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ROLE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH TOWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION IN ZIMBABWE

BY

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APPROVAL FORM

The undersigned certify that they have read and recommended to the Midlands State University for acceptance a dissertation entitled: Role of the United Methodist Church towards Environmental Protection in Zimbabwe: By Fortunate Mburundu (R145308W)

Submitted in fulfilment of the requirements of a BA Honours Degree in Development Studies.

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DECLARATION

I, hereby declare that this thesis submitted for assessment is my own composition. I generated all the information presented, except where clearly and specifically acknowledged, at Midlands State University, Department of Development Studies. This work has not been presented in the fulfilment of a similar or related degree(s) programme.

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DEDICATION

This Dissertation is dedicated to my parents Mr and Mrs Mburundu for their unwavering support throughout the four years of my degree.

ABSTRACT

The study explored the role of United Methodist Church towards environmental protection in Zimbabwe with particular reference to the activities done by most of the circuits in the church. Environmental protection has become a big issue in our day and age at local, national, regional and even at a global scale. The study was based on field study using observations, questionnaires with the United Methodist Church congregation encompassing the District Superintendents, circuits Pastors, circuits' leaders including the evangelism committee and the general community members of Zimbabwe. Quantitative research methodology was used. The UMC plays a critical role in environmental protection through strategies such as clean up campaigns, environmental awareness, and tree planting and engaging with the environmental protection agencies such as EMA. This has greatly impacted the community through prevention of diseases such as cholera and malaria. The United Methodist Church has thus lived up to the church doctrine of keeping the Lord's Earth's habitable today and for future generations. There are thus advantages in undertaking environmental protection activities with a faith based commitment and hence feeling responsible to God in the efforts to achieve sustainable development.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CCA.....	Chemical Control Act
CITES.....	Combination on International Trade in Endangered Species
DIIA.....	Division of Instructional Innovation and Assessment
DS.....	District Superintendent
EA	Environmental Assessment
EHP	Environmental Health Practitioner
EIA.....	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPA.....	Environmental Protection Agency
MDGs.....	Millennium Development Goals
NGO.....	Non-Governmental Organisation
PTA.....	Preferential Trade Area Treaty
REACH.....	Registration Evaluation Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals
SDGs.....	Sustainable Development Goals
SEA.....	Strategic Environmental Assessment
UMC.....	United Methodist Church
UN	United Nations
UNEP.....	United Nations Environmental Program
WCM.....	World Commission on the Environment

CHAPTER 1

PROBLEM AND SETTING

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Environmental protection remains one among the foremost vital paradigms worldwide, so it's the research worker 'intend to explore the role played by the church with special reference to the United Methodist Church (UMC) in environmental protection in Zimbabwe. The claim of any non-secular establishment to make its voice heard with regards to developmental problems has been widely given very little credit .The church has served throughout history as a ultimate authority in giving meaning to life on developmental problems ,environmental protection among different problems. There's a growing acknowledgement that church values have a significant role to play in shaping a sustainable setting. To enlighten the analysis there ought to outline the two ideas 'church' and environmental protection'.

A church is defined as an institution held to be gifted by Devine grace which it intervenes to the world through priest hood, it claims worldwide influence and as a result seeks to include everyone. According to Blomberg (1999:145) the paramount way the church can both universally and locally be able to consistently obey all the lord's commands is by increasingly capturing the vision of mobilising all its resources and share them with the needy n the society.' This means that the church should take care of the environment .Komonchak (1998) in the new dictionary of theology defines the church as the body of believers who have been called out of the world by God to live as his people under the ruler ship of his son Jesus Christ Ephesians (1; 22) therefore this definition foregrounds that the church has been called into the imperfect world so that it can serve its purpose through addressing problems like environmental depletion among other issues. Environmental protection is a practise of protecting the natural environment on individual, organisation controlled on government

levels for the benefit of both the environment and humans .due to pressures of over consumption, population and technology the bio physical environment is being degraded sometimes permanently .This has created awareness of environmental problems, thus this has prompt the researcher to take a considerable look into this paradigm.

1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE SUDY

Human beings depend on the environment for their physical needs such as water, food, air clothing and shelter which is necessary for their survival. This calls upon people to carefully use the resources in their environment to guarantee human survival. Natural environments that store water , protect the soil or are habitats to distinctive plants and animals ,have been degraded or converted to other uses .the church has a duty to manage and protect the environment on which human beings and other creatures thrive .God has entrusted those natural resources to human beings .The land mark report of the world commission on the environment (WCM) has warned that unless we change many of our lifestyle patterns, the world will face unacceptable levels of the environmental damage (Nesbit 1991).

The Commission echoing the urgent need for tailoring the pace and the pattern of global economic growth to the planet's population argued that humanity has the ability to make development sustainable. This will ensure that it meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Gottlieb (1996) points out that global warming which has led to tremendous effects on the environment is responsible for the changing climate patterns, increasing drought in many areas and thus threatening agriculture and wildlife. Most countries face complex environmental challenges. He further notes that the natural resource base that is essential for development is continually being weakened and undermined by unsustainable land use practices such as overgrazing, deforestation, and mechanized agriculture. Boff (1999) echoing Gottlieb's views points out that the main global problems associated with

environmental degradation are acid rain, atmospheric pollution, the destruction of the ozone layer, deforestation and desertification.

Pope John Paul II, in his New Year's message of 1990, stressed the need for recognizing nature as God's creation, thereby, giving it proper respect. He pointed out that the environmental devastation is the result of peoples' behaviour that disregards the God-given order and harmony of nature. He made references to the indiscriminate application of advances in science and technology which resulted in pollution of the common resources, which if left unchecked, lead to disrespect for life and integrity of creation. He identified greed and selfishness as the major causes of environmental crisis, both at an individual and corporate level and called for an internationally coordinated approach and management of the earth's environmental resources (Clifford 1996:20).

Gecaga (1999:37) highlights that there is a special law and responsibility for humans towards the rest of creation as God's stewards. Furthermore, stewardship puts human beings in harmony with nature, standing before God in the management of human affairs and creation. The notion of stewardship respects God's sovereignty over all the earth. Thus human beings have a responsibility of sustaining the creation and preserving it for future generations. In Africa, environmental conservation and promotion of awareness have become matters of great concern because of its complex, widespread and long-term contribution to survival of life. Africa's under-development has had a negative bearing on the environment Gitau (2000).

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Environmental degradation is one of the primary concerns raised out worldwide .Discussions of environmental protection often focuses on the role of government, legislation, and law enforcement. However, in its broadest sense, environmental protection may be seen to be the responsibility of all the people and not simply that of government. Decisions that impact the environment will ideally involve a broad range of stakeholders including industry, indigenous groups, and environmental group and community representatives. Gradually, environmental decision-making processes are evolving to reflect this broad base of stakeholders and are becoming more collaborative in many countries. Many constitutions acknowledge the fundamental right to environmental protection and many international treaties acknowledge the right to live in a healthy environment. Also, many countries have organizations and agencies devoted to environmental protection. There are international environmental protection organizations, such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Although environmental protection is not simply the responsibility of government agencies, most people view these agencies as being of prime importance in establishing and maintaining basic standards that protect both the environment and the people interacting with it. Since environmental degradation is a matter affecting the lives of human beings and the entire universe there is concern on the role of the church can play in environmental protection. Environmental degradation is one among the first considerations raised out worldwide.

Discussion concerning environmental protection typically focuses on the role of presidency, legislation, and enforcement. However, in its broadest sense, environmental protection could also be seen to be the responsibility of all the folks and not merely that of presidency. Choices that impact the setting can ideally involve a broad vary of stakeholders as well as business, autochthonic teams, and environmental cluster and community representatives.

Gradually, environmental decision-making processes square measure evolving to replicate this broad base of stakeholders and have become a lot of cooperative in several countries. Several constitutions acknowledge the basic right to environmental protection and lots of international treaties acknowledge the correct to measure in a very healthy environment. Also, several countries have organizations and agencies dedicated to environmental protection. There square measure international environmental protection organizations, cherish the UN setting Programme. Though environmental protection isn't merely the responsibility of presidency agencies most of the people the general public| read these agencies as being of prime importance in establishing and maintaining basic standards that defend each the setting and also the people interacting with it. Since environmental degradation may be a matter touching the lives of masses and also the entire universe there's concern on the role of the church will play in environmental protection.

1.3 OBJECTIVES

Churchill (2001), postulated that ‘Research Objectives are the specific components of the research problem that you’ll be working to answer or complete, in order to answer the overall research problem.’

- ❖ To examine the history of the united Methodist church and its major duties in the ministry
- ❖ To explore the causes of environmental degradation in Zimbabwe
- ❖ To assess the contribution and strategies used by the United Methodist Church in environmental protection

1.4 RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What are the causes of environmental degradation in Zimbabwe?

- What contributions has the United Methodist Church made towards environmental protection in Zimbabwe?
- What strategies have been used by the United Methodist Church in environmental protection
- What are the benefits of the community from the work done by the United Methodist Church

1.5 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Given the absence of research on the impact and effectiveness of the role of the church in environmental protection this type of research is important .most previous studies have tended to concentrate on institutional and national environmental protection without considering other organisations that are playing a complimentary role in protecting the environment, the study therefore seek to explore another paradigm dimension of examining the role of the United Methodist Church in environmental protection as a solution that can be implemented by everyone . The results of this study will be critical in promoting social acceptance of all roles played by the body of believers worldwide in ensuring a healthy and sustainable environment.

1.6 SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

The research worker can solely target one inject church that is that the united Methodists as a result of here in African country there are quite an range of churches that are creating efforts towards protective the setting as same as UMC. Given this socio economic drawback in African country the research worker can use restricted resources to get info and totally develop this study. what is more some church documents are confidential and therefore the method of creating interviews with the church authority is cumbersome since it involves

loads of protocols therefore the research worker won't have enough information to use in the completion of her research which can lead the research worker to be rely on different sources.

1.7 CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

1.71 CHURCH

P. George, (2000) Church and Land reiterates, that an ideal church must deal with real practical issues of human existence. The central theme in this book is that the church cannot continue to claim its relevance if it ignores the issues that are affecting the contemporary society. A real church should follow the day to day activities that challenge the nation by trying to look for solutions or possible means of helping people to come out of such critical issues.

