challenges facing children in

the 21st century as immense, and as impediments to achieving the goal of universal child protection. They went further to identify three specific constraints on child protection within the global context, as poverty, HIV/AIDS infection, and war. They emphasized poverty, which can be both financial and psychological, and can have serious negative effects in the continent, leading to many children becoming orphans and therefore vulnerable.

Gordon (2006) presents interesting yet very critical points to the discourse. He views the combination of patriarchy and capitalism to be the major causes of most problems associated with women, children and underdevelopment in Africa. He asserts that women typically face more disadvantages and exploitation than men. They must cope not only with poverty and underdevelopment, they are also limited by patriarchal attitudes and practices, some predating capitalism, others established during the colonial period. These patriarchal attitudes and practices, which privilege men, continue to saturate African societies from the level of the family up to the state. Added to this are forms of patriarchy from Western capitalist nations that dominate the global economy. The above indicates not only that patriarchy is a cause of children's vulnerability but that it must be understood within the context of Africa's peripheral and dependent position within the global capitalist economy. It also indicates that patriarchy is entrenched in the family, state, and global systems with tremendous impact on women.

2.9 Necessity of the establishment and intervention of NGOs

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are private establishments that act towards some common, humanitarian purpose. The idea of NGOs has been around since 1800s, though officially entered the mainstream because of the UN in 1945. Some of the criteria for founding

an NGO include being free from government control, non-profit seeking, non-criminal, and not seeking to challenge governments on issues of control or power. NGOs cannot become a political party. NGOs can vary in size, from grassroots activities to international such as Red Cross. McPhail (2009) argues that NGOs have good intentions despite some controversies associated with their activities, sources of fund as well as spending, ideologies for which they are established, structural biases, unhealthy rivalry and competition among sister NGOs. He further asserted that, today, the task of development is run by many diverse NGOs.

2.10 NGOs as change agents

NGOs play very crucial role in social development of OVC as they act as change agents. Rogers (2003) defines a change agent, as “an individual or group who influences clients’ innovations in a direction deemed desirable by a change agency”. He presents two major problems that change agents’ face which are their social marginality, due to their position midway between a change agency and their client system. Secondly, information overload, which is the state of an individual or a system in which excessive communication inputs cannot be processed and used, leading to breakdown. He therefore presents seven roles of the change agent which are, first, to develop a need for change on the part of clients, second, to establish an information-exchange relationship, third, to diagnose problems, fourth, to create an intent to change in the client, fifth, to translate intentions into action, sixth to stabilize adoption and prevent discontinuance, and seventh to achieve a terminal relationship with clients. Findings of Hashim (2008) revealed that the activities of NGOs worldwide have been contributing immensely in enhancing betterment of socio-economic conditions of communities as a response to the conditions of orphans and vulnerable children.

2.11 **Building a culturally rooted response to OVC challenges**

Bernstein et al (2003) studied the development and failure of an organization which is aimed at dealing with the problem of street children in Durban, South Africa. They studied Khaya Lethu, a voluntary organization whose goal was to provide shelter, known as Khaya Lethu meaning “Our Home.” Durban is one of the largest cities in South Africa, with rapidly growing population. It is characterized by congestion, poverty, and unemployment. It is a mixed-racial town with the blacks constituting the majority of the poor. The black townships surrounding Durban have been wrecked with violence. There was disruption in the family structure, leading to high rates of marital instability, violence, assaults and juvenile delinquency. The Khaya Lethu project was initiated after the City Health unit conducted a survey of 50 orphans and vulnerable children, most of them on the streets. Following the research, in 1985, a comprehensive rehabilitation and education program titled “Homeless Children Shelter Project” was established. A 14 member Management Committee was created to operate under the auspices of the Durban African Child and Family Welfare Society. There were sub-committees of shelter, feeding, education and behavior modification to manage the project. Through fundraising, huge amounts of money were raised. The shelter for street children was opened on 2 November 1987 with 20 children and had 90 children in 1988 but unfortunately, it failed for a number of reasons. There was discipline problem among the children in the shelter, leading to establishing a special police unit to “weed” out the problem children. The attitudes of the City Council towards the shelter severely hampered the project to the extent of them withdrawing support. Finally, after lengthy negotiations the management committee was given notice to vacate the Khaya Lethu premises on 30 June 1989.

The researcher learnt some lessons from the Khaya Lethu project. First, Durban city has many characteristics similar to Bulawayo Metropolitan. As such, comparisons with the two cities could be made easily. More importantly, as this study concerns with collective societal response to the conditions of OVC, same applies to the Khaya Lethu. However, the strategies adopted by the studied NGOs vary. While the Khaya Lethu in Durban adopted “curative” approach to the problems, the studied Mustard Seed Communities “preventive” approach, recognizing existing family values. In addition, with so many groups involved in the management of the shelter, there were bound to be conflicts of interest and difficulties in co-ordination. Within the institution, older children were viewed as delinquent and were found disruptive in the shelter. The intervention of the City Police Unit to separate the “worthy” from the “unworthy” countered the project’s open door approach. Another problem associated with the project was polarization of opinion regarding the location of street shelters (city centre versus outlying areas). All of the above problems are eliminated in a culturally-rooted family-oriented intervention for fostering OVC by relatives through the assistance of Non-governmental Organizations.

2.12 Theoretical frame of reference

This section reviews theoretical assumptions employed as frame of reference for the study. Efforts will be made to elucidate the relevance of the theories adopted in the research. A theory according to Sullivan (2006) is a set of statements that explains the relationship between phenomena. He further asserts that the key role of theories is to tell us why something occurred. They help us organize the data from research into a meaningful whole. Williams et al (2006)

buttress the above point as they assert that theory is part of everyday life and the most important thing about theories is that we need them to live. It is against this background that this research employs the Social Disorganization Theory and the Social Network Theory to explain societal responses to the state of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC).

2.13 **Social Disorganization Theory**

Social Disorganization Theory refers to the breakdown of the social institutions in a community. Families would be disrupted, adult-run activities for youths would be sparse and religious or worship places would be poorly attended. When such an extensive breakdown occurs, adults would be unable to control youths or stop competing forms of delinquent and criminal organizations from emerging such as gangs and vice activities. Unrestrained, youths roam the streets, sit on bridges where they come into contact with older juveniles who diffuse to them criminal values and skills. From the above characteristics, it can be perceived that if not properly integrated into society, OVC could be found roaming the streets or found sitting on bridges since they will be having nothing to do creating features of social disorganization.

