

**Influence of sex exploitation on peaceful existence of children in Uganda: A case study  
of Bugembe Town-Council, Jinja district**

**BY**



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**A dissertation submitted to the directorate of graduate training and research in partial  
fulfillment of the requirements for the award of a degree of  
Masters of peace and conflict studies of  
Makerere university**

**NOVEMBER, 2022**

**Declaration**

I, **Samuel Ibanda**, declare that this dissertation is my original piece of work and has never been submitted to any University or Institution for any award.


Signed.......... Date..........

**Approval**

This dissertation has been submitted with the approval of the University Supervisors below at Makerere University.

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## **Dedication**

I dedicate this dissertation to my parents; Ven. Rev. James P.K Ibanda and Late. Margaret Ibanda for setting my foot to the truth of knowledge.

## **Acknowledgement**

I acknowledge and appreciate all the provisions of life, love and care by the Heavenly Father, God the Almighty who has enabled me reach this far. I acknowledge assistance and guidance from my supervisors; Dr. Hillary Kiiza and Dr. Gilbert Gumushabe, who from the very beginning of this study availed themselves for consultations and provided relevant material to read.

My heartfelt thanks go to my family and my dear wife, Miss. Pheona, my Children Rowan, Shalom and Jayleen. My parents Ven. Rev James and Margret Ibanda are given extraordinary thanks for their spiritual, material, moral and financial support.

Special thanks go to my beloved Sisters Racheal, Deborah, Suzan, Naome and my brother Peter for their spiritual care, love, financial support and encouragement.

I thank to all my Lecturers and classmates at Master's level for your love, encouragement and willingness to help whenever I called upon and for constantly reminding me to devote time to the dissertation. May the Good Lord reward all of you abundantly!

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## **Acronyms / Abbreviations**

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| ACHPRs: | African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights            |
| AIDS:   | Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome                     |
| CEDAW:  | Convention on all forms of Discrimination against Women |
| CSE:    | Child Sexual Exploitation                               |
| CSEC:   | Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children              |
| CSOs:   | Civil Society Organizations                             |
| FCC:    | Family and Children's Courts                            |
| HIV:    | Human Immunodeficiency Virus                            |
| HPV:    | Human Papilloma Virus                                   |
| ILO:    | International Labour Organizations                      |
| NCC:    | National Council for Children                           |
| NGO:    | Non-Governmental Organization                           |
| PTSD:   | Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder                          |
| SAM:    | Situational Accessible Memories                         |
| SAQs:   | Self- Administered Questionnaires                       |
| UDHR:   | Universal Declaration of Human Rights                   |
| UNCRC:  | United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child    |
| UNEB:   | Uganda National Examinations Board                      |
| US:     | United States   |
| VAM:    | Verbally Accessible Memories                            |

## **Abstract**

*One of the challenges facing the modern world is sex exploitation. Like other nations of the globe, Uganda has been at the threat of this challenge with dire effects at the family level, and more to a girl child. Overwhelmed by such effects, the researcher sought imperative to examine the influence of sex exploitation of children on peaceful existence in Bugembe Town-Council, Jinja District in Uganda by 1) establishing reasons for persistent sex exploitation of children; 2) identifying the main actors of sex exploitation; 3) assessing the impact of sex exploitation on children; 4) analyzing the intervention measures to the affected children in Uganda. The Psycho dynamic theory by Sigmund Freud and the behavioral theories guided this study. A case study research design was used for this study on a sample size of 80 respondents from parishes of Wanyama, Katende and Budhumbuli. In order to get primary information, Interview Guide and Self-Administered Questionnaires were used. The findings show that socio-economic reasons normally compel the actors into sex exploitation of children. The actors include father, businessmen such as hotel owners, bar owners, prostitutes and drivers of long vehicles. Children rights have been violated; there has been embarrassment and psychological torture on the side of children; increased immorality from elders among others. The above have affected negatively the peaceful existence of children. The study concludes emphasizing that there has been the violation of children rights with different affects that deny children peaceful existence. Upon this conclusion, the study recommends the need to alleviate poverty at the family level in order to end sex exploitation of children. By ending or reducing poverty at the family level, the study anticipates that such exploitation can end and peace will prevail.*

## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.0 Introduction**

Sexual exploitation is a fundamental violation of children's rights (Cameron *et al.*, 2015). It is an attack on human dignity and inhibits the social and economic development of an individual and the country as well which limits peaceful existence. It destroys a child's life through sexual exploitation and destroys his or her chances of integrating into society. While sex exploitation is not new, the level of awareness, the extent and scale of the abuse are new in the modern world; and increasingly differ in different ways in different regions. Perpetrators of sex exploitation among children sexually exploit them and other young people. These children and young people are persons under 18 years. In contexts of sex exploitation, the young people (or a third person or persons) receive some entitlement such as food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money; for their performance of sexual activities. The affected children are the refugees living in camps or foreign nations. However, in countries such as Uganda, sex exploitation occurs among the poor and poverty stricken areas.

With increased technology use and advancement in science, sexual exploitation occurs mainly through the use of technology. For example, children are persuaded to post their sexual images on the internet or mobile phones without immediate payment or gain (Mbc, 2016). In all cases, adult people exploiting the children / young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and economic resources. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common acts among people exploiting children. These acts involve exploitative relationships that are characterized by the child or young person's limited availability of choice resulting from their social / economic and emotional vulnerability.

It is from this perspective that this study seeks to establish the influence of sex exploitation on peaceful existence of children focusing on Bugembe Town Council in Jinja District. It starts with the background to the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, scope and significance of the study.

### **1.1 Background to the study**

The struggle against child sex exploitation started at international level in 1996 when the first World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) was held in Stockholm, Sweden (Figaro G, & Estes, 2012). It was the first major global initiative to stimulate a global alliance and partnership between governments and civil society actors to tackle the growing problem of commercial sexual exploitation of children. Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a form of sexual abuse where children or young people ‘exchange’ sexual behaviors for affection, food, accommodation, drugs and gifts (Barnardo. S, 2011). There is no specific criminal offence for CSE. Instead, offenders may be convicted under the Sexual Offences Act of 2003, which specifies a range of contact, non-contact and trafficking offences.

Studies have revealed that Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) surfaced in the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century as the most form of child abuse (Azaola, 2001; Altman, 2001 and Arata, 2000). It appears to be insidious, a daily vice and almost affects the lives of tens of thousands of children in United States, Europe and the worst experiences have been found in Africa and Sub-Saharan Africa in particular. CSE take a form of juvenile prostitution, child pornography, trafficking of children for sexual purposes and child marriages. According to UNICEF and ANNPCAN (2001), *there is an overwhelming amount of anecdotal evidence that the problem of sexual exploitation (including commercial sexual exploitation) of children in the region is an extensive problem. Children are sexually exploited in homes, schools, community, in the workplace and brothels.*”

The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) has estimated that 120 million girls globally under the age of 20 (about 1 in 10) have experienced forced sexual intercourse or other forced sexual acts. Girls typically report rates of sexual abuse at least three times higher than rates reported by boys, although boys are also at risk. Child sexual abuse and exploitation is a widespread problem with significant adverse consequences for children’s health, well-being and life chances. Nearly half of adolescent girls experiencing sexual abuse never tell anyone; 7 out of 10 never seek help. The global costs of physical, psychological and sexual violence towards children are between 3–8 per cent of global gross domestic product (GDP). (UNICEF 2013)

Globally, more than half of all children aged 2–17 years, about one billion children in total, experience some form of violence, including sexual exploitation. Child sexual exploitation range within and across regions from 14–28 per cent of girls, 4–12 per cent of boys in Europe, to 20–27 per cent of girls, 7–8 per cent of boys in Canada and the United States, 8–13 per cent of girls, 2–14 per cent of boys in South America, 20–43 per cent of girls and 4–35 per cent of boys in Asia. It is further estimated that the global prevalence of sexual abuse of children varies between 8% and 31% for girls and between 3% and 17% for boys. Studies on CSE in Africa suggest that girls between the ages of 12 and 15 are the most victimized demographic, but that younger girls and boys also experience CSE. (ACPF 2015).

In Sub- Sahara Africa, Kenya, Malawi, Tanzania, Swaziland and Zimbabwe, lifetime prevalence for experiencing sexual violence varies between 22% and 38% for girls and between 9% and 17% for boys. In Malawi, about 22% of women reported having experienced child sexual abuse in one form or another. In Ghana, 39.4% of child respondents reported having experienced indecent assault, and 18 % reported having experienced defilement. In South Africa in 2015, one in three people, male or female, was at risk of sexual abuse before reaching the age of 17. In Uganda and Zimbabwe, about 19% of females surveyed reported



having received material support or other help in exchange for sex during childhood. In Egypt, 36% of street children have suffered sexual abuse, violence and other coercive practices, such as exploitation

According to Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development Report (MoGLSD, 2015) indicated the prevalence of both child sexual and non-sexual abuse, depicting an environment in which sexual exploitation is often perceived as permissible. Three quarters of young adults had experienced some form of sexual exploitation during childhood, with at least one in three experiencing two or more forms of violence (sexual, physical, or emotional) during childhood. The study articulated that 35% of Ugandan females and 17% of males had been sexually exploited or abused. Approximately 25% of girls and boys who experienced sexual abuse in childhood, the first incident of sexual abuse occurred at or before age 13. Both boys and girls experienced sexual exploitation in a range of settings, including in the street, in their homes and in school. For example, Girls face high risk of sexual exploitation and abuse in schools, making staying at home or getting married safer alternatives.

Above all, in ensuring peaceful existence of children in community, Uganda ratified international instruments against CSE practices. These include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), Convention on all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPRs) and other regional conventions and declarations. By ratifying these conventions, Uganda made a moral and political obligation to respect children and committed herself to being accountable to the international community in respect to the protection of children (UNFPA, 2009). As a commitment, Uganda upgraded her national legal framework to suit commitments made. The 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda fully prohibits CSE. In 2004, the Children's Act and National Council for Children (NCC), Family and Children's Courts (FCC) were established; but these have

never stopped CSE. In the morning hours around different towns in Uganda, as well as early evening after dark reveal a lot of young girls endearing themselves to potential customers that engage in sexual activities. In the survey carried out by ANPPCAN Uganda in 2013, 84.3% of children in Jinja district had experienced some form of sexual and emotional violence. It is from such background that the research seeks to establish the the influence of Child sex exploitation on peaceful existence of children in Uganda using a case of Bugembe Town Council in Jinja District.

## **1.2 Statement of the problem**

Despite the existence of international, regional and national measures through the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development to monitor and supervise the growth and development of children aimed at providing child welfare services and peaceful environment in Uganda, the magnitude of child sexual exploitation has remained undesirably high and threatens the children's right to survival and consequently peace. Although Uganda had endorsed a number of international conventions relating to child protection, enforcement of the numerous conventions and policies was very weak (UNICEF, 2015).

According to the Uganda Annual Crime and Traffic/Road Safety Report 2014; 6,464 cases of defilement were reported in 2014 presenting a 2.7% increase from the 7,360 cases reported in 2014. These increasing cases of sexual exploitation have led to HIV/AIDS and other STDs infections, increased child pregnancies, early marriages and high school dropout rates among children. Further there had been an increase in defilement cases from 7,864 in 2013 to 8,690 in 2014. The rise in sexual exploitation had, however, been faced with low prosecution rates denying thousands of children peace. For instance, out of the defilement cases reported to the police in 2014, only 3,401 (45%) had been taken to court, leaving a total of 4763 (55%) cases either dropped or not followed up.

As a result, Children are prone to S.T.I; early pregnancies; Suffering, leading to a miserable that deter them to peaceful existence.

This study therefore seeks to establish the influence of Child Sex exploitation on peaceful existence of children in Uganda and the extent of intervention measures as well as to explain the vice.

### **1.3 General objective.**

To establish the influence of sex exploitation on peaceful existence of Children in Uganda

#### **1.3.1 Specific objectives**

- i. To establish factors influencing persistent sex exploitation of children in Uganda
- ii. To identify the main actors of sex exploitation in Uganda
- iii. To assess the impacts of sex exploitation among children in Uganda
- iv. To analyze the intervention measures to improve peaceful existence of children in Uganda

### **1.4 Research questions**

- i. How does Sexual exploitation influence peaceful existence among Children in Bugembe Town Council?
- ii. Who are the main actors of sex exploitation in Uganda?
- iii. What are the impacts of sex exploitation among children in Uganda?
- iv. What are the intervention measures to improve peaceful existence of children in Uganda?

### **1.5 Scope of study**

#### **1.5.1 Geographical scope**

The geographical scope was Bugembe Town Council in Jinja District. Bugembe Town council is located 0°28'03.0" North and E33°14'29.0"East. The town sits an average elevation of 1,269 meters (4,163 ft) above sea level. Although Bugembe Town Council has five parishes

or wards, the study was carried in three parishes of Budhumbuli, Wanyama and Katende. The three parishes were considered because of the persistent CSE that has increased with long distance drivers that normally pack long-vehicles along the road. Besides that, hotels owners have been identified of employing children below the age of 18 with pretense that they serve better and faster than the old females.

### **1.5.2 Content scope**

The content scope was the influence of sex exploitation on peaceful existence of children. This is because of the increased number in sexually exploited children which affects their psychological domain as well as traumatizes their cognitive. The researcher evaluated where Uganda has reached in her commitment to international instruments such as United Nations Convention on Rights of Child (UNCRC) and the National Council for Children, domesticated the UNCRC which the nation ratified and incorporated into the municipal laws.

### **1.5.3 Time scope**

The time scope was between 2000 and 2013. This was selected because of the increased child sex exploitation in Jinja District. In same period, Uganda has ratified all the international instruments. The researcher therefore examined the progress and the intervention measures against CSE that Uganda had exhibited.

## **1.6 Definition of key terms**

For the purposes of this study, the following terms are defined in the content.

**A child:** This is any person (boy or a girl) below the age of 18 years.

**Sexual Exploitation of Children (SEC/CSE):** This has been used to refer to sexual abuse of a minor. SEC involves child prostitution, child pornography and trafficking of children and they are taken as violent crime against children and the study adopted the same yardstick.

**Exploitation:** the term exploitation is used to refer to forced marriage, child marriage, forced labour, harmful child labour and the use of a child in armed conflict, debt bondage, slavery, human sacrifice, removal of organs or body parts for sale or for purposes of witchcraft, harmful rituals or practices.

**Child trafficking:** This is used to refer to the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purposes of exploitation.

**Prostitution:** This referred to the act by a person who in public or elsewhere regularly or habitually holds himself or herself out as available for sexual gratification for monetary or other material gain (TIP Act, 2009).

### **1.7 The Significance of the study**

The study is useful to the government, policy makers, sexually abused children, NGO's, CBOs, civil society, the researcher and the stakeholders (political leaders) and the population affected by adding on the existing body of knowledge.

The government of Uganda will come to establish the magnitude of its efforts in curbing violence against children since it has been one of the member states that ratified international convention and human rights instruments against the ill facing the children. The study also may help the government of Uganda to understand different actors against its effort to promote the rights of the children.

The policy makers find the study relevant since different laws that stem from the 1995 Constitution of Uganda have been passed to protect and defend the rights of children but with limits. These limits normally arise as a result of different actors who perpetuates and inflict injustices onto the children.

To the perpetrators of sex exploitation in Uganda, this study informs that they have been known and efforts have been put across to curb down their practices. These practices include child trafficking, sacrifice, rape and defilement.

The study is significant to the NGOs, Civil Society Organizations and the general society at large. This therefore calls for the effective intervention to protect the children and defend their rights.

### **1.8 Theoretical framework**

The study was guided by two theories: The Psychodynamic and Behavioral theories as presented here under.

#### **1.8.1 Psychodynamic theory**

The Psychodynamic theory or psychoanalytic theory was advanced by Sigmund Freud who proposed four states of childhood development (oral, anal, phallic and genital). He viewed sexual deviance as an expression of the unresolved problems experienced during the stages of development. These unresolved problems brought about fixations or hindrances during stages of development, with consequent distortion of a sexual object or a sexual aim (Schwartz, 1995). For example, psychoanalytic theory proposes that boys experience what is termed "the oedipal conflict" during the phallic stage of development. The oedipal conflict is characterized by competition between father and son for the mother's affection. At the same time, boys discover the differences between themselves and girls (Schwartz, 1995).

Schwartz (1995) states that castration anxiety leads to the oedipal conflict, which is when boys no longer compete with their fathers for their mother's affections. However, if a boy fails to resolve the oedipal conflict, he may develop a permanent aversion to females as an adult if their appearance brings back this fear of castration. Psychodynamic theory also asserts that the human psyche is composed of three primary elements: the id, the ego and the

superego. In order to understand how all three elements, interact, Freud proposed that all human behavior is motivated by wishes that often exist at a preconscious level (Holmes & Holmes, 2002). The id is the unconscious domain from which all instinctual human drives originate (hunger, sex, aggression). The id is ruled by the pleasure principle that demands instant gratification of these urges. The second part of Freud's model is the ego which is the conscious part of the human psyche that serves as the mediator between the id and the external environment. This element is primarily conscious and is ruled by the reality principle that accepts that there is a time and a place for everything (Holmes & Holmes, 2002). It is this aspect of the psyche that interacts with the external environment in order to ensure survival.

The final element - the superego is more commonly referred to as the conscience. This aspect of the psyche has both conscious and unconscious aspects and, as Holmes and Holmes state, "most lessons about the consequences of behavior stem from experience and not perceptions of how the self would look relative to its environment" (Holmes & Holmes, 2002). Thus, the superego is bolstered by past experiences that clearly define the behaviors that warrant punishment and reward. These notions are then internalized in such a manner as to allow for the development of a system of morals.

Basing on this theory, the study informs that people involved in child sex exploitation are influenced by id and the ego has less power to prevent the id from committing acts that are contrarily to the norms of the society. They use possible social, economic and political means to entice children for sex. At times, this group use force that leads to defilement and rape. Besides, the actors in child sex exploitation have weak ego for the mediation between the human characters and the environment. Rather than respecting the laws and rights of children, the violators defy them and lead children into sex for their pleasure.

In summary, Freudian theory portrays the human psyche as being in a constant struggle to fulfill the primal desires of the id and the moral authority of the superego. This theory assumes that sexual aggressors are lacking a strong superego and have become overwhelmed by their primal id. While psychologists generally once accepted this explanation, it has fallen out of favor due to its lack of empirical evidence in favor of more testable theories, such as cognitive behavioral and integrated theories.