1.72 ENVIRONMENT

According to Larsson M.L Environment includes water , air ,land and the interrelationship which exists among and between water, air and land and human beings other living creatures, plants, microorganism and property .New Zealand Environment Act of 1986, defined the environment as including: “a) ecosystems and their constituent parts; b) all natural and physical resources; c) the social, economic, aesthetic and cultural conditions which affect the environment or which are affected by changes to the environment.“

The legal approach to “the environment” is to separate regulations into broad categories. Salter has suggested three groups. Under a heading of “natural” environment, protection of environmental media is included. A second category is the “manmade” environment including the cultural heritage. A third category concerns “human” environment, including regulations on food content, products, safety issues leisure and economic health (consumer protection, eco-labelling, and so forth). Further categories could be indoor and working environment, but in Salter’s distinctions these should probably be treated as sub-categories of a “man-made” environment.

The English Environment Protection Act 1990, defines the “environment” as consisting “of all, or any, of the [media] the air, water and land; and the medium of air includes the air within buildings and the air within other natural or man-made structures above or below ground

1.73 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

According to Glossary of Environmental Statistics the term ‘environmental protection’ can be defined as the prevention to conserve and preserve the standard healthy level of environmental media by reducing the production of pollutants or polluting substances in environmental media (1977, internet).

1.8 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Flodman (2004) postulates that ‘, research ethics should consider human rights, dignity and values of the participants in the research.’ The research will be carried out in line with the norms, rules and regulations of research. Plagiarism, academic cheating and fabrication will be avoided at all cost during the research. The researcher will not collect data in the study area without the consent of the responsible authorities that is Pastors in charge, District supretentend and all various church authorities.

1.9 HISTORY OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

It is of paramount significance to fee the history of the united Methodist church, the problem of the function of the church on environmental protection can be understood from a broader factor of view searching at the complete concept of the origins the united Methodist church this is how and why it came into being.

The united Methodist has a protracted history ,the church commenced in England in the early 1700s under the England clergyman John Wesley and his fans .Wesley did not formerly organise a new church however he stimulated rebirth movement within the church of

England .In line with James (1933),missionaries of this church got here from the united states and arrived in Manicaland particularly in Mutare on 10 December 1897 led by means of bishop Joseph Crane Hartzell who changed into related to the beginning of the Methodist episcopal church, now the united Methodist church in Zimbabwe.

The first Methodist Church for Africans was built in the town of Mutare and continues with the name of Hilltop United Methodist Church. The church soon began to spread fast in the villages due to the enthusiasm for the gospel and evangelism on the part of the newly converted African evangelists. The first comprehensive agricultural irrigation scheme in Zimbabwe's poor villages was introduced and developed under the church's rural development program. The church has been involved in extensive program of evangelization and rural development through comprehensive programs of education, medical and health care service.

Bishop Abel T. Muzorewa was elected the first African bishop in the United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe. He espoused the concept of salvation for the whole person and became an avid critic of the colonial racist regime in the country. With a rapid turn of events the bishop became the first black prime minister of the nation of Zimbabwe. The church currently runs three hospitals, several clinics, two nurses training schools, numerous primary/elementary and high schools (three of which offer junior college-level courses) and a teachers' college. All are run by Africans except the hospitals which rely heavily on missionaries or doctors from overseas .the establishment of Africa University at old Mutare in 1992 is a landmark achievement or all Africa

The united Methodist church does not have a central headquarters or single executive leader. Duties are divided among bodies that include the general conference, the council of bishops and the judicial council. Each of these entities is required by the constitution document to be

part of the structure of plays a significant role in the life of the church .The first Methodist Church for Africans was built in the town of Mutare and continues with the name of Hilltop United Methodist Church. The church soon began to spread fast in the villages due to the enthusiasm for the gospel and evangelism on the part of the newly converted African evangelists. The first comprehensive agricultural irrigation scheme in Zimbabwe's poor villages was introduced and developed under the church's rural development program. The church has been involved in extensive program of evangelization and rural development through comprehensive programs of education, medical and health care service.

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1.10 CONCLUSION

In conclusion chapter 1 is an introductory chapter highlighting the main concepts that the researcher is going to allude in the whole dissertation.it highlights the introduction of the

dissertation , statement of the problem ,background to the study, objectives of the study
research questions ,scope and limitations ,conceptual framework, ethical considerations and
the history of the United Methodist Church.

1.11 STRUCTURE OF THE DISSERTATION

The dissertation role of the United Methodist Church towards environmental protection in
Zimbabwe ‘structure is as follows:

Chapter 1: The Problem and Setting

Chapter 2: Literature Review

Chapter 3: Research Methodology

Chapter 4: Data Analysis, Presentation and Discussion

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The core objective of this chapter is to highlight what other school of thoughts and various scholars that highlights on environmental protection and church. Cooper (2008) avers that literature review is a method of attaining information from a variety of authors which is in line with your study. Of note is that, when examining other studies, the researcher must use valid and relevant information (Schaefer, 2006). This chapter is therefore, going to explore what other scholars say pertaining to the issues of environmental protection. Essential to note also is that, this thesis argues that environmental protection has been widely researched in regard of various government institutions leaving out the role of the surrounding community like the church ,thus it is the researcher ‘ intend to air out her views with regards to this issues.

2.1 OVERVIEW OF A CHURCH

God reminds us in Leviticus 25:23-24- that “The land is mine and you are but aliens and my tenants. Throughout the country that you hold as a possession you must provide for the redemption of the land”. Daniel Koranteng (2010) in the article the role of the church in promoting environmental stewardship, ‘The Church has its own challenges and limitations. The church is a heterogeneous community and in most cases, the very key people who have been part of the problems of the environmental crisis of the country are influential and respected people of the Christian community. Once their bread gets buttered by managing institutions and companies that profit from the environmental problems of our country, these agents of multinational companies would stop at nothing in ensuring that the church does not join the growing forces against the forces of greed and destruction. The Church needs to rise

above the dictates of men and women in order to fulfil its prophetic mission of full spiritual and environmental salvation. The Church has no option than to state a strong position against the destruction of the environment, human rights abuses and the exploitation of our natural wealth which ends up impoverishing our people. The Church has to hearken to the call to protect God's creation.'''

The life of Jesus Christ abounds with many examples to demonstrate the need to use the gospel to meet the spiritual and material needs of humanity. The Holistic Ministry does not distinguish between spirituality which draws Christians to the saving relationship with Christ and the "Social Ministry" which involves social actions by Christians to give practical meaning to the love and care for God's creation. The Holistic Ministry is the belief in one gospel which brings salvation in its fullest sense including salvation from sin, hunger, poverty, environmental degradation, human rights abuses etc. The grave social, economic and environmental problems facing the world show that human beings have violated the laws of nature with impunity and woefully failed to protect God's creation.

Greedy consumption patterns have goaded us to abuse nature. We have not exercised responsible management of God's creation. Unfortunately, we seem not to be learning any useful lessons that the problems confronting the world had resulted from the mistake in not considering the environment as the basis for the survival of humanity but had placed economic and financial considerations above environment issues. We are destroying the basis of our lives for a pittance and not taking counsel from the Biblical statement that it is unprofitable to gain the whole world and lose one's soul. The misplaced priorities have been exacerbated by the fact that politicians have been voted to power not on the basis of how they would protect our already destroyed environment but by their development programmes whether these so-called development programmes would worsen environmental destruction or not. In the end, we have not had development in its true sense but for certain, we have

ended up exacerbating environmental destruction. According to U. Utah Phillips, “The Earth is not dying - it is being killed. And the people killing it have names and addresses.” I share in the statement of Utah Phillips that some of the big multinational companies are contributing to the killing of the Earth. It is these same polluting multinational companies that fund political parties and as such dictate who should be our political leaders. Politicians end up dealing with the polluting companies with kid gloves because there is a mutual understanding that “you don’t cut the hand that feeds you”.

2.2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The past decades has not handiest witnessed remarkable monetary dilapidation however also unheard of degradation of the surroundings. The position of humans in improving conservation and safety of the environment has been taken into consideration from numerous perspectives. The research has applied the Liberative Solidarity Model evolved by using (Abraham, K.C 1994). The Liberative solidarity model constitutes: harmony with the weakest part of the complete creation; environmental stewardship in the earth community; option for the poor and justice for the poor which emphasizes that the ecological hassle is in detail connected to justice for the poor; and eventually eco-feminism which emphasizes the connectedness between girls and nature, as among humanity and nature. Abraham (1994) propounds that Liberative solidarity model calls for the Church to be in solidarity with the weakest part of the whole creation. The roots of this contemporary model are in the Bible.

Liberation theologians, such as Gustavo (1973) have forcefully articulated the biblical motif for liberation in Exodus and other passages. Liberation allows for a biblical approach which inspires the presence and action of human beings in history. In the Bible, Christ is presented as the one who brings us liberation. Christ the saviour liberates human beings from sin, which is the ultimate root of all disruption of friendship and of all injustices and oppression. He affirms that liberation witnessed in the Bible includes liberation for creation. There is

unity between the hope for the inward liberation of the children of God and liberation of the entire physical creation from its bondage and oppression. Abraham (1994) further notes that there is something common to the interpretation of liberation as a historical process in the Exodus and the liberation process of creation in Romans. The former is linked to the cry of the oppressed (Exodus 3:7); the latter is promised in response to the groans and travails within human beings and in creation (Romans 8:22). In the same manner, the renewal of the earth comes in response to the cry of the poor and of the dumb creatures of silent nature.

Msafiri (2007) echoing Abraham rightly observes that the principle of Liberative solidarity demands active unity and cooperation among all humans, particularly between the weakest and the poorest. Msafiri points out that Liberative solidarity entails a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good of all, because human beings are responsible for all. The following constitute the basic aspects of the ecological principle of Liberative solidarity model

First, the principle of Liberative solidarity embraces all components of the earth community, that is, humanity and the biosphere. Together as humans we are experiencing an indivisible ecological solidarity and interdependence. The environmental crisis has become a global problem. Human beings should recognize that every form of life has value regardless of its worth to human beings. The impending environmental crisis urges human beings to become even more aware of our global citizenship and solidarity. This is a condition against the worsening ecological crises which threaten the welfare and future survival of life on this planet (Msafiri 2007:94).

The second principle, according to McHugh (1996) opts for a new ecological solidarity which promotes life and environmental stewardship in the earth community. He emphasizes

that protection of the environment demands a more coordinated approach to the management of the earth's goods to meet the needs and legitimate aspirations of the people.

The third principle of Liberative solidarity model offers important ethical criteria whose primary aim is to protect the weaker and threatened individuals and units. Protection and conservation of the environment is part of this. Fundamental option with and to the poor is an integral element of the principle of Liberative solidarity. Liberative solidarity is committed not only to our relationship with one another, but also our relationship with nature and the universe. It is also committed to the struggle for the transformation of the poor, the weak, the disfigured and the overexploited nature. Option for the poor means option for the environment.

