## MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

#### **APPROVAL FORM**

The underdesigned certify that they have read and recommend to the Midlands State University for acceptance of a dissertation entitled **The relationship between types of child abuse and juvenile deliquency among adolescents . A case study of luveve girls and Percy Ibboston by Tariro Sukoluhle Tshuma(R122022A)**. In partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Bachelor of Science Honours Degree in Psychology.

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# To my loving and caring mother.

## For being a source of inspiration.

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#### ABSTRACT

Juvenile delinquency are some misconducts in behavior that are done by children below the legal age of majority. Child abuse it is the maltreatment of a child in any manner, it is dived into four being sexual, emotional, physical and neglect. Child abuse affects the cognitive development of the child and how he relates with the environment around him. The study focused on the relationship between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents at Luveve girls and Percy Ibboston. The research was based upon the quantitative research design with respondents having been chosen using systematic random sampling from a target population of 92 respondents. The researcher focused on juveniles between the ages of 11-18 years that were housed at the two institutions. The researcher used closed ended questionnaires as an instrument of gathering data with the questions having been adopted from the Conduct disorder questionnaire and the ACE IQ questionnaire. The researcher employed Pearson correlation coefficient in the analysis of data, with the presentation having been done in the form of graphs and tables. Results from this research revealed that there is a positive correlation between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency. Moreover the research results revealed some negative correlation on neglect and sexual abuse. The after effects of abuse as articulated by this research among the abused adolescents it is juvenile delinquency. It was then recommended that there is need to look at the causes of juvenile delinquency and focus less on the effectiveness of the juvenile legal system in the country in order to reduce the escalating rates of juvenile crimes among adolescents.

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#### ABBREVENTIONS AND ACRONYMS

WHO	World Health Organisation
DSS	Department of Social Services
UN	United Nations
IPC	Indian Penal Code
SSL	Special and local laws
AUSAID	Australian Agent for international development

#### **CHAPTER ONE**

#### **INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY**

#### **1.1 Introduction**

This study focuses on the relationship between types of childhood abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents at Luveve girls and Percy Ibboston. Moreover this chapter introduced the whole study looking at the background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, research hypothesis and significance of the study, assumptions, and delimitation of the study, limitations and definition of key terms.

#### **1.2 Background to the study**

Juvenile delinquency is the misconducts in behavior that is done by a person below the age of eighteen. Igbinovia (1988) held that juvenile delinquency started to attract studies in the early 1960s with the first research that was done in Africa being done by William Clifford in Zambia who in his studies compared delinquents and non-delinquents, reaching a conclusion that the wide spread of urban culture was the one influencing delinquent behaviors. According to Igbinovia (1988) most studies that were carried out in Africa reached a conclusion that juvenile delinquency varies across different culture, ethnic groups and tribal groups due to the diversification of the African people and Zimbabwe had not been spared.

Moffit (2009) articulated that urban centers have shown an increase in juvenile delinquency in the recent years and had been a problem in most countries worldwide. A survey carried out by UNIHABITAT in Europe revealed that juvenile delinquency had increased from 1.7% in 2008 to 2.8 in 2009. In South East Asia there was 0.7% increase, with Latin America recording 3.9% and North America 1.8% in 2009. The period 2007 to 2009 had shown an increase in juvenile delinquency in Africa which was from 3.2% to 5.7%. UNIHABITAT attributed the increase in Africa of juvenile delinquency to chronic unemployment among the youth and some socio economic factors.

The national crime records bureau of India (2012) reported that India recorded an increase in the number of crimes that were linked to adolescents during the period 1997 to 2007 which was from

0,5% to 1,1% of the total crimes that were committed in India during that same period under the Indian Penal Code (IPL). In the same country an 8,4% increase was recorded on the SSL during the same period. The ratio of girls to boys was 1:20 on the IPC crimes during the same period and 1:11 on the SLL crime during the same period again.

Narkvicheter (2008) reported that studies carried out in Thailand revealed that the number of adolescence being arrested in the country had increased by 70.9% during the period 2003-2007 Moreover studies carried out in Cambodia in 2011 provided information that there had been adolescence gangs at rapid increase in that country reported by AUSAID and Asian foundation in Cambodia (2011). Statistics that were revealed by the department of correctional services in South Africa showed that by March 2001 there were about 26688 juveniles that had been in conflict with the law. In the same light report by Trade union solidarity helping had Africa.

In addition a report published by the national crime records bureau of India (2012) stated that more than 48 000 child rape cases were recorded from 2001-2011 with an increase in child abuse of more than 336% compared to the previous decade. In America an estimated 3million children were officially reported being abused, the number was expected to have doubled by the year 2020 (US children's bureau 1998). In Zimbabwe the Guardian newspaper in 2009 reported that an official in one of the clinics in Harare had revealed that the centre had treated around 30000 girls and boys who had been abused in the previous four years.

Several studies have been carried out concerning the link between abuse and juvenile delinquency have been done in the European countries and had been generalised across Africa and other continents across the globe. In that regard studies carried out in America by English, Widom and Brandford (2001) found out that abused and neglected children are 4, 8 times more likely to be arrested of juvenile crimes, 1, 2 times more likely to be arrested as an adult and 3,1 times more likely to be arrested for a violent crime than the children who were never abused in their life time and non neglected children of the same adolescence age.

Studies carried out on juvenile delinquency are conflicting on their own, Garbarmo and Plantz (1986) argued that determining the rate of maltreatment among delinquency had a high percentage rate totalling 82% with contemporary prospective studies yielding more than two times lower a percentage of only 10-32% delinquency rates among abused adolescence in their

childhood. Wodarski e tal (1990) articulated that several studies that had compared juvenile court and medical records found out that from 9% to 15% of the juvenile crimes recorded had at one point in their lives been abused or neglected at a tender age.

The studies conducted from case files reported an abuse rate of 2,6% (Kratcoski 1982). Two studies that were carried out by Mouzakits (1981) relying on self reports of prior abuse revealed a 51 % delinquency rate among the adolescence who had been abused. However a follow up study on abused children subsequently found out that delinquency rates were 14%- 20% respectively. The UN World Youth Report (2003) concluded that young people in most cases are at risk of becoming criminals because they live in more difficult situations. They also reported that adolescence that are from alcoholic parents, poverty, breakdown families and abusive conditions at home are at risk of becoming delinquency.

The Defense for Children International Zimbabwe's periodic review report (2012) states that Zimbabwe has a population of approximately 5.322.240 children and there are two main legal Instruments which deal with young offenders in Zimbabwe, namely the Children's Protection and Adoption Act (Chapter 33) (C'PAA) and the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act (Chapter 57). Consequently, there are two main institutions that deal with juvenile offenders, namely the juvenile courts and the magistrate's courts which administer the Children's Protection and Adoption Act and the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act respectively.

Percy Ibbotson was built between the year 1930 and 1931 by Rev Percy Ibbotson after having gained the experience from South Africa where he worked at one of the institutions. The institution during its inception was meant for the rehabilitation of African juveniles who were in conflict with the law. During the colonial era the centre was based on corporal punishment of punishing children with ex-militants being recruited as the personnel of the institution it used to be a closed institution with a lot of security. Moreover after independence the place became an open institution and new behavioral approaches were introduced to rehabilitate the juveniles. The institution takes care of juveniles that had been placed by the court orders through the use of the Children's Protection and Adoption Act (Chapter 33) and the Criminal Procedure and Evidence Act (Chapter 57). In addition the institution had two sections the rehabilitation centre and remand home which is meant for those juveniles that had cases that are still being processed.

Luveve institute of girls was established in the year 1975 and initially was meant for the housing both boys and girls that had their cases being processed acting as a place of safety for the children. It then came the realization that girls were also engaging in crimes in the same manner in which the boys were engaging in crimes. Hence in the year 1980 the centre was changed from being a place of safety to being a rehabilitation home for girls and according to the reports it is the only one in the country that plays that role.

#### **1.3 Statement of the problem**

Juvenile delinquents is increasing among adolescence boys and girls in the country with the increase in child abuse cases indicating that the two variables are inter related one way or the other. According to the World Youth report (2003) most adolescents that are at risk of becoming juveniles are those living in difficult circumstances with abusive child hood being a part of it. The Chronicles newspaper of 25 August 2015 reported that there had been an increase in the number of disruptive behaviors that the youths are engaging into, with the causes being blamed on the families.

#### **1.4 Significance of the study**

The study gives a platform into the relationship between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents and the researcher wishes the study will go a long way in benefiting the following

Research community

The research could be made as a reference for those carrying out similar researches in the near future. Moreover it could be add in the academic field a better understanding of the subject under study in relation to the African child.

The government

The research could go a long way in influencing the formulation of policies that are meant at focusing on the juvenile justice system and focusing much in the underlying causes.

#### The community

The researcher wishes that the research will be an eye opener to the community understanding that juvenile delinquency among adolescence can be can be as the result of their actions hence

raising awareness on the effects of early child abuse in contributing to juvenile delinquency. It also aims at educating the influential leaders such as chiefs and councilors of the community to work together when it comes to abuse and juvenile delinquency. In addition the research sort to raise awareness that the increase in the number of juveniles do not necessarily show the failure of the individual however it does show the failure of the individual family and society, hence the need for both the family and society working together and stop blaming the juvenile.

#### 1.5 Purpose of the study

The purpose of this study is to test the relationship between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescence at Luveve girls and Percy Ibbotson.

#### **1.6 Research objectives**

- 1. To document the relationship between emotional abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents
- To analyse the relationship between neglect among adolescents with regard to juvenile delinquency.
- 3. To establish the extent to which physical abuse is associated with the risk of juvenile delinquency among adolescents

**Primary objective**: to determine the relationship between types of abuse juvenile delinquency among adolescences.

#### **1.7 Research hypothesis**

- 1. There is no correlation sexual abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents
- There is no correlation between neglect abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents.
- 3. There is no correlation between emotional abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents.
- 4. There is no correlation between physical abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents.