### **1.8.2 Behavioral Theory**

Behavioral theorists explain deviant sexual behavior as a learned condition. Laws and Marshall (1990) presented a theoretical model of sexually deviant behavior that describes how sexually deviant interests may be learned through the same mechanisms by which conventional sexuality is learned. The model is divided into two parts: the acquisition processes and the maintenance processes. There are six basic conditioning principles (Pavlovian conditioning, Operant Conditioning, Extinction, Punishment, Differential Consequences and the Chaining of Behavior); two social learning influences (General Social Learning Influences and Self-Labeling Influences); and three maintenance processes (Specific Autoerotic Influences, Specific Social Learning Influences and Intermittent Reinforcement). The model adopts the position that maladaptive behavior can result from quantitative and qualitative combinations of processes that are intrinsically orderly, strictly determined and normal in origin. Thus, the deviant sexual preferences and cognitions are acquired by the same mechanisms by which other individuals learn more conventionally accepted modes of sexual expression.

According to behavioral theory, sexual aggression against children is based on four components: physiological sexual arousal, cognitions justifying sexual aggression, affective dys-control, and personality problems. These serve both as motivational precursors that increase the probability of sexually aggressive behavior occurring, and also define offender



and offence subtypes based upon the relative prominence of each factor. Hall and Hirschman suggest that physiological, affective, and cognitive factors are all primarily state and situation dependent factors while personality problems represent enduring vulnerability factors or character factors that lead an individual into sex exploitation against the children. This implies that sex exploitation among children is due to characters among individual persons cognitive and psychological in nature. It also shows that personality deficits are the source of offenders' vulnerability to sexually abuse children

While these factors can contribute to a sexual offence, usually one factor is prominent for each child molester and constitutes their primary motive. This means that it will exert a greater influence on the other factors and push or influence an individual over the offence threshold. That is, from a position of being able to control deviant sexual impulses to one in which they commit a sexually abusive act. The interactions of these synergies are in nature that the activation of one factor motivates and functions to increase the intensity of others. This may in turn propel an individual above the critical threshold for performing a sexually deviant act towards a child. In fact, this has been among the forces among men and women in the modern days to sacrifice a child. The author to the theory asserted that if the impulse is motivated by the future event or rewards, an offender acts so fast into the action. This has been one of the factors leading to violate acts like rape, child sacrifice and trafficking of children.

Furthermore, each of these factors has a particular type of child molester, with distinct treatment needs. The first subtype has deviant sexual arousal and strong sexual preferences for children. In a sense this category represents classic preferential offender who tends to commit offences against large numbers of children. Treatment can revolve around reduction of deviant sexual arousal using a range of conditioning strategies such as direct masturbation.

Offenders who are characterized by cognitive motivation typically misinterpret children's behaviors revealing sexual intent and also possess good self-regulatory and planning skills such as incest offenders. Therapy may involve the challenging of their sense of entitlement and the modification of other dysfunctional cognitions. The third group of offenders is defined by their vulnerability to negative affects and frequently behaviors in an impulsive and unplanned manner (situational offenders). Treatment can center on such individuals learning how to control and regulate negative emotions. The final subgroup of offenders is that with developmental related personality problems and experience difficulties in establishing intimate adult-relationships and functioning effectively in the world (fixated offenders). Treatment for this group would be prolonged and intensive requiring the modification of entrenched and maladaptive interpersonal strategies and beliefs about themselves and other people.

### **Implication of the theory**

The focus on multiple factors in child exploitation is a major strength of the theory and suggests that sexual offending is a product of converging causal ways. The explicit attention given to both state and trait factors is useful and functions to explain how psychological deficits can be translated into offending behavior and causing exploitation among children. Critical threshold is unique and helps to explain how enduring vulnerability factors interact with situational variables to produce sexual offending. The theory also attends to individual differences and associated suggestions that an offender typology can be constructed on the basis of the primary motivational precursors. In addition, the explicit focus on offender typology and its relationship to the treatment of child molesters is innovative and provides therapists with a theory based intervention. The concept of motivational precursors is also novel and provides motivational underpinning of the theory and aims to explain how different factors interact with one another(Richard, 2000).

Alongside strengths, there are a number of weaknesses. The theory fails to specify mechanisms capable of generating deviant sexual arousal, distorted cognitions, affective dys-control and personality problems, or to consider how such factors can be interrelated. These can be associated with the persistence of sex exploitation among children. Secondly, the distinction between state and trait factors does not hold too much significance and the four factors are not conceptually distinct and overlap to some degree. For example, sexual arousal is underpinned by enduring sexual preferences and therefore contains cognitive elements. Thirdly, the notion of primary motivational precursors appears explicitly vague and requires fleshing out in order to clarify how different factors help to intensify the others. Nonetheless, an individual who has been motivated by a reward with trafficking or sacrificing of a child, motivation is presented as a precursor but it does not show different actors or offenders are psychologically influenced into an act of exploitation. Besides, it is silent on the traits of different individuals. For example, in the modern day, women are mostly involved in child trafficking while men in child sacrificing of (Majeed, 2011). The intensity of characters and physiological is missing in this theory.

Besides, vulnerability to commit a sexual offence against a child resides primarily with personality disturbance, which is characterized as a trait factor. Exactly how this vulnerability occurs, and how it might be instantiated, remains unspecified by the theory. What is missing is consideration of how adverse events impact psychologically on an individual and what forms they take. Among others, they include insecure attachment, impaired social functioning and poor emotional regulation. The theory remains silent on such traits and how they are transformed into action. Finally, it does not appear to be unified and actually consists of a number of conceptually distinct sub-models that influence individual persons into the action. For example, each offers different explanation of child sexual abuse.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

#### **2.0 Introduction**

This chapter presented a review of literature in relation to the topic and objectives of the study. It started with reasons for persistent sex exploitation of a child, identify the actors of sex exploitation, give impacts of sex exploitation and review some of world's intervention measures.

#### **2.1 Factors for persistent sexual exploitation among children**

Barker and Gary, (2011) articulated that wider structural inequalities on the basis of gender, age, ethnicity and poverty are recognized as key drivers for child sexual abuse and exploitation. Rape is used as, and is now recognized to be, a weapon of war, and women and children are targets. Children are developmentally vulnerable to all forms of violence. Although child sexual abuse and exploitation is widely recognized as unlawful, laws prohibiting abusive behavior are not always enforced and may conflict with other policies. Norms and beliefs that support or condone gender-based violence and double standards of sexual behavior for females and males are widespread, although child sexual abuse and exploitation is widely recognized as unlawful, laws prohibiting abusive behavior are not always enforced and may conflict with other policies, practices and cultural beliefs.

Fraser and Kilbride, (1980) suggest that CSE is associated with a disintegration of clan authority occasioned by such factors as interethnic marriage, migration into towns and other modern social and economic forces. Loening, (1981) attributes the increase in CSE to the breakdown of traditional culture due to rapid and radical social change. Okeahialam, (1984) also notes the perception that CSE in Africa is a product of modernization and that it did not previously exist: *There is an impression that CSE does not occur in the traditional African society. This is fostered by the sociological concept of the extended family as a system which*

*provides profound love, protection, security and care to the child within the cultural milieu.*

Jinadu, (1986) too, claims that “CSE and neglect in the developing African countries are devastating consequences of rapid socio-economic changes on the families.” Haffejee, (1991) suggests that CSE is a recent phenomenon amongst the Asian community in South Africa, due to social and cultural change. However, he acknowledges there is little scientific data to support this view.

Larsen *et al.*, (1998) describe CSE as a significant problem in rural societies in South Africa. Accordingly, social breakdown (specifically, the migratory labour system and rapid urbanization) is implicated. This was among other causes that lead some of the young children in Bugembe Town council to start working as domestic workers and serving in different bars and hotels. Lema, (1997) too, comments that “*over the past one to two decades there has been an escalating wave of CSE of young girls in Sub-Saharan Africa ... The situation appears to have taken a dramatic turn for the worst over the past five years or so in Malawi.*” Lema acknowledges that there are more liable medical or legal records to support this claim. Thus, the view that CSE (including sexual abuse) is a recent phenomenon in SSA has wide spread currency. Are such assumptions valid? Firstly, comparisons between the present and the past are difficult because of the lack of accurate (any) records regarding child welfare in the past. Thus, comparisons between the present and the past must be acknowledged as speculative and anecdotal. This being said, the idea that child abuse (sexual and otherwise) is attributable to rapid social change and modernity is not implausible. Socio-economic and socio-cultural change have been linked with an increase in child maltreatment (Korbin, 1991). Such increases are often attributed to a breakdown in traditional values and practices.

Mbagaya, (2010) has pointed out that the rapid social changes in Africa along with increases in urbanization and individualism has led to greater isolation of families thus at times leading sexual exploitation. He notes the increased risk to children left with biologically unrelated caregivers when parents go to work. Globalization has impacted on SSA bringing many changes to normal life affecting traditional values and roles. Simultaneously the increases in communication media have brought the problem of child sexual abuse to the forefront of society like never before. It appears in newspapers and is talked about on the radio. A natural reaction is to blame this new awareness of the problem on outside forces (although the problem has likely been there all the time in some form).

Denying a problem exists and putting the blame elsewhere is a normal reaction considering the taboo surrounding CSE. The belief that CSE is a recent phenomenon and a “western import” is omnipresent in SSA. According to one commentator, there is widespread belief that CSE “can be attributed to the insidious forces of modernity, foreign influences and rapid social change” (Lalor, 2004). CSE is viewed as something extremely “un-African”, “unnatural” and atypical. The presence of CSE would be an attack on the masculinity of the African male. This view is clearly not the reality of the situation.

In all countries of West and Central Africa, a large number of children are employed as domestic workers; it is the most common cultural practice and the most deeply ingrained. Child domestic labour is easily confused with traditional practices of informal adoption and initiation into life and work. In addition, there is a high demand for child labour, which underlies the phenomenon of internal trafficking in children from rural areas to cities, and external trafficking (between different countries in the region). According to Pearson, (2013), many children are victims of economic exploitation in West and Central Africa, and most of them are used as domestic labour. Girls are the most exposed to this practice and almost 90 percent of child victims of this economic exploitation are girls. They are used for domestic

labour and commercial activities, the main occupations of their guardians. Although this study did not examine the nature or type of domestic work some of the children are exposed too; it was found that children below the age of 18 were employed as domestic workers. This makes the findings of this study similar to this form of literature from West and Central Africa.

Poverty is a pervasive problem impacting the lives of most Tanzanians. Poverty in SSA is deep, severe and massive (Ali & Thorbecke, 2000; Fields, 2000). In this exploratory study it was shown that poverty was a perceived cause of CSE and a risk factor for many young people who do not have their basic needs met. Poverty affects every aspect of life for both adults and children. Poverty is an important risk factor that puts women and children at higher risk of early sexual debut, transactional sex, and unwanted pregnancies (Rogan et al., 2010). Pelton, (1994) stated that poverty is the single biggest risk factor for child abuse and neglect. The impact of poverty on the occurrence on CSE specifically is not so well documented. Pinea-Lucaterro et al., (2009) found that CSE primarily affects girls from low-income families and Turner et al., (2006) found that low socio-economic status, low parental education and parental availability were significant risk factors in child sexual victimization.

A 2007 Human Rights Watch report on the exploitation and mistreatment of girls working as domestic labour in Guinea revealed the difficult living conditions of these girls – some barely aged 8 years old – who work up to 18 hours a day, often without pay. They are not allowed to leave their employer's house and have no access to support outside (Coleman & Jolibois, 2015). They are very often verbally, physically and sexually abused by their employers. Domestic labour is the most common category of work among children in Guinea, and girls come from as far away as Mali to work there. The children are placed in domestic service directly by their parents or are recruited via intermediaries. The need to provide for themselves and their family is often given as a reason to justify domestic labour. Several

children exploited as domestic workers do so to reimburse loans. Older children may migrate and look for work in cities, with the aim of continuing their education. Family problems are often a catalyst that pushes children to begin working (Johnson *et al.*, 2005). Family break-ups, as well as physical and sexual abuse within families are typical causes for children to leave home and seek other means of subsistence.

Research shows that several children mention their father's alcoholism among the reasons for leaving home and starting employment as domestic workers. Children are also attracted to domestic labour by their brothers, sisters and friends who already work as domestic laborers. According to Whitehead *et al.*, (2007), factors that facilitate sexual exploitation of child domestic workers include the length of time spent in the house; especially when the female employer is absent. The idea that the child belongs to the employer, with the implication of owner's rights to use the child for sexual purposes; blackmail or threats when the child makes a mistake (Palumbo & Scirba, 2015).

Further, compensation for financial and material support provided to the family of the child sexually exploited are among other factors that have made sex exploitation among children at a rise. Child domestic workers who are victims of sexual abuse and exploitation rarely report their mistreatment fearing to be punished more by their employees (Thorsen, 2012). According to Blagbrough, (2008), children in domestic work are young and often illiterate; consequently, they do not have the skills or opportunity, to seek help in leaving an abusive work environment. The children at times work due the command from their parents or elders and they have no option rather than to be silent while being sexually exploited.

Many girls tolerate abuse because they do not have money or other resources needed to return home. The girls are also afraid of their employer's threats of violence or of reporting them to the police while some children prefer to remain silent about their abuse because of the financial pressure and debts that an escape would create (Guzmdn, 2015). The sexual abuse



offenders, typically men, consider the girls as powerless and threaten them if they dare to report the abuse. The impunity of some of these men means that they can continue raping these children in their house. Similar information was received from the key informants who noted that due to poverty in Eastern Uganda, it is easy for a parent to encourage young girls to engage in sexual behaviors as one of the approaches to earn a living. Some male children were mentioned to have involved in different activities such as serving builders at work with sand, bricks and cement.

Thorsen, (2012) remarked that sex exploitation is also perpetuated by the persistent desire for early and/or forced marriage. In most African societies, the marriage of very young girls is common practice that stems from tradition. In the Central African Republic, Chad, Guinea, Mali and Niger, more than 60 percent of girls are married by the age of 18 (Parker, 2015). Connections to the extended family and village elders have weakened. In many settings, cultural taboos make open discussions on sexual matters difficult (Ecker, 1994). Young generations are thus left to sort out traditional African values from emerging Western concepts that may shelter practices such as CSE (Lalor, 2004).

Early or forced marriage is a form of child sexual exploitation since it is generally not possible for the child to choose. One of the reasons commonly given by parents to justify their daughters' early marriage is to protect them from possible pre-marital sex or pregnancy while still under their shelter. This justification stems from moral, cultural and religious principles. The fact that the practice is socially acceptable, girls are not able to oppose it. Furthermore, forced marriage is also used as an economic survival strategy for poor families. It can be considered as a form of commercial sexual exploitation of children: an adult, by means of a dowry for the parents, buys the services of a minor to be his spouse, which for the girl very often means a life of sexual and domestic servitude.

According to UNICEF's State of the World's Children 2007, the rate of early marriages remains relatively high in West and East and Central Africa. Palumbo and Scieurba, (2015) revealed that across the regions of Africa, the average rate of women aged 20 to 24 years old who were married before the age of 18 is 44 percent: 28 percent in urban zones and 56 percent in rural zones, with differences between countries. The highest rates are in Niger (77 percent), Chad (72 percent), Guinea (65 percent), the Central African Republic (57 percent), Burkina Faso (52 percent); and the lowest are reported in Togo (31 percent), Côte d'Ivoire (33 percent), Gabon (34 percent), Senegal (36 percent), Benin and Mauritania (both 37 percent). These figures can be explained by the fact that legislation against early marriage, in accordance with ratified international instruments, has not yet been implemented in some countries. Even when legislation against early marriage exists, it is respected very little or not at all, and is applied rarely or not at all (African Union, 2009).

### **2.2.1 Forms and actors of child sex exploitation**

Family structure was also significantly related to rape as persons who lived with a single parent and those who resided with one biological parent and one step parent were more likely to have been have been victims of sexual abuse than those living with both biological parents. Alcohol and substance use, anti-social behavior were also significant predictors of sexual abuse victimization. Racially classified social groups, age, drug use, and cigarette smoking were not significant predictors of sexual abuse victimization, while socioeconomic status was found to be marginally significant (Tang, C, 2002).

Among others, there is commercial sexual exploitation. Commercial sexual exploitation of children (Declaration and Agenda for Action from the World Congress against Sexual Exploitation of Children; ILO Convention 182) is defined as the sexual abuse of any person under 18 years old, for remuneration in cash or kind to the child or a third person or persons (Shahab, 2005). A child is treated both as a sexual object and as a commercial object. The

commercial sexual exploitation of children constitutes a form of coercion and violence against children, and amounts to forced labour and a contemporary form of slavery. Commercial sexual exploitation of children is found in the region in all its forms: trafficking in children for sexual purposes, sex tourism; child pornography and child prostitution (Mohammad, A, R, 2014).

Trafficking children is yet another form of child exploitation. It includes all acts related to the recruitment, transport, transfer, harboring or receipt of children within a country or across borders for sexual purposes. Trafficking in children for commercial sexual exploitation exists alongside trafficking in children for work purposes (UNICEF, 2006b). There are an increasing number of national studies and surveys of trafficking in West and Central Africa as compared to other regions of Sub-Saharan Africa. They reflect the growing commitment at the regional level to combat trafficking, most notably through the adoption in 2001 by the Economic Community of West African States of the declaration and agenda for action against trafficking, in particular of women and children. Although there is increasingly research and decimations about trafficking of children, there are no reliable data on trafficking in children in the modern world. The figures put forward come either from field surveys where the range is limited, or from police stations, juvenile offender's department, vigilance committees and NGOs.

In 2005, the US Department of State published some figures that do not reflect the reality of the scale of trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa. In Benin for example, more than 200 children were repatriated from Nigeria, in the period September to October 2003. In Burkina Faso, 640 children (of which 620 were from Burkina Faso) were intercepted in 2003. In the Gambia, more than 100 Ghanaian children were rescued from trafficking in February 2004; in Ghana, more than 100 Ghanaian children were repatriated in 2004; in Guinea, 600 children were removed from coffee and cocoa plantations and six boys on their way to Mali were

intercepted in November 2003; in Mali, 112 children from Burkina Faso were intercepted in December 2003, and more than 600 Malian children were repatriated from Côte d'Ivoire between 2000 and 2003.

