

**AN ASSESSMENT OF FACTORS PROMOTING VIOLATION OF CHILD RIGHTS IN NDHIWA DIVISION, HOMA BAY COUNTY, KENYA**

**BY**

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## ABSTRACT

The notion of children as rights-bearers emerged in response to the vulnerability of children seen so starkly during the First World War. "Children have a set of human rights specific to them because the general thrust behind national and international action on behalf of the children is the moral and legal recognition of their emotional, physical, psychological vulnerability their need for special care and recognition of the obligation to respect for their rights including having their views respected." Child rights violation has become a common phenomenon in Ndhiwa Division, Homa Bay County. The major concerns are factors that are related to child rights violation such as socio-economic and cultural factors that bedevil the community in the study area. The purpose of this study was therefore to assess factors that promote violation of children's rights in Ndhiwa Division, Homa Bay County, Kenya. The specific objectives of the study were; to identify forms of child rights violation in Ndhiwa Division, identify socio-economic factors that promote violation of existing rights of the child, establish the cultural factors promoting violation of child rights in Ndhiwa Division. This study was based on Urie Bronfenbrenner's Socio-Ecological theory (1977). Cross sectional survey was employed in this study. While the study population was 32958, the sample size drawn was 395 therefore sample population of study comprised 197 adults, 67 selected teachers, opinion leaders and government officials drawn from the Children's Office, Judiciary, Police and provincial administration, and 131 primary school pupils. The study employed simple random and judgmental sampling to generate the samples. Household questionnaire was used to obtain data from adults while key informant interview was used on government officials. In addition, 6 focused group discussions were used to collect data from pupils and selected adults. Quantitative data collected through closed ended items in the questionnaires and documents was analyzed using descriptive statistics in forms of percentages, frequencies, counts and means. Qualitative data obtained using open ended items in the interviews and focused group discussion was analyzed on an on-going process as themes and sub-themes emerge from data. The research findings revealed that socioeconomic and cultural factors promote violation of child rights in Ndhiwa Division, Homa Bay County. Child rights violation is rampant in the area and calls for combined efforts from both the government and stakeholders to address. The findings of this study therefore can be used by policy makers to improve on existing child legal protection laws and policies.

# CHAPTER 1

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

The notion of children as rights-bearers emerged in response to the vulnerability of children seen so starkly during the First World War (Espey et al, 2010). The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is often touted as the most quickly and widely ratified Convention in world history. The Convention is a comprehensive agreement on the rights of children which has been ratified by every nation of the UN with the exception of the US and Somalia. The idea of rights has evolved overtime leading to an acceptance that all human beings are entitled to certain rights irrespective of sex, race, creed, age or whatever other local connection, due simply being endowed with humanity (Kameri-Mbote, 2000). The rights of children can be analyzed under the following heads: marriage, labour, criminal law, civil law, adoption, fostering, children born out of wedlock, children under the law of succession, child abuse, juvenile delinquency, Institution of juvenile justice, child care maintenance, real property and citizenship (Kameri-Mbote, 2000). The CRC sets forth the rights of all children to health, education, participation, and protection (UNICEF, 2009).

Africa is one of the continents in the world where the attainment of rights of the child are still a mirage (Achilihu, 2010). Moreover, Africa is the only continent with its own dedicated child rights treaty - the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC). The ACRWC was adopted by the African Union (formerly the OAU) in July 1990. The ACRWC however articulates and protects the rights in a manner appropriate to meet the challenges faced by children of the African continent in the light of the prevailing socioeconomic and cultural

regional context. Social and cultural norms and values influence the realization of children's rights (UNICEF, 2009). In many communities, for example, the low social and economic status of women and girls contributes to social acceptance of child marriage, which is harmful to children and women. Norms of childhood contribute to social acceptance of child labor, sometimes even in hazardous types of work (UNICEF, 2009).

In compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Kenya's Children's Act 2001 defines a child as any person under the age of 18 years. The overall context for children's rights has legal, political, social, cultural, economic, demographic, and environmental dimensions. Despite the good laws on children founded by the UNCRC, it is well known fact that the realities of the fate of many children in the world are a far cry from the noble values proclaimed and standards set forth in the UNCRC.

With the enactment of the Children's Act, the rights of children have a strong legal infrastructural base (Ngondi-Houghton, 2005). According to a report by World Organization Against Torture (2008), the Children Act No. 8 of 2001 aims at integrating the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. There are however other challenges to the realization of these rights. With regard to registration, certain vulnerable groups of children, especially girls, children born out of wedlock, children with disabilities, children living in institutions, street children, child victims of abuse, refugee and asylum seeking children and those living in rural areas may not be adequately captured. Many children are not registered, particularly those born at home and living on the street or in rural communities (Ngondi-Houghton, 2005). Child malnutrition remains a major public health concern in many developing countries. The linkages between malnutrition and poverty carry both causal and consequential relationships (UNICEF/GOK, 2009). Child abuse cases in Kenya take different forms and there may be a lot of cases that go unreported (NPA OVC Kenya, 2007-

2010). The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development's Strategic Plan 2008-2012, children with disabilities are discriminated against and even chained and locked in their homes. Children's rights to a holistic approach to their survival and development are compromised by the absence of structures and systems that bring together professionals to consider their own work in the light of the whole range of children's rights (Save the Children, 2010).

In Ndhiwa division the implementation of child right is still dogged by various socio-economic and cultural impediments which still characterize the community. Socially, the cosmopolitan nature of the inhabitants has promoted child right violation. Other than the native, Kanyamwa clan, there are immigrants from areas such as Siaya, Kisumu, Rachuonyo, Migori just to mention a few (Ndhiwa District Children's Office, 2012). Besides, deteriorating circumstances due to the families' increasing poverty levels, the effect of HIV/AIDS exposes children to exploitation and abuse, while escalating crime and social disorganization are also contributing to the number of orphans and vulnerable children (NPAOVC Kenya, 2007-2010). The girl child has mostly been affected as they are forced by circumstances to assume the role of the mother when the latter is bed ridden, similarly, they are also forced to engage in exploitative jobs to support the vulnerable family. Boys, on the other hand engage in child labour to feed the household, all these result to school dropout and in some cases either of the sexes opt for early marriage as a way of 'coping' with the problems (Ndhiwa District Children's Office, 2012).

## **1.2 Problem Statement**

Kenya has been ranked very highly amongst the 52 African countries for putting in place a legal framework that is protective of or promotes the rights of children and, implementing a budgetary policy or programme that favours children. In compliance with the UNCRC, Kenya enacted various laws specifically aimed at protecting the rights of children. The Children's Act 2001, the

Sexual Offences act 2006 and lately the Constitution of Kenya 2010 explicitly advocate for the right of the child. The Constitution has made it a Constitutional right for children to be provided for under Article 53. They have a right to free and compulsory basic education, basic nutrition, shelter, health among other rights. Under this Article, all children have a right to parental care and protection, which includes equal responsibility of the mother and father to provide for the child, whether they are married to each other or not. Despite the good laws in place, children's rights have not been fully realized as seen in their violations and child abuse. Children's still undergo such rights violations as sexual abuse, forced child labour, female genital mutilation, physical abuse, child neglect, abandonment, lack of food among others. This is a lesson to the country that we are still far from living to the tenets of the UNCRC and our local Children's act 2001.