**Null hypothesis**: There is no significant correlation between types of child abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents at Percy Ibbotson rehabilitation centre and Luveve Training institute of girls.

**H1**: There is a significant correlation between types of child abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents at Percy Ibbotson rehabilitation centre and Luveve girls.

#### **1.8** Assumptions

The study was carried out under the following assumptions:

- 1. The information provided by the respondents is truthful and genuine.
- 2. The research instruments used are reliable and valid; the data collected in this research is correct and measurable.
- 3. The population sample is a true representation of the actual targeted population.

The staff at Percy Iboston and Luveve training institute will cooperate to give full information.

#### **1.9 Delimitation of the study**

This research was geographically limited to the adolescents housed at Luveve girls and Percy Ibbotson rehabilitation centres in Bulawayo Zimbabwe this was based on the proximity that it had to the researcher hence it made it easier to carry out the research. The conceptual limitation was to study on abuse as one of the causes of juvenile delinquency among adolescence.

#### **1.10 Limitations to the study**

The researcher during the course of the research encountered the following limitations

- The child welfare department is a sensitive department hence there were some alterations to the questionnaire as some information could not be accessed.
- Language barrier with the respondents as most of them were Ndebele speaking and the researcher is Shona speaking.
- Juvenile delinquency among female adolescents is still a new area hence the researcher relied much on the information provided by the respondents.

• In their nature adolescents can provide false information in regard to their delinquent behaviour. Hence an interview was done with the probation officers.

#### 1.11 Definition of key terms

Santrock (2006) defined **adolescence** as the intermediary phase in the human development bridging the gap between childhood and adulthood. In this research **adolescence** will only mean a person a person who is undergoing puberty stage and is below the age of being an adult.

Juvenile is defined as any person that is still in the process of growing up below the age of 21. For the sake of this research **juvenile** will only mean a person in the growing up phase between the ages of 7- 21 years.

Delinquency is a misconduct that is in conflict with either the laws of the country or of the society committed by a person below the age of eighteen.

Henry, etal (2001) defined **crime** as the lawbreaking or misbehavior that is done intentionally in breach of the criminal law, having been done with no apparent justification (Lanier and: 31), for the sake of this research **crime** will mean any act that is against the laws of the land which is punishable by the appropriate court.

Zimbabwe children's ACT (2001) defined a child as any person under the age of sixteen including an infant. In this research a child will mean a person below the age of eighteen still under the guidance of a parent or guardian.

The World Health Organization defined **child abuse** as the ill-treatment of the child encompassing of the four types of child abuse being sexual, emotional, neglect and physical, and other exploitations for commercial use ending up with the child being impaired of the daily survival. For the sake of this research **child abuse** will only mean the maltreatment of child either emotionally, sexually, neglect and physical with the intention and un intentions of harming the child.

Akers and Ronald (2004) defined **juvenile delinquency** as the behavior that had been done by any person that is below the recommended age of majority which breaks the stipulated law, in

this research **juvenile delinquency** will only mean one who commits an act defined by either the law or the community as illegal and or one who is adjudicated by the appropriate court.

Delinquent refers to a person committing a crime of a minor age being below the age of eighteen.

#### 1.12 Summary

The introductory chapter covers the information that seeks to introduce the research in a chronological order the chapter covers background of study, statement of the problem, background to the study, research objectives, research hypothesis, assumptions, purpose of the study, delimitations and the definitions of key term.

#### **CHAPTER TWO**

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### **2.1 Introduction**

This chapter reviewed related literature on the problem thereby providing a theoretical frame work which was used as bases of problem analysis. Past researches were used to reflect on the problem showing the different views that had been brought forward on the link between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency. Moreover this chapter explored the different views and arguments that had been brought forward by relevant scholars, bringing out the area that this research is going to cover being the knowledge gap.

#### 2.2 The nature of juvenile delinquency

The Merrian Webster dictionary (1998) defined a juvenile as any person lower than the lawfully set up age of adulthood. In the same regard delinquent is then defined as the behaviour that is against the law done by a juvenile. Therefore juvenile delinquency is defined as anyone who commits an act defined by either the law or the community as illegal and or one adjudicated by the appropriate court. Shoemaker (2005) articulated that the term juvenile delinquency was first used in the United States of America around the year 1899 when the first code of juvenile delinquency was passed in Chicago, with the first juvenile court established in Illinois around 1898. Nelson etal (1996) viewed juvenile delinquents in the forms of some behavior disorders which then encompass two dimensions being the internalizing disorders and externalising disorders. In which internalising disorders are bottled within an individual causing him to withdraw and isolating himself ultimately leading to depression and stress. This then involve externalising behaviours such as verbal and physical aggression and the act of violence towards others.

On the other hand The Riyadh guidelines (1990) viewed juvenile delinquency as the youthful conduct that does not conform to the social norms and values is part of the maturation and growth process the phenomena tend to change with the transition of one from the childhood stage through into adulthood. Chassin etal (2004) articulated that juvenile delinquency is a common characteristic of the adolescents stage and the ages of juveniles makes them susceptible

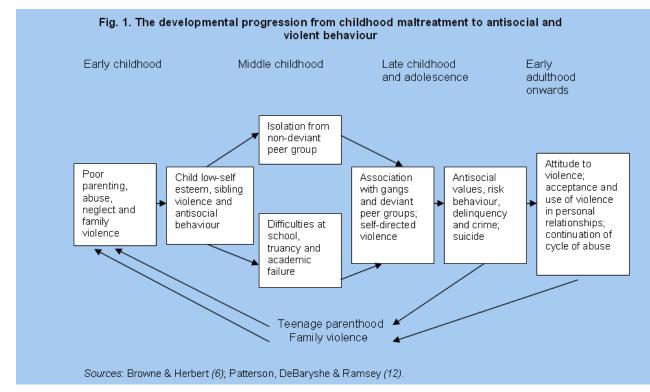
into committing crime as juvenile delinquency is across a lot of domains when compared to adult crime. Staff, Mortimer, & Uggen, (2004) postulated that juvenile delinquency had to include such crimes as running away from home, drinking and being in possession of alcohol.

Poduthase (2012) articulated that juvenile delinquency is regarded as a global problem worldwide with the problem not limited to some religions, social groups and cultures, and it is increasingly becoming confusing and more complex issue globally. In this regard Weinberg (1964) propounded that juvenile delinquency had some different aspects and some similar aspects across different cultures making it transcultural in its own right. Moreover the differences that are caused by the uniqueness of the different societies on what guide the society which are the norms, values and beliefs. This is the reason why in the African context particularly in Zimbabwe when a child talks to an adult standing or with her hands in the pocket is regarded as "misikanzwa" in Shona that is juvenile delinquency. The WHO (1960) articulated that delinquency starts at different ages depending on the country with some starting around 8, 13,14 or 15 years of age.

WRC (2003) reported that despite the social class, gender, country and region adolescence are still at risk of engaging in crimes and potential harm throughout their transitional period. The adolescents are found engaging in crimes such as drug addiction and perpetrating violence against their own peers. In addition WHO (1960) there are juvenile delinquency some issues that are in every social class and some cultural context which are the behaviours that are rejected by the adults, unity and the bureaucracy structure and are the basic principles that tend to guide the occurrence of delinquent behaviors among adolescents.

The Riyadh guidelines (1990) pointed out some adolescents could get engaged in petty crimes while growing up but not necessarily mean that they could turn into criminals when they grow up into adults. This had been attributed to the some issues such as peer pressure which leads to the children's delinquent behaviours and the nature of the types of crimes that these youngsters commit which are running away from home and shoplifting. Moreover when it comes to delinquent behaviours some young offenders had been found to be later criminals in life especially with children that had committed such crimes such as car theft, drug abuse and killing are most likely to be gangsters when they mature to into adulthood.

In understanding the etiology of juvenile delinquency Bovet emphasized that delinquency is a bio psychosocial phenomenon meaning that it is biological, psychological and social. In which this research will try and link the three in order to get a comprehensive understanding of the phenomena. In addition Glueck and Glueck (1956) expressed that the delinquent adolescents are masculine in nature and there tend to be high difference in the physical maturation age and psycho maturation age which then tend to cause some delinquents.



The diagram above by Browne and Herbert (2012) explains in detail the development and the progression of antisocial behavior after the child had been abused by parents and the family around him. The development starting from e rly childhood until the child develops to be a perpetrator of abuse himself thereby repeating the cycle of violence and abuse.

#### 2.3 The nature of adolescents

The transitional period of development between childhood and adulthood is termed as adolescence it is a comprehensive package which include cognitive, biological, emotional and physical development. According to (Stickle, 2010) the signs of adolescents stage are physical changes, which can cause an adolescent to feel both humiliated and a sense of pride. Steinberg, (1990) hold that humiliation and pride can cause a child undergoing the phase of adolescents to engage in several behaviors which then brings change , transformation and reorganization in family relationships (Steinberg, 1990). Moreover, adolescents start viewing themselves as adults and, on the contrary, parents may find it difficult to adapt to this perception. Hence according to Lahey (2003) the transitional period leads to a lot of rebellious activities which could have been a result of the parent's attitude towards the child then labeling him a juvenile on the contrary basing on the things that they could had done that eventually lead to the so called juvenile delinquency.

Lahey etal (2003) articulated that in adolescents the use of alcohol is then associated with the general assumption of being disobedient. Moreover the adolescence stage is associated with a lot of hyper activity which is usually accompanied by difficulties in making friends, poor cognitive skills and the assumption and feeling that one had reached adulthood. In their presumption that one had reached adulthood there is a lot of experimentation on their perceptions on what constitute adulthood. Moreover the issue of identity crisis is one of the major characteristics of adolescents with having no particular group to belong to, that is he cannot be in childhood and cannot be an adult either, hence causing confusion in the adolescent.

During the adolescents phase, being the most primitive segment of divergent from the initial identity. The children then adopt a new sub culture that is not within the circles of the normal identified behavior in a bid to identify their selves outside the proposed main stream norms and behavior.