Sexual exploitation of children often coexists with their economic exploitation. UNICEF's 2005 study on trafficking in children in Africa clearly illustrates that children from Nigeria are victims of trafficking in Cameroon, where they work in plantations, street vending and prostitution. In the large cities of Côte d'Ivoire, Abidjan and Bouaké, girls from the region, especially from Nigeria, are exploited for sexual purposes and as servants of street vendors. In the Gambia, as an example of internal trafficking, many girls are sexually exploited to satisfy the demands of tourists and these girls originally come from Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone. In Europe (Germany, Italy and the Netherlands), Ghanaian and Nigerian girls are victims of trafficking for sexual purposes. In Nigeria, according to the National Agency for Prohibition of Traffic in Persons, more than 50 000 Nigerian girls whose ages is below 16 years, work in the sex industry in Italy, and most of them are victims of trafficking repatriated victims.

During conflicts in most African countries, the flows of trafficking normally change. For example, sexually exploited Nigerian girls are diverted from Côte d'Ivoire and relocated in Mali (Bamako, Segou and Sikasso) and Nigeria is a common transit country for Nigerian and Ghanaian girls who are sexually exploited in Algeria, Libya and Europe. A well-organized network of traffickers in Nigeria constitutes a hub supplying not only internal trafficking but also external trafficking to other African countries and Europe. Therefore, it is difficult to know the real scale of trafficking in children for sexual purposes as internal movements within a certain country and between countries. Furthermore, today there is no clear and harmonized methodology for collecting data. The confusion over migration and trafficking, as well as the difficulty in identifying sexual and economic exploitation, also add to

complicating collecting statistical data. the act of child trafficking was also found among other activities constituting child exploitation in Bugembe Town Council and Jinja District as a whole; and Bugembe Town Council was mentioned as one of the collecting centers by female and male traffickers.

The world has developed the concept of sexual tourism among children which involves exploitation of children by a person or persons travelling within their own country or travelling from their country to another country that is generally less developed, in order to indulge in sexual activities with children. According to the African network of ECPAT International, the countries most affected by sexual tourism are Benin, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal. The Gambia and Ghana would appear to be the most popular destinations whereas Nigeria would appear to be a country of origin for sexual tourists visiting neighboring countries. In the Gambia, a study carried out by the Child Protection Alliance, ECPAT and Terre des Hommes on boys engaged in prostitution confirmed that sexual tourism industry involves foreigners (men and women) travelling on organized trips for the purpose of sexual relations with young Gambian men. Several young men/boys who present themselves as guides in many industries such as hotels (some of whom are under 18 years old) involve in sexual relations.

In Ghana, the NGO - Coalition on the Rights of the Child published in 2006 a report that stated that 56% of boys aged between 10 and 17 years old had been raped by foreigners. According to the same study, Ghana, in particular the Cape Coast would become a popular site for pedophile tourists because of the low prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS. Sexual tourism involves children and trafficking in children for sexual purposes are two forms of commercial sexual exploitation of children that are closely linked: both are generated by the demand for sexual relations with children and both use the tourism industry – tour operators, the transport sector, nightclubs, bars and popular tourist destinations.

There is also child pornography as yet another form of child sex exploitation. The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography defines in Article 2(c) child pornography as any representation (by whatever means) of a child engaged in real or simulated explicit sexual activities or any representation of the sexual parts of a child for primarily sexual purposes. In Cameroon, a study carried out by Association Enfants, Jeunes et Avenir in July 2006 (Mengue, 2006) highlights that adolescents aged between 14 and 20 years old are used in the production of pornographic materials. In the same report, certain neighborhoods of Yaounde and Douala (Ekounou, Mvog-Ada, Pakita or the crossroads of joy and Mini Ferme Melen) have strip-tease clubs where boys and girls pose naked and are filmed. In Senegal, girls are recruited for the production of pornographic films, sometimes with sexual relations with dogs. In Nigeria; girls from Benin are reported to be used in the production of pornographic films (ECPAT, 2007a). In addition, the absence of supervisory measures in most states of Sub-Saharan Africa results in a high exposure of children to pornography.

Related to the rest of child sexual exploitation is child prostitution which means the use of a child for sexual activities for remuneration or other form of consideration. Based on certain reports and information, it would appear that the prostitution of girls is continually expanding. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a study on the sexual exploitation of children in the mining areas of Katanga and Kasais reported that girls aged between 10 and 17 years old worked as prostitutes, either occasionally or permanently, in the neighboring villages (UNICEF DRC, 2008). In Cameroon, Kribi and Limbe have been identified as centers of child prostitution. In Senegal, prostitution of minors occurs on beaches, in hotels, bars, nightclubs and other tourist places.

In a system of sponsorship and adoption for money or services for the family, the child is subjected to sexual relations; often forced with the guardian. In Ghana for example, girl porters (*Kayayes*) aged between 12 and 13 work as prostitutes in the streets, bars and hotels. In Togo, a qualitative study of young female sex workers in Lomé prepared by PSI/Togo states that girls aged between 10 and 24 years old work as prostitutes in bars, restaurants, brothels or in other clandestine places. The Human Rights Watch report (2010) reveals that some girls are forced into prostitution in Lomé. In Burkina Faso, a survey of under-age female prostitutes in December 2005 by the Department of Social Action and Education at Ouagadougou Central Town Hall found that girls under the age of 10 and living in the street or serving as a guide for beggars were increasingly being driven into prostitution. In Mali, a rapid assessment carried out in 2005 on commercial sexual exploitation of children highlighted the scale of the prostitution of girls aged between 12 and 18 years old. Most of them were Malian coming from Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

Prostitution takes place in the streets, in brothels and bars and several bars have rooms for this purpose. Some girls work during the day (street vendors) and work as prostitutes at night. The girls were introduced into sex work by a girl friend or other close friend or relative, or after having been tricked by adults who promised a better future. Some had suffered family pressures, and others were victims of trafficking or had fled armed conflict. In the Republic of the Congo, a report prepared by UNICEF in 2007 shows that female street vendors aged between 12 and 15 years old are increasingly becoming victim to prostitution organized in bars, in hotels or brothels. The girls are illiterate or have very little schooling and fall into the hands of networks of pimps who promise well-paying jobs, or a visa for Europe or South Africa. The girls work seven days a week, three weeks per month (one week per month they

are considered unavailable because of menstruation). They are subjected to verbal, physical and sexual violence by their pimps, and their possessions are often confiscated.

Child prostitution is very lucrative and brings a lot of money for pimps, on average 3 000 Francs CFA per trick. According to the report, the monthly turnover was estimated to be 2 100 000 Francs CFA (UNICEF, 2007d). In Gabon, a survey carried out by the Ministry of National Solidarity, Social Affairs, Welfare and Poverty Reduction (2007) indicated an increase in under-age female prostitutes in Port-Gentil. There is little documentation on the prostitution of boys because of the taboo surrounding homosexuality in West and East Africa. Prostitution is closely linked to sexual tourism and child trafficking, as evidenced in the presence of brothels near borders, and the high visibility of child prostitution in tourist areas. The development of sexual tourism in certain areas leads to a rise in child prostitution and child trafficking in order to satisfy the demand of sexual tourists. In addition, internal trafficking encourages the development of prostitution.

In Nigeria and Cameroon, school children are not only subject to all the forms of sexual abuse, exploitation and violence but also the worst form - gang rape by one's peers. Three forms of sexual abuse, exploitation and violence are encountered systematically in almost all African countries. Girls are seduced by their teachers for good grades in exchange for sexual relations even when schools are not final bodies to give examinations. In Uganda for example, primary and secondary school children do examinations set by the Uganda National Examinations Board (UNEB), but teachers have continued the practice of enticing pupils for sexual intercourse in order to receive good grades. UNICEF, (2006a) carried a study across Sub-Saharan Countries and most pupils frequently cited situations of sexual abuse from 23 countries that was practiced by school teachers and administrators. Teacher—student relations are marked by an abuse of authority based on the legitimate relation of superiority between teacher and student.



## **2.2 Impact of sex exploitation on children**

Research conducted over the past decade indicates that a wide range of psychological and interpersonal problems are prevalent among those who have been sexually exploited than among individuals with no such experiences. Although a definitive causal relationship between such difficulties and sexual abuse cannot be established using current retrospective research methodologies (American Psychiatric Association, 1987), aggregate of consistent findings in this literature has led many researchers and clinicians to conclude that CSE is a major risk factor for a variety of problems, both in the short term and in later adult functioning (Craine, 1985).

One of the impacts of CSE has been the posttraumatic stress. This refers to certain enduring psychological symptoms that occur in reaction to a highly distressing, psychically disruptive event. A diagnosis of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) requires the occurrence of a traumatic event as well as: frequent re-experiencing of the event through nightmares or intrusive thoughts; a numbing of general responsiveness to or avoidance of, current events, and; persistent symptoms of increased arousal, such as jumpiness, sleep disturbance, or poor concentration. Although PTSD was initially associated with adult response to disasters, accidents and combat experiences, more recent research has linked short- and long-term posttraumatic symptoms to CSE (Craine, 1985). For example, children who have been exploited exhibit more posttraumatic fear, anxiety, and concentration problems than do their non-abused peers (Conte, 1989). This was mentioned by the key informants during the study in Bugembe Town Council.

Research focusing on assessing sexual exploited children has found that children are more likely to receive the diagnosis of PTSD than their non-abused peers, at rates of up to 48 percent (Famularo, 1992). Although most sexually exploited victims do not meet the full diagnostic criteria for PTSD, more than 80 percent are reported to have some posttraumatic

symptoms (McLeer,1992). Both clinical and nonclinical groups of adult sexual exploited survivors have been found to display more intrusive, avoidant and arousal symptoms of PTSD than those not abused as children (Runtz,1991). Especially prominent for adult survivors are PTSD related flashbacks—sudden, intrusive sensory experiences, often involving visual, auditory, olfactory, and/or tactile sensations reminiscent of the original assault, experienced as though they occur in the present rather than as memories involve unexpected recall of specific abusive events. Nightmares with violent abuse-related themes are also commonly associated with sexual exploitation–related PTSD.

Normally, people make significant assumptions about themselves, others, the environment, and the future based upon childhood learning. Because the experiences of children who are abused are often negative, these assumptions and self-perceptions typically reflect an overestimation of the amount of danger or adversity in the world and an underestimation of the sex exploited survivor’s self-efficacy and self-worth. A variety of studies document chronic self-perceptions of helplessness and hopelessness, impaired trust, self-blame, and low self-esteem in sexually exploited children. These cognitive alterations often continue on into adolescence and adulthood. Such negative thoughts probably arise from multiple sources, including psychological reactions to abuse-specific events, stigmatization of the victim by the abuser and society, and the victim’s attempt to make sense of his or her maltreatment.

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) as noted in the preceding paragraphs of this section is common among exploited children. Children who have been sexually exploited or being sexually exploited experience feelings of anxiety, stress or fear to be known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The symptoms of PTSD can be grouped into three main categories: Re-experiencing, which is a repeated reliving of the event and interferes with daily activity. It includes flashbacks, frightening thoughts, recurrent memories or dreams, and physical reactions to situations that remind a child of the event. Secondly, a child develops

avoidance approaches that stem from the desire to change routine to escape similar situations to the trauma. Children who have been victims might avoid places, events or objects that remind them of the experience. Emotions related to avoidance are numbness, guilt and depression. Some of these situations have a decreased ability to feel certain emotions like happiness. The last is hyper-arousal which is a symptom in relation to all physiological related issues of a child. This include difficulty in concentrating or falling asleep; being easily startled; feeling tense, and on edge; and angry outbursts.

Sugar mummies” as a potential source of child sexual abuse among young males? It has received little attention in research to date but may become more prominent as gender roles evolve and African women become less and less reliant on men for support. Silberschmidt (2001) notes “successful businesswomen in Dar es Salaam are even said to pay younger men for sex. In a study investigating reports of male sexual abuse by male and female perpetrators in two Zimbabwean schools, Shumba, (2004) discovered just one case out of five involved women as perpetrators; he attributes this to gross under-reporting of female abusers. Societal factors are important in understanding the sexual experiences of young South African girls and women. They found community level violence was associated with lower levels of condom use and higher rates of HIV in their sample. Stephenson et al., (2007) found similar contextual influences on modern contraceptive use in SSA. That is to say, male recourse to violence creates an environment where young girls and women have little say in negotiating the sexual interactions in which they find themselves.

Wamoyi et al., (2010) asserted that young girls have difficulty in refusing the sexual advances of adults in positions of power, such as teachers, for fear of jeopardizing their future. These types of relationships with older men also put the girls at a heightened risk of contracting a STD for they have little power in negotiating the format of their sexual interactions. Parental acquiescence and even encouragement of transactional sex with older

men was also reported by some of the respondents. However, Atwood et al. conclude that transactional sex is a choice for many young girls who want to progress in life. This viewpoint has been previously expressed by other commentators (Hunter, 2002; Wamoyi et al., 2010). One wonders how much choice these young girls really have.

Children who are being or have been sexually exploited turn to alcohol or other substances in an attempt to relieve their emotional suffering. In a study conducted in Africa, Europe and USA, it was found that the victims of sexual assault report higher levels of psychological distress and the consumption of alcohol than non-victims; they also practice self-medication without the prescriptions by the medical doctor. Some victims use substances to cope with the reality of what happened to them or to cope with the symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. However, it is not a healthy way to deal with the trauma of sexual assault and can cause additional problems, such as addiction or dependence that hinder the healing process. Victims of child sexual exploitation abuse drugs to help them numb the painful memories of sexual violence. Victims also turn to drugs instead of true recovery resources, such as counseling; they do not think that friends or family can understand them. They do not know where to access recovery resources and feel embarrassed to talk about what happened.

Friends, family and professionals in regular contact with children who are being or have been sexually exploited are among the first people to recognize the signs of substance abuse. Early recognition increases chances for successful treatment and the warning signs include: giving up past activities or hobbies; spending time with new friends who may be a negative influence; declining grades or performance at work; aggressiveness, irritability; forgetfulness; disappearing money or valuables from family and friends; lying; depression or hopelessness; avoiding friends and family; drinking and driving or getting in trouble with the law; suspension from school or work. When compared to non-victims, rape survivors are 3.4 times

more likely to use marijuana, 6 times more likely to use cocaine, and 10 times more likely to use other major drugs.

Child sexual exploitation normally results into self-harm by the victims. One of the reasons why a victim of child sexual exploitation is vulnerable to self-harm, or self-injury is because they experience self-harm as providing a way to express difficult or hidden feelings. It is common for victims to feel numb or empty as a result of sexual assault. Children experience a temporary sense of feeling again, as well as a way to express anger, sadness, grief or emotional pain. Besides this, children are physical injured. Sexual exploitation is sexual assault and children who have been sexually exploited, have genital and other injuries which need expert medical identification and treatment. Physical injuries include contusions, lacerations, abdominal trauma, joint dislocation, mechanical back pain, lesions caused by forceful genital penetration and, in relation to pregnancy - placental abruption.

There is denial of the abuse of the abuser by some children. There are two accepted explanations why a child or young person may defend the abuser and deny that the relationship with the perpetrator is or has been abusive. According to Stockholm syndrome, children who experience a perceived or real threat to their physical or psychological survival and believe that the abuser will carry out the threat tend to defend the abusers. The positive feelings the child has for the abuser lead to the child supporting or helping the abuser. At the same time the child develops negative feelings toward family, friends or authorities that create isolation from other perspectives. This exacerbates the child's perception or real inability to escape from the situation. Stockholm syndrome develops sub-consciously and on an involuntary basis, through several stages which include: the victim child dissociates from his or her pain, helplessness or terror by sub-consciously beginning to see the situation / world from the abuser's perspective. The victimized child begins to agree with the abuser and

certain aspects of his or her own personality, opinions and views will fade into the background.

In such circumstances, the victim begins to learn how to appease and please the abuser which keeps him or her from being hurt or worse. Similarly, this tactic is used to manipulate the abuser into being less dangerous, at least for a little while. However, after a while the victim begins to realize that his or her abuser portrays the same human characteristics as anyone else. At this point he or she begins to see the abuser as less of a threat. Some abusers even share personal information in an effort to bond with the victim and to promote pity rather than anger. This bonding leads to conflicting feelings (rage and pity) and illogical concern for the abuser. The victim ignores his or her own needs. Once the traumatic event has ended, the victim must again learn not to dissociate from his or her emotions and not focus on the abuser. This can be a very difficult transition

Betrayal Trauma Theory posits that whilst humans have evolved to be excellent self-protective detectors of potential or actual betrayal, under some circumstances detecting betrayal may be counter-productive to survival goals. Thus in cases where the victim perceives to be dependent on the abuser, the victim remains unaware of the abuse in order to maintain the relationship which s/he perceives as key to survival. The theory accepts that the knowledge/memory of the abuse enters the system but that the victim isolates or dissociates awareness from consciousness. Betrayal theory gives three explanations for how the victim can be unaware of the abuse: first by neurobiological impact of fear and the stress it causes, impairs the hippocampus and related structures responsible for memory consolidation. Hippocampus dysfunction in an individual with PTSD is likely to explain impaired ability to integrate memories for trauma at the point of retrieval. Secondly is the dual-representation theory. Dual-representation theory recognizes verbally accessible memories (VAM) and situational accessible memories (SAM). VAMs are linked to a particular point in time, can be

updated and are verbally accessible. SAMs on the other hand, remain current and give rise to intrusive memories (flashbacks) in which ‘one does not know what happened in a verbally accessible way.

The last is the avoidance approach. To the extent that fear-related memories are painful and aversive, anxiety models suggest that a sexually exploited child increasingly avoid both external and internal reminders of the trauma. Particularly when these memories are prematurely inhibited, they may not be processed in ways that integrate them into other autobiographical memories, increasing the likelihood of unawareness.

Child sexual exploitation results into depression. This is one of the most common emotional and psychological reactions that children who are being or have been sexually exploited have in most cases. Symptoms for this include: prolonged sadness or unexplained crying spells, change in appetite with significant weight loss (without dieting) or weight gain; loss of energy or persistent fatigue or lethargy. There is significant change in sleep patterns (insomnia, sleeping too much, fitful sleep) among others. There is an also sexually transmitted infection among children. Some of the children who have been sexually exploited contract infectious diseases, for which they need treatment. These in the modern days include HIV/AIDS, Chlamydia, Crabs, Human Papilloma Virus (HPV or genital warts), Herpes, Hepatitis B, Syphilis and Trichomonas. An expert medical opinion is needed to identify and treat these infections because some of them can lead to very serious complications. These range from problems in pregnancy, passing the infection or disease on the baby, Pelvic Inflammatory Disease, cervical, penile and testicular cancer, and damage to the liver, heart, brain and/or spinal cord.