The Social Disorganization Theory is an important theory developed by the Chicago School. Although, there are different forms of the theory, this study utilizes the general characteristics of social disorganization to describe what led to the conditions of OVC in Bulawayo Metropolitan Province. Sutherland (2008) adopted the concept of social disorganization to explain the increases in crime that accompanied the transformation of preliterate and peasant societies where influences surrounding a person were steady, uniform, harmonious and consistent to modern

Western civilization which he believed was characterized by inconsistency, conflict and un-organization. The mobility, economic competition and an individualistic ideology that accompanied capitalist and industrial development had been responsible for the disintegration of the large family and homogeneous neighborhoods as agents of social control. The failure of extended kin groups expanded the realm of relationships no longer controlled by the community and undermined governmental controls leading to persistent "systematic" crime and delinquency. Such disorganization causes and reinforces the cultural traditions and cultural conflicts that support antisocial activity. Sampson (2006) concluded that if the society is organized with reference to the values expressed in the law, crime is eliminated, if it is not organized, crime persists and develops. In line with the above, and with relevance to this research, Sampson et al (2006) present not only what causes social disorganization in cities according to ecology, but also alternative to deal with the problem. Sampson et al (2006) invented the notion of collective efficacy. They hypothesized that when people in a neighborhood trusted and supported one another, they had a basis for binding together to control disorderly and criminal behavior. Collective efficacy implied that when disruptive conduct arose, the people in these neighborhoods had the cohesiveness to act in an effective way to solve the problem. Collective efficacy is thus a resource that is activated in crucial situation. What can be borrowed from this theory is that communities in Bulawayo can with together and come under the umbrella of NGOs to act in an effective way to solve the problems of OVC in the study area.

2.14 Social network theory

According to Castells (2002), a social network is a social structure made of individuals or organizations called nodes, which are tied or connected by one or more specific types of

interdependence, such as common interest as in NGOs, friendship, kinship, financial exchange, dislike, or relationships of beliefs, knowledge or even prestige. He further postulates that social meaning arises primarily from challenges posed by certain kinds of social structures, notably those that generate social conflict, social inequality and the destruction of social solidarity. And if there is one unitary kind of social structure then there is a unitary basis for resolving the challenges and problems associated with it. Applying this theory to the research therefore, this study consider the various factors that drift the OVC into their conditions as the challenges that are posed by the social structure especially the erosion in family values of social cohesion and failure of the extended family to provide protection to children. For the purpose of this study, Associational tie will be utilized to describe how the community through NGOs identify and solve the problems of OVC in Bulawayo. Feld (2007) asserts that Social networks can be built in various organizational contexts, including voluntary associations, workplace, neighborhood, and schools.

By maintaining social network, the NGOs find some innovative ways to create the future. At that moment, it can be recognized with gratitude, value, and admire highly the roles of the associations in impacting the lives of orphans and vulnerable children in the study area. With that the study can increase in the value by not only knowing the positive sides of the great works of the NGOs, but also knowing the negative to increase in value of what they do particularly the gaps in challenges in integration of OVC from the institution into mainstream society when these OVC reach adulthood. It is worthy to note that appreciative inquiry has implications for methodology, it is hereby employed to appreciate the value for NGOs' performance in impacting

the lives of OVC. In other words, the use of appreciative inquiry is limited only to show its significance vis-à-vis the social network theory to the study. In addition, the research inquires not only about the positive but also the negative aspects like problems or challenges in integrating OVC into society from institutionalised homes and also challenges facing NGOs in discharging their duties.

2.15 GAP THAT NEEDS TO BE FILLED

Literature that has been reviewed shows that researches on different aspects of OVC has been conducted by implementing partners at local, regional and international levels notwithstanding universities and independent researchers. A few implementing partners have conducted situation analysis and assessments to serve as baseline and as monitoring or evaluation tools for their programs. Some of the studies were designed specifically to inform programmatic responses. A critical review of literature on researches done shows that they are very limited in both scope and design. The vast majority (67%) of studies were situation analysis or needs assessments, there have been very few studies that follow children over time to measure various aspects of their well being after they leave institutionalised homes, and no studies on the effectiveness and impact of various OVC interventions or challenges in integration of OVC from institutional homes into mainstream society when OVC reach adulthood. It is noted that there has not been rigorous research evidence and data on OVC interventions in integrating OVC into mainstream society to inform policies and programs. Integration of OVC faces a wide spectrum of challenges, thus lack of information on this regard is hindering policy makers and program leaders from making well-informed decisions about the path on what needs to be done when OVC reach adulthood as they could not be institutionalised for ever but need to be reintegrated

with the community. This study will however unleash the greatest impact in filling the most fundamental gap left by prior studies and the study would aim to provide the building blocks useful both independently and in combination to make evidence-based decisions in OVCs integration processes.

2.16 CHAPTER SUMMARY

The chapter dealt with literature review where theoretical framework, government responses to OVC challenges, conceptual issues on care of OVCs and factors responsible for OVC's conditions was reviewed. The next chapter focuses on the research methodology.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

According to Magada and Magada (2013), research methodology refers to the process of following the steps, procedures and strategies for gathering and analysing the data in a research investigation. These methods describe in detail how the study was conducted. According to Burns and Grove (1998:581), methodology includes the design, population, sample, methodological limitations and the data-collection and analysis techniques in a study. This is the know-how of the scientific methods and techniques employed to obtain valid knowledge. This chapter gives a clear and concise description of how the study was carried out. Major areas covered include research design, population, data sources and collection procedures, sampling, research instruments used, data analysis and presentation.

3.1 Research Design

Peterson (1982:74) refers to research design as a formally written set of specifications and procedures for conducting and controlling a research project. Saunders (2005) defines research design as a systematic qualitative and quantitative description of phenomenon. There are a

number of categories of research designs which are explanatory, exploratory, triangulation and descriptive survey among others.

3.1.1 Triangulation research design

According to Jick, (1979:102) triangulation is the use of multiple methods mainly qualitative and quantitative methods in studying the same phenomenon for the purpose of increasing study credibility. This implies that triangulation is the combination of two or more methodological approaches, data sources and analysis methods to study the same phenomenon.

The advantages of using triangulation are that, it results in a sturdier research design, more valid and reliable findings. Quantitative design endeavors to control bias so that facts and phenomena can be understood in an objective way. Qualitative approach attempts to understand the viewpoint of participants or a situation by looking at firsthand experience to provide meaningful data. This was used in gathering and analysing data in this research.

