

**THE ROLE OF NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS TOWARDS
IMPROVEMENT OF WELFARE OF STREET CHILDREN IN
CENTRAL ZONE KAMPALA CITY, UGANDA**

BY

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DECLARATION

I Karamuzi Peter declare that this piece of work is my original and has never been presented to any institution, university or collage for any award.

Signature: 

Date: **10th August, 2013.**

APPROVAL

This research proposal has been done under my guidance and has met the minimum requirements for submission.

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DEDICATION

This research report is dedicated to Col. Dr. Kiiza Besigye, my parents Mr. and Mrs. Ntarushokye John Bosco, and my supervisor Mr. Nuwamanya Richard who have been very supportive. This is in appreciation of their advice, honesty, physical and financial assistance they have given me. Thank you indeed.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

UWCDO	Uganda Women and Children Development Organization
UPFC	Uganda Parliamentary Forum for Children
KYDA	Katwë Youth Development Association
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
BBSCPU	Baveeko Basome Street Child Project, Uganda
CEDOVIP	Center for Domestic Violence Prevention
RISC	Retrak-Inspiring Street Children
GOU	Government of Uganda
ILO	International Labour Organization
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
OVC	Orphans and Vulnerable Children
KC	Kampala City
UN	United Nations
CDO	Childcare and Development Organization (Uganda)
SCU	save the Children in Uganda
FPU	FairPen Uganda,
UBOS	Uganda Bureau of Statistics
KNRC	Kampiringisa National Rehabilitation Center
KCCA	Kampala City Council Authority

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CHAPTER ONE

THE PROBLEM AND ITS SCOPE

1.0 Introduction

This chapter shows the background of the study, objectives, scope significance, and the problem statement. However it clearly show how much effort has been put into action by NGOS towards improvement of welfare of street children.

1.1 Background of the Study

According to the Human Development Report of Uganda (1999) an estimated four million of Uganda's children live under difficult circumstances such as foregoing meals, and lack of basic needs of life such as shelter, clothing and medical care. Poverty which has been contributed by the debt crisis and the structural adjustment policies have greatly lead to the mis-use of children by those who are meant to care for them and also to the destruction of the extended family system.

According to Kelvin (2000), in Uganda these children have proved to be a menace to society because of their way of survival that entails crime, substance abuse and their being used as child laborers by exploitative people hence compelling the government, local and international organizations to intervene.

The Government of Uganda enacted the children's statue in 1996 in which children would be protected against all forms of abuse. It established a framework that would guide actions and operations of bodies dealing with street children. These organizations would then take food and other basic necessities such as clothes and sometimes give money to street children. This however attracted many more children on the streets.

These strategies did not seem to be as effective as the number of children on streets and in central zone particularly the problem has continued to grow. Working street children in Uganda, the efforts of improvement, resettlement and rehabilitation have greatly intensified, however a question still remains in what progress government and key organizations have made as they try to achieve this end since the number of children on streets is increasing and the children in resettlement and rehabilitation institutions seem to hold on their street behaviors.

1.2 Statement of the problem

Uganda is a home to 30 million people of which Four million are children but living in difficult circumstances characterized by lack of shelter, health care, isolation and poor feeding. (Uganda Population Annual Report 2001). The issue of resettlement for street children has been one of the roles adopted by most Non Governmental Organizations especially Uganda Women and Children Development Organization, Uganda Parliamentary Forum for Children and Katwe Youth Development Association which have operated several programmes aimed at resettling and rehabilitating street children so as to help them attain a level of sustenance in the society.

However despite such efforts, the number of street children has continued to rise due to wars, domestic violence, poverty which have displaced children from their homes hence greatly impacting on the work of Non Governmental Organizations and made their efforts seem inadequate. This study assessed the role of NGOs in the improvement of welfare of street children.

Objectives of the study

1.3.1 General Objectives

To establish the role of Non Governmental Organizations in the improvement of welfare of street children with the case study of Central Zone Kampala Uganda.

1.3.2 Specific Objectives

- i) To show the causes of street children in Central zone Kampala.
- ii) To indicate the challenges faced by NGOs in the improvement of welfare of street children.
- iii) To suggest solutions that NGOs can employ in the improvement of welfare of street children.

1.4 Research Questions

- i) What are the causes of street children in Uganda?
- ii) What are the challenges faced by NGOs in the improvement of welfare of street children in Central zone?
- iii) What are the solutions towards the improvement of welfare of street children?

1.5 Scope of the study

(a) Content Scope

The study discovered the role of Non Governmental Organizations towards improvement of welfare of street children in central zone.

(b) Geographical Scope

The study was carried out in central zone. The area is one of the four Zones in Kampala city (KC). This Zone has an influx of street children on the street. The area was chosen due to the need to find out what NGOs have done in the improvement of welfare of street children.

(c) Time Scope

The study was carried out over a period of two months and was put consideration the period between 1998 and 2012, so as to have a clear establishment of what NGO have done in the improvement of welfare of street children.

1.6 Significance of the study

The study also acted as basis to address out the challenges faced in the improvement of welfare of these children.

The study helped the researcher to obtain practical knowledge and skills in dealing with practical problems of social life.

The study also assisted other organizations by providing similar services on how best they can extend their services to street children.

CHAPTER TWO LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

A number of studies have been carried out in the past about street children and their related problems Nakassaga (2000), however indicated that few NGOs have addressed the issue of street children and their resettlement for example like UWCDO Uganda Women and Children Development Organization spear head the services that have been put in place for them.