The ecological problem is also intimately connected to justice for the poor (Christiansen and Grazer 1996). The poor of the earth offer a special test of human's solidarity. There are painful adjustments we have to undertake in our own economies for the sake of the environment which must not diminish our sensitivity to the needs of the poor. In most countries today, including Kenya, it is the poor who most directly bear the burden of current environmental destruction. Their lands and neighbourhoods are more likely to be polluted or to host toxic waste dumps, their water contaminated, and their children to be harmed by infectious diseases. Caught in a spiral of poverty and environmental degradation, poor people suffer acutely from the loss of soil fertility, pollution of rivers and the destruction of forest resources.

The fourth principle is elaborated by proponents of eco-feminism such as Aruna (1994) and Reuther (1994) who also argue that eco-feminist vision challenges limited views of development that measure the value of the gifts of creation only in terms of their use in the market place. Many of the environmental resources human beings should value like the clean

air we breathe, the poetry of a tree or mountain are excluded from economic measurement. Yet their exploitation or destruction and the cost of cleaning up after the destruction are labelled growth and production. According to Reuther, an eco-feminist vision affirms the sacredness of all Gods gifts in creation, the animate and the inanimate. It rejects the anthropocentric worldviews, which legitimises and even seek biblical sanction for the extraction of more and more from the life-giving Mother Earth. In his teachings and ministry, Jesus drew inspiration from little things of life in - a lily in the field, a stone, a child, a mustard seed, grains of wheat, fish, and loaves of bread, pigs, spit and mud, and the birds in the air. Women in their daily lives have also been in close contact with life's little things, tending, conserving and caring for an environment which will enhance the growth and health of their families or communities. The new insights provided by the participation of women in the struggle to save the earth makes it clear that, women contribute not in passive resignation to the hard life they bear, but in creative actions for sustaining life.

The earth our Mother cries out for protection and liberation from senseless acts of aggression in the name of progress and development .The church and all concerned people will have to heed the voice of women before it is too late. While there is an acknowledgement that there are varied models and approaches of environmental protection and management, the study is guided by a Liberative solidarity model.

P. George, (2000) Church and Land reiterates that an ideal church must deal with real practical issues of human existence. The central theme in this book is that the church cannot continue to claim its relevance if it ignores the issues that are affecting the contemporary society. A real church should follow the day to day activities that challenge the nation by trying to look for solutions or possible means of helping people to come out of such critical issues. Muranda, J. (1988:7) also wrote valuable information pertaining the church's role to sustainable development in his book Communism in the Bible. He sees the church as not

individualistic in nature in the sense that every person is responsible for other's welfare. All believers together had everything in common; they sold their possessions and the goods were distributed among all in accordance with each one's needs (Acts 2: 44 -45).

Willace, L. (2000: 133) in the book called developing a methodology for measuring the impact of an international NGO and its local partners also wrote about churches as an instrument for sustainable development. He argued that in the gospel, Jesus demonstrated time and again his deep commitment to holistic mission of the poor. The Acts of Apostles and epistles make it clear in many places that this also was an integral part of the church's divine commission. In a sense then it is not to begin from this standpoint that the church is perhaps, the most "natural" development agency of all. Apart from the divine calling to minister wholeness in its broadest sense in the world's poor, there are logical arguments in favour of a primary role for the church's involvement in poverty reduction and poverty alleviation programmes. This will help in providing a basis upon which to develop my research.

2.3 RELIGION AND ENVIRONMENTAL WORLD VIEW

Pope John Paul II is recognized as one of the most "influential spiritual leaders of our time", by Christians and followers of other faiths too (Kasimow, 2013). In 1989, Pope John Paul II addressed the issue of environmental degradation by announcing it as a moral issue (John Paul 1989). He stated "faced with the widespread destruction of the environment, people everywhere are coming to understand that we cannot continue to use the goods of the earth as we have in the past decades .A new ecological awareness is beginning to emerge" (usccb.org, 2000). Pope John Paul II expanded on the book of Genesis, targeting the passage where God gave Adam and Eve dominion over all creation (John Paul, (1989). Many people have argued that this passage inherently placed humans above all other creatures (White 1967). However, Pope John Paul II states that soon after

this relationship was established, Adam and Eve “destroyed the existing harmony by deliberately going against the Creator's plan, that is, by choosing to sin”, which disrupted the relationship between humans and the earth (John Paul, 1989). Pope John Paul continued, saying “when man turns his back on the Creator's plan, he provokes a disorder which has inevitable repercussions on the rest of the created order. If man is not at peace with God, than earth itself cannot be at peace” (John Paul, 1989). This disconnect between humans and the environment, according to Pope John Paul II, has become a moral issue on the grounds that the issue stems from a “lack of respect for life” (John Paul, 1989). John Paul II recognized the importance of non-human life and called on Christians to change their behaviour (John Paul, 1989). The conflicting views offered by White from citing The Bible then by the Pope can offer some complexities when trying to understand the role of religion in the formation of worldviews. It appears then that biblical literalism, or how exact one takes The Bible’s message to be, may influence the values they receive from the religion.

Leiberman (2004) concludes that ‘Christianity is not inherently anti-environmental; in fact many of the faith believe that God has in fact called us to protect the environment and respect it as God’s creation. Lieberman (2004) However, she found that only a very small percentage of religious communities are doing anything to tie together their faith to environmental concerns. (Lieberman, 2004). E.O. Wilson, a highly awarded scientist who has been hailed as one of America’s 25 most influential people, wrote a book entitled *The Creation: An Appeal to Save Life on Earth*. He attempts to bridge the gap between religion and science to serve a common goal. He writes with the goal of sustaining life on this planet, and not only the human race but every species of life. He argues that nature is not only an entity to society, but is also vital to our physical and spiritual well-being. In 2007 there was a hearing before the committee on Environment and Public

Works United States Senate. This hearing examined the view of religious organizations regarding climate change. It is a document of witnesses “representing over 100 million Americans of faith who are joining together to protect God’s creation...Americans are coming together, calling for action and our common values are bringing us together. This is coming from the people, from the ground up.” Herb Grover, Dean of the School of Math and Sciences of Wayland Baptist University stated in

2.4 THE GLOBALISATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Since the 1960s two tremendous trends have begun to converge that is globalisation and environmental protection. Globalization gathered momentum in the 60s driven by free trade agreements and advances in communications and the global transport system. Since then, globalization has provided a pathway to improved living standards in many countries. South Korea’s GDP, for example, was just under USD 4 billion in 1960, less than some countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Today, with a diversified economy encompassing high tech industries, shipbuilding, automotive, chemicals and steel production, South Korea has the world’s 13th largest economy with GDP worth USD 1.4 trillion (IMF 2014). During this period, environmental protection was primarily a national or sub-national priority with most activity taking place in developed countries. The U.S. in particular enacted a number of landmark environmental laws, and established a federal agency to regulate pollutants. Both later served as models for other countries

“Rio Principle 7” from the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development, for instance, established the notion of “common but differentiated responsibilities” based on “the different contributions to global environmental degradation.” It meant, in effect, that environmental protection in less developed countries did not need to be as rigorous as in developed countries. As globalization has led to greatly improved standards of living in many emerging markets, environmental degradation has increased correspondingly.

While China has experienced rapid and significant industrial growth – it is now, for instance, the world’s largest chemical producer – its air, land and water have been significantly degraded, and public health has suffered. Similarly, as South Korea experienced rapid industrialization, the air quality around Seoul deteriorated markedly. Although air quality has improved in recent years with the introduction of green belts and emission restrictions, dust blown from the expanding deserts in China and Mongolia remains an ongoing problem. While globalization continues to contribute to environmental pressures around the world, it is also prompting a convergence in environmental laws as well as in underlying enforcement mechanisms.

Although the situation varies from country to country, many emerging market nations now recognize that minimal environmental protection policies don’t lead to a sustainable future, and pollution is expensive. In numerous countries around the world, existing framework environmental laws built around aspirational standards are being replaced by new laws and regulations, often modelled after landmark legislation adopted in developed countries. An important impetus for this is that in a number of instances, taxpayers have had to foot the bill for cleaning up contaminated sites, and these costs – including damages, clean-up and recovery – have been significant. In response, many countries have implemented strict “polluter pays” laws while also stepping up enforcement efforts to prevent environmental disasters.

In South Korea, for example, two new laws regulating the chemical industry came into effect in 2015. The Chemical Control Act (CCA) requires persons who handle chemical substances to obtain relevant approvals and comply with certain standards. Its companion legislation, K-REACH, aims to monitor and manage chemical substances in South Korea, and is modelled after similar legislation in the EU. K-REACH also requires that chemical substances be

registered prior to importation and manufacture. (REACH stands for Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and restriction of Chemicals.)

The penalties for violating these acts are stiff. A company responsible for a chemical accident could have its operating license revoked – at a minimum. If the company fails to report the accident immediately, company officials could face up to two years in jail plus fines up to USD 75 thousand. And if a chemical accident causes casualties, the penalties are imprisonment for up to ten years and fines in excess of USD 150 thousand.

In addition to greater enforcement, some countries are also mandating that certain industrial companies have environmental liability insurance in place as a condition for being granted an operating license. In China, for example, more than 20 provincial governments have launched pilot projects in which companies in specified high risk industries are required to carry environmental liability insurance. Moreover, local governments in China now have the authority to fine polluters on an ongoing, daily basis until the issue is resolved, and there is no cap on the fines. And so far, enforcement has targeted the operations of foreign multinationals; domestic Chinese companies have largely been spared, at least up to now.

According to The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (2017), ‘The protection of key elements of our environment is important for human health. The ability to breathe clean air, to have a supply of wholesome drinking water and to be protected against the harmful effects of things like waste and noise are fundamental to our well-being. The adverse impacts of the environment on health are therefore a core concern of environmental health practitioners (EHPs). An important part of their work involves investigating, identifying and assessing environmental problems and then working out the best approaches to tackle the Environmental protection is a practice of protecting the environment, on individual, organizational or governmental level, for the benefit of the natural environment and (or)

humans. Due to the pressures of population and our technology the biophysical environment is being degraded, sometimes permanently. This has been recognized and governments began placing restraints on activities that caused environmental degradation.

The Environmental Management Act (Chapter 20:27) provides for the sustainable management of natural resources and protection of the environment, the prevention of pollution and environmental degradation, the preparation of an environmental plan and other plans for the management and protection of the environment and the establishment of the Environmental Management Agency (EMA). It works in tandem with the other laws such as the Parks and Wildlife Act (Chapter 20:14) and the Forestry Act (Chapter 19:05). The environment is the natural and manmade physical resources like water, soil, minerals and living organisms. It refers to ecosystems, habitats, spatial surroundings or other constituent parts — natural or modified or constructed. It includes urbanised areas and agricultural areas, rural landscapes and places of cultural significance. Cultural sites are also part of the environment and their management involves the protection and preservation of monuments and heritage sites. Economic, social, cultural or aesthetic conditions and qualities that contribute to the value of the environment are part of it.