3.1.2 Descriptive survey research design

Descriptive research refers to research studies that have as their main objective the accurate portrayal of the characteristics of persons, situations or groups (Polit & Hungler 1999:643). Roberts and Burke (1989:359) define descriptive research as a non- experimental research design used to observe and measure a variable when little conceptual background has been developed on specific aspects of the variables under study. This approach is used to describe variables rather than to test a predicted relationship between variables.

Advantage of a descriptive approach in data collection in qualitative research is able to collect accurate data on and provide a clear picture of the phenomenon under study (Mouton & Marais 1992:43-44). In the present study, the descriptive approach was principally suitable because an accurate and realistic account was required for OVCs. Streubert and Carpenter (1999:36-44) state that a descriptive method in data collection in qualitative research is central to open, unstructured qualitative research interview investigations.

The main advantage of this design is that it occurs within a natural context where respondents were doing their daily chores. Thus findings of this study are based on the responses of OVCs and caregivers who were found during the time of the study. The other advantage of the design chosen is that it can be carried by any other researcher in any environment. However, the case study's reliability and universality is time and generation specific. If the research was to be replicated, it is to be done within a short space of time to ensure respondents of the same generation and same conditions are still available. The justification for choosing this design ahead of other designs is that it explains rather than just reporting.

3.1.3 Research approach

Myers (1997) distinguishes quantitative from qualitative research methods: "Quantitative research methods were originally developed in the natural sciences to study natural phenomena. Examples include laboratory experiments and mathematical modeling. Qualitative research methods were developed in social sciences to enable researchers to study social and cultural phenomena. Qualitative data include interviews and questionnaires. Quantitative techniques were

conveniently used only to analyze data. The study adopted a hybrid research approach where both qualitative and quantitative techniques were applied, a strategy called triangulation. Triangulation is when multiple methods are used in studying the same phenomenon for the purpose of increasing study credibility (Magada and Magada: 2013)

3.2 Research population

A research population is the group upon which the researcher is interested in making inferences (Donald and Pamela, 2003). The study results are generalized on this group (the population). The target population was all Thembiso Children’s Home management, caregivers and OVCs at the institution. The study population is 230, comprising of 200 OVCs, 3 managerial staff and 27 caregivers from which elements for this study’s sample was drawn. The table below shows research population distribution at Tembiso Children’ Home.

Table 3.1: **Population sample frame**

Population	Number of people
Management	3
Caregivers	27
OVCs	200
Total research population	230

Source: Thembiso Children’ Home enrollment and personnel records 2013

3.3 **Sampling**

Sampling is the plan or structure on how elements to be included in an enquiry are obtained. A sample is a representative group drawn from a specified population used to draw conclusions about the characteristic of that population. In some cases, the population can be very large in which case it is not easy to manage. Sampling results in saving on time consumption and resources. The sampling techniques namely, purposive and snowballing sampling techniques adopted by the study are described below.

Purposive sampling method

Purposive sampling technique is a method used for identifying cases for certain characteristics in order to maximize variation (Gobo, 2004: 448). It is mostly used when the researcher is interested in getting a low priced estimate of the truth. This method is the most common in academic research because of the need to reach many respondents in a short space of time (Smith, 1981). Purposive sampling method is often used during preliminary research efforts to get a gross estimate of the results, without incurring the cost or time required to select a random sample. Purposive sampling was used in this research for the following reasons;

- i. It is cheap
- ii. The method does not need a lot of time in selecting respondents and takes care of the unavailability of sampled targeted respondents
- iii. Data collection is done at the convenience of the researcher

Purposive sampling procedure was applied on Thembiso Children' Home management and caregivers whereas snowballing was applied on OVCs.

- **Snowball sampling method**

The population such as OVCs the study was interested in can be hard-to-reach due to their conditions as some are impaired, traumatised and some affected by HIV/AIDS. Snowball sampling is a non-probability based sampling technique that can be used to gain access to such population. To create a snowball sample, there were two steps: (a) trying to identify one or more units in the desired population; and (b) using these units to find further units and so on until the desired sample size was met.

Advantages of snowball sampling

Snowball sampling is a useful choice of sampling strategy when the population the research is interested in studying is hard-to-reach. In this case, the OVCs some which were deaf and dumb, HIV positive, orphaned and abused were hard to reach due to their conditions. Snowball sampling is useful in such scenarios because:

Snowballing helps to identify units to include in the sample, even if there is no obvious list of the population the study is interested in.

Snowballing helps to identify participants to come forward to take part in research even the sensitivity of doing so is more acute in such research contexts. However, since snowball sampling involves individuals recruiting other individuals to take part in a piece of research, there may be common characteristics, traits and other social factors between those individuals

that help to break down some of the natural barriers that prevent such individuals from taking part.

Snowballing helps in identifying participants where there may be no other way of accessing the sample, making snowball sampling the only viable choice of sampling strategy and in this case the first respondent refers to a friend. The friend also refers to a friend, and so on. Such samples are biased because they give people with more social connections an unknown but higher chance of selection (Berg 2006). Snowball sampling may also be viewed as an effective sampling strategy from a perspective of research design and the choice of research methods hence its choice.

3.3.3 Sample size

The sample size drawn from the target population was 30 participants. Justification for coming up with the sample size of 30 respondents drew support from Van Dalen (1979)'s assertion that, in descriptive research, anything from 10% to 20% of the population in question is representative enough to warrant generalization of results.

Thirty (30) participants were selected from management, caregivers and OVCs using purposive for management and caregivers; and snowballing for OVCs. The number of participants involved in this study (N=30) was considered representative since there were 230 people. Thirty respondents out of two hundred and thirty represent 13.04%; hence, the sample was representative of the whole population.

The selection was based on purposive and snowballing sampling methods which imply that the sampling methods were used because time and financial resources were major limiting factors. The sampling methods were found to be cheaper and more time saving than all the other methods, hence were chosen. However in doing so the researcher made sure objectivity was maintained in the data collection process in order to make sure the sample was representative of the target population.

Table 3.2 below shows the sample size as drawn from each population category.

Table 3.2 **Sample size**

Population	Sample frame	Purposive selected	Snowballing selected	Sample size
Management	3	2		2
Caregivers	27	5		5
OVCs	200		23	23
Total	230	7	23	30

Source: Thembeiso Children' Home enrollment and personnel records 2013

3.4 Sources of data

There are basically two sources of data that the researcher used, that is secondary and primary data.