In 2012, ICCO/KIA partnering with FairPen Uganda Foundation set out to empower former street children hailing from Karamoja using a newsletter as a tool to prevent further street migration. This 9 months project commenced from April 2012 and ended in December 2012. At the end of the programme close to 400 children mostly former street children benefited. The phenomenon of street children is one of the biggest problems experienced by many African cities and Kampala is not different

Concept of street children

In order to understand the need for resettlement, one needs to clearly understand the concept of street children. It has been defined in many ways depending on the geographical location and perceptions of past researches.

According to UNICEF (2002) defined street children as any child who has not reached adult hood but to whom the street has become his habitual place with no care and protection from any adult. Rogers (1999) street children are those below 18 years who spend most of their day and night on the street as their major source of socialization and growth. To Suzan (2003), she defined them as minors for whom the street is the (widest

sense of the world including the unoccupied dwellings) more than their families has become their habitual place of abode. Further definitions by Daniel (2006), described them as children below 18 years who find themselves living and working on the street with out proper shelter and not sure of the next survival. They were further categorized in the following two groups.

i) Children on the street

These come to the street to pass time. They temporally stay on the street and while there, they are engaged in pick pocketing, petty business like selling of polythene bags and other odds.

According Martha (2004), these are full time on the streets. They live and work on the street. From the above definitions, it can be clearly seen that these are children in a very desperate situation with no protection, supervision and direction from responsible adults. They are on their own and have to fend for themselves.

ii) children from other countries

Another group of street children are those who have come from other countries. In our interviews we found children from three countries, Kenya, Rwanda and Sudan living in Kampala or at the Kamparingisa National Rehabilitation Center (KNRC). The children we spoke to were willing to endure hardship for the relative calm of Uganda. One even spoke of holding on to the underside of a bus to make his way to Kampala where he hoped for some sort of opportunity.

According to David Lewis and Tina Wallace (2000) NGOs have helped to raise the voice of the voiceless by utilizing the existing government policies on the poor with the view of suggesting the alternatives of empowering them to articulate their needs and desires to gain a higher level of self esteem and confidence to influence decisions. Fore example the World Vision has gone on to advocate for the end of Uganda Northern

war that has lasted for twenty years. Also policies influencing HIV/AIDS has emphasis on issues of prevention, care and treatment of the people affected and impacted with the disease which acts as force to streets. In ground of child rights, poverty eradication, as well as providing basic needs like housing and nutrition together with resettling them have been provided but at less rate.

To Dicklitch (2008), Non Governmental Organizations are voluntary and non profit commercial sectors, and to the World Bank, NGOs are groups and institutions that are characterized by humanitarian or cooperative rather than commercial objectives. Fowler (2005) contends that NGOs exist with in the content of civil society where it is an autonomous entity outside a family that is respect to the state and political power holders. This is promised on the proposition that governments have a dependency to expand their sphere of influence and control areas that should be preserved for private actions and freedoms; the most important role is how they work to shape the Agenda of the wider civil society.

According to Ramson (1999), NGOs were defined as a wide range of bodies which are non commercial in nature and include particularly humanitarian organizations and human rights monitoring and advocacy organization. Its any organization outside the government such as business, political organization, educational institutions with the aim of not making any profit. In view of the fore-running argument, its certainly to say that NGOs are themselves managers who strive to work with and through individuals and groups to accomplish organizational goals.

According to Newson (2007), children in developing countries especially the sub Saharan Africa have been exposed to a number of problems and these include inadequate food, safe water, education, health, poverty housing and discrimination. These categories of children most affected

include the street children among the displaced children, HIV/AIDs victims, neglected and abused. Catherine (2001) noted that a number of efforts have been put into place to respond to the problem of street children. In 1990, the UN general assembly adopted the world declaration on the survival, protection and development of children as well as the plan of action for implementing it up to the year 2000.

The principle implied that the essential needs of street children and other vulnerable children should be given first priority in the allocation of resources at family, community, National and international levels. However it has not been fully implemented as children have continued to suffer miserable conditions like lack of housing, feeding among others compelling them to go live on the streets.

According to Catherine (2006), NGOs have come to play a significant role in Uganda in the recent years. From the colonial rule to 1980, there was a relatively small NGO sector dominated mainly by the humanitarian and evangelistic organizations provided services such as schools, medical care and counseling. Other organizations such as women's organizations, social clubs among others were organized along interests of their constituents. Until recently NGOs have been looked upon as significant alternative providers of services to the state sector or representing alternative policy framework to the state or private sector.

According to Bazaara (2005), the resource of the neo liberal paradigm in the political economy of the third world countries has made NGOs become a crucial and critical factor in the management of political and social economic agenda in these countries. The neo liberal perspectives conceive the African state as a failed state where the market is imperfect in the allocation of resources in the society. Therefore, from this perspective, NGOs are seen as viable in providing services needed by the

poor, orphans and vulnerable children especially those in critical situations.

However in Uganda, both the government and Non government organizations have made efforts to intervene in uplifting the welfare of vulnerable children but it seems however that the major contribution has been made by NGOs. Examples of existing NGOs include Friends of Children, Red Berna, World Vision, and Save the Children among others. In Africa the establishment of these NGOs seems to have been timely. There was a acute poverty at the time and other problems arising from the structure of society. All these combined and led to the breakup of existing safety nets which greatly affected children mostly orphans and other vulnerable children like those effected by HIV/AIDS, war which created conditions for children to go and live on the streets.

2.1 Causes of children on the streets in Uganda

According to Barnet .T. and Blake .P. (2002), with respect to the United Nations convention on the rights of the child, the Uganda Child Review Commission defines a child as a person less than 18 years irrespective of sex (Annual Report Child Law Review, 1992). Under its guiding principles, the child law review commission (1996) re-affirms that children should have the first all in all national resources allocation and housing in particular among others like clothing, education, health, security and integration in the community.