#### 2.4 The relationship between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency

Famuyiwa (nd) articulated that the definition of child abuse constitute three main domains in which it can be defined from which are legal, clinical and research perspective, on which trying to integrate the three leads to over generalization of the definition. Meadow (1989) forth put that when a child is regarded as being abused is when an adult ill-treats a child in an unsatisfactory manner in line with the culture of the place at one point in time. Hence the definition managed to integrate important concern such as worldly and the differences in socio-cultural norms and values which often triggers arguments in case detection. Moreover WHO held that there are four main types of childhood abuse which are physical, emotional, and sexual and neglect. Horwits (2001) postulated that the children that showed great percentage of being delinquents and either being arrested in later life are those that had been abused by close relatives compared to non-relatives. Those children who were abused by relatives had a somewhat greater percentage of arrests as juveniles and adults than non-relatives.

CWIG (2013) held that there is a tendency of discussing the effects of child abuse and neglect separately from each other of which at the actual ground physical, psychological, societal consequences and behavioural cannot be actually separated. In the event of juvenile delinquency some psychological problems for example depression and anxiety can lead an adolescent into alcohol and substance abuse. Researches that were carried out by Widom (1989b) in the Midwest USA on the long term effects of abuse in adolescents with the study comprised of 908 children with confirmed cases of maltreatment. The findings of this research were that being abused increased a person's possibility of being arrested as a juvenile by 53% and as an adult by 38%. Widom (1989) then articulated that an abusive childhood increases the likelihood of adolescents to get involved in delinquent behaviours. Moreover research articulated that there are other contributing factors to abuse that controls its relationship to juvenile delinquency.

Cellin (2004) indicated that children that had been abused and neglected are at a threat of having a locked a mind that then turns into perceiving the world as a world full of dangerous people and perceive the world as a frightening place to live. This particular type of damage lead the child into believing that the only way to survive is through paying attention to him. This kind of an attitude when it develops in adolescents it often leads to criminal activities as a survival strategy. In addition Tearcher (2002) revealed that as much as genetic makeup can have a role in influencing our development however the environment has the greatest impact on these characters and traits are then disposed. Juvenile delinquency occurs as a genetic response to early intimidation on a person's system. According to Cellini (2004) the primary responsibility of the brain is survival and procreation of threats of abuse directed against a child results in that individuals and over reactions to threatening situations in later life. Cellini (2004) then argue that what society then term juvenile delinquency is the brain defending itself with tactics suited to unusual situations.

#### 2.5 The relationship between physical abuse and juvenile delinquency

Gilbert etal (2009) suggested that the exposure of a child to physical abuse is one of the stable predictors of aggressive behaviors that the youths engage in. Swanston (2003) articulated that the developmental theory indicates that the youth that had witnessed and be part of traumatic events which includes physical abuse could be exposed to long term unpleasant consequences which include psychological, social and behavioral issues which usually become worsen on the onset of adolescents and beginning of adulthood. Pointing out at the relationship between physical abuse and juvenile delinquency Fergusson and Lynskey (1998) research of 17-18 years olds revealed that degree to which physical abuse took place in childhood had a positive relationship in the stealing of property and being involved in violent behaviours.

In the same light Rebellion and Van Gundy (2005) carried out a study on the relationship between physical abuse and juvenile delinquency using data from 1976, 1977 and 1978. On juvenile delinquency their main concern was on robbery, gang fights and burglary using waves of the National Youth Survey Negative binomial estimation to measure it. The results of the study revealed that when a child is physically abused by a parent the likelihood of committing a violent crime is 97% and 240 percent when it comes to offense counts.

O'Connor and Smith (1997) pointed out that in interpreting violence cycle the general expected views are that children who had been physical abused are supposed to be more aggressive and arrested of violent crimes compared to those who had suffered the other different forms of abuse that is because they had been victimised directly hence it is believed to give the child the

atmosphere to observe, learn and imitate to behave violently. The assumption with physical abuse is that those who had been abused and experienced violence through time they will end up initiating aggressive and violent behaviours.

Researches that were done by Teague and Mazerolle (2007) in Queensland correctional services on the relationship between childhood physical abuse and adult offending using interviews, with a population sample of 480 offenders comprising of 292 males and 188 females, revealed that physically abused females had a 20% risk of committing crime and only 2% for males. In the study half of the participant agreed to have been physically abuse. The study used a qualitative research design whereby it used interviews hence the current study is going to be different from the other researches as it is going to be based on the quantitative research design using correlation moreover establishing the relationship at a mathematical aspect without the interferences of the results by the research bias.

Moreover Myoung-jin etal (2007) postulated that when it comes it come to physical abuse, the ill-treatment from a father tend to have a high degree of delinquent behavior particularly those that had been detained in detention homes. Furthermore Myoung-jin etal (2007) propounded that the high degree that is caused by physically abused children by their fathers is particularly due to the violence and aggression that the father inflict when beating the child, usually which is of high damage to the child.

#### 2.6 The relationship between sexual abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents

Lambie etal (2002) propounded that there are instances whereby being sexually abused in childhood seems to trigger being involved in juvenile sex delinquency in later life. However Widoma and Ames 1994 argued that it is not in all circumstances that sexually abused survivors can abuse others when they reach either adolescents or adulthood. Sexual abuse is defined as unwanted sexual activity with perpetrators making threats and taking advantages of victims not able to give consent by the encyclopedia of psychology using force. In sexual abuse, there are other crime factors at work when it comes to sexual abuse as it is related with an escalating rate of being both a drug and alcohol abuser and these are part of illegal activities. These factors may thus mediate the relationship between sexual abuse and subsequent juvenile offending. Hence the

presumed effects of sexual abuse might be different to those of neglect and physical abuse. Moreover Zingraff et al (1993) articulated that due to the sensitivity of sexual abuse children who were sexually abused were difficult to segregate from the children in the overall school population, hence this place them at greater risk of being involved in unlawful acts.

Elliott (1994) articulated that there is a tendency of avoidant behaviors among the victims of sexual abuse and this is used as a coping strategy for the victims who would have developed a chronic trauma during their child hood early life among victims of sexual abuse may be understood as attempts to cope with the chronic trauma. Avoidance behavior is then associated with some delinquent behaviors that include substance abuse. In her article Elliot propounded that the problematic action can be the representation of either conscious or unconscious option that he needs to be involved in delinquent behaviors such as substance and drug abuse in a way of trying to run away from the pain of sexual abuse. The use of substance abuse is then used as a coping strategy to cope up with the stressful events of life. Sexual abuse leads to the increase in levels of guilt and anger in which it can be poured out through the abusing of other peers and children below the same age.

Sexual abuse according to Loftus (1993) triggers anger in the victim, bad temper, and unforeseen feelings of annoyance and anger. Research had indicated that children who experience sexual abuse reported to have issues when it comes to the expression of anger. The results of this anger can manifest in two forms which are internal, being hating oneself and sadness. The other form of hatred which had been widely linked to juvenile delinquency is external anger which usually comes out in the form of violence and abuse of fellow peers or children younger than themselves.

The two studies by Nelson et al. (2002) and Kendleret al. (2000) on the relationship between sexual abuse and future pathologies indicated that sexually abused child can likely to develop a psychiatric problem in the future compared to their counter parts that were not abused. In the same regard studies by Dinwiddie etal (2000) concluded that no existing differences existed between abused and non abused twins. Hence the current study is going to bridge upon gap as the previous study looked at the link between sexual abuse and possible psychiatric disorders in

the near future adulthood. The studies moreover failed to tackle the issue at adolescent level concentrating much on adulthood hence that is what this research seeks to bridge the gap.

Camen etal (1984) articulated that anger in children and adolescents is usually manifested in the form of behavioral problems with the most affected being abused children and adolescents. Children's violence such as bullying others and fighting it is always viewed as a children's reaction to the abuse and child molestation that the child might had gone through, hence it is regarded as short term effects of child abuse. Hopper,J., and Lisak, D. (1993) propounded that children and adults that were sexually abused are most like to violently abuse other children and women sexually rather than the rest of the population, this is usually a sign of abuse related anger.

#### 2.7 The relationship between neglect and juvenile delinquency among adolescents

Huston and Egeland (2008) propounded that when it comes to child neglect the child usually bottle up everything inside leading to the child's withdrawal behaviors. Hildyard & Wolf (2002) postulated that adolescents tend to be starting to isolate themselves from other groups of children and it is during these withdrawal moments that they tend to have nothing to do in most cases developing delinquent behaviors such as murder. Lamont (2010) postulated that children who are neglected can develop disturbing behaviors such as violence. Frederico et al., (2008) indicated that most researches usually attribute hyper active behaviors in childhood and adolescents to child neglect.

NCCANI (2003) forwarded that reactive attachment disorder (RAD) is usually common among the children who had been neglected, from the environment that could have console and created affection for the child. Elgar etal (2003) postulated those children who had been neglected and have unhealthy relationships their parents this promotes repression of feelings, hyper active and the doubt in the way to react to parents and just having random friends. These adolescents are mostly distrustful to their parents, having difficulties in controlling their emotions and are always angry most of the time and are unable to listen to their parent's moral obligations. Cohen e tal (2004) retrieved some self report and official child abuse and neglect information in upstate New York. In their findings they revealed that child neglect it is less predictive of arrests in adulthood than any forms of maltreatment. Moreover Chapple etal (2005) articulated some of the possible consequences linked to child neglect, he articulated that parent- child interactions, which are devoid of attention and the inability to concentrate and the impulsive choice of friends. Chapple etal (2005) used the data from the national longitudinal survey of youth to investigate the ultimate link between child neglect and violent behavior. He found out that there is a link between the exposure to violent behavior and the likelihood of reporting violent behavior. Kazemiaan (2011) in contrast held that studies that were using self reports that relied on official measures of offending and these findings usually generally indicate a high likelihood of arrest and neglected childhood. This study is going to be distinctive from the previous study as it is going to be based upon self reports such as the close ended questionnaire not relying on reported literature as done by this previous study.