People have a right to a clean and safe environment that is not harmful to their health as defined in Section (1) as read with Chapter 73 of the Constitution. Everyone has rights to access information about the environment if it affects them. Everyone also has a duty to protect the environment for the benefit of present and future generations and to participate in the implementation of the promulgation of reasonable legislative policies and other measures that prevent pollution and environmental degradation. There are many groups and individuals involved in programmes that promote this cause such as protection of wetlands, prevention of siltation of rivers or prevention of veldt fires and many more. The State has a duty to make and implement legislative measures for this purpose. Government agencies are tasked with

spearheading environmental protection programmes and policies. Examples are EMA, Radiation Protection Authority and the Parks and Wildlife Management Authority.

Pollution from industrial installations and processes takes many forms. Some can cause air pollution, others may cause water or land to become contaminated, while others may cause nuisance to local residents through the noise, dust or odour they emit. Reducing pollution is also important since external air quality is the main determinant of indoor air quality, regulated in respect of workplaces under the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and in respect of homes under legislation such as the Housing Act 2004. Many air pollutants also have a complex relationship with climate change.

Contaminated land is land which, because of substances in, on or under it, presents a significant possibility of significant harm to human health or other specified receptors or pollution of controlled waters is being, or is likely to be, caused. Contamination, and even the possibility of contamination, is also a barrier to the fulfilment of broader regeneration policies which favour bringing pre-developed ('Brownfield') sites back into beneficial use in preference to the development of 'Greenfield' sites (though these can be contaminated too).

An estimated 300,000 hectares of land in Great Britain are thought to have been affected to some degree by contamination left by industrial activity. The contamination may be caused by leaks and spillages from pipes or tanks, by the disposal of waste materials on the site, by the demolition of buildings containing toxic elements such as asbestos or by any number of other processes or activities that occurred while the plant was operating or while it was being closed down. Land may also be considered 'contaminated' because it contains naturally occurring substances such as metals or gases at levels that are harmful. Other types of environmental protection are any environmental protection activity not encompassed in environmental monitoring, environmental assessments and audits, reclamation and

decommissioning, wildlife and habitat protection, waste management and sewage services, pollution abatement and control processes, pollution prevention processes, and fees, fines and licences activities.

Environmental observance is that the systematic approach to perceptive and finding out conditions of the atmosphere. Observance usually involves grouping samples and specimens from the air, water and land to see if any physical or biological factors area unit negatively impacting natural ecosystems and habitats. The Environmental Protection Agency uses atmospheric observance to line policy that protects human health and also the environment. The agency additionally conducts police work and compliance observance and needs state and native governments and sure businesses to try to a similar.

Environmental assessment (EA) is that the assessment of the environmental consequences (positive and negative) of an inspiration, policy, program, or actual comes before the choice to manoeuvre forward with the planned action. During this context, the term "environmental impact assessment" (EIA) is sometimes used once applied to actual comes by people or corporations and also the term "strategic environmental assessment" (SEA) applies to policies, plans and programmes most frequently planned by organs of state

Waste management refers to the gathering, transport, recovery, and disposal of waste, as well as the oversight of such operations and after-care of disposal sites. It issues itself with the prevailing quantity of waste, making an attempt to attenuate the human-waste or environment-waste interface and to attenuate potential impact. Waste management ought to concern itself not solely with final disposal of waste however additionally with the entire cycle of waste creation, transport, storage, treatment, and recovery and will thus to attenuate pollution. Per the waste management pyramid, the waste management ways ought to be supported interference measures and measures corresponding to recovery and disposal area

unit secondary. Waste decrease measures embody waste interference, internal use of production waste, and source-oriented improvement of waste quality and reprocess of merchandise for a similar purpose. Additionally external use, sorting of waste, reprocess for an additional purpose, and energy recovery area unit enclosed as waste management measures. Waste management is additionally viewed because the management of waste-related activities with the aim of protective human health and also the atmosphere and resources conservation. Waste connected activities embody waste-creating processes, waste handling processes, and waste usage. Resource shortage

In Zimbabwe most local authorities are complaining that they are facing financial resources challenges as the economy is yet to recover from the economic meltdown experienced in the last decade. Chowdhury (2013) propounds that, “the turndown of 2008-2009 has extremely affected the world of work and hence the source of revenue and employment prospects of millions of people”. Many local authorities are having a challenge due to financial resources and as a result of poor budget performance as their organizational objectives do not match with the budget therefore leading to mismanagement of resources. Due to financial hardships local authorities are finding it difficult for them to purchase machinery need for refuse collection, therefore Blight and Mbande (1996:236) as stated in Mudzengerere and Chigwenya (2012) point out shortage of tools and use of timeworn and unsuitable machinery which is unproductive in waste management in developing countries. As such local authorities have failed to manage solid waste due to financial issues as there is huge expenditure needed to provide for the service. At times the challenge is further worsen by the absence of financial support, limited resources and the unwillingness of the users to pay for the service.

2.5 OVERVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN ZIMBABWE

The constitutional protection of environmental rights is one of the key strategies towards achieving sustainable development and environmental protection in developing countries. However, the conceptual and legal foundations of this strategy are not always clearly understood. The constitutional reform debate in Zimbabwe must include discourse on the constitutional protection of environmental rights, among other human rights, especially social, economic and cultural rights, given developments in South Africa and other jurisdictions. Ultimately, however, the efficacy of constitutional environmental rights depends on a number of other variables, including the social, economic, cultural and political context, good governance, the rule of law as well as the effective implementation and enforcement of environmental laws.

Evidently, the entrenchment of environmental rights in national constitutions is the norm worldwide as nations become conscious of the need to protect the environment through effective legal methods. This ideological shift is further pushed by, and interacts with, the international environmental movement which has seen the propagation of several international conventions and declarations. These instruments have shaped and given impetus to domestic environmental law. Developments in environmental law and policy place the environment in a proper legal framework to enable a country's citizens to effectively participate in the sustainable and equitable exploitation of natural resources, as well as their conservation. At the root of all this is a set of emerging norms and values that have materialised from the policy fermentation that shaped the direction of environmental law. Sustainable development is one such emerging concept, the essential elements of which can arguably be said to contain the justification for the heightened awareness to protect the environment without stifling reasonable socio-economic development. The perceived

antithetical relationship between development and the environment has seen the environment being trumped by developmental interests. Sustainable development is thus seen as the tool to integrate these uneasy bedfellows.

Zimbabwe's National Environmental Policy is closely linked to its overall development policy and plans. Although this development model has been considered relatively successful, much of the country's natural resource base is being threatened by human activities. The present distribution of population, which is legacy from the colonial era, has had major environmental consequences. Large scale commercial farmers occupy most of the fertile highlands, while the majority of the population lives in the less productive communal areas. The communal lands, which encompass almost half of the country's land area, suffer from severe environmental degradation.

The country is relatively well endowed with natural resources (forest, agricultural lands, livestock, water resources, wildlife and minerals). The problems associated with the management of these resources are common to many African countries, for instance overgrazing, deforestation and soil erosion. Environmental degradation in the communal and resettled areas is a result of an increasing land shortage and poor management practices combined with a land tenure system which promotes overgrazing. Zimbabwe has a well-developed and diversified industrial sector, but particularly the mining sector has damaged the environment. The unregulated establishment of mines has created large waste dumps, and runoff from these has contaminated soil and water bodies. Further, migration from the rural areas to the urban centres has led to overcrowding, but in contrast to other countries in the region, urban sanitation is adequate.

In many respects, Zimbabwe is one of the leading countries in Africa in terms of work on the environment. This for example is reflected in the economically important wildlife sector.

Although some species are endangered due to habitat destruction, the country's rich wildlife resources have been well managed. A number of innovations, which have promoted sustainable utilisation of wildlife, could serve as a model for other countries. Environmentally sensitive areas have been designed and gazetted as national parks and forest reserves. However, the resource base in the communal and resettled areas are threatened, and the government recognises the need to introduce a more systematic approach to land resettlement. Environmental awareness is generally high, and a number of legislative acts deal with the need to protect the resource base. There is no lack of environmental legislation per se, but existing regulations are fragmented and difficult to enforce. This is also reflected in the large number of ministries responsible for enforcing environmental legislation. The National Response Conference to the Rio Earth Summit convened in Harare in late 1992 presented an elaborate set of future priorities. Building upon the National Conservation Strategy of 1987, the government is planning to develop a comprehensive Action Plan for the Environment.

The most important piece of environmental legislation is the Natural Resources Act whose main objective is to control the use of resources. However, it cannot be applied in the communal areas which cover about half of the total land area of Zimbabwe, since it is enforced via legal title to land. The land tenure system in the communal areas is based upon traditional usufruct rights, which makes the act ineffective in areas where it is needed the most. A number of other acts were originally made for the commercial areas, and are thus not suitable for the communal lands.

The implementation of the Mines and Minerals Act has also become quite controversial. Exploring the land resources for mining can supersede the right of some already using the land for farming, without any compensation to the farmer. Once a mining claim is pegged all other acts cannot be considered. Supersession may be an acceptable feature of a legal system,

however the supersession of a sustainable land use such as agriculture by surface mining that is dependent upon a non-renewable resource is a questionable practice from an environmental point of view. It has further proved difficult to enforce land reclamation after mining operations have ceased.

The country has adequate expertise capable of monitoring natural resource degradation, but less so far the regulation of industrial pollutants in the atmosphere and in water bodies. The implementation of the relevant acts (Hazardous Substances and Articles Act, Atmospheric Pollution Prevention Act and the Water Act) is dependent upon accurate monitoring, which the government has not been able to carry out systematically due to lack of qualified manpower.

Generally, the enforcement of some of these acts is difficult due to the provision of exemptions which allow companies to pollute, in some cases, the various pieces of legislation are conflicting, which leads to further problems of implementation. In other words, there is no lack of legislation per se, but the various laws are fragmented and a coherent national environmental policy in the form of umbrella legislation, has not yet been developed. One of the prominent and more interesting features of the Zimbabwe legislation is how the law has formalised popular participation. In some instances ministries are supposed to take the views of then local communities, (for example, district development committees, statutory local wildlife committees), into account before making decisions concerning the use of natural resources. A closely related legal innovation concerns the management of wildlife resources. The utilisation of these resources is carefully regulated, even on private land. Thus, a landowner needs to license in order to hunt specific animals on his own land. Treaties and Conventions

Zimbabwe is presently a party to the following treaties and conventions: Convention Concerning The Protection of The World Cultural and Natural Heritage, Preferential Trade Area Treaty (PTA), Lome Convention, World Heritage Convention, International Conventions on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) entered into force in 1975, in response to concerns that many species were becoming endangered because of international trade. Because this trade crosses national borders, international collaboration and cooperation is crucial to ensure this trade is sustainable and controlled and does not threaten or endanger wildlife, Agreement on the Action Plan for the Environmentally sound Management of the Zambezi River System (ZACPPLAN). In addition the country is considering ratifying a number of other treaties covering areas such as trans boundary movements of hazardous waste, protection of the ozone layer, climate change and biological diversity.