However both the United Nations and African Charter on the rights of children also call for protection and promotion of child's survival mostly for children on streets (OVCs) through provision of basic needs and helping them from such difficult circumstances. However a number of factors were identified to be escalating the problem of street children.

2.1.1 HIV and AIDS

According to the UNAIDS Epidemiological Report (2007), it was estimated that globally about 33% million children are living with HIV/AIDS and 2.5 new infections occurred in the year 2007 alone. There are regional variances in HIV prevalence globally. In sub-Saharan Africa were Uganda lies bears the heaviest burden of the epidemic among children accounting for 60% of those living with HIV/AIDS and 76% globally of the AIDS related deaths in 2007.

2.1.2 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

In a study by Mpanga (2008), he noted that about 25% of the children in Ugandan streets are victims of domestic violence. In Uganda according to the Center for Domestic Violence Prevention (CEDOVI) annual report (2005) stated that about 16% of children witnessed domestic violence in their homes and about 30% of the families are entangled in such acts of violence. Domestic violence has become one of central concerns in developing world. There is a general feeling that domestic violence has had several problems on child growth, education as well as accessing the necessities of life.

It has however been accepted in some forms like wife beating for several reasons were most identified forms in the country over the sub Saharan Africa. Theoretical debates constitute part of the problem especially with regard to the forms and implications it takes such as divorce, and child neglect, gender dimensions and what its justifications. Uganda Demographic Survey (2006) identified several forms of domestic violence such as emotional or psychological abuse, economic abuse, and physical abuse. Children from such homes have suffered several consequences like failure to access education, housing, and health hence becoming easily prone to vulnerability. However quite a number of them tend to

move on the streets as the best option that can help them out of such problems.

2.1.3 Child Abuse and Neglect

According to Kagwa (1998), abuse and neglect of child was looked at as a way through which children engaged in several activities such as child labour that does not match with their age and health hence also compelling them to move on the streets. Neglect takes several forms as the parents may be available but prefer not to take care of the child. He further says that abuse may be either intentional or unintentional.

He further says that children may be intentionally abused by parents, teachers, witchdoctors and strangers in different forms such as beating rape, defilement, and denial of food among others. Such actions may be taken as a form of punishment towards affecting the health but actually end up hurting the child physically and emotionally but they think of the only option of moving to streets. Kadushin (2004) observed that inadequate role implementation and deprivation can be unintentional resulting from parents as they may be presently aware of child's needs and or even willing to provide for them but is unable due to such situations like physical or mental handicap together with emotional inadequacy consequently such factors have been instrumental.

Further more, Ansingwire (1998), noted that preventing children from attending school or premature withdraw of pupils especially girls is the most common form of neglect. Education is one of the basic cares that children need to live a potential life. However due to several reason many girls are compelled to leave school due to lack of tuition fees or the traditional thinking of parents looking at girls education as a waste. Eventually these girls would also engage in pre-marital sex due to illiteracy and with out not realizing the dangers such as unwanted

pregnancies, HIV/AIDS. Indeed the parents may only decide to chase such children who see the street as the only option.

Clarns (2004) noted that most children have been victims of the disease through inheritance from their parents and indeed the impact has been felt by the young generation through the lack of care takers and access to basic needs like food, medical care and many more. Consequently these children have ended up engaging in prostitution which has led them to the acquisition of HIV/AIDS. The fact is that they may not originally have a care giver, their survival means become a problem since they only depend on begging. Perhaps the society's failure to provide for such children but instead discriminating them, forces themselves to go in the streets.

2.1.4 Poverty

Robert (2006) observed that rural families are entangled in deprivation trap. This is because they are poor and this condition is persistent and cyclic with respect to child welfare, Kadushin (2004) regards poverty as failure of parents or families roles performance. Philbarte (1998) asserted that poverty is lack of confidence and awareness of hidden resources. Its however difficult to define poverty and describe standard measure to calculate the level of income needed by a family.

It should however be noted that many children are living in homes with abject poverty and worst of it could be when they cannot afford the minimum basic needs hence precipitating their vulnerability. Poverty has actually led to most of the circumstances constituting children's needs. According to Catherine et al (2005), poverty has a number of implications such as prostitution, child neglect among others. A house hold that may not meet the needs of the child would compel its help to neglect. It could also lead to lack of education leading to withdrawal from school hence early marriages. However, this situation is worsened by acquisition of

HIV/AIDS leading to vulnerability. Perhaps it should be concluded that factors such as failure to meet the needs of children have compelled them to a number of challenges such as moving to streets.

2.2 Challenges faced by NGOs in the provision of Basic Needs to orphans and vulnerable children

(a) Inadequate financial support

According to the UNICEF Report (2004), major constraints to social welfare provision for the disadvantaged children has been the inadequate financial availability. This partly explains why respective governments in developing countries cannot find adequately all the vital services unaided. In a similar report on children in developing states like Uganda is noted that the funds available for social services is small and the problems requiring re-medial action tend to receive first attention.

The primary role of caring and providing for disadvantaged children rested upon the extend families, today when such a family fails, the government and mostly the NGOs take over the role. However this has not been effective since such governments and the other intended service providers have limited funds, which force them to respond to only few basic needs for the disadvantaged children.

According to Leintz (2002), the primary responsibility for financial support to needy families has been assumed by public agencies, voluntary agencies have placed much emphasis on the provision of special issues and services of families and children such as education, health, and nutrition but not housing. The presence of inadequate funding has a number of effects, indeed financial constraints pause problems to the delivery and provision of services to the intended beneficiaries. Agency funds at times come from the public on private voluntary contributions. Any agency policy and structures, procedures

and flexibility will be determined by the source and adequacy of funds available.