Myoung –Jin etal (2007) held that that in juvenile delinquency there is a close link between the levels of one's deviant behaviors and a neglected child by a mother.

### 2.8 The relationship between emotional abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents.

Barlow and McMillan (2010) defined emotional abuse as repeated emotional maltreatment of a child; it is sometimes referred to as psychological abuse. Cellini (2004) articulated that emotional abuse involves particularly two people being the care giver and the child characterized with some harmful intentions. When it comes to emotional abuse there is no need for physical interactions for it to take place and in some instances the care giver would not be having intentions of harming the child. There are two types of emotional abuse being passive and active emotional abuse. Passive involves mainly the act of ignoring some important issues that the child requires and active involves the verbal atterations of offending words to a person. Emotional abuse is believed to cause some serious damage on the psychological health and the development of the child.

Barlow and McMillan(2010) articulated that emotional abuse is usually accompanied with another form of abuse, meaning that in most cases when a child is emotionally abused he would had experienced either physical or sexual abuse. Even though in some rare circumstances emotional abuse can take place without having suffered another type of abuse and tend to have its own psychological effects that contribute to juvenile delinquency. Emotional abuse involves such things as constantly blaming the child, insults, calling of bad names, exposing the child to domestic violence, blaming and escape goating.

Glaser (2002) held that psychological abuse like any other types of abuse it affects the developmental areas of the child at all levels. In girls it is believed to cause anxiety, post-traumatic stress and low self-esteem. Moreover emotional abuse cause poor emotional functioning and being at risk of further trauma this is because according to Cellin (2004) when growing up emotional abuse affects the left hemisphere which controls the emotions hence leading to a person having anger outbursts which are usually directed to other peers while growing up. Research had revealed that children who are emotionally abused at a tender age are most likely to have problems with the regulation of emotions thereby leading to be more aggressive when they reach adolescents and adulthood than the rest of their peers.

Belknap and Holsinger (1998) forwarded that there are numerous relationships that are alike between the causes of juvenile delinquency in girls and in boys. These general factors include among others unstable family backgrounds, problems in school and the socio- economic status. Research had indicated that child abuse in females had been attributed to be high among female offenders than their male counter parts. In support of this view Owen and Bloom (1998) pointed out that substance, drug abuse and running away from home it is a mechanism that the girls use to cope up with the abuse that they might had gone through. Chesney-Lind & Shelden, (1992) indicated that criminal records from America pointed out that the rate in which girls and boys run away from home is the same moreover it seems as if girls get more arrested than boys. Moreover the trend in juvenile delinquency among male and females seems to be same when it comes to age being thirteen to eighteen years of age across all genders, and the adhesive childhood experiences being composed of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, family breakdowns and involvement of family members in the justice system.

#### 2.9 Theoretical framework.

There are two main theories that explain the onset of juvenile delinquency in psychology being the psychological strain theory Agnew (1985) and the social learning theory by Bandura (1977) however the two theories they try to link child abuse and the development of child aggression .The general assumption is that children who had been abused tend to be agitated frequently distrustful and tend to view the environment around them as threatening.

#### 2.9.1 Social strain theory (SPST) by Agnew (1985)

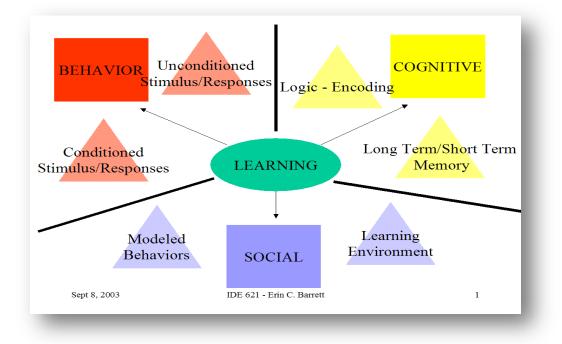
The psychological strain theory articulate that abuse is the source of acute stress and went on to suggest that ill-treatment exposes an individual to the possibility of putting himself at the risk of destroying oneself through being self destructive and being aggressive. In support of the (SPST) theory Wisdom (1994) held that being stressed up during adolescents periods hold a vital role in the development of aggressive behaviors. Agnew (1992) held that the deviance by individuals is created by being treated in a negative way by the people around you, the negative treatment then leads to anger and frustration. Agnew (1992) postulated that the inability of adolescent to face pain and some incapability by juveniles to legally avoid harmful stimuli. Agnew (1985) held some examples of negative stimuli that she can face as an adolescent being child abuse, neglect and some aversive relations.

The **link between strain and crime** the pain that is caused by some environment around them is the basis of some aversive feelings and the feelings include defeat, despair and fear. Agnew (1985) held that anger is the most feeling that perpetuates crime. Therefore anger is believed to cause an individual to act in lower inhibition and to create a desire of revenge hence aggravation lead to justification of crime in juveniles. In general the general strain theory held that the rise in tension could lead some escalation in frustration hence leading to crime.

#### **2.9.2 Social learning theory by Bandura (1977)**

The social learning theory by Albert Bandura' (1977) is guided by the principles that as human beings we learn from the interactions that we do with others in the society around us, by observing how the people around us behaves hence building up behaviors that are alike with those people that are in the same social context. The theory by Bandura is based upon three main pillars which are that individuals learn through observation, imitation and modeling. It also emphasizes the influence of other people on the behaviors of the people around them.

The theory articulates that it is within children to learn behaviors by mere looking the behavior of the people around them and then finally imitating that particular behavior. Baldwin and Baldwin (1981) summarized the imitation process when they stated that a person imitates behavior in the event that they like the model. The imitation process according to the SLT can exert an effect in upholding and abstain from a given behavior.



#### Barrett (2003)

The theory of social learning by Bandura had been widely used in the explanation of juvenile delinquency and aggression behaviors. This is demonstrated in his famous bobo doll experiment. According to Bandura the theory is based upon three principles which are there's need to reach the highest levels of observation learning they must be organization and rehearsing of the modeled behavior, individuals are most likely to adapt a modeled behavior if it results in the outcome they value and individuals are more likely to adapt a modeled behavior if the model is similar to the observer and has admired status and the behavior has a functional value.

According to O'Connor and Smith(1997) social learning theorists put forward that an aggressive family environment which is either between the child and the parent or among the parents themselves with the development of ability of social attributes, such as concession and the way to solve conflict. Adolescents learn by observation, modeling and reinforcement to use violence as a method of coping with stress. In observing what is happening adolescents they learn that aggression is an appropriate form of communication and develop a set of rules that support its use Kaufman and Zigler, (1989). Research further supports that aggression in early childhood is, unfortunately, likely to be maintained over time rather than 'unlearned as children become older and that abused children carry this proclivity for aggressive responses out of the home and into their social environment.

In the application of juvenile delinquency and abusive childhood the theory articulates that it is possible for a person to copy criminal behavior as much as it is possible to copy behavior that is socially conforming. In line with the theory's third assumption which postulates that people tend to copy behavior from the people that they respect. In most cases children are abused by the people who are close to them and they tend to respect them hence for example in abusing other children they see it as a norm and somehow good as it could have happen to them by the people they trusted the most.

#### 2.10 Knowledge gap

Studies in Zimbabwe had been focusing on the effectiveness of the juvenile system with admirable results being yielded forgoing the underlying factors that contribute to the exhibition of juvenile delinquency. Globally there had been published literature on juvenile delinquency and its relationship with abusive childhood with the researches mainly focusing on case studies hence this research seeks to take another approach by using self-measurement reports administered to the adolescents.

# 2.11 Summary

This chapter reviewed the appropriate literature, covering the models, theories and knowledge gap. The chapter clearly stated what other scholars in the field articulated concerning the relationship between an abusive childhood past and juvenile delinquency. Literature clearly articulated that it is not all about the type abuse and delinquency but a lot of factors come into consideration including the frequency, duration and family violence among others.

# **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter covered the methodology that was considered when carrying out the research. The analysis of the methods that were used was also included in this chapter. The chapter went on to include the research design, target population, population sample, research instruments, data collection procedures, data presentation and analysis procedures justifying why each was chosen by the researcher.

#### **3.2 Research Paradigm**

This research was guided by the quantitative research paradigm, which is defined by Bruinstein, 2007) as the logical and scientific way of studying the environment around us through statistical methods. Moreover quantitative research is based upon the use of mathematical aspects in collecting and analysing data. Quantitative research paradigm entails that the researcher goes into the field with a hypothesis and then try to prove the authenticity of the hypothesis in the field hence this is the aim of this research being testing the relationship between an abusive childhood and juvenile delinquency in adolescents.

The researcher chose to use quantitative research paradigm as there is a relationship to be tested hence it can be established through the use of correlation which is quantitative in nature. Furthermore quantitative had a quite number of advantages which are it had high levels of reliability during the collection of data as there is less involvement of the researcher hence increasing the objectivity of the research as the results are independent from the researchers norms, beliefs, attitudes and perceptions. The other advantage of quantitative research is that the results of the research can be generalised across populations and sub populations as it use a large population in the collection of data. In addition quantitative research categorise information in different sub units making it easier for the data to be understood as it is presented in the form of tables and graphs that are identifiable at a simple glimpse.

#### **3.3 Research Design**

Denzin and Lincolin (2000) articulated that a research design is a plan of action and organization of examination envisioned to get an answer to a research problem. The researcher adopted correlation research design. Corelational research is the measurement in which two variables are found to be related. It gives a dimension in which one variable can forecast the principle of the other variable. It entails that when one variable increases with the other the correlation is positive and when it decreases the correlation is negative. Mack etal (2005) articulated that there are two types of correlation research design seeks to find a simple relationship between two variables. The researcher used exploratory research design for the purpose of this research. Exploratory research design seeks to establish a connection between variables and the extent to these variables are correlated. Hence relating with the main because aim of this research which seeks to find the correlation between juvenile delinquency and types of abuse in childhood. The main benefit of co relational research is that it establishes whether the two variables under study are depended upon one another more over revealing the causal relationship between the variables which are being studied.