In many instances international conventions fail to link up with local laws and realities. Perhaps the best example is the CITES Convention which Zimbabwe signed a number of years ago. CITES bans the sale of ivory, and yet Zimbabwe maintains that the country now has a surplus for sale, and the proceeds could be used to advance the cause of conservation. More general concerns have been raised by Zimbabwe and other countries in the region particularly with regard to the Basel Convention on Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste. It has been argued that this convention is inadequate where it relates to the question of compensation in the event of breaches, and Zimbabwe, as the majority of African countries, has not signed. The Environmental Management Act (Chapter 20:27) provides for the sustainable management of natural resources and protection of the environment, the prevention of pollution and environmental degradation, the preparation of an environmental plan and other plans for the management and protection of the environment and the establishment of the Environmental Management Agency (EMA). It works in tandem with

the other laws such as the Parks and Wildlife Act (Chapter 20:14) and the Forestry Act (Chapter 19:05). The environment is the natural and manmade physical resources like water, soil, minerals and living organisms. It refers to ecosystems, habitats, spatial surroundings or other constituent parts — natural or modified or constructed. It includes urbanised areas and agricultural areas, rural landscapes and places of cultural significance. Cultural sites were discussed at length last week in relation to protection and preservation of monuments and heritage sites. Economic, social, cultural or aesthetic conditions and qualities that contribute to the value of the environment are part of it.

People have a right to a clean and safe environment that is not harmful to their health as defined in Section (1) as read with Chapter 73 of the Constitution. Everyone has rights to access information about the environment if it affects them. Everyone also has a duty to protect the environment for the benefit of present and future generations and to participate in the implementation of the promulgation of reasonable legislative policies and other measures that prevent pollution and environmental degradation. There are many groups and individuals involved in programmes that promote this cause such as protection of wetlands, prevention of siltation of rivers or prevention of veldt fires and many more. The State has a duty to make and implement legislative measures for this purpose. Government agencies are tasked with spearheading environmental protection programmes and policies. Examples are EMA, Radiation Protection Authority and the Parks and Wildlife Management Authority

2.6 CHALLENGES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe is the second most industrialized country in SADC, after South Africa. Industries are concentrated around Harare, with ore smelters located close to the ore sources (principally along the Great Dyke). A combination of vehicle emissions, dust and smoke from domestic

fires is a potential air quality concern in larger cities such as Harare. Water is not generally abundant, and the maintenance of water quality is a serious issue.

Zimbabwe has a rich biotic heritage and is highly dependent on tourism. It has a long history of biodiversity preservation, through the national parks, forest reserves and innovative community-based sustainable-use schemes show more content by 1992, deforestation was progressing at the rate of 70,000–100,000 ha per year, or about 1.5% of the nation's forestland. The confinement of large segments of the population to relatively unproductive lands before independence put severe pressure on these lands, a substantial portion of which may have been irreversibly damaged.

Zimbabwe's air is polluted by vehicle and industrial emissions, while water pollution results from mining and the use of fertilizers. Zimbabwe's cities produce 0.5 million tons of solid waste per year and a good amount ends up in the rivers. The nation has been estimated to have the highest DDT concentrations in the world in its agricultural produce.

In 2001, nine of the nation's mammal species and nine bird species were endangered, as well as 73 types of plants. Zimbabwe has about half of the world's population of black rhinoceroses, an endangered species. Rare or threatened species include the cape vulture, black-cheeked lovebird, and brown hyena. For protection, the government has adopted a policy of shooting poachers on sight. Africa's freshwater supply is almost stretched to its limit. Less than 10% of Africa's rainfall is available as surface water, one of the lowest conversion ratios in the world. The country's groundwater resources are equally limited. Despite regulations of river waters, in many catchments the need for water exceeds the supply and quality is poor. Absence of proper landfills/dumping grounds

Another challenge affecting local authorities in solid waste management is that of not having proper landfills to dispose of their solid waste. A landfill is an area that is prepared

specifically for the disposal of solid waste and then the solid waste is buried. According Dewa et al (2014) states that Norton Town Council does not have landfills to dispose of solid waste and as such solid waste is seen dumped almost anywhere where there are no houses. Recently Harare City Council highlighted that its landfill site had been exhausted such that the management of solid waste had been a challenge. The problem has been exacerbated by the need for housing stands leaving places for proposed landfills nil. This is a serious problem as it has health related issues such as the spread of diseases like cholera. It was noted that Beitbridge Municipal Council is lacking the capacity to execute its mandate efficiently, which undermines the goal of environmental protection. Solid waste is not sorted or graded. Due to irregular collection of solid waste, illegal dumpsites are a common sight in this town. It was also learnt that various types of solid waste reach Dulibadzimu dumpsite but this has remained uncovered for a long period of time and this is negatively affecting the surrounding areas. Waste Management has emerged united of the best challenges facing capital of Zimbabwe, the capital town of Zimbabwe. The quantity of waste being generated continues to extend at a quicker rate than the flexibility of the town authorities to boost on the monetary and technical resources required to parallel this growth. Though waste removal is one amongst the foremost pressing issues in capital of Zimbabwe, it's not a replacement drawback. It had been established that the seeds of the apparent chaos within the governance of waste in capital of Zimbabwe were set throughout the colonial amount.

Despite several ordinances the colonialists place in situ to strengthen urban administration, they regarded native suburbs as areas for an inexpensive and simply controlled labour force, and thus, created no serious efforts to resolve the rising issues, notably those of waste management. this authority is troubled to manage the waste underneath tight budgets; extremely inadequate and dead equipment; inefficient assortment practices with variable levels of service, poor and unsanitary operational practices; as well as no environmental

management systems; open burning of garbage; indiscriminate black-market marketing and littering; and a public with apparently very little sensitivity to the rubbish around them or any awareness of what represents accountable waste management. Harare's waste management system desires serious rehabilitation, initial on AN emergency basis, followed by development and implementation of long-run property measures. Urban solid waste management is taken into account to be one amongst the foremost serious environmental issues endeavour developing countries and also the town of Gweru in Zimbabwe is not any exception. Economic implosion in Zimbabwe has resulted in high levels of state calculable at eightieth. This has diode to the expansion of home industries in Gweru and round the middle and high density suburbs corresponding to Mkoba, Monomotapa, Mambo, Ascot, and Senga. Solid waste generation in these suburbs is extremely high given their abstraction extent and population. This can be golf stroke a lot of pressure on the waste disposal system in situ and as a result loads of waste is left uncollected making a jeopardy. The aim of this paper is to look at the solid waste management practices within the informal sector of Gweru, the third largest town in Zimbabwe.

2.7 OVERVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Most developing countries have long since established laws and formal governmental structures to address their serious environmental problems, but few have been successful in alleviating those problems. The development banks, which control resources desperately needed by the developing countries, are promoting the use of economic incentives and other market-based strategies as the key to more effective environmental protection. However, the donors have rarely asked whether the approaches they are urging, which have recently had some success in Europe and the United States, can be implemented effectively in developing countries with limited resources and little experience with market-based policies of any kind.

We worry that these highly sophisticated instruments have been pushed too hard and too fast, and that those who promote them say little about the context and conditions in which they thrive. The targets of this advice should be better informed about everything they would need to do to make market-based instruments work. Otherwise, the cause of environmental protection itself may be dealt a blow when ill-conceived policies divert a country's energies without producing the desired result. Developing-world regulators, already marginalized in their own countries, will have little to show for their efforts in terms of a cleaner environment.

Before imposing a regulatory strategy on the developing world, we should review the experience of the industrialized countries and others that have implemented market-based policies. How extensive is the experience? How successful? What have we learned about the conditions necessary for effective market-based policies? Then we will be ready to consider when and where these policies are likely to work in the developing world.

Furthermore the developing world have been instrumental in protecting their environment through various donations from the developing world at the UN Sustainable Development meeting in June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro Brazil China 'premier

CONCLUSION

In conclusion this chapter highlights scholarly evidence with regards to environmental protection focusing more on Zimbabwe though the research also took a look at environmental protection as a global perspective. The chapter also highlights the role of religion in environmental protection.

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the research processes that were undertaken by the researcher in a bid to find efficiency of the role of UMC in environmental protection. An in depth discussion in research design, population size, sampling methods as well as sample size was done as a way of coming up with solutions for the questions of the research.

3.1 QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHOD

This study made use of the quantitative research design. Data collected through quantitative methods yields more objective and accurate information. Quantitative research is a structured way of collecting and analysing data obtained from different sources. Quantitative research involves the use of competent, statistical and mathematical tools to derive results. It is conclusive in its purpose as it tries to quantify the problem and understand how prevalent it is by looking for projectable results to a larger population.

3.2 RESEARCH DESIGN

The research study was a case study of Zimbabwe. A case study is an explanation of a case over time through detailed in depth data collection involving sources of information rich in context as alluded by (Creswell 1998). Lamneck (2005) also postulates that a case study is a research approach situated between concrete data taking techniques and methodologic paradigms. So in this case study was a major method in data collection of the study as the researcher is the observer and its strategy of inquiry in which the researcher explores in depth a program of event, activity, process on one or more individuals. A case study is also essential for this research as it is a study over time of the period between 2010-2017.

According to Babbie and Mouton (2012), “a research design is a plan or structured framework of how you intend to conduct the research process in order to solve the research problem”. Babbie and Mouton (2012) further defined a research design, “as a plan or blueprint of how you intend to conduct the research and focus on the end product”. A research design also provides a framework for the collection and analysis of data (Bryan 2012). Bryan (2012) went on to argue that, “a choice of the research design reflects decisions about the priority being given to a range of dimensions of the research process”.

3.3 SAMPLE SIZE

Rev Nyarota, the UMC Episcopal Area Projects and Communications Coordinator articulated that, the church has continued to grow with a total membership growing to over 200000 in the past four years with the UMC being in the third place of the biggest number of the 85 % total population of Christians in Zimbabwe.

In this research the researcher used the Yamane (1967) formula to calculate the sample size for the researched population .using the formula $n = N/(1 + N(e)^2)$ where n is the sample size N is the population size and e is the level of precision .in the research the total population was 200000 and the level of precision was 0, 5 thus the sample size calculated was 500.