In Ndhiwa Division, the practice is no different with parents, guardians and the community as a whole being the violators of child rights. Protection of the marriage institution has seen most women take a back seat as the rights of their children or those of their neighbours being compromised. The women fear being kicked out the marriage should they report cases of child rights violation. The violation of children's rights is further displayed by the sexual abuse of mainly young girls. In December 2009, a father defiled his 13year old daughter after several years of separation with his wife. In the same period, a 60year old man defiled two girls both aged 10, for several months before he was discovered. According to research findings by the Chamber of Justice, cases of fathers defiling their children are the most common form of abuse. Similarly, most children are neglected by their parents as older girls opt for early marriage as a way of responding to these problems. Some are also employed as house helps as their male counterparts end up being exploited in the sugar industry. There are also incidences of infants being abandoned by their parents. Poverty and disease incidences have also compromised the

protection of rights and welfare of children in the Division. Therefore, this study assessed factors promoting violation of child rights in Ndhiwa Division, Homa Bay County.

### **1.3 Objective of the Study**

The main objective of this study was to assess how various factors promote child rights violation in Ndhiwa Division, Homa Bay County, Kenya.

#### **Specific Objectives of the Study**

- i. Identify forms of child rights violations in Ndhiwa Division, Homa Bay County.
- ii. Discuss socio-economic factors that promote violation of existing rights of the child in Ndhiwa Division, Homa Bay County.
- iii. Examine the cultural factors promoting violation of child rights in Ndhiwa Division.

### **1.4 Research Questions**

- i. Which are the forms of child rights violation in Ndhiwa Division, Homa Bay County?
- ii. To what extent do socio-economic factors promote violation of children's rights in Ndhiwa Division, Homa Bay County?
- iii. To what extent do cultural factors promote violation of child rights in Ndhiwa Division, Homa Bay County?

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

Despite the enactment of Children's Act 2001 by the Kenyan government, cases of child abuse in the country are still rampant due to lack of effective implementation of the legislation. Nonetheless, there are still a number of problems to surmount. Kenya's severe economic and social difficulties have prevented the full realization of children's rights and there is concern over

the inadequate enforcement of legislation to ensure the "physical and mental integrity" of all children. Rights and advocacy groups are alarmed about the physical and sexual abuse of Kenyan children, including commercial sexual exploitation; the increasing burden of HIV and AIDS on orphans that prematurely forces them into adult roles, inadequate access to education, especially for girls. How children, families, communities, formal and informal organizations and the state are assembled around child protection is fundamentally a question about whether the child protection system in place in Kenya meets its goals. For a wide variety of reasons, children are not sufficiently protected. Risk factors are present within the family setting or in the economic, social, and political dynamics of the communities in which families live, or are related to emergencies, both natural and man-made (Ottolini et al, 2011).

The study therefore is significant in that the findings would help the policy makers to assess if there will be need to review existing laws and policies on child rights. The study would also help the government to enact laws that would further seal loopholes for child rights violations. The state and non state actors in the child right sector will identify gaps to focus on. Finally, this study may be important to scholars as a reference material and as a contribution to the knowledge in child protection.

## **1.6 Assumptions**

The study was based on the assumptions that there is rampant violation of child rights in Ndhiwa Division. On the other hand the government and stakeholders are trying their best to safeguard the rights of children.



## 1.7 Limitations of the Study

The cross sectional research design used by the researcher is limited because it depends on the co-operation of the respondents. The results got is understood to help in addressing present problems, forecast things to come and, however, the conclusions are based on observations made at only one time therefore the study may or may not be accountable for any development that might arise after that. Secondly, some questions that revolve around sexual abuse and cultural practices are sensitive therefore requesting information which children consider secret might encourage incorrect answers. Finally, adults may not freely give information on incidences of child right violation for fear of being reprimanded. In overcoming the limitations, high level of confidentiality during the entire research process was upheld. The researcher also assured the respondents the information gathered will not be used to victimize anybody but meant to spur development and change people's way of doing things. Similarly, the identity of the respondents was not recorded to allay fear of victimization. Cultural matters appeared sensitive but respondents were informed the aim of the study is to marry cultural practices with development.

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

This chapter focused on the factors promoting violation of rights of the child. The literature review in this chapter therefore focused on three sections. The first section identified forms of child rights violation in the Division, the second section looked at the socio-economic factors, and the final section focused on cultural analysis.

#### **2.2 Forms of Child Rights Violation**

Child abuse is a massive problem in all counties of the world. Despite the fact that there are laws protecting children, many are being abused on daily basis (Owalabi, 2012:108). Situations where children get abused in the continent are in abundance. The situation is compounded by HIV/AIDS. Many children are left without parents (ANPPCAN, 2005:8). The prevailing poverty in the continent makes it difficult for the extended family to function as it did in the past. Consequently, many guardians are unable to take care of their kins, orphans included. In some cases these orphans are considered as a source of economic prosperity for the extended family and many orphans are trafficked into worst forms of child labour all over. Female genital mutilation (FGM) has been practiced in 28 African countries and several others in the developed world (FIDA Kenya, 2009:1). Where FGM takes place, it is often performed during infancy, childhood or adolescence, usually by traditional circumcisers but also increasingly by medically trained personnel. Child sexual abuse is a violation of human rights. Child sexual abuse occurs in places normally considered safe such as homes and schools, at the hands of perpetrators who are known and trusted by the child or who have authority over the child (ECSA-HC, 2011:18).

Child maltreatment is a global problem with serious consequences. It affects the entire community as it does not only occur within the family context, but spills over into the community and broader society. Child maltreatment causes suffering to children and families and can have long-term negative consequences (Ismail et al, 2012). According to a GTZ Report on Status of Women and Girls in Kenya, about 10% of Kenya's 15million children are orphans, those who have lost their parents through HIV/AIDS number about 650,000. The orphans left behind by parents who die prematurely are left vulnerable to abject poverty not being able to afford their basic needs. On the other hand neglect which is the failure of a parent, guardian, or other caregiver to provide for a child's basic needs (Child Welfare Information Gateway, 2008:2). Neglect may be: Physical, medical, educational (e.g., failure to educate a child or attend to special education needs), emotional (e.g., inattention to a child's emotional needs, failure to provide psychological care, or permitting the child to use alcohol or other drugs). Another form of child rights violation is child marriage, which remains a widely ignored violation of the health and development rights of girls and young women (IPPF, 2006:6). Young girls have also fallen prey to in laws who regard them as potential wives. During dowry payment ceremonies or visit by the brothers in law, young aged from 13 to 17 years have been used to keep the latter company, this out rightly a violation of the girls' rights. Governments are often either unable to enforce existing laws, or rectify discrepancies between national laws on marriage age and entrenched customary and religious laws. If children's rights are truly human rights then children and OVC's have the right to participate in all important decision making processes both at the household and national levels especially on issues concerning them but it is unfortunate that children are hardly involved in the process (KANCO, 2010:3).