3.4.1 Secondary data

These are sources that have already been collected for other purposes but relevant input to the research (Saunders 2007:199). It includes materials, Reports on OVCs recruitment, support given to OVCs, skills given to OVCs and strategies in place for integration of these OVCs into mainstream society. The advantages of using secondary data include the fact that the researcher may have fewer resource requirements in this particular research and is assured of enormous savings in terms of time and money. Secondary data ensures that longitudinal studies are feasible. It is also referred to as eavesdropping emphasizing its benefits for scientific situations.

3.4.2 Primary data

These are original sources of data from respondents. According to Remenyi (2009:287) primary data is data collected from original sources and not already published sources such as directories or databases. These include overt primary data, which involves asking participants and non-overt data, which involves collecting data without explicit consent from respondents. According to <http://www.uwlax.edu> primary data have the following merits

Merits

It can lead to new insights and greater confidence in the outcomes of the research which is very useful for scholars, Taking this into account, the researcher can decide on such requirements as size of project, timeframe and goal.

3.5 Research Instruments

Data was collected by use of the questionnaire and personal interviews. The study adopted data collection triangulation. The concept of triangulation by different methods implies different data-

collection methods such as interviews, questionnaires and observation (Lincoln & Guba 1985:306). However, this study utilised only two data collection methods, namely the questionnaire and the in-depth interview. Data triangulation is gathering data through several research instruments. This approach enhances confidence in the findings. The drop and pick technique for questionnaire administration was adopted to ensure a higher response rate for the research to be successful. Drop and pick approach is where the researcher gives the respondent the questionnaire and allow him/her time to read and complete the same without interference from anyone and collect the completed questionnaire on an agreed time. Interviews were conducted on a face to face basis.

3.5.1 Questionnaire

Saunders (2005) defines a questionnaire as a set of pre-set questions. The questionnaire used in this research was a self-administered questionnaire in which drop and pick technique was adopted to ensure a higher response rate. The questionnaire had both closed and open ended questions. The advantages of using a self-administered questionnaire are:

- Easy to design
- Same questionnaires can be reproduced to be used over a large number of respondents
- Avoids the use of middleman who may distort information
- Saunders (2000) says a self-administered questionnaire has a response rate of between 30% and 50% which is relatively high.
- Closed ended questionnaires are easy to answer and analyse
- Open ended questions allow respondents to at least give their opinions

However, the questionnaire instrument has its own shortcomings:

- Expensive since the researcher has to do some fieldwork.
- Results of questionnaire depend on the number and type of fieldworkers.
- Closed ended questions tend to favour the designer rather than the respondent.
- Inability to probe respondents

To overcome some of the weaknesses of the questionnaire, the researcher had to take care when designing individual questions by using simple language, and short questions which are very specific. Each closed question had at least 5 clearly explained optional answers to choose from, thus reducing chances of providing answers which are not relevant to the research. Good wording with polite instructions at the beginning of the questionnaire were also used to enhance the response rate.

The disadvantage of questionnaire's inability to probe respondents can be addressed by allowing frequent space for comments to overcome this disadvantage. Comments are among the most helpful of all the information on the questionnaire, and they usually provide insightful information that would have otherwise been lost.

3.5.2 Interviews

Interviews were also used as a data collection technique. The interviews were mainly unstructured and were conducted with OVCs.

- **Advantages of interviews**

Interviews have the following advantages (Burns & Grove 1998:309; De Vos 1998:301):

The interviews had the advantage that they were in-depth, allowed for clarification and enhanced the ease with which ambiguities were eliminated. They also gave the researcher the opportunity to read body language and the tone of the OVCs. Interviewing is a flexible technique that allows the researcher to explore greater depth of meaning that cannot be obtained with other techniques.

3.6 Validity

According to Sekaran (2009:207) validity ensures the ability of a scale to measure the intended concept. External validity refers to the data's ability to be generalized across persons, settings and times. Internal validity is the ability of a research instrument to measure what it is purported to measure. Does the instrument really measure what its designer claims it does?

In order to achieve validity of the research instruments used for data collection, the test-re-test approach was used in a pilot study. A pilot study was carried out at Thembiso Children's Home where one manager and a caregiver were administered with a questionnaire and 5 OVCs were interviewed in the first round. In the second round, responses given by participants were markedly similar to those of the first test. This is a revelation that random variations were minimal and as such responses did not differ much. The questionnaire and interview guide were then taken as reliable and used to gather valid data from which the study drew inferences and conclusion.

3.7 Reliability

According to Remenyi (2009:181) reliability refers to the issue of whether the evidence and the measures used are consistent. This is especially important if the findings of the research are to be applicable to other situations and not only to the original environment in which the research was conducted. Sekaran (2010:204) highlights that reliability indicates the extent to which the measure is without bias (error free) and hence offers consistence measurement across time and across the various items in the instrument. It indicates the stability and consistency with which the instrument measures the concept and helps to assess the goodness of a measure.

To achieve reliability, again as in the validity case, a pilot study was carried out to test the instruments reliability. Leedy (2010) postulated that, a pilot study is the dress rehearsal, and like a theatrical dress, rehearsal is preceded by a series of preliminary tests and trials. The research attempted within the possible limits to ensure both validity and reliability of the study. To test the reliability of the questionnaire as well as the interview data collection instruments, the researcher used the test – retest method at Thembiso Children’s Home where the same number of participants were interviewed and administered with the questionnaire. When the results for the re-test were similar to those in the first test, the questionnaire and interviews were taken as reliable and used to gather data from which the study drew conclusions.

3.8 Data Presentation and Analysis

3.8.1 Data presentation

Data collected was mainly presented on tables. These were used for data presentation because they provide a neat way of presenting qualitative and quantifiable data.

- **Tables**

According to Tuttle (1999) as quoted in Gupta (2008), a statistical table is the logical listing of related quantitative data in vertical columns and horizontal rows of numbers with sufficient qualifying words, phrases or statements in the form of titles, headings and notes to make clear the full meaning of data and its origin. To this end, data was arranged in rows and columns under various headings.

When constructing tables, comparable data from the responses of participants were placed on side by side columns which therefore facilitated for a comparative study thereby enhancing validity. Thus tables are helpful in making comparisons. The use of this data presentation technique is also justified by its ability to simplify complex facts and its ability to summarise large amounts numerical data and presenting it in the simplest form which is consistent with the purpose for which it is to be used.