In a study by Ssewankambo (2000), he noted that the major reason behind the inadequacy of funds of most institutions was the unstable guaranteed sources of income. Similar studies noting inadequacy of funds as a hindrance to providing of basic needs to orphans and other vulnerable children include that of Khakasa (1999).

It should be noted that inadequate funding was among those noted that hindered services provision either at country, district or regional levels. A few studies have lowered down to finding out social service provision to needy children mostly the street children may be constrained, on how the financial support of some given agencies may strength the agencies' ability to effectively provide the services.

2.2.1 Selection of Eligible Beneficiaries

The number of beneficiaries according to Herbert in (2001), for a given programme most often overwhelms the service providers most welfare agencies set out to cover a given number of beneficiaries who are within their means or agency policy.

Eligibility of beneficiaries is determined by a uniform policy for a given agency. Literature accessed has revealed that the kinds of people who qualify for such needs are the most disadvantaged and needy children but the criteria for selecting them is not pronounced in most cases yet the procedures followed vary from one agency to another.

According to Rogers (2003), he noted that the selection procedures involved a detailed process; broadly the organization on its own locates and selects the intended beneficiaries. A similar study prevailed that enrolment also depended on secondary beneficiaries and not the primary

beneficiaries. Having studied plan international, he observed that enrolment also depends on the willingness of parents to be part of the selection choice. More so there has been a growing criticism of the policy of determining potential beneficiaries using a hold out policy (eligibility criteria). Worthless (2000), argues from the side of welfare providers, she noted that in selecting applications the social worker finds herself unaccustomed position of judging (people) children. In regard to the sustainability of her purposes and reflecting those who are suitable they argue that the most common was to ensure fairness in social policy distribution is to make disability contingent on some unambiguous and knowable circumstances of the individuals.

They further suggested as one of their alternative approaches that a service provider should accept at a face value individuals claim that they indeed qualify for benefits under particular policies. However where as this seems to be a genius approach, it may not suit the situation in developing countries where there are high numbers of disadvantaged children.

2.2.2 Coordination

In order for service providers and specifically, child agencies to provide effective and improved needs to disadvantaged children, through coordination a given agency can be able to improve on its service quality and provision. However a problem arises when such coordination is absent. Little work has been done on this problem according to a Report of UNICEF (2002), coordination is one of the problems facing social services agencies. The Report says voluntary efforts usually account for a large proportion of the existing services and constitute available resource but the coverage tends to be spotty and difficult problems of coordination may arise.

Coordination among agencies if present has strengths by creating working relations among all the agencies in a given locality, there can be elimination of the duplication of services which leads to wastage of resources and time among others. Compton (1999) says that fears of duplication of services that might enable the client receive help from one or more than one agency where the underlying motivated the concern with the organization and coordination of services.

The above argument is in line with that Albert and Spencht (2000) and Lenitz (2002), who noted that even where some agencies are mandated to coordinate the services of public voluntary and private provides of professional services, sometimes they have to apply pressure to get the providers to cooperate and coordinate their effects, they further add that in some instances, such agencies are forced to manage the flow of resources between the service providers so as to increase their interdependence and collaborative efforts on behalf of mutual client population.

From the above review on the coordination, it can be noted that for proper assessment and monitoring of the services provided; there is need for coordination and absence of this would lead ineffectiveness.

2.2.3 Inadequate transport

Transport has also been noted as another problem facing service delivery. Extending of basic needs to the needy children away from the agency office and continuously follow up of cases necessitates transport. The social system theory argues that an individual does not exist in vacuum; he/she is part of the larger society. He further argues that proper understanding of an individual can be achieved if one studies the family for the case of child agencies, the family of child has to be used to ensure the accessibility of these needs (Marvin, 2000).

This calls for project staff to make regular visits to children families and more so their home. All these require the staff to make regular visits to these children's families and any other place that they may be located. Absence of transport may have an impact on service provision studies by Gnamn and Dzicke (1999) and Nabawuka (2006), generally argued that the problem of transport mainly affects staffs carrying out project duties like follow ups to children that may be in need of those services.

As such it can be seen that the problem of transport causes delays in carrying out some staff duties. However Rogers (2007), sees the problem of transport to be affecting both the staff and recipients while he argues that transport is one of the major problems faced by those extending the service. He adds that it may have effects on both recipients who may fail to collect the services on the social workers who fail to deliver and monitor services. But all these agencies especially those dealing with children see transport as a problem. Or can the means of transport within an agency be taken to be a major problem or aren't their instances where the agency maximizes service delivery from the available means of transport. However it should be noted that a combination of these factors has been instrumental in hindering the provision of services to the needy children.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter explains the methodological aspect that will be used in the process of collecting data. It looked at the research design, sample framework, sample size, study area and methods of data collection, data analysis, data processing and the ethical consideration.

3.1 Research Design

In order to acquire the information that was used, the study employed the use of qualitative and quantitative research design which was used to get data through questionnaires while the quantitative involved the use of statistical data. These basically assessed the role of Non Governmental Organizations in the improvement of welfare of street children.

3.2 Area of the study

The study was carried out in Central zone of Kampala City. It is located in the central part of Uganda the main occupants are Baganda and the local language spoken is Luganda the main economic activity is business. Population according to the national census in 2002 estimated the population of the city at 1,189,142. The Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) estimated the population of Kampala at 1,420,200 in 2008. In 2011, UBOS estimated the mid-year population of the city at 1,659,600 of these is children. According to the UN there are roughly 1.8 million children in Uganda who face life as street children. The number of practical orphans is much higher. There are a few cities that have street children but by far the most are found in the capital city of Kampala.