In Ndhiwa Division, sexual abuse has also been identified as a form of child rights violation. In the year 2009, The Kenya Today Newspaper reported that a father defiled his 13 year old

daughter after years of separation with his wife. The newspaper further reported that a 60year old man defiled two girls both aged 10, for several months before he was discovered. According to a research finding by Chamber of Justice, cases of fathers defiling their children are the most common forms of child abuse (East African Standard, July 1<sup>st</sup>2005). The research on the levels of child defilement in Kenya indicates that 40 per cent of reported cases involve fathers sexually molesting their children (East African Standard, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2005).

**Table 1.0: showing the number of children abused in Kenya.**

CASE TYPE	YEAR				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Physical Abuse	152	785	769	748	1251
Child Neglect	255	2828	2155	1511	1589
Sexual Abuse	133	737	465	696	948
Custody & maintenance	54	986	1249	1855	-
Emotional Abuse	48	141	119	140	147
Child Labour	33	546	470	314	497
Child Prostitution	4	26	16	16	19
Forced early marriage	18	322	224	163	219
Child in conflict with the law	-	67	36	24	-
Child trafficking	-	53	21	85	46
Female Genital Mutilation	-	52	14	30	92
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>6543</b>	<b>5538</b>	<b>5435</b>	<b>4808</b>

Source: Childline Kenya, 2011

### 2.3 Socio-economic factors promoting violation of child rights

Approximately 306 million children live in Sub-Saharan Africa (UNICEF, 1998:113 in Harper et al). With at least 40-50 per cent of children in most African countries living below the poverty line (World Bank, 1997b:25), this implies that at least 137 million African children and probably many more live in poverty. For social, cultural, biological, economic and political reasons, children, women and vulnerable populations constitute the majority of the poorest billion in

several ways (UNICEF/GOK, 2010). Of the estimated 17.5 million people living below the poverty line in Kenya, more than half are children, young people and women. The impact and consequences of poverty are even worse for them. Their weaker power relations in the family and larger society, their intertwined rights to survival, protection, development and participation and dignity as humans to enjoy the basic rights are compromised, possibly for life and in an inter-generational manner (UNICEF/GOK, 2010). Households have also been going through socio-political change that has affected the ability of some households to meet their basic rights including the rights of children (Mascarenhas & Sigalla, 2010). According to the African Context of Children Seminar Report held in Harare, Zimbabwe, various structural disparities in economic resources have effects on the ways in which different children experience achievement or violation of their rights. The report adds that there is so little information available that the national economic value of children remains invisible, to the extent that children are often accounted as a net cost to national education, health and welfare budgets. This contributes to the low status of children in societies in general, and thus acts as a barrier to the achievement of their rights.

In Kenya, deteriorating social and economic conditions have brought high incidences of child abuse and neglect. Poverty is one of the underlying causes of child labour and one that also interacts with other factors in mutually reinforcing and complex ways and thus the need to argue the links and interplay between some of these factors (Suda, 2001). Poverty impacts negatively on children as they are deprived their basic needs to survival, protection, participation and development (National Plan of Action for OVC, 2007-2010:8). In many cultures in developing countries it is considered an obligation for a son or daughter to earn an income for their ageing parents (Miles & Stephenson, 2000:9). Children of parents with HIV and AIDS become vulnerable long before their parents die. Girls, in particular, assume caring responsibilities for

ailing parents and parenting responsibilities for their siblings. Gender norms and expectations play a considerable but not fixed role in decisions around having children work, which children work and in what broad types of activities (Kantor & Hozyainova, 2008:20). This often leads to girls being forced to early marriage in exchange with wealth. According to former UK Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, cases of child marriages in some countries are seen as part of a wider economic strategy, which generates incomes and assets while reducing the cost associated with raising children (Daily Nation, 2012). Children from affected families may drop out of school while the quality of education of all children is affected by the impact of the pandemic on teachers (National Plan of Action for OVC, 2007-2010:10). The children of young, uneducated mothers are also less likely to attain high levels of education, perpetuating cycles of low literacy and limited livelihood opportunities (International Planned Parenthood Federation, 2006). Similarly, disability has also affected the practice of child. Women, men and children with disabilities are too often amongst the most marginalized in all societies and face unique challenges in the enjoyment of their human rights (UNHCHR, 2010). For a long time it was assumed that such challenges were the natural and unavoidable consequence of their physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairment.

Departing from the conventional limitations on socio-economic rights, article 53 of the Constitution creates immediate obligations upon the State to fulfill socio-economic rights of children (African Child Law Reform, 2010). In effect, the government is henceforth bound to deliver healthcare, education, nutrition and shelter to all children irrespective of budgetary implications. The new duty on the State with respect to education for instance will be greater than that provided for in the Children Act, which vests responsibility on both parents and government. Similarly, separation or divorce between child's parents has also affected the

realization of child rights. In the past decade, the desire of one parent to move with his or her children to a new location following separation or divorce has attracted the attention of legal, judicial, and mental health professionals (Kelly et al, 2003). He adds that relocations typically result in substantially decreased contact between children and nonmoving parents, such cases generate considerable anger, anguish, and litigation, particularly when the nonmoving parents have been actively involved in rearing their children. Separation of parents has psychological effect on children as the child one parent as missing (District Children's Office, 2012). Children react differently to parental separation and divorce, in part dependant on their age as well as their maturity (Hodson, 2007). It has emerged that parental separation and divorce leaves children vulnerable to a heightened risk of physical and sexual abuse occurring after parental separation, perpetrated by both family and non-family members (Hester and Ratford, 1997)

#### **2.4 Cultural factors promoting violation of child rights**

Culture is a society's common fund of beliefs and behaviors, and its concepts of how people should conduct themselves. In other words, culture helps define the generally accepted principles of child-rearing and care of children. In the past, traditional culture provided us with institutions of child up-bringing such as norms and value-implanting (Ochola-Ayayo, 2000:91). Today, we have no such institutions because of social change and there is no culture policy to implement or sustain such institutions (Ochola-Ayayo, 2000:91). Different cultures have different rules about what are acceptable parenting practices. Sections 14 of the Children's Act 2001 says children must be protected from harmful cultural practices such as early marriage, female genital mutilation or other cultural rites and customs that are likely to negatively affect a child's life, health, social welfare, dignity or physical and psychological development.



Some countries will have culturally appropriate ways of absorbing orphans – into the extended family or into a monastery, for example. In other situations, the loss of life may be so great – as in the case of war, disaster, or widespread HIV/AIDS – that the community cannot cope. In the case of children in war and conflict tracing parents of children and vice versa is vital (Miles & Stephenson, 2000:14). This will greatly compromise the rights of the children. Cultural factors often determine the amount of community support a family receives. In cultures with low rates of child abuse, child care is usually considered the responsibility of the community. That is, neighbors, relatives, and friends help with child care when the parents are unwilling or unable. In Tanzania, the girl child is expected to become a woman responsible for production and family care (United Republic of Tanzania, 2011:12). The poor situation currently facing women is as a result of the socialization of the girl child which is based on gender discrimination and oppression. Society values more boys than girls. This is seen from the time of pregnancy when the father has high expectation of getting a boy child to be his heir and expand the clan.