The impact of sex exploitation are many as discussed above but sex exploitation and peaceful existence using case studies has been ignored by fore going researchers which the current work has addressed using Bugembe Town Council.

### **2.3 International and National measures to end child sex exploitation**

There has been international, regional and national intervention to end child sex exploitation. This stems from supportive efforts from the member states to the principles of International Conventions and treaties that have an influence on policies and programs on child sexual exploitation. In 1976 an International Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment was made a reality. Article 1 calls member states to pursue national policy designed to ensure effective abolition of child labour and to raise progressively the minimum age for admission to employment or work to a level consistent with the fullest physical and mental development of young persons. Article 3(1) stipulates that the minimum age for admission to any type of employment or work which by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out is likely to jeopardize the health, safety or morals of young persons shall not be less than 18 years. The type of work referred in the articles is meant to be determined by national laws or regulations or by the competent authority, after consultation with the organizations of employers and workers concerned, where such exist. It was from this backdrop that this study assessed the extent to which children employed in tourism, bars and hotels have the years conforming to the provisions of the Minimum Age for Admission states that the convention.

Article 10 of the Minimum Age for Admission Convention states that this Convention revises, the terms set forth in the Minimum Age (Industry) Convention, 1919, the Minimum Age (Sea) Convention, 1920, the Minimum Age (Agriculture) Convention, 1921, the Minimum Age (Trimmers and Stokers) Convention, 1921, the Minimum Age (Non-Industrial Employment) Convention, 1932, the Minimum Age (Sea) Convention (Revised), 1936, the Minimum Age (Industry) Convention (Revised), 1937, the Minimum Age (Non-Industrial Employment) Convention (Revised), 1937, the Minimum Age (Fishermen) Convention,



1959, and the Minimum Age (Underground Work) Convention, 1965. Therefore, it remains that for the purpose of employment, such persons should be beyond 18 years.

The international Labour Organizations further came up with yet another Convention aiming at protecting children from the worst forms of child labour. The Convention prohibits and calls for the immediate action for the elimination of worst forms of child labour. This Convention is known as Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention of 1999. Under this Convention, a child is a person is defined as a person under the age of 18. Under Article 3 of the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, worst forms of labour comprise “*all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict*” (Article 3(a). Article 3(b) also states that procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances are among other worst forms of child labour, yet different countries have been employing children to perform these acts. Article 3 (c) gives that the “*use and procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties and work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children*” (Article 3(d)) are among other worst forms of child labour.

Another intervention into the plight of children has been under the Human Rights Commissions in which the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography was adopted in 2000 and ratified as the general Assembly Resolution A/RES/54/263 of 25 May 2000 entered into force on 18 January 2002. Under Article 2(a), the sale of children, child prostitution (Article 2(b)) and child pornography (Article 2(c)) are prohibited. Article 3(1) of the Optional Protocol to Convention on Rights of Children states that each State Party shall ensure that acts and

activities against rights of a child are fully covered under criminal or penal law; whether such offences are committed domestically or transnationally or on an individual or on the organized basis. These activities include sale of children for prostitution and pornography. Sexual exploitation of the child, transfer of organs of the child for profit and engagement of the child in forced labour are all declared crimes and a person carrying such activities is a criminal.

Like other International Convention, Protocols and Treaties, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (1989) states that a child means every human being below the age of 18 years (Article 2). Article 3 focuses on non-discrimination that every “child shall be entitled to the enjoyment of the rights and freedoms recognized and guaranteed in this Charter irrespective of the child’s or his/her parents’ or legal guardians’ race, ethnic group, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national and social origin, fortune, birth or other status”. Article 15(2) of the African Charter calls state parties to take all appropriate legislative and administrative measures to ensure the full implementation of this Article which covers both the formal and informal sectors of employment and having regard to the relevant provisions of the International Labour Organization’s instruments relating to children. Under this provision, state parties are meant to provide through legislation, minimum wages for admission to every employment and avoid child labour in informal and formal sectors. Provide for appropriate regulation of hours and conditions of employment; provide for appropriate penalties or other sanctions to ensure the effective enforcement of this Article; and promote the dissemination of information on the hazards of child labour to all sectors of the community.

In Uganda, the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda under Article 34 (4) provides for the protection of children from socio-economic exploitation and restricts them to perform work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with their education or to be harmful to their

health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. The Employment Act No. 6, 2006; Section 32 provides that a child under the age of 12 years shall not be employed in any business, undertaking or work place. A child shall not be employed in any employment or work, which is injurious to his or her health, dangerous or hazardous or otherwise unsuitable. A child shall not be employed between the hours 7 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Uganda also has the Children Act Cap 59, 2000 and section 8 of the Act states that no child shall be employed or engaged in any activity that may be harmful to his or her health, education or mental, physical or moral development. The Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act, No. 6, 2009, Part IV, states: A person commits the offence of aggravated trafficking where- (a) the victim of trafficking is a child. A person who while knowing having reason to believe that a person is a victim of trafficking engages the labour or services of that victim in that status, commits an offence and is liable to imprisonment for ten years. The Penal Code Act 120 (amended 2007) also prohibits sexual abuse against children and criminalizes abduction, child trafficking and sexual exploitation, child stealing; and commercial sexual exploitation. Conviction against any of these cases carries a maximum sentence of seven years. Other legislation that supports the elimination of child labour includes the following: the Occupational Safety and Health Act, No. 9, 2006, Part XII, sections 83- 93; the Education Act, 2008 (Universal Primary Education); the Local Governments Act, 1997 and the Mining Act 2005 restricts and prevents children from working underground.

In 2006, the Children Amendment Act of 2016 was enacted in relation to Children Act Cap. 59 of Uganda to enhance the protection of children; to strengthen the provision for guardianship of children; to strengthen the conditions for inter-country adoption; to prohibit corporal punishment; to provide for the National Children Authority; repeal the National Council for Children in related matters. Although attempts have been made to separate issues

of childcare and protection from child reformation by enacting two separate statutes dedicate to these two themes, Act 49 and 50 are largely made on a narrow basis that target children with problems, yet children are meant to be treated uniformly. The Schools' Act defines a child in need of care as one who is beyond parental guidance or involved in immoral behavior, loitering or street begging. Such children are considered to be as problematic as those accused of having committed or been convicted of criminal offences; the difference, if any, lay in degree only yet the law of Uganda is silent about such degree. Besides, the procedure for determining a child in need of care is still coercive and lack guarantees of procedural fairness.

The provisions regarding foster placement in the Approved Schools Act are also inadequate. For example, there is no provision for the supervision of fosterage. Reformatory Schools Act provided for the treatment of children who offended against the criminal law is still problematic children. In real terms, the Act is harsh and has limited regard to the rights of the children. There is also overemphasis to judicial means of dealing with offenses among children, thereby ignoring non-judicial means; yet in modern and African settings, non-judicial means have positive and far reaching impacts in handling cases of children.

Like the Childs Act 2010, the amended law of 2016 has weaknesses with regulating child care. The Adoption Act makes the provision for both in-country adoption and inter-country adoption under strict terms but with minimal regulatory mechanisms. Ugandan children are adopted by either British citizens or Ugandan citizens, provided the prospective parents are resident in Uganda or East Africa. Similarly, inter-country adoption is permissible only if it involves British and Ugandan citizens who were resident in East Africa as the adoptive parents. However, these restrictions are routinely circumvented as adoptive parents resort to guardianship as an alternative and leave the country with the children once the orders are granted. In accordance to CRC and the African Children's Charter of 1989 and 1990

respectively, the impetus for review of all child-related laws in Uganda is upon the Government of Uganda as a state party. Uganda established the Child Law Review Committee in 1990 to review all child-related laws in order to bring them in line with these treaties. The Committee produced its report in 1992, three years before Uganda adopted a new democratic Constitution in 1995. The Committee's recommendations resulted in the adoption of the Children Act in 1997. In accordance to the intentions of the committee, the Children Act is a comprehensive piece of legislation that brings various children- related laws together under one roof.

The above studies are broad. There is a need for case studies on sexual exploitation of children.

The current study has explored into the influence of sex exploitation on peaceful existence which have been ignored by earlier researchers, using Bugembe Town council as a case study. It is hoped that future researchers will undertake a similar study in other parts of the country.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.0 Introduction**

This chapter presents research methods the researcher used during the data collection. It starts with the research design, the study area, population and sample size. It then presents sampling procedure, sources and tools to data collection, quality control, data analysis and the anticipated problems.

#### **3.1 Research design**

The study was informed by a case study research design. The design was used since it allows demonstrations within human conditions and settlements by researchers (Pickard, 2007). The researcher therefore used exploratory research design to demonstrate conditions within three parishes of Bugembe Town Council and the extent to which the nature of people's settlement attract perpetuation of CSE among the actors. Exploratory design was also used because it allowed the researcher to assess the relations between natural, causal variables and allowed covariance in which qualitative and quantitative methods were used.

##### **3.1.1 The study area**

The study area was three parishes of Budhumbuli, Wanyama and Katende of Bugembe Town Council in Jinja District. The district is located in the Southeastern part of Uganda; approximately 54 miles (87 km) by road, East of Kampala - the country's Capital City. The District borders Kamuli District to the North, Luuka District to the East, Mayuge District to the Southeast, Buvuma District to the South, Buikwe District to the West and Kayunga District to the Northeast (Nankya, 2014). It is situated on the shores of Lake Victoria, near to the source of Nile River as shown on the map of Uganda.

Bugembe Town Council is a seat of Busoga Kingdom – one of the constitutional monarchies in Uganda. It is located in the Northeast of Jinja Municipality; approximately 8.5 kilometres along the highway between Jinja Municipality and Iganga District. The center attracts different groups of people coming from Kenya through Iganga Municipality. It also has different hotels and bars among which are the most havens for child sex exploitation.

### 3.1.2 The Population of the study

According to UBOS (2011), the population of the study was 33,100 living in Bugembe Town Council.

### 3.1.3 The sample size

A sample size of 80 members was determined by the use of the formula below;

$$n = \frac{z_{\alpha}^2 * p * q}{e^2}$$

Whereby

$Z_{\alpha}$  = the standard value from the normal distribution curve

$\alpha$  = level of significance and for research purposes

$\alpha$  = 0.05 (95% confidence interval)

$p$  = the proportion of respondents that responded and gave true information, which assumed to be equal to 0.5,  $q = 1 - p$

$e$  = the degree of precision/ the risk will take as 0.11

$Z_{0.05} = 1.96$

So,  $n$  was determined as;

$$n = \frac{(1.96)^2 * 0.5 * 0.5}{(0.11)^2}$$

$$= 79.372 \cong 80 \text{ respondents.}$$

### 3.1.4 Sampling procedure and selection

Purposive and snowballing sampling techniques were used during the study. Patton (2002) confirms that the logic behind purposive sampling is found in selecting respondents with rich information of the study and issues at hand. According to Pickard (2007), there are two approaches to purposive sampling. A priori sampling which establishes a sample framework before sampling begins and snowballing sampling which takes an inductive approach to the growing sample as the research progresses. Purposively, the researcher reached 10 key informants, 12 waters and service providers. The rest of the respondents were reached through snowballing which was constructed from purposive sampling technique. The researcher divided the sample size (80) into three parishes as presented on Table 3.1 of this dissertation

**Table 3. 1: Prior sampling by the researcher**

| Categories                           | Wanyama parish | Katende parish | Bugembe parish | Total |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------|
| Children under the parents/guardians | 17             | 17             | 17             | 51    |
| Waiters and service providers        | 4              | 4              | 4              | 12    |
| Children selling family shops        | 2              | 3              | 2              | 7     |
| Child domestic workers               | 3              | 4              | 3              | 10    |
| Total                                | 26             | 28             | 26             | 80    |

Source: Field survey, 2016

### 3.2 Methods of Data Collection

Primary and secondary sources of data collection were used. The researcher hoped that the use of the two types of data collection would complement one another during the study.



### **3.2.1 Primary source of data collection**

Primary source of data collection, this involved extraction of the information from the field in order to get firsthand information. The researcher used questionnaires and interviews as primary instruments for the data collection of this study.

#### **Interview Guide**

Formal interviews were administered by the researcher in a purposeful conversation (Lincoln & Guba, 1989) onto the respondents; particularly the key informants. These interviews were conducted by the researcher and verbal responses given by respondents. Both structured and unstructured interviews were carried out during the study. The unstructured interviews were used to gain holistic understanding and feelings of the interviewee about the study. Interview guide were administered on 10 key informants; six (6) were males and four (4) were females. These were above 40 years of age and married; some of whom five were former prostitutes in Bugembe town.

They had acquired level tertiary education with different occupations, and were coming from different religious affiliations in the area of this study. The selection was purposively done with the view that they would give rich knowledge to this study. Six males were interviewed with the view that they could easily elucidate reasons for males' involvement in sex exploitation of children. In addition to this reason, females were interviewed with the view that they have wider information on trafficking of children from Uganda to outside nations. Although at a different rate with males, females were interviewed since they are involved in sex exploitation of young males and mistreat children such as the young female domestic workers(Allnock, 2010;Bantebya *et al.*, 2014).

#### **Self-Administered Questionnaire (SAQs)**

Self-Administered Questionnaires are set of questions delivered by hand (Amin, 2005). The hand delivery can be at home, school/college, institution or organization office. During the

study, the researcher delivered the questions to respondents whom he found in hotels serving as waiters and services providers (12 respondents). These were interviewed because the researcher thought the researcher thought that they are among other categories that are sexually exploited in hotels and bars by men, they are sold and trafficked to other nations, while other are exchanged from place to another without their consent or knowledge.

Some of the respondents were found at home (51 respondents). Snowballing sampling technique was used to select them and these were children under the care of their mothers, father or both and guardians as well. The researcher targeted these children with a view that some parents and guardians mistreat their children, others expose them to forced labour, sale and forced children to involve in sexual behaviors at an early (Walakira, 2010). Other respondents were found selling their family shops with their mothers or sisters (7 respondents) and 10 respondents were children domestic workers who were also found at their employers' houses. These were also selected through snowballing sampling technique. Some of the questionnaires were closed in nature; which according to Trochim (2005) are questionnaires that allow a researcher to obtain information on relative preferences and importance. Other questionnaires were attitudinal embracing the Likert (1932) and Thurstone scales (Thurstone and Clave, 1929).

### **Participatory Approach Methods**

This method was used in order to allow some of the respondents such as the children that have been exploited in Bugembe town. These included 12 respondents or children who were waiters and service providers in hotels and bars; seven (7) respondents / children who were working in family shops and 10 that were working as domestic workers. These were reached through purposive (12) and snowballing sampling technique (7 working in family shop and 10 as domestic workers).

### **3.2.2 Secondary Sources of Data Collection**

This was obtained by reading News Papers (The New Vision and Daily Monitor), ten Journals on Children affairs, Instruments such as the 1995 Ugandan Constitution and International Human Rights Instruments such as African Charter and CRC, 34 text books and munities from Bugembe Town Council. These enabled the researcher to organize the background information of the topic and review of the literature. Part of the secondary sources of data collection has been used by researcher during the development of the proposal and was imperative while writing the review of literature to this dissertation. However; due to its major weakness of out-datedness with time, the researcher went ahead to conduct a field study to get the first hand information.

Under secondary method analysis was made on the international, regional and national policies, conventions, protocols and treaties in relation to the findings on sex exploitation of the children in Uganda. This presented an analysis of the policy implementation by the government of Uganda and the reaction of the public to protect the plight of the children by exploitative actors. They include the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), Convention on all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPRs), 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, Children's Act and National Council for Children (NCC) and the Family and Children's Courts (FCC).

### **3.3 Ethical considerations**

Ethical considerations are moralities and procedures the researcher passes through to carry out the study. It was used in order to assure respondents and to maintain the fact that the study is carried for the agreed purpose and in accordance to ethical procedures. The researcher got an introductory letter from the Department of Religions and Peace Studies of Makerere University. This was presented to respondents seeking for their consent to carry out

a research study about child sex exploitation in Bugembe Town Council. Besides, confidentiality and respect to the respondents was maintained during the study. Respondents were informed about the academic purposes of this study; how the study has no correlation with the government or any political or economic department.

### **3.4 Data management and analysis**

Qualitative and quantitative methods of data analysis were used to analyze the results. While in qualitative methods, descriptions and interpretation of findings was applied; in quantitative, analysis was primarily done by the use of SPSS to generate graphs and pi-charts to compare the findings for clear interpretations and inferences. However, most of the quantitative findings were presented in frequencies and percentage tables. The researcher borrowed a leaf from the Grounded Theory of data Analysis (Glaser and Strauss, 1967) in which comparisons was done onto results from different villages of this study.

### **3.5 Limitation of the study**

One of the limitations to this study was finance. It is important to note that the researcher has been a private student of Makerere University and he must use private finance for this study. In order to make it successful, the researcher appealed to relatives and friends who assisted in order to make the study successful.

Some of the respondents were not ready to give the information since they were under the control of their seniors. For example, some child prostitutes were not ready to give out the information; but the researcher applied participatory approach in order to get information from them.

### **3.6 Study Assumptions**

This study sought to gain new knowledge about sexual exploitation, specifically focusing on child sexual exploitation in the identified geographic area. There is a need to address the existing gap in the literature related to child sexual exploitation and their peaceful existence.

Research has found a general lack of awareness of child sexual exploitation as well as misunderstanding around its meaning among child sexual workers. This lack of awareness and understanding often results in children and youth not being properly identified and thus not receiving adequate services. Further, those who practice sexual exploitation among children are not being appropriately punished for the extent and severity of the crime.