3.3 Study population

The study population included mainly the street children, staffs from NGOs, the community people and the probation officers. The researcher ensured that the stated population provides the needed data.

3.4 Sample size

The study put into consideration a sample of 48 respondents and these include 19 street children, 12 staff workers from the NGOs, 15 community people and 2 probation officers from central zone Kampala.

3.5 Sampling technique

The researcher used a simple random sampling technique so as to give each element an equal chance to be included in the sample. However the purposive technique was also used to get data from staffs of NGOs who were purposively selected. This method helped to get data that may not be known or given by other study respondents.

3.5.1 Sample Procedure

The researcher further more used both systematic random sampling and purposive sampling where by under purposive sampling the researcher included individuals who had knowledge and experience about the study topic. This however helped to save time and respondents give first hand information. Under systematic random sampling, the researcher list the children's names and assigned numbers on them so as to be able to find out the population size and how big it is.

3.6 Methods of Data collection

During the process of data collection in the field, the researcher employed a variety of methods and these depended on the category of respondents to be intervened. In summary these were; the questionnaires, key informants, in-depth interviews, documentary reviews and observation.

(a) Informal interviews

This was involved the use of an interview guide which was carried out face to face with respondents. Informal interviews were systematic while in the process of asking questions. Besides the method, it helped the

researcher to explain and prove aspects that might have seemed unclear to the study respondents. In-depth interviews helped the researcher to provide qualitative and quantitative data since they were applied mainly on the staffs from NGOs and probation officers.

(b) Questionnaires

This is a set of questions that researcher lay down before going to the field. A questionnaire were systematic such that one question followed another in order of sequence. Under here, the researcher administered both structured and unstructured questionnaires so as to ascertain the validity and reliability. The method will apply on the community people and street children.

(c) Direct Observation

The researcher was interacted with the children so as to try and analyze the category of the child, NGOs and the community which is helping them to cope with their needs. However it should be noted that qualitative data was gathered though some aspects of quantitative data were also collected.

(d) Documentary Review

This stage, the information that was collected involved the reviewed literature from magazines, newspapers, books, journals and reports which was helpful in the process of data collection. These sources were found in offices, libraries and headquarters of the organizations. This method helped me to provide first hand information because it was based on already existing literature.

Sources of data

(a) Primary data

This type of information was got from peoples that were interviewed. Discussions were conducted with community people and children.

(b) Secondary data

This was got from a review of documents that have relevant literature and already existing materials such as journals, reports, newspapers and news letters.

3.7 Data Processing

The processing of data was done to verify the data collected. To ensure completeness and uniformity, it was necessitate editing which involve checking data errors, gaps and omission. This helped the researcher to detect and eliminate errors such as wrong entries, inconsistency responses that could influence the results of the study. Editing also helped the researcher to ensure that every question in the interview guide has an answer and that the answers given to various questions are accurate and consistent.

3.8 Ethical considerations

In the process of going to the field, the researcher first got a letter of introduction from the head of department commissioning him to go and carry out the study with a purpose of respect and following the procedures, laws and regulations of a study.

CHAPTER FOUR
PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter discusses the findings in relation to the topic. The findings in this chapter have been based on the study that was carried out in central zone Kampala. It should be noted that the contribution of Non Government Organizations towards improvement of welfare of street children. The Resettlement of street children is still a great factor that calls for effort of these child welfare providers together with the government, the community and other stakeholders. The problem of street children in Uganda has continued to rise and the reasons have varied from economic such as poverty, dependency and other social factors like domestic violence.

According to the research carried out, NGOs has played a critical role though there is still that has to be done since these desperate children keep coming on the street from day today, week to week, month to month and year to year. This chapter however analyses the findings of the data which was collected as shown below;

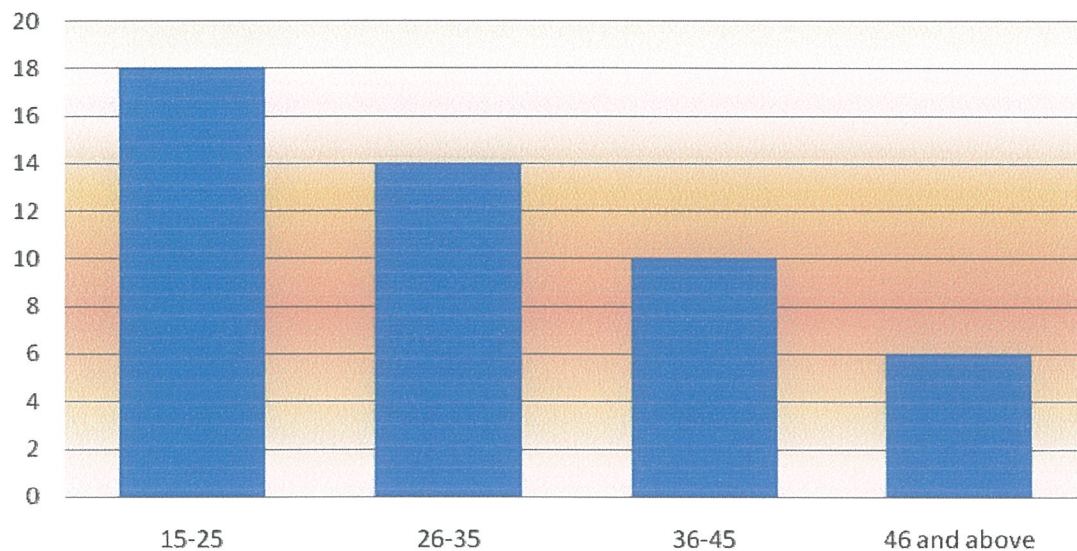
4.1 Social demographic characteristics

Table 4.1.1 Showing Age of Respondents

Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
15-25	18	38
26-35	14	29
36-45	10	21
46 and above	06	12
Total	48	100