In Kenya, retrogressive cultural practices like female genital mutilation have not only violated girls' right but are also detrimental to their health. The Kenya Today, a weekly newspaper, between 14<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February 2011, reported that apprehension was spreading across Marakwet County of the possible loss of cultural practices acquired through non-adherence to the traditional rites to passage. Of the possible concern was the loss of female 'cut' and resultant prestige that is associated with it compared with the more widely accepted female circumcision. Members of the Marakwet Area Advisory Council also noted the practice has a negative impact on children's transition in schools. Child marriage also remains a widely ignored violation of the health and development rights of girls and young women. Governments are often either unable to enforce existing laws, or rectify discrepancies between national laws on marriage age and entrenched customary and religious laws (IPPF, 2006:6). This is because of the official tolerance

of cultural, societal and customary norms that shape and govern the institution of marriage and family life. Child marriage is culturally packaged as a social necessity, but in many cases this amounts to socially licensed sexual abuse and exploitation of a child. It is one of the most persistent forms of sanctioned sexual abuse of girls and young women.

## **2.5 Gap in the Literature**

The literature reviewed showed marked generalization and weakness and thus, the study of how socio-economic and cultural factors promote violation of child rights in Ndhiwa Division, therefore sought to assess the actual factors promoting child rights violation, correcting the generalization in the preceding works. Currently there is inadequate literature on the factors promoting violation of child rights in Ndhiwa Division.

## **2.6 Theoretical Framework**

The study was guided by Ecological Theory of Urie Bronfenbrenner (1977). The ecological theory defines four types of systems which contain roles, norms and rules that shape development. The systems include a Microsystems, meso-system, exo-system, and macro-system. The Microsystems is the family, classroom, or systems in the immediate environment in which a person is operating. The exo-system is an environment in which an individual is indirectly involved and is external to his experience, yet it affects him. The meso-system is two micro-systems interacting, such as the connection between a child's home and school. But this theory looks at the child's environment in terms of its quality and context. He states that as a child develops, the interaction within these environments becomes more complex. He looked at how the world that surrounds a child help or hinder continued development. As a child grows, the primary unit (family, peer group, classroom or neighbourhood) which is around the child influences his/her development.

According to Bronfenbrenner, the interactions among number of overlapping ecosystems affect a person significantly. The family, peer group and classrooms or neighborhoods are called the micro-system, which is the primary unit around a child influencing its development directly from these sources. As two micro-systems begin to work together i.e. teacher and parent working together to educate a child it happens through the meso-system. As external factors not directly related to the child influence its development, this ecosystem impacts the child's development by interacting and changing its micro-system. Finally, the society and culture in which children are raised is the underlying influence to all systems and this is the macro-system. Understanding the interactions of these systems is the key in understanding how a child develops and what factors lead to the failure. Thus this theoretical framework explains that individual, family and societal factors greatly affect child development and attainments of their rights. If the parents and significant others do not guarantee the child his/her rights then the child is likely to undergo abuse. Similarly, if the societal rules and norms are not child friendly, the child rights are likely to be violated. Cultural orientation to a large extent influences the development of a child in the society. Therefore, Bronfenbrenner's states that human development takes place through interaction. This is very in keeping with the present study as the researcher intends to look at the interaction the child, socio-cultural and economic factors and how they affect the practice of child rights. This model has provides the ability to see how our lives are balanced between every aspect of our environment. The ecological model helps in developing government policies and programs that can benefit our society. The model also allows for treatments of various emotional and behavioral problems because the model places treatment externally and changing environmental factors can provide healing and strength. Educators can use this model to assess problems in a child's life and aid in the rebalancing of a child's environment to begin the healing.

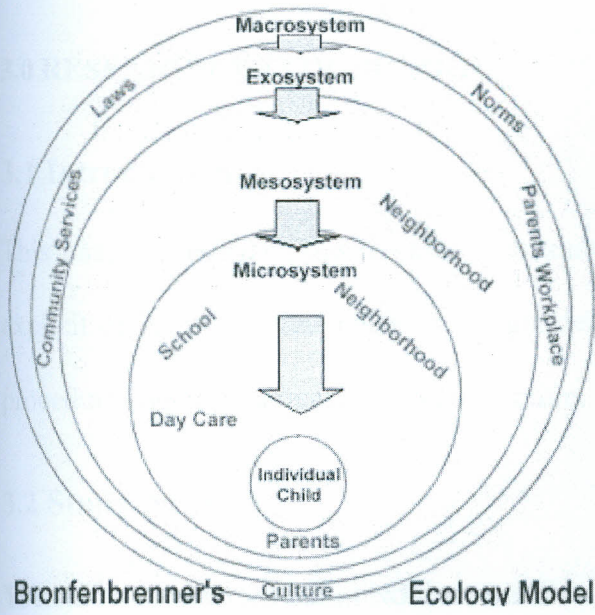


Figure 1.0: Showing Bronfenbrenner Ecology Model

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **3.0 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter describes the research procedure and methods used in the study. It provides an explicit description of the research design, description of study area, study population, sampling procedures and instruments of data collection.

#### **3.2 Study Area**

The study was carried out in Ndhiwa Division, Ndhiwa District, Homa Bay County. Ndhiwa lies on the South Western part of Kenya and is located in Nyanza region at  $-0^{\circ}43'43''$  north of the equator and  $34^{\circ}21'53''$  east of the Prime Meridian. Ndhiwa District borders Mbita District to the North, Suba District to the West, Nyatike District to the South West, Awendo and Uriri districts to the South and finally Homa Bay to the North East. The division with an area of  $136.6\text{km}^2$  borders Ruma National Park to the North, Kobama Division to the West, Riana Division to the East and Kobodo to the North East. Ndhiwa Division has four administrative locations namely West Kanyamwa, Kayambo, East Kanyamwa and Central Kanyamwa. According to the 2009 Population and Housing Census Report, Ndhiwa division has a total population of 32,958 with 52% females and 48% males. Children aged 17 years and below form about 57% of the entire population. This total population (32,958) translates to 7138 households. It is largely inhabited by the Luo speaking community and a few immigrants from other tribes such as Gusii and Luhya who are either workers or traders. Christianity dominates with only two mosques in the Ndhiwa urban Centre. Geographically, the altitude rises towards the border with Suba District and connects with Kanyamwa escarpment that goes down to Ruma National Park

in Lambwe Valley. It ranges from 1200Metres to 1650 meters above sea level. The mean annual rainfall ranges from 900mm to 1,600mm and agriculture is the main economic activity of the local population as they directly depend on it as a source of daily income. There is 124.7km<sup>2</sup> of arable land. Other economic activities include livestock keeping, fisheries, forestry and wildlife. On child rights protection, the area is characterized by high rate of child rights violation ranging from sexual abuse, disinheritance, early marriage, early pregnancy just to mention a few. These have not only led to school dropouts but have also interfered with health of the children.