3.8.2 Data analysis

A deductive data analysis approach was adopted. Deduction means interpretation from general to the particular or from the universal to the individual. Most data collected cannot be statistically analysed and may need deducing.

Deductive analysis helped the researcher in making qualitative analysis where figures were not relevant to use since the research also contain qualitative information. The technique allowed the researcher to think analytically basing on the qualitative responses given by respondents. The

collected data was analysed according to the study objectives. Percentages were also used in data analysis in order to draw inferences from the data presented.

3.9 Ethical considerations

Each research process is confronted with an ethical question, the right to privacy or confidentiality. The issue of ethics becomes more apparent in surveys involving OVCs, Caregivers and management, more so when it concerns scrutinising OVCs conditions and how the children's home is prepared to deal with OVCs integration into mainstream society issues after the OVCs reached adulthood. The children's home management may misinterpret the researcher's intentions as that of trouble making (Gill et al 1999; Villiers 1997). Likewise, the participants may be afraid to tell it all, at the risk of dismissal from the Centre. In this study, the subjects shall be reassured of both confidentiality and anonymity. To deal with this ethical problem, the researcher sought the permission to carry out research by writing to management of the Centre seeking for permission before embarking on the study. Also to ensure impartiality and confidentiality for respondents, the questionnaire and interviews would be constructed and data analysed in such a way that information is not traceable to individuals.

3.10 Summary

The chapter discussed the research methodology that was used to collect, process, analyse and present data from participants drawn from Thembiso Children's Home management, caregivers and OVCs. In the next chapter the study focuses on data presentation, analysis and interpretation of findings.

CHAPTER IV

DATA ANALYSIS, PRESENTATION AND INTERPRETATION

4.0 Introduction

This chapter looks at the acquired data and makes an analysis according to each instrument of data collection. The major focus of this chapter is to present, analyse and interpret the responses gathered through use of data instruments adopted by the researcher. The chapter covered data presentation, analysis and interpretation under these headings, namely, response rate, meaning of OVCs; impact of orphanage home centers have in the integration of OVCs into mainstream society at adulthood; challenges faced by orphanage home in integrating OVCs after they turn the age of majority and challenges faced by OVCs when leaving the orphanage homes as well as suggestions encouraging safe and healthy transition in the integration process of OVC into the mainstream society.

4.1 Demographic information

4.1.1 Results on Questionnaire response rate

Questionnaires were administered on 7 participants. The results for questionnaire administered, returned and not returned were as shown in table 4.1 below.

Table 4.1: Questionnaire administration result

Respondents	Issued out	Returned	% returned	Not returned	% not returned
Management	2	1	14.29%	1	14.29
Caregivers	5	5	71.42%	0	0

Source: Research survey data 2013

The study administered 7 questionnaires, however 6 questionnaires were returned representing 85.71% of questionnaires administered. 1 targeted respondent did not return the questionnaire representing 14.29% of the total number of questionnaires issued.

The questionnaire had a response rate of 20% of the sample size and a non-response rate of 3.33% respectively.

The researcher had targeted to interview 23 participants. The results for interviews were as shown in table 4.3 below.

Table 4.2 : Interview response rate results

Respondents	Sample size	Frequency	% of actual respondents
OVCs	23	20	86.96%

Source: Survey data 2013

The study expected to conduct 23 interviews, but however, managed to interview 20 OVCs, representing 86.96% of targeted respondents. The other 3 initially targeted for interviews were not available, representing 13.04% of those targeted for interviews. The interviews had response rate of 66.67% of the sample size and a non- response rate of 10% respectively.

Out of the sample size of 30 participants, the study had 86.67% response rate and 13.33% non-response rate. The study attributed non- response rate of 3.33% to tight work schedules on the part of management and caregivers as the study was mainly carried out during the week and also during day time when most targeted respondents were at work and busy while on the part of OVCs 2 respondents were dumb and communication was very difficult as the researcher could

not have the assistance of a specialist in sign language during the period of the study and the other came for the interview but refused to talk.

The study however, concluded that a response rate of at least 86.67% was more than enough representativeness of the whole population under study.

4.1.2 Age distribution responses

Results of the questionnaire on age distribution of respondents

Table 4.3 Age distribution results

Response	Frequency	% of actual respondents
20-25 years	0	0%
26-30 years	1	16.66%
31-35 years	2	33.36%
36-40 years	1	16.66%
41-45 years	1	16.66%
46 years and above	1	16.66%
Total	6	100%

Source: Survey data 2013

Out of the actual respondents administered with the questionnaire, 16.66% were aged between 26-30 years while 33.36% were between 31-33 years. Those in the age group 36-40 years were 16.36%, those between 41-45 years were also 16.66% while a total of 16.66% as well, were 46 years and above of age.

The analysis above showed that the all participants administered with the questionnaire were mature adults who have both social and work responsibilities and also had experienced problems associated with OVC development, care, health and education as well as the challenges of integrating these OVCs into society.

The OVCs interviewed revealed their ages as shown in the table below

Results of the interview on age distribution of respondents

Table 4.4 Age distribution results

Response	Frequency	% of actual respondents
5-6 years	3	15%
7-8 years	2	10%
9-10 years	4	20%
11-12 years	2	10%
13-14 years	1	5%
15-16 years	2	10%
17-18 years	6	30%
Total	20	100%

Source: Survey data 2013

Information collected from interviews with the OVCs, shows that, 15% of OVCs interviewed were aged between 5-6 years, 10% were aged between 7-8 years, 20% were between 9-10 years while 10% were aged between 11-12 years. A total of 5% were aged between 13-14 years, 10% were between 15-16 years while 30% were aged between 17-18 years.

The findings on age distribution of OVCs revealed that, the larger number of the OVCs at Thembiso Children’s Home is in the age group which should be prepared for life outside the Orphanage Home.

4.1.3 Gender

The question to ascertain gender of respondents was asked in the questionnaire, however, during interviews gender was also observed. The results of this question were tabulated in table 4.5 below.

Results of the question on gender distribution

Table 4.5 Gender distribution responses

Response	Frequency	% of actual respondents
Male	12	46.15%
Female	14	53.85%
Total	26	100%

Source: Survey data 2013

Out of the actual respondents surveyed, 46.15% were male participants while 53.85% were female. The study shows that there were more female participants than male participants. However, it seems women are more concerned with orphans and vulnerable children than their male counterparts. The results also seem to reveal that, there were more female OVCs than males. That suggests that, the girl child was more exposed to vulnerable life situations than the boy child.