(18/48*100=37.5) (14/48*100=29.167) (10/48*100=20.83)
(06/48*100=12.5)

Age distribution on the graph



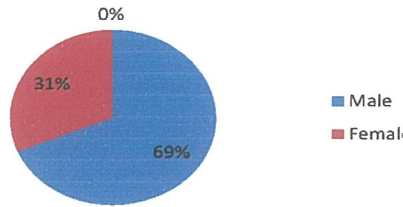
The tables above shows the ages of 15-25 were the majority. This group comprised of those people who had finished school, who left school and elderly children. Between the ages of 26-35 were second category and to them were giving reasons like tribalism and poverty was the leading cause of street children since. Between the ages of 36-45 came next and to them it was age that has compelled them to sit at home. The last category was between the ages of 46 and above. Conclusively the study findings showed that street children were caused by poverty in their homes.

Table 4.1.2 shows Gender distribution of the respondents

Sex	No. of respondents	Percentage of respondents
Female	15	31
Male	33	69
Total	48	100

(15/48*100 =31.25) (33/48*100=68.75)

Pie chart showing above sex according to respondents



Source: Primary data

The table shows 69% were males and 31% were females. According to the findings, it was noted that the male comprised of the highest number of respondents. These stated that several factors had led to street children such as domestic violence. The female came next as they stayed at home doing domestic work.

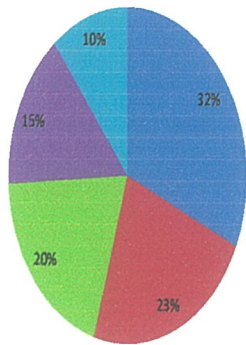
Table 4.2 showing the role played by Non Governmental Organizations in the improvement of welfare of street children.

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Provision of education	21	32%
Provision of medical care	15	23%
Feeding	13	20%
Shelter	10	15%
Guidance and counseling	7	10%
Total	66	100

$(21/66*100=31.81)$ $(15/66*100=22.72)$ $(13/66*100=19.69)$

$(10/66*100=15.15)$ $(7/66*100=10.60)$

A pie chart showing the role played by Non Governmental organizations in the improvement of welfare of street children.



Source: Field survey

The study findings showed that provision of education 32% was the best recommendation that would help rehabilitate these children. The organization has ensured that children have access to education so as to reduce on illiteracy of such children. The findings also showed that provision of medical to the children 23% came next since some of them come from homes with out medical care due to poverty.

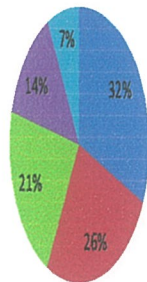
This was followed by feeding 20% so as to make them health and prevent them from malnourishment. Provision of shelter (15%) followed and the last category was guidance and counseling so as to restore their morals (10%). However it should be noted that many people do not understand that children are vulnerable hence they need special care therefore there is need to teach people about the plight of street children in our society.

Table 4.3 showing the causes of street children

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Poverty	21	32%
Domestic violence	17	26%
Armed conflicts	14	21%
HIV/AIDS	9	14%
Child abuse	5	7%
Total	66	100

(21/66*100=31.81) (17/66*100=25.75) (14/66*100=21.21)
 (9/66*100=13.63) (5/66*100=7.57)

A pie chart showing the causes of street children



Source: Field survey

With reference to table above, poverty 32% was noted to be the leading cause of street children in central zone Kampala. most of these children came from very poor families that could not provide them with the basic needs hence resorted to going on the street being followed by domestic violence 26% in these homes, many of them were affected hence saw the streets as the only home to have peace as the patents conflicted between

them selves, the children suffered the after math which compelled them to go on the streets.

Armed conflicts with 21% followed as they could not afford to loss their lives decided to go the neighboring towns for peace but with no shelter and resorted to staying in the street. The next category was that of HIV/AIDS 14% due to the fact that these children lost their parents and had no one to take care of them but only saw the street as best home. The findings from the study further revealed that HIV/AIDS had been so instrumental towards leading the children to the streets. Children from such families always never had basic feedings since the care takers were down due to the disease.

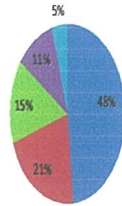
The last category was child abuse 7%. Children who were being abused as according to the study by either their step parents or grand parents at times failed to tolerate but instead resorted to going on the streets. The findings showed that many of these children did not stay with their parents hence they were being abused.

Table 4.4 showing the challenges faced by NGOs improvement of welfare of street children.

(32/66*100=48.48) (14/66*100=21.21) (10/66*100=15.15)
 (7/66*100=10.60) (3/66*100=4.54)

Category	Frequency	Percentage
Inadequate finance	32	48
Lack of transport	14	21
Lack of coordination	10	15
large number of streets children	7	11
Selection of eligible children	3	5
Total	66	100

A pie chart showing the challenges faced by NGOs improvement of welfare of street children.



Source: Field surveys

According to the study findings, inadequate finance 48% was noted to be the leading challenge the NGOs faced in this drive. This hindered the running of the organizational activities. Lack of Transport 21% with reference to the study carried out was among the problems that the organization faced movement always become hand and making of follow ups by the staffs was challenging some staffs always reached late at their work place due to absence of transport.