**Table 2.0: Population Distribution by Administrative units, Area, Households and Density**  
(Population Census 2009)

<b>Location</b>	<b>Area in Sq. Km</b>	<b>Households</b>	<b>Density</b>
East Kanyamwa (Kabonyo)	46.1	2043	216
Central Kanyamwa(Kwandiku)	18.0	1136	293
West Kanyamwa (Kwamo)	20.3	941	214
Kayambo	52.2	3018	256
<b>Total</b>	<b>136.6</b>	<b>7138</b>	<b>979</b>

**Fig.2.0: THE NDHIWA DISTRICT MAP SHOWING POSITION OF NDHIWA**

**DIVISION**



Source: Ndhiwa District Planning Office, 2012

**3.3 Research Design**

The study used cross sectional survey. This involves collection of data from a sample drawn from the intended population that represents the subgroups of the population at one point. It is a type of design that allows the collection of information by interviewing or administering questionnaires to a sample of individual. The research was concerned with factors promoting violation of child rights in Ndhiwa Division. Cross sectional research design facilitated collection of data using questionnaires and interviews which consisted of a group of factors linked to the practice of child rights. The research used household heads as units of analysis.

### 3.4 Study Population

According to the 2009 Population and Housing Census Report, Ndhiwa division has total population of 32,958. A total of 395 samples were drawn from the population size of 32958 using formula developed by Yamane (1967). The population of study therefore comprised 197 adults, 67 selected teachers, opinion leaders (paralegals and religious leaders) and government officials drawn from the Children's Office, Judiciary, probation, Police and provincial administration, and 131 primary pupils. The adults were chosen because they are the caregivers and custodians of the children. Children on the other hand holders of these rights. Children's Department, Kenya Police, Chiefs and the judiciary are the law and policy enforcers, therefore are suppose to safeguard these rights.

### 3.5 Sample and Sampling Technique

The sample size drawn using formula developed by Yamane (1967) was 395; the study employed simple random sampling to select 197 adults, and 131 pupils, while purposive sampling was used to obtain 67 opinion leaders (paralegals and religious leaders) and government officials from Children's Department, Education (teachers) Kenya Police, Probation, Judiciary and Provincial administration. Purposive sampling is based on the researcher's judgment of appropriate group or individual. The study used the four existing locations namely; West Kanyamwa, Central Kanyamwa, Kayambo and Central Kanyamwa as the sampling units.

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where

n= required sample size

N=Population size

E=Precision level. At a precision level of 95% ±5margin of error, the set precision level is 0.05.



$$n = \frac{32958}{1 + 32958(0.05)^2}$$

$$n=395$$

**Table 3.0: Showing Sample Distribution**

No.	Sampling Unit (Locations)	Total Population (as per population Census 2009)	Samples Drawn
1.	West Kanyamwa (Kwamo)	9970	120
2.	Central Kanyamwa (Kwandiku)	5274	63
3.	Kayambo	13370	160
4.	East Kanyamwa (Kabonyo)	4344	52
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32958</b>	<b>395</b>

### 3.6 Instrument of Data Collection

The instruments used in primary data collection were household questionnaire, interview schedule and focused group discussion.

#### 3.6.1 Household Questionnaire

A questionnaire consists of a set of well formulated questions to probe and obtain responses from the respondents (Panneerselvam 2008:23). There is a total of 7138 households in the division as per population Census, 2009. Questionnaires are used to gather data over a large sample (Gall 2005). The questionnaire was used to generate information from households' heads within selected households and captured cross-section information on cultural and socio-economic factors. The use of questionnaire in this study is justified by the fact that it can be administered to a large number of respondents in a short time and guarantees a high response rate with a

diversity of information. The questionnaire also gives room for every aspect of the factors linked to realization of child rights. Thus it was convenient to the large number of respondents targeted.

### **3.6.2 Key Informant Interview**

This is a survey method of data collection which employs a questionnaire (Panneerselvam, 2008:23). Interviewing as a research method typically involves the researcher asking questions and, hopefully, receiving answers from the people you are interviewing (Robson, 2002). The key informants who were interviewed include; court officials, police officers, children's officers, probation officers, paralegals, church leaders local Chiefs and selected opinion leaders in Ndhiwa Division. This was mainly to understand the strategies and policies that the government has put in place to realize child rights and if at all they are being implemented. Face-to-face interviews offer the possibility of modifying one's line of enquiry, following up interesting responses and investigating underlying motives that other self-administered methods cannot (Robson, 2002). Besides, personal interviews have the advantage of yielding a much better sample of the general population (Singh and Singh, 1988:128).

### **3.6.3 Focus Group Discussion Guide**

This instrument was used on children to understand if they are aware of their rights as children and whether they are being practiced. There were 6 focused group sessions, 4 for children were drawn from every location while two for adults each consisting of 12 participants to establish if they are aware of child rights and their role in rights protection. This is the most preferred tool because it provides a lot of information quickly and is good for exploring beliefs, ideas or opinions in a community (Kombo & Tromp, 2006).

### **3.6.4 Secondary Data**

The secondary data was necessary to establish various forms of child rights violation. Secondary data was obtained through desk reviews from appropriate publications such as journals, academic reports both published and unpublished and papers presented at conferences. The study also used internet as source of secondary information.

### **3.6.5 Validity of the Instruments**

An instrument is valid when it does what it is intended to do. Before the data collection, a pilot study was conducted to explore on the planned research design and the tools. This was to enable the researcher to test the validity of the instruments and refine the overall data collection. The researcher thus determined the validity and reliability of the instruments by pretesting it in Kobama Division. Validity of the research was also done by the assistance of a lecturer from the Department of Emergency Management and Humanitarian Assistance, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology whose supervisory role was instrumental in achieving accuracy in the research process. His suggestions and recommendations were used to improve on the instruments until an acceptable level of validity is achieved. Reliability is the proportion of variance attributable to the true measurement of a variable and estimates of consistency of such measurements over time. It is a measure of the degree to which a research instrument would yield the same results or data after repeated trials. On the same note an instrument is regarded as 'reliable' when it can produce the expected results.