#### **3.4 Target Population**

Haslam and Mcgarty (2003) defined a population as the broad set of people, events or things that a researcher is keen on and from which any sample had been derived from. Harper (1997) defined a population sample as the total group of people in which the researcher want to get some information. Hence the target population stand in for the actual population. The target population defines those items in which the results of the study will be generalised. The targeted population constituted of 92 boys and girls from Luveve girls and Percy Ibboston probation centres in Bulawayo. Moreover the target population involved the juveniles that had been sent to the probations centres on the screening of being juvenile hence most of them it was their first or second time in rehabilitation.

#### 3.5 Sample size

A sample is defined as a group of respondents from which a certain set of answers are taken from Haslam and McGarty (2003). Therefore a sample size is the total number of respondents in a

survey. Both girls and boys institutionalised at the rehabilitation centres were the target population with the ages ranging from 10-17 years adding to a total of 92 adolescents. The population size was large so as to avoid biases that come with smaller sample and unequal opportunities when it comes to gender relations. The sample size comprised of those adolescents that had been defined by the society and the legal system as being delinquent. Moreover the sample size included children that were in grade two up to form four of school going age. The sample size comprised of children that had been placed in the rehabilitation centre with no specific period attached to being understudy so as to have a large population sample.

#### **3.6 Sampling method**

The Sampling involves the process of choosing respondents that are going to participate in the survey this include the place and the individuals. The researcher used simple random sampling as it entails that each participant present had equal chances of being selected for the research. The researcher randomly distributed questionnaires to the participants at the centre. The same process was then repeated at the remaining institution. The total number of participants that participated in this research then led to 92 adolescents from the Luveve girls and Percy Ibbotson.

# **3.7 Research instruments**

Research instruments are the tools that are used to gather and collect data in order to find answers for the area under study. The researcher used close ended questionnaires with a likert scale which for the purpose of the research. Moreover the researcher used two questionnaires in order to find the relationship between the two variables under study. The researcher adopted the Adverse Childhood Experiences International Questionnaire (ACE-IQ) and the contact disorder questionnaire from DSM IV to measure juvenile delinquency. The (ACE-IQ) questionnaire is made up with a set of questions that measures physical abuse, emotional, abuse, neglect , experience of peer and family violence . The researcher left out some of the sections that were not meant for this particular research. The contact disorder questionnaire was adopted as a whole as it is made up of 10 questions that were using the scale, many times, few times, once and never. This scale was then adopted for the ACE IQ questionnaire for a uniform scale. Bot instruments at the end were made up of 12 questions for each instrument leading to a total of 24 questions for the research instrument. The reliability and validity of these questionnaires had been tested across different groups of people cultures and nations. Moreover the research instrument was influenced by consultations of the experts in the field of child welfare who added and removed some parts of the research instrument that tend to be more versed in the industry and had some experience with working with the juveniles. Moreover some of the questions were influenced by consultation of relevant literature and the academic supervisor.

A close ended questionnaire had some advantages such as making the organisation and presentation of answers as the process would have been easier and quick and it will be in quantifiable amounts hence leading to objectivity when assessing results.

Moreover closed ended questionnaires are fast in their administration as it can cover a large quantity of participants in a short period of time. In the case of this research required data was collected in a space of one day increasing the reliability of the research as data was collected on the same day reducing social desirability.

However questionnaire had its own weaknesses such as information provided by the respondents mighty be biased as it does not give the participant the chance to express themselves in their own way. Moreover a questionnaire does not allow the researcher to note on important facial expressions and gestures by the respondents during the answering of the questionnaire.

In summation despite the weaknesses that are associated with the close ended questionnaire the advantages seems to outline the disadvantages, hence it did not affect the course of the study.

#### **3.8 Pretesting instruments**

Pretesting of instruments entails checking how the research instruments perform when administered to a group of respondents. The researcher carried out a pre-test to check on the significance and applicability of questions that were in the questionnaire. The pre-test was conducted among 10 adolescents at Senga primary school in the grade seven classes as they were not part of the study sample. Vague questions were discovered with some of the areas such as levels of abuse which had been left out being noted. The researcher also noted that some language that was being used was too deep English hence most of the adolescents could not understand it for example the question with the words like "confronting" had a flat profile, hence a substitute of the words with simpler ones was done. In addition the researcher discovered that the numbers of questions were not at an equal footing with juvenile delinquency only having 10 questions and 12 for abusive childhood. The researcher then rectified the issue by creating two other questions so as to make them tally with one another as the research is co relational nature hence the presumed data must be having the same total score. In addition the main aim of pretesting of the instruments was to check on their validity and reliability and correcting some gaps in the questionnaire that could have arise. During the pretesting the questionnaires were randomly distributed among the pre-test group which comprised of girls and boys between the ages 10-18.

#### **3.9 Data collection procedures**

A data collection procedure entails the steps that the researcher followed when collecting data. In the bid to collect data the researcher obtained a research letter from the department of psychology at Midlands State University. The research letter accompanied with the application letter by the researcher was then taken to the director of child welfare services in Harare, so as to attain permission to carry out the research at the Luveve girls and Percy Ibboston . The director then granted the permission through writing a letter to carry out the research on the probation centres in Bulawayo upon the reading of the proposal. The researcher then took the letter to the provincial director of child welfare in Bulawayo who then just gave a go ahead to visit the centres. The researcher returned to the institutions after a one week period with the letter from the director of social services to carry out the research at the two different institutions. The researcher was introduced to the members of staff members at the institutions and the superintended pleaded with the members of staff to help the researcher in any way possible.

The researcher collected data at Percy Ibboston during break time as the children were not having lessons during that period. The researcher then took to the stand to explain different aspects of the questionnaire, with the help of one of the social worker who explained some aspects in the mother language Shona and Ndebele for the respondents to understand. Moreover the researcher was helped by the staff members at the institutions to distribute and collect the questionnaires. The researcher then took went to Luveve girls whereby the same procedure done at Percy Iboston was repeated. However the researcher used lunch time as the children were not having any lessons

### **3.10 Ethical considerations**

The researcher got a written consent which was from the director of child welfare services which was through granting permission to the researcher as the children are young and could not consent to anything according to the constitution of the land, for transparency reasons the researcher explained the basic ethics to the respondents who agreed verbally to carry out the research. Moreover Howitt and Cramer (2005) defined ethics defined as the way researchers handles themselves when conducting a research. Ethics are put into consideration when conducting a research in order to uphold the rights of the individuals who participated in the research hence the following ethics were respected during the course of the research.

### **3.10.1 Informed consent**

According to Howitt and Cramer (2005) people have to be given enough information concerning the issue understudy before they decide to either agree or disagree with participating by the research. Informed consent is based upon three major pillars which are information, voluntariness and comprehension.

#### **3.10.2 Privacy and confidentiality**

Data protection Act (1988) articulated that all humans are inclined to privacy and confidentiality, being in line with the ethical considerations and for the respondents personal and data that can not be disclosed. Privacy and confidentiality is there to regulate and control the circulation of some private information hence helping the respondents to share information that there are comfortable to share.

### 3.10.3 Professionalism and integrity

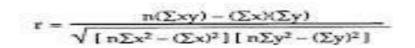
Lahey (2004) postulated that there is need for the researcher to confer with the respondents in order to determine any alterations that they may require. It grants the participants time to ask the researcher some issues and clarification of unclear issues of the research.

#### **3.11 Data presentation and analysis**

The researcher used the Stastical package of social sciences of social sciences using version 21.0 to analyse the collected data by the researcher. The researcher used 21.0 as it is the current version hence it is up to date with the current developments. The researcher then used Pearson

correlation coefficient in analysing the data. This is because it is a statistical method to measure the existence between two variables, that is types of abuse and juvenile delinquency

# Person correlation coefficient formula



Analysing data using the Pearson correlation coefficient is based upon five test assumptions on which the data that is being collected must meet four of them for the data to be analysed using Pearson. The five assumptions are:

- The variable under study should either be interval or ratio measures
- The data must be normally distributed
- The relationship between the two variables must be linear
- The outliers must be kept to a minimum or they must be removed entirely
- The data must be homoscedasticity.

The major advantage of using Pearson correlation coefficient it is that is easy to work out and interpret.

# 3.12 Data presentation

The data was presented using descriptive statistical tools which include graphs and tables. In this regard the information is easily identified and interpreted at a quick look. In addition graphs are useful when conducting researches that show a relationship as it is the main objective of this study and it is a good way of packing the information together for easy identification. Moreover they clearly bring out the main facts that are being portrayed in the research.

# 3.13 Summary

The chapter attempts to cover the research methodology that was used by the researcher in order to get information from the participants for the research study. Covered in this chapter are data collection procedures and analysis, sampling techniques, research instrument and ethics that were upheld are also included in this chapter.

# **CHAPTER FOUR**

# DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

# **4.1 Introduction**

The chapter seeks to present and analyze the data that was collected from the respondents during the data collection procedure. The researcher presented the results from the research in the following the order of hypothesis that were presented in the first chapter. The data was presented using quantitative methods being the use of tables and graphs.

# 4.2 Analysis of response rate

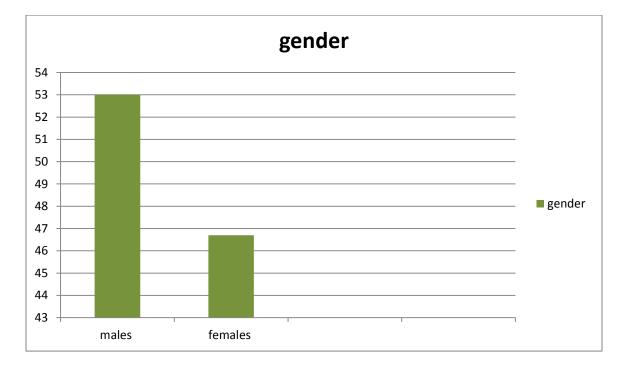
# Table 4.1 response rate table

Questionnaire	Number of respondents
Number of questionnaires distributed	100
Number if questionnaires respondent to	92
Response rate	92%

A total of 100 questionnaires were distributed to the potential respondents at Luveve girls and Percy Iboston to both girls and boys. The return rate of the questionnaires was then 92% response rate. This indicated a high response rate among the adolescents and could possibly mean that adolescents were keen to understand the root behind their delinquent behavior. The 8% non-response rate was caused by the housed adolescents that could not read and write.