4.1.4 Level of education distribution responses for both questionnaire and interviews

Results of level of education distribution

Table 4.6: Level of education distribution results

Responses	Frequency	% of actual respondents
Grade 1-7	10	38.46%
Form 1-2	4	15.38%
O level	8	30.77%
A level	1	3.85%
Diploma	2	7.69%
University degree	1	3.85%
Total	26	100%

Source: Survey data 2013

Out of the actual respondents, 38.46% were still in primary school, 15.38% were doing secondary education while 30.77% were doing or had attained Ordinary level of education, 3.85% Advanced level, 7.69% were diploma holders while 3.85% had University degrees.

The data analysed above shows that OVC participants were still in primary school while others were in secondary school. The caregivers and management responded to the questionnaire are educated as no one had qualifications below 'O' Level standard since some had 'A' Level, Diplomas and University degrees.

4.2 OVC Information

4.2.1 A question on the meaning of OVC was asked to establish the level of understanding of OVC concept by management and caregivers

The table below shows responses given by caregivers and Thembiso Children's Home management on their understanding of the meaning of OVCs.

Table 4.7 Meaning of OVCs

Responses	Frequency	% of actual respondents
An OVC is a child below the age of 17 years who has lost one or both parents	1	16.67%
A child is defined as vulnerable when that child is most at risk of facing increased negative outcomes compared to the average child in the defined society.	2	33.33%
Orphans and vulnerable children are children who are compromised as a result of the illness or death of an adult who contributed to the care and/or financial support of the child	3	50%
Total	6	100%

Source: Survey data 2013

Out of 6 respondents who returned questionnaires, 16.67% understood, OVCs as children below the age of 17 years who had lost one or both parents, 33.33% understood OVCs as children who became vulnerable when that child is most at risk of facing increased negative outcomes compared to the average child in society, while 50% understood OVCs as Orphans and vulnerable children who are compromised as a result of the illness or death of an adult who contributed to the care and/or financial support of the child.

The study found out that, the respondents correctly defined and fully understood the meaning of OVCs as it is understood by internationally renowned organisations concerned with the welfare and development of marginalised children such as Al- Walid Global Classroom (2009); UNICEF and USAID (2008) and UNICEF (2003) which all pointed out that, orphan- hood has been recognized worldwide as a public crisis. Everybody agrees that children deserve help hence placing them in institutions where these OVCs could access help, in the form of shelter, clothing, food, education or live skills necessary to preparing them for life after attaining the age of majority through the process of their integration into mainstream society.

4.2.2 Causes of an orphan/child’s Vulnerability

The data gathered through the questionnaire on Caregivers and management at Thembeiso Children’s Home reveals the following as shown in the table below:

Table 4.8: **Causes of an orphan or child’s vulnerability**

Responses on causes of a child’s vulnerability	Frequency	% of actual respondents
Social and environmental systems the child was brought up	1	16.667%
Economic challenges	1	16.667%
Poverty and HIV/AIDS pandemic	3	50%
Disabilities	1	16.667%
Total	6	100%

Source: Survey data 2013

Out of the total respondents administered with the questionnaire, 16.667% indicated that, social and environmental systems the child was brought up were believed to be the cause of the child's vulnerability; 16.667% pointed out that, economic challenges cause children's vulnerability while 50% indicated that poverty and ill-health driven by HIV/AIDS cause vulnerability in children and 16.667% weighed in by stating that, disability cause vulnerability of those physically challenged.

The study found out that, though other causes such as social and environmental systems a child was brought up such as divorces, domestic violence and family class were situations which driving vulnerability in children. Economic, political factors were also considered responsible for the orphan hood and vulnerability of the children; but the most causal factor of vulnerability in children noted were the poverty driven by HIV/AIDS pandemic. The finding was in collaboration of what Oguonu (2005) who concluded that poverty is major hindrance to sustainable development in children. To buttress the findings of the study on poverty and HIV/AIDs, Lanchman et al. (2002) identify the challenges facing children in the 21st century as immense, and as impediments to achieving the goal of universal child protection when they identified the scourge of poverty, HIV/AIDS infection, and domestic violence as the major factors causing vulnerability in children. In my view, vulnerability is a subject of skewed inheritance traditional laws which places children of the deceased in the hands of a relative who in most cases interested in the wealth of the deceased estate rather than in real need to care for the children of the deceased. After the plunder of the estate left, the children are usually left in a worse situation, dejected, poor, and destitute and have no one to turn to.

4.2.3 Methods for identifying OVCs

Table 4.9: Methods for identifying OVCs

Responses	Frequency	% of actual respondents
Through focus group/community leadership meetings	2	33.33%
Through anonymous calls from concern people in the area	1	16.67%
From the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare	3	50%
Total	6	100%

Source: Survey data 2013

A total of 33.33% indicated that, OVCs were identified through use of focus groups and community leadership meetings held regularly; 16.67% stated that, OVCs were identified through anonymous callers concerned with the plight of orphans, abused children and physically challenged children in their areas. A total of 50% pointed out that, OVCs were identified from those with the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare for the purposes of placing in this orphanage home.

The study found out that, in most cases, OVCs were identified without discriminating on gender, so all needy children under the age of 18 years qualify to be placed in an institutional home for their protection and development.

4.2.4 Successes recorded over the past 5 years on OVCs skills development at Thembiso Children's Home

Table 4.10: Achievements recorded by Thembiso Children's Home for the past 5 years

Responses	Frequency	% of actual respondents
Produced 120 Welders and carpenters	3	50%
Produced 5 footballers celebrated locally	2	33.33%

and internationally		
20 Academically talented people	1	16.67%
Total	6	100%

Source: Survey data 2013

Out of the total respondents administered with questionnaires, 50% indicated that Thembiso Children’s Home had achieved tremendous work in the development of talent and life skills in a number of OVCs during their stay at the institution such as Welders and Carpenters. 33.33% indicated that, the institution took into care children who were later developed into celebrities in the football fraternity such as Obadiah Tarumbwa and others. 16.67% indicated that, there were 20 academically talented OVCs who were helped to achieve great in different academic disciplines such as teaching, accounting and garment technology. The OVCs were successfully integrated into society and society accepted them.

The study found out that, Thembiso Children’s Home achieved tremendously under difficult conditions. The institution cared and developed OVCs and some were successfully integrated into mainstream society being celebrities well received by communities and family members alike.