This was followed by lack of coordination 15% as it had been instrumental in hindering the performance and running of organizational activities. Making programmes between the beneficiaries and the service providers was hard as one party would not comply with the stated time frame. Large number of street children came next 11% the fact that the organization had inadequate finance to run and accommodation the street children, large number of street children as found out became a challenging factor to the organization.

It was noted that children increased from day today and yet the resources were limited. The last category was of eligible children 5% selection criteria used would not portray out the real children who needed care. Many children were not truly street children but only ran away from their homes to find and access better needs like education and feeding since their parents could not afford. However, though some where true street children differentiating between them was hard.

Table 4.5 showing the possible solutions

Category	Frequency	Category
Setting up transport for the organization	28	43
Expanding Area of Coverage	16	24
Involvement of beneficiaries in activities	12	18
Net working with other organizations	8	12
Advocating for finance from the government.	2	3
Total	66	100

(28/66*100=42.42) (16/66*100=24.24) (12/66*100=18.18)

(8/66*100=12.12) (2/66*100=3.03)

Source: Field survey

The study showed that setting up transport for the organization was the best solution 43% since all organization's activities are determined by the presence of transport. The next category expanding area of coverage 24% is being followed by involvement of beneficiaries in activities 18%. Net working with organizations 12% and advocating for finance from government 3% came as the last category.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS, CONCLUSIONS

5.0 Introduction

The findings out of the study in relation to the role of NGOs in the improvement of welfare of street children in Central Zone Kampala, reveals that the interventions have been to some extent to help these street children be resettled. However there is a lot that still needs to be done. Many children come to the streets day to day of which at times, the organization may not cater for such new entrants on the streets. The efforts are still minimal and only limited in a particular scope yet the vulnerable children are almost in many regions. Nevertheless, this chapter involves the summary, conclusion and recommendations to key actors in this drive as well as the future strategies.

5.1 Summary

The research study had the following findings, as far as sex was concerned; the male respondents with 69% were the most being followed by female respondents with 31%. This was because the females were always absorbed with domestic chores hence could not be easily approached. Basing on age, majority of the respondents were between the ages of 15-25 (38%), 26-35 were 29% while between the ages of 36-45 were 21%. The last group was between the ages of 45 and above with 12%.

The educational levels indicated that 67% were primary dropouts, 26% studied up to institution level while 33% had attained secondary level.

According to the occupational levels,(14 children) 73% indicated that they were not employed and perhaps explained how poverty stimulated

street children since their Parents could not afford the school requirements,(5 street-children) 27% were self employed:

Basing on the causes of street children, poverty with 32% was noted to be leading cause being followed by domestic violence 26%, armed conflicts with 21% HIV/AIDS with 14% while Child abuse with 7% came last.

The challenges faced by NGOs included inadequate finance 48%, lack of transport 21% being followed with lack of coordination 15%,large number of street children 11% and selection of eligible street children with 5% came last. The challenges indicated that inadequate finance 48% was noted to be leading challenge, lack of transport 21% came next being followed by lack of coordination 15% together with large number of street children with 11% while selection of eligible street children 5% came last.

The study also found that as far as the recommendations were concerned, involvement of local people 36% was the most, eligible street children 30% came next 18%, expanding area of coverage while participation of parents 13% followed. The last category was sensitization of people with 3%.

In recommendations, the government should increase on the finance meant for such social problems, and setting up policies that can protect vulnerable children. The Non Governmental Organizations involved in improving of welfare of street children should cooperate with the grass root people so as to reduce on the occurrence of street children, as well as the community leaders revising their current policies against social problems that affect the people.

The information obtained from this study may help actor's human resource departments, ministry of Gender Labour and social development to initiate out policies that can be used to protect street

children, and also devise better ways to reduce on the problem. The research study was limited by the inadequate financial services that limited the researcher's movement and finishing the research

5.2 Conclusion

Many studies have been carried out about the problem of street children in Uganda but the critical actions towards the problem continue to remain inadequate as most of the service providers are limited in terms of scope. Those providing the service aimed at resettling street children tend to operate in urban areas and yet they are the rural areas affected most. Street children have continued to affect the community differently such as the way they live. According to the UNICEF annual Report (2004) it's estimated that 60% of the children in the Uganda are in Urban areas and about 46% are in rural areas affected. However the researcher draws a conclusion that there is need for strenuous efforts that are aimed at solving as well as reducing on the problem of street children.

5.3 Recommendations

Basing on the study that was carried out in central zone Kampala, there were quite a number of aspects that the researcher noted, hence he went on to give some recommendations directed to the government, the NGO, and local communities.

5.3.1 To the government

The government should first of all fight against corruption so that the money that is being stolen by government officials go to those children who lost their parent, vulnerable children for further studies.

The government needs to increase fundings for the provision of services to children who are in critical conditions. This can be possible through

getting support from other donors for these Non governmental organizations that are helping and supporting street children.

The current policies for children need to be adjusted; the policy makers should make the problems of street children a first priority because these are our coming generation.

5.3.2 To the Non governmental organizations

Non governmental organizations should cooperate with the local people so as to ensure that street children are provided with the needed services. There is need for the NGOs to critically sensitize people about the causes of street children in their communities.

There is need for the NGO to increase on their source of finance that is meant for social service delivery to children due to the fact that some of their activities are limited due to limited finance.

Non governmental organizations should work to improve on the welfare of children as well as rehabilitating them. They should work hard to expand their scope because many people are left out due to lack of accessibility to the organization.

5.3.3 To the local community

Basing on the findings from the study that was carried out, the researcher found the following recommendations centered to the local community.