A key assumption of this study is the premise that greater knowledge of the existing level of awareness of child sexual exploitation, including its meaning and conceptualization, as well as the challenges associated with victim identification, will lead to greater understanding of the phenomenon. The information available concerning human trafficking is limited. Data alone will not provide a comprehensive understanding of the problem; but, gaining a better understanding of the issue in the identified geographic area will provide a platform for child sexual exploitation identification efforts and research. It is assumed that the participants in this case study will speak honestly about their experiences and will offer their own perspectives and perceptions related to child sexual exploitation and the child welfare system.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### PRESENTATION, INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE FINDINGS

#### 4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the findings from the field. The researcher started with the response rate in which he shows the number of questionnaires delivered to the respondents and response rate. It then shows the demographic characteristics, and gives various themes and sub-headings basing on the objectives of the study.

#### 4.1 Demographic characteristics of the respondents

**Table 4. 1: Response rate**

| Categories                            | Frequency | Percent |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Number of questionnaires delivered    | 80        | 100     |
| Number of the questionnaires returned | 80        | 100     |

Table 4.1 shows that the researcher delivered 80 questionnaires and they were all returned from the respondents. The information corrected was supplemented by information from the Interview Guide (Key Informants).

**Table 4. 2: Sex of the respondents**

| Sex    | Frequency | Percent |
|--------|-----------|---------|
| Male   | 22        | 27.5    |
| Female | 58        | 72.5    |
| Total  | 80        | 100     |

Source: Field survey, 2016

Table 4.2 shows that there were many females than male respondents and this was attributed by the fact that females are the most victims of child sex exploitation as compared to their counterpart males.

**Table 4. 3: Age of the respondents**

| Age           | Frequency | Percent |
|---------------|-----------|---------|
| 16 - 25 years | 50        | 62.5    |
| 26 - 35 years | 30        | 37.5    |
| Total         | 80        | 100     |

Source: Field survey, 2016

Table 4.3 shows that majority of the respondents were between 16 – 25 years of age; constituting 62.5 percent of the respondents. This according to the key informants is the most age range that attracts actors in sex exploitation. They are the majority persons that are sold and later grow on job or in exploitation. The key informants also noted that most of the children that are sexually exploited range from 8 – 16 years and grow while in the exercise. They have little information on whom to approach for help. They are mostly used in minor or small hotels, bars and restaurants. They are enticed with daily payments as they work and this normally results into prostitution in the long run.

**Table 4. 4: Education levels of respondents**

| Education levels | Frequency | Percent |
|------------------|-----------|---------|
| Primary          | 27        | 33.8    |
| Secondary        | 30        | 37.5    |
| Tertiary         | 5         | 6.2     |
| None of these    | 18        | 22.5    |
| Total            | 80        | 100     |

Source: Field study, 2012

Table 4.4 shows that child sex exploitation occurs among less educated people and none-educated. For example, out of the 80 respondents that were interviewed, 37.5 percent had secondary level of education and 22.5 percent had no education at all. Most of the

respondents with non – levels had attended primary level but could not complete it due to lack of school fees, dropped out due to peer influence to engage in activities that could earn them wages.

## 4.2 Persistent reasons of sex exploitation of children

One of the objectives of this study was to examine factors for the persistent increase of sex exploitation of the children. These factors have been divided into economic factors, social, cultural and external factors as discussed herewith.

### 4.2.1 Economic factors

Under economic factors, the study established that poverty is predominant among people in Bugembe Town Council and the need for money have been the most overriding factors perpetuating child sex exploitation. Responses on the two factors are presented in Table 4.5.

**Table 4. 5: Economic reasons for sex exploitation among children**

| Economic factors                      | Strongly agree | Agree         | Not sure      | Disagree    | Strongly disagree |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Poverty                               | 21<br>(26.2%)  | 43<br>(53.8%) | 10<br>(12.5%) | 5<br>(6.3%) | 1<br>(1.2%)       |
| Need for money among young generation | 26<br>(32.5%)  | 50<br>(62.5%) | 4<br>(5.0%)   |             |                   |

Source: Field survey, 2016

On the statement whether “poverty as economic reason for child sexual exploitation” 26.2% of the respondents strongly agreed, 53.8% agreed, 12.5% were not sure, 6.3% disagreed and lastly 1.2% strongly disagreed, this implied that majority respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that poverty is among the major social - cultural factors for sex exploitation among children since parents are forced to marry off their children when they are not ready, others are vulnerable children who lack basic needs hence end up into prostitution. As a result, many girls and boys are exposed to child sexual



exploitation. Therefore to ensure peaceful existence of children in the society, restoration of cultural practices has to be emphasized. Poverty has caused persistent sex exploitation among the children; this is in agreement with (Ali, Thorbecke and Fields, 2000) who asserted that Poverty is a pervasive problem impacting the lives of most Tanzanians. Poverty in SSA is deep, severe and massive. Poverty was a perceived cause of CSE and a risk factor for many young people who do not have their basic needs met. Poverty affects every aspect of life for both adults and children.

*According to the key informants, it was stated that poverty has not only led to persistent sex exploitation among the children but it has also increased other ills against them. Fathers and mothers were mentioned to have sacrificed children as they search for riches.*

This situation was also mentioned among the business men such as hotel owners and bars as well who use children in their businesses as well as sacrificing the young ones. Respondents further noted that child sex exploitation has also increased due to the need for money among the actors and the children themselves. *One of the key informants stated that while there are adult men and women seducing and enticing children into child sex exploitation, children at times attract men for such. Some children seek for money in exchange of their bodies.*

However, there was a general agreement that such children are few and have already been exploited by other men, in fact, 90.0 percent of the respondents agreed that the need for money among the young generation has accelerated child sex exploitation in Bugembe Town Council.

On the statement “need for money among young generation” 32.5% of the respondents strongly agreed, 62.5% strongly agreed and lastly 5.0% were not sure, implies that most of the respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that the desire

for money among young generation has caused to increased cases of child sexual exploitation with reference to Bugembe town council, among the cases of sexual exploitation are influenced by desire for money hence ending up in commercial sex thus leading to child sexual exploitation. This is in agreement with literature from (Silberschmidt 2001) who argued that successful businesswomen in Dar-es Salaam are even said to pay younger children for sex.

*A key informant noted;*

*“Girls get tempted so much by money while still young. I used to see give was being given good things nice nickers that attracted me too; things like good and expensive creams, soap which looked expensive and attractive. Eventually I ended up giving in to those men”.*

#### **4.2.2 The Social-cultural factors**

The social-cultural factors include degeneration of morals among the children in Bugembe Town Council, breakdown of the cultural ties, traditional norms and values as presented in Table 4.6.

**Table 4. 6: The Social - cultural factors for sex exploitation among children**

| <b>Social-cultural factors</b>            | <b>Strongly agree</b> | <b>Agree</b>  | <b>Not sure</b> | <b>Disagree</b> | <b>Strongly disagree</b> |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Degeneration of morals                    | 15<br>(18.8%)         | 47<br>(58.8%) | 16<br>(20.0%)   | 2<br>(2.4%)     |                          |
| Breakdown of cultural ties                | 27<br>(33.8%)         | 40<br>(50.0%) | 10<br>(12.4%)   | 3<br>(3.8%)     |                          |
| Breakdown of traditional norms and values | 36<br>(45.0%)         | 41<br>(51.2%) | 3<br>(3.8%)     |                 |                          |
| Minimizing parents and elders             | 27<br>(33.8%)         | 39<br>(48.8%) | 11<br>(13.6%)   | 3<br>(3.8%)     |                          |
| Breakdown of the extended families        | 17<br>(21.2%)         | 58<br>(72.5%) | 4<br>(5.0%)     | 1<br>(1.3%)     |                          |
| Lust among men                            | 35<br>(43.8%)         | 40<br>(50.0%) | 5<br>(6.2%)     |                 |                          |

Source: Exploratory field survey, 2016

On the statement “degeneration of morals” 58.8% of the respondents agreed, 18.8% strongly agreed, 20.0% were not sure, 2.4% disagreed, implies that most of the respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that degeneration of morals in society has contributed to increased sex exploitation, in reference to Bugembe town council, morals have degenerated due to increased poverty among the people and exposure among the children. this is in agreement with Ajay Singh et al., (2011) argued that Norms and beliefs that support or condone gender-based violence and double standards of sexual behavior for females and males are widespread, although child sexual abuse and exploitation is widely recognized as unlawful, laws prohibiting abusive behavior are not always enforced and may conflict with other policies, practices and cultural beliefs. Besides this, the study established that children are no longer interested in forms of advice from their fathers and mothers. This has increased the class of a care free society in Bugembe and become a fertile ground for child sex exploitation

*traditional values and traditions; focusing on development and modern values, such children are vulnerable to sexual exploitation The informant noted that; one child from rich family used dress indecently at different occasions which made vulnerable to sexual exploitation by a mature boda-boda rider hence due to degeneration of norms and values among the young generation since they tend to shun off*

On the statement whether “breakdown of cultural ties” 38.8% of the respondents strongly agreed, 38.8% agreed, 12.4% were not sure, 3.8% disagreed, implies that most of the respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that breakdown of cultural ties in society is among the major social - cultural factors for sex exploitation among children, this may have as a result of poor parenting, adoption of western cultures in Bugembe town council hence many girls and boys are exposed to child sexual exploitation.

Therefore to ensure peaceful existence of children in the society, restoration of cultural practices has to be emphasized

On the statement “breakdown of traditional norms and values” 45.0% of the respondents strongly agreed, 51.2% agreed, 3.8% were not sure. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that breakdown of traditional morals and values in society has affected the peaceful existence of children in the community because they are exposed sex exploitation, in reference to Bugembe town council, traditional norms have declined among different societies to breakdown of cultural ties, traditional norms and values was increased poverty among the people and exposure among children. This is in agreement with Ajay Singh et al, (2011) argued that child sexual abuse and exploitation is widely recognized as unlawful, laws prohibiting abusive behavior are not always enforced and may conflict with other policies, practices and traditional norms and cultural beliefs.

*The key informants remarked that; many young children lack traditional sexual exploitation norms and values; this is caused by poor parenting, too much freedom to children hence being exposed to different western values hence leading children being exposed.*

On the statement “disrespect of parents and elders” 33.8% of the respondents strongly agreed, 48.8% strongly agreed, 13.6% were not sure, 3.8% disagreed, implies that most of the respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that disrespecting parents has contributed to increased sex exploitation, in reference to Bugembe town council, morals have degenerated due to too much freedom given to children by their parents during their upbringing, they have ended up learning different immoral habits hence being exposed to child sexual exploitation.

On the statement “breakdown of the extended families” 21.2% of the respondents strongly agreed, 72.5% agreed, 5.0% were not sure and lastly 1.3% disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that breakdown of traditional extended family in society has affected the peaceful existence of children in the community because they are exposed sex exploitation; in reference to Bugembe town council extended families are no longer important in their moral upbringing of children. The supervisory roles of the African families have died off and a child has remained a one man’s family rather than collective responsibility. This was in agreement with literature from Lalor (2004) who argued that connections to the extended family and village elders have weakened. In many settings, cultural taboos make open discussions on sexual matters difficult. Young generations are thus left to sort out traditional African values from emerging Western concepts that may shelter practices such as CSE.

*A key informant had this to say;*

*In most cases where the father and the mother are employed under the white color jobs, house girls and houseboys normally perpetuate child sex education onto the young ones left under their care. Surprisingly, it was established in the due course where the house girl or the house boy introduces such acts onto the child; some of the children found the acts attractive to be continued”.*

*The failure of parents to realize and intervene against such acts results into a new culture in which such children fall in love to such domestic workers. In the long run, children become failures in pursuing formal education.*

On the statement “Lust among men” 43.8% of the respondent’s strongly agreed, 50.0% agreed, 6.2% were not sure. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that Lust among men in different communities

has greatly has affected the peaceful existence of children in the community because many girls are said to be raped b lustful men. This therefore calls for sensitization of men on the dangers of engaging in children in sexual activities.

*A key informant noted;*

*Lust among men has increased which has perpetuated child sex exploitation, some men in Bugembe Town Council have been more interested in having sexual intercourse with young children. They have liaised with some of the actors especially whom they pay in exchange.*

*Another key informant said;*

*there has been many cases of rape, defilement of young girls due to permissiveness of society and the increased lust among men. These men tend to persuade these young girls by giving them small gifts and money hence forcing them in sex.*

#### **4.2.3 External factors**

There are hat are external factors included urbanization, the western influence, pornographic films and movies as presented in Table 4.7.

**Table 4. 7: External factors of sex exploitation among children**

| External factors              | Strongly agree | Agree         | Not sure      | Disagree      | Strongly disagree |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Urbanization                  | 22<br>(27.5%)  | 44<br>(55.0%) | 9<br>(11.3%)  | 5<br>(6.2%)   |                   |
| The western influence         | 30<br>(37.5%)  | 45<br>(56.2%) | 5<br>(6.2%)   |               |                   |
| Pornographic films and movies | 56<br>(70.0%)  | 23<br>(28.8%) | 1<br>(1.2%)   |               |                   |
| Modern education and science  | 9<br>(11.2%)   | 35<br>(43.8%) | 21<br>(26.2%) | 14<br>(17.5%) | 1<br>(1.3%)       |

Field survey, 2016

On the statement “urbanization as an external factor of sex exploitation among children” 27.5% of the respondents strongly agreed, 55.0% agreed, 11.3% were not sure and lastly

6.5% disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that urbanization has greatly affected the peaceful existence of children in the community because urbanization has been one of the most causes of increased sexual exploitation in Bugembe Town Council. It is one of the tourist sites and normally attracts different categories of the people. These among others have attracted the influx of the people from different areas with different cultures and values. As the town grows bigger, some of the children seek to live in the town than their local areas. They learn modern life practices as they live and shun away traditions. Besides, urbanization attitude has developed among the people of Bugembe focusing on increased development than looking after the children, this is in agreement with literature from Mbagaya, (2010) has pointed out that the rapid social changes in Africa along with increases in urbanization and individualism has led to greater isolation of families thus at times leading sexual exploitation. He notes the increased risk to children left with biologically unrelated caregivers when parents go to work. On the statement “the western influence” 37.5% of the respondents strongly agreed, 56.2% agreed, 6.2% were not sure. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that western influence as another factor perpetuating child sexual exploitation. It was mentioned that some children from Bugembe Town Council are exported to other areas outside Uganda such as Kenya, Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries to work in the tourist centers where adult men play sex with them. This is in agreement with (Lalor, 2004) argued that CSE is a recent phenomenon and a “western import” is omnipresent in SSA. According to one commentator, there is widespread belief that CSE “can be attributed to the insidious forces of modernity, foreign influences and rapid social change”

*The key informants also remarked that;*

*due to increased number of western styles of life adopted by the young generations, it has become easy for people to engage in child sex exploitation because neither a father, a mother nor a relative question why a certain child moves with a man. Besides, it was found that modern bars and hotels have never been part of indigenous African ways of life. Bars in Bugembe open from morning to midnight and various children have been employed for the service of the alcohol drinkers. These, among others, entice young females for sexual intercourse.*

On the statement “pornographic films and movies” 70.0% of the respondents strongly agreed, 28.8% agreed, 1.2% were not sure. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that the western life has been associated with pornographic films and movies around the world and Bugembe Town Council in particular. These are shown in various homes, bars and hotels where some of the children are employed. Since pornographic films and movie shops have been opened in Bugembe Town Council is not an exceptional. Children have been exposed to such films at homes when their parents are absent. While watching such movies, they get attracted to practice what is being shown to them. At this point, the study found the application of the behavioral theories. Laws and Marshall (1990) remarked that sexual deviant behavior and interests are learnt. According to Pavlovian conditioning theory and the social learning theory by Alfred Bandura, children practice better what they have observed from the model. Therefore, as children watch pornographic films and moves, they are compelled to practice them. This in turn leads them into being exploited by adult men and women.

On the statement “modern education and science” 11.2% of the respondents strongly agreed, 43.8% agreed, 26.2% were not sure, 17.5% disagreed and lastly 1.3% of the respondents

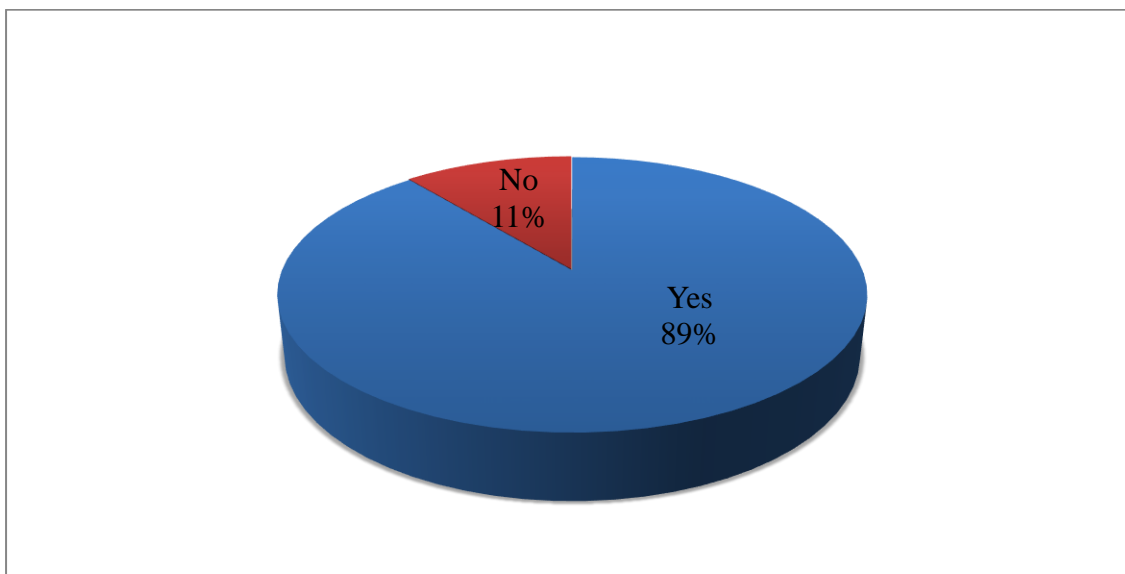


strongly disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that modern education and science has greatly impacted has affected the peaceful existence of children in the community because education and science were also among other factors mentioned by the respondents to have been causing child sex exploitation.

*A key informant noted;*

During the field study, it was established that there are other factors that have increased the rate of child exploitation and 89 percent of the respondents supported it with the yes response as presented in the figure 4.1 below.