3.4 QUANTITATIVE RESEARCH METHOD

In this study, the researcher used the quantitative research method, data collection is one of the most important aspects of the quantitative research process in which the researcher has done. Data collection involves having the researcher to prepare and obtain the information from the target audience. Data collection tools for quantitative research involves surveys and experiments .experiments provide specific results regarding the cause and effect relationship of several independent or interdependent factors related to a particular problem .The most common used quantitative research methods used by the researcher were surveys and

questionnaires .surveys include interviews which were carried out using different methodologies including face to face ,telephone online and computer assisted interviews .Interviews allowed the researcher to get the information about the role of the United Methodist Church in environmental protection and the perspectives of the participants on the same issue. Also the researcher had the chance to record participants and they were able to freely express their views.

3.5 SAMPLE POPULATION

Population is the, “total membership of defined class of people, objects or events” (O’Leary 2005). According to Paul et al (2004) population, “is composed of all the individuals of interest to the researcher.” According to Powel (1997), population can also refer to the total of all cases that conform to a pre-specified criterion or a set of criteria. In carrying out the study, the targeted population included the believers within the United Methodist Church in Zimbabwe including District, Bishops, Pastors, group members such as chairpersons, treasurers, circuit lay leaders, church lay leaders, evangelists, youth director and out-group members which are not close to the Pastor such as female elders, male elders, youth members, and members of the community in vast towns. The main reason for choosing this target population is because the researcher is familiar with the United Methodist Church and can be accepted by people since they know the researcher rather than a stranger to the place that might not be accepted.

3.6 SAMPLING FRAME

Sampling is, “the process of selecting units from a population of interest so that by studying the sample, fair generalizations on the results obtained can be attributed to the population from which they are chosen” (Dillman:2002). According to Haralambos and Holborn (2004), “it is part of a larger population and selected to be representing the whole group”. The sample will provide a reasonably precise estimate of the entire population at a much reduced cost in a

short period of time. Sampling was used because there was not enough time, energy, money, labour /manpower, equipment, access to suitable sites to measure every single item or site within the parent population or whole sampling frame. In this scenario, the reason why the researcher used sampling is because the united Methodist church as a whole has a lot of circuits and many adherents so there are no resources to cover them all, therefore a targeted group within this church was used.

The study utilized quota sampling and purposive sampling. Quota sampling selects individuals as they come to fill a quota by characteristics proportional to populations. The advantage is that it ensures selection of adequate numbers of subjects with appropriate characteristics. The disadvantage is that it's not possible to prove that the sample is representative of the designated population.

Purposive sampling hand picks subjects on the basis of specific characteristics. The advantage is that it ensures balance of group size when multiple groups are to be selected and the disadvantage is that samples are not easily defensible as being representative of populations due to potential subjectivity of the researcher (Black, 1999). Purposive sampling allows the researcher to deliberately select respondents possessing a set of desired competencies and characteristics. For example, the researcher deliberately interviewed the Bishops, District Supretendants Pastors, evangelists, and community members to represent the United Methodist Church.

3.7 SAMPLE AND SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

Dillman (2002) defines the sampling technique, “as the method(s) used in deriving samples from a group so as to determine hypothesis concerning the population”. In order to secure cross sectional representation in the sample, the researcher used the stratified sampling method. Czrniakwa (2004) stated that, “the cost is too high to carry a survey on the whole

population and for the purpose of this study collecting information from an estimated population of more than 74 000 people is very expensive”. Therefore the researcher selected a sample size of 50 people from the total population.

3.8 SAMPLING SUMMARY

Table 3.8 showing the sampling summary of the research

CATEGORY	SAMPLING	NUMBER	DATA COLLECTION METHOD
Bishop	Purposive	1	interview
District supretendants	Purposive	13	Questionnaires and interviews
Pastors	Purposive	53	Questionnaires and interview
Evangelism and church leaders	Quota	97	questionnaires
Community members	Quota	337	questionnaires

3.9 RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

In this research interviews questionnaires and desktop surveys were used .According Tunney and Robb (1971) research instrument are tools used for data collection.

3.91 Questionnaires and surveys

Desktop survey

Desktop survey intended to identify what other scholars have written pertaining to the role of the united Methodist church in environmental protection .this included published and unpublished material in archives in the libraries, internet and reports .Researcher consulted

other sources to know have been written or done by other scholars to avoid duplication of research. Desktop survey shaped the basis of this study and it provided useful information about how the united Methodist church carried out their environmental protection .in this study desktop survey facilitated to understand the management of various activities that the united Methodist church members partook in environmental protection in Zimbabwe .on the other hand the desktop survey did not provide detailed information for the research due to its setbacks for example some of the literature required to facilitate research was not accessible due to confidential reasons and not so much information has been published by the church on the internet therefore this research instrument was complimented by other research tools such as observations. The researcher made use of face to face interviews dialogues which were between her and the interviewee. The benefit of interviews is that the researcher was able to obtain information immediately by hearing the thoughts and information which was being produced by the respondents. One of the major reasons for linking quantitative and qualitative techniques in this investigation was because the researcher questions required different types of data to get conclusions. Some of this information required use of structured interviews while others needed semi-structured interviews.

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3.92 Questionnaires

According to Key (1997) a questionnaire is a way of stimulating people's beliefs, attitudes, experiences through a set of questions asked on paper. Bulmer (2004) cited in Bird (2009) supports the same notion above as he states that a questionnaire is a set of well-established questions asked in a chronological order so as to attain information on the participant's behaviour, attitude and reason for action with respect to the topic under study. To suit various stratus the researcher used bot structured and unstructured questionnaires. These questionnaires were sent via email since the research covered vast areas and some of them were delivered door to door personally make sure that each respondent respondents filled the papers according to the research questions and objectives.

Advantages of Questionnaires

The advantage of questionnaires just like the interviews allows the researcher to get first-hand information from the respondents. The other advantage of the questionnaires is that it also allows the researcher to minimize costs and time because some the questionnaires are sent via email. Lastly questionnaires allow participants as closed sources since they remain unidentified resulting in their positive response to the questions.

Disadvantages of Questionnaires

The major disadvantage of questionnaires is that not all people are going to respond to your questions and not all people will be willing to participate some might even refuse because of the church 'right to privacy. However, another disadvantage is that respondents are not able to elucidate their feelings on paper. In this case the targeted church clergy did not manage to fill in all the twenty questionnaires because most of them were busy participating in the day to day running of the church business and to the targeted communal people 4 of the questionnaires were attended to but returned incomplete due to fear of the unknown.

3.93 Interviews

The research method was a concrete consideration of the way in which the empirical data was obtained. In depth interviews were used in the study .an in depth interview aims to obtain a rich meaningful, subjective data viewed through the eyes of the participant Gubrium and Sankar (2005) .These interviews consisted of open ended questions in order to allow the participants to openly disclose their thoughts, feelings and perceptions regarding the whole process of environmental protection in Zimbabwe by the united Methodist church. Open ended questions were used to elicit the subjective responses from the participants Gubrium and Sankar ,(1994)the interviews allowed the researcher to gain an insider's view into the way in which the participant views the role of the United Methodist Church in environmental protection.

Mouton and Marais (1990) and Leddy (2000) argue that in depth interviews have among their chief strengths ,flexibility which allows the participant to explain themselves fully .the length of the interviews varied and those interviews provided structure and consistency to information gathering and were especially suited to getting picture of the phenomenon of the role of UMC in environmental protection .the researcher also made use of in depth interviews as the main data collection instrument tool .in depth interviews are defined as questions (structured or unstructured) asked and filled in by an interviewer in a face to face conversation .Patton (2000) states that interviews are classified into three general classes ,that is the informal conversational and interview guide in applicable cases interchangeably as the sample population has complex characteristics that required fluid conversational skills .Interviews were used at the ,district superintendents ,pastors ,evangelists of the united Methodist church and the general community in Zimbabwe.

Kongmany Chaleunvongn (2010) alludes that, this method of data collection involves oral questioning of respondents, either individually or as a group, answers to the questions posed during an interview can be recorded by writing down or by tape recording the responses. The researcher made use of face to face interviews dialogues which were between her and the interviewee. The benefit of interviews is that the researcher was able to obtain information immediately by hearing the thoughts and information which was being produced by the respondents. One of the major reasons for linking quantitative and qualitative techniques in this investigation was because the researcher questions required different types of data to get conclusions. Some of this inform the researcher made use of face to face interviews dialogues which were between her and the interviewee. The benefit of interviews is that the researcher was able to obtain information immediately by hearing the thoughts and information which was being produced by the respondents. One of the major reasons for linking quantitative and qualitative techniques in this investigation was because the researcher questions required different types of data to get conclusions. Some of this information required use of structured interviews while others needed semi-structured interviews. Motion required use of structured interviews while others needed semi-structured interviews.

3.94 Observation

This method is a technique that involves systematically selecting, watching and recording behaviour and characteristics of living beings, objects and phenomena. The first is: Participant observation, in this the observer takes part in the situation he or she observes. Since the researcher is a full member of the United Methodist Church she took part in various activities done in her circuit that is St Marys UMC Mutare .the second method of observation is: non participant observer, in this observer watches the situation, openly or concealed but does not participate .this method used is very crucial as it gives detailed information and context related information.

3.10 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

As I develop my data collection techniques it is of paramount importance to consider whether my research procedures are likely to cause any physical or emotional harm .harm caused by violating informants 'right to privacy by [posing sensitive questions or gaining access to records which may contain personal data

3.11 CONCLUSION

In summation, Chapter 3 of this thesis highlights the research methodology used in coming up with this dissertation. The researcher used the quantitative research method in coming up with this thesis. The chapter' main objective was to identify different techniques of data which were employed by the researcher in collecting data. The key intention of this chapter was to examine research techniques, sampling methods and data analysis methods used in this study. A full account on how the data needed for the study was attained .The next chapter will present the information, statistics that has been obtained using photographs tables and pie charts

CHAPTER 4

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

4.0 INTRODUCTION

The previous chapter outlined the research methodology, this chapter investigates the inherent meaning of the researched data obtained from the empirical study. The interpretation of the research findings is based on the facts obtained from the interviews via telephone and face to face interviews also from questionnaires and observation since the researcher is a full member of the United Methodist church thus it was quite easy to obtain information from various respondents with the favour that the researcher is part of the UMC congregation.

4.1 RESPONSE RATE OF SURVEY

In this study 500 questionnaires were distributed and 235 respondents replied. Hussey (1997:164) stipulates questionnaire non response bias as of two types: questionnaire non response where the questionnaires are not returned at all and item non response, where some of the questions in the questionnaire have not been answered.