The leaders in the community at all levels should cooperate with the authorities established to ensure that the rights to children are adhered to.

There should be timely sensitization of the communities to ensure that they get involved in community activities since some aspects call for a combined effort of mostly the community.

There should be special committees that are meant to represent and advocate for the rights of street children in the communities.

5.3.4 Areas of further research

There is need to undertake a comprehensive study on the causes of street children so that such cases are addressed. The government should revise its budgets and increase on the financial base meant for social problems. The local people should be taught to comprehend the problems that these children are going through and also devise measures of how to help them cope instead of neglecting them.

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APPENDIX I
QUESTIONNAIRES FOR THE COMMUNITY PEOPLE

Dear respondents,

The above researcher is a student from the Kampala international University conducting a study on the role of non governmental organizations towards improvement of welfare of street children of street children. Please help by answering all questions.

All answers will be treated confidential for the study only.

SECTION A: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPIC

1. SEX (a) male
(b) Female
2. Age (a) 19-20
(b) 21-25
(c) 26-30
(d) 40-50
3. Marital status
(a) Married
(b) Single
(c) Divorced
(d) Widow
4. Educational level
(A) primary
(b) Secondary
(c) Institution
(d) University
5. Occupational level
(A) unemployed
(b) Self employed
(c) Employed

SECTION B: CAUSES OF STREET CHILDREN

6. What are the leading causes of street children?

- (a) Poverty
- (b) Domestic violence
- (c) Armed conflicts
- (d) HIV/AIDS.
- (e) Child abuse and neglect

7. What do you think can be done to reduce on street children?

- (a) Sensitization of people
- (b) Resettlement
- (c) Provision of education
- (d) Political stability

8. Which of these agencies have helped in the improvement of welfare of street children?

- (a) Government
- (b) NGOs
- (c) Communities
- (d) KCCA

9. What has NGOs done to improve on welfare of street children?

- (a) Provision of education
- (b) Provision of shelter
- (c) Put them into children's home
- (d) Provision of healthcare

SECTION B: CHALLENGES FACED BY NGOs IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF WELFARE OF STREET CHILDREN.

10. What are some of the challenges faced by the NGOs in the improvement of welfare of street children?

- (a) Large number of street children
- (b) Inadequate funding
- (c) Lack of coordination
- (d) Lack of transport

11. What are the sources of funds for these organizations?

- (a) Donations
- (b) Gifts
- (c) Income projects
- (d) Government

12. What are the areas of operation for these NGOs?

- (a) Rural
- (b) Urban
- (c) Rural and Urban

SECTION C. SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS FACED BY NONGOVERMENTAL ORGANISATIONS.

13. What have been the results of these services to street children?

- (a) Improved in their Health
- (b) Reduced illiteracy
- (c) Accessed Medical care
- (d) Improvement on their moral behaviors
- (e) Reconciliation with their families

14. When it comes to media, what do you think the community radio has contributed?

- (A) Provision of free programs that talk about street children
- (b) Increase awareness about the dangers of street life
- (c) Provision of facilities for you to look after children
- (d) Provision of education materials for you to take children to school

15. What would you recommend to be the best solution to ensure that street children welfare is improved?

- (a) Targeting those in critical conditions
- (b) Involvement of the local people in identification of street children
- (c) Expand on the area of coverage
- (d) Participation of parents in the activities of NGO
- (e) Sensitization of the people about the needs of street children

APENDEX II
QUESTIONNAIR GUIDE FOR THE CHILDREN

Dear Respondent,

The above researcher is a student from Kampala international University conducting a study on the role of non governmental organizations towards improvement of welfare of street children. Please help by answering all questions. All answers will be treated confidential for the study only.

SECTION A: SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC

1. Sex (a) Male
(b) Female

2 age (a) 10-12 years
(b) 13-15 years
(c) 16-18 years

3. Do you sleep at home?
(a) Yes
(b) No

4. Religion (a) Moslem
(b) Protestant
(c) Catholic
(d) Others....

5. Do you stay with your parents?
(a) Yes
(b) No

6. Do you go to school?
(a) Yes.
(b) No.

7. When did you start getting support from the NGO?

.....
.....

8. Do you have basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing?

- (a) Yes.
- (b) No

9. What is the most problem that you face in your life?

- (a) Lack of food
- (b) Lack of shelter
- (c) Lack of education
- (d) Discrimination
- (e) Lack of medication

10. Does the community help you to cope with your problems besides NGO?

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

11. What kind of support do you get from the community people?

.....
.....

SECTION B: CAUSES OF STREET CHILDREN

12. What are the leading causes of street children?

- (a) Poverty
- (b) Domestic violence
- (c) Armed conflicts
- (d) HIV/AIDS
- (e) Child abuse and neglect

13. What do you think can be done to improve on welfare of street children?

- (a) Sensitization
- (b) Resettlement
- (c) Provision of education

14. Do you think Non Governmental organizations have played a major role towards improvement of welfare of street children?

.....
.....

15. To what extent do you think the electronic media has changed the children?

- Larger extent
- Smaller extent

APPENDIX III
AN INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR THE STAFFS FROM NGOs

Dear Respondent,

The above researcher is a student from the university conducting a study on the role of non governmental organizations towards improvement of welfare of street children please help by answering all questions. All answers will be treated confidential for the study only.

1. What do you think are the causes of street children?

2. What are the different types of services that you provide to these children?

3. What criteria do you use in the selection of beneficiaries?

4. What challenges do you normally face towards improvement of street children?

5. What future plans do you have in the improvement of these children?

6. What do you recommend to be the necessary measures to extend these services to children?

7. What are your main sources of funding?

Thank you for your contribution!