# 4.3 Analysis of demographic information

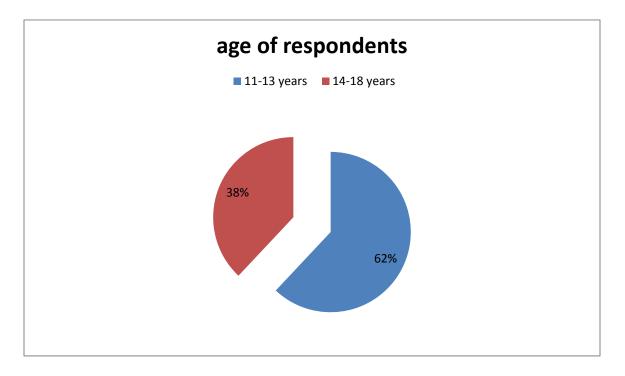




# Fig 4.1 showing gender differences of respondents

The diagram above showed that of the 92 respondents 53.4% were males. This could possibly mean that more male adolescents are involved in criminal activities than females. Moreover the statistics could imply that more males are referred to the rehabilitation homes after having exhibited a delinquent behavior.

### Distribution of respondents by age



# Fig 4.2 showing the age groups of respondents

The diagram above shows the percentage of juveniles according to their ages. The graph indicates that ages between 10-13 years had a total percentage of 38.0 % with the age group 14-18 years having 62%. The results shows that juveniles who usually commit crimes are between the ages 14-18 years this could possibly mean that adolescents at this stage in life could be experimenting a lot thereby getting involved in juvenile acts.

Table 4.3Respondents by family t	3	Cable 4.3Responsible	dents by	v family	type
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Type of family	Percentage
Nuclear family	26.1
Extended	34.8
Child headed	14.1
Single parenting	25.0

The above table reflects upon the percentage of the children in relation to the family that he belongs to. The results indicates that nuclear family had a 26.1%, 40.8% from extended families, child headed families with 14.1%, single parenting had 19.0%. The results could possibly mean

that more children with delinquent behaviors are from extended families including those that had been institutionalized. The nuclear family had the lowest percentage probably meaning that there are some controls measures that are in place for their chidren.

Table 4.4. Frequency of attempting to have sexual relations by anyone			
	Frequency	Percent	
Never	66	71.8%	
Once	26	28.2%	
Total	92	100%	

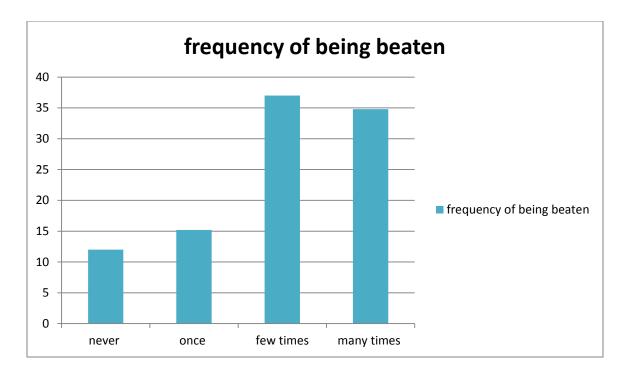
4.4 Tables and graphs to show types of abuse in relation to juvenile delinquency

The table above shows that 71.8% of the respondents disagreed to never encounter any sexual
relations attempts by anyone, with 28.2% having been attempted to be sexually abused once. The
results could mean that there is less frequency of sexual abuse among both girls and boys.

Table 4.5 frequency of an attempt to be touched in a sexual way without consent

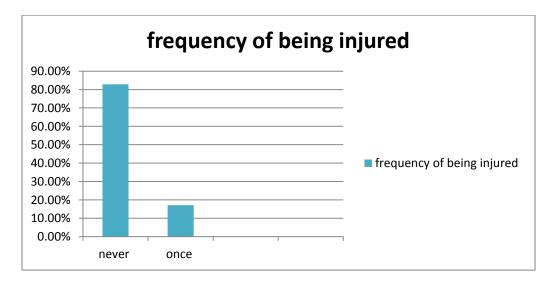
	Frequency	Percent
Never	35	38.0
Once	18	16.3
A few times	24	26.1
Many times	15	19.6
Total	92	100.0

The statistics in the table above indicate that it is on rare occasions that children attempted to be touched in a sexual way that they are not comfortable with. The results do also articulate that the highest percentage of the respondents being 35% had never encountered such a scenario in their life.



# Fig 4.3 showing the frequency of being beaten.

Fig 4.2.5 above indicates that 34.8% of the respondents had been beaten by their parents many times, 37.0% postulating that the incident had happened for a few times, 12% having been beaten for once however 15.2% articulated to never had been beaten by their guardians. This could entail that most of the children suffer from physical abuse in silent from their guardians.



# Frequency of being injured by a guardian

Fig 4.4. showing the frequency of being injured by a guardian

The graph above indicated that of the total respondents 82.4% held that they had been injured by their parents. Hence 17.6% postulating that it had happened once in childhood. The graph hence indicates that of the total respondents none of them had been injured intentionally by their parents and guardians more than once.

	Frequency	Percentage
Never	8	8.7
Many times	30	32.6
Few times	46	50.0
Once	8	8.7
Total	92	100.0

Table 4.5 frequency of being yelled insult and swearing

The frequency table show that 92% agreed to have been emotionally abused by their parents through being yelled and screamed at. A total percentage of 32.6% held that the insults had occurred during childhood. The table then indicates that it is common for parents to insult and scream at their children as shown by the trends in the table above.

# Table 4.6 frequency of not feeling important or special

	Frequency	Percentage
Never	21	19.32
Many times	32	29.44
Few times	28	25.76
Once	15	13.80
Total	92	100

The table above show that 86.2% of the respondent felt not special and not loved at one or more times in their life, with only 13.8% indicating that they had never felt unloved and unworthy before. The results then indicates states that children usually feel unworthy in life there by engaging in delinquent behavior to find comfort.

	Frequency	Percent
Never	18	19.6
many times	8	8.7
A few times	53	57.6
Once	13	14.1
Total	92	100

The above table shows that on several occasions the adolescents felt that they did not have enough material things. This is indicated by the following percentages being 57.6% articulating a few times, once 14.1%, never 19.6% and many times 8.7% speculating high levels of losing trust in parents and care givers.

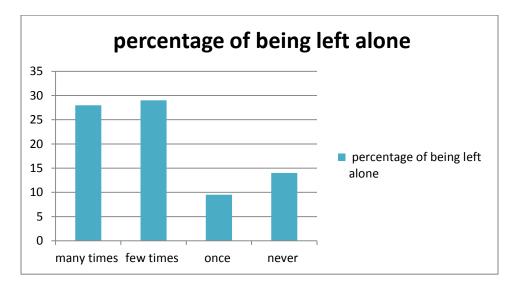
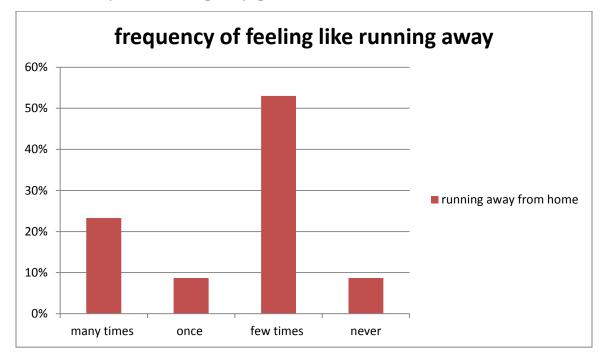


Fig4.5 showing respondents percentage of being left alone

The above graph shows that on several occasion children had agreed on having been left alone at home for more than once, with a few percentage of 14.8 having been never been left home alone. This may indicate that the alone time that the child get felt as if he was not worthy and had been segregated leading into find ways of comforting oneself.



**4.5 Section C juvenile delinquency questions** 

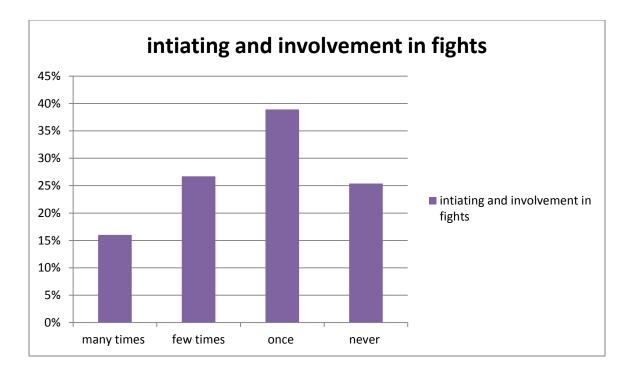
### Fig4.6 showing the feeling and attempt to run away from home

Fig 4.3 represents the times in which the respondents felt like running away from home. 28.3% agreed on having felt like running away from home in several occasion, once 8.7%, a few times 53% and 8.7% disagreed responding with never. The results might be indicating an abusive situation that the child would have felt like running away from.

	Frequency	Percentage
Many times	22	20.24
Few times	37	34.0
Once	26	23.92
Never	15	13.8
Total	92	100

#### Table 4.8 Showing the frequency of stealing

The table above shows the number respondents that had stolen something in their life. The table shows that 13.8% disagreed on having stolen anything. This could mean that stealing it is a common delinquent behavior among the respondents.