**Figure 4. 1: Respondents Opinion on Child Exploitation**



**Source: Exploratory field survey, 2016**

According to Pie chart 1 above, majority 89% of the respondents agreed on the existence of child exploitation whereas 11% of the respondents disagreed. This implies that there were various forms of child exploitation in the community. Among other factors that were mentioned include the desire for sexual pleasure among the children at an early age, poor

parental upbringing, the school environment, unemployment, weak government policy and weak implementers of the existing policies.

### 4.3 The actors of child sex exploitation

The study was also set to establish the main actors in child sex exploitation in Bugembe Town Council. These have been divided under family, business and government actors.

#### 4.3.1 Family actors

The family factors include, family members such as the fathers, and children themselves as presented in Table 4.8.

**Table 4. 8: Family actors in sex exploitation of children**

| Family actors       | Strongly agree | Agree         | Not sure      | Disagree      | Strongly disagree |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Family members      | 12<br>(15.0%)  | 30<br>(37.5%) | 17<br>(21.2%) | 20<br>(25.0%) | 1<br>(1.3%)       |
| Fathers             | 6<br>(7.5%)    | 42<br>(52.5%) | 15<br>(18.8%) | 15<br>(18.8%) | 2<br>(2.4%)       |
| Children themselves | 27<br>(33.7%)  | 52<br>(65.0%) | 1<br>(1.3%)   |               |                   |

Source: Field survey, 2016

On the statement “family members as actors in exploitation of children”. 15.0% of the respondents strongly agreed, 37.5% agreed, 21.2% were not sure, 25.0% disagreed and lastly 1.3% of the respondents strongly disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that family members have also acted towards sexual exploitation of children. Those who supported the statement within the family environment earmarked the fathers and children themselves as being the most perpetrators of CSE. Therefore, all stake holders must intervene with the strategies to address the problem of CSE in the community. This is line with (Tang C, (2002) argued that family structure was also significantly related to rape as persons who lived with a single parent and

those who resided with one biological parent and one step parent were more likely to have been have been victims of sexual abuse than those living with both biological parents.

On the statement whether “fathers as family actor in exploitation of children” 26.2% of the respondents strongly agreed, 7.5% agreed, 52.5% were not sure, 18.8% disagreed and lastly 2.4% strongly disagreed, this implied that majority respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that fathers have led to increased cases of child sexual exploitation since Fathers normally engage in child sexual exploitation as a business. This is highly contributed by men. They can force their children into early marriages.

*According to the key informants;*

*General family in long run early marriages are common in Bugembe Town Council.*

*The fathers are commonly found behind the CSE. Fathers claim that girls are sources of wealth and they should be married young so that the husbands can find them virgin.*

*This was however found to have got different effects onto the lives of the young girls, the children and the parents in the long run.*

On the statement “children themselves” 33.7% of the respondents strongly agreed and 65.0% agreed and lastly 1.3% were not sure. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that children have been among other actors for the persistent child sex exploitation. This was because they wish to have sex when they are still young. It was mentioned that some young girls feel that sex is a basic need that should not be avoided in the early age.

*They contend that; “the early, the better”. It was further discovered that young girls feel that having sex in the early age gives them experience and prepare them well for the later years. Other young girls were mentioned to have been taken by the peer influence influence. The fact that they have observed and heard fellow children in sex*

*acts, they also feel mature to have sex with men; irrespective of age and nature (protected or unprotected sex.*

### 4.3.2 The Business Actors

The study established that there were business actors such as prostitutes and sex workers, hotel owners, drivers and bar owners that engage in CSE and the responses are presented in Table 4.9.

**Table 4. 9: Business actors in sex exploitation of children**

| Business actors             | Strongly agree | Agree         | Not sure      | Disagree    | Strongly disagree |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Hotel owners                | 14<br>(17.5%)  | 49<br>(61.2%) | 14<br>(17.5%) | 3<br>(3.8%) |                   |
| Prostitutes and sex workers | 23<br>(28.7%)  | 49<br>(61.2%) | 7<br>(8.8%)   | 1<br>(1.3%) |                   |
| Drivers of vehicles         | 5<br>(6.2%)    | 39<br>(48.8%) | 27<br>(33.7%) | 8<br>(10.0) | 1<br>(1.3%)       |
| Bar owners                  | 46<br>(57.5%)  | 25<br>(31.2%) | 8<br>(10.0%)  | 1<br>(1.3%) |                   |

Source: Field survey, 2016

On the statement “hotel owner as business actors in sex exploitation of children” 17.5% of the respondents strongly agreed, 61.2% agreed, 17.5% were not sure, 3.8% disagreed, implies that most of the respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that hotel owners have greatly influenced child sexual exploitation which has limited peaceful existence of children since most hotel owners in Bugembe Town Council employ young girls between 10 – 20 years of age to serve customers with alcohol. They are good and quick in serving and do not need a lot of payments at the end. The young girls are employed in both big and small hotels for the local people. Some of the small hotels employ young girls pretending to be daughters of the owners while assisting the mothers, relatives or fathers. This applies to the boy. Despite of employing this, the study established that girls are

preferred in hotels than boys since most clients are men looking for the young girls in the services of the hotels.

*A key informant had this to say;*

*I stay near a hotel but there is an hotel owner who allow especially young girls with mature men due to the desire to get money, he is forced to allow young girls in hotel hence leading to child sexual exploration therefore hotel owners are among the major business actors in sex exploitation of children.*

This implies that hotel owners have greatly acted towards sex exploitation of children hence immediately interventions have to be put in place such sensitizing hotel owners on the dangers of children sexual exploitation and punishments they are face in case they continue allowing young children in their hotels.

On the statement “bar owners as most actors in child sex exploitation” 57.5% of the respondents strongly agreed and 31.2% agreed, 10.0% were not sure and lastly 1.4% of the respondents disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that bar owners are among the main actors in child sex exploitation. These bar owners are both local and modern. Among the local bars, young girls are employed to serve the local beer, collect glasses and monitor the drinking place. While in participatory approach, the researcher further established that some of the female children serving in such bars receive men ready to have sex. In the modern bars of Bugembe Town Council, children between 11 -23 are given jobs and they are meant to work during the day and at night. It was established that none of the bars provide accommodation to the girls under their services. Therefore, the onus is on the girl to get a man to accommodate her at night or find her way.

*Another informant shared*

*It's interesting to me because I think it is such a huge problem and I think that the many bars have gone to, bar owners employ young girls to attract men to drink from their bars. These young girls are always sexually exploited by older men who come to bars. Bar owners employing young girls in bars has greatly acted towards increasing cases of child sexual exploitation. Therefore all stake holders must an act is totally prevented from happening. This can be done by putting restrict laws and punishments against child labour in bars.*

On the statement “drivers of vehicles as actors in child sex exploitation” 33.7% of the respondents strongly agreed and 65.0% agreed and lastly 1.3% were not sure. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that children have been among other actors for the persistent child sex exploitation. This was because they wish to have sex when they are still young. It was mentioned that some young girls feel that sex is a basic need that should not be avoided in the early age.

*The key informants, it was revealed that some of the drivers of long distance vehicles go with some female children on the long drive. These children are meant to satisfy sexual desires of the drivers. Besides, prostitutes and sex workers were among the business actors. It was mentioned that they ally with young girls of an early age for sexual income.*

On the statement “prostitutes and sex workers as actors in child sex exploitation” 28.7%% of the respondents strongly agreed and 61.2% agreed, 8.8% were not sure and lastly 1.3% of the respondents disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that prostitutes and sex workers have been among other actors for the persistent child sex exploitation.

*Some of the prostitutes and sexual workers were mentioned to have been involving in selling young girls to men for sex. As a lucrative business, someone prostitute or sex worker can own 6 – 10 young girls and whoever comes to her must purchase for a night. While the key informants knew this situation, they declined to state amount of money paid to a prostitute or sex worker in such acts.*

### **4.3.3 The Local Government Actors in child sex exploitation**

The local government actors were also identified among others actors in CSE. These include some of the government officials in Bugembe Town such as the police and local leaders.

Responses on the local government leaders are presented in Table 4.10.

**Table 4. 10: Local government actors in sex exploitation of children**

| Local government actors  | Strongly agree | Agree         | Not sure      | Disagree      | Strongly disagree |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| The police               | 5<br>(6.2%)    | 27<br>(33.8%) | 32<br>(40.0%) | 13<br>(16.2%) | 3<br>(3.8%)       |
| Local leaders in Bugembe | 2<br>(2.5%)    | 13<br>(16.2%) | 33<br>(41.2%) | 32<br>(40.0%) |                   |

Source: Field survey, 2016

On the statement “the police as local government actors in sex exploitation of children” 6.2% of the respondents strongly agreed, 33.8% agreed, 40.0% were not sure, 16.2% of the respondents disagreed and lastly 3.8% strongly disagreed. This implies that half percentage of respondents were not sure on whether the police had a hand in child sexual exploitation while another respondents agreed that police are actors in sex exploitation of children. This implies that less percentage supporting the facts that the police are actors in child sex exploitation. Those who supported never agreed that there are cases where the police-men are involved in the acts. It was stated that the police is blamed for the failure to implement the policies and protect the child rights in Bugembe.

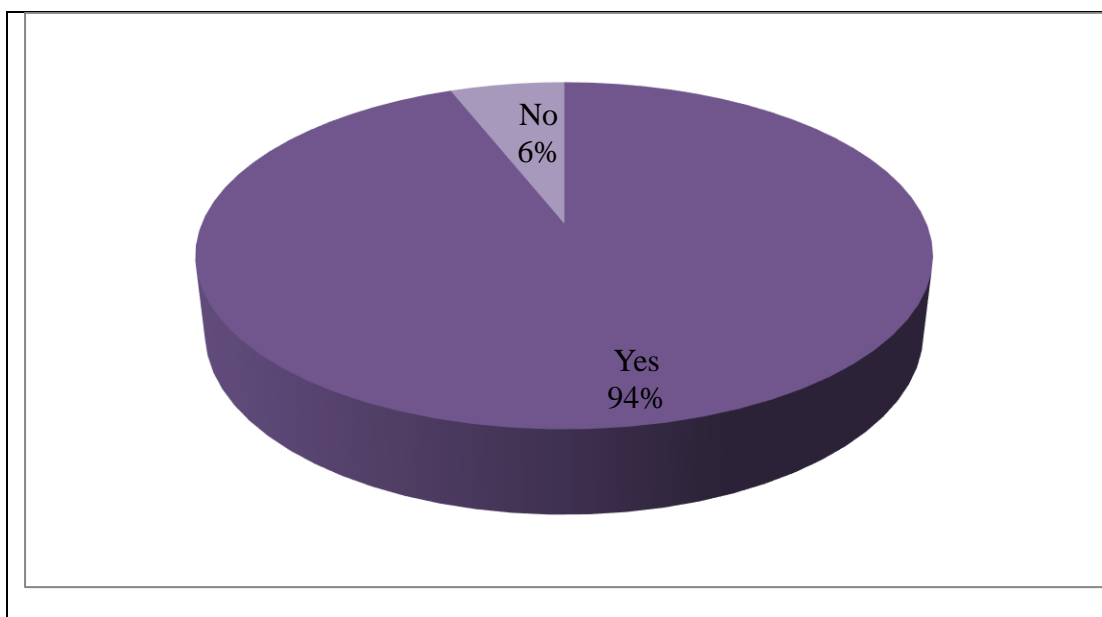
*The key informants;*

*further remarked that due to the laxity of the police and the local leaders in Bugembe, child sex exploitation has increased at a high rate. One of the victims of the child sexual exploitation met from one of the hotels noted that she was stolen from home by the woman councilor to the sex-workers.*

On the statement “local leader as local government actors in sex exploitation of children” 2.5% of the respondents strongly agreed, 16.2% agreed, 41.2% were not sure and lastly 40.0% of the respondents disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that local leaders are not among actors in child sex exploitation.

The researcher went ahead to ask respondents if there are other actors in child sex exploitation and 94 percent of the respondents supported the statement with a “yes” response. This is presented in the Figure 4.2 of this section.

**Figure 4. 1: Responses to other actors in sex exploitation among children in Bugembe Town Council**



**Source: Exploratory field survey, 2016**



According to Pie-chart 2 above, 94% of the respondents agreed that there are other actors of child sex exploitation apart from those discussed above while 6% of the respondents disagreed with the statement. These were mentioned include the teachers who are also involved in selling children for sexual affairs with men and teachers who exploit the children sexually in the due course of their duty.

*The key informants noted that;*

*Bugembe Town Council is near industrial areas of Jinja District and therefore, some girls are enticed by the factory workers in exchange for money and other gifts needed or requested by the girls.*

*Outright rape, to coercion with threats and humiliation, to transactional sex exchanged for grades or money”.*

*Another key informant said “Within schools, girls have sexual relationships with peers and teachers that all exist on a continuum of coercion. Sexual relationships with teachers are common in Bugembe Town Council since the council is near industrial areas of Jinja District and therefore, some of school girls are exposed sexual exploitation.*

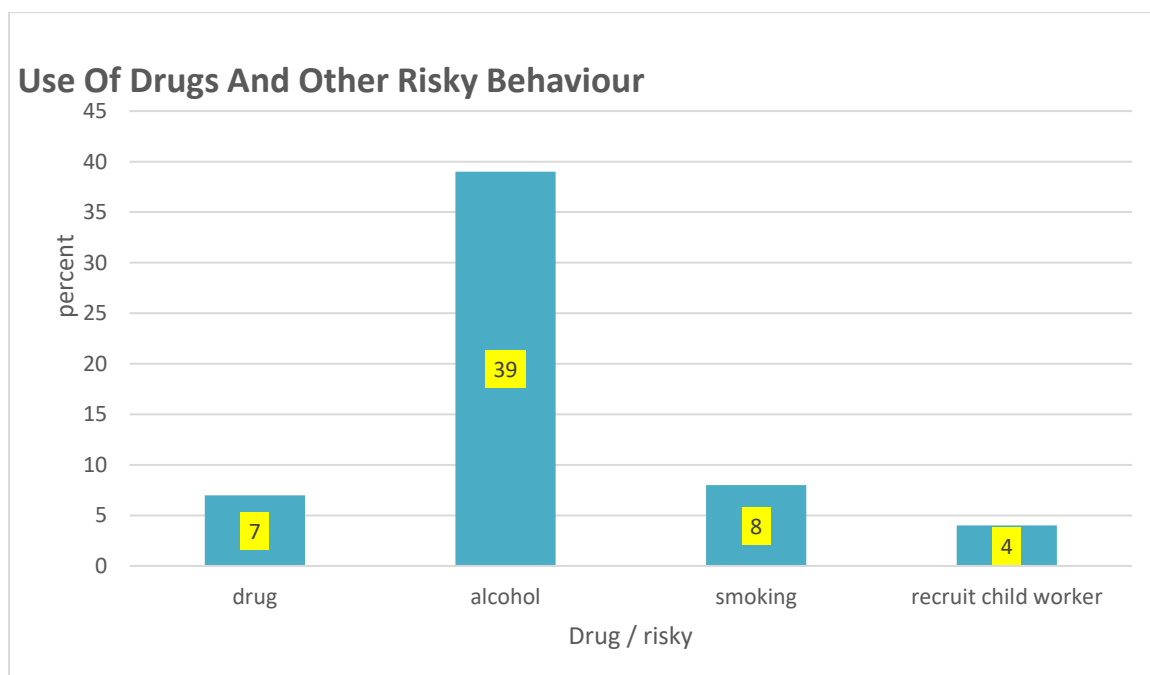
#### 4.4 The influence of sex exploitation on peaceful existence of children

The study established the following obstacles to peace resulting from sex exploitation among children

##### Drug Use

The study has established that children involved in CSEC are involved in several risk behavior and many used several substances to change their moods and the way they perceive things

**Figure 4. 2: shows drugs and other forms that influence risky behavior of the children which eventually deter peaceful existence.**



Of all the children interviewed, 39 percent reported ever consuming alcohol while 8 percent have ever smoked. Those who indicated that they have ever used drugs were 7 percent. The types of drugs used and behaviors considered risky by sex are presented in table and threatened peace full existence

**Table 4. 11: Drugs and behaviors that affect peaceful existence**

| <b>Characteristics</b>                       | <b>Frequency</b> | <b>Percentage</b> |
|--|------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Drugs used</b>                            |                  |                   |
| Mairungi                                     | 25               | 31.25             |
| Marijuana                                    | 21               | 26.25             |
| Alcohol                                      | 19               | 23.75             |
| Others                                       | 15               | 18.75             |
| <b>Behaviors that results drugs included</b> |                  |                   |
| Behavior considered risky                    | 20               | 25                |
| Violence                                     | 17               | 21.25             |
| Abusive language                             | 15               | 25                |
| Use of drugs                                 | 13               | 18.75             |
| Unprotected sex                              | 12               | 15                |
| None   | 5                | 6.25              |
| Others                                       | 10               | 12.5              |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>80</b>        | <b>100</b>        |

Alcohol is the predominant substance used. Other behaviors identified in the study considered Risky among this group were engaging in unprotected sex (15 percent); use of behaviors affected peaceful co-existence in the community

Risky behavior and History of child sexual abuse, including drug use

The study was interested in establishing whether the children engaged in CSEC affected peace resulting from physical or emotional injury through intentional beatings, uncontrolled corporal punishment, persistent ridicule and degradation, or sexual abuse, usually committed by guardians or customers

Drugs (18.75percent); Abusive language (25 percent) and violence (21.5 percent). The above

### **Emotional consequences**

To establish the influence of emotions on peaceful existence, the study tested the nature of feelings and strains in sexual activities

**Table 4. 12 distribution of children by their emotional experiences**

| <b>Emotional experience</b> | <b>frequency</b> | <b>Percent</b> |
|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Fear                        | 30               | 37.5           |
| Guilt                       | 5                | 6.25           |
| Depression                  | 15               | 18.75          |
| None                        | 20               | 25             |
| Others                      | 10               | 12.5           |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>80</b>        | <b>100</b>     |

The table above reveals that half of the respondents do not acknowledge experiencing emotional problems arising out of CSEC. However, the other half which acknowledges experiencing emotional problems; females face more problems compared to males. The commonest problem mentioned was fear 37.5 percent, followed by none 25 percent, depression 18.75 percent and guilt 6.25 percent.

Among the girls, 47% indicated that they do not face any emotional problems compared to 25% for the boys.

### **Illness and injuries**

The above reduces one's peaceful existence so it was important to collect information on illness and injuries suffered as a result of engaging CSEC.