Of the 500 questionnaires distributed 235 that is 47% completed questionnaires were returned while 265 that is 53% respondents failed to respond. There was a high percentage of non response rate due to family and church commitments thus some of the respondents failed to answer the questions in the questionnaires distributed.

The Division of Instructional Innovation and Assessment (DIIA) at the University of Texas (2008) is of the view that response rate is more important when the study's purpose is to measure effects or make generalisations to a larger population and less important if the purpose is to gain insight. The DIIA further states that a response rate of between 30 and 40 is average for questionnaires completed electronically University of Texas (2008:2). Gillham (2008:48) agrees and stipulates that if the response rate is less than 30 percent then the

validity of the method and results are questionable. Therefore it is reasonable to conclude that a successful response rate should be at least 30% .In this research the targeted response rate was met with a percentage of 47%. Table below illustrates the completion rate and questionnaire rate for all the 500 questionnaires issued

Table 4.1.1 showing questionnaire completion rate

Targeted Groups	Questionnaire distributed	Questionnaire returned	Questionnaire completed	Response percentage	Completion percentage
District Superintendent	13	10	10	76,9	76,9
Pastors	53	53	47	100	88,7
Church leaders	97	63	63	65	65
Community members	337	115	115	34,1	34,1

4.2 QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

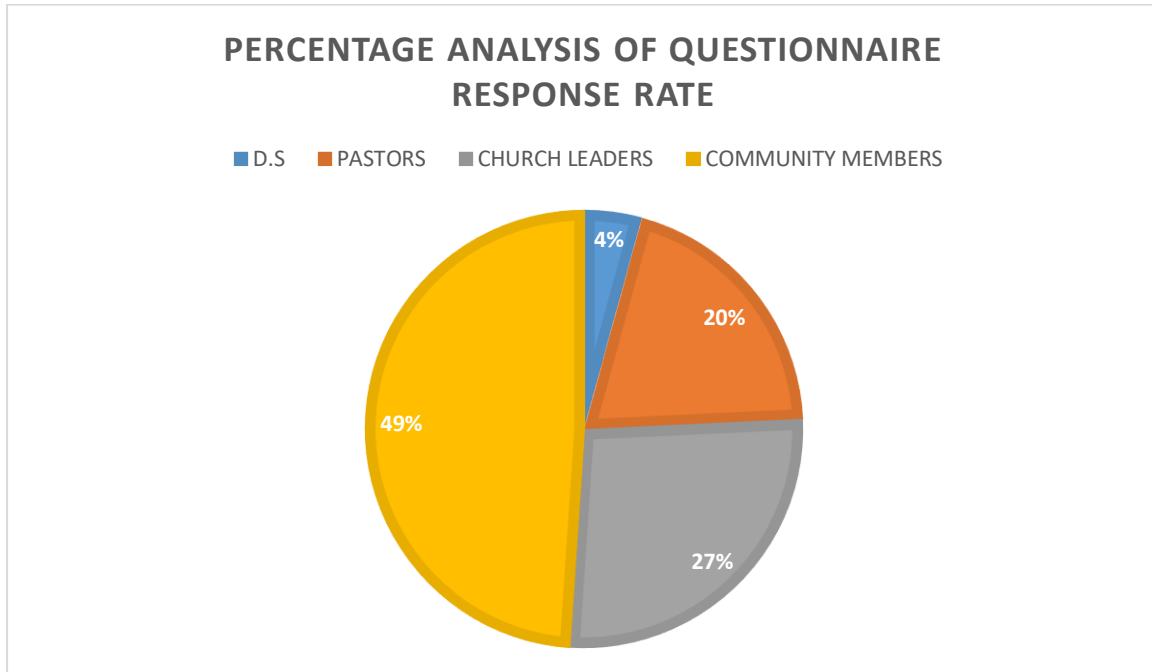
In order to achieve the empirical objective of the research the results were analysed and presented as they appear in the different sections of the questionnaires.

According to Hussey and Hussey (1997:189) a useful step in the analysis of quantitative data is to examine the frequency distribution for each variable to establish a numerical value. Which represents the total that of responses for a variable under study. Frequency distribution was undertaken through the analysis of the questionnaire

Questionnaire response were observed into four main categories these were district superintendent's pastors, evangelism and church leaders and the general community

members. Out of the 500 questionnaires distributed 235 were responded thus the researcher analysed the percentage of respondents using a pie chart.

Fig 4.2.1 showing percentage analysis of questionnaire response rate



Source: Field Research (2018)

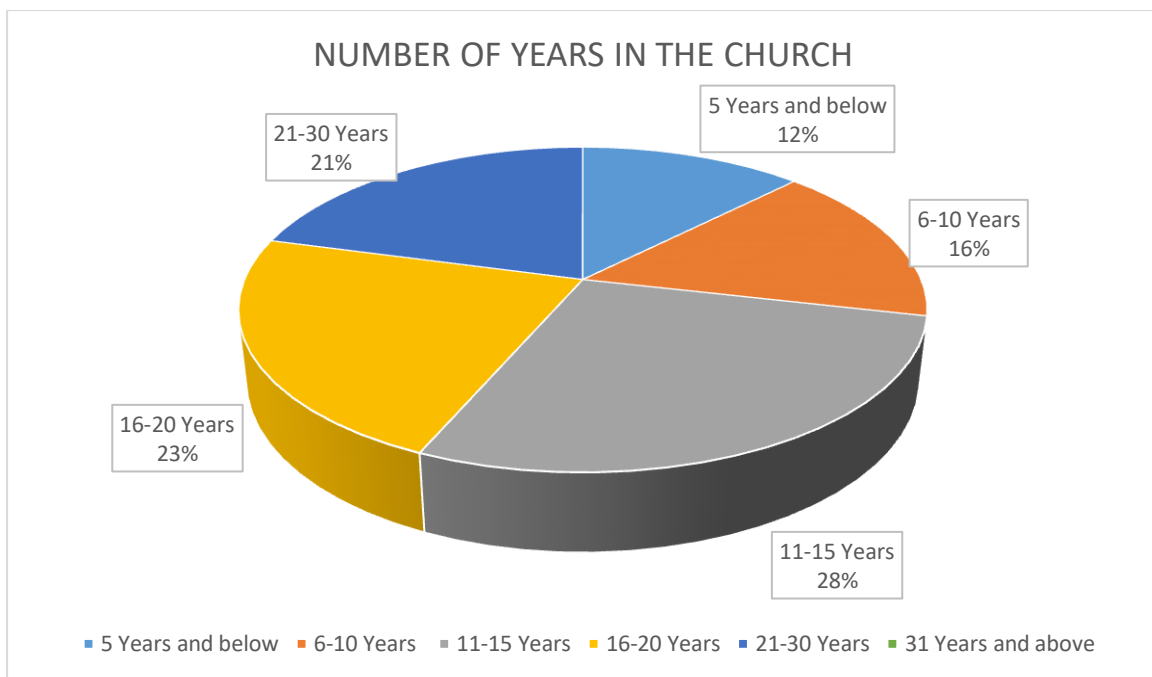
Robson (2002:33-400) further elaborates that there is an influencing modern approach to qualitative analysis known as explanatory data analysis (FDA) which take an informal approach to data in order to regularise the very common process whereby researches make inferences about relationship between variables. Thus this method does not preclude additional exploration.

4.3 NUMBER OF YEARS IN THE CHURCH

Fig 4.3 summarises and outlines the ages of the respondents of the congregants of the UMC. It states the number of years which the respondents have been in the United Methodist Church to see how effective are their responses in terms of how long have they participated in the activities of the United Methodist in terms of the strategies used in environmental

protection. However from the 235 participants who responded those who were part of the UMC for 5years and below were 8,9% ,those ranging from6-10 years were 11,5%,11-15 years were 20% ,16-20 years were 16,2 % ,and 30 and above were 28,5 %.thus from the observation those who were in the UMC for more than 30 years had the highest participation rate thus this research was very effective give the fact that people who participated had a lot of experience in the activities and mission of the United Methodist Church.

Fig 4.3.1 showing the number of years in which the respondents have been in the UMC



Source: Field Research (2018)

4.4 INTERVIEW RESPONSE ANALYSIS

The researcher had aimed at interviewing at least 20 United Methodist Church leaders these includes the Bishop and District superintendents however from the 20 she only managed to interview 9, 4 of which were District superintendents one of which was a face to face interview and the other 3 were telephone interviews and 5 Of them were pastors. The researcher did not manage to interview the bishop since a lot of cumbersome protocols were

involved given a short period of research and also the Bishop was busy with other commitments of the church. Nevertheless the District superintendents who were interviewed managed to respond to the questions and gave standard information which the researcher needed. The researcher did the interviews so as to have cover up information which the questionnaires could not cover up.

Table 4.4.1 showing the interview response rate given by the District Superintendents and Pastors.

Targeted group	Targeted interviews	Actual interviews	Non response rate	Percentage of respondents
bishop	1	0	1	0%
DS	10	4	6	40%
pastors	10	5	5	50%

4.5 STRATEGIES USED IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

4.51 Clean up campaigns

One of the major strategies used by the UMC in environmental protection is clean up campaigns. Clean up campaigns is intended to build community involvement and strengthen cohesion between persons of different backgrounds and levels. One such benefit is that people can access authorities to articulate their needs and voice opinions on various issues. This programme embodies ideas of joint effort, mutual assistance and social responsibility and community self-reliance. People participation is cleaning streets, cutting grass and trimming bushes along roads, or repairing public facilities or building houses for vulnerable persons.

From the various questionnaires respondent the researcher observed that circuits in the United Methodist Church participate in the clean-up campaigns .60 % of the church pastors postulates that clean up campaigns are done at least thrice per year especially during the course of the school holidays where students from universities and secondary schools are resting thus the youths usually takes this opportunity to clean up the environment in roads , streets and even filling up potholes on road surfaces induced by the rains .

4.52 Engagement with Environmental Management Agency (EMA)

Stockholm (2013) reveals that the management of solid waste in Africa is a result of both citizens and the municipal agencies. Therefore, 58 % of the respondents mentioned that the UMC engaged with agencies such as the Environment Management Agency (EMA) which has supported the project by providing bins clean up campaigns, this strategy has reduced pressure on local authority in waste collection and reducing numerous illegal dumpsites. The strategy is successful since EMA is providing daily monitoring in the affected wards.

4.5.3 Tree planting

The United Methodist Church plays a complementary role in environmental protection through planting trees in their areas .A critical example is when the Church leader of UMC, the Bishop Eben Nhewatiwa exemplified through planting his own tree on one of the conferences.