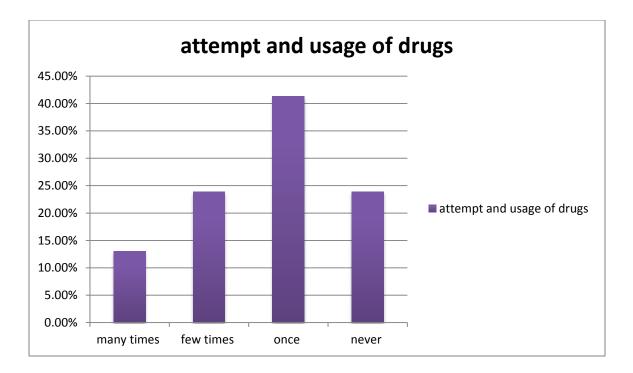
# Fig 4.3.8 Showing the frequency of initiating fights in percentage

The above diagram shows the frequency of initiating and being involved in fights. 25.4% had never initiated fights, 38.9% once, 16% many times and 26.7% a few times. The graph shows that the adolescents are much involved in violent behaviors which include aggression as the graph above presents.

	Percentage
Many times	51
Few times	34
Once	12
Never	11
Total	100

Table 4.9 Showing the frequency in percentages of lying to avoid responsibility

The table shows the frequency in percentages of lying by adolescent. The table indicates reveal that 51% had lied may times, 29% a few times, 12% once and 11% never. This could imply that lying it is a common delinquent act among the adolescents.



# Fig 4.9 Showing the frequency and attempt to use drugs in percentages

The graph above shows the frequency of using and attempt to use drugs among adolescents. The information in the diagram revealed that more than 75% of the respondent agreed to have used or attempted to use drugs at one point in their life, leaving it to be a common delinquent behavior among the adolescents.

	Frequency	Percentage	
Few times	07	6.44	
Once	22	19.8	
Never	72	66.24	
Total	92	100	

#### Table 4.10 showing the frequency of appearing in the court of law

The table above shows the frequency of appearing the court of law by the juveniles under study. Of the total respondents none of them articulated to have appeared in the court of law on several occasions with the majority having said never. This could possibly mean that the children that are referred to the rehabilitation go there through the probation report, with a few having appeared in the court on serious offenses that the children could not possibly disclose.

	Delinquent behavior	Sexual abuse
Delinquency behavior	1	143
pearson correlation sig (2-		.178
tailed)		
Ν	92	91
Sexual abuse Pearson		
Correlation	143	1
Sig (2-tailed)	.178	
Ν	92	92

4.6 Tables showing correlations between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency Table 4.12 to show the relationship between sexual abuse and juvenile delinquency

From the data presented in the table above, it can be concluded that there is no significant differences between sexual abuse and juvenile delinquency (U=178., P=-143) since p = -0.143 and is lesser than 0.05, then the researcher accepted the null hypothesis which predict no significant sexual abuse and juvenile delinquency relationship. It can be concluded that a negative relationship exist between juvenile delinquency and sexual abuse among adolescents.

	Neglect	Delinquent behavior
Neglect Pearson	1	-137
Correlation		
Sig (2tailed)		.194
Ν	92	92
Juvenile delinquency	-137	1
Pearson correlation		
sig (2 tailed)	.194	
Ν	92	92

Table 4.13 showing the relationship between child neglect and juvenile delinquency

The data presented in the table above bring out that it can be concluded that there is a significant correlation between neglect and juvenile delinquency. Since p=-0.137 and is less than 0.005, which predicts no significant correlation between neglect and juvenile delinquency.

	Juvenile delinquency	Physical abuse
Juvenile deliquency		
Pearson	1	.664
Correlation		
Sig (2 tailed)		
Ν	92	92
Physical abuse Pearson	.664	1
Correlation		
Sig (2- tailed)		
Ν	92	92

The data presented by the table above show that it could be concluded that there is a statistically significant correlation between physical abuse and juvenile delinquency. Since p=0.664 and is

greater than 0.05, then It can be concluded that a relative positive correlation exist between physical abuse and juvenile delinquency.

	Juvenile delinquency	Emotional abuse
Juvenile delinquency Pearson	1	.674
Correlation		
Sig (2tailed)		
Ν	92	92
Emotional abuse Pearson	674	.1
Correlation	050	
Sig (2tailed)		
Ν	92	92

Table4. 15 Showing the relationship between emotional abuse and juvenile delinquency

In the table above the relationship between emotional abuse and juvenile delinquency is revealed at p=0.664 and since p is greater than 0.05, then the researcher it could be concluded that a relative positive relationship exist between physical abuse and juvenile delinquency.

 Table 4.16 The relationship between child abuse and juvenile, delinquency

	Child abuse	Juvenile delinquency
Child abuse Pearson	1	.835**
Correlation		
Sig (2tailed)		
Ν	92	92
juvenile delinquency Pearson		
correlation	.835**	1
sig (2tailed)	.000	
Ν		
	92	92

Since p=0.835 and is greater than 0.5, the rejected the null hypothesis and accepted the H1 which suggests a relationship between the two variables(r=0.835p<0.05). the value of r is far from 0 thereby suggesting a strong positive relationship between child abuse and juvenile delinquency.

# 4.7 Summary

The chapter presented and analyzed the collected data using person correlation coefficient. The information presented in the chapter showed that there is a strong positive correlation between abusive childhood past and juvenile delinquency. Moreover it also indicates that gender have a role in influencing delinquent behaviors in adolescents.

# **CHAPTER FIVE**

## DISCUSSIONS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

# **5.1 Introduction**

The chapter is based upon the discussions, conclusions and the recommendations of the researcher basing on the results obtained from the research. The results that emanated from the collection of data were to used pose a discussion between the obtained results and the available board of literature. The chapter is then used for concluding the whole board of research.

# **5.2 Discussion of results**

The study focused on the relationship between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents at Luveve girls and Percy Ibboston in reference to the ACE and DSM IV conduct disorder questionnaire. The study investigated the four types of abuse in relation to juvenile delinquency mainly that took place in childhood. Results are discussed in reference to the reviewed literature and the research hypothesis of this research.

# **5.2.1** Hypothesis 1: There is no correlation between sexual abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents.

The results from the research indicated that there is no correlation between sexual abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents. The relationship was found to be statistically significant with a correlation of -0.173 among adolescents. The relationship articulated that juvenile delinquency do not necessarily leads to the child being a delinquent among both girls and boys. These results are in disagreement with Zingraff et al (1993) who articulated that due to the sensitivity of sexual abuse children who were sexually abused were difficult to segregate from the children in the overall school population, hence this place them at greater risk of being involved in unlawful acts. Moreover the results of this research are supported by Widoma and Ames (1994) who argued that it is not in all circumstances that sexually abused survivors can abuse others when they reach either adolescents or adulthood.

The research results also indicated that there is a strong positive correlation between juvenile delinquency and emotional abuse of the children in their early childhood. The results indicated that the caregivers in their presence do fail to provide for the psychological needs of the child. The results of the research pointed out that the child is frequently being verbally abused by the parents. It has been concluded by the research that the parents have failed to provide psychological support for the children, as they (children) frequently indicated that on several occasions the child felt neglected by their parents and the guardians. Growing up with such an attitude is harmful to the wellbeing of a child as it triggers socialisation into cults and gang group's inorder to find comfort caused by the loneliness that would have been instigated by their parents' neglect (Heather etal 2003)

# **5.2.2There is no correlation between physical abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents.**

Research findings confirmed that 75% of the respondent agreeing to have been slapped or being beaten by a parent or a guardian. These results however are in agreement with previous researches which articulated that over 90% of the children are somehow physically abused for at least once in their entire life. Moreover a study by Rebellion and Van Gundy (2005) indicated that when a child is physically abused by a parent the likelihood of committing a violent crime is 97% and 240 percent when it comes to offense counts. Furthermore out of the total respondents 95% postulated that they had never been taken to the hospital after being beaten by their guardians Fergusson and Lynskey (1998) articulated that the degree to which physical abuse took place in childhood had a positive relationship in the stealing of property and being involved in violent behaviours. This is in agreement with the results of the research as 78% of the total respondent agreed to have stolen an item in their life time at least once. The results from this research revealed a correlation of 0.64 between physical abuse and juvenile delinquency.

# **5.2.3** There is no correlation between emotional abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents.

Cellin (2004) postulated that children who are emotionally abused at a tender age are most likely to have problems with the regulation of emotions thereby leading to be more aggressive when they reach adolescents and adulthood than the rest of their peers. A study by Alexender (2008) indicated that adolescents who had been emotionally abused by their parents had a an SD rating of 1.99 and a mean rating of 8.86 in Nigeria .Hence the results are in agreement with the results of the research as a 0.674 correlation was found between juvenile delinquency emotional abuse during the research this may suggest that children become stressed up by the psychological abuse that they could had encountered so as a coping mechanism adolescents find comfort in being rebellious from their parents and guardians way of life. Moreover the results are in line with the view that human beings as they reach adolescents they had the problem of controlling their emotions as the adolescents who had suffered from emotional abuse tended to be more aggressive towards others.

# **5.2.3** There is no correlation between child neglect and juvenile delinquency among adolescents.

Huston and Egeland (2008) propounded that when it comes to child neglect the child usually bottle up everything inside leading to the child's withdrawal behaviors. The results of this research held that there is no close link between been neglected and the likelihood of diverting from the social norms and values of the society. The results indicated a negative correlation of r= -0.137 between juvenile delinquency and neglect .These results tend to be in disagreement with the past researches that had find a positive correlation between the two variables. The results are in support of Kazemiaan (2011) who stipulated that studies that were using self-reports that relied on official measures of offending indicated a high likelihood of arrest among neglected childhood adolescents.

The results could have been influenced by the set up in which the research took place as most of the studies indicated above had been studied in the European countries hence the coping mechanisms that the children use to cope with neglect are different depending with the setting. In addition the coping strategies could have difference hence leading to the variation in the results that were conducted by the past researches and the current study

# 5.2.4 H0 There is no correlation between types of child abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents.

Lemmon etal (2002) revealed that approximately 50% to 79% male victims of abuse that were abused before reaching the age of 12 turn to be severe delinquents when they reach adolescents.