### **Physical injuries**

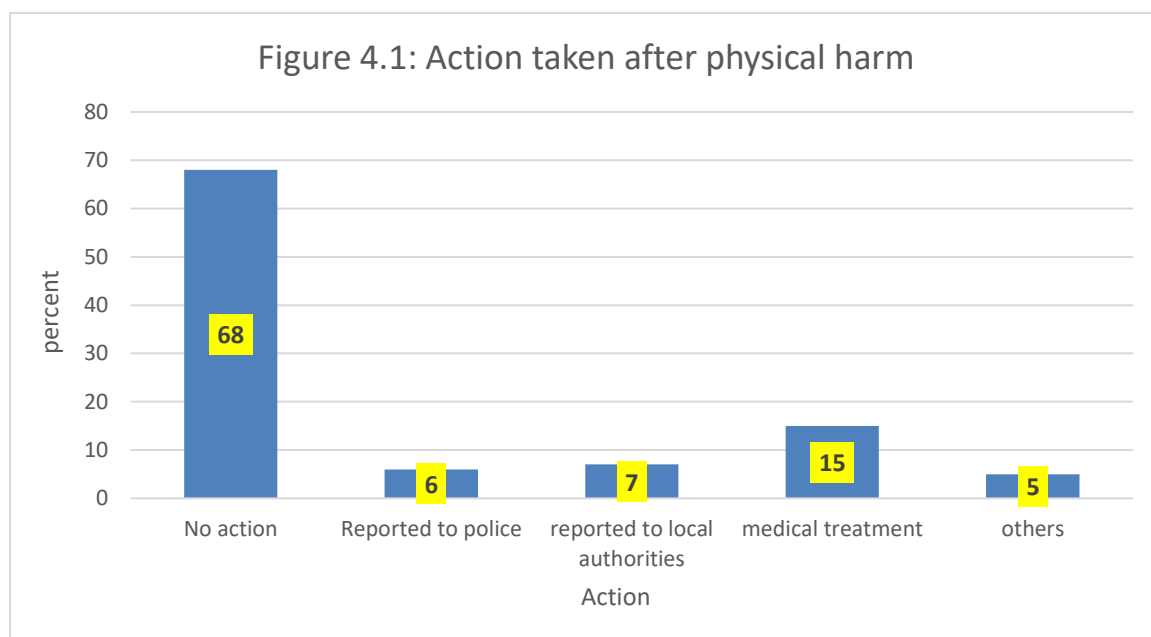
Understanding the physical harm, causes and action taken after harm by sex and age was important, table shows the distribution of children by whether they suffered physical harm and cause of harm by sex and age.

**Table 4. 13: Distribution Of Children By Whether They Suffered Physical Harm, Cause Of Harm And Action Taken After Harm By Sex And Age**

| <b>Characteristics</b>        | <b>Number</b> | <b>Percentage 100%</b> |
|-------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| <b>Total suffered</b>         |               |                        |
| Yes                           | 20            | 25                     |
| No                            | 60            | 75                     |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>80</b>     | <b>100</b>             |
| <b>Cause of harm</b>          |               |                        |
| Beaten by customer            | 40            | <b>50</b>              |
| Assaulted by client’s partner | 22            | 28                     |
| Harassments by police         | 18            | 22.5                   |
| Others                        | 10            | 12.5                   |

The table above shows that most of the respondents (75 percent) had not suffered any physical harm. The (25 percent) who suffered were mainly female and the commonest form of physical harm was beaten by customer, rape, assault by client’s partner. Harassment by police was found to be lowest. Physical harm to Children involved in CSEC does happen at a small scale; despite the physical harm majorities don’t take action as shown in figure 4.1 below

**Figure 4. 3: Action taken after physical harm**



Most of the children (68 percent) who suffered physical harm did not take any action while only 14 percent went for medical treatment. Those who either reported to Police or local authorities were only 13 percent.

The following nature of intimidation denied children from leading peaceful lives in the community; prolonged beating, deprivation of pay, cutting their pay denying freedom of movement, threat from police, which craft and threat others.

**Table 4. 14: harm to children engaged in commercial sexual activities**

| Nature of harm                  | number | Percent |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Beaten by customer              | 40     | 50%     |
| Assaulted by customer’s partner | 20     | 25%     |
| Defiled                         | 8      | 10%     |
| Physical harassment by police   | 12     | 15%     |
| Number of children              | 80     | 100%    |

*\*Multiple responses were considered*

Most children who reported to have been defiled said that they did not report the cases to the authorities since prostitution is illegal. Many victims of CSEC complained about the spontaneous beating and sexual violence.

Children also indicated that their wages are at times deducted or withheld with no explanation given by the exploiters combined with threats of denunciation and harm to relatives who stayed in the villages as a tactic to control the children. It was noted that the pimps many times use threats to keep children in the CSEC practice and these are very effective since children have no place of abode, some escaped from homes and to be chased away since they have no skills for employment.

Children also mentioned that their movements were curtailed and thus confined to work places such as bars, hotels, homes and had limited contacts with outsiders except with the permission of the exploiters. In some instances children were also in debt bondage resulting from negotiations made between the exploiter and parents/ guardians and have to pay back by working for the exploiters until they mature. Children noted that their pay could be deducted or withheld while sometimes it is irregular. This appears to keep the children in the practice.

Therefore physical and sexual violence goes along with wage manipulation as common tools used by the exploiters to psychologically and sexually cripple children. Addressing violence against children remains largely unaddressed as many NGOs are engaged in advocacy other than direct service provision including psychosocial support.

The focus group discussions revealed various risks faced by children involved in CSE related activities (including commercial sex work and karaoke dancing). It was established that children face problems ranging from sleeping for fewer hours, exposure to HIV/AIDs and STIs, early

Pregnancies and risky abortions which sometimes result in death. Many girls in *karaoke* dance groups for example, use alcohol (particularly gins packed in sachets) in order to dance

and impress patrons without any inhibitions. Some children reported taking drugs such as marijuana to get high and gain the confidence to approach customers and to brave the cold at night while waiting for clients, and to disengage from realities of the trauma caused by physical abuse and forced sexual encounters. Some girls indicated that many men do not want to use condoms and some gangs in town murder their colleagues after having sex with them and refusing to pay. In focus group discussions with girls in girls reported kinds of abuse they went through and their general thoughts about the prostitution they are engaged in. *“There is no future in prostitution, we feel helpless because prostitution is not taking us anywhere. In many occasions we end up going with any man who approaches us because we are desperate to survive. Girls who dance in karaoke groups are forced to remove knickers and to have sex with patrons and revelers. Some of those men do not pay or instead pay the karaoke manager who takes all the money. When you insist to be paid, they insult you, can beat you and force you out of their houses police, security guards and local defense also assault us”.* **Girl in a karaoke dancing group**

#### ***Circumstances for engaging in unprotected sex***

The study established that there is a close link between unprotected sexual activities with the desire for more money, as indicated by the majority (67 percent) of the children in figure 14 below. As one girl participating in karaoke dance group in observed

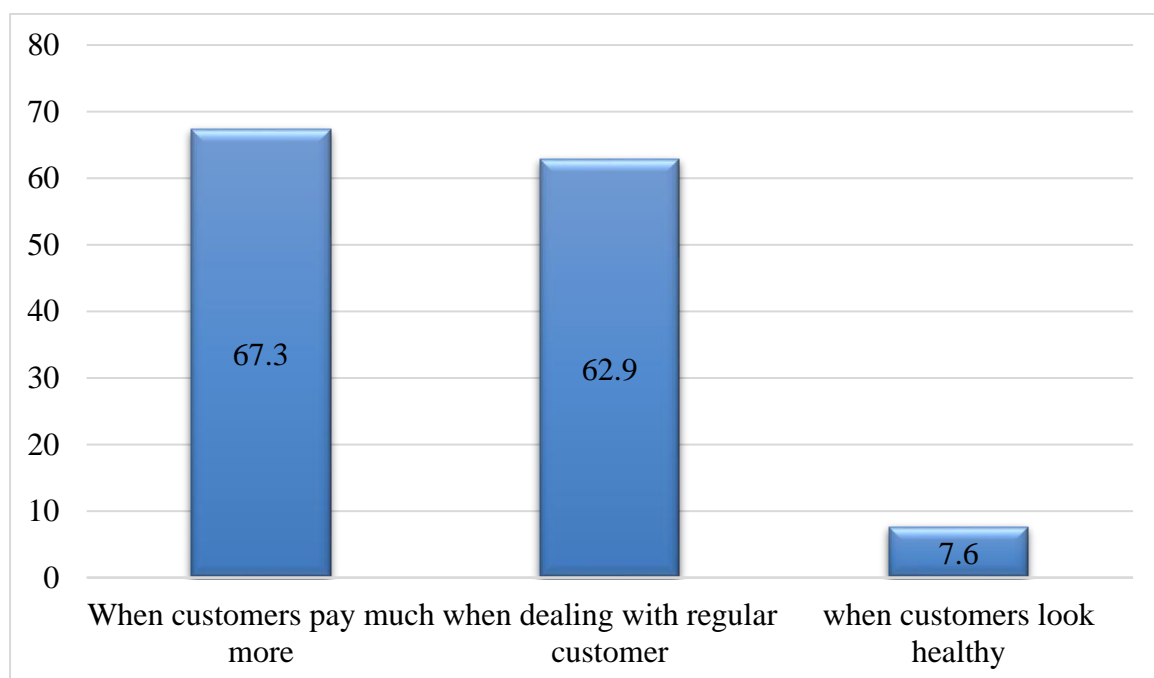
*you know sometimes customers ask you to go ‘live’ to give you more money, true we charge them more and we do not mind about catching HIV/AIDS but also remember we do not have any one to buy us food, pay rent, clothing and yet we have to look smart to attract customers.*

Other factors for inconsistent use of condoms or no condom use at all include: when dealing with a regular client/partner (63 percent) and perception of low risk of HIV and STIs.



The low rate of condom use is also partly attributed to the fact that these children left school early and may not have had opportunities to be exposed to HIV/AIDS awareness or limited accessibility to condoms in terms of price, accessibility of condoms and knowledge about condom use. This is evidenced by the misconception of the 7.6 percent of the respondents that equate healthy looks of a person with being HIV/AIDS negative. HIV information was found to be generally inadequate among these children.

**Figure 4. 4: showing factors leading to un protected sex**



### **Illness and Sexual activity**

The sexually transmitted diseases affected peaceful existence.

Sexually Transmitted Infections have been identified as cofactors in HIV/AIDS transmission.

The National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS prevention set a goal of reducing STIs by 25 percent by 2006. To achieve this goal, it is important for the CSEC population to know about STIs, their signs and symptoms and treatment. Children involved in CSEC, who use multiple partners and do not know the symptoms of the disease may fail to recognize it and

consequently may not get treatment for such illness; there are also a lot of occupational hazards associated with CSEC. The above eventually deter peaceful existence.

**Table 4. 15: Children’s knowledge of STI’S, Ever suffered from STI, where treatment for STI Was sought, and precautions against STIs By sex**

| characteristic                        | no        | %          |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| <b>Know of STI</b>                    |           |            |
| Yes                                   | 60        | 75         |
| No                                    | 20        | 25         |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>80</b> | <b>100</b> |
| <b>Ever suffered from STI</b>         |           |            |
| Yes                                   | 40        |            |
| No                                    | 40        |            |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>80</b> | <b>100</b> |
| <b>Placement of treatment for STI</b> |           |            |
| Clinic                                | 10        | 12.5       |
| Hospital                              | 20        | 25         |
| Drug shop                             | 16        | 20         |
| Didn’t seek any help                  | 20        | 25         |
| Others                                | 14        | 17.5       |
| Total                                 | 80        |            |

The table above indicates that 75 percent of the children interviewed knew the diseases transmitted through sexual intercourse. A small percentage (25 percent) was ignorant of STI/STDs.

Interestingly, seventy percent have never suffered any STI/STDs. Of those who had ever suffered from STI/STDs, almost equal numbers of both sexes had ever contracted and a STI/STDs. Majority was in the age category of 15-17 years. Those who have ever suffered majority sought treatment from clinics, hospitals and drug shops. A small percentage goes to

traditional healers and others did not bother to seek medical help. Both sexes mentioned condom use as major precaution against STIs. A few mention use of trusted customers and medical checkup as precaution. 15 percent are reported not to have taken any precaution against STIs

The study established that abortion hindered peaceful existence.

Condoms and pills are mentioned higher as one of the precautionary measures against pregnancy. This partially explains the low levels of abortion among this group of children. The withdrawal, rhythm and abortion are least mentioned amongst the precautionary measures. The study revealed that children 75 percent have never done an abortion. Only 18 percent have done it once and 5 percent have done it twice. Abortion does exist among these CSEC interviewed. In the midst of the HIV/AIDS epidemic like Uganda is facing, young people must be fully equipped with all information pertaining to the disease. Information on HIV from peers sometimes is not adequate and radios messages are not comprehensive and timely.

Cultural beliefs about sexual behaviors and the desire to get quick money may override the need for protection. Studies have also shown that majority of these girls have limited ability to negotiate for safe sex practices; access to condoms and treatment all contribute to continued high risk of exposure to HIV/AIDS. Thus providing effective health care services and other support services and needs may protect these CSEC leading to peaceful existence.

#### **4.5.1 Individual impacts from child sexual exploitation that affected their peace**

Individual impacts include violation of rights of children, traumatization, effects on cognitive domain and poor class performance if a girl is schooling. Responses to the impacts are presented in Table 4.15.

**Table 4. 15: Individual impacts from sex exploitation of children**

| Impacts on an individual                          | Strongly agree | Agree         | Not sure      | Disagree    | Strongly disagree |
|---|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Violation of rights of children                   | 38<br>(47.6%)  | 21<br>(26.2%) | 16<br>(20.0%) | 5<br>(6.2%) |                   |
| Traumatization                                    | 33<br>(41.2%)  | 46<br>(57.5%) | 1<br>(1.3%)   |             |                   |
| Affecting the cognitive domain                    | 51<br>(63.8%)  | 19<br>(23.8%) | 5<br>(6.2%)   | 5<br>(6.2%) |                   |
| Affects academic performance                      | 18<br>(22.5%)  | 54<br>(67.4%) | 7<br>(8.8%)   | 1<br>(1.3%) |                   |
| Increases fear and shame among children           | 16<br>(20.0%)  | 60<br>(75.0%) | 3<br>(3.7%)   | 1<br>(1.3%) |                   |
| Increases the spread of diseases such as the STDs | 18<br>(22.5%)  | 58<br>(72.5%) | 4<br>(5.0%)   |             |                   |
| Increases the spread of HIV/AIDS                  | 46<br>(57.5%)  | 27<br>(33.7%) | 6<br>(7.5%)   | 1<br>(1.3%) |                   |

Source: Field survey, 2016

On the statement “violation of rights of children as an individual impact from sex exploitation of children” 47.6% of the respondents strongly agreed, 26.2% agreed, 20.0% were not sure and lastly 6.2% of the respondents disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that sex exploitation of children leads to violation of rights of children.

On the statement “dramatization as an individual impact from sex exploitation of children” 41.2% of the respondents strongly agreed, 57.5% agreed and lastly 1.3% were not sure. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that children are traumatized and their cognitive domain is affected. Experience of child sex exploitation leaves a mark in a child’s mind and whenever similar cases occur, the girls reflect to the experience. This is in agreement with Conte, (1989) argued that one of the impacts of CSE has been the posttraumatic stress. This refers to certain enduring psychological symptoms that occur in reaction to a highly distressing, psychically disruptive event, For example, children who have been exploited exhibit more posttraumatic fear,

anxiety, and concentration problems than do their non-abused peers. These affect peaceful existence. This was mentioned by the key informants during the study in Bugembe Town Council.

*Some of the key informants noted that some of victims of child sex exploitation normally face trauma tendencies. Children who have been exploited exhibit more posttraumatic fear, anxiety, and concentration problems than do their non-abused peers. This was mentioned by the key informants during the study in Bugembe Town Council.*

On the statement “affecting the cognitive domain” 63.8% of the respondents strongly agreed, 23.8% agreed, 6.2% were not sure and lastly 6.2% of the respondents disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that child sexual exploitation affects the cognitive domain of the sexual exploited children hence limiting their peaceful existence in the community.

*Three women key informants noted that child sex exploitation makes a girl vulnerable. It increases fear; in later years if she is married, she may fear to deliver. Those who drop out of schools become vulnerable since they will not have attained imperative skills to support their lives in the future. Their dependence on husband in their families subjects such girls onto torture and mistreatment by the husbands.*

On the statement “affects academic performance” 22.5% of the respondents strongly agreed, 67.4% agreed, 8.8% were not sure and lastly 1.3% of the respondents disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that child sexual exploitation affects academic performance. This is because many of the boys and girls tend to lose attention on their studies and end up diverted to sexual practices which leads to poor performance at school and in most cases they end up dropping out of school hence limiting their peaceful existence in the community.

*The key informants also noted that child sex exploitation increased fear and shame among children who have been affected. Their academic performance becomes weak and most of them leave school for other activities in life.*

On the statement “increases fear and shame among children” 20.0% of the respondents strongly agreed, 75.0% agreed, 3.7% were not sure and lastly 1.3% of the respondents disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that child sex exploitation increases fear and shame among children.

#### **4.5.2 Societal impact and peaceful existence**

The social impacts have been discussed on the morality of the society and the decadence of morals among the young generation. More particularly, increased juvenile delinquents due to the trauma and psychological effects. These findings are presented in Table 4.16.

**Table 4. 16: Societal impacts from sex exploitation of children**

| Impacts on the society                                  | Strongly agree | Agree         | Not sure      | Disagree      | Strongly disagree |
|---|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Increases immorality in the society                     | 16<br>(20.0%)  | 59<br>(73.8%) | 3<br>(3.8%)   | 2<br>(2.5%)   |                   |
| Increases on the decadence among children and the youth | 37<br>(46.2%)  | 43<br>(53.8%) |               |               |                   |
| Increases single mothers in the society                 | 11<br>(13.8%)  | 37<br>(46.2%) | 21<br>(26.2%) | 11<br>(13.8%) |                   |
| Increases the number of the juvenile delinquents        | 17<br>(21.2%)  | 39<br>(48.8%) | 22<br>(27.5%) | 2<br>(2.5%)   |                   |

Source: Field survey, 2016

On the statement “Increases immorality in the society” 20.0% of the respondents strongly agreed, 73.8% agreed, 3.8.2% were not sure and lastly 2.5% of the respondents disagreed.