### **3.6.6 Ethical considerations**

A number of ethical issues arose from the research process and in anticipation, precautions were taken and correctional mechanisms were employed to avoid and or mitigate objectionable consequences. Diener and Crandall (1978) transgressions of ethical principles in research recur in the four main areas, namely whether there has been harm to participants, lack of informed

consent, invasion of privacy and deception. Avenues in the study were related to; the permit to conduct the research was acquired from the relevant department and copy of the provided prior to visiting the field. At the local level, the district administration was informed and the specific divisional officer notified. The chiefs and sub-chiefs were involved and some participated in the data collection process as key informants, on voluntary basis too. However, their permission was sought and obtained first as authority. The purpose of the study was explained to rule out false expectations and confusion as an avenue to conflict. This too served in establishing a foundation for arbitration in case subsequent misunderstandings arose in the process of engagement with respondents. It was understood that the proposed respondents are a busy lot. Components being part and parcel of the project package for the purposes of ascertaining progress and outcomes, the design of the data gathering process of the study had inbuilt measures to avoid evoking undue emotive reactions. It is explained from the beginning what the exercise will be all about, be spelt out that there will be no forthcoming further assistance due to the undertaking to avoid creating false hope and what the finding will be used for, as research. The subject of confidentiality was observed regardless of the presupposed level of risk associated to participating in the interview. At all times, engaging of respondents was preceded by a formal individual consent to be interviewed. Extra standby respondents were identified at the sampling stage in case some among the selected were not willing to be interviewed or due to unforeseen circumstances like illness they may not participate. This is understood as criminal as it is and all that is required by law and rule was adhered to and measures put in place like acknowledgement of sources of information, ideas, concepts and thoughts through appropriate citing and referencing to avoid penalization. The exercise was independently conducted by the candidate without sponsorship, but the findings will be shared with the community under study and it will be availed as the institution may allow for research as copyright and not for commercial distribution. The

respondents are from one ethnic background. Cultural sensitivity was exercised to avoid offence. Repeating the purpose of the study and reassurance of confidentiality was used in case unreceptive, reluctant or shy cases of respondents occurred.

### **3.6.7 Data Analysis**

Data collected were sought, edited, classified, coded and tabulated ready for analysis.

Quantitative data collected using closed ended items in the questionnaires were analyzed using descriptive statistics in forms of percentages, frequencies and means. Qualitative data obtained using open ended items of interviews were analyzed on an on-going process as themes and sub-themes emerge from the data.

## **CHAPTER 4**

### **4.0 FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

#### **4.1 Forms of child rights violations in Ndiwa Division, Homa Bay County**

According to Owolabi (2012), child abuse is a massive problem in all countries in the world. Despite the fact that there are laws protecting children, many are abused on daily basis. Child maltreatment is a global problem with serious consequences. It affects the entire community as it does not only occur within the family context, but spills over into the community and broader society. It causes suffering to children and families and can have long-term negative consequences (Ismail et al, 2012). This argument is supported by results obtained from the FGDs in this study where participants agreed that child abuse has got serious effects on the lives of children. Some of the effects mentioned include; development of low self esteem, diseases, stunted growth, school dropout and poor performance, mental problems, drug abuse, promiscuity, criminal behaviour like theft and even death.

Child sexual abuse occurs in places normally considered safe such as homes and schools, in the hands of perpetrators who are well known and trusted by the child or who have authority over the child (ECSA-HC, 2011). On the other hand, neglect which is the failure of parent, guardian, or other caregiver to provide for a child's basic needs is a common phenomenon (Child Welfare Information Gateway, 2008). This may be physical, medical, educational (e.g., failure to educate a child or attend to special education needs), emotional (e.g., inattention to a child's emotional needs failure to provide psychological care, or permitting the child to use alcohol or other drugs). Another form of child rights violation is child marriage. It remains a widely ignored violation of the health and development rights of girls and young women (IPPF, 2006). Findings from this study are in line with these arguments as they show that nearly half of the adult populations in

Ndhiwa Division are well conversant with almost all child rights and are in a position to narrate them. However, inspite of all this, estimates of 30% of the population acknowledge that various forms of child rights are violated day by day as illustrated in the table 5 below. This argument is seconded by results obtained from Focused Group Discussions and In-depth interviews. Participants argued that, (a) early marriages, (b) sexual abuse, (c) child neglect (d) child labour (e) physical assault, emotional abuse and many more are the most common forms of child rights violation that occur in the area.

The prevailing poverty in the continent makes it difficult for the extended family to function as in the past. Consequently, many guardians are unable to take care of their kins, orphans included. In some cases these orphans are considered as a source of economic prosperity for the extended family as many orphans are trafficked into worst forms of child labour all over (FIDA Kenya, 2009). Findings from Focused Group Discussions for both children and adults showed that, ignorance, poverty, neglect, orphanhood, lack of security, lack of seriousness and drug abuse are some of the factors that lead to child right violation in Ndhiwa Division. This therefore, seconds the argument of FIDA Kenya (2009).

**Table 4.0: The table below shows responses on forms of child rights violation common in the study area**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid a,b,d,f,h	33	26.6	27.5	27.5
a, c, e, f	33	26.6	27.5	55.0
b	11	8.9	9.2	64.2
Selected all	36	29.0	30.0	94.2
d, e, g	7	5.6	5.8	100.0
Total	120	96.8	100.0	
Missing System	4	3.2		
Total	124	100.0		

Source: Field Study, 2013

**Key**

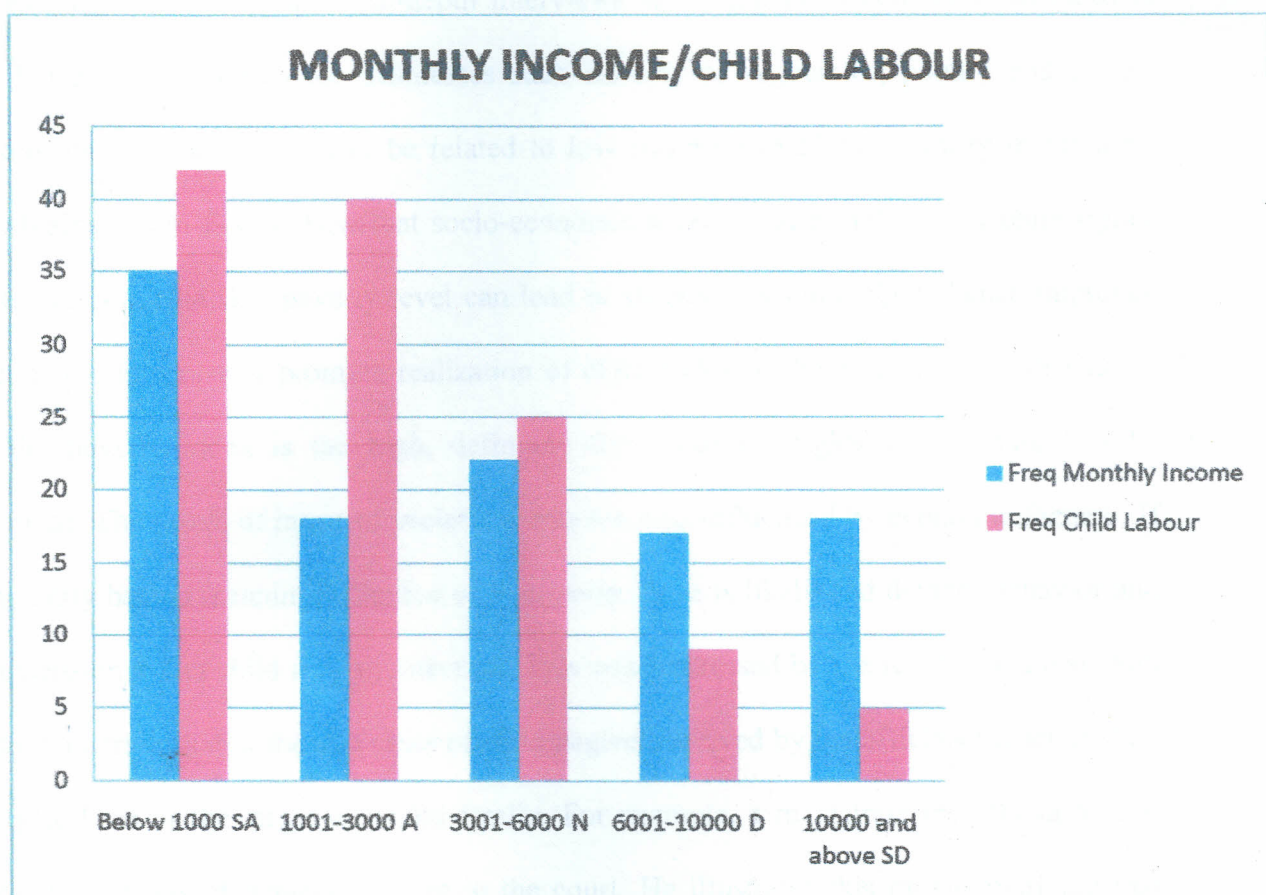
(a) Early marriages, (b) Sexual abuse, (c) Child neglect (d) Child labour (e) Physical assault