4.2.5 Challenges affecting integration of OVCs from Thembiso Children’s Home into mainstream society

Table 4.11: Challenges affecting integration of OVCs

Responses	Frequency	% of actual respondents
Funding of integration programs	3	50%
Societal disorganization	2	33.33%

Delinquent children perceived societal misfits	1	16.67%
Total	6	100%

Source: Survey data 2013

A total of 50% of participants responded to the questionnaire indicated that, funding of integration programs of OVCs were a challenge, 33.33% indicated that societal disorganisation was also problematic when attempting to integrate OVCs into mainstream society. 16.67% stated that, delinquent children perceived societal misfits also provide challenges in integrating them with society.

The study found out that, lack of funding hampers smooth integration process which begins as early as psychological development, care giving, skills development and training, health and education of OVCs. It appears that Thembiso Children’s Home, besides accommodating OVCs, needed funds and other resources for use in the integration process. The funds can be used to build new homes for these OVCs, give them, clothes, blankets and food as well as start-up capital to commence income generating income so as to sustain them. The other problem to integration of OVCs faced by institutions like Thembiso Children’s Home in integrating OVCs who had turned 18 years were societal disorganisation. It appears that, its not ease to take the 18 year aged OVC to where the OVC came from due to disorganisation in the family and community the OVC came from in the first place. This sound collaborated by (Cullen et al 2006; Sutherland 2008) who concluded that, the concept of social disorganization increases crime. The researcher believes societal disorganisation retards integration as most OVCs fail to get acceptance in their own communities and by their own families driving them back into the

streets, prostitution as well as to persistent and systematic crime and delinquency. However, with all partners contributing towards child development and protection issues during and after their integration to society work together OVC integration challenges faced by Institutional Homes could be mitigated.

4.2.6 Plans Thembiso Children’s Home have for integrating OVCs

Table 4.12: Plans for integrating OVCs

Responses	Frequency	% of actual respondents
Provide shelter in their home area	2	33.33%
Establish income generating projects for them	2	33.33%
Continuing provision of life skills training to equip them to sustain themselves	1	16.67%
Assist them to access healthcare continuously	1	16.67%
Total	6	100%

Source: Survey data 2013

About 33.33% of the respondents indicated that, Thembiso Children’s Home plans to provide shelter in terms of houses for needy OVCs who had turned 18 years when integrating them into mainstream society. 33.33% also stated that, the institution plans to establish income generating projects for them, 16.67% pointed that, the institution plans to continue providing life skills training to equip integrated OVCs to sustain themselves after successful integration into mainstream society. The other 16.67% indicated that, the institution plans to continue assisting OVCs to access healthcare particularly those OVCs living with HIV/AIDS.

The study found out that, the Institution had plans to continuously help OVCs after integration, but however, their major challenge is funding. It seems, the government and NGOs needs to be actively involved by also responding to OVCs integration by nationalising the integration process using funds from the national budget.

4.2.7 Suggestions on OVC integration into mainstream society when attained 18 years

Table 4.13: Suggestions on OVC integration into mainstream society after 18 years

Responses	Frequency	% of actual respondents
Provide jobs for OVCs on integration	2	33.33%
Provide funding for income generating projects for OVCs integrated into society	3	50%
Involve them in community developmental programs as they are part of society	1	16.67%
Total	6	100%

Source: Survey data 2013

Out of the respondents surveyed, 33.33% pointed that, OVCs integrated into society should be provided with jobs; 50% indicated that, funding for income generating projects can be a panacea to the plight of OVCs integrated while 16.67% indicated that, OVCs should be involved in community developmental programs as they are part of society.

The study found out that, job creation for OVCs that are integrated seem to be the panacea to their plight as engaging them in productive jobs help them to look after themselves and raise families like anyone in a normal social setting. This, however, would assist those academically

talented who after being assisted by Institutional Homes excelled academically and attained qualifications of repute. The study also found out that, by providing funding for income generating projects to integrated OVCs, these children who have turned to be adults could earn a living from income generation from the projects since they were equipped in various life skills during their stay in the institutionalized homes.

4.3 Interview information analysis

4.3.1 Causes of OVCs

A question was asked to establish whether OVCs know their conditions. Out of the 20 actual OVCs interviewed, 20% said that, they were paternal orphans, 10% were maternal orphans, 15% had divorced parents, 20% were double orphans, while 20% were abused by parents and 15% conditions were due to poverty stricken families.

From the interviewees held with the OVCs, the study established that, OVCs at Thembisso Children's Home were recruited from diverse backgrounds and conditions that caused their vulnerability. It seems the description given by the OVCs meets some of the vulnerability key indicators noted by the Zambian Federal Ministry of Social Development (2007) in determining children's vulnerability. However, in my view, nowadays due to stereotypes induced, HIV/AIDS infection renders children vulnerable, and may become either paternal orphan, maternal orphan or both. Their extended families may not be able to look after them hence their vulnerability and needed urgent assistance from institutionalized homes. The challenges manifests when these children become adults when no properly planned integration processes their condition of vulnerability persist.

4.3.2 Ambitions of OVCs

The question on what are OVCs ambitions when they become adults was asked to establish their aspirations as people. Some responses received were as follows: Some OVCs said, they want to become teachers, nurses, doctors and footballers. Others wanted to be business persons, welders, carpenters, drivers and caregivers.

In my view, it seems those wanted to be footballers were motivated by the life of one celebrated footballer (Obadiah Tarumbwa) an OVC who had stayed at the institution, developed and started his soccer career whilst from the home. He became a celebrity both locally, nationally, regionally and internationally before he was taken back to his family at 19 years of age. Though when he came to the institution, information made available to the researcher shows that he was a delinquent child whose family had failed to tame, but however, was tamed by the institution, developed till he found a career path in football to become one of the celebrated footballers ever been found in the country.

4.3.3 Suggestions given by OVCs on what the orphanage should do when integrating them into mainstream society.

The responses received from the OVCs interviewed were as follows:

30% of respondents said that, they want the institution to facilitate provision of shelter for them, 25% said the institution must mobilise resources for their economic empowerment; 15% said that, the institution must not just dump us into the community; while 10% said they should be

continuous monitoring of their health and safety as well as natural wellbeing as persons after leaving the orphanage and 20% said that, the institution should facilitate for their employment in the formal sector or help them set up their own businesses to enable them eke a living outside the orphanage home.