This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that child sex exploitation increase immorality among the society members. Men in particularly develop lust having known that around the Bugembe Town Council, there are children ready for sex.

*The key informants noted that men reach an extent of starving their families while saving money to buy such children for sex. Immorality also increase among the young generation, particularly girls. At the pinnacle, some girls have been dropping out from schools with the hope to earn a living through sex.*

*Remarkably; two female key informants noted that since some families are poor, due to lack of school fees. Some of the young girls end up convincing their parents to leave school and start working. Other young girls are convinced by the elder sisters already employed in some of the hotels and bars. Altogether, respondents noted that this is the increased immorality and moral decay in the society.*

On the statement “increases on the decadence among children and the youth” 46.2% of the respondents strongly agreed and lastly 53.8% agreed. This implies that majority of respondents with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that child sexual exploitation increases on the decadence among children and the youth.

On the statement “Increases single mothers in the society” 13.8% of the respondents strongly agreed, 46.2% strongly agreed, 26.2% were not sure and lastly 13.8% disagreed, implies that most of the respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that child sexual exploitation increases single mothers in the society since most of the impregnated girls end up single mothers. The single mother send up leading a miserable life.

*one key informant reported;*

*Some young girls are impregnated in the due course of child sex exploitation. Weighing the dire consequence that would emanate from abortion, they opt to give birth to children whose fathers are unknown. In such circumstances, they could no long become girls; neither can they be called married mothers.*

They therefore start the trajectory of single mothers and this promotes further immorality, promiscuity and prostitution. Respondents noted that because of their nature as single mothers, most of them opt to rent single room houses where they continue prostitution.

On the statement “increases the number of the juvenile delinquents” 21.2% of the respondents strongly agreed, 48.8% strongly agreed, 27.5% were not sure and lastly 2.5% disagreed, implies that most of the respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that child sexual exploitation increases the number of the juvenile delinquents in society, examining the situation in Bugembe Town Council, the key respondents noted that the situation is a fertile ground for the juvenile delinquents. These have been due to drop out from schools, mistreatment by their parents since they cannot afford to cater for their needs, poor upbringing (brought up by single mothers or fathers).

*One of the hotel managers in Bugembe had this to say “it was asserted that working in hotel is much better than being juvenile delinquents who are ever scavenging around the town city center looking for what to eat from the dustbin. Nonetheless, the hotel managers became so critical on the issue of trafficking children through hotels in Bugembe and the employment of the young girls for sex exploitation in their lodges. The manager therefore concluded that all situations have been challenging to the young girls who think working without real formal skills is possible.*



#### **4.6 Policy intervention measures analysis**

The last objective of this study aimed at analyzing the policy implementation measure and the extent of their success in such environment. This section therefore suggests measures that can be taken for children to lead a happy life. In the first instance, the findings of the study show that child sex exploitation is carried out onto children less than 18 years, these young girls and boys have been employed by hotel and bar owners to provide services to the incoming clients. While this has increased clients and profits to the bar and hotel owners, it has been the violation of rights of children. Recalling well Article 1 of the Millennium Age for the Admission to Employment of 1976, member states are meant to pursue a national policy designed to ensure effective abolition of child labour and to rise progressively the minimum age for admission to employment or work to a level consistent with the fullest physical and mental development of young persons. Article 3(1) of the Millennium Age for the Admission to Employment of 1976 stipulates that the minimum age for admission to any type of employment or work which by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out is likely to jeopardize the health, safety or morals of young person's shall not be less than 18 years.

As a member state, Uganda has ratified and incorporated the Articles of Millennium Age for the Admission to Employment 1976 into the municipal laws. Like what has been stated as the minimum age to employ persons into different categories of work, Article 34 (4) of the 1995 Constitution of Uganda gives a basis to protect children from socio-economic exploitation and restricts them to perform work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with their education or to be harmful to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development. The Employment Act No. 6, 2006; Section 32 provides that a child under the age of 12 years shall not be employed in any business, undertaking or work place. A child

shall not be employed in any employment or work, which is injurious to his or her health, dangerous or hazardous or otherwise unsuitable. A child shall not be employed between the hours 7 pm. and 7 am.

However, the findings of this study show that children in Bugembe Town Council are employed in bars and hotels against the minimum and recommended age. Some work beyond 7 pm in bars and hotels. This means that while Uganda has worked on the constitutional affairs and its laws as well, the employment of children below 18 years has been taking place. The study findings show that children have been employed in most of the informal works.

Under Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act, No. 6, 2009, Part IV, states: A person commits the offence of aggravated trafficking where- (a) the victim of trafficking is a child. *A person who while having reason to believe is a victim of trafficking engages the labour or services of that victim in that status, commits an offence and is liable to imprisonment for ten years.* However, the findings show that acts of this kind have been taking place in Uganda and established children have been sexually exploited and there has been less effort to implement the law in its totality.

Despite such acts against the rights to children, the government of Uganda, its ministries, police and other departments have not adequately intervened to bring child sex exploitation to the end. This however has been taking place amidst challenges and the findings from this study can be presented as challenges to the law in Uganda.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **5.0 Introduction**

This chapter presents the discussion of the findings, conclusions and recommendation to this study. It however starts, with the summary of the facts that this study has raised.

#### **5.1 Summary of the study findings**

The summary is made basing on the study objectives which were; to establish influencing factors to persistent sex exploitation of children, identify the main actors of sex exploitation, assess the impacts of sex exploitation among children and analyze the intervention measures to improve peaceful existence of children in Uganda

#### **5.1 Summary of the Findings**

##### **5.1.1 The influencing factors to persistent sex exploitation of children in Uganda**

Findings show that from the table 4.5 above on the On the statement whether “poverty as economic reason for child sexual exploitation” 26.2% of the respondents strongly agreed, 53.8% agreed, 12.5% were not sure, 6.3% disagreed and lastly 1.2% strongly disagreed. This implies that poverty is among the major social - cultural factors for sex exploitation among children. This is in agreement with Ali, Thorbecke and Fields, (2000) who asserted that Poverty is a pervasive problem impacting the lives of most Tanzanians. Poverty in SSA is deep, severe and massive. Poverty was a perceived cause of CSE and a risk factor for many young people who do don’t have their basic needs met.

Furthermore On the statement “need for money among young generation as Social - cultural factors for sex exploitation among children” 32.5% of the respondents strongly agreed, 62.5% strongly agreed and lastly 5.0% were not sure, implies that most of the respondents agreed with the statement. This is agreement with literature from Silberschmidt, (2001) who

argued that successful businesswomen in Dar-es Salaam are even said to pay younger children for sex.

Furthermore On the statement “urbanization as an external factor of sex exploitation among children” 27.5% of the respondents strongly agreed, 55.0% agreed, 11.3% were not sure and lastly 6.5% disagreed. This implies that urbanization has greatly affected the peaceful existence of children in the community, this is in agreement with literature from Mbagaya, (2010) has pointed out that the rapid social changes in Africa along with increases in urbanization and individualism has led to greater isolation of families thus at times leading sexual exploitation.

### **5.1.2 The main actors of sex exploitation in Uganda**

Findings show that from the table 4.3 above on the on the statement “family members as actors in exploitation of children”. 15.0% of the respondents strongly agreed, 37.5% agreed, 21.2% were not sure, 25.0% disagreed and lastly 1.3% of the respondents strongly disagreed. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. This is line with Tang C, (2002) argued that family structure was also significantly related to rape as persons who lived with a single parent and those who resided with one biological parent and one step parent were more likely to have been have been victims of sexual abuse than those living with both biological parents.

On the statement “On the statement “hotel owner as business actors in sex exploitation of children” 17.5% of the respondents strongly agreed, 61.2% agreed, 17.5% were not sure, 3.8% disagreed, implies that most of the respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that hotel owners have greatly influenced child sexual exploitation which has limited peaceful existence of children since most hotel owners in Bugembe Town Council employ young girls between 10 – 20 years of age to serve customers with alcohol. They are good and quick in serving and do not need a lot of payments at the end.

### **5.1.3 The influence of sex exploitation on peaceful existence among children in Uganda**

From the findings, the statement "traumatization as an individual impact from sex exploitation of children" 41.2% of the respondents strongly agreed, 57.5% agreed and lastly 1.3% were not sure. This implies that children are traumatized and their cognitive domain is affected which affects peaceful existence. This is in agreement with Conte, (1989) argued that one of the impacts of CSE has been the posttraumatic stress. This refers to certain enduring psychological symptoms that occur in reaction to a highly distressing, psychically disruptive event.

Furthermore On the statement "bar owners as most actors in child sex exploitation" 57.5% of the respondents strongly agreed and 31.2% agreed, 10.0% were not sure and lastly 1.4% of the respondents disagreed.. This implies that majority of respondents agreed with the statement. Since majority agreed, it implies that bar owners are among the main actors in child sex exploitation.

### **5.1.4 The intervention measures to improve peaceful existence of children in Uganda**

## **5.2 Conclusion**

This section comprises of the conclusion of study.

### **5.2.1 The influencing factors to persistent sex exploitation of children in Uganda**

According to the findings of this study, it can be concluded that most of the factors to persistent sex exploitation of children in Uganda are within the environment where children live. Exploitation of child and abuse of their rights start from the family background to other environments such as schools, and the society. Therefore, effort to curb down exploitation of children need to start from the family environment.

### **5.2.2 The main actors of sex exploitation in Uganda**

The study found that there are different actors in sex exploitation of children. These actors live, move and play with the children. Among others, actors that live with the children are the basis of intervention. These include fathers, brothers and relatives that stay with the children. The study also established that some of the young girls in Bugembe Town Council have been drawn into sex exploitation by their sisters, brothers, and relatives who have been working in bars and hotels. This means before the occurrence of sex exploitation, there must be experienced actors. Since children are born within the family environment where the basic actors live with the children, and since the findings of this study revealed that within the family environment there are actors; efforts need to be directed to the families in the due course.

### **5.2.3 The impacts of sex exploitation among children in Uganda**

Apart from the society impacts, the findings of this study established that children are the most affected by sex exploitation. The psychological, and the physical harm experienced by the children have long lasting impacts on their lives than the lives of the societies and people they live with. It has been found that sex exploitation can change the life style of individual persons into prostitute, sex-worker and above all; a child can be a single mother with different challenges altogether. Other children develop complications in the reproductive system due to early sex.

Despite of the persistent causes of sex exploitation among the children, the actors and its effects on the children; the study revealed that there is international and national concern about the plight of the children. Efforts at the international, regional and national level have been put across to defend and protect the children. However, in all approaches sex exploitation among children has never ceased. It is from perspective that the study derives its recommendations.

### **5.3 Recommendations**

This section comprises of the recommendation of study. The recommendations in this section show the way forward;

#### **5.3.1 The influencing factors to persistent sex exploitation of children in Uganda**

The researcher recommends that research is needed to identify potential protective contextual factors that can be utilized to dissuade adults from sexually exploiting children, the risk factors and they may well be a useful starting point in the search for potential protective factors.

#### **5.3.2 The main actors of sex exploitation in Uganda**

The researcher recommends that society such family, business actors like hotel owners, bar owners together with local government should develop in accordance with the improved treatment of children. If this proves to be the case, the flourishing of our societies is directly related to how we treat the most vulnerable members of our society. Therefore, every effort needs to be made to ensure children have at the very least a safe and abusive-free environment in which to grow up.

#### **5.3.3 The impacts of sex exploitation among children in Uganda**

The researcher recommends that there is need for corrective responsibility and effort to provide a peaceful environment to the children in the due course. There is a need to sensitize children about the dangers of early marriages; and acts such as prostitution and sex-workers. In all sensitizations, children need to be enlightened with the focus of becoming responsible citizens of the society

## **5.4.5 General Recommendations**

### **Recommendations to the government/policy makers**

Child protection policies and interventions should integrate poverty reduction and socio-cultural components aiming to explicitly address the combined and stultifying effects of income poverty and social norms drivers.

There is a need to strengthen delivery of, and access to, social services that are deemed to have the most protective functions for children particularly primary and secondary education, primary health care, information about sexual and reproductive health, community sensitization around sexual abuse and related risks/social norms

Supportive laws to reduce on children sexual exploitation such as a law should be vigorously enforced to protect the children both girls and boys from sexual exploitation and its associated problems. This law should not be used by the parents to get money from the culprit but should instead protect the young children.

### **Recommendations to the Non-Government Organizations**

Awareness raising and information programs should be developed to reach a specific target group, Priority should be given to parents, teachers especially at primary level, government officials, the judiciary, parliamentarians, political and religious leaders, and of course the children themselves, this awareness is to create sensitization about the dangers of child sexual exploitation and how best it be prevented.

Campaigns should be organized at national and local levels to impress upon the communities and the parents the importance of education and the dangers of child sexual exploitation.

Non-government organizations should be encouraged to initiate campaigns adapted to rural populations using popular theatre dramas, songs and dance.



### **Recommendations to the parents**

Open communication to the children by parents. Parental bonding plays a large part in whether they feel they need to conform to their social society. If parents are involved, have open communication with their child, and monitor what their children are doing, then they are more likely to stay away from sexual exploitation and have behave morally in the society.

Parents must be argued to talk about sex matters with their children and much care with adolescents. This will help them cope with the pressures of body changes in their lives and feel normal not excited and ignorance about this stage of development. This can help to reduce the cases of child sexual exploitation.

Further recommends that Parents must give children some courage and motivation such that they can see the importance of education as a priority next to nothing else, if students are motivated, they are most likely to stay in education rather than engaging in moral behaviors like sex before marriage hence prevention of child sexual exploitation.

### **5.5 Areas for further Research**

A similar study should be conducted on the impact of online sexual exploitation on children and young people.

The impact of sexual exploitation on self-esteem among children and young people.

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## **Appendix ii**

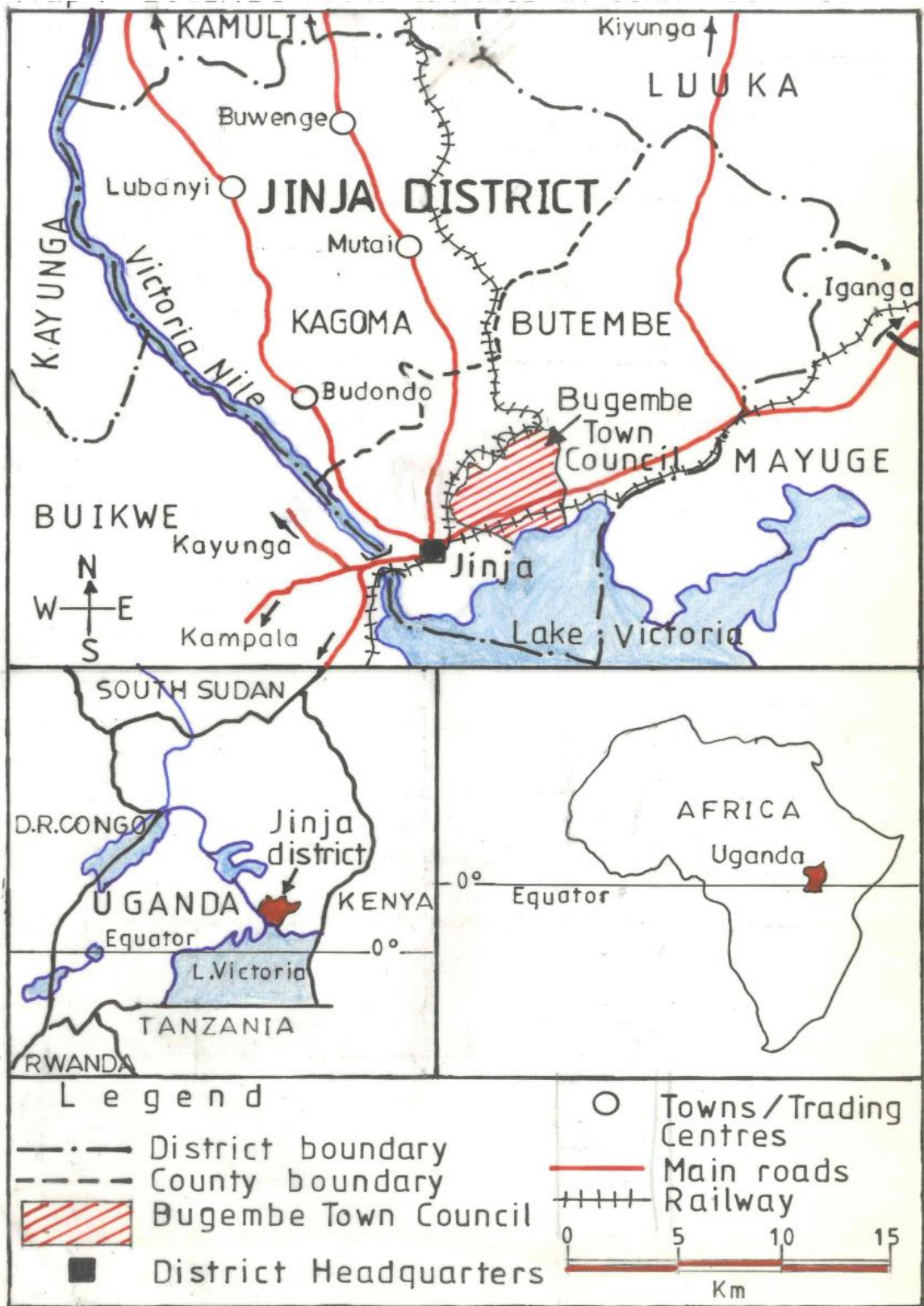
### **Interview guide for the key informants**

1. Why is there persistent Sexual Exploitation in Uganda?
2. What are some of the problems faced by the sexually exploited children in this area?
3. In your own opinion how do you think these sexually exploited children overcome such problems?
4. Are there any programs in this area specifically for helping of the sexually exploited children?
5. What will you do if no solutions are provided for the problem?
6. How has sex exploitation of children affected them and the well beings of people in the country?
7. What interventions if any that have been put in place to reduce sex exploitation of children in Uganda?

**Thank you**

Appendix iii

Map showing Jinja District and the Republic of Uganda



Appendix IV

Map showing Bugembe Town Council