Widom (1989b) in his study postulated that being abused increased a person's possibility of being arrested as a juvenile by 53% and as an adult by 38%. The stipulated results are in line with the results of this particular research which revealed that there is a 0.84 correlation between types of childhood abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents. The results suggests that when one is abused during his early childhood life there is a greater likelihood of the child becoming a delinquent or a later criminal in life. Moreover it suggests that there are psychological factors that are associated with the abuse of children in childhood such as stress, low self esteem and withdrawal. These unforeseen and undealt with after effects of abuse in children then plays a vital role in influencing the delinquent behaviors in adolescents. Moreover this can suggest that when thoroughly dealt with abusive childhood can be solely note lead to delinquent behaviors among the adolescent's girls and boys.

Hence abusive childhood cannot solely be blamed on the rise of juvenile delinquency among adolescents. This research however indicates one of the contributing factors of juvenile delinquency in the onset and adolescents stage. The other factors that emerged from this research include the family structure that the child that the child belongs to, with this research pointing out to extended having more juveniles than the other family structures with child headed families having the lowest percentage. The noted correlation between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency proves the social strain theory which articulates that an abusive environment it creates a desire of revenge and brings about crime.

# **5.3 Conclusions**

The current research has contributed much to our understanding of the relationship between an abusive childhood past and juvenile delinquency among adolescents. The study indicated that children who experience much aversive issues during are likely to become delinquent when they reach the adolescent period. The research results indicated that child abuse such as emotional, physical and neglect abuse are more linked to juvenile delinquency. In line with Bandura (1956) who articulated that children copy behaviour from the environment around them.

Results from the study indicated that there is a correlation of 0.84 between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents. Hence the results are statistically significant in

revealing the relationship between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents at Luveve girls and Percy Ibboston.

The study was correlation in nature as it attempts to get a better understanding on the relationship between types of abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents. The researcher recognizes that the restricted sample size could have influenced the results of the study. The study focused on gaining an understanding on the types of abuse that are linked to juvenile delinquency among adolescents. The provided knowledge can be used in the formulation of policies that can be used to effectively deal with juvenile delinquency. Moreover the research can be an eye opener at rehabilitation centre to initiate different rehabilitation techniques that can unfold the abusive trends in adolescents that are linked to crime.

# **5.4 Recommendations**

The different types of abuse tend to be among the issues that affect the psychological wellbeing of adolescents. Adolescents tend to be affected by the issues that that they are exposed to and the ones that they are not, the two then in turn influence the behavior of the adolescent .According to Bandura the people that are around them that they refer to as their role models tend to be the ones that would have initiated the abuse in them hence triggering a negative behavior in the adolescents hence there is need to

- Provide education on the effects of emotional abuse as most of the parents and guardians do not realise that through insulting the children they are causing more harm than good to them.
- Provide sexual abuse victims with relatively enough psycho social support so that they do end up being perpetrators of abusing others as the research indicated that most of the adolescents that had been convicted of rape had been sexually abused themselves by the people around them.
- Expose youth to numerous alternatives that they may find interesting and stimulating, this may help in doing away with juvenile crime. Moreover there is need for educational programs that make adolescents realise their full potential. The self-esteem that could have been taken away by being involved in different abuses can leave them with a low self-esteem that can lead then into living a self-destructive kind of life.

- Engage families to take the platform of supporting and protecting the children particularly those that are from the disadvantaged family backgrounds.
- Take upon a longitudinal study on the relationship between types of childhood abuse and juvenile delinquency among the adolescents so as to get an in-depth analysis of the phenomena. In addition there is need for triangulation in carrying out this kind of research so that the researcher can get the in-depth view from the officers.
- To focus on one variable of abuse inorder to get a comprehensive analysis of each phenomenon by future studies.
- In addition there is need to carry out separate studies on the female delinquent and juvenile delinquency as a lot seem to have been left out with most studies including this particular research.

# 5.5 Summary

This chapter summarized the whole project by highlighting the findings from the research in line with the theories, previous studies and scholars. The chapter managed to give some recommendations not only to the department of social services that deals with juveniles but also to the academic fraternity to those carrying out similar researches. The results of the research managed to be in line with the previous studies with some minor divergence having been noted.

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# **Research questionnaire**

I am **Tariro Sukoluhle Tshuma (R122022A)** a student at Midlands State University (MSU) studying Psychology. I am carrying out a research on the relationship between an types of childhood abuse and juvenile delinquency among adolescents. In carrying out my research I am using Percy Ibbotson and Luveve training institute of girls for my research. Please be advised that this is for academic purposes hence feel free to answer objectively.

# INSTRUCTION: PLEASE TICK IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX.

Demographic information
Age 10-13   14-18   Gender male   female
Type of family
Nuclear extended
Child headed single parent
Section B
Physical abuse
1 Did a parent, guardian or other household member slap, kick, punch or beat you
Up?
Many times   A few times   Once   Never
2 Did a parent, guardian or other household member hit or cut you with an object, such as
a stick (or cane), bottle, club, knife, whip etc?
Many times A few times Once Never
3 How often were you taken to the hospital after being beaten by any household member?
Many times A few times Once Never
Sexual abuse
1 Did someone touch or fondle you in a sexual way when you did not want them to?
Many times A few times Once Never
2 Did someone make you touch their body in a sexual way when you did not want them to?

Many times A	few times	Once	Never
--------------	-----------	------	-------

3 Did someone attempt or actually have oral, anal, or vaginal intercourse with you when you did

not want them to?
Many times A few times Once Never
Emotional abuse
1Did anyone ever called you bad names
Many times A few times Once Never
2 Did a parent, guardian or other household member yell, scream or swear at you, insult or
humiliate you?
Many times A few times Once Never
3 Did you feel that no one in your family loved you or thought you were important or special?
Many times A few times Once Never
Neglect
1 Did you ever feel that you didn't have enough to eat, had to wear dirty clothes, and had no one
to protect you?     Many times     A few times     Once     Never
2 Is there a time you got sick and was not given medical attention?
Many times A few times Once Never
3 Have you ever been left at home alone?
Many times A few times Once Never

# JUVENILE DELIQUENCY QUESTIONNAIRE

# INSTRUCTION : PLEASE TICK IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX.

1 How often have you stolen items of value without confronting the victim?				
Many times	A few times	Once	Never	
2. How often have you	1  appeared in the  c	ourt of law?		
Many times	A few times	Once	Never	
4. How often have you	ı ever feel like runr	ning away from he	ome	
Many times	A few times	Once	Never	
5 How often had you	used a weapon that	can cause serious	physical harm	
Many times	A few times	Once	Never	
6 How often have you	initiated and be inv	volved in any figh	nts?	
Many times	A few times	Once	Never	
7How often have you	lied to avoid respon	nsibility and obtai	n benefits	
Many times	A few times	Once	Never	
8 How often do you s	tay out at night wit	hout parents' peri	nission?	
Many times	A few times	Once	Never	
9 Do you believe in th	e punishment of ch	nildren?		
Many times	A few times	Once	Never	
10 How often have yo	u run away from sc	chool?		
Many times	A few times	Once	Never	
11 Have you ever been	n involved in any so	exual misconduct	?	
Many times	A few times	Once	Never	
12 How often have yo	ou attempted to use	drugs such as alc	ohol, and marijuana	or any other
Many times	A few times	Once	Never	

# Appendix 1

#### MARKING GUIDE

# MIDLANDS STATE UNIVERSITY

# FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

#### **DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY**

#### A GUIDE FOR WEIGHTING A DISSERTATION

### Name of Student TSHUMA TARIRO SUKOLUHLE REG NO R122022A

	ITEM	Possible	Actual	Comment
		Score	Score	continent
А	RESEARCH TOPIC AND ABSTRACT	5		
	clear and concise			
В	PRELIMINARY PAGES: Tittle page, approval form, release form,	5		
	dedication, acknowledgements, appendices, table of contents.			
С	AUDIT SHEET PROGRESSION	5		
L	Clearly shown on the audit sheet			
D	CHAPTER 1 :Background, statement of problem, significance of	10		
	the study, research questions, objectives, hypothesis,			
	assumptions, purpose of the study, delimitations, limitations,			
┝╤──	definition of terms		-	
E	CHAPTER 2: Addresses major issues and concepts of the study. Findings from previous work, relevancy of the literature to the	15		
	study, identifies knowledge gap, subtopics			
F	CHAPTER 3:Appropriateness of design, target population,	15		
	population sample, research tools, data collection, procedure,	15		
	presentation and analysis			
G	CHAPTER 4:Findings presented in a logical manner, tabular data	15		
	properly summarized and not repeated in the text			
Н	CHAPTER 5 :Discussion (10)Must be a presentation of	20	1	
	generalizations shown by results: how results and interpretations			
	agree with existing and published literature, relates theory to			
	practical, implications, conclusions (5)Ability to use findings to			
<u> </u>	draw conclusions .Recommendations (5)			
	Overall presentation of dissertation	5		
J	References	5		
	TOTAL	100		

MARKER......DATE......DATE.

# Appendix 2

# STUDENT AUDIT SHEET

DATE	ACTIVITY	SUPERVISOR'S COMMENT	SUPERVISOR'S SIGNATURE	STUDENT'S SIGNATURE
18/04/15	PROPOSAL	Rework		
21/04/15	PROPOSAL	Proceed		
O3/05/15	CHAPTER 1	Rework		
20/05/15	CHAPTER 1	Proceed		
05/06/15	CHAPTER 2	Rework		
26/06/15	CHAPTER 2	Proceed		
07/07/15	CHAPTER 3	Rework		
13/07/15	CHAPTER 3	Proceed		
20/07/15	RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS	Rework		
24/07/15	RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS	Proceed		
20/08/15	CHAPTER 4	Rework		
27/08/15	CHAPTER 4	Proceed		
13/09/15	CHAPTER 5	Rework		
22/09/15	CHAPTER 5	Proceed		
29/10/15	FIRST DRAFT	Proceed		
07/10 15	SECOND DRAFT	Proceed		
15/10/15	FINAL DRAFT	Submit		