Fig 4.5.3.1 showing Bishop Eben Nhewatiwa showing an illustration on tree planting



Eben Nhewatiwa :Source field research (2018)

On that same note the United Methodist through its leaders, also have a committee known as the Stewardship and temperance on each and every circuit whereby each and person is mandated to bring his or her own seedlings to the church and, this is used as an orchard in some circuits .According to the research findings of the 25 circuits in Mutare district 17 of them have orchards on their church premises. Trees are very crucial in environmental protection as they absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen which is very crucial for human survival.

4.54 Environmental awareness

Another crucial strategy used by the UMC in environmental protection is environmental awareness. The united Methodist church members have been instrumental through advocating for environmental protection in the community. Workshops have been hosted teaching the community on how best the environment can be protected for it is said education is power there is no way the environment can be protected if people don't know how to do it.

According to section 4 of the Environmental Management Act CAP 20:27 (2002), it is everyone's right to "access environmental information". Thus the UMC plays a pivotal role in protecting the environment in Zimbabwe.

4.57 Success of the strategies implemented

The respondents recommended that the approaches used in protecting the environment were effective to a greater extent. From the 60% of the responded pastors in the research, they suggested that the measures implemented by the UMC if the whole population was to cooperate the nation of Zimbabwe is going to be a sustainable environment.

4.6 HOW THE COMMUNITY IS BENEFITING FROM THE WORK OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

From the respondents of the community in the research, out of the 115 community members who responded in the questionnaires they stated that the UMC is playing a critical role in terms of alleviating diseases induced from waste dumping, most urban areas are being affected by diseases such as cholera and malaria induced from the water breeding sites thus clean up campaigns done by the UMC have been very beneficial in terms of disease prevention.

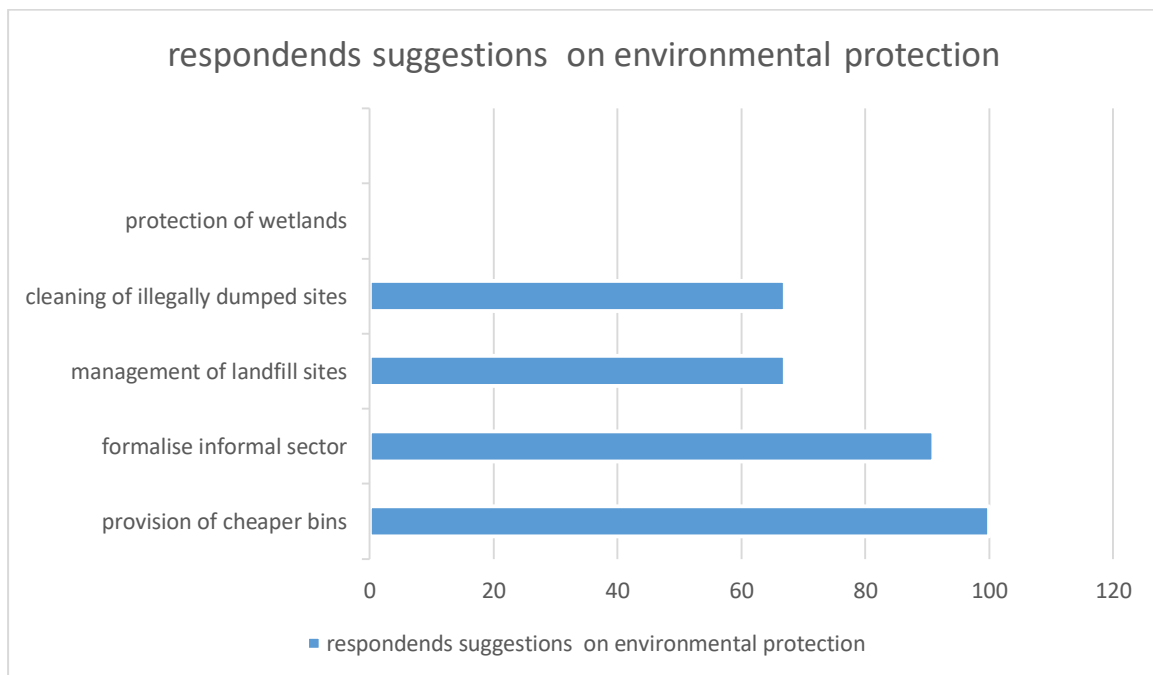
4.7 Suggestions from Respondents

The 100% of respondents suggested it is a prerequisite to improve the environmental protection practices by both the people and the government 66% respondents gave reference to the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Goals which noted that one of their goals was to ensure local authorities improved peoples' health hence this can only be done by managing waste first, thus according to Ali (2005), states that "the Millennium Development Goals aims at producing access to environmental sanitation and sustainability, but safe disposal of waste seems to be more than a dream and seems to go beyond the capacity of many countries". Furthermore, 100% the respondents suggested were need of

partnerships between public and private companies in helping the council to solve the issues of poor solid waste management.

100% of respondents suggested by the local which is worth noting is that the council should provide the residents with cheaper or affordable bins. Thus, everyone can manage to buy the bins. 91% of the respondents suggested that since the country was in a bad economic situation and the council is also facing financial problems it should formalize the informal sector so as to get funds which would help in the planning system of service delivery. 67 % of the respondents suggested management of landfill sites and cleaning of illegally dumped sites. 95 % of the respondents alluded on the protection of wet lands ,in Harare there is an increasing trend to undervalue the importance of water supply to come out of taps ,thus the respondents suggested the protection of wetlands through the prevention of farming on wetlands legislatures such as the National Resource Act of 1941 should be upheld.

Fig 4.5 below shows the percentage of respondents who gave suggestions pertaining the challenges of environmental protection



CONCLUSION

The chapter 'intention was to scrutinize and present obtained information from the field research. It also explains various instruments which were employed by the researcher in data presentation such as use of tables, graphs, pie charts and photo graphs .The above mentioned instruments help in explaining the data collected and address the research questions, the next chapter will give recommendations and concludes the study.

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction

Environmental protection is a rational, manmade process, it is simply an investment and self-restrictive sacrifice for future generations without direct return for its generation .it can only be implemented by rational, systematic and forceful hyper economic measures, thus this chapter intends to focus on giving recommendations on how well environmental protection can be implemented efficiently in the country of Zimbabwe.

5.1 Recommendations to the United Methodist Church

The researcher makes the following desirable recommendations to United Methodist church for consideration so that they can be part of the social teaching for the church also so that they can protect the environment efficiently. The United Methodist church should keep on adhering, maintaining and applying its policy on social responsibility so that it is rightfully in the vision and mission efforts of the church and to keep on applying this in people's daily life.

United Methodist church must keep on encouraging its members, especially those who are materially privileged to realise their call and be committed to save and put aside any amount of money every month so that it is utilized for initiating and creating more projects and activities that can greatly benefit the marginalised and surrounding community, capacitating them to become independent and self-sustaining rather than creating a dependency syndrome. United Methodist church must always review its activities for progress and advancement sake, this should include an assessment of local needs and members' skills, talents, gifts in identifying wider perceptions of the local church and local needs they may need to continue addressing.

The United Methodist church must continue supporting and encouraging activities done by people in community organisations whilst at the same time making it easier with communication and increasing networking with other development and environmental organisations. The United Methodist church should always encourage individuals to conduct discussion forums based on biblical teaching which encourages them to engage in community services. The United Methodist church must create a pool of funds and partner with external funders to sustain their activities in the community.

5.2 Recommendations to the government to improve environmental protection in Zimbabwe

Environmental protection enterprises have few financing channels therefore lack of financial support.

Environmental protection industry produces much positive externalities. Positive externality makes revenue from a project in green industry less than the total social benefits, but private cost is equal to total social costs. Thereby private investment is often insufficient to meet total demand of environmental protection. Bank loans to enterprises on environmental protection programs, because of positive externalities, will be less than desired. Apart from some state-owned environmental businesses in public infrastructures' field which can obtain subsidies from the Treasury, most enterprises are not so lucky, their financial support mainly come from bank credit loans (Lou Xinhua, 2010). In the environmental protection industry, government support is absent in most circumstances for most private enterprises which can only have limited funding.

Implement standardized production, enhance in specialization

When the basic production technology matures and industrial experience accumulates to a rich level, environmental protection industry associations can develop appropriate quality standards of products, environmental technical standards, and environmental standards of service. With strict implementation of certification standards of environmental products,

communities can get standardized and specialized products and services. Under the guidance of these standards, environment-friendly products producers should avoid weaknesses, specialize in their comparative advantages, and focus on their niche products or accessories. Standardized and specialized production help improve the efficiency of enterprises, also their professional level which are essential to technological innovation. At the same time a variety of industry standards should be based on market demand and technical levels of current enterprises. Continuous improvement in standards is necessary to enhance the technological level of the industry, gain higher products and service satisfaction and active response to external competition.

Promote fair competition and give national treatment to private environmental protection companies

It is time for governments to abolish super-national treatments to these state-owned environmental protection enterprises and give national treatment to private environmental protection companies. Only in the same market environment, can private enterprises compete with state-owned environmental protection enterprises fairly for better market performance. Market is a powerful tool to distinguish the bad from the excellent, survival of the fittest. On the other hand, all levels of government and public procurement of environmentally friendly products should be completely monitored by the public for a fair game. Effective and transparent principles must be followed, which means to a certain level of environmental protection, purchasers must only seek environment-friendly products or services of the lowest cost. The government should fulfil obligations which others can't do for it, such as public security management, market supervision and rules-making and so forth. In a fair competitive environment, more resources flow to efficient, more technologically advanced enterprises, thus these enterprises can further grow to giants. Environmental protection enterprises have to participate freely in the market as to let the market play a greater role in natural and social resources

Conclusion

In conclusion, the researcher sought to highlight the relevance of The United Methodist Church in facilitating and promoting environmental protection and development. Such an approach is biblically based; hence the challenges of not cooperating, misuse of funds and justice among others are rarely encountered. Therefore the church must be considered as the primary agent in promoting environmental protection. The research has managed to address the following questions which are important to the role of the United Methodist church in promoting environmental protection: What message does the history of the United Methodist Church portray about environmental sustainability and protection? How are United Methodist church strategies relevant and compatible with the Biblical perspective of environmental protection that enhance a meaningful and sustainable environment?

SUMMARY

In summary, it was suggested that environmental protection is a real and existing challenge to the survival of humanity in every community. However, United Methodist church has a high rate of success in promoting the noted challenges to a greater extent. Therefore, in order to effectively pro environmental protection, it must be possible with the involvement of the churches and by using the biblical method for development because it is holistic and morally grounded. Having reached this point of the research, the researcher is now in a good position to end by noting that the set questions and objectives have adequately been met.

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