## **4.2 Socio-economic factors that promote violation of existing rights of the child in Ndhiwa Division, Homa Bay County**

According to the African Context of Children Seminar Report held in Harare, Zimbabwe, various structural disparities in economic resources have effects on the ways in which different children experience achievement or violation of their rights. For social, cultural, biological, economic and political reasons, children, women and vulnerable populations constitute the majority of the poorest billion in several ways (UNICEF/GOK, 2010). Of the estimated 17.5 million people living below the poverty line in Kenya, more than half are children, young people and women. The impact and consequences of poverty are even worse for them. Their weaker power relations in the family and larger society, their intertwined rights to survival, protection, development and participation and dignity as humans to enjoy the basic rights are compromised, possibly for life and in an inter-generational manner (UNICEF/GOK, 2010). Findings from this study show that approximately 34% of the population in Ndhiwa Division agrees that child labour is the most common child rights violation in the division where as an estimated 31% population earning an average monthly income less or equaling a thousand shillings. The relationship between average monthly income and child labour as the most common violation in Ndhiwa Division is illustrated in the graph below.

**Fig 3.0: Bar Graph Showing the Relationship between Household monthly income and Child Labour**



**Source: Field Study**

Child labour is defined in ILO Conventions as work that children should not be doing because they are too young to work, or – if they are old enough to work – because it is dangerous or otherwise unsuitable for them. Not all work done by children should be classified as child labour that is to be targeted for elimination.

In Kenya, deteriorating social and economic conditions in Kenya have brought high incidences of child abuse and neglect. Poverty is one of the underlying causes of child labour and one that also interacts with other factors in mutually reinforcing and complex ways and thus the need to

argue the links and interplay between some of these factors (Suda, 2001). Findings from this study concur with the argument of the Government of Kenya and UNICEF (2010) and Suda (2001). Results obtained from the In-depth interviews show that main economic activities in Ndhiwa Division are small scale businesses such as; sale of vegetables, poultry and grains, casual jobs and Jua kali. This can be related to low income earned by majority in the area. Results obtained from FGDs show that socio-economic aspects cause violation of child rights. The participants agreed that poverty level can lead to violation of child rights hence improved socio-economic factors will promote realization of child rights in the area. They further argue that, if the poverty index is too high, definitely the children's rights and welfare will be compromised. The levels of intact of societal norms are also influenced by economic factors. If the community has no meaningful source of livelihood, there is likelihood deviant behavior and this by extension affect child rights protection. This was buttressed by the results obtained from the in-depth interviews that showed cases of child neglect received by the officials perpetrated by parents, guardians or the larger extended family. For example, a magistrate in Ndhiwa argued that, receipts of cases of neglect are rare in the court. He illustrates this by summarizing that some parents are too poor to take care of their children, they abandon them and some attempt to commit suicide just to evade parental responsibility. However, there are strategies of economic empowerment and social safety net put in place to improve the standard of life of people living in the division, for instance, there are community based organizations supporting vulnerable children to enable them access basic needs.

### 4.3 Cultural factors promoting violation of child rights in Ndiwa Division, Homa Bay

#### County

Different cultures have different rules about what are acceptable parenting practices. Sections 14 of the Children's Act 2001 says children must be protected from harmful cultural practices such as early marriage, female genital mutilation or other cultural rites and customs that are likely to negatively affect a child's life, health, social welfare, dignity or physical and psychological development. Some countries will have culturally appropriate ways of absorbing orphans – into the extended family or into a monastery, for example, in other situations, the loss of life may be so great – as in the case of war, disaster, or widespread HIV/AIDS – that the community cannot cope. In the case of children in war and conflict tracing parents of children and vice versa is vital (Miles & Stephenson, 2000).

In Kenya, retrogressive cultural practices like female genital mutilation have not only violated girls' rights but are also detrimental to their health. The Kenya Today, a weekly newspaper, between 14<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February 2011, reported that apprehension was spreading across Marakwet County of the possible loss of cultural practices acquired through non-adherence to the traditional rites to passage. Of the possible concern was the loss of female 'cut' and resultant prestige that is associated with it compared with the more widely accepted female circumcision. Members of the Marakwet Area Advisory Council also noted the practice has a negative impact on children's transition in schools. Child marriage also remains a widely ignored violation of the health and development rights of girls and young women. Governments are often either unable to enforce existing laws, or rectify discrepancies between national laws on marriage age and entrenched customary and religious laws (IPPF, 2006).

Findings derived from this study second the argument of IPPF (2006), Miles & Stephenson (2000) and many more. Estimated 64% of the respondents strongly agree that early marriage is a

common child right violation experienced in the area. Child/early marriage is widely recognized as a violation of children's rights, a direct form of discrimination against the girl child who as a result of the practice is often deprived of her basic rights to health, education, development and equality. Tradition, religion and poverty continue to fuel the practice of child marriage, despite its strong association with adverse reproductive health outcomes and the lack of education of girls. During focused group discussion, it came out clearly that poverty is a critical factor contributing to child/early marriage and a common reason why parents may encourage a child to marry. Where poverty is acute, a young girl may be regarded as an economic burden and her marriage to a much older or sometimes even elderly man is believed to benefit the child and her family both financially and socially. Similarly, FGD results revealed that culturally teenage mothers are not allowed to stay with their parents during the onset of planting season and when harvesting period approaches. This is despite whether they are still school-going. There are cultural rituals tied to planting and harvesting so those considered mature girls are not allowed to be at home. The next table 5.0 illustrates how early marriage is still a common phenomenon in the area of study area.