In my view the OVCs had expectations like any human being, shelter, safety and access to health facilities hence advocating for mobilisation of resources for either setting up business, or getting employment. If no proper planning on integration of these OVCs, then, that defies the all purpose for taking care for them when young and just dump them when becoming adults. The OVC problem would persist, creating more problems for the country such increase in crime as improperly integrated OVCs would in the streets, mugging people, rape or even murder and engaging in other vice. As for the OVC girl child, these can resort to prostitution, increase the spread of HIV/AIDS, unwanted pregnancies and all sorts of immoral activities.

4.4 Chapter Summary

This chapter dealt with data presentation, analysis and interpretation. The study established that, a number of OVCs vulnerability was due to having lost a parent or both parents, abused by relatives or own parents, poverty or having divorced parents and that they meet the legally recognized age of a child and under 18 years of age. The OVCs face problems which are not only socio economic but also psychological. The data on OVC expectations when reached adulthood were received and analysed as well as achievements in the integration of OVCs by Thembis Children's Home in the past 5 years which saw celebrities coming from the institution into mainstream society. The challenges for integration of OVCs were also presented. The

following chapter focuses on the summary of major research findings, conclusions drawn from those findings and recommendations.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

This chapter covered the research summary, conclusions drawn from findings and recommendations.

5.1 Summary of major findings

- Objective 1: To establish the meaning of OVCs and institutional care centres

The study found out that, the respondents correctly defined and fully understood the meaning of OVCs as it is understood by internationally renowned organisations concerned with the welfare and development of marginalised children. Everybody agrees that children deserve help hence placing them in institutions where these OVCs could access help, in the form of shelter, clothing, food, education or live skills necessary to preparing them for life after attaining the age of majority through the process of their integration into mainstream society.

- Objective 2: To establish the impact orphanage home centres have in the integration of OVCs into mainstream society at adulthood.

The object to establish the impact orphanage home centres have in the integration of OVCs into mainstream society was achieved as the institution which was the center of this research managed to produce welders, carpenters, dress-makers, farmers, footballers, teachers and other professionals, through their educational and training programs earmarked to develop OVCs as a transition for integration into mainstream society. The good example was the development of Obadiah Tarumbwa who became a well celebrated footballer and was successfully integrated

with his family from the institution. Society had felt this impact and so many organizations have now realized that these OVCs are people who can and have potential to excel in life given the necessary psychological development as well as material support.

- Objective 3: To ascertain the challenges institutional care centres face in integrating OVCs after they turn the age of majority

The study found out that, lack of funding hampers smooth integration process which begins as early as psychological development, care giving, skills development and training, health and education of OVCs. It appears that Thembiso Children's Home, besides accommodating OVCs, needed funds and other resources for use in the integration process. The funds can be used to build new homes for these OVCs, give them, clothes, blankets and food as well as start-up capital to commence income generating income so as to sustain them. The other problem to integration of OVCs faced by institutions like Thembiso Children's Home in integrating OVCs who had turned 18 years were societal disorganisation. It appears that, it is not easy to take the 18 year aged OVC to where the OVC came from due to disorganisation in the family and community the OVC came from in the first place. This sound collaborated by (Cullen et al 2006; Sutherland 2008) who concluded that, the concept of social disorganization increases crime. The researcher believes societal disorganisation retards integration as most OVCs fail to get acceptance in their own communities and by their own families driving them back into the streets, prostitution as well as to persistent and systematic crime and delinquency. However, with all partners contributing towards child development and protection issues during and after their integration to society work together OVC integration challenges faced by Institutional Homes

could be mitigated. The researcher believes that, with adequate funding, OVCs can be properly integrated into mainstream society and can also start new and independent lives where they would also meaningfully contribute to the socio-economic development.

- Objective 4: To establish challenges faced by OVCs when leaving the orphanage home centres.

The study found out that, job creation for OVCs is still a challenge due to some OVCs conditions. However, integration seem to be the panacea to their plight as engaging them in productive jobs help them to look after themselves and raise families like anyone in a normal social setting. This, however, would assist those academically talented who after being assisted by Institutional Homes excelled academically and attained qualifications of repute. The study also found out that, by providing funding for income generating projects to integrated OVCs, these children who have turned to be adults could earn a living from income generation from the projects since they were equipped in various life skills during their stay in the institutionalized homes.

OVCs should be assisted to realise their potential. For example those aspires to be footballers were mostly motivated by the life of one celebrated footballer (Obadiah Tarumbwa) an OVC who had stayed at the institution, developed and started his soccer career whilst from the home. He became a celebrité both locally, nationally, regionally and internationally before he was taken back to his family at 19 years of age. Though when he came to the institution, the study found out that, he was a delinquent child whose family had failed to tame, but however, was tamed by the institution, developed till he found a career path in football to become one of the celebrated

footballers ever been found in the country. In view of this, OVCs can overcome their challenges given necessary support.

5.2 Major conclusions of the study

The major conclusions drawn from the findings of this study were:

An OVC is an orphan below the age of 18 years whose mother or father or both parents are dead. According to the Word Bank (2005), OVCs refers to orphans and other groups of children who are more exposed to risks or who experience negative outcomes such as loss of their education, morbidity and malnutrition at higher rates than their peers.

OVCs are people who can if given an opportunity have potential to develop, and engage in any meaningful activities like anyone else for their development and that of the community they live after integration.

The study concluded that many children from OVCs homes are successful today, thanks to the efforts these homes which looked after them; clothe them; feed them during their time of need; sent them to school, train them in various income generating activities so that, they too can look after themselves after they reached the age of 18 years and integrated into society.

The study also concluded that, lack of funding hinders Orphanage homes, in their efforts to take more OVCs into their care. The institutions also due to inadequate funding were finding it difficult to provide for every OVC that left the institution into society. Government and other

players often extended help but, however, it is not enough to ensure these children put the skills they acquired from institutional homes into good use.

5.3 **Recommendations**

Basing on the summary and conclusions of the study's major findings, the following recommendations were made.

- The government should improve OVCs shelter, safety and access to healths facilities during and after their integration into the community where they come from.
- The government should mobilise resources for continuous assistance of these OVCs as some still find it difficult to cater for themselves due to their God given conditions.
- Stakeholders should come together to mobilise funds and resources either for setting up business, or getting employment for all OVCs integrated into society to ensure that their living conditions do not deteriorate. It is defying all logic for taking care for them when young and just dump them when they become adults. The OVC problem would persist, creating more problems for the country such as increase in crime as improperly integrated OVCs would go into the streets begging, mugging people, rape or even murder and engage in other vises such as prostitution for the girl child, increase the spread of HIV/AIDS, unwanted pregnancies and all sorts of immoral activities.

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