**Table 5.0: Early marriages for girls contribute most of child right violation in these areas**

	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid Strongly Agree	80	64.5	67.2	67.2
Agree	24	19.4	20.2	87.4
Neutral	10	8.1	8.4	95.8
Disagree	4	3.2	3.4	99.2
Strongly Disagree	1	.8	.8	100.0
Total	119	96.0	100.0	
Missing System	5	4.0		
Total	124	100.0		

This is supported by qualitative information generated from in-depth interviews and FGDs. Analyzed data from FGDs showed that cultural practices such as; early marriages, food taboos, wife inheritance and social role allocation violate child rights. It featured prominently that young girls are used to entertain in-laws during such ceremonies as dowry payments or funerals. Some girls have ended up disappearing only to discover they have also ended up being married by in laws. In the FGDs participants concurred not only come for the specific agenda e.g. dowry payment but are also accompanied by men seeking hand in marriage. Results obtained from the interviews show that cultural factors either contribute to or discourage child right violation. A

government official argued that there are some cultural behaviour that promote child right i.e. young girls restricted under some conditions not to engage in immoral activities so as to preserve their virginity of until marriage, but this is being eroded by such vices as poverty and parental mortality which in some instances force young girls to engage in prostitution for livelihood. The other officials agreed that cultural factors contribute to violation of children rights as and some instances lead to child marriages. They further pointed out that there are beliefs and myths which results to violation of children e.g. discrimination based on gender, disinheritance of children and even wife inheritance. Wife inheritors were argued to be sexually abusing the older girls of the 'new' wife. Additionally, they have no parental responsibility over the inherited children therefore in most cases unable to provide for them but instead overexploit property of the deceased for their own gain. The role allocation between the boy and girl child was found to be very oppressive as it heaps too much burden on the girl-child compared to the boys. Girls virtually perform nearly all the household chores as the boy concentrates in his studies. This therefore calls for appropriate action to protect the lives of children in the area.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION**

#### **5.1 Summary**

Child rights abuse is a global problem with serious consequences. It affects the entire community as it does not only occur within the family context, but spills over into the community and broader society. It is evident that, physical assault, child labour, sexual abuse, early marriages, emotional abuse, child neglect and many more are the most common forms of child rights violation that occur in the area. 27.5% of the children commented that child labour is common in the study area therefore violates the rights of the children, a similar 27.5% pointed out that child marriage, child neglect and sexual abuse are common forms of child rights violation in Ndhiwa Division. Results from the FGDs for adults pointed out that a number of people are aware of the child rights but child labour, child neglect and sexual abuse are the major forms of child rights in the area. Socioeconomic and cultural factor greatly contribute to child rights violation in the area. Findings from this study show that approximately 34% of the population in Ndhiwa Division agrees that child labour is the most common child rights violation in the division where as an estimated 31% population earning an average monthly income less or equaling a thousand shillings. Findings derived from this study second the argument of IPPF (2006), Miles & Stephenson (2000) and many more. Estimated 64% of the respondents strongly agree that early marriage is a common child right violation experienced in the area. Child/early marriage is widely recognized as a violation of children's rights, a direct form of discrimination against the girl child who as a result of the practice is often deprived of her basic rights to health, education, development and equality. Child marriage, from FGD results is promoted by the fact young girls as early as 14 years are engaged in in-law entertainment something that appears like they are being prepared for marriage. The fulfillment of children's rights, including those to protection,



depends on a global movement in which everybody not only understands and respects their duties to children, but also acts upon them. Stakeholders and legal institutions can and should be among the foremost champions of child protection. They can legislate, oversee government activity, allocate financial resources and, as leaders within their nations and communities, raise awareness on child rights issues and provide advocacy.

## **5.2 Conclusion**

It is evident from the study that children in the study area undergo various forms of child rights violation. Child labour, child neglect, child marriage, sexual abuse, physical assault, emotional abuses are some of the forms of child rights violation. Social, economic, cultural and political factors may encourage or reduce child right violation. The findings from this study clearly revealed that children from poor household are frequently abused compared to the other in higher economic ladder. Child violation studies are instruments to be used to order and rank information and to facilitate decision-making concerning the life of children, nothing more and nothing less. Societal structures can be improved to encourage protection of child rights. Values and norms of different cultures that encourage child right violation should be improved to protect the rights of children against early marriage, child labour, sexual abuse and many more. Poverty is one of the underlying causes of child labour and one that also interacts with other factors in mutually reinforcing and complex ways and thus the need to argue the links and interplay between some of these factors. Failure to protect children undermines national development and has costs and negative effects that continue beyond childhood into the individual's adult life. While children continue to suffer violence, abuse and exploitation, the world will fail in its obligations to children; it will also fail to meet its development aspirations as laid out in such documents as the Millennium Agenda with its Millennium Development Goals.

### 5.3 Recommendations

This study acts as a blue print for researchers interested in the rights of children. This is because there is need for more research to be carried out to find out other causes of child abuse since children in economically stable families also experience child rights violation.

There is need for effective societal structures to be properly integrated to help reduce the extent of child abuse in the society. This calls for involvement of all stakeholders inclusive of children from the beginning of decision and policy making and finally the implementation. The family as the fundamental group of society and the natural environment for the growth and well-being of all its members and particularly children should be afforded the necessary protection and assistance so that it can fully assume its responsibilities within the community.

Creation of public awareness on importance of child rights protection and available economic empowerment projects to enable the participation of individuals in the projects. Empowering rural people is an essential first step to eradicating poverty. This will guarantee rights and welfare of children in the division. It respects the willingness and capability that each of residents has to take charge of their own life and to seek out opportunities to make it better. Similarly there is need to create awareness amongst government and stakeholders on the existence of different child rights protection cultural systems, their impacts and possible strategies of integrating the systems to the modern policy and decision making strategies directed towards child protection.

Since families are major players in child labour exploitation, and child labour is part of local communities existing conditions, its elimination needs an integrated approach to influence community changes in values and attitudes by addressing the cultural understanding of children rights, roles and responsibilities. Community based preventive and response measures should be designed to reduce social risk and implement. Comprehensive efforts are needed to eliminate

socioeconomic and cultural values that encourage child labour, including attitudes that discriminate against girls. Such efforts should be made at community and national levels.

## TIME SCHEDULE

<b>Period</b>	<b>Activity</b>
September 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Discussing research topic with supervisors</li><li>-Review of related literature</li><li>-writing of first draft</li><li>-presentation of first draft to supervisors</li></ul>
December 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Revision and correction of draft proposal</li></ul>
April 2013	submission of proposal at the Department
May 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Survey of study area and pilot study</li></ul>
June 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Field work, data analysis</li></ul>
July 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Writing, defense and submission of project</li></ul>

## BUDGET

Item Description	Quantity	Rate	Total Cost (Shs)
1. Pens	10	10	100
2. Pencils	10	35	350
3. Foolscap	1ream	400	400
4. Computer ink	2	2500	5000
5. Photocopying papers	1	550	550
6. Flash disc	1(2GB)	1500	1500
7. Graph papers	1	20	20
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>			<b>7,920</b>
<b>Personnel and other services</b>			
Typing & duplication			5000
Photocopying			3000
Communication			2000
Result analysis			15000
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>			<b>25,000</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			<b>32,920</b>

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